

# Red River Cattle Dog Association

## Rules and Regulations

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**Membership:** Anyone may be a member of RRCDA. Memberships are from January through December with a membership fee of \$20.00

**Board Members and Officers:** Must be nominated and elected by the RRCDA members. The Board consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer, and 4 Board members. January of each year, (election being held in December). The officers will be elected by the Board. The #1 Board member will retire each year, #2 Board member moves to #1 position, #3 moves to #2 position, and #4 moves to #3 position. The #4 Board member and Secretary-Treasurer shall be elected each year. The nominations are taken from the RRCDA membership and shall be open to all members, upon their request to RRCDA to become a Board Member of RRCDA. A nominating committee consisting of the current Board Members, shall submit their nomination each year. If a Board Member resigns, a replacement will be selected by the current Board Members to fulfill the remaining term of the Board Member. (This position will be voted upon the next election).

**Dog and Handler Eligible:** Anyone may participate as a contestant at all RRCDA trials or jackpots, unless otherwise advertised. All breeds are eligible to compete in RRCDA trials. Registrations are not necessary. However the handlers of the dogs competing for dog of the year, must be a member of RRCDA. The membership must be current before entering the trial arena. It shall be the handlers responsibility to know if he or she is a current member.

**Dog of the Year:** Open and Novice class only. The “Dog of the Year” shall be awarded to the dog with the most points following the last trial of the year. The number of entrants will determine the points from each trial. (Example) 20 Entrants....1st place will receive 20 points, 2nd place will receive 19 points, 3rd place will receive 18 points, etc. The handler may choose his or her top 6 trial runs. The handler must get a “First Pen Time” to qualify.

**Classes:** Open shall be open to any dog.

**Novice:** Any dog that is 30 months or younger, January of the year trialing. The dog may continue to run in the Novice class that full year as a Novice dog. The Novice dog shall be allowed to run in any other class, without surrendering the Novice class, if the handler desires.

**Encourager:** Any dog eligible to run in the Encourager class. However, the handler should be one that has never won first place at any trial. (1) A person entering Encourager class, may continue to trial in this class for one year, even if he or she wins first during the year. However, he or she must move out of Encourager the following year. (2) Persons who enter and compete in the Encourager class, without a first place win, may continue to compete in this class until he or she wins first, at which time rule #1 will apply to this contestant. There shall be no added moneys to the Encourager class, payback or entry fees only. The determination of eligibility for the Encourager class shall be based on honesty from the contestant.

**Exhibition Runs:** Anyone under the age of 16 and has never placed at any trial, may run an exhibition run.

**Entry Fees:** Unless otherwise advertised, Open class \$35.00, Novice class \$35.00, Encourager class \$30.00, and Exhibition has no entry fee.

**Paybacks:** A \$3.00 fee will be held from each entry and deposited with the RRCDA to help cover expenses of the trial. There will be an additional \$15.00 per run for cattle charge. Paybacks will be figured on the remainder of the entry fees. Paybacks will be based on the number of entrants. 1 to 10 entries 60% 40%. 11 to 20 entries 50% 30% 20%. Over 20 entries 40% 30% 20% 10%.

**Trial Rules:** The host of the trial shall set course rules. There shall be a handler's meeting prior to each class running, defining specific rules. Any handler wanting to enter, must do so upon his or her immediate arrival to the trial site. (No one will be allowed to watch part of the runs, and enter later.) There shall be no money returned on withdrawing once a handler has entered, with the exception of an injury to the handler or the dog, or someone must leave the trial area and cannot return.

The "Top Ten" handlers must be at the trial site before the run order is drawn. If the handler is not there, an alternate will be chosen. (The next place winner from the Saturday runs). Once an alternate is drawn and the run order is set, there shall be no changes in the run order or contestants.

**Calling time:** Any handler calling time on his or herself, will be considered a disqualification.

**Gates:** All gates must be left as they were when the handler entered the area. The observer may remind the handler to close or open gates as they were when he or she entered. The time will not stop until all gates are in proper position.

**Appropriate manner of walking:** The handler must go through gates in a particular manner, following the path of the stock. Running or climbing over gates or fences will result in a disqualification.

**Start time:** The handler must first call for the cattle. The time starts either when the cattle clears the trailer or the start line. In the event the dog starts before the last head has cleared, the time will start when the dog starts. The handler cannot send the dog before he has called for the cattle.

**Pen time:** Pen time stops when cattle clear the gate, NOT when gate is closed.

**Last obstacle:** If trailer is the last obstacle, points are given for each head loaded on the trailer, when time expires.

**Objects or assisting while trialing:** No objects may be carried in the hand or used in any way in assisting the handler with the run.

All of the cattle must complete an obstacle before moving on to the next obstacle.

The stock must not be touched by the handler during the run: to do so will deem a disqualification.

Stock leaving the trial area: If the stock runs through the fence or leaves the trial area, even though the dog is not putting pressure on the stock, the run will be automatically disqualified.

**Disqualification:** If the observer thinks there is reason for a disqualification, he must let the handler complete the run and then make the disqualification.

**Complaints:** Any person with a complaint must submit it in writing along with a \$100.00 fee with the

Trail committee, or Board members. If the committee rules against the complaint the fee will be forfeited. Any unsigned document or letter will not be considered by the RRCDA Board.

**Limiting entrants:** If there should be too many dogs entered, RRCDA Board members shall have the authority to limit the number of dogs a contestant may enter, which would deem this trial as a jackpot and "Dog of the Year" points would not be given.

Each participant is asked to act with a respectful and courteous conduct, in both language and actions, to other contestants, hosts of the trial, and spectators. RRCDA will NOT tolerate abusive behavior toward the dogs or livestock, The observer shall have the authority to call time on any handler and dog that might be putting the stock in danger.

With the exception of an emergency rule change (deemed so by the Board Members) the rules will be considered and changed only in January of each year.

Red River Cattle Dog Association shall not be responsible for accidents to handlers, dogs, or equipment. Members.

(Original Rules approved 1996.... Revised and approved 1998.... Revised and approved.... May 1st 1999..... Revised and approved February 2000.... Revised and approved January 2002.)

Signed and approved by: January 30th 2002

Roy Cox: President

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*Red River Cattle Dog Association, Kenneth Beasley, Secretary-Treasurer  
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