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**The International
Sheep Dog Society**

***Rules for
Trials***

(Revised February, 1962)

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1.—NATIONAL TRIALS

DEFINITIONS

In these Rules the following terms shall have the meanings set out below:—

“Trials Committee of the Society” shall comprise the Chairman of the Society and the three National Presidents for England, Scotland and Wales.

“Trials Committee” for National Trials shall comprise the Chairman of the Society (Ex-officio), National President and the two National Vice-Presidents. If either or both of the latter are competing or officiating at a National Trial in any other capacity he or they will be replaced on the Trials Committee by persons nominated each year by the Council at the meeting held in February.

“Course Director” shall be a person selected by the Council at each Annual Meeting held in Carlisle to represent his country for the following year. The Course Director for the “International” Trial shall be the National Course Director for the country in which the “International” is being held and he will be assisted by the other two National Course Directors. Assistant Course Directors for National Trials will be appointed by the appropriate National Trials Committee.

“Timekeepers” will be appointed by the appropriate National Trials Committee and will be responsible to the Course Director for all decisions regarding Time Limits.

COMPETITORS

1. No person can compete in the Society's Trials who is not a member of the Society for the current year. The membership fee is £1 for Annual Members and £8 8s. 0d. for Life Membership. An entrance fee of £1 is payable on joining the Society.

2. Dogs eligible to compete are:—

(1) Dogs which have qualified as members of a National team at previous International Trials.

(2) Dogs which have won one first prize at an approved Open Trial, i.e. (Trials open to all comers) run under the Rules of the Society's National Trials as regards Course, Scale of Points and Time Limit—a certificate from the Secretary of the local trial MUST accompany the Entry Form.

(3) Dogs which have neither of these qualifications provided additional entry money is paid as provided in Rule 6.

All dogs entered must be registered in the Society's Stud Book in terms of the Rules thereof before the 1st June in the year of the Trial.

A dog must be registered in the name of the owner not later than 1st June preceding the Trials.

ENTRIES

3. Owners may enter any number of dogs, but no handler may run more than two. A competitor making more than two entries may select the two he desires to run from those entered on the day of the trials.
4. Entries must be made in names of OWNERS, but a dog may be RUN either by its owner or by a substitute, who shall be held as competing in the owner's class. An owner entering two dogs may nominate one substitute to run them both, or he may nominate two substitutes to run them separately, but no substitute so nominated who has entered two dogs of his own can run any dog as a substitute for another owner, but if he has entered only one dog as his own he may run one dog as a substitute for another owner. A substitute may run one dog for each of two owners provided that he runs no dog of his own. In all cases where substitutes are nominated, owners shall on entering, state on the entry form the name and address of the substitute. A substitute must reside in the country in which the owner resides. A husband as his wife's substitute is prohibited from running a dog registered and entered for the National Trial as owned by her if he himself has two or more dogs entered for the Trials. If, however, the husband elects to run only one of his own dogs, he may, as his wife's substitute, run the dog registered and entered as belonging to her. A Shepherd cannot name a Farmer as his substitute.
5. Any question arising as to the ownership of any dog shall be decided by the Society's Stud Book records at the 1st June, as certified by the Secretary.
6. Entry forms must be duly completed and lodged at the Secretary's office at least four weeks before the trials and all fees paid on entry. The entry fee for dogs which are qualified in terms Rule 2 (1) and (2) is £1 for Hired Shepherds and £2 for persons other than Hired Shepherds. For dogs which are not so qualified and entered under Rule 2 (3), the fee is £5 for persons other than Hired Shepherds and £2 for Hired Shepherds. The qualification must be obtained prior to the closing date for entries.
7. The right is reserved to the Trials Committee to refuse any entry in their sole discretion.

CLASSES AND PRIZES

8. There shall be two classes:—(1) Hired Shepherds and (2) Farmers and Others. The expression "Hired Shepherd" means a person who is employed primarily as a shepherd for wages by an employer other than his parents. All entries in the Hired Shepherds' Class shall be accompanied by a certificate from the shepherd's employer. This certificate shall be in the form required by the Trials Committee of the Society and shall incorporate a statement that he is engaged primarily as a shepherd along with other normal subsidiary duties.
9. A competitor who is subsequently disqualified from competing in the class for which he is entered shall be held as entered for the other class, subject to payment of the additional entry fee.

10. No competitor shall be allowed to run on a day other than the day for his class and in the order printed in the programme unless the Trials Committee allow him to do so, in which case the competitor must run when ordered to do so.

11. The running will commence at such time as the Trials Committee shall decide.

12. A National President shall not compete or officiate at any of the Society's Trials except as National President and as a Member of the Trials Committee.

13. The order of running shall be decided by ballot, and intimation of the order shall be given by the Secretary to competitors as soon as possible after the closing date for entries. Right to run competitors other than in the order of the ballot is reserved.

FARMERS' CLASS AND SHEPHERDS' CLASS

14. If less than seven entries are received or catalogued in either class the Trials Committee may cancel the class or run it and reduce the prize or grant money in their discretion. They may also reduce the prize or grant money if, though seven or more are entered or catalogued, less than seven dogs run.

15. The running shall be on five sheep so selected that each competitor shall receive the same class of sheep if possible.

16. The Course, Scale of Points and Time Limit now fixed by the Directors are set out below and the responsibility for laying out the Course in accordance with the Rules rests with the Trials Committee and the Course Director. In the event of an equality in voting the Chairman or National President shall give a decision on any point relating to the setting out of the Course.

COURSE

(1) GATHERING—400 yards. In the outrun the dog may be directed on either side. A straight fetch from the lift to the handler, through a centre gate (seven yards wide) 150 yards from the handler. No re-try at the gate is allowed. Failure to negotiate the gate will involve a loss of points in the Judges' discretion, having regard to the circumstances of the failure. There will be two posts seven yards apart and the handler will remain at the rear post from the commencement of the outrun. At the end of the fetch he will pass the sheep between himself and the front post.

(2) DRIVING—The handler stands at the post and directs his dog to drive the sheep 450 yards round a triangular course through two sets of gates seven yards wide. Failure to negotiate the gates will involve a loss of points in the Judges' discretion, according to circumstances, and a second attempt at either gate will NOT be allowed. The drive may be right or left as directed, and ends when the sheep enter the shedding ring. All driving must be in straight lines. The handler will remain at the post until the sheep are in the shedding ring. Each failure must be decided on its own merits and the Judges shall not assign any fixed number of points to failure at either gate without having regard to the nature

of the failure. On the other hand, the negotiation of the gates shall not necessarily entitle the handler to full points; the primary consideration being the drive as such and as a whole.

In the case of a short course, when the fetch is less than 400 yards, the drive will be lengthened when possible so that the total length of the fetch and drive is 850 yards, or as near to this length as is reasonably practicable.

(3) **SHEDDING**—Two unmarked sheep within a ring 25 yards in diameter. Failure to shed within the ring shall be penalized by the loss of points in the Judges' discretion and the handler must re-shed within the ring. The dog must be in full control of the two sheep shed, otherwise the shed will not be deemed satisfactory. On completion of the shed the handler shall put his sheep together in a practical and workmanlike manner.

(4) **PENNING**—The pen will be 6 feet by 9 feet with a gate to which is secured a rope 6 feet long. On completion of shedding, the handler must proceed to the pen, leaving his dog to bring the sheep to the pen. The handler is forbidden to assist the dog to drive the sheep to the pen. The handler will stand at the gate holding the rope and must not let go of the rope while the dog works the sheep into the pen. The handler will close the gate. After releasing the sheep, the handler will close and fasten the gate.

(5) **SINGLE SHEEP**—The handler will proceed to the shedding ring leaving the dog to bring the lot from the pen to the ring. One of two marked sheep will be shed off within the ring and thereafter worn (in or outside the ring) to the Judges' satisfaction. Handlers are forbidden to assist the dog in driving off, or attempting to drive off the single any distance or by forcing it on the dog. If the Judges are agreed that a dog has not been fairly tested owing to the disposition and action of the sheep they may order the handler to collect the lot and shed off and wear any other sheep.

SCALE OF POINTS—Gathering 25 (Outrun 10, Lifting 5, Fetching 10); Driving 10; Shedding 5; Penning 5; Single 5; TOTAL 50.

TIME LIMIT—15 minutes. No extension.

NATIONAL TEAMS FOR "INTERNATIONAL"

17. Subject to any re-runs granted by the Judges, at each of the National Trials the first three dogs in the Hired Shepherds' Class and the first twelve dogs in order of merit (irrespective of class) shall be selected to represent England, Scotland and Wales respectively in the "Special Hired Shepherds' Class" and the "Qualifying Trials for the Championship" respectively at the "International". Separate Rules shall apply to Northern Ireland so far as numbers are concerned.

If, for any reason a dog selected as above cannot run at the "International" the Secretary must be notified as soon as possible together with supporting evidence (e.g. a Veterinary Surgeon's

certificate). If satisfied that a dog cannot run the Secretary shall thereupon notify the next competitor in order of merit that he is included in the National team.

"DRIVING" CHAMPIONSHIP

18. At each National Championship (except Northern Ireland) the Judges shall select one dog, which, in their opinion, has completed the best "drive" during the Trials (irrespective of class), or they may order two or more competitors to run a Course of 400 yards in a straight line if they so desire. The number of sheep shall be twenty. A reserve shall also be selected by the Judges. The winner at each National Trial shall represent England, Scotland and Wales respectively in the "Driving" Championship at the "International". If for any reason the winner cannot attend the "International" the Reserve will be notified and he will represent his country.

"BRACE" CHAMPIONSHIP

19. Any pair of dogs duly registered in the Society's Stud Book and otherwise qualified is eligible to compete. No owner may enter more than one pair of dogs.

20. Both dogs comprising a pair must be registered in the name of the owner not later than 1st June, but the dogs may be run either by the owner or by a substitute who must be named on the entry form and must not be otherwise competing in this class.

21. Entry forms must be duly completed and lodged at the Secretary's office at least four weeks before the date of the Trials. The entry fee is £1 per competitor and must accompany the entry form.

22. If less than five entries are received or catalogued, the Trials Committee may cancel the class or run it and reduce the prize or grant money if, though five pairs or more are entered or catalogued, less than five pairs run.

RUNNING

23. The order of running shall be fixed by ballot and intimation of the order shall be given by the Secretary to competitors as soon as possible after the closing date for entries. Right to run competitors other than in the order of the ballot is reserved. So far as possible entries will be divided into two parts and one half will be run at the end of the first day's running, and the second half at the end of the second day's running. This arrangement may be altered by the Trials Committee.

24. Subject to the reservation that the Course may be altered, if, owing to the number of entries or otherwise, the Trials Committee find this necessary, the Trials shall be decided on the following Course, Scale of Points and Time Limit, viz.:

COURSE

(1) **GATHERING**—6 sheep will be placed approximately 400 yards from the handler. Both dogs are to start at the same time, one going on the left-hand and one on the right-hand; crossing at the completion of the outrun is permissible. The dogs will bring the sheep in a straight line through the centre gate (seven yards wide) 150 yards from the handler. Failure to negotiate the gate is to be penalised by loss of points in the Judges' discretion. No re-try at the gate is allowed. Each dog will keep to its own side until the fetch is finished. Crossing will be penalised in the Judges' discretion.

(2) **DRIVING**—The handler stands at the post and directs his two dogs to drive the sheep 450 yards round a triangular course through two sets of gates (seven yards wide), back to the handler. Failure to negotiate the gates will be penalised by a loss of points in the Judges' discretion. No re-try is allowed at either gate. Each dog is to keep to its own side and the handler must remain at the post until the end of the drive. The drive is finished when the sheep enter the shedding ring. Crossing will be penalised in the Judges' discretion.

In the case of a short course when the fetch is less than 400 yards, the drive will be lengthened when possible so that the total length of the fetch and drive is 850 yards or as near to this length as is reasonably practicable.

(3) **SHEDDING**—The lot of 6 will be divided into two equal lots inside or outside the ring.

(4) **PENNING**—One lot will be penned by one dog in a diamond shaped pen with an entrance of five feet without a gate. This dog will be left in charge while the other lot are penned by the other dog in a similar pen 50 yards away.

SCALE OF POINTS—Gathering 30 (Outrun 10, Lifting 10, Fetching 10); Driving 10; Shedding 5; Penning (2 lots) 10; TOTAL 55.

TIME LIMIT—20 minutes. No extension.

NATIONAL TEAMS FOR "INTERNATIONAL"

25. Subject to any re-runs granted by the Judges, the first two or such other number of prize-winners as the Council shall decide at each National Trial shall be selected to represent England, Scotland and Wales respectively at the "International". The dogs running at the "International" must be the same dogs as those winning at the National. Reserves will be permitted as for the Singles (see Rule 17).

2.—"INTERNATIONAL" TRIALS HIRED SHEPHERDS' CHAMPIONSHIP

26. Competitors will be the three highest pointed dogs in the Hired Shepherds' Class at each National whether such dogs are in a National team or not. Reserves will be permitted as for the Singles (Rule 17).

27. Tests will be over the same Course as the Supreme Championship except that the dog must be directed in Outrun on the opposite side to that selected by the Trials Committee for the Supreme Championship, and where possible the sheep should be let out at a different place. In other respects the Course may be altered as the Trials Committee shall decide.

QUALIFYING TRIALS FOR SUPREME CHAMPIONSHIP (SINGLES)

(including Farmers' Championship and Team Championship)

28. This Trial consists of twelve dogs each from England, Scotland and Wales, and three from Northern Ireland, or such other numbers as the Council shall decide.

29. Subject to the reservation that the Course may be altered by the Trials Committee, the Trials shall be decided on the Course, Scale of Points and Time Limit as the National Trials (Rule 16). This Trial is primarily to select the twelve highest pointed dogs to enter the Supreme Championship, but in addition, the top dog owned by a Farmer in these Trials will be entitled to the Farmers' Championship. In the event of a shepherd winning a place in the Qualifying Trials he shall be awarded the cash prize to which he is entitled by virtue of his position in the list, but only a farmer shall be entitled to the award of the Cup.

SUPREME CHAMPIONSHIP (SINGLES)

30. The Championship is restricted to the 12 highest pointed dogs in the Qualifying Trials. Any competitor who is selected by the Judges to compete in the Championship but fails to do so when called upon shall be liable to the penalties hereinafter imposed (Rule 52).

31. The running will commence at 10.0 a.m.

32. The Trials shall be on 20 sheep so selected that each competitor shall receive the same class of sheep.

33. Subject to the reservation that the Course may be altered by the Trials Committee, the Championship shall be decided on the following Course, Scale of Points and Time Limit, viz.:

COURSE

(1) **GATHERING**—Distance about 800 yards for one lot of 10 sheep (unseen by the dog) which must be brought through the gate (nine yards wide) in the centre of the field to a post fixed twenty yards through the gate; the dog will then be re-directed for another lot of 10 sheep (unseen by the dog) which will also be brought through the gate and united with the first lot. The first run to be right or left as decided by the Trials Committee before the Trial and all competitors will run on that side, the second run to be on the other side. Failure to negotiate the gate will involve loss of points in the Judges' discretion, according to circumstances, and no re-try is permitted. Each failure must be decided on its

own merits, and the Judges shall not assign any fixed number of points to failure at the gate without having regard to the nature of the failure. On the other hand the negotiation of the gate shall not necessarily entitle the competitor to full points. The primary consideration being each "fetch" as such and as a whole. Both the dog and the first lot of sheep must be past the gate before the dog is re-directed for the second lot.

(2) **DRIVING**—The drive shall be for 600 yards from where the handler stands in a triangular course through two gate obstacles (nine yards wide), back to the handler. The drive may be right or left as directed. Failure to negotiate the gates will involve a loss of points in the Judges' discretion, according to circumstances, and no re-try is permitted at either gate. Each failure must be decided on its own merits and the Judges shall not assign any fixed number of points to failure at either gate without having regard to the nature of the failure. On the other hand, the negotiation of the gates will not necessarily entitle the competitor to full points; the primary consideration being the "Drive" as such and as a whole. The drive must be in straight lines and ends when the sheep enter the shedding ring. The handler will remain at the post until the drive is finished.

(3) **SHEDDING**—20 sheep will be run off between the handler and his dog, within a ring 40 yards in diameter and the dog will be brought in to stop and turn back five marked sheep. Manoeuvring for "cuts" is forbidden. Until the five marked sheep are shed off, penning will not be permitted. If the marked sheep breaks away from the shedding ring and joins any unmarked sheep, all unmarked sheep already away must be brought back and shedding re-started.

(4) **PENNING**—The five marked sheep shed off must be penned and the gate shut. The pen will be 6 feet by 9 feet with a gate to which is secured a rope 6 feet long. On completion of shedding, the handler must proceed to the pen, leaving the dog to bring the sheep to the pen. The handler is forbidden to assist his dog in driving the sheep to the pen. The handler will stand at the gate holding the rope and must not let go of the rope, while the dog works the sheep into the pen. The handler must close the gate. After releasing the sheep, the handler will close and fasten the gate.

SCALE OF POINTS—Gathering 50 (each outrun 10, each lift 5, each fetch 10); Driving 10; Shedding 10; Penning 5; **TOTAL 75.**

TIME LIMIT—30 minutes. No extension.

DRIVING CHAMPIONSHIP

34. This Championship is restricted to the driving dog selected at each National Trial (Rule 18).

35. The number of sheep shall be 50.

36. Subject to the reservation that the Course may be altered if the Trials Committee find this necessary, the Trials shall be decided

on the following Course, Scale of Points and Time Limit, viz.:

(1) **DISTANCE**—A triangular course of 800 yards.

(2) **POINTS**—5.

TIME LIMIT—10 minutes. No extension.

"BRACE" CHAMPIONSHIP

37. Competitors in this Championship shall be selected in accordance with Rule 25.

38. Subject to the reservation that the Course may be altered if the Trials Committee find this necessary, the Trials shall be decided on the following Course, Scale of Points and Time Limit, viz.:

COURSE

(1) **GATHERING**—There will be 10 or such number of sheep as the Committee decide upon, in two equal lots. Distance 500 yards. Both dogs will start at the same time. Each dog will lift its own lot of sheep and the lots will be united at a post 20 yards beyond the "fetch" gates (seven yards wide), followed by a straight fetch through a gate 200 yards from the handler. Failure to negotiate the gate will be penalised by a loss of points in the Judges' discretion. No re-try at the gate is allowed. Crossing in the fetch will be penalised in the Judges' discretion.

(2) **DRIVING**—The two dogs will drive the sheep round a triangular course, 600 yards long through two sets of gates (seven yards wide), and back to the handler. Failure to negotiate the gates will be penalised by a loss of points in the Judges' discretion. No re-try at either gate is allowed. Each dog will keep its own side and the handler will remain at the post until the drive finishes at the shedding ring. Crossing will be penalised in the Judges' discretion.

(3) **SHEDDING**—The sheep will be divided into two equal lots by either dog inside or outside the shedding ring; one lot will be driven off and left in charge of one dog—the other lot will be penned in a diamond shaped pen with an entrance of five feet and no gate. This dog will be left in charge while the other lot are penned by the other dog in a similar pen 50 yards away.

SCALE OF POINTS—Gathering (outrun 10, lifting 10 and fetching 10) 30; Driving 10; Shedding 5; Penning (2 lots) 10; **TOTAL 55.**

TIME LIMIT—25 minutes. No extension.

GENERAL

39. In all classes at the International all dogs must be run by the handlers running them at the National Trials.

40. All classes shall be judged by the Judges elected by the Directors.

3.—GENERAL RULES

(Applicable to National and International Trials)

STYLE

41. "Style" is included in the points for each phase of the work.

TOUCHING SHEEP

42. A handler who touches the sheep shall be penalised by a loss of points as each Judge in his discretion thinks fit.

COMMAND

43. In considering "Command" the handler who gives fewest commands and who works his dog quietly shall be preferred to the handler who over-commands and works his dog noisily, **regard being had to the circumstances**. In the case of a dog, its obedience to commands given shall be the sole consideration. The points for "Command" are included in the points awarded for each phase of work.

GRIPPING OR BITING

44. A dog which grips or bites shall be disqualified if the gripping or biting is of such character and the circumstances are such as to justify disqualification. When gripping or biting occurs the Judges shall at once consult together and decide whether to disqualify the competitor. If the Judges are unanimous for disqualification they shall instruct the Course Director to stop the competitor. A competitor so disqualified shall not be entitled to a prize of any kind notwithstanding that, before the disqualification, he has earned points entitling him to a prize. If the Judges are not unanimous, the competitor shall not be disqualified but shall be penalised by the loss of points as each Judge in his discretion thinks fit, but not exceeding the number of points allowed for the phase of work in which the gripping or biting occurs. A competitor whose dog damages the sheep shall be liable to pay the damage to the Society.

CASES OF EQUALITY

45. If two or more competitors stand equal on total points, the Judges may settle their priority either (1) by their points for the outrun, lift and fetch, or (2) ordering re-trials of any kind, or (3) dividing the prize money involved. In cases of equality where a trophy is at stake and the Judges order re-runs, the re-runs will decide not only the trophy but also all cash prizes involved.

RE-RUNS

46. The Judges, if agreed, may stop a competitor at any point of the trial or withhold any prizes on the ground of insufficient merit; and they may grant re-runs to any competitor in any circumstances they think fit. The re-run will commence where the original run was stopped.

JUDGES' BOOKS

47. The Judges shall act independently but may confer as they think fit. Each Judge's points for each competitor shall be recorded on score books supplied to them, which shall be handed to and aggregated by the Secretary for publication. Judges shall not use any books or papers other than the official Judging Books.

PLACING OF SHEEP

48. It shall be the duty of the Course Director to see that each lot of sheep when let out is so placed as to give each competitor a fair and equal chance.

UNSOUND SHEEP

49. If, after a dog begins to run, it is discovered that all or some of the sheep are not reasonably sound for working purposes, or that a wrong number or wrongly marked sheep have been liberated, the Judges may stop the trial and give the competitor fresh sheep. Until stopped the competitor must proceed with his Trial. If stopped he must re-run when ordered to do so.

GENERAL

50. No dog which is unfit, blind, lame or is suffering from an infectious disease shall be brought on the ground. Colouring or dyeing of a dog is prohibited. A competitor infringing this rule shall be dealt with by the Trials Committee as they think fit and such competitors shall obey all orders issued by the Committee.

Bitches in season are permitted to run but the Trials Committee may make such restrictions as they think fit or alter the order of running so that the other competitors are not adversely affected. Any competitor whose bitch is in season must notify the Secretary before 9 a.m. on the day the bitch is to run, and must NOT bring her on to the Trial ground on any day prior to the day on which she is running, or on the Trial day before receiving the Trials Committee's permission to do so.

51. All dogs shall be controlled while not competing under pain of disqualification. Any dog or competitor interfering in any way with another dog while working shall be disqualified. Competitors and others are forbidden to take their dogs on to the Trials Course before the Trials or to run their dogs on the Trials sheep before or after the Trials. (Handlers (without dog) are permitted to walk over the Course before the Trial is timed to commence).

52. Competitors must be ready when called by the Course Directors under pain of disqualification. Part of the ground will be reserved for competitors, and no search for any competitor will be made at any other place. Competitors may be ordered to keep their dogs in that part of the ground until called upon to run.

53. No person shall be allowed with a dog while working except its handler, and outside assistance in any form is forbidden.

54. The Course will be explained by the Course Director to any competitor who requests information before, but not after, he begins to run. By commencing his trial every competitor shall be presumed to know the Course and follow it in all its details. Any competitor deviating from the Course in any respect may be called off or otherwise penalised as the Judges think fit. The Judges or Course Director shall not instruct competitors while running and the Course Director shall do so only on the instructions of the Judges. The Judges shall not interfere directly with a competitor while working.

55. If not previously stopped on the instructions of the Judges, a handler will be called off on the expiry of the time limit, but his points to the stage at which he is called off will count. On the whistle sounding a handler shall cease working his dog in his Trial and shall collect his sheep and remove them from the Course immediately.

56. Each competitor at a National Trial shall be entitled to receive from the Secretary a full statement of the points awarded to him on application within one month of the trial.

57. All awards announced at any of the Society's Trials are subject to the correction of any error discovered within one week after the Trials. Any error that may be discovered will be corrected and the awards as announced re-adjusted accordingly. All trophies and prize tickets given out at the Trials are given out subject to this Rule and may be recalled. If recalled the holders will return them to the Secretary at once.

58. If a competitor is disqualified or leaves the field without the permission of the Judges, all points for team prizes will be forfeited.

59. Any competitor may lodge a protest, signed by him, against any contravention of any Rule for the Trials or against any prize being awarded, delivered or paid. Protests must be lodged, in writing, with the Secretary before or at the close of the Trials, and shall be accompanied by a deposit of £1 0s 0d. as evidence of good faith. Protests shall be settled by the Trials Committee.

Any protest, complaint or request by a competitor must be made in the first instance to the Secretary or Assistant Secretary of the Society who will then be responsible for calling together a meeting of the Trials Committee as soon as conveniently may be. The Secretary will attend such a meeting for the purpose only of taking a Minute and advising the Committee on a proper interpretation of the Rules and will be responsible for communicating the decision of the Committee to the competitor. A majority decision of the Committee will be binding, but the Secretary shall not be obliged to tell the competitor whether the Committee was unanimous or not.

If the protest is refused, the Judges' awards shall stand and the deposit may or may not be refunded in the Committee's option. If the protest is sustained the prizes involved shall be awarded as the Committee may decide and the deposit refunded. In deciding

protests, the Committee may order any competitor to whom a prize has been paid or delivered to return the same, which the competitor shall be bound to do within the time fixed by the Committee. Details of all protests under this Rule and the decisions reached are to be submitted by the Secretary to the next Meeting of the Council for any further action deemed necessary by them.

A meeting of the Trials Committee will take place 15 minutes before the appointed time of starting on each day of the Society's Trials.

60. All prize or grant money won at any of the Society's Trials shall be paid within one month after the "International", subject to any modification of the amount that may be made under these Rules.

61. Any trophies won at the Society's Trials (unless won outright) shall remain the property of the Society and shall be returnable by the winners to the Secretary of the Society when required to do so by him.

62. Any competitor selected at any National Trial to run at the "International" who, without reasonable excuse, fails to do so, shall be liable to the penalties hereinafter imposed (Rule 63).

63. Any competitor, official or member who contravenes any of the Rules for the Society's Trials, or who is guilty of conduct which, in the opinion of the Trials Committee, is prejudicial to the best interests of the Society shall, in addition to any penalty which may be imposed by the Judges, be reported by the Trials Committee to the Council for disciplinary action, and in particular may:—

- (a) be suspended or expelled from the Society.
- (b) forfeit any prizes won by him at any of the Society's Trials for the current year.
- (c) be disqualified from competing or officiating at any of the Society's Trials for such period as the Council may decide.
- (d) have the registration of any dog or dogs owned by him deleted from the Society's Stud Book.

The Trials Committee may authorise the Secretary to withhold any prize money due under (b) above or postpone registrations of any dogs owned by anyone reported to the Council until a decision has been reached by the Council.

The person against whom a complaint has been made shall be entitled to appear before the Council in person.

64. Subject to the foregoing Rules all questions and disputes in connection with any of the Trials not already settled by the Judges or Trials Committee shall be decided by the Council whose decision shall be final and binding and not subject to a Court of Law.

65. The foregoing Rules only apply to the Society's Trials if held. Power is reserved however, to the Council of the Society to cancel any of the Trials at any time, in their discretion.