**COVIDSafe Plan for Northern Suburbs Dog Training Club Rally-O RATG Trial**

**St Ives Showground**

**9th January 2021**

**General**

The Club (Northern Suburbs Dog Training Club Inc. (NSDTC)), its officials and participants shall follow State, Local and facility guidelines that apply to the area and the site on the day of the event.

Total numbers shall not exceed the Government Guidelines at the time of the event.

If Judges, stewards, officials or competitors unwell at all (cough, sneeze, temperature) they must not attend – THEY MUST STAY AT HOME!

An added requirement for entry at the event shall be that the Participant shall obey any instructions from Club Officials concerning compliance with Government Regulations concerning gatherings of people during the COVID-19 pandemic. This may include a request that the Participant leave the venue if necessary.

NSDTC shall compile a list of everyone attending the event together with phone number for contact tracing. These records will be retained for 28 days.

Entries will be completed on line and ring number/s emailed to competitors.

Competitors will print their own cards.

Dogs shall be catalogued in jump height where possible to save unnecessary handling of equipment.

Qualifying certificates shall be pre-printed and only handled with gloved hands.

Qualifying sashes for presentation at the ring shall only be handled with gloved hands.

Monetary prizes shall be pre-prepared in envelopes for presentation and handled with gloved hands.

*The Trial Schedule will include: - This trial will be conducted in accordance with the recommendations of DOGS NSW in relation to Rally –O Trials*

*Additional requirements of NSDTC will be available on the Club’s website, Facebook etc.*

*All officials, competitors and attendees shall agree to abide by the recommendations relating to the conduct of the trial and agree to follow the directions of Club Officials in relation to enforcing those requirements.*

Participants shall practice social distancing consistent with any guidelines in effect at the time. Participants shall avoid congregating to the extent possible.

Participants shall be prepared to be self-sufficient; bring their own hand sanitiser, face masks, chairs.

Participants may wear masks when in close proximity to others.

Everyone shall wash hands or sanitise as frequently as possible.

Participants shall avoid shaking hands, hugging or other physical contact.

Participants shall avoid touching dogs that are not their responsibility.

Participants shall not use common use pens & pencils.

Participants shall not use common use areas, tables, and chairs – bring your own chair.

**Equipment**

Hand sanitiser / gloves must be used by the judge and stewards for the handling of all equipment, including jumps. Once gloves are used they shall be disposed of after handling any equipment.

**Rings**

A cone will denote the waiting point for the next competitor to allow movement in and out of the ring at an appropriate distance.

**Cleaning**

Hand sanitiser and wipes shall be available to judges and stewards at the ring

Soap and paper hand towels should be available in the Council toilets on the grounds.

After each competitor, the judge’s table and competitor’s table shall be cleaned as required.

**To ensure uniformity for competitors across competitions the following is strongly recommended**.

Handlers will bring any equipment (in this case, RATG dummies) in a sanitised ziplock plastic bag which would be handed to the steward.

Dummies would be taken from this bag to be loaded into the dummy launcher by a steward wearing gloves.

Following the retrieve, the handler would keep the dummies on their person until they leave the ring.

The handler would be responsible for sanitising their own equipment at home.

**Meals**

Pre-prepared, pre-wrapped food will be available for the judges, stewards and officials to be consumed away from the rings. No sit-down meal will be provided.

As some Judges may prefer to bring their own food etc. during these times, consideration will be given to discussing this at the time of contracting them**.**

The Club will advise competitors to bring their own requirements for the competition.

**Judges and Stewards.**

The Club will provide hand sanitiser, wipes and gloves which will be available at the ring for all personnel.

Judges and stewards should wear gloves or sanitise after each competitor.

The Judge’s score sheets shall be handled only with gloved or sanitised hands.

One steward will be responsible for writing up the master score sheet for the ring and writing up the scores on a white board at the ring.

**Competitors’ Responsibilities**

At all times, competitors shall adhere to the Government regulations re hygiene and social distancing.

Competitors shall not attend if they are unwell

Competitors should have their own sanitiser.

All necessary equipment should be brought to ring in a sanitised ziplock plastic bag which will be handed to the steward (for loading into the dummy launcher).

**Rally**

Hand sanitiser/ gloves must be used by the judge and steward when handling all equipment, including jumps, cones and signs. If gloves are used, they must be disposed of after handling any equipment.

Lead to be retained by handler.

Walk-throughs - Up to 20 at one time for 10 minutes to allow for social distancing to be maintained.

All equipment to be handled only with gloved hands, this includes setting up and pulling down of the rings and when changing jump heights or replacing knocked jump bars.

Signs hygiene Set up - every person attaching the signs to the witches-hats puts on pair of clean gloves before handling the signs & clips. Dismantling - people removing the signs, when the trial is finished, again put on clean gloves.

Signs are to be placed directly into the appropriately labelled bags for later sanitising.

Clips are to be placed into a container for that purpose.

Decoys - toys or food containers. The use of these will be discouraged, as it may be hard to stop dogs touching them.

**RATG**

Novice level consists of four exercises; walking to heel, a recall, and two single mark retrieves.

Open level also consists of four exercises; walking to heel, recall (incorporating a stop on command), walk-up retrieve, and either a double mark retrieve or a double rise retrieve.

­Obedience component

Collars and leads to be retained by the handler

Walk at Heel 20-30 (Novice) or 30-50 (Open), include turns

Recall

Stop on Recall

Retrieve

The handler to bring equipment in a sanitised plastic ziplock bag.

Steward to collect dummies in bag before start of exercise.

At the end of the exercise the dummies should be kept on the competitor’s person out of sight (or in a dummy bag).

Equipment used will be the members own personal equipment. As equipment is to be thrown by another member, then the “thrower” will sanitise after the throw.

**Trial Schedule / Advertisement**

Catalogue will be available on the NSDTC Website 3 days before the Trial, so competitors should familiarise themselves with the COVID Safe requirements in relation to their event

The Club Officials shall enforce the above Guidelines if necessary.