

FINELIA FARM – POINTS PLUS TIME TRIAL

GENERAL GUIDELINES

This is an outdoor event. Please dress accordingly including waterproof footwear.

No food available on trial grounds.

Fast food & restaurants available in Greenfield about 6 miles away.

1. Please cleanup after your dogs if they relieve themselves on mowed lawn or participant walk areas.
2. Please put all waste & trash in bags attached to the fences.
3. Each participant shall sign a release of liability and an acknowledgement that they are assuming all risks of participation. Each sheep shall have a value of \$200. If a sheep is injured requiring medical attention, must be euthanized or is killed the participant must pay the \$200. Decision is made by Trial Director and is final.
4. This trial is open to all handlers who agree to the rules and all breeds of dogs.
5. It is anticipated that 3-5 head of sheep shall be used for each run. They are a commercial flock made of a mix of Dorset, Border Cheviot and Kahtadins of various ages
6. The arena classes, including the USBCHA sanctioned Open will be non-judged “point plus time trials” with time lines being used to settle ties. The time line will be announced at the handlers’ meetings.
 - a. The dog that earns the most points wins the class.
 - b. In the event of a tie, the first tie-breaker is the end time. The second tie breaker is the time-line. If a further tie breaker is needed it shall be the toss of a coin.
7. There shall be a handlers’ meeting at 8am (or time stated on Running Orders) each day and immediately before the start of each class. Handlers’ Meetings combined with Beginner Novice & Novice and Pro-Novice & Open.
8. The rules of the class, the number of obstacles, sequence of the course and time limits of each class are mentioned with the course diagram and announced at the handlers’ meetings. **Announcements at the handlers’ meetings control over anything written prior.**
9. **RE-MIX RULE** – In all arena classes, at least one head of stock must successfully negotiate an obstacle in the announced chronological order to earn the right to continue on to the next obstacle. Once one or more head of stock successfully negotiates an obstacle, points will be awarded. If a handler elects to remain at that obstacle and attempt to put the other remaining stock through the obstacle, the danger exists that the stock may re-mix back together. If this occurs, **more than one head** must be put through the obstacle to gain additional points because it is difficult to determine which animal has passed through. This is known as the “re-mix” rule.
10. There shall be a “point keeper” who shall serve as an assistant to the Trial Director. The Trial Director shall oversee the trial. Any decision of the Trial Director as to the number of points, time, or completion of an obstacle, shall be final and each entrant must agree to these provisions as a condition of entry. The Trial Director may be assisted by clerks and point-keepers of their choosing.
11. In the arena trials for Open, Pro-Novice, Novice and Beginner Novice there will be obstacles or tasks worth a total of 5 points for each head negotiating the obstacle or task. Time may vary by class. ALL stock must be inside a pen when the time ends to count. For other obstacles, the animal must have completed the obstacle when the time ends to be awarded points for that particular animal.
12. Disqualifications – A dog shall be disqualified if any head of sheep jump a fence or hit a fence during a run. Excessive gripping, or out of control behavior toward livestock and/or lack of progress will be cause for disqualification also. Disqualification will result in the loss of all points for the class. Hitting, striking or poking stock with a cane or stick may result in some point deductions, if in the opinion of the Trial Director the handler made an overt movement with the stock or cane for the purpose of causing stock to move in a desired direction or manner.
13. Early Termination – A handler may terminate a run early by notifying the time keeper and Trial Director, retaining any points earned up to termination. The Trial Director at their discretion may order a re-run, adjust points, stop the clock and restart or make any other decision necessary if outside interference unfairly interferes with any particular run.
14. ***Please display good sportsmanship. Unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated.***