**INSURANCE GUIDANCE FOR SHEEP DOG TRIALS**

The Affiliated Trial Secretary (the Designated Official) is responsible for ensuring compliance with the conditions of insurance.

In particular they should undertake a risk assessment (see sample) and ensure that all reasonable steps are taken to identify and remove any hazard at the earliest opportunity by instruction, training, or supervision as appropriate.

Areas to consider and examples of possible controls are included. All the other conditions are noted on the NWSDS website (Trials / Insurance).

Overall responsibility for Health and Safety (H&S) at trials rests with the Affiliated Trial Secretary and Trials Committee. A formal risk assessment could identify hazards which may cause harm to people on the trial field. This could help determine whether there are sufficient precautions in place, or if more action is needed to prevent harm being done. Key steps in identifying possible hazards are determining –

* who may be harmed and how?
* assessing the risks
* recording the findings
* reviewing the assessment.

Remember that the Affiliated Trial Secretary and Trials Committee have a "Duty of Care" to all who attend the trial.

All those involved with the Trial have legal responsibilities to take care of their own H&S and that of others and to co-operate in order to comply with the law. They must be co-operative on H&S matters, not interfere with anything provided to safeguard H&S, take reasonable care of their own H&S and report all H&S concerns to the Trial Secretary / Committee.

Individual handlers are responsible for the welfare and conduct of their dogs and must carry out their own risk assessment of the tasks asked of their dogs during the trial e.g. deciding whether their dog(s) run the course, are fully fit to run the trial course and are kept under control/supervision at all times.

**Trial Society: ……………………………………………………………………….. Trial date: ….…………………………………**

**Location: …………………………………………………………………………….. Post code: ……………………………………**

**GPS coordinates: …………………………………………………………………**

**Responsible persons e.g. Trials Committee, Shepherds, Stewards:**

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| --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Name** |
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**Stewards and other Officials pre event briefing / training / instruction undertaken (date): ……………………………….**