



www.dogsqueensland.org.au

ph: 3252 2661

PO Box 1136, Mt Ommaney,
Queensland 4074

info@dogsqueensland.org.au



**HERDING TESTS
AND TRIALS**



WHAT IS HERDING?

Today there is an increased interest in herding from many breeders of pure bred dogs and from individuals. These people are not usually involved in the livestock industry, but are interested in working with dogs, either just to have fun and develop the relationship between owner and dog, or to help preserve the particular talent and ability of their chosen breed. Competitive herding trials have been increasing in number and variety. Stock used is normally sheep, but can also be ducks or cattle. The stock is ALWAYS 'dog broke', which means that sheep, ducks, or cattle are used to being worked by a variety of different breeds of dogs.

The ANKC herding program was developed to preserve the traditional style and herding instinct of the herding breeds. Working style differs from breed to breed and also within breeds. Different styles of work developed in response to local situations and needs. For instance many of the European breeds ie German Shepherds Dogs, work the furrow lines left by the plough to contain sheep within a graze area. This is very different to how the Kelpie or Border Collies work, but it is just as important to retain the original purpose for all breeds.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What Breeds Can Participate ?

All herding breeds can participate ie Australian Shepherds, Kelpies, German Shepherd Dogs, Corgis, Shetland Sheepdogs, Bouvier des Flandres, Briards, Belgian Shepherd Dogs, Puli, Pumi, Border Collies etc Some of the other breeds can also take part as they had a traditional role as a herding breed, such as Rottweiler, Samoyed, Kerrie Blue Terrier, Tibetan Terrier, Schnauzer, Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier.

Does My Dog Have to Have Pedigree papers?

No, there are allowances in the program for certain crossbreeds and pure breeds without Pedigree papers.

If you have a cross breed or a dog without papers, the dog can go on the Associate Register. For this register they must be desexed. If your dog is a mixture of Herding Breeds ie Border Collie / Cattle Dog it can go on the Associate Register Herding (ARH). You will need to include an assessment form signed by your Herding Instructor, and your dog will also need to be desexed. There is also a Sporting Register for dogs already registered with another Association such as the Working Kelpie Council.

Can My Desexed Pedigree Dog Compete?

Yes, it sure can.

How Old Does My Dog Have to Be?

For the Herding Instinct Test, the dog must be a minimum of 6 mths. For all other classes dogs must be 9 months old.

Does it Matter How Old My Dog is?

No, as long as your dog is fit and healthy he is able to compete.

Does My Dog Need to Be Obedient to Compete?

At the beginning, the judge will be looking for the dog to display interest in the stock. The dog should be responsive to the handler. Teamwork is the key!

How Much Will It Cost?

Entry fees vary between the type of stock and the level of competitive class, but range from \$10 to \$35.

Do I have to Join Dogs Qld?

Yes, to compete with your dog, all the registered owners must be members of their State controlling body ie in Queensland it is Dogs Queensland.