



• South Dakota  •
Dog Project
Dog Obedience Rulebook



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Purpose

4-H Obedience Shows and Matches are guided by the principles of good sportsmanship, both in and out of the ring. The purpose of 4-H Obedience Shows and Matches is to demonstrate the usefulness of the dog as a companion of man, not merely the dog's ability to follow specified routines in the 4-H obedience ring. All 4-H members in a class are required to perform the same exercises in the same way so that the relative quality of the various performances may be evaluated. However, the primary objective of 4-H Obedience Shows and Matches is to help youth develop life skills, by teaching them how to work with dogs safely and effectively. The result of this process will be a 4-H member who can apply dog-handling skills in the home, in public places, and in the presence of other dogs, in a manner that will reflect credit on 4-H Dog Obedience.

The performances of the dog and the 4-H member in the ring must be accurate and correct, conforming to the requirements of these Guidelines. However, it is also essential that the dog demonstrate willingness and enjoyment of its work, and that smoothness and naturalness on the part of the 4-H member be given precedence over a performance based on military precision and decisive commands.

Chapter 1: General Guidelines

Section 1 – Dog Show and Match Rules

The 4-H Obedience Guidelines shall govern the conduct of, and shall apply to all persons and dogs participating in 4-H shows and matches.

Section 2 – Identification

No commercial advertising of any sort may be on clothing or the equipment in the show ring. The wearing of clothing with a 4-H emblem is encouraged. 4-H T-shirts, supplied by the Fair or from the counties, may be worn.

Section 3 – Family Members

More than one 4-H member may show the same dog in the same year, in different classes.

Section 4 – Dogs that May Not Be Shown

Dogs that have not been under the direct care and management of the 4-H member for a minimum of two months may not participate in 4-H Obedience Shows and Matches. This does not mean that the dog must live with the 4-H member, only that the 4-H'er must be regularly responsible for its basic care.

Dogs in obvious pain from a previous illness or injury shall not be shown. Consideration of a dog's physical disability needs to be addressed between the handler and project leader before starting the project. A veterinarian's written approval is required if a dog's soundness is questioned.

Dogs in season may not be shown.

Section 5 – When Titles Are Won

When a 4-H dog has won an outside title (i.e. AKC), it may be shown in 4-H Obedience Trials. If the 4-H member won the title, that team must show at the equivalent 4-H show level. If someone else won the title, the 4-H member must show at the highest level appropriate for that team as determined by the 4-H member, parent, project leader and/or 4-H Advisor.

Level of showing determined by experience of handler

4-H (level)	AKC (title show)
Pre-Novice	Pre-Novice
Novice	Novice
Open	Open
Utility	Utility

Once a dog and 4-H member have purpled at the state level (4-H), that team must advance to the next level. This option may be exercised at the county level if the team is unable to attend the State Fair. If a 4-H member starts over with a new dog, they may start at Basic B and progress accordingly.

Section 6 – Risk

The 4-H member entering a dog in a 4-H Event does so at his own risk and agrees to abide by South Dakota 4-H Rules and Guidelines.

Section 7 – Disturbances

Dogs that show aggression to other humans or dogs on the show grounds are not permitted to participate.

Section 8 – Decisions

At shows and matches the decisions of the Judge shall be final in all matters affecting the scoring and the working of the dogs and their handlers.

Section 9 – Obedience Ribbons

South Dakota 4-H uses the Danish System for determining ribbon placings. The following point schedule will be used at the South Dakota State Fair. Counties may develop a less stringent point schedule and “curve” if needed.

Purple	180 - 200 points
Blue	160–179 points
Red	140–159 points
White	139 and less

Section 10 – Stewards

The Judge is in sole charge of his ring until his assignment is completed. Stewards are provided to assist him, but they may act only on the Judge’s instructions. Stewards shall not give information or instructions to handlers except as specifically instructed by the Judge, and then only in such a manner that it is clear that the instructions are those of the Judge.

Section 11 – Ring Conditions

The ideal ring size is at least 40 feet wide and 50 feet long. The ideal surface or covering provides firm footing for the largest dogs. Rubber or similar non-slip material totaling at least four feet in width must be laid for the takeoff and landing at all jumps unless the surface, in the Judge’s opinion, is such as to not require it. At an outdoor show or trial the rings shall be about 40 feet wide and 50 feet long. The ground shall be clean and level, and the grass, if any, cut short.

The Judge’s table and chairs shall be of such size and location to cause no interference with the performance while in the ring.

Dogs are not allowed in the match ring until they are shown.

Section 12 – Preparedness of the Judge

Always bring:

Water to drink	Clipboard
Bug spray	Copy of the rules for 4-H judging
Score sheets	Stopwatch or timer
Pencils	Yardstick for measuring jumps and dogs
Jacket	Calculator for addition of score sheets
Umbrella	Patience!

Always wear comfortable shoes

ALWAYS allow plenty of time to get to the Show—arrive at least 30 minutes early.

Chapter 2:

Guidelines for Performance & Judging

Section 1 – Disabled Handlers

Judges may modify the specific requirements of these Guidelines for disabled handlers as necessary to permit them to compete. Such handlers must be able to move about the ring without physical assistance or guidance from another person. Blind handlers may receive assistance in positioning themselves before, between and after each exercise, subject to the Judge's instructions. Regardless of the handler's disability the dogs are required to perform all parts of all exercises as described in these Guidelines, and penalized for failure to perform any part of an exercise.

Section 2 – Use of Leash

All dogs shall be kept on leash except when in the 4-H obedience ring or practice ring. Dogs must be brought into the ring and taken out of the ring on leash. Dogs may be kept on leash in the ring when brought in to receive awards, and when waiting in the ring before and after the Group exercises. When required, the leash shall be left on the Judge's table or other designated place between the individual exercises and during all exercises except the Heel on Leash and Group exercises. The leash must be of fabric or leather and, at the Pre-Novice level or lower, must be at least six feet long. For Novice level and higher, the leash must be at least four feet long to provide adequate slack in the Heel on Leash exercise.

Section 3 – Collars

Dogs in the 4-H obedience Basic A & B and Pre-Novice rings are allowed to wear one approved training collar. These include slip/combo collars (martingale), choke collars (standard, show fur savers, nylon flat and American), Halti head collars, gentle leader collars (promise halters), German steel collars (sprenger, coastal and prong collars), harnesses, and plain buckle collars.

Dogs in 4-H Novice and higher classes must wear well-fitting plain buckle, slip collars, or choke collars. Slip collars of an appropriate single length of leather, fabric or chain with two rings, one on each end are acceptable. These are to be used only for training.

Collars must be well fitting. The collar length should not exceed the dog's neck measurement plus three inches. Nothing shall be hanging from the collars (no tags). Electronic collars are not allowed in any instance.

If there is a medical reason for the use of a different collar, it must be noted on the health certificate. IF APPROVED EQUIPMENT IS NOT USED, THERE WILL AN AUTOMATIC RIBBON DEDUCTION IN THE RING.

Section 4 – Heel Position

In these Guidelines, the Heel position means that the dog shall be straight in line with the direction the handler is facing, at the handler's left side, and as close as practical to the handler's left leg without crowding, permitting the handler freedom of motion at all times. Ideally, the dog's shoulder should be even with the handler's left hip. This shall be the definition whether the dog is sitting, standing, lying down, or moving at heel.

Section 5 – Hands

In all exercises, the arm positions shall be taken before any heeling is done.

In all exercises in which the dog is required to "heel on leash" one of the options below shall be followed:

- The right hand and arm must move naturally, while the left arm is bent and the left hand shall hold the leash against, and centered in front of the body, in the area of the waist.
- The right arm is bent and the right hand holds the leash against, and centered in front of the body, in the area of the waist, while the left hand loosely guides the leash at the handlers side.
- Both arms are bent to the waist and both hands hold the leash against, and centered in front of the body, in the area of the waist.

In all exercises in which the dog is required to "heel free" one of the options below shall be followed:

- The handler's arms and hands shall move naturally at the handler's sides while in motion, and shall hang naturally at the handler's sides while not in motion
- The right hand and arm must move naturally, while the left arm is bent to the waist and the left hand shall be held against, and centered in the front of the body, in the area of the waist.

The left forearm shall be carried, as much as possible, against the body. In either of the above situations the hands and arms may be adjusted during the Fast portion of an exercise, in order to maintain balance. There shall be a substantial deduction if the hands and arms are not carried in one of the positions stated above.

In all exercises in which the dog is required to "come to" or "return to" the handler and "sit in front", the handler's arms and hands shall hang naturally at his sides while the dog is coming in and until the dog has sat in front. A deduction shall be made if a handler's arms and hands are not hanging naturally at his sides while the dog is coming in and until the dog has sat in front.

Section 6 – Commands and Signals

Whenever a command or signal is mentioned in these Guidelines, the handler must give a single command (either a voice command and/or a hand signal). Any extra commands or signals must be penalized. Only two commands may use a simultaneous command and/or signal: Stay (all levels) and Drop on Recall commands (Graduate Novice/ Open). 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. When a signal command *only* is used it cannot be preceded by the call name of the dog. Delay in following a Judge's order to give a command or signal must be penalized, unless the Judge directs the delay because of some distraction or interference.

When given, signals must be inaudible and the handler must not touch the dog. Any unusual noise or motion may be considered to be a signal. Signaling correction to a dog is forbidden and must be penalized.

Position of the arms and hands and movements of the body that aid the dog shall be considered additional signals. However, a handler may bend over at the waist when commanding Down or Stay, and 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. 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 Guidelines 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. Anticipation of commands will be given deductions.

Excessively loud commands by handlers to their dogs create a poor impression of 4-H 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 penalized. An extra command and/or signal in any non-principal part of an exercise does not, in itself, constitute a failing score.

Section 7 – Praise

Praise and petting are allowed between and after exercises, but points must be deducted from the total score for a dog that is not under reasonable control while being praised. A handler shall not carry or offer food in the ring. There shall be a penalty for any dog that is picked up or carried at any time in the 4-H obedience ring.

Section 8 – Handling between Exercises

In the Novice Classes the dog may be guided gently by the collar between exercises and to get it into proper position for an exercise. No other physical guidance, such as placing the dog in position with the hands or straightening the dog with the knees or feet, is permitted and shall be penalized even if occurring before or between the exercises. In the Open and Utility Classes there shall be a penalty for any dog that is physically guided at any time or that is not readily controllable. Posing for examination and holding for measurement are permitted. Imperfections in heeling between exercises will not be judged. In the Open and Utility Classes minor penalties shall be imposed for a dog that does not respond promptly to its handler's commands or signals before or between exercises.

Section 9 – Misbehavior

Any display of fear or nervousness by the dog, or any uncontrolled behavior of the dog such as snapping, barking, or running away from its handler, whether it occurs during an exercise, between exercises, or before or after judging, may be penalized according to the seriousness of the misbehavior. The deduction will be at least one ribbon placing. The Judge may excuse the dog from further competition in the class and the team will receive a white ribbon. If such behavior occurs during an exercise, the penalty must first be applied to the score for that exercise. Should the penalty be greater than the value of the exercise during which it is incurred, the additional points shall be deducted from the total score under Misbehavior. If such behavior occurs before or after the judging, or between exercises, the entire penalty shall be deducted from the total score.

Any dog that relieves itself at any time while in the ring for judging will be penalized 25 points.

The Judge may disqualify any dog that attacks or attempts to attack any person in the ring. He shall excuse a dog that attacks another dog or that appears dangerous to other dogs or exhibitors in the ring. This team shall receive a white ribbon.

Any exhibitor or spectator may be excused from the show for unsportsmanlike conduct. This team shall receive a white ribbon.

The Judge should ALWAYS talk to the exhibitor and explain the reason behind the deduction or excuse from the ring.

Section 10 – Orders and Minimum Penalties

The orders for the exercises and the standards for judging are set forth in the following chapters. The lists of faults are not intended to be complete, but minimum penalties are specified for most of the more common and serious faults. There is no maximum limit on penalties. A team that makes none of the errors listed may still fail to purple or receive a white ribbon for other reasons.

The following are some recommended deductions for judging:

There will be no scores of 0 for an exercise. The most points that can be taken from an exercise are 1/2 the total points for that exercise, except in the upper levels with the “Stay” exercises when up to a 20 point deduction can be made.

On the score sheets, the columns for point deductions will run right to left—the furthest left, the more severe the penalty.

Minor—1 to 2 point deductions per error.

Substantial—3 to 10 points per error.

Major—up to 1/2 of the total points of the exercise can be deducted.

Section 11. Training on the Grounds

There shall be no drilling nor intensive or abusive training of dogs on the grounds or premises at a 4-H Obedience Trial. All dogs shall be kept on leash except when in the 4-H obedience ring or practice ring. These requirements shall not be interpreted as preventing a handler from moving normally about the grounds or premises with his dog at heel on leash. Signals or such commands in a normal tone, as are necessary and usual in everyday life in heeling a dog or making it stay are acceptable. 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. The Show Officials, and the SDSU staff, shall be responsible for compliance with this Section, and shall investigate any reports of infractions.

No electric shock and training collars are allowed on the grounds or premises at a 4-H Obedience Trial.

Section 12. Training and Disciplining in the Ring

The Judge shall not permit any handler to train his dog by excessive verbal commands or by moving toward the dog to correct it in any way, nor to practice any exercise in the ring either before or after he is judged. Any handler who does either will be excused from further competition in the class. A dog whose handler disciplines it in the ring may be excused from further competition in the class and shall receive a white ribbon. The Judge should always explain why a dog and handler are excused.

NO food or treats of any kind should be with the handler while showing his dog. A deduction of one ribbon placing will occur, if noted.

The Judge must immediately report any abuse of a dog in the ring to the Show Officials.

Section 13 – Abuse of Dogs

The 4-H Show Officials shall investigate any reports of abuse of dogs or severe disciplining of dogs on the grounds or premises of a show. Any person who conducts himself in any manner against the best interests of the 4-H program, or who fails to comply with the requirements of Chapter 2, Section 9 of these Guidelines shall be dealt with promptly, during the Show or Match if possible. The offender must be notified of the specific charges against him, and be given an opportunity to address the charges. The Judge must immediately report any abuse of a dog in the ring to the Show Officials.

Any signs of dehydration or heat stress to the dog will not be allowed.

Section 14 – Discipline of Exhibitors

Any inappropriate behavior as determined by the Show Officials and/or South Dakota 4-H (either in or outside of the show ring) may result in immediate suspension. Formal grievance procedures may be initiated according to the standards outlined in the South Dakota 4-H Fairbook.

An explanation of the noted inexcusable behavior and why it is not acceptable should always be given to the handler. The judges should encourage this to be a learning experience.

Section 15. Standardized Judging

Standardized judging is of paramount importance. 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 Guidelines. A handler who is familiar with these Guidelines 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 only exception to a variation in the exercise is when the pattern area is fouled and an adjustment in the pattern must be done.

Dogs are worked individually except in a group exercise. The recommended time per dog is 5 to 7 minutes in the ring, not counting the group exercises. Variations to this can be made at the county level.

Section 16. Standard of Perfection

The Judge must carry a mental picture of the theoretically perfect performance in each exercise. He scores each dog and handler against this visualized standard which combines the utmost in willingness, enjoyment and precision on the part of the dog, and naturalness, gentleness, and smoothness in handling. "Crisp-

ness" of the performance is always encouraged—square corners, good posture of the handler, efficiency and accuracy in performing exercises, etc. Speed is not to be considered as the equivalent to willingness and enjoyment. Lack of willingness or enjoyment on the part of the dog must be penalized. Lack of precision in the dog's performance, roughness in handling, military precision or dogmatic commands by the handler will also be penalized. There shall be no penalty of less than 1 point.

Section 17. Judge's Directions

The Judge's orders and signals should 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. Before starting each exercise, the Judge shall ask Are you ready? This question should be restated if something like a backwards collar is noted to give the handler a chance to correct the problem. At the end of each exercise the Judge shall say, Exercise finished. Each dog must be worked and judged separately except for the Group exercises. The judging of an exercise will begin when the Judge gives the first order, not before, unless the handler does not make the correction after the second Are you ready? is asked.

Section 18. 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 Guidelines. Anything outside the 4-H Guidelines is not allowed in a 4-H show. Judges should be certain to ask if the handler is familiar with the pattern being used and if he has any questions.

Section 19. 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. He shall penalize the dog substantially or, if in the Judge's opinion the circumstances warrant, shall give the dog a white ribbon for the exercise during which the aid was received.

Section 20. Re-judging

If a team has failed in a particular part of an exercise, it shall not ordinarily be re-judged nor given a second chance. If in the Judge's opinion the team's performance was prejudiced by peculiar and unusual conditions, the Judge may at his own discretion re-judge the team on the entire exercise. Should the Judge find it necessary to re-judge a team or teams from the Group exercises, they shall be re-judged with the next scheduled group within that class. The limits on the number of dogs allowed in the ring for the Group exercise shall remain consistent with Chapter 5, Section 10. Should there be no further group within that class, the dog or dogs to be re-judged shall immediately do the exercise alone. The team or teams involved will be re-judged only on the exercise in question.

Section 21. Explanations and Errors

The Judge is not required to explain his scoring, and need not enter into any discussion with any contestant or adult who appears to be dissatisfied. However, after prizes have been awarded and the score sheets turned in, the Judge is encouraged, but not required, to discuss the scoring with the exhibitors. Any interested person who thinks that there may have been a mathematical error or an error in identifying a dog may report the facts to one of the Stewards or to the Show Officials so that the matter may be checked.

Chapter 3: Basic A & B

Section 1. Basic A

This class is reserved for teams where both the handler and dog have no prior experience in the obedience show ring. If the 4-H member or dog has shown in another organization, they go to Basic B.

Section 2. Basic B

Any 4-H member and/or dog with previous show experience can show here if it is determined appropriate by 4-H member, parent, project leader and 4-H Advisor.

Section 3. Basic A & B Exercises and Scoring

	Basic A	Basic B	Maximum Score
1.	Heel on Leash	Heel on Leash	40 points
2.	Figure Eight (on leash)	Figure Eight (on leash)	40 points
3.	Sit for Exam (on leash)	Sit for Exam (on leash)	40 points
4.	Sit Stay (on leash)	Sit Stay (leash attached, on ground)	40 points
5.	Recall (on leash)	Recall (off leash)	40 points
	<i>Maximum Total Score</i>		<i>200 points</i>

Section 4. Heel on Leash & Figure Eight (same for both A & B classes)

The principal feature of this exercise is the ability of the dog and handler to work as a team. The orders for this exercise will be *Forward* and *Exercise finished*. Signs, rather than verbal commands from the Judge, will be used for this exercise. Signs to be used are *Right turn*, *Left turn*, *About turn*, *Slow*, *Normal*, *Fast* and *Halt/Sit*. Fast means that the handler must run, and the handler and dog must move forward at a noticeably accelerated speed.

Turns will be used only when the handler is moving at a normal speed. Both change of pace signs must be followed by a normal sign. Turn signs may be placed in any sequence and may be repeated. Two of each turn sign must be available for the Judge's use. The *Halt/Sit* sign will be used once at the end of the exercise. The Judge should standardize the heeling pattern for all dogs in the class.

The leash must be six feet in length. It may be held in either hand or in both hands, but the hands must be held in a natural position. Any tightening or jerking of the leash and use of any extra commands and/or signals will be penalized.

The handler will enter the ring with the dog on a loose leash and stand with the dog sitting in the heel position. The Judge will ask if the handler is ready before giving the order, *Forward*. The handler may give a command or signal to heel and will walk briskly and naturally with the dog on a loose leash. The dog should walk close to the handler's left side without swinging wide, lagging, forging, or

crowding. The dog must not interfere with the handler's freedom of motion at any time. At the *Halt/Sit* sign, the handler will stop. The dog shall sit straight and promptly in the heel position without command or signal. The Judge will order, *Exercise finished* at the completion of this exercise.

A one-time single phrase of praise or encouragement, by the handler to the dog, will be allowed without penalty. (Good, yes, nice, super, great, and *atta boy/girl*, are some examples of praise that would be allowed.) A verbal command to heel at the beginning of the exercise is the only command allowed during the heeling exercise.

Rally signs may be used. The signs may be placed either flat on the ground or on a stand. The course should be laid so that the signs are to the right of the handler.

Figure Eight (same for both A & B classes)

The principal feature of this exercise is the ability of the dog and handler to work as a team. The orders for this exercise are: *Forward*, *Halt*, and *Exercise finished*.

For the Figure Eight, the handler will stand and the dog will sit in heel position facing the Judge, midway between the two stewards, who will be standing 8 feet apart. The Figure Eight will be performed on leash; the handler may go around either steward first. After the Judge asks, *Are you ready?* and gives the order, *Forward*, the handler and dog will walk briskly around and between the two stewards twice.

There will be no about turn, fast or slow, but the Judge must order at least one halt during this exercise and another halt at the end. After each halt, it is permissible for the handler to give a command or signal to heel before moving forward again.

A one-time single phrase of praise or encouragement, by the handler to the dog, will be allowed without penalty.

In scoring this exercise the Judge shall accompany the handler at a discreet distance so that he can observe any signals or commands given by the handler to the dog. The Judge must do so without interfering with either dog or handler.

Section 5. Heel on Leash & Figure Eight Scoring

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unmanageable • Unqualified heeling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Handler continually adapts pace to dog • Constant tugging on leash or guiding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improper heel position • Occasional tight leash • Forging or crowding handler • Lagging or sniffing • Extra command to heel or sit • Handler error • Heeling wide including turns and abouts • No change of pace including fast and slow • No sits or poor sits • Lack of naturalness or smoothness

Section 6. Sit for Examination (same for both A & B classes)

The principal feature of this exercise is that the dog sits in position before and during the examination without displaying resentment. Orders are: *Sit your dog* and *Leave when you are ready*, *Back to your dog* and *Exercise finished*. This exercise is to be performed with the dog on a six-foot leash.

On the Judge’s order, the handler will command the dog to sit. The handler will then stand with the dog sitting in the heel position, give the command and/or signal to stay, walk straight forward about six feet to the end of the leash, turn and face the dog. The Judge will approach the dog from the front. Using the fingers and palm of one hand, the Judge will touch only the dog’s head. On the order *Back to your dog*, the handler will walk around behind the dog and return to the heel position. The handler may gather the leash at any time while returning to the dog. The dog must remain sitting until the Judge has said, *Exercise finished*.

Section 7. Sit for Examination Scoring

The scoring of this exercise will not start until the handler has given the command and/or signal to Stay, except for such things as rough treatment of the dog by its handler or active resistance by the dog to its handler's attempts to make it sit.

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stands, lies down or moves away from place it was left before or during examination• Growls, snaps or displays resentment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Extra command after given the command to stay	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dog moves its feet• Dog stands or moves away after examination is complete• Shyness• Tightening of the leash during the exercise• Handler error

Section 8.

Sit Stay on Leash – 45 seconds (Basic A)

The principal feature of this exercise is that the dog remains in the sit position for 45 seconds. Orders for this exercise are: *Sit your dog*, *Leave your dog*, *Return to your dog*, and *Exercise finished*.

The handler will stand with the dog sitting in heel position. Prior to starting the exercise, the Judge will ask if the handler is ready. When the Judge gives the order *Sit your dog*, the handler will command and/or signal the dog to sit, if they are not already sitting. The Judge will order *Leave your dog*, and the handler will give a command and/or signal to stay and immediately proceed to the end of the leash and turn to face the dog. The dog will remain seated for 45 seconds. At the Judge's command of *Return to your dog*, the handler will approach the dog from the front, and proceed to walk around and in back of the dog to the heel position. Once the handler has returned to heel position, the Judge will give the order *Exercise finished*. The Judge should not deduct points if the leash either touches or does not touch the ground.

Sit Stay – Handler Walk around the Ring (Basic B)

The principal feature of this exercise is that the dog remains in the sit position. Orders for this exercise are: *Sit your dog*, *Leave your dog*, and *Exercise finished*.

The handler will stand with the dog sitting in heel position in approximately the center of a marked 20' x 20' perimeter within the ring. Prior to starting the exercise, the Judge will ask if the handler is ready. The leash remains attached to the dog's collar and will be dropped/placed on the ground between the dog and the handler at the Judge's command. When the Judge gives the order *Sit your dog*, the handler will command and/or signal the dog to sit, if not already sitting. The Judge will order *Leave your dog*, and the handler will give a command and/or signal to stay and then walk 10 feet straight out from in front of their dog. The

handler will then turn either to the right or left as directed by the Judge and walk the perimeter of the 20' x 20' marked area. Upon completing a full perimeter walk around the marked area, the handler will approach the dog from the front, and proceed to walk around and in back of the dog to the heel position. Once the handler has returned to heel position, the Judge will give the order *Exercise finished*.

Section 9. Sit Stay on Leash Scoring

Scoring of the exercise will not start until after the Judge has ordered the handler to sit his dog, except for such things as rough treatment of a dog by its handler or resistance by a dog to its handler’s attempts to make it Sit.

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog moves a substantial distance away from place it was left • Gets out of sit position • Repeated barking and whining • Additional command or signal by the handler 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog moves a short distance from where it was left • Barks or whines once or twice • Dog changes position after handler returns to heel position 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minor whine or bark • Excessively loud commands • Handler error

Section 10. Recall

Recall on Leash (Basic A)

The principal features of this exercise are that the dog stay where left until called by the handler, and that the dog responds promptly. Orders are: *Leave your dog*, *Call your dog*, and *Exercise finished*. On order from the Judge, the handler may give a command and/or signal to the dog to stay in the sit position. The handler will then walk forward, to the end of the six-foot leash, and turn to face the dog.

On the Judge’s order or signal, the handler will command and/or signal the dog to come. The dog must come directly, at a brisk trot or gallop, and sit in front near the handler. The dog must be close enough to its handler so that the handler could touch its head without excessive bending, stretching, or moving either foot.

A one-time single phrase of praise or encouragement while the dog is coming to the handler will be allowed without penalty. (Good, yes, nice, super, great, atta boy/girl, are some examples of praise that would be allowed.)

Recall off Leash (Basic B)

This exercise differs from the “Basic A.” The leash is removed for this exercise and kept by the handler. When the handler removes the leash, s/he may hold it in any manner using one or both hands, or draped around the neck.

After the Judge’s command to leave the dog, the handler will then walk forward,

across the ring approximately 10 feet, and turn to face the dog. On the Judge's order or signal, the handler will command and/or signal the dog to come. The dog must come directly, at a brisk trot or gallop, and sit in front near the handler. The dog must be close enough to its handler so that the handler could touch its head without excessive bending, stretching, or moving either foot.

After the Judge orders *Exercise finished*, the leash is reattached to the dog's collar.

A one-time single phrase of praise or encouragement while the dog is coming to the handler will be allowed without penalty. (Good, yes, nice, super, great, atta boy/girl, are some examples of praise that would be allowed.)

Caution should be taken to not fidget with the leash but to keep the hands calm and steady.

Section 11. Recall Scoring

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog does not come on first command or signal • Dog moved from position 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extra command or signal to stay • Anticipated recall command • Dog sat out of reach • Dog leaves handler 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog stood or lay down or touched handler • Slow response or sat between feet • No sit or poor sit • Lack of naturalness or smoothness • Handler error

Chapter 4: Pre-Novice

Section 1. Pre-Novice

The Pre-Novice class is for the handler and dog that have received a purple at the State 4-H Dog Show in Basic A and/or B. Teams may move up to Pre-Novice regardless of County or State ribbon placing.

Section 2. Pre-Novice Exercises and Scoring

1. Heel on Leash	50 points
2. Figure Eight on Leash	25 points
3. Stand for Examination (off leash)	40 points
4. Recall (off leash)	45 points
5. Stay—Down	40 points
<i>Maximum Total Score</i>	<i>200 points</i>

Section 3. Heel on Leash & Figure Eight

The purpose of this exercise is to demonstrate the ability of the handler and dog to work as a team. Orders for this exercise are *Forward, Halt, Right Turn, Left Turn, About Turn, Slow, Normal, and Fast*. All About Turns will be right about turns. Orders for halts and turns will be given only when the handler is moving at normal speed. The other orders may be given in any sequence, and turns and halts may be repeated.

The leash must be six feet in length. It may be held in either hand or in both hands, but the hands must be held in a natural position. Any tightening or jerking of the leash and use of any extra commands and/or signals will be penalized.

The handler will enter the ring with the dog on a loose leash and stand with the dog sitting in the heel position. The Judge will say to the handler, *Are you ready?* The handler should answer either *Yes*, or *No*. When the handler is ready the Judge will give the order, *Forward*. The handler and dog walk briskly, and in a natural manner, with the dog on a loose leash. The dog should walk close to the handler's left side without swinging wide, lagging, forging, or crowding. The area from the dog's head to shoulder should be in line with the handler's left hip. The dog must not interfere with the handler's freedom of motion at any time. The handler may give a command **OR** signal to heel, **NOT** both.

Remaining Orders given by the Judge:

Halt: When the Judge says, *Halt*, the handler stops. The dog should sit straight and promptly in the heel position. The handler should not give 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 handler is permitted to give a command OR signal to heel before again moving forward.

Right Turn: When the Judge says, *Right Turn*, the handler and dog make a ninety-degree (90°) turn to the right. This turn should be made squarely.

Left Turn: When the Judge says, *Left Turn*, the handler and dog make a ninety-degree (90°) turn to the left. This turn should be made squarely.

About Turn: When the Judge says, *About Turn*, the handler and dog make a one hundred-eighty degree (180°) turn to the right.

Slow: When the Judge says, *Slow*, the handler and dog walk at a noticeably slower pace than normal.

Normal: The handler and dog begin the heeling pattern at a normal pace. After the Judge gives the order to walk *Slow*, or *Fast*, he/she will give the order, *Normal*. The handler and dog then return to a normal pace.

Fast: When the Judge says, *Fast*, the handler and dog must run, moving forward at a noticeably accelerated pace.

At the completion of the Heel exercise, the Judge will say, *Exercise finished*. At this time it is appropriate for the handler to praise his/her dog.

Figure Eight

For this exercise, the handler will stand and the dog will sit in heel position facing the Judge, midway between the two stewards who will be standing eight feet apart. The Judge will ask, *Are you ready?* The handler will say, *Yes* or *No*. After the handler and dog are ready, the Judge will give the order, *Forward*. The handler may choose to go in either direction. The handler and dog will walk briskly around and between the two stewards twice. The Judge will order at least one halt during this exercise and another halt at the end. There will be no about turn, fast, or slow during this exercise. At the completion of the Figure Eight exercise, the Judge will say, *Exercise finished*. At this time it is appropriate for the handler to praise his/her dog.

The leash is removed for the remaining exercises and kept by the handler. When the handler removes the leash, s/he may hold it in any manner using one or both hands, or draped around the neck.

Section 4. Heel on Leash & Figure Eight Scoring

In scoring this exercise the Judge shall accompany the handler at a discreet distance so that he can observe any signals or commands given by the handler to the dog. The Judge must do so without interfering with either dog or handler.

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Unmanageable• Unqualified heeling	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Handler continually adapts pace to dog• Constant tugging on leash or guiding	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improper heel position• Occasional tight leash• Forging or crowding handler• Lagging or sniffing• Extra command to heel or sit• Heeling wide including turns and abouts• No change of pace including fast and slow• No sits or poor sits• Lack of naturalness or smoothness• Handler error

Section 5. Stand for Examination off Leash

The purpose of this exercise is for the dog to stand and stay in position before, during, and after the examination without displaying resentment. The orders given by the Judge are, *Stand your dog*, and *Leave when you are ready*, *Back to your dog*, and *Exercise finished*.

On the Judge's order, the handler will take his/her dog to the place indicated by the Judge and have the dog sit in heel position. On the Judge's order to *Stand your dog*, and *Leave when you are ready* the handler will stand/pose the dog by the method of the handler's choice, taking any reasonable time if he/she chooses to pose the dog as in the show ring. The handler will then stand with the dog in the heel position and give the command and/or signal to stay. The handler will then leave from heel position, walk straight forward about six feet, and turn and face the dog.

The Judge will approach the dog from the front. Using the fingers and palm of one hand, the Judge will touch the dog's head, body, and hindquarters. On the order *Back to your dog*, the handler will walk around behind the dog and return to the heel position. The dog must remain standing, without moving its feet, until the Judge has said, *Exercise finished*. At this time it is appropriate for the handler to praise his/her dog. The dog must not show any shyness or resentment during this exercise.

Section 6. Stand for Examination Scoring

The scoring of this exercise will not start until the handler has given the com-

mand and/or signal to Stay, except for such things as rough treatment of the dog by its handler or active resistance by the dog to its handler's attempts to make it stand.

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog moves away or sits before examination • Dog growls or snaps • Leaves ring 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog moves away or sits during examination • Dog shows shyness or resentment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog resists handler posing • Extra command to stay • Dog moves slightly • Dog sits as handler returns • Lack of naturalness or smoothness • Handler error

Section 7. Recall off leash

The purpose of this exercise is for the dog to stay where left until called by the handler, and for the dog to respond promptly to the handler's command or signal to come. The orders given by the Judge are, *Leave your dog*, *Call your dog*, and *Finish*. The handler will take the dog to the place designated by the Judge and have the dog sit in the heel position. On the Judge's order, *Leave your dog*, the handler may give a command and/or signal to the dog to stay in the sit position. The handler will then walk forward approximately 20 feet turn to face the dog, standing with the hand not holding the leash hanging naturally at the side of the body. On the Judge's order or signal to *Call your dog*, the handler will either command OR signal the dog to come, NOT both. The dog must come directly, at a brisk trot or gallop and sit straight, centered in front of the handler. The dog must be close enough to its handler so that the handler could touch its head without excessive bending, stretching, or moving either foot. The dog should not touch the handler or sit between the handler's feet.

On the Judge's order to *Finish*, the handler will give a command OR signal to finish, NOT both. The dog must go promptly to heel position and sit straight at heel. The method by which the dog goes to heel position is optional.

Section 8. Recall Scoring

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog does not come on first command or signal • Dog moved from position • Leaves ring 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extra command or signal to stay • Anticipated recall command • Dog sat out of reach • Dog leaves handler 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 • Handler error

Section 9. Down Stay – Handler Walk around the Ring

The principal feature of this exercise is that the dog remains in the down position. Orders for this exercise are: *Down your dog*, *Leave your dog*, and *Exercise finished*.

The handler will stand with the dog sitting in heel position in approximately the center of the ring. Prior to starting the exercise, the Judge will ask if the handler is ready. When the Judge gives the order *Down your dog*, the handler will command and/or signal the dog to down. The Judge will order *Leave your dog*, and the handler will give a command and/or signal to stay and then walk straight forward to the end of the ring. The handler will then turn either to the right or left as directed by the Judge and walk the perimeter of the ring. Upon completing a full perimeter walk, the handler will approach the dog from the front, and proceed to walk around and in back of the dog to the heel position. Once the handler has returned to heel position, the Judge will give the order *Exercise finished*.

Section 10. Down Stay Scoring

Scoring of the exercise will not start until after the Judge has ordered the handler to leave his dog, except for such things as rough treatment of a dog by its handler or resistance by a dog to its handler's attempts to make it Lie Down.

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dog moves a substantial distance away from place it was left• Gets out of down position before handler's first turn• Repeated barking and whining• Additional command or signal by the handler	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dog moves a short distance from where it was left• Dog stood or sat after handler's first turn• Barks or whines once or twice• Dog changes position after handler returns to heel position	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Minor whine or bark• Excessively loud commands• Dog stood or sat after handler's last turn• Handler error

Chapter 5:

Novice

Section 1. Novice Class

The Novice class is for handler and dog that have received a purple at the State 4-H Dog Show in Pre-Novice. Teams may move up to Novice regardless of County or State ribbon placing.

Section 2. Novice Exercises and Scoring

1. Heel on Leash and Figure Eight	35 points
2. Stand for Examination off leash	30 points
3. Heel Free	45 points
4. Recall	30 points
5. Long Sit	30 points
6. Long Down	30 points
<i>Maximum Total Score</i>	<i>200 points</i>

Section 3. Heel on Leash & Figure Eight

The principal feature of this exercise is the ability of the dog and handler to work as a team. Orders for the exercise are *Forward, Halt, Right turn, Left turn, About turn, Slow, Normal* and *Fast*. *Fast* signifies that the handler must run with handler and dog moving forward at noticeably accelerated speed. In executing the *About Turn*, the handler will always do a *Right About Turn*. Orders for *Halts* and *Turns* will be given only when the handler is moving at a *Normal* speed.

The orders may be given in any sequence and may be repeated as necessary, but the Judge shall attempt to standardize the heeling pattern for all dogs in any class. The leash may be held in either hand or in both hands, provided the hands are in a natural position. However, any tightening or jerking of the leash or any act, signal or command which in the Judge's opinion gives the dog assistance shall be penalized.

The handler shall enter the ring with his dog on a loose leash and stand with the dog sitting in the Heel position. The Judge shall ask if the handler is ready before giving the order, *Forward*. The handler may give a command or signal to Heel, and shall walk briskly and in a natural manner with his dog on a loose leash. The dog shall walk close to the left side of the handler without swinging wide, lagging, forging or crowding. Whether heeling or sitting, the dog must not interfere with the handler's freedom of motion at any time. At each order to *Halt*, the handler will stop after a few steps and his dog shall Sit straight and promptly in the Heel position without command or signal, and shall not move until the handler again moves forward on the Judge's order. It is permissible after each *Halt*, before moving again, for the handler to give a command or signal to Heel. The Judge shall say, *Exercise finished*, after this portion of the exercise.

Before starting the Figure Eight the Judge shall ask if the handler is ready. The Figure Eight signifies that on specific orders from the Judge to *Forward* and *Halt*, the handler and dog, from a starting position about equidistant from the two Stewards and facing the Judge, shall walk briskly twice completely around and between the two Stewards, who shall stand eight feet apart. The handler may choose to go in either direction. There shall be no *About Turn* or *Fast* or *Slow* in the Figure Eight, but the Judge must order at least one *Halt* during and another *Halt* at the end of this portion of the exercise.

Section 4. Heel on Leash & Figure Eight Scoring

In scoring this exercise the Judge shall accompany the handler at a discreet distance so that he can observe any signals or commands given by the handler to the dog. The Judge must do so without interfering with either dog or handler.

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unmanageable • Unqualified heeling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Handler continually adapts pace to dog • Constant tugging on leash or guiding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improper heel position • Occasional 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 • Handler error

Section 5. Stand for Examination

The principal features of this exercise are that the dog stands in position before and during the examination and that it does not display resentment. Orders are *Stand your dog and leave when ready*, *Return to your dog* and *Exercise finished*. There will be no further command from the Judge to the handler to leave the dog.

On the Judge’s order, the handler shall remove the leash and give it to a Steward who shall place it on the Judge’s table or other designated place. The handler will take his dog, minimal guidance by the collar is allowed, to the place indicated by the Judge, and on the Judge’s order, the handler will stand and/or pose his dog off leash. The 4-H member may use the method of his choice, taking reasonable time if he chooses to pose the dog as in the show ring. 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.

The Judge shall approach the dog from the front, and shall touch only the dog's head, body and hindquarters, using the fingers and palm of one hand only. He shall then order, *Return to your dog*, whereupon the handler shall walk around behind his dog and return to the Heel position. The dog must remain standing until after the Judge has said, *Exercise finished*.

Section 6. Stand for Examination, Scoring

The scoring of this exercise will not start until the handler has given the command and/or signal to Stay, except for such things as rough treatment of the dog by its handler or active resistance by the dog to its handler's attempts to make it stand.

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog moves away or sits before examination • Dog growls or snaps • Leaves ring 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog moves away or sits during examination • Dog shows shyness or resentment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog resists handler posing • Extra command to stay • Dog moves slightly • Dog sits as handler returns • Lack of naturalness or smoothness • Handler error

Section 7. Heel Free Performance and Scoring

This exercise shall be executed in the same manner as Heel on Leash and Figure Eight except that the dog shall be off leash and that there shall be no Figure Eight. Orders and scoring shall also be the same. A dog leaving the ring will receive a white ribbon.

Section 8. Recall

The principal features of this exercise are that the dog stays where left until called by its handler, and that the dog responds promptly to the handler's command or signal to Come. Orders are *Leave your dog*, *Call your dog* and *Finish*.

On order from the Judge, the handler may give command and/or signal to the dog to stay in the Sit position while the handler walks forward about 35 feet to the other end of the ring, where he shall turn and stand in a natural manner (upright, with arms at sides) facing his dog. On Judge's order or signal, the handler will give command or signal for the dog to Come. The dog must come directly in at a brisk trot or gallop and Sit straight, centered immediately in front of the handler's feet, close enough that the handler could readily touch its head without moving either foot or having to stretch forward. The dog must not touch the handler or sit between his feet. On Judge's order the handler will give command or signal to Finish and is allowed to take one step and the dog must go smartly to the Heel position and Sit. The manner in which the dog finishes shall be optional with the handler provided that it is prompt and that the dog Sits straight at Heel.

Section 9. Recall Scoring

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dog does not come on first command or signal• Dog moved from position• Leaves ring	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Extra command or signal to stay• Anticipated recall command• Dog sat out of reach• Dog leaves handler	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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• Handler error

Section 10. Group Exercises

The principal feature of these exercises is that the dog remains in the Sit or Down position, whichever is required by the particular exercise. Orders are *Sit your dogs* or *Down your dogs*, *Leave your dogs* and *Back to your dogs*. All the competing dogs in the class take these exercises together, unless there are 12 or more dogs. Then, at the Judge's option, the class will be judged in groups of not less than 2 nor more than 12 dogs. Classes may be combined provided there are not more than 12 dogs competing in the combined classes. For a single off-leash dog, an on-leash dog/handler may be added for companionship. The Judge shall divide his class into approximately equal sections. The Group exercises shall be judged after each section.

The dogs in the ring shall be lined up according to the Judge's direction. Upon request from the Judge, the handlers shall unleash their dogs, neatly placing the leash on the ground behind the dogs.

For the Long Sit the handlers shall, On the Judge's order, command and/or signal their dogs to Sit if they are not already sitting. On further order from the Judge to leave their dogs, the handlers shall give a command and/or signal to Stay and immediately leave their dogs. The handlers will go to the opposite side of the ring, turn and stand facing their respective dogs. If a dog gets up and starts to roam, follows its handler, or moves so as to interfere with another dog, the Judge shall promptly instruct the handler or one of the Stewards to take the dog out of the ring or to keep it away from the other dogs.

After one minute from the time he has ordered the handlers to leave their dogs, the Judge will give the order to return, then the handlers must promptly go back to their dogs, each walking around and in back of his own dog to the Heel position. The dogs must not move from the Sitting position until after the Judge has said, *Exercise finished*. The Judge shall not give the order *Exercise finished*, until the handlers have returned to the Heel position.

Before starting the Long Down, the Judge shall ask if the handlers are ready. The

Long Down is done in the same manner as the Long Sit except that the handlers shall, On the Judge's order, down their dogs to a position facing the opposite side of the ring, without touching either the dogs or their collars. Additionally, the Judge will order the handlers to return after three minutes. The dogs must not move from the Down position until after the Judge has said, *Exercise finished*. The dogs shall not be required to sit at the end of the Down exercise.

Section 11. Group Exercises Scoring

During these exercises the Judge shall stand so that all the dogs are in his line of vision, and he can see all the handlers in the ring without having to turn around.

Scoring of the exercises will not start until after the Judge has ordered the handlers to leave their dogs, except for such things as rough treatment of a dog by its handler or resistance by a dog to its handler's attempts to make it Sit or lie Down. A handler whose dog assumes a position in such a manner that it could interfere with an adjacent competing dog shall be required to reposition his dog and shall also be substantially penalized; in extreme cases the dog may be excused with a white ribbon. The Judge shall not give the order, *Exercise finished*, until the handlers have returned to the Heel position.

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stood, sit or down within 15 seconds • Goes to another dog 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stood, sit or down within 15–30 seconds (sit stay) or 15 seconds–2 minutes (down stay) • Repeated whines or barks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stood, sit or down within 30–60 seconds (sit stay) or 2–3 minutes (down stay) • Forcing into position • Minor move before handler returns • Minor whine or bark • Excessively loud commands • Handler error

Chapter 6:

Graduate Novice

Section 1. Graduate Novice Class

The Graduate Novice class is for the handler and dog that have received a purple at the State 4-H Dog Show in Novice. Teams may move up to Graduate Novice regardless of County or State ribbon placing.

Section 2. Graduate Novice Exercises and Scoring

Graduate Novice Exercises	Maximum Scores
1. Heel on Leash and Figure Eight (off Leash)	40 points
2. Drop on Recall	40 points
3. Dumbbell Recall	30 points
4. Recall over High Jump	30 points
5. Recall over Broad Jump	30 points
6. Long Down (Handler out of sight)	30 points
<i>Maximum Total Score</i>	<i>200 points</i>

Section 3. Heel on Leash and Figure Eight Off Leash

The principal feature of this exercise is the ability of the dog and handler to work as a team. Orders for the exercise are *Forward*, *Halt*, *Right turn*, *Left turn*, *About turn*, *Slow*, *Normal* and *Fast*. *Fast* signifies that the handler must run with handler and dog moving forward at noticeably accelerated speed. In executing the *About Turn*, the handler will always do a *Right About Turn*. Orders for *Halts* and *Turns* will be given only when the handler is moving at a *Normal* speed.

The orders may be given in any sequence and may be repeated as necessary, but the Judge shall attempt to standardize the heeling pattern for all dogs in any class. The leash may be held in either hand or in both hands, provided the hands are in a natural position. However, any tightening or jerking of the leash or any act, signal or command which in the Judge's opinion gives the dog assistance shall be penalized.

The handler shall enter the ring with his dog on a loose leash and stand with the dog sitting in the Heel position. The Judge shall ask if the handler is ready before giving the order, *Forward*. The handler may give a command or signal to Heel, and shall walk briskly and in a natural manner with his dog on a loose leash. The dog shall walk close to the left side of the handler without swinging wide, lagging, forging or crowding. Whether heeling or sitting, the dog must not interfere with the handler's freedom of motion at any time. At each order to *Halt*, the handler will stop after a few steps and his dog shall sit straight and promptly in the heel position without command or signal, and shall not move until the handler again moves forward on the Judge's order. It is permissible after each *Halt*, before moving again, for the handler to give a command or signal to heel. The

Judge shall say, *Exercise finished*, after this portion of the exercise.

Before starting the Figure Eight the Judge shall ask if the handler is ready. The dog will be unleashed and the leash given to the Judge. The Figure Eight signifies that on specific orders from the Judge to *Forward* and *Halt*, the handler and dog, from a starting position about equidistant from the two Stewards and facing the Judge, shall walk briskly twice completely around and between the two Stewards, who shall stand 8 feet apart. The handler may choose to go in either direction. There shall be no *About Turn* or *Fast* or *Slow* in the Figure Eight, but the Judge must order at least one *Halt* during and another *Halt* at the end of this portion of the exercise.

Section 4. Heel on Leash and Figure Eight Off Leash

In scoring this exercise the Judge shall accompany the handler at a discreet distance so that he can observe any signals or commands given by the handler to the dog. The Judge must do so without interfering with either dog or handler.

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Unmanageable• Unqualified heeling	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Handler continually adapts pace to dog• Constant tugging on leash or guiding	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improper heel position• Occasional 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• Handler error

Section 5. Drop on Recall

The principal features of this exercise are that the dog stays where left until called by its handler, that it responds promptly to the handler's command or signal to *Come* and to *Drop*, and remains in the *Down* position until again called or signaled to *Come*. The dog will be judged on the promptness of its response to command or signal and not on its proximity to a designated point.

Orders for the exercise are *Leave your dog*, *Call your dog*, a signal to *Drop* the dog, another *Call your dog* and *Finish*. The Judge's signal must be clear to the handler but not obvious or distracting to the dog. On the Judge's order, the handler may give command and/or signal for the dog to *Stay* in the *Sit* position while the handler walks forward about 35 feet to the other end of the ring, where he shall turn and stand in a natural manner (upright, arms at sides) facing his dog. The Judge will position himself behind the dog, facing the handler. On

Judge's order or signal, the handler shall give command or signal to Come and the dog must start directly in at a brisk trot or gallop. On the Judge's arm or hand signal, the handler shall give command and/or signal to Drop, and the dog must immediately drop completely to the Down position, where he must remain until, on Judge's order or signal, the handler again gives command or signal to Come. Once commanded to Come, the dog must come directly in at a brisk trot or gallop and Sit straight, centered immediately in front of the handler's feet, close enough that the handler could readily touch its head without moving either foot or having to stretch forward. The dog must not touch the handler or sit between his feet. On Judge's order the handler will give command or signal to Finish and the dog must go smartly to the Heel position and Sit. The manner in which the dog finishes shall be optional with the handler provided that it is prompt and that the dog Sit straight at Heel.

Section 6. Drop on Recall Scoring

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog does not come on first command or signal after drop • Dog does not drop on first command or signal • Leaves the ring 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extra command or signal to stay after handler leaves • Dog moved from place left • Dog anticipated drop, recall or come in • Dog sat out of reach 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog stood or lay down • Extra command or signal before leaving • Dog touched handler • Slow response or sat between feet • Slow return or drop • No sit or poor sit • No finish or poor finish • Lack of naturalness or smoothness • Handler error

Section 7. Dumbbell Recall

The purpose of this exercise is to show that the dog can perform a recall off leash while holding a dumbbell. This exercise will be performed like the Novice Recall but with the dog holding the dumbbell. In addition to the Novice Recall, the dog will promptly take, hold, and deliver the dumbbell when commanded.

The Judge's orders are *Give your dog the dumbbell*, *Leave your dog*, *Call your dog*, *Take it*, and *Finish*.

The handler will stand with the dog sitting in the heel position in a place designated by the Judge. When the Judge orders, *Give your dog the dumbbell*, 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, and will walk forward to the other end of the ring and turn to face the dog. On the Judge's order or signal, the handler will command or signal the dog to come. The dog must come directly at a brisk trot or gallop. 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 dog must willingly give the dumbbell on command to the handler. The finish will be done as in the Novice Recall.

Section 8. Dumbbell Recall Scoring

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fails to take dumbbell on first command • Handler forces dumbbell into dog’s mouth • Dog doesn’t come on first command or signal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog stood or lay down • Dog touches handler • Slow response or 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 • Handler error

Section 9. Recall Over High Jump

The purpose of the exercise is for the dog to 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 Judge’s orders are *Leave your dog*, *Call your dog*, and *Finish*. The handler will stand with the dog sitting in the heel position at least eight feet from the jump. When the Judge orders, *Leave your dog*, the handler will give the command and/or signal to stay, go at least eight feet beyond the other side of the high jump, and turn and face the dog as in the Novice Recall. On the Judge’s order, the handler will give the command or signal to jump. The dog must clear the high jump without touching it and, without any further command or signal, immediately sit in front of the handler. The finish is done as in the Novice Recall. In South Dakota 4-H, all dogs in obedience will jump the same jump heights as in agility and rally.

Height of dog at withers

- Less than 10 inches
- Greater than 10 inches to 15 inches
- Greater than 15 inches to 20 inches
- Greater than 20 inches

Height to be jumped

- 4 inches
- 8 inches
- 12 inches
- 16 inches

The high jump will be five feet wide and built to provide increments from four inches to 16 inches. The uprights of the high jump will be four feet high. It is suggested that the bottom board measure eight inches down from its top to the floor or ground. In addition, another eight-inch board, and two four-inch boards will be needed to create the four jump heights. A six-inch board may also be used. The jump will be a flat white. The height of each board will be indicated in black two-inch numbers.

Section 10. Recall Over High Jump Scoring

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog does not come on first command or signal • Dog does not jump on first command or signal • Leaves the ring 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extra command or signal to stay • Extra signal or command to jump • Dog moved from place left • Dog anticipated recall • Dog does not clear jump • Dog sat out of reach 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog stood or lay down • Dog touches handler • Slow response to recall • Dog sits between feet • No sit or poor sit • No finish or poor finish • Minor jump touch • Handler error

Section 11. Recall Over Broad Jump

The purpose of this exercise is for the dog to stay where left until directed to jump, clear the jump on a single command or signal, and that the dog immediately return to sit in front of its handler after it has jumped. **Each dog will jump twice the height it did for the high jump.**

The handler will stand with the dog sitting in the heel position at least eight feet from the jump, facing the lowest side of the lowest hurdle. When the Judge orders, *Leave your dog*, the handler will give the command and/or signal to stay, go at least eight feet beyond the last hurdle, and turn and face the dog as in the Novice 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 Novice Recall.

The broad jump will consist of four white telescoping hurdles, all about eight inches wide. The largest hurdle will measure about five feet long and about six inches at the highest point. In the ring, they will be arranged in order of size, evenly spaced, covering a distance equal to twice the height of the high jump setting for each dog. Four hurdles will be used for a jump of 32 inches, three for 24 inches and two for a jump of 16 inches and one for an eight inch jump. When decreasing the number of hurdles in the jump, the highest hurdle will be removed first. It is the Judge's responsibility to see that the distance jumped by each dog is in accordance with these regulations.

Section 12. Recall Over Broad Jump Scoring

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extra command or signal to stay • Extra signal or command to jump • Dog moved from place left • Dog anticipated recall • Dog does not clear jump • Dog sat out of reach 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog stood or lay down • Dog touches handler • Slow response to recall • Dog sits between feet • No sit or poor sit • No finish or poor finish • Minor jump touch • Handler error

Section 13. Long Down

During the Long Down exercise the Judge shall stand so all the dogs and handlers are in his line of vision at all times. Class size will be no less than two dogs and no more than 12. For a single dog, an on-leash dog/handler may be added for companionship. Upon request from the Judge, the handlers shall unleash their dog, and neatly place it on the ground behind the dog.

After leaving their dogs, the handlers cross to the opposite side of the ring, leaving it in single file as directed by the Judge. They will go to a designated place, completely out of sight of their dogs, where they must remain until called by the Judge after time expires (five minutes in the Long Down, beginning when the Judge gives the order *Leave your dogs.*) On the Judge's order, the handlers shall return to the ring in single file in reverse order, facing their dogs at the opposite side of the ring, returning to them on the Judge's order. The Judge shall not give the order, *Exercise finished*, until the handlers have returned to the heel position.

Section 14. Long Down Scoring

During these exercises the Judge shall stand so that all of the dogs are in his line of vision, as well as the handlers in the ring, or leaving and returning to the ring, without having to turn around. Scoring of the exercises will not start until after the Judge has ordered the handlers to leave their dogs, except for such things as rough treatment of a dog by its handler or resistance by a dog to its handler's attempts to make it sit or lie down.

A handler whose dog assumes a position in such a manner that it could interfere with an adjacent competing dog shall be required to reposition his dog and shall also be substantially penalized; in extreme cases the dog may be excused with a white ribbon.

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dog stood or sat down within 15 seconds• Goes to another dog• Leaves the ring	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stood, sit or down within 15 seconds to 3 minutes• Repeated whines or barks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dog stood or sit within 3-5 minutes• Forcing into position• Minor move before handler returns• Minor whine or bark• Excessively loud commands• Handler error

Chapter 7: Open

Section 1. Open Class

The Open class is for the handler and dog that have received a purple at the State 4-H Dog Show in Graduate Novice. Teams may move up to Open regardless of County or State ribbon placing.

Section 2. Open Exercises and Scoring

All exercises will be performed Off Leash

Open Exercises	Maximum Scores
1. Heel Free and Figure Eight	40 points
2. Drop on Recall	30 points
3. Retrieve on Flat	20 points
4. Retrieve over High Jump	30 points
5. Broad Jump	20 points
6. Long Sit	30 points
7. Long Down	30 points
<i>Maximum Total Score</i>	<i>200 points</i>

Section 3. Heel Free & Figure Eight

The principal feature of this exercise is the ability of the dog and handler to work as a team. Orders for the exercise are *Forward, Halt, Right turn, Left turn, About turn, Slow, Normal* and *Fast*. *Fast* signifies that the handler must run with the team moving forward at noticeably accelerated speed. In executing the *About Turn*, the handler will always do a *Right About Turn*. Orders for *Halts* and *Turns* will be given only when the handler is moving at a *Normal* speed. Orders may be given in any sequence and repeated as necessary, but the Judge shall attempt to standardize the heeling pattern for all dogs in any class.

The handler shall enter the ring with his dog and stand; the dog sitting in the Heel position. The dog will be unleashed, and the leash given to the Judge. The Judge shall ask if the handler is ready before giving the order *Forward*. The handler may give a command or signal to Heel, and walk briskly and in a natural manner with his dog. The dog shall walk close to the left side of the handler without swinging wide, lagging, forging or crowding. Whether heeling or sitting, the dog must not interfere with the handler's freedom of motion at any time. At each order to *Halt*, the handler will stop after a few steps and his dog shall sit straight and promptly in the Heel position without command or signal, and shall not move until the handler again moves forward on the Judge's order. It is permissible after each *Halt*, before moving again, for the handler to give a command or signal to Heel. The Judge shall say, *Exercise finished*, after this portion of the exercise.

Before starting the Figure Eight the Judge shall ask if the handler is ready. On

specific orders from the Judge to *Forward* and *Halt*, the handler and dog, from a starting position about equidistant from the two Stewards and facing the Judge, shall walk briskly twice completely around and between the two Stewards, who shall stand 8 feet apart. The handler may choose to go in either direction. There shall be no *About Turn* or *Fast* or *Slow* in the Figure Eight, but the Judge must order at least one *Halt* during and another *Halt* at the end of this portion of the exercise.

The Judge shall discretely accompany the handler to observe any signals or commands given by the handler to the dog. The Judge must do so without interfering with either dog or handler.

Section 4. Heel Free & Figure Eight Scoring

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unmanageable • Unqualified heeling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Handler continually adapts pace to dog • Constant guiding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improper heel position • Forging or crowding handler • Lagging or sniffing • Extra command to heel or sit • Heeling wide including turns and abouts • No change of pace including fast and slow • No sits or poor sits • Lack of naturalness or smoothness • Handler error

Section 5. Drop on Recall

The principal features of this exercise are that the dog stays where left until called by its handler, that it responds promptly to the handler’s command or signal to *Come* and to *Drop*, and remains in the *Down* position until again called or signaled to *Come*. The dog will be judged on the promptness of its response to command or signal and not on its proximity to a designated point.

Orders for the exercise are *Leave your dog*, *Call your dog*, a signal to *Drop the dog*, another *Call your dog* and *Finish*. The Judge’s signal must be clear to the handler but not obvious or distracting to the dog. The Judge will position himself behind the dog, facing the handler. On the Judge’s order, the handler may give command and/or signal for the dog to *Stay* in the *Sit* position while the handler walks forward about 35 feet to the other end of the ring, where he shall turn and stand in a natural manner (upright, arms at sides) facing his dog. On Judge’s order or signal, the handler shall give command or signal to *Come* and the dog must start directly in at a brisk trot or gallop. On the Judge’s arm or hand signal, the handler shall give command or signal to *Drop*, and the dog must immediately drop completely to the *Down* position, where he must remain until, on Judge’s

order or signal, the handler again gives command or signal to Come. Once commanded to Come, the dog must come directly in at a brisk trot or gallop and Sit straight, centered immediately in front of the handler's feet, close enough that the handler could readily touch its head without moving either foot or having to stretch forward. The dog must not touch the handler or sit between his feet. On Judge's order the handler will give command or signal to Finish and the dog must go smartly to the Heel position and Sit. The manner in which the dog finishes shall be optional with the handler provided that it is prompt and that the dog sits straight at Heel.

Section 6. Drop on Recall Scoring

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog does not come on first command or signal after drop • Dog does not drop on first command or signal • Leaves the ring 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extra command or signal to stay after handler leaves • Dog moved from place left • Dog anticipated drop, recall or come in • Dog sat out of reach 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog stood or lay down • Extra command or signal before leaving • Dog touched handler • Slow response or sat between feet • Slow return or drop • No sit or poor sit • No finish or poor finish • Lack of naturalness or smoothness • Handler error

Section 7. Retrieve on Flat

The purpose of this exercise is to show that the dog can retrieve promptly. Orders are *Throw it*, *Send your dog*, *Take it*, and *Finish*.

The handler will stand with his/her dog sitting in the heel position in a place designated by the Judge. On the Judge's order, *Throw it*, the handler will give the command and/or signal to stay. 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 retrieve should be executed at a brisk trot or gallop. The dog will go directly to the dumbbell and retrieve it, returning directly to the handler as in the Novice Recall without unnecessary mouthing or playing. On order from the Judge to *Take it*, the handler will give command or signal and take the dumbbell. The finish will be executed as in the Novice Recall.

The Judge will require the dumbbell to be thrown again before the dog is sent if it is thrown less than 20 feet, too far to one side, or too close to the ring's edge.

Section 8. Retrieve on Flat Scoring

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog fails to go out on first command or signal • Dog fails to retrieve 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog goes before command or signal • Dog does not go directly to dumbbell • Extra signal or command 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slow to obey • 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 • Handler error

Section 9. Retrieve Over High Jump

The purpose of this exercise is for the dog to go out over the jump, pick up the dumbbell, and promptly return with it over the jump. The Judge's orders are *Throw it*, *Send your dog*, *Take it*, and *Finish*. 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, will remain in the same spot throughout the exercise and will throw the dumbbell at least 8 feet beyond the jump. (These eight-foot distances should be clearly marked.)

Refer to the Graduate Novice Recall Over High Jump for jump height information.

Section 10. Retrieve Over High Jump Scoring

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goes to wrong jump • Uses jump as aid or climbing jump 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extra command or signal to jump 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 • Handler error

Section 11. Broad Jump

The principal features of this exercise are the dog staying where left until directed to jump and the dog clears the jump on a single command or signal. Orders are *Leave your dog*, *Send your dog* and *Finish*. The handler will stand with his dog sitting in the Heel position in front of and at least 8 feet from the jump. On the Judge's order of *Leave your dog*, the handler will give his dog the command and/or signal to Stay and go to a position facing the right side of the jump. He will stand with his toes about 2 feet from the jump, and anywhere between the

lowest edge of the first hurdle and the highest edge of the last hurdle.

On the Judge's order the handler shall give the command or signal to jump and the dog shall clear the entire distance of the Broad Jump without touching and, without further command or signal, immediately return to a sitting position in front of the handler. 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. The dog must come to the handler, stop directly in front of the handler, and Sit. The Finish command will be given, and the dog should return to the Heel position.

The Broad Jump consists of four hurdles made of boards about 8 inches wide. The largest measures about five feet in length and six inches high at the highest point; all are painted a flat white. When set up they shall be arranged in order of size and shall be evenly spaced. They will cover a distance equal to twice the height of the High Jump as set for the particular dog. The low side of each hurdle and the lowest hurdle will be set nearest the dog. Four hurdles shall be used for a jump of 48 inches to 72 inches, three for 28 inches to 44 inches, two for a jump of 16 inches to 24 inches, or one for a jump of six inches to eight inches. When decreasing the number of boards in the jump, the highest hurdle shall be removed first. It is the Judge's responsibility to see that the distance jumped is that required by these Guidelines for the particular dog.

Section 12. Broad Jump Scoring

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dog walks over any part of jump• Dog does not jump on first command or signal	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Goes before command or signal• Does not clear jump• Sat out of reach	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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• Handler error

Section 13. Group Exercises

During the Long Sit and the Long Down exercises the Judge shall stand so all the dogs and handlers are in his line of vision at all times. Class size will be no less than 2 dogs and no more than 12. For a single dog, an on-leash dog/handler may be added for companionship. Upon request from the Judge, the handlers shall unleash their dog, and neatly place it on the ground behind the dog.

After leaving their dogs, the handlers cross to the opposite side of the ring, leaving it in single file as directed by the Judge. They will go to a designated place, completely out of sight of their dogs, where they must remain until called by the Judge after time expires (three minutes in the Long Sit and five minutes in the Long Down, beginning when the Judge gives the order *Leave your dogs.*)

On the Judge's order, the handlers shall return to the ring in single file in reverse order, facing their dogs at the opposite side of the ring, returning to them on the Judge's order. The Judge shall not give the order, *Exercise finished*, until the handlers have returned to the Heel position.

Section 14. Group Exercise Scoring

During these exercises the Judge shall stand so that all of the dogs are in his line of vision, as well as the handlers in the ring, or leaving and returning to the ring, without having to turn around. Scoring of the exercises will not start until after the Judge has ordered the handlers to leave their dogs, except for such things as rough treatment of a dog by its handler or resistance by a dog to its handler's attempts to make it Sit or lie down.

A handler whose dog assumes a position in such a manner that it could interfere with an adjacent competing dog shall be required to reposition his dog and shall also be substantially penalized; in extreme cases the dog may be excused with a white ribbon.

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stood, sit or down within 15 seconds • Leaves the ring • Goes to another dog 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stood, sit or down within 15-90 seconds (sit stay) or 15 seconds – 3 minutes (down stay) • Repeated whines or barks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stood, sit or down within 1.5-3 minutes (sit stay) or 3 – 5 minutes (down stay) • Forcing into position • Minor move before handler returns • Minor whine or bark • Excessively loud commands • Handler error

Chapter 8:

Graduate Open

Section 1. Graduate Open Class

The Graduate Open class is for handler and dog that have received a purple at the State 4-H Dog Show in Open. Teams may move up to Graduate Open regardless of County or State ribbon placing.

Section 2. Graduate Open Exercises and Scoring

All exercises will be performed Off Leash

Graduate Open Exercises	Maximum Scores
1. Signal Exercise	40 points
2. Scent Discrimination	30 points
3. Directed Retrieve	30 points
4. Moving Stand and Exam	30 points
5. Go Out	30 points
6. Directed Jumping	40 points

Section 3. Signal Exercise

The principal features of this exercise are the ability of dog and handler to work as a team while heeling, and the dog's correct responses to the signals to *Stand*, *Stay*, *Drop*, *Sit* and *Come*. Orders are the same as in Heel on Leash and Figure Eight, with the additions of *Stand your dog*, which shall be given only when dog and handler are walking at normal pace, and *Leave your dog*. The Judge must use signals for directing the handler to signal the dog to *Drop*, to *Sit* and to *Come*, in that sequence, and to *Finish*.

Heeling in the Signal Exercise shall be done in the same manner as in Heel Free, except that throughout the entire exercise the handler shall use signals only and must not speak to his dog at any time. The Judge's order of, *Forward*, the handler may signal his dog to walk at heel, and on specific order from the Judge in each case, shall execute a *Left turn*, *Right turn*, *About turn*, *Halt*, *Slow*, *Normal* and *Fast*. *Fast* signifies the handler must run with handler and dog moving forward at noticeably accelerated speed. These orders may be given in any sequence and may be repeated as necessary, but the Judge shall attempt to standardize the heeling pattern for all dogs in the class.

On the Judge's order, and while the dog is walking at heel, the handler shall signal his dog to *Stand* in the Heel position near one end of the ring. On further order to *Leave your dog*, the handler shall signal his dog to *Stay*, go to the other end of the ring and turn to face his dog. On separate and specific signals from the Judge, the handler shall give his dog signals to *Drop*, to *Sit*, and to *Come*. On Judge's order the handler will give command or signal to *Finish* and the dog must go smartly to the Heel position and Sit. The manner in which the dog

finishes shall be optional with the handler provided that it is prompt and that the dog Sit straight at Heel. During the heeling part of this exercise the handler may not give any signal except when a command or signal is permitted in the Heeling exercises.

Section 4. Signal Exercise Scoring

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unmanageable • Unqualified heeling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Handler adapts pace to dog • Any audible command • Failure on 1st signal to: Stand, Stay, Drop, Sit or Come • Anticipated command to: Stand, Stay, Drop, Sit or Come • Sat out of reach 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forging or crowding handler • Lagging or sniffing • Heeling wide • Holding signals • Slow response to signal, stand, down, sit or come • No change of pace • Extra command to heel or finish • Poor sits • Touching handler • Sat between feet • Poor finish or no finish • Handler error

Section 5. Scent Discrimination

The principal features of these exercises are the selection of the handler’s article from among the other articles by scent alone, and the prompt delivery of the right article to the handler. The Judge will ask, *Are you ready?* immediately prior to taking the article from the handler. Taking of the article from the handler will be considered the first order, and scoring of the exercise will begin at that time. The remaining orders are *Send your dog*, *Take It*, and *Finish*. In each of these two exercises the dog must select by scent alone and retrieve an article, which has been handled by its handler. The articles shall be provided by the handler and consist of two sets; each comprised of five identical objects not more than six inches in length, which may be items of everyday use. One set shall be made entirely of rigid metal, and one of leather design such that nothing but leather is visible except for the minimum amount of thread or metal necessary to hold the object together. The articles in each set must be legibly numbered, each with a different number, and must be approved by the Judge.

The handler shall present all 10 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. These two handler’s articles shall be placed on a table or chair within the ring until picked up by the handler, who shall hold in his hand only one article at a time. The Judge or Steward will handle each of the remaining 8 articles as he places them on the floor or ground at random and about six inches apart, with the closest article being about 20 feet from the handler and the dog. Before the dog is sent, the Judge must make sure that the articles are visible to the dog

and handler, and that the articles are properly separated so that there will be no confusion of scent between the articles.

Handler and dog shall turn around after watching the Judge or Steward spread the articles, and remain facing away from the articles until the Judge has taken the handler's scented article and given the order, *Send your dog*. The handler may use either article first, but must return each immediately when ordered by the Judge. The Judge shall make certain that the handler imparts his scent to each article only with his hands. The article must remain in plain sight, and in the handler's hands. On the Judge's order, the handler will immediately place his article on the Judge's book or work sheet. The Judge, without touching the article, will place it among those on the ground or floor.

On the Judge's order, *Send your dog*, the handler may give the command to heel and will turn in place, right or left, to face the articles. The handler will come to a halt with the dog sitting in the heel position. The handler shall then give the command or signal to retrieve. Handlers may, at their discretion, on the Judge's order of *Send your dog*, execute with their dog a right about turn to face the articles, simultaneously giving the command or signal to Retrieve. In this instance the dog shall not assume sitting position, but go directly to the articles. The handler may give his scent to the dog by gently touching the dog's nose with the palm of one open hand. This may only be done while the dog and handler have their backs to the articles and the arm and hand must be returned to a natural position before handler and dog turn to face the articles.

The dog shall go at a brisk trot or gallop directly to the articles. It may take any reasonable time to select the right article, but only provided it works continuously. After picking up the right article the dog shall return at a brisk trot or gallop and complete the exercise as in the Retrieve on the Flat. These procedures shall be followed for both articles. If a dog retrieves a wrong article in the first exercise, that article shall be placed on the table or chair. The correct article must be removed, and the second exercise shall be conducted with one less article on the ground or floor.

Section 6. Scent Discrimination Scoring

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unmanageable • Unqualified heeling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does not go out on first command • No retrieve • Wrong article • Extra command • Anticipated • Sat out of reach 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doesn't work continuously • Dropping article on return • Picked up wrong article then dropped • No sit in front • Sat after turn • Mouthing • Touching handler • Slow response • Sat between feet • Poor finish or no finish • Handler error

Section 7. Directed Retrieve

The principal features of this exercise are that the dog stay until directed to retrieve and that it go directly to the designated glove and retrieve it promptly. The handler will provide two gloves that are predominately white. They must be open and must be approved by the Judge. Handlers will stand with their backs to the unobstructed end of the ring midway between and in line with the jumps. The dog will be sitting in heel position. 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.

The gloves will be designated *One*, and *Two*, reading from left to right when the handler is facing the gloves. The orders for the exercise are: *One*, or *Two*, *Take it*, and *Finish*. 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.

Handlers may bend their bodies and knees as far as necessary to give the direction to the dogs but must then stand up in a natural position with their arms at their sides. The Judge will designate the same glove number for each handler.

Section 8. Directed Retrieve Scoring

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Does not go out on first command• Does not retrieve right article• Fails to retrieve• Does not go directly to glove	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Anticipated• Sat out of reach• Extra signal or command	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Touching dog when sending• Slow response to commands• Dropping article• Mouthing or playing• Poor delivery• No sit in front• Touching handler• Poor sit• No finish or poor finish• Handler error

Section 9. Moving Stand and Examination

The principal features of the exercise are that the dog heel, stand and stay on command by the moving handler, accept the examination without shyness or resentment, and return to the handler on command. The orders for the exercise are *Forward*, *Stand your dog*, both given while the handler is walking, and *Call your dog to heel*.

The handler stands with his dog sitting in the heel position at a point indicated by the Judge. The Judge asks, *Are you ready?* and orders, *Forward*. The handler commands or signals his dog to heel and walks briskly at a normal pace. After the handler has proceeded about 10 feet the Judge orders, *Stand your dog*. The handler will, without pausing, command and/or signal the dog to stand, continue forward 10-12 feet and turn around, either to the right or left, and stand facing the dog. The dog must stand and stay in position.

The Judge approaches the dog from the front and examines it by going over it with his hands as in dog show judging except that in no circumstances shall the examination include the dog's mouth or testicles.

The Judge then orders, *Call your dog to heel*, whereupon the handler commands and/or signals the dog to return to the heel position. The dog immediately returns in a brisk manner to the proper heel position beside the handler.

Section 10. Moving Stand and Examination Scoring

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Displays fear or resentment • Sitting or lying down • Growling or snapping 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeated whining or barking • Failure to heel, stand and stay, accept examination or return to handler • Extra command or signals • Dog moves during exam • Dog anticipates • Dog repeatedly barks or whines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forging or lagging • Wide • Moves slightly on stand • Handler hesitates or pauses • Fails to return briskly • Poor sit or return to heel position • Slow response • Handler error • Poor finish • Handler error

Section 11. Go Out

The purpose of this exercise is for the dog to go away from the handler to the opposite end of the ring and stop as directed. The Judge's orders are *Send your dog* and *Return to your Dog*.

The handler will stand in the approximate center of the ring between the jumps facing the unobstructed end of the ring. The Judge will order *Send your dog*, and the handler 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 in the approximate center 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 it need not sit squarely.

The Judge will then order the handler, *Return to your dog*, and the handler will return to the heel position.

Section 12. Go Out Scoring

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does not leave on order 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does not stop on command • Does not go at least 10 feet beyond jumps • Second command to sit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slightly off direction • Anticipated turn, stop or sit • Not back far enough • Doesn't sit on command • Handler error

Section 13. Directed Jumping

The principal features of this exercise are that the dog stays where left, jumps as directed and returns as in the Recall. The orders are *Leave your dog*, *Bar or High*, and *Finish*. The jumps shall be placed midway in the ring at right angles to the sides of the ring and 18 to 20 feet apart, the Bar Jump on one side, the High Jump on the other. The Judge must make certain that the jumps are set at the required height for each dog by following the procedure described in Retrieve over the High Jump.

The handler will stand with the dog sitting in the heel position at the unobstructed end and in the center of the ring. On the Judge's order he will walk to the far end of the ring and turn to face the dog. The Judge will designate which jump is to be taken first by the dog and shall order either High or Bar, when designating either the High or Bar Jump. The handler shall command and/or signal the dog to return to him over the designated jump. While the dog is in midair the handler may turn so as to be facing the dog as it returns. The dog shall sit in front of the handler and, on the Judge's order, Finish as in the Novice Recall. The Judge will say, *Exercise finished*, after the dog has returned to the Heel position. The dog will be sent over only one jump, and the same jump will be used for all dogs as designated by the judge at the start of the class.

The height of the jumps shall be the same as required in the Graduate Novice classes. The High Jump shall be the same as that used in the Graduate Novice classes, and the Bar Jump shall consist of a bar between 2 and 2½ inches square with the four edges rounded sufficiently to remove any sharpness. The bar shall be painted a flat black and white in alternate sections of about 3 inches each. Two unconnected 4-foot upright posts about 5 feet apart shall support the bar. The bar shall be adjustable for each 2 inches of height from 4 inches to 36 inches, and the jump shall be so constructed and positioned that the bar can be knocked off without disturbing the uprights.

Section 14. Directed Jumping, Scoring

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog does not leave on order or stop on command 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog does not go at least 10 feet beyond the jumps • Dog climbs jump or knocks bar off • Dog anticipates command 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holding signals • Slow reponse to directions • Dog doesn't go back far enough • Handler error • Dog is hesitant or reluctant to jump • Does not sit on command • Anticipated turn, stops or sits • No sit in front • Touches handler • Sat between feet • Poor sits • Anticipates finish • No finish or poor finish • Handler error

Chapter 9: Utility

Section 1. Utility Class.

The Utility class is for handler and dog that have received a purple at the State 4-H Dog Show in Graduate Open. Teams may move up to Utility regardless of County or State ribbon placing.

Section 2. Utility Exercises and Scoring

1. Signal Exercise	40 points
2. Scent Discrimination—Article 1	30 points
3. Scent Discrimination—Article 2	30 points
4. Directed Retrieve	30 points
5. Moving Stand and Examination	30 points
6. Directed Jumping	40 points
<i>Maximum Total Score</i>	<i>200 points</i>

Section 3. Signal Exercise

The principal features of this exercise are the ability of dog and handler to work as a team while heeling, and the dog's correct responses to the signals to *Stand*, *Stay*, *Drop*, *Sit* and *Come*. Orders are the same as in Heel on Leash and Figure Eight, with the additions of *Stand your dog*, which shall be given only when dog and handler are walking at normal pace, and *Leave your dog*. The Judge must use signals for directing the handler to signal the dog to Drop, Sit and Come, in that sequence, and to Finish.

Heeling in the Signal Exercise shall be done in the same manner as in Heel Free, except that throughout the entire exercise the handler shall use signals only and must not speak to his dog at any time. At the Judge's order of *Forward*, the handler may signal his dog to walk at heel, and on specific order from the Judge in each case, shall execute a *Left turn*, *Right turn*, *About turn*, *Halt*, *Slow*, *Normal* and *Fast*. *Fast* signifies the handler must run with handler and dog moving forward at noticeably accelerated speed. These orders may be given in any sequence and may be repeated as necessary, but the Judge shall attempt to standardize the heeling pattern for all dogs in the class.

On the Judge's order, and while the dog is walking at heel, the handler shall signal his dog to *Stand* in the Heel position near one end of the ring. On further order to *Leave your dog*, the handler shall signal his dog to *Stay*, go to the other end of the ring and turn to face his dog. On separate and specific signals from the Judge, the handler shall give his signals to *Drop*, to *Sit*, and to *Come*. On Judge's order the handler will give command or signal to *Finish* and the dog must go smartly to the Heel position and Sit. The manner in which the dog finishes shall be optional with the handler provided that it is prompt and that the

dog Sit straight at Heel. During the heeling part of this exercise the handler may not give any signal except when a command or signal is permitted in the Heeling exercises.

Section 4. Signal Exercise Scoring

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unmanageable • Unqualified heeling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Handler adapts pace to dog • Any audible command • Failure on 1st signal to: Stand, Stay, Drop, Sit or Come • Anticipated command to: Stand, Stay, Drop, Sit or Come • Sat out of reach 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No change of pace • Heeling wide • Forging or crowding handler • Lagging or sniffing • Holding signals • Poor sits • Extra command or signal to heel or finish • Slow response to signal, stand, down, sit or come • Sat between feet • Touching handler • Poor finish or no finish • Handler error

Section 5. Scent Discrimination

The principal features of these exercises are the selection of the handler’s article from among the other articles by scent alone, and the prompt delivery of the right article to the handler. The judge asks, “What method are you using to send your dog?” The handler must respond with either “After a sit” or “Send directly.” The Judge will ask, *Are you ready?* immediately prior to taking the article from the handler. The taking of the article from the handler will be considered to be the first order, and scoring of the exercise will begin at that time. The remaining orders are *Send your dog*, *Take It*, and *Finish*. In each of these two exercises the dog must select by scent alone and retrieve an article that has been handled by its handler. The articles shall be provided by the handler and shall consist of two sets; each comprised of five identical objects not more than six inches in length, which may be items of everyday use. One set shall be made entirely of rigid metal, and one of leather of such design that nothing but leather is visible except for the minimum amount of thread or metal necessary to hold the object together. The articles in each set must be legibly numbered, each with a different number, and must be approved by the Judge.

The handler shall present all 10 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. These two handler’s articles shall be placed on a table or chair within the ring until picked up by the handler, who shall hold in his hand only one article at a time. The Judge or Steward will handle each of the remaining 8 articles as he places them on the floor or ground at random and about six inches apart, with the closest article being about 20 feet from the handler and the dog. Before the

dog is sent, the Judge must make sure that the articles are visible to the dog and handler, and that the articles are properly separated so that there will be no confusion of scent between the articles.

Handler and dog shall turn around after watching the Judge or Steward spread the articles, and shall remain facing away from those articles until the Judge has taken the handler's scented article and given the order, *Send your dog*. The handler may use either article first, but must relinquish each one immediately when ordered by the Judge. The Judge shall make certain that the handler imparts his scent to each article only with his hands. Additionally, between the time the handler picks up each article and the time he gives it to the Judge, the article is held continuously in the handler's hands, which must remain in plain sight. On the Judge's order, the handler will immediately place his article on the Judge's book or work sheet. The Judge, without touching the article with his hands, will place it among those on the ground or floor.

On the Judge's order of *Send your dog*, the handler may give the command to heel and will turn in place, right or left, to face the articles. The handler will come to a halt with the dog sitting in the heel position. The handler shall then give the command or signal to retrieve. Handlers may, at their discretion, on the Judge's order of *Send your dog*, execute with their dog a right about turn to face the articles, simultaneously giving the command or signal to retrieve. In this instance the dog shall not assume sitting position, but shall go directly to the articles. The handler may give his scent to the dog by gently touching the dog's nose with the palm of one open hand. This may only be done while the dog and handler have their backs to the articles and the arm and hand must be returned to a natural position before handler and dog turn to face the articles.

The dog shall go at a brisk trot or gallop directly to the articles. It may take any reasonable time to select the right article, but only provided it works continuously. After picking up the right article the dog shall return at a brisk trot or gallop and complete the exercise as in the Retrieve on the Flat.

These procedures shall be followed for both articles. If a dog retrieves a wrong article in the first exercise, that article shall be placed on the table or chair. The correct article must be removed, and the second exercise shall be conducted with one less article on the ground or floor.

Section 6. Scent Discrimination Scoring

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No retrieve • Wrong article 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does not go out on first command • Extra command • Anticipated • Sat out of reach 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doesn't work continuously • Dropping article on return • Picked up wrong article then dropped • No sit in front • Sat after turn • Mouthing • Touching handler • Slow response • Sat between feet • Poor finish or no finish • Handler error

Section 7. Directed Retrieve

The principal features of the exercise are that the dog stays until directed to retrieve, that it goes directly to the designated glove, and that it retrieves promptly. The orders for the exercise are *One*, *Two* or *Three*, *Take it*, and *Finish*. In this exercise the handler will provide three predominantly white, cotton work gloves, which must be open and must be approved by the Judge. The handler will stand with his back to the unobstructed end of the ring with his dog sitting in the Heel position midway between and in line with the two jumps. The Judge or Steward will drop the three gloves across the end of the ring, while the handler and dog are facing the opposite direction. He will place one glove in each corner and one in the center, about 3 feet from the end of the ring, and for the corner gloves, about 3 feet from the side of the ring. All three gloves will be clearly visible to the dog and handler when the handler turns to face the glove designated by the Judge. There shall be no table or chair at this end of the ring. The gloves shall be designated *One*, *Two* or *Three* reading from left to right when the handler turns and faces the gloves. The Judge will give the order *One*, or *Two* or *Three*. The handler then may give the command to Heel and turn in place, right or left to face the designated glove. The handler will come to a halt with the dog sitting in the Heel position. The handler shall not touch the dog to get it into position nor may he reposition the dog. The handler will then give his dog the direction to the designated glove with a single motion of his left hand and arm along 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. The dog shall then go directly to the glove at a brisk trot or gallop and retrieve it without unnecessary mouthing or playing with it, completing the exercise as in the Retrieve on the Flat. The handler may bend his 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.

The exercise shall consist of a single retrieve. Prior to the start of judging the

Judge shall decide to either (a) assign the gloves to dogs so that successive dogs in catalog order will have different gloves, or (b) to assign the gloves as the dogs appear in the ring for judging so that two successive dogs do not retrieve the same glove. In either case each glove shall be used approximately the same number of times.

Section 8. Directed Retrieve Scoring

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does not go out on first command • Does not retrieve right article • Fails to retrieve • Does not go directly to glove 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anticipated • Sat out of reach • Extra signal or command 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Touching dog when sending • Slow response to commands • Dropping article • Mouthing or playing • Poor delivery • No sit in front • Touching handler • Poor sit • No finish or poor finish • Handler error

Section 9. Moving Stand and Examination

The principal features of the exercise are that the dog heel, stand and stay on command by the moving handler, accept the examination without shyness or resentment, and return to the handler on command. The orders for the exercise are *Forward*, *Stand your dog*, both given while the handler is walking, and *Call your dog to heel*.

The handler stands with his dog sitting in the heel position at a point indicated by the Judge. The Judge asks, *Are you ready?* and orders, *Forward*. The handler commands or signals his dog to heel and walks briskly at a normal pace. After the handler has proceeded about 10 feet the Judge orders, *Stand your dog*. The handler will, without pausing, command and/or signal the dog to stand, continue forward 10-12 feet and turn around, either to the right or left, and stand facing the dog. The dog must stand and stay in position.

The Judge approaches the dog from the front and examines it by going over it with his hands as in dog show judging except that in no circumstances shall the examination include the dog's mouth or testicles.

The Judge then orders, *Call your dog to heel*, whereupon the handler commands and/or signals the dog to return to the heel position. The dog immediately returns in a brisk manner to the proper heel position beside the handler.

Section 10. Moving Stand and Examination Scoring

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Displays fear or resentment • Sitting or lying down • Growling or snapping 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeated whining or barking • Failure to heel, stand and stay, accept examination or return to handler • Extra command or signals • Dog moves during exam • Dog anticipates • Dog repeatedly barks or whines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forging or lagging • Wide • Moves slightly on stand • Handler hesitates or pauses • Fails to return briskly • Poor sit or return to heel position • Slow response • Handler error • Poor finish

Section 11. Directed Jumping

The principal features of this exercise are that the dog goes away from the handler in the direction indicated, stops, jumps as directed and returns as in the Recall. The orders are *Send your dog*, *Bar* or *High*, and *Finish*. The jumps shall be placed midway in the ring at right angles to the sides of the ring and 18 to 20 feet apart, the Bar Jump on one side, the High Jump on the other. The Judge must make certain that the jumps are set at the required height for each dog by following the procedure described in Retrieve over the High Jump.

The handler, from a position on the centerline of the ring and about 20 feet from the line of the jumps, shall stand with his dog sitting in the Heel position. On the Judge's order he shall command and/or signal his dog to go forward at a brisk trot or gallop to a point about 20 feet beyond the jumps and in the approximate center of the unobstructed end of the ring. When the dog has reached this point the handler shall give a command to Sit; the dog must stop and sit with his attention on the handler but need not sit squarely.

The Judge will designate which jump is to be taken first by the dog and shall order either High or Bar, when designating either the High or Bar Jump. The handler shall command and/or signal the dog to return to him over the designated jump. While the dog is in midair the handler may turn so as to be facing the dog as it returns. The dog shall sit in front of the handler and, On the Judge's order, Finish as in the Novice Recall. The Judge will say, *Exercise finished*, after the dog has returned to the Heel position. When the dog is again sitting in the Heel position the Judge shall ask, *Are you ready?* before giving the order to send the dog for the second part of the exercise. The same procedure shall be followed for the second jump.

The Judge will choose which jump is taken first, but both jumps must be taken to complete the exercise and the Judge must not designate the jump until the dog is at the far end of the ring. The dog shall clear the jumps without touching them.

The height of the jumps shall be the same as required in the Open classes. The High Jump shall be the same as that used in the Open classes, and the Bar Jump shall consist of a bar between two and two and one half inches square with the four edges rounded sufficiently to remove any sharpness. The bar shall be painted a flat black and white in alternate sections of about three inches each. Two unconnected four-foot upright posts about five feet apart shall support the bar. The bar shall be adjustable for each two inches of height from four inches to 36 inches, and the jump shall be so constructed and positioned that the bar can be knocked off without disturbing the uprights.

Section 12. Directed Jumping, Scoring

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goes to wrong jump • Dog climbs jump or knocks bar off 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog does not leave on order, stop on command or jump as directed • Dog does not go at least 10 feet beyond the jumps • Dog anticipates command 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holding signals • Slow reponse to directions • Dog doesn't go back far enough • Handler error • Dog is hesitant or reluctant to jump • Does not sit on command • Anticipated turn, stops or sits • No sit in front • Touches handler • Sat between feet • Poor sits • Anticipates finish • No finish or poor finish

Chapter 10: Brace

Section 1. Brace Class

This class is for two dogs working in unison at all times. Dogs need not be alike in size, markings, or sex, to be a Brace. Dogs do not have to be owned by the same person, but must be handled by one person, and be under the direct care and management of the 4-H'er for a minimum of two months, as stated in Chapter 1.

Dogs may be shown unattached or coupled. The Coupler device must be at least 6 inches in overall length. Whichever method used must be continued throughout all exercises. Collars and leashes used for this class are listed in the General Guidelines for Pre-Novice and higher levels of Obedience. It is recommended the dogs wear the same type of collar when performing Brace. If choke chain collars are used, the inside dogs collar should be put on "upside down"; due to the leash attachment being on the left side of the dog. This placement ensures the collar releases after any tightening of the leash/collar combination. Placing the faster of the two dogs on the outside of the two dogs helps to prevent lagging in heeling and turns.

Available levels for Brace are Pre-Novice and Novice. The same score sheets used in individual performances are used for Brace. If the dogs are in different Obedience levels, they compete in the highest level. One handler only is allowed for the same two dogs performing this class. If one of the dogs is needed for another Brace, this can be done, if handled by another 4-H'er. The dogs are judged together as one, for a maximum of 200 points.

Commands for the dogs are given as one command, to both dogs at one time. The dogs' names can be said individually, such as "Snickers/Lucy-Stay"; or as a pair, "Girls-Stay". Whichever way the commands are given, this should stay consistent throughout all exercises. The hand signal is given as one movement across the faces of both dogs. The exception is for the Stand for Examination exercise. The dogs can be individually posed with their name and command to "Stand"; or as one command, as in the "Stay" commands. After each dog is stood, and position checked, the Handler should stand up, give one "Stay" command, and step away from the dogs. On the Recall exercise, dogs are called together as one, "Snickers/Lucy-Come". The Finish command is given once, for both dogs to finish as one, either around or next to the handler. A right finish is generally recommended for the Brace. The Drop on Recall exercise requires BOTH dogs to drop, at the same time, with one or a double command, either by voice or hand signal. The dogs are then called in together, as one.

Chapter 11:

Team

Section 1. Team Class

The Team class is for teams of any four dogs and handlers that are eligible under these Guidelines. Dogs do not have to be the same breed, size, coloration, or sex. Handlers and dogs can be from different counties but must be competing at the same level. If the option is available and enough dogs are available from a county, a team of larger dogs, and one of smaller dogs should be considered. This is not a requirement, but just adds additional uniformity. Team members are recommended to wear the same type of clothing and shoes, again to keep as uniform as possible. Also, it is recommended to have matching leashes and similar collars, but this IS NOT a requirement for Team. The Team consists of four handlers—one being the Captain. The Captain sets the pace for heeling, and when to start an exercise. The Captain can be either on the left or right side of the Team. Other Team members should always be aware of the Captain's position and lineup accordingly with this individual. Spacing of the dogs is done by measuring an arm's length between the members. Placing the 4-Her's hand on the next one's shoulder at the beginning, when the team is setting up, ensures correct spacing between dogs and handlers. When starting to practice for Team, it is recommended to practice without the dogs, to ensure that members are comfortable marching together and can work on foot work and spacing more easily. Team requires more practice for the handlers than the dogs!

There shall be two judges, one of whom will call commands while the other scores the team's performance. The Teams will be judged one at a time, except for the Long Sit and Long Down exercises, which shall be done with no more than four teams (16 dogs) in the ring.

The dogs on a team will perform the exercises simultaneously and will be judged as specified for the Pre-Novice or Novice class. The age level the team is judged is determined by the oldest handler on the Team. Five dogs can be entered, with one dog/handler considered an alternate. If the alternate is required at the County show level, the dog/handler replaced, will become the alternate, if the team qualifies for the state level. In all exercises, the teams have the option of executing the Judge's commands on the Team Captain's repeat of the command. In the Figure Eight portion of the Heel on Leash exercise, five Stewards will be used. The Stewards shall stand eight feet apart in a straight line. One handler, with dog sitting in Heel position, shall stand about equidistant from each of two Stewards, all members of the team facing in the same direction. On orders from the Judge, the Team shall perform the Figure Eight, each handler starting around the Steward on his left and circling only the two stewards between whom he had been standing. It is very important to time the Come command to be called at the same time. Even though the dogs all have different names, if the word

“Come” is said at the same time, this greatly improves the dogs returning to their handler. The Finish shall be done in unison on the command from the Judge.

Section 2. Team Class Scoring

Scoring of the Team class shall be based on the performance of the dogs and handlers individually plus team precision and coordination. Each dog and handler will be scored against the customary maximum for a team total of 800 maximum available points. Individual dog’s scores shall be recorded; a specific score sheet is available for Team scoring.

Glossary of Terms

(Taken from AKC Obedience and Rally* Regulations)

Brisk, briskly - keenly alive, alert, energetic

Command - verbal order from handler to dog

Crooked - a dog that is not straight in line with the direction the handler is facing

Crowding - a dog so close to handler as to interfere with handler's freedom of motion

Directly - immediately, without deviation or hesitation

Drop completely - a down position that would be acceptable for a Long Down exercise

Forging – to move forward or ahead steadily, but in a gradual fashion

Gently - with kindness, without harshness or roughness

Guiding gently by the collar - control of the dog by holding any part of the collar with minimal pressure on the dog's neck

Handler – one who holds and incites a dog during a match

Lagging – to walk or move slowly, to fall behind

Lame - irregularity or impairment of the function of locomotion, irrespective of the cause or how slight or severe

Maximum penalty - all points lost or Non-Qualifying zero. In 4-H, a Maximum Point Deduction means that at least one-half of the total points for that exercise will be deducted if the youth/dog team fails to perform one part of that exercise.

Minor penalty - 1 point to 2- points per fault or error

Mouthing - when a dog chews or rolls the dumbbell in its mouth unnecessarily

Natural Manner - not artificial; free of affectation; what is customarily expected in the home or public places

Order - direction from Judge to handler, either verbal or nonverbal

Pause - a complete stop of forward motion by the handler

Pivot - turning in the circle occupied by the handler before they started the turn; a turn in place

Prompt Response - without hesitation, immediate, quick

Resentment - resistance, unwillingness

Signal - nonverbal direction from the handler to dog

Show Official - any person having official duties, volunteer or paid, during a particular show or event

Smartly - quickly, vigorously

Substantial penalty - 3 points or more per fault or error

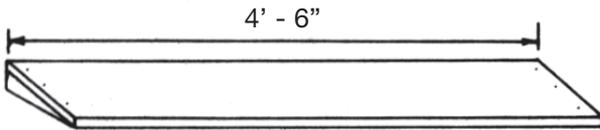
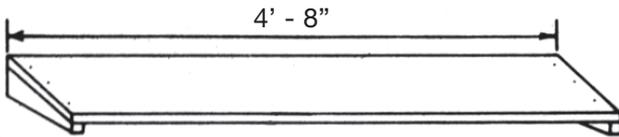
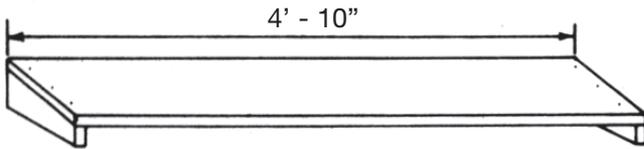
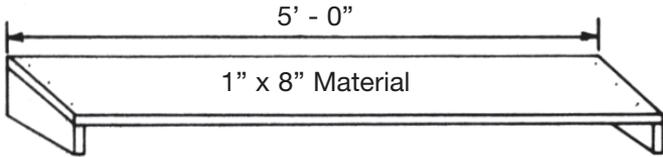
Team – associated together, as those on one side in a match

Turn in place - turning in the circle that was occupied by the handler before they started to turn

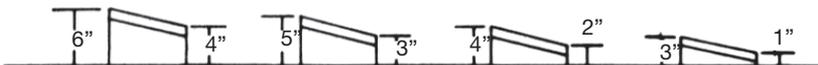
Withers - highest point of the dog's shoulder

Jump Construction

Suggested construction of Broad Jump



ELEVATION

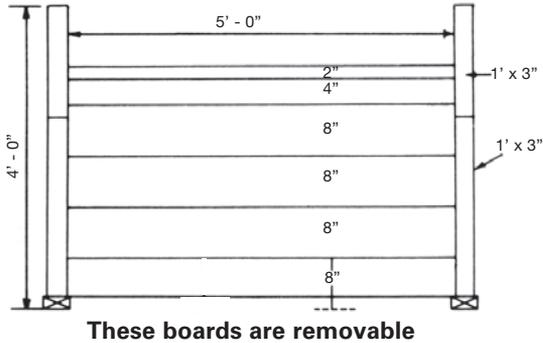


End view of four hurdles

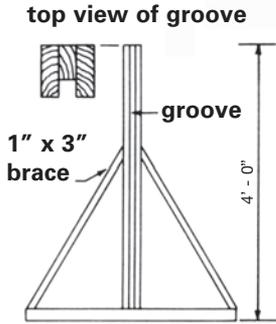
This jump must be painted a flat white.

NOTE: The lowest height for either the high or bar jump is now 4 inches.

SUGGESTED CONSTRUCTION OF HIGH JUMP



FRONT VIEW

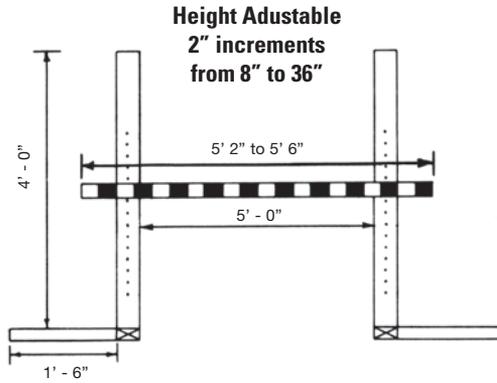


This upright consists of two pieces 1" x 3" and one piece 1" x 2", nailed together, with the 1" x 2" forming the groove for the boards to slide in.

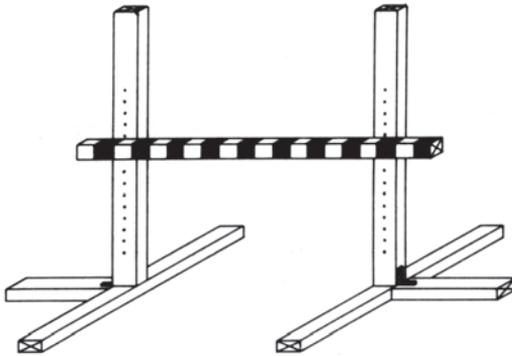
SIDE VIEW

The high jump must be painted a flat white.

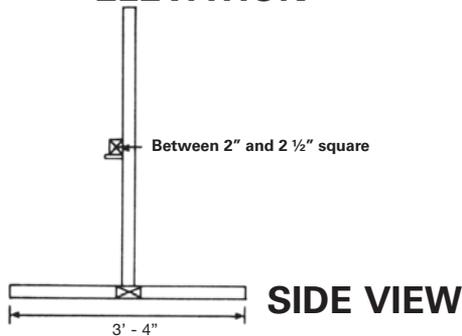
SUGGESTED CONSTRUCTION OF BAR JUMP



FRONT VIEW



ELEVATION



SIDE VIEW

