

OKLAHOMA STOCK DOG ASSOCIATION

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

Revised April 2007

- I. **Name:** Oklahoma Stock Dog Association

- II. **Purpose:** The Oklahoma Stock Dog Association is established to create interest in the working, training and breeding of stock dogs. It is further established to promote and conduct stock dog field trials, with consideration for the safety and humane treatment of the animals involved throughout the state of Oklahoma.

- III. **Officers and Directors:** The Oklahoma Stock Dog Association will consist of one President, one Vice-President, one Secretary, one Treasurer, and a Board of Directors consisting of three members. The past President will serve as one of the Board of Directors after his term of office expires. All officers and board members must be members in good standing with the OSDA. All officers and board members are elected by popular vote of the membership of the OSDA by mail ballot. Members running for officer or director will be published in the newsletter one month prior to the election in the month of December.
 - A. If any Director misses two consecutive meetings, they will automatically forfeit their position as a board member.
 - B. Due to the absence of any officer position or director position the Board of Directors has the authority to appoint, by a majority vote, an appropriate officer or director to serve the remaining term.

Duties of the President: The President shall be elected for a two year term. He shall assume office on January 1 of the year following his election. The President shall be a member of the Board of Directors. The President shall preside over all meetings of the General Membership and of the Board of Directors. The President shall call for an election of officers and appropriate board members in December of each year, The President shall call for the Treasurer to prepare an accounting of all association funds and prepare to turn all records over to the newly elected officers in January of year following the election. The President shall have authority to form ad-hoc committees as deemed necessary. The President is responsible for calling Board of Directors meetings. The President will be authorized to call special meetings to further any business of the association not conducted in: regular Board of Directors meetings.

Duties of the Vice-President: The Vice-President shall have the same duties as the President and will perform these duties in the absence of the President. The Vice-President will have responsibility for maintaining an accurate account of the Dog of the Year points and also advancement points for all dogs. The Vice-President shall report these standings to the newsletter editor for publication in the newsletter and on the website.

The Secretary: The Secretary will record the minutes for all meetings (general meetings and board meetings). The Secretary will be responsible for providing the newsletter editor results of all trials. The Secretary will maintain an approved judges list supplied by the Board of Directors. The Secretary will maintain a quantity of OSDA trial reporting forms for use by trial secretary(s) throughout the year.

The Treasurer: The Treasurer will keep an accurate account of all receipts, expenditures and disbursements. The Treasurers will be responsible for providing the newsletter editor a monthly financial statement for publishing in the newsletter. The Treasurer will maintain an accurate listing of all members in the association.

Duties of the Board of Directors: The Directors are elected for a two year term. The Directors serve on a staggered term so that not all of the Directors are elected in only one year. The Board of Directors will have the responsibility for directing the business of the association. The Board of Directors must approve all of the expenditures made by the Association. The Board of Directors is responsible for approving or disapproving a request for an OSDA sanctioned trial. Each individual Director will be responsible for bringing to the attention of the association any problems in their area. The Board of Directors will have the responsibility to set the amount of dues to be paid by the members. The Board of Directors can call a meeting if the need arises if a quorum can be obtained. A quorum for all meetings will consist of a majority of the elected officers. The Board of Directors has the authority to set disciplinary action for any complaint filed by a course director for any rule infraction. See Association Rule #2.

IV. Effecting a A Change in the Constitution or By-Laws:

A change in the Constitution or the By-Laws can be effected by the following procedure. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to change the Constitution or By-Laws at any scheduled board meeting after such proposed changes and time of the board meeting have been published in the Newsletter with the sufficient lead time to allow the general membership to have input.

By-Laws

- I. General membership meetings will be held at least, but not limited to three times per year: January, April, October.
- II. The Board of Directors will meet at least three times per year and can meet as often as the need arises.
- III. Trial rules are considered as part of the Constitution and By-Laws and can be changed by the same procedures as the Constitution and By-Laws.
- IV. Trial judges will be obtained from a list of qualified judges kept with the OSDA secretary. Judges must meet one of the three following rules:
 - A. *Must be a paid member of a stock dog or handlers association and must have attended at least two judging clinics presented by a qualified judge.*
 - B. *Must be an Open Ranch handler and have attended at least one judging clinic presented by a qualified judge.*
 - C. *Must be an Open handler for at least three years.*
- V. The Trial Committee will consist of The Board of Directors. Their duties will be to consider request for OSDA sanctioned trials and to approve judges for the judges list.
- VI. Trial Secretary(s) will forward within one week, all entries and placements of all classes at sanctioned trials to the OSDA Secretary. Placements will need to include the handler's name, dog's name, and the score, along with how many entries are in the class. Official OSDA trial reporting forms are available from the OSDA Secretary.
- VII. The OSDA Secretary will send to the newsletter editor the results of placing scores and names and number of entries in each class for the newsletter.
- VIII. The OSDA Secretary will provide placing scores, names and number of entries to the Vice-President within one week of receiving the results of all OSDA sanctioned trials. The Vice-President will determine the advancement points and dog of the year points. The Vice-President will keep the results in a file for future reference. The Vice-President will also submit to the newsletter editor the dog of the year and advancement points standings for publication.

ASSOCIATION RULES

- A. Any dog may compete regardless of breed, age, or color, Dogs are not required to be registered or purebred.
- B. Handler is limited to the use of crook, pole, etc. while competing.
- C. Dog may be equipped with any standard collar. A contestant shall not enter the trial field at any time with any kind of training device. The trial management, representative, or judge must disqualify a contestant if he enters the trial field with any such equipment, and all entry fees and/or premiums pertaining to the said contestant shall be forfeited. Such devices include, but are not limited to, electronic collars, dummy or weighted collars, a leash or rope that is not detached before the dog is sent, or any device used to distract or cause pain to a dog while it is working. The judge has the right to inspect the dog for any violation to this rule.
- D. Drawing for working order must be completed prior to the first entry in class proceeding to the post.
 - 1. Entry fees are paid to the trial secretary;
 - 2. Random drawing by trial secretary and judge will determine the running order.
 - 3. Should two of a competitors entries be drawn back to back another 'draw' is done and inserted between the back to back draw where possible.
 - 4. Each dog owned by a handler must be entered separately. Handler can not determine which of his entries run first or last.
 - 5. Entry must run in order drawn – NO EXCEPTIONS.
 - 6. All four classes are drawn in this manner.
- E. Competitor is responsible for injury to livestock that are involved with his particular run. Payment for injured stock is required and must be settled before a handler can compete in OSDA trials again. Any dog that repeatedly rough handles stock (biting, out of control chasing, general abuse of stock) shall be disqualified from competition. The dog will not be allowed to compete until it has been observed by members of the trial committee and is working satisfactorily.
- F. Competitors should always demonstrate sportsman-like conduct.
- G. Assistance from sidelines may subject competitor to disqualification.
- H. Entries will not be accepted once class is underway.
- I. Upon leaving the post area by more than an arms length or reasonable amount of space, it is assumed entry is retiring; therefore, no points will be awarded.
- J. When allotted time is exhausted, points will be awarded through the last completed phase of work.
- K. Should judge signal "of course", competitor should quickly retire from post. No points will be awarded.
- L. Should judge signal that the dog has been disqualified, competitor should quickly retire from post. No points will be awarded.
- M. When a competitor is disqualified he may not complete his run for practice.
- N. Competitor should be ready to go, whenever name is called.
- O. Complaints must first be brought to course director.

- P. Required to run in five OSDA trials to qualify for Dog of the Year Awards and Finals Trial.
- Q. Jackpot class – any dog may run in jackpot but does not receive dog of the year points.
- R. Dogs receive “dog/year” points – not handlers. If the dog is sold, points are retained.
- S. The terms of Board of Directors is two years.
- T. Membership dues are \$20 per year.
- U. Membership elects board of directors.
- V. A handler/owner may enter only three dogs per class.

W. Approval schedule of OSDA trials:

To Committee	Month of Trial	To Committee	Month of Trial
Nov 30	January	May 30	July
Dec 30	February	June 30	August
Jan 30	March	July 30	September
Feb28	April	August 30	October
March 30	May	Sept 30	November
April 30	June	Oct 30	December

- X. Approval of trials must be handled by trial committee. (Board of Directors)
 - Y. All dogs must be kept on leash or in crate.
 - Z. Membership is not required to compete in OSDA trial. Participating membership is required prior to trial in order to receive “dog/year” points and to qualify for finals.
 - AA. Score sheets are checked and posted by the trial secretary, as far away as possible from judge.
 - BB. If the dog has been dropped down a class then the owner must be the handler.
 - CC. Competitors may walk the trial field prior to the trial, however, at no time will dogs that are competing be allowed on the field.
 - DD. Once a class has begun the order of “spotting” sheep can not be changed. At the start of a new class it may be changed.
 - EE. Any deviations from OSDA guidelines will result in disqualification as a sanctioned trial, loss of points for entries, etc.
 - FF. Premium monies – all classes under 12 entries pays 3 places, over 12 entries pays 5 places. Unless stated in newsletter, catalog, brochures, etc.
 - GG. No refunds of entry fees for trials requiring pre-entry, however, these may be bartered if another competitor is available.
 - HH. No Entries will be accepted after the cut off date for trials which require pre-entry, unless otherwise specified.
- II. Advancing from Ranch to Open Ranch or Open Ranch to Open.
1. Ranch to Open Ranch: Ranch dog may run in ranch class and open ranch class at the trial he advances to the open ranch class. Can not run in lower class again.
 2. Open Ranch to Open Class: Open ranch dog may run in open ranch and open the day it advance to open class. Can not be dropped to open ranch class again by that handler.
 3. Any dog receiving dog of the year award at finals trial must move to next higher class regardless of points.

JJ. Dog the Year Points:

1. Top 5 placings – after 5 trials the lowest placings will be dropped, keeping a total of 5 trials.
2. Earned points at “finals” will be doubled to determine “dog/year”.
3. Dog of the Year points begin with zero points beginning with first OSDA approved trial following the finals trial each trial season.
4. Dogs must compete in at least 5 trials to be eligible for dog of the year award.

KK. Disciplinary Action:

1. The board of directors has the authority to set disciplinary action for any complaint filed by a course director for any rule infraction. Some of these infractions are:
 - a. Unsportsmanlike Conduct
 - b. Offensive Language
 - c. Disrespect to sponsoring host/labor
 - d. Judges – trial directors
 - e. Abuse of animals
 - f. Misrepresentation of dogs and their classification
2. Any member may be disciplined, placed on probation, or suspended from the association and any member or non-member may be denied all privileges of the association by the Hearing Committee and by the Board of Directors whenever it shall have been established by a preponderance of the evidence that such member or non-member has violated any rule of the association. When the rule in question contains a specific punishment provision, any disciplinary action taken by the Hearing Committee or Board of Directors must be consistent with that provision.
 - a. When anyone shall be accused of any rules violation they shall be given not less than fifteen days notice of a time and place for hearing such accusations by the Hearing Committee. At that time and place the accused person will have the opportunity, in person or by council, to be heard and to present evidence in their own behalf and to hear and refute evidence offered against them. The accused shall have access to all information and evidence in their case. The evidence shall be provided by the OSDA President or Vice President if appropriate.
 - b. The Hearing Committee shall be made up of five members. These members must be in good standing with the OSDA. They must not be board members or officers of the OSDA. They must also not be the accusers or witnesses in the case. These members shall be appointed by the OSDA President. The accused person shall have the right to oppose two of the five members appointed. The president and the accused person shall agree upon the two replacement members. The other three members will then be appointed by the president.
 - c. The president of the OSDA will act as moderator at the hearing.
 - d. The accused person can ask for an appeal. In this case the Board of Directors will service as the appeal board. Only the Board of Directors will serve on the appeal committee. The President, Vice President, and Secretary are excluded from the appeals board.
 - e. The decision of the Appeal Board is final and binding for all parties involved.

- f. A suspended member or non-member will not be allowed to participate in any OSDA approved or sponsored events or as owner of the dog, or handler, or act as an agent. If the suspended person should violate this rule, six months will be added to the suspension.
- LL. The OSDA will not be responsible for any injury, property loss, damage, or loss of any other kind.
- MM. During the course of the trial the livestock must have access to water. The livestock must be properly watered and fed if they are kept overnight for two day trials.
- NN. The livestock will be inspected by the course director before the trial begins and any sick or unsound animals will be removed.
- OO. Under no circumstances will the OSDA or anyone affiliated with the OSDA condone inhumane treatment of dogs nor will injured, unsound, or sick dogs be allowed to compete in any OSDA trial.
- PP. The OSDA will not pay for the use of any facilities that is either privately or owned by the public.

HANDLER DEFINITIONS

- A. OPEN HANDLER - National style competitor who has competed in open classes worldwide.
 - 1. Eligible to compete in open class or open ranch class.
 - 2. Open handler can not take any open dog down to open ranch class.
 - 3. Open handler can run in nursery class.
- B. OPEN RANCH HANDLER - Any handler who has not competed in open class competition worldwide.
 - 1. Open ranch handler may compete in open ranch class with a novice dog. Dog may have been advanced from the ranch class.
 - 2. Open ranch competitor and any dog may compete in open ranch class even though dog has history of competition in open class.
 - 3. Open ranch handler may run in nursery class.
- C. RANCH CLASS HANDLER - May compete in ranch class as long as they have not competed in higher classes than open ranch handler.
 - 1. Ranch competitor and novice dog may enter ranch class even though dog has a history of competition in open ranch class.
 - 2. Handler or dog may not digress to this class from the open class.
 - 3. Ranch handler may run in nursery class.
- D. NURSERY CLASS - Any handler may enter the nursery class – open, open ranch or ranch handler.

CLASS DEFINITIONS

A. OPEN CLASS

- 1. Any dog which has competed in open competition worldwide, regardless of winnings.
- 2. May not compete in any other class with an open handler.
- 3. Imported dogs of 2 ½ years and older are considered to be open class competitors.
- 4. If dog has competed in ANY trial prior to importation dog must compete in open class.
- 5. Points system for dog/year OPEN

#of entries	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th
1-3	1					
4-6	2	1				
7-9	3	2	1			
10-12	4	3	2	1		
13-15	5	4	3	2	1	
16-18	6	5	4	3	2	1

B. OPEN RANCH CLASS:

1. May be a dog in training – handled in competition by open ranch or open handler.
2. Dog may be required to compete on full course excluding shed or as directed by presiding judge.
3. Dog may have advanced from ranch class by reason of point system requirement or by choice of handler.
4. An open ranch handler may move a dog that has competed in a more advanced class to a lower class provided that dog and that handler meets the following criteria.
 - a. Handler must own the dog.
5. Points system in effect for dog for compulsory advancement. Must have at least 3 dogs in class to receive points.

# of entries	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6h
1-3	1					
4-6	2	1				
7-9	3	2	1			
10-12	4	3	2	1		
13-15	5	4	3	2	1	
16-18	6	5	4	3	2	1

6. Dogs which have been brought down from a “higher” class when accumulated 13 points in “lower” class will be forced out of that class to the “higher” class.
7. Dogs who began in open ranch class or ranch class will be moved to a “higher” class once 36 or more points is accumulated.
 - a. If dog has 10 life time points or less at start of new year, will be eligible to stay in same class until after finals trial of that year subject to following:
 - i. Dog must be eligible for dog of the year award to qualify.
 - b. Points remain with dog for lifetime with two exceptions:
 - i. When the dog moves to open class
 - ii. Once open ranch dog has changed ownership and is moved back to ranch class, he/she is entitled to 13 points in that ranch class. When that dog is advanced to open ranch class he/she then picks up previously accumulated points in open ranch.
8. Handler may exhibition an open dog, must pay necessary sheep charge fees, and does not receive prizes, money or dog/year points. He may exhibition only if there is time available and the run is not required to be judged.

C. RANCH CLASS

1. Any dog that has not competed in open ranch or open class.
2. Class is for beginning handlers and beginning dogs.
3. Required to outrun, lift, fetch and pen
4. Point system is in effect for compulsory advancement.

5. Ranch class handler may move a dog that has competed in the open ranch class to a lower class providing that the dog and that handler meets the following criteria.
 - a. Handler must own the dog
 - b. Handler must not have competed in an open ranch or open class worldwide.
6. When an open ranch dog has competed in ranch class then advanced up to open ranch class it can not be run in ranch class again. The dog may compete in open ranch class or advance to open class.
7. Point system is in effect for dog for compulsory advancement. Must be 3 entries in class to receive points.

# of entries	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th	7 th	8 th	9 th	10 th
1-3	1									
4-6	2	1								
7-9	3	2	1							
10-12	4	3	2	1						
13-15	5	4	3	2	1					
16-18	6	5	4	3	2	1				
19-21	7	6	5	4	3	2	1			
22-24	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1		
25-27	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	
28-30	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1

- a. Dogs which have been brought down from a “higher” class wen accumulated more than 13 points or more in “lower” class will be forced out of that class to the “higher” class.
- b. Dogs who began in ranch class will be forced to “higher” class with 36 or more points.
- c. If dog has 10 life time points or less at start of new year, will be eligible to stay in same class until after finals trial of that year subject to the following:
 - i. Dog must be eligible for dog of the year award to qualify.
8. Any handler may exhibition a dog, must pay necessary sheep charge fees, and does not receive any awards or placing, dog/year pints. Handler may exhibition a dog only when thre is time available and the run is not required to be judged.

D. NURSERY CLASS

1. Any handler may compete in the nursery class.
2. A dog can compete in any class and retain eligibility.
3. The dog receives qualifying points, not the owner of handler.

4. Handler/owner must furnish proof of dog's age.
5. Nursery class must be the last class to run.
6. Dog must run in 5 OSDA trials to qualify for finals trial.
7. Handler/owner must be a paid member before the run to qualify for dog/year points.
8. Age requirement:
 - a. Dog must be thirty months or younger on or before December 31 of the year previous to the OSDA Finals.
 - b. Dogs imported younger than one year of age may run.
9. The nursery dogs must run the same course as the open class that day.
10. Dog will begin with zero points January 1st of each year. After the OSDA Finals all points are dropped.
11. Point system for receiving OSDA dog/year nursery points are the same as open, open ranch, and ranch.

# entries	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th	7 th	8 th	9 th	10 th
1-3	1									
4-6	2	1								
7-9	3	2	1							
10-12	4	3	2	1						
13-15	5	4	3	2	1					
16-18	6	5	4	3	2	1				
17-21	7	6	5	4	3	2	1			
22-24	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1		
25-27	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	
28-30	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1

JUDGES

- A. All trials are to be judged according to the International Sheep Dog Society's rules for trials.
- B. Judges should be familiar with these rules and these rules should be available for review while judging.
- C. Only a secretary/clerk/timekeeper may sit with the judge (exception: candidate wanting to prepare to be judge may sit with the judge with his approval.)
- D. Judge should describe trial field boundaries.
- E. Distractions to judge should be limited.
- F. Judge has authority to retire any entry which may be abusing the livestock.
- G. All decisions of judge are final
- H. Judges will determine "reruns". Reruns will begin at the point the scoring of the run stopped.
- I. Judges are approved by the Board of Directors for each trial.
- J. Judges must determine the breaking of ties. He/she has 3 choices:
 - 1. By the gather (outrun, lift, fetch. If the total is the same each part is considered separately beginning with the outrun, the lift and then the fetch.)
 - 2. Split premiums.
 - 3. A rerun
- K. A judge may call for a personal break in a trial at any time.
- L. OSDA secretary must furnish predetermined (by draw) judging sheets, time clock.
- M. Judge must select judges' secretary/clerk.
- N. If open judge is running an entry in open ranch the OSDA secretary will appoint a replacement in that class only.
- O. Required to judge the Ranch class.

COURSE DIRECTOR

- A. Course director may be appointed by trial committee.
- B. Course director's duties include handling complaints, maintaining running order, and along with method of exhausting sheep (either appointing someone to do this or expect competitors to exhaust)
- C. Course director should be available at all times.
- D. All complaints must be filed with the course director, he/she will file complaint to the Board of Directors.