

# got *Border Collie* or *other herding dog*?

Or just enjoy watching these talented dogs work? Please consider joining the Redwood Empire Sheep Dog Association, or attend our events to cheer on your favorite athletes. Visit our website at [www.resda.com](http://www.resda.com) for more information.

## THE RESDA COURSE

### SCORING

Scoring of the course is divided into seven different areas. At RESDA trials, each Open team starts with a maximum of 50 points. Points are deducted for work that is incomplete or poorly performed. A key goal is to minimize exertion on the part of the sheep, so sheep should be moved in a direct line through each part of the course. The line followed by the sheep is an important aspect of the scoring, as well as competent completion of each part of the course.

### OUTRUN, LIFT AND FETCH (UP TO 15 points)

After three sheep are let out, the dog is released and runs up the right or left side of the arena to complete “the outrun.” At the top of the course, the dog gains control of the sheep in a motion called “the lift,” then brings the sheep down the arena and around the pen in either direction to complete “the fetch.” Outruns should be wide. The dog should control the sheep as quietly as possible and bring them down the arena in a straight line. All three sheep must go around the pen in the same direction. The handler must remain fully behind the pen and not cross “Line A” (shown on the diagram below) until after all three sheep have crossed it.

### FIRST AND SECOND PANELS (UP TO 5 points each)

The sheep should remain together and under control. They should be moved at a calm and steady pace. All three sheep must pass through the opening between the panels in the forward direction. The handler must be standing on the base next to the panel when the sheep go through or it doesn't count. The fewer unsuccessful attempts at an obstacle the higher the score.

### CHUTE (UP TO 10 points)

Getting the sheep through the chute is one of the most challenging parts of the course and often separates winners from hopefuls. The handler stands on the base next to the chute opening and gives the dog commands to help him or her guide the sheep through the narrow opening. The team must make two attempts at each obstacle (panels and chute) be-

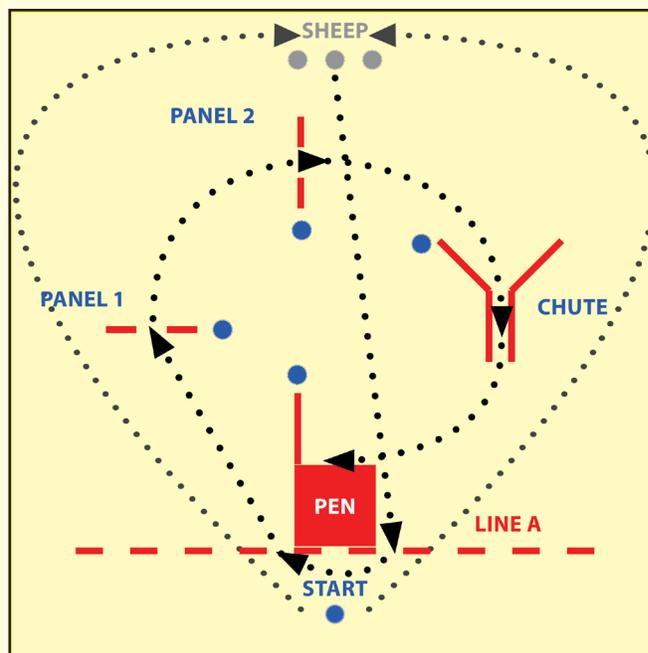
fore they can move on to try for the next. Each team must successfully complete two out of the three arena obstacles (panels and chute) before proceeding to the pen.

### PEN (UP TO 15 points)

The handler opens the pen and stands on the base while the dog attempts to guide the sheep into the enclosure. The handler cannot close the gate until all three sheep are completely within the pen (no shoving with the gate.) Any movements by the sheep past or around the pen will result in a loss of points.

### TIME LIMIT

Each Open dog and handler are allowed a maximum of ten minutes to complete the course. Timing starts when the dog is sent from behind the pen at the beginning of the run.



**RESDA COURSE DIAGRAM**

# REDWOOD EMPIRE SHEEP DOG ASSOCIATION (RESDA)

[www.resda.com](http://www.resda.com)

[www.facebook.com/resda.sheepdog](https://www.facebook.com/resda.sheepdog)

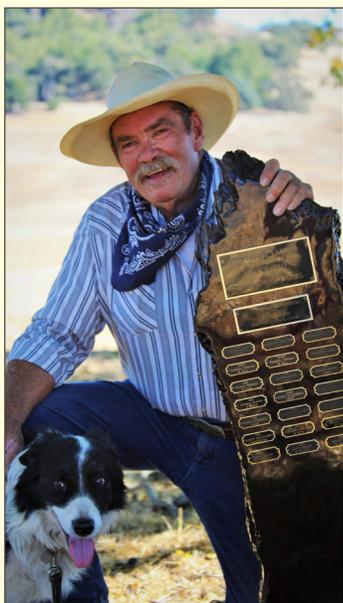
## what

The Redwood Empire Sheep Dog Association (RESDA) hosts twelve or more Sheep Dog Trials annually in Northern California, in both ranch and fair venues. A variety of settings and sheep flocks tests the mettle of both dog and handler. The dog and handler team scoring the highest number of cumulative points though the year is awarded the annual RESDA High Points Championship.

## why

In 1947, less than two years after World War II ended, a group of Mendocino County sheep ranchers decided friendly competition was the best way to determine who had the best working sheep dog. The ranchers designed a unique course that tested the variety of skills needed on a working sheep ranch and founded RESDA. RESDA Sheep Dog Trials using our unique course have been run each year since then. These trials demonstrate the teamwork required to successfully run a livestock operation.

## WHERE 2021 EVENTS



Trial	Location	Date and Time
Judging Clinic	Potter Valley, CA	March 27, 10 AM
Spring Trial • PN, JR	Boonville, CA (PT 1)	April 10, 9:30 AM
Tango Farms • PN, JR	Honcut, CA (PT 2)	April 25, 9:30 AM
Circle X Ranch Trial	Potter Valley, CA (PT 3)	May 8, 10 AM
Middletown Trial • PN, JR	Middletown, CA	Postponed
Nor Cal Wool Growers • PN	Red Bluff, CA	June 13, 10 AM
Beebe Johnson • PN, JR	Boonville, CA (PT 4)	June 19, 9 AM
Valley Ford Challenge	Valley Ford, CA (PT 5)	August 7, 9 AM
Mendocino Co • PN	Boonville, CA (PT 6)	August 21, 9 AM
Potter Valley • PN, JR	Potter Valley, CA (PT 7)	September 11, 10 AM
Mendocino Co	Boonville, CA (PT 8)	September 19, 10 AM
Fall Trial • PN, JR	Boonville, CA (PT 9)	October 16, 9 AM
Tango Farms Play Day	Honcut, CA	October 30, 10 AM

*We have set dates aside for our traditional fair trials at the Sonoma-Marin, Marin Co., Sonoma Co. and Humboldt Co. Fairs, but aren't putting the trials on our schedule until they can be confirmed.*

**Tom Trent and Angus,**  
Our 2020 Champions

*A Pro Novice class will be offered at **PN** trials. Junior classes will be offered at **JR** trials. The nine 2021 trials counted toward the Championship are marked **(PT)** above.*