Dog Talk

AKC Obedience Articles On Topics In General

by John Cox

GENERAL TOPIC ARTICLES:

Dog Talk

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EXCUSAL CHART
JUMP CHART

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Dog Talk

by John Cox

I started in dogs when I was born as the family had a non-purebred German Shepherd Dog named Von Hyden (Vaughnie). When I was around three, Vaughnie used to take me on nice long walks that ended when a policeman picked us up and said we were reported as being lost! We never felt we were lost, but my mother always gave us a big welcome when we got home.

After Vaughnie passed on, I chose a Collie mix at the animal shelter. Prince, a tri Collie, I taught all the neat doggie tricks. He was a great dog who watched me grow from grade school through the military service. He lived to be 16.

After Prince, in 1969, I sought out a Saint Bernard puppy. This pup was to be just a best friend, but the breeder suggested I take him to obedience school. After all, he would grow up to weigh as much as me and there should be some control of such power. This puppy and I got hooked on the wonderful sport of obedience through our classes. Nicklus went on to become an American/Canadian Champion with American/Canadian Utility Titles (and OFA hips). Not a bad start in pure-bred dogs. I have had Saint Bernards ever since, with a couple of Pembroke Welsh Corgis thrown in to spice things up.

Life is interesting; Vaughnie took me on walks around the neighborhood and Nicklus started me on the path to the sport of obedience and meeting my wife.

In 1978 I started judging AKC Obedience Trials. In 1992 the Editor of THE CANINE POST, Washington State Obedience Training Club's newsletter, (Sue MacDonald - now my wife) asked me to write a few articles for the newsletter. That is how the DOG TALK articles started.

The **DOG TALK** articles have one objective - to help give you a better perspective of obedience judging and how it works. I hope the articles will help your efforts in working towards a better performance. Remember, the sport of obedience is a team effort to be ENJOYED! It is not the end of the world if you or your dog lose some points or don't earn a qualifying score on a given day. Some of the best "dog stories" are when things don't go as planned! Keep the sport in perspective and ENJOY THE TIMES WITH YOUR DOG as they go by so quickly.

WHAT IS "DOG TALK?"

DOG TALK is a series of articles which will entail the Obedience Regulations. I hope the series will give you a better insight of the Obedience Regulations and how they are applied during the course of judging. A little knowledge can save many points and maybe even a qualifying score.

It was AFTER my Saint Bernard, Nicklus, earned his AM/CAN U.D.'s (1972) that I wrote for a copy of the Obedience Regulations. I hate to admit it, but to that point in time I had not read one paragraph. If I had a question I just asked someone standing next to me - and hoped they knew the correct answers! One can only wonder the number of points that may have been saved had I a clue of the finer points in the Regulations. **Keep in mind that the dog is not the only one to lose points**. Obedience is a team sport and the handlers are scored as well as the dog. Having the knowledge of what is required for each exercise and what is expected between exercises can, in some cases, save more points than hours of training to perfect a straight sit. Take the time and write to the **American Kennel Club, 5580 Centerview Drive, Suite 200, Raleigh, NC 17606-3390 for your own copy of the Obedience Regulations.** One major item to check out in the Obedience Regulations is the "Purpose". The first two sentences should always be kept in mind. You can look them up when you receive your copy!

Good Luck and **welcome** to the wonderful Sport of Dogs!

Before You Go - Know!

by John Cox

If your time to show is approaching at an AKC Show or Sanctioned Match, keep in mind Chapter 2, Section 26 of the Obedience Regulations. It reads as follows for those who do not have their own copy:

TRAINING ON THE GROUNDS & WARM-UP ON THE GROUNDS

"There will be no intensive or abusive training of the dogs on the grounds or premises at an AKC licensed or member obedience trial or sanctioned match. Collars must be in accordance with Chapter 2, Section 17 of these *Regulations*. These requirements should not be interpreted as preventing a handler from moving normally about the grounds or premises or from warming up their dog using any exercise performed in the obedience ring, provided the dog is on a leash being held by the handler. Warm-ups should be performed as far from the obedience rings as is reasonably possible and must not be disruptive to any dog or person. Physical or verbal disciplining of a dog will not be permitted, except to a reasonable extent in case of an attack on either a dog or a person.

All dogs will be kept on leash except when in the obedience ring, designated warm-up area, or exercise area. The superintendent, event secretary, and members of the Event Committee shall be responsible for compliance with this section

Let's take a look at some important aspects of this section:

1. Grounds
2. Leash
3. Collars
4. When can a physical or verbal correction be used?
5. Who enforces this Section?

GROUNDS

According to the American Kennel Club directive:

"In order to understand the Obedience Regulations regarding training at Obedience Trials, whether held separately or in conjunction with a dog show, one first has to understand what constitutes the grounds and premises of these events. The limits are the boundaries of the grounds. The sponsor club in the application submitted to the American Kennel Club defines these limits. Premises constitutes a larger area. Its boundaries are not well defined. It consists of the land and buildings adjacent to and a continuation of the show grounds, i.e. the fairgrounds, the parking area, the school grounds, etc., where the trial is held. Specifically, any area inside the limits is on the premises, but an area does not have to be within the limits to be considered within the premises." The handlers must remember this fact and Show Committee to better understand Chapter 2, Section 26.

LEASH

The dog is to be kept on leash. The exception for being off leash is when the dog is in the obedience ring, warm-up ring or exercise ring.

COLLARS

Special training collars are NOT to be used on the GROUNDS OR PREMISES at an Obedience Trial or Sanctioned Match. This means prong and shock collars are not to be on a dog while on the premises as described above! Dogs do NOT have to be entered in the show for this regulation to apply.

PHYSICAL OR VERBAL CORRECTIONS
The ONLY exception for a physical or verbal correction (TO A REASONABLE EXTENT) is in the case of an attack on a person or another dog. A dog is not to be corrected verbally or physically during a warm-up or while moving about the premises.

WHO ENFORCES THIS SECTION?
The Superintendent, or Show or Trial Secretary, and the members of the Bench Show or Obedience Trial Committee shall be responsible for compliance with this section. These folks are listed on the premium list and/or in the catalog. **If you are on the Committee it is YOUR JOB to see that this section is enforced.** This is NOT the "job" of an Obedience Rep. Keep in mind, if an Obedience Rep. is on the premises they will be observing how well YOU are doing YOUR JOB in enforcing this section. This applies to Sanctioned Matches too!

If *abuse or severe disciplining* of dogs on the grounds or premises is observed, the Bench Show or Obedience Trial Committee shall investigate any reports. Any person who conducts himself in such a manner or in any other manner prejudicial to the best interests of the sport, or who fails to comply with the requirements of Chapter 2, Section 26, shall be dealt with promptly. Check out Sections 28 (Abuse of Dogs) and 29 (Discipline) in Chapter 2 for further details.

One reason for this regulation and the "teeth" behind it is for our sport to project a very positive image to the family attending their first dog show. The premises of an AKC event is NOT the place for verbal or physical corrections to be given to the dog. If you are bringing a dog to such an event keep this in mind. There is a time and place for everything - and this is NOT the time or place for corrections. This IS the time and place to show what training you have accomplished, PRIOR to arriving at the Obedience Trial or Sanctioned Match premises.

Before and After Entering The Obedience Ring

by John Cox

Chapters 1 and 2 of the Obedience Regulations deal with the requirements for an Obedience Trial, plus covering the regulations for the dog and handler **before and after** they enter the ring for judging. This article will touch on a few of the Sections in Chapters 1 and 2 that pertain to the dog and handler prior to performing in the ring.

First, let's not forget the Obedience Regulations Purpose which has a couple of sentences that need to be reviewed from time to time.

> "Obedience Trials are a sport and all participants should be guided by the principles of good sportsmanship both in and outside of the ring. The purpose of the Obedience Trials is to demonstrate the usefulness of the pure-bred dog as a companion of man, not merely the dog's ability to follow specified routines in the obedience ring."

CHAPTER 1, SECTION 17--DISQUALIFICATION AND INELIGIBILITY-- A dog may not compete in the Obedience ring if:

a. Blind--means without useful vision.
b. Deaf--means without useful hearing.
c. Changed in appearance for cosmetic reasons. (Effective 1/1/1992)
d. Lame--irregularity or impairment of the function of locomotion.
e. Taped or bandaged in any way or if it has anything attached to it for medical or corrective purposes.
f. (Item f explains what is acceptable as to hair. If the tied back hair does not conform then the dog is ineligible to compete.) Any dog whose hair over its eyes interferes with its vision may tie back the hair over the eyes with either 1-4 neutral colored rubber bands or a small plain barrette, or as they are normally shown in the breed ring. Hair may also be tied back with 1-4 rubber bands for hair interfering with the retrieving exercises.
g. Dyed or colored coat or a coat that shows evidence of chalk or powder.
h. The dog may not have anything attached to it for protection or adornment.

Any dog in item f, g or h may, at the Judge's sole discretion, be judged at a later time if the offending condition has been corrected. If a dog in items a, b or c came into the ring the Judge would disqualify the dog. Dogs in item d and e would be excused from the class.

SECTION 18--DISTURBANCES--The following dog or handler will not be allowed to compete:

a. A bitch that is in season.
b. Any handler who interferes willfully with another competitor or his dog.
c. Any bitch which appears so attractive to males as to be a disturbing element.

SECTION 23--RISK--"**Section 23. Risk.** The owner or agent entering a dog in an obedience trial does so at his own risk and agrees to abide by the AKC *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* and the *Obedience Regulations."*

SECTION 25--DOGS COMPETING--"**Section 25. Dogs Competing.** If a dog is excused by the trial's official veterinarian, the excusal must be in writing and must be approved by the superintendent or show or trial secretary. The excusal must be submitted to the AKC with the report of the trial. Exhibitors may leave the ring at any time by politely informing the judge they are doing so. The judge will mark the book "Handler left ring" and carry down an "NQ."

SECTION 31--STEWARDS--"**Section 31. Stewards.** Judges are in sole charge of their rings until their assignments are completed. Stewards are provided to assist but may act only on the judge's instructions. They must not give information or instructions to owners and handlers except when the judge asks them to do so. The judge shall review with the stewards their duties and the manner in which they are to be

performed. Any request from an exhibitor for special consideration must be directed to the judge. During the Graduate Novice and Open group exercises the stewards must be used to assist the judge. Judges must provide stewards with slip leads to expedite removal of a dog that interferes with another dog or to leash a dog that attempts to leave the ring."

CHAPTER 2, SECTION 1--STANDARDIZED JUDGING--"A handler who is familiar with these Regulations should be able to enter the ring under any Judge without having to inquire how the particular Judge wishes to have any exercise performed, and without being confronted with some unexpected requirement."

SECTION 5--NO ADDED REQUIREMENTS--"No Judge shall require any dog or handler to do anything, nor penalize a dog or handler for failing to do anything, that is not required by these Regulations."

SECTION 7--INTERFERENCE AND DOUBLE HANDLING--If a Judge is aware of any assistance, interference, or attempts to control a dog from outside the ring, such handling will be promptly stopped. The dog in the ring will be penalized substantially or, if in the Judge's opinion the circumstances warrant, given a non-qualifying score for the exercise during which the aid was received.

SECTION 13--COMPLIANCE WITH THE REGULATIONS AND STANDARDS--"In accordance with the certification on the entry form, the handler of each dog and the person signing each entry must be familiar with the Obedience Regulations applicable to the class in which the dog is entered."

SECTION 15--CATALOG ORDER--"Judges are not required to wait for dogs for either the individual exercises or the Group exercises. It is the responsibility of each handler to be ready with his dog at ringside when required, without being called." A Judge may agree to a request to judge a dog earlier or later than the time scheduled by catalog order. The key here is this is to be done PRIOR to the STARTING TIME of the class. If the dog is not at ringside ready to be judged in catalog order, and if no arrangement has been made in advance, the Judge should not hesitate to mark the dog and handler absent.

SECTION 26--TRAINING ON THE GROUNDS--"There shall be no drilling nor intensive or abusive training of dogs on the grounds or premises at a Licensed or Member Obedience Trial." Other requirements are:

a. Dogs shall be kept on leash except when in the Obedience ring or exercise ring.
b. Special training collars shall not be used on the grounds or premises of a trial or Sanctioned Match.
c. Physical or verbal disciplining of dogs shall not be permitted except to a reasonable extent in the case of an attack on a person or another dog.

This section does allow the handler to warm up his dog, and to do any exercise performed in the obedience ring. **Any training or warming up of a dog shall not be disruptive to any dog in the ring or a person. It shall be performed *as far from the obedience rings* as reasonably possible.**

The American Kennel Club strives to set forth a positive image to anyone attending his or her first dog event. This is a GREAT sport and it is important we convey a good image. Keep this in mind before and after you enter the Obedience Ring.

Learn Not To Mis-Match Your Matches

by John Cox

The day has arrived that you are off to a match. **STOP, and think**: Just what kind of a match are you attending and what type of training will be allowed? All matches are NOT the same, so learn the differences or you might be in for a BIG surprise! Let's take a look at the different types of matches.

FUN MATCHES

A Fun Match is an informal dog event that is not approved or recognized by the American Kennel Club as a Sanctioned Match. Fun Matches are a very informal gathering where just about anything goes. You sign up for a class the day of the match and wait your turn in the ring. In the meantime, you may practice on the grounds and do as many warm-ups as you wish. When in the ring, procedures are quite lax as this is a place for proofing and training. Extra commands and MILD corrections are usually allowed. Many times an exercise can be repeated or eliminated. A Judge at a fun match can be anyone from an approved Judge to a person just calling orders for the handlers. About the only rule or regulation is one of good sportsmanship.

MEMBERS ONLY MATCHES

M.O.M. Matches (Members Only Match) are conducted by Clubs recognized by the American Kennel Club. Such matches are open ONLY to the members of the club holding the match. Clubs under the jurisdiction of the AKC are regulated in regards to matches and trials offered to the public, so this style of match allows the members to train dogs in a manner similar to the Fun Matches mentioned above.

AKC SANCTIONED MATCHES

The AKC definition is, "A Sanctioned Match is an informal event at which neither Championship points nor credit towards an Obedience Title are awarded. They are events at which dog clubs, Judges, Stewards, exhibitors and their dogs gain experience needed for licensed events".

There are six basic types of Sanctioned Matches:

1. All-Breed Show Matches
2. Group Show Matches
3. Specialty Show Matches
4. All-Breed Obedience Matches
5. Group All-Breed Obedience Matches
6. Specialty Matches

There are three plans: A, B and C (Show Matches) and OA, OB and OC (Obedience Matches). Sanctioned B and/or OB Matches are informal events which are the most common. Sanctioned A and/or OA Matches are events that the AKC requires clubs to hold in order to establish their eligibility to hold Licensed Dog Shows or Obedience Trials. These matches are more formal and closely resemble licensed events. **B-OB Sanctioned Obedience Matches held by the Specialty Clubs (as of December 13, 1993) may offer All-Breed Obedience classes.** All of the Dog Show Rules and Obedience Regulations will apply to Sanctioned Matches, except those which specifically make reference to licensed and member events and except where otherwise stated in the Match Regulations. Such exceptions are:

At Sanctioned **A, B, OA, OB** and Matches, dogs must be at least six months of age on the date of the event. No dog with a CDX title may COMPETE in any Regular Class at an OA or OB Sanctioned Match except Utility. Such dogs may be entered and participate in the Open B Class, but may not compete for any awards in that class.

No dog with a UD title may COMPETE in any Regular Class at an OA or OB Sanctioned Match. Dogs with the UD title may be entered and participate in the Open B and Utility Classes, but may not compete for any awards in these classes.

Competition at B or OB matches held by all-breed or obedience clubs may be offered for purebred dogs that are neither AKC registerable nor eligible for the Miscellaneous Class. Such competition would be limited to breeds registered with a foreign registry in their country of origin, or with a national breed club in the United States which would be in a position to provide a multiple-generation pedigree. Competition for such breeds would include both breed and obedience.

OC Obedience Matches are quite informal compared to the OA and OB type matches and are as follows: Any of the regular or non-regular classes may be offered. In addition, 'run-throughs' may be offered where the exhibitor may do all or part of the total exercises from a given class, or the sponsoring club may allow a specific amount of 'ring time' desired by the exhibitor.

The sponsoring club may delay second 'run-throughs' until all first 'run-throughs' in a class have been completed. The maximum number of times to be able to repeat an exercise or to repeat a 'run-through' shall be set by the sponsoring club. The fee for participation, whether it is a complete class participation, including all of the exercises, or part of the exercises in a class, or additional 'run-throughs' or a specified amount of 'ring-time' desired by the exhibitor, shall be set by the sponsoring club.

Corrections shall be limited to verbal corrections, or gently guiding the dog. At the option of the sponsoring club, food and/or toys may be allowed in the ring.

JUDGES:
The AKC strongly recommends that clubs select individuals who are totally familiar with all rules, regulations and procedures pertaining to the type of event being judged. Sanctioned Match Judges are required to enforce ALL of the Obedience and Match Regulations. Judging a Sanctioned Match is VERY different than just calling orders at Fun or Members Matches.

TRAINING:
There shall be NO **drilling nor intensive or abusive training** of dogs ON THE GROUNDS of an OA, OB or OC Sanctioned Match. At Plan OB and OC Sanctioned Matches, while dogs in the ring may receive VERBAL corrections, such corrections SHALL BE penalized. In addition, the Judge of a Plan OB Sanctioned Match may, AT HIS OWN DISCRETION, permit a handler and dog to repeat an exercise; however, only the FIRST performance shall be scored, unless the dog is being rejudged on the exercise because of the Judge's option when the dog's performance was prejudiced by peculiar and unusual conditions.

DISQUALIFICATION:
ALL of the Dog Show Rules and Obedience Regulations applying to the disqualification of dogs shall apply at Sanctioned Matches, except that a dog with a disqualifying condition shall not be disqualified, but shall simply be excused for the day.

A Sanctioned Match is NOT a Fun Match. Fun may be had at a Sanctioned Match, but conduct yourself as if you are at a regular trial. If you are judging, have fun but if you are judging at a Sanctioned Match don't forget your responsibilities in enforcing the Obedience and Match Regulations.

Learn the difference between the types of matches and make sure that the match you enter will fit your needs at the time. If **excessive** verbal commands and mild physical corrections are needed, a Sanctioned Match will NOT fit the bill. If you and your dog need a more formal setting where you can use one or two verbal corrections and maybe a rerun of an exercise, then the Sanctioned Match is the place. All matches are "fun matches" when you know the differences.

Equipping The Team With The Correct Equipment

by John Cox

Train and practice as you may, but when it comes time to show at an AKC trial you MUST have the correct equipment to get past the ring gate! **The Obedience Regulations not only regulate obedience rings, jumps, and how exercises are performed; they also address specifics on types of equipment used by the handler.** Let's take a close look at the different classes and the equipment requirements.

NOVICE

1. **IDENTIFICATION** (CH 1, SEC 10) "No visible means of identification (badges, ribbons, club jackets, etc.) may be worn or displayed by anyone exhibiting a dog in the ring." The key words here are "...other visible means of identification used...," which applies to equipment as well as what is worn by the handler. Any visible names, etc. that could identify the dog or handler (on leashes, collars, dumbbells, scent articles, scent article carrying case or gloves) are subject to this regulation. If such identification is VISIBLE, the Judge should not allow such equipment in the ring.
2. **LEASH** (CH 2, SEC 16) **Section 16. Use of Leash. "**All dogs must be kept on a leash except when in the obedience ring, warmup ring or exercise area and must be brought into and taken out of the ring on leash.

   'Leashes must be attached to the collar when dogs are brought in for classes requiring an on leash exercise, group exercises and awards. In a class where a leash is not required for the individual exercises, the dog may be brought into and taken out of the ring on a leash that slips through the dog's collar.

   'Except where otherwise specified in these regulations, the handler will leave the dog's leash on the judge's table or other designated place.

   'The leash must be made of fabric or leather and need only be long enough to provide adequate slack during the Heel on Leash exercise, unless stated otherwise in these regulations."
3. **COLLARS** (CH 2, SEC 17) DOGS...MUST WEAR well-fitting collars.

   COLLARS NOT PERMITTED are:
   - special training collars
   - collars with prongs or spikes on the inside or outside
   - electronic collars
   - collars that are TOO tight or so large that they hang down unreasonably in front of the dog(s).
   - anything <u>hanging</u> from the collars
   - No dog may enter the ring, either for judging or for awards, with unacceptable equipment. Handlers are not permitted to wear such things as waist packs/pouches or any item that, in the judge's opinion, appears to be a training device or aid.

   Find a collar that is comfortable for the dog. Keep in mind the dog's coat and fit a collar that will not pull or bother the hair. Also, let the dog get used to the show collar before you enter the ring. These precautions will help avoid the dog scratching at the collar. Depending when the scratching occurs, points could be lost!
4. **HAIR** (CH 1, SEC 17) -- ANY dog whose hair **interferes with performance of the dog (i.e. hair around the eyes, ears or beard)**, may have the hair tied back with elastic bands or small plain barrettes in a manner as they are normally shown in the breed ring.

OPEN

All the above in Novice applies, except the leash need not be of "sufficient length." Keep in mind that the dog MUST be on leash when brought into and leaving the ring

1. **HAIR** (CH 1, SEC 17) -- ANY dog whose hair **interferes with performance of the dog (i.e. hair around the eyes, ears or beard)**, may have the hair tied back with elastic bands or small plain barrettes in a manner as they are normally shown in the breed ring.

2. DUMBBELLS (CH 4, SEC 9)

- shall be of a size proportionate to the size of the dog
- made of one or more SOLID pieces of wood or, rigid or semi-rigid, firm, nontoxic, non-wooden material, SIMILAR IN SIZE, SHAPE, COLOR and WEIGHT to a wooden dumbbell
- MAY be unfinished, or coated with a CLEAR finish, or painted **ANY** color
- may bear an INCONSPICUOUS mark for identification
- MAY NOT be hollowed out or be made of metal; decorations or attachments are not permitted

Try out different dumbbells and seek one that your dog is comfortable with in its mouth. A dumbbell that does not fit well in the dog's mouth could create difficulties with pickup, or end up being dropped resulting in a MINOR to SUBSTANTIAL deduction. Also, find one YOU can throw well and learn to "plant" it where you are aiming. A poor toss can lead to a poor retrieve. The dog is then scored for the poor retrieve and the tossing of the dumbbell may be the root of the problem.

UTILITY

Again all the Novice items apply, except the leash need not be of "sufficient length," but the dog MUST be on leash when brought into, and when leaving, the ring. The hair issues in Novice & Open also apply to Utility.

1. **SCENT ARTICLES** (CH 5, SEC 8)

- ONE set SHALL BE made entirely of rigid metal
- ONE set SHALL BE made of leather in such a design that NOTHING but leather is visible except the minimum amount of metal necessary to hold the object together.
- ONE set SHALL BE made of one or more solid pieces of wood.
- The handler will choose which two (2) sets are to be used, metal, leather or wood.
- BOTH sets MUST in proportion to the dog like the Open dumbbell. The maximum length of 6” no longer applies.
- ALL ARTICLES MUST BE LEGIBLY numbered, each with a different number
- Articles MUST BE approved by the Judge

Think through the types of articles you choose. Test different styles and find ones that are comfortable in the dog's mouth. The style of article could affect the promptness of the retrieve, thus affecting the scoring. The article CASE may NOT have any VISIBLE means of identifying (CH 1, SEC 10) the dog or handler. If identification is VISIBLE, the Judge should not allow the equipment in the ring.

2. GLOVES (CH 5, SEC 10) -- handler will provide three **PREDOMINANTLY WHITE**, which **MUST BE <u>open</u>** and MUST BE approved by the Judge. (Predominantly white mean just that!) Soiled gloves that are so dirty that they are not PREDOMINANTLY WHITE may end up not being approved by the Judge. In choosing gloves use some common sense. If you have a small dog choose a smaller glove.

NON-REGULAR CLASSES

The same Obedience Regulations that apply to the Regular classes also apply for the Non-regular classes. The fact that a dog does not earn a title in a Non-regular class, or that there is no "qualifying performance," is no reason to ignore any of the Regulations. For example, CH 1, SEC 10 (IDENTIFICATION) still applies. The equipment in the Non-regular classes is subject to the same regulations as the Regular classes. Versatility requires the same gloves, scent articles, leash of sufficient length, dumbbell and collar as in the Regular classes. If the handler does not provide the correct equipment, the Judge must not allow the handler to compete until the problem is corrected.

The Brace class allows an additional piece of equipment (coupling device) not used in any other class. If the handler chooses to couple the brace of dogs, the coupling device is to be NOT LESS than SIX inches overall length. If the coupling device is used it is to be used in ALL EXERCISES - this means the Groups too! There is no mention of what material the coupling device is to be made of, but common sense would lead one to believe leather, fabric or chain would be the acceptable choices.

Team class is a great, fun class to compete in. Dressing up the dogs for team competition is now allowed as long as it is in good taste. Give some thought to the outfit and choose one that will not interfere with the dog's performance.

DRESSING FOR THE OBEDIENCE RING

Give some thought to your clothing before entering the obedience ring. The Premium List will state if the trial is indoors or outdoors. Wear shoes that provide good footing and balance; the ground is to be level but many times it is still uneven. Proper shoes will allow a more stable brisk walk, thus helping the dog's performance. Flowing clothing that could interfere with the dog is another item to consider when dressing for the ring. Avoid clothing that will flare up and cause a reaction by the dog. CH 2, SEC 20:".. .any unusual noise or motion may be considered to be a signal..." Jewelry or clothing that makes noise could be scored. If a noise is made during a signal (which is to be inaudible) this action could result in a non-qualifying score. Give thought and use common sense BEFORE you enter the ring.

The Obedience Guidelines For Obedience Judges states: "No dog may enter the ring, either for judging **or for awards,** with unacceptable equipment. Handlers are not permitted to wear such things as waist packs/pouches or any item that, in the Judges opinion, appears to be a training device or aid." If you are wearing a pager or cell-phone you might want to leave it outside the ring for the short time of judging.

We put a lot of time into training for the ring. When "showtime" comes around have the equipment and clothing that will help, not hinder the team performance.

The Final Score - Who Lost The Most Points?

by John Cox

The sport of Obedience is many things to many people, but in the Obedience ring it is judged as a team sport. As each team enters the ring they are under constant judgment until they leave the ring. During all the individual exercises, and before, after and between the exercises, the dog and handler's performance is evaluated and scored. If points are lost during this time the question is, who lost the most points? Was it the dog or the handler? **There are times when a dog will lose less points than a handler, so don't always assume the final score is a reflection of just the dog's performance.** Understanding which team member is losing the points is the first step in improving future final scores.

This article will address a few common areas where handlers lose points.

1. BETWEEN EXERCISE HANDLING
2. THE GIVING OF COMMANDS AND/OR SIGNALS
3. HEELING
4. NOVICE STAND FOR EXAMINATION
5. THROWING THE DUMBBELL
6. TURNING WHILE THE DOG IS IN MIDAIR
7. TURNING IN PLACE
8. SCENT DISCRIMINATION
9. DIRECTED RETRIEVE
10. MOVING STAND AND EXAMINATION

1. BETWEEN EXERCISE HANDLING - Before, between and after the exercises most dogs do just fine, but the handler can lose big points. A few examples of handler errors are:

a. In Beginner Novice, Preferred Novice and Novice classes the handler may **GENTLY** guide the dog by the collar. The key word is gently. Any pulling, lifting, tugs etc. are not "gently" and is subject to a minor to substantial penalty.
b. In Graduate Novice, Graduate Open, Preferred Open, Open or Preferred Utility, Utility or Versatility classes the handler must NOT physically guide the dog at ANY time. Posing for measurement is permitted. The big error handlers make is after the last individual exercise. If the collar is held and the dog walked to the table for the leash - this is subject to a penalty. Judging is not over at this time. Judging stops when the team steps through the ring entrance on their way out. Also keep in mind that dogs must be brought into and taken out of the ring on leash.
c. Before an exercise there are those handlers that use physical guidance such as placing the dog in position with the hands or straightening the dog with the knees or feet -- an excellent way to lose points. There are times when those points lost may mean the difference between a qualifying score or a placement.
d. All of the above handling (a-c) is also observed when the handler brings the dog into the ring for the Group exercises. The Open handler should be aware of above items b and c when lining up the dog for the Groups. Remember, one cannot physically guide or position the Open dog during this time.

2. THE GIVING OF COMMANDS AND/OR SIGNALS - Signals and/or commands are given to the dog before, during and after EVERY exercise. ALL of the commands and signals are judged. CHAPTER 2, SECTIONS 20, 21 and 23 should be reviewed for complete information on the subject. A couple of important areas in which to avoid point deductions are:

a. Giving loud commands to the dog. An excessively loud command is three or more points lost.
b. If a signal is given make sure it is a single gesture with one arm and hand only, and the arm must immediately be returned to a natural position. Signals must be inaudible and the handler must not touch the dog. Any unusual noise or motion may be considered to be a signal. AVOID using "body-English" -- a common area where handlers throw away points. Any error in the giving of a signal is scored.

3. HEELING - Incorrect handling during the Heeling exercises can end up being a real point-buster. The image to project is the natural way one would walk down the street. The key words here are smoothness and naturalness. In the Glossary of Terms in the Obedience Regulations, natural is defined as "not artificial; free of affectation, and customarily expected in the home or public places." Listed are a few examples of handler errors and affectations that can show up during the heeling:

a. The pace of heeling is a common area of handler error. A handler must walk **briskly** and in a natural manner. Adapting pace to that of the dog is to be penalized. The Figure Eight is another critical area to avoid adapting pace to the dog. If the handler constantly adapts pace to the dog a non-qualifying score will result.
b. Beware of making turns and having a slight hesitation or delay after turning. This shows up mostly on about-turns and right turns. Also, beware of military turns. Sharp ninety-degree turns are penalized. Learn to make turns in a natural manner and without delays.
c. Substantial deductions shall be made for failure of handler to noticeably accelerate speed forward for the Fast and noticeably decelerate speed forward for the Slow. The Fast is described in the Regulations: "'Fast' signifies that the handler must run, handler and dog moving forward at a noticeably accelerated speed." There are all types of "funny" handling that can occur during the Fast. Avoid fast walking. When running forward, avoid the affectations of the up and down motions of the body and feet that aid the dog. Such actions will result in penalties. Remember, NATURAL and SMOOTH!
d. When asked to Halt, do it without stepping sideways towards or away from the dog.
e. Only execute the turns, Fast, Slow and Halts on the Judge's order. Penalties are applied when the handler delays or anticipates the Judge's orders. For example, on the Fast don't slow until the Judge says "Normal." On turns, don't turn before being told. Of course, there are times when a Judge may get a handler a little too close to the ring barrier. In this case, the handler might want to slow a little and wait for the order.
f. Know where the hands and arms should be while heeling. One of two options is to be followed. These are listed in the Regulations in CHAPTER 2, SECTION 19.

There is a lot going on during the Heeling exercise -- for both dog and handler. When it comes to saving points, don't overlook the handling of the dog. To be smooth and natural while heeling in the ring is difficult -- practice will help save some of those 40 points. If the dog is going to error there is little one can do with the exception of an extra command or signal. If the dog is losing points -- so be it. When a handler tries to adapt to the dog's faults then they too lose points. **Don't forget, the dog and handler are a team and both are being scored.** Handling during Heeling is covered in CHAPTER 2, SECTIONS 19, 20, 21, and CHAPTER 3, SECTIONS 5 and 6.

4. NOVICE STAND FOR EXAMINATION - When points are lost during the Stand For Examination, in many cases it is the handler busting the perfect score. The handler is doing most of the work in this exercise while the dog is standing and staying in position. The Regulations require the following from the handler after posing the dog: "When he is ready, the handler will stand with the dog in the Heel position and give his command and/or signal to the dog to Stay, walk forward about six feet in front of the dog, turn around and stand facing the dog." "...'Back to your dog,' whereupon the handler shall walk around behind his dog and return to the heel position," if the handler makes errors during this exercise they are usually found in the following areas:

a. After the handler poses the dog, **it is up to the handler to line up with the dog in heel position**. Not being in heel position just before the Stay command and/or signal is given is a scorable fault.
b. As the Stay command and/or signal is given all hands, etc. are to be off the dog. Hands on the dog or dog's collar while giving the command and/or signal to stay is subject to a penalty.
c. It is up to the handler to walk forward about six feet. If a handler continues beyond (or short of) about six feet, it is a scorable handler error.
d. Any backing away from the dog is not walking forward like the Regulations require -- therefore it is scored as a fault.
e. The handler must return to heel position. Heel position is defined in CHAPTER 2, SECTION 18. If the handler fails to return to the heel position as defined it becomes a handler error.

The Stand for Examination is just as much of a test for the handler as the dog. This is one exercise where the handler does must of the active work.

5. THROWING THE DUMBBELL - The throwing of a dumbbell is not an area that is normally scored, but where the dumbbell lands can affect the dog's performance. Learning to "plant" the dumbbell in a desired area is a skill and requires practice. A poor toss of the dumbbell can lead to a poor retrieve. The dog is then scored for a poor retrieve -- but the problem started with the handler. A few tips on dumbbells and throwing:

a. Use a dumbbell that is comfortable to the dog's mouth and fits well in the teeth and gums. Use a size that is proportionate to the size of the dog. This can also apply to scent articles.
b. Choose a dumbbell that does not bounce and slide around when tossed. Throwing skills can also avoid bouncing and sliding as the dumbbell lands. Practice on different surfaces.
c. Avoid throwing the dumbbell too close to the ring barriers. Many times this constricts from a "clean" pick-up. Poor pick-ups are scored.
d. Observe how your dog picks up the dumbbell. Does he pick it up on an outward direction or does he turn and then pick it up? What way does he circle to pick up the dumbbell or turn with the dumbbell in his mouth? These are things the handler should know and keep in mind when throwing the dumbbell. It is up to the handler to toss the dumbbell so the dog has the opportunity to go directly out, have a clean pick-up and be able to directly return. Here again, it takes teamwork to save points.
e. If a handler is physically challenged in a way that restricts throwing, mention this to the Judge when going into the ring. This area is covered in CHAPTER 2, SECTION 14.

6. TURNING WHILE THE DOG IS IN MIDAIR - There are a couple of Sections in the Regulations that deal with the handler turning while the dog is **midair** over a jump. The key word is "midair". Examples are:

a. Broad Jump -- CHAPTER 4, SECTION 13 -- "The handler shall change his position by executing a right-angle turn while the dog is in midair, but shall remain in the same spot." Turning before or after the dog is in midair is a fault and is scored. While on the subject of the Broad Jump, another area to avoid a possible handler error is standing too close or too far from the jump. The Regulations require about two feet away from the jump.
b. Directed Jumping -- CHAPTER 5, SECTION 14 -- "...while the dog is in midair, the handler may turn so as to be facing the dog as it returns." If the handler chooses to turn -- doing it while the dog is midair over the jump will avoid deductions in the score.

7. TURNING IN PLACE - In the Utility class, the handler turning in place is mentioned in the Scent Discrimination and the Directed Retrieve exercises. How the handler turns to face the scent articles or glove is a motion that is scored. Turning in place is defined in the Glossary of Terms: "Turning in the area that is occupied by the handler before the turn had started." An easy way to envision this is if one were to draw an imaginary circle on the floor around the handler's feet. The handler is to turn within this space. Any stepping out of the circle, like forward or back a step or two, would be subject to a penalty. The Obedience Regulations state the following:

a. Scent Discrimination -- CHAPTER 5, SECTION 9 -- "...Substantial deductions shall be made for...,and the handler not turning in place." Also, minor or substantial deductions are made for any excessive motions by the handler in turning to face the articles.
b. Directed Retrieve -- CHAPTER 5, SECTION 11 -- "Depending on the extent, a substantial deduction **even to the point of non-qualifying** shall be made for not turning in place or not turning to face the designated glove. Depending on the extent, a minor to substantial deduction shall be made for a handler who touches the dog or uses excessive motions while turning to face the glove."

8. SCENT DISCRIMINATION – The handler may choose to watch the articles being placed or turn away at any time. Once facing away the handler is to have the dog sit in heel position. The Judge will then ask, "Are you ready?" The judging of this exercise starts **with the Judge's *first* order, "Choose your article",** and **scoring of the exercise will begin at that time**. The handler may tell the dog to Stay and proceed to choose an article for scenting, returning back to the dog. The handler must adhere to the following to avoid penalties:

a. Remain facing away from the articles until the Judge has taken the handler's scented article and given the order, "Send your dog." If the handler turns to watch before the Judge's order (Send your dog.) -- this is a fault. Remain facing away like the Regulations require and save points.
b. During the *scenting of the article*, the scent is to be imparted to the article with just the hands. The article must be held continuously in the handler's hands and remain in plain sight. The handler may talk to the dog but not touch the dog, such as petting, etc. Remember, the exercise is underway during the scenting of the article (different from the past).
c. From the time the Judge takes the scented article from the handler (**second order, the taking of the article**) until the time the Judge gives the ***third order***, "Send your dog," the handler's arms and hands are to be in the natural position. The handler must relinquish the article immediately when ordered by the Judge. Remember, there is **no verbal** order here. The taking of the article (holding out the clip board) **is the second order**.
d. After the article is taken by the Judge, any giving of scent, talking or petting to the dog before the Judge's third order is subject to a penalty. This is the timeframe while the Judge is placing the article amongst the group of other articles.
e. On the Judge's third order, "Send your dog", is the timeframe for the handler to give scent *to the dog*. If the scent is given to the dog, it is with an open hand and while the dog and handler have their backs to the articles. The arm and hand must return to a natural position **before** handler and dog turn to face the articles. The handler must avoid any roughness in imparting their scent to the dog.
f. The handler is required to turn in place and avoid any excessive motions while turning to face the articles.
g. The handler shall give the Commands or Signals as per CHAPTER 2, SECTIONS 20 & 21.

The handler should be aware of all the above items. Since there are two scent discrimination exercises, avoid making errors twice and being penalized twice!

9. THE DIRECTED RETRIEVE - The Regulations require the following from the handler in CHAPTER 5, SECTION 10:

a. Handlers shall be facing away from the gloves when the exercise starts. Turning and looking back at the gloves could be scored as a handler error. A judge could consider this action as aiding to the dog.
b. The handler is to turn in place and avoid any excessive motions while turning to face the gloves.
c. "The handler shall not touch the dog to get it into position nor may he reposition the dog." "...a non-qualifying score is required for any commands or signals by the handler, **after** turning to position to face the designated glove,..."
d. "The handler will then give his dog the direction to the designated glove with a single motion of his left hand and arm along with the right side of the dog, and will give a verbal command to retrieve either simultaneously with or immediately following the giving of the direction." **NOTE:** In giving the verbal command (which is required), the handler should not give an excessively loud command but one that the Judge can hear. **If the Judge cannot hear the verbal command then he/she has to make a decision if one was given.**
e. "The handler may bend their body and knees to the extent necessary in giving the direction to the dog, after which the handler will stand erect in a natural position with his arms at his sides."
f. The handler shall give the Commands or Signals as per CHAPTER 2, SECTIONS 20 & 21.

10. MOVING STAND AND EXAMINATION - This exercise is three exercises in one -- Novice Heel Free, Stand for Examination and the Novice Recall. All appropriate penalties for the above three exercises shall apply. The handler will be judged for the following:

a. All Commands or Signals are to be given as per CHAPTER 2, SECTIONS 20 & 21.
b. Actions of the handler during the Heeling portion of this exercise are covered in Item 3.
c. Moving Stand and Examination -- CHAPTER 5, SECTION 13 -- "Minor or substantial penalties, depending on the extent, shall be made for the handler that changes the manor of walking or hesitates or pauses while giving the command and/or signal to stand,..."

d. After giving the Command and or Signal to the dog the handler must continue forward 10-12 feet and turn around and stand facing the dog. If the handler stops before about 10 feet or beyond about 12 feet, this is subject to a penalty. Practice and know about how many paces work out to be 10-12 feet.

Handling during the Directed Jumping is covered in an article on Directed Jumping. The article is on this website.

Remember, the handler is one half of the team and is judged along with the dog. The final score at the end of the class is the score BOTH team members earned for the effort. If one is interested in improving the final score, don't just practice the dog. The handler should also practice and be aware of the areas in which THEY can lose points. When it comes times to enter the ring, one does not always know how well the dog is going to perform, but the handler can control how they will perform. Knowing what is required by the Obedience Regulations in regards to handling may answer the question of who lost the most points in future final scores.

The Obedience Regulations - What's Wrong?

by John Cox

This article will draw several mental "picture" scenarios in which there will be a few problems and errors for you to find. Keep in mind we are dealing with the Obedience Regulations and the use of the **CORRECT** word or words **AS USED IN THE REGULATIONS**, and how they are applied. Just for the FUN of it, test your knowledge and see how well you can pick out the misuse of words or the misapplication of the Regulations.

1. It is Thursday night at dog obedience class and everybody is polishing up their handler/dog teamwork. There is a big three-day weekend of obedience trials coming up and Loire, the instructor, wishes the class the best of luck in earning a new degree. At the same time she also wishes the best of luck to those students who are competing in the local tracking trial.
2. Across town, another obedience instructor is informing his students to be sure to take a copy of the Obedience Rules to the dog shows. If they have a question, the Rules will be handy to look up the answer.
3. CHAPTER 2, SECTION 14 addresses handicapped handlers. "Judges may modify the specific requirements of these Regulations for handlers to the extent necessary to permit physically handicapped handlers to compete..."
4. After the Novice class was over and the awards were presented, one handler asked to talk to the Judge to learn where he had lost points. The Judge mentioned that the dog did a lot of forging and bumping during the heeling.
5. The giving of a command AND signal in an exercise where just a command OR signal is required results in a disqualification of the handler.
6. All the dogs and handlers are lined up for the Novice Group Exercises and the Judge finishes up his instructions to the handlers. He then orders the handlers to "Leave your dogs" and after one minute orders handlers "Return to your dogs."
7. In trying to be efficient, the Judge tells one of the Utility Stewards to take the articles from the handler, take out one from each set and place them on the chair provided for the exercise. Next, remove the gloves from the case and place the article case on the table until needed. The other Steward is to take charge of the gloves after setting the jumps. This procedure is to be executed while the Judge is measuring the dog in the ring. After measuring the dog, the Judge is ready to start the Signal exercise.
8. The dumbbell has been tossed over the jump during the Open Retrieve Over High Jump exercise. The Judge commands the handler to "Send your dog." The handler then orders the dog to retrieve. The dog goes over the jump and returns with the dumbbell, in perfect fashion, but goes to Finish without stopping for a sit in front of the handler. The Judge scores a substantial penalty of 2 1/2 points off.
9. A dog and handler finish their U.D. title in Utility A. Since the new change in CHAPTER 1, SECTION 16 (January 1, 1994), they continue to show in Utility A for 60 days after the third Qualifying Score. During this time they are also showing in Open B and earn seven combined scores. After the 60 days pass, the dog and handler switch over and enter Utility B and Open B. They earn three more combined scores to meet the total of the ten combined scores needed for the U.D.X. title.
10. The class instructor tells her class to be sure to use a good clear signal to the dog when doing the Directed Retrieve exercise so the dog can see the signal to the correct glove.
11. The dogs are all lined up and ready to start the Open Group Sit. The Judge orders "Sit your dogs," starts the stopwatch, and then orders "Leave your dogs." The handlers have quite a distance to walk in order to reach the out-of-sight location. About 10 seconds before the 3 minutes elapse, the Judge signals the handlers to return. This will give the handlers a little head start due to the distance, but they will not be back to the ring before the 3 minutes is up.

12. The Saint Bernard and handler have done a flawless job in all the Utility exercises up to Directed Jumping. (This possibility should not come as a surprise to anyone so this is not the trick part of the question!) It is now time to do Directed Jumping. The Saint does a perfect go out and sits immediately on command but with his back to the handler. The Judge designates the Bar Jump and the handler commands "Bar." NO signal is given. The Saint leaps to his feet and easily clears the Bar Jump. The next go out is also perfect. This time, however, the Saint immediately turns and sits looking at the handler. The Judge designates the High Jump and the handler signals the dog to jump. Again, the Saint leaps to his feet and goes over the High Jump. NO verbal command was given this time. Both returns to the handler and the Fronts and Finishes were the picture of perfection. Would YOU have taken any deductions on this exercise?
13. During the above exercise the Judge designated the jumps by giving the following orders: "The Bar Jump on your right" followed by "The Solid Jump on your left." (Yes, the Bar was on the right and the Solid on the left - that's not it folks.)
14. Dog and handler finish their C.D.X. degree in the Open A class. The handler decides to continue to show in Open A for 60 more days per CHAPTER 1, SECTION 16. Since the dog is also trained for Utility, the handler also enters Utility A during this time period. The dog and handler earn three qualifying scores in Utility A, and time passes and no degree comes in the mail. Why?

    FOOTNOTE #1: In the back of the Obedience Regulations there is a Glossary of Terms that define words and phrases used in the Regulations. Do you know what word is defined in the glossary but is NOT printed in the text of the Regulations?

ANSWERS

1. There are no "degrees" awarded in obedience. Dogs earn obedience **titles**. Tracking events are called "**Tests**," not trials.
2. "Rules" apply to Registration and Dog Shows. Obedience has "**Regulations**." In fact, everything dealing with obedience printed in booklet form is called regulations. There are Obedience Regulations, Match Regulations and Tracking Regulations.
3. The word "handicapped" was removed and replaced with the word "**Physically Challenged**."
4. "Bumping" is NOT in the Regulations. Had this been a new handler, he could easily be confused as to why his dog was penalized for a fault not found in the Regulations. It is VERY important that Judges use the words in the Regulations. The Judge should have chosen other words in the Regulations such as **crowding, touching, not allowing the handler freedom of motion at all times**.
5. "Disqualification" is defined in CHAPTER 1, SECTION 17. **Keep in mind that non-qualifying and disqualified are two VERY different actions.**
6. The Judge failed to ask the question "**Are you ready**," and left out the order to "**Sit your dogs**." The correct order for the handlers to return is "**Back to your dogs**."
7. Though the Judge thought this method was being efficient in saving time, two VERY important factors were being overlooked.
    a. The Articles - **The Regulations state the handler shall present all ten articles to the Judge**, who shall designate one from each set and make a written note of the numbers of the two articles he has selected. This should be done prior to judging so the Judge can make sure ten articles are indeed in the case and that they conform to the Regulations in CHAPTER 5, SECTION 8. If the Judge does not check the articles at this time, what is he/she going to do at the time of the exercise if there is a problem? Stop judging and let the handler leave the ring to correct the problem?
    b. The Gloves - **Gloves should be checked to make sure there are three and that the three conform with CHAPTER 5, SECTION 10 before judging begins**. This will avoid finding a possible problem at the time of the exercise. The problem is best corrected before the dog and handler enters the ring.
8. A "**command**" is a verbal order FROM THE HANDLER to the dog. An "**order**" is a direction FROM JUDGE to handler, either verbal or nonverbal. **2 1/2 points or less is a MINOR penalty**. A **substantial** penalty is **3 OR MORE** points.

9. Combined qualifying scores for the U.D.X. title shall have been earned at ten separate events in both Open B and Utility **"B"**. A combined qualifying score from Open B and Utility "A" does NOT count towards the new U.D.X. title. Also, there has to be a minimal number of dogs in the Open B and Utility B classes. This is detailed in CHAPTER 7, SECTION 1.
10. A handler gives a **DIRECTION** and **NOT a signal**. A direction is a motion that stops and **then** a command is given to retrieve. A signal (as defined in CH 2, Sec. 20) is a **single motion** of arm and hand **being IMMEDIATELY returned** to a natural position. **A signal in NOT an action that stops** like in the giving of direction. There is a **BIG difference** in the way these two actions are defined. Don't confuse the two and loose points. Know the difference!
11. According to CHAPTER 4, SECTION 15, the time starts **AFTER** the Judge has ordered "Leave your dogs." The handlers must remain completely out of sight until called by the Judge **AFTER** the expiration of the time limit. The order to return would be given to the Steward who took the handlers out of sight, not to the handlers. The handlers should be out of sight and not able to see the Judge or the ring.
12. The first thing you might question is the dog's failure to turn and sit facing the handler. The Regulations require that the dog "...**must stop and sit with his attention on the handler**..." This requires the dog's concentration of mental powers upon the handler, which was obvious by the Saint Bernard's immediate response to the handler's command to jump. [There is no requirement that the dog be LOOKING at the handler. The dog is not required to TURN]. A signal was not required. "The handler shall command and/or signal the dog to return to him over the designated jump." It is hoped most Judges would find nothing in this dog's performance which was a scorable fault.
13. The orders for designating which jump are "**Bar**" or "**High**" and that is it!
14. First of all, the dog earns a "**title**" not a degree. The title did not come in the mail because the three qualifying scores did not count towards the U.D. title due to the fact the handler was still showing in Open A. CHAPTER 1, SECTION 16 also states,"...a dog entered in Utility under this Section may not be shown in Open A."

FOOTNOTE #1: "**Crooked**."

Who is Looking Out For The Sport of Obedience?

Part I

By John Cox

This is *not* a whining article but a call to arms for **more** support and for the promotion of the Sport of Obedience. **We need to better promote our sport and bring it into the bright spotlight for the general public to view.** We are NQ-ing in this field. You all know the value of the well-trained dog as a companion to man and the positive reflection it has on our sport. Does the public know this? Do they have a chance to see this? The numbers are very small!

The public is well aware of the Westminster KC conformation show that is televised on the USA network and Agility trials televised on the Animal Planet channel. Where does the public go to watch obedience? Do they even know there is such a sport? We did have a weak start of the promotion of the AKC Invitational on a vague cable sports channel. It *was* a start and that is good! We need to further improve this start and rise to higher goals. We just can't sit back and use the excuse that obedience does not have the $ behind it. We need to build more interest in our sport and the $ will come and generate more $ for future promotions.

Congratulations to the conformation and agility sides of our Sport of Dogs for being on the ball and introducing the public to the world of dogs and **some** of the things dogs can do besides sitting in the back yard. This was very evident at the Rose City Classic in Portland, Oregon. This circuit is a HUGE four-day dog show weekend with Agility, Conformation and Obedience events. Eukanuba Dog Food was there with signs all over the conformation and agility rings promoting their product. Strange thing, there were no signs by the obedience rings. *If fact, it was hard to tell this was an AKC event and not a dog food event!* Yes, companies now help underwrite many shows and I have no problem with this at all. We are lucky such companies will spend the dollars to find a new customer base for their product and thus all of us show-goers benefit. Let's face the bottom line dog shows are expensive and to host a quality dog show sponsors are *needed* in today's market place.

Conformation was promoted very well with a televised event for the Animal Planet channel featuring the Groups and Best In Show. This is great! Agility was promoted and all the four-day results (with photos!) were up on the AKC web page Tuesday (the day after the show). This is great too! Where were the Obedience trials featured? We had the National Obedience Champion for 2001 at the show and this lovely team went High in Trial and High Combined all FOUR days! Unbelievable! When it came time to present the obedience awards during the televised groups, the cameras were *shut OFF*! What a lost opportunity to show to the world a brief shot of a National AKC Obedience Champion going through a few paces**.**

I just point out the above as *one* example of our sport NOT being promoted. We need a national publicity person, or team, to build more public interest and to insure obedience is covered and promoted better. Let's not whine about the conformation and agility folks. *Lets learn from them!* They are doing their job and quite well I might add.

Let's learn how the others do it and work toward a better promotion of our sport before it is too late. <u>It is past time to get out of the box and start to **THINK BIG**!</u> We have a fantastic sport rich in history, plus one the public loves to watch, and understands, so let's go to work and promote it!

Who is Looking Out For The Sport of Obedience?

Part II

By John Cox

Obedience has hit a pothole—an "attitude" pothole. Some even think we are in a ditch waiting for a tow truck that is not coming. It is time we roll up our sleeves and come to the rescue of our chosen sport and hobby. We are all in the **sport of dogs** but one part of the sport (obedience) is being polarized and is becoming known as a group of whiners. From all reports, we're viewed in this less-than-flattering manner across the country. This article is a wake up call and a call to arms for an improvement in attitude towards obedience. If you *really do care, please* read on.

This article is aimed at you! I want you to Halt, Sit and take a moment to think about what are YOU doing for obedience. Can you take a long honest look at yourself and answer a few questions? Are *you* looking out for obedience? **Do you *really* care about this area of the sport?** Or, are you one of *those* just pointing a finger, complaining and doing nothing constructive? (We have all been guilty of this from time-to-time, myself included). When was the last time you gave *your time* to the sport without looking for something in return, be it monetary or praise? When was the last time you expressed your appreciation to an event chairman, ring steward, or that you wrote a positive letter to a club stating that you LIKED what they did for obedience? Or, did you take that energy and spend your time venting on all that was wrong, doing NOTHING to help fix the problem(s)? Did you try to help once by joining a club, and then threw in the slobber towel when your suggestions were not adopted? Or, have you always sat on the sidelines?

Five areas that need attention:

1. Let's start by looking at ourselves as dog lovers and not categorize ourselves (or let others) as "obedience people." We are all in the Sport of Dogs. There are many of us who like all aspects and events in the sport and cross over on different occasions. Some do it all at the same show! If you are *not* one of these handlers, have you taken time at a show to go around and learn from the "other" rings and ask questions? When was the last time you sat at a conformation ring and looked at the dog's structure, or temperament, and gave some thought as the role it plays in a good performance dog? This might be the BEST place to look for your next dog.

2. Don't let your training (or lack of) become the root of a complaint. Too many times handlers start complaining because someone or something happened and caused a problem with the performance in the obedience ring. I sure did until I learned the meaning behind a banner (of just two words) in the building where I train. It reads **"OH WELL!"** We **must** learn and implement a positive attitude towards obedience as is done in other performance events such tracking and agility. Failure rates seem to run high in these two events, but the handlers tend to look at what went right and they are **happy with the results**! Why is obedience becoming known as a "group" dwelling on the negative when things do not go right? How do you react? What example do you set for others to observe? Are you being perceived as a whiner? Or, are you now a new role model?

3. If you feel a club is a little lax in providing a good venue for an obedience trial what do you do about it? Do you stop and think the club might need a new member (like YOU) who will help and give positive guidance and involvement? Have you joined a club and become involved? Have you stuck it out even if things did not go your way? Or, do you sit perfectly square bitching on all that is wrong and doing nothing towards improvement? Are you involved in a club and help host a trial ONCE a year for *others* to enjoy? Or, are you on the taking end *all or most* of the time?

4. If you are between dogs, training for the next level, taking a break etc., have you gotten in touch with a club (that you are NOT a member of) and offered to help set-up or takedown rings? Or, do you offer to steward for obedience and donate your time? Careful, this is starting to sound like work now. You will get nothing in return except good warm fuzzy feelings from assisting others instead of yourself. Are you sure you want to do this and HELP obedience like it has helped you?

5. Clubs and private trainers need to encourage their members and students to take a *more active role* and become involved with the process of running a trial. If we continue to lose trials, we lose one of the reasons we train our dogs. Surely, you can find the time to help out at ONE trial a year. When was the last time you donated your time or a few dollars back into the sport, and I don't mean entry dollars! It is time we give back to the sport that has given to us!

How did you like your answers? Where did you place in your thoughts if the above questions were a test—1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, or did you NQ?

Our sport is in need of a front-end alignment from hitting a few potholes. Those potholes are best defined as apathy and negativity. The good news is we are NOT in a ditch (yet) waiting for a tow to the dump.

I do believe we need to address problems in obedience and do it in a POSITIVE manner before we lose any more participants, detract new participants and lose any more trials. Yes, there have been clubs that have dropped obedience due to some of the answers to the questions posed above. Sad but true! Were you a part of it? Are you partly responsible? Careful where that finger is pointing!

The solution is yours and yours alone. What are YOU going to do? Are you going to do anything or just sit and watch others? If you are going to do something, when will it be? This is not an AKC problem, IT IS OUR PROBLEM. I sincerely hope your actions will be **something** positive! Please save this article and read it again when you see something wrong or start to bitch, and then do nothing positive to fix what is wrong.

Obedience is in need of *your* talents and positive energy TODAY. Help pitch in and give it a front-end alignment *and* tune-up so the sport may run smooth again. Remember back to what attracted you into obedience, the fun you have had and the folks you have met. You have the power to now repeat what were the "good old days" in your mind. You can be a part of and make "new" good old days for the future participants to talk about.

The Long Sit exercise is now over, time to get back to the enjoyment of this sport and leave the negativity and apathy in the poop bag!

If you missed Part I, email for a copy at dog-talk@comcast.net

Pop Quiz #8

General Obedience Regulations
True or False

by John Cox

For the following questions, circle whether the statement is TRUE or FALSE according to the Obedience Regulations and Guidelines for Obedience Judges

1.	T F	A rhinestone covered leather collar may be used in the ring.
2.	T F	Judge John Doe will be judging Graduate Novice in his hometown on June 1. He may feel free to accept another Graduate Novice assignment in a town 50 miles away on June 21.
3.	T F	It is important that intensive training of dogs be limited solely to the exercise area provided, well away from the rings.
4.	T F	At an outdoor Dog Show and Obedience Trial, a ring which had been used as a breed ring must be thoroughly inspected and cleaned before being used for an Obedience class.
5.	T F	A physically challenged handler who cannot accomplish a change of pace on the Fast cannot score 200 points.
6.	T F	Although club jackets with insignias may not be worn in the ring while exhibiting, a handler who has a kennel name registered with the AKC may display his name in small letters (less than one inch) on his clothing.
7.	T F	In the Figure Eight in the Team class, the Team members may go to the right or the left around the Steward as long as they all go in the same direction.
8.	T F	In order to be fair in your judging, allowances must be made for the different capabilities of the different breeds.
9.	T F	The judge MUST announce to the spectators the number of points required for a perfect score.
10.	T F	A dog which leaves the ring during an exercise need not receive a non-qualifying score.
11.	T F	Maintaining spectator appeal is an important responsibility of each Judge.
12.	T F	The Judge of either part of a split class must wait until both parts are finished before he/she may disclose any scores.
13.	T F	Arriving at the Trial site, you find your ring setup on a sloping, grassy knoll. At your request, the Trial Secretary has the ring moved to a level site. The Judge need not report this situation to the AKC.
14.	T F	It is entirely possible for a dog to make NONE of the errors listed in the Obedience Regulations and still fail to qualify.
15.	T F	It is recommended that a Judge measure the dimensions of the ring with a tape measure before starting the class.
16.	T F	A **Judge may** show in Open **A** and/or Utility **A** for the respective title but **ANY** person who has earned an OTCH on a dog **MUST** show their dog in Open **B** & Utility **B**, <u>and do the random order exercises to earn a CDX, or UD.</u> This person has **NO** choice.
17.	T F	A dog which cannot hear may compete in Obedience Trials if he can complete the exercises in the prescribed manner using signals.

18. T F You are approved to judge Novice B, Part I at an Obedience Trial. As a trainer, you must be sure to tell your students to request Part II as they must not show under you in the ring.

19. T F While awarding a trophy and ribbon to the second place dog in your Utility B class, he fouls the ring. You, the judge, should not alter the score or the presentation of the award at this time.

20. T F There is NO exercise in which the Finish is a principal part.

ANSWERS

1. (T) CHAPTER 2, SECTION 17

2. (T) GUIDELINES FOR OBEDIENCE JUDGES -- Assignment limitation

3. (F) CHAPTER 2, SECTION 26

4. (F) CHAPTER 1, SECTION 33

5. (T) CHAPTER 2, SECTIONS 2 & 14 & GUIDELINES FOR OBEDIENCE JUDGES -- Physically Challenged Handlers

6. (F) CHAPTER 1, SECTION 10

7. (F) CHAPTER 15, SECTION 7

8. (F) CHAPTER 2, SECTION 6

9. (T) CHAPTER 2, SECTION 11

10. (T) GUIDELIINES FOR OBEDIENCE JUDGES -- Misbehaving

11. (T) GUIDELINES FOR OBEDIENCE JUDGES -- Responsibility to the spectators

12. (F) CHAPTER 2, SECTION 11

13. (T) CHAPTER 1, SECTION 34

14. (T) CHAPTER 2, SECTION 24

15. (F) GUIDELINES FOR OBEDIENCE JUDGES -- Ring and Equipment

16. (T) CHAPTERS 4 & 5, SECTIONS 1 & 2

17. (F) CHAPTER 1, SECTION 17

18. (F) CHAPTER 1, SECTION 29

19. (T) CHAPTER 2, SECTIONS 3 & 25 The dog was NOT in the ring for judging. Judging was finished.

20. (T)

Pop Quiz #3

Novice - Open - Utility
Fill In The Blanks

by John Cox

NOVICE - CHAPTER 3

1. SECTION 5 - HEEL ON LEASH & FIGURE EIGHT "The principal feature of this exercise is the ability of the dog and handler to _____."
2. SECTION 6 - HEEL ON LEASH & FIGURE EIGHT, SCORING "If a dog is unmanageable, or if its handler constantly controls its performance by tugging on the leash or adapts pace to that of the dog, the dog must be scored _____."
3. SECTION 7 - STAND FOR EXAMINATION "...the handler will stay with the dog in the _____, and give his command and/or signal to the dog to Stay...'Back to your dogs,' whereupon the handler shall walk around behind his dog and return to the _____."

OPEN - CHAPTER 4

4. SECTION 7 - DROP ON RECALL "The dog will be judged on the _____ of its response to the handler's command or signal to Drop, and not on its proximity to a designated point."
5. SECTION 8 - DROP ON RECALL, SCORING In addition to the Drop on Recall scoring, "All applicable penalties listed under the _____ shall apply."
6. SECTION 9 - RETRIEVE ON THE FLAT "...throw the dumbbell a distance of at least _____ feet."

UTILITY - CHAPTER 5

7. SECTION 6 - SIGNAL EXERCISE, SCORING "All penalties listed under the _____, and the _____ shall apply."
8. SECTION 8 - SCENT DISCRIMINATION, SCORING "There shall be _____ penalty for a dog that takes a reasonably long time examining the articles provided the dog works smartly and continuously."
9. SECTION 10 - DIRECTED RETRIEVE, SCORING In addition to the Directed Retrieve scoring, "All applicable penalties listed under the _____ and the _____ shall apply."
10. SECTION 13 - MOVING STAND AND EXAMINATION, SCORING "In addition to the Moving Stand scoring, "All appropriate penalties of the _____, _____, _____ and _____ exercises shall apply."

ANSWERS

The answers are in the Obedience Regulations under the Sections listed. Do you have your own copy yet? If not, write to the American Kennel Club. Understanding the exercises and how they are scored are steps towards a better score.

Pop Quiz #4

General Obedience Regulations
Circle The Penalty

by John Cox

On the following questions, circle the penalty most likely directed or implied by the Regulations.

NP = No Penalty
M = Minor Penalty - 2 and one-half points or less
S = Substantial Penalty - 3 or more points
NQ = Non-Qualifying

1.	NP M S NQ	As the handler returns on the Long Sit, the dog gives a single happy bark.
2.	NP M S NQ	On one of the halts on the Heel Free exercise, the dog sits with its right foot on the handler's left foot.
3.	NP M S NQ	After the Stand for Examination and after the Judge's order "Exercise finished," without command or signal from the handler, the dog quickly sits.
4.	NP M S NQ	On the Novice Recall the handler gives both the command and signal to Finish, but does not use the dog's name.
5.	NP M S NQ	Dog #97, on the Retrieve Over High Jump, sits in front perfectly, dropping the dumbbell on the handler's foot. On the order "Take it," the handler picks it up from the ground.
6.	NP M S NQ	On the Long Down, just as handler #75 passes behind his dog when returning, the dog sits up.
7.	NP M S NQ	In the Heel Free exercise, the neck of dog #67, a Saint Bernard, stays in line with the handler's left hip.
8.	NP M S NQ	On the Stand for Examination, dog #63 does not move his feet but crouches nervously away from the Judge's hands.
9.	NP M S NQ	On the Recall, dog #69, a Toy Poodle, sits in front with both front feet between the insteps of the handler's feet.
10.	NP M S NQ	On the Recall, dog #70, a Saint Bernard, sits in front with both front feet between the insteps of the handler's feet.
11.	NP M S NQ	When dog #78 fails to sit in front on the Recall, the handler motions with his finger to the dog to sit.
12.	NP M S NQ	In the Stand for Examination, dog #94, an exuberant Corgi, takes just two steps as though to follow you, the Judge. At the conclusion of your examination, the dog and handler finish the exercise perfectly.
13.	NP M S NQ	Dog #24, an Irish Wolfhound, in the act of sitting in front at the end of the Recall, inadvertently touches the handler's leg with its nose.
14.	NP M S NQ	In the Open A class, handler #94 approaches the spot designated for the Drop on Recall. In the starting spot, as the little Poodle stands behind the handler for a moment, the handler bends down and gives the dog an affectionate rub on the chest and a couple of fond pats on the fanny saying "Good boy" enthusiastically. Dog #94 sits.

ANSWERS

1. (S) CHAPTER 3, SECTION 13, also see CHAPTER 2, SECTIONS 2 & 25
2. (M) CHAPTER 3, SECTION 6 also CHAPTER 2, SECTIONS 2, 18 & 24
3. (NP) CHAPTER 3, SECTION 7
4. (S) CHAPTER 3, SECTION 11 also see CHAPTER 2, SECTIONS 20 & 21
5. (M-S) CHAPTER 4, SECTION 10
6. (NQ) CHAPTER 3, SECTION 13 also see CHAPTER 2, SECTION 18
7. (NP) CHAPTER 2, SECTION 18
8. (NQ) CHAPTER 3, SECTION 8 also see CHAPTER 2, SECTION 25
9. (M-S) CHAPTER 3, SECTION 11
10. (M-S) CHAPTER 3, SECTION 11 It might be hard to envision, but if a Saint Bernard came in on the Recall on a run it might end up between the handler's feet. In this case, it could also be penalized for touching (OUCH!).
11. (S) CHAPTER 3, SECTION 11 also see CHAPTER 2, SECTIONS 20 & 21 In this case, the dog would be scored for not sitting and the handler for giving an extra signal. The handler would have lost less points by doing nothing.
12. (M-S) CHAPTER 3, SECTION 8
13. (M-S) CHAPTER 3, SECTION 11 also see CHAPTER 2, SECTION 6
14. (S) CHAPTER 2, SECTION 23

Pop Quiz #13

Non-Regular Classes
True or False

by John Cox

For the following questions, circle whether the statement is TRUE or FALSE according to the Obedience Regulations.

1.	T F	A Qualifying Score is required for the awarding of ribbons in a Non-Regular class.
2.	T F	The handler of a dog who praises their dog during the exercises in the Wild Card classes is to be penalized according to the Regulations.
3.	T F	A Newfoundland and a Saint Bernard can make up a Brace.
4.	T F	Two Newfoundlands and two Saint Bernards can make up a Team.
5.	T F	The coupling device can be less than six inches for small breeds in Brace.
6.	T F	If a coupling device is used during the individual exercises, it need not be used for the Group exercises in the Brace class.
7.	T F	A dog that is entering the Veteran's Class can also enter other Non-Regular classes such as Brace and/or Team & a Regular Class.
8.	T F	A double ring MUST be used for the Team class.
9.	T F	The Group exercise for Team is to have no more than twelve dogs - the same as in the Regular classes.
10.	T F	In the Team Class when starting the Figure Eight, the Team can go either direction - as long as they do it together!
11.	T F	Coordination and precision of the Team as a whole is ALSO judged along with the dogs and handlers individually.
12.	T F	The maximum number of points for Team is 800 and for the Brace class is 400.

ANSWERS

1. (F) CHAPTER 20

2. (F) CHAPTER 20

3. (F) CHAPTER 20, A brace of dogs shall be the same breed of dog.

4. (T) CHAPTER 20, Any four dogs that are eligible under the Obedience Regulations.

5. (F) CHAPTER 20, The coupling device to be not less than six inches overall length.

6. (F) CHAPTER 20, The coupling device if used MUST be then used in ALL exercises.

7. (T) CHAPTER 20, A dog entered in the Veterans Class may enter a REGULAR class. The dog may be entered in other non-regular classes too.

8. (F) CHAPTER 1, SECTION, 32 If the judging takes place indoors the ring should be rectangular and about 40 feet wide and 50 feet long for ALL Obedience classes. A Team can function just fine in this size ring. Remember, the Recall is to be only about 35 feet long. If space permits, a double can be used but it is NOT a requirement!

9. (F) CHAPTER 3, SECTION, 12 No more than nine dogs are to be in the ring for Group exercise in a 40 X 50 foot ring. Keep in mind, the four foot regulation between dogs still applies to the Team Class. Two teams (eight dogs) would be the maximum in a single regulation ring. A double ring could fit 16 dogs (4 teams).

10. (F) CHAPTER 20, Each handler must start to the steward on his/her left.

11. (T) CHAPTER 20

12. (F) CHAPTER 20

AKC OBEDIENCE TRIAL
EXCUSAL REFERENCE CHART

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JUDGE'S OBSERVATION	DISQUALIFY	EXCUSE	OPTION TO REJUDGE		CHAPTER	SECTION
			YES	NO		
Identification		X	X		1	10
Dog blind - W/O USEFUL vision	X			X	1	17
Dog deaf - W/O USEFUL hearing	X			X	1	17
Dog changed for cosmetic reasons	X			X	1	17
Dog attempts to attack a person in the ring	X			X	1 2	17 25
Dog attacks a person in the ring	X			X	1 2	17 25
Dog attempts to attack a dog in the ring		X		X	1 2	17 25
Dog attacks a dog in the ring		X		X	1 2	17 25
Dog appears dangerous in the ring		X		X	1 2	17 25
Lame - Irregularity of locomotion		X		X	1	17
Dog Taped/bandaged/medical attachments		X		X	1	17
Hair - Permitted: eyes, ears or beard… May be tied back with elastic bands or small plain barrettes as in breed ring		X	X		1	17
Hair - Not permitted: dyed/chalk/powder/protection/adornment		X	X		1	17
Bitches in season		X		X	1	18
Bitches attractive to males		X		X	1	18
Dog out of control		X		X	1 2	18 25
Handler willfully interferes		X		X	1	18
Handler abuses dog		X		X	1 2 2	18 3 28
Dog unfit to compete		X		X	1	18
Vet excusal in writing		X		X	1	25
Bench/trial committee excusal		X		X	1	25
Leash - fabric/leather/adequate length		X	X		2 2	16 26
Collars - properly fitted and approved by the judge. No special training collars.		X	X		2 2	17 26
Fear/nervousness - may be excused depending on the extent		X		X	2 2	3 25
Uncontrolled behavior - may be excused depending on the extent		X		X	2	25
Barking/snapping - may be excused depending on the extent		X		X	2	25
Running from handler - may be excused depending on the extent		X		X	2	25
Foul ring - Judge's OPTION TO EXCUSE		X		X	2 2	3 25
Training in ring - Judge's OPTION TO EXCUSE		X		X	2	27
Practicing in the ring - Judge's OPTION TO EXCUSE		X		X	2	27
Excessive verbal commands - Judge's OPTION TO EXCUSE		X		X	2	27

Disciplining in the ring		X		X	2 2	3 27
Abuse - report immediately.		X		X	2 2	3 28
Suspend for conduct prejudicial to the best interest of purebred dogs.		X		X	2	28
NQ score for carrying or offering food in the ring. Judge may excuse if he/she considers food being used as training.		X		X	2 2	3 22
Dog relieves itself while in the ring for judging. Judge's OPTION TO EXCUSE		X		X	2 2	3 25
Performance not meeting minimum requirements				X	2	3
Equipment that Does not meet the requirements of the Obedience Regulations		X	X			
Novice Equipment for the Ring						
Identification					1	10
Leash					2	16
Collar					2	17
Open Equipment for the Ring						
Identification, leash, collar same as in the Novice classes						
Dumbbell					4	9
Utility Equipment for the Ring						
Identification, leash, collar same as in the Novice classes						
Scent articles					5	8
Gloves					5	10

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AKC Obedience Jump Charts

(Chapter 4, Section 11)

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Regular Classes + Approved Breeds for ¾ Jump Height & Preferred Classes --- ½ Jump Height

Measured height nearest multiple of 2" to the height of the dog's withers.

Chart For Once the Height at the Withers

Height to be Jumped	Broad Jump Hurdles	High Jump Chart Board Combinations
4"	(8) 1	4" = 4
8"	(16) 2	8" = 8
10"	(20) 2	10" = 8 + 2
12"	(24) 2	12" = 8 + 4
14"	(28) 3	14" = 8 + 4 + 2
16"	(32) 3	16" = 8 + 8
18"	(36) 3	18" = 8 + 8 + 2
20"	(40) 3	20" = 8 + 8 + 4
22"	(44) 3	22" = 8 + 8 + 4 + 2
24"	(48) 4	24" = 8 + 8 + 8
26"	(52) 4	26" = 8 + 8 + 8 + 2
28"	(56) 4	28" = 8 + 8 + 8 + 4
30"	(60) 4	30" = 8 + 8 + 8 + 4 + 2
32"	(64) 4	32" = 8 + 8 + 8 + 8
34"	(68) 4	34" = 8 + 8 + 8 + 8 + 2
36"	(72) 4	36" = 8 + 8 + 8 + 8 + 4

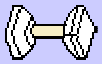
Chart for 3/4 the Height at the Withers

Measured Height	Height to Jump	Broad Jump
Less than 10"	4"	(8) 1
10 to less than 12 1/2"	8"	(16) 2
12 1/2 to less than 15"	10"	(20) 2
15 to less than 17 1/2"	12"	(24) 2
17 1/2 to less than 20"	14"	(28) 3
20 to less than 23"	16"	(32) 3
23 to less than 25 1/2"	18"	(36) 3
25 1/2 to less than 28"	20"	(40) 3
28 to less than 31"	22"	(44) 3
31 to less than 33 1/2"	24"	(48) 4
33 1/2 to less than 36"	26"	(52) 4
36 to less than 39"	28"	(56) 4

Chart for 1/2 the Height at the Withers

(Preferred Open & Preferred Utility)

Measured Height	Height to Jump	Broad Jump
12" or less	4"	(8) 1
Greater than 12" up to 18"	8"	(16) 2
Greater than 18" up to 22"	10"	(20) 2
Greater than 22" up to 26"	12"	(24) 2
Greater than 26" up to 30"	14"	(28) 3
Greater than 30" up to 34"	16"	(32) 3
Greater than 34"	18"	(36) 3



Broad Jump: To cover a distance equal to TWICE the height of the High Jump

4 hurdles shall be used for a jump of 48" to 72"
3 hurdles shall be used for a jump of 28" to 44"
2 hurdles shall be used for a jump of 16" to 24"
1 hurdle shall be used for a jump of 8"

When decreasing the number of hurdles in the Jump, the highest hurdle(s) shall be removed first.

51 Approved Breeds Jumping 3/4 Their Height at the Withers --- Effective August 1, 2012

Akita	Dandie Dinmount Terrier	Newfoundland
Argentine Dogo	Dogue De Bordeaux	Norwich Terrier
Basset Hound	Estrela Mountain Dog	Otterhound
Bergamasco	French Bulldog	Pekingese
Bernese Mountain Dog	Glen of Imaal Terrier	Pembroke Welsh Corgi
Black Russian Terrier	Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen	Petit Basset Griffon Vendeen
Bloodhound	Great Dane	Portuguese Podengo
Bolognese	Great Pyrenees	Pugs
Borzoi	Greater Swiss Mountain Dog	Saint Bernard
Bulldog	Irish Wolfhound	Scottish Terriers
Bullmastiff	Kishu Ken	Sealyham Terrier
Cardigan Welsh Corgi	Kooikerhondje	Shih Tzu
Caucasian Mountain Dog	Kuvaszok	Skye Terrier
Chinese Shar-Pei	Lagotto Romagnolo	Sussex Spaniel
Chow Chow	Leonberger	Swedish Vallhunds
Clumber Spaniel	Mastiff	Thai Ridgeback
Dachshund	Neopolitan Mastiff	West Highland White Terrier