

Section 7. Classes.

Started Class Course A – Description

Time Allowed: 10 minutes for sheep and ducks, 12 minutes for cattle. Timing starts when the handler sends their dog and finishes when the handler closes the pen gate.

Start

The dog enters the arena and is placed at Post B. The handler may move to any location on the centre line between Post A and Post B.

Gather

The dog begins the gather from Post B. The dog moves the stock down the arena on the far side of the centre line panels towards marker #1 (Post C).

The handler may move within the handler's zone between Posts A and B during the gather. After the stock reach Post A, it is the handler's option in which manner the course is executed: drive, fetch or a combination of both. The handler may walk to any position once the stock has moved past Post A.

"Y" Chute

Turn stock around Post C and move the stock to the "Y" chute with a turn down the arena through the chute towards marker #2.

"Z" Chute

Turn stock toward the far side at marker #2 and move the stock through "Z" chute towards marker #3.

Panel Runway

Turn stock toward the top at marker #3 and move the stock straight through the panel runway towards marker #4.

Section 7

Started Class Course A – Description

Y" Chute

Turn stock around Post C and move the stock to the "Y" chute ~~with a turn down the arena through the chute towards marker #2.~~ All sheep must got to marker #2 before going to the "Z'Chute"

"Z" Chute

Turn stock toward the far side at marker #2 and move the stock through "Z" chute ~~towards marker #3.~~ All sheep must go to marker #3 before going to the panel runway

Rationale

This change from the original rule and intent was a mistake, a lowering of the bar to make it easier. In no other sport would this be encouraged. In athletics on a rectangle sports field with the track around the perimeter the runners would not be allowed the option of cutting the corners. Returning to the original rule and intent would uphold the standard of our sport, not lower it.

Centre line Gate

Turn stock towards the near side at marker #4 and move the stock straight across arena through centre line gate to marker #5. The handler may pass through the centre line gate.

Pen

Turn stock towards the top of the arena at marker #5 and move the stock to near the exhaust pen. The dog

runway, they don't get to either of those markers. The current Rules contravene each other, and the alternative direct routes for the stock to go from the Y chute to the Z chute and the panel runway allowable under these Rules should be deleted.

"Z" Chute

Turn stock towards the far side at marker #2, then move stock through the "Z" chute towards marker #3. The handler may choose to take the stock directly from the Z chute to the panel runway.

NSW – Section 7 Classes – Novice Class Course A – Description (Optional Class) - "Y Chute"

~~Turn stock towards the far side at marker #2, then move stock through the "Z" chute towards marker #3. The handler may choose to take the stock directly from the Z chute to the panel runway.~~

Rationale:

- It is a universal rule that, for every sport where a designated course has to be followed, for each class in that sport the course has to be the same for all the competitors in it to compete on. The two sentences above in our ANKC Herding Rules do not honour this rule by allowing the handler to choose, on two occasions, which course will suit him best at the time. That is wrong and should not be acceptable for fair and equal competition
- Under the current Rules if time is running short the handler can shorten the course in order to complete it inside the maximum course time, and yet still be competing in the same class and competition as those who don't.
- If the dog follows the stock through the obstacles it can not control the direction they take when they exit them. The stock are therefore determining the direction of the course before the dog can regain a control position. That is blatantly wrong. A dog that is in the correct position to control the stock as they exit the obstacles should be rewarded with higher points than one that isn't and is just lucky if they happen to go down the fenceline towards the corner or directly towards the next obstacle.
- Because the judge doesn't know which course the stock are going to be taken down he can not start scoring "off-course" points until they are at least 8 metres out from the obstacle. Only then will it become clear which course has been taken and he can start applying the 4 metre corridor rules.
- Handlers who choose to take the stock directly from the Y chute to the Z chute, and/or the Z chute to the panel runway, are being unfairly advantaged by avoiding the two corners which are themselves obstacles. It is naturally easier to herd stock in a straight line with less chance of being scored "off-course" points. To have two different courses, one shorter and easier than the other, and both being claimed as being "acceptable" in the same class, is totally unfair and wrong.
- The description in all four classes for the Y chute section of the course reads "Turn the stock towards the far side at marker #2". And the description in all four classes for the panel runway section reads "Turn the stock towards the top at marker #3". If the stock are taken in the direct lines from the Y chute to the Z chute, and from the Z chute to the panel runway, they don't get to either of those markers. The current Rules contravene each other, and the alternative direct routes for the stock to go from the Y chute to the Z chute and the panel runway allowable under these Rules should be deleted.

Panel Runway

Turn stock toward the top at marker #3 and move the stock straight through the panel runway toward marker #4.

Centre line Gate

Turn stock towards the near side at marker #4 and move the stock straight across arena through centre line gate to marker #5. The handler may pass through the centre line gate.

Pen

Turn stock towards the top of the arena at marker #5 and move the stock to near the exhaust pen. The dog holds the stock in a location near the exhaust pen but away from the gate while the handler opens the gate. The stock is penned. The handler closes the gate and completes the run. The dog must demonstrate it is

Novice Class Course A - Description (Optional Class)

Time Allowed: 10 minutes for sheep and ducks, 12 minutes for cattle. Timing starts when the handler sends their dog and finishes when the handler closes the pen gate.

The drive legs (Post C/#1 to #2 and #2 to #3) must be performed at a drive for more than half of its distance in each scoring category. The dog must demonstrate its ability to drive stock forward on the course to qualify in this class.

Start

The dog enters the arena and is placed at Post C. The handler may move to any location on the centre line between Post A and Post C.

Gather

The dog begins the gather from Post C. The dog moves the stock down the arena on the far side of the centre line panels towards marker #1 (Post C).

The handler may move within the zone between Posts A & C during the gather. After the stock reach Post A, it is the handler's choice as to the way marker #1 is reached: drive, fetch or a combination of both.

"Y" Chute

Turn stock around Post C and move the stock to and through the "Y" chute towards marker #2.

The handler may be in any position to assist the dog to drive but must not lead the stock through the course between marker #1 and #3. The handler may choose to take the stock directly from the Y chute to the Z chute.

NSW – Section 7 Classes – Novice Class Course A – Description (Optional Class) - “Y Chute”

Turn stock around Post C and move the stock to and through the "Y" chute towards marker #2.

~~The handler may be in any position to assist the dog to drive but must not lead the stock through the course between marker #1 and #3. The handler may choose to take the stock directly from the Y chute to the Z chute.~~

Rationale:

- It is a universal rule that, for every sport where a designated course has to be followed, for each class in that sport the course has to be the same for all the competitors in it to compete on. The two sentences above in our ANKC Herding Rules do not honour this rule by allowing the handler to choose, on two occasions, which course will suit him best at the time. That is wrong and should not be acceptable for fair and equal competition
- Under the current Rules if time is running short the handler can shorten the course in order to complete it inside the maximum course time, and yet still be competing in the same class and competition as those who don't.
- If the dog follows the stock through the obstacles it can not control the direction they take when they exit them. The stock are therefore determining the direction of the course before the dog can regain a control position. That is blatantly wrong. A dog that is in the correct position to control the stock as they exit the obstacles should be rewarded with higher points than one that isn't and is just lucky if they happen to go down the fenceline towards the corner or directly towards the next obstacle.
- Because the judge doesn't know which course the stock are going to be taken down he can not start scoring "off-course" points until they are at least 8 metres out from the obstacle. Only then will it become clear which course has been taken and he can start applying the 4 metre corridor rules.
- Handlers who choose to take the stock directly from the Y chute to the Z chute, and/or the Z chute to the panel runway, are being unfairly advantaged by avoiding the two corners which are themselves obstacles. It is naturally easier to herd stock in a straight line with less chance of being scored "off-course" points. To have two different courses, one shorter and easier than the other, and both being claimed as being "acceptable" in the same class, is totally unfair and wrong.
- The description in all four classes for the Y chute section of the course reads "Turn the stock towards the far side at marker #2". And the description in all four classes for the panel runway section reads "Turn the stock towards the top at marker #3". If the stock are taken in the direct lines from the Y chute to the Z chute, and from the Z chute to the panel

Intermediate Class Course A – Description

Time allowed: 10 minutes for sheep and ducks, 12 minutes for cattle. Timing starts when the handler sends their dog and finishes when the handler closes the gate.

Start

The dog enters the arena and is placed at Post C. The handler may move to any location on the centre line between Post B and Post C.

Gather

The dog begins the gather from Post C. The dog moves the stock down the arena on the far side of the centre line panels towards marker #1 (Post C).

The handler may move within the zone between Posts B & C during the gather. After the stock reach Post B, it is the handler's option in which manner marker #1 is reached: drive, fetch or a combination of both. The handler must be within a two metre arc of Post C before attempting the "Y" chute.

"Y" Chute

Turn stock around Post C and move the stock to and through the "Y" chute towards marker #2. The handler remains within a two metre arc of Post C (within the handler zone) until the stock have exited the "Y" chute. The handler may choose to take the stock directly from the Y chute to the Z chute.

The handler may move after completion of the "Y" chute but must remain in the zone between Post B and Post C until the stock reach marker #5.

NSW – INTERMEDIATE CLASS COURSE A -DESCRIPTION

Turn stock around Post C and move the stock to and through the "Y" chute towards marker #2. The handler remains within a two meter arc of Post C (within the handler zone) until the stock have exited the "Y" chute. ~~The handler may choose to take the stock directly from the Y chute to the Z chute.~~

The handler may move after completion of the "Y" chute but must remain in the zone between Post B and Post C until the stock reach marker #5.

Rationale:

- It is a universal rule that, for every sport where a designated course has to be followed, for each class in that sport the course has to be the same for all the competitors in it to compete on. The two sentences above in our ANKC Herding Rules do not honour this rule by allowing the handler to choose, on two occasions, which course will suit him best at the time. That is wrong and should not be acceptable for fair and equal competition
- Under the current Rules if time is running short the handler can shorten the course in order to complete it inside the maximum course time, and yet still be competing in the same class and competition as those who don't.
- If the dog follows the stock through the obstacles it can not control the direction they take when they exit them. The stock are therefore determining the direction of the course before the dog can regain a control position. That is blatantly wrong. A dog that is in the correct position to control the stock as they exit the obstacles should be rewarded with higher points than one that isn't and is just lucky if they happen to go down the fenceline towards the corner or directly towards the next obstacle.
- Because the judge doesn't know which course the stock are going to be taken down he can not start scoring "off-course" points until they are at least 8 metres out from the obstacle. Only then will it become clear which course has been taken and he can start applying the 4 metre corridor rules.
- Handlers who choose to take the stock directly from the Y chute to the Z chute, and/or the Z chute to the panel runway, are being unfairly advantaged by avoiding the two corners which are themselves obstacles. It is naturally easier to herd

stock in a straight line with less chance of being scored “off-course” points. To have two different courses, one shorter and easier than the other, and both being claimed as being “acceptable” in the same class, is totally unfair and wrong.

- The description in all four classes for the Y chute section of the course reads “Turn the stock towards the far side at marker #2”. And the description in all four classes for the panel runway section reads “Turn the stock towards the top at marker #3”. If the stock are taken in the direct lines from the Y chute to the Z chute, and from the Z chute to the panel runway, they don’t get to either of those markers. The current Rules contravene each other, and the alternative direct routes for the stock to go from the Y chute to the Z chute and the panel runway allowable under these Rules should be deleted.

"Z" Chute

Turn stock towards the far side at marker #2, then move stock through the "Z" chute towards marker #3. The handler may choose to take the stock directly from the Z chute to the Hold/Exam Pen.

NSW – INTERMEDIATE CLASS COURSE A -DESCRIPTION

Turn stock towards the far side at marker #2, then move stock through the "Z" chute towards marker #3. The handler may choose to take the stock directly from the Z chute to the Hold/Exam Pen.

Rationale:

- It is a universal rule that, for every sport where a designated course has to be followed, for each class in that sport the course has to be the same for all the competitors in it to compete on. The two sentences above in our ANKC Herding Rules do not honour this rule by allowing the handler to choose, on two occasions, which course will suit him best at the time. That is wrong and should not be acceptable for fair and equal competition
- Under the current Rules if time is running short the handler can shorten the course in order to complete it inside the maximum course time, and yet still be competing in the same class and competition as those who don’t.
- If the dog follows the stock through the obstacles it can not control the direction they take when they exit them. The stock are therefore determining the direction of the course before the dog can regain a control position. That is blatantly wrong. A dog that is in the correct position to control the stock as they exit the obstacles should be rewarded with higher points than one that isn’t and is just lucky if they happen to go down the fenceline towards the corner or directly towards the next obstacle.
- Because the judge doesn’t know which course the stock are going to be taken down he can not start scoring “off-course” points until they are at least 8 metres out from the obstacle. Only then will it become clear which course has been taken and he can start applying the 4 metre corridor rules.
- Handlers who choose to take the stock directly from the Y chute to the Z chute, and/or the Z chute to the panel runway, are being unfairly advantaged by avoiding the two corners which are themselves obstacles. It is naturally easier to herd stock in a straight line with less chance of being scored “off-course” points. To have two different courses, one shorter and easier than the other, and both being claimed as being “acceptable” in the same class, is totally unfair and wrong.

The description in all four classes for the Y chute section of the course reads “Turn the stock towards the far side at marker #2”. And the description in all four classes for the panel runway section reads “Turn the stock towards the top at marker #3”. If the stock are taken in the direct lines from the Y chute to the Z chute, and from the Z chute to the panel runway, they don’t get to either of those markers. The current Rules contravene each other, and the alternative direct routes for the stock to go from the Y chute to the Z chute and the panel runway allowable under these Rules should be deleted.

Hold/Exam Pen

Turn stock towards the top at marker #3 and move the stock into the Hold/Exam pen. The dog will allow the stock to settle and hold them for 15 seconds after which the Judge indicates that the stock are to be moved out of the pen. After the hold, the stock are moved out of the hold pen and moved toward marker #4. The handler shall not enter the obstacle.

Advanced Class Course A – Description

Time allowed: 10 minutes for sheep and ducks, 12 minutes for cattle. Timing starts when the handler sends their dog, and finishes when the handler closes the gate

Start

The dog enters the arena. The dog and the handler begin the course at Post C.

Gather

The dog begins the gather from Post C. The dog moves the stock down the arena on the far side of the centre line panels towards marker #1 (Post C).

The handler remains at Post C during the gather. Once the dog moves the stock, the handler may move to the bottom corner of the hold/exam pen or remain at Post C. The handler must then maintain their position until the stock reach marker #3.

"Y" Chute

Turn stock around Post C and move the stock to the "Y" chute with a turn down the arena through the chute towards marker #2. The handler may choose to take the stock directly from the Y chute to the Z chute.

NSW – ADVANCED CLASS COURSE A – DESCRIPTION

"Y Chute"

Turn stock around Post C and move the stock to the "Y" chute with a turn down the arena through the chute towards marker #2. ~~The handler may choose to take the stock directly from the Y chute to the Z chute.~~

Rationale:

- It is a universal rule that, for every sport where a designated course has to be followed, for each class in that sport the course has to be the same for all the competitors in it to compete on. The two sentences above in our ANKC Herding Rules do not honour this rule by allowing the handler to choose, on two occasions, which course will suit him best at the time. That is wrong and should not be acceptable for fair and equal competition
- Under the current Rules if time is running short the handler can shorten the course in order to complete it inside the maximum course time, and yet still be competing in the same class and competition as those who don't.
- If the dog follows the stock through the obstacles it can not control the direction they take when they exit them. The stock are therefore determining the direction of the course before the dog can regain a control position. That is blatantly wrong. A dog that is in the correct position to control the stock as they exit the obstacles should be rewarded with higher points than one that isn't and is just lucky if they happen to go down the fenceline towards the corner or directly towards the next obstacle.
- Because the judge doesn't know which course the stock are going to be taken down he can not start scoring "off-course" points until they are at least 8 metres out from the obstacle. Only then will it become clear which course has been taken and he can start applying the 4 metre corridor rules.
- Handlers who choose to take the stock directly from the Y chute to the Z chute, and/or the Z chute to the panel runway, are being unfairly advantaged by avoiding the two corners which are themselves obstacles. It is naturally easier to herd stock in a straight line with less chance of being scored "off-course" points. To have two different courses, one shorter and easier than the other, and both being claimed as being "acceptable" in the same class, is totally unfair and wrong.

The description in all four classes for the Y chute section of the course reads "Turn the stock towards the far side at marker #2". And the description in all four classes for the panel runway section reads "Turn the stock towards the top at marker #3". If the stock are taken in the direct lines from the Y chute to the Z chute, and from the Z chute to the panel runway, they don't get to either of those markers. The current Rules contravene each other, and the alternative direct routes for the stock to go from the Y chute to the Z chute and the panel runway allowable under these Rules should be deleted.

"Z" Chute

Turn stock towards the far side at marker #2 and move the stock straight through the "Z" chute towards marker #3. The handler may choose to take the stock directly from the Z chute to the Hold/Exam Pen.

Once the stock reach marker #3, the handler moves to hold/exam pen where the handler must remain until the stock is moved to marker #5. The handler may move/stand anywhere along the panel that runs parallel to the centre line.

NSW – ADVANCED CLASS COURSE A – DESCRIPTION

"Z Chute"

Turn stock towards the far side at marker #2 and move the stock straight through the "Z" chute towards marker #3. ~~The handler may choose to take the stock directly from the Z chute to the Hold/Exam Pen.~~

Once the stock reach marker #3, the handler moves to hold/exam pen where the handler must remain until the stock is moved to marker #5. The handler may move/stand anywhere along the panel that runs parallel to the centre line.

Rationale:

- **It is a universal rule that, for every sport where a designated course has to be followed, for each class in that sport the course has to be the same for all the competitors in it to compete on. The two sentences above in our ANKC Herding Rules do not honour this rule by allowing the handler to choose, on two occasions, which course will suit him best at the time. That is wrong and should not be acceptable for fair and equal competition**
- **Under the current Rules if time is running short the handler can shorten the course in order to complete it inside the maximum course time, and yet still be competing in the same class and competition as those who don't.**
- **If the dog follows the stock through the obstacles it can not control the direction they take when they exit them. The stock are therefore determining the direction of the course before the dog can regain a control position. That is blatantly wrong. A dog that is in the correct position to control the stock as they exit the obstacles should be rewarded with higher points than one that isn't and is just lucky if they happen to go down the fenceline towards the corner or directly towards the next obstacle.**
- **Because the judge doesn't know which course the stock are going to be taken down he can not start scoring "off-course" points until they are at least 8 metres out from the obstacle. Only then will it become clear which course has been taken and he can start applying the 4 metre corridor rules.**
- **Handlers who choose to take the stock directly from the Y chute to the Z chute, and/or the Z chute to the panel runway, are being unfairly advantaged by avoiding the two corners which are themselves obstacles. It is naturally easier to herd stock in a straight line with less chance of being scored "off-course" points. To have two different courses, one shorter and easier than the other, and both being claimed as being "acceptable" in the same class, is totally unfair and wrong.**

The description in all four classes for the Y chute section of the course reads "Turn the stock towards the far side at marker #2". And the description in all four classes for the panel runway section reads "Turn the stock towards the top at marker #3". If the stock are taken in the direct lines from the Y chute to the Z chute, and from the Z chute to the panel runway, they don't get to either of those markers. The current Rules contravene each other, and the alternative direct routes for the stock to go from the Y chute to the Z chute and the panel runway allowable under these Rules should be deleted.

Hold/Exam Pen

Turn stock towards the top at marker #3 and move the stock into the Hold/Exam pen. The dog will allow the stock to settle and hold them for 15 seconds after which the Judge indicates that the stock is to be moved out of the pen. After the hold, the stock is moved out of the hold pen and moved toward marker #4. The handler shall not enter the obstacle.

Centre-line Gate

Turn stock towards the near side at marker # 4 and move the stock straight across the arena, through the centre line gate to marker #5.