



NEBCA News

The Official Publication of the North East Border Collie Association, Inc.



Peter VandeCarr's Bear: See story page 5

Katherine Mercier

The mission of the North East Border Collie Association is to promote and to protect the Border Collie as a working stock dog through the sanctioning and regulation of competitive herding trials and by providing information on training, health and breeding.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

NEBCA Administration.....2
 Editor's comments.....3
 Bittersweet New Year's Trial.....4
 The Story of Bear.....5
 NEBCA goes to Kentucky.....6-7
 Thoughts on Judging.....8-14
 Annual Meeting Minutes.....14-17
 NEBCA Financial Statements.....17-18
 NEBCA Trial Calendar.....19

NEBCA Bylaws & Rules

can be found at
<http://www.nebca.net/welcome.html>

If members require hard copies, please contact The Secretary, Martha Walke, P.O. Box 66, S. Strafford, VT 05070

NEBCA Membership

Annual Renewals due January 1st
\$30 per individual, or
\$35 per farm/family

Those wishing to receive a hard copy of the Newsletter by US mail please add \$10 for this convenience. Otherwise the newsletter is available on the website.

To join or renew, send your name, address and dues to The Secretary, NEBCA, Martha Walke, P. O. Box 66, S. Strafford, VT 05070
OR submit online at
<http://nebca.net/membershipChoice.html>

New members may join at any time. After October 1, you will automatically be paid through the following calendar year.

NEBCA News Editor

Pam Mueller, Chief
pjmueller1@gmail.com

Issue Publication Dates

Spring: March 1
Summer: June 1
Autumn: September 1
Winter: December 1

Deadline for Submissions

At least one month prior to publication date. Send all materials to Pam Mueller

Points Keeper (Open & Novice)

Skylar Landis 717-577-0927
bellerosekennels@gmail.com

Calendar Production Committee

nebcacalendar@gmail.com
Mary Smith 978-249-3531
Elizabeth Smith-Fries 560-404-6028
Concy Smith 978-249-3531

Calendar Distribution

Diane Geer 860-941-7575
geerdiane@gmail.com

NEBCA NEWS

Display Advertising

Business Card
\$15 per issue/\$50 per year
Quarter Page
\$35 per issue/\$100 per year
Half Page
\$50 per issue/ \$150 per year
Full Page
\$75 per issue/\$225 per year

Please Support Border Collie Rescue

New England Border Collie Rescue
<http://nebcr.org>
info@nebcr.org

Mid Atlantic Border Collie Rescue
<http://www.mabcr.org>
slr@mabcr.org

Glen Highland Farm (Senior Dogs)
<http://glenhighlandfarm/sbcr.htm>
rescue@glenhighlandfarm.com

Border Collie Rescue Ontario
<http://www.bordercollierescueont.com>
cindy@bordercollierescueont.com
Sharon@bordercollierescueont.com

NEBCA Officers

President Teri Rhodes
914-204-2543
poepeep@gmail.com
Vice President Peggy Flanagan
207-549-3867
mamakin36@hotmail.com
Secretary Skylar Landis
717-577-0927
Bellerosekennels@gmail.com
Treasurer Elizabeth Smith-Fries
Treasurer@NEBCA.net

Board of Directors

Chair: Warren Mick 518-25-1191
warrenmick3@gmail.com
Dave Goyer 315-391-0329
goyhvac@gmail.com
Ginny Prince 603-675-2179
virginiatprince@gmail.com
Chris Bowen 603-358-0147
Christopher.lea.bowen@gmail.com

Open Trials Committee

Chair Sue Schoen 508-523-3105
sbschoen@gmail.com
Kim Lippolis 607-655-1139
kimberlipp@echoes.net
Laurie Sargent 603-738-5340
bulalula1111@gmail.com
Dominick Frabizio 215-787-8560
Dominick@platnerbrookfarm.com
Cynthia Palmer
cjpalmer@nexicom.net

Novice Trials Committee

Chair: Teri Rhodes 914-204-2543
poepeep@gmail.com
Skylar Landis 717-577-0927
bellerosekennels@gmail.com
Theone Thayer
Theone.thayer@gmail.com
Rebecca Goyer 315-391-0329
rhartz4199@hotmail.com
Michelle Dobbs 410-703-4418
dobbs.michelle2@gmail.com

Education Committee

Chair Rose Redick 518-465-6808
roser@aol.com
Dominick Frabizio 215-7878560
Dominick@platnerbrookfarm.com
Judy Gambill 610-389-7242
jlg456@epix.net

Webinar Committee

Chair Sara Reiter 607-655-2170
sarareit@gmail.com
Joan Teebagy 617-484-5158
joanteebagy@yahoo.com
Fiona Robertson 819-578-9885
fionaqc69@gmail.com
Celeste LaCroix 613-284-6611
ceeley.lacroix@gmail.com
Pam Mueller 607-342-4291
pjmueller1@gmail.com

Library

Sheila Crepeau 603-978-1077
Sheila.crepeau@gmail.com

Newsletter

Pam Mueller 607-342-4291
pjmueller1@gmail.com

Website

Annie-Claude Laniel 613-456-6196
Webmaster.nebca@gmail.com
Geneviève Pronovost
Webmaster.nebca@gmail.com

The Editor Speaks

I found this archival piece interesting. It is an excerpt from the meeting minutes from Spring of 2012.

“Membership committee proposal - Joe Evans Joe noted that the club has had about 300 members for many years and that not enough is done to add new members. More members would increase revenue. He suggested that the club should have a committee or person to promote NEBCA and increase the membership. Activity would include reminding members to renew, recruiting new members, promote interaction with members as to “what do you want this club to be?” The BOD will review the suggestion. “

As of now the club has fewer than 300 members not more (244 in fact), so obviously this plan did not come to fruition. Time for the BOD to take this up?

NEWSLETTER CONTENT

Members of NEBCA, this is *your* newsletter. What do you want to see in it? Originally, the Newsletter formed a vital communication link as it was the only source other than word of mouth for trial listings, entry forms, trial results and club news. Now of course we have many sources of on-line information available. The Newsletter is not essential for finding trial information (that’s on the website), does not publish trial entry forms. Other than random and incomplete Facebook posts, however, it remains the only repository of trial results (but is incomplete, as not all trial managers send in results).

The Newsletter seeks to provide other information of interest either re club matters or the training and trialing of sheep-dogs. Your submissions are always welcome and in fact needed: Stories, photos, poems, drawings. Be creative.

If you have an opinion on Newsletter content going forward, or in fact the continued existence of a NEBCA Newsletter in the digital age, please let a club officer or the Editor know.

Please note that Officers, Board of Directors and Committee members have (in some cases) changed. See page 2 for new information and so you know whom to contact with your questions.

Welcome to: Teri Rhodes as NEBCA’s new President

Secretary: Skylar Landis

Treasurer: Elizabeth Smith-Fries

I don’t know why the issue of this Newsletter that comes out in March is called the “Spring” issue. Some of the coldest weather and biggest storms of late are enveloping many of us. I for one have stuck by the fire (or the gas heater) with no interest in training my dog. I guess I am not that hard core — are you?

So you may have something to do by that fire, here is an issue of the Newsletter with a few tidbits to explore. We have some trial results from Carol Campion’s Bittersweet Farm’s chilly January trial and a humorous tale from our very own and very special member Peter VandeCarr.

Judging (“why did I lose those points???”) is a continual interest (complaint?) of most handlers who trial their dogs. Judging is subjective and open to interpretation, but there are established Guidelines as well as time-honored practices AND individual opinions. Pages 8-14 reprints an article from the Spring 2012 NEBCA Newsletter that makes for very interesting reading if you study the tiny figures carefully. Since this was an old reprint it couldn’t be altered for clarity. Thanks to Dominck Frabizio for technical assistance in bringing you this piece. Yes it is old, but does judging change? Should it?

If you missed the March Annual Meeting, read all about it on pages 14-17. Finally, peruse the NEBCA financial reports pages 17-18 to understand where the money comes from and where it goes.

Check out the Trial Calendar on page 19 (it’s also on the Website) and start dreaming of summer!

Bittersweet Farm “New Year’s” Trial

Saturday Jan 4, 2025

Hampton, CT Judge: Denise Leonard

Due to excessively wet weather on Jan 1, the Bittersweet New Years trial was postponed until Saturday, January 4th. It was cold and it was very windy but skies were sunny as was the atmosphere!

The hearty North-Easterners braved the cold for the first trial New England trial of the year.

The North Country Cheviot ewes and lambs were fit and challenging as was the course. It wasn’t huge but on home ground, the sheep knew all the escape routes and tried their best to outsmart the dogs to get there. There were some lovely Open runs and very nice Nursery runs for many of the dogs’ first time out. A few new handlers went to the post in Open for the first time and showed themselves well.

Denise Leonard did a great job judging. Thanks to all for coming and helping to make the event enjoyable. ~ Carol Campion

OPEN 35 dogs ran

Place	Handler	Dog	Score
1.	Sue Schoen	Reo	88
2.	Bev Lambert	Annie	88
3.	Carol Campion	Carrie	78
4.	Eric Johnson	Blade	74
5.	Emily Yazwinski	Earl	73
6.	Chloe Scott	Una	72
7.	Emily Yazwinski	Fern	72
8.	Maria Amodei	Pan	70
9.	Teri Rhodes	Zuben	70
10.	Christine Koval	Nick	67

Nursery

8 dogs ran

Place	Handler	Dog	Score
1.	Chloe Scott	Una	61
2.	Eric Johnson	Gus	44

Dan Tracey



Maria Amodei and Pan



Dana Eriksen and Finn dressed for the weather

Dan Tracey

Sheepdog Stories from Long Ago

By Peter VandeCarr

This happened to my dog Bear about six or seven years ago.

I was out splitting wood in my work area. It's a paved grain storage area on the farm where I keep my sheep, truck and camper. The work area is about 20 square yards with my camper on one side and the log splitter on the other. On the back side sits a two-row high stack of round bales.

All was going well. Bear visited every few minutes to check on my progress and to get some pets. I had accumulated a sizeable pile of firewood. It was time to work the sheep. Bear had not checked in for about five minutes. I called "Bear, sheep". (Bear always comes straight away when called). No Bear. Perhaps he found something good to sniff outside the work area. Behind me is a 50 acre mowed hay field. I go back there and blow his come home whistle, it carries a very long way – no Bear. I feel the first hint of worry. I walk out front to the county highway and look up and down. I blow his come home whistle as loud as I can. No Bear.

Now I'm becoming very worried. In back of the work area and beyond the hay field is a great forest, dense and dark. There are a few narrow trails that we have walked many times. Bear knows the woods well but still it's easy to get lost. We have several times. I walk about 10 yards into the forest and blow come home --- No Bear. Now I feel a bit of panic. I had not seen Bear for perhaps five minutes – how far could he have gone? The sheep, I think, he went to the sheep. The sheep field is across the road and uphill. I walk the perimeter, blowing Bear's come home whistle – No Bear. I run to the barn and fetch the 4-wheeler. He must have gone to the woods, I think. He was lost. The main trail begins on the far side of my field then branches off to the woods unknown. Every 100 or so yards I stop and blow the whistle – Nothing. I drive about 1 mile into the woods and almost get lost myself. Now I'm in 100% panic mode. I drive half a mile down the road to the farm owner's house as there is poor cell service

at the wood pile. She knows all the neighbors and calls them. I call my vet and he puts the information out on the internet. He knows Bear well and wishes me luck.

I ride the 4 wheeler back to where Bear disappeared.

I sit down at one end of the line of round bales – sometimes the phone works there. The phone lights up. Someone has found my dog, I think. It's a woman calling from three towns away—about 30 miles. She describes a black and white dog that clearly is not Bear. She says "I hope you find your dog". I thank her and manage to gag out "So do I". Perhaps I'll get another call.

Bear is gone forever I now think. My friend and trial dog gone forever. How could this be? He was out of sight for five minutes! About an hour passes. The phone does not ring. It will be dark soon. What will I do?

I casually glance down the row of round bales. What's that I see? It's a dog nose. It's a border collie nose – It's Bear! I jump up. Most of Bear is in between two of the bottom bales. Only his nose sticks out. "Bear" I say, "what are you doing?" He won't come out. I reach in and pull on his collar. He cries. He's stuck.

In back of the bales is a small space, just big enough for a dog. Both of his hind paws are tangled up in baling twine. Fortunately I have a pair of wire cutters at the log splitter. I can just reach back and cut the twine. Bear did not seem terribly glad to see me. From his perspective he was never lost. He was only 20 feet from where I was working.

It took a while to call off the search—the entire neighborhood was mobilized.

Bear got old and finally left me last May. He was a happy dog right to the end. He was a good trial dog, friend and companion. I named my new dog Oso (Spanish for bear) in his honor. Oso ran his first Ranch trial at Bittersweet Farm last October. He ran very well.

NEBCA in Kentucky

Several NEBCA members trekked to Kentucky in December to work stockdogs in both individual lessons and a clinic, taught by Michael Stewart at his farm in Horse Branch, KY. Between lessons we were encouraged to practice, practice and more practice. Everyone appreciated the opportunities to work in small pens, alleyways, the arena, the 100 acre field and the chance to work one, a few, or even 60 sheep. Sheep were cooperative (for the most part!) and the food was endless and delicious (a pot luck and turkey roast were highlights). Yes it did snow a bit but Mike and his wife Patty provided gracious hospitality over several days of all-day training, with a warm kitchen and endless hot coffee. Interested in joining the crew on a future trip? Contact Sallie Butler at nebcaneews2019@gmail.com. *Photos by Sallie Butler*



Intrepid NEBCA travellers training with Mike Stewart at his farm in Horse Branch, KY in December:

Sallie Butler, Wayne Simon, Pam Mueller, Sara Reiter

Wayne Simon's Cody practicing lifting out of the corner



Sara Reiter helps Zac push sheep into an alleyway to practice calm driving



Mike teaching Sallie Butler's Kelpie Sirius to "back" the sheep (jump up on them and run across, a classic kelpie skill) so she can get ahead of them in tight spaces.

Pam Mueller's Gnat learning patience in small spaces



THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE IS REPRINTED FOR YOUR EDIFICATION. Lots of info here, and notice that the three judges quoted sometimes agree, sometimes do not — that’s judging! ~ the Editor

NEBCA News — Volume 30, Issue 1 March 2012

An Introduction to Judging Guidelines

Judging guidelines were developed with real stock/farm work in mind while trialing is a representation of day-to-day shepherding. Adhering to these standards will help NEBCA achieve its mission of promoting and protecting the Border Collie as a working stock dog.

A good way to increase and refine your understanding of possible deductions a judge may take based upon the action of the sheep and dog on the trial course is by attending a judging clinic. A judging clinic can also help refine your handling by helping you focus on what the guidelines suggest for point deductions. A few clinics have already been announced and other clinics will be added. There is no better way to ensure that your specific questions are addressed than by attending a judging clinic.

Another approach is to read this brief compilation from three NEBCA News articles first published in 1989 and 1991. Then more thoroughly review each section and accompanying sketches more thoroughly together with the USBCHA Judging Guidelines. If you don't have a copy handy, the NEBCA website welcome page has links to both the ISDS Rules and USBCHA Guidelines.

Judging Education Committee

1. NEBCA'S JUDGING CLINICS by Douglas McDonough

In 1985, 1987, and 1988, the NEBCA Trials Committee organized judging clinics, with the purpose of improving and standardizing the quality of judges in the Northeast. Clinic instructors were Lewis Pulfer (July 1985), Bruce Fogt

(April 1987), and Ralph Pulfer (July 1988). All three men are from Ohio and all are successful, nationally known handlers and judges.

In this series of NEBCA NEWS articles, I will attempt to summarize what was taught at the three clinics. Please remember that this summary can't get every topic covered during 3 one-day clinics. My apologies ahead of time to the three instructors for all the things that they consider important that I have left out. NEBCA members who never trial their dogs may find that this series helps explain just what is going on at a trial, how the judge deducts points, and why everybody loves to complain about the judging. In the accompanying sketches, the handler is usually represented by an X; the sheep by XXX; and the path of the dog is shown by arrows.

Ralph began his clinic by reviewing the progress of the past few decades in North American sheepdog judging, with the overwhelming majority of trials today judged according to International Sheep Dog Society rules, which are very brief. Lewis and Bruce also began by stating that they would be teaching us the ISDS rules, but the rules as explained and expanded in the Scottish Farmer by legendary British handler J.M. Wilson. Ralph stressed that ISDS rules say that all penalties (points deducted) are "circumstances at hand" by the decision of the judge based on the actions of the sheep and the dog.

Bruce said, "The judge's job is to take points off every variation from perfect work." Even if the work appeared nearly perfect but there was something the judge didn't like, but couldn't quite put his finger on, take off points —

room must always be left for the perfect dog. Ralph said there is nothing wrong with giving perfect points for a phase of work. If it looked excellent, give all the points. Don't hold back 1 point or 1/2 pt. for some potential future better work. Scoring for a typical run is: Out-run 20; Lift 10; Fetch 20; Drive 30; Shed 10; Pen 10; Single 10.

To Bruce (B), a perfect outrun is pear shaped with the dog in contact with the sheep but not disturbing them (figure 1). A dog that runs up the middle and swings around the sheep at the end loses 4 points (figure 2). To Lewis

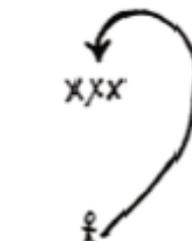


FIGURE 1



FIGURE 2

(L), the outrun should be pear shaped. A square outrun (figure 3)

loses points.

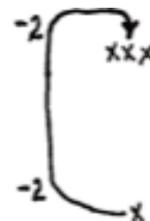


FIGURE 3

The dog overrunning unnecessarily at the top loses points (figure 4).

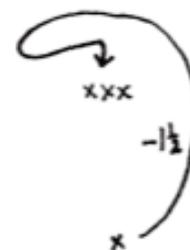


FIGURE 4

Ralph (R) says that none of the sample outrun paths (in figure 5) would lose points except (a) the tightest run (through the fetch gates equals -4 or -5) or (b) a square outrun or (c) if the

dog breaks away from the handler's side and runs backwards away from the sheep before going out (-2 points).

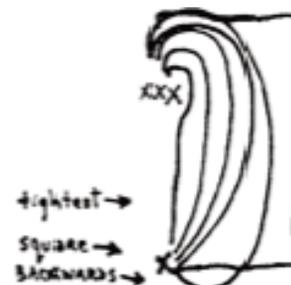


FIGURE 5

Here are point deductions (fig. 6) at both bottom and top of outrun — if one or both corners are square.

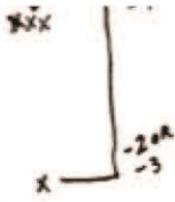


FIGURE 6

R: Although the pear-shaped outrun looks pretty, there should be no deduction for a "circle" outrun (fig. 7).

R: Dog running just to outside edge of fetch gates is O.K. (fig. 8).

B: A dog running too tight is also subject to a loss of 1 or 2 points depending upon how tight the dog is. B: A dog running the fence who is "off contact" with his sheep would lose 1 or 2 points depending upon how wide he ran.

The size of the field must be taken into consideration in determining these point losses. R: Dog running over to fence before turning in to sheep is O.K if fence not ridiculously long ways away and if dog angles down to it — not a square outrun (fig. 9).

L: If dog goes out too straight, whistle him out wider quickly. The closer he gets to the sheep, the harder it is to get him wide. You'll lose 1/2 to 1-1/2 points for a redirect. If dog stops on outrun, lose 1 pt. If you whistle him on and he obeys (redirects) lose another 1/2 point. For a

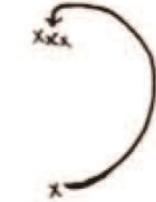


FIGURE 7

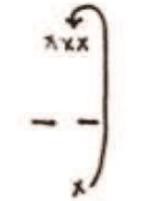


FIGURE 8

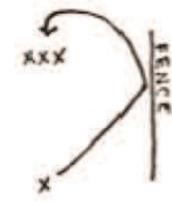


FIGURE 9

B: Redirecting a running dog is 1/2 point deduction whether or not the dog takes the redirect. If the dog stops itself and is redirected, lose 2 points. If the handler stops the dog and redirects it lose 3 points. If handler gives the dog a "that'll do" command on the outrun it is the same as any other command - lose 1/2 point. If, however, the dog turns back to the handler or stops and sniffs the ground or otherwise loses contact with the sheep on the outrun, lose 2 points.

B: A crossover occurs when the dog crosses the line between the sheep and the handler on its outrun. The minimum number of points lost from a crossover should be 10 or half the outrun points. The only type of outrun that could result in this minimal point loss is a dog that crosses over at the handler's feet as soon as it is sent and otherwise has a perfect outrun (fig.11). Normally when a dog starts to crossover, the handler attempts to prevent it by stopping and redirecting the dog. Each stop and redirect = -3 pts. and the crossover at least 10 more.

The closer to the sheep a crossover occurs, then the more points that are deducted. R: Ralph assigns a heavier point loss when the dog stops itself on an outrun than when the handler stops the dog. If conditions are perfect (dog can see sheep), -3 or -4 pts. If it is a blind lift for the dog, perhaps a -1 pt. deduction.

Be very lenient with sheep bolting down past the fetch gates and the dog going too wide on the outrun to get behind them fast enough ("covering the sheep") until sheep are down past the fetch gate. If this occurs and the sheep come straight down through the fetch gates, handler has just gotten an early Christmas gift. There is normally no such thing as "out of contact" if the sheep are going right.

For this type (fig. 12) of very undesirable outrun, R. deducts - 11 pts. R: The end of the outrun is O.K. IF THE SHEEP LIFT STRAIGHT (fig.13).

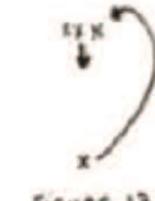


FIGURE 13

them, there would be points off (fig. 14). Any command on the outrun has a penalty. For the first redirect, R. usually deducts 1/2 pt. Subsequent redirects are usually -1 pt. No deduction for stopping the dog at the end of the outrun. If the dog runs to the holding pen or exhaust pen, R. takes a light deduction (-2 or -3) if it comes off quickly.

R: From the lift (fig. 15) the line of travel will be to the center of the fetch gates. If the sheep being held for the outrun should split and the dog gathers the single as part of the outrun and puts it with the others, then the lift begins. R: If the sheep bolt down the field at an angle, either of these outruns (figures 16 or 17) is O.K. The shaded area (fig. 17 again) represents the zone of O.K.



FIGURE 12

R: If the sheep are running away, the dog must come in fairly close to stop them soon — if dog runs wide around to stop



FIGURE 11



FIGURE 14



FIGURE 15



FIGURE 10

crossover, lose 10-18 points. R: There is no deduction for (fig. 10) this type of outrun if dog corrects self, doesn't startle sheep, and no redirect given. -1 if redirect given.



FIGURE 16

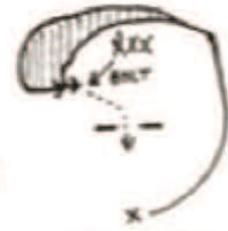


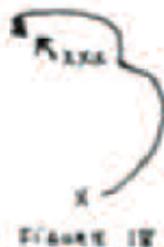
FIGURE 17

outruns, if the dog succeeds in stopping the running sheep. Dog should run as close to them as is necessary to stop them quickly.

R: To summarize the outrun so far, the dog can go in many places and still be O.K., e.g., the dog can head the sheep if they are moving (unless moving down towards handler on the fetch!); otherwise, the dog should get behind the sheep at the end of the outrun.

Ralph then answered a series of specific questions. If the dog starts out, spins around 360 degrees, then continues the outrun, -2 to -4. Handler and dog are at post. Dog begins to dash away before handler is ready, so handler stops dog and recalls it a few feet, then sends it on its way = -3 or -4. At the handler's post, the dog can be set up to 4 yards away from handler.

There is a deduction ANY TIME the dog "turns to" — turns to look back to handler or spins around (-2 to -4). -6 off outrun (fig.1B) of dog that runs in towards the sheep and startles them backwards. Once around them, then the lift begins.



B: A handler who walks to the post with his dog on the leash would lose -1. The handler should be given a reasonable time to send his dog (B. suggested one minute) before judge should tell the handler to send the dog or be disqualified. The outrun ends when the dog makes contact with the sheep (the "lift"). B. says THE OUTFUN CANNOT BE JUDGED UNTIL THE LIFT IS COMPLETED.

R. stressed that ISDS rules say that all penalties are "circumstances at hand" by the decision of the judge based on the actions of the sheep and dog. R. deducts points from the outrun and the lift independently of each other. L. said that when he judges, you'll lose points on everything (outrun, lift, and fetch) if the sheep don't lift straight towards the handler.

2. LIFTS AND FETCHES

In 1985, 1987 and 1988, NEBCA organized judging clinics to inform interested members of the detailed rules for judging sheepdog trials. This summary article examines Lifts and Fetches.

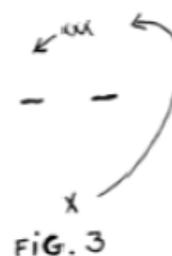
According to Bruce Fogt (B), the Outrun cannot be judged until the Lift is completed. If the sheep lift straight on to the handler then the dog is in the correct position. A perfect lift is worth 10 points and must be smooth and straight from wherever the sheep are to the handler (fig.1).

If the dog overran the sheep, lose 1-1/2 points or more depending upon severity of the overrun. If the dog stops short, lose 2 or more points depending on severity. Bruce suggested setting up mental point zones for judging the direction that the sheep travel during the lift. (fig.2)

A little off perfect would be -1/2; more off would be -1 or -2 and so forth. Sheep lifting straight away from the handler is -9. These point zones allow the judge to point all lifts uniformly. Sheep leaving the lift at an incorrect angle means the outrun was also wrong (dog short or overran) and usually results in an equal deduction from the outrun AND the lift. This will also result in a loss of points on the fetch since the sheep will be off line on the beginning of the fetch.

Ralph Pulfer began his judging clinic segment on lifts by saying that since ISDS rules say that the main feature of the lift is the ability to take control of the sheep in a firm and quiet manner with-

out disturbing them. He deducts nothing from the lift if the dog obeys this rule. Thus, on a lift like this (fig.3), he deducts nothing if



the lift was good according to the above rule, even if it was in a wrong direction. In this example, he would deduct -3 or -4 for the dog stopping short on the outrun, then he'd

deduct -3 or -4 off start of the fetch for being off line.

For a lift like this (fig.4), where the dog appears to overrun the sheep then walks up to the sheep diagonally, but the sheep lift straight to the handler, there is no deduction since the dog was obviously right.



The judge has to decide how much running of the sheep was caused by the dog and how much the sheep would have run on their own. In response to a question, Ralph (R) says that he doesn't go back and change scores for sections of runs but if he thinks he was too lenient on outrun points, he will hit harder on lift points.

For a lift like this (fig.5), where the dog overruns the sheep, corrects itself, then walks straight up to the sheep who lift straight to the handler, -3 or -4.



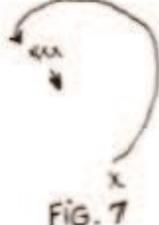
R. says that if a dog needs commands on the lift, for the first few commands -1/2 pt. per command. A dog needing several commands -1 pt. per command. A dog zigzagging to the lift with commands, more than -1 per command (for a probable total of -2 to -4). A dog moving REAL slowly is O.K. A dog zigzagging on lift without commands is O.K. If dog runs too tight on lift and sheep split away, -8 on lift. If one sheep (perhaps eating) jumps at lift, no deduction if dog

NEBCA News — Volume 30, Issue 1 March 2012

didn't cause the reaction. It is up to the judge to decide.

B. said that a dog that needs commands on the lift (usually for hesitation) loses 1/2 to 1 pt. for each command. Hesitation without commands is usually 1/2 pt. lost. A dog zigzagging towards the lift (dog hesitant to make contact) loses 1 pt. for each jag off the straight approach. If the sheep jump away from the dog but go in the right direction (not a smooth lift) lose 2 pts. If the sheep jump in the wrong direction lose 2 pts. plus a loss of a point for lifting off line. A fast lift can cost 1 to 5 points depending upon how fast the sheep move. On the outrun and lift, the judging is primarily based on the actions of the dog. In the other phases of the work the position of the sheep is more heavily relied upon.

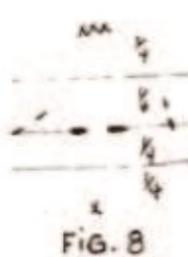
B. said a dog stopping short (fig.6) and moving in on the sheep who lift smoothly but 90 degrees off line is a loss of 5 pts stopped short and 5 pts lifting off line.



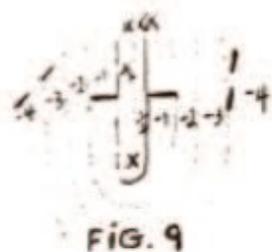
If the sheep are drifting (fig.7) the dog must run far enough to cover the sheep. If the sheep lift straight to the handler then the outrun was correct.

Although B. would like to cut points for a dog being stopped at the end of the outrun by the handler, Bruce says that J.M. Wilson said this was no loss of points and so he makes no deduction.

The **FETCH**, where the sheep travel straight to the handler, is usually worth 20 pts. Fetch gates are usually 12 ft. long and have a 21 ft. opening between them. For judging, B. mentally divides the field into quarters along the fetch line (fig. 8). These quarters help the

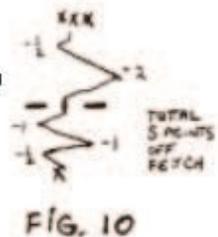


judge to estimate the distance the sheep travel while off line. B. then divides the field into point zones (fig. 9).



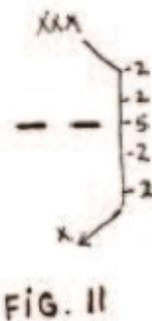
A perfect line resulting in no loss of points in going through the fetch gate is the center of the opening

or about 3 ft. on either side of this line. Sheep still going through the gates but off the perfect line would be subject to loss of points: -1/2 pt. off line while still inside fetch gates. The quarters that the field is divided into are a measure of distance to help the judge determine how long the sheep have been traveling off line. Off line slightly for 1/4 of the field is -1/2 point; one-half of the field is another -1/2 pt. Sheep off line a little bit the whole fetch would thus be -2 pts. Sheep zigzagging (fig.10) lose points each time they go off line.



How many points lost depends upon what point zone they zag into. Loss of points on the fetch are for the whole bunch of sheep — one sheep off line in the 1 pt. zone might be -1/2 pt.

B. said if the sheep miss the gate lose 5 pts. (fig.11). Additional points would be deducted for being off line as shown. Anytime that the dog crosses the course between the sheep and the obstacle that the sheep are headed for it's a loss of -4.



The dog heading the sheep and unnecessarily stopping their line to the obstacle (but not crossing the course) is -1 or -2. If sheep bolt down the field angling away from the fetch gate, it's

O.K. for dog to stop them and put them directly back on line—the only points lost would be for off line. If sheep bolt straight down the field for the handler with the dog left lying down on the lift, -1 or -2 for dog out of contact.

R. said that for this fetch (fig.12), if the dog keeps trying to turn the sheep onto the line for the whole distance, he would probably only deduct -1/2 pt.



But for the exact same fetch (fig.12 again), if the dog follows the sheep the whole way (thus is driving them off line), lose -6 pts. R. deducts -2 pts. whenever sheep get out beyond the panel. (fig.13)

FIG. 12

However, for this second time out beyond the panel (fig.14), he would deduct -3 because the handler had the chance to correct it so this is worse than the -2 deduction. R. stressed

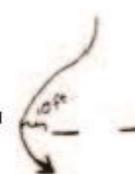


FIG. 13

that all penalties are circumstances at hand by decisions of the judge based on the actions of the sheep and dog.

Sheep miss fetch gates (fig.15), R. deducts -12 if dog following sheep; -7 if dog trying to turn them. On the fetch, it is O.K for the dog to head them to a stop in order to turn them before the fetch gate.

FIG. 14



B. said the fetch ends when the sheep cross the fetch line behind the post. B.'s point zones are continued down the field and around the post so deductions for too wide on the turn depend upon what zone the sheep have moved into. If the sheep turn in front of the post or turn

FIG. 15

the wrong way around the post lose -2. If the sheep are bolting on the turn and the dog heads them lose 4 pts. for crossing the course (fig.16).

FIG. 16

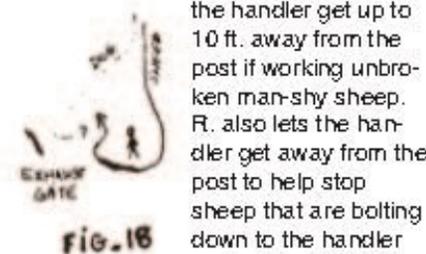
This is better than losing the sheep. A wide turn is usually -2 points off the fetch. If the sheep continue to stay out there for the beginning of the drive then -2 off drive as well. If the sheep stop to graze, dog is out of contact and lose -1/2 pt. or more if it persists. Dog barking while working is usually at least -1 pt.

R. repeated that every phase of rules is under the circumstances at hand rule, trying to emulate practical shepherding. R. said it is usually better for handler to turn the sheep around the post about 10 ft. out behind the post. Most judges will deduct -1 pt, but it is safer. With unbroken sheep, turn them 20 ft. out from back of post. If sheep are turned in front of post, -4 if close to post, up to -10 if turned way before post. Turn wrong way around back of post -6.

Sheep running around post, heavy to exhaust (fig.17), bolting off line, perhaps only -1/2 to -1 point. This is up to the judge.



Crossing the course at the handlers post (fig.18) may be only -1 to -2 if heavy pressure to exhaust. Ralph lets the handler get up to 10 ft. away from the post if working unbroken man-shy sheep. R. also lets the handler get away from the post to help stop sheep that are bolting down to the handler on the fetch. He hits only a light fault if sheep turn between handler and post or if most sheep go behind post and 1 sheep turns in front of post.



only a light fault if sheep turn between handler and post or if most sheep go behind post and 1 sheep turns in front of post.

R. added that the decision to give a handler and dog a rerun is one of the most difficult and dangerous decisions that judges and/ or course directors make. Course directors can give reruns but they can't change a judge's scoring.

DRIVING, PEN, SHED

This is the continuation of a series of articles begun in 1989. This article will cover driving, penning and shedding.

DRIVING (30 points)

Driving is very similar to fetching and is judged by all three men in much the same way that they judge the fetch. As Ralph pointed out, and all handlers know, the first and third legs of the drive are precise. The 2nd leg is less precise—the judge can't see the line any better than the handler and so has to be lenient. The sheep are usually turned around the back of the handler's post with the drive beginning as the sheep pass the fetch line.

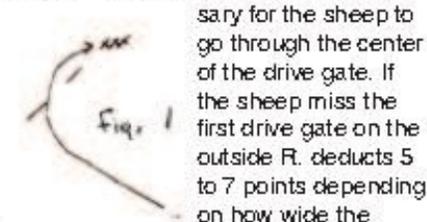
Bruce continues the point zones he used on the fetch right around the handler's post and into the drive. B. divides the drive into 3 sections (drive away, cross drive and return) to help keep track of how long sheep have been off line and when another point deduction might be necessary. B. wants the turns at the gates to be tight. If the sheep go wide there he will deduct points according to what point zone the sheep have moved into. Lose 5 points for a close miss of the gate by all the sheep, 2 points lost if 1 sheep misses, and 3 points if 2 miss.

Bruce agrees it isn't always possible to judge the cross drive until the sheep have reached the second gate, at which point he will look back at the cross drive and calculate any point losses. Each time the sheep are turned on the cross drive they are either moving off line or back on line.

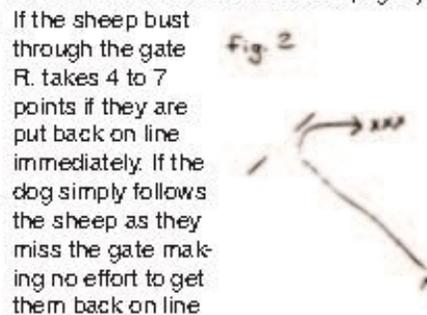
If at least 3/4 of the drive is not completed Bruce doesn't consider that phase of work completed and the dog

can't earn any more points in the trial and will receive no drive points. A dog driving sheep through the fetch gate instead of the drive gate earns no points for the drive or the rest of the course since he didn't complete the drive.

Ralph feels that the first leg of the drive is the easiest and is very severe if the sheep are allowed to drift up to the first gate slightly off line, 5 to 6 points (Fig.1). Ralph doesn't feel it is necessary for the sheep to go through the center of the drive gate. If the sheep miss the first drive gate on the outside R. deducts 5 to 7 points depending on how wide the sheep are; if the miss is on the inside the deduction is 8 to 9 points as the sheep have cut the course making the drive shorter and course easier (Fig. 2).

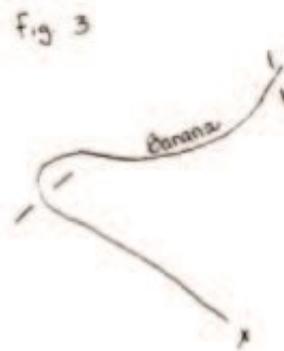


If the sheep bust through the gate R. takes 4 to 7 points if they are put back on line immediately. If the dog simply follows the sheep as they miss the gate making no effort to get them back on line R. takes 8 points. If the sheep go through the panel and then turn around and come back through R. takes 5 points plus any loss for being off line. If the sheep are turned back to the handler 3/4 of the way to the second drive gate R. will take 20-24 points off the drive. If the sheep are turned before that or if the handler runs out of time before the sheep reach the penning area no points for the drive.



Lewis is looking for nice medium turns at the drive gates. As always Lewis is watching for straight lines on the drive. L did suggest that if the handler is unsure of the line on the cross drive the best action might be a banana drive, bringing the sheep toward the handler after the first gate and then driving them back up to the second drive gate

so the handler has a better perspective on the gate (Fig. 3). There will of



course be a loss of points for being off line, but it would not be as severe as missing the second gate.

PENNING (10 points)

All of the judges agreed that the pen starts around 10 to 30 feet from the pen depending upon the size of the trial field. Normal line is from the edge of the 2nd drive gate to the back corner of the pen. The pen should have its back to the 2nd drive gate according to R. B. uses point zones to judge the pen just as he does for the fetch and drive. If the sheep circle the pen up close B. takes 2 points; if one sheep circles closely lose 1 point. If the sheep circle the pen in the 3 or 4 point zones B. takes off points accordingly. If all the sheep are in the pen and break out B. takes 5 points or half the pen, possibly more if they run away from the pen into one of the point zones. If the handler pushes the sheep into the pen B. takes 5 points. If the dog is out of contact when the sheep are penned B. takes 1 or 2 points depending upon how far out of contact the dog is (heavy point loss for the dog at the back of the pen). If the handler artificially holds some of the sheep in the pen (closes the gate) while others circle the pen lose 2 points from Bruce.

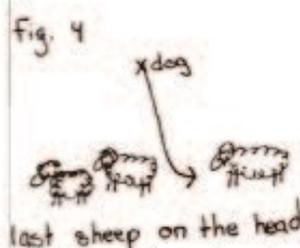
Ralph doesn't take any points deduction if the gate is only partially closed (open about 2 feet) while the handler tries to get the remaining sheep into the pen. Slamming the pen gate or leaving the gate open after completion of the pen costs 1 point from B. The first time 1 sheep circles the pen R. will take 1/2 to 1 point. R. believes that more leniency at the pen allows more room for

judging. If the sheep go through the handler holding the rope Ralph takes off 1/2 to 1 1/2 points for the handler not doing a good job. If the sheep finally go into the pen R. gives 2 points.

If the sheep are in the pen and break out before the gate can be closed, R. takes 10 points. It is also a very serious fault if the sheep are all in the mouth of the pen and break out. If the gate hits the sheep when being closed R. will take nothing to 4 points depending upon the circumstances. R. also told all the handlers not to hit the sheep with their crooks or prod them to get them out of the pen.

SHEDDING (10 points)

The judge will announce at the beginning of the trial what is required at the shed ("2 sheep off the back," "any sheep," "one sheep on the head") (Fig. 4).



When shedding, handlers are usually told to shed off the last sheep or the last two sheep. There is quite a bit of confusion among inexperienced handlers about which sheep is the last sheep. This is a determination that can only be made if all of the sheep are in a group facing in the same direction. The last sheep is the one facing the back ends of the rest of the group. If the last sheep is required at the shed, the sheep must all be lined up facing in the same direction before it is possible to find this "last sheep" and make a shed. If some of the ewes should turn around before the dog can make the shed then she may no longer be the last sheep and the shed will be invalid or points will be lost.

The area in which the shed is to be performed will also be indicated at the handler's meeting. According to ISDS rules it should be a marked circle 40 yards in

diameter. The shed may be done either before or after the pen depending upon how the course is arranged.

Lewis says if the shed is before the pen, the handler should not leave the post until all of the sheep are in the shedding circle.

Bruce says that if the shed is after the pen and the dog crosses between the sheep and the shedding area when bringing the sheep to the ring lose 4 points for dog crossing the course. R. says that if the shed is after the pen, ideally the handler should be in the shedding ring first, followed by the sheep and then the dog, but there is usually no deduction of points if the sheep arrive before the handler. Sheep traveling off line from the pen to shedding area are subject to loss of points. R. feels that no more than 3 points should be lost on how the sheep are brought to the shedding area. He doesn't care very much if the dog crosses the course in getting sheep to the shedding area as long as it is good practical shepherding.

R. says the shed tests the dog's ability to come in and take control. If the sheep are well broke the dog should wear the shed sheep for a few seconds; if the sheep are not broke R. will call the shed as soon as the dog looks at the shed sheep. If a single is asked for but the dog sheds 2 or else just splits the flock, lose 8 points. Each time the sheep leave the shedding area Bruce takes 1 or more points depending upon how far away they get. R. will take 1 or 2 points each time the sheep leave the shedding ring.

If the handler makes an opening for the shed and calls the dog but the dog doesn't come in, L. takes 4 points, R. takes 3-4 points, and B. takes 5 points. If the dog starts to come in at the wrong place and the handler stops him, lose 2 points from Lewis. If the last two sheep are to be shed and the dog takes the first two, B. takes 3 points but accepts the shed. If the dog turns on the wrong sheep B. takes 3 points. If the handler

does the shed, B. takes 1 to 5 points depending upon how quickly the dog comes through and takes control.

If the dog is called and the gap closes before the dog can come through, R. takes no points off.

B. and L. each take 1 point for a missed opportunity to shed; R. will take 2 points for an obvious chance missed. R. will disqualify any handler who hits a sheep during the shed

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

Ralph emphasized that reruns are the most dangerous decisions that judges and/or course directors can make. Course directors can give reruns; they can't change the judge's scoring. Bruce said that the handler may ask for a rerun up to the time the sheep turn at the post and begin the drive, The judge

may decide to grant a rerun at any time. B. feels that the justifications for a rerun are unfit sheep or outside interference (another dog on the course). If a rerun is granted the dog will run the full course and rejudging will begin whenever the judge determines. A ewe refusing to flock or laying down is not cause for a rerun unless there is an apparent physical cause according to Bruce.

B. said that the judge should decide before the trial begins what will be done about grips and be consistent all day. There must always be a loss of points for a grip. B. will take 1/2 to 5 points for a dog biting a balky ewe on the nose; flank grips at least 5 points. If the dog hangs on 10 points up to disqualification. If the grip is totally uncalled for, B. will take 10 points up to DQ for that dog.

Bruce said the judge sets the time for

the course.

Bruce repeatedly reminded everyone that the judge is called a judge because he is required to use his judgment. Ralph emphasized that the ISDS rules say that all deductions are determined by the judge based upon the actions of the sheep and the dog.

Bruce said that the judge may DQ any handler for improper conduct. He also said that the judge has a responsibility to judge every run as all of the contestants have paid for his judgment and it's very important to every handler that he be properly placed even if he isn't in the money.

Finally, Ralph mentioned that this country is still lacking enough qualified judges and that handlers should be careful about complaining about beginning judges.

MINUTES

NEBCA Annual Meeting

March 1, 2025

via Zoom

I. Meeting called to order at 7PM with 48 members in attendance and 3 proxies.

II. Zoom procedures reviewed.

III. Motion to approve the minutes of the 2024 Annual Meeting (*Blake Anderson/Chris Bowen*). Motion revised to accept the minutes of the 2024 Fall Meeting (*Warren Mick/Melanie Behrens*). All approved the revised motion.

IV. Executive Committee Reports

A. Secretary's Report (Martha Walke)

At the time of the 2024 AM there were 270 members and at the end of 2024 there were 342 members. At this time there are 244 members: 5 Life members; 206 Individual members and 3 Farm/Family members. Of these, 21 are new members 11 of whom reside outside

of the NEBCA area. There are 113 people who were members in 2024 who have not renewed. All current members have been updated/added in the Points System. Motion to accept this report (*Tom Trent/Blake Anderson*). One comment was made concerning notifying, via email, all members who have not renewed. This is possible and it will be up to the new Secretary. Motion approved.

B. Treasurer's Report (Elizabeth Smith-Fries)

Review of the 2024 financials noted that the income was higher than budgeted due to membership dues being over budget and merchandise being under budget. Over all, our expenses were under budget noting that the Newsletter was over budget due to December printing expenses; the donation to the National Finals was less than budgeted and there was no expenditure for the New Trials Committee. The Fall Foliage and Novice Finals financials were reviewed. The new bank accounts were reviewed. There needs to be secondary signature for these accounts and Maria Amodei has agreed to be the secondary signatory. Motion to accept the report (*Melanie Behrens/Liz Shaw*). Question concerning the \$6000 for the New Trials Committee with the comment that NEBCA should be investing in people hosting trials as they need the financial help as well as people raising sheep. This discussion was tabled to New Business. Motion approved.

C. President's Report (Dave Young)

"I would like to get the elephant out of the room right away. For those who are not aware why I had my name removed from the ballot, here it is in a nut shell. With all the economic pressures, I have decided not to participate in helping the US economy by staying home. It is my belief that by limiting all my travel to Canada I am unable to lead NEBCA in a way that I see fit On to more positive things. I am pleased to say that the website committee is doing a great job of updating our website. They both have demanding day jobs so patience is needed. I also worked with the BOD on a grievance. My hope for the near future is that a genuine support is given to the fair trials. The number of handlers going to Blue Hill, Lancaster, Loon, and Fryeburg has greatly decreased. These area trials have great pay outs along with large and faithful groups of spectators.

Without your support it may be that these old established trials will disappear. That would be a real contradiction with the fact that the number of field trials is declining. I would like to say how impressed I am with the current Executive Committee and the BOD. A wonderful group of devoted individuals. In conclusion, I would like to thank all those who supported me in my decision and I wish the new Executive Committee all the best."

Motion to accept this report (*Warren Mick/Ginny Prince*). Supportive comments were made by many. Motion approved.

V. BOD Report (Warren Mick)

The BOD dealt with the July resignations of both the President and the Treasurer. Candidates for both positions were found and a special election for the Fall Meeting was organized. The BOD also dealt with a formal grievance submitted in September concerning inappropriate behavior by a handler at a novice trial in QC. The NEBCA grievance process was followed which included interviews with several witnesses. The grievance was upheld and closed in November. The creation of a New Trials Committee was discussed but not acted upon. Motion to accept this report (*Werner Reitboeck/Blake Anderson*). Motion approved.

VI. Standing Committee Reports**A. Open Trials Committee (Sue Schoen)**

The Fall Foliage is scheduled for Oct. 16 – 19, 2025, at 80 Acres in Kingston, ON. Milton Scott will be the judge and the sheep will be the Waupoos Island sheep.

Amanda is delighted to host this trial. The 2024 Fall Foliage, held at Caora Farm, with Jaimie Spring judging, was a success. The Committee is waiting for trials to sanction. Kim Lippolis thanked everyone on the Committee for their support and help over the three years she was chair. Motion to accept the report (*Werner Reitboeck/Elizabeth Smith-Fries*) Motion approved.

B. Novice Trials Committee (Teri Rhodes)

The 2025 Novice Finals is posted on the website. It will be held September 20-21 at Wayside Farm Hackettstown, NJ. When a judge is decided on, there will be an announcement. The Committee is promoting novice trials. Three new trials in the mid- Atlantic area have been announced and they will help with the proposed new novice trials in VT. To make life easier for the managers of novice trials, the Committee is working on a generic entry form to make this process easier. The Committee is reviewing the Novice Guidelines and will have more on this in the spring. Motion to approve the report (*Martha Walke/Werner Reitboeck*). Motion approved.

VII. Newsletter Report. There was no report.**VIII. Select Committee Reports****A. Merchandise Committee**

The online portal is closed so no NEBCA merchandise is for sale. The Executive Board will make the decision as to whether this committee is closed. Kim Lippolis said she would be willing to sell hats every few years. She has some items she will take to clinics and trials this year and sell at reduced prices.

B. Calendar Committee (Mary Smith)

147 calendars have sold and 22 were given to people with 3 calendars left. It was suggested the committee contact Lynn Deschambeault about the number of calendars she needs for the fair trials she manages. Motion to accept the report (*Warren Mick/Ginny Prince*). Motion approved.

C. Education Committee (Rose Redick)

The Education Committee has been focusing on judges the last few months. They created a list of judges that is posted on the NEBCA website, available for trial hosts. Though short, they hope to add to the list. If anyone would like to be added to this list, please contact the committee.

Currently the committee is working on a program to recruit new judges and to offer training opportunities for new and existing judges. They are planning a series of webinars on the roles and responsibilities of being a judge. The hope is to start a discussion between current judges and those looking to be a judge. Those interested in participating should contact the committee. They will also be offering additional opportunities for judging including mentoring, networking and hands on training. Contact the committee if you have questions.

Motion to accept the report (*Christine Koval/Tom Trent*). Motion approved.

D. Library Report (*Sheila Crepeau*)

Since the Fall meeting the library has had 4 items borrowed by 2 members. If anyone has a request, or suggestion, for an item to be added to the library, please contact Sheila and she will see that it

happens. Many members are participating in online training or involved in a Patreon group, but remember that the NEBCA library has many items available to you at no charge except for return postage. Motion to accept the report (*Martha Walke/Werner Reitboeck*) Motion approved.

E. Webinar Committee (*Sara Reiter*)

Members: Sara Reiter, Chair; Joan Teebagy; Celeste Lacroix; Pamela Mueller; Fiona Robertson. The following webinars have been completed or arranged for the 2025 season:

Peter Gonnet – Lessons from a Stockman
Judy Coates – Conditioning & Injury Prevention for Working Herding Dogs

Kathy Knox – The Importance of Learning to Read Sheep

James McGee – Starting young dogs

Patrick Shannahan – Training exercises

Mark Elliot – When is a Dog Ready to Trial

March 9 Scott Glen – Types of “Eye” in Border Collies and considerations for successful training

March 23 Dave Imas – Judging to Perfect

There were several changes in the 2025 season. The ticket price for the webinars was reduced to \$10. The goal is to be sure to cover presenter and other out of pocket costs but offer the webinars to NEBCA members only at an affordable price. Tickets are offered through the Eventbrite service which facilitates payment and communications but this year we had to make the webinars private events. This means that the only way to get to an event is through the ticket link, which can be found in emails to the NEBCA io group, posts on the NEBCA Facebook page and under Clinics on the NEBCA website. Previously, webinar recordings were available for viewing for two weeks but this year we asked presenters if they would be

comfortable with longer periods of access. All the presenters have been willing to make the recordings available for a longer period, the dates that recordings are available can be found on the NEBCA website under Clinics. Sara acknowledged how important our Canadian members are to NEBCA and to the webinars. Motion to accept the report (*Kim Lippolis/Denise Leonard*). Motion approved.

F. Finance Committee (*Chris Bowen*)

No report. They need guidance from the Executive Committee as to what they can contribute.

IX. Unfinished Business

There was none.

X. New Business

A. Election Results (*Martha Walke*)

The election Committee consisted of Sheila Crepeau and Mary and Concy Smith. They agreed with me that since I only received 27 ballots (one of which was not marked) that I would report the results.

BOD: Ginny Prince (21). David Goyer (24)

President: Dave Young (24) He withdrew his name.

VP: Peggy Flanagan (24)

Secretary: Skylar Landis (24)

Treasurer: Elizabeth Smith-Fires (21)

B. Special Election for President (*Warren Mick*)

Warren opened the floor for nominations.

Teri Rhodes was nominated (*Melanie Behrens/Martha Walke*)

Move to close nominations (*Tom Trent/Martha Walke*)

Warren Mick moved Teri be elected by acclamation.

Approved.

C. 2025 Proposed Budget (*Elizabeth Smith-Fries*)

Elizabeth went over the proposed budget noting she had gone back 2 years in order to explain changes. Motion to accept the proposed budget (*Sue Schoen/Dave Sharp*). Motion approved. Discussion on adding a line item to support the entry of a junior and/or senior handler from the NEBCA district to the World Trial.

A motion was made (*Sue Schoen/Teri Rhodes*) to rename the New Trials Committee to Trial Support Fund for Novice and Open Trials and to keep the amount at \$6000 for 2025. Discussion about what was said at the 2024 Annual Meeting what the BOD discussed about the New Trials Committee (very little). Discussion about what ABCA offers in monetary support for trials both in the US and Canada. It was suggested that someone look at the IRS regulations concerning what a club can offer an individual monetarily. There is a need to help all trial managers. Develop a structure towards helping trial managers.

The money could go for specific items needed at a trial rather than to a person. There should be a set amount per trial. Motion to amend the motion on the table (*Dave Sharp/Sue Schoen*) to raise the amount in the budget to \$10,000. Comments on staying at \$6000 in the budget; setting an application date; the committee would allocate the money. Suggested that the committee allocate for emergency situations; that there be a nomination sys-

tem for hardships; allocate the money per quarter. Warren called for a vote on the amendment. Amendment was voted down unanimously. Warren called for a hand vote for the original motion made by Sue Schoen: 48 for; 3 against. Motion approved.

D. Website update (Annie-Claude Laniel & Geneviève Pronovost)

They screen shared some aspects of the new website, showing, for one, the new interactive membership form. There is a need for more photographs and would like people to share some with them.

The new website will be online as soon as the BOD approves it. There were many positive and complimentary comments.

E. Rose Redick spoke about the Associated Dog Club of NY and how they monitor legislative measures both in NY and nationally. She would like to be on this association as a representative from NEBCA. The BOD will respond to this.

XI. Motion to adjourn (Dave Sharp/Melanie Behrens). Motion approved.

Meeting adjourned at 9:23PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Walke, NEBCA Secretary (past)

NEBCA Financials 2024

INCOME

Category	2024 actual	2024 budget	2023 actual
Administrative	\$443	\$0	\$0
Advertisements	\$178	\$75	\$89
Breeders Directory	\$83	\$150	\$156
Donation	\$19	\$0	\$0
Education Co. ¹	\$531	\$50	\$10,150*
Webinar	\$7029	\$7500	—
Fence Rental	\$0	\$0	\$0
Interest Inc.	\$1109	\$1000	\$812
Library Income	\$53	\$50	\$22
Membership Dues	\$10,768	\$8500	\$9487
Merchandise Sales	\$347	\$1000	\$1159
Newsletter Postage	\$500	\$500	---

1: 2023 includes \$1,600 donation to Education Co. in memory of Bud Ames

EXPENSES

Category	2024 actual	2024 budget	2023 actual
Administrative	\$466	\$1500	\$1354
Awards	\$627	\$755	\$755
Bank Charge	\$46	\$50	\$48
Webinars	\$1752	\$2000	\$0
Education Co.	\$340	\$1000	\$3774
Gifts Given	\$0	\$0	\$100
Insurance	\$1234	\$1300	\$1220
Library	\$109	\$250	\$65
Merchandise	\$0	\$500	\$33
Newsletter	\$1918	\$1250	\$1589
Paypal Fees	\$389	\$400	\$382
National Finals	\$3000	\$5000	\$0
Novice Finals	\$2118	\$4000	\$1488
Fall Foliage	\$354	\$4000	\$575
New Trials Program	\$0	\$6000	---

TOTAL INCOME	\$22,905	\$20,575	\$23,614	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$13,834	\$29,505	\$12,829
---------------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------

NET TOTALS:	2024 Actual: \$8,071	2024 Budget: (-\$8,930)	2023 Actual: \$10,785
--------------------	-----------------------------	--------------------------------	------------------------------

ACCOUNT BALANCES	12/31/2024	12/31/2023	12/31/2022
TD Bank	\$52,836	---	---
Greenfield Coop Checking	\$11,472	\$20,701	\$19,806
Bank of America Checking	---	\$6,627	\$7,059
GCB 8 mo CD	---	\$18,437	
GCB 15 m CD	---	\$10,426	
ING Business Savings	---	---	\$19,081
Cash	---	---	\$100
PayPal	\$3,196	\$2,197	\$1,584
TOTAL	\$67,459	\$58,388	\$47,567

Financial Reviews of Major Events

NOVICE FINALS

FALL FOLIAGE

INCOME	2024	2023	2024	2024
Betty Levin Award	---	---		
Donation from ABCA	\$1000	\$1000	\$1000	\$1000
Entry Fees	\$5,575	\$3,440	\$9,730	\$8,960
T-shirts	---	\$210		
Handler's Dinner	---	\$1000		
TOTAL INCOME	\$6,675	\$5,650	\$10,730	\$9,960

EXPENSES

Betty Levin Award	\$58	—			
Equipment Rental	\$1318	\$575	---	\$250	
Field Rental	---	\$1000	---	\$500	
Food & Snacks	\$884	\$55	\$586	\$781	
Handlers Dinner	\$1126	\$980	---	---	
Insurance	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	
Judge (Fees. Travel)	\$905	\$600	\$3,082	\$1,242	
Misc	\$378	\$128	\$472	\$582	
Portalettes	\$320	\$355	\$390	\$473	
Postage	---	\$7	\$23	\$6	
Ribbons and Awards	\$1305	\$1213	\$1,145	\$381	
Set Out	---	\$175	---	---	
Sheep & Trucking	\$2,450	\$1,500	\$2,250	\$1,800	
Sheep Pen	—	\$500	---	\$600	
			Premiums	\$2,000	\$3,900
			Worker Fees	\$1,086	---
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$8,793	\$7,138	\$11,084	\$10,535	
Net	(-\$2,118)	(-\$1488)	(-\$354)	(-575)	
Budgeted NEBCA Support	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	
Under Budget:	\$1,882	\$2,512	\$3,646	\$3,425	

*Ed note: 2023 Education Committee "income" includes substantial earnings from Webinars. In 2024 that income transferred to the newly created Webinar Committee for accounting purposes.

NEBCA TRIAL CALENDAR 2025

See NEBCA website for most up to date info and entry forms

March 22	Bittersweet Spring Open SDT	109 Hammond Hill Road, Hampton, CT	1 Open, Nursery	Carol Campion 860-455-5660 carcampion06247@gmail.com
May 2-4	Bittersweet Spring Novice SDT	109 Hammond Hill Road, Hampton, CT	NN, PN, Ranch, Nursery	Carol Campion 860-455-5660 carcampion06247@gmail.com
May 17 –18	Willowdale Novice SDT	Kennet Square, PA	3 each of NN, PN, Ranch	Josh Newcomb
May 31 –June 1	Jenovic Farm SDT	800 Concession Rd 6, KOB 1 PO, St-Eugene, QUEBEC	3 each NN, PN, Ranch	Patrick Gosselin
June 1	Sugar Bush Gap Novice	283 Willimas Rd Windsor, NY	2 each NN, PN, Ranch	Sara Reiter sarareit@gmail.com
June 26-29	Caora Farm SDT	235 Sharon Rd Millerton NY	2 Open 2 Nursery 3rd Nursery if entries allow	Martha Walke Martha.walke@gmail.com
June 28-29	Belle Rose Summer Novice	Chestertown, MD	2 each NN, PN, Ranch (possibly 3 each)	Skylar Landis Bellerosekennels@gmail.com
July 3-6	Fetchgate Farm 2.0	Cortland, NY	2 Open 2 Nursery	Carolyn West 860-729-0550
July 4-6	Cascade Farm	360 Pettyboro Rd Bath NH	Open, NN, PN, Ranch, Nursery	Mary Ames 603-838-2018
July 12-13	Handy Dog Summer Trial	St. Agatha, ONTARIO	1 each NN, PN, Ranch, Open, Nursery	Victoria Lamont 619-417-0765
Aug 5-10	Grass Creek SDT & CBCA Championships	Kingston, ONTARIO	2 Open (Aug 6-9) CBCA Nursery (Aug 5) CBCA Championships (Aug 10)	
Aug 16-17	Ox Creek August Trial	Canandaigua, NY	2 Open 2 Nursery	Carolyn West 860-729-0550
Aug 23-24	ABCQ Trial	Levis, QUEBEC	NN, PN	Josee Lamontagne
Sept 5-6	Handy Dog Fall Trial	St Agatha, ONTARIO	Friday Novice Day Sat/Sun Open One Nursery each day	Victoria Lamont 619-417-0765
Sept 13-14	Ox Creek Sept SDT	Canandaigua, NY	2 Open 2 Nursery	Carolyn West 860-729-0550
Sept 20-21	NEBCA NOVICE FINALS	Wayside Farm Hackettstown, NJ	NN, PN, Ranch	Skylar Landis Bellerosekennels@gmail.com
Sept 22	The Big E	Springfield MA	2 Open Points and Time	Pam Mueller pjmueller1@gmail.com 607-342-4291
Oct 17-19	NEBCA Fall Foliage	Kingston, ONTARIO	2 Open; Double Lift for quali- fied handlers	Sue Schoen 607-655-1139
Oct 31-Nov 2	Bittersweet Farm Fall Novice Trial	109 Hammond Hill Road, Hampton, CT	NN, PN, Ranch, Nursery	Carol Campion 860-455-5660 carcampion06247@gmail.com

NEBCA
257 Athol Richmond Road
Royalston, MA 01368

**SHOW YOUR NEBCA LIBRARY SOME LOVE. BORROW A BOOK.
OR AN ANCIENT SCROLL (aka a DVD)**



*Peter
VandeCarr
and Bear —
see story
page 5*

Christine Koval