

DOGS Victoria/OTEC submission received for Obedience

From Victorian members

GLOSSARY

Submitted by Julie Morrison

Page 1 Section 3 Titles

- (2) C.D.' signifying Companion Dog; 'C.D.X.' signifying Companion Dog Excellent; 'U.D.' signifying Utility Dog and 'U.D.X.' signifying Utility Dog Excellent in connection with, and after the name of, each dog, which shall be certified by judges to have received three (3) qualifying scores of 170 or more points in Novice, Open, Utility and Utility Dog Excellent Classes respectively.

Change to – for Utility Dog Excellent 3 qualifying scores of 170 points or more if the dog has attained its Utility Dog Title OR 6 qualifying scores of 170 points or more in the dogs has attained its Open title.

Page 4 Classes

- (a) UTILITY DOG EXCELLENT CLASS: For dogs of either sex, which have qualified for the title of 'Utility Dog' (U.D.) in Utility Class.

Change to UTILITY DOG EXCELLENT CLASS: For dogs of either sex, which have qualified for the title of 'Utility Dog' (U.D.) in Utility Class or Companion Dog Excellent (C.D.X.)

Rationale - Currently the dog must have achieved its UD title before it can compete in UDX. Often dogs cannot attain their UD title due to age and/or injury that prevents them from being able to jump cleanly and safely. Hence, we need a "no jumping" pathway for these dogs to progress through to UDX and enable them to keep enjoying the sport of obedience. By allowing the dog to go from CDX straight to UDX but making them need to attain 6 passes in UDX instead of 3 will maintain the level of passes need to get to UDX and allow the dogs to continue in the sport.

Submitted by Noelene Jordan

Page 1 Section 3 Titles

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Change to – for Utility Dog Excellent 3 qualifying scores of 170 points or more if the dog has attained its Utility Dog Title OR 6 qualifying scores of 170 points or more in the dogs has attained its Open title.

Page 4 Classes

- (b) UTILITY DOG EXCELLENT CLASS: For dogs of either sex, which have qualified for the title of 'Utility Dog' (U.D.) in Utility Class.

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Rationale - Currently the dog must have achieved its UD title before it can compete in UDX. Often dogs cannot attain their UD title due to age and/or injury that prevents them from being able to jump cleanly and safely. Hence, we need a "no jumping" pathway for these dogs to progress through to UDX and enable them to keep enjoying the sport of obedience. By allowing the dog to go from CDX straight to UDX but making them need to attain 6 passes in UDX instead of 3 will maintain the level of passes need to get to UDX and allow the dogs to continue in the sport.

Submitted by Dearne Jackson

Page 7 Current

CLASSES

All classes must be available for competition at the Trial and included on the trial schedule unless special permission is granted by the Member Body. No classes other than the following shall be provided or withdrawn without the special permission of the Member Body. Qualifications up to and including the date of closing of entry shall count as eligibility to compete in any class.

Proposed Change

4. CLASSES

Affiliates are not required to schedule all available classes for competition. But must schedule all classes up to the highest-class level wanted. E.g. Rally Novice, Rally Advanced
~~All classes must be available for competition at the Trial and included on the trial schedule unless special permission is granted by the Member Body. No classes other than the following shall be provided or withdrawn without the special permission of the Member Body. Qualifications up to and including the date of closing of entry shall count as eligibility to compete in any class~~

Rationale:

This change would bring the Rally rules in line with the Tracking and Track and Search Dog rules released 1 January 2024. This would enable Affiliates to contract a desired judge for the class levels of licences currently held, without the need to have an additional judge for the class(es) that will not have any entrants anyway. Eg at a Restricted to Breed event. And without the need for an Affiliate to formally request special permission from of the Member Body. Thereby creating opportunities for judges progressing through judge licence levels to achieve the necessary judging appointments at events that the affiliate knows it does not have potential entrants in higher level classes.

Submitted by Dani Sherrin

SECTION 4. "CLASSES"

Page 2

Change: Allow for dogs who have received C.D title to continue to trial in C.D until they are titled in C.D.X

Currently reads... "(b) NOVICE CLASS: For dogs, six months of age or over, and of either sex which are not eligible for the title of 'Companion Dog' (C.D.). Under no circumstances except where an application for a C.D. Title has been rejected on a technicality, shall a dog which has competed in an Open Class be eligible to compete in the Novice Class"

Change to:

"(b) NOVICE CLASS: For dogs, six months of age or over, and of either sex which are not eligible for the title of 'Companion Dog Excellent' (C.D.X)"

Rationale: To enable dogs that have received their Novice C.D title to continue to trial at the C.D class. This would let handlers properly evaluate over a range of trials if their dog is ready to progress to the next class, instead of the minimum 3 trials which may be completed in 1 or 2 days.

There is a steep difficulty curve between CD and CDX, this would allow dogs who have received CD t continue to build experience until such time as they are ready to compete in CDX.

Submitted by Ray Ashman

Page 5 Glossary

Heeling: During heeling exercises, the Judge's orders - 'Halt', 'Stand (Stand your Dog)' and 'Down (Down your Dog)' - must be followed by the order 'Forward' or 'Exercise Finished'. Failure to perform at least one sit, one down and one stand in the heeling exercise must incur a non-qualifying score.

Change to

Heeling: During the heeling exercises, the Judge's will order - 'Halt', 'Stand (Stand your Dog)' and 'Down (Down your Dog)' - and must be followed by the order 'Forward' or 'Exercise Finished'.

Rationale: The "Failure to perform at least one sit, one down and one stand in the heeling exercise must incur a non-qualifying score: was introduced to ensure judges have all 3 positions during the heeling. Currently it is being taken out of context where a dog can be asked to do 5 drops and only complete 1 and it is passed because of the currently wording. Rewording to the suggested wording requires the judge to give all three positions and mark the dog on its competency

Page 9 Glossary

New point (could be place elsewhere if deemed a better position)

Unacceptable dog behaviour

It is the obligation of the judge at a fixture who observes a dog behaving in an unruly, disruptive or aggressive manner to report the incident either orally or in writing to a member of the fixture Committee as soon as possible after the incident where the incident will be investigated under the state/territory member body rules.

Rationale: There has been a number of incident where dogs had impacted the performance of a dogs in another ring eg entered the other ring during the drop on recall or stays and has disturbed the performing dog to be rejudged. If the dog was reported it may have received a level 2 under dogs Vic's rule. Other states may have different rules hence the reference back to the states controlling body

Page 11 Glossary

The minimum length of lead will be 750mm and it will be fitted with a quick release fastener. All dogs must enter and leave the Ring on a lead. In exercises that require a dog to be off-lead, the lead will be taken off and handed to the Steward at the start marker

Change to

The minimum length of lead will be 750mm and it will be fitted with a quick release fastener. All dogs must enter and leave the Ring on a lead. In exercises that require a dog to be off-lead, the lead will be taken off and may be handed to the Steward at the start marker or retained by the handler

Rationale: This is an opportunity to have more flexibility in the rule book for handlers of where they would like the lead to be when the dog is not required to be on the lead. Many inexperienced handlers prefer to keep the lead and many experience handlers prefer to hand the lead to the steward.

Gloves: The Handler will provide three predominantly white, wrist length, cotton gloves which must be open and must be approved by the Judge. The size of the gloves may be in proportion to the size of the dog.

Change to:

Gloves: Utility class the Handler will provide three predominantly white, wrist length, cotton gloves which must be open and must be approved by the Judge.

Open class the Handler will provide two predominantly white, wrist length, cotton gloves which must be open and must be approved by the Judge.

The size of the gloves may be in proportion to the size of the dog.

Rationale: The current description is contradictory requiring to supply 3 gloves when in open only 2 are required. The change reflect the requirements for the respective classes

Principle features all

Delete all principle features

Rationale: Principal features serve no real value. They do cover some important points of the exercise, however a lot of people say if you do the principle feature you will pass. This is incorrect as you can fail to execute something and it requires the dog to get an over 50% deduction.

If it is resolved to keep the principal features then it is suggested that it be changed to "Important Point of the exercise"

Submitted by Dearne Jackson

Current rule is Page 4.

Section 4 Current

4. CLASSES

All classes must be available for competition at the Trial and included on the trial schedule unless special permission is granted by the Member Body. No classes other than the following shall be provided or withdrawn without the special permission of the Member Body.

Proposed Change

4. CLASSES

Affiliates are not required to schedule all available classes for competition. But must schedule all classes up to the highest-class level wanted. E.g. CCD, Novice, Open. All classes must be available for competition at the Trial and included on the trial schedule unless special permission is granted by the Member Body. No classes other than the

~~following shall be provided or withdrawn without the special permission of the Member Body.~~

Rationale:

This change would bring the Obedience rules in line with the Tracking and Track and Search Dog rules released 1 January 2024. This would enable Affiliates to contract a desired judge for the class levels of licences currently held, without the need to have an additional judge for the class(es) that will not have any entrants anyway. Eg at a Restricted to Breed event. And without the need for an Affiliate to formally request special permission from of the Member Body. Thereby creating opportunities for judges progressing through judge licence levels to achieve the necessary judging appointments at events that the affiliate knows it does not have potential entrants in higher level classes.

Section 8. Exhibitors and Handlers

Current Text:

Disqualification:

No points awarded. The dog is disqualified from all Trial Competition on the day and the Judge must provide a written report to the Member Body within 14 days. In instances where the disqualification was incurred for continual barking, a correction penalty, fouling the ring or for handlers bringing training aids into the ring, handlers will only be disqualified from that class and no report is required. **(Amended 10/23, 5.15 – effective 01/01/24)**

Change Insert in Red:

Disqualification:

No points awarded. The dog is disqualified from all Trial Competition on the day and the Judge must provide a written report to the Member Body within 14 days. In instances where the disqualification was incurred for continual barking, a correction penalty, the **dog leaving the ring during or between exercises i.e. the dog is being unmanageable (note: not including where a dog may drift out of the ring without penalty while seeking/retrieving an article as part of an exercise)**, fouling the ring or for handlers bringing training aids into the ring, handlers will only be disqualified from that class and no report is required. **(Amended 10/23, 5.15 – effective 01/01/24)**

Rationale:

A dog which leaves the ring during competition either during an exercise or between exercises is not under effective handler control and demonstrating unmanageable behaviour. (Note this does not include a dog drifting out of a ring while seeking/retrieval of an article/dumbbell).

Currently there is no definition of unmanageable behaviour or a penalty applicable. A dog can leave the ring, be caught by someone else and be returned to the ring to the handler

and continue with the remainder of the exercises without a formal penalty given by a judge.

A judge at their discretion *might* choose to mark points for misbehaviour, but the dog *may* still receive sufficient points to gain a qualification.

This is surely equivalent (or worse) behaviour to fouling in the ring – which was inserted into the Disqualification regulation effective at the beginning of 2024.

Submission by Lynn Klecka

Exhibitors and Handlers

PAGE 9

Current:

Entering and Leaving the Ring: On the Steward's call of the dog's catalogue number, the Handler will enter the Ring and take up position at the "Start Station". All dogs must enter and leave the ring on lead. In Exercises that require a dog to be off lead, the lead will be taken off upon instruction from the judge, and handed to the Steward.

Change to:

Entering and Leaving the Ring: On the Steward's call of the dog's catalogue number, the Handler will enter the Ring and take up position at the "Start Station". All dogs must enter and leave the ring on lead. **On direction from the Judge, the Handler shall remove the lead, where required. The lead will be retained by the Handler. It can be placed in a pocket or around their body, so it does not impede the dog's performance.**

Submitted by Dearne Jackson

PAGE 9

CURRENT:

Entering and Leaving the Ring:

On the Steward's call of the dog's catalogue number, the Handler will enter the Ring and take up position at the "Start Station". All dogs must enter and leave the ring on lead. In Exercises that require a dog to be off lead, the lead will be taken off upon instruction from the judge, and handed to the Steward.

PROPOSED:

Entering and Leaving the Ring:

On the Steward's call of the dog's catalogue number, the Handler will enter the Ring and take up position at the "Start Station". All dogs must enter and leave the ring on lead. In Exercises that require a dog to be off lead, the lead will be taken off upon instruction from the judge, and **handed to the Steward retained by the handler. They may place the lead over their shoulder or in their pocket.**

Rationale:

This retains the ANKC general rule introduced during Covid and retained post covid until the forthcoming rule change.

Submitted by Annette J Slavin

CURRENT RULE

Page 11 – All Classes – Paragraph 2*

All dogs must have a slip or fixed collar which fits loosely around only the dog's neck and which must remain on the dog at all times. No spiked collars, electronic collars or collars which give additional head control shall be permitted.

*The minimum length of lead will be 750mm and it will be fitted with a quick release fastener. All dogs must enter and leave the ring on a lead. **In exercises that require a dog to be off-lead, the lead will be taken off and handed to the Steward at the Start Peg.**

All exercises with the exception of 'Heel on Lead' and 'Stand for Examination' in the Community Companion Dog Class must be executed off-lead.

CHANGE TO:

Collars & Leads:

All dogs must have a slip or fixed collar which fits loosely around only the dog's neck and which must remain on the dog at all times. No spiked collars, electronic collars or collars which give additional head control shall be permitted.

*The minimum length of lead will be 750mm and it will be fitted with a quick release fastener. All dogs must enter and leave the ring on a lead. ***In exercises that require a dog to be off-lead, when asked by the Judge to remove the lead, it will be placed in a sash like manner over the handler's left shoulder with the buckle on the handlers right side facing away from the dog, or folded and placed in a pocket on the handler's right side away from the dog. A spare lead to be available on the table in every ring.***

All exercises with the exception of 'Heel on Lead' and 'Stand for Examination' in the Community Companion Dog Class must be executed off-lead.

RATIONALE:

This will not only free up Judges & Stewards to concentrate more of the dogs and the exercise at hand in the individual exercises, it is also a safety issue, particularly during stays, giving the handler quick access to the lead to secure their dog asap if an issue arises. This of course is more difficult in "out of sight stays" but still when a handler is called back to the ring to pick up a wandering dog, they have the lead on hand rather than having to fossick on a table for it or having to wait for the Steward to find it amongst other leads. It also allows the lead to be clipped back on immediately the down stays are finalised. The trial period for this has worked well since the introduction of Covid.

Submitted by Dearne Jackson (on behalf of GSDCV OTC)

Page 11:

Current Rule:

Collars and Leads:

All dogs must have a slip or fixed collar which fits loosely around only the dog's neck and which must remain on the dog at all times. No spiked collars, electronic collars or collars which give additional head control shall be permitted.

The minimum length of lead will be 750mm and it will be fitted with a quick release fastener. All dogs must enter and leave the Ring on a lead. In exercises that require a dog to be off-lead, the lead will be taken off and ~~handed to the Steward at the start marker~~.

Replace with:

In exercises that require a dog to be off-lead, the lead will be taken off and **retained by the handler**

Rationale:

To allow the ANKC rule adjustment given during Covid pandemic requiring the handler to retain the lead be made a formal rule change. ie change the strike out wording in the current rule and replacing with the words "retained by the handler".

This rule change was retained after Covid restrictions enabled trials to recommence and approved until the next official rule change. The GSDCV wish this to be formalised as part of this rule change.

REMAIN ON LEAD DURING GROUP STAYS FOR CCD PROPOSAL.

Rationale: For lower obedience class CCD that the group stays be completed on lead rather than off lead. There being 2.5 m distance between the dogs. This will still demonstrate the dog's ability to remain in the stay position as per the relevant group exercise, but safety would be better maintained by the dog remaining on lead.

There would be a set lead length so that there is equal distance between dog and handler - e.g. a 2 m lead is required for group stays in CCD. The Handler may enter the ring for the

group stays on a minimum length lead, but this must be changed to be a 2 m lead for the exercises. The short lead must be retained on the handler's person.

The lead used for the group stays may not be a combination of more than one lead. (The reasoning for this restriction is that the lead length could end up being shorter / longer than 2m and thereby allow a dog to reach the dog stationed next to it or leading to the handler being closer to the dog.)

COMMUNITY COMPANION DOG CLASS

Submitted by Ross Carlson, Kim Houlden, Gaye Todd

Community Companion Dog class: (Page 13)

1. Introduction of a new exercise

Stand Stay: Maximum Points 15 (page 14)

Principal Feature: The dog to remain in the stand position until the end of the exercise.

Description of Exercise:

This is an individual exercise. The handler will take up their position, as indicated by the judge with their dog standing at heel. On order from the Judge, the Handler may give a command to stay and will immediately leave and walk approximately ten (10) metres to a marker where they will perform an about turn and return their dog, without pause or hesitation. The Judge will then order 'Exercise Finished'.

The dog must not move from the stand position until after the Judge has ordered 'Exercise Finished'.

Orders from Judge: 'Take up position', 'Leave (Leave your dog)', 'Exercise Finished'.

Deductions:

Zero Score: For a dog that fails to remain in the stand position, or breaks from position when left, or when the Handler returns.

Minor: For a dog which moves its feet or failure to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise. For a handler that pauses on the about turn.

Rationale: This new exercise reinforces the need for a dog to complete a stand stay across all exercises in higher levels that require a dog to complete a stand stay (distance control (Open, UDX), stand for exam at longer lengths, signal exercise (UD)).

****This exercise replaces the 1-min sit stay.**

2. Introduction of a new exercise

Down Stay: Maximum Points 15 (page 15)

Principal Feature: The dog to remain in the stand position until the end of the exercise.

Description of Exercise:

This is an individual exercise. The handler will take up their position, as indicated by the judge with their dog in a down position at heel. On order from the Judge, the Handler may give a command to stay and will immediately leave and walk approximately ten (10) metres to a marker where they will perform an about turn and return their dog, without pause or hesitation. The Judge will then order 'Exercise Finished'.

The dog must not move from the down position until after the Judge has ordered 'Exercise Finished'.

Orders from Judge: 'Take up position', 'Leave (Leave your dog)', 'Exercise Finished'.

Deductions:

Zero Score: For a dog that fails to remain in the down position, or breaks from position when left, or when the Handler returns.

Minor: For minor movements, e.g. fidgeting, or for a dog that lies down in a position which is commonly known as the 'Dead Dog' position, or failure to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise. For a handler that pauses on the about turn.

Rationale: This exercise commits the same style of exercise as the traditional down stay but without the need for a group exercise. The distance is longer for the down stay however there is no pause time between the handler leaving and returning to the dog.

This exercise replaces the 2-min sit stay.

COMMUNITY COMPANION DOG CLASS

The exercise for each dog and the maximum points shall be:

1. Heel on lead	30
2. Stand for Examination on lead	20
3. Recall	20
4. Stand Stay	15
5. Down Stay	15
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>100</u>

Submitted by Julie Morrison

Page 13 Obedience Trial Exercises

Community Companion Dog

Exercise 1 Heel on Lead

Figure Eight exercise listed in Exercise 1 currently reads –

The Handler and dog must execute a 'Figure Eight' at normal pace in which they must heel at least twice around two Stewards standing approximately three (3) metres apart. There must be at least one 'Halt' during this portion of the exercise. The Judge may replace a Steward in the 'Figure Eight' or may take the place of a Steward themselves.

Change to – wording to remain the same but remove from Exercise 1 and add as a new separate exercise. Points for exercise 1 then become 20 points instead of 30 points. The new Figure Eight exercise becomes 20 points.

Rationale – for new dogs the combination of the heeling pattern with the figure eight can be daunting and usually by the time they get to the figure eight exercise (most judges do this part last) they are tired and do not perform the exercise well. The Figure Eight is better performed as a single exercise and is a single exercise in USA. (?)

Page 14 1 Minute Sit Stay

Remove this exercise completely.

Rationale – Stay exercises with inexperienced dogs and handlers can be very difficult and there is a lot of pressure on both dog and handler when they are apart and amongst a group of dogs that they may or may not know. As a handler you have no control over what anyone does and although your dog may be stable and able to do the exercise the dog next to it may not. Anything can upset the inexperienced dog and its not just about dogs being attacked but even the dog near them just moving can be upsetting and put them off. There is a large ground swell amongst competitors that the group stays should be removed and doing this may encourage others to try obedience.

Page 15 2 Minute Down Stay

Remove this exercise completely

Rationale – Stay exercises with inexperienced dogs and handlers can be very difficult and there is a lot of pressure on both dog and handler when they are apart and amongst a group of dogs that they may or may not know. As a handler you have no control over what anyone does and although your dog may be stable and able to do the exercise the dog next to it may not. Anything can upset the inexperienced dog and its not just about dogs being attacked but even the dog near them just moving can be upsetting and put them off. There is a large ground swell amongst competitors that the group stays should be removed and doing this may encourage others to try obedience.

New exercise – Stationary Hold

This is a new exercise to fill in the area that would be left by the removal of the Stays. The exercise is designed to assist competitors for the higher classes by encouraging them to learn how to get their dog to hold an object in its mouth correctly and to give it to its handler when asked. This will assist them when they get to higher classes where they will need to do a retrieve.

The exercise is in 2 parts each part worth 10 points and must be done using an ANKC approved dumbbell.

Part 1 Stationary Hold

Description of Exercise:

The Judge must order the Handler to take up position with the dog sitting directly in front of the handler. On order from the judge the handler will instruct the dog to take the dumbbell in its mouth and to hold it steady without rolling it for a count of 5 seconds. and hold the dumbbell until the Judge orders 'Take it when the Handler may give a command to surrender. The dog must not move from the sitting position until after the Judge has ordered 'Exercise Finished'.

Part 2 Moving Hold

Description of Exercise:

The Judge must order the Handler to take up position with the dog sitting at heel with the dog holding the dumbbell in its mouth. On orders from the judge "Forward" the handler will tell the dog to Stay and leave the dog walking to a distance 3 metres away directly in front of the dog. On Orders from the judge the handler will call the dog and the dog will come briskly to the handler and sit directly in front of the handler. Judge orders 'Take it when the Handler may give a command to surrender. The dog must not move from the sitting position until after the Judge has ordered 'Exercise Finished'

Rationale:

This is a new exercise to fill in the area that would be left by the removal of the Stays. The exercise is designed to assist competitors for the higher classes by encouraging them to learn how to get their dog to hold an object in its mouth correctly and to give it to its handler when asked. This will assist them when they get to higher classes where they will need to do a retrieve.

This then makes the scoring for Community Companion Dog still at 100 points, the exercises being:

Heel on Lead	20points
Figure Eight Heel	20 points
Stand for Exam	20 points
Recall	20 Points
Stationary Hold	10 points
Moving Hold	10 points.

Submitted by Noelene Jordan

Page 13 Obedience Trial Exercises

Community Companion Dog

Exercise 1 Heel on Lead

Figure Eight exercise listed in Exercise 1 currently reads –

The Handler and dog must execute a 'Figure Eight' at normal pace in which they must heel at least twice around two Stewards standing approximately three (3) metres apart. There must be at least one 'Halt' during this portion of the exercise.

The Judge may replace a Steward in the 'Figure Eight' or may take the place of a Steward themselves.

Change to – wording to remain the same but remove from Exercise 1 and add as a new separate exercise. Points for exercise 1 then become 20 points instead of 30 points. The new Figure Eight exercise becomes 20 points.

Rationale – for new dogs the combination of the heeling pattern with the figure eight can be daunting and usually by the time they get to the figure eight exercise (most judges do this part last) they are tired and do not perform the exercise well. The Figure Eight is better performed as a single exercise and is a single exercise in USA. (?)

Page 14 1 Minute Sit Stay

Remove this exercise completely.

Rationale – Stay exercises with inexperienced dogs and handlers can be very difficult and there is a lot of pressure on both dog and handler when they are apart and amongst a group of dogs that they may or may not know. As a handler you have no control over what anyone does and although your dog may be stable and able to do the exercise the dog next to it may not. Anything can upset the inexperienced dog and its not just about dogs being attacked but even the dog near them just moving can be upsetting and put them off. There is a large ground swell amongst competitors that the group stays should be removed and doing this may encourage others to try obedience.

Page 15 2 Minute Down Stay

Remove this exercise completely

Rationale – Stay exercises with inexperienced dogs and handlers can be very difficult and there is a lot of pressure on both dog and handler when they are apart and amongst a group of dogs that they may or may not know. As a handler you have no control over what anyone does and although your dog may be stable and able to do the exercise the dog next to it may not. Anything can upset the inexperienced dog and its not just about dogs being attacked but even the dog near them just moving can be upsetting and put them off. There is a large ground swell amongst competitors that the group stays should be removed and doing this may encourage others to try obedience.

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The exercise is in 2 parts each part worth 10 points and must be done using an ANKC approved dumbbell.

Part 1 Stationary Hold

Description of Exercise:

The Judge must order the Handler to take up position with the dog sitting directly in front of the handler. On order from the judge the handler will instruct the dog to take the dumbbell in its mouth and to hold it steady without rolling it for a count of 5 seconds. and hold the dumbbell until the Judge orders 'Take it when the Handler may give a command to surrender. The dog must not move from the sitting position until after the Judge has ordered 'Exercise Finished'.

Part 2 Moving Hold

Description of Exercise:

The Judge must order the Handler to take up position with the dog sitting at heel with the dog holding the dumbbell in its mouth. On orders from the judge "Forward" the handler will tell the dog to Stay and leave the dog walking to a distance 3 metres away directly in front of the dog. On Orders from the judge the handler will call the dog and the dog will come briskly to the handler and sit directly in front of the handler. Judge orders 'Take it when the Handler may give a command to surrender. The dog must not move from the sitting position until after the Judge has ordered 'Exercise Finished'

Rationale:

This is a new exercise to fill in the area that would be left by the removal of the Stays. The exercise is designed to assist competitors for the higher classes by encouraging them to learn how to get their dog to hold an object in its mouth correctly and to give it to its handler when asked. This will assist them when they get to higher classes where they will need to do a retrieve.

This then makes the scoring for Community Companion Dog still at 100 points, the exercises being:

Heel on Lead	20points
Figure Eight Heel	20 points
Stand for Exam	20 points
Recall	20 Points
Stationary Hold	10 points
Moving Hold	10 points.

Submitted by Dearne Jackson (on behalf of GSDCV OTC)

Page 14 CCD Current Rule:

4. 1 Min. SIT STAY Maximum Points: 15

Principal Feature:

The dog to stay off the lead in a sit position until the completion of the exercise.

Description of Exercise:

This is a Group exercise. The Handlers will take up their positions with their right foot next to a Stay Marker which shall be placed in a line approximately two and a half (2.5) metres apart, and with their dogs sitting in the heel position. On order from the Judge 'Leave (Leave Your Dog)', the Handlers may give their dogs a command to stay and will immediately leave and walk approximately five (5) metres. On order from the Judge or Steward the Handlers will turn to face their dogs and halt.

After one (1) minute from the time the Judge has ordered the Handlers to leave, he will give the order 'Return (Return to Your Dog)'. The Handlers must return to their dogs together. The dogs must not move from the sitting position until after the Judge orders 'Exercise Finished'.

If a dog gets up and starts to roam, the Judge may instruct a Steward, or Handler, to take the dog away from the other dogs.

REPLACE WITH:

4. 1 Min. SIT STAY Maximum Points: 15

Principal Feature:

The dog to stay **on** lead in a sit position until the completion of the **group** exercise.

Description of Exercise:

This is a Group exercise. The Handlers will take up their positions with their right foot next to a Stay Marker which shall be placed in a line approximately two and a half (2.5) metres apart, and with their dogs sitting in the heel position. **The Handler may enter the ring for the group stays on a minimum length lead, but this must be changed to be a 2 m lead for the exercise. The short lead must be retained on the handler's person.**

Note: that the lead used for the group stays may not be a combination of more than one lead.

On order from the Judge 'Leave (Leave Your Dog)', the Handlers may give their dogs a command to stay and will immediately leave and walk approximately **two (2) metres**. On order from the Judge or Steward the Handlers will turn to face their dogs and halt.

After one (1) minute from the time the Judge has ordered the Handlers to leave, he will give the order 'Return (Return to Your Dog)'. The Handlers must return to their dogs together. The dogs must not move from the sitting position until after the Judge orders 'Exercise Finished'.

If a dog gets up and starts to roam, the Judge may instruct **a Steward, or the** Handler, to take the dog away from the other dogs.

Page 15 CCD Current Rule:

5. 2 Min. DOWN STAY Maximum Points: 15

Principal Feature:

The dog to stay off the lead in the down position until the completion of the exercise.

Description of Exercise:

This is a Group exercise. The Handlers will take up their positions with their right foot next to a Stay Marker which shall be placed in a line approximately two and a half (2.5) metres apart and with their dogs in the down position. On order from the Judge to 'Leave (Leave Your Dogs)', the Handlers may give their dogs a command to stay and will immediately leave and walk approximately five (5) metres. On order from the Judge or Steward the Handlers will turn to face their dogs and halt.

After two (2) minutes from the time the Judge has ordered the Handlers to leave, he will give the order 'Return (Return to Your Dogs)'. The Handlers must return to their dogs together. The dogs must not move from the down position until after the Judge orders 'Exercise Finished'.

If a dog gets up and starts to roam, the judge may instruct a Steward, or Handler, to take the dog away from the other dogs.

REPLACE WITH:

5. 2 Min. DOWN STAY Maximum Points: 15

Principal Feature:

The dog to stay **on** lead in a down position until the completion of the **group** exercise.

Description of Exercise:

This is a Group exercise. The Handlers will take up their positions with their right foot next to a Stay Marker which shall be placed in a line approximately two and a half (2.5) metres apart, and with their dogs in the down position **on a 2 m lead for the exercise. The short lead must be retained on the handler's person.**

Note: that the lead used for the group stays may not be a combination of more than one lead.

On order from the Judge 'Leave (Leave Your Dog)', the Handlers may give their dogs a command to stay and will immediately leave and walk approximately **two (2) metres**. On order from the Judge or Steward the Handlers will turn to face their dogs and halt.

After two (2) minutes from the time the Judge has ordered the Handlers to leave, he will give the order 'Return (Return to Your Dog)'. The Handlers must return to their dogs together. The dogs must not move from the down position until after the Judge orders 'Exercise Finished'.

If a dog gets up and starts to roam, the Judge may instruct **a Steward, or the** Handler, to take the dog away from the other dogs.

Submitted by Julie Morrison

Page 13 CCD Class

HEEL ON LEAD

Currently reads;

“The Handler and dog must execute a 'Figure Eight' at normal pace in which they must heel at least twice around two Stewards standing approximately three (3) metres apart.”

Change to;

“The Handler and dog must execute a 'Figure Eight' at normal pace in which they must heel at least **once** around two Stewards standing approximately three (3) metres apart.”

Rationale;

The purpose of the figure 8 is to prove that the dog is comfortable walking around unknown people (or an object). This can be shown by going around each person/post once. There seems little value in having the dog do this a second time. If it does not execute the Figure 8 well, it will already have lost points going around it once.

There is substantial variation in how judges incorporate the Figure 8. I have seen variations between 1.5 times around and up to 3 times around.

This can be a challenging exercise for many dogs. Shortening this exercise may help set the dogs up more positively for the rest of the heeling pattern.

Submitted by Julie Morrison

Page 14 CCD Class

1 Min SIT STAY

Currently reads;

This is a Group exercise. The Handlers will take up their positions with their right foot next to a Stay Marker which shall be placed in a line approximately two and a half (2.5) metres apart, and with their dogs sitting in the heel position. On order from the Judge 'Leave (Leave your Dog)', the Handlers may give their dogs a command to stay and will immediately leave and walk approximately five (5) metres. On order from the Judge or Steward the Handlers will turn to face their dogs and halt. After one (1) minute from the time the Judge has ordered

the Handlers to leave, he will give the order 'Return (Return to your Dog)'. The Handlers must return to their dogs together. The dogs must not move from the sitting position until after the Judge orders 'Exercise Finished'. Maximum points; 15

Change to;

This is an individual exercise. The judge will give the order "Take up position". On further order from the Judge 'Leave (Leave your Dog)', the Handler may give the command to stay and will leave the dog in a sitting position and walk approximately five (5) metres away from the dog. On further order from the judge, the handler will about turn and halt. After 10 seconds, the judge will give the order to Return (Return to you Dog)". The dog must not move from the sitting position until after the Judge orders "Exercise finished". Maximum points; 10

Rationale;

Group stays continue to be a source of dog incidents in trials and training. Placing inexperienced dogs in a group stay situation is putting these dogs (and handlers) under an unnecessary degree of stress. In many cases, it is preventing handlers entering the sport.

The principal feature of the exercise is stated as "the dog to stay off the lead in a sit position until the completion of the exercise." It does not state that this has to be done in a group setting. The principal feature therefore can still be judged by the dog doing an individual stay. By keeping it to 10 sec, it is highly unlikely that judging stays individually would add to the total time to judge the ring.

Points to be reduced from 15 to 10 to allow for the addition of another CCD exercise (see below).

Submitted by Julie Morrison

Page 15 CCD Class

2 Min DOWN STAY

Currently reads

This is a Group exercise. The Handlers will take up their positions with their right foot next to a Stay Marker which shall be placed in a line approximately two and a half (2.5) metres apart and with their dogs in the down position. On order from the Judge to 'Leave (Leave your Dogs)', the Handlers may give their dogs a command to stay and will immediately leave and walk approximately five (5) metres. On order from the Judge or Steward the Handlers will turn to face their dogs and halt. After two (2) minutes from the time the Judge has ordered the Handlers to leave, he will give the order 'Return (Return to your Dogs)'. The Handlers must return to their dogs together. The dogs must not move from the down position until after the Judge orders 'Exercise Finished'. Maximum Points; 15

Change to;

This is an individual exercise. The judge will give the order "Take up position" with the dog in the down position. On further order from the Judge 'Leave (Leave your Dog)', the Handler may give the command to stay and will leave the dog in a down position and walk at least five (5) metres away from the dog. On further order from the judge, the handler will about turn and halt. After 10 seconds, the judge will give the order to Return (Return to you Dog)". The dog must not move from the sitting position until after the Judge orders "Exercise finished". Maximum points; 10

Rationale;

Group stays continue to be a source of dog incidents in trials and training. Placing inexperienced dogs in a group stay situation is putting these dogs (and handlers) under an unnecessary degree of stress. In many cases, it is preventing handlers entering the sport.

The principal feature of the exercise is stated as "the dog to stay off the lead in the down position until the completion of the exercise." It does not state that this has to be done in a group setting. The principal feature therefore can still be judged by the dog doing an individual stay.

By keeping it to 10 sec, it is highly unlikely that judging stays individually would add to the total time to judge the ring. Considerable time would be saved by not doing group stays. Not only is it the total time of the stays but it is the time to find handlers, wait for handlers in other rings, brief handlers, mark out stay pegs etc. Another advantage of doing individual stays is that handlers are finished in the CCD ring after their run through.

Points to be reduced from 15 to 10 to allow for the addition of another CCD exercise (see below).

Submitted by Julie Morrison

Page 15 CCD New Exercise FINISH. Maximum Points; 10

Principal feature of the exercise

The dog to return to the heel position promptly on command

Description of Exercise

The Judge will give the order to “take up position” with the dog sitting in front of the handler as close as possible. On order from the Judge 'Finish', the Handler must give a command and the dog must go briskly to the heel position and sit.

Orders from the Judge;

'Finish', 'Exercise Finished'.

Deductions;

Zero Score; For a dog does that does not return to the heel position.

Substantial; For a dog that returns to the heel position but does not sit

Minor; For a slow response or a poor sit

Rationale;

The Finish is an important part of all the classes from Novice upwards and it is always included as a component of another exercise. It makes sense to introduce it at CCD level to help the transition to the finish at the end of the recall in Novice. As this is a simple and quick exercise, it would not add a significant time to the time taken to judge a CCD run through.

NOVICE CLASS

Submitted by Ross Carlson, Kim Houlden, Gaye Todd

Novice class: (page 17)

3. Introduction of a new exercise

CHANGE OF POSITION 2: Maximum Points 30

Principal Feature: The dog to promptly respond to the Handler's command 'Sit' given from a distance.

Description of Exercise:

The Judge must order the Handler to take up position with the dog standing at heel. On order from the Judge, the Handler may give a command to stay and will move forward until the Judge commands the Handler to about turn and halt. The Handler will be halted approximately three (3) metres from the dog.

On order from the Judge, the Handler will command the dog to 'Sit'. The dog must remain in the sit position until after the Judge orders 'Return (Return to your Dog)' whereupon the Handler will return to the dog. The dog must remain in the sit position until after the Judge has ordered 'Exercise Finished'.

Orders from Judge: 'Take up position', 'Leave (Leave your dog)', 'About Turn', 'Halt', 'Sit, (Sit your dog)', 'Return (Return to your dog)', 'Exercise Finished'.

Deductions:

Zero Score: For a dog that fails to sit on one command, or breaks from position when left, or when the Handler returns or returns to the Handler during the change of position.

Substantial: Slow response to commands, moving more than one body length when changing position.

Minor: For failure to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise.

Rationale: This new exercise leads dogs into the Distance Control exercise in Open and UD, broken down to smaller steps. There is already the COP exercise from a stand to a drop, this builds upon that with a stand to a sit. The exercise will support new handlers with training for open level, distance control.

4. Introduction of a new optional exercise

Send away: Maximum 30 points (page 20)

Principal Feature: The dog, on command, to leave the Handler and go substantially in the right direction to the prescribed area and sit.

Description of Exercise:

The Judge shall prescribe an area, which will be marked by a frame positioned in the ring, at least 1m from each side the ring and approximately five (5) metres from the point from which the dog is sent.

The Handler shall stand the dog in the position indicated by the Judge. On order from the Judge, the Handler shall command the dog to go to the Prescribed Area. The dog must go substantially in the right direction and at a brisk pace. It must not go past the Prescribed Area or enter from behind. Once the dog is in the Prescribed Area, it should sit automatically. The handler may command the dog to sit. The dog is not required to sit squarely on to the Handler. Where the Handler chooses to command the dog to sit, they may attract the dog's attention by using its name before giving the command. If this is done a penalty will be incurred.

The Judge will order "exercise finished, return to your dog". The handler may give a command their dog to stay before returning to the dog.

Orders from Judge: 'Take up your position', 'Send (Send your Dog)', 'Exercise Finished, Return to your dog'.

Deductions:

Zero Score: For a dog which requires more than one command to leave the Handler or to sit in the Prescribed Area, anticipates any part of the Principal Feature, does not go substantially in the right direction or fails to sit substantially within the Prescribed Area (see Section 8). Goes past the back edge of the Prescribed Area or enters from behind.

Substantial: If a dog is slow going out or responds slowly to commands.

Minor: Where the dog is substantially but not entirely within the Prescribed Area. For a dog that requires a command to sit in the Prescribed Area.

Rationale: This new exercise leads dogs into the Directed Jumping exercise in UD at a shorter distance without jumping.

NOVICE CLASS

The exercise for each dog and the maximum points shall be:

- | | |
|---|-----------|
| 1. Heel Free | 40 |
| 2. Stand Free for Examination | 30 |
| 3. Recall | 40 |
| 4. A) Retrieve on the Flat or
B) Send Away | 30 |
| 5. Change of Position 1 | 30 |
| 6. Change of Position 2 | 30 |

TOTAL 200

Submitted by Julie Morrison

Page 17 NOVICE CLASS

Heel on Lead

Currently reads;

“The Handler and dog must execute a 'Figure Eight' at normal pace in which they must heel at least twice around two Stewards standing approximately three (3) metres apart.”

Change to;

“The Handler and dog must execute a 'Figure Eight' at normal pace in which they must heel at least **once** around two Stewards standing approximately three (3) metres apart.”

Rationale;

The purpose of the figure 8 is to prove that the dog is comfortable walking around unknown people (or an object). This can be shown by going around each person/post once. There seems little value in having the dog do this a second time. If it does not execute the Figure 8 well, it will already have lost points going around it once.

There is substantial variation in how judges incorporate the Figure 8. I have seen variations between 1.5 times around and up to 3 times around.

This can be a challenging exercise for many dogs. Shortening this exercise may help set the dogs up more positively for the rest of the heeling pattern.

Submitted by Julie Morrison

Page 17 Novice Class

Exercise 1 Heel on Lead

The Figure Eight part of the exercise currently reads:

The Handler and dog must execute a 'Figure Eight' at normal pace in which they must heel at least twice around two Stewards standing approximately three (3) metres apart. There must be at least one 'Halt' during this portion of the exercise. The Judge may replace a Steward in the 'Figure Eight' or may take the place of a Steward themselves.

Change to – wording to remain the same but remove from Exercise 1 and add as a new separate exercise. Points for exercise 1 then remains 40 points. The new Figure

Eight exercise becomes 30 points.

Rationale – for new dogs the combination of the heeling pattern with the figure eight can be daunting and usually by the time they get to the figure eight exercise (most judges do this part last) they are tired and do not perform the exercise well. The Figure Eight is better performed as a single exercise and is a single exercise in USA. (?)

Page 18 4A Retrieve on the Flat (optional)

Change to no longer optional and a mandatory exercise

Rationale – to make up the exercises due to removal of Group Sit Stay'

Page 19 4B Change of Position (optional)

Change to no longer optional and a mandatory exercise.

Rationale – to make up the exercises due to removal of Group Down Stay'

Page 19 1 Minute Sit Stay

Change to remove the exercise

Rationale – as per the rationale for Community Companion Dogs

Page 20 3 Minute Down Stay

Change to remove the exercise

Rationale – as per the rationale for Community Companion Dogs

This then makes the scoring for Companion Dog still at 200 points, the exercises being:

Heel on Lead	40points
Figure Eight Heel	30 points
Stand for Exam	30 points
Recall	40 Points
Retrieve on the Flat	30 points
Change of Position	30 points.

Submitted by Julie Morrison

Page 19 NOVICE CLASS

4 (b) New Exercise Jump (Optional) Maximum Points 30

Principal Feature

The dog to promptly respond to the handler's command to go over a jump and return back to the handler.

Description of Exercise

The Judge must order the Handler to take up position in front of the jump, the Handler to choose the actual position, with the dog sitting at heel. On order from the judge "Leave (leave your dog)", the handler may command the dog to stay and will walk away from the dog to the other side of the jump, approximately 4m past the jump. On order from the judge "About turn", the Handler will about turn and face the dog. On order from the Judge "Call", the Handler will call the dog. The dog must return to the Handler by clearing the jump and sit in front of the Handler

Orders from the Judge;

'Leave' (leave your dog), 'About Turn', 'Halt', Call (Call your dog)', Exercise Finished.

Deductions;

Zero Score; For a dog that breaks from position, does not come on the first command, does not go over the jump or climbs the jump.

Substantial; Failing to sit, slow response to command.

Minor; For tipping the jump, poor sit.

Rationale;

As jumps are required in the UD Class and optional in the Open class as part of complex exercises, giving the dogs the opportunity in Novice to get used to jumping, will be a good foundational skill.

Page 19 NOVICE CLASS

4. (b) CHANGE OF POSITION (Optional) Maximum Points 30

Currently Reads

4. (b) Change of Position **Optional**

Change to;

5. Change of Position (ie NOT optional)

Rationale;

A dog responsive and under control from its handler from a distance, should be an important criteria for a titled obedience dog. This exercise progresses through the classes. It is included in Rally from the Excellent Class. This exercise should be a compulsory component of the Novice Obedience Class.

Submitted by Julie Morrison

Page 19 NOVICE CLASS

1 Min Sit Stay

Currently Reads;

“This is a Group exercise... dogs and halt.”

Change to;

Delete this exercise

Rationale;

Having 2 group stay exercises increases the chance of a dog incident. The sitting position can be challenging for long back breeds who generally do not spend a lot of time in the sit position. Proving that a dog can do a group stay exercise does not need to be done in both the sit position and the down position so delete the sit stay exercise

Page 20 NOVICE CLASS

3 Min Down Stay

Currently Reads;

This is a Group exercise. The Handlers will take up their positions with their right foot next to a Stay Marker which shall be placed in a line approximately two and a half (2.5) metres apart and with their dogs in the down position. On order from the Judge to 'Leave (Leave your Dogs)', the Handlers may give their dogs a command to stay and will immediately leave and walk as directed approximately ten (10) metres. On order from the Judge or Steward the Handlers will turn to face their dogs and halt.

After three (3) minutes from the time the Judge has ordered the Handlers to leave, he will give the order 'Return (Return to your Dogs)'.

Change to; 2 Min Down Stay

This is a Group exercise **with no more than 5 dogs at a time**. The Handlers will take up their positions with their right foot next to a Stay Marker which shall be placed in a line approximately **three and a half (3.5)** metres apart and with their dogs in the down position. On order from the Judge to 'Leave (Leave your Dogs)', the Handlers may give their dogs a command to stay and will immediately leave and walk as directed approximately ten (10) metres. On order from the Judge or Steward the Handlers will turn to face their dogs and halt.

After **two (2)** minutes from the time the Judge has ordered the Handlers to leave, they will give the order 'Return (Return to your Dogs)'.

Rationale;

Novice dogs are still inexperienced dogs particularly if they have not competed in the CCD class. This increases the possibility of a dog incident. Increasing the distance apart, reducing the duration and reducing the number of dogs in the ring will reduce pressure on the dogs and may help the dogs feel less stressed in this exercise.

Having only 5 dogs at a time may mean multiple stays any extra time to conduct the down stay would be offset by the removal of the sit stay and the reduction in time of the down stay.

Submitted by Noelene Jordan

Page 17 Novice Class

Exercise 1 Heel on Lead

The Figure Eight part of the exercise currently reads:

The Handler and dog must execute a 'Figure Eight' at normal pace in which they must heel at least twice around two Stewards standing approximately three (3) metres apart. There must be at least one 'Halt' during this portion of the exercise. The Judge may replace a Steward in the 'Figure Eight' or may take the place of a Steward themselves.

Change to – wording to remain the same but remove from Exercise 1 and add as a new separate exercise. Points for exercise 1 then remains 40 points. The new Figure Eight exercise becomes 30 points.

Rationale – for new dogs the combination of the heeling pattern with the figure eight can be daunting and usually by the time they get to the figure eight exercise (most judges do this part last) they are tired and do not perform the exercise well. The Figure Eight is better performed as a single exercise and is a single exercise in USA. (?)

Page 18 4A Retrieve on the Flat (optional)

Change to no longer optional and a mandatory exercise

Rationale – to make up the exercises due to removal of Group Sit Stay'

Page 19 4B Change of Position (optional)

Change to no longer optional and a mandatory exercise.

Rationale – to make up the exercises due to removal of Group Down Stay'

Page 19 1 Minute Sit Stay

Change to remove the exercise

Rationale – as per the rationale for Community Companion Dogs

Page 20 3 Minute Down Stay

Change to remove the exercise

Rationale – as per the rationale for Community Companion Dogs

This then makes the scoring for Companion Dog still at 200 points, the exercises being:

Heel on Lead	40points
Figure Eight Heel	30 points
Stand for Exam	30 points
Recall	40 Points
Retrieve on the Flat	30 points
Change of Position	30 points.

Submitted by Ray Ashman

Page 17 Novice class

The exercise for each dog and the maximum points shall be:

1. Heel Free	40
2. Stand Free for Examination	30
3. Recall	40
4.(a) Retrieve on the Flat or (b) Change of Position	30
5 1-min Sit Stay	30
6 3-min Down Stay	30
TOTAL	200

Change to

1. Heel Free	40
2. Stand Free for Examination	20
3. Recall	30
4.(a) Retrieve on the Flat or (b) Change of Position	20
5 1-min Sit Stay	25
6 3-min Down Stay	25
TOTAL	160

Pass score = 136

Rationale: Point for various exercises are not weighted correctly to reflect the difficulty of different exercises. An example being the Stand Free for Examination being 30 points and the heeling is 40 points. This indicates that the Stand Free for Examination is 75% as difficult of the heeling.

Submitted by Adrian Brogan

CD

Current rule: 1 Min. SIT STAY Maximum Points: 30

Principal Feature:

The dog to stay off the lead in a sit position until the completion of the exercise.

Description of Exercise:

This is a Group exercise. The Handlers will take up their positions with their right foot next to a Stay Marker, which shall be placed in a line approximately two and a half (2.5) metres apart, and with their dogs sitting in the heel position. On order from the Judge 'Leave (Leave your Dog)', the Handlers may give their dogs a command to stay and will immediately leave and walk approximately ten (10) metres. On order from the Judge or Steward the Handlers will turn to face their dogs and halt.

After one (1) minute from the time the Judge has ordered the Handlers to leave, they will give the order 'Return (Return to your Dog)'. The Handlers must return to their dogs together. The dogs must not move from the sitting position until after the Judge orders 'Exercise Finished'.

If a dog gets up and starts to roam, the Judge may instruct a Steward, or Handler, to take the dog away from the other dogs.

Proposed change: *Drop the sit stay exercise completely,*

Rationale: *It is just repeating the exact same exercise they did in CCD.*

NOVICE ADVANCED CLASS

Submitted by Lorna Piper

New Class to come between Novice and Open

Novice Advanced (NA) – Optional Class or if other suggested changes to class names occur it will be Companion Dog Advanced (CDA)

NOVICE ADVANCED - Optional

The exercise for each dog and the maximum points shall be:

- | | |
|--|----|
| 1. Heel Free | 30 |
| 2. Stand Free For Examination | 30 |
| 3. Recall | 30 |
| 4. a. Food refusal or
b. Speak on Command or
c. Scent identification | 20 |
| 5. a. Retrieve Dumbbell over Solid Jump or
b. Distance Control | 30 |
| 6 a. Directed Retrieve or
b. Distance Down and Recall | 30 |
| 7. Down Stay-Handler Out of Sight | 30 |

TOTAL 200

1. HEEL FREE Maximum Points: 30

Principal Feature:

The dog and Handler to work as a team without the use of a lead.

Description of Exercise:

On order from the Judge 'Forward' the Handler may attract the dog's attention by saying its name then give a command to heel and, at the same time, commence walking briskly or at the directed pace.

The dog must work off lead. Any unusual or additional act, signal or command, which in the opinion of the Judge gives the dog assistance, must be penalised.

At each order from the Judge to 'Halt', the Handler must stop and the dog must sit smartly at heel without command and not move until ordered to do so.

The Handler and dog must execute a 'Figure Eight' at normal pace in which they must heel at least twice around two Stewards standing approximately three (3) metres apart. There must be at least one 'Halt' or 'Down' during this portion of the exercise. The Judge

may replace a Steward in the 'Figure Eight' or may take the place of a Steward themselves.

During the heel pattern the judge will give the order on ONE of the stands/sits/drops at normal pace to "leave the dog and return" where the handler will walk approximately 2 m from the dog and return back around the dog to the heel position and proceed to move forward when ordered by the judge (there may be a pause - maximum 5 seconds, or it may be immediate on reaching the heel position).

There should only be one position (sit/down/stand) in slow and fast pace

Orders from Judge:

'Forward', 'Right Turn', 'Left Turn', 'Right About Turn', 'Left About Turn', 'Fast Pace', 'Slow Pace', 'Normal Pace', 'Halt', 'Down (Down your Dog)', 'Stand (Stand your Dog)', '**Leave and Return**', 'Figure Eight', 'Lead Out', 'Exercise Finished'. These orders may be given in any sequence and repeated.

Rationale: To add some variety to the heeling pattern to differentiate from Novice heeling pattern thereby making the class interesting and with different challenges.

Deductions:

Zero Score: For a dog which is unmanageable.

Over 50%: If the Handler continually guides the dog, or adapts their pace to the dog, or if the dog does not complete the Principal Feature of the exercise or if the dog fails to negotiate the Figure Eight.. **If the dog fails to remain in the position for 'Leave and Return'**

Minor: For failing to sit, stand or down; for poor sits, downs, stands, for failing to accompany the Handler around one Figure Eight post, for occasional guidance or for the use of more than one command, for failure to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise.

2. STAND FREE FOR EXAMINATION Maximum Points: 30

Principal Feature:

The dog to stand steadily off the lead until completion of the exercise, and not show undue resentment or shyness.

Description of Exercise:

On order from the Judge, the Handler will move forward and stand the dog. On further order from the Judge, the Handler may give a command to stay and will move forward. The Judge will order the Handler to about turn and then halt approximately ~~two (2)~~ **three (3)** metres from the dog.

The Judge must approach the dog from the right or left front and not direct front. The Judge will physically examine the **dog's head**, body, legs and hindquarters only. The mouth and tail must not be examined.

The Judge will then give the order 'Return (Return to your Dog)' whereupon the Handler will return to the dog. The dog must stand steadily and not move until after the Judge orders 'Exercise Finished' and must not show undue resentment or shyness.

Orders from Judge:

'Forward', 'Stand (Stand your Dog)', 'Leave (Leave your Dog)', 'About Turn', 'Halt', 'Return (Return to your Dog)', 'Exercise Finished'.

Deductions:

Disqualification: For a dog which attacks.

Zero Score: For a dog which shows an obvious tendency to attack or breaks from position.

Minor: For a dog that requires a second command to stand. The mouth, legs or tail must not be examined.

Rationale: Adding examine the head into the process and increasing the distance to three metres will be a transitional move to the Open class

3. RECALL Maximum Points: 30

Principal Feature:

The dog to sit where left off the lead and promptly obey the Handler's command to come.

Description of Exercise:

The Judge will give the order 'Forward' and then 'Halt'. On further order from the Judge 'Leave (Leave your Dog)', the Handler may give the command to stay and will leave the dog in a sitting position and walk at least ~~fifteen (15)~~ **twenty (20)** metres away from the dog. On further order from the Judge, the Handler will about turn and halt. On order from the Judge, the Handler may attract the dog's attention by saying its name once and then give a command to come. The dog must come straight to its Handler at a brisk pace and sit directly in front without further command.

On order from the Judge 'Finish', the Handler must give a command and the dog must go briskly to the heel position and sit.

Orders from Judge:

'Forward', 'Halt', 'Leave (Leave your Dog)', 'About Turn', 'Halt', 'Call (Call your Dog)', 'Finish', 'Exercise Finished'.

Deductions:

Zero Score: For a dog that breaks from position, or does not come on the first command or for a dog that anticipates the command to come.

Substantial: For slow response to commands, for failure to come at a brisk pace, for failure to sit in front of the Handler or finish or for anticipating the finish.

Minor: For a dog that fails to sit automatically when the Handler halts. For the Handler failing to leave a distinct pause between the dog's name and the command to come. For poor sits or finishes, for failure to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise.

Rationale: Increase in Distance to move toward drop on recall in Open

4. a. Food refusal- optional

max points 20

ADAPTED FROM UD

Principle Feature: The dog to stay and refuse the food offered.

Description of Exercise:

The food be kept in a sealed container on the Judge's table and will be offered to the dog only once in the sit position...

On order from the Judge 'Leave', the Handler will leave the dog in the sit position and move at least five (5) metres away. The Judge will order the Handler to halt with their back to the dog. In leaving the dog, the only verbal command permitted by the Handler to About Turn and Halt.

The Judge will approach the dog from the front and offer the food by hand, or from a suitable receptacle. The Judge must not use force, open the dog's mouth, touch the dog with the food or receptacle or speak to the dog. The dog may smell but must not take or lick the food offered to it. On order from the Judge; the Handler return to the dog.

Orders from Judge:

'Forward', 'Halt', 'Leave (Leave your Dog)', 'About Turn', 'Halt', 'Return (Return to your Dog)', 'Exercise Finished'.

Deductions:

Disqualification: For a dog that attacks.

Zero Score: For a dog that shows an obvious tendency to attack, breaks from position, or takes or licks the food.

Substantial: For additional commands to sit

Minor: For any dog that fails to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise.

b. SPEAK ON COMMAND (Optional) Maximum Points: 20 ADAPTED FROM UD

Principal Feature:

The dog to stay and, on command, 'Bark'.

Description of Exercise:

On order from the Judge, the Handler will leave the dog in the sit position and move forward at least five (5) metres, turn to face the dog and halt. On further order from the Judge, 'Now (Bark your Dog)', the Handler will command the dog to bark. On the order 'Return' the Handler will return to the dog.

Orders from Judge:

'Forward', 'Halt', 'Leave (Leave your Dog)', 'About Turn', 'Halt', 'Now (Bark your Dog)', 'Return (Return to your Dog)', 'Exercise Finished'.

c. SCENT Identification Maximum Points 20

Principal Feature

The dog on command to indicate the scented article

Description of Exercise

The Handler will present to the judge at the beginning of their class two (2) bags containing identical containers, one (1) bag with two containers and one with one container that has the scent. The bags will be placed on the table until required. The steward or judge will place a food item into each of the two (2) containers using tongs, the three (3) containers will be placed by hand on the ground half a metre apart in whatever design the judge deems, this set up will be the same for all dogs in the class.

The handler will be three (3) metres distance facing away while the setup takes place. On judge's order the Handler will about turn on the spot, on further order the Handler will send the dog to indicate the scent container. The judge will call when they deem the dog has indicated a container, calling Correct or Incorrect.

Orders from the Judge

'Take up position', 'About Turn' Send (Send your Dog), 'Exercise Finished', 'Correct/Incorrect'

Deductions

Zero for a dog that anticipates, for an incorrect indication, for anticipation

Substantial for a dog that fails to sit at heel after the turn, for a dog that mouths the container

Minor for lesser points of the exercise, for poor sits.

5 - FROM OPEN CLASS

(a) DISTANCE CONTROL (Optional) Maximum Points: 20

Principal Feature:

The dog to stand where left and respond to the Handler's commands given from a distance.

Description of Exercise:

On order 'Take up Position' the Handler will stand the dog in a position previously indicated by the Judge.

On further order from the Judge the Handler may give a command to stay and move forward approximately five (5) metres. The Judge will order the Handler to about turn and halt. On separate order and specific order or signal from the Judge in each case, the Handler will give the command to 'Down', 'Sit', to 'Come' and to 'Finish'.

(Both verbal and physical commands are allowed)

Orders from Judge:

'Take up position', 'Are You Ready', 'Leave (Leave your Dog)', 'About Turn', 'Halt', 'Down (Down your Dog)', 'Sit (Sit your Dog)', 'Call (Call your Dog)', 'Finish', 'Exercise Finished'.

(These orders must be given in the order specified)

Deductions:

Zero Score: For a dog, which is unmanageable, breaks from position or which fails on a single command to down, or sit or come. Anticipates the commands given after the dog has been left, moves more than one body length when changing from one position to the next

when commands are given after the dog has been left or does not complete the Principal Feature of the Exercise.

(b) RETRIEVE DUMBBELL OVER SOLID JUMP (Optional) Maximum Points: 20 - FROM OPEN

Principal Feature:

The dog, on command, must go over the jump, retrieve the dumbbell, and return over the jump.

Description of Exercise:

The Judge must order the Handler to take up position in front of the jump, the Handler to choose the actual position with the dog sitting at heel.

On order from the Judge, the Handler may give a command to stay and then throw the dumbbell over the jump and at least four (4) metres past it. Where the dumbbell is not thrown at least four (4) metres past the jump a Minor Deduction must be incurred and the Judge will order a re-throw from the same position. On order from the Judge 'Send (Send your Dog)', the Handler will give a command to retrieve. The retrieve must be done at not less than a brisk pace.

The dog must go over the jump in both directions. On its return, the dog must sit directly in front of the Handler and hold the dumbbell until the Judge orders 'Take it'. The Handler may give a command to surrender. The dog must remain sitting in front of the Handler until after the judge orders 'Finish'. On the Handler's command, the dog must go briskly to the heel position and sit.

It is the Judge's responsibility to see that the height jumped is that required for that particular dog's height.

Orders from Judge:

'Take up position', 'Throw it', 'Send (Send your Dog)', 'Take It', 'Finish', 'Exercise Finished'.

Deductions:

Zero Score: For a dog that does not retrieve the dumbbell on one command, anticipates the command to retrieve, climbs the solid jump or refuses to give up the dumbbell; where the dumbbell is dropped

Rationale: The inclusion of two Open class exercises as optional exercises replacing retrieve on the flat and Change of Position options ensures that this is a transition exercise between Novice and Open

6 (a) DIRECTED RETRIEVE (Optional) Maximum Points: 30 From Open Class

Principal Feature:

The dog to retrieve the designated glove on command.

Description of Exercise

In this exercise the Handler will provide two (2) predominately white, wrist length cotton gloves, which must be open and must be approved by the Judge.

The Judge or Steward will then place the two (2) gloves across the end or side of the ring. The Handler with the dog sitting at heel, will stand in the ring facing in the opposite direction to and approximately twelve (12) metres from where the middle distance is between the gloves. The gloves must not be placed into position until the completion of the previous exercise.

The two gloves should be placed in a straight line approximately one (1) metre from the edge or side of the ring. The distance between the gloves will be approximately ten (10)

metres. Both gloves must be clearly and equally visible to the dog when the Handler turns to face the glove designated by the Judge. The Handler should be able to look over their shoulder to check where the gloves are placed before turning around to face the gloves.

The gloves will be designated 'One' and 'Two' reading from left to right when the Handler turns and faces the gloves. The Judge will give the order 'One' or 'Two' and then order the Handler to 'About Turn' and 'Halt'. The Handler will give the command to Heel, and then turn in place, right or left, to face the designated glove. The Handler will come to a halt with the dog sitting at heel. The Handler must not touch the dog, nor reposition the dog.

The Judge will then order 'Send (Send your Dog)' The Handler will give the dog the direction to the designated glove with a single motion of either the left or the right hand and arm. The Handler may bend the body and knees to the extent necessary in giving the direction to the dog. The command to retrieve will be given either simultaneously with, or immediately after the giving of the direction, after which the Handler will stand erect in a natural position.

The dog will go directly to and retrieve the glove at a brisk pace, without unnecessary mouthing or playing with it.

The dog must sit directly in front of the Handler and hold the glove until the Judge orders 'Take it' when the Handler may give a command to surrender. The dog must remain sitting in front of the Handler until after the Judge orders 'Finish'. On the Handler's command, the dog must go briskly to the heel position and sit.

This exercise shall consist of a single retrieve. The same number glove will be used for every dog in the class in the trial.

Orders from Judge:

'Take up Position', 'Glove Number One or Two', 'About Turn', 'Halt', 'Send (Send your Dog)', 'Take It', 'Finish', 'Exercise Finished'.

Deductions:

Zero Score: For a dog that does not retrieve the designated glove on one command, anticipates the command to retrieve, refuses to give up the glove or does not deliver to hand. For any additional command to reposition the dog to face the designated glove.

Substantial: For slowness, excessive mouthing, failing to sit in front, or finish, or anticipates the finish. For touching the dog or excessive motions when turning to face the glove. For a dog which, fails to sit when turning to face the glove.

(b) Distance down and recall (10m) maximum points 20 - NEW EXERCISE

Principal Feature:

The dog on command, must drop and promptly respond to Handler's command to come.

Description of Exercise

The handler to leave the dog in a stand at least 10 metres, on order from the judge about turn and halt. On order from the judge the Handler will command the dog to drop and on order from the judge will recall the dog. The dog will then finish to heel on judge's order.

Orders from the Judge

'Take up position', 'Leave (Leave your Dog)', 'About turn', 'Halt', Down (Down your Dog), Call (Call your Dog), 'Finish'.

Deductions

Zero Score: For a dog that breaks from position when left. Anticipates the command to down/come.

Substantial: For slow response to Handler's commands, for second command to stand. For failure to leave a distinct pause between the name of the dog and the command. Failure to come at a brisk pace, sit in front, or finish or anticipating the finish.

Minor: For poor stand, sits, down, finishes or for failure to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise.

Rationale: extension of Change of Position and transitional to drop on recall in Open Class. New exercise for dogs that are unable to retrieve

7. Out of Sight Down Stay maximum points 30 ADAPTED FROM OPEN CLASS

HANDLER OUT OF SIGHT

Principal Feature:

The dog to stay off the lead in the down position until the completion of the exercise.

Description of Exercise:

This is a Group exercise. The Handlers will take up their position with their right foot next to a Stay Marker which shall be placed in a line approximately two and a half (2.5) metres apart and with their dogs in the down position. On order from the Judge to 'Leave (Leave your Dog)', the Handlers may give their dogs a command to stay and will immediately leave and, accompanied by a Steward, go out of sight of the dogs to a point previously designated by the Judge.

After ~~three (3)~~ **one (1)** minute from the time the Judge has ordered the Handlers to leave their dogs, the Steward will order 'Return (Return to your Dogs)'. The Handlers must return to their dogs together. The dogs must not move from the down position until after the Judge orders 'Exercise Finished'.

The hide will be no more than fifteen (15) metres from where the dogs are left (ten (10) metres from ring side.)

If a dog gets up and starts to roam, the Judge may instruct the Steward to take the dog away from the other dogs.

Orders from Judge

'Leave (Leave your Dogs)', 'Return (Return to your Dogs)' (may be given by a Steward), 'Exercise Finished'.

Deductions:

Zero Score: For a dog which fails to remain in the down position, or which moves more than half its body length from where it was left.

Minor: For minor movements, e.g. fidgeting, or for a dog that lies down in a position which is commonly known as the 'Dead Dog' position, or if Handlers do not leave or return with other Handlers.

Rationale: A progression towards Open Class

Glossary Changes

Scent Identification items – will be no bigger than 10cm x 6cm x 3cm with an easily removable lid.

The hide for the Novice Advanced class will be no more than 10 metres from the ring side.

CHANGE to all heeling patterns – glossary

That there will be only one position ordered by the Judge in fast and slow pace.

Rationale: *to bring consistency between the States.*

OPEN CLASS

Submitted by Ross Carlson, Kim Houlden, Gaye Todd

Open class:

1. Introduction of a new exercise (page 27)

DIRECTED SENDAWAY: Maximum Points 30

Principal Feature: The dog, on command, to leave the Handler and go substantially in the right direction to the prescribed area and sit.

Description of Exercise:

The Judge shall prescribe an area, which will be marked by a frame positioned in the ring, at least 1m from each side the ring and approximately ten (10) metres from the point from which the dog is sent.

The Handler shall stand the dog in the position indicated by the Judge. On order from the Judge, the Handler shall command the dog to go to the Prescribed Area. The dog must go substantially in the right direction and at a brisk pace. It must not go past the Prescribed Area or enter from behind. Once the dog is in the Prescribed Area, it should sit automatically. The dog is not required to sit squarely on to the Handler. Where the Handler chooses to command the dog to sit, they may attract the dog's attention by using its name before giving the command. If this is done a penalty will be incurred.

The Judge will order "exercise finished, return to your dog". The handler may give a command their dog to stay before returning to the dog.

Orders from Judge: 'Take up your position', 'Send (Send your Dog)', 'Exercise Finished, Return to your dog'.

Deductions:

Zero Score: For a dog which requires more than one command to leave the Handler or to sit in the Prescribed Area, anticipates any part of the Principal Feature, does not go substantially in the right direction or fails to sit substantially within the Prescribed Area (see Section 8). Goes past the back edge of the Prescribed Area or enters from behind.

Substantial: If a dog is slow going out or responds slowly to commands.

Minor: Where the dog is substantially but not entirely within the Prescribed Area. For a dog that requires a command to sit in the Prescribed Area.

Rationale: This new exercise leads dogs into the Directed Jumping exercise in UD at a shorter distance without jumping. The exercise will support new handlers with training for UD whilst still competing at the Open level.

****This exercise replaces the 3-min Down stay, handler out of sight.**

OPEN CLASS

The exercise for each dog and the maximum points shall be:

1. Heel Free	40
2. Stand Free for Examination	20
3. Drop on Recall	30
4. Retrieve on the Flat	30
5. A) Retrieve dumbbell over solid or B) Directed Retrieve	30
6. A) Broad Jump or B) Distance Control	20
7. Directed Send Away	30

TOTAL 200

Submitted by Dani Sherrin

SECTION OPEN CLASS

PAGE 27: 3 Min. DOWN STAY HANDLER OUT OF SIGHT (30 points)

Change: Amend the open down stay out of sight criteria (30 points).

Currently reads... "3 Min. DOWN STAY HANDLER OUT OF SIGHT - Maximum Points: 30

Principal Feature: The dog to stay off the lead in the down position until the completion of the exercise.

Description of Exercise: This is a Group exercise. The Handlers will take up their position with their right foot next to a Stay Marker which shall be placed in a line approximately two and a half (2.5) metres apart and with their dogs In the down position. On order from the Judge to 'Leave (Leave your Dog)', the Handlers may give their dogs a command to stay and will immediately leave and, accompanied by a Steward, go out of sight of the dogs to a point previously designated by the Judge.

After three (3) minutes from the time the Judge has ordered the Handlers to leave their dogs, the Steward will order 'Return (Return to your Dogs)'. The Handlers must return to their dogs together. The dogs must not move from the down position until after the Judge orders 'Exercise Finished'. If a dog gets up and starts to roam, the Judge may instruct the Steward to take the dog away from the other dogs.

Orders from Judge: 'Leave (Leave your Dogs)', 'Return (Return to your Dogs)' (may be given by a Steward), 'Exercise Finished'.

Deductions:

Zero Score: For a dog which fails to remain in the down position, or which moves more than half its body length from where it was left.

Minor: For minor movements, e.g. fidgeting, or for a dog that lies down in a position which is commonly known as the 'Dead Dog' position, or if Handlers do not leave or return with other Handlers"

Change to:

3 Min. DOWN STAY HANDLER OUT OF RING - Maximum Points: 30

Principal Feature:

The dog to stay off the lead in the down position until the completion of the exercise.

Description of Exercise:

This is a Group exercise. The Handlers will take up their position with their right foot next to a Stay Marker which shall be placed in a line approximately two and a half (2.5) metres apart and with their dogs in the down position. On order from the Judge to 'Leave (Leave your Dog)', the Handlers may give their dogs a command to stay and will immediately leave and, accompanied by a Steward, go out of the ring to a point previously designated by the Judge.

After three (3) minutes from the time the Judge has ordered the Handlers to leave their dogs, the Steward will order 'Return (Return to your Dogs)'. The Handlers must return to their dogs together. The dogs must not move from the down position until after the Judge orders 'Exercise Finished'. If a dog gets up and starts to roam, the Judge may instruct the Steward to take the dog away from the other dogs.

Orders from Judge: 'Leave (Leave your Dogs)', 'Return (Return to your Dogs)' (may be given by a Steward), 'Exercise Finished'.

Deductions:

Zero Score: For a dog which fails to remain in the down position, or which moves more than half its body length from where it was left.

Minor: For minor movements, e.g. fidgeting, or for a dog that lies down in a position which is commonly known as the 'Dead Dog' position, or if Handlers do not leave or return with other Handlers"

Rationale: This proposal is intended to adjust the difficulty of the group stay to be a steady increase of difficulty between the Novice, Open and Utility classes with consideration of the three "D"s of difficulty – distance, duration and distraction.

By adjusting the group down stay to have the handlers leave the ring but then congregate in sight out of the ring, the distance and distraction is still being challenged but at a more even class with the Utility class to remain unique in introducing the Out of Sight activity.

Currently the Novice stays are for 3 minutes in the ring, Open stays are for 3 minutes outside of the ring and out of sight, Utility stays are 5 minutes outside of the ring and out of sight.

When handlers and dogs are progressing from Novice to Open, there is a sharp increase in both distance (leaving the ring and going to the hide) and distraction (handler out of sight). Meanwhile the difference between Open and Utility is simply an increase in duration (additional 2 minutes).

This presents a steep learning curve between Novice to Open, reflected by the large drop in entrants at Open compared to Novice at many trials, as handlers proof both leaving the ring, a greater distance and the out of sight component. During this time the handler and dogs are not able to trial and are missing out on valuable ring experience and assessments of their capabilities.

The Utility class following this Open proposal could remain a 5 minute out of sight down stay out of sight or be adjusted to a 3 minute out of sight down stay. A proposal has been included for the latter option to ensure a steady difficulty curve between classes.

Submitted by Lorna Piper

Open class changes

Changes to Class Names

Novice Class to be renamed Companion Dog

Open Class to be renamed Companion Dog Excellent

Rationale: As the other classes (CCD and UD) are named the same as the title earned this would clarify it for many newbies

Changes to Open Class

OPEN CLASS

The exercise for each dog and the maximum points shall be

- | | | |
|---|----|----|
| 1. Heel Free | | 20 |
| 2. Figure 8 | | 20 |
| 3. Stand Free for Examination | | 20 |
| 4. Stop on Recall | | 30 |
| 5a Retrieve Article on the Flat | or | 30 |
| 5b. Scent Identification | | |
| 6a Retrieve Article over solid jump | or | 30 |
| 6b. Directed Hoop/mini tunnel (44 gallon drum equivalent) | | |
| 7a Broad Jump | or | 20 |
| 7b Distance Control | | |
| 8 3 min Down Stay – Handler out of sight | | 30 |

1. a. HEEL FREE Maximum Points: 20

Principal Feature:

The dog and Handler to work as a team without the use of a lead.

Description of Exercise:

This exercise must be performed at a higher standard than in the Novice Class.

On order from the Judge 'Forward', the Handler may attract the dog's attention by saying its name and then give a command to heel and, at the same time, commence walking briskly or at the directed pace.

The dog will work off-lead. Any unusual or additional act or command, which, in the opinion of the Judge, gives the dog assistance, must be penalised.

At each order from the Judge to 'Halt', the Handler must stop and the dog must sit smartly at heel without command and not move until ordered to do so.

~~The Handler and dog must execute a 'Figure Eight' at normal pace in which they must heel at least twice around two Stewards standing approximately three (3) metres apart. There must be at least one 'Halt' during this portion of the exercise. A Judge may replace a Steward in the 'Figure Eight', or may take the place of a Steward themselves.~~

Orders from Judge:

'Forward', 'Right Turn', 'Left Turn', 'Right About Turn', 'Left About Turn', 'Fast Pace', 'Slow Pace', 'Normal Pace', 'Halt', 'Down (Down your Dog)', 'Stand (Stand your Dog)', ~~'Figure Eight', 'Lead Out', 'Exercise Finished'~~. These orders may be given in any sequence and repeated.

Deductions:

Zero Score: For a dog which is unmanageable.

Over 50%: if the Handler continually guides the dog, or adapts their pace to the dog, or if the dog does not complete the Principal Feature of the exercise, ~~or if the dog fails to negotiate a Figure Eight post.~~

Minor: For failing to sit, stand or down; for poor sits, downs and stands; for occasional guidance or for the use of more than one command; for failure to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise.

2 Figure 8 maximum points 20

The Handler and dog must execute a 'Figure Eight' at normal pace in which they must heel at least three times around two Stewards/Steward and Judge standing approximately three (3) metres apart. The Handler will do one half of a figure 8 without the dog. There must be at least one 'Halt' and one other position (either drop/stand) where the handler continues the figure 8 without the dog which remains next to the 'post' until the handler returns and collects the dog as they walk past continuing in the figure of 8. When the handler hears Down or Stand order from the Judge it will be implicit that they leave their dog (may give a stay command) and proceed around the figure 8 and collect their dog and continue in the Figure 8 until ordered 'Lead Out'

Orders from the judge

"Forward Figure 8', 'Halt', 'Stand (Stand your Dog) or 'Down' (Down your Dog), 'Lead Out', 'Finished'

Deductions

Zero score : For a dog that doesn't stay in the position left, or moves, does not heel off with the handler on first command. Displays aggression. Does not complete the automatic sit on the 'Halt' order from the judge.

Substantia: for a dog that requires a second command to take up the stand/down position.

Anticipates the movement forward. Fails to leave the post on the first command.

Minor; for occasional guidance, poor sits/stand/down,

Rationale: Many thoughts on the heeling pattern being too long. The Figure 8 as a separate exercise will demonstrate that the dog is confident in being left next to people, the extra part to the exercise makes it worthy of a score above 10. This exercise would also demonstrate a behaviour that is in line with the title of the class 'Community Dog Excellent'

3. STAND FREE FOR EXAMINATION Maximum points 20

4. DROP STOP ON RECALL Maximum Points: 30

Principal Feature:

The dog to sit where left off lead and promptly obey the Handler's command to come, ~~to down~~, take up the desired position and to come again when called from the down position.

Description of Exercise:

The Judge will give the order 'Forward' and 'Halt'. On further order from the Judge, the Handler may give a command to stay and will leave the dog in a sitting position and walk at least twenty (20) metres away. On further order from the Judge, the Handler will about turn and halt.

On order from the Judge, the Handler may attract the dog's attention by saying its name and then give a command to come. The dog must come straight towards its Handler at a brisk pace.

On further order from the Judge, the Handler will command the dog to ~~down~~ take up a position and it must ~~drop do so~~ promptly ~~to the down position~~ and remain there until given a command to come. The dog must come straight to its Handler at a brisk pace and sit directly in front without further command. The Handler may say the dog's name again before giving a command to come from the down position.

On order from the Judge 'Finish', the Handler may give a command and the dog must go briskly to the heel position and sit.

The Judge must inform the Handler before the start of the exercise if he intends using a signal in lieu of a verbal order.

Orders from Judge:

'Forward', 'Halt', 'Leave (Leave your Dog)', 'About Turn', 'Halt', 'Call (Call Your Dog)', '~~Down (Down your Dog)~~', 'Position' (Position your Dog) 'Call (Call your Dog)', 'Finish', 'Exercise Finished'.

Deductions:

Zero Score: A dog that anticipates the command to come or drop, take up the commanded position fails to remain in the sit position, does not come, down take up the commanded position, or come again on the first command.

Substantial: For a dog failing to sit automatically when the Handler halts. For the Handler failing to leave a distinct pause between the name of the dog and the command. For slow response to commands and for failure to come at a brisk pace; for failure to sit in front, or finish, or for anticipating the finish.

Minor: For poor sits, downs positions, finishes, or for failure to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise.

Rationale: The change from a drop to any position will help those dogs that have difficulty dropping quickly, will assist the giant breeds to manage the exercise better

5 a RETRIEVE DUMBBELL ARTICLE ON FLAT Maximum Points: 30

Principal Feature:

The dog to retrieve the dumbbell on command.

Description of Exercise:

The Judge will give the orders 'Forward', 'Halt'. On further order from the Judge to throw the Dumbbell Article, the Handler may give a command to stay and must throw the dumbbell forward at least six (6) metres. On order from the Judge 'Send (Send your Dog)' the Handler will give a command to retrieve. The exercise must be done at not less than a brisk pace.

Where the dumbbell is not thrown at least six (6) metres a minor deduction must be incurred and a re-throw allowed from the same position.

The dog must sit directly in front of the Handler and hold the dumbbell until the Judge orders 'Take it' when the Handler may give a command to surrender. The dog must remain sitting in front of the Handler until after the Judge orders 'Finish'. On the Handler's command, the dog must go briskly to the heel position and sit.

Orders from Judge:

'Forward', 'Halt', 'Throw it', 'Send (Send your Dog)', 'Take it', 'Finish', 'Exercise Finished'.

Deductions:Zero Score: For a dog that does not retrieve the dumbbell article on one command, anticipates the command to retrieve, or where the dumbbell article is dropped and not delivered to hand or the dog refuses to give up the dumbbell. Article.

Substantial: For a dog failing to sit automatically when the Handler halts. For failure to retrieve at a brisk pace, for slow response to commands, excessive mouthing, failing to sit, or finish, or anticipating the finish.

Minor: For poor sits and finishes; for minor mouthing of or playing with the ~~Dumbbell~~; **Article** where ~~Dumbbell~~ **Article** is dropped and immediately picked up without further command or where a re-throw of the ~~dumbbell~~ **Article** is ordered, if the Handler drops the ~~dumbbell~~ **Article** after it has been taken from the dog, for failure to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise.

Changes to glossary add article for the retrieve may be a toy or a dumbbell, if a toy it must not emit any noise.

Rational: This modernises the exercise to become a behaviour for a community excellent dog

5b. SCENT Identification Maximum Points 20

Principal Feature

The dog on command to indicate the scented article

Description of Exercise

The Handler will present to the judge at the beginning of their class two (2) bags/containers that hold identical containers, one (1) bag with four (4) containers and one (1) with one (1) container that has the scent. The bags will be placed on the table until required. The steward or judge will place a food item into each of the four (4) containers using tongs, the five (5) containers will be placed by hand on the ground half a metre apart in whatever design the judge deems, this set up will be the same for all dogs in the class.

The handler will be four (4) metres distance facing away while the setup takes place. On judge's order the Handler will about turn on the spot, on further order the Handler will send the dog to indicate the scent container. The Handler will call when they deem the dog has indicated a container. The judge will call the exercise 'Finished' and say 'incorrect/correct' The Handler will then collect their dog

Orders from the Judge

'Take up position', 'About Turn' Send (Send your Dog), 'Finished/Exercise Finished', 'Correct/Incorrect'

Deductions

Zero for a dog that anticipates, for an incorrect indication

Substantial for slow response to commands, failure to sit, failure to respond to first command

Minor imperfections for the sit or lesser points of the exercise

Rationale to provide an alternative exercise for those dogs that cannot jump/retrieve

6a Retrieve ~~Dumbbell~~ **Article over solid jump**

Exercise details remain as is excepting the change from dumbbell to article at all relevant points

6b Directed Hoop/Tunnel

Principal Feature:

The dog, on command, to take the hoop/tunnel as directed.

Description of Exercise:

The dog will be left in the centre of the ring approximately ten (10) metres from the two hoops/tunnel, the Handler will take up their position on the marker the other side of the hoops/tunnels, ten (10) from hoops/tunnels. On order from the judge as to left or right obstacle they will command their dog to go through the hoop/tunnel. The dog will sit in front of the Handler and on Judge's order to "Finish" return to the Handlers heel side.

Once that part of the exercise has been completed the Handler will leave their dog at that point and walk back to the dog's previous marker and direct the dog to the other obstacle on the Judge's order. There is no Finish on the second half of the exercise.

The hoops/tunnels will be 6 metres apart across the ring

Praise may be given to the dog between parts of the exercise.

Orders from Judge:

'Take up your position', 'Send (Send your Dog)', 'Left', or 'Right (Note that the dog will take the same obstacle but from the opposite side)', 'Finish', 'Part Exercise Finished', 'Exercise Finished'.

Deductions:Zero Score: For a Handler who directs the dog to the incorrect hoop/tunnel. For a dog which requires more than one command to leave the Handler anticipates any part of the Principal Feature, .Does not leave as directed, ,or does not return to the Handler, must be marked zero for that particular portion of the exercise and the Judge's Chart endorsed 'non-qualifying' score.

Substantial: \ fails to sit in front or finish, or anticipates the finish or for a dog that requires he

Minor: For poor sits or finishes and for failure to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise.

Note:

A non-qualifying score in a part of this exercise shall be deemed to be a non-qualifying score for the whole of the exercise.

7a Broad Jump or

7b Distance Control
NUMBERING

20 AS IS WITH CHANGED

8 Group Stay as is

Addendum to rule review submission

Hoops are not full hoops a suggestion is something like this



Or was envisioning a noodle on extendable uprights

Submitted by Julie Morrison

Page 22 Open Class

Exercise 1 Heel Free

Change to remove the Figure Eight exercise from the Heeling pattern. The score for exercise 1 becomes 30 points.

Rationale – how many times do we need competitors to demonstrate they can do a Figure Eight. They have already demonstrated that they can do this on lead and off lead.

Pages 24, 25, 26 & 27

Currently Exercises 5A Retrieve dumbbell over the jump & 5B Directed retrieve and 6A Broad Jump & 6B Distance Control are optional. Competitor chooses to do either 5A or 5B and either 6A or 6B.

Change to competitor being able to choose any 3 out of the 4 exercises with each exercise being worth 30 points.

Rationale – this gives the competitor more choice on which exercises they wish to do.

Page 27 3 minute Down Stay Handler Out of Sight

Change to -Remove this exercise.

Rationale – as per the rationale for Community Companion Dog.

This then makes the scoring for Companion Dog Excellent still 200 points as follows:

Heel Free	30 points
Stand Free for Exam	20 points
Drop on Recall	30 points
Retrieve on the Flat	30 points
Optional exercises – 3 out of 4 to be done	
Retrieve dumbbell over the jump	30 points
Directed retrieve	30 points
Broad Jump	30 points
Distance Control	30 points

Submitted by Noelene Jordan

Page 22 Open Class

Exercise 1 Heel Free

Change to remove the Figure Eight exercise from the Heeling pattern. The score for exercise 1 becomes 30 points.

Rationale – how many times do we need competitors to demonstrate they can do a Figure Eight. They have already demonstrated that they can do this on lead and off lead.

Pages 24, 25, 26 & 27

Currently Exercises 5A Retrieve dumbbell over the jump & 5B Directed retrieve and 6A Broad Jump & 6B Distance Control are optional. Competitor chooses to do either 5A or 5B and either 6A or 6B.

Change to competitor being able to choose any 3 out of the 4 exercises with each exercise being worth 30 points.

Rationale – this gives the competitor more choice on which exercises they wish to do.

Page 27 3 minute Down Stay Handler Out of Sight

Change to -Remove this exercise.

Rationale – as per the rationale for Community Companion Dog.

This then makes the scoring for Companion Dog Excellent still 200 points as follows:

Heel Free	30 points
Stand Free for Exam	20 points
Drop on Recall	30 points
Retrieve on the Flat	30 points
Optional exercises – 3 out of 4 to be done	
Retrieve dumbbell over the jump	30 points
Directed retrieve	30 points
Broad Jump	30 points
Distance Control	30 points

UTILITY CLASS

Submitted by Ross Carlson, Kim Houlden, Gaye Todd

Utility class:

1. Alteration of deduction in Directed Jumping exercise (page 30)
 - **Existing wording:** "for a dog that requires a command to sit in the Prescribed Area"
This deduction is a substantial.
Proposed alteration: move this deduction to a minor deduction
Rationale: In UDX, there is no deduction for giving a command to sit in the Nominated area. Moving the deduction from a substantial to a minor will still enable dogs to qualify and have room for other deductions.
2. Introduction of new exercise. (page 35)

MOVING POSITIONS: Maximum Points 25

Principal Feature: The dog and Handler are to work as a team without the use of a lead. The dog to promptly perform the Sit, Stand and Down on the first command, whilst the Handler is still in motion.

Description of Exercise:

The dog will work off-lead.

On order from the Judge 'Forward', the Handler may attract the dog's attention by saying its name and then give a command to heel and, at the same time, commence walking briskly at normal pace.

During normal pace the dog shall be required to be left in the Sit, Stand and Down positions whilst the Handler keeps moving forward. Whilst heeling and without pausing or stopping, the Handler will command the dog to "sit", "stand" or "drop" in the order as directed by the Judge and walk around the dog to the left at normal pace, returning to heel position. Once the Handler has reached the dog's front left shoulder, the dog should be in prescribed position. The Handler must then continue heeling forward after returning to the heel position, without pause or hesitation.

Orders for the positions will be the same for each dog and will be selected by the Judge. The judge will then order the position naming the position with the orders "Moving Sit", "Moving stand", "Moving Down".

Orders from the Judge: 'Forward', followed by the orders in any sequence, 'Moving Sit, 'Moving Stand, 'Moving Down', 'Halt', 'Exercise Finished'.

Deductions Zero Score: For a dog which is unmanageable, or for a dog that fails to either sit, down, stand or remain in position. If a Handler commands the dog to take up an incorrect position for any of the moving positions.

Substantial: For a Handler who hesitates when leaving the dog. Prolonged commands or slow response to commands or for the handler failing to maintain normal pace when walking around the dog.

Minor: For imperfections in heeling, poor sits, stands, downs and for failure to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise.

Rationale: This new exercise leads dogs into the Positions in Motion exercise in UDX. There is no need for the Position Coming Up command as there are no other positions other than the three moving positions. **This exercise will replace the 5 min down stay.**

3. Reorder of exercises (page 29)

Rationale: The following order moves the signal exercise which can be quite long and tiring closer to the start of judging which is in line with all other levels where heeling is completed first. The order of judging would then be:

UTILITY CLASS

The exercise for each dog and the maximum points shall be:

1. Seek Back	30
2. Signal Exercise	30
3. Directed Jumping	40
4. Scent Discrimination	45
5. Speak on Command or Food Refusal or Directed Retrieve	20
6. Moving Positions	25
7. Group Examination	10

TOTAL 200

Submitted by Dani Sherrin

SECTION UTILITY CLASS

PAGE 34. 5 MIN DOWN STAY HANDLER OUT OF SIGHT

Change: Amend the utility group stay to be 3 minutes out of sight (25 points)

Currently reads... "5 Min. DOWN STAY HANDLER OUT OF SIGHT - Maximum Points: 25

Principal Feature: The dog to stay off the lead in the down position until the completion of the exercise.

Description of Exercise: This is a Group exercise. The Handlers will take up their positions with their right foot next to the Stay Markers which are to be placed in a line approximately

two and a half (2.5) metres apart, and with their dogs in the down position. On order from the Judge to 'Leave (leave your Dog)', the Handlers may give their dogs a command to stay and will immediately leave and, accompanied by a Steward, go out of sight of the dogs to a point previously designated by the Judge.

After five (5) minutes from the time the Judge has ordered the Handlers to leave their dogs, the Steward will order 'Return (Return to your Dog)'. The Handlers must return to their dogs together. The dogs must not move from the down position until after the Judge orders 'Exercise Finished'. If a dog gets up and starts to roam, the judge may instruct a Steward to take the dog away from the other dogs.

Orders from Judge: 'Leave (Leave your Dog)', 'Return (Return to your Dog)' (may be given by a Steward), 'Exercise Finished'.

Deductions:

Zero Score: For a dog which fails to remain in the down position, or which moves more than half its body length from where it was left.

Minor: For minor movements, e.g. fidgeting, or for a dog that lies down in a position which is commonly known as the 'Dead Dog' position, or if Handlers do not leave and return with other Handlers."

Change to:

3 Min. DOWN STAY HANDLER OUT OF SIGHT - Maximum Points: 25

Principal Feature: The dog to stay off the lead in the down position until the completion of the exercise.

Description of Exercise: This is a Group exercise. The Handlers will take up their position with their right foot next to a Stay Marker which shall be placed in a line approximately two and a half (2.5) metres apart and with their dogs In the down position. On order from the Judge to 'Leave (Leave your Dog)', the Handlers may give their dogs a command to stay and will immediately leave and, accompanied by a Steward, go out of sight of the dogs to a point previously designated by the Judge.

After **three (3)** minutes from the time the Judge has ordered the Handlers to leave their dogs, the Steward will order 'Return (Return to your Dogs)'. The Handlers must return to their dogs together. The dogs must not move from the down position until after the Judge orders 'Exercise Finished'. If a dog gets up and starts to roam, the Judge may instruct the Steward to take the dog away from the other dogs.

Orders from Judge: 'Leave (Leave your Dogs)', 'Return (Return to your Dogs)' (may be given by a Steward), 'Exercise Finished'.

Deductions:

Zero Score: For a dog which fails to remain in the down position, or which moves more than half its body length from where it was left.

Minor: For minor movements, e.g. fidgeting, or for a dog that lies down in a position which is commonly known as the 'Dead Dog' position, or if Handlers do not leave or return with other Handlers”

Rationale: This proposal is intended to be an optional expansion to the proposal for the Open 3 min Down Stay Handler Out of Ring.

To remain in line with the proposed Open amendment, the Utility down stay could then be adjusted to be a 3 minute out of sight down stay (as currently in Open). This would ensure a steady increase of difficulty between the proposed Open Down Stay Out of Ring to a Utility Down Stay Out of Sight, while still demonstrating the principle features of dog staying in down out of sight until competition of the exercise.

This would ensure a steady difficulty curve across all of the classes in relation to stays, where one of the three “D”s of difficulty – distraction, distance and duration – is applied to the exercise between each class rather than doubling up on difficulty increase between some but not others.

In this proposal the change between the proposed Open Down Stay Handler Out of Ring and the Utility Down Stay Out of Sight would be the out of sight function, with the duration remaining the same 3 minutes as is currently in Open.

Submitted by Adrian Brogan

UD

Current rule: DIRECTED JUMPING Maximum Points: 40

Principal Feature:

The dog, on command, to leave the Handler and go substantially in the right direction to the Prescribed Area and sit and jump as directed.

Description of Exercise:

The jumps, consisting of a bar and a solid jump, will be placed approximately seven and a half (7.5) metres apart on each side of the Ring. It is the Judge's responsibility to see that the height jumped is that required for that particular dog's height.

The Judge shall prescribe an area, which will be marked by a frame positioned no closer than three (3)

metres from the unobstructed end of the ring and in the middle, and no more than twenty five (25) metres from the point from which the dog is sent. The jumps shall be set at approximately halfway, but no closer than ten (10) metres from the position from where the dog is sent or from the Prescribed Area.

For an indoor ring, the Prescribed Area shall be no closer than one (1) metre from the end of the ring and a minimum of ten (10) metres from where the dog is to be sent. The jumps shall be approximately half way, but no closer than five (5) metres from the position from where the dog is to be sent.

For each part of the exercise, the Handler shall stand the dog in the position indicated by the Judge, which shall be mid way between and in front of the jumps. On order from the Judge, the Handler shall command the dog to go to the Prescribed Area. The dog must go

substantially in the right direction and at a brisk pace. It must not go past the Prescribed Area or enter from behind. Once the dog is in the Prescribed Area, it should sit automatically.

The dog is not required to sit squarely on to the Handler at this point. Where the Handler chooses to command the dog to sit, they may attract the dog's attention by using its name before giving the command. If this is done a penalty will be incurred.

The Judge must indicate by order or signal which jump is to be taken and will not advise the Handler until the dog is sitting within the Prescribed Area. The Handler will then command the dog to jump the designated jump. While the dog is jumping the Handler will turn and face it, so that the dog will come in to sit squarely in front. On order from the Judge, the Handler will command the dog to finish, whereupon the dog must go briskly to the heel position and sit.

Praise may be given to the dog between parts of the exercise.

Proposed change: DIRECTED JUMPING Maximum Points: 40

Principal Feature:

The dog, on command, to leave the Handler and go substantially in the right direction to the Prescribed Area and sit and jump as directed.

Description of Exercise:

The jumps, consisting of a bar and a solid jump, will be placed approximately seven and a half (7.5) metres apart on each side of the Ring. It is the Judge's responsibility to see that the height jumped is that required for that particular dog's height.

The Judge shall prescribe an area, which will be marked by a frame positioned no closer than three (3)

metres from the unobstructed end of the ring and in the middle, and no more than twenty five (25) metres from the point from which the dog is sent. The jumps shall be set at approximately halfway, but no closer than ten (10) metres from the position from where the dog is sent or from the Prescribed Area.

For an indoor ring, the Prescribed Area shall be no closer than one (1) metre from the end of the ring and a minimum of ten (10) metres from where the dog is to be sent. The jumps shall be approximately half way, but no closer than five (5) metres from the position from where the dog is to be sent.

The Handler shall stand the dog in the position indicated by the Judge, which shall be mid way between and in front of the jumps. On order from the Judge, the Handler shall command the dog to go to the Prescribed Area. The dog must go substantially in the right direction and at a brisk pace. It must not go past the Prescribed Area or enter from behind. Once the dog is in the Prescribed Area, it should sit automatically.

The dog is not required to sit squarely on to the Handler at this point. Where the Handler chooses to command the dog to sit, they may attract the dog's attention by using its name before giving the command. If this is done a penalty will be incurred.

The Judge must indicate by order or signal which jump is to be taken and will not advise the Handler until the dog is sitting within the Prescribed Area. The Handler will then command the dog to jump the designated jump. While the dog is jumping the Handler will turn and face it, so that the dog will come in to sit squarely in front. On order from the Judge, the Handler will command the dog to finish, whereupon the dog must go briskly to the heel position and sit.

Rationale: The change is basically the dog does just one jump not two, why do the same thing twice. Judge decides which jump, it could be every second dog does solid while the other dog does bar.

UD

Current rule: SCENT DISCRIMINATION Maximum Points: 45

Principal Feature:

The dog, on command, to select the correct articles by scent and promptly retrieve.

Description of Exercise:

The dog must select by scent and retrieve an article, which has been handled by its Handler in each of the three tests (i.e. leather, metal and wood). The Handler will select the order in which the different articles are to be retrieved.

Preparation:

(i) On entering the Ring, the Handler must surrender the articles, which must be kept on the Judge's table.

(ii) The Judge must designate one number/letter of each of the sets.

(iii) The remaining 12 articles must be placed by hand and at random at least 150 mm apart by either the Judge or the Steward. The Affiliate conducting the fixture will provide a canvas if requested.

The Exercise:

The Handler, with the dog sitting at heel, will take up position as directed by the Judge, at least five (5) metres from and facing in the opposite direction to the articles.

The Judge or Steward will offer the designated articles to the Handler. Judging commences at this point. Immediately after receiving the article, and before imparting their scent, the Handler must show and say the number to the Judge. The Handler's scent must be imparted only from their hands which must remain in plain sight at all times for the duration of the scent discrimination exercise. The Handler must not show the article to the dog.

On order from the Judge, the Handler must immediately surrender the article to the Judge or Steward who will place it among the other articles either on the ground or on the mat as requested by the Handler.

The Judge or Steward must not touch the scented article.

On order from the Judge, the Handler and the dog will turn and halt to face the articles. On further order, the Handler may place their hand gently over the dog's nose and may give a command to retrieve. The dog must go to the articles at a brisk pace, but may take a reasonable time to select the right one provided that it works smartly and continuously and does not pick up any article other than the one designated. After picking up the correct article, the dog must promptly return and sit directly in front of the Handler, and hold the article until given a command to surrender.

The Judge will take the article from the Handler and state 'Part Exercise Finished' or 'Exercise Finished' and then 'Article Correct' or 'Article Incorrect' followed by 'Take up Position' if further articles are to be retrieved. The dog must remain sitting in front of the Handler until after the Judge orders 'Part Exercise Finished' or 'Exercise Finished'. If the wrong article is retrieved in any of the tests, it will be removed in addition to the correct article and the remaining tests will be completed with fewer than 12 articles in the ring. Praise may be given to the dog between parts of the test. The same procedure will be followed in each section of the exercise.

Proposed change: SCENT DISCRIMINATION Maximum Points: 45

Principal Feature:

The dog, on command, to select the correct articles by scent and promptly retrieve.

Description of Exercise:

The dog must select by scent and retrieve an article, which has been handled by its Handler **The judge decides whether this is a leather, metal or wood.**

Preparation:

(i) On entering the Ring, the Handler must surrender the articles, which must be kept on the Judge's table.

(ii) The Judge must designate one number/letter of each of the sets.

(iii) The remaining 12 articles must be placed by hand and at random at least 150 mm apart by either the Judge or the Steward. The Affiliate conducting the fixture will provide a canvas if requested.

The Exercise:

The Handler, with the dog sitting at heel, will take up position as directed by the Judge, at least five (5) metres from and facing in the opposite direction to the articles.

The Judge or Steward will offer the designated articles to the Handler. Judging commences at this point. Immediately after receiving the article, and before imparting their scent, the Handler must show and say the number to the Judge. The Handler's scent must be imparted only from their hands which must remain in plain sight at all times for the duration of the scent discrimination exercise. The Handler must not show the article to the dog.

On order from the Judge, the Handler must immediately surrender the article to the Judge or Steward who will place it among the other articles either on the ground or on the mat as requested by the Handler.

The Judge or Steward must not touch the scented article.

On order from the Judge, the Handler and the dog will turn and halt to face the articles. On further order, the Handler may place their hand gently over the dog's nose and may give a command to retrieve. The dog must go to the articles at a brisk pace, but may take a reasonable time to select the right one provided that it works smartly and continuously and does not pick up any article other than the one designated. After picking up the correct article, the dog must promptly return and sit directly in front of the Handler, and hold the article until given a command to surrender.

The Judge will take the article from the Handler and state 'Exercise Finished' and then 'Article Correct' or 'Article Incorrect'

Rationale: Just one scent article not 3, repeating the same exercise 3 times takes all the momentum out of the run through and reduces significantly the dogs chances of passing. Judge decides if it is a leather, metal or wood. Every third dog could do each type of article.

UD

Current rule: 5 Min. DOWN STAY Maximum Points: 25

HANDLER OUT OF SIGHT

Principal Feature:

The dog to stay off the lead in the down position until the completion of the exercise.

Description of Exercise:

This is a Group exercise. The Handlers will take up their positions with their right foot next to the Stay Markers which are to be placed in a line approximately two and a half (2.5) metres apart, and with their dogs in the down position. On order from the Judge to 'Leave (leave your Dog)', the Handlers may give their dogs a command to stay and will immediately leave and, accompanied by a Steward, go out of sight of the dogs to a point previously designated by the Judge.

After five (5) minutes from the time the Judge has ordered the Handlers to leave their dogs, the Steward will order 'Return (Return to your Dog)'. The Handlers must return to their dogs together. The dogs must not move from the down position until after the Judge orders 'Exercise Finished'.

Proposed rule: *Remove the stay*

Rationale: *It has this has been done in CDX already.*

Submitted by Dearne Jackson

UD Exercise (Optional) alternate to Directed Jumping

Preamble: (Not to be included in actual Exercise description).

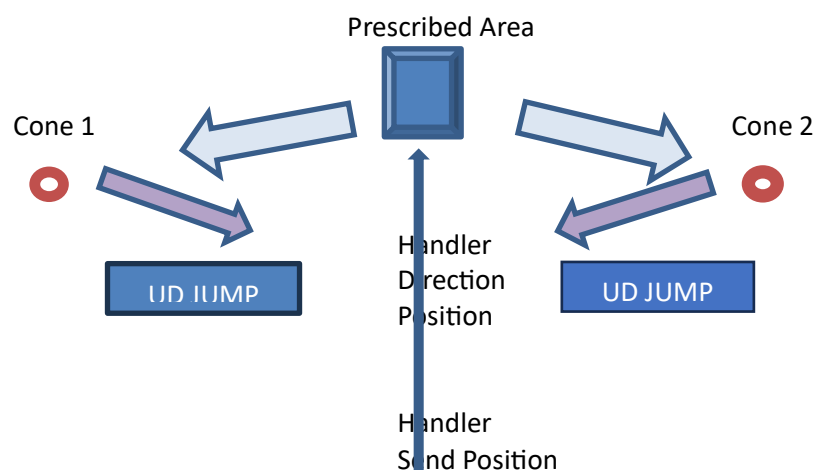
The purpose of this exercise is to provide an **optional alternate** to the current Utility Dog Exercise Number 2: Directed Jumping. This exercise requires the dog to demonstrate impulse control and take multiple commands/signals given by the Handler from a distance.

The cones used should not be white to prevent confusion with the cones used in the UDX Sendaway exercise and should be large enough to be clearly visible to the dog and handler. For standardisation of exercise, the recommended size and colour would be the 450mm Yellow / Blue or Orange Safety cone.

The cones should be placed 2 metres forward of the prescribed area and 1 metre from ring edge to create a triangle effect for the directional send and then recall back to handler. This places a further level of difficulty on the dog to ignore the jumps while following the direction set by the handler.

The Judge must ensure that the jumps are lowered to the height that the dog would be jumping IF the directed jumping option were selected as the exercise to be judged. This is necessary to ensure that the handler/dog is able to clearly see the handler/dog in order to indicate if the dog is to sit beside the designated cone.

Example Part Exercise: Dog sent to Prescribed Area then to Cone 1 or 2. Then Recall back to Handler



Exercise 2B. Directed Multiple Sendaway.40 points

Equipment requirements 1 UD Prescribed Area Frame/Box and two (2) clearly visible cone markers eg yellow/orange/blue cones (not white) set 1 metre in from ring edge.

Principal Feature:

The dog, on command from a standing position, to leave the Handler and go substantially in the right direction to the Prescribed Area and sit within the Prescribed Area and wait until given further command by the handler to proceed to designated cone and remain sitting beside the designated cone until commanded to recall back to the handler and finish.

Description:

The Judge shall prescribe an area, which will be marked by a frame positioned no closer than three (3) metres from the unobstructed end of the ring and in the middle, and no more than twenty-five (25) metres from the point from which the dog is sent. The cones shall be set opposite the prescribed area box at the edge of the ring two (2) metres forward of the prescribed area box, but no closer than six (6) metres from the Prescribed Area.

For an indoor ring, the Prescribed Area Box shall be no closer than one (1) metre from the end of the ring and a minimum of ten (10) metres from where the dog is to be sent.

For each part of the exercise, the Handler with dog at heel position will take up the position indicated by the Judge, which shall be mid way between and in front of the jumps. On order from the Judge, the Handler shall command the dog to go to the Prescribed Area. The dog must go substantially in the right direction and at a brisk pace. It must not go past the Prescribed Area Box or enter from behind. Once the dog is in the Prescribed Area Box, it should sit automatically.

The Judge will then instruct the handler to move forward and take up position on the centreline (direction position) between the two jumps, facing the dog sitting in the Prescribed Area. The dog must remain sitting in the Prescribed Area.

The Judge must indicate by order or signal which cone the dog is to be sent to and will not advise the Handler until the dog is sitting within the Prescribed Area and the Handler has moved to the direction position. The cones shall be designated 'Left/One' or 'Right/Two' reading from left to right. On order from the Judge, the Handler will then command the dog to go to the designated marker/cone and the dog should sit automatically beside the designated cone. The dog should not be penalised for going around the cone to sit beside.

On order from the Judge the Handler will turn and face the dog and command the dog recall to the handler and automatically sit in front, when commanded, go briskly to the heel position and sit. During the distance control parts of the exercise, where the Handler chooses to command the dog to sit, they may attract the dog's attention by using its name before giving the command. If this is done a penalty will be incurred.

Praise may be given to the dog between parts of the exercise.

Part 1 20 Points.

Part 2 20 Points. Judge and handler will repeat the commands and action of Part 1 but to the opposite marker/cone.

Judge Commands: Take up Position, send your dog, Forward, Halt, One or Two (Left or Right), Face your dog, Recall, Finish, Exercise Part/Finished.

Scoring.

Zero Score: For a Handler who directs the dog to the incorrect cone. Jumps a jump. For a dog which requires more than one command to leave the Handler or to sit in the Prescribed Area, anticipates any part of the Principal Feature, does not go substantially in the right direction or fails to sit substantially within the Prescribed Area (see Section 8). Goes past the back edge of the Prescribed Area or enters from behind. Does not go to directed cone on command; does not sit at the cone as directed, or does not return to the Handler when called, must be marked zero for that particular portion of the exercise and the Judge's Chart endorsed 'non-qualifying' score. .

Substantial: For that particular part of the exercise, if a dog is slow going out or returning or responds slowly to commands; fails to sit in front or finish, or anticipates the finish or for a dog that requires a command to sit in the Prescribed Area or at designated marker/cone.

Minor: For that particular part of the exercise, where the dog is substantially but not entirely within the Prescribed Area or where the dog knocks over designated cone. For sitting more than a body length from the designated cone. For poor sits or finishes and for failure to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise.

Note: A non-qualifying score in either part of this exercise shall be deemed to be a non-qualifying score for the whole of the exercise.

UTILITY DOG EXCELLENT

Submitted by Adrian Brogan

UDX

Current rule: MULTIPLE RETRIEVE: Maximum Points 30

Principal Feature:

The dog to retrieve the designated articles on command.

Description of Exercise:

This exercise consists of two (2) retrieves only.

The Handler will provide three leather Scent Discrimination articles that may be any colour including white or black and may be numbered. The articles must not be covered with any material or painted. The dog must retrieve an article in each of the two (2) tests.

The Handler, with the dog sitting at heel, will stand in the ring facing in the opposite direction to, and at approximately twelve (12) metres from where the centre article is to be placed. The Judge or Steward will then place three articles in a straight line with the articles approximately six (6) metres apart, tongs must be used. Articles to be placed approximately one (1) metre from the edge of the ring. The Handler should be able to look over their shoulder to watch where the articles are placed. Preferably articles and markers should not be visible to the dog at the commencement of the exercise.

The positions should be designated 'One' 'Two' 'Three' reading from left to right when the Handler turns to face them.

The Judge will give the order 'One' 'Two' or 'Three' and then order the Handler to 'About Turn', 'Halt'. The Judge will decide the order for each dog. The same two (2) articles must be used for all dogs in that class. The Handler will give the command to heel, then turn in place, right or left, and come to a halt with the dog sitting at heel and facing the designated position. The Handler must not touch or reposition the dog.

The Judge will order 'Send (Send your Dog)'. The Handler will give the dog the direction to the designated position with a single motion of either the left or right hand and arm. The Handler may bend the body and knees to the extent necessary in giving the direction to the dog. The command to retrieve will be given either simultaneously with or immediately after the giving of direction, after which the Handler will stand erect in a natural position.

The dog will go directly to and retrieve the designated article at a brisk pace, without unnecessary mouthing or playing with it. The dog must sit directly in front of its Handler and hold the article until the judge orders 'Take it' whereupon the Handler may give a command to surrender. The dog must remain sitting in front of the Handler until after the Judge orders 'Finish'. On the Handler's command the dog must go briskly to the heel position and sit.

The Judge will state 'Part Exercise Finished' or 'Exercise Finished', followed by 'Take up position' if a further article is to be retrieved. Should the dog retrieve the wrong article, or does not retrieve an article where a further article is to be retrieved, the Steward will replace the article and remove the article to be retrieved in that test once the Judge orders 'Take up Position' for the next part of the exercise.

Praise may be given to the dog between parts of the test. The same procedure will be followed in each section of the test.

Proposed rule: RETRIEVE: Maximum Points 30

Principal Feature:

The dog to retrieve the designated article on command.

Description of Exercise:

This exercise consists of retrieve only.

The Handler will provide three leather Scent Discrimination articles that may be any colour including white or black and may be numbered. The articles must not be covered with any material or painted. The dog must retrieve the article.

The Handler, with the dog sitting at heel, will stand in the ring facing in the opposite direction to, and at approximately twelve (12) metres from where the centre article is to be placed. The Judge or Steward will then place three articles in a straight line with the articles approximately six (6) metres apart, tongs must be used. Articles to be placed approximately one (1) metre from the edge of the ring. The Handler should be able to look over their shoulder to watch where the articles are placed. Preferably articles and markers should not be visible to the dog at the commencement of the exercise.

The positions should be designated 'One' 'Two' 'Three' reading from left to right when the Handler turns to face them.

The Judge will give the order 'One' 'Two' or 'Three' and then order the Handler to 'About Turn', 'Halt'. The Judge will decide the order for each dog. The same two (2) articles must be used for all dogs in that class. The Handler will give the command to heel, then turn in place, right or left, and come to a halt with the dog sitting at heel and facing the designated position. The Handler must not touch or reposition the dog.

The Judge will order 'Send (Send your Dog)'. The Handler will give the dog the direction to the designated position with a single motion of either the left or right hand and arm. The Handler may bend the body and knees to the extent necessary in giving the direction to the dog. The command to retrieve will be given either simultaneously with or immediately after the giving of direction, after which the Handler will stand erect in a natural position.

The dog will go directly to and retrieve the designated article at a brisk pace, without unnecessary mouthing or playing with it. The dog must sit directly in front of its Handler and hold the article until the judge orders 'Take it' whereupon the Handler may give a command to surrender. The dog must remain sitting in front of the Handler until after the Judge orders 'Finish'. On the Handler's command the dog must go briskly to the heel position and sit.

The Judge will state 'Exercise Finished'.

Rationale: Just one leather retrieve, why do it twice.

GENERAL IDEAS

Submitted by Adrian Brogan

General ideas

I have heard a number of people suggest that the re try be introduced to obedience like it is in rally. In principle I like the sounds of this but I would exclude CCD and CD from this option. At an obedience trial there is maybe a 10% pass rate and at a Rally trial you get a pass for turning up, the pass rate must be up at about 90%. While I don't think obedience should ever be dumbed down to rally standards the pass rate can improve with some of the changes I have mentioned without making the exercises easier. For example, with SD if a dog has to do the same thing 3 times they have a much greater chance of failure than if they only do it once but it's not dumbing it down by only having to do it once it is just stacking the odds of passing in a more favourable manner.

The changes I have listed don't dumb it down rather they speed things up and take the repetitiveness out of it.

As for the trial itself:

1. Eliminate formal check in and vetting. 5 minutes before start handlers tell the steward at their ring they are here and it is ticked.
2. Break each ring into flights for example CCD and CD could be flights of 8 to 10 and all other groups could be flights of 6. Stays are done after each flight. If you get a pass in say flight 1 and don't want to hang around for flight 2 give the judge, steward or trial secretary a stamp addressed envelope or have someone pick up your pass card. Of course if pass cards were electronic it would make things even easier.
3. Flights have a scheduled start time, example Flight 1 starts at 9am and flight 2 starts at 10:30am. If you are in flight 2 you don't need to be at the trial until 10:25 to check in with the steward. There does not need to be a limit to how many flights you can have, it just depends on the number of entries.
4. No formal presentations, each judge does their own presentation upon completion of the ring they are judging. As for highest in trial the winner can be notified after the trial and if there is a prize, arrangements can be made to pick it up.
5. Remove lead ups in all exercises.