



HTD Started Course: Sheep

# HTD I

1. For the HTD I class, the handler may have the dog on lead while positioning it. The dog is positioned approximately even with the level of the panels (it may be further back, but no closer) and approximately in the center of the space between the two sets of panels. The handler may remain with the dog, or may leave the dog and take a position at any point on the course between the dog and the stock, but must stop short at least 15 ft. from the stock.

2. There must be a pause after the lead is removed, before the dog is sent to gather the stock. The handler shall signal the dog to begin the outrun, using any combination of voice, whistle, or movement. The outrun may be performed in either direction. When the dog reaches a position of balance with the stock, it may pause or briefly stop. The dog then fetches the stock to the handler's post. The handler may return to the post during the outrun, or may accompany the stock during the fetch. Flanking and/or stop commands may be given as needed to bring the stock successfully to the post.

3. Once the stock have reached the post, the handler should stand at the post while the stock are taken around the post. The stock should go to the right of the post if the first wear/drive panel is on the left, or vice versa. Stock are considered to have passed the post when they have crossed the line behind the post that would be a continuation of a line running lengthwise down the center of the arena from the set-out area to the handler's post.

4. When the stock have passed the handler's post, the handler may leave the post and accompany the stock and dog to the obstacles, which should be taken in the designated order.

5. The handler may take any position relative to the stock and dog, except that the handler should not go through the obstacles. If one or all of the stock pass an obstacle closely without going through, they should continue on to the next obstacle. Upon negotiating the second obstacle, the stock are taken to the pen.

6. In penning, after opening the gate the handler may move about and may assist the dog as needed, and need not hold the rope. The stock should be completely inside the pen before the gate is closed. The gate should not be slammed.