

RAFT JULY 2024 MTG - ATTACHMENT 6a

Spaniel and Retriever Rule Change Submission for Tasmania - 2025

Rule 9

Currently States:

No dog may be awarded championship status unless it has gained five (5) championship points in one Trial. Wins and other qualifications should count as from and including the date they were gained.

(Tas) Proposed Changes:

No dog may be awarded championship status unless it has gained at least five (5) championship points in one Trial. Wins and other qualifications should count as from and including the date they were gained.

(Tas) Rationale:

A dog that wins a Championship is awarded ten (10) points, so the current rule does not cover this event and is inconsistent with Rule 17

Rule 11

Currently States:

In these Rules the word "dog" shall include both sexes; and the words "he" or "him" shall include both sexes.

(Tas) Proposed Changes:

In these Rules the word "dog" shall include both sexes.; ~~and the words "he" or "him" shall include both sexes.~~

(Tas) Rationale:

No longer required as rules with gender specific language have been removed.

Rule 17

Currently States:

On application, the Member Body may, at its discretion, grant the title "Field Trial Champion" to a dog which wins a Championship Stake, and to any dog winning a total of ten (10) Championship Points in Field Trials. A full five (5) Championship Points must be won in one Stake. The dog should have worked on live game, been shot over, and retrieved warm game in that Stake. A dog which has won a National Championship Field Trial may be awarded the title National Field Trial Champion.

(Tas) Proposed Changes:

On application, the Member Body may, at its discretion, grant the title "Field Trial Champion" ~~to a dog which wins a Championship Stake, and~~ to any dog winning a total of ten (10) Championship Points in Field Trials. ~~A full~~ At least five (5) Championship Points must be won in one Stake. The dog should have worked on live game, been shot over, and retrieved warm game in that Stake. A dog

RAFT JULY 2024 MTG - ATTACHMENT 6a

which has won a National Championship Field Trial may be awarded the title National Field Trial Champion.

(Tas) Rationale:

Simplifies the language and keeps it consistent with Rule 9.

Rule 20

Currently States:

A "Diploma of Merit" is not a prize, but in a Championship Stake may be awarded at the discretion of the Judge to any dog(s), including prize winners, for outstanding work during the Trial, and the letters "D.M." will be added after the registered name of the dog.

(Tas) Proposed Changes:

A "Diploma of Merit" is not a prize, but in an Open Stake or Championship Stake may be awarded at the discretion of the Judge to any dog(s), including prize winners, for outstanding work during the Trial, and the letters "D.M." will be added after the registered name of the dog.

(Tas) Rationale:

Allows a Diploma of Merit to be awarded at an Open Stake trial, and supports the change to Rule 21 regarding a Certificate of Merit.

Rule 21

Currently States:

A "Certificate of Merit" is not a prize, but in an Open Stake, may be awarded at the discretion of the Judge to any dog(s), including prize winners, for outstanding work during the Trial and the letters "C.M." will be added after the registered name of the dog.

(Tas) Proposed Changes:

A "Certificate of Merit" – A dog may be awarded a Certificate of Merit (COM) in a Field Trial at the discretion of the Judge of the Trial, if it has shown all aspects required, and worked in a creditable manner. The dog should have worked on live game, been shot over, and tenderly retrieved warm game in that Stake. This is not a title but an accreditation as to the dog's work. Dogs that place and are awarded Championship points are not eligible for a COM. is not a prize, but in an Open Stake, may be awarded at the discretion of the Judge to any dog(s), including prize winners, for outstanding work during the Trial and the letters "C.M." will be added after the registered name of the dog.

(Tas) Rationale:

Repurposes a Certificate of Merit. It provides recognition to dogs that have worked in a creditable manner and completed the trial albeit not placed, The letters CM will not be included in the dogs title.

Rule 22

RAFT JULY 2024 MTG - ATTACHMENT 6a

Currently States:

A “Qualifying Certificate” – A dog may be awarded a Qualifying Certificate in a Field Trial at the discretion of the Judge of the Trial, if it has shown that it is not gun-shy, that it will hunt, face covert, retrieve game tenderly, steadiness not being essential. These certificates are awarded for work during, and not after the Trial. Before a Qualifying Certificate is awarded, the dog must have been shot over.

(Tas) Proposed Changes:

A “Qualifying Certificate” – A dog may be awarded a Qualifying Certificate (QC) in a Field Trial at the discretion of the Judge of the Trial, if it has shown that it is not gun-shy, that it will hunt, and face covert, retrieve game tenderly, steadiness not being essential. These certificates are awarded for work during, and not after the Trial. The dog should have worked on live game, been shot over, and tenderly retrieved warm game in that Stake. Once a dog has been awarded a Qualifying Certificate, they are not eligible for a Qualifying Certificate at a subsequent trial.

(Tas) Rationale:

- 1) Fix up typographic error (face covert).
- 2) Align language with Rule 21
- 3) Clarify that dog can not gain multiple Qualifying Certificates.

Rule 27

Currently States:

On application the Committee of the Member Body may at its discretion grant the title “Tri 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.

NOTE: Certificates will be issued for the titles of “Champion”, “Field Trial Champion”, “Dual Champion”, “Tri Champion”, “National Field Trial Champion”, “Grand Field Trial Champion” and “Novice Field Dog” granted by the Member Body. Not more than one of the following titles may be used as part of the registered name of a dog: NFD, FT Ch, Nat FT Ch, Dual Ch, Tri Ch., Gr FT Ch, DM or CM may be used regardless of other titles gained. QC is not to be used as part of the dog’s name.

(Tas) Proposed Changes:

On application the Committee of the Member Body may at its discretion grant the title “Tri 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.

NOTE: Certificates will be issued for the titles of “Champion”, “Field Trial Champion”, “Dual Champion”, “Tri Champion”, “National Field Trial Champion”, “Grand Field Trial Champion” and “Novice Field Dog” granted by the Member Body. Not more than one of the following titles may be used as part of the registered name of a dog: NFD, FT Ch, Nat FT Ch, Dual Ch, Tri Ch., Gr FT Ch, DM or ~~CM~~ may be used regardless of other titles gained. QC and COM areis not to be used as part of the dog’s name.

(Tas) Rationale:

Align titles with rules 20 and 22 above

RAFT JULY 2024 MTG - ATTACHMENT 6a

Rule 30

Currently States:

No person, other than the Judge and the Stewards, shall be permitted to accompany the handlers of the dogs competing in any Trial, unless the permission of the Stewards has been previously obtained. Spectators shall not be allowed to encroach on the Trial ground.

(Tas) Proposed Changes:

No person, other than the Judge and the Stewards, shall be permitted to accompany the handlers of the dogs competing in any Trial, unless the permission of the Judge or Judges Stewards has been previously obtained. Spectators shall not be allowed to encroach on the Trial ground.

(Tas) Rationale:

Clarify the role and responsibilities of the Game and Judges Steward

Rule 31

Currently States:

For the duration of any Stake, a dog may be handled by either an owner or by a handler approved by the Stewards, but it must be one or the other. When dogs are working, an owner may not interfere with his dog if another person has been deputed to handle it.

(Tas) Proposed Changes:

For the duration of any Stake, a dog may be handled by either an owner or by a handler approved by the Judge or Judges Stewards, but it must be one or the other. When dogs are working, an owner may not interfere with his dog if another person has been deputed to handle it.

(Tas) Rationale:

Clarify the role and responsibilities of the Game and Judges Steward

Rule 32

Currently States:

All dogs must be under the control of the Stewards and must be brought on leads to participate without delay in their proper turn. If absent when called, a dog may be debarred by the Stewards from participating in the Stake.

(Tas) Proposed Changes:

All dogs must be under the control of the Judges Stewards and must be brought on leads to participate without delay in their proper turn. If absent when called, a dog may be debarred by the Judges Stewards from participating in the Stake.

(Tas) Rationale:

Clarify the role and responsibilities of the Game and Judges Steward

RAFT JULY 2024 MTG - ATTACHMENT 6a

Rule 34

Currently States:

To prevent any unfair advantage, the Judge and Stewards shall keep the competitors at an even pace and in as near a line as possible. The handlers of the dogs shall go together as if it were a brace of dogs and hunt said brace in the Stake as in ordinary shooting, so that the dogs shall have equal opportunity as to ground, opportunities for finding etc.

(Tas) Proposed Changes:

To prevent any unfair advantage, the Judge and Judges Stewards shall keep the competitors at an even pace and in as near a line as possible. The handlers of the dogs shall go together as if it were a brace of dogs and hunt said brace in the Stake as in ordinary shooting, so that the dogs shall have equal opportunity as to ground, opportunities for finding etc.

(Tas) Rationale:

Clarify the role and responsibilities of the Game and Judges Steward

.....

Rule 37

Currently States:

The handler of a dog in competition shall not be allowed to go to his dog when it indicates or finds game, but shall proceed to shoot only when under instructions from the Judge, who may require him to shoot over the dog, or may direct a Steward to shoot for him.

(Tas) Proposed Changes:

The handler of a dog in competition shall not be allowed to go to ~~his~~their dog when it indicates or finds game, shall proceed to shoot only when under instructions from the Judge, who may require ~~him~~them to shoot over the dog, or may direct a Game Steward to shoot for ~~him~~them.

(Tas) Rationale:

- 1) **Removes the requirement of the handler to shoot over their dog in S&R field trials and instead utilise a Gun Steward. It reinforces that a Field Trial is a competition for the work of dogs rather than a shooting competition.**
 - 2) **Replace with gender neutral terms for handler and judge**
 - 3) **Rationale Bring into line the Stewards (Game and Judge)**
-

Rule 38

Currently States:

The Judge may require handlers of dogs to go through minutely the actions of aiming with a gun and of shooting a cartridge over any or every established find upon being ordered to flush game.

(Tas) Proposed Changes:

remove rule

(Tas) Rationale:

RAFT JULY 2024 MTG - ATTACHMENT 6a

Removes the requirement of the handler to shoot over their dog in S&R field trials and instead utilise a Game Steward. It reinforces that a Field Trial is a competition for the work of dogs rather than a shooting competition.

Rule 39

Currently States:

A handler must not shoot game in a manner to deliberately disadvantage his opponent's dog.

(Tas) Proposed Changes:

A handler or Game Steward must not shoot game in a manner to deliberately disadvantage an opponent's dog.

(Tas) Rationale:

Governing the requirement for a Game Steward to act as if a competitor when shooting.

Rule 43

Currently States:

No correction, intimidation or punishment by instrument or physical means shall be permitted while the dog is in competition or on the Trial grounds.

(Tas) Proposed Changes:

No correction, intimidation or punishment of a dog by instrument or physical or verbal means shall be permitted while the dog is in competition or ~~on the Trial grounds~~ within the precincts of the Trial.

(Tas) Rationale:

- 1) Correction, intimidation and punishment can be verbal and has no place at a Field Trial.**
 - 2) Clarification of Trial precincts as published in the catalogue.**
-

Rule 45

Currently States:

The dogs shall be tested in pairs with, if possible, two finds being made by at least one of the dogs in the heat. Dogs shall only be discarded if they have eliminated themselves and not for any other reason.

(Tas) Proposed Changes:

The dogs shall be tested in pairs with, if possible, two finds being made ~~by at least one of the~~ between the brace of dogs in the heat. Dogs shall only be discarded if they have eliminated themselves and not for any other reason.

(Tas) Rationale:

Allows the judge to change dogs if each dog has had a find and they are happy with the work they have seen.

.....
Rule 46

Currently States:

No owner or handler shall be permitted to withdraw a dog from a Stake on the field or at any time during the progress of the Stake, without the consent of the Judge or both the Judge and Stewards. Any owner or handler withdrawing his dog without such consent may be debarred from any future Trials.

(Tas) Proposed Changes:

No owner or handler shall be permitted to withdraw a dog from a Stake on the field or at any time during the progress of the Stake, without the consent of the Judge ~~or both the Judge and Stewards~~. Any owner or handler withdrawing his dog without such consent may be debarred from any future Trials.

(Tas) Rationale:

Does not make sense. With the current rule judge makes an autonomous decision anyway.

.....

Rule 50

Currently States:

For the purpose of proving a dog's ability to perform any aspect of its work, a Judge may call up any other dog as a new brace mate, whether or not such dog is still in competition.

(Tas) Proposed Changes:

For the purpose of proving a dog's ability to perform any aspect of its work, a Judge may call up any other suitable dog as a new brace mate, whether or not such dog is ~~still~~ in competition.

(Tas) Rationale:

Allows for a scenario where a suitable non-competing dog can be used as a bye dog.

.....

Rule 51 (e)

Currently States:

A dog catching game before it has been shot at, shall lose points according to the seriousness of the offence.

(Tas) Proposed Changes:

A dog catching game before it has been shot at, ~~shall~~ may lose points according to the seriousness of the offence. Discretion should be used especially where non-indigenous game birds are used.

(Tas) Rationale:

Acknowledges that placed birds(Game farms) may not flush properly and gives discretion for this scenario, or eg. where a kitten is produced.

.....

RAFT JULY 2024 MTG - ATTACHMENT 6a

Rule 58

Currently States:

The Judge is empowered to turn out of the Stake any dog whose handler does not obey him, or wilfully interferes with another competitor or his dog.

(Tas) Proposed Changes:

The Judge is empowered to turn out of the Stake any dog whose handler does not obey ~~him~~ them, or wilfully interferes with another competitor or ~~his~~ their dog.

(Tas) Rationale:

Replace with gender neutral terms for handler and judge

Rule 59 (PART 5 – JUDGES)

Currently States:

N/A

(Tas) Proposed Changes:

There is a numbering error where rule 59 and 60 appear in both PART 4 – TRIAL PROCEDURE and PART 5 – JUDGES. All subsequent rules from PART 5 – JUDGES 59 should be incremented by 2.

(Tas) Rationale:

Remove duplicate rule numbers

Currently States:

PART 6 - DUTIES OF FIELD TRIAL STEWARDS

60. (a) *The Stewards shall be required to assist the Judge in all duties in connection with the Trial.*

(b) *When instructed by the Judge, a Steward shall take the place of the Judge and make a report to him.*

(c) *The Stewards shall, at the Judge's request, inspect any dog for sexual causes or any other causes which interferes with the safety or performance of its opponents.*

(d) *The Stewards shall assemble and control all dogs and also be responsible to see that all dogs participate without delay in their proper heats.*

(e) *At the Judge's request, a Steward shall shoot for any handler. In such circumstances, the safety of dogs and people is of paramount importance. The Judge may position the Steward to advantage the handler for whom he is shooting, providing it is within the bounds of safety. A Steward must not shoot game in a manner to deliberately disadvantage any competing dog.*

(f) *A Steward shall not be required to carry game shot by the handler.*

(g) *Stewards officiating at the Trial shall control and make all draws of the eligible dogs in attendance.*

RAFT JULY 2024 MTG - ATTACHMENT 6a

(Tas) Proposed Changes:

PART 6 - DUTIES OF FIELD TRIAL STEWARDS

Judges Steward:

60. (a) *The Judges Stewards shall be required to assist the Judge in all duties in connection with the Trial.*
- (b) *When instructed by the Judge, a Judges Steward shall take the place of the Judge and make a report to him.*
- (c) *The Judges Stewards shall, at the Judge's request, inspect any dog for sexual causes or any other causes which interferes with the safety or performance of its opponents.*
- (d) *The Judges Stewards shall assemble and control all dogs and also be responsible to see that all dogs participate without delay in their proper heats.*
- (ge) *Judges Stewards officiating at the Trial shall control and make all draws of the eligible dogs in attendance*

Game Steward:

- (ef) *At the Judge's ~~request~~ direction, a Game Steward ~~shall~~ will shoot for any handler who has nominated prior to the trial and ~~in such circumstances, the safety of dogs and people is of paramount importance. The Judge may position the Game Steward to advantage the handler for whom he is shooting, providing it is within the bounds of safety. A Game Steward must not shoot game in a manner to deliberately disadvantage any competing dog.~~*
- (fg) *A Game Steward shall not be required to carry game shot by the handler.*

(Tas) Rationale:

Brings the Stewards into two categories that will assist in the smooth running of the trial and at the same time enables all competitors to be on an equal level where judges can Judge dog work.

Rule 60 (f) (New)

Currently States:

new rule

(Tas) Proposed Changes:

Where possible the Judges Steward should be a Spaniel and Retriever Field Trial Judge, a person aspiring to be a Judge, or a seasoned competitor.

(Tas) Rationale:

It is difficult for a Judge to watch both dogs and it is necessary for the steward to be a second set of eyes. If the steward has limit knowledge aspects of dog work may be missed therefor creating the inability of equality.

RAFT JULY 2024 MTG - ATTACHMENT 6a

Rule 61

Currently States:

Game: *Definition for Spaniels and Retrievers: Quail, Duck, Snipe, Rabbits, Hares, Native Hen (Tasmania), Pigeon, Pheasant, Partridge, Bob-White Quail and any other suitable game added to the Government's Schedule of Game that may be deemed game for the purpose of the Wildlife Act.*

(Tas) Proposed Changes:

Game: *Definition for Spaniels and Retrievers: Quail, Duck, Snipe, Rabbits, Hares, Native Hen (Tasmania), Pigeon, Pheasant, Partridge, Bob-White Quail, and any other suitable game from the Phasianidae & Anatidae taxon or added to the Government's Schedule of Game that may be deemed game for the purpose of the Wildlife Act.*

(Tas) Rationale:

- 1) **Typographic error remove plural of rabbit and hare**
- 2) **Open the definition to other suitable birds that may be used depending on state legislation**

REQUEST:

That as Regulation 3A has just been reviewed that the Field fraternity be given the same opportunity and Regulation 3B be reviewed ASAP with a working party set up to oversee the process and report for the 2025 NRAFT meeting for an implementation date of the 1/1/2026.