



Australian National Kennel Council Ltd ABN 77 151 544 679 trading as Dogs Australia

## MEMO TO MEMBER BODIES

### REVIEW OF RULES FOR THE CONDUCT OF SCENT WORK TRIALS

(EFFECTIVE 1 JULY 2024)

#### KEY CHANGES AFFECTING MEMBER BODIES

ENDORSED AND RATIFIED BY NATIONAL SCENT WORK COMMITTEE – APRIL 2024

This document provides a summary of the key changes in the Scent Work Rules (revised with effect 1 July 2024) that Dogs Australia Member Bodies need to be aware of. Rule Excerpts are provided in **Attachment A**.

#### 1. NEW CLASS/TITLE – SCENT WORK ULTIMATE (SWU)

Comment: A new Class has been created. Relevant Rules are:

- a. Rule 4.2 (e) Classes
- b. Rule 5.3.3 Application for titles
- c. Rule 5.4.1 (e) Scent Work Class titles
- d. Rule 6.1.1 (e) Titling Classes (refers to eligibility)
- e. Rule 6.2.3 Progression through Titling Classes

#### 2. NEW TITLE SCENT WORK CHAMPION (SW CH)

Comment: The Rules now provide for a dog to achieve a Scent Work Champion title. The relevant Rule is:

- a. Rule 5.4.3 Scent Work Champion

#### 3. PROGRESSION THROUGH TITLING CLASSES

Comment: The Rules now clarify that the same Qualifying Certificates can be used towards both titling streams that is, Scent Work Class titles and Scent Work Element titles.

- a. Rule 6.2.5 – clarifies that dogs can pursue Scent Work Class titles and Scent Work Element titles at the same time.

#### 4. JUDGING TIMES

Comment: The Rules provide guidance on reasonable judging times and workloads for Judges.

- a. Rule 21.1 Time Allocation – specifies judging times for Judges for a day and an evening trial.

#### 5. “OTHER” CLAUSES – APPLICATION FOR TITLES

Comment: Minor changes for clarity, and to provide for changes to the search requirements for the Master Interior Class.

- a. Rule 5.3.5: Qualifying Certificates can be used for both Scent Work Class Titles and Scent Work Element Titles
- b. Rule 5.3.6: ‘grandfather clause’ Qualifying Certificates gained in the Master Interior Class towards a Scent Work Master title and/or a Scent Work Element title gained prior 1 July 2024 count towards these titles gained after 1 July 2024.

## **6. APPENDIX E SAMPLE OFFICIAL SCENT WORK ENTRY FORM**

Comment: The form has been amended to include the requirement to record the handler's name and Member Body membership number, if the handler is different to the owner (see yellow highlight).

## **7. APPENDIX F GUIDELINES FOR SCENT WORK SCHEDULES**

Comment: Minor wording changes have been made to some of the numbered points (see yellow highlight).

Susan Turner

Chairperson

National Scent Work Committee

16 April 2024

## RULE EXCERPTS

### 1. NEW CLASS/TITLE – SCENT WORK ULTIMATE (SWU)

#### 4.2 Classes

(e) **Ultimate:** provides an integrated search environment combining at least three (3) of the four (4) Elements from the Odour Search Division, which are worked as one search. The number of hides and distractions is unknown to the handler. The dog and handler must work autonomously to resolve the challenges set by the Judge in the search area. The team will need to demonstrate sustained resilience and persistence and work in a timely, efficient and effective manner to complete the search. They must be confident that they have identified all the hides present and cleared all search areas before calling "Finish".

#### 5.3 Application for titles

5.3.3 On gaining the title Scent Work Ultimate (SWU) the highest of any previous Class titles for example, SWA, SWE, SWM is retained along with the new title SWU as this title is independently rather than sequentially achieved.

5.3.4 For the title of Scent Work Champion (SW Ch.), the title will appear at the beginning of the dog's name and all other Scent Work titles will be removed from after the dog's name.

#### 5.4.1 Scent Work Class Titles

(e) **'SWU'** signifying Scent Work Ultimate when the dog has achieved its Master title or two (2) Element titles and gained five (5) Qualifying Certificates in the Ultimate Class under at least three (3) different Judges.

#### 6.1 Titling Classes

6.1.1(e) **Ultimate:** For dogs that have qualified for the Scent Work Master Class title or two (2) Element titles (that is, two of either SWC and/or SWI and/or SWX and/or SWV).

Dogs gaining their SWU title may continue to compete in the Ultimate Class.

#### 6.2 Progression through Titling Classes

6.2.3 A dog that is eligible to compete in the Excellent, Master or Ultimate Class may continue to do so in these Classes, regardless of whether they have gained titles in those Classes or not.

### 2. NEW TITLE – SCENT WORK CHAMPION

#### 5.4.3 Scent Work Champion

Only the elite dogs will qualify for the title of Scent Work Champion (SW Ch.). To be eligible for this title, a dog must obtain the following six (6) titles:

Class:	Scent Work Master (SWM)
	Scent Work Ultimate (SWU)
Element:	Scent Work Containers (SWC)
	Scent Work Interior (SWI)
	Scent Work Exterior (SWX)
	Scent Work Vehicles (SWV)

### 3. PROGRESSION THROUGH TITLING CLASSES

#### 6.2 Progression through Titling Classes

6.2.5 Dogs can pursue both their Scent Work Class and Scent Work Element titles at the same time. That is, Qualifying Certificates gained towards Scent Work Class titles can be counted towards the dog qualifying for Scent Work Element titles and vice versa.

### 4. JUDGING TIMES

#### 21.1 Time Allocation

Maximum number of searches\* to be judged should be guided by the number of searches in a Class(s) on the day. Judges may specify on their contracts how many entries they are willing to judge at the trial.

Search times should be calculated based on the following estimated time allocation:

Function	Time allocated	No of dogs
Administration/Setup/Breaks	120 mins per day	
Novice	4 mins per entry	15 per hour
Advanced	4 mins per entry	15 per hour
Excellent (except Interior)	5 mins per entry	12 per hour
Excellent Interior (2 search areas)	6 mins per entry	10 per hour
Master (except Interior)	6 mins per entry	10 per hour
Master Interior (2-3 search areas)	7 mins per entry	8 per hour
Ultimate	10 mins per entry	6 per hour

### 5. OTHER CLAUSES

5.3.5 Passes gained in each Class and Element may be used as Qualifying Certificates for both the Scent Work Class Titles and the Scent Work Element Titles.

5.3.6 All Qualifying Certificates gained in the Master Interior Class towards a Scent Work Master title and/or a Scent Work Element title that were gained prior to 1 July 2024 will remain valid and count towards these titles even if the titles are gained after 1 July 2024.

# APPENDIX E: SAMPLE OFFICIAL SCENT WORK ENTRY FORM

To be held under the Rules and Regulations of the State/Territory Member Body.  
PLEASE WRITE IN INK AND USE BLOCK LETTERS. USE A SEPARATE FORM FOR EACH ENTRY

Affiliate: ..... Date of Trial: / /  
(Name of club for which entry is made)

EXHIBITOR'S DECLARATION I hereby apply to enter the following exhibit in terms of and upon the conditions set out in the State/Territory Member Body's Constitution, Rules and Regulations by which I agree to be bound, and I hereby certify to the correctness of the particulars endorsed hereon.

BREED:  
.....

NAME OF EXHIBIT:  
.....  
Details of dog entered must be identical with the registration of the Dogs Australia Member Body

Date of Birth: ..... Sex: ..... Registered No:  
.....  
D or B

Name of Registered Owner/Lessee: .....

Membership No: ..... Postal Address:  
.....  
.....

Post Code: ..... Phone: ..... Email:  
.....

Handler name (if different from owner/lessee): ..... Membership No:  
.....

Class and Element entered:

<u>Class:</u>	<u>Element:</u>	Containers	Interior	Exterior	Vehicles
Novice		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advanced		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Excellent		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Master		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ultimate		<input type="checkbox"/>			

I certify that this exhibit has been vaccinated in accordance with Member Body Rules.

Usual Signature of owner/lessee(s)

Entry Fees .....  
Catalogue ..... Sundries .....  
Total .....  
Payment method and date .....

## APPENDIX F GUIDELINES FOR SCENT WORK SCHEDULES

Subject to member body requirements, published Schedules for Scent Work trials normally include the following information:

1. The name of the Affiliate conducting the trial.
2. The date and venue at which the trial is to be conducted.
3. Details of the venue. Where the trial venue is a sub-set of a larger venue, the specific buildings and/or areas will be specified, to define the boundaries of the trial venue in scope for the Rules.
4. The closing date for entries.
5. The address to which entries should be forwarded and/or details of the online entry system being used.
6. Entry fees and other charges such as catalogues.
7. Classes and Elements offered and the Judge(s) for each.
8. Target odours to be used in each Class.
9. Vetting requirements
10. Commencement time for judging.
11. Contact mobile phone number for the Affiliate on the day of the trial.
12. Entry limits or a statement that entry is unlimited.
13. Entry acceptance methods for limited entry trials.
14. In the case of a ballot, the date, hour, and location of, and process for the ballot.
15. Such other information specific to the trial as the Affiliate considers appropriate.
16. Where relevant, the Schedule should also include a statement to the effect:

*"It is not appropriate to visit the trial location prior to the trial date. Many trial venues are real-life environments and such visits may risk the host losing the opportunity to use the venue in future."*