

NSW Proposed Amendment to Rule 37

Retrieving Stakes and Test Eligibility

Existing Rule:

37. **Novice Stake** is a Stake confined to Gundogs that have not won any Stake other than four (4) Novice Stakes (Beginners' Tests are excluded) or have gained Championship Points and/or been awarded an AARD title. The only form of retrieve in a Novice Stake is a Single Mark Retrieve. A "Walk-Up" is not permitted in a Novice Stake

Proposed Amendment:

37. **Novice Stake** is a Stake confined to Gundogs that have not won five (5) ~~any Stake other than four (4)~~ Novice Stakes or any other Stake (Beginners' Tests are excluded) or have gained Championship Points and/or been awarded an AARD title. The only form of retrieve in a Novice Stake is a Single Mark Retrieve. A "Walk-Up" is not permitted in a Novice Stake.

Rationale:

Wording used to describe the number of wins required to reach eligibility cut-off is different in Novice Rule 37. *i.e.* "...other than four (4)..." and Restricted Rule 38. *i.e.* "...not won five (5)...", when both mean the same thing. This has led to confusion particularly when the two rules are read together. It is suggested that R37 read similar to R38 for consistency and clarity.

Comment: Also note that full stops are missing from the last sentences in R36 & R37 [14-rt-for-gundogs-2014v4.pdf, page 8.].

NSW proposed amendment to rule 111.

To allow additional Dual Champions to those specified.

OLD RULE

111. On application the Committee of the Member Body may at its discretion grant the title of **Dual Champion** to a dog which has been awarded the title of Champion in breed judging and one of the following titles:
Field Trial Champion
Retrieving Trial Champion
Obedience Trial Champion
Such titles must be indexed as:
For Ch. and F.T. Champ (F)
For Ch. and R.T. Champ. (R)
For Ch. and Ob.T. Champ (O)

On application the Committee of the Member Body may at its discretion grant the title **Triple Champion** to any dog which is awarded the title Champion in Breed judging and Champion for any two of the canine activities as referred to above.

NEW RULE

111. Rule 111 should be amended to cover the Championship titles in other dog disciplines in addition to those in the current rule.

RATIONALLE

- Apart from Championship titles for breed, retrieving, field trial and obedience, there are now championship titles granted for:-
 - Track and Search
 - Rally Obedience
 - Dancing with Dogs – Freestyle
 - Dancing with Dogs – Heelwork to Music
 - Etc
- Attaining a Championship title in any dog discipline involves dedication and a lot of hard training.

Old Rule

8(k) Game – Definition of ~~–Quail, Duck, Pigeon, Partridge, Pheasant, Rabbit and Hare, inclusive of domesticated variants of the above species.–~~(Refer also to Rule No.7)

New Rule

Game – Definition of - Duck, Pigeon, Rabbit and Hare (Refer also to Rule No.7)

Rational

The exclusion of Partridge, Pheasants, Quail and the inclusion of domesticated variants of the above species from the list of Game I believe is justifiable for the following reasons,

1. These are not readily available to all who participate in Retrieving Trials for Gundogs.
2. If we want to look after and maintain the Game of Retrieving for Gundogs we need to be able to defend against the argument which animal liberationists or alike may throw at us with regards to the existing list of Game.
3. **Quail**, these are Game birds and 90% of the time these are harvested by hunters with their Pointing Breeds. It is not a problem for dogs to retrieve Quail. My experience with Quail has been that some Judges think that when shot these can land 150 meters away in cover from the firing point. When the dog is sent out to retrieve the Quail it is very difficult for both Judge and Handler to actual know if the dog has picked up the Quail until it comes in closer and be seen clearly.
4. **Pheasants and Partridge** are exotic species and although these are Game birds it would be very difficult to convince others as to why it is necessary that these birds should be included in the list of Game. I have trailed since 1980 and I only know of one instance when a pheasant was used and the Judge of the day did not want it to be retrieved by the dogs.
5. **Partridge** are Game birds and have been used at Retrieving Trials but these were not harvested from the wild. The current rules permit this but we should not be using such Game.
6. We should be able to put up an effective argument as has been done in the past by insisting that Pigeons are feral or bred for racing and culled, Rabbits and Hare are regarded as vermin and Ducks are covered by hunting Seasons which are set by State Authorities and therefore we should be able to maintain these in the list of Game.
7. **Domestic Variants of the Species**, most definitely not as these are farm bred animals just as the Partridge and Pheasants were when these were used, we should not be sending the message out there that our Rules allow us to breed Game for the purpose of testing our dogs at Retrieving Trials.

If the List of Game comprised totally of Ducks, Pigeons, Rabbits and Hare the retrieving abilities of our Gundogs would still be thoroughly tested.

JULY 2019 RAFT MTG - ATTACHMENT 7c
DOGS NSW SUBMISSION

NSW ANKC Retrieving rule submission 2018

NEW RULE: Add: "Fouling the test area Up to 5" to the Retrieving Trial Judging Sheet.

RATIONALLE:

- This concept features in RATG
- Currently the rules do not mention it but everyone penalises for it.

RETRIEVING TRIAL JUDGING SHEET

Name of Club _____

LAND/WATER Type Venue Stake Date

Competitor No. _____

Retrieve No. _____ Breed _____

MAX
Points

Points shall be allocated for each Retrieve on the following basis:																				
Steadiness, obedience and walking to heel. 5																				
Style, eagerness and action 10																				
Retrieving 45																				
Total 60																				
Less Deductions (if any)																				
Net Total																				
Points may be deducted for each Retrieve on the following basis:																				
Breaking to Shot Up to 10																				
Blinking and over-running game Up to 5																				
Pottering Up to 5																				
Giving tongue Up to 5																				
Dropping game Up to 5																				
Hard mouth Up to 10																				
Failure to obey command and direction Up to 10																				
Not firing from shoulder at game and/or Handler moving outside of Firing Point and/or Breaking from the Hide Up to 5 each offence																				
Total Deductions																				

Points for deduction are to be applied to points allocated.
 Failure to complete retrieve: No score.
 In multiple retrieves where the dog switches game: No score.
 Extreme Hard mouth: No Score.

(Signed)

Judge

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DOGS NSW SUBMISSION

NSW proposed amendments to rule 10, 30 and 37.

To allow a walk up Retrieve in Novice.

10. **A Walk-Up Retrieve** is one where the dog is walking at heel, the game is cast and shot at. Immediately the handler pauses to fire, the dog shall sit, drop or stand steady until ordered by its handler to retrieve. ~~A walk-Up retrieve is not permitted in a Novice Stake or Beginners' Test.~~

30. The maximum distance for any retrieve will be 150 metres. In Novice Stakes and Beginners' Tests, Runs shall not exceed 100 metres. ~~In a Novice Stake a Walk-up Retrieve shall not exceed 70 metres and must be launched directly in front of the dog and handler. Only 1 walk up per Novice stake should be allowed.~~

37. **Novice Stake** is a Stake confined to Gundogs that have not won any Stake other than four (4) Novice Stakes (Beginners' Tests are excluded) or have gained Championship Points and/or been awarded an AARD title. The only form of retrieve in a Novice Stake is a Single Mark Retrieve. ~~A "Walk-Up" is not permitted in a Novice Stake.~~

RATIONALLE

- A single walk up retrieve is a fairly simple concept often taught to dogs at a young age
- This concept features in RATG
- This concept used to be included in the Novice Retrieving rules
- It would add another element into the Novice test

NSW Proposed rule amendment Rule 17

Old Rule

17. Double Fall Retrieve. The first item of game is cast as a Mark Retrieve and at which one shot is fired. While the dog is on the way out to retrieve the first item of game, a second game is cast and a shot fired so the dog may mark or hear the fall of this item of game. The first item of game must be retrieved before the second item of game. The second item of game must be cast to land not less than twenty metres from the line to the first item of game and not less than forty metres from the Firing Point. ~~A mark will not be cast when a dog is on the way to a blind.~~ This retrieve is limited to All Age and Championship Stakes.

New Rule

Double Fall Retrieve. The first item of game is cast as a Mark Retrieve and at which one shot is fired. While the dog is on the way out to retrieve the first item of game, a second item of game is cast and a shot is fired so the dog may mark or hear the fall of this item of game. The first item of game must be retrieved before the second item of game. The second item of game must be cast to land not less than twenty metres from the line to the first item of game and not less than forty metres from the Firing Point. This retrieve is limited to All Age and Championship Stakes.

Rational

A mark will not be cast when a dog is on the way to a blind. This retrieve is limited to All Age and Championship Stakes.

The above paragraph should be deleted from this rule as it is not relevant to a Double Fall retrieve..

A Double Fall retrieve consists of two marked retrieves which are cast as the rule insists. This paragraph may be added to the New Rule 9(a) which gives a full description of a Mark Retrieve.

NSW Proposed Rule Amendment – Eligibility

To improve clarity of Rules 38 and 107.

OLD RULE 38

Restricted Stake is a Stake confined to Gundogs that have not won five (5) Restricted Stakes, or have gained Championship Points and/or been awarded an AARD title. At least one Blind Find Retrieve shall be included in a Restricted Stake. A Blind should preferably be picked up after, rather than before, a Mark Retrieve, Double Rise Retrieve or a Two-Bird Retrieve. Where a Blind is to be retrieved first, the angle of separation between the Blind and other items of game shall be at least 60 degrees.

NEW RULE 38.

Restricted Stake is a Stake confined to Gundogs that have not won ~~five (5) Restricted Stakes, have gained Championship Points and/or been awarded an AARD title.~~ ~~an All Age Stake or been placed first or second in a Championship Stake, or been awarded an AARD title.~~ At least one Blind Find Retrieve shall be included in a Restricted Stake. A Blind should preferably be picked up after, rather than before, a Mark Retrieve, Double Rise Retrieve or a Two-Bird Retrieve. Where a Blind is to be retrieved first, the angle of separation between the Blind and other items of game shall be at least 60 degrees.

OLD RULE 107

(a) The title of Novice Retrieving Trial Dog (N.R.D.) and/or Restricted Retrieving Trial Dog (R.R.D.) may be awarded to those dogs that have had three wins in those Stakes or those that are no longer eligible to compete in those Stakes because of wins in those Stakes or wins/placings in higher Stakes.

(b) The title of All Age Retrieving Dog (A.A.R.D.) may be awarded to those dogs that have completed ten (10) All Age Stakes judged by at least three different Judges. Once a dog has been granted title of AARD it can only compete in All Age or Championship Stakes

NEW RULE 107

(a) The title of Novice Retrieving Trial Dog (N.R.D.) ~~and/or Restricted Retrieving Trial Dog (R.R.D.) may be awarded to those dogs that have had three wins in those Stakes or those~~ that are no longer eligible to compete in those Stakes because of wins in those Stakes or wins/placings in higher Stakes.

(b) The title of Restricted Retrieving Trial Dog (R.R.D.) may be awarded to those dogs that have won three (3) Restricted Stakes or completed ten (10) Restricted Stakes judged by at least three different judges.

(c) The title of All Age Retrieving Dog (A.A.R.D.) may be awarded to those dogs that have completed ten (10) All Age Stakes judged by at least three different Judges. Once a dog has been granted title of AARD it can only compete in All Age or Championship Stakes

RATIONALE:

- The sport has, over many years, seen a succession of handlers/competitors participate in the sport until they attain their R.R.D. title only to leave the sport once this has been achieved.
- It appears that many of these handlers/competitors believe that they are not capable of successfully competing in, or alternatively do not wish to compete in All Age Stakes. This may be for a variety of reasons e.g. the ability of the dog or handler, the lack of resources or time necessary to train a dog to All Age level etc.
- Rather than lose these people to the sport of Retrieving Trials the submitted rule change would allow these people and their dogs to continue to compete in Restricted Stakes whilst simultaneously allowing other competitors to obtain their R.R.D. title. It would also continue to allow handlers and dogs to improve their skill base before they choose to enter All Age stakes.
- All Age has evolved to a level where the difficulty of runs requires a highly talented dog and a handler who is willing and able to commit to a demanding training schedule. Allowing competitors, the option to remain in Restricted would allow All Age to continue to evolve whilst retaining a solid base of competitors in the lower stakes. People who are forced into All Age only to regularly fail will not continue to attend trials. The loss of competitors also means the loss of administrators, judges and stewards.
- The awarding of the R.R.D. title after completing 10 stakes/3 judges is consistent with the requirement to be awarded an A.A.R.D title.
- The logic of allowing competitors to continue to compete in Restricted Stakes is also consistent with the ANKC rules for Obedience Trials. The Obedience Trial rules prevent dogs who have been awarded a Companion Dog title from continuing to compete in Novice Class but allow dogs who have been awarded the title of Companion Dog Excellent (C.D.X.) to continue to compete in Open Class. Dogs who have been awarded their C.D.X. title are not forced to choose between competing in Utility Class or no longer competing in the sport.
- It is submitted that the rule change would have little or no impact on All Age Stake entry numbers but would increase or retain the overall number of people participating in the sport of Retrieving Trials. The experience in NSW is that people who want to advance to All Age do so and those who don't leave our sport. This loss of competitors is something that a niche sport cannot continue to ignore.
- It is essential that the sport caters to dogs and handlers at all levels. Without a solid base of competitors in Novice and Restricted there is little future for the sport.

NSW Proposed rule amendment Rules 26 and 27.

Old Rules

26. For any Mark Retrieve the dog should be able to see a bird in the air and as it falls and where possible the cast bird should break open skyline when viewed by the dog. A dog on a Mark Retrieve should not need direction from the handler once the dog has been sent for the Retrieve.

~~27. On Mark Retrieves, where more than one bird is to be retrieved, the order may be specified by the Judge. The handler is permitted to indicate clearly to the dog by hand and/or by voice which bird it is being sent for. However, further handling once the dog has left the handler's side will be penalised accordingly.~~

New Rule 26

Mark Retrieves, are retrieves where the dog is in such a position at the Firing Point to be able to see a bird in the air and as it falls and where possible the cast bird should break open skyline when viewed by the dog. A dog on a Mark Retrieves should not need direction from the handler once the dog has been sent for the Retrieve.

On Mark Retrieves, where more than one bird is to be retrieved, the order may be specified by the Judge. The handler is permitted to indicate clearly to the dog by hand and/or by voice which bird it is being sent for. Further handling once the dog has left the handler's side will be penalised accordingly. A mark will not be cast when a dog is on the way to a blind.

Rational

This will amalgamate rules 26 and 27 which will give a full explanation of Mark Retrieves without having to jump to Rule 27 for a full explanation.

Rules 27 to be deleted.

NSW submission proposed amendment to rule 8(t)

Old Rule

8t) No Score - Where a dog has been marked "No Score", the dog may continue in the Stake at the discretion of the Judge, but is to be considered as a non competing dog. In subsequent Runs they must be run after competing dogs.

New Rule

~~**8t) No Score**—Where a dog has been marked "No Score", the dog may continue in the Stake at the discretion of the Judge, but is to be considered as a non competing dog. In subsequent Runs they must be run after competing dogs.~~

This rule should be deleted.

Rational

This rule currently serves no purpose. When the dog is “No Scored” the dog is then considered to be out of competition. For the judges to keep on allowing these dogs to run in All Age and Champ championships at the end of the field as non competing dogs, can result in a time consuming exercise especially when the Judge is running out of time.

It dose not matter how well the dog performs once it has been No Scored it will not be considered as one which has finished the stake/event.

The Judges at their discretion, if time and suitable game permitting, may invite the handler to continue on subsequent runs. This would be good for the sport for Novice and Restricted Stakes.