



IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL CLUBS JUDGES AND TRIALISTS

26 March 2024

Heeling sticks

The use of a heeling stick at a recent Championship Retriever Walk -Up and Championship Retriever Trial was brought to the attention of the Executive from several sources. All expressed the same concerns.

The Executive find it unacceptable that a competitor and/or a competitor's steward would bring a heeling stick onto the trial grounds, and to the trial itself.

The issues are 2 fold.

First - The use of such a device could give an individual an unfair advantage.

Secondly – There is a very real concern that use of the stick could harm the reputation of the host club, the NZGTA and our sport in general.

We remind clubs and judges that they can disqualify a competitor under:

Regulation Gen 7. Disqualification b. Any dog or the handler of any dog behaving in a manner that is not in the interest of Field Trials or that may do harm to the Club conducting the trials may be disqualified by the committee of the club or by the Judge.

The NZGTA Executive.