

## NAMASCUSA HERDING PROGRAM

### Mission Statement:

The NAMASCUSA Herding Program will allow dogs and handlers to demonstrate their stock skills at graduated levels of training and ability on various types of stock.

### Sanctioning of Events:

1. Events may be open to all breeds or limited to miniature Australian Shepherds. This will be determined by the host club or individual.
2. NAMASCUSA's sanctioning form must be completed 30 days in advance and sent to the NAMASCUSA board.
3. Copies of NAMASCUSA's score sheets will be provided by NAMASCUSA. They can be downloaded at the website [www.namascusa.com](http://www.namascusa.com)
4. A copy of the Premium list will be provided to the NAMASCUSA board at least two weeks prior to the event. It will include: start time for classes, ribbons and awards to be given, description and diagram of courses, type of stock offered, cost per run.

### Organization and Recording:

1. The event secretary must be present throughout the event.
2. The course director is responsible for setting up the course. The course director will also be in charge of stock for the event. The course director will call grips and harassment of stock.
3. There will be a minimum of two time keepers and two people counting points at designated obstacles.
4. Good sportsmanship will be shown at all times. Any disputes will be referred to the course director. If the dispute can't be resolved, the facts can be sent in writing to the NAMASCUSA board for resolution.
5. Awards and ribbons will be clearly stated on the Premium. Qualifying ribbons to qualifiers **(Herding Capability Certificate, Junior, Started, Open and Advanced)** and placing of 1-4 in each class **(Junior, Started, Open, and Advanced.)**
6. The owner of the dog will receive the original score sheet
7. A trial report form will be sent to the NAMASCUSA registrar showing scores and places and listing all qualifying run for recording

purposes. A \$1.00 filing fee per run will accompany the score sheets.  
**This will be due 15 working days from the trial date.**

**Eligibility:**

1. The program will be open to all dogs 6 months of age and older, **depending on each individual level.**
2. Bitches in heat may participate, but will run at the end of the order.
3. Dogs must be sound and in good health. The course director will determine if the dog is unfit to participate. Examples - lameness, injury, illness, advanced pregnancy.
4. Owners of participating dogs need not be members of NAMASCUSA. **A NAMASCUSA tracking number can be obtained so the titles can be earned and recorded.**
5. The qualifying score for each run is a minimum of 70 percent of the total score available (within the total score, **no obstacle score can be a zero**).

**Levels:**

**HIC** - Herding Instinct Certificate - See NAMASCUSA herding instinct form.

**HCC** - Herding Capability Certificate - The dog is capable of a short outrun and gather. The dog can drive or fetch the stock through panel runways and through a panel gate. One leg has to be earned on Courses A & one leg has to be earned on Course B. - See course for HCC1 and HCC2.

**HJD** - Herding Junior Dog - The dog is capable of the following: outrun, gather, fetch. Handler will be able to walk the course with the dog and enter all obstacles. One leg has to be earned on Courses A & one leg has to be earned on Course B. Dogs can have little or no trial experience, but must be able to control the stock. - See courses for HJD.

**HSD** - Herding Started Dog - The dog is capable of the following: outrun, gather, fetch or start of a drive, take pen, and repen. Handler will be able to walk the course with the dog, there is no handler line. One leg has to be earned on Courses A & one leg has to be earned on Course B. Dogs can have little or no trial experience, but must be able to control the stock. - See courses for HSD.

**HOD** - Herding Open Dog - The dog is capable of all skills listed for the mHSD. One leg has to be earned on Courses A & one leg has to

be earned on Course B. In addition, the dog is capable of controlling and rating the stock. The dog will have a parallel drive and the start of a cross drive. It will also be able to work a center pen or obstacle. The dog should know its directions, and have a slow down and stop. The dog should be able to work at a distance from the handler, so there is a handler line. See courses for HOD.

**HAD** - Herding Advanced Dog - The dog is capable of all skills listed for the HOD. One leg has to be earned on Courses A & one leg has to be earned on Course B. The dog will also be able to work at any distance from the handler. See courses for HAD.

**JACKPOT** - A gambler type course for fun and a chance to win money. There are required obstacles. The rest are the handler's choice.

**Reasons for Being Excused From the Arena:**

The course director will make all necessary calls.

1. Unnecessary gripping or gripping in severe manner. Grips should only be on the head and legs. For ducks, there should be no mouthing, gripping or pouncing on. A warning need not be given.
2. Overrunning of the stock by the dog.
3. Handler taking hold of the dog in the arena.
4. Any dog that can not be called off the stock and has to be chased down by the handler.

**Run Order:**

1. Run order will be determined by random drawing.
2. Drawn positions will not be altered after the draw with the following exception: Back to back runs will be avoided, by providing at least one handler between the drawn back to back runs.

**Run Start Time To Finish Time:**

1. The clock will start when the handler releases his dog, or when the handler opens the take pen.
2. If the dog is sent before the stock has cleared the pen, the clock will be started.
3. A 3 minute warning will be given.
4. Time will be called at 7 minutes (HCC), 8 minutes (HJD) 10 minutes (HSD, HOD, HAD).

5. Pen time stops when the last stock crosses the finish line or the pen gate is closed.
6. Time to be used – to the 1/100 of the second: I.e. 6:45:27

**Handler Rules:**

A handler meeting will be held prior to the start of the trial to answer any questions and to brief the handlers on the course and stock.

1. You **cannot** touch the stock unless they pose a threat to your safety.
2. You **cannot** run or climb over gates or fences unless there is a threat to your safety.
3. You may carry a crook or cane. The only noise maker allowed is a whistle.
4. Dogs can not wear training collars in the arena.
5. Dogs will enter the arena on leash. They will work off leash.
6. You must leave all gates set as they were at the beginning of your run.
7. You must not physically abuse any dog.
8. Handlers are expected to act in a courteous and respectful manner at all times. Abusive or abrasive behaviors will not be tolerated and could be met with disqualifications.
9. Daylighting means to completely come out of the obstacle before attempting it again.
10. Handler and dog **must be** at the handler post before stock is set out to work.
11. Handler must **not** go through the obstacles for the Started, Open or Advanced courses.
12. Handler can go through the obstacle for the Herding Capability Certificate and Herding Junior dog runs.
13. Handler cannot enter the repen area.
14. The dog cannot enter the repen area at the end of the run.
15. **A score of zero on any obstacle constitutes a non-qualifying run.**
16. The course director can also call an obstacle, when the stock is obviously not being controlled by the dog. The obstacle will not be

scored, if the handler is moving the stock, and the dog is not within range of the stock.

17. Dogs not registered with NAMASCUSA can obtain a tracking number for \$5.00

18. **Time is recorded after the third obstacle to break ties, if final point scores and final times are the same.**

19. A run is complete when the last head of stock crosses the finish line or the gate to the repen is closed.

**Determining Winners and Places:**

1. High points will determine the winner and subsequent places for each trialing level.

2. Ties will be resolved by the lowest time elapsed for the entire run, and then by the median time.

3. Ribbons and awards will be given through 4 places in:  
HJD, HSD, HOD, HAD.

4. Qualifying ribbons will be given for all qualifying scores in: HCC, HJD, HSD, HOD, HAD

5. High In Trial can be given for HJD, HSD, HOD, HAD. There will be separate HIT's awarded for mini Aussies from other breeds. HIT's will also be given for other breeds.

HIT can be given daily or accumulated over the number of days the trial is held. The hosting club makes that decision.

Livestock Charts:

3 Head of Stock/Group				4 Head of Stock/Group			
# of stock	max # of runs	max # of runs	max # of runs	# of stock	max # of runs	max # of runs	max # of runs
	ducks	sheep goats	cattle		ducks	sheep goats	cattle
3	n/a	3	4	4	n/a	3	4
6		6	9	8		6	8
9		9	12	12		9	12
12		12	16	16		12	16
15		15	20	20		15	20
18		18	24	24		18	24
21		21	28	28		21	28
24		24	30	32		24	32
27		27	36	36		27	36
30		30	40	40		30	40
33		33		44		33	
36		36		48		36	
39		39		52		39	

### 5 Head of Stock/Group

# of stock	max # of runs	max # of runs	max # of runs
	ducks	sheep/ goats	cattle
5	4	3	4
10	8	6	8
15	12	9	12
20	16	12	16
25	20	15	20
30	24	18	24
35	28	21	28
40	32	24	32
45	36	27	36
50	40	30	40
55		33	
60		36	
65		39	

## HERDING PROGRAM EQUIPMENT

**Fencing-** Fencing shall be safe for stock to work in without injury.

**Panels-** all panels should be easily visible and of sturdy construction

Size: Ducks- 4'-5' x 2' high

Sheep, Goats, Cattle- 8'-12'

**Pens-** All gates must swing open on a hinge.

Take Pen/Repen Size:

Ducks- 6'x6' to 16'x16' with gate a minimum of 6'

Sheep/Goats/Cattle- 8'to 16' with gate a minimum of 8'.

Center Freestanding Pen Size:

Ducks- 4'-5' square

Cattle/Sheep/Goats- 8' to 16' panels with the gate a minimum of 8'.

All other dimensions will be listed on the individual courses.