

Changes Summary

NATE Handbook Revision Oct. 22, 2021

General Rules

- Once a dog competes in the veteran division in any game, they must compete in the veteran division in all games from that point forward. (Chapter 4. Section 3.)
- Ball stabilizer construction corrected and expanded (Chapter 5. Section 19.)

Standard Game

- Added that a dog may only receive one intentional and one unintentional initial ball formation disturbance fault per run. (Chapter 9. Section 5.)
- In Pre-Novice only, the dog may run through the formation to reach the point ball without faults if none of the balls are disturbed. This is because the ball spacing in Pre-Novice is so far apart. (Chapter 9. Section 6.)

BNO Game

- Expanded the dog stationary position during Wrong ball return to Sit, Stand, or Down. (Chapter 8. Section 3.)
- Clarified that a dog not maintaining a stationary position during a Foul or Wrong ball roll back will receive a 10-second fault. A dog interacting with another ball before a returned ball has achieved the correct distance will receive an NQ. (Chapter 9. Section 9.)
- Clarified that intentionally rolling any ball from the goal or handler area to the field will result in a Wrong ball fault even if it was not initially a Wrong ball. (Chapter 8. Section 3.)
- Added that only one 10-second Wrong ball fault is assessed for each Wrong ball incident. Even if two or more incorrect balls roll into the goal before the correct ball, it is still a single Wrong ball fault. (Chapter 8. Section 3.)
- Added that a dog may only receive one intentional and one unintentional initial ball formation disturbance fault per run. (Chapter 9. Section 5.)

Video Titling

- Judges may give faults instead of an NQ for minor incidents which would not occur at a trial that do not fundamentally deviate from game intention or change the outcome. (Chapter 9. Section 14.)

New Games

- Team (Chapter 10)
 - One handler and two of their own NATE-registered dogs
 - Rules based upon the Standard game

- Pairs (Chapter 11)
 - Two handlers, each with their own NATE-registered dogs
 - Rules based upon the Standard game
- Urban Herding (Chapter 12)
 - Entirely new treibball game focused on different aspects herding from the original standard game
 - Driving some balls away from the goal and handler
 - Driving balls through gates
 - Finding balls behind fences
 - Placing balls in pens
 - No starting triangle or diamond formation
 - No time faults. Only Q or NQ. Placements based upon fastest completion time.

Skills Certification

- Added the Skills Certification title (TE-SC) and ribbon for receiving all nine Skills Certification certificates. (Chapter 4. Section 2.)
- All rules concerning the Skills Certifications have been added to the Handbook (Chapter 13).
- The handler must be a NATE member.
- The dog must be registered with NATE.