



Online Seminar 12.15.20

UKC OBEDIENCE 2021

Presented by: Karen Shivers – Program Manager





Welcome

Welcome to the 2021 UKC Obedience program. We are pleased to offer new opportunities for exhibitors to enjoy obedience from very beginning to more advanced and complex exercises.

Obedience demonstrates the ability of the handler to train their partner to execute specific behaviors that show the usefulness and willingness of the dog to work together as a team.

Obedience should be fun and challenging for both the dog and handler.



New Additions

Additional Licensed Classes:

- Pre-Novice
- Beginner Novice
- Advanced Novice
- Advanced Open
- Master
- Elite

Non-Licensed Classes:

- Veteran
- Brace
- Versatility
- Precision Heeling
- Pairs
- Team

There are no pre-requisites and no class divisions in any of the new classes



Chapter 2: Ring & Equipment New Additions

Ring Size: All obedience rings must be at least 40 x 50 feet. Elite and Team classes must be at least 40 x 70 feet.

Equipment: Provided by the Host Club:

Position Cards: Display cards used in the Master class for the order of the Positions with Recall exercise. These should be pre-made, laminated and saved on rings or flip cards. Notebooks or electronic tablets may also be used. Cards should not be larger than 11 x 8.5" for ease of management when displaying them to the handler. Either one set with three cards or a set for each sequence can be made.





Chapter 2: Ring & Equipment New Additions

Pylons, Poles, or Cones: 3 to 5 pylons, cones, or poles to equip the Pre-Novice Serpentine Loop exercise, the Figure 8 exercise in Beginner Novice and Team class, and one 18" tall cone/pylon for use in the Master class.

Scent Cloths: Standard size 100% cotton washcloths no larger than 12 inches square for the Master Handler Discrimination class. Judges will need their own personal set of at least three cloths for the Elite Unfamiliar Scent Discrimination class.

Scent Boxes: Cardboard boxes for the Master and Elite Scent Discrimination classes. Boxes must be uniform in size and at least 12 inches by nine inches with any box not less than three inches tall or over eight inches tall. Boxes cannot specify anywhere on the box they are for use by any shipping industry such as Fed-Ex or the USPS.

Stopwatches: At least one stopwatch to be used in the Master and Elite Discrimination classes. Must record time to 1/100th of a second.

Food Distractions: Elite class only. Some type of food that is safe and edible for a dog must be available. Food must be other than dry dog food such as raw meat, canned dog food, cooked meat without bones, hotdogs, etc. It must be kept in a sealed container on the judge's table during the class, so it is readily available for the exercise. There should be at least 2 or 3 ounces of food to offer. This would be about the size of a normal hot dog or 2 slices of cheese or lunchmeat. Flat paper plates or short re-sealable containers should be used when offering the dog the food.



Chapter 2: Ring & Equipment New Additions

Equipment: Provided by the Exhibitor:

Collars: Collars may now be fancy and have rhinestones or personalization on them, however, they still cannot be of any spike type collar.



Allowed



Not Allowed

Scent Articles: Can now be made of metal, leather or wood.



Chapter 2: Ring & Equipment New Additions

Dumbbells: May now be any color and may have engraved or stamped designs on the ends. Two dumbbells will be required for the Master Send Away with Dumbbell Retrieve and the Elite Advanced Directed Retrieve and Jumping Exercises. Dumbbells must be of the same size and color.



Gloves: The Master class will require one solid dark colored glove made of cotton or leather for the Seek Back exercise.

Personal Scent Item: Any article belonging to the handler such as keys, a shoe, sock, shirt, etc. The item cannot be a glove or undergarment and must be free of food. It must fit inside a cardboard box that is 12 inches by nine inches by 3 inches without being able to be seen over the top of the box.



Chapter 6: Rules Applying to Licensed Classes

Order of Judging: Licensed classes may be judged in any order chosen by the club. Non-licensed classes must not interfere with the judging of any licensed classes and may also be judged in any order.

Honor Exercise: Only the Novice and Advanced Novice Class will include the Honor exercise. Dogs will be required to be on a six-foot leash for this exercise that is being held by the handler.

Chapter 7: Ring Procedures

Barking and Whining: How dogs are penalized for this is written out more clearly. Dogs that bark or whine once or twice during any single exercise should not be penalized. If a dog barks or whines once or twice during more than one exercise, then it may be penalized up to a non-qualifying score.

Fouling the Ring: Dogs must be excused and may not continue to compete if they eliminate, spit up, or vomit in the ring.

Chapter 8: Judging Standards, General Scoring, and Deductions

Added to all exercises: In all classes, the judge may deduct Major or Minor points depending on the extent of the deviation from the ideal performance for any exercise.

Commands and/or Signals: All exercises except the Utility Signal Exercise now allow for command and/or signals

Hand Position: Handlers with large dogs should not be penalized if their arm is slightly out and to the left side of the dog's head.



Chapter 9: Judging Procedures

Starting Position for Working and Honor Dog: The honor exercise, when applicable, will be done in the same location as the Greeting exercise.

Types of Deductions: In addition to the minor deductions from ½ to 2 points and the major deductions of anything greater than 2 ½ points, there will now be a mandatory deduction of 10 points in the following classes:

- **Novice:**
 - Handler gives a second command and/or signal to come
- **Advanced Novice:**
 - Second command and/or signal to come
 - Second command and/or signal to take or hold the dumbbell.
- **Utility:**
 - Dog does not sit after the second command to sit on the Directed Signal Retrieve
- **Master:**
 - Dog changes position during the three second stabilization period.
 - Handler does not stay facing forward during any part of the search.
- **Elite:**
 - Food Refusal exercise: Dog licks, attempts to eat, or eats any of the food offered AFTER the judge says “Exercise Finished,”
 - Unfamiliar Handler Discrimination: Dog changes position during the three second stabilization period.
 - Unfamiliar Handler Discrimination: Handler does not stay facing forward during any part of the search.



Covid-19 Restrictions

All clubs are to follow their local and State guidelines regarding what is allowed during this crisis. In locations where Covid-19 Restrictions are in place, exercises may be modified.

Greeting Exercises. To accommodate social distancing, judges and exhibitors should not shake hands and should remain the current recommended distance from one another during the exercise.

Other modifications: Cones instead of people, walking stewards at least six feet apart, tongs used in any of the article/dumbbell exercises, handler keeping their leash with them, running trials back-to-back by class.

When no Covid-19 restrictions are in place: During any of the Greeting exercises, judges or exhibitors may prefer not to shake hands. Judges should let exhibitors know this prior to the class so exhibitors do not feel awkward if they offer to shake hands with a judge and the judge refuses. Because of COVID-19 restrictions we have added the option when originally, it was not an option. Judges should consider posting something at the ring that states whether you are shaking hands or not. Once a judge decides not to shake hands with one class, they must do this for all classes where the greeting exercise is present. Exhibitors may just let the judge know they prefer not to shake hands if there is nothing posted from the judge.



Chapter 11: Pre-Novice (PN)

Each exercise is worth 40 points. Handlers may give extra commands, praise, and talk to their dog between and during all exercises. Excessive commands, talking, and/or encouragement may be penalized if the judge determines the dog would otherwise not be able to perform the exercise.

Pre-Novice Point Scale

Pre-Novice Exercises

Exercise Maximum Points

Heel on Leash

40 points

Serpentine Loop 3 Cones

40 points

Sit for Exam

40 points

Down Stay

40 points

Straight Recall

40 points

Total Points

200 points



Chapter 12: Beginner Novice (BN)

Exercises are worth between 30 and 45 points. Handlers may give praise and encouragement within specific exercises as outlined in the rules.

Beginner Novice Point Scale

Beginner Novice Exercises	Exercise	Maximum Points
	Heel on Leash and Figure 8	45 points
	Stand or Sit for Exam	30 points
	Down Stay / Walk Away	45 points
	Recall over High Jump	35 points
	Sit Stay	45 points
	Total Points	200 points



Chapter 13: Novice (UCD)

The major changes to the Novice class are the elimination of the group exercise, the change to the honor, the addition of the greeting exercise, and an allowance for a second command/signal to come on the recall. All other exercises remain the same. A six-foot leash is required for the honor exercise.

Novice Point Scale

Novice Exercises.

Exercise Maximum Points

Greeting	30 points
Honor	35 points
Heel on Leash and Figure 8	35 points
Stand for Exam	30 points
Heel Off Leash	35 points
Recall over High Jump	35 points
Total Points	200 points



Chapter 14: Advanced Novice (ACD)

Exercises are worth either 30 or 35 points. Exercises will prepare the handler and dog for Open.

Advanced Novice Point Scale

Advanced Novice Exercises.

Exercise Maximum Points

Greeting	30 points
Honor	35 points
Heel off Leash and Figure 8	35 points
Moving Down with Recall	35 points
Recall Over Jump with dumbbell	35 points
Recall over Broad Jump	30 points
Total Points	200 points





Chapter 15: Open (UCDX)

The major changes to the Open class are the elimination of the group and the honor exercise and the addition of the greeting exercise and socialized heeling exercise.

Open Point Scale

Open Exercises.

Exercise Maximum Points

Greeting	20 points
Heel Off Leash and Figure 8	40 points
Drop on Recall	30 points
Retrieve on Flat	30 points
Retrieve Over High Jump	30 points
Broad Jump	20 points
Socialized Heeling	30 points
Total Points	200 points



Chapter 16. Advanced Open (ACDX)

Some of these exercises will prepare the dog and handler for Utility while some of them are new concepts for UKC obedience. Exercises are worth between 25 and 45 points depending on their difficulty.

Advanced Open Point Scale

Advanced Open Exercises.

Exercise Maximum Points

Heel Off Leash with Moving Exercise

45 points

Figure 8 with Down Stay

40 points

Retrieve of an Object

30 points

Scent Discrimination

30 points

Directed Retrieve

25 points

Send Away To Box

30 points

Total Points

200 points



Directed Retrieve.



Box for Send Away

Chapter 16: Advanced Open (ACDX)





Chapter 17. Utility (UUD)

The exercises for Utility will remain the same. The differences come in some clarifications and scoring allowances for certain portions of some exercises.

Utility Point Scale

Utility Exercises.

Exercise Maximum Points

Signal and Heeling

30 points

Scent Discrimination

30 points

Directed “Marked” Retrieve

30 points

Directed “Signal” Retrieve

30 points

Consecutive Recalls

40 points

Directed Jumping

40 points

Total Points

200 points



Chapter 17. Utility (UUD) – Clarifications & Scoring Allowances

- **Signal and Heeling Exercise.** Any type of audible command during any portion of this exercise will receive a non-qualifying score.
- **Scent articles** can be made of metal, leather, or wood. Whatever the handler presents, they all must be of the same material (i.e. there cannot be one metal and four of something else or any combination). All five must be the same thing and must be numbered for identification.
- **The steward** is the one that may scent the remaining articles before placing them on the ground for the scent discrimination exercise.
- **Commands** and/or signals may be used in all exercises except the Signal and Heeling exercise.
- **Directed Signal Retrieve.** The handler may give one additional command and/or signal to sit with a major deduction. If the dog does not sit **after** the second command and/or signal there will be a mandatory 10-point deduction.
- **Consecutive Recalls.** The judge will now choose which will be done first, the drop or the straight recall. Whichever is chosen must be used for all exhibitors in the class.
- **Directed Jumping.** The handler may give one additional command and/or signal to sit but will receive a major deduction for each go out.



Chapter 18. Master (MOD)

This class brings back a traditional obedience exercise called the “Seek Back” and adds Nosework, Ringsport, and European Obedience type exercises.

Master Point Scale

Master Exercises.

Exercise Maximum Points

Seek Back

40 points

Positions with Recall

40 points

Send to a Cone and Return

40 points

Send Away with Dumbbell Retrieve

40 points

Handler Discrimination

40 points

Total Points

200 points



Chapter 18. Master



Positions with Recall Sequences:

A. Down – Sit – Stand – Down

B. Stand – Down – Sit – Stand

C. Down – Stand – Sit – Down

D. Stand – Sit – Down – Stand

E. Down – Sit - Down – Stand

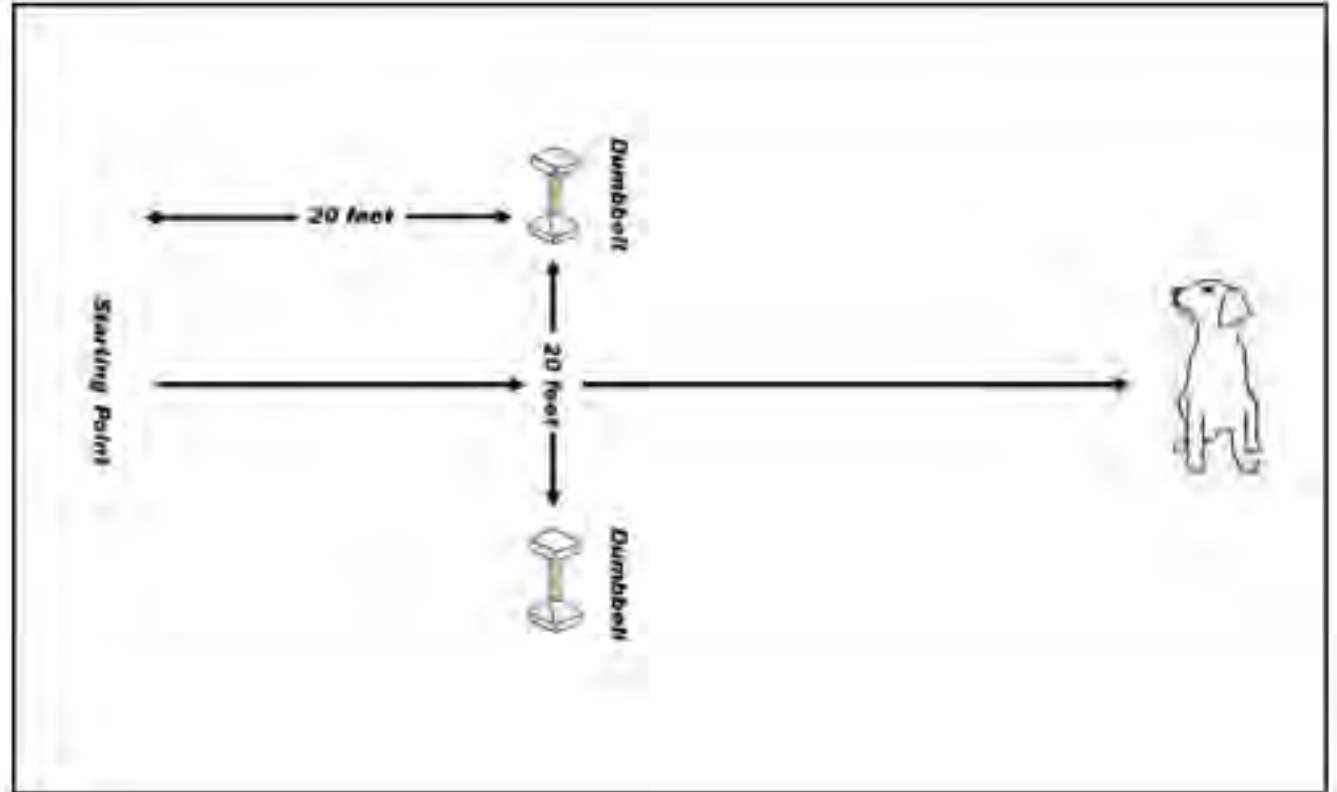
F. Stand – Down – Stand – Sit





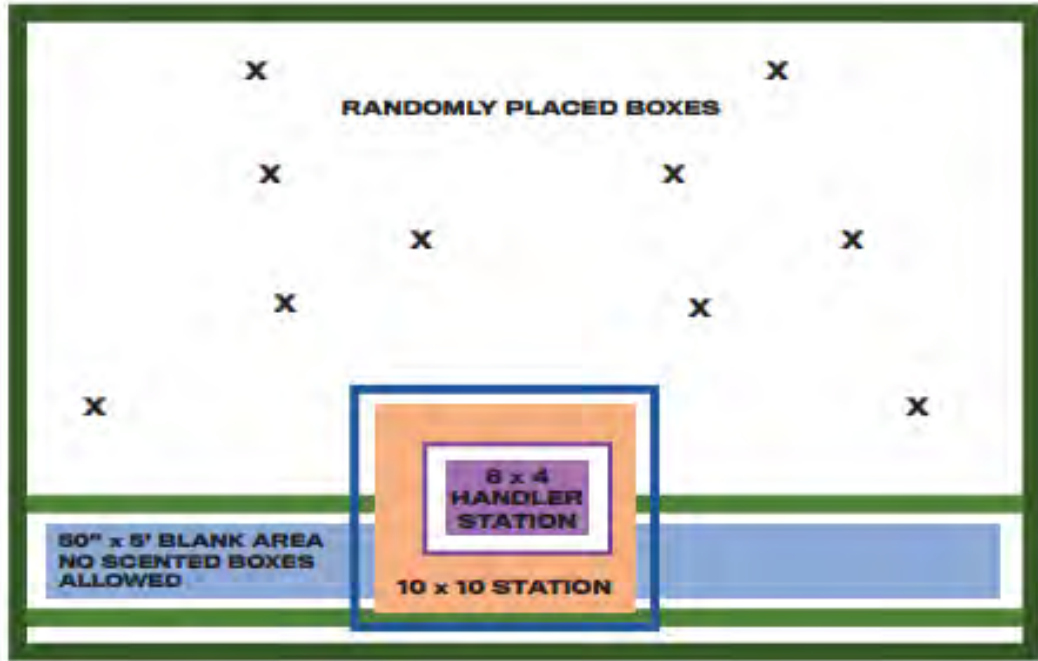
CHAPTER 18. MASTER

SEND AWAY WITH DUMBBELL RETRIEVE





Chapter 18. Master



Boxes are to be placed in a random order and do not have to be placed exactly where the "X's" are in the diagram that is in the rulebook.

Handler Discrimination:

This exercise is performed **after all** dogs have competed in the class. Dogs that have not qualified up to this point must **not** perform this portion of the class. There should be no more than 10 people within each grouping for this exercise. This exercise mimics the Master Handler Discrimination exercise in Nosework with a few minor changes.

Mandatory 10-point Deduction: Dog changes position during the 3 second stabilization period, Handler does not stay facing forward during any part of the search.



Chapter 19. Elite (EOD)

This class is a very challenging class with some exercises that are very new to regular American obedience exercises. This class is optional for clubs to offer because of the larger ring requirement of 40 x 70 feet. The class may also be offered as a stand-alone class for clubs that would like to host this class outside of a regular obedience trial due to the ring size. It may be hosted in conjunction with a Rally trial as a stand-alone Obedience class as well.

Elite Point Scale

Elite Exercises.

Signal Heeling with Moving Stand for Exam

Exercise Maximum Points

40 points

Food Refusal

40 points

Recall with Stand and Down

40 points

Advanced Directed Retrieve and Jumping

40 points

Unfamiliar Scent Discrimination

40 points

Total Points

200 points



Chapter 19. Elite

Food Distractions: Here are two examples of what can be used for food distractions. A flat paper plate with the correct amount of food on it, or an open container with the correct amount of food in it. You will need more than the required amount to present to the dog in case the dog eats any of the food. You may want to use a closed container with enough food in it to replace any that a dog might eat, or have two closed containers, one for the large amount of food and one for the food presented to the dog.



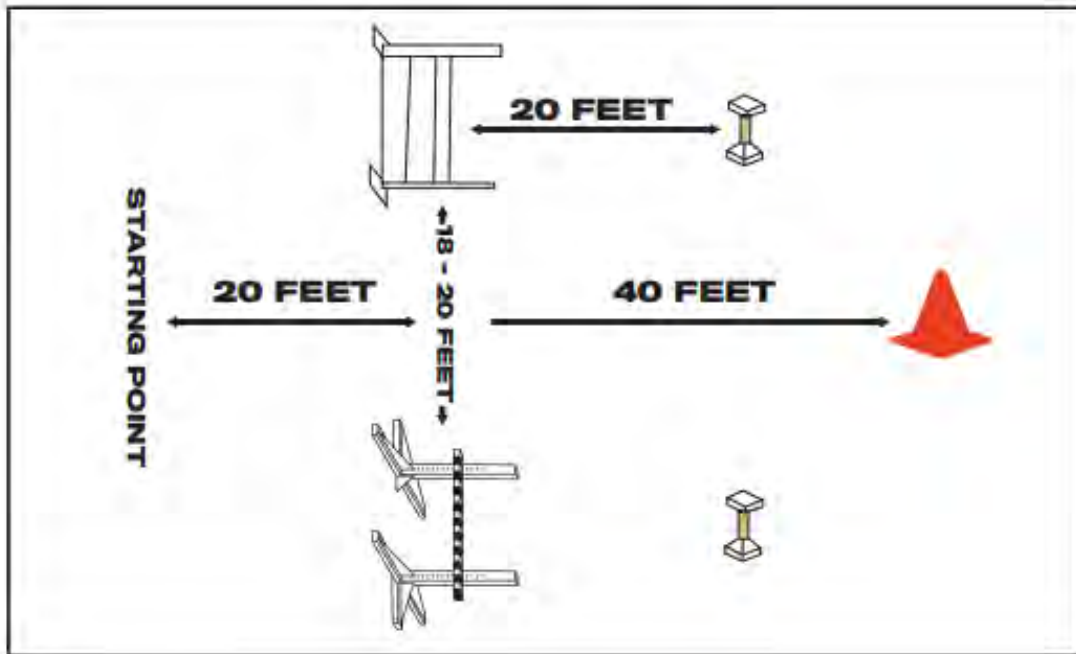
Full Closed container of food

**3 ounces of lunchmeat
2 ounces of hotdogs**





Chapter 19. Elite (EOD)



Advanced Directed Retrieve and Jumping



Chapter 28. Placements, Awards, Trophies, & Ribbons

High In Trial: Only eligible dogs and handlers will compete for High in Trial.

Eligible dogs:

- All dogs who placed **first** in Novice A, Novice B, Novice C, Open A, Open B, Utility A, and Utility B are eligible for High in Trial. Dogs must have earned a score of 195 or above to compete
- If only one dog has a score above 195, that dog will be determined the HIT winner.
- If no dogs score above 195, the highest scoring dog from the designated classes will be determined the HIT winner and no performance is required.

At the end of the regular classes, if applicable, all eligible dogs will individually compete for HIT by performing a heel off leash and recall exercise. The heel off leash pattern must be something other than an “L” or a “T” pattern. Dogs will also perform a straight recall with a front sit and a finish. Scoring will be the same as the applicable Novice exercises.

The exercises do not have scores and the dog with the least number of errors will be determined the winner for HIT.

Ties and Run-Offs: All dogs and handlers eligible for the run-off perform simultaneously with the dogs off leash. This includes dogs that may have tied when competing for HIT. This is the normal “sudden death” procedure that has normally been used for UKC Obedience.



Chapter 21. Non-Licensed Classes

These classes will now have an official score sheet and judge's books. In all Non-Licensed classes except for Precision Heeling, handlers will be allowed to praise and encourage their dog during and between all exercises. Handlers who are extreme with their commands, talking, and/or encouragement may be penalized. Non-Licensed classes may be judged by a licensed judge or any other person deemed qualified by the club.

- **Veterans.** This class is identical to the Novice Class except that the recall will be a straight recall without a jump. Dogs are considered veterans when they reach the age of seven.
- **Brace.** This class is identical to the Novice Class except that the recall will be a straight recall without a jump. There must be two dogs with one handler in this class. Dogs must be coupled together while doing the exercises in unison.
- **Pairs.** Two judges may be used for this class. The exercises are based on Novice exercises and Team exercises. There are two dog and handler teams for this class. Judging is based on how the dogs perform and how well the pairs perform the exercises in unison with one another.
- **Team.** Two judges may be used for this class. The exercises are based on Novice exercises and a Drop on Recall. There are four dog and handler teams for this class. Judging is based on how well the dogs perform and how well the teams perform the exercises in unison with one another.
- **Precision Heeling and Versatility.** (next slides)



Chapter 21. Non-Licensed Classes - Versatility

This class allows the judge to choose from four different routines with six different exercises in each routine. Exercises are chosen from the Novice through Elite classes. Exercises are scored just as they would be in the normal classes they come from. Judges will choose a routine and post the chosen routine prior to the start of judging. The same routine must be used for each dog entered in the Versatility class per trial.

Routine 1: Greeting, Moving Down with Recall, Broad Jump, Retrieve on the Flat, Signal Exercise, Food Refusal.

Routine 2: Stand for Exam, Retrieve Over the High Jump, Drop on Recall, Retrieve of an Object, Directed Jumping, Signal Exercise.

Routine 3: Heel off Leash, Recall over the Broad Jump, Drop on Recall, Figure 8 with Down Stay, Directed Marked Retrieve, Positions with Recall.

Routine 4: Greeting, Retrieve on the Flat, Directed Retrieve, Positions with Recall, Handler Discrimination, Signal Heeling with Moving Stand For Exam.



Chapter 21. Non-Licensed Classes – Precision Heeling

This class has unique heeling exercises with different patterns that must be marked out in the ring. Dogs are judged under normal scoring and deductions as they would be in the regular classes. Handlers are not allowed to praise and encourage their dog during the exercises. The circle and rectangles must be marked; however, the diagonal and pattern heeling are not marked in the ring. Deductions must be incurred for any heeling errors.

Precision Heeling Point Scale

Precision Heeling Exercises.

Diagonal Heeling

Circle Heeling with Stand

Rectangle Heeling

Circle Heeling with Down

Pattern Heeling

Total Points

Exercise Maximum Points

40 points

40 points

40 points

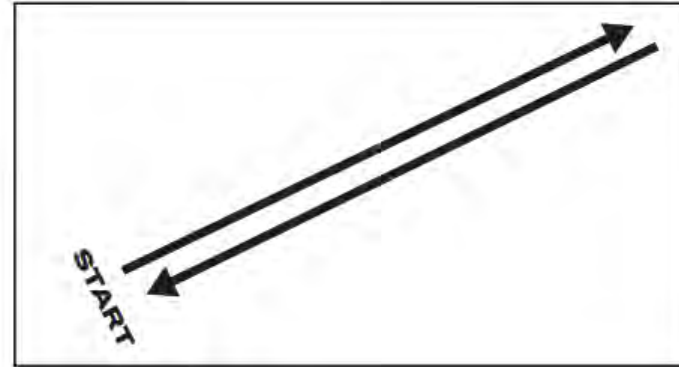
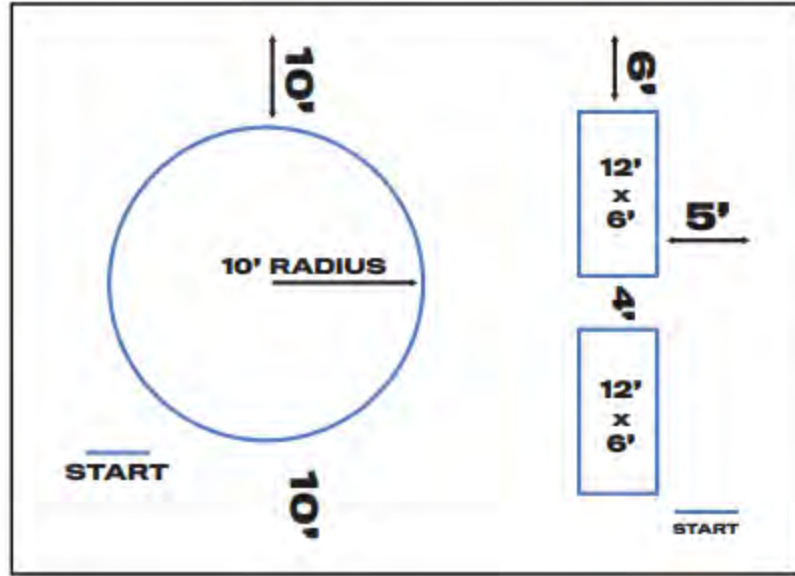
40 points

40 points

200 points



Chapter 21. Non-Licensed Classes – Precision Heeling



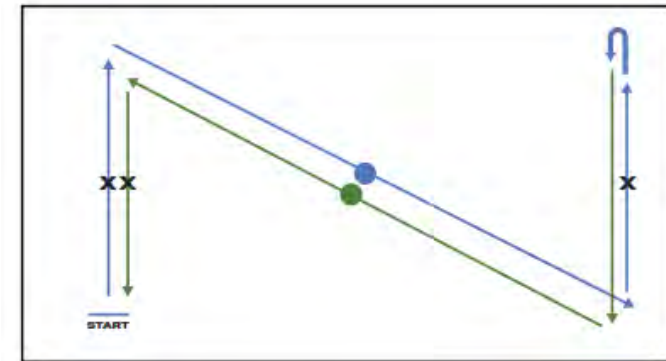
Diagonal Heeling: These lines are not marked in the ring. Dogs and handlers will be walking diagonally from one end of the ring to the other for this exercise. Orders for the exercise will be given by the judge. Included in this exercise are: Forward, about turn, fast, normal, about turn, fast, normal, about turn, slow, normal, halt

These are the required markings for the Precision Heeling class. The circle and the rectangles. The start lines should also be marked.

The circle is used for the:

- Circle Heeling with Stand
- Circle Heeling with Down

The rectangles are used for the Rectangle Heeling Exercise.



Pattern Heeling: These lines are not marked in the ring. Orders for the pattern will be given by the judge. Included in this exercise are three halts, four 45-degree pivot turns (two left, two right), two 360 degree turns (one right, one left) and an about u-turn.

