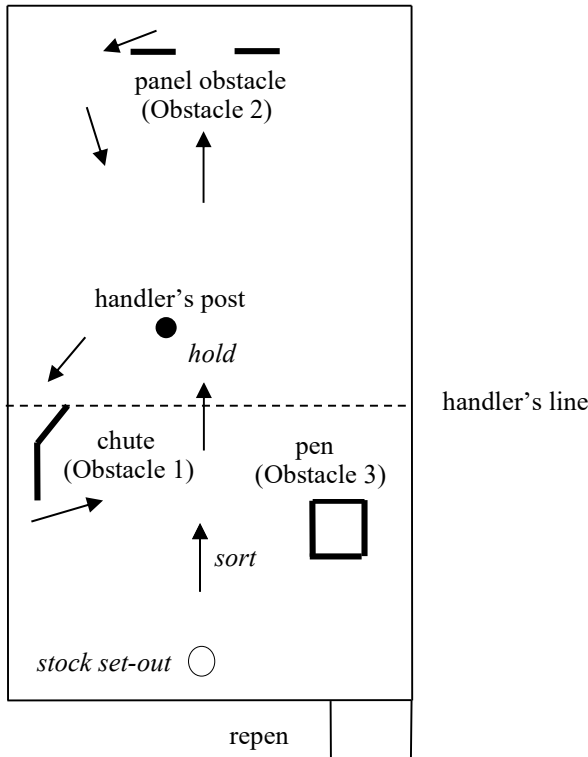


HTAD COURSE #3



- N
- W + E The designations North, East, etc. are for purposes of description only.
- S The course may be mirrored.

The stock set-out indicated on the diagram relates to courses that begin with a gather. The location of the take pen and/or repen may vary from the location for the repen shown on the diagram, so long as it is at the same end of the arena as shown. The handler's post is located a minimum of 100 ft. from the set-out and 6 ft. to the West of the North/South centerline of the arena. The chute is located on the West fence, with the entrance approximately 20 ft. South of the mid-point between the North and South ends of the arena, the entrance on the North and the exit on the South end. The chute should be no less than 12 feet long and no more than 4 feet wide with an opening of 8 ft. (A bridge may be substituted for the chute.) A handler's line extends across the arena from West to East even with the North end of the chute. The panel obstacle has a 12 ft. opening and is located 20 ft. off of the North fence, parallel to the North fence and an equal distance from the East and West fences. The freestanding pen is located 30 ft. from the East fence and 30 ft. from the South fence, and should be 8-10 ft. on each side for sheep, 10-16 ft. on each side for cattle. (A trailer or a free-standing chute may be substituted for the pen.) The hold area is located approximately in the center of the arena. The area for sorts other than a gate sort is located approximately halfway between the hold area and the repen gate. For poultry, all dimensions are ½ that for hooved stock.

1. Gather or Take pen

Gather: The stock are let out into the arena and allowed to settle, or may be set out in a specific location; the method used is to be consistent for all runs. In HTAD II, the handler may leave the dog at the handler's post and move to a point approximately halfway between the post and the stock, then send the dog to gather the stock. In HTAD I, the handler may leave the dog at a point approximately halfway between the post and the stock and move to approximately 15 ft. from the stock, then send the dog to gather the stock. At all three levels the stock are brought to and around the handler's post, passing just to the East of the handler's post and then turning toward Obstacle 1. The gather ends when the stock have gone just past the handler's post.

Take pen: HTAD III handlers must remain outside the pen while the dog brings out the stock. HTAD II handlers may enter the pen with the dog but should not move the stock themselves. HTAD I handlers may enter the pen and assist the dog in moving the stock. An exception is made for cattle, where the handler may go in and assist if necessary at any level. If the stock come out on their own volition without the handler or dog entering, there is no penalty. Once the gate to the take pen is opened, it may not be closed until the stock have exited. The stock are then taken to the handler's post, passing just to the East of the handler's post and then turning toward Obstacle 1. Scoring for the take pen ends when the stock have gone just past the handler's post.

2. Obstacle 1

The stock should enter at the North opening of the obstacle and exit to the South. HTAD III handlers must remain at the opening of the obstacle until the stock have exited. HTAD II handlers may move along the wing of the obstacle but may not move past the wing until the stock have exited. HTAD I handlers may move anywhere relative to the obstacle but may not enter it. Scoring for Obstacle 1 ends when the animals have exited.

3. Drive

After the stock exit the chute, they are turned back toward the North along the approximate North/South centerline of the arena. Going toward Obstacle 2, they should pass just to the East of the handler's post. HTAD III handlers must remain behind the handler's line. HTAD II handlers may accompany the stock to a point halfway to Obstacle 2, then must remain there for the rest of the drive. HTAD I handlers may accompany the stock up to Obstacle 2. The drive ends when the stock reach a point 10 ft. in front of Obstacle 2.

4. Obstacle 2

The handlers remain at the designated locations while the stock are taken through the freestanding panels. While HTAD I handlers may go up to the panels, they should not precede the stock through the panels. Once the stock have gone through the panels, handlers are free to move. The stock are turned to the West and then to the South past the West end of the obstacle and onto a line that will take them fairly directly to the area in front of the pen. Scoring for Obstacle 2 ends when the stock have passed to the South of the West end of the obstacle.

5. Obstacle 3

The stock are penned in the freestanding pen. Scoring for the pen ends when the pen gate is closed.

6. Hold

The animals are taken to the hold area. The stock is settled and briefly held in place. There is no required position for handler or dog. The judge signals the end of the hold/settle. HTAD I and II handlers then take the stock to the repen. HTAD III handlers proceed with the sort.

7. Sort

The sort is done by HTAD III handlers only. The stock is moved to the designated area, which depends on the type of sort being done. The sort may be one of the following: (a) Gate sort. (b) Ribbon-removal/shed. The sort ends when the gate is closed on the sorted animals, or when the ribbon has been removed/ animals have been shed.

8. Repen

The stock are taken to the repen and held a short distance off the gate while it is opened, and then are repenned. When a gate sort has been used, the animals that had been left out in the arena are repenned. The run ends when the repen gate is closed after the last animal has exited the arena.