

## **From the S.C.C. & CUN (Working Dog Commission)**

Daniel Schwartz, President.

Circular no. 2005-D

To Judges of Ringsport 2/21/05

Dear Colleagues,

After this note you will find the Rules regarding Ringsport Trials as defined during the meeting initiated by the Ringsport Group and held 2/4/04.

We have received on several occasions remarks concerning excessively harsh treatment encountered by dogs in certain trials. I am taking this opportunity to tell you that you are the sole person responsible for that which happens on the field and the actions of the men who assist you.

And that, in this environment, more and more drastic steps are required to protect the animals. One way or another, you are going to become the protectors of our discipline of biting dogs for the future.

Following, and to answer the questions of certain organizers, I will tell you an extract of the rules of the SCC:

The judge should not in any case judge a dog which he owns or which belongs to his spouse or his children or a person living under his roof even if the dog is presented by a third party.

I am entirely at your disposal and thank you for your efficient collaboration and promotion of our actions.

Cordially,

Daniel Schwarz, Pres.

### **RING: RULES: AGREEMENTS (UNDERSTANDING)**

[Particularly applicable to Ring 3]

The decoy may use his arm to ward the dog off (push the dog with his arm) under the following conditions:

The ward off (or arm push) (without a gun or stick in your hand) is a lateral (sideways (across the body of the decoy)) movement not to be confused with a forearm blow or cuffing. Both are forbidden because they are brutal and dangerous. Chopping upwards or downwards is also forbidden.

The ward off must be made while resting the arm against the neck (collar) of the dog. In no case may the decoy touch the head of the dog intentionally. In keeping with this idea, the decoy must never use the arm to ward off (arm push) to prepare his escape (search, gun guard).

**FORMALLY FORBIDDEN:** Decoys may not push the dog with their legs or with the stick.

**AGREED:** Precision must be used regarding the execution of certain bite exercises and the use of the arm ward off (arm push).

**FACE ATTACK**

The ward off ( arm push) is allowed with the unarmed arm after evading the dog on the entry. The barrage with baton will be kept closed but in no case may the head of the dog be touched. In the same manner it is forbidden for the decoy to swat at the head of the dog during the entry of the attack.

The arm ward off/arm push (with the unarmed arm) will be by agreement, allowed at one second slow to bite and deducted from the time to bite and leading to a penalty of 2 points.( Or two points per second).

## DEFENSE OF HANDLER

The aggression of the decoy to the handler must be open and clear. It may be made with one hand (at least one) in the back of the handler. In all cases it must be made perfectly audible.

The decoy must never run away after the aggression (existing rule). An evasion or two steps backward are allowed after the aggression (hit) to put the decoy in a position to oppose the dog.

## OBJECT GUARD

The arm ward off (push) is authorized.

The basket must be stable and on flat ground.

Attempts to intimidate the dog are allowed within the 5 meter circle but without using any tricks/devices (Artificial devices?).

## GUN GUARD

The (arm push) arm ward off (no gun in the arm you use to ward off the dog) is allowed after evading the dog's entry on the attack. Remember the third shot of the gun is made when the dog bites. No arm ward off in order to escape.

## SEARCH

No arm ward off (arm push) to escape. Second escape from the blind is executed on the authorization of the judge. It is forbidden to step over the dog during the escort. In the case of a dog that escorts between the legs, the decoy may get away from the dog by stepping over it.

During the escort the decoy is forbidden to hit the dog with his knees.

## RUN AWAY (flee)

In a straight line, a slight curve allowed, without an esquivé, and not while trailing the stick behind. Accelerate just before the impact of the dog.

## RULES FOR ALL LEVELS

At all stops in the fight the arms of the decoy must not be in contact with the head of the dog.

Rules will be interpreted to favor the dog. In the case where a dog is placed in difficulty as a result of the action of the decoy not authorized by the rules, the judge must favor the dog and not subtract consecutive penalties after the action of the decoy. (? including general allure pts?)

Example: Dog misses his entry and 2 seconds slow to bite on face attack as a result of an illegal forearm blow. No penalty against allure generale. Don't forget to control (caution) the decoy.

## STANDARDS FOR STICK

Bamboo split in 4 or 6 along the diameter for 3/4 of its length.

Diameter 20-25 mm.

Length 65-80 cm

The end of the stick must spread more than 20 cm during the fan (when shaken).

The judge must verify the conformity of each stick with each suit before the start of the trial.

These agreements about the rules are effective 2/1/05 after approval of the CUN. They are subject to a probationary period of one year with the permission obtained according to the SCC. They were enacted understanding how close the 2005 selectifs would be to their enactment

NARA Board of Directors