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**A.S.C.A.[®]
JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP
PROGRAM RULES**

Australian Shepherd Club
of America[®]

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The ASCA[®] National Specialty Rules differ from these Program Rules in certain areas.

Please go to the ASCA[®] website, **www.asca.org** for the National Specialty Rules or request a copy from **Membership@asca.org**.

These amended Rules and Regulations are effective January 1, 2012

Shaded areas represent rule changes.

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- JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP- PROGRAM RULES

Written: 1977 Revised: 1991, 1994, 1995, 1996, and 2006

June 1, 2009

These ASCA[®] Junior Program Rules are intended to organize the Junior Program, and to establish uniform requirements for the judging and exhibiting of Junior Handlers for the Australian Shepherd Club of America. Whenever a Junior is competing in any of ASCA[®]'s programs, the competitor agrees to abide by all rules and regulations as defined by that program's rulebook as well as the rules and regulations as defined in these ASCA[®] Junior Program Rules.

The purpose of the ASCA[®] Junior Program is to encourage Juniors to become involved with their Australian Shepherds. Because the future of the breed and the future of ASCA[®] rests in the hands of these juniors, the program exists to allow them to learn about, and become familiar with, all aspects of the breed and the areas of competition available through ASCA[®]. The ASCA[®] Junior program seeks to instill in these, tomorrow's breeders, competitors and judges, the following concepts:

- Pride in the ownership and training responsibilities that go with Australian Shepherds; Appropriate and humane methods of training and handling dogs;
- Patience and perseverance when working with dogs;
- A good work ethic, or in other words, that "hard work pays off";
- Discipline in working to achieve goals, especially those related to accomplishments in the ASCA[®] Junior Program;
- Good sportsmanship, and the sense of accomplishment that goes with winning on a level playing field;
- Pride in competing with a dog whose training has been largely impacted by the junior;

These are opportunities to forge life-long friendships with your competitors.

The ASCA[®] Junior Program, and all its associated areas of competition are intended as amateur-level competitions. In other words, juniors participating in these classes are expected to be doing so as a learning experience, and as such, they should refrain from soliciting or accepting payment or other compensation for training, grooming, or handling services for the duration of their junior career.

Special Note to Parents and Mentors:

The parents and mentors of today's junior handlers are essential to the successful participation of juniors in the ASCA[®] Junior Program. They are the guiding force that teaches tomorrow's breeders and exhibitors about ethics and good sportsmanship, and they heavily influence the choices juniors make in these areas. Parents and mentors should do their utmost to ensure that juniors participate in the program in the spirit in which it was designed.

Because juniors sometimes live or train with parents or mentors who have well-trained, even top-winning dogs themselves, parents and mentors are strongly cautioned to ensure that the dogs used to compete in the ASCA[®] Junior Program have in fact received the majority of their training by the junior.

ASCA[®] offers year-end recognition to Juniors excelling in Junior Handling, Obedience, Tracking, Agility, and Stockdog Trials; and to encourage these future breeders' interest in the Australian Shepherd as a Versatile dog, ASCA[®] offers a plane ticket or gas money to the National Specialty for the top All Around Junior.

The reader should be aware that throughout the Rules are examples of how the Rules function. These examples are well marked, and will appear as such:

EXAMPLE: The explanation of the information pertaining to the referenced subject.

These examples are to be used only as a tool to help the reader better understand the section that it refers to. Under no circumstances should the reader be lead to believe that the examples are based on real people or events.

RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE ASCA[®] JR. MEMBER

A. ASCA[®] -Sanctioned Junior Program Events Defined

ASCA[®] -sanctioned Junior Program Events are held in conjunction with ASCA[®] -sanctioned dog shows, obedience, agility and stock dog trials. They are sanctioned by ASCA[®]'s regional affiliate clubs, and offer juniors the opportunity to compete against each other for placements and awards. These events are also the venue in which juniors earn points toward year-end awards in the different ASCA[®] Junior Program Events offered.

B. ASCA Junior Merit Program Defined

The ASCA[®] Junior Merit Program is an annual national merit program. Participants accumulate points based on their participation and success in ASCA[®] -sanctioned Junior Program events. For more details on the specific awards offered, and the criteria to win them, please refer to Section N "Year End Awards" of these rules.

C. Sportsmanship Defined

Juniors should always demonstrate good sportsmanship when exhibiting in any and all ASCA[®] events. (Conformation, Agility, Obedience, Stock dog, Tracking) Win or lose, good sportsmanship is always expected.

Good Sportsmanship includes:

- Congratulating the winner.
- Responsibility for your dog(s). (this includes grooming, training, feeding, and clean-up)
- Showing respect for fellow competitors and their dogs.
- Respecting the judge's decision

Bad Sportsmanship shall be considered as, but not limited to:

- Any negative remarks heard at ringside or anywhere on the show grounds including your set-up, the parking lot about the judge or other competitors.
- Mistreatment of a dog may be defined by (but not limited to) treating a dog harshly or with a heavy hand, or an over harsh correction. Being cruel to the dog because you lost.
- Throwing ribbons or gifts on the table as they leave the ring, NOT to be mistaken as gently donating back the ribbon to the club.
- Improper handling/ring procedures such as "up staging", crowding the handler in front of you, stepping on a dog or handler behind you or baiting dogs other than your own. This is not to be held against someone if age or skill is in question.

D. Age to Participate in ASCA[®] Junior Program

1. To compete in the ASCA[®] Junior Program, a junior must be at least eight (8) years of age, and no older than eighteen (18) years old. The two age divisions are 8-12 Years, and 13 - 17 Years.

2. Juniors who have not yet attained their eighth birthday are eligible for competition in non-regular Pee-Wee (3 – 5 Years) and Sub-Junior (6 – 7 Years) classes when they are offered at conformation shows, but will not be eligible to compete for Best Junior Handler or for year-end awards in the ASCA[®] Junior Program. These are considered non-regular classes and are not mandatory.

E. ASCA[®] Junior Program Year Defined

The ASCA[®] Junior Program year runs from June 1st of each calendar year to May 31st of the following calendar year. For the purposes of the ASCA[®] Junior Program, the age of the Junior as of June 1st will be used until the following May 31st.

Example: Junior's 13th birthday is September 15th, 2003. (In this instance, Junior was officially 12 as of the beginning of the ASCA[®] Junior Program Year, on June 1st, 2003.)

1. A junior may not move up “to the next age division” before the end of the program year. If a junior does move up, even by accident, any points from that win will be forfeited.
2. A junior turning 8 years old may not move into the regular classes any earlier than the June 1st following their 8th birthday.

F. Membership

Any youth that is eight (8) years of age may become an ASCA[®] Junior Member. There is no fee involved, **but the junior must complete an ASCA[®] Junior Membership Application form**, (obtainable from the ASCA[®] Business Office, in the Aussies Times, or at www.asca.org) **and return it to the ASCA[®] Business Office**. All fees will be charged at “member rates” when transferring ownership, registering litters, etc. (The Junior Membership entitles the Jr. to all the regular membership privileges, with the exception of voting and Aussie Times subscription.). If a Jr. Member desires to have a subscription to the Aussie Times (A bi-monthly publication), they are able to do so by submitting the appropriate fee (listed on the ASCA[®] Jr. Membership application form) for this service. A special rate for the Aussie Times is offered to Jr. Members.

G. Dogs That May Compete

1. Junior Handling - Any dog may be entered for competition in an ASCA[®] -sanctioned Junior Handling class held at a conformation show. This is an all-breed competition. The intent of the program is that any youth may compete in the ASCA[®] Jr. Handling Program with any breed of dog, regardless of whom the dog belongs to. These dogs may be ASCA[®] registered to include intact, altered or LEP, or registered in another registry, or other pure bred dogs or mixed breeds.

In other programs a junior must see the pertinent program rules to determine if their dog is eligible to compete.

2. To earn points toward the ASCA[®] Junior Program year-end awards, however, the dog must be a purebred ASCA[®] Registered Australian Shepherd, (Intact or altered to include LEP & Hardship Registered) and must meet the ownership criteria defined under a separate heading in these rules.

H. Ownership Requirements

1. To earn points in the Junior Program, the youth must own or co-own the dog, or it must be owned or co-owned by the juniors immediate family (Father, Mother, Brother, Sister, Guardian or Grandparent).

2. To earn points the dog must be owned by the appropriate person(s) and listed on the ASCA[®] registration papers for a period of not less than sixty (60) days prior to the date of the show.

3. Dogs that are co-owned outside of the juniors immediate family must reside in the junior’s home 75% of the year.

4. Co-ownership with Judges. If one of the owners of a dog is a judge officiating at a show, the dog may be entered in Junior Handling Only at an event where the judge is judging classes other than Junior Handling. In no case will a Junior show a dog to a judge who has full or partial ownership of the dog.

JUNIOR HANDLING CLASSES

At ASCA[®] sanctioned shows or specialties, the following regular classes must be offered:

Regular: All first place winners from these classes shall compete for the Best Junior Handler Award.

The regular classes will be:

NOVICE 8 - 12
OPEN 8 - 12

NOVICE 13 - 17
OPEN 13 - 17

A. Novice: This class will be for Juniors who are at least 8 years old, up to 17 years old as of June 1st of the current ASCA[®] year, who have not, as of the day of the show, won six (6) first place awards, with competition, in a Novice Class at an ASCA[®]-sanctioned show, or who have not won 2 Best Junior Handler awards over competition from the Open Class. Juniors have sixty (60) days after completing either of the above requirements before they are required to move to the Open class. This will allow the Novice handler more time to gain confidence & experience before moving up into the Open classes.

The Novice class will be for exhibitors who are true beginners at the sport of dog shows. Experienced juniors who are new to ASCA[®], or juniors who feel they are ready to compete in the Open handling class may elect to move up to Open without meeting these requirements; however, once they move up to the Open Class, they may not move back to the Novice Class in any future

competitions.

If an 8-12 year junior handler has moved to Open, they may not go back into Novice upon moving to the 13-17 year class.

- B. Open: This class will be for those Juniors that have met the qualifications detailed in the previous section or for those Juniors who feel they are ready to compete in the Open Handling ring.

A hosting club may also offer the following non-regular classes at their discretion:

Non-Regular: no Junior from these classes may compete for the Best Junior Handler Award, or are any points to be received.

PEE-WEE: 3-5 yrs old

SUB-JR: 6-7 yrs old

Judges judging the pee-wee and sub-jr. classes are not to give placements. The affiliate club is to be responsible for giving each pee-wee and sub-jr. competitor a participation ribbon.

NOTE: Any Junior who turns eighteen (18) years of age during the Junior year may continue to show until the end of the Junior year, May 31st. They may also show at that year's National Finals, if they are eligible.

Example: Junior year starts June 1st Junior's eighteenth birthday is October 15th. They may continue to show in 13-17 until end of Junior year, May 31st. If they are eligible, they may show in that year's National Finals.

When a Junior is eligible for Best Junior Handler (taken 1st place in a handling class), they must present to the judge the same dog they showed in their regular handling class. In other words, no exchanging of dogs...using one dog to get 1st place, then another to receive Best Junior Handler is not allowed. This rule is applicable to every Junior showing a dog in handling.

Any Junior may change dogs at a show provided the following criteria is met:

- A. The dog that they are changing to must meet the same eligibility requirements (owned by the junior or an immediate family member).
- B. The change must be made before entries close or half an hour before judging for Junior Showmanship is to begin, whichever is later. *In the event the change is being requested at a National Specialty, the change must be made before entries close or at the discretion of the sponsoring club.*
- C. The junior must report any change to the Show Secretary within the stated time limits or the change will not be allowed.

POINTS

Points will be counted for a one (1) year period; from June 1st to May 31st inclusive. The junior who wins Best Junior Handler or High Scoring junior in obedience will accumulate twenty-five (25) points. If the Best Junior Handler or High Scoring junior award was won with no other regular junior competition that day, then only fifteen (15) points will be awarded.

RJH points shall be awarded as follows:

- a) 15 points with competition plus one point for each junior defeated, or
- b) 5 points without competition.

In junior handling, placement points will work as follows: One point will be given for every junior defeated that is competing in the regular classes (novice junior, open junior, novice senior, and open senior).

Example:

There are seventeen (17) competitors at a dog show. Three (3) juniors in novice junior, six (6) juniors in open junior, three (3) juniors in novice senior, and five (5) juniors in open senior. The junior from novice senior wins Best Junior Handler. They will receive sixteen (16) placement points in addition to the 25 points earned for Best Junior Handler. The junior who wins Reserve Junior Handler will receive fifteen (15) placement points in addition to the fifteen (15) points for Reserve Junior Handler.

In Handling, points will be accumulated. Because there are no qualifying scores to be received, all of the Best Junior Handlers, Reserve Junior Handlers, and placement points a Junior receives over the year will be added together.

In Obedience, the highest score for the year is used as a "base score", and all of the High Scoring Juniors and placement points are continually added to the highest score.

THE ADDITIONAL POINTS FOR PLACEMENT AND HIGH SCORING JUNIOR (OBEDIENCE) ARE ONLY ADDED TO THE JUNIOR SCORE, NOT THE SCORE THAT IS SUBMITTED TO ASCA[®] FOR A LEG TOWARDS A TITLE.

During the year, reports will be made in the Aussie Times as to the scores that result from the points each individual has earned.

BEST JUNIOR HANDLER, RESERVE JUNIOR HANDLER AND HIGH SCORING JUNIOR AWARD

A club hosting a conformation show must offer a prize for Best Junior Handler and Junior competitors who place first (1st) in their regular handling class shall automatically be eligible for Best Junior Handler and Reserve Junior Handler. The handling judge shall decide which of the first place winners shall receive Best Junior Handler. After the Best Junior Handling prize has been awarded, the handler placing second to the winning handler shall compete with the other eligible handlers for Reserve Junior Handler. All clubs holding a show under ASCA[®] rules and regulations may use any ribbon color combo for the awards Best Junior Handler and Reserve Junior Handler. However, at any ASCA[®] regulated Specialty Show the ribbon colors must be:

Best Junior Handler: Burgundy, Navy Blue, and Cream

Reserve Junior Handler: Burgundy and Cream

Any Junior competitor in a regular obedience class who receives a qualifying score shall automatically be eligible for High Score Junior. The Junior with the highest score in obedience shall win the High Scoring Junior for obedience.

(All ASCA[®] sanctioned conformation shows MUST offer Junior Showmanship competition and all ASCA[®] Sanctioned Obedience Trials MUST offer a High Score Junior Award.)

CERTIFICATE OF EXCELLENCE

In Handling, (there is no title to be earned), a certificate will be awarded to each Junior who surpasses each degree of points each year. In Obedience and Working, a certificate will be awarded to each Junior who achieves a title on their dog(s) during the year.

In Handling, Juniors earn "degrees of excellence" rather than titles, so the following system has been set up:

Degree I	=	100 pts
Degree II	=	150 pts
Degree III	=	200 pts
Degree IV	=	250 pts

Also in Handling, any Junior who in any one (1) year period reaches or surpasses 500 points will have their name engraved on a trophy, called the "500 Club". They also will receive an award for this achievement.

REGION AWARDS

Awards will be given to the highest pointed junior in each age division in each Region.

An award will also be given to the highest pointed Junior of each age group for Handling, Obedience and Working and for the Top Junior overall in Handling, Obedience and Working, (all age groups).

YEAR END AWARDS

All Region award winners shall receive a prize, to be awarded at the National's Banquet. All of the first place Juniors (of each age group), also the overall winners for each division (handling, obedience, working), and the All-Around Junior (if any) shall receive a prize, also to be awarded at the National's Banquet.

ASCA[®] Junior Service Award

Purpose: The ASCA[®] Junior Service Award recognizes and rewards ASCA Juniors who exhibit good sportsmanship in competition and who serve the dog fancy and the Australian Shepherd in their National and/or local club and in their own community.

Eligibility: Any Junior who is a member of ASCA[®] is eligible. Juniors do not have to be active exhibitors. Letters regarding the accomplishments and service of the junior must come from someone other than the Junior and/or their family. Letters must describe how the Junior has contributed to the dog community and cite specific examples of individual sportsmanship. Awards: The ASCA[®] Board of Directors or a committee appointed by the Board shall collect and review all letters. One Junior will be chosen, based on the criteria set forth, to receive this award at the ASCA[®] National Specialty banquet. The chosen letter will be read at the banquet in honor of the recipient. Additional awards may be given in the case of exceptional service by more than one Junior.

SECTION I - JUNIOR HANDLING

This section provides for an area of achievement for the Junior who actively shows his/her dog(s) in Junior Handling contests at ASCA[®] sanctioned shows and specialties.

A GUIDE TO JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP COMPETITION FOR JUNIORS:

Section 1. Juniors are important to the sport of dogs. Juniors who learn about good sportsmanship, dogs, handling and dog shows will be valuable to the sport in the future. Junior Showmanship classes are offered at all ASCA[®] sanctioned shows. These classes are held so that young people can:

- Experience winning and losing among those who are similar in age.
- Learn the correct way to handle the breed in regular classes.
- Practice handling skills in competition.
- Improve the way they handle their own dog.

Section 2. Junior Showmanship classes are judged on the ability of the Junior to handle his or her own dog. The quality of the dog is not judged. Juniors will be asked to demonstrate:

- Moving their dog with the rest of the class.
- Presenting their dog in the standing position.
- Moving the dog individually in a pattern.
- Demonstrate knowledge of anatomy and structure of the dog they are handling.

Section 3. Juniors are expected to know basic ring routines. They should be able to follow directions, use space wisely and be familiar with gaiting patterns. Juniors should appear “ring wise,” alert to what is going on in the ring and prepared for changes in the judging routine. JUNIORS MUST BE ABLE TO CONTROL THEIR DOGS AT ALL TIMES. Any junior who cannot control his/her dog will be excused *from the ring* by the judge.

Section 4. Appearance and Conduct.

Juniors should be clean, neat and well-groomed. They should wear clothing that is comfortable to handle in and appropriate for dog shows. Clothing should not distract nor limit or hinder the judges view of the dog.

Dogs should be groomed and trimmed as they would be for the breed ring. Unnecessary grooming of the dog in the ring to gain attention is not proper conduct.

Juniors should appear confident, prepared, business-like and attentive. They should be courteous to both the judge and other juniors. Juniors are expected to handle their dogs without disturbing the dogs of the other juniors. Juniors should not crowd and they should not disturb others by continued use of toys and bait. Juniors should be alert to the needs of their dog. They should use firm but thoughtful hands in controlling and handling their dogs. Juniors should not be impatient or heavy-handed.

Section 5. Juniors will be judged on their ability to present their dogs in the same way the dog is properly handled in the breed ring. Juniors will also be judged on their ability to make their individual dog look its best both in pose and motion. During all parts of the competition juniors should handle their dogs in a quiet, smooth and efficient manner. Juniors should strive to make the DOG stand out as the most important part of the team effort.

Section 6. Going between the dog and the judge, Juniors are well advised not to come between the judge and the dog. The extent of this depends on the junior and the judges preference, however, a junior should take care not to exercise this aspect to the point of doing laps around the dog as this takes away from the presentation of the dog. It is advised that each junior use his/her own judgment in this area.

Section 7. Junior handlers should:

1. Keep their dogs attention.
2. Gait their dogs in a controlled trot without distracting or interfering with the judges view of the dog. Be aware of what is going on in the ring.
3. Concentrate on their dog and not the judge.

Section 8. There are many ways juniors can find help in learning about Junior Showmanship and handling their own dogs. In addition to the help of parents, juniors may seek the advise of experience breeder-exhibitors, handling instructors and former juniors. They may also learn from books on handling, books on the Australian Shepherd and observe judging at ASCA[®] sanctioned shows.

Section 9. See page 12 for ASCA[®] Junior Handling Patterns

JUDGING RULES AND REGULATIONS

ELIGIBILITY OF JUDGE

Any person who is a former Junior Handler competitor and has attained their 21st birthday may be approved by the ASCA[®] Board of Directors to judge Junior Handling, or any AKC Junior Handling judge, breed judge, or any judge from the ASCA[®] Approved Judges List. The name of each Junior Handling judge shall be included on the show sanction form that must be sent to the ASCA[®] Business Office, and in the case of the Nationals, to the ASCA[®] Board of Directors.

DEFINITION AND PURPOSE:

Junior Showmanship classes are regular and non-regular classes which are judged solely on the ability and skill of juniors in handling their dogs. The purpose of the Junior Showmanship Competition is two-fold: to introduce and encourage juniors to participate in the sport of dogs; and to provide juniors with a meaningful competition in which they can learn, practice and improve in all areas of handling skill and sportsmanship. It is important that judges of Junior Showmanship Competition understand the definition and purpose of these classes and take their roles seriously in guiding the future guardians of the sport.

JUDGES ARE EXPECTED TO HAVE A GENUINE INTEREST IN JUNIORS AND IN JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP COMPETITION.

PREREQUISITE FOR JUDGES:

Those who judge Junior Showmanship must be familiar with the Junior Showmanship Rules and Regulations as well as all other Rules and Policies that apply to all judges.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP JUDGE:

It is important for judges to be teachers by example. They should be prompt, courteous, patient and properly attired. Judges must be impartial and totally separate the handling ability of the juniors they judge from any other considerations. From the exhibitor's point of view, impartiality extends to eliminating from the judging process bias for or against the breed handled, any thought of past or future assignments, friendships, external knowledge of a junior's record of competition or prior knowledge or assumption of the dog's training or preparation.

Judges should never solicit assignments. If asked by a show giving club to judge, acceptance should be based on whether or not they feel capable of judging juniors.

SAFETY:

Juniors with varying degrees of experience and dogs with great differences in size, temperament and training need safe ring conditions. Judges must make every effort to ensure the safety of the juniors and their dogs during competition. Judges should arrange or rearrange competitors in order of gaiting speed or size of dog to avoid crowding and instruct juniors to leave space for judging themselves and the junior in front of or behind them. Never hesitate to excuse any *handler from the ring whose dog is out of control* or showing signs of viciousness.

JUDGING ROUTINE:

The actual routine of judging will vary according to the judge, the number of juniors, the size of the ring, the ring conditions, the weather and the time of day. However, judges should strive to evaluate competitors in an appropriate and consistent manner. Although the procedure for completing the examination of dogs should closely resemble that of breed judging, examination of the dogs for Junior Showmanship can be done rapidly because the conformation of the dog is of no concern. Judges should be consistent in the initial examination of each Junior using the same gaiting patterns, the same procedural requests and allowing each Junior approximately the same amount of time. However, judges may change the examining routine when making a further appraisal of selected competitors. A judge should not confuse the ability of a junior to take directions with the junior's ability to

handle his dog. Some freedom of expression and expertise should be allowed. To have all exhibitors handle mechanically defeats the basic premise of Junior "Showmanship".

Juniors should be able to move about the ring with ease, with their dog on either side. When examining the class as a whole in motion the judge may stand inside or outside of the circle. When examining a class of standing or posed dogs the judge can move from one side of the line to the other. Juniors should be able to move smoothly around their dogs. **Judges should not, however, abuse the intent behind keeping a dog in front of the Judge at all times. Judges should respect that excessive movement around the dog detracts from the total presentation.** The judge should evaluate how well the junior and his dog work together as a team and the amount of training the junior has on his/her dog.

The judge should limit conversation with juniors during competition to that which is absolutely necessary. Judges may ask the junior questions regarding general anatomy, structure and care of dogs or specifically about the Australian Shepherd Club of America's[®] breed standard.

JUDGE'S EXAMINATION AND EVALUATION:

While the judge must consider all areas important in evaluating the overall capabilities of juniors, it is doubly important that the junior present his dog in the proper manner for the breed being handled. In the individual presentation of the dog the junior should demonstrate the ability to handle the dog as it is handled in the breed ring, showing the dog to its best advantage in pose and in motion. During all phases of handling the junior's concentration should be on the dog and not on the judge but not to the extent that he/she is unaware of what is taking place in the ring. Remember you are judging the handler, but time should be spent looking at the dog to gain insight as to how well it is being handled.

1. Is the dog responsive to the handler? Do they work as a team?
2. Does the dog appear posed or interested at all times?
3. Is the dog under control?
4. Has the handler moved the dog to the best of its ability?
5. Are the dog's main faults being minimized?
6. Do both the dog and handler appear relaxed?
7. Is the dog presented with apparent minimum effort?

For the safety of the exhibitors, juniors will not be asked to exchange dogs with each other during the course of judging.

KNOWLEDGE OF RING PROCEDURE:

The judge shall evaluate the ability of the junior to follow directions, use space wisely and execute the requested gaiting patterns. Juniors should appear "Ring Wise", alert to the judging progression and be prepared for changes in the judging routine.

APPEARANCE AND CONDUCT:

The judge should be aware of the appearance of both the junior and the dog. The junior should be suitably dressed for the occasion, wearing clothing that will not hinder or detract from presentation of the dog. The dog would be groomed and trimmed in the manner associated with the breed. However, the judge should not evaluate either the attire of the handler nor the grooming of the dog, but rather that an effort has been made. Excessive grooming of the dog in the ring to gain the judge's attention is inappropriate and should be faulted accordingly.

The judge shall evaluate the general conduct of juniors in the ring. Juniors should appear prepared, confident, business-like and attentive. They are expected to handle their dogs without distracting the dogs of other competitors. A junior who crowds or disturbs other dogs *and handlers* should be faulted. A principle of Junior Showmanship is to afford the opportunity to learn the importance of sportsmanship in competition. Judges who reward unsportsmanlike conduct or actions, regardless of a handler's capabilities, compromise the very premise of Junior Showmanship.

Juniors should be alert to the needs of their dogs realizing the welfare of their dogs is important. They are responsible for the control of their dogs at all times. However, juniors who exhibit impatience or heavy handedness with their dogs should be penalized.

THE JUDGES BOOK:

After the final placings have been made in each class, judges must mark their books indicating their placements. After all classes have been judged and all placements marked, including absentees and excusals, the book must be signed and returned to the Show Secretary. The judge has the sole responsibility for his book, for its correctness and for its safekeeping. He should take proper care in the recording of armband numbers of his winners, seeing that they are in the right place and clearly legible. The safekeeping of the book should be entrusted to no one except him/herself.

JUDGE COMPETITION WHILE JUDGING:

Junior Handling judges may not compete in any ASCA[®] Sanctioned Conformation event in the state in which they are judging four (4) days prior to their assignment.

SECTION II - OBEDIENCE

This section provides for an area of achievement for the Junior who actively shows his/her dog(s) in Obedience competition at ASCA[®] sanctioned shows and specialties. (Tracking is considered part of the Obedience section and all accomplishments from Tracking will receive prizes as appropriately called for).

The Junior must have trained the dog(s) that they are showing in Obedience to qualify for year end awards.

SCORES/POINTS

Scores from Novice A & B, Open A & B, Utility A & B and Grad-Novice will be accepted.

[Tracking does not receive qualifying scores, only "pass" or "fail", however, every youth who meets the requirements of T.D. or T.D.X. shall receive a Certificate of Excellence. Also, those who complete the requirements of T.D. shall receive 200 points towards All-Around Junior in the Obedience section, those who receive T.D.X. shall receive an additional 100 points.]

Points are recorded automatically from the Obedience Judges books and Trial Reports. Only the highest score for the year for each Junior is considered, along with their accumulated points for High Scoring Juniors and placement points added to that score. There will be no High Scoring Junior scores or placement points out of the Grad-Novice classes. These points will come out of the regular classes only.

Example: John Smith is working in Novice B obedience and receives a score of 189. He also received 1st place in his class, which happened to have 3 other Juniors competing in it. John receives 3 more points, as he placed over 3 other Juniors. John also received High Scoring Junior, so he receives 25 points for that. His total points are now:

$$189 + 3 + 25 = 217$$

The following month, John Smith receives two more scores. The first is a 191, but there were no other Juniors competing in his obedience class that day. John automatically received High Scoring Junior, but with no other competition, so he receives only 15 points for that instead of 25. 191 is higher than 189, so his 189 score is replaced by 191. His total points are now:

$$217 - 189 = 28, \text{ then } + 191 + 15 = 234$$

The other score that John receives is a 176. John competed with 5 other Juniors in his obedience class and he received 1st place, so he gets 5 points for that. Another Junior from Open A took High Scoring Junior that day, so John doesn't get any points for that. 191 is higher than 176, so the 176 is not used, but the 5 points will be added on. His total points are now:

$$234 + 5 = 239$$

AWARDS

At the end of the Junior year, there will be prizes awarded to the highest scoring in each age group in Novice, Open, Utility and Grad-Novice. There will also be an award given to the overall winner for combined age groups in Novice, Open, Utility and Grad-Novice along with an overall winner with the highest score from the regular classes.

Example: Judy Warner is 11 years old. She had the highest score for the year for Novice Obedience in her age group: 225. Kurt Mayer is 15 years old and also received the highest score for the year in his age group for Novice Obedience and ended the year with a score of 241. Kurt Mayer would receive the overall winner's award for combined age groups for the Novice class. Sue Tilton, who is 14 and received the highest score for her age group and overall combined age group in Open Obedience (score of 253), also would win the overall winner with the highest score, as she had the highest score for the year.

Any dog who has obtained its Companion Dog title may continue to compete in Graduate Novice Classes for a period of one year. At the end of one year the dog must move on to Open A classes to continue to compete in the Junior Showmanship Program. If a dog has its Companion Dog Excellent title it may continue to compete in Open B. If a dog has completed its Utility title it may be shown in Utility and/or Open B indefinitely.

SCORING: Only the Obedience score will be used in the Junior Showmanship Scoring System, no bonus points will be given. It will be scored as a normal class score, where the highest score earned to date is used. The junior must indicate on the entry form that this dog is a "DOG IN TRAINING" only if being shown in the Grad-Novice class.

SECTION III - WORKING

PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

The purpose of Australian Shepherd Club of America[®] (ASCA[®]) Junior Working Program is to encourage Juniors to become involved in herding with their Australian Shepherds.

GENERAL REGULATIONS

The Junior Working Program is open to all juniors through the age of 17 years. The Junior Working Program consists of two divisions: the Working Junior Handler and the Open Working Junior. A junior may compete in the Open Working Junior and/or Working Junior Handler division. Points earned in either division will not be combined from both divisions.

DIVISION I: OPEN WORKING JUNIOR DIVISION

The dogs and handlers will be judged according to all ASCA[®] Stockdog Rules.

1. Age groups for the Open Working Junior shall be:
8-12 years – Junior
13-17 years – Senior
2. Juniors competing in this division must comply with the junior ownership rule requirements.
3. These Juniors will earn points from the started, open, advanced and post-advanced divisions under the rules and regulations of the stockdog program.
4. Points will be earned by averaging scores from at least two trials per class of stock. If more than two scores are received from that division and class of stock, then all scores will be used to compute the average. Scores need not be qualifying.
5. Juniors are expected to be the major influence in the training of his/her dog.
6. An additional 10 points will be earned for each high score ducks, sheep and cattle (with competition - need not be a Junior), to be added to his/her average total.
7. Any Junior awarded High Combined at an ASCA[®] sanctioned trial (with competition - need not be a Junior) will have 20 points added to his/her average total.
8. Qualifying scores from this division are applied towards certification and all year-end awards.

DIVISION II: WORKING JUNIOR HANDLER DIVISION:

Only the handlers will be judged in this class according to the stockdog rules CH 3 Sec. 3.D. using the Working Junior Handler score sheet (see appendix H).

1. Age groups for the Working Junior Handler shall be:
8 -12 years : Junior
13 - 17 years : Senior
2. There is no ownership requirement for this division. Juniors may use any registered Australian Shepherd (titled or not). The same dog may be handled by more than one junior, but no more than 3 times at the same trial.
3. Points will be earned by averaging at least two (2) scores per each class of stock. If more than two scores are received from that division and class of stock, then all scores will be used to compute the average. Scores need not be qualifying.
4. The Working Junior Handler score sheet will be used by the trial judge for scoring this division.
5. Points earned in this division (except the pee-wee age group) will be applied towards year end awards. However, no points from this division may be applied for year-end All Around Junior or Most Versatile Junior at the Nationals.
6. Scores from this division are not applied towards certification.

SECTION IV - ALL AROUND

A Junior MUST compete in all THREE (3) areas of competition to be eligible. The Junior with the most points (the points from each section are added together), providing he/she has met all the requirements for each section, will win the award. In the case that there are no other Junior competing in all areas, the award will NOT be given that year. In case of a tie, both will win the award.

SECTION V - NATIONAL JUNIOR HANDLING FINALS

The National Junior Handling Finals will be held at the National Specialty before or after regular judging. This contest will not have any influence on the regular Junior Handling classes held at the show. No points will be given for placement. Different judges will be used for these classes and the regular classes. Classes are only divided by age. There should be a reasonable time difference between this class and regular handling. The regular Junior Handling Judge and the Finals Junior Handling Judge will not watch the other Handling Judge's class prior to judging their own Junior Handling JR. showmanship - assignment.

A. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE NATIONAL JR. HANDLING FINALS

1. Only Juniors who have competed during the preceding Junior year in Open Junior Handling classes and earned the first degree of excellence, are eligible to compete in the National Junior Handling Finals.
2. The Junior's dog must meet the same eligibility requirements as for the rest of the program, including ownership.
3. In addition, all other requirements stated in the rulebook for Regular Junior Handling will apply.

YOU MUST FILL OUT A SEPARATE ENTRY FORM TO ENTER THIS CLASS.

B. AWARDS FOR THE NATIONAL JR. HANDLING FINALS

All placements {1st through 4th} will receive a rosette and the first place winners will receive a prize. The Best Junior Handler will receive a larger rosette and a prize, and their name and year they have won will be engraved on the National Finals Handling Plaque. The Reserve Junior Handler will also receive a larger rosette and a prize.

C. JUDGES FOR THE NATIONAL JR. HANDLING FINALS

1. Judges for the National Junior Handling Finals must meet one of the following requirements:
 - a. Previous ASCA[®] Junior Handler over the age of twenty-one
 - b. ASCA[®] Breeder Judge

All of the above are subject to the approval of the ASCA[®] Board of Directors.

The National Jr. Handling Finals may be incorporated into the obedience and/or working sections, if enough interest is generated.

SECTION VI – RULES FOR HOLDING A MOST VERSATILE JUNIOR COMPETITION

Most Versatile Junior Rules for National Specialties

- I. The Most Versatile Junior Handler Award (MVJ) is offered to recognize the junior who best demonstrates desire and ability to train and compete with their Australian Shepherd in all facets of ASCA[®] competitions. These rules will govern the Most Versatile Junior Handler award at ASCA[®] National Specialties.
 - II. Juniors competing for MVJ will have their junior handling skills rated in a scored evaluation, and will compete for scores in regular classes in herding and performance events. Performance events will be defined for this competition as obedience, tracking and agility. In all facets of the MVJ competition, each junior is expected to be the major influence in the training of his/her dog.
- A. RULES FOR HOLDING A MOST VERSATILE JUNIOR COMPETITION:
- i) Rules shall be published in the Junior Handling Rule book and National Specialty Guidelines, and will be available from the ASCA[®] Business Office upon request. Copies of the approved rules must be available upon request and on the Show Grounds.
 - ii) The name of the evaluator for the handling portion of the MVJ competition, and any decisions optional with the club (such as whether or not bitches in season will run in order in the working trial) will be published in the National Specialty premium list. The evaluator shall be selected by the host club and shall be approved by the ASCA[®] BOD.
 - iii) The evaluator for the handling portion of the MVJ competition must be an ASCA[®] Breeder Judge, Senior Breeder Judge or ASCA[®] Approved Junior Handling Judge. If they meet this requirement, Regular Junior Handling Judge or the evaluator hired to score the conformation portion of the Most Versatile Aussie (MVA) event may preside over this portion of the MVJ competition. If the MVJ evaluator is not presiding over any other classes or events at the Nationals, he or she will be allowed to enter and exhibit in the other Nationals events.
 - iv) Each Junior Handler entering MVJ shall indicate such as an "additional class" on their entry form.
 - v) Score Keeping: The person(s) who will be responsible for versatility record keeping for the entire competition will be identified to the ASCA[®] Board prior to the start of the Nationals. Computation of all scores for awarding the MVJ Award will be handled by either MVJ Show Committee, or the ASCA[®] BOD. The Host Club will provide a location where all scores will be posted as soon as practicable after each eligible competition is completed. It is the owner/handlers' responsibility to check the scores as posted, and report to the MVJ Chairperson any discrepancy no later than two hours prior to the time scheduled for awarding MVJ. Awards for MVJ are final once presented.
 - vi) Ties: Ties will be broken by the scores taken from the Knowledge portion of the Junior Handling Evaluation. In the event they are still tied the Junior with the highest score from the Working Trial will be declared the winner. In the event that both juniors are still tied, both juniors will receive the award.
 - vii) Awards: All entrants shall be presented with a MVJ participant ribbon upon completion of the junior handling evaluation. All entrants who successfully earned qualifying scores in the junior handling evaluation, stockdog trials and obedience and/or agility and/or tracking events as required by these rules shall be presented with a MVJ-qualifying ribbon at the MVJ awards presentation with the top ten qualifiers receiving placement ribbons. The winner of the MVJ competition will receive a rosette and an award.
- B. Dogs Eligible to Compete: Dogs entered by the Junior for the MVJ competition must meet the eligibility and ownership requirements set forth for the ASCA[®] Junior Showmanship Program.
- i.) The junior must own or co-own the dog, or it must be owned or co-owned by the juniors immediate family (Father, Mother, Brother, Sister, Guardian or Grandparent). Dogs that are in a co-ownership situation must reside in the Juniors home 75% of the year.
 - ii.) The dog must be owned by the appropriate person(s) for a period of not less than sixty (60) days prior to the date of the show.
 - iii.) The dog must be an ASCA[®]-registered Australian Shepherd, intact or altered.
- C. MOST VERSATILE JUNIOR COMPETITION RULES:
- i.) Most Versatile Junior Handler Award is for the Junior who has the highest combined score in three areas:
 - a) Junior handling evaluation
 - b) Working
 - c) Any ONE of the following three performance events: agility, obedience, and tracking.
 - ii.) The Junior Handling Evaluation portion of the Junior's total points will be comprised of a score that is awarded by the junior handling evaluator for skills demonstrated during the evaluation. The scoring will be performed

based on the criteria outlined on the MVJ Evaluation Scoresheet in Appendix [enter appendix number here] of the ASCA[®] Junior Showmanship Program Rules. Each junior will be allowed to present only one dog in the Junior Handling Evaluation. Bitches in season will be allowed in the evaluation portion of the MVJ competition; they will be evaluated in order, or may be placed at the end of the line, at the evaluator's preference. A Qualifying Score shall be comprised of a final score of one hundred seventy (170) or more points.

- iii.) The Working portion of the Junior's total points will be comprised of an adjusted score. The adjusted score will be the junior's single highest qualifying score from a regular class (Started, Open, Advanced), with point-adjustments based on the class entered:

Advanced: raw score + 6%

Open : raw score

Started : raw score

The qualifying score may be earned on ducks, sheep or cattle. In cases where a junior may have multiple qualifying scores from different classes, the score that is highest after accounting for the adjustment will be the one used for MVJ. Scores earned in non- regular classes (Working Junior Handler or Novice Handler) will not count for toward the MVJ competition.

Bitches in season entered in the MVJ competition must be accommodated in the National Specialty Working Trial.

- iv.) The Obedience portion of the Junior's total points will be comprised of an adjusted score. The adjusted score will be the junior's single highest qualifying score from a regular class (Novice, Open, Utility), with point-adjustments based on the class entered:

Utility : raw score + 3%

Open : raw score

Novice : raw score – 3%

In cases where a junior may have multiple qualifying scores from different classes, the score that is highest after accounting for the adjustment will be the one used for MVJ. Scores earned in non- regular classes (Pre-Novice, Grad-Novice, Brace, Veterans, Team, Versatility) will not count for toward the MVJ competition. Bitches in season who are entered in the MVJ competition must be accommodated in the National Specialty Obedience Trial. They will either run last, or in a special ring.

- v.) The Agility portion of the Junior's total points will be comprised of a single qualifying score from a regular class (Novice, Open, Elite), as follows:

Elite : clean run (full Q) = 195 points;

5-point fault (half Q) = 190 points

Open : clean run (full Q) = 185 points;

5-point fault (half Q) = 180 points

Novice : clean run (full Q) = 175 points;

5-point fault (half Q) = 170 points

In cases where a junior may have multiple qualifying runs from different classes, the run that results in the highest score will be the one used for MVJ.

Bitches in season who are entered for the MVJ competition will be allowed to run at the National Specialty Agility Trial. They will run at the end of each class. A rug or tarp will be brought out to the start line and the dog will be placed on the rug or tarp to begin her run. Bitches in heat will also wear panties during their runs. Bitches in heat must be crated (not in an ex-pen) prior to and during the competition, except when competing, away from the agility ring at a distance or location to be determined by the host club. All qualifying scores will count toward the trial, as will placements. Failure to comply with this rule will result in dismissal from all agility trials held in conjunction with the ASCA[®] Agility National Specialty

- vi.) The Tracking portion of the Junior's total points will be comprised of a base score, awarded for a "pass" rating on a single track, as follows:

TDX track : 195 points

TD track : 190 points

In cases where a junior may have multiple qualifying tracks from different classes, the track that results in the highest score will be the one used for MVJ.

Bitches in season entered in the MVJ competition must be accommodated in the National Specialty Tracking Test. They will run last in tracking, and will be kept away from the tracking area until called. Qualifying scores received will count if the premium list specifically states that "bitches in season may participate".

(Scoring Sheet for the Handling evaluation is as follows:)

Australian Shepherd Club of America

Most Versatile Junior Evaluation

Class _____ Date _____

Exhibitor No. _____ Judges Name: _____

Available _____ Earned _____

I. Judges Examination: 35 points

- A. Is handler prepared for examination? 5 Points
- B. Has the handler shown the dogs bite/teeth properly and smoothly? 5 Points
- C. Did handler move around the dog smoothly in order to stay out of the judges way? 10 Points
- D. Did the handler keep the dog standing still during the examination? 5 Points
- E. Was the dog stacked correctly? 10 Points

II. Gaiting: 25 points

- A. Did the handler move the dog at the speed to best show their dog? 10 Points
- B. Was pattern performed correctly? 10 Points
- C. Was the pattern performed with ease, even if it was wrong? 5 Points

III. Sportsmanship / Ring Etiquette: 45 points

- A. Did the Handler show consideration toward their dog? 10 Points
- B. Was the Handler attentive and polite to the judge? 10 Points
- C. Did the Handler show consideration toward other competitors? 10 Points
- D. Has handler allowed adequate room between each dog when stacking? 5 Points
- E. Has handler allowed adequate room between dogs when gaiting in a group? 5 Points
- F. Has handler been a distraction to other dogs? (excessive bait or squeak toys) 5 Points

IV. Teamwork: 20 points

- A. Do the handler and dog seem in sync? 10 Points
- B. Is dog responsive to handler? 10 Points

V. Overall Presentation: 65 points

- A. Was the dog properly groomed? (clean, brushed including ears & teeth) 20 Points
- B. Is handler dressed and groomed properly to be in the show ring? 10 Points
(Clothes not distracting, hair neat and unmoving)
- C. Is the dog presented with apparent minimum effort? 10 Points
- D. Do the dog and handler appear relaxed? 10 Points
- E. Are the dogs main faults minimized? 10 Points
- F. Did handler and dog make a nice picture? 5 Points

VI. Knowledge: 10 points

- A. Was handler able to answer questions about the Australian Shepherd breed Standard? 10 Points
- B. Was handler able to answer a question about their dog? (anatomy or personal dog) 10 Points

GRAND TOTAL: (170 points is a Qualifying Score.) 200 Points



AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD CLUB OF AMERICA® STOCKDOG TRIAL PROGRAM

Working Junior and Novice Handler Score Sheet

ENTRY NO. _____
TIME _____

COURSE A _____			DUCKS _____
COURSE B _____	AUSSIE _____	JR. HANDLER _____	SHEEP _____
COURSE C _____	OTHER BREED _____	NOVICE HANDLER _____	CATTLE _____

FILL IN EVERY BLANK	COURSE POINTS	POINTS EARNED
TAKE PEN/GATHER -----	5	_____
DRIVE/FETCH THROUGH OBSTACLE 1-----	5	_____
CROSS-DRIVE/FETCH THROUGH OBSTACLE 2-----	5	_____
SET-UP WORK AND INTO CENTER OBSTACLE -----	5	_____
Section 1.02 CONTROL TO AND REPEN -----	5	_____
(a) TOTAL COURSE SCORE-----	25	_____

	ABILITY POINTS	POINTS EARNED
ABILITY OF HANDLER TO CONTROL DOG-----	20	_____
ABILITY OF THE HANDLER TO READ LIVESTOCK AND TAKE----- STEPS NECESSARY TO KEEP THEM UNDER CONTROL	20	_____
TEAM WORK (ARE THE DOG AND HANDLER COMFORTABLE----- WITH EACH OTHER, DO THEY WORK TOGETHER)	20	_____
RING SIDE HANDLING (COACHING IS ALLOWED FROM OUT----- SIDE OF THE WORKING ARENA, POINTS WILL BE DEDUCTED)	20	_____
Section 1.03 HANDLERS SPORTSMANSHIP-----	20	_____
TOTAL ABILITY SCORE-----	100	_____

	COURSE SCORE	_____
	ABILITY SCORE	_____
	FINAL SCORE	_____
JUDGES SIGNATURE _____		
LOCATION _____	DATE _____	

THIS SCORESHEET IS INTENDED TO RECOGNIZE AND GIVE CREDIT FOR QUALITY HANDLING ABILITY WHETHER THE DOG IS HIGHLY TRAINED OR JUST BEGINNING IN IT'S TRAINING LEVEL. SCORES SHOULD REFLECT THE QUALITY OF WORK THE HANDLER HAS DEMONSTRATED IN TRIALING WITH HIS/HER DOG. **THE JUNIOR HANDLING CLASS IS NOT INTENDED TO BE USED AS A PRACTICE CLASS BUT A COMPETITION CLASS. JUNIORS IN THIS CLASS ARE COMPETING FOR PLACEMENTS AND YEAR END AWARDS.**

effective 6/1/2006

ASCA DOG BITE POLICY

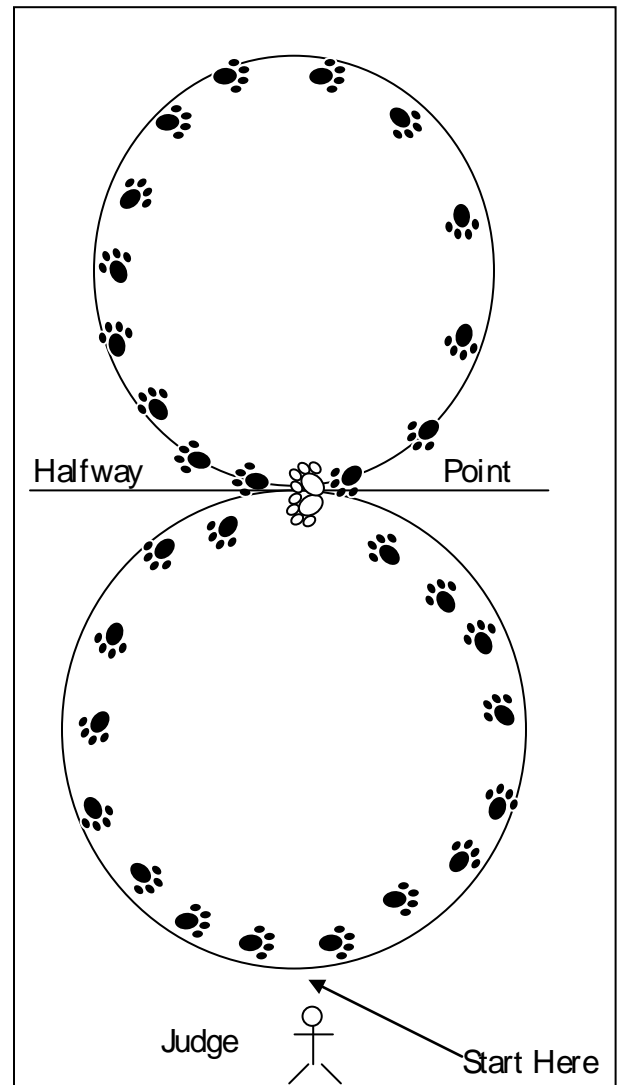
- 1) A judge shall disqualify any dog that attempts to attack any person in the ring/trial arena, as determined by the judge. The judge shall excuse a dog that attacks another dog or appears to the judge to be threatening other dogs in the ring/trial arena. The judge shall mark the dog "disqualified" or "excused" in accordance with this Rule, shall state the reason in the Judge's Book or score sheet, and shall give the Show/Trial Secretary a brief report of the dog's actions using the Disqualified or Excused Dog form, which shall be submitted to ASCA with the report of the show/trial. The entry form for any Disqualified or Excused dogs must be submitted with the Show/Trial Results. Any dog which has been excused on two (2) occasions pursuant to this Rule shall be disqualified to compete in any subsequent ASCA event unless and until it is reinstated by the Board of Directors. Notice of disqualification will be sent to the owner by the Business Office after review by the Board of Directors.
- 2) A dog that, in the opinion of the judge, menaces, threatens or exhibits any sign that it may not be safely approached or examined by the judge in the normal manner may be excused from the Show/Trial arena and be subject to this Rule.
- 3) The Affiliate or its Show/Trial Committee must perform an investigation of any incident where a dog has bitten either a person or another dog, whether it occurred in the ring or merely upon the Show/Trial grounds. The report, entry forms, and findings shall be forwarded to the Executive Secretary by the Business Office. If the dog was not disqualified, the report shall explain why not.
- 4) The reports of the Affiliate and judge shall be forwarded by the Executive Secretary to the Board of Directors and to ASCA's General Counsel.
- 5) ASCA's Counsel shall review the reports and make recommendations to the Board.
- 6) If the dog was excused, the Board of Directors will take such action, if any, as it deems appropriate with respect to allowing the dog to continue to compete.
- 7) If the dog was disqualified, the dog shall be ineligible to participate in any ASCA event in any discipline, unless and until such dog is approved for further competition and reinstated by the Board of Directors.

ASCA® Junior Handling Patterns

Only select handling patterns will be used in the ASCA® Junior Program. The decided patterns are following, and included are suggested ways in which to complete them.

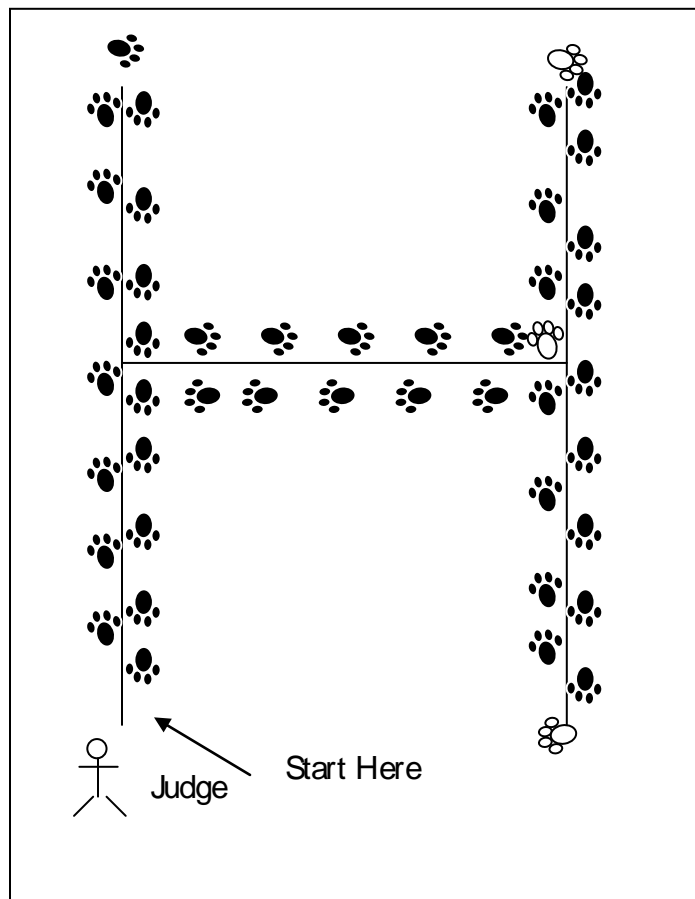
The Figure 8 Pattern

Starting in front of the Judge, create a half circle to the halfway point, switch hands, continuing a half circle to the top of the "8" and completing your upper half. At the halfway point, switch hands again, and complete your bottom circle part of the "8", continuing to the point of beginning.



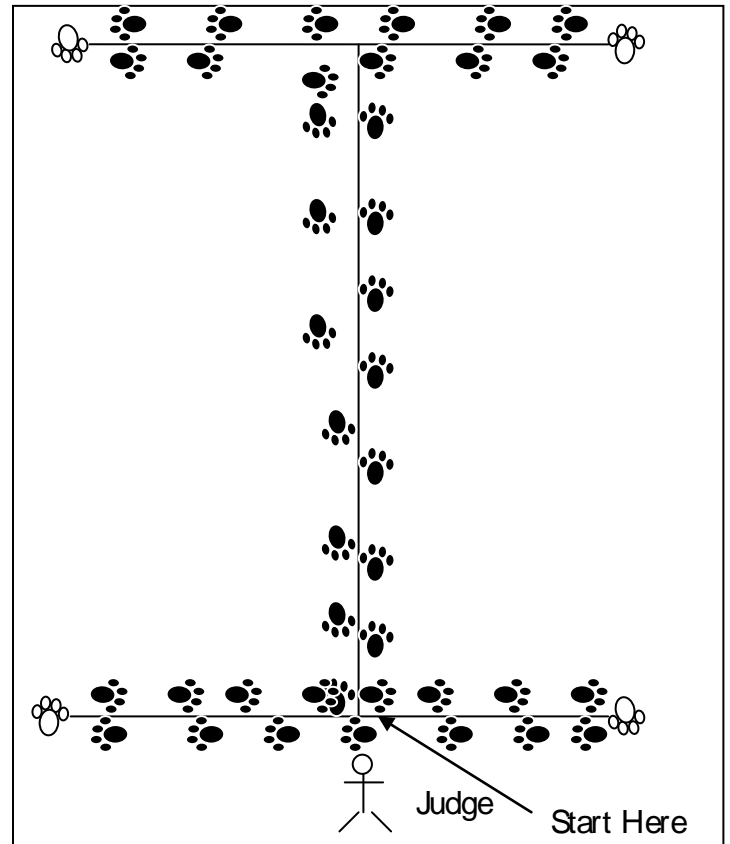
The "H" Pattern

Starting in front of the Judge, Go straight away, to the top of the H. Turn the dog to the inside, go half-way down your same track, and turn to make the "H" bar. Switch hands. Turn up to create the upper half of the other side of the "H". Again, switch hands and turn into your dog, keeping it to the inside, and come down to the bottom of the "H". Switch hands and continue up to the halfway point. Cut back across the "H" bar to the first step of the "H" and turn down to your judge. All steps should be inside themselves.



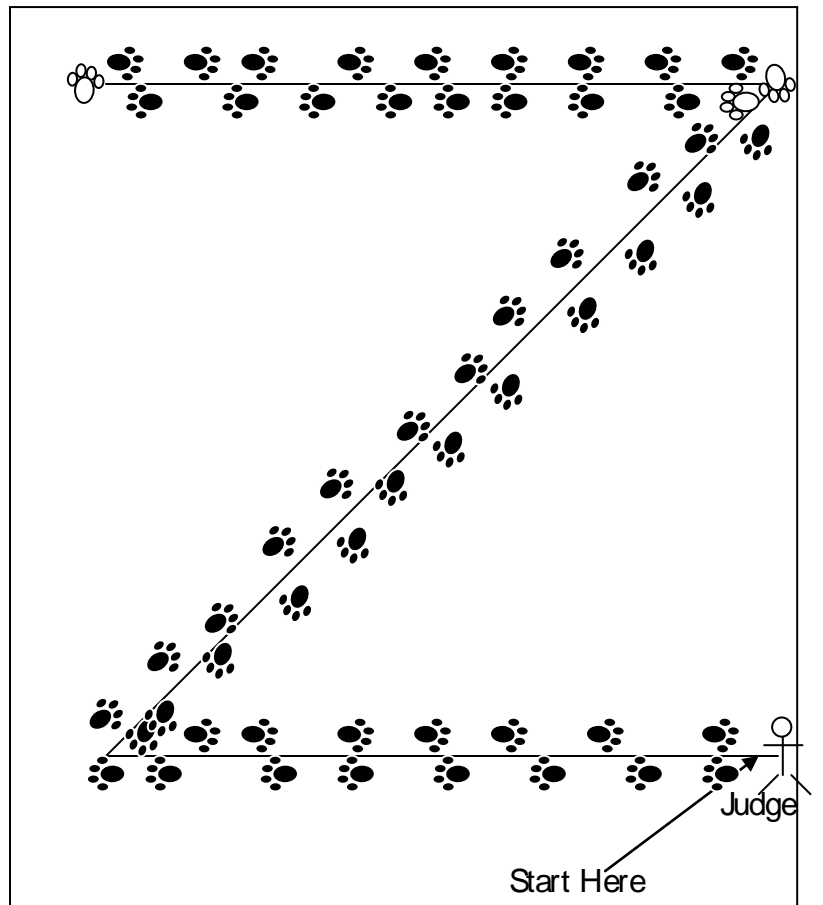
The "I" Pattern (For BJH Class Only)

Starting in front of the Judge, go left starting the bottom of the I. Turn into your dog, switching hands, and go to the opposite end of your line completing your bottom. Switch hands, turning into your dog, and continue to the center of your line, in front of the judge. Go straight away from your judge to the top of your "I". Turn left and create the top of your "I" bar. Switch hands, turning into your dog and go completely across to create the other end of your top "I" bar. Switch hands, turning into your dog, and come back to the halfway mark, and turn down continuing to your judge.



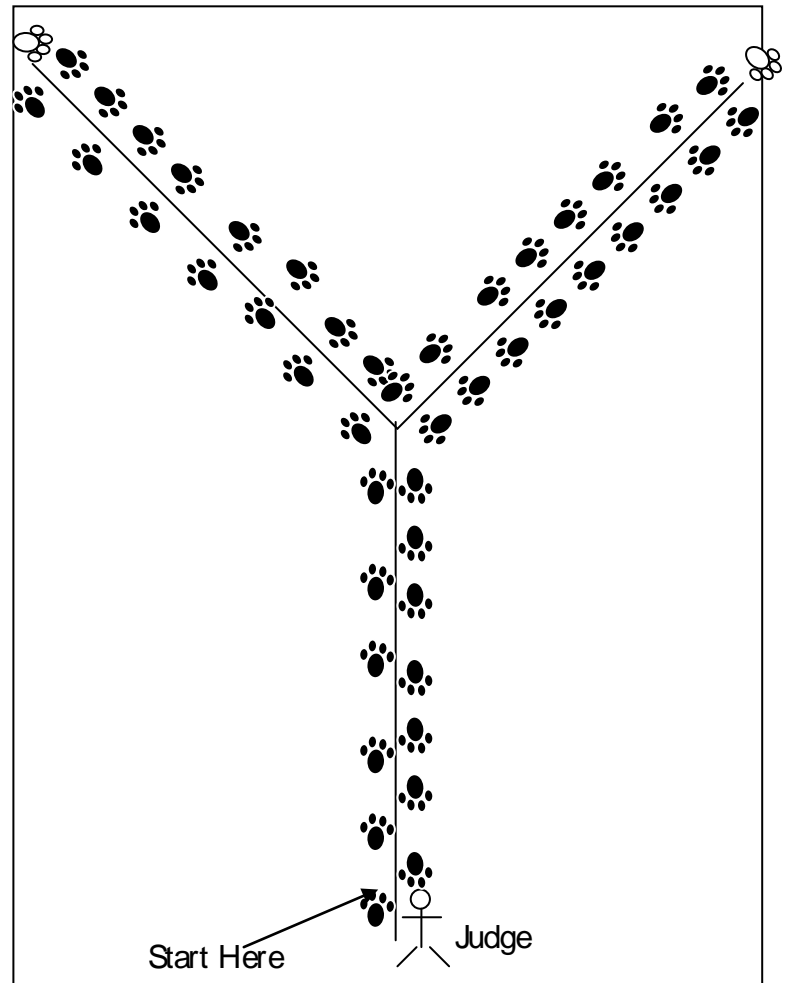
The "Z" Pattern (For BJH Class Only)

Starting at the judge, go straight away to the end of the ring. Turn and go on the diagonal to the corner of the ring, above the judge. Switch hands, turning into the dog and go to the end of the ring, away from the corner you completed your diagonal on. Switch hands, turning into the dog, and go back to the corner of the ring. Switch hands, and again go diagonal, so you are opposite the judge. Turn and continue in the direction of the judge.



The "Y" Pattern (For BJH Class Only)

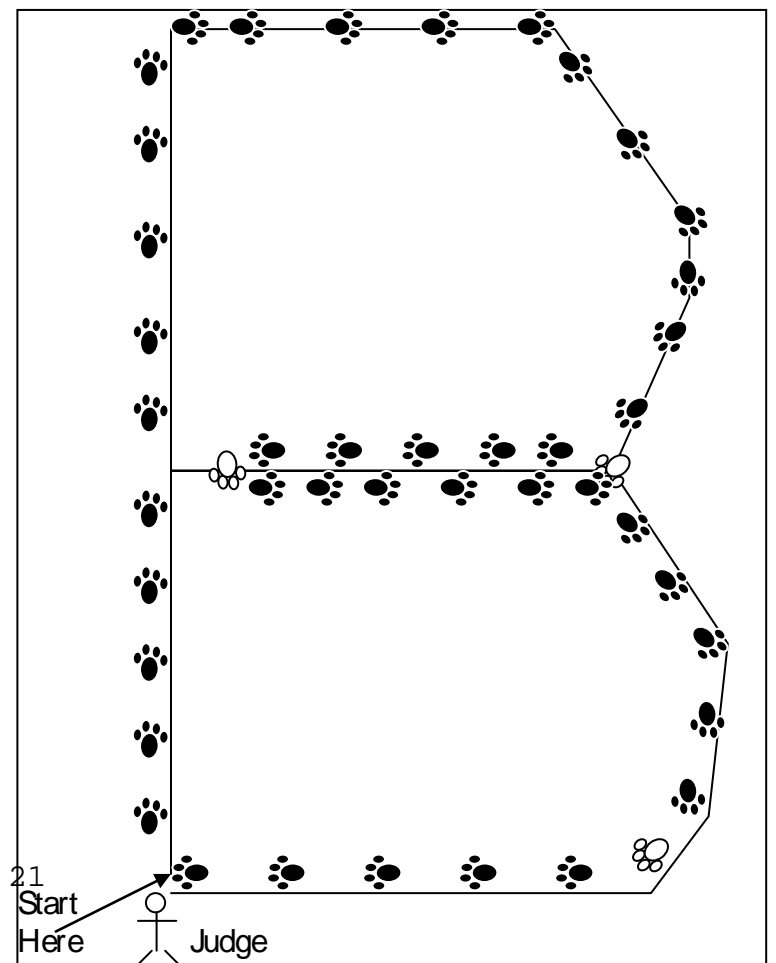
Starting at the Judge, go away
way across the ring. Angle
yourself and your dog to the
upper left-hand corner of the
ring. Switch hands, turning
into the dog and go back to the
start of your current line.
Once you reach the halfway
point, angle you and your dog
to the upper right hand corner.
Switch hands, coming back to
your current lines starting
point. Continue down to the
judge.



The "B" Pattern

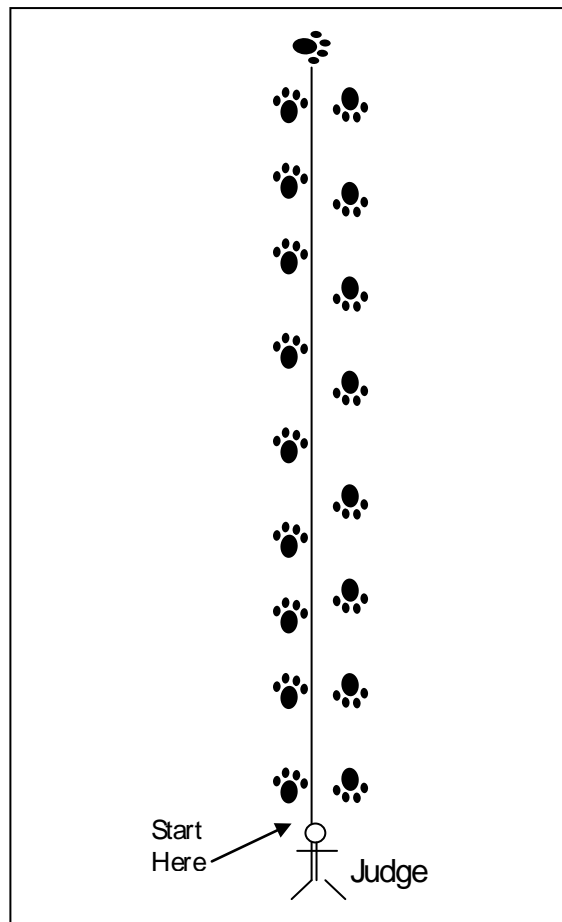
Starting in front of the Judge, go straight
away to the top of the ring. Turn right,
continuing almost to the end of the ring.
Make another right turn, heading
halfway down the ring. Switch hands,
and cut to the inside to make the middle
line. Switch hands, and go back on the
line you just made. Make another right
turn, heading down for the bottom of the
ring. Switch hands and make a left turn
heading back towards the judge.

At the curved part of the "B", this
would be the handlers choice to round it
off, or square (box) it off.



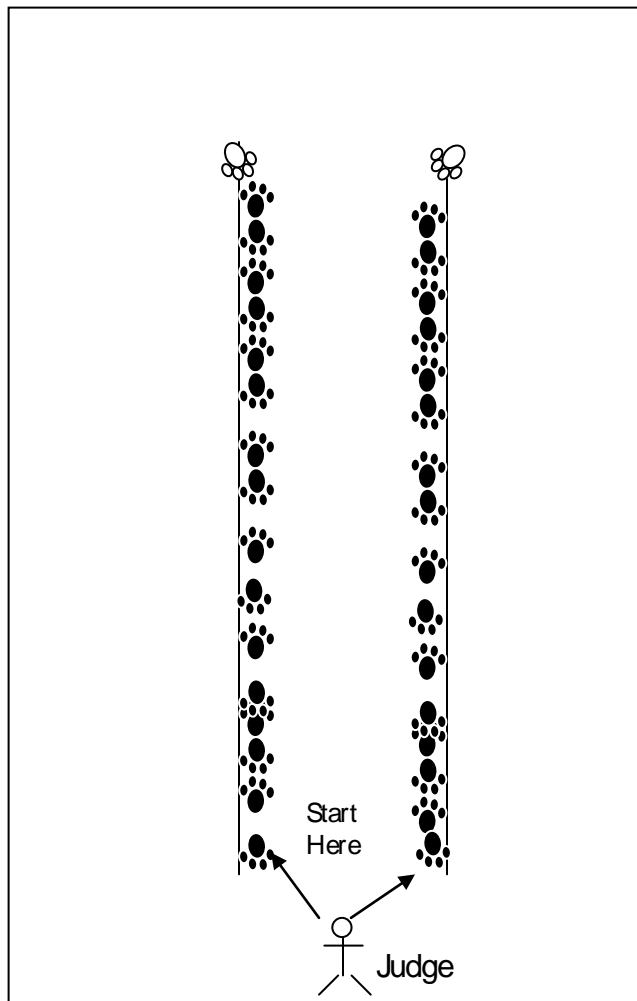
The Down and Back or Corner and Back
(Note: This pattern has a lot of personal handler choice)

Starting in front of the judge, go straight away from the judge. When you get to the end of the ring, you turn to the right and retrace your steps back to the judge.



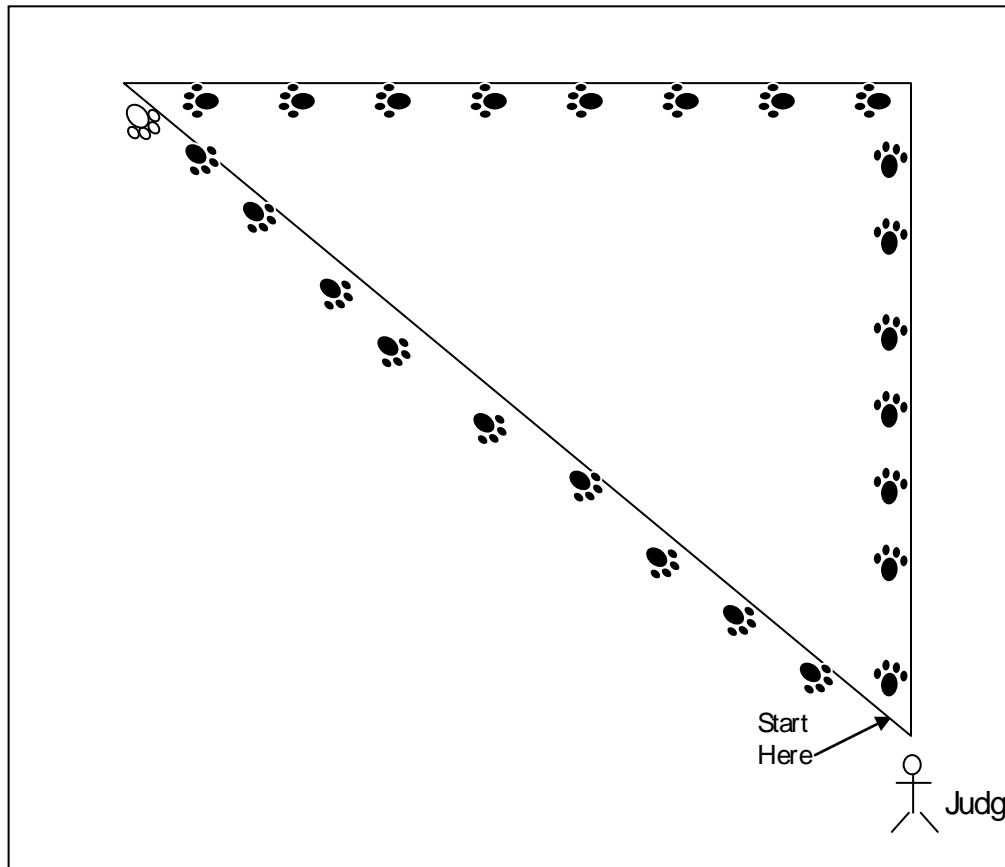
The Double Down and Back

Starting in front of the judge, with both dogs on the inside, go straight away from the judge. When you get to the end of the ring, you turn your dogs so that they are still side by side, and retrace your steps back to the judge.



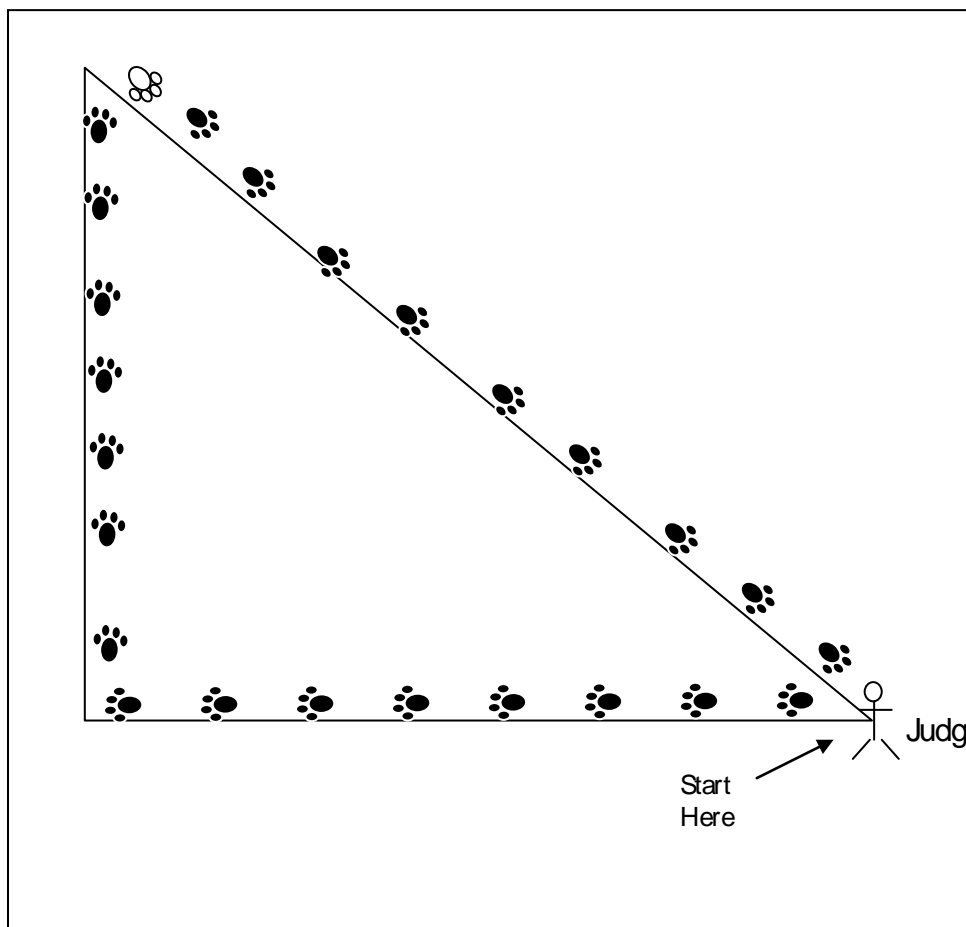
The Triangle to the Left Pattern

Move your dog away from the judge in a straight line, as you come to the corner of the ring, turn Left and continue to the next corner. At this corner, make a "courtesy turn" and continue down to the judge.



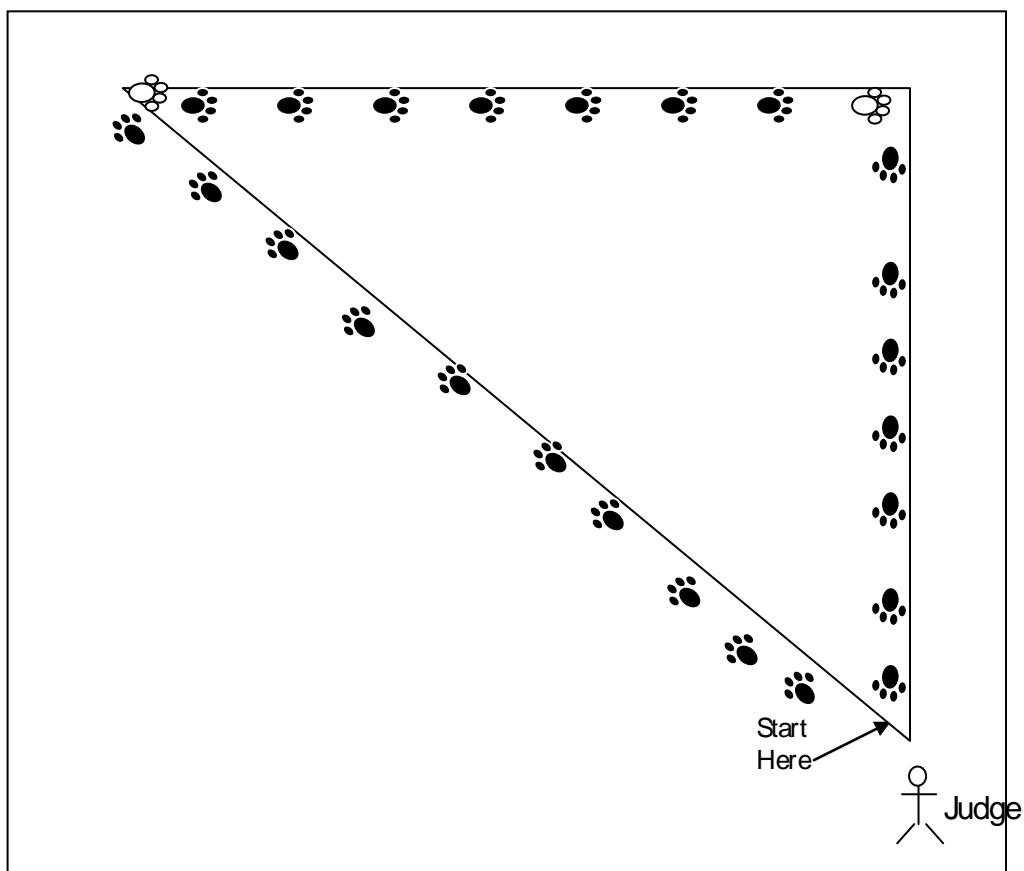
The Triangle to the Right Pattern

Move your dog away from the judge in a straight line to the left. As you come to the corner of the ring, turn Right and continue to the next corner. At this corner, turn back down towards the judge.



The Reverse Triangle Pattern

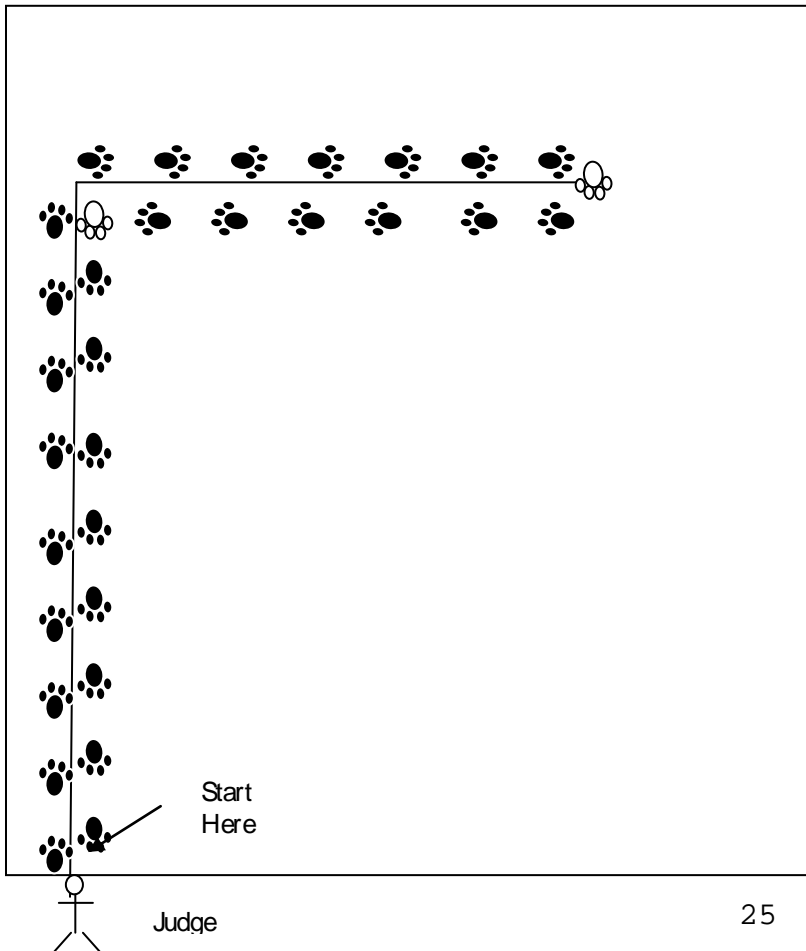
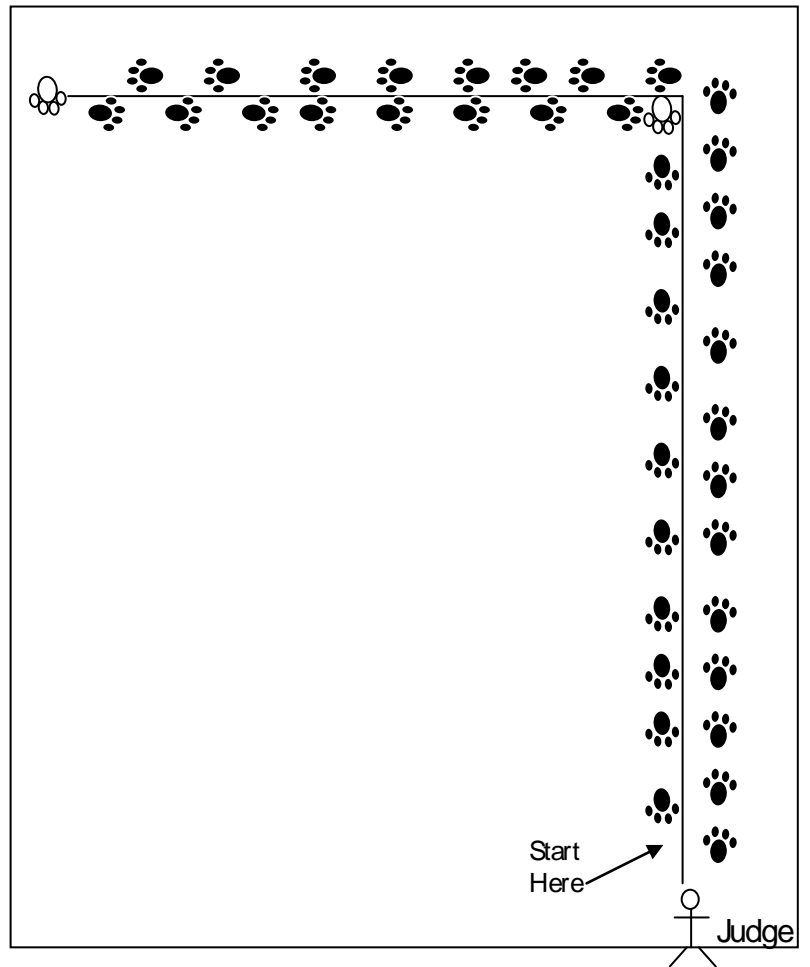
Starting in front of the judge, go out on the diagonal to the corner of the ring. Change hands and continue across the top of the ring. Once you reach the next corner, change hands again and go straight down to your judge.



At this point, I think we should explain some of the items you are seeing here. Please keep in mind that just because these patterns do not show courtesy turns, that does not mean you can not do them. Courtesy turns are at the sole discretion of the handler. Also, the way in which hands are switched and the dog is switched, is also at the discretion of the handler. These patterns are intended to be a guide in helping Junior Handlers to become familiar with what will be asked of them in the ring. The "Y", "Z", and capital "I" are to be used in the Best Junior Handler Class only. All other patterns may also be used in the Best Junior class also. Any order's which these patterns are used, shall be at the discretion of the Judge. Where you see a "white" paw, is where hand or dog side changes are to be made.

The L to the Left Pattern

Starting at the Judge, go straight away to the top of the ring. At the corner, turn left, continuing to the opposite corner., switch hands and cut back across the top, in your same steps. Once back at the corner, have your dog switch sides, and continue down to the judge.

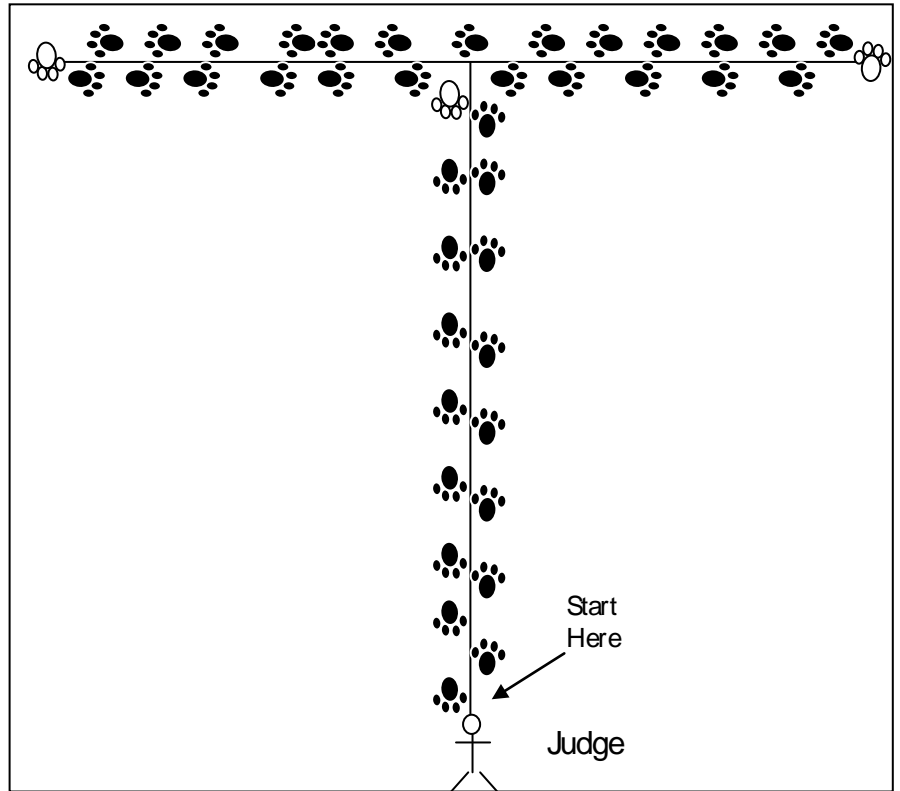


The L to the Right Pattern

Starting at the Judge, go straight away to the top of the ring. At the corner, turn right, continuing to the opposite corner., switch hands and cut back across the top, in your same steps. Once back at the corner, have your dog switch sides, and continue down to the judge.

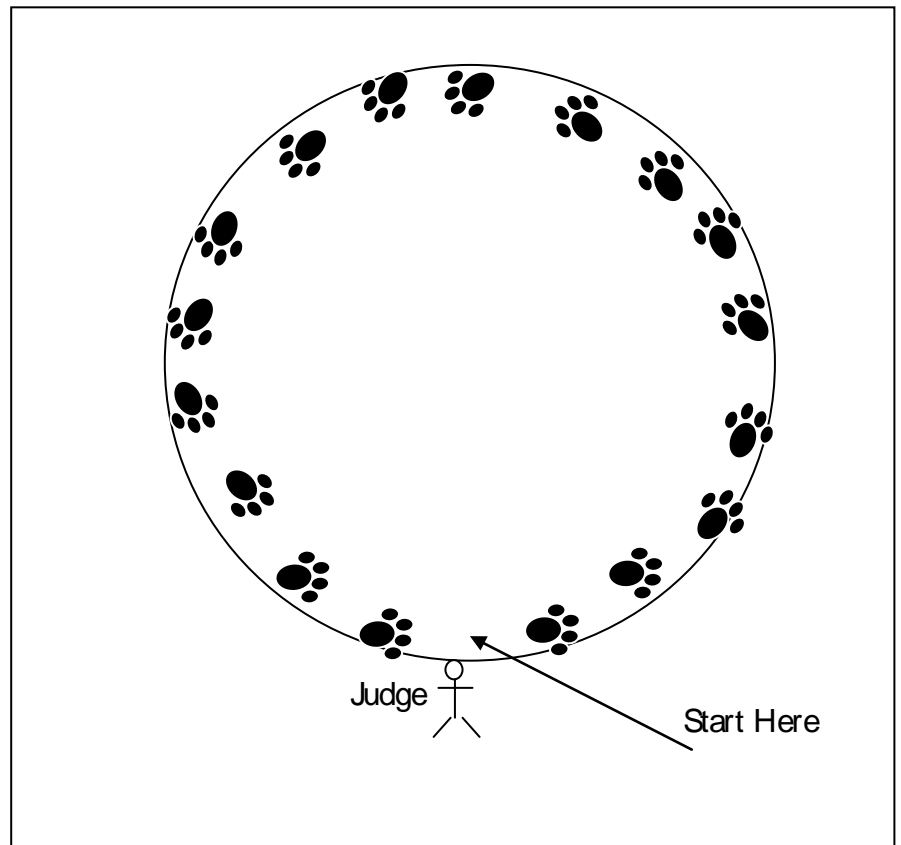
The "T" Pattern

The most difficult of all class patterns, but the most impressive if done correctly. Begin the pattern by moving up the "stem" of the "T". When you reach the top of the "T", turn left. When you reach the end of the left half, switch hands as you would in the "L" and continue along the top of the "T" until you reach the end of the other side. You then switch hands and move back to the halfway point, which is the top of the "stem". Turn left back towards letting your dog switch sides. Continue directly down to the judge's front.



The "Go All The Way Around" Pattern

This pattern is self-explanatory, and is usually done at the beginning and end of classes



ASCA® DISPUTE RULES

Article II. Disputes Defined

In these rules, the term “dispute” means any controversy, claim, complaint, dispute, appeal, disciplinary matter or the like which is related to ASCA®, its objectives, or its activities; either between members of the Australian Shepherd Club of America (ASCA® or the Club), ASCA®'s Affiliates claiming violation of its program rules, or policies.

Section 2.01 Matters Not Subject to the Dispute Rules

Disagreements or disputes relating to the following matters are not subject to these Dispute Rules or its process:

(a) Breeder-Buyer or Co-Owner Disputes

ASCA® does not resolve Breeder-Buyer disputes or disputes between co-owners of dogs. ASCA® will only enforce the judgments or decisions of a court of competent jurisdiction when any such dispute is raised, unless otherwise provided for in the ASCA® Registry Rules.

(b) Complaints Against Judges

Complaints about the conduct of an ASCA® Judge relating to such Judge's conduct as a Judge are not subject to these Dispute Rules. If remediable at the time of the show or trial, a complaint concerning the conduct of an ASCA® Judge at such show or trial should be brought to the attention of the Show or Trial Committee. Any other such complaint should be addressed to the Executive Secretary who shall advise the ASCA® Board. The Board shall use its discretion in determining how to proceed and whether the matter should be referred to the appropriate program committee.

Urgent complaints concerning judges should be brought informally (without filing a form) to the Show or Trial Committee for ruling and appropriate action.

(c) Breeder's Code of Ethics

The Breeder's Code of Ethics is a statement of conduct and principles that ASCA® requires all breeders of Australian Shepherds to adhere to in order to maintain the integrity of the Australian Shepherd and ASCA®'s registry. Any complaint relating to a violation of ASCA®'s Breeder's Code of Ethics shall not be subject to these Dispute Rules.

(d) Registry Issues

The Board retains the authority to handle a registry issue at any time without the filing of a formal dispute.

Article III. Jurisdiction

ASCA[®] intends that disputes be resolved quickly and fairly. To this end, ASCA[®] has established two tiers of dispute resolution: Affiliate level proceedings and Board level proceedings. All disputes shall be resolved according to these Rules. In order to file a dispute, the ASCA[®] member must be in good standing with the Club.

Section 3.01 Affiliate Jurisdiction

Disputes involving any of the following rules and authorities shall be addressed in the first instance to the affected Affiliate club for resolution.

- The Affiliate's own bylaws, rules and procedures,
- The ASCA[®] Stockdog Rules and Regulations,
- The ASCA[®] Conformation Show Rules and Regulations,
- The ASCA[®] Tracking Rules and Regulations,
- The ASCA[®] Agility Rules and Regulations,
- The ASCA[®] Rally Rules and Regulations,
- The ASCA[®] Obedience Rules and Regulations, and
- The ASCA[®] Junior Rules and Regulations

Section 3.02 ASCA@Board Jurisdiction

All other disputes, including those involving the ASCA[®] registry, the ASCA[®] Bylaws, or a claim against an Affiliate, must be addressed in the first instance to the ASCA[®] Board for resolution. A dispute not resolved satisfactorily at the Affiliate level may be appealed to the Board. The Board may, in its sole discretion, investigate and assume or decline jurisdiction over any dispute involving the Club. At the Board's request, an Affiliate shall immediately yield jurisdiction to the Board. The Board may, in its discretion, transfer dispute resolutions to a committee established for such purpose. Any dispute determination made by the Board or its committee shall be final and is not subject to appeal.

Article IV. Procedure

Section 4.01 Urgent Disputes Before Affiliates

An urgent dispute is one which will become moot if not resolved within a very short time. An example would be a dispute which involves the conduct of a show presently in progress. Expedited procedures are appropriate for such disputes.

(a) Complaints

Any ASCA® member in good standing may raise an urgent dispute before an Affiliate by a written complaint using the Official Complaint Form delivered to an officer or director of the Affiliate. When extreme urgency makes a written complaint not practical, a complaint may be made orally and later followed with a written version. There is no fee for filing an urgent complaint.

(b) Hearing

The Affiliate shall promptly convene a hearing before an appropriate body, such as its Board of Directors or a show committee, unless otherwise stated in the program rules. The hearing officials may conduct any inquiry they deem necessary to resolve the dispute. As examples, they may review documents; question witnesses; examine dogs, kennel conditions, breeding records, and the like. Extended investigations and lengthy hearings are discouraged in the case of urgent disputes.

(c) Due Process

Hearing officials shall convey the complaint to any party accused and afford such party a reasonable opportunity to respond to the charges, bearing in mind the expedited nature of the process. This provision does not assume or admit that the Affiliate is bound by any state or U.S. Constitutional requirement of due process. The hearing officials shall make a good faith effort to obtain factual information concerning the dispute from both the Complainant and the Respondent.

(d) Decision

The hearing officials shall reach and announce their decision at the earliest possible time, normally at the initial hearing, and in every case within 24 hours of receiving the complaint. A dated, summary, written notice of the decision shall be delivered promptly to the parties. This notice determines the date of decision for purposes of further proceedings. The decision upon a matter handled as an urgent dispute may be appealed to the Affiliate; such an appeal shall be handled as if it were an ordinary dispute before an Affiliate.

(e) Timing

The following timelines shall apply to urgent disputes before an Affiliate:

What	When
Filing of urgent complaint	At time of event giving rise to complaint – Immediately, if possible
Payment of filing fee	There is no fee for filing an urgent dispute

Notice to opposing parties	Handled by hearing officials
Response by Respondent	Respondent afforded reasonable opportunity to respond to charges at the hearing
Decision by hearing officials	Normally at the time of the hearing and always within 24 hours of receiving complaint
Appeal to Affiliate as an ordinary dispute	Within 7 days of decision by hearing officials

The hearing officials may summarily rule against any party who fails to comply with these timelines.

Section 4.02 Ordinary Disputes Before Affiliates

An ordinary dispute is one which does not require immediate resolution, or an appeal to an Affiliate of the decision upon an urgent dispute. In order to prevent unnecessary characterization of a dispute as urgent, an Affiliate may, in its sole discretion, treat any dispute as ordinary. Ordinary disputes shall be resolved using the following procedures.

(a) Complaints and Answers

Any ASCA® member in good standing may raise a dispute before an Affiliate by filing a written complaint using the Official Complaint Form delivered to an officer or director of the Affiliate, and paying a filing fee of \$50 to the Affiliate. A party accused in a complaint may file a written answer.

(b) Due Process

Any party filing a complaint or answer with an Affiliate must also serve copies upon the other party. Delivery of copies shall be made by either personally serving, mailing by both first class mail and certified mail, return receipt requested, faxing, or delivering by common carrier, such as Federal Express or UPS, a copy of the complaint or answer together with a statement, signed by the party, that such complaint or answer has been filed with the Affiliate. Hearing officials shall afford the Respondent a reasonable opportunity to respond to the charges against him or her. This provision does not assume or admit that the Affiliate is bound by any state or U.S. Constitutional requirement of due process. The hearing officials shall make a good faith effort to obtain factual information concerning the dispute from both the Complainant and the Respondent. Each party shall be provided all written materials submitted by the other party to the Affiliate prior to deliberations.

(c) Deliberations

Deliberations shall be conducted before an appropriate body, such as the Affiliate's Board or a committee designated by the Affiliate. The hearing officials may conduct any inquiry they deem necessary to resolve the dispute. As examples, they may review documents; question witnesses;

examine dogs, kennel conditions, breeding records and the like; and may request briefs (written statements and/or explanation and argument) from the parties.

(d) **Memo of Decision**

A dated summary, written notice of the decision shall be delivered promptly to the parties. This notice determines the date of decision for purposes of further proceedings.

(e) **Timing**

The following timelines shall apply to ordinary disputes before an Affiliate:

What	When
Filing of ordinary complaint	Within 21 days of discovery (knowledge) of an event which is the basis of the; complaints must be filed within one year of the date of the occurrence of the event
Payment of filing fee	\$50 due when complaint or appeal is filed
Notice to opposing parties	Parties must provide notice to their opponents as set forth in Section 3.2.2
Filing answer to complaint	Within 21 days of the date of mailing of the complaint to the other party
Deliberations by Affiliate	Within 21 days of last day for timely filing of answer to complaint
Decision by Affiliate	Within 7 days of deliberations
Appeal to ASCA®Board	Within 21 days of Affiliate decision

The Affiliate may summarily rule against any party who fails to comply with these timelines.

Section 4.03 Disputes Before the ASCA® Board

The following rules shall govern disputes over which the ASCA®Board assumes jurisdiction:

(a) **Complaints and Appeals**

Any ASCA® member in good standing may raise a dispute before the Board by filing a written complaint or appeal using the Official Complaint Form delivered to the Executive Secretary of ASCA®. A party accused in a complaint or appeal may file a written answer. Every dispute raised before the Board, whether an original complaint or an appeal, must be accompanied by a \$100 filing fee. Original complaints involving the Registry Rules brought before the Board are exempt from the filing fee.

(b) **Temporary Measures in Urgent Cases**

When necessary to preserve its power to decide a dispute, the Board may impose immediate temporary measures to remain in effect pending its decision. For example, if a complaint alleges that dogs infected with a disease have been entered in a competition, the Board may suspend competition privileges for the affected animals pending its decision.

3.3.3 Notice to Respondent

Upon receipt of a complaint, the Executive Secretary shall notify the Board and shall deliver a Notice of the filing of the Complaint and a copy of the complaint, together with a copy of the Dispute Rules, to the opposing party, known as the Respondent, at the last known address of the Respondent in ASCA[®]'s records. The Notice shall state that the Respondent must file a written answer, together with written materials which support the Respondent's position, which shall be filed with the Executive Secretary within 21 days from the date of mailing of Notice of filing by the Executive Secretary.

3.3.4 Argument

All disputes shall be submitted for decision on written statements and arguments (briefs). The Board may, in its discretion, request oral argument, person or by telephone.

3.3.5 Due Process

The Board or its committee shall afford the Respondent a reasonable opportunity to respond to the charges. The Executive Secretary shall provide each party with copies of all written materials submitted by the other party prior to deliberation by the Board. This provision does not assume or admit that ASCA[®] is bound by any state or U.S. Constitutional requirement of due process.

3.3.6 Deliberations and Decision

After the expiration of the time for the parties to have submitted their materials for consideration, the Executive Secretary shall submit the matter, along with all materials submitted by the parties and all other relevant information in ASCA[®]'s possession, to the Board for decision. No motion nor second shall be required for the Board to act. Deliberation shall be conducted by the Board or its committee, which shall consist of not less than three Directors appointed by the President. The Board or its committee shall issue a written decision.

3.3.7 Memo of Decision

A written notice of the decision shall be delivered promptly to the parties upon the decision becoming final. Decisions made by a committee of the Board may be reviewed by the entire Board within 7 days of issuance upon the request of at least three (3) Directors, or they become final and not subject to further appeal. All decisions made by the Board are final and are not subject to appeal. If additional facts or evidence arise, either party may resubmit the dispute as a new dispute pursuant to these Dispute Rules.

Timing

The following timelines shall apply to disputes before the Board and appeals from decisions of Affiliates:

What	When
Filing a complaint	Within 21 days of discovery (knowledge) of an event giving rise to complaint; complaints must be filed within one year of the date of the event
Filing of appeal from Affiliate action	Within 21 days of Affiliate's decision
Payment of filing fee	\$100, due at time of filing of complaint
Notice to opposing parties	Provided by ASCA® pursuant to Section 3.3.3
Filing answer to complaint or appeal	Within 21 days of the date of mailing notice to Respondent by the Executive Secretary
Deliberations by Board	21 days after last day for timely filing of answer
Decision by Board	Within 21 days of deliberations

The Board or its committee may summarily rule against any party who fails to comply with these timelines.

Article V. Sanctions In addition to rectifying or affirming the event complained of, an Affiliate may impose sanctions against either party involved in the complaint.

Section 5.01 Affiliate Sanctions

An Affiliate may do any one or more of the following as a sanction:

(a) **Reprimands**

The Affiliate may issue a public or private reprimand.

(b) **Recommendations to the ASCA® Board**

The Affiliate may recommend that the ASCA® Board investigate a dispute or impose a sanction.

(c) **Fines**

The Affiliate may assess reasonable fines, not to exceed \$100.

Section 5.02 ASCA® Board Sanctions

In addition to rectifying or affirming the event complained of, the Board of Directors may impose sanctions against either party involved in the complaint.

The ASCA® Board has general authority to enter any sanction which is appropriate to the circumstances; for example, and without limiting that general authority, the Board may do any one or more of the following things as a sanction.

(a) **Reprimands**

The Board may issue a public or private reprimand.

(b) **Suspension**

The Board may suspend any privilege granted by ASCA® or an Affiliate for any length of time. By way of example, *but not of limitation*, the Board may: exclude persons and/or dogs from participation in any event conducted by ASCA® or an Affiliate for any length of time; prohibit Affiliates from hosting shows; exclude participation in or use of the ASCA® registry; revoke registry papers; refuse to accept advertising in ASCA® publications; or suspend delivery of ASCA®'s official newsletter.

(c) **Fines**

The Board may assess reasonable fines, not to exceed \$1,000.

(d) **Enforcement of Board Sanctions**

All ASCA® Affiliates shall honor sanctions imposed by the Board and shall refrain from taking actions which tend to minimize or lessen such sanctions. For example, if a member is suspended from participating in competitions, Affiliates shall prohibit such participation.

(e) **Notice of Sanctions**

Final decisions imposing sanctions against any ASCA® member shall be published in the official ASCA® newsletter.



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If you find the need to file a dispute or find that you are involved in a dispute, what follows is a summary of the ASCA® dispute process.

The ASCA® Complaint Form is included with each sanctioning packet sent to Affiliate Clubs. The Event Committee should have copies of the form on the grounds of all events or the form is available on request from the ASCA® Business Office.

FIRST DECIDE WHAT TYPE OF DISPUTE IT IS

There are 3 types of ASCA® disputes:

- 1) Urgent
- 2) Ordinary
- 3) ASCA® Board jurisdiction---appeals from affiliate disputes and disputes originating with the ASCA® Board regarding the ASCA® Bylaws and ASCA® Registry.

URGENT DISPUTES

URGENT disputes are for violations in the process of being committed. They involve violations of affiliate bylaws or rules or ASCA® program rules.

- 1) Complaint is filed on an Official Complaint Form. Only in an extreme emergency may it be filed orally. Oral complaints must be followed up in writing on the Official Complaint Form. NO FEE is required with an Urgent Complaint.
- 2) A hearing body is chosen. This is normally either the club Board of Directors or the Event Committee.
- 3) The complaint is delivered to the accused by the hearing body.
- 4) The hearing body conducts the hearing as soon as possible. Any necessary inquiry will be pursued by the hearing officials. Long investigations and hearings are discouraged in urgent disputes.
- 5) Both parties are allowed to state their case. Both parties may be questioned by the hearing body.
- 6) The hearing body will reach a decision.
- 7) The hearing body announces their decision as soon as possible. Normally this would occur immediately following the hearing. In no case will it be delayed more than 24 hours from the filing of the complaint.
- 8) Both parties receive the decision in writing.
- 9) Either party may appeal within 7 days of the decision.
- 10) Appeals are handled as "ordinary" disputes.

ORDINARY DISPUTES

ORDINARY disputes do not require immediate attention. An Affiliate may designate an urgent dispute as ordinary if the dispute is not truly urgent.

- 1) Written complaint is submitted on the Official Complaint Form.
- 2) Form is delivered to an Officer or Director of the Affiliate Club within 21 days of discovery of the event with a \$20 filing fee.
- 3) Copy of complaint is given to the accused by the party filing the complaint.
- 4) Accused files an answer within 21 days of effective date of complaint (either day of sending by US Certified Mail or common carrier, day of confirmed receipt by fax or day of delivery by personal messenger).
- 5) Affiliate will deliberate within 21 days of last day for filing of an accused person's answer.
- 6) Affiliate reaches a decision within 7 days of start of deliberations.
- 7) Any appeal must be filed within 21 days of the Affiliate's decision. Appeals must be filed with the ASCA®Board.

ASCA®BOARD JURISDICTION

ASCA® BOARD JURISDICTION occurs with appeals from Affiliate decisions and violations involving the ASCA® Registry Rules or ASCA® Bylaws.

- 1) Fill out the Official Complaint Form within 21 days of discovery of the event. In the case of appeals, the Form must be submitted within 7 days of the Affiliate decision.
- 2) Deliver to the ASCA®Executive Secretary with the \$100 filing fee. (Complaints regarding Registry Rules violations are exempt from the filing fee.)
- 3) Deliver a copy of the complaint to the accused (see section 5 of the Dispute Rules).
- 4) The accused may file a written answer within 21 days of the effective date of the complaint or appeal. The Board must allow the accused a reasonable opportunity to meet the charges.
- 5) The accused may give oral arguments. The Board may require the parties to pay the costs of Board travel and lodging related to an oral hearing.
- 6) The Board deliberates within 21 days of the last day for filing an answer by the accused.
- 7) The Board delivers dated notice of the decision to both parties within 7 days of the deliberation.
- 8) Arbitration concerning a Board decision must be initiated within 21 days of the Board decision (see Dispute rules--3.4)

This Help Sheet is not intended as a substitute for the Dispute Rules. Complete Dispute Rules can be found in the back of every ASCA® program rulebook. It is required that copies of the Dispute Rules and Complaint Forms be available at any ASCA® sanctioned event.

Australian Shepherd Club of America

Complaint Form

Resolve problems yourself without a formal complaint whenever possible. Failing that, use this form to bring a complaint before an affiliate or the ASCA® Board under ASCA®'s Dispute Rules. This is a formal procedure. You must read and follow the Dispute Rules. Complete each space or your complaint will not be processed.

<i>Your Name</i>	<i>Names of parties about whom you are complaining.</i> You must serve a copy of this complaint to everyone you name here (Dispute Rules section 3.2.3 and 3.3.5). The hearing officials will serve these parties for you only in the case of urgent disputes before affiliates (Dispute Rules section 3.1.3).	
<i>Today's Date</i>	<i>Date of event giving rise to this complaint</i>	<i>Date you first learned of the event</i> <i>Dispute Rules section 3.2.5 and 3.3.7</i>
<i>State the grounds for your complaint. Include reference to ASCA® rules, regulations and bylaws which have been violated. Confine your statement to this space if possible. Lengthy statements are discouraged.</i>		
<i>Dollar amount of certified check or money order which accompanies this form (Dispute Rules section 3.2.1 and 3.3.1). No money is required for urgent disputes before affiliates (Dispute Rules section 3.3.1).</i>		\$
<i>Sign here. By doing so you certify that you have attempted to resolve this dispute informally and that you have served parties with this complaint as required.</i>		X

