

WA Submission for Replica Game Trials

We believe ONE set of rules with alternatives added for Replica Game Trials will be:

- easier to implement
- less confusing
- more inclusive so that those states forced to adopt Replica Game may still be able to compete at National and State Championships across Australia

We have presented the rules needing modification below. However should these be adopted they will easily slot into our present rules. A further submission regarding Awards is included separately.

Current Rule 7

The Shooting, Game Laws and Firearms Legislation of each State or Territory must be observed and will govern the conduct of all Trials in conjunction with the Rules and Regulations of each State or Territory Member Body as approved by the ANKC Ltd.

(NEW Rule) Retrieving Trials will be conducted and facilitated in accordance with:

- (a) The Rules and Regulations of each State or Territory Body as approved by the ANKC Ltd, and**
- (b) The relevant Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Animal Welfare, Firearms, Game, and any other applicable legislation, of each State or Territory.**

DEFINITION OF TERMS

(p) Hard Mouth – A dog is deemed to be hard-mouthed when there is unmistakable evidence of any markings or damage on game retrieved due to biting or crunching by the dog. The penalty as defined on the score sheet should be relative to the marking or damage. In the event of Extreme Hard Mouth, the Judge may apply Rule 68 and disqualify the dog. Extreme Hard Mouth is where there is deliberate squeezing of game so that bones break or the flesh is badly ripped and the Judge considers that the game is unfit for the table.

Note: 1. Game can be marked when thrown and this should be considered.

(p) (NEW Rule) Hard Mouth – A dog is deemed to be hard-mouthed when there is unmistakable evidence of any markings or damage on game retrieved due to biting or crunching by the dog. The penalty as defined on the score sheet should be relative to the marking or damage. In the event of Extreme Hard Mouth, the Judge may apply Rule 68 and disqualify the dog. Extreme Hard Mouth is where there is deliberate squeezing of game so that bones break or the flesh is badly ripped and the Judge considers that the game is unfit for the table.

Note: 1. Game can be marked when thrown and this should be considered.

2. This rule shall not apply to retrievers where replica game is used.

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Retrieves

Current Rule 11.

(a) **Wounded Bird Retrieve** - Bird to be thrown by Steward as in other retrieves, but to have line attached by which it is dragged for a distance of at least twenty (20) metres. Bird then picked up and fresh bird left in its stead.

(b) **Wounded Rabbit Retrieve** - Rabbit to be placed by Steward as in other retrieves, but to have line attached by which it is dragged for a distance of at least twenty (20) metres. Rabbit is then picked up and fresh rabbit left in its stead.

12. (a) **(NEW Rule) Wounded Bird Retrieve** - Bird to be thrown by Steward as in other retrieves, but to have line attached by which it is dragged for a distance of at least twenty (20) metres. Bird then picked up and fresh bird left in its stead.

(b) **Wounded Rabbit Retrieve** - Rabbit to be placed by Steward as in other retrieves, but to have line attached by which it is dragged for a distance of at least twenty (20) metres. Rabbit is then picked up and fresh rabbit left in its stead.

Note: Replica Game shall not be used in 'Wounded Retrieves'

Current Rule 22

Through or Amongst Decoy Retrieves. No less than six decoys, constructed of plastic or wood, shall be used. The decoys must be anchored individually and must be 'non-motion' decoys. Any dog that picks up a decoy and does not immediately release it without command shall be marked with No Score. A dog which becomes entangled in the strings and attempts to break free shall not be penalised.

22. (NEW Rule) Through or Amongst Decoy Retrieves. No less than six decoys, constructed of plastic or wood, shall be used. The decoys must be anchored individually and must be 'non-motion' decoys. Any dog that picks up a decoy and does not immediately release it without command shall be marked with No Score. A dog which becomes entangled in the strings and attempts to break free shall not be penalised.

Note: Replica Game shall not be used in 'Through or Amongst Decoy' Retrieves.

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Retrieving Stakes and Test Eligibility

35. A Stake is a competition held at a Retrieving Trial and shall consist of not less than three (3) Runs, except for a Beginners' Test, which shall consist of two (2) Runs. There shall not be more than 4 Runs in a Novice Stake

35. (NEW Rule) A Stake is a competition held at a Retrieving Trial and shall consist of not less than three (3) Runs, except for a Beginners' Test, which shall consist of two (2) Runs. There shall not be more than 4 Runs in a Novice Stake. **A trial committee may elect to conduct any Stake using 'game' or 'replica game' but not a mix of the two. The same types of 'game' or 'replica game' must be used for each dog completing the retrieves comprising a stake.**

PROCEDURE FOR CONDUCTING TRIALS

Current Rule 92

All game must be inspected by the Judge or his authorised delegate immediately the handler completes the Run and the handler must be advised by the Judge of any penalty made for Hard Mouth.

92. (New Rule) All game must be inspected by the Judge or his authorised delegate immediately the handler completes the Run and the handler must be advised by the Judge of any penalty made for Hard Mouth.

Note: This rule shall not apply to Stakes where 'replica game' is used.

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CURRENT 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. 10													
Style, eagerness and action 10													
Retrieving 45													
Total 65													
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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REPLICA GAME 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. 10												
Style, eagerness and action 10												
Retrieving 45												
Total 65												
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 (Not applicable to replica game)												
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. (Not applicable to replica game)

(Signed)

Judge

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AWARDS

We believe ONE set of rules with alternatives added for Replica Game Trials will be:

- easier to implement
- less confusing
- more inclusive so that those states forced to adopt Replica Game may still be able to compete at National and State Championships across Australia

We have presented the rules for awards needing modification below. It was appropriate to simply add to the current rule in red (for RG) in some instances to aid clarity. Should these be adopted they will easily slot into our present rules.

102. Wins and other qualifications shall count as from and including the date they are gained. Only the highest retrieving title or qualification awarded to the dog will be used with the name of the dog except for dogs that have both the titles National Retrieving Trial Champion and Grand Retrieving Trial Champion.

New Rule Note: For the purposes of Rule 102, “the ‘highest retrieving title or qualification’ awarded to the dog” shall, in the context of titles or qualifications awarded to dogs on ‘Replica Game’ or ‘Game’, be the title or qualification awarded on ‘Game’. For example a dog who has been awarded the titles of ‘Retrieving Trial Champion (R.T.CH.) (RG)’ and ‘Retrieving Trial Champion’ (R.T.CH.) shall only be entitled to use the title of ‘Retrieving Trial Champion’ (R.T.CH.) with the dog’s name.

106. (a) The title of **Qualifying Novice Dog (QND)** or **Qualifying Novice Dog - Replica Game (QND) (RG)** may be awarded to any dog that has completed five (5) Novice Stakes to the Judge’s satisfaction, (and awarded by at least two different judges) having shown that they are steady to shot, under reasonable control, nor gun shy.

Note: In order to qualify for a (QND) Title at least one of the Stakes must have been conducted on ‘game’ and the dog must have shown that they are not ‘hard-mouthed’.

The records required to apply for a Qualifying Restricted Dog title are the responsibility of the owner/handler.

(b) The title of **Qualifying Restricted Dog (QRD)** or **Qualifying Restricted Dog - Replica Game (QRD) (RG)** may be awarded to any dog that has completed seven (7) Restricted Stakes to the Judge’s satisfaction, (and awarded by at least three different judges) having shown that they are steady to shot, under reasonable control and not gun shy.

Note: In order to qualify for a (QRD) Title at least one of the Stakes must have been conducted on ‘game’ and the dog must have shown that they are not ‘hard-mouthed’. The records required to apply for a Qualifying Restricted Dog title are the responsibility of the owner/handler.

107. (a) The title of **Novice Retrieving Trial Dog (N.R.D.)** or **Novice Retrieving Trial Dog – Replica Game (N.R.D) (RG)** and/or **Restricted Retrieving Trial Dog (R.R.D.)** or **Restricted Retrieving Trial Dog (R.R.D) (RG)** 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.

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Note: In order to qualify for an (N.R.D.) or (R.R.D) Title at least two of the relevant 'Stakes' must have been conducted on 'game' and the dog must have shown they are not 'hard-mouthed'.

(b) The title of **All Age Retrieving Dog (A.A.R.D.)** or **All Age Retrieving Dog – Replica Game (A.A.R.D) (RG)** 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 the title of AARD it can only compete in All Age or Championship Stakes

Note: In order to qualify for an (A.A.R.D.) Title at three (3) of the relevant 'All Age Stakes' completed must have been conducted on 'game' and the dog must have shown that they are not 'hard-mouthed'.

108. A **Retrieving Trial Championship Certificate** may be awarded to any dog winning a Championship Stake **conducted on 'game'** provided it has completed all retrieves.

109. A **Retrieving Trial Championship Certificate – Replica Game** may be awarded to any dog winning a Championship Stake **conducted on 'replica game'** provided it has completed all retrieves.

110. The title of **Retrieving Trial Champion (R.TCH.)** may be awarded to a dog that has gained at least twelve (12) Championship Points in Retrieving Trials **including a minimum of 6 points awarded in Stakes conducted on 'game'**; these may be awarded in any combination of points awarded in accordance with Rule 96.

111. The title of **Retrieving Trial Champion – Artificial Game (R.T.CH) (RG)** may be awarded to a dog that has gained at least twelve (12) Championship Points in Retrieving Trials **awarded in Stakes conducted on replica game**; these may be awarded in any combination of points awarded in accordance with Rule 96.

112. A dog which has won a National Championship Retrieving Trial conducted on 'game' may be awarded the title of **National Retrieving Trial Champion (Nat R.T.CH.)**

113. A dog which has won a National Championship Retrieving Trial conducted on 'replica game' may be awarded the title of **National Retrieving Trial Champion – Replica Game (Nat R.T.CH.) (RG)**

114. Note: A dog which has won more than one National Championship Retrieving Trial, irrespective of whether the trials were conducted on 'game' or 'replica game', shall have the year(s) of those wins included after the title.

116. The title of **Grand Retrieving Trial Champion (Gr.R.T.Ch.)** may be awarded to any dog that is awarded a total of 120 Championship points, of which not less than, twelve (12) have been awarded in Championship Stakes and **twelve in Stakes or Trials conducted on 'game'**.

The title of Grand RT Champion will not be awarded to dogs retrospectively, but a dog will be eligible to be awarded the title of Grand RT Champion, if it gains a minimum of twelve (12) points towards the title of Grand RT Champion (120 points) on or after the implementation date of 1.1.2005. 117.

RULE AMENDMENTS

Current Rule 51

51e -Before being eligible to judge Championship Stakes a person must have completed to the satisfaction of the Member Body, at least four (4) All Age Stake judging appointments.

51e- Before being eligible to judge a State Championship a person must have completed, to the satisfaction of the Member Body, at least four (4) All Age Stake judging appointments

51f - Before being eligible to judge a National Championship Stake that person must have completed, to the satisfaction of the Member Body, at least one (1) State Championship appointment.

51g – It's a judge's responsibility to remain conversant with the current rules and regulations and any changes that have occurred in retrieving trials

Rationale: It is important that any judge at the National Championship should have the experience of adjudicating in at least one State Championship prior to accepting a National appointment.

ADDITION

INDEX/DEFINITIONS: GUN- Either a 12G Shotgun OR alternative.

Rationale: Currently there is no definition of a gun. This addendum takes into account the POSSIBILITY of any State losing, for whatever reason, the ability to conduct a trial using a shotgun.

There are a number of areas in the Rule Book that have discrepancies which could be addressed to ensure consistency throughout.

1. Remove full stops from Titles for greater consistency:
Gr Rt Ch, Ntl Rt Ch as opposed to Gr.R.T.CH. Ntl.R.T.Ch.
or NRD. TDX. SWN. as opposed to N.R.D. T.D.X. S.W.N.
SO: NRD, RRD, Rt Ch, Gr Rt Ch, Ntl Rt Ch.
2. To create greater consistency across all Titles we suggest these become:
NRD and RRD as Novice and Restricted Retrieving Dog but Rt CH become Retrieving Champion. By dropping the word Trial from title it becomes more consistent with other titles. (Needs to be Rt CH as Rally Oh are taking on title R Ch for Rally O Champion. Further Gr Rt CH becomes Grand Retrieving Champion and Ntl Rt CH becomes National Retrieving Champion
3. The term **Blind Find** is mentioned 18 times within the rules. The word find is rarely used and is not necessary. It is mentioned once in Rules 12, **14, 15**, 16, **18, 20, 21**, 39, 40, 41 and twice in the Index. Mentioned three times in Rule 28, 38. We propose this becomes “blind” in all references rather than ‘Blind find”
4. Other items of note that should be just housekeeping is to:
 - Replace **Australian National Kennel Council Ltd** with Dogs Australia it is used twice on pages 1 and 2 and in Rule 8 (s)
 - Replace **ANKC** with Dogs Australia it is used in Rules 5, 6, 7 (a), 45, 67, and twice in 111

Current Rules 8 (f) and (j)

8. (f) **Control Area** - is that area encompassed by the Control Point markers and the Firing Point markers.
8. (f) **Control Area** - is that area encompassed by the Control Point markers and the Firing Point markers. Terrain permitting, the distance between the Control Point and the Firing Point shall be not less than 10 metres.

Rationale

It removes the note from 8 (j) and puts the relevant information from the note in 8 (j) with the appropriate definition in 8(f) and 8 (j).

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8. (j) **Firing Point** - is the point from which the handler will fire a gun and direct the dog to retrieve. A handler moving outside the Firing Point to handle their dog may be penalised as defined on the Judging Sheet.

Note: Terrain permitting, the distance between the Control Point and the Firing Point shall be not less than 10 metres and the distance between the two marker pegs at the Firing Point shall be not less than 2 metres

8. (j) **Firing Point** - is the point from which the handler will fire a gun and direct the dog to retrieve. The distance between the two marker pegs at the Firing Point shall be not less than 2 metres. A handler moving outside the Firing Point to handle their dog may be penalised as defined on the Judging Sheet.
~~**Note:** Terrain permitting, the distance between the Control Point and the Firing Point shall be not less than 10 metres and the distance between the two marker pegs at the Firing Point shall be not less than 2 metres~~

Rationale

It removes the note from 8 (j) and puts the information from the note with the appropriate definition in 8(f) and 8(j).

Current Rule 8 (q)

8. (q) **Hide** - An area clearly defined by the Judge in which to leave the dog.
8. (q) **Hide** - An area clearly defined by the Judge in which to leave the dog. Where possible it is recommended that the Hide be part of the natural terrain or be constructed of natural materials

Rationale

Gives definition of Hide greater clarity

Current Rule 8 (z)

8. (z) A bona fide exhibit is an exhibit where the dog is presented to the judge for competition and cannot be withdrawn except in accordance with Rule 70.
(Added 10/15, 6.17.1)
8. (z)A **Bona fide exhibit** is an exhibit where the dog is presented to the judge for competition and cannot be withdrawn except in accordance with Rule 70.
~~**(Added 10/15, 6.17.1)**~~

Rationale

Removes the reference to the change, which is now not necessary.

Current Rule 10

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.
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~~ directed by its handler to ~~retrieve~~move. A ~~w~~Walk-Up retrieve is not permitted in a Novice Stake or Beginners' Test.

Rationale

Dogs are not necessarily sent to retrieve the Walk-Up mark as soon as it has been shot at, they are often asked to stay or heel on to the firing point to see another mark.

Current Rule 11

- 11.(a) **Wounded Bird Retrieve** - Bird to be thrown by Steward as in other retrieves, but to have line attached by which it is dragged for a distance of at least twenty (20) metres. Bird then picked up and fresh bird left in its stead.
- (b) **Wounded Rabbit Retrieve** - Rabbit to be placed by Steward as in other retrieves, but to have line attached by which it is dragged for a distance of at least twenty (20) metres. Rabbit is then picked up and fresh rabbit left in its stead.
- 11 **Wounded Game**
- a) **Wounded Bird Retrieve** - Bird to be thrown by Steward as in other retrieves, but to have line attached by which it is dragged for a distance of at least twenty (20) metres. Bird then picked up and fresh bird left in its stead.
- b) **Wounded Rabbit Retrieve** - Rabbit to be placed by Steward as in other retrieves, but to have line attached by which it is dragged for a distance of at least twenty (20) metres. Rabbit is then picked up and fresh rabbit left in its stead.

Rationale

It gives a heading to Rule 11.

Current Rule 12

- 12 A Blind Find Retrieve** shall be a retrieve where a dog is in such a position that the flight, fall or placement of the game cannot be seen. The Judge may direct the dog to be placed behind a Hide in close proximity to the Firing Point. Where possible it is recommended that the Hide be part of the natural terrain or be constructed of natural materials.
12. **A Blind Find-Retrieve** shall be a retrieve where a dog is in such a position that the flight, fall or placement of the game cannot be seen. The Judge may direct the dog to be placed behind a Hide in close proximity to the Firing Point. Where possible it is recommended that the Hide be part of the natural terrain or be constructed of natural materials. Refer Rule 8Q

Rationale

The word ***find*** is not necessary and not used in heading of Rule 14.

Add 'Where possible it is recommended that the Hide be part of the natural terrain or be constructed of natural materials.' for greater clarity.

Current Rule 16

16. **A Two-Bird Retrieve.** The first item of game shall be cast as for a Mark Retrieve, or alternatively, it may be cast or placed as for a Blind Find Retrieve. In accordance with instructions from the Judge, the dog shall be sent to recover this item of game. While dog is returning to the handler with the first item of game, a second item of game shall be cast so that the dog may mark or hear its fall. The second item of game should be at least twenty metres from first item of game.
16. **A Two-Bird Retrieve.** The first item of game shall be cast as for a Mark Retrieve, or alternatively, it may be cast or placed as for a Blind Find Retrieve. In accordance with instructions from the Judge, the dog shall be sent to recover this item of game. While dog is returning to the handler with the first item of game, a second item of game shall be cast so that the dog may mark or hear its fall. The second item of game should be at least cast to land not less than twenty metres from the line to the first item of game

Rationale

Removes the the word 'Find' as it is not necessary. Adding; 'cast to land not less than' and 'the line to the' further clarifies the rule

Current Rule 24

24. The Judge shall not specify the order of pick-up if items of game are deemed to be "In Line" and that decision shall be left to the handler's discretion.
- a) **In Line Retrieves** The Judge shall not specify the order of pick-up, ~~if items of game are deemed to be "In Line"~~ and that decision shall be left to the handler's discretion. See Rule 8 (r) for the definition of 'In Line Game'.

Rationale

Adding **In Line Retrieves** –gives a heading to the rule. Adding See Rule 8 (r) for the definition of 'In Line Game' further clarifies an In Line retrieve

Current Rule 25(a)

- a) In All Age and Championship Stakes, a Judge may order that one (1) additional item of game be placed or cast as a diversion and this item of game shall not be retrieved by the competing dog. An item of game used as a diversion shall not be located either "in line" with or less than 20m from an item of game that is to be retrieved. See Rule 8 (r) for the definition of "in line".
- b) **Diversionsary Game**. In All Age and Championship Stakes, a Judge may order that one (1) additional item of game be placed or cast as a diversion and this item of game shall not be retrieved by the competing dog. An item of game used as a diversion shall not be located either "in line" with or less than 20m from an item of game that is to be retrieved. See Rule 8 (r) for the definition of "in line".

Rationale

By adding **Diversionsary Game** gives a heading to the rule. The word **Diversions** is referenced in the index as Rule 25(a).

Current Rule 25(b)

25. (b) While in competition, if a dog picks up an item of game used in connection with the Run, other than the nominated item of game, it shall be eliminated from further competition. In the event of a dog picking up an item of game not being used in connection with the Run, it shall be given a re-run and the Judge will take into consideration the performance of the dog prior to its picking up this item of game.
25. (b) ~~While in competition~~ **Wrong Game**, if a dog picks up an item of game used in connection with the Run, other than the nominated item of game, it shall be eliminated from further competition. In the event of a dog picking up an item of game not being used in connection with the Run, it shall be given a re-run and the Judge will take into consideration the performance of the dog prior to its picking up this item of game.

Rationale

By adding **Wrong Game** it gives a heading to the rule. The words **Wrong Game Retrieve** are also referenced in the Index Rule 25(b).

Current Rule 26

26. Mark Retrieves are retrieves where a 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 Retrieve 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.
26. **Mark Retrieves** are retrieves where a dog is in a position to be able to see a bird in the air and as it falls. 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. 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.

Rationale

By changing **Mark Retrieves** to bold, it gives a heading to the rule. Removing 'at the firing point' allows for the practise (testing steadiness) where a dog is placed remotely from the firing point and still able to clearly see a mark that the handler shoots.

Current Rule 28

28. On Blind Find Retrieves, where possible, the course should be planned in such a way that advantage is taken of natural hazards. It should be possible, at least in theory, for a dog to find a well-planned Blind Find Retrieve on the initial line from its handler. The test should be so planned that the dog should be in sight at least until directed into the area of the fall, as a Blind Find Retrieve is a test of control and a dog that is out of sight for a considerable period of time cannot be said to be under control.

~~28. On **Blind Find Retrieves**, where possible, the course should be planned in such a way that advantage is taken of natural hazards. It should be possible, at least in theory, for a dog to find a well-planned Blind Find Retrieve on the initial line from its handler. The test It should be so planned that the dog should be in sight at least until directed into the area of the fall, As a Blind Find Retrieve is a test of control, and a dog that is out of sight for a considerable period of time cannot be said to be under control.~~

Rationale

By deleting ~~On and Find~~ and changing **Blind Retrieves** to bold, it gives a heading to the rule. Removing ~~where possible, the course~~ as it is unnecessary wording, the sentence flows well just using the words 'should be'. The word ~~Find~~ has been removed because it is not necessary.

Current Rule 29

29. Programmes should be so arranged that all dogs are thoroughly tested on land and in or through water of sufficient depth to require the dog to swim.

~~29. Programmes **Stakes** should be so arranged that all dogs are thoroughly tested on land and in or through water of sufficient depth to require the dog to swim.~~

Rationale

Change ~~Programmes~~ to Stakes and make it bold to give the rule a heading. No where else in the rules is the term programmes used. The word programmes will need to be removed from the index under 'T' tests.

Current Rule 30

30. The maximum distance for any retrieve will be 150 metres. In Novice Stakes and Beginners' Tests, Runs shall not exceed 100 metres.

~~30. The maximum distance for any retrieve will be 150 metres. **Retrieve Distances** in Beginners Tests and in Novice Stakes and Beginners' Tests, runs shall not exceed 100 metres. In all other stakes the distance for any retrieve shall not exceed 150 metres.~~

Rationale

Adding **Retrieve Distances** gives the rule a heading. The wording has been rearranged to put the rule in order of stake. Add an s to Retrieve Distance in the index

Current Rule 31

31. No more than two (2) Runs judged by the same Judge may be linked consecutively before each competitor leaves the Control Area. No more than four (4) items of game may be retrieved in total.
31. **Consecutive Runs** No more than two (2) Runs judged by the same Judge may be linked consecutively before each competitor leaves the Control Area. No more than four (4) items of game may be retrieved in total.

Rationale

Adding **Consecutive Runs** gives the rule a heading. It is already referenced in the index.

Current Rule 32

32. Retrieves involving a relocation of a dog from an original Firing Point must not involve a relocation of more than twenty (20) metres. The relocated Firing Point should not unduly disadvantage the dog or handler and the area of fall must remain able to be observed by both dog and handler from the new Firing Point. Relocated retrieves are permitted when they enable better sighted retrieves to be included in the Run.
32. **Relocation Retrieves**. ~~Where a dog is moved~~ ~~Retrieves involving a relocation of a dog~~ from an original Firing Point, the relocation must not be more than twenty (20) metres. The relocated Firing Point should not unduly disadvantage the dog or handler and the area of fall must remain able to be observed by both dog and handler from the new Firing Point. Relocated retrieves are permitted when they enable better sighted retrieves to be included in the Run

Rationale

Adding **Relocation Retrieves** gives the rule a heading. Already indexed under Retrieves

Current Rule 33

33. All events shall be restricted to dogs six months of age and over. The age of a dog shall be computed from its date of birth to the date on which the Trial commences. Should finalisation of the Trial be delayed, then the increase in age shall not affect the eligibility of any qualified contestant.
33. ~~All events shall be restricted to dogs six months of age and over.~~ **Age of a dog** shall be computed from its date of birth to the date on which the Trial commences. ~~All events shall be restricted to dogs six months of age and over.~~ ~~Should finalisation of the Trial be delayed, then the increase in age shall not affect the eligibility of any qualified contestant.~~

Rationale

By moving the first sentence of the rule **Age of a Dog** in bold gives the rule a heading. The sentence 'Should finalisation of the Trial be delayed, then the increase in age shall not affect the eligibility of any qualified contestant.' Can be deleted as it has no relevance.

Current Rule 34

34. Registered (Main and Limited) desexed Gundogs shall be permitted to compete in Retrieving Trials in all States and/or Territories of Australia.
34. ~~Registered (Main and Limited) desexed~~ **Gundogs** shall be permitted to compete in Retrieving Trials in all States and/or Territories of Australia. They may be either, main or limited register, desexed or entire (refer rules 62 and 63).

Rationale

Gives the rule a heading. Gundog is already defined in the definitions.

Current Rule 35

35. **A Stake** is a competition held at a Retrieving Trial and shall consist of not less than three (3) Runs, except for a Beginners' Test, which shall consist of two (2) Runs. There shall not be more than 4 Runs in a Novice Stake.
35. **A Stake** is a competition held at a Retrieving Trial and shall consist of not less than three (3) Runs, except for a Beginners Test which shall consist of two (2) Runs. There shall not be more than 4 Runs in ~~a Novice Stake~~ any other stake other than a Championship

Rationale

Unless at championship level 4 runs in any stake is adequate. Rarely, if ever, do clubs have more than four runs in a Restricted or an All Age

Current Rule 36

36. **Beginners' Test** is a Stake confined to Gundogs that have not won a Beginners Test nor have placed in any other Stake. Beginners' Tests shall consist of two (2) Runs each of which is a Single Mark Retrieve, one (1) on land and one (1) in or through water. A Walk-up Retrieve is not permitted in a Beginners Test.
36. **Beginners' Tests** are ~~is~~ confined to Gundogs that have not, won a Beginners Test, or placed in any other Stake. A Beginners Test shall consist of two (2) Runs each of which is a Single Mark Retrieve, one (1) on land and one (1) in or through water. A Walk-up Retrieve is not permitted in a Beginners Test.

Rationale

Made plural for ease of reading.

Current Rule 37

37. **Novice Stake** is a Stake confined to Gundogs that have not won five (5) 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
37. **Novice Stakes** are ~~is~~ ~~Stakes~~ confined to Gundogs that have not won five (5) 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

Made plural for the purpose of the heading

Current Rule 38

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 Find Retrieve should preferably be picked up after, rather than before, a Mark Retrieve, Double Rise Retrieve or a Two-Bird Retrieve. Where a Blind Find Retrieve is to be retrieved first, the angle of separation between the Blind and other items of game shall be at least 60 degrees.

38. **Restricted Stakes are** ~~is a Stakes~~ 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 and it should preferably be picked up after, rather than before, a Mark Retrieve, Double Rise Retrieve or a Two-Bird Retrieve. Where a Blind ~~Find~~ Retrieve is to be retrieved first, the angle of separation between the Blind and other items of game shall be at least 60 degrees.

Rationale

Made plural for the purpose of the heading. Removes the word find and improves the reading of the rule.

Current Rule 39

39. **All Age Stake** is a Stake confined to Gundogs that have won a Novice or have been placed first, second or third in a Restricted Stake. A Blind Find Retrieve must be included, with the dog tested for steadiness in a Hide at least once

39. **All Age Stakes are** ~~is a Stakes~~ confined to Gundogs that have won a Novice or have been placed first, second or third in a Restricted Stake. A Blind ~~Find~~ Retrieve must be included, with the dog tested for steadiness in or behind a Hide at least once.

Rationale

Removes the word find. Made plural for the purpose of the heading. Change "in" to 'in or behind' a blind for clarity of meaning

Current Rule 40 (a)

a) **A Championship Retrieving Trial Stake** is a Stake confined to Gundogs that have been placed first in a Restricted Stake or first, second or third in an All Age Stake or have the title All Age Retrieving Dog (AARD). Proof of Eligibility must be included with the entry for a non-titled dog.

a) **A Championship Retrieving Trial Stakes are** ~~is a Stakes~~ confined to Gundogs that have been placed first in a Restricted Stake or first, second or third in an All Age Stake or have the title All Age Retrieving Dog (AARD)-. Proof of Eligibility must be included with the entry for a non-titled dog.

Rationale

Removes the words 'Retrieving Trial' as these words are not used in the description of Novice, Restricted and All Age stakes, nor in Rule 96. Made plural for the purpose of the heading.

Current Rule 41 (a)

- a) **A National Championship Retrieving Trial Stake** is a Stake confined to Gundogs that have been placed first in a Restricted Stake or first, second or third in an All Age Stake or have the title All Age Retrieving Dog (AARD). Proof of Eligibility must be included with the entry for a non-titled dog.
- a) **A National Championship Retrieving Trial Stakes** ~~are~~ ~~is~~ ~~a~~ confined to Gundogs that have been placed first in a Restricted Stake or first, second or third in an All Age Stake or have the title All Age Retrieving Dog (AARD). Proof of Eligibility must be included with the entry for a non-titled dog.

Rationale

Removes the words 'Retrieving Trial' as these words are not used in the description of Novice, Restricted and All Age stakes, nor in Rule 96. Made plural for the purpose of the heading.

Current Rule 41 (b)

- b) A National Championship Retrieving Trial Stake shall consist of not less than eight (8) Runs with at least seventeen (17) items of game to be retrieved. At least two (2) Blind Find Retrieves are to be included and a dog must be tested for steadiness from behind a Hide on at least two (2) occasions.
- b) **A National Championship Retrieving Trial Stakes** shall consist of not less than eight (8) Runs with at least seventeen (17) items of game to be retrieved. At least two (2) Blind ~~Find~~ Retrieves are to be included and a dog must be tested for steadiness in or behind a Hide on at least two (2) occasions.

Rationale

Removes the words 'Retrieving Trial' as these words are not used in the description of Novice, Restricted and All Age stakes, nor in Rule 96. Made plural for the purpose of the heading. The word 'find' has also been removed for consistency. The words 'in or behind' and hide are used for greater clarity.

Current Rule 42 (a)

- a) In each year there shall be held not more than one (1) Championship Retrieving Trial Stake by each state or territory, except when a state or territory is holding a National Championship it may, in addition, hold a State or Territory Championship.
- a) In each year there shall be held not more than one (1) Championship **Retrieving Trial** Stake by each state or territory, except when a state or territory is holding a National Championship it may, in addition, hold a State or Territory Championship.

Rationale

Removes the words 'Retrieving Trial' as these words are not used in the description of Novice, Restricted and All Age stakes, nor in Rule 96.

Current Rule 42 (b)

- b) Any state or territory conducting a championship event outside its home state or territory borders shall seek consent from the state or territory Member Body in which it proposes to hold the event at least twelve months prior to the proposed event. (Amended 10/15, 6.17.1)
- b) Any state or territory conducting a championship event outside its home state or territory borders shall seek consent from the state or territory Member Body in which it proposes to hold the event at least twelve months prior to the proposed event.

Rationale

Remove the (Amended 10/15, 6.17.1) from (b) as the reference is no longer required.

Current Rule 45

- 45. All wins, placings and certificate awards, made by State, Territory or Overseas Governing Bodies recognised by the A.N.K.C. shall count in relation to the eligibility of dogs for any Stake and it shall be incumbent on the Club conducting the Trial to forward within ten (10) days to the Member Body, a marked catalogue with the placings and certificates awarded.
- 45. All wins, placings and certificate awards, made by State, Territory or Overseas Governing Bodies recognised by ~~the A.N.K.C.~~ Dogs Australia shall count in relation to the eligibility of dogs for any Stake and it shall be incumbent on the Club conducting the Trial to forward within ten (10) days to the Member Body, a marked catalogue with the placings and certificates awarded.

Rationale

Replaces the A.N.K.C. with 'Dogs Australia'.

Current Rule 46

- 46. Retrieving Trial Champions are eligible only for Championship and All Age Stakes.
- 46. ~~Retrieving Trial~~ Retrieving Champions are eligible only for Championship and All Age Stakes.

Rationale

Retrieving Trial Champion changed to Retrieving Champion in anticipation of the rule change in 109.

Current Rule 51 (a)

- a) No person shall be entitled to judge a Retrieving Trial Stake until he/she has supplied acceptable credentials to the Member Body and has been placed on a list of approved Judges by the Member Body.
- a) No person shall be entitled to judge a ~~Retrieving Trial~~ Stake until he/she has supplied acceptable credentials to the Member Body and has been placed on a list of approved Judges by the Member Body

Rationale

Removes the word 'Trial' for consistency

Current Rule 51 (f)

- f) Its is a judges responsibility to remain conversant with the current rules and regulations and any changes that have occurred in retrieving trials.
- f) Its is a judge's responsibility to remain conversant with the current rules and regulations and any changes that have occurred in retrieving trials.

Rationale

Removes the typo 'Its' so it is correct as 'It'. Inserts an apostrophe in judge's for correct punctuation

Change Heading before Rule 57

Duties of Trial Manager and Stake Managers
Duties of Trial Manager and Stake or Run Managers

Rationale

When more than one stake is being conducted at once, Stake managers are required so the Trial manager doesn't have to be at two or more places at once. In other trials where there is a split field due to the large number of entries eg Championships Run managers are required

Current Rule 64

- 64. Dogs are expected to retrieve under all natural working conditions. The Judges and Trial Committee have complete control over the mechanics and requirements of each Trial. This latitude is permitted in order to allow for the difference of conditions in various places.
- 64. Dogs are expected to retrieve under all natural working conditions. The Judges and Trial Committee have complete control over the mechanics and requirements of each ~~Trial~~ Stake. This latitude is permitted in order to allow for the difference of conditions in various places.

Rationale

Changes the word trial to stake as a more accurate term. Judges only have control over stakes they are judging.

Current Rule 67

- 67. The area over which a Stake shall be conducted will be decided by the Trial Committee conducting the Trial and indicated to the Judge by the appointed Trial Manager. Where possible, two (2) members of the Trial Committee will be made available to assist the Judge. The Judge shall select his/her own Runs. The Committee has the right to intervene only if the selected Runs contravene the ANKC Ltd Rules, are logistically unsound or the dogs' safety is in serious question.
- 67. The area over which a Stake shall be conducted will be decided by the Trial Committee conducting the Trial and indicated to the Judge by the appointed Trial or Stake Manager). Where possible, two (2) members of the Trial Committee will be made available to assist the Judge. The Judge shall select his/her own Runs. The Committee has the right to intervene only if the selected Runs contravene the ~~ANKC Ltd~~ Dogs Australia Rules, are logistically unsound or the dogs' safety is in serious question.

Rationale

Replaces ANKC Ltd with Dogs Australia
Addition of Stake Manager

Current Rule 80

80. The Draw is the selection by ballot of the order in which dogs in a Stake are required to compete in the first Run. In a National or State Championship it is permitted to divide the field into equal sections still allowing for running of the dogs in the drawn order on the first Run. The Draw will be made by the Trial Committee entrusted with the management of the Trial. The Draw must be made in public either before or on the day of the trial. The subsequent running order, if convenient and practical, after the first run has taken place maybe rotated to ensure fairness to competitors.

80. The Draw is the selection by ballot of the order in which dogs in a Stake are required to compete in the first Run. In a ~~National or State Championship~~ or when there is an entry large, enough to warrant two or more judges, it is permitted to divide the field into equal sections still allowing for running of the dogs in the drawn order on the first Run. The Draw will be made by the Trial Committee entrusted with the management of the Trial. The Draw must be made in public either before or on the day of the trial. The subsequent running order, if convenient and practical, after the first run has taken place maybe rotated to ensure fairness to competitors.

Rationale

Changes the wording to allow for large fields to be split

Current Rule 99

99. No Diploma of Merit, Certificate of Merit or Qualifying Certificates, other than those of the Member Body, shall be awarded at Retrieving Trials held under the Rules of the Member Body.

99. ~~No Certificates, other than those of the Member Body, shall be awarded at Retrieving Trials held under the Rules of the Member Body.~~ All awards must be issued on official 'Dogs Australia Certificates'.

Rationale

This makes it very clear to affiliates and member bodies, what must be issued to competitors at the completion of a trial. These certificates are the proof required when applying for a title/award.

Not all member bodies require a certificate as proof of place won when the place/s were won in that State, they just verify claims against the marked catalogues. As a result, member body affiliates do not see the need to issue the Dogs Australia Certificates. However, this means that interstate competitors have difficulty supplying their proof because they have not obtained the correct paperwork. This rule change would ensure the correct/same paperwork is issued nationally.

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Current Rule 102

102. Wins and other qualifications shall count as from and including the date they are gained. Only the highest retrieving title or qualification awarded to the dog will be used with the name of the dog except for dogs that have both the titles National Retrieving Trial Champion and Grand Retrieving Trial Champion.

102. Wins and other qualifications shall count as from and including the date they are gained. Only the highest retrieving title or qualification awarded to the dog will be used with the name of the dog's registered name after application to and approval from the member body. The Dogs Australia database will be updated accordingly. The exception is except for dogs that have both the titles National Retrieving Trial Champion and Grand Retrieving Trial Champion. They shall be Gr Rt CH. Ntl Rt CH. (plus years if won more than one National). Only Championship titles go before the dog's registered name.

Rationale

Included the sentence to ensure that titles can only be used if they have been applied for. The word Trial has been removed as it is unnecessary. See rules 107-112

Trial removed from titles as suggested for consistency

Current Rule 106

106.(a) The title of **Qualifying Novice Dog (QND)** may be awarded to any dog that has completed five (5) Novice Stakes to the Judge's satisfaction, (and awarded by at least two different judges) having shown that they are steady to shot, under reasonable control and not "hard-mouthed" nor gun shy. The records required to apply for a Qualifying Novice Dog title are the responsibility of the owner/handler. The title of Qualifying Novice Dog is not retrospective and can only be awarded on basis of results obtained from 1 January 2010.

106.(a) The title of **Qualifying Novice Dog (QND)** may be awarded to any dog that has completed five (5) Novice Stakes to the Judge's satisfaction, (and awarded by at least two different judges) having shown that they are steady to shot, under reasonable control and not hard-mouthed nor gun shy under at least two different judges. The records required to apply for a Qualifying Novice Dog title are the responsibility of the owner/handler. The title of Qualifying Novice Dog is not retrospective and can only be awarded on basis of results obtained from 1 January 2010.

Rationale

Adjustment made to the heading of the rule for consistency. Rule reworded for clarity. The last sentence is no longer relevant

Current Rule 106

106. (b) The title of **Qualifying Restricted Dog (QRD)** may be awarded to any dog that has completed seven (7) Restricted Stakes to the Judge's satisfaction, (and awarded by at least three different judges) having shown that they are steady to shot, under reasonable control and not "hard-mouthed" nor gun shy. The records required to apply for a Qualifying Restricted Dog title are the responsibility of the owner/handler. The title of Qualifying Restricted Dog is not retrospective and can only be awarded on basis of results obtained from 1 January 2015.

~~106. (b) The title of **Qualifying Restricted Dog (QRD)** may be awarded to any dog that has completed seven (7) Restricted Stakes to the Judge's satisfaction, (and awarded by at least two different judges) having shown that they are steady to shot, under reasonable control and not hard-mouthed nor gun shy under at least three different judges. The records required to apply for a Qualifying Restricted Dog title are the responsibility of the owner/handler. The title of Qualifying Restricted Dog is not retrospective and can only be awarded on basis of results obtained from 1 January 2015.~~

Rationale

Adjustment made to the heading of the rule for consistency. The last sentence is no longer relevant

Current Rule 107

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.

107. (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

~~107. (a) The title **Novice Retrieving Dog (NRD.)** and/or **Restricted Retrieving Trial** may be awarded to those dogs that have had three wins in Novice Stakes or are no longer eligible to compete in Novice Stakes because of wins/placings in higher Stakes.~~

~~107. (b) The title of **Novice Retrieving Trial Dog (N.R.D.)** and/or **Restricted Retrieving Dog (RRD)** may be awarded to dogs that have had three wins in Restricted Stakes or are no longer eligible to compete in Restricted Stakes because of wins/placings in higher Stakes.~~

~~107. (c) The title of **All Age Retrieving Dog (AARD)** 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

Splits **a** into **a and b** and **b** becomes **c** to give clear definitions of title eligibility
Remove Trial from Novice Retrieving Trial Dog and Restricted Retrieving Trial Dog so that title is consistent with All Age Retrieving Dog as proposed earlier

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Current Rule 108

108. **A Retrieving Trial Championship Certificate** may be awarded to any dog winning a Championship Stake provided it has completed all retrieves

108. **A Retrieving Championship Certificate** may be awarded to any dog winning a Championship Stake provided it has completed all retrieves

Rationale

Removes the unnecessary word trial. **This rule could also be deleted altogether and left blank.**

Current Rule 109

109. The title of **Retrieving Trial Champion** may be awarded to a dog that has gained at least twelve (12) Championship Points in Retrieving Trials; these may be awarded in any combination of points awarded in accordance with Rule 96

109. ~~The title of~~ **Retrieving Champion (RtCH)** may be awarded to a dog that has gained at least twelve (12) Championship Points in Retrieving Trials; these may be awarded in any combination of points awarded in accordance with Rule 96.

Rationale

Removes the unnecessary word trial and gives sentence title

Current Rule 110

110. A dog which has won a National Championship Retrieving Trial may be awarded the title of **National Retrieving Trial Champion** (Nat R.T.Ch.) A dog which has won more than one National Championship Retrieving Trial shall have the year(s) of those wins included after the title

110. A dog which has won a National Championship Retrieving Stake shall be awarded the title of **National Retrieving Champion (Ntl R CH.)** A dog which has won more than one National Championship Retrieving Stake shall have the year(s) of those wins included after the title (eg Ntl RC 2014,2016.)

Rationale

Removes the unnecessary word trial. The word National abbreviated to Ntl. Change 'may be awarded' to 'shall be awarded' as the award has been won so shall be awarded

Current Rule 111

111. On application the Member Body may at its discretion grant the title of **Dual Champion**. Dogs awarded two Champion titles one of which must be a Conformation Champion and the other in any of the other ANKC recognised disciplines shall be granted the title of "Dual Champion" and the title shall appear before the name of the dog and with other disciplines indicated in brackets

Example

Field Trial Champion (F)

Retrieving Trial Champion (R)

Obedience Trial Champion (O)

Such dual titles must be indexed as:

Dual CH (F)

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Dual CH (R)

Dual CH (O)

On application the Member Body may at its discretion grant the title **Triple Champion**. Dogs awarded three Champion titles one of which must be a Conformation Champion and the others in any of the other ANKC recognised disciplines shall be granted the title of "Triple Champion" and the title shall appear before the name of the dog and with other disciplines indicated in brackets

Example

Field Trial Champion (F)

Retrieving Trial Champion (R)

Obedience Trial Champion (O)

Such triple titles must be indexed as:

Triple CH (F)(R)

Triple CH (R)(O)

Triple CH (O)(F)

Triple CH(R)(F)

111. **Dual Champion (Dual CH) or Triple Champion (Tri CH)** may be awarded to Dogs achieving two or three Champion titles one of which must be a Conformation Champion and the other/s in any of the other Dogs Australia recognised disciplines. The title, once granted shall appear before the name of the dog and with other disciplines indicated in brackets

Examples:

Dual CH (Rt) for a Retriever Champion or **Dual CH (F)** for a Field Champion

Tri CH (Rt)(F) for a Retrieving and Field Champion

Rationale

Title of Dual CH and Triple CH needs to change to Dual CH (Rt) and Triple CH (Rt) so that there is no confusion with current RallyO title which is R CH

Current Rule 112

112. The title of **Grand Retrieving Trial Champion (Gr.R.T.Ch.)** may be awarded to any dog that is awarded at total of 120 Championship points, of which not less than twelve (12) have been awarded in Championship Stakes.

The title of Grand RT Champion will not be awarded to dogs retrospectively, but a dog will be eligible to be awarded the title of Grand RT Champion, if it gains a minimum of twelve (12) points towards the title of Grand RT Champion (120 points) on or after the implementation date of 1.1.2005

112. ~~The title of **Grand Retrieving Trial Champion (Gr.R.T.Ch.)**~~ **Grand Retrieving Champion (Gr Rt CH.)** may be awarded to any dog that is awarded a total of 120 Championship points, of which not less than twelve (12) have been awarded in Championship Stakes. ~~The title of Grand RT Champion will not be awarded to dogs retrospectively, but a dog will be eligible to be awarded the title of Grand RT Champion, if it gains a minimum of twelve (12) points towards the title of Grand RT Champion (120 points) on or after the implementation date of 1.1.2005~~

Rationale

Simplifies the wording of the rule. The changes, including Title, also maintain consistency. Deletes the last section which is no longer relevant

Current Rule 113

113. A **Qualifying Certificate (QC)** is not a prize or a title, but may be awarded at the discretion of the Judge in any Stake, consisting of at least three (3) retrieves, to dogs that have completed the Stake, to the Judge's satisfaction, having shown that they are under reasonable control and not "hard-mouthed", nor gun shy. Note: A Qualifying Certificate may be awarded to a dog only once. If a dog is eligible to receive the award in a later Trial, no Certificate will be awarded.

113. ~~A **Qualifying Certificate (QC)** **Qualifying Certificate** is not a prize or a title, but may be awarded at the discretion of the Judge in any Stake, consisting of at least three (3) retrieves, to dogs that have completed the Stake, to the Judge's satisfaction, having shown that they are under reasonable control and not hard-mouthed, nor gun shy. Note: A Qualifying Certificate may be awarded to a dog only once. If a dog is eligible to receive the award in a later Trial, no Certificate will be awarded.~~

Rationale

(QC) is removed because it is not a title. In the previous rules the title was noted in brackets. Wording of rule is simplified.