

# WINNEMUCCA OPEN COW DOG TRIAL

## Event Rules

### Course

Rules or course cannot be changed once trial has started. This trial will not be a judged event, but will be a points and time trial. The dog that accumulates the most points, and the fastest time will win.

### Running Order

Order of running will be determined by a draw.

### Handlers Meeting

The Trial Director will hold a meeting prior to the trial. All contestants must attend this meeting. The Trial Director is not required to repeat instructions given for late contestants.

### Trail Directors Decision

The Trial Director's decision will be final in all cases. The Trial Director may disqualify a contestant at any time due to a violation of rules.

### Gather

There will be a 2-minute time limit allowed for the outrun and gather, this is the first obstacle. If any part of horse or contestant crosses over the line during the first 2 minutes of the outrun and gather, the contestant will be disqualified. Should the stock not cross the line by the 2-minute time limit, the contestant may assist the dog. If the contestant assists the dog and crosses the line before the gather is completed the points for the gather are lost. However, if the contestant remains behind the gather line, and the dog brings the stock across the line, without assistance, and within the total allotted course time, points will be awarded for this gather.

### Obstacles

1. **An obstacle** is considered complete when all of the cattle pass beyond the exit plane. All cattle must go through each obstacle: each obstacle must be completed (in the order specified) before continuing on to the next. The Contestants Meeting will specify the order of the obstacles. Points will be earned on the "All or Nothing" rule unless otherwise stated.
2. **Day-lighting of Obstacle.** If any animal enters an obstacle from the wrong direction, it must completely daylight the obstacle and be put through again correctly. In the event that less than all cattle complete an obstacle, and mix with cattle that did not complete the obstacle, ALL cattle must be put back through obstacle in order to receive points for that obstacle.
3. **Trotting Rule.** Unless otherwise specified, the "no-trot" rule will be in force. If contestant deliberately trots their horse, all accumulated points after the trot will be lost; any points accumulated prior to the trot will be awarded.
4. **If trailer is the last obstacle,** points will be given for each head standing in the trailer when time expires.
5. **Tiebreaker.** The fastest time on the last completed obstacle will be used as the tiebreaker in the event that one is needed.

### Dogs On Grounds

All dogs must be under reasonable control at all times while on the fairgrounds. If a contestant's dog enters the course while another dog is competing, the contestant who owns the dog will be disqualified. Any dog entered in the trial may not be used to handle or settle the livestock

### Injured Dog

The Trial Director may elect to leave it up to the contestant whether to continue or pull their dog. The Trial Director may stop the clock for a short time to allow the dog to regain their soundness or the Trial Director may demand the dog be taken from the trial. An injured dog will not justify a rerun.

### Cattle

New cattle may be awarded to a contestant, at the discretion of the Trial Director.

### Mishandling of Livestock.

No objects may be carried in the hand or used in any way in assisting the contestant with the run. The cattle must not be touched by the contestant during the run, to do so will be a loss of points from that point on. Overworking the livestock causing one or all to leave the trial arena will result in disqualification. This is at the discretion of the Trial Director.

### Collars

For safety reasons, collars of any kind will not be allowed during a run.

### Calling Of Time.

If a contestant calls time on his or herself, that will be considered a disqualification.

### Grievance Committee

The Trial Director will appoint a Grievance Committee. All complaints or grievances will be brought to the Grievance Committee only: to do otherwise will result in a disqualification. If a contestant feels that he or she has a legitimate disagreement with the Grievance Committee's ruling, they may request a video review of the contested run by posting a \$100 fee. If upon reviewing the video the Grievance Committee rules in favor of the contestant, the \$100 fee will be returned. If the original ruling is allowed to stand, the contestant's fee will be forfeited.

### Sportsmanship

Un-sportsman like conduct will not be tolerated and will result in disqualification at the discretion of the Grievance Committee. (This will include, but not be limited to, abusive conduct towards dogs, livestock, trial officials, or spectators).

### Dress Code

Long sleeved shirt with collar, boots, and hat with brim.

