

# Canadian Cattle Dog Association

## Rules & Information

**CCDA Sanctioning:** The CCDA sanctions 6 classes: Open, Nursery, Intermediate, Novice, Junior and Horseback. The eligibility requirements for each class are described below. Results of all sanctioned trials will be shared on social media pages and available upon request.

**Sanctioning Fees:** The CCDA charges a sanctioning fee of \$4.00 for each dog run in a sanctioned class. (Note: Canadian Finals classes are not sanctioned classes.)

**CCDA Calendar Year:** The CCDA qualifying year is April 1st - March 31st.

**Maximum Number of CCDA Sanctioned Classes per Day:** The CCDA will sanction 2 Open, 2 Nursery, 2 Intermediate, 2 Novice, 2 Horseback and 2 Junior classes (runs/rounds) per day. Each will be considered a separate trial and be awarded points as per point calculation below.

**Number of Dogs per Handler in a Sanctioned Class:** A handler may enter as many dogs in an CCDA sanctioned class as is allowed by the local trial host. However, only the top four (4) placing dogs of an individual handler in the class will be listed in the CCDA posting of results and will count toward the number of CCDA points available in the class. (For example, if in a sanctioned class there are 14 dogs, 8 of which are being run by a single handler, the CCDA will consider the class to be a class of 10 and will omit the 4 lowest placing dogs run by that handler from the placings.)

**Qualifying Points:** CCDA members competing in sanctioned trials will be eligible to earn points for their dog(s) toward qualification for the CCDA National Cattle Dog Finals as well as Year End High Point Awards in each class. Members are eligible to earn points beginning on the first day of their membership.

**CCDA Finals:** The Finals will be held each year. Handlers who are CCDA members may earn points to qualify dogs for the Finals (with the exception of the Novice class, in which every member with points is eligible for finals.)

**Year End High Point Award:** The highest pointing dog in each of the 6 sanctioned classes will be awarded the High Point Award for each trial year. This will be the total of all points accumulated throughout the trial year plus the points accumulated in each round/run at the current year end Finals. If the Finals includes a short-go round no points from the short-go will be counted as short-go/finals are not considered a trial and therefore not eligible for points.

### **Points Calculation:**

- 60 points will be awarded for each dog entered in the class to equal a total point possibility of the class. This applies to all classes with the exception of the Junior Handler's class. Junior points will be calculated as outlined below in the Junior class description.
- Points will drop by 100 for each spot from first on down until all points are used up.
- Dogs that finish below the points awarded in each class will receive no points.
- The trial host does not need to calculate these points. CCDA qualifying points will be calculated by the CCDA Points Person when the trial results are received.
- Example - A class with 11 dogs. 660 total points. 1st place dog would receive 660 points, 2nd place 560 points, 3rd place 460 points, 4th place 360 points, 5th place 260 points, 6th place 160 points, 7th place 60 points. Dogs that finished from 8-11 place would receive no points.

**Retired Runs:** A handler at any point during their run may decide, in the best interest of their dog or the stock, to Retire from their run. **All points accumulated up until the decision to retire is made by the handler will be awarded and full time will be recorded.**

**Disqualified Runs:** If a handler is disqualified by the judge (from the judge's stand), at any time during the run, the handler will not retain any points and a handler will receive a DQ on the score sheet.

### **GENERAL RULES**

- The Canadian Cattle Dog Association Board has the right to move handlers up from the Intermediate or Novice classes at any time if it is deemed necessary to maintain the integrity of said class.
- A member may at any time submit a written request to the CCDA Board to move down one class level. This request must include an explanation/reason for the request and be submitted prior to that handler accumulating any points in their current class level in the current trial year. The Board will review every request on an individual basis and if permission is granted the handler's performance will be monitored closely by the Board in an effort to protect the status of the class. If at any time the Board feels the handler needs to move back up they will be asked and expected to do so.
- Video footage will not be accepted to influence or change trial judging or scoring that is received from a trial.

### **CCDA CLASS DESCRIPTIONS**

#### **Open:**

- Any dog of any age may compete in the Open class. Any handler may compete in the Open class.

- Eligibility for the Open class is determined by the ability of the handler not dog.
- A handler who has competed in an CCDA sanctioned Open class is no longer eligible to compete in the Intermediate or Novice class.
- A dog that has competed in the Open class may be handled by any Open handler. All points accumulated will be totalled and awarded to the dog. Example: If an Open dog is sold during the trial year the points accumulated will stay with the dog and keep accumulating under a new handler.

### **Nursery:**

- Eligibility for the Nursery class is determined by the age of the dog.
- Dogs eligible to compete in sanctioned Nursery trials must be born on or after October 1st of the qualifying year. Example: 2023/2024 Nursery dogs must be born on or after October 1st, 2020.
- Any level of handler can compete in the Nursery class without affecting the eligibility of other classes.
- A dog that has competed in the Nursery class may be handled by any handler. All points accumulated will be totalled and awarded to the dog. Example: If a Nursery dog is sold during the trial year the points accumulated will stay with the dog and keep accumulating under a new handler.

### **Intermediate:**

- The Intermediate class is limited to handlers who are not competing in the Open class.
- Eligibility for the Intermediate class is determined by the ability of the handler not dog.
- Unlike the Open and Nursery classes, where points are earned by the dog and may be transferred with the dog to a new owner or handler, the Intermediate class points are awarded to the handler/dog team.
- An Intermediate handler may acquire a dog of any level at any time during the qualifying year and make that dog part of his/her Intermediate team. However, once a dog is part of an Intermediate team, it must, during that qualifying year, be run only by that handler to maintain the Intermediate eligibility of that team. The team may compete in any class, except Open, for which the dog is eligible (Nursery/Horseback).
- Handlers may move up from Intermediate to Open at any time during the qualifying year but will forfeit all points earned in the Intermediate class.
- A handler's current level at the end of the qualifying year will determine their class eligibility for Canadian Finals.
- If a handler wins the high point award or finals in this class they will advance to the Open class the following trial year.

### **Novice:**

- The Novice class is limited to handlers who are not competing in the Open or Intermediate classes.
- Eligibility for the Novice class is determined by the ability of the handler not dog.
- Unlike the Open and Nursery classes, where points are earned by the dog and may be transferred with the dog to a new owner or handler, the Intermediate class points are awarded to the handler/dog team.

- A Novice handler may acquire a dog of any level at any time during the qualifying year and make that dog part of his/her Novice team. However, once a dog is part of a Novice team, it must, during that qualifying year, be run only by that handler to maintain the Novice eligibility of that team.
- The team may compete in any class, except Open, for which the dog is eligible (Nursery/ Horseback).
- Handlers cannot earn CCDA points in both Intermediate and Novice.
- If the CCDA office receives points for Intermediate and Novice classes for a handler that did not declare Novice status, points will be posted to the Intermediate class only. If that occurs, a handler may not move down from Intermediate to Novice.
- Handlers may move up from Novice to Intermediate at any time during the qualifying year but will forfeit all points earned in the Novice class.
- A handler's current level at the end of the qualifying year will determine their class eligibility for Canadian Finals.
- If a handler wins the high point award or finals in this class they will be advanced to the Intermediate class, or higher if the handler chooses, the following trial year.

#### **Horseback:**

- Any dog of any age may compete in the horseback class.
- Any handler may compete in the horseback class.
- A handler's eligibility in various foot classes will not be affected by competing in the horseback class.
- Points will be awarded to the dog/handler team.
- Dogs can not accumulate points with multiple handlers with the exemption of novice handlers under the age of 16. These handlers will be allowed to acquire points as a separate dog/handler team.

#### **Junior:**

- Any CCDA member who is 14 and under as of April 1st of a given trial year, and who is not an Intermediate or Open handler, is eligible to compete in the Junior class for that trial year.
- A junior handler is allowed to compete with any dog and by doing such does not impact that dog's team/point status in other classes.
- There is no class size requirements for the Junior Handler Class
- Handlers can be accompanied by an adult if they so choose for safety when competing.
- All handlers that compete will receive points based on their placing towards the year end finals.
- Regardless of Junior class size at a given year's finals, the payout for a the champion Junior handler will be no less than \$250 (to be funded by the CCDA treasury).
- Points are awarded to the junior handler competing and points will decrease in increments of 60 as opposed to 100 so all competitors will receive points.

## **SANCTIONING A TRIAL**

- All trial hosts wishing to sanction a trial must fill out a sanctioning form (Sanctioning Form is available on website or one can be requested) and submit to trial director at least 14 days prior to your trial date. The Trial Director must have your sanctioning form 14 days before the trial for it to be eligible to be sanctioned. Discretion on this will be up to board (date changes and late forms).
- No points will be awarded until the sanctioning fees are received. At a trial, each round/run is considered a trial and, as such, sanctioning fees are required. A finals does not qualify to be sanctioned.
- CCDA will sanction Open, Intermediate, Novice, Horseback, Junior and Nursery (See Nursery Class description below). It is not necessary for all CCDA sanctioned classes to be offered in order to have a trial qualify for sanctioning. Trials may also include additional non-sanctioned classes. The qualifications for non-sanctioned classes are left up to the trial host.
- Open, Nursery and Horseback classes must have 2 different handlers and a minimum of 4 dogs to constitute a class.
- Novice and Intermediate classes must have two separate dog/handler teams to constitute a class.
- Junior may have any number of handlers to constitute a class.

## **What To Do After Your Trial**

- Send the CCDA Trial Director, via mail or email, the placings for each sanctioned class. All that is necessary is that we have the handlers first & last name, the name of the dog that was run, the class and where they placed in the class. We need this information for all handlers/ dogs that run in a class, not just the handlers/dogs that placed (please include Retired runs and Disqualifications).
- Mail or E-transfer your sanctioning fees to the Treasurer: Sanctioning fees are \$4.00 for each dog run (members and non-members) in a sanctioned class. **Results and Sanctioning Fees must be sent in no later than 30 days after trial date.**
- If the CCDA Trial Director or Treasurer does not have sanctioning fees or results within 30 days of the sanctioned trial, there will be no points awarded to that trial. It will be the responsibility of trial host to deal with handlers on why no points were awarded and reimburse the sanctioning fees.
- When sanctioning your trial each round/run of each class is considered a trial. Fees must be paid on every dog competing in each round (CCDA Members and Non-Members). For trials that include a short-go or finals, the short-go or finals are not eligible to be sanctioned therefore no fees need to be submitted on those runs.
- Mail in any new CCDA memberships that were received during your trial to the Treasurer.