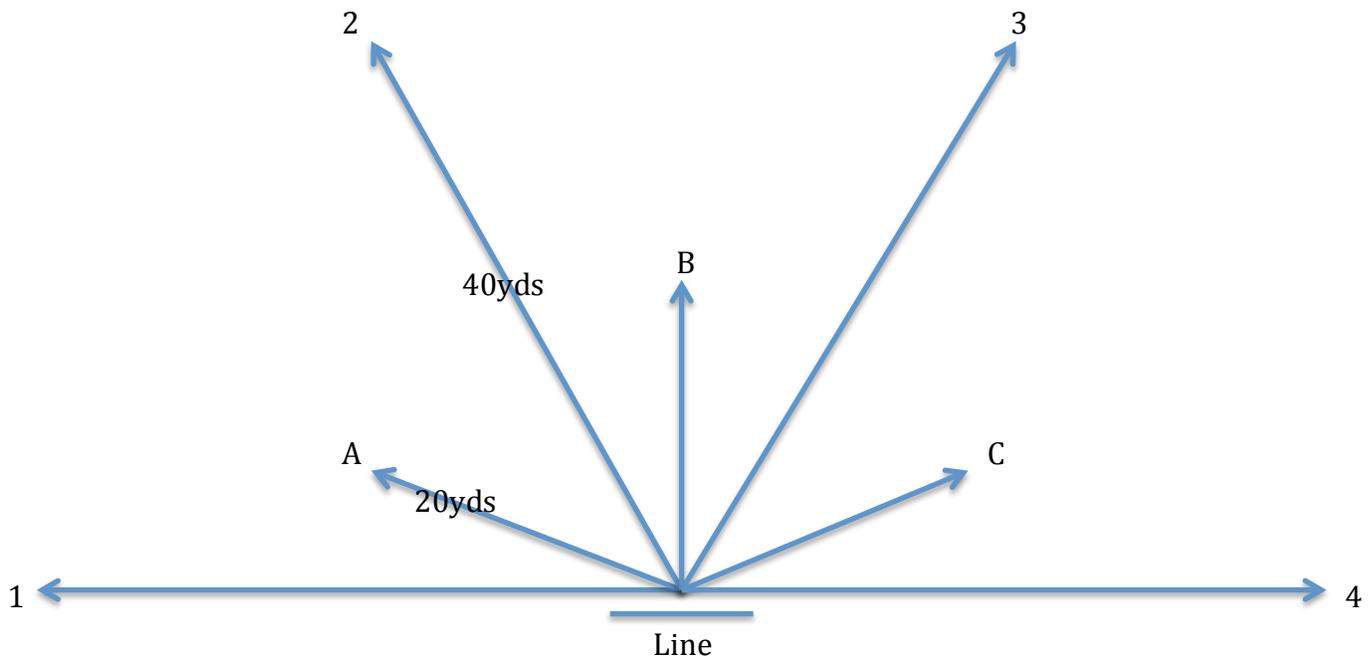


Scattered Bumper Drill



Scattered bumper drill is a multi purpose drill, which can be used at any time after Single-t. It serves to work on the following:

- Developing communication skills through consistent use of cues, commands and body English.
- Precise lining skills.
- Improving the handler's ability to read where the dog is pointed.
- Line manners and line movement.
- Control issues such as stopping, focusing on the handler and auto casting.
- Improve handling skills, particularly with diversions present.
- Come in whistle handling.
- Bumper handling.

Drill Set Up

Approximately 15-20 yards from the line at 10, 12 and 2 o'clock, place 3 piles of large white bumpers or birds and a white stake at (Locations A, B & C). At approximately 40 yards from the line at 9,11,1 and 3 o'clock, place piles of large white bumpers and a white stake. (Locations 1 thru 4).

Running The Drill

1. Spend time lining to the piles so that the dog can learn their locations.
2. Once the dog is lining confidently to the piles, you can begin casting between the piles. A good rule of thumb is to line to a short pile 50% of the time and

- to cast off 50% of the time. Your first cast offs should be to an outside pile, for example. Line toward C, stop and cast to 4 or line toward A, stop and cast to 1. Casting to an outside pile leaves the fewest number of destination options to choose from.
3. Avoid lining toward the same pile in back to back sends.
4. As the dog becomes more proficient, start casting from short stations to long piles 2 and 3.
5. You can work on overs by sending to a long pile, stopping and casting to one of the other long piles.
6. You can work on angle-in casting by sending toward a long pile, stopping and casting to a short pile.
7. Always enforce fundamental skills. A dog must stop quickly, turn and sit squarely facing the handler, look at the handler and wait to be cast. It must go when you say back or you put your arm up. It should not forge ahead or stand up on the line. It should not shop at the pile. Use the collar if necessary.
8. Don't correct for cast refusals. This drill should be used to teach handling. Simply use attrition, stop and cast again or stop, call back and cast again.
9. If a dog picks up a bumper from the wrong pile, don't correct the dog. Stop the dog, walk out and take the bumper from the dog and then begin casting it again from that location to the correct pile.
10. Do not ask the dog to change direction more than once if the dog takes the correct cast to another pile.