

HRD III: 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.

[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.]

HRD III handler must remain outside the pen. The dog can be positioned inside or outside the pen and must be off leash.

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

The flock travels along Road 1, which is 12 feet wide, in a counter-clockwise direction around field.

Drive Leg: The Handler's Post on Road 1 for the 120-foot drive leg is marked by a yellow-green cone. Handler must remain behind Handler's post while dog works until all the sheep pass the 2 yellow-green cones marking end of drive.

Hold: Dog holds the flock at the Intersection of **Road 1** and **Inner Road** until the Handler gets to the Inner Road.

*The flock makes a left turn at orange cone onto the Inner Road which is 12 feet wide. The flock travels along Inner Road to the **Inner Bridge**.*

Inner Bridge: Flock crosses **Inner Bridge**. Dog and handler cross bridge.

*Flock travels on **Inner Road** to **Graze 4**.*

3. Graze (15 points)

Begins when the sheep complete their entrance into the Graze area. **HRD III** Handlers may not enter the Graze to help position sheep or dog.

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 if desired, or may stand, sit, or lie down. Commands may be given to hold the flock inside the Graze, but should not be excessive. The sheep should

remain inside the graze, dog and handler should remain outside (except as specified), but may change positions as desired.

The flock should not be disturbed during the Graze and should 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), 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 cone will be placed on the near side along **Outer Road** so that the run can continue most efficiently.

After the Graze, the Handler and dog both move back 40 yards from the sheep to the Handler's Post (blue cone) designated for the Gather. The Handler remains at the post while the dog gathers the stock. The sheep are taken to the Handler's Post.

5. **Fetch/Drive (after gather to Re-Pen, Outer Bridge, and Flock Halt)** (20 points)

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

Outer Bridge: The flock passes through **Outer Bridge** (12 ft. wide, 18 ft. long, field floor). Handler and dog both go through bridge.

Sheep should stay on the Outer Road.

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 and continue.

*Flock continues in counter-clockwise direction around field, making a left turn onto **Road 2** (starts at 12 ft. wide, but widens to 18 ft. past Holding Pen) and stays on road until making right turn at orange cone 20 ft. before the **Holding Pen Gate**. At cone, flock is moved off road to position on right side of Holding Pen Gate.*

6. **Sort** (10 points)

The Holding Pen is 16 feet x 16 feet with a 12 foot gate and 48 inch tall fencing. The Handler may not enter Holding Pen. The dog may enter the Holding Pen if appropriate.

The objective is to sort 15 sheep from the flock, including all 5 of the marked sheep and leave them behind in the Holding Pen. On reaching the Holding Pen gate, sheep should not be allowed to crowd against it, the fence, or the Handler as the 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 he/she puts them into 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.

*Remainder of flock not in Holding Pen returns immediately to **Road 2** (using shortest route to Road) and continues counter-clockwise direction around field, making a left turn onto **Road 1** (at orange cone). Flock follows **Road 1** to the **Re-Pen**.*

7. Re-Pen— 1st (10 points total; completed below)

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

8. Second Fetch/Drive from Holding Pen (10 points total)

Handler and dog return to the **Holding Pen** and release the 15 sheep. Dog can be placed inside or outside of Holding Pen, but flock should not be allowed to crowd gate, fence, or Handler. Nor should the flock be allowed to drift more than 60 feet when released into the field as the Handler closes the gate.

*Remainder of flock not in Holding Pen returns immediately to **Road 2** (using shortest route to Road) and continues counter-clockwise direction around field, making a left turn onto **Road 1** (at orange cone). Flock follows **Road 1** to the **Re-Pen**.*

7. (Continued) Re-Pen— 2nd (continued from 7 above; 10 points total)

After the second fetch/drive from the Holding Pen, the dog holds the sheep away from crowding the gate, fence, and the Handler while the Handler opens the gate of the Pen to allow the sheep to enter. The sheep are re-penned in the Pen without re-exiting, crowding or rushing at the gate or the fence while handler closes gate. The final pen may not be entered.