

HERDING COMPETITION REGULATIONS

All dogs older than 6 months and, if possible, registered in the Croatian Kennel Club Pedigree Book, or in any other FCI recognized organization, are eligible to compete.

Handler's task is to drive the flock from beginning to the end of a course, with dog's help, within the given time-frame and using shortest possible route, driving the whole flock through the positioned gates while doing so. The handler can be placed in front and/or behind of the flock, but is not allowed to drive the flock by himself. Also, the handler may use any number of commands, but it is more desirable the less he commands the dog.

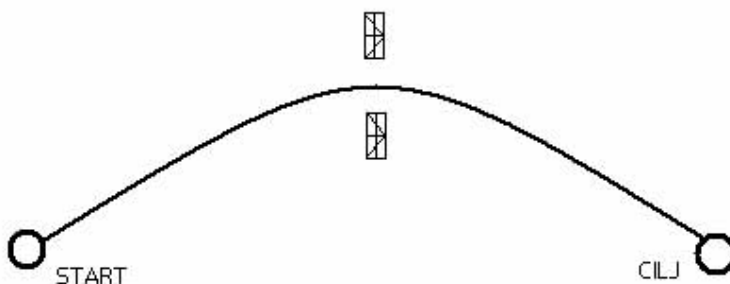
A flock, i.e. a group of sheep used for testing, should contain the same number of sheep for each dog, with a minimum of 5 sheep in a group. If possible, each dog should work with a new group of sheep.

Maximum time allowed to complete a task is 10 minutes.

The course must contain:

- a sign marking the beginning of the course
- a sign marking the end of the course
- one gate 6 metres wide

Length of the course must be a minimum of 50 m.



It is also desirable that near the herding instinct test area, there are set-out pen and exhaust pen.

In the work of the dog, the following qualities are rewarded:

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|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| • herding aptitude | 20 points |
| • dog's obedience | 10 points |
| • dog's persistence | 10 points |
| • driving and manoeuvring the flock | 20 points |
| • accomplishing the task | 30 points |
| • time needed to complete a task | 10 points |

In order to receive a qualifying score, handler and his dog must have a total of at least 60%.

The judge has the right to disqualify a dog if he establishes that the dog is not being under the control of his handler, as well if he is frequently biting and harassing the sheeps.

Following grades can be given to the handler and his dog:

- 0-59 insufficient,
- 60-69 satisfactory,
- 70-79 good,
- 80-89 very good,
- 90-100 excellent.

Note: During testing dogs must be placed in a remote area, so as not to interfere with the currently tested dog's working area. It is the organizer's duty to ensure this area.