

**Revisions to the Rally Regulations
Effective June 29, 2023**

**This insert is issued as a supplement to the
Rally Regulations amended to October 3, 2022,
and approved by the AKC Board of Directors November 8, 2022**

**RALLY REGULATIONS
CHAPTER 1
GENERAL REGULATIONS**

Section 2. Premium Lists, Entries, Closing of Entries and Catalog Order.

A catalog must be provided for sanctioned “A” licensed or member trials. The jump heights in the catalog for the Rally Advanced, Rally Excellent and Master classes will be arranged in either ascending or descending order. The catalog must be prepared in the following class order, regardless of the order in which the classes are listed in the judging program.

- Novice A
- Novice B
- Intermediate
- Advanced A
- Advanced B
- Excellent A
- Excellent B
- Master
- Choice
- Any non-regular classes offered

Section 3. Rally Classes Offered. A licensed or member rally trial need not include all the regular rally classes, but a club will not be approved to hold the Intermediate class unless it also holds Novice classes. Likewise, it will not be approved to hold Advanced classes unless it also holds Novice and Intermediate classes. Nor will it be approved to hold Excellent classes unless it also holds Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Master, and Choice classes, except at Special Event Rally Trials (see Chapter 1, Section 1a-2). Whenever classes are divided into Divisions A and B, both divisions must be offered, except at Special Event Rally Trials (see Chapter 1, Section 1a-2).

Section 23. Judging Assignments, Scheduling and Judging Program. To facilitate a more efficient trial it is strongly recommended that clubs assign the A and B classes of the same title level, to the same judge. The order in which classes are scheduled each day may vary, e.g., Master or Choice (Choice or Master), Excellent, Advanced, Intermediate then Novice or Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Excellent, then Master or Choice (Choice or Master).

CHAPTER 3 CLASSES AND TITLES

Section 18. Rally Choice Class. All dogs are eligible to enter this class and may continue to compete indefinitely. There are no jumps in this class and all signs are judged off leash. Verbal encouragement, multiple commands, and/or inaudible signals using one or both arms and hands are allowed; the handler's arms need not be maintained in any particular position at any time. Penalties will be assessed for handlers clapping their hands, patting their legs, touching the dog or any physical corrections. Failure of the dog and handler to perform the sign correctly on the first attempt will result in a ten-point deduction for an incorrectly performed (IP) sign, and the handler should move along without attempting a retry. For additional scoring information, please reference Chapter 2, Section 30. Scoring.

The Choice course will have 15 to 20 signs (Start and Finish not included) with a minimum of three and a maximum of seven stationary signs. Courses will have a minimum of four Master level signs, a minimum of three Excellent level signs, and a minimum of three Advanced level signs. When this class is being judged by the same person judging the Master class, the course will be the same except the jump will be replaced with any other class sign.

Section 19. Rally Choice Class Title. The letters RC may be added after the name of each dog that has been certified by at least two different judges to have received qualifying scores in the Choice class at ten licensed or member rally trials. That dog will receive a Rally Choice certificate from the AKC. The letters RC will be followed by a numeric designation indicating the number of times a dog has met the requirements of the RC title as defined in these Regulations. (RC2 for 20 qualifying scores, RC3 for 30 qualifying scores, RC4 for 40 qualifying scores, etc.)

CHAPTER 5 AKC RALLY® NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Section 1. Rally National Championship Defined. A Rally National Championship shall be held annually at a time and location as determined by the American Kennel Club. The Rally National Championship shall consist of a Championship class which shall be comprised of a varied combination of upper-level class challenges, all of which may be modified. The event may also include competition at the Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Excellent, Master and Choice class levels as determined by the AKC.

CHAPTER 6

NON-REGULAR CLASSES

Section 1. Rally Pairs Class. Rally Pairs class consists of a handler working two dogs at one time through a rally course. Any of the class levels listed in Chapter 3 may be offered. The courses will be designed as stated, except there will not be any jumps in any class levels in the Pairs class. A club may offer any non-regular class levels without having to offer all levels and all dogs are eligible to enter any class level. Scores will be based on a possible 200 points, with ties being broken by time.

CHAPTER 2

RALLY JUDGES' GUIDELINES

COURSE DESIGN

Section 1. Course Design and Setting the Course. The first course of the day should be nested with multiple signs per holder, for the following class levels, to allow for an efficient and easy course change between levels. The Intermediate course is the same as the Advanced course without the jump. The Master course must include one of the Master jump signs, 301, 302 or 303. The Choice course is the same as the Master course without the jump.