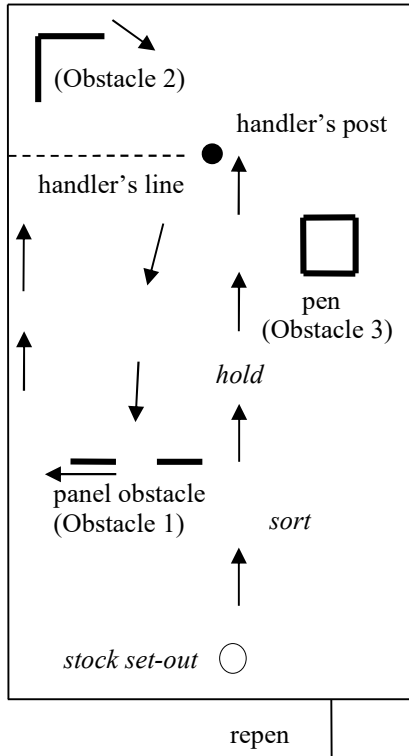


HTAD COURSE #4



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 30 ft. from the North fence, in the center. A handler's line runs from the handler's post to the West fence parallel to the North fence. The panel obstacle is set 20 ft. from the West fence, at least 100 ft. from the handler's post; the opening is 12 ft. The L-shaped obstacle is located in the Northwest corner of the arena. Both sides of the obstacle are 10 ft. long with an aisle 4 ft. wide. The freestanding pen is located 30 ft. from the East fence and approximately one-third of the length of the arena from the North 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 of hoofed 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 III, the handler remains at the post while the dog is sent from there to gather the stock. 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 point on the course where the handler's post is located for the drive. Scoring for the take pen ends when the stock have reached the handler's post. The course then proceeds as indicated in the description.

2. Drive

The stock are driven to Obstacle 1. HTAD III handlers must stay at handler's post. HTAD II handlers may go to a point halfway to Obstacle 1, then must remain there for the remainder of the drive. HTAD I handlers may accompany the stock up to Obstacle 1. The drive ends when the stock reach a point 10 ft. in front of Obstacle 1.

3. Obstacle 1

The stock are moved through the freestanding panels. The handlers remain at the designated locations while the stock are taken through the panels. While HTAD I handlers may go up to the panels, they should not precede the stock through the panels. Once the stock have cleared the obstacle, handlers are free to move. Once the stock have gone through the panels, they are turned toward the West side of the arena, then back toward the North side, toward Obstacle 2. Scoring for this section ends when the stock have been turned toward Obstacle 2 and have moved past the end of Obstacle 1 closest to the West side of the arena.

4. Obstacle 2

The stock should enter at the South opening of the obstacle and exit heading East. HTAD III handlers must remain South of the handler's line until the stock have exited. HTAD II handlers remain South of the handler's line until the stock have exited, or may choose to go directly to the entrance of the obstacle and remain in that location until the stock have exited. HTAD I handlers may move anywhere relative to the obstacle but may not enter it. Scoring ends when the animals have exited.

5. Obstacle 3

The stock are taken across the arena and put into the freestanding pen. Scoring for the pen ends when the 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.