

AUSDS Inc. Strategies

Inc. No. A0092012P

1. Specify practical and challenging Society trials to test and identify the brilliance, as well as the inadequacies, that dogs possess – to reinforce the necessity of *Essential Natural Traits* of working stock dogs for both sheep and cattle work.
(see: *AUSDS Inc. Essential Natural Traits for High Quality Practical Working Stock Dogs –Aiming at Excellence–*)
2. Regulate the running of Society trials which must be true tests of the ability and merit of dogs.
 - *NB i) The degree of difficulty of Society trials shall correspond to the level of competition, but obstacles must be relatively achievable for the majority of dogs, in order to maintain competitor enthusiasm and interest.
 - ii) The overall standard of trials, set by an ‘absolute majority’ of the Committee, must be adhered to as closely as practically possible.
3. Assess dogs for each section of the Society trials for which they compete by giving a score out of a possible number per section, rather than negative deductions, based upon the four major ‘utility’ aspects of a dog’s work:
 - (a) *long searching casts and mustering*, (b) *paddock and obstacle work*, (c) *yard work* and (d) *cattle handling*.
 - *NB (i) The priority is about assessing the dogs, rather than the handler’s expertise, as some handlers can portray dogs better or worse than they actually are.
 - (ii) The dogs’ work experiences may have a significant effect in assessing their ability and merit.
 - (iii) Some *essential attributes* may be difficult to detect and assess during trials.
 - (iv) Sheep are used to assess (a), (b) and (c).
4. To encourage handlers and their dogs to ‘have a go’ at Society trials.
 - *NB Trial sections that are found too difficult can be by-passed without disqualification.
5. Accredit experienced stock and stock-dog men and women, who are acknowledged as being highly competent, to assess competitions in Society trials. Judges can only be approved by an ‘absolute majority’ of the Committee.
6. Promote the importance and need for sound training and handling techniques.
7. Establish an *AUSDS Inc. Dog Register* of working stock dogs, regardless of breed, for all dogs competing in Society trials, and for Members who wish to register stock dogs with the Society, and for Members who wish to register a stock dog stud.
 - *NB (i) Any known or recognised breeding details are to be recorded including stud prefixes.
 - (ii) The register distinguishes between dogs assessed and those unassessed.
8. Promote the benefits of assessing working dogs.
9. Maintain an overall record of all working stock dog assessment results of Society trials, including the individual assessments of 3. (a), (b), (c) and (d) above.
10. Create an *AUSDS Inc. Hall of Fame* for exceptional working stock dogs, sires, bitches, breeders and handlers, as evidenced by the consistently exceptional performances in Society trials of the working stock dogs themselves, their progeny, their breeders and their handlers.
11. Make available, on request, the *AUSDS Inc. Dog Register*, to Members of the Society.
12. Publicise to the general interested public, by means of the AUSDS Inc. website and Facebook page etc., the overall results of trials, as soon as practical after an event, which includes the total percentage score, and the percentage scores for each of the 4 aspects. Also, publicise to Members, Associate Members, and Junior Members, that the full results, including individual section scores and assessments, are available to them upon request.
13. Organise promotional campaigns to support the *Aim and Purpose* and *Objectives* of the Society.