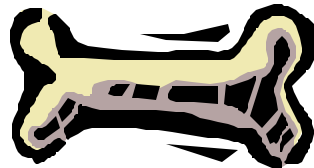


# Minnesota 4-H

## Dog Obedience

### Rules and Guidelines



#### *Table of Contents*

<u>Purpose of Obedience</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>Fouling the Ring</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>Purpose of Obedience Competition</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>Praise</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>Dogs That Have Previously Been Trained</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>Baiting</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>Earning Obedience Titles Outside of 4-H</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>Disciplining in the Ring</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>Leashes/Leads</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>Handling Between Exercises</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>Collars</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>Leaving the Ring</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>Dumbbells</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>Commands and Signals</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>Hair in Eyes</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>Additional Commands or Signals</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>Training and Warm-Up on the Grounds</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>Interference and Double Handling</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>Ribbons and Point System</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>Classes Offered</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>No Added Requirements</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>Explanation of Obedience Exercises</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>Rejudging</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>Scoring of Obedience Exercises</u>	<u>19</u>
<u>Ties/Run-Offs</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>Obedience Jump Construction Standards</u>	<u>26</u>
<u>Announcement of Scores</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>Score Sheets for Each Class Begin on Page</u>	<u>29</u>
<u>Ring Size and Conditions</u>	<u>4</u>		

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This handbook is intended for 4-H'ers, 4-H leaders, 4-H Program Coordinators, Extension Educators, parents, show coordinators, and judges. It is designed to help establish uniform rules, regulations, and procedures for 4-H Dog Obedience throughout the state. Please use this handbook when setting up your 4-H Dog Obedience programs, trainings, and shows. All judges should be made familiar with these "Minnesota 4-H Dog Obedience Rules & Guidelines" as they may differ from other obedience venues like the American Kennel Club (AKC) or United Kennel Club (UKC).

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## ***Acknowledgements***

**Revision Team:** This rulebook was revised by the Minnesota 4-H Dog Obedience and Showmanship Committee.

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Credit is given to the American Kennel Club's "Obedience Regulations" as a major reference in revising these obedience guidelines.

In the development of the Long Sit/Long Down Judge's Optional Worksheets, credit is given to both the Washington State 4-H Dog Program and the Kansas 4-H Dog Program.

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## Purpose of Obedience

The purpose of obedience is to demonstrate the usefulness of dogs as companions, not merely the dog's ability to follow specified routines in the obedience ring. The basic objective of obedience is to produce dogs that have been trained and conditioned to always behave in the home, in public places, and in the presence of other dogs, in a manner that will reflect credit on the sport of obedience.

## Purpose of Obedience Competition

Obedience competition is a sport in which all 4H'ers should be guided by the principles of good sportsmanship both in and outside of the ring. All 4-H'ers in a class will be required to perform the same exercises in the same manner so that the quality of the performances may be scored. 4-H'ers, parents, trainers, and project leaders need to remember that competitive events are but one piece of the puzzle rather than the entire goal of obedience training.

## Dogs That Have Previously Been Trained

4-H'ers may train and show dogs that have previously been trained and/or shown by other family members or other 4-H members. However, they will be required to begin training at the appropriate level.

- A dog entering Beginner A with more than ten (10) weeks of training in an organized class prior to enrolling in beginner level 4-H training classes is ineligible and must compete in Beginner B.
- If the dog has been trained and/or shown at the Graduate Beginner level, they may not compete in Beginner A and must compete in Beginner B.
- If the dog has been trained and/or shown at the Novice level or higher it may drop back only one class level.
- Once a dog competes in Veterans at the county show level, it can never again be shown in any agility class or other obedience class (other than Brace and Four Dog Team), even if being trained and exhibited by another 4-H'er.
- 4-H'ers should be aware that upon a trainer's or Extension Educator's discretion they may be required to move to a more advanced class based on prior experience and training.

## Earning Obedience Titles Outside of 4-H

Depending on the 4-H class, sometimes it is a leg that disqualifies a dog from a 4H class and other times it is a completed title that disqualifies a dog from a 4-H class.

- ⇒ If earning one leg of a title disqualifies a dog from competing in a 4-H class, the one leg cannot be earned until after the State 4-H Dog Show.
- ⇒ If a completed title disqualifies a dog from competing in a 4-H class, the completed title cannot be earned before May 15 of that 4H year. If the title is completed after May 15 of that 4-H year, the 4-H member may remain in that class for remainder of the 4-H year.



## **Leashes/Leads**

The leash shall be six feet long and made of leather, nylon or cotton webbing. In the Beginner A or B class, a 5-10 point deduction will be made for any dog not on a six foot leash. All dogs must be kept on leash except when in the obedience ring. Dogs must be taken in and out of the ring on leash. Dogs must be kept on leash in the ring when brought in to receive awards and when waiting before and after the group exercises. The leash shall be left on the judge's table between the individual exercises and during all exercises when off-leash work is required.

## **Collars**

Dogs in the obedience ring must wear either (1) a plain, well-fitting slip collar of chain, nylon, or leather or (2) a well-fitting, plain buckle collar. Fancy collars, spiked collars, special training collars or collars which are too tight or too loose are not permitted. There should be no objects hanging from the collar. Special training collars may be used for training, if desired, but must be removed at the show site.

## **Dumbbells**

The dumbbell will be made either of (1) one or more solid pieces of wood, or of (2) a rigid or semi-rigid, firm, nontoxic, non-wooden material similar in size, shape, and weight to a wooden dumbbell. Metal dumbbells are not permitted for the following exercises: willing retrieve from hand, dumbbell recall, retrieve on flat, and retrieve over high jump. Dumbbells will not be hollowed out. They may be unfinished, coated with a clear finish, painted white, or any other color. They may not have decorations or attachments, but may bear an inconspicuous mark for identification. The size of the dumbbell will be proportionate to the size of the dog.

## **Hair In Eyes**

Any dog with hair over its eyes that interferes with its vision may have the hair tied back with up to four rubber bands or plain, straight, rectangular-shaped barrettes that have a solid exterior color. No ribbons or bows are allowed.

## **Training and Warm-up on the Grounds**

There will be no intensive or abusive training of the dogs on the grounds or premises. There will be no training inside the show building while the show is in session. These requirements should not be interpreted as preventing a handler from moving normally about the grounds or premises. These should also not prevent a handler from warming up his/her dog using any exercise performed in the obedience ring. The dogs must be on a leash being held by the handler at all times. The warm-up should be performed as far from the obedience rings as is reasonably possible and must not be disruptive to any dog or person.



## **Ribbons and Point System**

Every exhibitor who completes a class shall receive a ribbon, except those exhibitors excused or disqualified. The ribbons will be blue, red, or white. A champion and reserve champion ribbon may be given to the highest scoring handlers in each class. No high in trial awards shall be given at any 4-H event. All 4-H members compete against their own class and age division. Awards and/or trophies may be given at the discretion of the 4-H group putting on the show.

The following point system shall be used:

Blue ~ 170-200

Red ~ 100-169½

White ~ 99½ and below

## **No Added Requirements**

No judge shall require any dog or handler to do anything nor penalize a dog or handler for failure to do anything that is not required by these regulations.

## **Rejudging**

If a dog has failed in a particular part of an exercise, or the whole exercise, it will not ordinarily be rejudged or given a second chance unless the judge feels the dog's performance was prejudiced by peculiar and unusual conditions. In such a case, the judge may rejudge the dog on the entire exercise. Should the judge find it necessary to rejudge a dog or multiple dogs from the group exercises, the dog or dogs shall be rejudged immediately following the group or as soon as possible. Should only one dog be rejudged, that dog must do the exercise alone. The dog or dogs involved will be rejudged only on the exercise in question.

## **Ties/Run-Offs**

In case of a tie for any placing in any obedience class, each dog will be judged individually by performing the entire heeling exercise again (run-off). The heeling exercise will be performed on leash for those classes without off-leash heeling. If the class has an off-leash heeling pattern, the off-leash heeling pattern will be used to break the tie. If, after the run-off, a tie still exists, the judge will pick an exercise from the class in which the dog was shown and the exhibitors will perform that exercise again similar to a run-off. The original score will not change.

## **Announcement of Scores**

The judge will not disclose any scoring to anyone until the entire class has been judged. Score sheets will be handed out to 4-H'ers when awards are presented. Questions asked in a courteous manner will be answered. No one other than the judge or the show committee may disclose scores. After all the scores are recorded on the official placings sheet for the class, all 4-H'ers will be called back. The ribbon placings shall be read from white to blue. Scores for white and red ribbons should not be announced publicly. The scores of the top placings (Champion, Reserve, etc.) may be announced publicly. The show committee may decide to announce ribbon placings at the end of the show rather than after each class, however this should be noted in all show publicity.



## **Ring Size and Conditions**

The suggested ring size for an indoor show is 35 feet wide and 50 feet long for all obedience classes. The ring size should never be smaller than 30 feet wide and 40 feet long except in extenuating circumstances. The floor surface or covering should provide firm footing for the largest dogs. Rubber or a similar non-slip material must be laid for the take off and landing at all jumps unless the surface does not require it. This should be determined by the judge.

At an outdoor show, the rings should be about 40 feet wide and 50 feet long. The ground must be clean and level, and any grass should be cut short. For classes that have out of sight sits & downs, the show committee is responsible for providing an appropriate place for the handlers to go completely out of sight of their dogs. If inclement weather at an outdoor trial necessitates judging under shelter, the ring size requirement may be waived.

## **Fouling the Ring**

Since part of the purpose of obedience “is to produce dogs that have been trained and conditioned to always behave in the home”, a 25 point deduction will be made for any dog fouling the ring.

## **Praise**

Praise and petting are allowed at the completion of each exercise. Praise and petting are not allowed during any exercise. Points will be deducted for a dog that is not under reasonable control while being praised. There will be a substantial point deduction for any dog that is picked up or carried at any time in the ring.

## **Baiting**

Baiting of dogs with food, toys or other training devices is not allowed in the obedience ring. No food or other training devices may be carried into the obedience ring by any exhibitor.

## **Disciplining in the Ring**

A 4-H'er may not discipline his or her dog in the ring during any exercise. The 4-H'er may give very small corrections between exercises, but never during an exercise. Minor to major point deductions may be made for corrections made during any exercise, depending on the severity and amount of corrections. The judge must immediately report any abuse of a dog in the ring to the show committee.

## **Handling Between Exercises**

When off leash in Graduate Beginner and Novice, the dog may be guided gently by the collar between exercises. In Graduate Novice and higher classes, there will be a substantial point deduction for a dog that is physically guided at any time or that is not readily controllable.



## **Leaving the Ring**

If a dog is working continuously but goes outside of a ring boundary while completing an exercise the penalty, if any, is left to the discretion of the judge. If a dog obviously bolts out of the ring or leaves the ring between or during an exercise, a 5-10 point deduction will be made.

## **Commands and Signals**

Whenever a command or signal is mentioned in these rules, a single command or signal only may be given by the handler, and any extra commands or signals must be penalized; except that whenever the rules specify "command and/or signal" the handler may give either one or the other or both command and signal simultaneously. When a signal is permitted and given, it must be a single gesture with one arm and hand only, and the arm must immediately be returned to a natural position. Delay in following a judge's order to give a command or signal must be penalized, unless the delay is directed by the judge because of some distraction or interference.

Signals must be inaudible and the handler must not touch the dog. Signaling correction to a dog is forbidden and must be penalized. Any unusual noise or motion may be considered to be a signal. Position of the arms and hands and movements of the body that aid the dog shall be considered additional signals except that a handler may bend the body and knees as far as necessary to bring his hand on a level with the dog's eyes in giving a signal to a dog in the heel position, and that in the Directed Retrieve exercise the body and knees may be bent to the extent necessary to give the direction to the dog. Whistling or the use of a whistle is prohibited.

The dog's name may be used once immediately before any verbal command or before a verbal command and signal when these rules permit command and/or signal. The name shall not be used with any signal not given simultaneously with a verbal command. The dog's name, when given immediately before a verbal command, shall not be considered as an additional command, but a dog that responds to its name without waiting for the verbal command shall be scored as having anticipated the command. The dog should never anticipate the handler's directions, but must wait for the appropriate commands and/or signals. Moving forward at the heel without any command or signal other than the natural forward movement of the handler's body shall not be considered as anticipation.

Loud commands by handlers to their dogs create a poor impression of obedience and should be avoided. Shouting is not necessary even in a noisy place if the dog is properly trained to respond to a normal tone of voice. Commands which in the judge's opinion are excessively loud will be substantially penalized.

## **Additional Commands or Signals**

A 4-H'er may not give commands or signals that are not listed as being appropriate in the exercise description. If additional commands and/or signals are given, point deductions shall be given.

## **Interference and Double Handling**

A judge who is aware of any assistance, interference, or attempts to control a dog from outside the ring must act promptly to stop such double handling or interference, and must penalize the dog substantially. If, in the judge's opinion, the circumstances warrant, the dog shall be given a score of zero for the exercise during which the aid was received or the dog shall be disqualified and no ribbon awarded.



## Classes Offered

The following is a list of classes offered at the State 4-H Dog Show. Counties may offer additional classes at their show, but the additional classes are not eligible for state show competition.

- ⇒ 4-H'ers should be aware that upon a trainer's or Extension Educator's discretion they may be required to move to a more advanced class based on prior experience or training.
- ⇒ 4-H'ers compete in the same class during one project year at county and state show levels. They would move up to the next advanced class for the following project year. (Example: A 4-H'er earns a blue ribbon at their county fair show in Beginner A. They would continue to compete in Beginner A at the State Dog Show. They would NOT move to Graduate Beginner until the following year.) This applies to ALL categories and classes – agility, obedience, and showmanship.
- ⇒ A 4-H'er can compete in a total of four obedience classes: two regular obedience classes, Brace obedience, and Four Dog Team obedience.
- ⇒ A 4-H'er may train in either Beginner A or Beginner B for only one year. The 4-H member must then advance to the Graduate Beginner (or higher) class. Members do not advance from Beginner A to Beginner B.
- ⇒ A 4-H'er may skip any class or classes (example: skip Graduate Beginner and move directly to Novice). Once a class has been skipped and the 4-H'er has competed in the higher class, the 4-H'er may not drop back to the lower class the following year.

### Beginner A

A 4-H'er and dog in the first year of training at home or in an organized class. The 4-H'er may participate in this class only once during their 4H career. All exercises will be performed on leash. Exercises include heel on leash & figure eight, stand for exam, grooming, recall, and long sit/down. A dog entering this class with more than ten (10) weeks of training in an organized class prior to enrolling in beginner level 4-H training classes is ineligible. A dog with one leg of its AKC-CD (or equivalent) is ineligible.

### Beginner B

A 4-H'er with previous obedience training experience who is working with a new dog OR a dog with previous experience in an organized training class working with a new 4H'er. All exercises will be performed on leash. Exercises include heel on leash & figure eight, stand for exam, grooming, recall, and long sit/down. The 4-H'er working with the same dog may participate in this class for only one year. A dog with one leg of its AKC-CD (or equivalent) is ineligible.

### Graduate Beginner

Exercises include heel on leash & figure eight, stand for exam off leash, grooming, recall off leash, long sit/down off leash. A 4-H'er and dog may participate in this class until receiving a blue ribbon at the county or state show level. A dog with one leg of its AKC-CD (or equivalent) is ineligible.

### Novice

Exercises include heel on leash & figure eight, stand for exam off leash, heel free, recall off leash, and long sit/down off leash. A 4-H'er and dog may participate in this class until receiving a blue ribbon at the county or state show level. A dog with an AKC-CD (or equivalent) is ineligible.



- Graduate Novice** Exercises include heel on leash, stand for exam off leash, heel free & figure eight, moving drop on recall, willing retrieve from hand, and out of sight sits/downs. A 4H'er and dog may participate in this class until receiving a blue ribbon at the county or state show level. A dog with one leg of its AKC-CDX (or equivalent) is ineligible.
- Pre Open** All exercises are performed off leash. Exercises include heel free & figure eight, drop on recall, dumbbell recall, recall over broad jump, and out of sight sits/downs. A 4H'er and dog may participate in this class until receiving a blue ribbon at the county or state show level. A dog with one leg of its AKC-CDX (or equivalent) is ineligible.
- Open** All exercises are performed off leash. Exercises include heel free & figure eight, drop on recall, retrieve on flat, retrieve over high jump, broad jump, and out of sight sits/downs. A 4H'er and dog may participate in this class until receiving a blue ribbon at the county or state show level. A dog with an AKC-CDX (or equivalent) is ineligible.
- Graduate Open** All exercises are performed off leash. Exercises include signal exercise (with 10 foot distance for down, sit, come), retrieve on flat for placed metal article, retrieve on flat for placed leather article, directed retrieve (with two gloves), broad jump, and moving stand and exam. A 4H'er and dog may participate in this class until receiving a blue ribbon at the county or state show level. A dog with one leg of its AKC-UD (or equivalent) is ineligible.
- Pre Utility** All exercises are performed off leash. Exercises include signal exercise (at full distance), scent discrimination (with 2 metal and 2 leather articles), directed retrieve (with all three gloves), moving stand and exam, and directed jumping (with heel out). A 4-H'er and dog may participate in this class until receiving a blue ribbon at the county or state show level. A dog with one leg of its AKC-UD (or equivalent) is ineligible.
- Utility** All exercises are performed off leash. Exercises include signal exercise, scent discrimination, directed retrieve, moving stand and exam, and directed jumping. There are no restrictions in this class. A 4H'er may participate in this class with the same dog indefinitely.
- Veterans** The Veterans class is for dogs that are too old and/or unfit to jump. Dogs must be trained through the Graduate Novice (or higher) level. Dogs must be at least seven years old. If a dog under the age of seven years has been found unfit to jump (broad jump and high jump) by a licensed, practicing veterinarian, it will be allowed to compete in this class. If entered in this Veterans Obedience Class, the participating dog will not be allowed to compete in any other obedience classes other than Brace and Four Dog Team. Participation in agility will also not be permitted. Showmanship participation is permitted and encouraged. Once a dog competes in Veterans at the county show level, it can never again be shown in any agility class or other obedience class (other than Brace and Four Dog Team), even if being trained and exhibited by another 4H'er. The Novice score sheet will be used for judging. A 4H'er may participate in this class with the same dog indefinitely.



**Brace**

For a 4-H'er with two dogs of their own or those who wish to borrow/lease a dog if they do not have two dogs of their own. (A third dog may not be used for Brace.) No particular level of training is required or prohibited in this class. The Graduate Beginner score sheet will be used for judging. A 4-H'er may participate in this class indefinitely.

**Four Dog Team**

For 4-H'ers wishing to work together in training their dogs to perform as a unit of four. No particular level of training is required or prohibited in this class. Exercises include heel on leash & figure eight, stand for exam off leash, team uniformity, recall off leash, long sit/down off leash. Dogs will be called simultaneously. The Four Dog Team score sheet will be used for judging. One alternate is allowed to be named if the team desires. The alternate must be named at the county fair or qualifying show. The five names may be registered as exhibitors, as long as one of the five names is listed as the alternate. 4-H members may only be listed on one team each year. No substitutions may be made. For teams qualifying for the State Dog Show, the registration fee is charged for four exhibitors. The named alternate may compete in place of one of the original four team members.

**Explanation of Obedience Exercises**

- ⇒ Please refer to the score sheet for each class.
- ⇒ At the beginning of each exercise the judge will say "Are you ready?". The 4-H'er should answer "Yes" or "No".
- ⇒ At the completion of each exercise the judge will say "Exercise Finished". At this time it is appropriate for the 4-H'er to praise his/her dog.
- ⇒ The judge's orders and signals shall be given to the handlers in a clear and understandable manner, but in such a way that the work of the dog is not disturbed.
- ⇒ Each dog must be worked and judged separately except for the group exercises (long sit and long down).
- ⇒ In most cases, the judging of an exercise begins when the judge gives the first order.

**Heel Position**

Heel position can be used whether the dog is sitting, standing, lying, or moving. Heel means the dog should be in straight alignment and facing the same direction as the handler. The dog should be close to the handler's left leg without crowding. This permits the handler freedom of movement. The area from the dog's head to shoulder should be in line with the handler's left hip.

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**Heel on Leash**

The purpose of this exercise is to demonstrate the ability of the handler and dog to work as a team. The judge's commands can be given in any order and include forward, halt, right turn, left turn, about turn, normal, slow, and fast. Orders for halts and turns will be given only when the handler is moving at a normal speed. In competition, the judge will conduct the same pattern for all handlers within the same class.



The leash may be held in either or both hands. Any tightening or jerking of the leash will result in the loss of points.

The handler will enter the ring with the dog on a loose leash and stand with the dog sitting in the heel position.

The orders given by the judge will be:

- Forward: Handler and dog walk briskly, in a natural manner, with the dog on a loose leash. The dog walks in heel position, without swinging wide, lagging, forging, or crowding. The dog must not interfere with the handler's freedom of motion at any time. The handler may use a command OR signal to heel.
- Halt: The handler stops when the judge says "Halt". The dog should sit straight and promptly in heel position. This should be done without a command OR signal to the dog. The dog should not move until the handler again moves forward on the judge's command. After each halt, the 4-H'er can give a command or signal to heel before moving forward again.
- Right Turn: The handler and dog make a ninety-degree turn to the right upon command from the judge. This should be done squarely.
- Left Turn: The handler and dog make a ninety-degree turn to the left upon command from the judge. This should be done squarely.
- About Turn: The handler and dog make a one-hundred-eighty degree turn, to the right, upon command from the judge.
- Slow: The handler and dog walk noticeably slower than normal.
- Normal: The handler and dog walk at a normal pace.
- Fast: The handler and dog run, moving forward at a noticeably accelerated pace.

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### Figure Eight

For the figure eight the handler and dog will stand facing the judge between two stewards standing about eight feet apart. The handler may choose to go in either direction and should go twice around with at least one halt during and another halt at the end of the exercise. There will be no about turn, fast, or slow during this exercise.

Commands given by the judge are: "forward" and "halt".

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### Stand for Exam

The purpose of this exercise is for the dog to stand and stay in position before, during, and after the exam without displaying resentment. The handler will take the dog to the place indicated by the judge and have the dog sit in heel position. On the judge's command, the handler stands the dog for the judge to examine. The handler may choose the method for posing the dog, within a reasonable time limit, before giving the command and/or signal to stay. While being posed, the dog may never have all four feet off the ground at the same time. The handler will leave from heel position, walk six feet in front of the dog, turn and face the dog.



The judge will approach the dog from the front and using the fingers and palm of one hand will touch its head, back, and hindquarters only. On the judge's command, the handler will then return to the dog and stand in heel position. The dog must remain in standing position without moving its feet until the judge says "exercise finished." The dog must show no shyness or resentment during this exercise.

Commands given by the judge are: "stand your dog and leave when ready" and "return to your dog".

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### **Heel Free**

The purpose of this exercise is to demonstrate the ability of the handler and dog to work as a team without the control of a leash. Executed in the same manner as Heel on Leash, except the dog is off leash. The left hand may be held against the front of the body centered at the waist or hang and move naturally at the handler's left side. The right hand should hang naturally at the right side of the handler's body.

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### **Recall**

The purpose of this exercise is that the dog stays where left until called by its handler and then responds promptly to the handler's command or signal to come. The handler will take the dog to the place indicated by the judge and have the dog sit in heel position. Upon the judge's orders, the handler will command and/or signal the dog to wait. The handler will then walk to a designated spot in front of the dog, turn and face the dog. The handler's hands shall remain at the sides of the body. Upon command from the judge, the handler will call or signal the dog to come. The dog should come straight to the handler at a brisk pace and sit straight, centered in front of the handler, close enough for the handler to touch the dog's head without moving feet or stretching forward. The dog should not touch the handler or sit between the handler's feet. Upon command from the judge, the handler shall command or signal the dog to go to heel position. The method by which the dog goes to heel position is optional.

Commands given by the judge are: "leave your dog", "call your dog", and "finish".

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### **Moving Drop on Recall**

The purpose of this exercise is that the dog heel, promptly respond to the handler's command and/or signal to down and remain in the down position until called or signaled to come, and come on command. The handler will stand with the dog sitting in the heel position at a location designated by the judge. Upon the judge's orders, the handler may command or signal his or her dog to heel, and will walk briskly and naturally. After he or she has gone about 15 feet, upon the judge's orders the handler will command and/or signal the dog to down. The 4-H'er has the option to give a stay command and/or signal before leaving his/her dog. The 4-H'er will continue forward to the end of the ring, turn around and stand in a natural manner facing the dog. On the judge's orders or signals, the

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4-H'er will command or signal the dog to come and to finish.

Commands given by the judge are: "forward", "down your dog", "call your dog", and "finish".

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### **Drop on Recall**

The purpose of this exercise is that the dog promptly responds to the handler's command or signal to drop, and the dog remaining in the down position until again called or signaled to come. The dog will be judged on the promptness of its response to the command or signal. On order from the judge, the handler may give a command and/or signal for the dog to stay in the sit position. The handler will walk forward to the other end of the ring, then turn, facing his or her dog and stand naturally. On the judge's order or signal, the handler will either command or signal the dog to come. The dog must come directly at a brisk trot or gallop. On the judge's arm or hand signal, the handler shall give the command or signal to drop, and the dog must drop immediately to a complete down position. The dog must remain down until the judge gives the order or signal for the handler to signal or command the dog to come. The dog finishes the exercise as in the recall.

Commands given by the judge are: "leave your dog", "call your dog", then give a clear signal to drop the dog, followed by "call your dog" and "finish".

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### **Willing Retrieve from Hand**

The purpose of this exercise is that the dog reaches for the dumbbell, holds it, and willingly releases the dumbbell. The dog remains in heel position. Upon order from the judge, the handler will place a dumbbell approximately four inches in front of the dog and commands the dog to take the dumbbell. The dog must willingly reach for and take the dumbbell. The dog shall hold the dumbbell for a minimum of ten seconds and upon order by the judge, the handler shall ask the dog to release the dumbbell. The dog must willingly give the dumbbell on command to the handler.

Commands given by the judge are: "give your dog the dumbbell", and "take it".

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### **Dumbbell Recall**

The purpose of this exercise is that the dog performs a recall off leash, but with the dog holding the dumbbell. In addition to the regular recall, the additional features are that the dog promptly take, hold and deliver the dumbbell when commanded. The 4-H'er will stand with the dog sitting in the heel position in a place designated by the judge. Upon the judge's orders the handler will present the dumbbell with one command. The dog must accept it readily and hold it. When the judge orders, the handler may give the command and/or signal to stay while he or she walks forward to the other end of the ring and turns to face the dog. On the judge's order or signal, the handler will command or signal the dog to come. When the dog is sitting in front of the handler, the judge will order, "take it", and the handler will give a command and take the dumbbell. The finish



will be the same as in the recall.

Commands given by the judge are: “give your dog the dumbbell”, “leave your dog”, “call your dog”, “take it”, and “finish”.

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### **Retrieve on Flat**

The purpose of this exercise is that the dog retrieve the dumbbell promptly. The handler will stand with his or her dog sitting in the heel position in a place designated by the judge. On the judge’s order, the handler will give the command and/or signal to throw it. If the handler does use a signal, that signal may not be given with the hand that is holding the dumbbell. After the dumbbell is thrown at least 20 feet, the judge will order the handler “send your dog”. The judge will require the dumbbell to be thrown again before the dog is sent if it is thrown less than 20 feet, or too far to one side, or too close to the ring’s edge. The retrieve should be executed at a brisk trot or gallop. The dog will go directly to the handler without unnecessary mouthing or playing with the dumbbell. Without touching the handler or sitting between his or her feet, the dog must sit straight, centered immediately in front of the handler, close enough so the handler could touch its head without excessive bending, stretching, or moving either foot. On order from the judge, the handler will give the command or signal and take the dumbbell. The finish will be executed as in the recall.

Commands given by the judge are: “throw it”, “send your dog”, “take it”, and “finish”.

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### **Retrieve Over High Jump**

The purpose of this exercise is that the dog goes out over the jump, picks up the dumbbell and promptly returns with it over the jump. This exercise will be executed in the same manner as the retrieve on flat, except that the dog will clear the high jump both going and coming.

The handler will stand at least 8 feet, or any reasonable distance beyond 8 feet from the jump, but will remain in the same spot throughout the exercise, and will throw the dumbbell at least 8 feet beyond the jump. (These 8-foot distances should be clearly marked.)

The jump should be the same height as the dog at the withers, with a minimum height of 8 inches and a maximum height of 36 inches. The jump may be set at a higher height if requested by the handler. Handlers having their dogs jump more than the minimum required height will neither be penalized nor receive extra consideration. The judge may, at his or her discretion, verify the height of any dog at the withers.

Commands given by the judge are: “throw it”, “send your dog”, “take it”, and “finish”.

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**Recall Over Broad Jump**

The purpose of this exercise is that the dog stay until directed to jump, clear the jump on a single command or signal, and immediately return to sit in front of the handler. The handler will stand with his or her dog sitting in the heel position at least 8 feet from the jump, facing the lowest end of the lowest hurdle. When ordered by the judge, the handler will give command and/or signal to stay, go at least 8 feet beyond the highest edge of the last hurdle, turn and face the dog as in the recall. On the judge's order, the handler will give the command or signal to jump. The dog must clear the entire distance of the broad jump without touching it and, without any further command or signal, immediately sit in front of the handler and finish as in the recall.

Commands given by the judge are: "leave your dog", "call your dog", and "finish".

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**Broad Jump**

The purpose of this exercise is that the dog stays where left until directed to jump, that the dog clear the jump on a single command or signal and that the dog return to its handler after it has jumped. The handler will stand with the dog sitting in the heel position, at least 8 feet from the jump, facing the lowest side of the lowest hurdle. On order from the judge, the handler will give the command and/or signal to stay and go to a position facing the right side of the jump. The handler may stand anywhere between the lowest edge of the first hurdle and the highest edge of the last hurdle, with his or her toes about 2 feet from the jump. On the judge's order, the handler will give the command or signal to jump. While the dog is in midair, the handler will execute a right-angle turn, but will remain in the same spot. The dog will clear the entire distance of the hurdle without touching them and, without further command or signal, immediately return to a sitting position in front of the handler, finishing as in the recall.

In the ring, they will be arranged in order of size, evenly spaced, covering a distance equal to twice the height of the dog. Four hurdles will be used for a jump of 48 to 72 inches, three hurdles for a jump of 26 to 46 inches and two hurdles for a jump of 16 to 24 inches. When decreasing the number of hurdles in the jump, the highest hurdle will be removed first. It is the judge's, or stewards' depending on the show setup, responsibility to see that the distance jumped by each dog is in accordance with the regulations.

Commands given by the judge are: "leave your dog", "send your dog", and "finish".

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**Long Sit**

The purpose of this exercise is that the dog remains in the sitting position for a designated amount of time. This exercise is done together as a group by all the competing dogs of one class. There should be no more than 12 dogs in any one group if the ring is 50 feet long. There should be no more than 10 dogs in any one group if the ring is 40 feet long. If the group is broken, the groups shall normally contain no less than six dogs.

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If there is only one judge, all classes with the same time limits may be combined (example: Beginner A and Beginner B classes together, Graduate Beginner and Novice together)

Upon the judge's orders, the handlers sit their dogs. Then upon the judge's orders, the handlers command and/or signal their dogs to stay, immediately go to the designated place and face their dogs (or leave the ring for out-of-sight stays). Upon the judge's orders, handlers shall return to their dogs, walk around and in back of the dogs to heel position. The dogs must not move from the sitting position until the judge commands.

Commands given by the judge are: "sit your dogs", "leave your dogs", and "return to your dogs".

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### **Long Down**

The purpose of this exercise is that the dog remains in the down position for a designated amount of time. Executed in the same manner as the Long Sit, except that upon the judge's command the handlers shall down their dogs, without touching the dog or the collar. The judge will order the return of the handlers after the designated time. The dogs must not move from the down position until the judge commands.

Commands given by the judge are: "down your dogs", "leave your dogs", and "return to your dogs".

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### **Signal Exercise**

The purpose of this exercise is the ability of dog and handler to work as a team while heeling, and the dog's correct response to the signals to stand, stay, down, sit and come. Heeling will be done as in the heel free, except that the handler may use signals only and must not speak to his or her dog at any time during this exercise. While the dog is heeling at one end of the ring at a normal pace, the judge will order the handler to "Stand your dog." On further order to "Leave your dog," the handler will signal the dog to stay, and leave the dog. In Graduate Open, the 4H'er will go out 10 feet from the dog, turn and face the dog. In Pre Utility and Utility, the 4H'er will go to the other end of the ring, turn and face the dog. On the judge's signal, the handler will give the signals to down, sit, come (in that sequence) and finish as in the recall.

Commands given by the judge are the same as in the heel on leash, except for the judge's order to "stand your dog." This order will only be given when dog and handler are walking at a normal pace, and will be followed by the order "Leave your dog." The judge must use signals for directing the handler to signal the dog to down, sit, come (in that sequence) and to finish.

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### **Retrieve on Flat for Metal Article and Leather Article**

The purpose of this exercise is to accustom the dog to retrieving metal and leather articles in preparation for the scent discrimination exercise. The 4-H'er and dog will face the opposite end of the ring during the entire exercise. The 4H'er will scent the article as in the scent discrimination exercise. The 4H'er has the option to give the command and/or signal to stay. The judge will place the article at least 20 feet from the 4-H'er and dog. The judge will order "send your dog". The retrieve should be executed at a brisk trot or gallop. The dog will go directly to the handler without unnecessary mouthing or playing with the dumbbell. Without touching the handler or sitting between his or her feet, the dog must sit straight, centered immediately in front of the handler, close enough so the handler could touch its head without excessive bending, stretching, or moving either foot. On order from the judge, the handler will give the command or signal and take the dumbbell. The finish will be executed as in the recall.

Commands given by the judge are: "sit your dog", "throw it", "send your dog", "take it", and "finish".

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### **Directed Retrieve**

The purpose of this exercise is that the dog stays until directed to retrieve, that it goes directly to the designated glove and retrieves it promptly. In this exercise the handler will provide three cotton work gloves which are predominately white. They must be open and must be approved by the judge.

The 4-H'er will stand with his or her back to the unobstructed end of the ring midway between and in line with the jumps (approximately 25 feet from the gloves), with the dog sitting in heel position.

In Graduate Open, only two gloves will be used – they will be glove number one and glove number three. In Pre Utility and Utility all three gloves will be used.

The judge or steward will drop the gloves across the end of the ring while the handler and dog are facing the opposite direction. One glove is dropped about 3 feet in from each corner and the remaining glove is dropped in the center, about 3 feet from the end of the ring.

The gloves will be designated "One," "Two" or "Three" reading from left to right when the handler is facing the gloves. When the judge designates the glove by number, the handler will turn in place to face the glove, halting with the dog sitting in heel position. The handler may not touch the dog or reposition it. The handler will give the dog the direction to the designated glove with a single motion of the left hand and arm along the right side of the dog. Either simultaneously with or immediately following giving the direction, the handler must give a verbal retrieve command. The dog must then go directly to the glove, completing the exercise as in the Retrieve on Flat.

The handler may bend the body and knees as far as necessary to give the direction

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to the dog, but must then stand up in a natural position with his or her arms at the sides.

The judge should decide how to assign the gloves so that each glove will be used approximately the same number of times.

Commands given by the judge are: ["One", "Two", or "Three"], "Take it," and "finish".

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### **Moving Stand and Exam**

The purpose of this exercise is that the dog heel, stand and stay as the handler moves away, accept the exam without shyness or resentment, and return to the handler on command.

The handler will stand with the dog sitting in heel position at a point indicated by the judge. Upon the judge's command, the handler will command or signal the dog to heel. After the handler has proceeded about 10 feet, the judge will say "stand your dog." Without pausing, the handler will command and/or signal the dog to stand, and continue forward about 10 - 12 feet. He or she will then turn either to the right or left to face the dog, which must stand and stay in position.

The judge will approach the dog from the front to examine it as in dog show judging. The exam will not include either the teeth or testicles.

When the judge orders "call your dog to heel," the handler will command and/or signal the dog to return to the heel position. The dog should return to heel position in a brisk manner.

Commands given by the judge are: "forward," "stand your dog," and "call your dog to heel".

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### **Scent Discrimination**

The principal features of this exercise is the selection of the handler's article from among the other articles by scent alone, and the prompt delivery of the correct article to the handler.

The judge will ask, "What method will you be using to send your dog?" The handler must respond with either "After a sit," or "Send directly." The judge will then ask "Are you Ready?" immediately prior to taking the article from the handler. This taking of the article will be considered to be the first order and scoring of the exercise will begin at that time.

In each of these two exercises the dog must select and retrieve an article that has been handled by its handler. The dog must make this selection based on scent alone.

The articles will be provided by the handler and will consist of two sets, each

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comprised of five identical objects, which may be items of everyday use. The size of the articles will be proportionate to the size of the dog. One set must be made entirely of rigid metal and one of leather, designed so that only a minimum amount of thread or other material is visible. The articles in each set will be legibly numbered with a different number, and must be approved by the judge.

In Pre Utility, the 4-H'er will present three metal and three leather articles to the judge, only two of each will be used for the exercise – the other set is a backup in case the dog picks up an incorrect article. In Utility, the 4-H'er will present all 10 articles to the judge. The judge will make a written note of the numbers of the two articles (one metal and one leather) he or she has selected. These articles will be placed on a table or chair within the ring until the handler picks each up separately. The judge or steward will handle each of the remaining 8 articles while randomly arranging them on the floor or ground about 6 inches apart. The closest article should be about 20 feet from the handler and dog. Before the dog is sent, the judge must make sure that the articles are visible to both dog and handler, and that they are far enough apart so that there will be no confusion of scent among articles.

After the articles have been put out, the handler and dog will turn around and will remain facing away until the judge has given the order, "Send your dog." The handler may use either article first, but must hand it to the judge immediately when ordered. The judge will make certain the handler scents each article with his or her hands only.

On the judge's order, the handler will place his or her article on the judge's book, score sheet, or clipboard. Without touching that article, the judge will place it among the others.

On order from the judge to "Send your dog," the handler may give the command to heel and will turn in place, either right or left, to face the articles. The handler will come to a halt with the dog sitting in the heel position. The handler will then give the command or signal to retrieve. Handlers may, on order from the judge to "Send your dog," do a right about-turn, simultaneously giving the command or signal to retrieve. In this case, the dog must not assume a sitting position, but will go directly to the articles. Handlers have the option as to how the dog is sent.

The handler may give his or her scent by extending the palm of one hand in front of the dog's nose, or gently touching the dog's nose, but the arm and hand must be returned to a natural position before they turn and face the articles.

The dog should go directly to the articles at a brisk trot or gallop. It may take any reasonable time to select the right article, but must work continuously. After picking up the right article, the dog will complete the exercise as in the retrieve on flat. This procedure should be followed for both articles (one metal and one leather).

If a dog retrieves the wrong first article, that article and the correct one must be



removed. They will be placed on the table or chair and the next exercise will be done with one less article.

Commands given by the judge are: "send your dog," "take it," and "finish".

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### **Directed Jumping**

The purpose of this exercise is that the dog goes away from the handler to the opposite end of the ring, stops, jumps as directed and returns as in the recall.

The jumps will be placed midway in the ring at right angles to the sides of the ring, and about 18 to 20 feet apart. The height of the jumps will be the same as required in the retrieve over high jump exercise.

The handler will stand in the approximate center of the ring with the dog sitting in heel position, about 20 feet from the jumps and mid-way between them.

In Pre Utility, after the judge asks "Are you ready?", the judge will give the forward command and the 4H'er heel with the dog to a point about 20 feet past the jumps and in the approximate center of the unobstructed end of the ring. When the 4H'er and dog reach this point, they will do an about turn and halt with the dog sitting in heel position. The judge will then instruct the 4H'er to "Leave your dog". This heel out is not judged, it is just a way to get the 4H'er and dog to the opposite end of the ring.

In Utility, after the judge asks "Are you ready?", the 4H'er will command and/or signal the dog to go forward at a brisk trot or gallop to a point about 20 feet past the jumps and in the approximate center of the unobstructed end of the ring. When the dog reaches this point, the handler will give a command to sit. The dog must stop and sit with its attention on the handler, but need not sit squarely.

The judge will order either "Bar" or "High" for the first jump and the handler will command and/or signal the dog to return to the handler over the designated jump. While the dog is in midair, the handler may turn to face the dog as it returns. The dog will sit in front of the handler and, on order from the judge, finish as in the recall. After the dog has returned to heel position, the judge will say, "Exercise finished."

When the dog is set up for the second half of this exercise, the judge will ask "Are you ready?" before giving the order for the second part of the exercise. The same procedure will be followed for the second jump.

It is optional which jump the judge first indicates, but both jumps must be included, and the judge must not designate the jump until the dog has reached the far end of the ring.

Commands given by the judge are: "Send your dog," "Bar/High," and "finish".

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## Scoring of Obedience Exercises

- ⇒ Standardized judging is paramount. Judges are not permitted to inject their own variations into the exercises, but must see that each handler and dog executes the various exercises exactly as described in these regulations. A handler 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.
- ⇒ The judge must carry a mental picture of the theoretically perfect performance in each exercise and score each dog and handler against this visualized standard, which shall combine the utmost in willingness, gentleness, enjoyment and precision on the part of the dog, and naturalness, gentleness, and smoothness on the part of the handler. Lack of willingness or enjoyment on the part of the dog must be penalized, as must lack of precision in the dog's performance, roughness in handling, military precision or peremptory commands by the handler.
- ⇒ Points can only be deducted in 1/2 or whole point increments. (No three-fourths, one-thirds, etc.)
- ⇒ The same methods and standards must be used for judging and scoring "A" and "B" classes as well as in judging and scoring the work of dogs of different or mixed breeds.
- ⇒ When judging the Four Dog Team each dog of the team is judged as an individual and deductions are made for each dog's errors. The total score is then divided by four, arriving at a score within the 200 - point system for ribbon colors.
- ⇒ Brace is judged as a single unit. The dogs are not judged separately.
- ⇒ In all classes, handler errors are considered substantial or minor deductions.

### Heel on Leash and Figure Eight

While scoring this exercise, the judge should be near enough to observe any signals or commands given by the handler to the dog without interfering.

<u>Extreme deductions</u>	<u>Major deductions</u>	<u>Substantial or Minor deductions</u>
⇒ Unmanageable	⇒ Handler continually adapts pace to dog	⇒ Improper heel position
⇒ Unqualified heeling	⇒ Constant tugging on leash or guiding	⇒ Occasional tight leash
	⇒ Constant tight leash	⇒ Forging or crowding handler
		⇒ Lagging or sniffing
		⇒ Extra command to heel
		⇒ Heeling wide including turns and abouts
		⇒ No change of pace including fast and slow
		⇒ No sits or poor sits
		⇒ Lack of naturalness or smoothness

### Stand for Exam

The scoring will not start until the handler has given the command and/or signal to stay. At the judge's discretion, points may be deducted for rough treatment by the handler to make the dog stand – these deductions would be noted near the bottom of the score sheet under "less penalty for unusual behavior".

<u>Extreme deductions</u>	<u>Major deductions</u>	<u>Substantial or Minor deductions</u>
⇒ Dog moves away or sits before examination	⇒ Dog moves away or sits during examination	⇒ Dog resists handler posing
⇒ Dog growls or snaps	⇒ Dog show shyness or resentment	⇒ Extra command to stay
		⇒ Dog moves slightly
		⇒ Dog sits as handler returns
		⇒ Lack of naturalness or smoothness



## Heel Free

This exercise will be performed as in the heel on leash but without a leash. The scoring and orders will be the same.

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## Recall

### Extreme deductions

- ⇒ Dog does not come on first command or signal
- ⇒ Dog moved from position

### Major deductions

- ⇒ Extra command or signal to stay
- ⇒ Anticipated recall command
- ⇒ Dog sat out of reach
- ⇒ Dog leaves handler
- ⇒ Handler tugs leash

### Substantial or Minor deductions

- ⇒ Dog stood or lay down or touched handler
  - ⇒ Slow response or sat between feet
  - ⇒ No sit or poor sit
  - ⇒ No finish or poor finish
  - ⇒ Extra command to finish
  - ⇒ Lack of naturalness or smoothness
- 

## Moving Drop on Recall

### Extreme deductions

- ⇒ Dog does not come on first command or signal after drop
- ⇒ Dog does not drop on first command or signal

### Major deductions

- ⇒ Extra command or signal to stay
- ⇒ Dog moved from position
- ⇒ Dog anticipated recall
- ⇒ Dog sat out of reach

### Substantial or Minor deductions

- ⇒ Dog stood or sat
  - ⇒ Extra command or signal to finish
  - ⇒ Dog touched handler
  - ⇒ Slow response or sat between feet
  - ⇒ Slow drop
  - ⇒ No sit or poor sit
  - ⇒ No finish or poor finish
  - ⇒ Lack of naturalness or smoothness
- 

## Drop on Recall

### Extreme deductions

- ⇒ Dog does not come on first command or signal
- ⇒ Dog does not drop on first command or signal

### Major deductions

- ⇒ Extra command or signal to stay after handler leaves
- ⇒ Dog moved from place left
- ⇒ Dog anticipated recall, drop, or come in
- ⇒ Dog sat out of reach

### Substantial or Minor deductions

- ⇒ Dog stood or lay down
  - ⇒ Dog touched handler
  - ⇒ Extra command or signal before leaving
  - ⇒ Slow response or sat between feet
  - ⇒ Slow response
  - ⇒ Slow return
  - ⇒ Slow drop
  - ⇒ No sit or poor sit
  - ⇒ No finish or poor finish
  - ⇒ Lack of naturalness or smoothness
- 

## Willing Retrieve from Hand

### Extreme deductions

- ⇒ Fails to take dumbbell on first command
- ⇒ Dumbbell not 4" in front of dog
- ⇒ forcing dumbbell into dog's mouth

### Major deductions

- ⇒ Extra command to take dumbbell
- ⇒ Fails to hold dumbbell for ten seconds

### Substantial or Minor deductions

- ⇒ Slow retrieve
  - ⇒ Dog mouths dumbbell
  - ⇒ Dog fails to release dumbbell
  - ⇒ Lack of smoothness
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## Dumbbell Recall

### Extreme deductions

- ⇒ Fails to take dumbbell on first command
- ⇒ Handler forces dumbbell into dog's mouth
- ⇒ Dog does not come on first command or signal

### Major deductions

- ⇒ Extra command to take dumbbell
- ⇒ Extra command or signal to stay
- ⇒ Dog drops dumbbell
- ⇒ Dog moves from place left
- ⇒ Dog anticipates recall
- ⇒ Dog sat out of reach

### Substantial or Minor deductions

- ⇒ Dog stood or lay down
  - ⇒ Dog touches handler
  - ⇒ Dog has slow response to recall
  - ⇒ Dog sat between feet
  - ⇒ Slow retrieve
  - ⇒ Dog mouths dumbbell
  - ⇒ Dog fails to release dumbbell
  - ⇒ No sit or poor sit
  - ⇒ No finish or poor finish
  - ⇒ Lack of naturalness or smoothness
- 

## Retrieve on Flat

### Extreme deductions

- ⇒ Dog fails go out on first command or signal
- ⇒ Dog fails to retrieve

### Major deductions

- ⇒ Dog goes before command or signal
- ⇒ Dog does not go directly to dumbbell
- ⇒ Extra signal or command

### Substantial or Minor deductions

- ⇒ Slow in going, returning or pick up
  - ⇒ Dog mouths or plays with dumbbell
  - ⇒ Dog drops dumbbell
  - ⇒ Dog fails to release dumbbell
  - ⇒ Dog touches handler
  - ⇒ Dog sits between feet
  - ⇒ No sit or poor sit
  - ⇒ No finish or poor finish
- 

## Retrieve over High Jump

### Extreme deductions

- ⇒ Dog fails go out on first command or signal
- ⇒ Dog fails to jump going and returning
- ⇒ Dog fails to retrieve
- ⇒ Dog climbs jump

### Major deductions

- ⇒ Dog goes before command or signal
- ⇒ Dog jumps only one direction
- ⇒ Extra signal or command to retrieve
- ⇒ Extra signal or command to jump

### Substantial or Minor deductions

- ⇒ Slow in going, returning or pick up
  - ⇒ Dog mouths or plays with dumbbell
  - ⇒ Dog drops dumbbell
  - ⇒ Dog fails to release dumbbell
  - ⇒ Dog touches jump
  - ⇒ Dog hesitates to jump
  - ⇒ Dog touches handler
  - ⇒ Dog sits between feet
  - ⇒ No sit or poor sit
  - ⇒ No finish or poor finish
- 



## Recall Over Broad Jump

### Extreme deductions

- ⇒ Dog does not come on first command or signal
- ⇒ Dog does not jump on first command or signal
- ⇒ Dog walks over any part of jump

### Major deductions

- ⇒ Extra signal or command to stay
- ⇒ Extra signal or command to jump
- ⇒ Dog moves from place left
- ⇒ Dog anticipates recall
- ⇒ Dog does not clear jump
- ⇒ Dog sits out of reach

### Substantial or Minor deductions

- ⇒ Dog stood or lay down
  - ⇒ Slow response to recall
  - ⇒ Dog sits between feet
  - ⇒ Minor jump touch
  - ⇒ Dog touches handler
  - ⇒ No sit or poor sit
  - ⇒ No finish or poor finish
- 

## Broad Jump

### Extreme deductions

- ⇒ Dog does not jump on first command or signal
- ⇒ Dog walks over any part of jump

### Major deductions

- ⇒ Dog goes before command or signal
- ⇒ Dog does not clear jump
- ⇒ Dog sits out of reach

### Substantial or Minor deductions

- ⇒ Slow response
  - ⇒ Dog touches handler
  - ⇒ Minor jump touch
  - ⇒ Hesitation to jump
  - ⇒ Poor return
  - ⇒ Dog sits between feet
  - ⇒ No sit or poor sit
  - ⇒ No finish or poor finish
- 

## Long Sit

During the long sit, the judge will stand so that all the dogs are in his/her line of vision and where he/she can see the handlers in the ring without having to turn around. At the judge's discretion, points may be deducted for rough treatment by the handler to make the dog sit – these deductions would be noted near the bottom of the score sheet under "less penalty for unusual behavior". The judge will not give the "exercise finished" command until the handlers have returned to heel position.

### **Beginner A, Beginner B, Graduate Beginner**

#### Extreme deductions

- ⇒ Dog stands or lays down within 20 seconds
- ⇒ Dog goes to another dog

#### Major deductions

- ⇒ Dog stands or lays down within 20-40 seconds
- ⇒ Dog repeatedly whines or barks

#### Substantial or Minor deductions

- ⇒ Handler forces dog into position
- ⇒ Minor move before handler returns
- ⇒ Minor whine or bark
- ⇒ Dog stands or lays down within 40-60 seconds
- ⇒ Dog stands or lays down after handler returns to heel position

### **Novice, Graduate Novice, Pre Open, Open**

#### Extreme deductions

- ⇒ Dog did not remain in place
- ⇒ Dog goes to another dog

#### Major deductions

- ⇒ Dog stands or lays down before handler returns
- ⇒ Dog repeatedly whines or barks

#### Substantial or Minor deductions

- ⇒ Handler forces dog into position
  - ⇒ Minor move before handler returns
  - ⇒ Minor whine or bark
  - ⇒ Dog stands or lays down after handler returns to heel position
- 



## Long Down

During the long down, the judge will stand so that all the dogs are in his/her line of vision and where he/she can see the handlers in the ring without having to turn around. At the judge's discretion, points may be deducted for rough treatment by the handler to make the dog down – these deductions would be noted near the bottom of the score sheet under "less penalty for unusual behavior". The judge will not give the "exercise finished" command until the handlers have returned to heel position.

### Beginner A, Beginner B, Graduate Beginner

<u>Extreme deductions</u>	<u>Major deductions</u>	<u>Substantial or Minor deductions</u>
⇒ Dog sat or stood within 0-1 minute	⇒ Dog sat or stood within 1-2 minutes	⇒ Handler forces dog into position
⇒ Dog goes to another dog	⇒ Dog repeatedly whines or barks	⇒ Minor move before handler returns
		⇒ Minor whine or bark
		⇒ Dog sat or stood within 2-3 minutes
		⇒ Dog sat or stood after handler returns to heel position

### Novice, Graduate Novice, Pre Open, Open

<u>Extreme deductions</u>	<u>Major deductions</u>	<u>Substantial or Minor deductions</u>
⇒ Dog did not remain in place	⇒ Dog stood or sat before handler returns	⇒ Handler forces dog into position
⇒ Dog goes to another dog	⇒ Dog repeatedly whines or barks	⇒ Minor move before handler returns
		⇒ Minor whine or bark
		⇒ Dog sat or stood after handler returns to heel position

## Signal Exercise

<u>Extreme deductions</u>	<u>Major deductions</u>	<u>Substantial or Minor deductions</u>
⇒ Handler adapts pace to dog	⇒ Failure on first signal to stand, stay, drop, sit, or come	⇒ Improper hand position
⇒ Unmanageable	⇒ Anticipate stand, stay, drop sit, or come	⇒ Forging or crowding handler
⇒ Unqualified heeling	⇒ Sat out of reach	⇒ Lagging or sniffing
⇒ Any audible command to stand, stay, drop, sit, or come	⇒ Leaving handler	⇒ No change of pace including fast or slow
		⇒ Heeling wide including turns and abouts
		⇒ Audible command during heeling or finish
		⇒ Holding signals
		⇒ Slow response to signals
		⇒ Extra or command or signal to heel or finish
		⇒ Sat between feet
		⇒ Touching handler
		⇒ No sits or poor sits
		⇒ No finish or poor finish



## Retrieve on Flat for Metal Article and Leather Article

### Extreme deductions

- ⇒ Dog fails to go out on first command or signal
- ⇒ Dog fails to retrieve

### Major deductions

- ⇒ Dog goes before command or signal
- ⇒ Dog does not go directly to dumbbell
- ⇒ Extra signal or command

### Substantial or Minor deductions

- ⇒ Slow in going, returning or pick up
  - ⇒ Dog mouths or plays with dumbbell
  - ⇒ Dog drops dumbbell
  - ⇒ Dog fails to release dumbbell
  - ⇒ Dog touches handler
  - ⇒ Dog sits between feet
  - ⇒ No sit or poor sit
  - ⇒ No finish or poor finish
- 

## Directed Retrieve

### Extreme deductions

- ⇒ Dog fails to go out on first command or signal
- ⇒ Dog does not go directly to glove
- ⇒ Dog fails to retrieve correct glove
- ⇒ Dog fails to retrieve

### Major deductions

- ⇒ Anticipated
- ⇒ Extra signal or command
- ⇒ Dog sits out of reach

### Substantial or Minor deductions

- ⇒ Handler not turning in place
  - ⇒ Handler not facing designated glove
  - ⇒ Excessive signals or motion
  - ⇒ Handler touches dog to send
  - ⇒ Handler's arms not at side
  - ⇒ Dog mouths or plays with glove
  - ⇒ Dog drops glove
  - ⇒ Dog touches handler
  - ⇒ Dog does not release dumbbell
  - ⇒ Dog sits between feet
  - ⇒ No sit or poor sit
  - ⇒ No finish or poor finish
- 

## Moving Stand and Exam

### Extreme deductions

- ⇒ Dog shows fear and resentment
- ⇒ Dog moves from position left
- ⇒ Dog sits or lies down before called
- ⇒ Dog growls or snaps

### Major deductions

- ⇒ Dog fails to heel, stand, stay, accept examination, or return
- ⇒ Extra commands or signals
- ⇒ Dog moves during exam
- ⇒ Dog anticipates
- ⇒ Dog repeatedly barks or whines

### Substantial or Minor deductions

- ⇒ Improper hand position
  - ⇒ Forging or crowding handler or lagging
  - ⇒ Handler hesitation or pause
  - ⇒ Slow response to stand command
  - ⇒ Dog repeatedly moves feet while in place
  - ⇒ Slight move during or after examination
  - ⇒ Dog sits in front
  - ⇒ Dog sits crooked or improper heel position
- 



## Scent Discrimination

### Extreme deductions

- ⇒ Handler and dog do not follow correct method to turn as specified to the judge
- ⇒ No retrieve
- ⇒ Retrieves wrong article

### Major deductions

- ⇒ Anticipated
- ⇒ Extra command
- ⇒ Dog sat out of reach

### Substantial or Minor deductions

- ⇒ Handler not turning in place
  - ⇒ Excessive motion by handler
  - ⇒ Handler roughness in touching
  - ⇒ Handler arms not at side
  - ⇒ Dog does not go directly to article
  - ⇒ Dog does not work continuously
  - ⇒ Dog picks up wrong article then drops it
  - ⇒ Dog drops article on return
  - ⇒ Dog touches handler
  - ⇒ No sit or poor sit
  - ⇒ No finish or poor finish
- 

## Directed Jumping

### Pre Utility with Heel Out not judged

#### Extreme deductions

- ⇒ Goes to wrong jump
- ⇒ High jump ~ uses jump as aid or climbing jump
- ⇒ Bar jump ~ knocking bar off

#### Major deductions

- ⇒ Extra command or signal to jump

#### Substantial or Minor deductions

- ⇒ Holding hand signals
- ⇒ Slow response
- ⇒ Hesitation or reluctance in jumping
- ⇒ Touching jump
- ⇒ No sit or poor sit
- ⇒ No finish or poor finish
- ⇒ Sat between feet
- ⇒ Touched handler

### Utility

#### Extreme deductions

- ⇒ Dog fails to leave on order, go substantially in the right direction, stop on command, jump as directed, or go at least 10 feet from jumps
- ⇒ High jump ~ uses jump as aid or climbing jump
- ⇒ Bar jump ~ knocking bar off

#### Major deductions

- ⇒ Extra command or signal to jump

#### Substantial or Minor deductions

- ⇒ Holding hand signals
  - ⇒ Slightly off direction
  - ⇒ Not going back in center far enough
  - ⇒ Anticipates turn, stop, or sit
  - ⇒ Does not sit on command
  - ⇒ Slowness in going out
  - ⇒ Hesitation or reluctance in jumping
  - ⇒ Touching jump
  - ⇒ No sit or poor sit
  - ⇒ No finish or poor finish
  - ⇒ Sat between feet
  - ⇒ Touched handler
  - ⇒ Handler errors
- 



## Obedience Jump Construction Standards

On the following two pages, you will find diagrams of the jumps described below.

### Broad Jump

The broad jump will consist of four telescoping hurdles, all about 8 inches wide and painted a flat white. The largest hurdle will measure about 5 feet long and about 6 inches at the highest point.

### High Jump

The uprights of the high jump will be four feet high. The high jump will be 5 feet wide and built to provide 1-inch increments from 8 inches to 36 inches. It is suggested that the bottom board measure 8 inches down from its top to the floor or ground. In addition, three other 8-inch boards, a 4-inch board, a 2-inch board and a 1-inch board should be used. A 6-inch board may also be used. If a county cannot furnish the one-inch board, the dog shall jump down to the nearest two-inch measure. The jump will be painted a flat white. The only thing painted on the boards will be their height, written in black 2-inch numbers. The number on the bottom board represents the distance from the ground or floor to the top of the board.

### Bar Jump

The bar jump will consist of a bar between 2 and 2½ inches square with the edges rounded to remove any sharpness. The bar will be painted flat black and white in alternate sections of about 3 inches each. The bar will have the weight of wood. It will be supported by two unconnected 4 foot upright posts about 5 feet apart, and must be adjustable for each 2 inches of height from 8 inches to 36 inches. The jump must be built so that the bar may be knocked off without affecting the uprights.

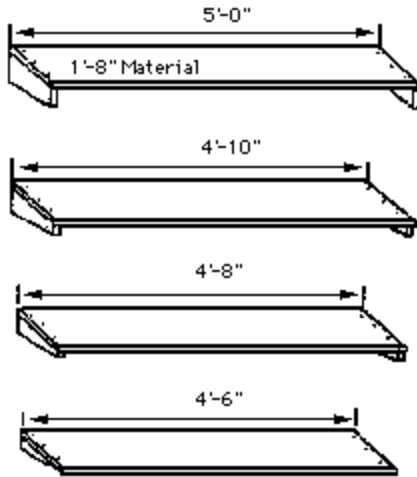


**All jumps must be painted a flat white**

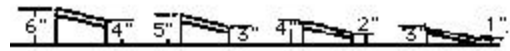
**Suggested Construction of Broad Jump**

The high jump must be painted a flat white.

**Elevation**



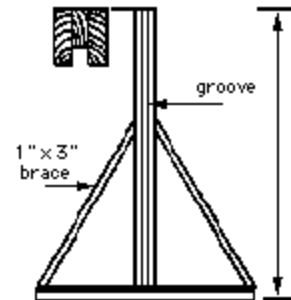
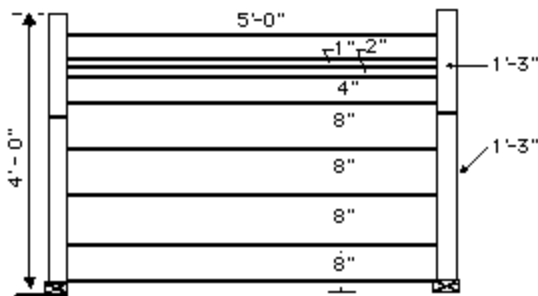
**End View of Four Hurdles**



**Suggested Construction of High Jump**

The high jump must be painted a flat white.

**Side View**



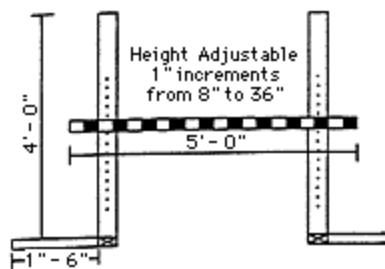
**These boards are removable.**

**This upright consists of two pieces 1" x 3" and on piece 1" x 2", nailed together, with the 1" x 2" forming the groove for the boards to slide in.**

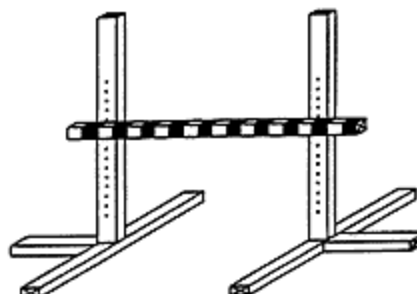


## Suggested Construction of Bar Jump

Front View



Elevation



Side View

