

# AUSDS Inc. TRIALS – Summary

Inc. No A0092012P

*Fostering Excellence in Breeding Practical 'Utility' Stock Dogs*

AUSDS Inc. Trials have been designed to **test the working stock dog's instincts** in **all** important areas of sheep and cattle work (as far as possible in a trial situation).

Most other trial designs tend to test a much more *limited number of instincts*. In many cases, this has resulted in dogs being bred with *limited abilities* that suit those trials, rather than true, high-class, all-round utility dogs suited to the most challenging practical work.

**Every** AUSDS Inc. trial includes four aspects:

- a. Long searching casts and mustering
- b. Paddock and obstacle work (sheep)
- c. Yard work (sheep)
- d. Cattle work

The first two aspects are run in conjunction, then the yard and cattle aspects have separate courses and time limits.

The degree of difficulty increases with each level of trial. Level 1 is the easiest, followed by Level2, Level3, and Championship courses.

The course elements for each level are as follows:

**1. Level 1 Trials** (for handlers who have not won an AUSDS Inc. trial at a higher level; can only be won once)

- a. and b. Combined Paddock (sheep)
  - i. 14 minutes; 3 sheep
  - ii. Minimum 200m cast; work sheep into handler's circle
  - iii. Force and Hold obstacle & Heading obstacle
  - iv. Drive away minimum 40m
  - v. Work sheep through exit gate to complete segment
- c. Yard (sheep)
  - i. 8 minutes; 8 sheep
  - ii. Drenching race; Draft; Load 3 sheep onto truck/trailer to complete segment
- d. Cattle
  - i. 6 minutes; 3 cattle
  - ii. 1 obstacle; Put away to complete segment

**2. Level 2 Trials** (for dogs that have not won an AUSDS Inc. trial at a higher level; can be won twice)

- a. and b. Combined Paddock (sheep)
  - i. 16 minutes; 5 sheep
  - ii. Minimum 300m cast; work sheep into handler's circle
  - iii. Force and Hold obstacle & Heading obstacle
  - iv. Drive away minimum 60m
  - v. Work sheep through exit gate to complete segment
- c. Yard (sheep)
  - i. 8 minutes; 10 sheep
  - ii. Drenching race; Draft; Load 5 sheep onto truck/trailer to complete segment
- d. Cattle
  - i. 6 minutes; 3 cattle
  - ii. 1 obstacle; Put away to complete segment

**3. Level 3 Trials** (all dogs are eligible to compete)

- a. and b. Combined Paddock (sheep)
  - i. 20 minutes; 5 sheep
  - ii. Minimum 400m cast
  - iii. Heading obstacle
  - iv. Drive away minimum 80m
  - v. Force and hold obstacle with pen; Recast min. 200m onto 3 sheep to join with 5
  - vi. Work 1 sheep
  - vii. Work sheep through exit gate to complete segment
- c. Yard (sheep)
  - i. 10 minutes; 13 sheep
  - ii. Drenching race; Draft; Load 8 sheep onto truck/trailer and Unload to complete segment
- d. Cattle
  - i. 8 minutes; 3 cattle
  - ii. 2 obstacles; Put away to complete segment

**4. Championship Trials** (dogs must qualify in Open trials to be eligible to compete)

- a. and b. Combined Paddock (sheep)
  - i. 22 minutes; 5 sheep
  - ii. Minimum 600m cast
  - iii. Heading obstacle
  - iv. Drive away minimum 120m
  - v. Force and hold obstacle with pen; Recast min. 300m onto 5 sheep to join with 5
  - vi. Work 1 sheep
  - vii. Work sheep through exit gate to complete segment
- c. Yard (sheep)
  - i. 10 minutes; 15 sheep
  - ii. Drenching race; Draft; Load 10 sheep onto truck/trailer and Unload to complete segment
- d. Cattle
  - i. 8 minutes; 3 cattle
  - ii. 2 obstacles; Put away to complete segment