

CLUB NOTICE TO COMPETITORS

Information for Members Competing on Private Farmland and Preserves

The Working Spaniel Club and the South Island Working Spaniel Club wish to remind all competitors of the standards and expectations when participating in trials held on privately owned farmland and Preserves. These events rely entirely on the goodwill of farmers and landowners who permit access to their properties. It is essential that all members uphold the highest levels of respect, safety, and professionalism at all times.

Access to Property

- Entry to the property is strictly by permission of the landowner.
- Competitors must follow all directions regarding parking, access routes, gates, stock, and restricted areas.
- Dogs must remain under control at all times.

Stock and Property Respect

- Stock must not be disturbed under any circumstances.
- Competitors must avoid all crops, young pasture, and sensitive areas.
- No litter, cartridges, or equipment is to be left behind.
- Any damage, however minor, must be reported immediately to the Trials Captain.

Safety Requirements

- Blaze orange clothing (vest, jacket, or hat) is mandatory for all competitors, stewards, and spectators.
- Only designated guns may carry or discharge firearms.
- All participants must follow the instructions of the Trials Captain, judges, and stewards without delay.
- Dogs must be steady and under control around stock, firearms, and other competitors.

During the Trial

- Competitors must be ready when called and present at the start line with their number visible.
- Handlers must remain with their allocated judge, steward, and guns at all times during their run.
- No competitor may interfere with another handler's run or distract working dogs.
- Spectators must remain in the gallery area unless otherwise instructed.

Conduct and Behaviour

- Professional behaviour is expected at all times.
- Any disrespect toward landowners, club officials, or other competitors will not be tolerated.
- Dogs showing aggression, or repeatedly out of control may be excused from the trial.
- Alcohol is not permitted during the running of the trial.

Leaving the Property

- Competitors must ensure they take all belongings, rubbish, and dog waste with them.
- Gates must be left exactly as found.
- Please thank the landowner or their representative if present.

Our Relationship with Landowners

These trials cannot take place without the cooperation of farmers who generously allow access to their land. Maintaining this relationship is essential for the future of spaniel trialling in New Zealand. Every competitor plays a role in ensuring we are invited back.

Your adherence to these expectations ensures the continued success of our sport and the reputation of both clubs.