

SSD Rules – General

- This is an Open event, there are no separate classes.
- Animal welfare is of the utmost importance, out of control dogs, rough work or excessive biting will be a disqualification at the Judge's discretion.
- Each Judge is in control of each event and their decisions are final.
- The SSD is not affiliated to any state or national body, so will operate under its own rules. The organising committee will have absolute control over the event.
- Any disputes or disagreements may be brought to the organising committee and will be dealt with in a fair considered manner, bearing in mind that decisions made by the judge during the course in each event will be supported by the committee.
- Muzzles are encouraged to be worn with no loss of points if there is the risk of damage to the livestock being worked.
- No bitch on heat to be worked in the SSD
- There will be individual winners and placegetters in each of the events, with the scores added together to determine the overall winner of the SSD Challenge.
- In the event of a tie in the scores, fastest times will determine the winner.

Arena

- A judges address to be given at the start of the trial
- Three sheep to be worked
- Approximately 100 metre cast
- There will be three obstacles, Gap – 10 points, Y race – 10 points and Pen – 20 points
- Each obstacle must be completed before moving on
- Handler must have a hand on the peg at the gap and Y race before the last sheep has completely exited the obstacle
- Handler must have a hand on the peg at the pen before the last sheep crosses the line of the gateway, if not at least one sheep must be brought back across the line and returned to the pen before the gate can be closed.
- If a sheep escapes the pen during the process of closing the gate, the gate must be returned to the start position while recapturing the sheep. There will be a points penalty at the Judge's discretion.
- If a dog crosses between the sheep and the handler at any time throughout the course, there will be a point penalty at the Judge's discretion not a disqualification
- 12 minutes to complete the course

Yard

- A Judge's address will be given at the start of the trial.
- The Yard course will be set up with drench race, draft race and trailer.
- No rough or out of control work will be tolerated.
- Muzzles are encouraged with no loss of points if there is the risk of damage to the sheep.
- For maximum points the dog is to complete the course with minimal involvement from the handler
- Handlers can assist the dog throughout the course as required with a points penalty at the Judge's discretion
- If a misdraft occurs, this can be corrected during the drafting process with a loss of points at the Judge's discretion. If not, then there must be a redraft.
- No manhandling/lifting of sheep throughout the course.
- The correct number of sheep must complete each obstacle.
- 10 minutes to complete the course

Cattle

- A Judge's address will be given at the start of the trial
- Cattle to be worked in a calm manner, no excessive biting or chasing
- The trial is to be on a campdraft camp and arena, there is no cast, the cattle are to be picked up within the camp (approximate area – 25m x 12m). This is a free work area before the cattle are taken out onto the arena to work the three obstacles
- There will be three obstacles, Gap – 10 points, Y race – 10 points and a Pen – 20 points.
- Each obstacle must be completed before moving on
- Handler must have a hand on the peg at the gap and Y race before the last beast has completely exited the obstacle
- Handler must have a hand on the peg at the pen before the last beast crosses the line of the gateway, if not at least one beast must be brought back across the line and returned to the pen before the gate can be closed.
- If a beast escapes the pen during the process of closing the gate, the gate must be returned to the start position while recapturing the beast. There will be a points penalty at the Judge's discretion.
- If a dog crosses between the cattle and the handler at any time throughout the course, there will be a point penalty at the Judge's discretion not a disqualification
- 7 minutes to complete the course