

REVIEW OF THE RULES FOR THE CONDUCT OF TRACKING TRIALS

ELIGIBILITY

DOGS QLD

A dog must be a minimum of six (6) months of age to enter in a tracking trial.

PROPOSAL:

ELIGIBILITY

A dog must be a minimum of twelve months (12) of age to enter in a tracking trial.

RATIONALE: The conditions of tracking have changed over the last few rule changes and the dog must now complete a longer track for track one.

Education on the welfare of dogs, including their growth patterns, their mental abilities, and their physicality, gives proof that we should not put stress on the dog's mental ability or physical ability.

Dogs Australia should be promoting the welfare and care of our dogs so that they have a long and healthy life.

TITLES

DOGS QLD

(B) Dogs must complete, in order, Test 1 through to Test 8.

PROPOSAL:

TITLES

(B) Dogs must complete, in order, Test 1 through to Test 8.

NEW RULE

(C) Affiliates are not required to schedule all Test levels from 1 to 8.

RATIONALE: As the availability of land becomes more of an issue to ensure the future of the sport, Clubs may need to only offer certain level tracks at a trial. There may not be the facility to run all level tracks at every trial – especially if the Tracking Grand Champion becomes available which will add extra levels.

CONSEQUENTIAL CHANGES:

Re letter the rest of the rules under Titles.

DOGS QLD

(F) After qualifying for the T Ch (Tracking Champion) certificate a dog is not eligible for further entry in tracking trials. No further qualifying certificates can be awarded once this title has been gained.

PROPOSAL:

(F) After qualifying for the T Ch title a dog may continue to compete in tracking trials. It will be the Affiliate's choice whether this facility is offered. Dogs with the T Ch title may be entered in any level from TD3 to TD8 at the handler's choice. If balloting is required T Ch titled dogs will be automatically excluded before the ballot is conducted.

If the submission for Tracking Grand Champion is passed this new rule will need to be amended as:

(F) After qualifying for the T Gr Ch Certificate a dog may continue to compete in Tracking in the Track Level of the handler's choice. Titled dogs may be entered in any level from TD3 to TD10. If balloting is required T Gr Ch titled dogs will be automatically balloted. As this is a non-titling track it will be the Affiliate's choice whether this facility is offered.

RATIONALE: Many dogs achieve their tracking champion title by the age of 3 or 4 and, consequently, are forced to retire from this sport. However, in many other dog sports dogs can compete indefinitely. If the trial has too many entries, those dogs can be excluded before a ballot is conducted.

With the current situation in Tracking there are some regions where there is only a small number of entries. This rule change would assist in ensuring an adequate number of competitors and people to make the sport more viable.

The track of choice is an option, ensuring that as dogs age they can still compete at a level suitable to their abilities. Track and Search is not suited to some dogs and/or handlers which eliminates this sport as an alternative to Tracking.

EQUIPMENT:

DOGS QLD

(A) All tracking tests must be conducted with the dog in a harness suitable for tracking that does not restrict the dog's breathing and allows the dog to move freely. The lead must be a minimum length of ten (10) metres and connected to the harness. The lead should be held by the Handler while the dog is tracking. Dropping the lead temporarily is acceptable, provided that the dog remains under control.

PROPOSAL:

NEW RULE:

(B) At the handler's discretion, the dog may wear a snug fixed collar and/or a tick collar, but not a slip collar. The lead must be attached to the harness and not the collar. The Judge may direct the collar to be removed if it could pose a safety issue on the track e.g. has tags, loose etc.

RATIONALE: Many handlers feel it safer to also have a collar on the dog. Safety should always be a priority.

DOGS ACT

(B) All articles used must be articles of clothing, must belong to the Tracklayer, must not be larger nor smaller than an adult-sized work sock or glove with the exception of the optional finish article and must be inconspicuous in colour, according to the terrain. All articles shall have been sighted by and deemed acceptable to the Judge or their delegate prior to despatching of the Tracklayer.

PROPOSAL:

(B) All articles used must be articles of clothing, ~~must belong to the Tracklayer,~~ and must not be larger nor smaller than an adult-sized work sock or glove with the exception of the optional finish article and must be inconspicuous in colour, according to the terrain. All articles shall have been sighted by and deemed acceptable to the Judge or their delegate prior to despatching of the Tracklayer.

RATIONALE: It is not necessary for the articles to 'belong' to the tracklayer. The rule under "tracklayer B" that they must keep the article with them for 30 minutes is sufficient. Rules about 'ownership' don't really allow for tracklayers who forget socks or who are called to track-lay on short notice and have to borrow articles.

DOGS ACT

(G) No markers or equipment indicating the track shall remain in place during the testing of a dog.

PROPOSAL:

(G) No markers or equipment indicating the track shall remain in place during the testing of a dog. The Judge must make all reasonable endeavours to ensure that the handler receives no guidance, other than from their dog, as to where the track goes.

RATIONALE: It undermines the idea of tracking trials simulating the search for a lost person if the handler is able to discern where the track goes whether this is from markers, re-use of tracks known to the handler or guidance from the positioning of officials/ spectators. Greater emphasis of this point

is needed in the rules to ensure national consistency and the onus should be on judges to ensure rules, including this one, are upheld.

DOGS QLD

(H) The Handler may not offer food or utilise training aids during the running of a track, however water may be offered to the dog.

PROPOSAL:

(H) Water may be offered to the dog.

(I) The dog may be rewarded with food or a toy for finding each article on the track, but no other training aids may be used during the running of the track

RATIONALE: In training, dogs are often rewarded for each find they make. In scent work, when there are multiple hides, the dog is treated after it finds each one, not just a treat at the end.

Allowing optional rewards at articles builds the dog's motivation especially when first starting out and makes tracking a positive experience.

DOGS QLD

(H) The Handler may not offer food or utilise training aids during the running of a track, however water may be offered to the dog.

PROPOSAL:

(H) The Handler may not offer food or utilise training aids during the running of a track, however water may be offered to the dog.

A reward may be offered at the conclusion of the track. The handler (only) be permitted to carry the reward (food of up to 100 gms in a sealed container, or a toy that makes no audible sound). The handler may also carry water, but food and water must be carried separately. The reward (food or toy) may be offered to the dog only after 'Test Finished'. Water may be offered to the dog with the judge's permission during the running of the test.

All rewards must remain out of sight during the running of the track. Failure to do so may invoke the ANKC Rule "The handler may not offer food or utilise training aids...".

Verbal & physical rewards are, however, encouraged.

RATIONALE: Most Member Bodies permit the use of rewards at the end of the track. However, the protocol for doing this varies from State to State which makes it difficult for both judges and handlers when judging/competing in another state. It is proposed to standardise the protocol for rewards at the completion of the track. If the handler wishes to reward at the end of the track then it should be the handler's responsibility to carry that reward and to ensure the reward has no effect on the running of the track.

EXHIBITS

DOGS ACT

(A) Bitches in oestrus or showing a coloured discharge of any sort shall not be permitted to compete in trials, nor remain within the precincts of a trial.

PROPOSAL:

(A) Bitches in oestrus or showing a coloured discharge of any sort shall not be permitted to compete in trials, nor remain within the precincts of a trial unless all of the following are complied with:

· The affiliate, if they decide to allow bitches in season to compete, must include this in the advertisement for the trial.

· The handler must alert the trial manager that the bitch has come into season as early as possible and before the trial commences.

- Tracks for any bitch in season must be run at the end of the trial after all dogs have finished competing (tracks used by a bitch in season cannot be re-used by a male dog in the trial).
- The bitch must not be brought into the vicinity (including to the designated area) of the trial until all male dogs have finished competing.

RATIONALE: The tracking season is very short and a bitch coming into season means they may miss a significant part of it. Suggest this rule be changed to allow bitches in season to compete but only in very controlled circumstances which will not prejudice dogs, and at the discretion of the Club running the trial. (ie Clubs who do not want to do this can choose not to allow). The issue is particularly acute for small jurisdictions who don't run many trials each year.

DOGS ACT

(C) The order of judging must be decided prior to commencement of the trial.

PROPOSAL:

(C) The order of judging must be decided prior to commencement of the trial. However, the order of judging can be modified during the trial if there is a change of circumstances which necessitates a change in running order to maintain the smooth running of the trial.

RATIONALE: Sometimes it is necessary to change the order, particularly in small trials where most handlers are also stewarding or tracklaying. Eg if a dog fails at the start and puts timing out – next handler might be stewarding or tracklaying so to avoid delay a different track may be run next.

INSPECTION

DOGS TAS

An examination of all bitches should be conducted on each day of the trial.

PROPOSAL:

An examination of all bitches should be conducted on each day of the trial, except where proof of desexing of a bitch is provided.

RATIONALE: It is extra work for the affiliate to examine all bitches when many of them are desexed and therefore could not be in season. In Tasmania about one third of the entries are dogs on the Associate Register, which requires them to be desexed before registration. In addition many of the bitches on the main register have also been desexed.

DOGS SA

An examination of all bitches should be conducted on each day of the trial. A member of the Affiliate conducting the trial may do this examination.

PROPOSAL:

An examination of all entire bitches should be conducted on each day of the trial. A member of the Affiliate conducting the trial may do this examination. Proof of desexing to be provided to the affiliate conducting the trial

RATIONALE: Only entire bitches need to be inspected as the purpose of this inspection is to check for bitches in Oestrus (season).

JUDGES

DOGS QLD

(F) A signed copy of the Judge's Report is to be forwarded to the Secretary of the Canine Control concerned within 7 days of the trial.

PROPOSAL:

(F) The relevant Member Body reports to be forwarded to the Secretary of the Member Body as required.

RATIONALE: This modification is not as prescriptive and allows different member bodies to have their own requirements for reporting.

TRACKLAYER

DOGS TAS

- (A) The Tracklayer shall be a person approved by the Judge.
- (1) A known person shall be any person known to the dog and nominated by the Handler.
- (2) An unknown person shall be any person who does not qualify as a known person and whose identity must be unknown to the Handler prior to the test. The unknown person must not have previously laid a track for that dog within the preceding four (4) months, in competition.

It shall be the responsibility of the Affiliate conducting the trial to make a genuine effort to ensure that only unknown tracklayers are used.

PROPOSAL:

TRACKLAYER

- (A) The Tracklayer shall be a person approved by the Judge.
- (1) A known person shall be any person known to the dog and nominated by the Handler.
- (2) An unknown person shall be any person who does not qualify as a known person and whose identity must be unknown to the Handler prior to the test. The unknown person must not have previously laid a track for that dog within the preceding four (4) months, in a Tracking Trial.

It shall be the responsibility of the Affiliate conducting the trial to make a genuine effort to ensure that only unknown tracklayers are used.

RATIONALE: Tracking and Track & Search are now separate disciplines, therefore a tracklayer should be available as unknown tracklayer in both disciplines.

DOGS ACT

(F) The Tracklayer must follow the track, which has been marked out earlier, collecting all flags/markers on the way with the exception of one at the start of the track.

PROPOSAL:

(F) The Tracklayer must follow the track, which has been marked out earlier, collecting all flags/markers on the way with the exception of ~~one at the start of the track~~ the start flag or, for tracks 7&8, the start line flags.

RATIONALE: Rule needs to be updated to take account of the fact there are two start line markers on T7 & 8

DOGS ACT

(G) (1) At the end of each track the Tracklayer:
Must make them self as inconspicuous as possible and remain still and silent. The Tracklayer need not remain at the end of the track, subject to the approval of the Member Body, but must be in place when the Handler completes the track. If the Tracklayer leaves the hide an article must be left in place.

PROPOSAL:

(G) (1) Must make them self as inconspicuous as possible and remain still and silent. The Tracklayer need not remain at the end of the track, ~~subject to the approval of the Member Body~~, but must be in

place when the Handler completes the track. If the Tracklayer leaves the hide an article must be left in place.

RATIONALE: This is a long established practice and no longer needs separate approval from member body.

DOGS SA

(G) At the end of each track the Tracklayer: (1) Must make them self as inconspicuous as possible and remain still and silent. The Tracklayer need not remain at the end of the track, subject to the approval of the Member Body, but must be in place when the Handler completes the track. If the Tracklayer leaves the hide an article must be left in place.

OR (2) Must place the Finish Article in the position indicated by a marker on the map so it cannot be seen by the Handler as they approach the finish. After placing the Finish Article, the Tracklayer removes the marker and continues on for a minimum of thirty (30) metres past the finish before leaving on the walking out route.

PROPOSAL:

(G) At the end of each track the Tracklayer: (1) Must make them self as inconspicuous as possible and remain still and silent. The Tracklayer need not remain at the end of the track, subject to the approval of the Member Body, but must be in place when the Handler completes the track. If the Tracklayer leaves the hide an article must be left in place.

OR (2) Must place the Finish Article in the position indicated by a marker on the map so it cannot be seen by the Handler as they approach the finish. After placing the Finish Article, the Tracklayer removes the marker and continues on for a minimum of ten (10) metres past the finish before leaving on the walking out route.

RATIONALE: To allow more flexibility in the use of space. 10 metres is sufficient.

GENERAL

DOGS ACT

PROPOSAL:

(C) To hear the Handler the Judge must remain within hearing distance at all times.

RATIONALE: This rule should be moved to Judges from 'general' as it is about the Judge

DOGS SA

(F) No person other than the Tracklayer shall be permitted within a minimum of thirty (30) metres of the track.

PROPOSAL:

(F) No person other than the Tracklayer or cross tracklayer or diversion Tracklayer shall be permitted within a minimum of Fifteen (15) metres of the track.

RATIONALE Consistency with change suggested for Rule Equipment (e)

DOGS ACT

(M) The minimum distance between any parallel legs of any parts of the same or separate tracks must be one hundred (100) metres

PROPOSAL:

(M) The minimum distance between any parallel legs of ~~any parts of the same or separate~~ tracks must be one hundred (100) metres. The minimum distance between different tracks is fifty 50 meters except where the same tracklayer is used in which case it is one hundred (100) meters.

RATIONALE: 100m is a long way between tracks on smaller trial grounds – and where a different tracklayer is used it should make no difference to the dog. Also removing the ‘parallel’ as it is currently theoretically possible to, for example, have two starts or a start and a corner right near each other. Remember that this is a minimum and Clubs with larger grounds can leave more space between tracks if they want to.

DOGS ACT

(N) The minimum time lapse between the tracks being used a second time on the same ground must be four hours after the track has initially been used and finalised, except in the case of Test 1 where the track may not be used again on the same day.

PROPOSAL:

(N) The minimum time lapse between the tracks being used a second time on the same ground must be four hours after the track has initially been used and finalised, except in the case of Test 1 ~~where~~ where the track may not be used again on the same day.

RATIONALE: typo

DOGS ACT

NOTE: A decision as to whether a track is classed as an aborted track can only be made by the Judge.

PROPOSAL:

~~NOTE: A decision as to whether a track is classed as an aborted track can only be made by the Judge.~~

RATIONALE: this rule about aborted tracks no longer makes sense – leftover from a previous rule change perhaps? Just delete and leave it to judges discretion whether to re-judge a track under other rules.

DOGS VIC

This proposal is to remove ‘Cross Tracks’ from the ANKC Rule Book.

These changes concern Test(s) Five (5) to Eight (8) inclusive - they firstly relate to the removal of the ‘Cross Track’ and the secondly – an amendment relating to the number of changes of direction for Test five (5). The ‘Cross Track’ is currently described in our A.N.K.C. Rules under the heading – GENERAL, sub section (U), page Nine (9) and Test Five (5).

(U) Current: The Cross Track must not cross the track within thirty (30) metres of a turn. The Cross Track must be at approximately 90 degrees to the track for a distance of approximately thirty (30) metres but not less than twenty (20) metres either side of the track and the walking in and walking out routes of the Cross Track should be approximately thirty (30) metres but not less than twenty (20) metres from the track.

Test 5 - Unknown Person

This will be similar to Test 4 except that the track must be crossed twice by Cross Tracks and one or two unknown persons may lay these. The Cross Tracks should be laid approximately 30 minutes after the original Tracklayer has passed.

A minimum of two articles must be indicated by the dog to obtain a pass. The Tracklayer or finish article of the unknown person must be found at the end of the track for the dog to obtain a pass.

DOGS QLD

(W) Thirty (30) Day Suspension

Dogs, which have failed on two consecutive occasions, may be subject to a 30-day suspension from competing at a tracking trial. The thirty (30) day suspension will only take effect if the Affiliate conducting the tracking trial has to ballot for the tests available. Affiliates which do not have to ballot for available tests, must not invoke the thirty (30) day rule under any circumstances.

Suspensions will not be carried over a calendar year.

It is the responsibility of the Handler to advise the Affiliate of two consecutive fails. Failure to do so will result in a report to the Member Body.

PROPOSAL:

DELETE THIS RULE:

~~(W) **Thirty (30) Day Suspension**~~

~~Dogs, which have failed on two consecutive occasions, may be subject to a 30-day suspension from competing at a tracking trial. The thirty (30) day suspension will only take effect if the Affiliate conducting the tracking trial has to ballot for the tests available. Affiliates which do not have to ballot for available tests, must not invoke the thirty (30) day rule under any circumstances.~~

~~Suspensions will not be carried over a calendar year.~~

~~It is the responsibility of the Handler to advise the Affiliate of two consecutive fails. Failure to do so will result in a report to the Member Body.~~

RATIONALE: This rule is imposing restrictions on how individual clubs manage their trials and adds complexity and unfairness to the balloting procedure. A new rule is required to provide clubs with flexibility in managing their trial numbers. Clubs should be able to ballot across all levels or place limits within title levels.

DOGS QLD

PROPOSAL:

NEW RULE

(W) **Balloting**

Should a club need to restrict entries due to resource constraints, it may ballot for the tests available. Separate ballots may be conducted for tests in different titles (e.g., a ballot for tests 1-3, a ballot for tests 4-6 and a ballot for tests 7-8). The rules for balloting will be those of the Member Body concerned.

RATIONALE: Resource constraints, such as the available land, time or people, may mean that clubs need to limit the numbers and levels of tests that can be run. The purpose of this rule is to acknowledge this situation while pointing out that any ballot must be conducted in accordance with the requirement of the Member Body concerned which may vary between States/Territories.

DOGS QLD

PROPOSAL:

NEW RULE:

PHOTOGRAPHY AND RECORDING DEVICES

A competitor may arrange photography and/or videoing of the team's track by:

- (a) an official of the Affiliate (if one is available);
- (b) a spectator (in circumstances where the Judge has permitted spectators to observe the track); or
- (c) use, by the competitor, of a wearable camera.

Permission to video or photograph must be granted by the Judge prior to competition.

Videotaping and/or photography of a competitor may only be undertaken on behalf of the competitor for their own personal use or, with the prior permission of the competitor, by the Affiliate, for promotional or educational purposes.

The Affiliate may, after consultation with the Judge, designate an area from which videotaping/photography may be undertaken.

The Judge may direct that any photography and/or videoing be discontinued if it is deemed to be disruptive or to impede any track.

No photography or video footage can be used in a protest of the Judge's decision.

RATIONALE: Most dog sports (Agility, Rally, Tricks, DWD, Scent Work) allow the use of videography and photography as a means of reviewing the dog's performance and as a way of improving handling and future training.

Videography is also useful to Member Bodies and Affiliates in providing useful, real examples of tracking/track and search in training sessions with trainee judges, handlers, members and potential members. It is an excellent method of education.

CHANGE OF DIRECTION

DOGS QLD

When walking in the direction of the arrow, the shaded area in the diagrams below shows the new direction of track between 30 degrees and 90 degrees from the previous leg.

PROPOSAL:

When walking in the direction of the arrow, the shaded area in the diagrams below shows the new direction of track between 30 degrees and 90 degrees from the direction of travel.

RATIONALE: There seems to be some confusion in the interpretation of this rule. This amendment simplifies and clarifies the meaning.

CONSEQUENTIAL CHANGES:

Specific Wording for Diagram 1.

Shows left changes in direction from the direction of travel.

Specific Wording for Diagram 2

Shows right changes in direction from the direction of travel.

DOGS VIC

Introduction

The main change being proposed is to change the 45-degree labels on Diagrams 3 and 4 to 135 degrees to make these diagrams consistent with Diagrams 1 and 2. This change necessitates corresponding changes in the descriptions of Tests 7 and 8. These changes are specified below.

Also, the descriptions of the 4 diagrams on p. 10 refer to "new directions of track" and "changes in direction", "from the previous leg". The latter phrase is misleading because angles should be measured relative to the direction of travel – as they are in Diagrams 1 and 2. Hence a better description is "from the direction of the previous leg."

Change of Direction

Current: When walking in the direction of the arrow, the shaded area in the diagrams below shows the new directions of track between 30 degrees and 90 degrees from the previous leg.

[Diagrams 1 and 2]

Acute Change of Direction

Current: When walking in the direction of the arrow, the shaded area in the diagrams below shows the new directions of track between 45 degrees and 90 degrees from the previous leg.

[Diagrams 3 and 4]

PROPOSAL:

Revise Diagrams 3 and 4 by changing the label 45 to 135 and revise the above descriptions to read as follows (new words in italics):

Change of Direction

When walking in the direction of the arrow, the shaded area in the diagrams below shows the new directions of track between 30 degrees and 90 degrees from the *direction of the previous leg*.

Acute Change of Direction

When walking in the direction of the arrow, the shaded area in the diagrams below shows the new directions of track between 90 degrees and 135 degrees from the *direction of the previous leg*.

RATIONALE: Adding the words “direction of the” makes it clearer that the angles used to define the changes of direction are being measured relative to the direction of travel, whereas “from the previous leg” can give the impression that the measurement is relative to the opposite direction.

Captions

Existing captions:

Diagram 1 “Shows left changes in direction from the previous leg”

Diagram 2 “Shows right changes in direction from the previous leg”

Diagram 3 “Shows left changes in direction from the previous leg”

Diagram 4 “Shows right changes in direction from the previous leg”

PROPOSAL:

Diagram 1 “Left changes of direction”

Diagram 2 “Right changes of direction”

Diagram 3 “Acute left changes of direction”

Diagram 4 “Acute right changes of direction”

RATIONALE: Given the detailed descriptions provided before the diagrams, the phrase “from the previous leg” does not need to be included in the captions. Adding “acute” to the captions for Diagrams 3 and 4 distinguishes them from Diagrams 1 and 2.

Associated changes

If the changes recommended above are implemented, it follows that that the descriptions of Tests 7 and 8 on p.13 must be revised.

Excerpts from current rules (p.13):

Test 7 – Unknown person

The track will have a minimum of six changes of direction: two of these will be between approximately 45 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 3 and 4),...

Test 8 – Unknown person

The track will have a minimum of seven changes of direction: two of these will be between approximately 45 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 3 and 4),...

PROPOSAL:

Test 7 – Unknown person

The track will have a minimum of six changes of direction: two of these will be acute (refer diagrams 3 and 4),...

Test 8 – Unknown person

The track will have a minimum of seven changes of direction: two of these will be acute (refer diagrams 3 and 4),...

RATIONALE: The acute changes of direction in Tests 7 and 8 are fully described on p.10 so there is no need to repeat the details here and referring to the changes of direction as “acute” is clear and adequate.

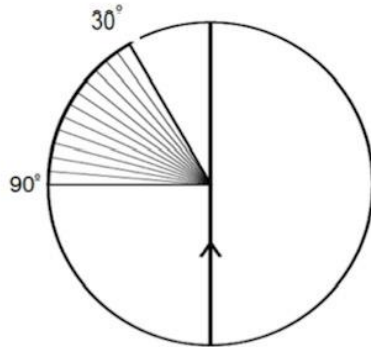
Angles need to be consistent with each other in the base line for the measurement of the degrees.

Please see below

CHANGE OF DIRECTION

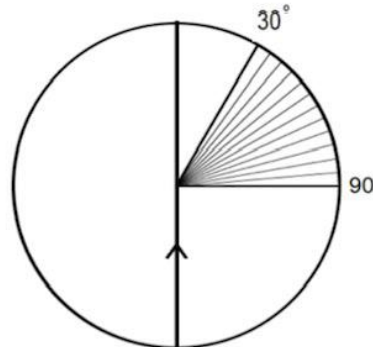
When walking in the direction of the arrow, the shaded area in the diagrams below shows the new directions of track between 30 degrees and 90 degrees from the previous leg.

Diagram 1



Shows left changes in direction from the previous leg

Diagram 2

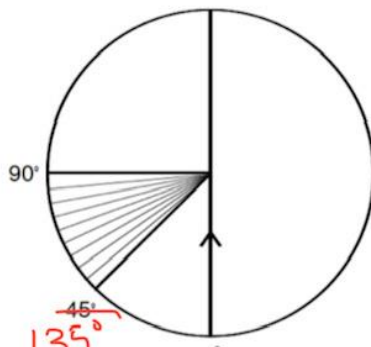


Shows right changes in direction from the previous leg

ACUTE CHANGE OF DIRECTION

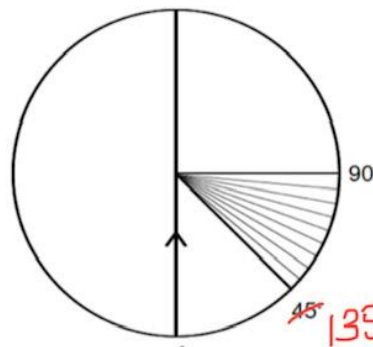
When walking in the direction of the arrow, the shaded area in the diagrams below shows the new directions of track between 45 degrees and 90 degrees from the previous leg.

Diagram 3



Shows left changes in direction from the previous leg

Diagram 4



Shows right changes in direction from the previous leg

TEST 2 - Known Person

DOGS NSW

The dog is required to track a known person for approximately 800 metres, and the Exhibitor shall nominate the Tracklayer.

The track will have a minimum of 2 changes of direction of between approximately 30 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 1 and 2). Three articles must be placed on the track.

The minimum time for the commencement of the track must be 30 minutes and the maximum 60 minutes, from the time the track is laid.

A minimum of one article must be indicated by the dog to obtain a pass.

The Tracklayer or finish article of the known person must be found at the end of the track for the dog to obtain a pass.

PROPOSAL:

Test 2- Known Person.

The dog is required to track a known person for approximately 800 metres, and the Exhibitor shall nominate the Tracklayer.

The track will have a minimum of 2 changes of direction of between approximately 30 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 1 and 2). TWO ARTICLES must be placed on the track.

The minimum time for the commencement of the track must be 30 minutes and the- maximum 60 minutes from the time the track is laid.

A minimum of ONE ARTICLE must be indicated by the dog to obtain a pass.

The Tracklayer or finish article of the known person must be found at the end of the track for the dog to obtain a pass.

RATIONALE: With the dog finding ONE from TWO Articles, the dog has a 50% pass whereas with the dog finding only ONE from THREE Articles the dog is achieving a pass with a less than 50% pass in articles.

DOGS WEST

PROPOSAL:

Test 2 - Known Person

There will be 3 articles on the track. If one or more are indicated - grading given by the judge will reflect this. If NO article is indicated by the dog, then a downgrade of no higher than a "Pass" should be recorded against the dog

RATIONALE: For Tests 2 to 8

The introduction to our sport of Tracking says: "The tests should be as close as possible to a life-like situation, where a dog is used to find a missing person and therefore the test should be as realistic as possible while demonstrating the dog's willingness and enthusiasm to follow a specific scent."

We have seen several dogs which keep to the track but have no interest in the articles as they are more focused on the objective of finding the lost person. These dogs fail because of this ruling.

We consider a dog which is so resolute in its pursuit of the tracklayer to the exclusion of identifying articles, should still be rewarded for its performance and success in finding the tracklayer.

While acknowledging a dog which finds the required number of articles is performing the task to the current rules better and will therefore achieve a higher grade, we consider the other dog which achieves the outcome of finding the tracklayer but misses the articles, can be awarded the lower grading of 'Pass'.

A dog that does not find any articles can only obtain a grading of no higher than a "Pass".

DOGS VIC

PROPOSAL:

The dog is required to track a known person for approximately 800 metres, and the Exhibitor shall nominate the Tracklayer.

The track will have a minimum of 2 changes of direction of between approximately 30 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 1 and 2).

~~Three~~ Two articles must be placed on the track. The minimum time for the commencement of the track must be 30 minutes and the maximum 60 minutes, from the time the track is laid.

A minimum of one article must be indicated by the dog to obtain a pass

The Tracklayer or finish article of the known person must be found at the end of the track for the dog to obtain a pass.

RATIONALE: Given that the test is only 800 metres with a minimum of 2 changes of direction the need for three (3) articles can mean that an articles needs to be placed on each leg of the track by the judge, with only one (1) article must be indicated by the dog to obtain a pass, this means a dog can track well and miss two articles and can only obtain a pass of Good as each article missed is an automatic downgrading.

Returning this test to two (2) articles on the track with one (1) being indicated by the dog to obtain a pass makes it a fairer test for the dog and allows the setting out by the judge without having articles on every leg for the dog to indicate.

DOGS TAS

PROPOSAL:

Test 2 - Known Person

The dog is required to track a known person for approximately **600 metres**, and the Exhibitor shall nominate the Tracklayer.

The track will have a minimum of 2 changes of direction of between approximately 30 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 1 and 2). **Two articles** must be placed on the track.

The minimum time for the commencement of the track must be 30 minutes and the maximum 60 minutes, from the time the track is laid.

A minimum of one article must be indicated by the dog to obtain a pass

The Tracklayer or finish article of the known person must be found at the end of the track for the dog to obtain a pass

RATIONALE: Enables a more consistent increase in difficulty by amending the length of track – 400m, 600m, 800m.

Reduction of number of articles - To make consistent with all other tests, where the dog can miss one article to obtain a pass. i.e., tests 4,5,6,7,8 all have three articles on track and dog must find minimum of 2 to pass.

DOGS ACT

PROPOSAL:

Test 2 - Known Person

The track will have a minimum of 2 changes of direction of between approximately 30 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 1 and 2). ~~Three~~ Two articles must be placed on the track.

RATIONALE: A 1/3 success rate is not sufficient, a 1/2 rate should be the minimum, noting that at TDX 2/3 is required.

TEST 3 – Unknown Person

DOGS NSW

The dog is required to track an unknown person for approximately 800 metres.

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The track will have a minimum of 2 changes of direction of between 30 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 1 and 2). Three articles must be placed on the track.

Time lapse for this track must be the same as Test 2.

A minimum of one article must be indicated for the dog to obtain a pass.

The Tracklayer or finish article of the unknown person must be found at the end of the track for the dog to obtain a pass.

PROPOSAL:

Test 3 - Unknown Person

The dog is required to track an unknown person for approximately 800 metres.

The track will have a minimum of 2 changes of direction of between 30 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 1 and 2). TWO ARTICLES must be placed on the track.

Time lapse for this track must be the same as Test 2.

A minimum of ONE ARTICLE must be indicated for the dog to obtain a pass.

The Tracklayer or finish article of the unknown person must be found at the end of the track for the dog to obtain a pass.

RATIONALE: With the dog finding ONE from TWO Articles, the dog has a 50% pass whereas with the dog finding only ONE from THREE Articles the dog is achieving a pass with a less than 50% pass in articles.

DOGS ACT

PROPOSAL:

Test 3 –Unknown Person

The track will have a minimum of 2 changes of direction of between approximately 30 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 1 and 2). ~~Three~~ Two articles must be placed on the track.

RATIONALE: A 1/3 success rate is not sufficient, a 1/2 rate should be the minimum, noting that at TDX 2/3 is required.

DOGS VIC

PROPOSAL:

Unknown Person The dog is required to track an unknown person for approximately 800 metres.

The track will have a minimum of 2 changes of direction of between approximately 30 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 1 and 2).

~~Three~~ Two articles must be placed on the track. Time lapse for this track must be the same as Test 2.

A minimum of one article must be indicated by the dog to obtain a pass.

The Tracklayer or finish article of the unknown person must be found at the end of the track for the dog to obtain a pass.

RATIONALE: Given that the test is only 800 metres with a minimum of 2 changes of direction the need for three (3) articles can mean that an articles needs to be placed on each leg of the track by the judge, with only one (1) article must be indicated by the dog to obtain a pass, this means a dog can track well and miss two articles and can only obtain a pass of Good as each article missed is an automatic downgrading.

Returning this test to two (2) articles on the track with one (1) being indicated by the dog to obtain a pass makes it a fairer test for the dog and allows the setting out by the judge without having articles on every leg for the dog to indicate.

DOGS TAS

PROPOSAL:

Test 3 - Unknown Person

The dog is required to track an unknown person for approximately 800 metres.

The track will have a minimum of 2 changes of direction of between approximately 30 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 1 and 2). **Two articles** must be placed on the track.

Time lapse for this track must be the same as Test 2.

A minimum of one article must be indicated by the dog to obtain a pass.

The Tracklayer or finish article of the unknown person must be found at the end of the track for the dog to obtain a pass

RATIONALE: To make consistent with all other tests, where the dog can miss one article to obtain a pass. i.e., tests 4,5,6,7,8 all have three articles on track and dog must find minimum of 2 to pass.

DOGS WEST

PROPOSAL:

Test 3 - Known Person

There will be 3 articles on the track. If one or more are indicated - grading given by the judge will reflect this. If NO article is indicated by the dog, then a downgrade of no higher than a "Pass" should be recorded against the dog.

DOGS WEST

PROPOSAL:

Tests 4-8 - There will be 3 articles on the track. If one or more are indicated – grading given by the judge will reflect this. If NO articles are indicated by the dog, then a downgrade of no higher than a "Pass" shall be recorded against the dog.

DOGS VIC

PROPOSAL:

CHANGES

The following are suggestions for changes to Tests Five (5) to Eight (8) to remove cross tracks and adding an additional turn to some:

Tracking / Test Five (5) – Unknown Person / Page Twelve (12) – Current Rule.

TEST 5 – Unknown Person

DOGS VIC

Test 5 - Unknown Person

The dog is required to track an unknown person for approximately 1,000 metres.

The track will have a *minimum of 4 changes of direction* of between approximately 30 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 1 and 2). Three articles must be placed on the track.

The minimum time lapse for the commencement of this track must be 60 minutes and the maximum 120 minutes, from the time the track is laid.

This will be similar to Test 4 except that the track must be crossed twice by Cross Tracks and one or two unknown persons may lay these. The Cross Tracks should be laid approximately 30 minutes after the original Tracklayer has passed

A minimum of two articles must be indicated by the dog to obtain a pass.

The Tracklayer or finish article of the unknown person must be found at the end of the track for the dog to obtain a pass.

PROPOSAL:

Test 5 - Unknown Person

The dog is required to track an unknown person for approximately 1,000 metres.

The track will have a minimum of 5 changes of direction of between approximately 30 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 1 and 2). Three articles must be placed on the track.

The minimum time lapse for the commencement of this track must be 60 minutes and the maximum 120 minutes, from the time the track is laid.

A minimum of two articles must be indicated by the dog to obtain a pass.

The Tracklayer or finish article of the unknown person must be found at the end of the track for the dog to obtain a pass.

TEST 6 – Unknown Person

DOGS VIC

Test 6 - Unknown Person

The dog is required to track an unknown person for approximately 1,200 metres.

The track will have a minimum of 5 changes of direction: one of these must be between 45 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 3 and 4) the other changes of direction will be between approximately 30 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 1 and 2).

The first change of direction will be in accordance with diagrams 1 or 2. Three articles must be placed on the track.

The track shall be crossed twice by Cross Tracks and one or two unknown persons may lay these. The Cross Tracks must be laid approximately 30 minutes after the original Tracklayer has passed.

The minimum time lapse for the commencement of the track must be 60 minutes and the maximum 180 minutes, from the time the track was laid.

A minimum of two articles must be indicated by the dog to obtain a pass.

The Tracklayer or finish article of the unknown person must be found at the end of the track for the dog to obtain a pass.

PROPOSAL:

Test 6 - Unknown Person

The dog is required to track an unknown person for approximately 1,200 metres.

The track will have a minimum of 5 changes of direction: one of these must be between 45 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 3 and 4) the other changes of direction will be between approximately 30 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 1 and 2).

The first change of direction will be in accordance with diagrams 1 or 2. Three articles must be placed on the track.

The minimum time lapse for the commencement of the track must be 60 minutes and the maximum 180 minutes, from the time the track was laid.

A minimum of two articles must be indicated by the dog to obtain a pass.

The Tracklayer or finish article of the unknown person must be found at the end of the track for the dog to obtain a pass.

TEST 7 – Unknown Person

DOGS VIC

TRACKING CHAMPION (T Ch)

Test 7 – Unknown person

The dog is required to track an unknown person for approximately 1,200 metres.

The track will have a minimum of six changes of direction: two of these will be between approximately 45 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 3 and 4), all other changes of direction will be between approximately 30 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 1 and 2), the first change of direction to be no less than one hundred (100) metres from the start.

Three articles must be placed on the track; a minimum of two articles must be indicated by the dog to obtain a pass. The start must be a minimum of thirty (30) metres from roads, fences, rivers or other permanent barriers. There will be a small marker where the Tracklayer will start from to enable them to line up with the next flag on the track. The Tracklayer will take this marker with them. The starting line flags will remain.

A minimum of thirty (30) metres before the starting line, the Tracklayer will place one (1) of their scented articles in a clean sealable bag. They may place this bag in a clean, unscented, individual air-tight container supplied by the Judge or their delegate.

The Judge will, when the track has aged sufficiently, take the Handler and dog to approximately thirty (30) metres from the starting line; open the container, if used. The scented article is removed by the Handler, who is then free to start tracking.

There will be two Cross Tracks that may be laid by one or two unknown persons. Cross tracks will be laid according to the Judge's direction. The Cross Tracks must be laid approximately 30 minutes after the original Tracklayer has passed.

The minimum time lapse for the commencement of the track must be 90 minutes and the maximum 180 minutes, from the time the original Tracklayer crosses the starting line. The Tracklayer or finish article of the unknown person must be found at the end of the track for the dog to obtain a pass.

PROPOSAL:

Test 7 – Unknown person

The dog is required to track an unknown person for approximately 1,200 metres.

The track will have a minimum of six changes of direction: two of these will be between approximately 45 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 3 and 4), all other changes of direction will be between approximately 30 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 1 and 2), the first change of direction to be no less than one hundred (100) metres from the start.

Three articles must be placed on the track; a minimum of two articles must be indicated by the dog to obtain a pass. The start must be a minimum of thirty (30) metres from roads, fences, rivers or other permanent barriers. There will be a small marker where the Tracklayer will start from to enable them to line up with the next flag on the track. The Tracklayer will take this marker with them. The starting line flags will remain.

A minimum of thirty (30) metres before the starting line, the Tracklayer will place one (1) of their scented articles in a clean sealable bag. They may place this bag in a clean, unscented, individual air-tight container supplied by the Judge or their delegate.

The Judge will, when the track has aged sufficiently, take the Handler and dog to approximately thirty (30) metres from the starting line; open the container, if used. The scented article is removed by the Handler, who is then free to start tracking.

The minimum time lapse for the commencement of the track must be 90 minutes and the maximum 180 minutes, from the time the original Tracklayer crosses the starting line.

The Tracklayer or finish article of the unknown person must be found at the end of the track for the dog to obtain a pass.

DOGS ACT

Test 7 – Unknown Person

Paragraph 6 - The Judge will, when the track has aged sufficiently, take the Handler and dog to approximately thirty (30) metres from the starting line; open the container, if used. The scented article is removed by the Handler, who is then free to start tracking.

PROPOSAL:

Paragraph 6 - The Judge will, when the track has aged sufficiently, take the Handler and dog to approximately thirty (30) ~~metres~~ meters from the starting line; open the container, if used. The scented article is removed by the Handler, who is then free to start tracking. The judge shall not provide any guidance as to where between the flags the tracklayer walked.

RATIONALE: the idea of the championship start is that the dog has to find the start of the track. Some judges place the article on the track line which undermines this. The additional text is to improve consistency in judging. Also typo.

TEST 8 - Unknown Person

DOGS VIC

Test 8 – Unknown person

The dog is required to track an unknown person for approximately 1,200 metres.

The track will have a minimum of seven changes of direction: two of these will be between approximately 45 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 3 and 4), all other changes of direction will be between approximately 30 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 1 and 2), the first change of direction to be no less than one hundred (100) metres from the start.

Three articles must be placed on the track; a minimum of two articles must be indicated by the dog to obtain a pass. The start must be a minimum of thirty (30) metres from roads, fences, rivers or other permanent barriers. There will be a small marker where the Tracklayer will start from to enable them to line up with the next flag on the track. The Tracklayer will take this marker flag with them. The starting line flags will remain.

A minimum of thirty (30) metres before the starting line, the Tracklayer will place one (1) of their scented articles in a clean sealable bag. They may place this bag in a clean, unscented, individual air-tight container supplied by the Judge or their delegate.

The Judge will, when the track has aged sufficiently, take the Handler and dog to approximately thirty (30) metres from the starting line; open the container, if used. The scented article is removed by the Handler, who is then free to start tracking.

There will be two Cross Tracks that may be laid by one or two unknown persons. Cross Tracks will be laid according to the Judge's direction. The Cross Tracks must be laid approximately 30 minutes after the original Tracklayer has passed.

The minimum time lapse for the commencement of the track must be 120 minutes and the maximum 180 minutes, from the time the original Tracklayer crosses the starting line. The Tracklayer or finish article of the unknown person must be found at the end of the track for the dog to obtain a pass.

PROPOSAL:

Test 8 – Unknown person

The dog is required to track an unknown person for approximately 1,200 metres.

The track will have a minimum of seven changes of direction: two of these will be between approximately 45 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 3 and 4), all other changes of direction will be between approximately 30 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 1 and 2), the first change of direction to be no less than one hundred (100) metres from the start.

Three articles must be placed on the track; a minimum of two articles must be indicated by the dog to obtain a pass. The start must be a minimum of thirty (30) metres from roads, fences, rivers or other permanent barriers. There will be a small marker where the Tracklayer will start from to enable them to line up with the next flag on the track. The Tracklayer will take this marker flag with them.

The starting line flags will remain.

A minimum of thirty (30) metres before the starting line, the Tracklayer will place one (1) of their scented articles in a clean sealable bag. They may place this bag in a clean, unscented, individual air-tight container supplied by the Judge or their delegate.

The Judge will, when the track has aged sufficiently, take the Handler and dog to approximately thirty (30) metres from the starting line; open the container, if used. The scented article is removed by the Handler, who is then free to start tracking.

The minimum time lapse for the commencement of the track must be 120 minutes and the maximum 180 minutes, from the time the original Tracklayer crosses the starting line. The Tracklayer or finish article of the unknown person must be found at the end of the track for the dog to obtain a pass.

RATIONALE:

The removal of the 'Cross Track' is described as per paragraphs four (4) to nine (9) and the increase of changes of direction to Test Five (5) is described in paragraph ten (10).

The removal of 'Cross Tracks' may not be generally accepted by some but this activity is achieving little for our sport and therefore should be removed.

By increasing the number of changes of direction within Test Five (5) clearly alters it from a Test Four (4) and provides an additional challenge for dogs progressing toward their TDX Title.

DOGS ACT

Test 8 – Unknown Person

Paragraph 6 - The Judge will, when the track has aged sufficiently, take the Handler and dog to approximately thirty (30) metres from the starting line; open the container, if used. The scented article is removed by the Handler, who is then free to start tracking.

PROPOSAL:

Paragraph 6 - The Judge will, when the track has aged sufficiently, take the Handler and dog to approximately thirty (30) ~~metres~~ meters from the starting line; open the container, if used. The scented article is removed by the Handler, who is then free to start tracking. The judge shall not provide any guidance as to where between the flags the tracklayer walked.

RATIONALE: the idea of the championship start is that the dog has to find the start of the track. Some judges place the article on the track line which undermines this. The additional text is to improve consistency in judging. Also typo.

NEW RULES TRACKING GRAND CHAMPION (T G Ch)

DOGS QLD

PROPOSAL:

NEW RULE - TRACKING GRAND CHAMPION (T G Ch)

Test 9 – Unknown person

The dog is required to track an unknown person for approximately 1,200 metres. The track will have a minimum of eight changes of direction: three of these will be between approximately 45 degrees and 135 degrees (refer diagrams 3 and 4), all other changes of direction will be between approximately 30 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 1 and 2), the first change of direction to be no less than one hundred (100) metres from the start.

Four articles must be placed on the track; a minimum of two articles must be indicated by the dog to obtain a pass.

The start must be a minimum of thirty (30) metres from roads, fences, rivers or other permanent barriers. There will be a small marker where the Tracklayer will start from to enable them to line up with the next flag on the track. The Tracklayer will take this marker flag with them. The starting line flags will remain.

A minimum of thirty (30) metres before the starting line, the Tracklayer will place one (1) of their scented articles in a clean sealable bag. They may place this bag in a clean, unscented, individual air-tight container supplied by the Judge or their delegate. The Judge will, when the track has aged sufficiently, take the Handler and dog to approximately thirty (30) metres from the starting line; open the container, if used. The scented article is removed by the Handler, who is then free to start tracking.

There will be one Cross Track laid on two (2) individual legs of the track by an unknown person/s and a dog/s. These cross tracks may be laid by one or two unknown persons. Cross Tracks will be laid according to the Judge's direction. The Cross Tracks must be laid approximately 30 minutes after the original Tracklayer has passed. Total of two (2) cross tracks.

The minimum time lapse for the commencement of the track must be 180 minutes and the maximum 240 minutes, from the time the original Tracklayer crosses the starting line.

The Tracklayer or finish article of the unknown person must be found at the end of the track for the dog to obtain a pass.

DOGS SA

PROPOSAL:

Firstly to be considered first. Rationale: Many of the suggested change follow on from the acceptance of the following.

1. That a Tracking Grand Champion T Gr Ch Title be added to Tracking

RATIONALE: Tracking and Track and Search are separate disciplines and this title should now be added to the Tracking discipline.

DOGS SA

PROPOSAL:

NEW RULE – TRACK 9

The dog is required to track an unknown person for approximately 1,200 metres. The track will have a minimum of seven changes of direction: a minimum of two of these will be between approximately 45 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 3 and 4), other changes of direction will be between approximately 30 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 1 and 2), the first change of direction to be no less than sixty (60) metres from the start. Three articles must be placed on the track; a minimum of two articles must be indicated by the dog to obtain a pass. One article is to be placed at a change of direction, not to be placed at the first change of direction and no article to be placed on the track prior to or within 30 metres after the first change of direction. The start must be a minimum of fifteen (15) metres from roads, fences, rivers or other permanent barriers. There will be a small marker where the Tracklayer will start from to enable them to line up with the next flag on the track. The Tracklayer will take this marker flag with them. The starting line flags will remain. The starting line flags will be twenty five (25 metres) approximately apart. A minimum of fifteen (15) metres before the starting line, the Tracklayer will place one (1) of their scented articles in a clean sealable bag. They may place this bag in a clean, unscented, individual air-tight container supplied by the Judge or their delegate. The Judge will, when the track has aged sufficiently, take the Handler and dog to approximately fifteen (15) metres from the starting line; open the container, if used. The scented article is removed by the Handler, who is then free to start tracking. There will be two Cross Tracks that may be laid by one or two unknown persons. Cross Tracks will be laid according to the Judge's direction. The Cross Tracks must be laid approximately 30 minutes after the original Tracklayer has passed. The minimum time lapse for the commencement of the track must be 150 minutes and the maximum 210 minutes, from the time the original Tracklayer crosses the starting line. The Tracklayer or finish article of the unknown person must be found at the end of the track for the dog to obtain a pass.

DOGS VIC

PROPOSAL:

NEW RULE – Test 9 Unknown Person

The dog is required to track an unknown person for approximately 1,200 metres. The track will have a minimum of **eight** changes of direction: **three** of these will be between approximately 45 degrees and **135 degrees** (refer diagrams 3 and 4), all other changes of direction will be between approximately 30 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 1 and 2), the first change of direction to be no less than one hundred (100) metres from the start.

No two changes of directions between approximately 45 degrees and 135 degrees will be used consecutively on this test.

Four articles must be placed on the track; a minimum of **three** articles must be indicated by the dog to obtain a pass.

The start must be a minimum of thirty (30) metres from roads, fences, rivers or other permanent barriers.

There will be a small marker where the Tracklayer will start from to enable them to line up with the next flag on the track. The Tracklayer will take this marker flag with them. The starting line flags will remain.

A minimum of thirty (30) metres before the starting line, the Tracklayer will place one (1) of their scented articles in a clean sealable bag. They may place this bag in a clean, unscented, individual air-tight container supplied by the Judge or their delegate. The Judge will, when the track has aged sufficiently, take the Handler and dog to approximately thirty (30) metres from the starting line; open the container, if used. **When walking to the start of the track, the Handler and dog will be brought in on a different line from the tracklayer entry.**

The scented article is removed by the Handler, who is then free to start tracking.

There will be one (1) unknown diversion track laid on two (2) individual legs by an unknown person and a dog walking together. The diversion track will be laid according to the Judge's direction, and be laid approximately 30 minutes after the original tracklayer has passed.

The minimum time lapse for the commencement of the track must be **180 minutes** and the **maximum 240 minutes**, from the time the original Tracklayer crosses the starting line.

The Tracklayer or finish article of the unknown person must be found at the end of the track for the dog to obtain a pass

DOGS SA

PROPOSAL:

NEW RULE – TRACK 10

The dog is required to track an unknown person for approximately 1,200 metres. The track will have a minimum of seven changes of direction: a minimum of two of these will be between approximately 45 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 3 and 4), other changes of direction will be between approximately 30 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 1 and 2), the first change of direction to be no less than sixty (60) metres from the start. Four articles must be placed on the track; a minimum of three articles must be indicated by the dog to obtain a pass. One article is to be placed at a change of direction, not to be placed at the first change of direction and no article to be placed on the track prior to or within 30metres after the first change of direction. The start must be a minimum of fifteen (15) metres from roads, fences, rivers or other permanent barriers. There will be a small marker where the Tracklayer will start from to enable them to line up with the next flag on the track. The Tracklayer will take this marker flag with them. The starting line flags will remain. The starting line flags will be twenty five (25 metres) approximately apart. A minimum of fifteen (15) metres before the starting line, the Tracklayer will place one (1) of their scented articles in a clean sealable bag. They may place this bag in a clean, unscented, individual air-tight container supplied by the Judge or their delegate. The Judge will, when the track has aged sufficiently, take the Handler and dog to approximately fifteen (15) metres from the starting line; open the container, if used. The scented article is removed by the Handler, who is then free to start tracking. There will be two Cross Tracks that may be laid by one or two unknown persons. A diversion track will be laid with the diversion tracklayer accompanying the main tracklayer. The diversion tracklayer must accompany the main tracklayer for a minimum of 30 metres and shall leave the track no less than 20 metres before the first change of direction. Any dog that follows the diversion tracklayer off the main track for more than fifteen (15) metres must be marked as failed. The minimum time lapse for the commencement of the track must be 180 minutes and the maximum 240 minutes, from the time the original Tracklayer crosses the starting line. The Tracklayer or finish article of the unknown person must be found at the end of the track for the dog to obtain a pass.

RATIONALE: New tracks for Tracking Grand Championship, depending on what is decided many of the suggestions below may need to be altered. I believe the above to be a good starting point for discussion as the tracks should be more difficult but still achievable and practical in that they can be run by any state currently running Tracking Trials.

DOGS QLD

PROPOSAL:

Test 10 – Unknown person

The dog is required to track an unknown person for approximately 1,400 metres. The track will have a minimum of eight changes of direction: three of these will be between approximately 45 degrees and 135 degrees (refer diagrams 3 and 4), all other changes of direction will be between approximately 30 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 1 and 2), the first change of direction to be no less than one hundred (100) metres from the start.

A challenge obstacle will be placed onto the track between 400m and 1000m from the start of the track, this obstacle will be a spiral, backtrack or a looped backtrack (backtrack version 2) (see Diagram 5) to simulate a lost or disoriented person. This obstacle should be 50m from any previous corners and 50m before any further corners. This obstacle should result in a change of direction of between 30 and 90 degrees. There is NO requirement for a dog to follow either the backtrack or the spirals, rather dogs should be judged on the problem solving they exhibit with “EXCELLENT” dogs exiting the scent pool onto the freshest scent trail out of the obstacle without following the spiral or taking the backtrack.

Four articles must be placed on the track; a minimum of three articles must be indicated by the dog to obtain a pass.

The start must be a minimum of thirty (30) metres from roads, fences, rivers or other permanent barriers. There will be a small marker where the Tracklayer will start from to enable them to line up with the next flag on the track. The Tracklayer will take this marker flag with them. The starting line flags will remain.

A minimum of thirty (30) metres before the starting line, the Tracklayer will place one (1) of their scented articles in a clean sealable bag. They may place this bag in a clean, unscented, individual air-tight container supplied by the Judge or their delegate. The Judge will, when the track has aged sufficiently, take the Handler and dog to approximately thirty (30) metres from the starting line; and open the container, if used. The scented article is removed by the Handler, who is then free to start tracking.

There will be two Cross Tracks laid on two (2) individual legs of the track by an unknown person/s and a dog/s. These cross tracks may be laid by one or two unknown persons. Cross Tracks will be laid according to the Judge’s direction. The Cross Tracks must be laid approximately 30 minutes after the original Tracklayer has passed. Total of four (4) cross tracks.

The minimum time lapse for the commencement of the track must be 240 minutes and the maximum 300 minutes, from the time the original Tracklayer crosses the starting line.

The Tracklayer or finish article of the unknown person must be found at the end of the track for the dog to obtain a pass.

RATIONALE: Tracking was the original discipline in this field and while Track & Search was allocated a Grand Champion Title not long after the two disciplines were separated Tracking has never had a Grand Champion Title. Many dogs are moving to their Champion Title still with many years left in which they are capable of tracking.

To acknowledge these very talented dogs the Title of Grand Champion should also be available in Tracking.

DOGS VIC

PROPOSAL:

Test 10 - Unknown person

The dog is required to track an unknown person for approximately 1,200 metres. The track will have a minimum of eight changes of direction: three of these will be between approximately 45 degrees and 135 degrees (refer diagrams 3 and 4), all other changes of direction will be between approximately 30 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 1 and 2), the first change of direction to be no less than one hundred (100) metres from the start.

No two changes of directions between approximately 45 degrees and 135 degrees will be used consecutively on this test.

Four articles must be placed on the track; a minimum of three articles must be indicated by the dog to obtain a pass.

The start must be a minimum of thirty (30) metres from roads, fences, rivers or other permanent barriers.

There will be a small marker where the Tracklayer will start from to enable them to line up with the next flag on the track. The Tracklayer will take this marker flag with them. The starting line flags will remain.

A minimum of thirty (30) metres before the starting line, the Tracklayer will place one (1) of their scented articles in a clean sealable bag. They may place this bag in a clean, unscented, individual airtight container supplied by the Judge or their delegate. The Judge will, when the track has aged sufficiently, take the Handler and dog to approximately thirty (30) metres from the starting line; open the container, if used. When walking to the start of the track, the Handler and dog will be brought in on a different line from the tracklayer entry.

The scented article is removed by the Handler, who is then free to start tracking.

There will be a diversion track laid by one unknown person. This diversion tracklayer will leave the start point with the original tracklayer and walk in a 'V' design for a minimum of 50 metres from the original tracklayer.

The minimum time lapse for the commencement of the track must be 240 minutes and the maximum 300 minutes, from the time the original Tracklayer crosses the starting line.

The Tracklayer or finish article of the unknown person must be found at the end of the track for the dog to obtain a pass

RATIONALE: This will allow tests 1-10 in tracking as it is currently in Track & Search and allows the gaining of a Tracking Grand Champion as does the T&S discipline.

Please note:-

If the above new title is accepted then all changes in the Rule Book will be consequential of this change, including titles and both tracks will be 3 points in the Judge's schedule for the day.

CONSEQUENTIAL CHANGES: DOGS SA AND DOGS QLD

DOGS QLD

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Tracking Grand Champion (T Gr Ch) Test 9 – Unknown Person

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(E) The starting flag/s must be a minimum of fifteen (15) metres from roads, fences, rivers or other permanent barriers.

RATIONALE: To enable tracks to be put into smaller areas or more tracks in a given area as many affiliates have reduced available areas and increased numbers of competitors wishing to compete at trials.

JUDGES

(B) The maximum number of dogs to be judges by a Judge on any one day will be:

10 X TD or 7 x TDX or 7 x T Ch or 7 x T Grand Ch

NOTE: Points are allotted for the type of tracks to be tested.

| | |
|--------|--------------------------------------|
| TD | 2 points for each track (Maximum 20) |
| TDX | 3 points for each track (Maximum 21) |
| T Ch | 3 points for each track (Maximum 21) |
| T G Ch | 3 points for each track (Maximum 21) |

A combination of TD, TDX, T Ch and/or T G Ch tracks must not exceed 27 points for any Judge on one day. Judges may specify on their contracts how many points they are willing to judge.

DOGS QLD

PROPOSAL:

TRACKLAYER

(C) Except for the start article for Tests 7 to 10, the Tracklayer must place the articles on the track at the places nominated by the Judge, one article to be at the commencement of the track, in addition to the other articles required. For Test 7 to 10, the Tracklayer will place one (1) of their scented articles in a clean unscented, sealable bag supplied by the Judge or their delegate. Each sealable bag may only be used once per day and must be washed or aired after each use.

DOGS SA

PROPOSAL:

(C) Except for the start article for Test 7,8 and Test 9,10 the Tracklayer must place the articles on the track at the places nominated by the Judge, one article to be at the commencement of each track in addition to the other articles required. For Test 7, Test 8, and Test 9 and Test 10 the Tracklayer will place one (1) of their scented articles in a clean unscented, sealable bag supplied by the Judge or their delegate. Each sealable bag may only be used once per day and must be washed or aired after each use. The Judge will, when the track has aged sufficiently, take the Handler and dog to approximately fifteen (15) metres from the starting line, and give the bag to the Handler. The scented article is removed by the Handler, who is then free to start tracking.

RATIONALE: Change to reflect additional tests and reduction of distance from start for presenting the article to reflect reduction suggested above in Equipment E

DOGS SA

(D) All articles must be placed on the track but not on a turn nor within a minimum of thirty (30) metres before or after a turn.

PROPOSAL:

All articles must be placed on the track but not at a change of direction nor within a minimum of thirty (30) metres before or after a change of direction, excepting for a Track 9 or 10 where one article is to be placed at a change of direction as per the description of the track.

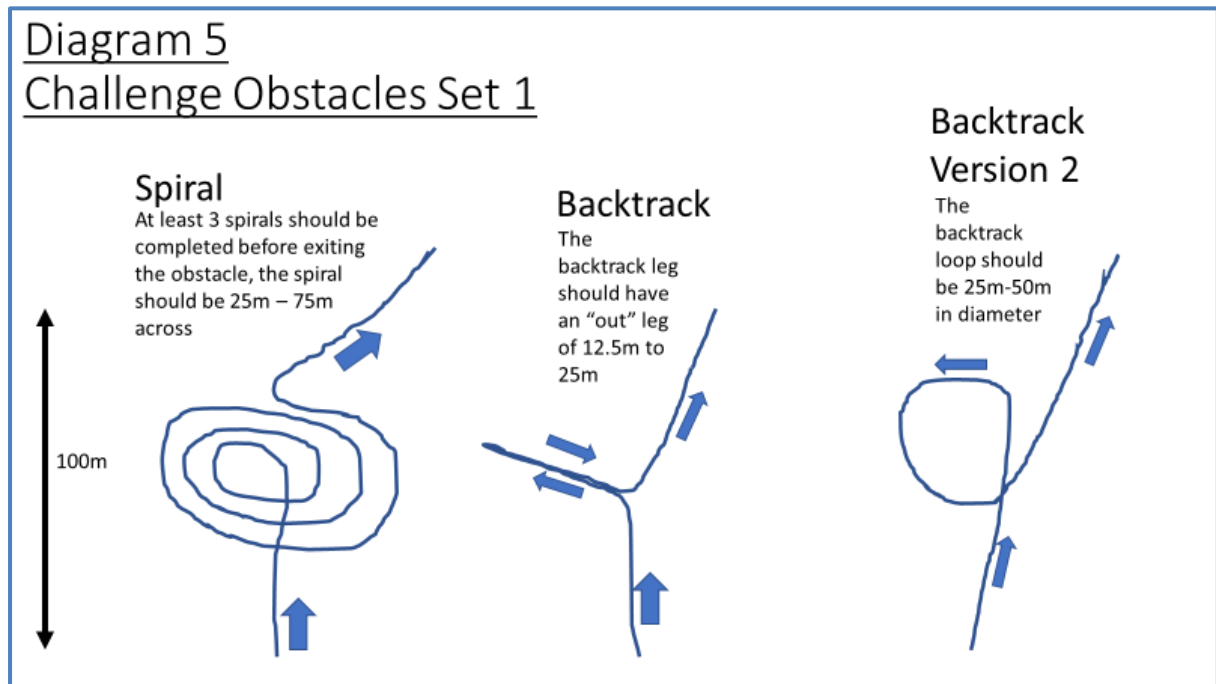
RATIONALE: Change to a change of direction to keep language consistent and add in rules for Track 9 and 10.

DOGS QLD

PROPOSAL:

(D) All articles must be placed on the track but not on a turn nor (except for Test 10) within a minimum of thirty (3) metres before or after a turn.

CHANGE OF DIRECTION



NEW TABLE

TRACKING SUMMARY

The major features of all tracking tests are summarized in the table below, which is provided for explanatory purposes only.

| Test # | Length (metres) | Changes of Direction | Time delay (min) | Tracklayer | Articles (Min/No.) | Additional Components | Restrictions |
|--------|-----------------|----------------------|------------------|------------|--------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 | 400 | 2 | 20 (max 45) | Known | 0/1 | | 1 st leg ≥ 100m |
| 2 | 800 | ≥2 | 30 (max 60) | Known | 1/3 | | |
| 3 | 800 | ≥2 | 30 (max 60) | Unknown | 1/3 | | |

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| | | | | | | | |
|---|------|----|---------------|---------|-----|--|---|
| 4 | 1000 | ≥4 | 60 (max 120) | Unknown | 2/3 | | |
| 5 | 1000 | ≥4 | 60 (max 120) | Unknown | 2/3 | 2 X/T 30 minutes after | |
| 6 | 1200 | ≥5 | 60 (max 180) | Unknown | 2/3 | 1 acute, 2 X/T 30 minutes after | 1 st change of direction cannot be acute |
| 7 | 1200 | ≥6 | 90 (max 120) | Unknown | 2/3 | 2 acutes, 2 X/T 30 minutes after, Blind/gate start | 1 st leg ≥ 100m |
| 8 | 1200 | ≥7 | 120 (max 180) | Unknown | 2/3 | 2 acutes, 2 X/T 30 minutes after, Blind/gate start | 1 st leg ≥ 100m |

RATIONALE: This type of summarization page should be included in both the Tack & Search Rules & Tracking Rules books.

DOGS ACT

Addition of a quick reference table **PROPOSAL:**

SUMMARY

The major features of all tracking tests are summarised in the table below, which is provided for explanatory purposes only.

| Test # | Length (metres) | Age (minutes) | Changes of direction | Articles | Cross Track | Tracklayer | Other |
|--------|-----------------|---------------|----------------------------------|----------|-------------|------------|----------------------------|
| 1 | 400 | 20-45 | 2 at 30-90' | 0/1 | No | Known | First corner at least 100m |
| 2 | 800 | 30-60 | Min 2 at 30-90' | 1/3 | No | Known | |
| 3 | 800 | 30-60 | Min 2 at 30-90' | 1/3 | No | Unknown | |
| 4 | 1000 | 60-120 | Min 4 at 30-90' | 2/3 | No | Unknown | |
| 5 | 1000 | 60-120 | Min 4 at 30-90' | 2/3 | Yes | Unknown | |
| 6 | 1200 | 60-180 | Min 5 with 1 acute others 30-90' | 2/3 | Yes | Unknown | |
| 7 | 1200 | 90-180 | Min 6 with 2 acute others 30-90' | 2/3 | Yes | Unknown | Start line |
| 8 | 1200 | 120-180 | Min 7 with 2 | 2/3 | Yes | Unknown | Start line |

| | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|---------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| | | | acute others 30-90' | | | | |
|--|--|--|---------------------------|--|--|--|--|

RATIONALE: convenient quick reference guide like TSD rules – note may need updating depending on any other changes agreed