

# 4-17-20 Obedience Show Novice – Week 4

Please refer to week 1's introduction if you haven't already read it. Also follow Sections I, II, and III from week 1.

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Week 1 – Warmup – Ring Entry – Begin Heeling

Week 2 – Heeling with COP (change of pace) – Sit-Stay – Exit ritual

Week 3 – Heeling (depending on dog's ability) adding turns/rewards – Get Your Leash – Novice Groups

Week 4 – Heeling (depending on dog's ability) reviewing Fast/Slow/Normal – Sit/Stand for Exam – Figure 8

## I. Begin with Warmup and Ring Entry (see week 1)

## II. Heeling.

Start with a forward, turn, fast, normal, turn Halt/explode!

Do the same thing again but replace fast with slow.

IMPORTANT: There must be a change of pace for the dog when beginning the slow and fast. There must be a change of pace back to normal.

Slow is managed differently for each dog. If your dog sits when you do a slow, change it a bit to get a steady heel.

Fast is managed differently for each dog. If your dog jumps up and down excitedly do one of the following or both: Slow it down just a bit, and/or keep a smooth fast as a handler – no bouncing up and down – bend those knees to keep yourself level if you need to.

## III. Figure 8 (F8): See Demo: Video: [https://youtu.be/Z\\_sGNMNDTLY](https://youtu.be/Z_sGNMNDTLY)

In the figure 8, you want to be close to the center of the posts so you can take a turn immediately with your left foot. This will give the dog the direction you are immediately going. If you take 2-3 steps forward before turning left the dog will most likely bump into you on the turn. Your other option is to turn right to begin the F8. Practice this both close to the posts turning immediately and by taking a few steps first. What works??

Other things to think about with the Figure 8:

- If your dog is lagging, make sure you don't look back, as this tends to make the dog go slower. Turn your head to the right on the outside turn to help your dog keep up with you.
- On the halt, make sure you do NOT adapt to the dog. Stay on your path and do not take a step towards your dog.

## IV. Sit/Stand for Exam: Video: [https://youtu.be/-vSwR\\_0qU-o](https://youtu.be/-vSwR_0qU-o)

**Sit for Exam (Beginner Novice)** is done on a 6 ft. leash. On the judge's command, "Sit your dog and Leave when you are ready", handler will sit the dog, go to heel position (if not there), leave the dog walking forward 6 feet, turn, face the dog. Judge is usually 6 feet forward to begin the exam from the front of the dog. The judge will then approach the dog, reach out with open hand to touch the top of the head with an open palm. Then the judge will probably move to the right to have a good view of your heel position on the return to your dog. Then judge will say "exercise finished". You should then immediately move forward as you praise your dog.

**Stand for Exam (Novice) is done off-leash.** Your leash will be taken from one of the F8 posts at the end of the F8. On the judge's command, "Stand your dog and Leave when you are ready", handler will stand the dog, go to heel position, leave the dog walking forward 6 feet, turn, face the dog. (Judge is usually 6 feet forward to begin the exam from the front of the dog.) The judge will then approach the dog, reach out with open hand to touch the top of the head, then touch shoulders, then touch rear with an open palm. Then the judge will probably move to the right to have a good view of your heel position on the return to your dog. Judge will ask you to return to your dog. After returning to heel position, judge will say "exercise finished". You should then immediately move forward as you praise your dog. By moving forward, your dog doesn't learn to sit after this exercise. If they know they're going to sit after this exercise, down the line, they may anticipate this and sit before the judge finishes the exam which would be an NQ.

Also, in this exercise, your dog needs to keep all 4 feet in place. Any movement may be penalized up to an NQ.

## Next Week. Recall and Get Your Leash

