

HRD II: Step-by-Step Description

**see general course description for dimensions and physical description of obstacles and features*

1. Exit from Pen (10 points)

Sheep (30 minimum) are taken from the **Pen**. The dog's work is judged on calmness and smoothness. The dog holds the stock in the pen while the handler opens the gate, and may be placed wherever necessary to accomplish exit from the pen in the most efficient manner. The sheep should not rush or crowd the gate or pen. The pen gate is left at full open position.

HRD II handlers may enter the pen, but must remain just inside the gate, and dog must enter the pen off lead.

[The draw for the sheep upon exiting is usually towards the **Gate to Field** (toward house) and nearby field corner. If the sheep go to that area of the field after exiting the Pen, and if dog and Handler show evidence of ability to recover the situation safely and return the sheep to anywhere on **Road 1** within one minute, the run will be penalized but may continue.]

2. Fetch/Drive to Graze, Drive Leg, Hold, and Inner Bridge (15 points)

*The flock travels along **Road 1** in a counter-clockwise direction around field.*

Drive Leg: The Handler's Post (blue cone) on **Road 1** marks a 60-foot drive leg. Handler must remain behind Handler's post while dog works and flock passes the 2 yellow-green cones marking end of drive.

Hold: Dog will then hold the flock at the Intersection of **Road 1** and **Inner Road** until the Handler reaches the **Inner Road**.

*The flock makes a left turn at orange cone onto the **Inner Road** to the **Inner Bridge**.*

Inner Bridge: Flock passes through the **Inner Bridge**. Handler and dog go through Bridge.

*Flock continues along the **Inner Road** to **Graze 3**.*

3. Graze (15 points)

The Graze begins when the sheep complete their entrance into the Graze area. **HRD II** Handlers may lead the flock into the Graze area but should not remain in the Graze for more than 30 seconds.

Time for the Graze is **3 minutes**. The dog should not be kept at the Handler's side, but demonstrate ability to cover and hold the sheep independently. At the Graze, the dog may move, stand, sit, or lie down. Commands may be given to effect holding the

flock in the Graze area, but should not be excessive. The sheep should remain inside the Graze, while dog and Handler should remain outside (except as specified).

The flock should not be disturbed during Graze and relax enough to feed. The judge will indicate when 2 minutes and 30 seconds is reached (Handler may want to prepare the flock's position for the Gather at this time), and when 3 minutes is up.

4. **Gather (10 points)**

By 2 minutes and 30 seconds into the Graze, the judge will have placed the blue cone marking the **Handler's post 40 yards from estimated position of sheep at end of 3 minute Graze**. The blue cone will be placed along the near side of the Outer Road so that the run can continue most efficiently.

For the Gather exercise, the dog is set at the post and the handler may move halfway to the sheep before dog is sent and stock is taken to post.

5. **Fetch/Drive through Outer Bridge, & Flock Halt (20 points)**

*Flock continues in counter-clockwise direction around field on **Outer Road**.*

Outer Bridge: The flock passes through **Outer Bridge**. Handler and dog go through bridge.

Flock Halt: At Intersection of **Outer Road** with **Road 2**, dog halts forward progress of flock (at orange cone) by standing in front of flock and holding it while Handler moves away from flock and beyond dog (at least 10 feet) to "look" for traffic on **Road 2**. Handler then returns to dog and flock.

*Flock continues in counter-clockwise direction around field making left turn onto **Road 2**, and proceeding until making a right turn at orange cone, located 20 ft. before the **Holding Pen Gate**. Here, the flock is moved off road to position on right side of Holding Pen Gate.*

6. **Sort (10 points)**

The goal is to sort 10 sheep from the flock, including at least 1 of 5 marked sheep, and leave them behind in the Holding Pen. On reaching the Holding Pen, sheep should not be allowed to crowd against the gate, fence, or Handler while Handler opens the gate. Sheep should not be allowed to drift further than 60 feet from the gate while sorting. Handler has discretion to put entire flock into holding pen and sort the sheep on their way out, or to sort the sheep as they enter the Holding Pen. The Handler works with the dog to sort. The dog is used to sort, shed, or hold sheep in field or away from gate and Handler, as is appropriate. The gate is closed and secured before leaving.

The Handler may not enter Holding Pen. The dog may enter the Holding Pen if appropriate.

*Remainder of flock not in Holding Pen returns immediately to **Road 2** (following shortest line); continues in counter-clockwise direction around field, making a left*

turn onto **Road 1**. Flock stays on **Road 1** until the flock return to the **Pen**.

7. Re-Pen (10 points)

Sheep move into Pen without crowding, splitting, or rushing, and dog is used appropriately to make this happen. Dog takes position outside gate threshold of Pen to hold sheep calmly in Pen while Handler shuts the gate of the Pen.