



A.C.T. Canine Association Inc.

Dogs A.C.T. Regulations – Part 10 – Stewards – Shows and Trials.

Amended – 01 January 2010

Amended – 14 December 2022

Amended – 13 January 2024

Amended – October 2025

10.1	General.	
10.2	Courses.	
10.3	Steward Panels.	
10.4	Removal from a Steward Panel.	[Added January 2024]
10.5	Stewarding Appointments.	

10.1 General.

The Administrator of Dogs A.C.T. shall maintain a register of names, addresses and contact details of financial members approved to act as:

- a) Approved Show Stewards.
- b) Approved Tracking and Track and Search Trial Stewards.
- c) Approved Retrieving and Field trial Stewards.
- d) Approved Stewards for Obedience and Rally trials and other dog sport disciplines.

10.2 Courses.

- a) Dogs A.C.T. will advertise details of ring steward courses for the different disciplines and run those courses determined by the nomination of participants for those courses. Dogs A.C.T may allow Obedience, Gundog, Tracking and Dog Sports clubs to run relevant ring steward courses on behalf of Dogs A.C.T.
- b) The syllabus for the Training Scheme shall be determined from time to time by Dogs A.C.T. Council in consultation with the Convenor of the appropriate sub-committee and stewards' panel.
- c) Until otherwise determined, the syllabus for the training scheme shall encompass, interalia: duties of Show or Trial steward, show management, responsibilities of the Show or Trial representative, the application of these regulations and appropriate discipline trial rules.
- d) The successful participants of the courses will be posted in Dogs A.C.T. journal and on Dogs A.C.T. web site.
- e) A member previously appointed shall be deemed to have been approved under these regulations to act as ring steward.

10.3 Steward Panels.

- a) The official Conformation Ring Stewards Panel shall consist of those people, eighteen (18) years of age and over who have qualified at Dogs A.C.T. conducted Ring Stewards Courses, and are financial members of the canine control of the State or Territory in which they reside.
- b) The official Obedience and Rally Trials Stewards Panel shall consist of the Obedience and Rally Trials judges and persons, eighteen (18) years of age and over, who have so qualified at an official Dogs A.C.T. obedience and rally steward's course, and are financial members of the canine control of the State or Territory in which they reside.
- c) The Official Tracking Trials Stewards Panel shall consist of the tracking trial judges and persons, eighteen (18) years and over, who have so qualified at an official Dogs A.C.T. tracking steward's course. The tracking stewards' course should include theory and practical components.
- d) The Official Track and Search Trials Stewards Panel shall consist of the tracking trial judges and persons, eighteen (18) years and over, who have so qualified at an official Dogs A.C.T. tracking steward's course. The tracking stewards' course should include theory and practical components

- e) The official Gundog Trials Stewards Panels shall consist of the relevant judges and persons, eighteen (18) years of age and over, who have so qualified at an official Dogs A.C.T. Gundog steward's course for the relevant stewards' panel, and are financial members of the canine control of the State or Territory in which they reside.
- f) No persons shall be placed on any steward's panel prior to attaining the age of sixteen (16) years.
- g) Persons aged between sixteen (16) and seventeen (17) years shall be placed on a junior stewards panel when qualified. On attaining the age of eighteen (18) years they shall be eligible to be placed on the ring or obedience/rally steward's panel as appropriate. The minimum age for undertaking a steward's course shall be fifteen (15) years (except for gundog steward's panels where the requirements of the ACT Firearms laws prevail).
- h) Junior stewards shall perform marshalling duties and other assistance as required by the ring stewards.

10.4 Removal from a Steward Panel.

- a) Members on an approved Dogs A.C.T. steward panel may be removed from the panel if they become a non-financial member, for 12 months or more, of the canine control body of the State or Territory in which they reside; and/or their contact details are not kept up to date.

10.5 Stewarding Appointments.

- a) All appointments for Ring Stewards for any approved event shall be made by the affiliate conducting the event, the stewards from the official Dogs A.C.T. Ring Stewards Panel, unless otherwise approved by Council.
- b) A member who accepts any appointment as a Show Steward must:
 1. Undertake the appointment in accordance with its terms;
 2. Be punctual and remain at the event during all times at which they are expected to discharge their responsibilities;
 3. At all times, at the relevant event, conduct themselves in a considerate and courteous manner;
 4. Be dressed in neat, clean and presentable attire; and
 5. Not smoke whilst in the show or trial ring.
- c) No steward shall exhibit or act as a handler in the same ring at any event in the ACT in which the steward is officiating, nor must they act as a steward in a ring in which his spouse, members of his family or members of his spouse's family, or members who are members of his household, or in any case one or more of them, are exhibiting.
- d) No Steward shall personally handle an exhibit at any show or parade in the ACT under any judge for whom he or she has acted or will act as steward on that day.
- e) It shall be the duty of the steward to see that exhibitors entering a ring shall display only the correct exhibit number.
- f) Upon the judge making the awards in a class, the steward shall ensure that the exhibits are placed at the markers in the order of merit as decided by the judge.
- g) The ring steward may mark the awards and absentees in the judge's book with the approval of the Judge officiating on the day.
- h) There shall be a minimum ring steward's fee of for a complete group or a complete breed show.
- i) The stewards committee may from time to time recommend that an appointment as show steward be withdrawn.