

DABBERS TRIALS CLUB RULES v3

INTRODUCTION

The object of observed trials is to ride specified "sections" with "Start", "Intermediate" and "End" gates. Scoring will be based on the "points-lost" (marks) system. The numerical score will increase from a starting score of zero. Final placement will be the inverse of the numerical score; i.e. the lowest score wins. The sections are laid out in a loop configuration, where the competitor rides each of the sections one at a time to form a lap.

PRE-REQUISITS

All competitors must sign on and pay the required entrance fee before the competition begins. Riders must complete the entry form and select the class in which they wish to ride. The machine must conform to the class described and selected on the entry form. Additionally, all riders under the age of 18 must provide their date of birth on the form and be signed in by a parent or guardian. Number cards will be issued and these must be clearly displayed on the front of the machine. Number cards are to be returned to the organizers after the event. All riders must wear a correctly fastened crash helmet and be appropriately dressed (no shorts etc).

The Clerk of the Course may appoint a scrutineer to check the condition of machines and riding equipment. If a machine or riding equipment fails to pass the safety and eligibility checks it will not be allowed to compete unless corrective measures have been taken that are to the scrutineer's satisfaction.

JUNIORS

Juniors are very welcome at all of the club's trials. However, there are restrictions as to machine engine capacities as follows:

7 to 9 year olds	Maximum 80cc
10 to 12 year olds	Maximum 125cc
13 to 15 year olds	Maximum 250cc

In the interests of safety, the Clerk of the Course or Observers may prevent a rider from competing if he or she is clearly incapable of safely handling the machine.

SCORING

Section Scoring shall begin when the machine's front wheel axle passes the "Start" gate markers and stops when the front axle passes the "End" gate markers. Section points are allocated as follows:

Error	Penalty Points (mark)
None (clean)	0
One dab	1
Two dabs	2
Three or more dabs	3
Failure in a section	5
Section not attempted (observer informed before hand)	5
Section not attempted (observer NOT informed before hand)	10

A rider is penalized in each section only for the one error that results in the most penalty points. In any given section, penalties are not cumulative, except for the first three "dabs." (Example: If a rider dabs twice before riding out of bounds, the score for the section is 5 points, not 7).

THE COURSE

Sections will be separately numbered and should be ridden in numerical sequence. No section may be ridden more than once per lap unless directed by the Clerk of the Course. Riders shall start Lap One at the point designated at the rider's meeting by the Clerk of the Course or his representative. Second and subsequent laps will start at the same point.

It is the sole responsibility of the rider to make sure that he/she has completed the required number of laps and sections within the laps. Un-attempted sections will be scored as in the table above.

GENERAL RULES

1. Unsportsmanlike conduct or offensive behaviour can result in a penalty of 10 points at the sole discretion of any Observer or authorised event official.
2. Practice in any marked section before or during the event will result in disqualification of the rider from the event. Riders may stop and inspect sections on foot prior to riding for a score, providing their machine is parked out of the section.
3. Whilst walking the section, a rider that alters a section by moving rocks, making a path, changing the condition of the section, etc. shall be given a score of 5 by the Observer for that section.
4. When a rider leaves his/her machine to inspect the section, the machine does not hold the rider's place in line. When the rider returns to the motorcycle, he/she goes to the back of the line. Failure to do so may result in a 5-point penalty.
5. The rider must obtain permission from the Observer to ride into the section for a score. Failure to obtain permission may result in a score of 5 points if the Observer is unable to monitor the competitor's ride though the entire section.
6. All persons walking the section must immediately vacate when a rider enters the observed section. The competitor riding for a score always has the right-of-way within a section. Failure of others to vacate can be deemed unsportsmanlike conduct.
7. If, whilst riding a section for a score, a rider is severely distracted or his/her line is blocked by spectators, other riders, an animal, blowing debris, etc. The rider may claim an "Obstruction" and request a re-ride. At the discretion of the Observer, a re-ride of the section may be permitted. Any score lost up to the point of the blocking will stand and be added to any score lost beyond that point on the second attempt.

RESULTS

1. Preliminary results may be announced at the end of the event. Official results may be published later by email and/or post if a Stamped and addressed envelope was provided by the rider. Results may also be posted on a web site. The rider with the lowest number of points will be declared the winner in his/her classification.
2. In the case of a tie score, the individual section points will be analysed and a decision will be reached by considering the scores in the following order: competitor with the most cleans, then ones, twos and finally threes. If the tie is still unbroken, the oldest rider will be the winner.
3. Retirements: If a rider completes at least one full lap before retiring, the rider will be scored as having finished the event. It is the responsibility of the rider to inform the observers of the retirement.

PROTESTS

1. The section Observer is responsible for determining the penalties (if any) for each attempt at the section. If a rider disagrees with the score, he/she may discuss it with the observer, without inconveniencing or delaying other riders, and the Observer will decide if the score is to be altered. Riders will not challenge the Observer's decision further. If the disagreement is not settled in this manner, a protest may be lodged with the Clerk of the Course who will make a final ruling.
2. No person may protest another rider's score in a section. Only the rider can protest a penalty.
3. Any rider may protest any matter relating to the event. All protests must be lodged with the Clerk of the Course who may ask for the details to be presented in writing. The Clerk of the Course shall render all decisions on protests as soon as possible.
4. Even though preliminary results may be announced on the day of the event, the results shall not be official until all decisions on protests have been finalised and the results have been checked for incorrect calculations.

DEFINITIONS OF TRIALS RULES

GENERAL DEFINITIONS

Axle In - Axle Out: All scoring is to take place as the front wheel axle passes an imaginary straight line between the "Start" markers and all scoring is to cease as the front axle passes an imaginary straight line between the "End" markers.

Clerk of the Course: The Clerk of the Course is the person with final authority for all aspects of the event, and has the ability to perform any of the workers' duties on the day.

Retired or DNF (Did Not Finish): A competitor who retires before attempting all sections on the first lap is DNF and will not receive points but will be marked as 'R' or 'Retired' on the score sheet.

Observer: Any event official who is authorised to score a competitor's ride. Observers report directly to the Clerk of the Course.

Riders' Meeting: Meeting for all competitors, prior to start time, at which the promoter or Clerk of the Course gives the final instructions for the day's event.

SECTION SCORING DEFINITIONS

Clean: No points (zero). The rider completes the section without committing an error.

Dabs

- Rider removes a foot from the footpeg and touches the ground once or pushes off an object such as a tree, or removes hand from the handlebar to touch or "push off" an object = 1 point (or dab)
- Rider commits the error above twice = 2 points (2 dabs)
- Rider commits the error above three or more times, or "paddles" with both feet = 3 points.
- The following actions are *not* penalties:
 - Rider's feet are on the footpegs and hands are on the handlebars when any part of his/her body inadvertently brushes against or is hit by an object = 0 points.
 - Rider's foot is accidentally knocked from the footpeg after unintentional contact with a rock or other object = 0 points.
 - Machine momentarily (1 - 2 seconds) stops moving forwards without rider committing any other error = 0 points.

Failure The following examples will result in a score of five points:

- Rider or machine knocks over a section marker that requires the marker to be reset or repaired. (Touching the markers or boundary tape but not breaking or dislodging it, is not a penalty)
- Missing a marker: rider completely misses or goes on the wrong side of a marker, including gates within a section.
- Out of section: machine is ridden outside the boundaries of the section.
- Backwards motion, whether intentional or not, with or without the rider dabbing.
- Rider dismounts: both feet to the ground on the same side or behind the machine or falls from the machine.
- Machine stops moving forwards for more than "a moment" (2-3 seconds). A slight pause whilst a rider prepares for next part of the section is allowed. The machine may also move back slightly as the rider regains momentum.
- The motorcycle crosses its own track with both wheels (unless the section is so designed and is duly noted by the Observer or Clerk of the Course).