Bearded Collie Club of America HIC Judging Information

PURPOSE: The basic purpose of the Herding instinct Test is to assess the potential herding capabilities and bidability of the Bearded Collie and individuals within the breed, and to encourage herding activities with Bearded Collies. Other forms may also be used for other programs, but ONLY the official BCCA Test form will be accepted by the BCCA. Note that the dog must be passed in each section in order to be passed in the Test. Any behavior which indicates that the dog cannot readily become a useful herding dog as listed below should not pass this test.

The assessment numbers on the BCCA HIC Test Form are NOT "scores". Although generally a low assessment number will indicate not passing, this is not always the case. The Judge should indicate the assessment number that come closest to describing a particular dog's untrained responses.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

A dog owned by the judge or any member of the judge's household may not be evaluated by that judge, nor may a judge evaluate a dog of which that judge has been the owner or primary trainer/handler within the last six months.

MINIMUM AGE: 6 months (per SR SR 02/08-05).

- 1. HANDLER: Either the owner (or his agent) or the Judge, or both, may handle the dog AT THE JUDGE'S DISCRETION.
- 2. INSTRUCTION: The Judge will instruct novice handlers on ways to assist the dog.
- 3. CONTROL: The dog must exhibit some self-control at the beginning and end of the Test by demonstrating a brief pause and an eventual recall.
- 4. TRAINING AIDS: NOTE some Beardies are sound-sensitive. Judges should not use noisy tools for these dogs. Stock sticks, crooks, PVC pipe (1/2" diameter maximum), buggy whips, shaker bottles, lightweight rolled papers, plastic rakes and other safe training tools may be used BY THE JUDGE to aid in controlling intense dogs. METAL OR HEAVY SOLID OBJECTS OR PRONG OR ELECTRONIC COLLARS MAY NOT BE USED UNDER ANY CONDITIONS. EVERY EFFORT MUST BE MADE TO PREVENT INJURY TO DOG, PERSON(S) OR STOCK.
- 5. LEAD: A lead or line of 4' to 10' length will be on the dog when entering the arena. The lead must be dropped or may be removed AT THE JUDGE'S DISCRETION.
- 6. TIME: Maximum; approximately 10 minutes in total: sustained interest / work for approximately 2 minutes. The welfare of the stock must be of utmost importance.
- 7. STYLE: Fetch or drive, bark or silent, loose or strong eye. Light and appropriate grip

acceptable.

- 8. TEMPERAMENT: Usually friendly, sometimes reserved.
- 9. BIDABILITY: Responsive to appropriate direction and/or correction.
- 10. BALANCE: The dog should show some natural balance.
- 11. BARKING permissible if aimed at or used for control of stock.

DEFINITELY NOT PASSABLE (the # matches the item definition on the form).

Confidence with stock. #1. Fear of stock or situation; shyness.

Barking. #1. Consistent barking at, or attention on, individuals or objects other than the stock; "sass" barking.

Interest. #1. Lack or rapid loss of interest.

Power (intrinsic). #1 and #2. No power or excessive power; excessive playfulness.

Biddability. #1. Refusal to take direction.

Perception of Group. #1, #2, #3. Aggression toward stock; chasing or constant splitting of stock.

Balance: At judge's discretion.

In all cases, Judges should make every effort to assist the dog and handler toward success; however, the decision of the Judge will be final. Reruns may be permitted on the same day should unusual circumstances occur or the Judge feels a second opportunity is appropriate.

Judges should encourage owners of dogs which show herding talent to train and compete in trials. Any dog which does not pass in its first attempt may, at the Sponsor's and Judge's discretion, be allowed a second attempt on the same day.

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Judges Signature:	Date:	
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