

World Wide Kennel Club

RALLY OBEDIENCE

Regulations and Guidelines for the
Organizing, Exhibiting and Judging of Rally Obedience
September 16, 2002 Edition

INTRODUCTION

The name Rally - Obedience has been adopted by the World Wide Kennel Club [WWKC] for this version of Obedience competition. Rally Obedience, often called Rally-O or just Rally, is a competition, which utilizes directional signs to guide the handler/dog team through the performance. When arranged in the ring in preparation for a trial, the signs are numbered sequentially to indicate the course the handler must take during the performance. The team of dog and handler heel from sign to sign and perform the exercises indicated by the sign at each location. Except for giving the handler clearance to begin the performance, the judge gives no further orders or directions as the team continues throughout the performance with no breaks in the activity. Heeling between exercises is considered a part of the total performance. The selection of exercises used in a course design, the sequence in which the exercises are arranged, and the path or outline of the course that the team is directed to follow throughout the performance, will vary from one course design to another. However, the exceptional feature of Rally Obedience is that handlers may talk to their dogs, praising them, and giving repeated verbal commands and/or hand signals, at anytime and as often as desired throughout the competition.

W.W.K.C. Rally Obedience is comprised of three levels. The Rally Novice Classes are all performed with the dog on leash, while the Rally Advanced and Master Classes are performed with the dog off leash. Although this is the major distinction between the Rally Novice Class and the other two, some of the exercises that may be considered more difficult have been approved for use only in the Rally Advanced and Master Classes. The Rally Advanced and Master Classes differ with the more difficult exercises being restricted for use in the Rally Master Class.

PURPOSE

The purpose of Rally Obedience is to create a program that emphasizes fun and excitement for the dog, handler, and spectator, by providing a more "natural" approach to the performance. It is believed that this has been accomplished by a format that closely mimics the approach used by many handlers as a part of their training sessions and by those attempting to direct a dog through an activity other than "competitive obedience" as performed in a traditional obedience ring. In the second case, which could be most any kind of activity such as hunting, search and rescue, police work, drug detection, or various play activities, the dog and handler work closely as a team with the handler giving directions (commands) and encouragement as needed to aid the dog in performing the activity in which they are engaged. Aiding the dog as used here could consist of correcting the dog when it has proceeded incorrectly, preventing a mistake from occurring, helping to keep the dog focused on the task at hand, or simply encouraging the dog to keep working. The ability to work as a team in this way during a Rally-Obedience performance portrays a more natural working situation that greatly adds to the handler's ability to maintain the dog's attention and attitude at a high level. We believe that this feature, along with the variability that can be incorporated into course designs and the format for a fast moving continuous performance, will result in greater fun and enjoyment for dog, handler, and spectators.

Chapter 1 - General Procedures

1. Space Requirements

The minimum required area for a rally Obedience course is 40 x 50 feet. The floor covering or ground surface must be the same as would be suitable for traditional Obedience or Agility trials.

2. Placement of the exercise signs.

Exercise signs that direct the handler to change directions (to the right, left or in the opposite direction) are placed directly in the path of the handler. Signs for exercises that require the handler to continue on in the same direction past the sign, are placed to the right of the approaching path of the handler. The judge does exact placement of the signs as he/she walks the course along the paths that will be taken by the handlers. In a few cases, such as the Straight Figure 8, Spiral exercises and the Off-set Figure 8, the signs are placed near the point where the team begins the exercise. Various types of sign holders may be used, but the signs are to be held with the top of the sign not more than 24 inches from the ground. Each sign or the sign holder must be numbered with numbers approximately 3 inches in height. Eighteen sign holders for the maximum number of exercise signs, plus two for the Start and Finish signs are required. It is suggested that the sign holders be permanently numbered for ease in arranging a course for use.

3. Location of the performance in relation to the exercise signs.

Exercises are performed near the signs, either directly in front of them, or in front and to the left of the signs from the approach side. In some cases, the signs are placed where the performance begins with the exercise ending at another location. Exercise 22, Moving Side Step Right may be performed either in front of or behind the sign.

4. Familiarization period.

A 15-minute walk through prior to the start of judging is allowed. All participants are invited to enter the ring, as a group without dogs, in order to familiarize themselves with the course design. The judge is to be available in the ring during this period to answer any questions the handlers might have.

5. Jumps and jump height requirements.

Jumps are used only in the Advanced and Master Classes; either a standard solid high jump, a single bar jump or a broad jump as approved for traditional Obedience may be used. They must be 4 to 5 feet wide. Jump heights are determined as follows:

<u>Shoulder Height</u>	<u>Jump Height</u>	<u>Broad Jump Length</u>
Less than 15"	8"	16"
15" to less than 20"	12"	24"
20" or more	16"	32"

When Exercise 42, **Send over Jumps** is used in the Advanced and Master Class, the entries are to be divided into the three jump height groups so that jump height changes have to be made only once for each group.

6. Cones for Exercises 25, 26 and 29.

The small collapsible cones often used to mark the boundaries of soccer practice fields may be used but the larger ones 12 to 18 inches are much preferred.

Chapter 1 - General Procedures [con't]

7. Use of Treats in Exercise 30

Any “tempting” treat may be used. These are to be placed in standard dog bowls with slanted sides and a flat base to prevent tipping over. A screen with approximately 0.5-inch mesh must be fit over the treats inside the bowl to prevent a dog from eating any of the treats.

8. Limitation of Entries

Limitations of entries may be based on ring availability, or as specified by the club offering the event. The judging schedule will be based on no more than 30 dogs per hour. No judge will be scheduled to exceed this limit of dogs per hour, and in addition, may take 45 minutes to one hour for rest or meals at their discretion. No judge will be assigned to judge for more than eight hours in one day.

9. Exhibitor identification

Exhibitors will be provided armbands or stickers indicating their dog’s order in the class.

10. Qualifying Performance

A qualifying score in the judge’s book is their certification that the dog has performed all the required exercises according to the World Wide Kennel Club Rally Regulations and justifies the awarding of the rally title associated with that particular class. A qualifying score must never be awarded to a dog whose performance has not met the minimum requirements, shows fear or resentment, or that relieves itself at any time while in the ring for judging. A handler who carries/offers food or motivational items in the ring, or disciplines/abuses his/her dog in the ring must receive a non-qualifying [NQ] score. In deciding whether a faulty performance of an exercise or exercises warrants a qualifying score, the judge will consider whether the awarding of a Rally Title would be justified if all dogs in the class performed the exercises in a similar manner. The judge will not give a qualifying score for the exercises if he decides that it would be contrary to the best interests of the sport if all dogs in the class were to perform in the same way.

11. Judging

The judge’s orders are “Are you ready?” then “Forward.” No other orders are necessary.

12. Scoring

Scores and times will be posted immediately after each dog and handler has completed the final exercise. The table steward will be responsible for totaling points deducted from the judge’s worksheet and entering points off in the official judge’s book. The table steward may record final scores in the official judge’s book; however, the scores must be verified and the book signed by the judge prior to ribbons being awarded.

13. Ribbons and prizes:

Awards for the four placements in the classes will be based on the number of points earned, but a minimum of a qualifying score is required.

Chapter 1 - General Procedures [con't]

14. Timing dogs:

All dogs will be timed however; time will be used only in the case of a tie for a placement. Timing will begin with the command "Forward" from the judge and will stop when the dog and handler cross the finish line. In the event of a tie score resulting in a placement, the dog completing the course in the least amount of time will receive the higher placement and a plus (+) after the score. The original scores will not be changed. In the event that the score and time are the same, the dog and handler will repeat the course and once again be timed.

15. Permitted Equipment:

Dogs may only be shown on a standard flat collar or a slip collar. No training collars, head halters, or other non-standard equipment may be used. Leash can be of any reasonable length providing that it is of sufficient length to demonstrate a "J", loose lead during all parts of the heeling pattern.

Chapter 2 - The Rally Obedience Classes and Titles

At the present time, three Levels and five titles are included in the World Wide Kennel Club Rally Obedience program.

1. Rally Novice:

The Rally Novice Class is an entry-level class that is performed with the dog on leash. The leash must be made of fabric or leather and need only be long enough to provide adequate slack. Only exercises 1 through 29 and 50 through 58 in the List of Exercises (Chapter 3) maybe selected for use in Rally Novice course designs. Exercises 50 through 58 are duplicates of seven of the exercises already included in exercises 1 through 29. These duplicate exercise signs, which are mostly turns, are provided to facilitate the design of courses. To design a single continuous course, numerous changes of direction are required. The duplicate signs (50 - 58) allow for that. A total of 10 to 15 of the available exercises must be used in the design of all individual Rally Novice courses – NOT including Start and Finish. A free choice of the exercises may be used in designing courses; none of the exercises are required, however there should be no more than five (5) stationary exercises per class. [Stationary exercises are any signs indicating a “Halt” or no forward motion.]

Entry in this class is optional in respect to entering the Rally Advanced Class. A title from this class is not required for entry in the Rally Advanced Class. Dogs may compete at both levels however, the Rally Advanced title will not be granted until after completion of the Rally Novice Title.

The title for the Rally Novice Class is referred to as the WW-RN Title. This title is awarded to dogs that have received three qualifying scores under at least two different judges from the Rally Novice Class. Qualifying scores are based on the successful completion of all exercises (as defined in Chapter 4) included in the course designs of each trial and a score of 170 or more of the possible 200 points available.

A and B Divisions. Any handler with a dog over six months of age and neither have any title in any registry in either Rally or traditional obedience may be entered in the A Division. Thus, the ‘A’ division in Novice will be reserved solely for brand new exhibitors and dogs just out of basic classes. They will only compete with themselves, and anyone who has achieved a Rally title or Obedience title under any registry should enter the “B” Division. A dog may continue to be shown in the A division for a period of 60 days following the day on which the third leg for the awarding of the title is earned. Dogs with the WW-RN title may continue to be entered in the B division. No dog may be entered in both Rally Novice A and Rally Novice B at the same trial.

Chapter 2 - The Rally Obedience Classes and Titles [con't]

2. Rally Advanced:

All exercises in the Rally Advanced Class are performed with the dog off leash. Only exercises 1 through 42 and 50 through 58 in the List of Exercises (Chapter 3) may be selected for use in Rally Advanced course designs. Exercises 50 through 58 are duplicates of seven of the exercises already available. A total of 12 to 17 of the available exercises must be used in the design of all individual Rally Advanced courses NOT including Start and Finish. There should be no more than seven (7) stationary exercises per class [Stationary exercises are any signs indicating a "Halt" or no forward motion.]; at least five (5) of Exercises 30 through 42 must be included in all Rally Advanced course designs; and a free choice of the exercises 1- 42 and 50 - 58 may be used in the selection of the remaining exercises.

Entry in this Class does not require the WW-RN title from the Rally Novice Class; but the Rally Advanced title will not be granted until after completion of the Rally Novice Title. The Rally Advanced title from this class however is required for entry in the Rally Master Class.

The title for the Rally Advanced Class is referred to as the WW-RA Title. This title is awarded to dogs that have received three qualifying scores under at least two different judges from the Rally Advanced Class. Qualifying scores are based on the successful completion of all exercises (as defined in Chapter 4, Section 7) included in the course designs of each trial and a score of 170 or more of the possible 200 points.

A and B Divisions. Any dog over six months of age that does not have the WW-RA title may be entered in the A Division. A dog may continue to be shown in the A division for a period of 60 days following the day on which the third leg for the awarding of the title is earned. Dogs with the WW-RA title may continue to be entered in the B division indefinitely. No dog may be entered in both Rally Advanced A and Rally Advanced B at the same trial.

3. Rally Master:

The Rally Master Class is performed with the dog off leash. Any of the exercises 1 through 58 in the List of Exercises (Chapter 3) may be selected for use in Rally Master course designs. Exercises 50 through 58 are duplicates of seven of the exercises already available. A total of 15 to 20 of the available exercises must be used in the design of all individual Rally Master courses NOT including Start and Finish. There should be no more than seven (7) stationary exercises per class [Stationary exercises are any signs indicating a "Halt" or no forward motion.]; at least five (5) of Exercises 41 through 48 PLUS Exercise 49, "Ad Lib" must be included in all Rally Master course designs.

Entry in this Class does require the WW-RA title from the Rally Advanced Class.

The title for the Rally Master Class is referred to as the WW-RM Title. This title is awarded to dogs that have received three qualifying scores under at least two different judges from the Rally Master Class. Qualifying scores are based on the successful completion of all exercises and a score of 170 or more out of the possible 200 points.

A and B Divisions. Any dog over six months of age that does not have the WW-RM title may be entered in the A Division. A dog may continue to be shown in the A division for a period of 60 days following the day on which the third leg for the awarding of the title is earned. Dogs with the WW-RM title may continue to be entered in both Advanced B and Master B divisions indefinitely. No dog may be entered in both Rally Master A and Rally Master B at the same trial.

Chapter 2 - The Rally Obedience Classes and Titles [con't]

4. Continued Competition in Rally Advanced and Rally Master:

The WW-RM title must have been awarded before requirements toward the WW-RMX title or the WW-RCh title may be initiated. This may start on the day following the awarding of the third leg for the Rally Master title.

RALLY MASTER EXCELLENT TITLE – WW-RMX

The requirements consist of 10 double qualifying legs [2Q], eight of which must have scores of 180 or higher (of a possible 200) from each of Rally Advanced and Rally Master Classes at the same trial, and two legs with scores of 190 or higher from each of Rally Advanced and Rally Master Classes at the same trial.

RALLY CHAMPION TITLE – WW-RCh

A total of 200 points are accumulated from each of the Rally Advanced and Rally Master Classes successfully completed, based on the following scheme:

Score 200	10 points
199	9 points
198	8 points
197	7 points
196	6 points
195	5 points
194	4 points
193	3 points
192	2 points
191	1 points

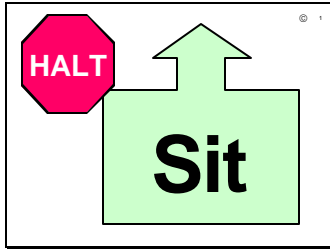
Dogs are allowed to accumulate 2Q's and points at the same time for the separate titles.

Chapter 3 - The Rally Obedience Exercises

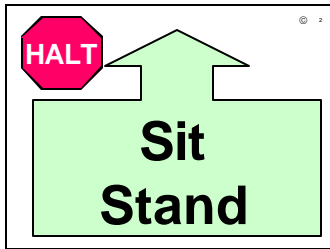
The following list contains the exact wording that appears on the individual exercise signs. This includes 58 exercise signs and the Start and Finish signs. The exercise numbers are as they occur in the List. The printed words are in black. The directional arrows are in light green and the HALT insert signs are hexagonal and red in color. All trials must use the approved format of the signs. Rally founder, Bud Kramer, has Rally book and signs available for sale. You can contact Bud at: Charles L. (Bud) Kramer, 401 Blue Mont Circle, Manhattan, Kansas, 66502-4531. Phone number 785-537-7022. E-mail: KramerC@ksu.edu. Books and signs are available at several supply vendors including Dog Wise, J & J and others. Adding of additional signs that are not included in the List is not permitted.

Rally Novice Class may use only Exercises 1 - 29 and 50 - 58.

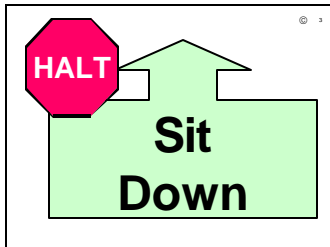
1. HALT – Sit



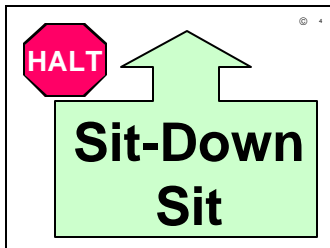
2. HALT - Sit – Stand



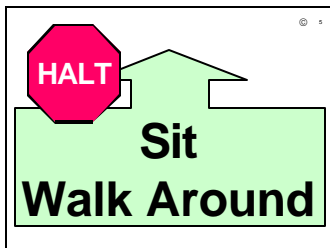
3. HALT - Sit – Down



4. HALT - Sit - Down – Sit



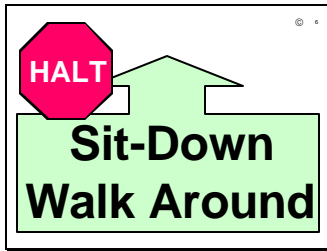
5. HALT - Sit - Walk Around



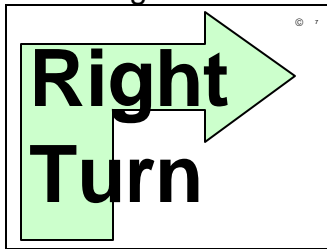
Chapter 3 - The Rally Obedience Exercises[con't]

Rally Novice Class may use only Exercises 1 - 29 and 50 – 58 [con't].

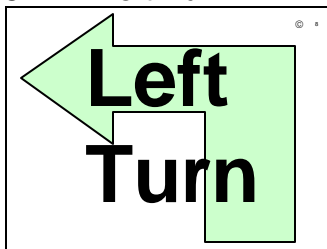
6. HALT - Sit - Down - Walk Around



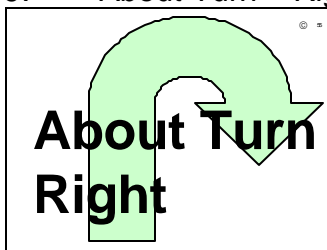
7. Right Turn



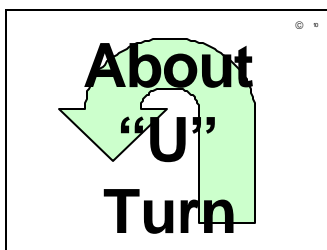
8. Left Turn



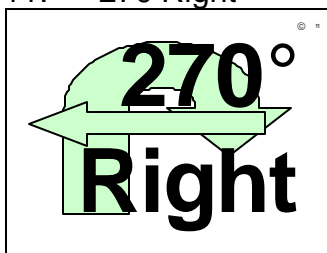
9. About Turn – Right



10. About "U" Turn



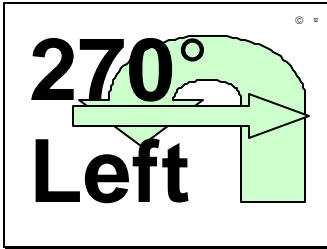
11. 270 Right



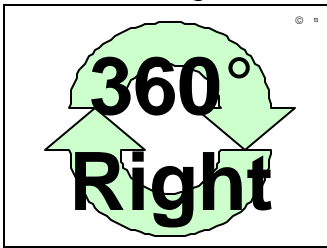
Chapter 3 - The Rally Obedience Exercises[con't]

Rally Novice Class may use only Exercises 1 - 29 and 50 – 58 [con't].

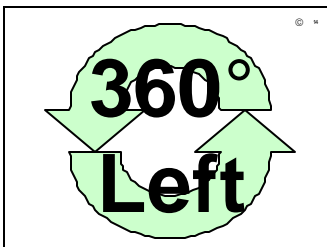
12. 270 Left



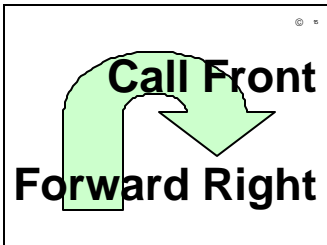
13. 360 Right



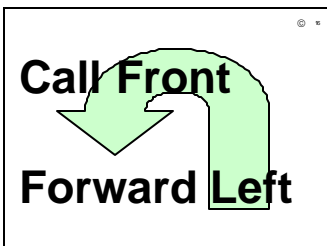
14. 360 Left



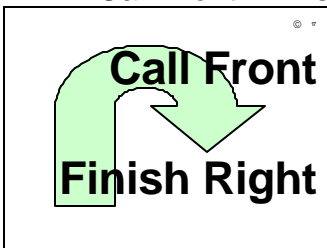
15. Call Front - Forward Right



16. Call Front - Forward Left



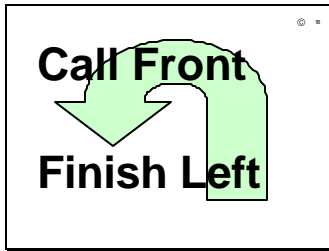
17. Call Front - Finish Right



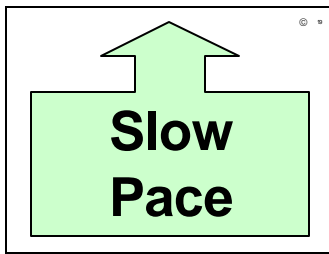
Chapter 3 - The Rally Obedience Exercises[con't]

Rally Novice Class may use only Exercises 1 - 29 and 50 – 58 [con't].

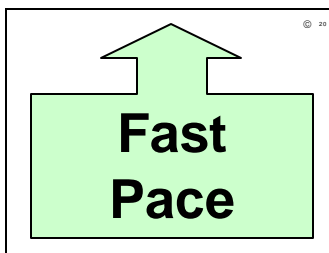
18. Call Front - Finish Left



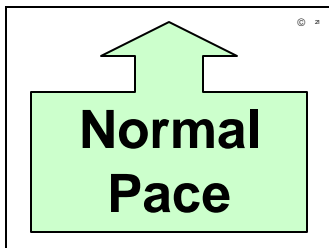
19. Slow Pace



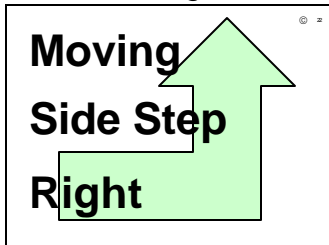
20. Fast Pace



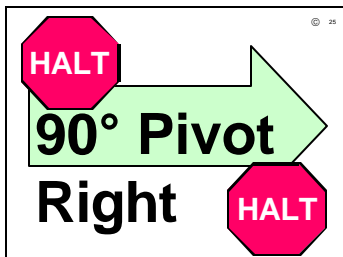
21. Normal Pace



22. Moving Side Step Right



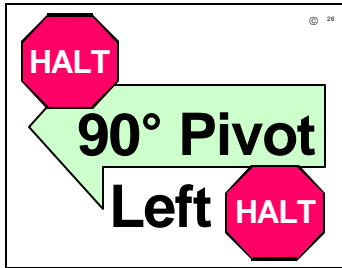
23. HALT - 90° Pivot Right – HALT



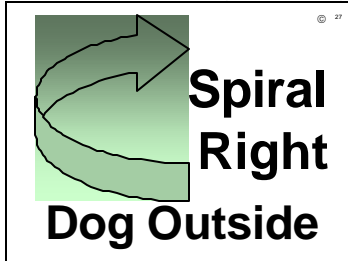
Chapter 3 - The Rally Obedience Exercises[con't]

Rally Novice Class may use only Exercises 1 - 29 and 50 – 58 [con't].

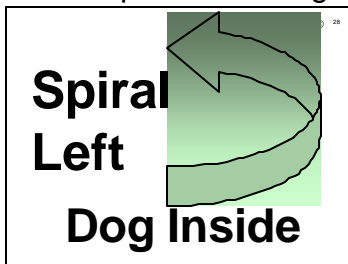
24. HALT -90° Pivot Left – HALT



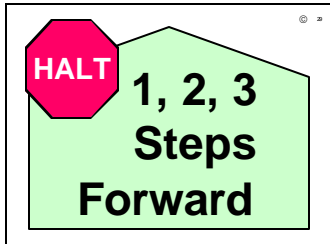
25. Spiral Right - Dog Outside



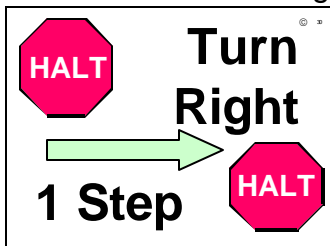
26. Spiral Left - Dog Inside



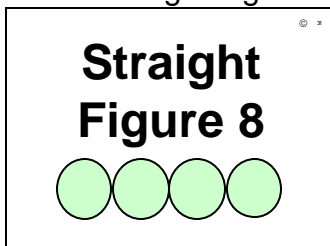
27. HALT - 1, 2, & 3 Steps Forward



28. HALT - Turn Right - 1 Step – HALT



29. Straight Figure 8

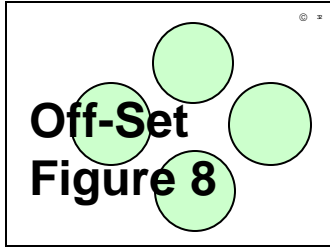


Chapter 3 - The Rally Obedience Exercises [con't]

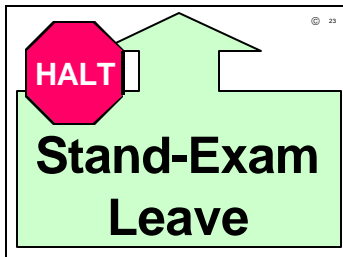
Rally Advanced course designs may use only Exercises 1 - 42 and 50 - 58

However, at least seven (7) of Exercises 30 through 42 must be included in all Rally Advanced course designs, a free choice of the exercises 1 - 42 and 50 - 58 maybe used in the selection of the remaining exercises.

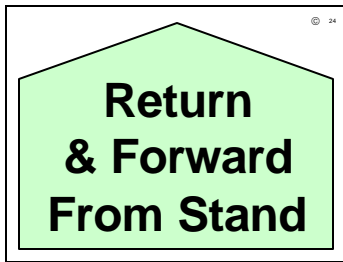
30. Off-Set Figure 8



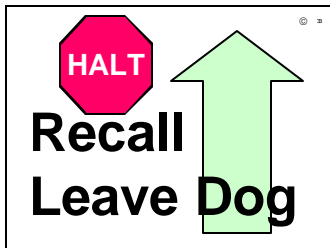
31. HALT - Stand - Exam – Leave



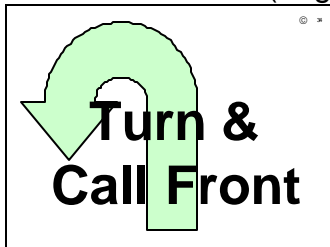
32. Return & Forward from Stand



33. HALT - Recall – Leave



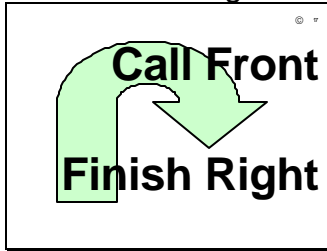
34. Turn & Call (dog) Front



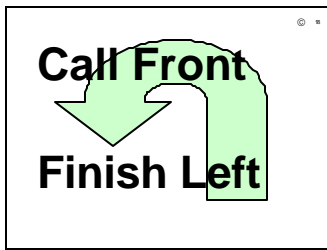
Chapter 3 - The Rally Obedience Exercises [con't]

Rally Advanced course designs may use only Exercises 1 - 42 and 50 - 58

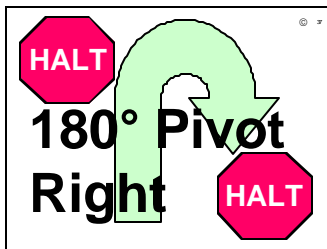
35. Finish Right



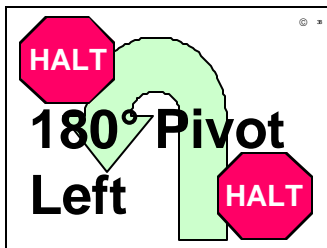
36. Finish Left



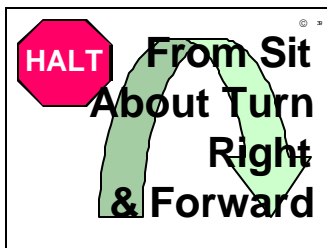
37. HALT - 180° Pivot Right – HALT



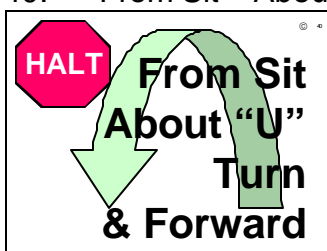
38. HALT - 180° Pivot Left – HALT



39. From Sit - About Turn Right & Forward



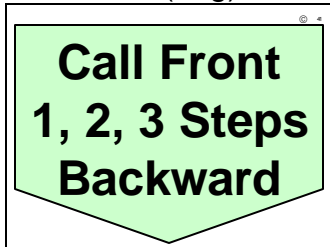
40. From Sit – About "U" Turn & Forward



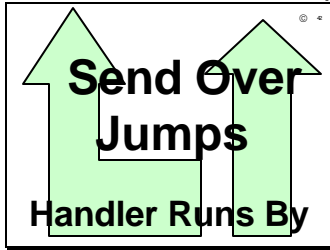
Chapter 3 - The Rally Obedience Exercises [con't]

Rally Advanced course designs may use only Exercises 1 - 42 and 50 - 58

41. Call (dog) Front - 1, 2 & 3 Steps Backward



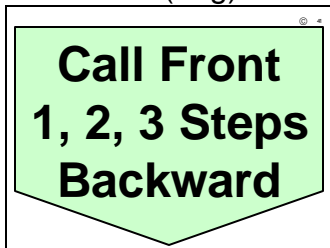
42. Send Over Jump - Handler Runs By



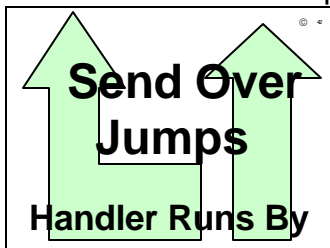
Rally Master course designs may use any of the 58 exercises.

With the exceptions that seven (7) of Exercises 41 through 48 *plus Exercise 49* must be included in all course designs, a free choice of all other exercises may be used in the selection of the remaining exercises.

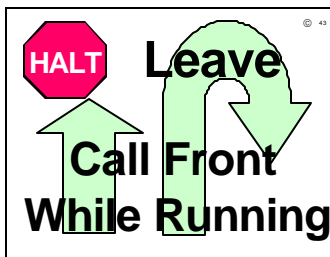
41. Call (dog) Front - 1, 2 & 3 Steps Backward



42. Send Over Jump - Handler Runs By



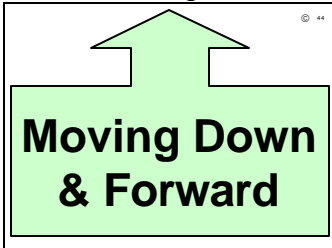
43. HALT - Leave - Call (dog) Front While Running



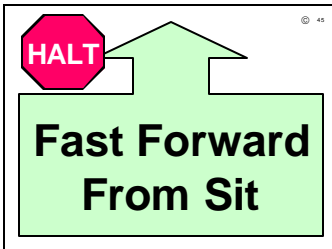
Chapter 3 - The Rally Obedience Exercises [con't]

Rally Master course designs may use any of the 58 exercises [con't].

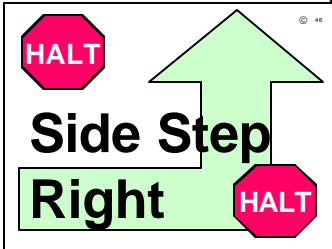
44. Moving Down & Forward



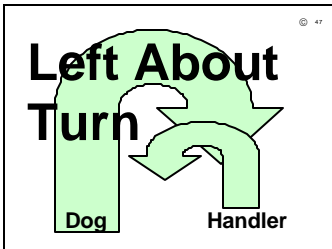
45. HALT - Fast Forward from Sit



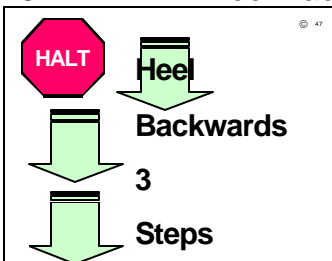
46. HALT - Side Step Right – HALT



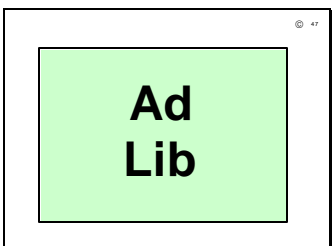
47. Left About Turn



48. HALT - Heel Backwards 3 Steps



49. Ad - Lib Routine [required for all Rally Master Courses]

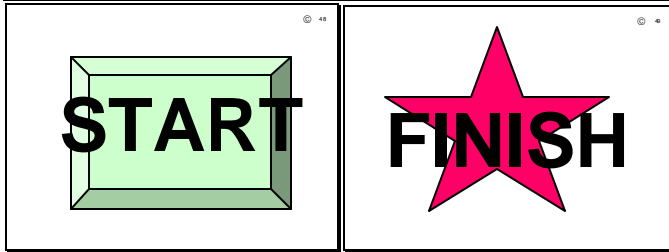


Chapter 3 - The Rally Obedience Exercises [con't]

Exercises 50 through 58 are duplicates of seven of the exercises already available in those listed as 1 through 29. These exercise signs, most of which are turns, are provided to facilitate the design of courses. To design a single continuous course, numerous changes of direction are necessary. The duplicate signs (50 - 58) provide for that:

- 50 HALT - Sit
- 51. Right Turn
- 52. Right Turn
- 53. Left Turn
- 54. Left Turn
- 55. About Turn - Right
- 56. 270 Right
- 57. 270 Left
- 58. Normal Pace

Signs also are provided for the Start position and Finish line.



Chapter 4 - Judging the Performance

1. The Philosophy of Judging Rally Obedience.

It is our belief that exhibiting with animation and enthusiasm while concentrating on performing with exact precision are not always compatible. To encourage handlers to exhibit with animation and enthusiasm, and have fun in the ring, we have adopted the concept of scoring only those errors that normally would be assessed as full one-point deductions in traditional Obedience, but not those that would be assessed as ½ -point errors.

An example could be a sit that is only slightly crooked and that normally would be scored by most judges as a ½-point deduction in traditional Obedience, would not be scored in Rally. However, if the sit was at a considerable angle or distance from the heel position and normally would be scored as a full 1-point deduction in traditional Obedience, it also should receive a 1-point deduction in Rally Obedience. Errors assessed 1 or more points in traditional Obedience would be assessed those same amounts in Rally Obedience. Exercises that are not successfully completed (as defined in Chapter 4, Section 7) are scored as non-qualifying. Any one or more exercises scored as non-qualifying, necessitates that the performance be recorded as non-qualifying.

In traditional Obedience, the terms minor and substantial are normally used for errors that are scored as ½ -point to less than 3-point deductions, and substantial for errors that are scored as 3- to 5-point deductions. We are using the term pronounced errors for those that would be scored as 1-point deductions.

Judges are not permitted to sum what might be considered two ½ -point deductions to make a full point that is then scored as a full-point deduction. An example of such a situation might occur during the Recall exercise, where the performance of the front and the finish positions are each slightly crooked and could be considered ½ -point deductions. In such a case, the judge may not sum the two separate errors to create a single 1-point error that is then recorded.

Repeat commands: In Rally Obedience, the handler is allowed to talk to his/her dog at any time and to give repeat commands. This allows the handler to say, for example, something like, "Rover come! That a boy! Hurry up! Get-in-here! You're a good boy" in a continuous singular manner. The dog is expected and should respond to the first command, "Rover come!" If the dog does not, the judge must consider whether or not the delay in response was excessively long enough to be scored a full 1-point deduction. If not the error is not scored. Also, if the dog fails to come at all in a reasonable time, the exercise must be scored as non-qualifying. The evaluation of the exercise is based on the response of the dog to the first command (or combination of verbal and signal given simultaneously), regardless of what might be said by the handler as second commands or praise.

Completion of exercises and non-qualifying performances: Exercises that are not completed as defined in Section 7, Definition and Scoring the Individual Exercises, must be scored as non-qualifying. Not at least ATTEMPTING a station will be an NQ for Incomplete Course. Each exhibitor must attempt to do every station to Qualify. Incorrectly performed stations will be 10 point deductions and a re-try is 3 points, but no one should be able to earn a title by intentionally skipping a station that they know their dog will not perform.

Chapter 4 - Judging the Performance [con't]

2. Heeling Between Exercise Signs.

The performance of heeling between exercise sign locations also is judged. Errors such as lagging, forging, heeling wide, bumping, etc. are scored as discussed under the section, "Philosophy of Judging Rally Obedience," above in this Chapter. Each occurrence of a tight lead will result in a one-point deduction.

3. Verbal "Corrections" and Encouragement.

Corrective phrases or commands may be given at any time. They, in themselves, are not a factor in the scoring of an exercise. If corrective commands are used during the execution of an exercise and no pronounced error is made, no deduction is assessed. If corrective commands are given with the intent to prevent an error, but a pronounced error is committed, the error is scored but the corrective command is not considered. For example, during the Recall, the dog begins to slow down in its approach to the handler, but before it does so to the point of committing a pronounced error, the handler uses a corrective command such as "Let's go; that's good!" and the dog responds by increasing its pace. No error is scored. However, if the dog does not respond and slows to a point where a pronounced error is committed, then the error is scored.

3a. Leash Corrections.

Leash corrections are not allowed at any time in Rally. At judges' discretion, based on the severity, this could lead to a NQ. These are different than a 'tight lead', which may occur during heeling. Tight leads are penalized with a one-point deduction for each occurrence.

4. Knocking Over Exercise Signs and Cones.

The accidental knocking over of exercise signs, cones or hitting and moving treat bowls, is to be scored as a pronounced error (3 or more points) but is not to be recorded as non-qualifying unless the number of occurrences totals 30 or more points.

5. Dogs Barking

Occasional barks resulting from dogs working with enthusiasm and enjoyment are not to be penalized, however, obsessive barking may be penalized.

6. Evaluating and Scoring Individual Exercises.

Individual exercises do not have specific point values. Therefore, point deductions are assessed against the total point value of the performance.

"Example of a 'Typical' Performance."

To help clarify the approach taken in the judging of Rally Obedience, Exercise 3 "HALT - Sit - Down" may be used as an example to discuss various general situations that may occur during a performance. As a team approaches the sign for Exercise 3, the handler comes to a halt with the dog sitting at the heel position. Ideally, the response to sit should be immediate and in heel position. Any delay in response to the command to sit, be it a verbal and/or signal command, or simply the handler coming to a halt, must be long enough to warrant a full-point deduction. Unless that delay in response was long enough that it would be scored a full point deduction in traditional Obedience, it would be ignored -not scored- in the judging of Rally. Likewise, the sit must be far enough out of heel position to warrant a full-point deduction or the position is ignored - not scored. The handler then commands the dog to assume a down position. However, if the dog does not assume a down after a reasonable amount of time, during which repeat commands may be given, the exercise is to be scored as

Chapter 4 - Judging the Performance [con't]

6. Evaluating and Scoring Individual Exercises [con't].

non-qualifying. The dog failed to complete the exercise. If the dog resists or is slow in responding, but does assume the down position, 1 or more full points may be assessed, but the exercise must be considered qualifying thus far. However, to complete the down part of the exercise, the dog must remain in the down until the handler commands the dog to move forward in the heel position. However, if the dog does break the down before the handler is able to give a forward command (indicated by a verbal command, hand signal or simply by the handler stepping forward), the handler may reposition the dog back in to the down position. If the dog then remains in the down until the handler is able to command the dog to move forward -in the opinion of the judge- a deduction of 1 or more full points may be assessed for that error. If- in the opinion of the judge - the dog does not satisfy that requirement; the exercise is to be scored as non-qualifying.

With the dog repositioned in the down, it is possible that the dog might break the down a second time. Depending on the severity of the error, an additional deduction of points may be made or the exercise may be scored as non-qualifying. Another possibility that might occur in the performance of the down, is that the dog goes only part-way down with the dog's body supported by its legs and the chest not touching the ground. A second command, necessitating a penalty, can and should be given by the handler to complete that part of the exercise. This may or may not be scored, depending on the handler's use of a corrective command and the dog's response to that command. However, if the handler does not notice that the dog has not completed the down position and commands the dog to move forward, the exercise must receive a non-qualifying score. If the handler is not sure how the judge would score the down, the handler may look to the judge for his or her evaluation before proceeding. It is also permissible (and encouraged) for the judge to automatically indicate to the handler that the down has not been completed.

The number of repeat attempts allowed to complete the down portion of the exercise is the judge's decision. However, if more than a total of 10 points are assessed, the exercise must be scored as non-qualifying. When an exercise has been scored as non-qualifying, the judge may inform the handler to proceed to the next exercise. If any one exercise of a performance is scored as non-qualifying, that performance also is recorded as non-qualifying. Failure to successfully complete an exercise does not require the termination of the performance. Teams must be allowed to continue on with the performance. However, a team that demonstrates a total lack of preparation by consistently failing the performance of exercises may be excused at the judge's discretion.

As in judging traditional Obedience, a major part of the evaluation of performances is subjective. We have attempted to provide guidelines for judging each of the exercises, but the final evaluation must be based on the opinion of the judge.

Chapter 4 - Judging the Performance [con't]

7. Definitions and Scoring the Individual Exercises

The numbers in this list are the same as the numbers in the List of Exercises in Chapter 3.

Exercise 1. HALT - Sit.

The response of the handler to this exercise sign is exactly the same as that to the judge's command to "Halt" in the Novice Class of traditional Obedience, with the exception that the handler may command the dog to sit with a verbal command and/or hand signal.

Ideally, the response to the handler coming to a halt should be immediate and in heel position. Any delay in response to the command to sit, be it a verbal and/or signal command, or simply the handler coming to a halt, must be long enough to warrant a full-point deduction. Unless that delay in response were long enough that it would be scored as a full point deduction in traditional Obedience, it would be ignored - not scored - in judging Rally. Likewise, the sit must be far enough out of heel position to warrant a full-point deduction or the error is ignored - not scored.

Failure to sit after a reasonable length of time and repeated commands (if given) must be scored as non-qualifying.

Exercise 2. HALT - Sit -Stand.

The dog must first come to a halt and sit at heel. In the Rally Novice Class, the handler may then break heel position and stand the dog as might be done in the Stand-for-Exam in traditional Obedience in which the handler may place his/her hands directly on the dog to position it in the stand. However, in the Rally Advanced and Rally Master Classes, the handler may break heel position to give a hand signal (if desired) for the dog to stand, but the handler may not touch the dog in attempting to position it in the stand. In either situation, if the handler does break heel position, he/she resumes the heel position and with the dog still standing, commands the dog to heel forward.

If the dog should break the stand before being commanded to heel forward, the handler may reposition the dog in the stand. Refer to the example of the down discussed in Section 6 above.

Exercise 3. HALT - Sit - Down.

A discussion of this exercise occurs in Section 6, above in this Chapter.

Exercise 4. HALT - Sit - Down - Sit.

The first part of this exercise is exactly the same as Exercise 3, HALT - Sit -Down. Therefore, all of the situations described under Exercise 3 also may occur here.

In this exercise (Exercise 4), the handler must command the dog to move from the down back to a sit by a verbal command, hand signal, or both. The dog may not break the down and assume a sit position on its own. If this occurs, the handler must reposition the dog in the down and perform the remainder of the exercise properly, or the exercise is to be scored as non-qualifying.

Chapter 4 - Judging the Performance [con't]

7. Definitions and Scoring the Individual Exercises [con't]

The numbers in this list are the same as the numbers in the List of Exercises in Chapter 3.

Exercise 5, HALT - Sit - Walk Around.

In this exercise, the team comes to a halt with the dog sitting at heel. The handler commands the dog to stay, then begins to walk around the dog and back to the heel position. If the dog breaks the sit before the handler is able to begin moving around the dog, the handler must reposition the dog; the dog must be in the sit position before the handler starts around the dog. If the dog remains in the sit at the start, but breaks the sit and stands (or lies down) when the handler is part way around, the handler is to continue on to the heel position without repositioning the dog. An assessment of 1 to 10 points may be made for the dog breaking the sit. The exercise is considered completed if the dog remains in the sitting position for the handler to walk at least part way around the dog.

Exercise 6, HALT - Sit - Down - Walk Around.

This exercise is performed and judged in exactly the same way as Exercise 5, except the dog is placed in a down position before the handler walks around the dog.

Exercise 7, Right Turn, and Exercise 8, Left Turn.

These exercises are performed and judged as described in the World Wide Kennel Club, United Kennel Club and American Kennel Club Obedience Regulations.

Exercise 9, About Turn - Right.

This exercise is performed and judged as described in the World Wide Kennel Club, American Kennel Club and United Kennel Club Obedience Regulations.

Exercise 10, About "U" Turn.

While heeling, the team makes a 180° degree about turn to the handler's left. Ideally, the handler turns in place with the dog moving backwards to complete the turn, but a tight circular pattern may be made without being penalized. Heeling is defined as continuous forward motion; handler should be penalized for stopping and allowing the dog to catch up.

Exercise 11, 270 (degrees) Right and Exercise 12, 270 (degrees) Left.

Exercise 11 is performed as an about turn (180 degrees) to the right but the turn is continued uninterrupted another 90 degrees before moving forward. Exercise 12 is performed as an about "U" turn but the turn is continued uninterrupted another 90 degrees before moving forward. Ideally, these turns are performed in place, but they may be made in small circles without being penalized. It is anticipated that rarely if ever, will these exercises be assessed for anything other than for errors with 1 to several points deducted. Even if the dog does not perform the exercise properly, but does catch up to the handler following his/her completion of the turn and the team continues on to the next exercise, pronounced deductions of 1 to 10 points may be made, but the exercise is not to be scored as non-qualifying.

Chapter 4 - Judging the Performance [con't]

7. Definitions and Scoring the Individual Exercises [con't]

The numbers in this list are the same as the numbers in the List of Exercises in Chapter 3.

Exercise 13, 360 (degrees) Right and

Exercise 14, 360 (degrees) Left.

These exercises are initiated as either an about turn to the right or an about "U" turn and completed by continuing those turns to complete a 360 degree circle before moving forward in the original direction. Evaluating these exercises is done in a manner similar to that described for Exercises 11 and 12.

Exercise 15, Call Front - Forward Right,

Exercise 16, Call Front - Forward Left,

Exercise 17, Call Front - Finish Right, and

Exercise 18, Call Front - Finish Left.

In the performance of the first part of all four of these exercises, the handler stops his/her forward motion and calls the dog to the front position. As the handler stops, he/she may immediately take several steps backward as the dog turns and moves in to a sit in the front position. In Exercise 15 with the dog in the front position, the handler moves forward. Simultaneously the dog is commanded to move to the right as though performing a finish to the right. The dog continues around behind the handler and catches up to continue in the heel position as the team continues forward. In Exercise 16 the dog essentially performs a finish to the left, but continues moving to catch up to the heel position as the team continues to move forward. In Exercises 17 and 18, the second part of the exercises consists of the dogs performing a finish to the right in Exercise 17 and to the left in Exercise 18 as they would be performed in traditional Obedience. In either case, the team does not move forward until the Finish is completed. In all four of the exercises, the dog must stop in the front position close enough to the handler so that he/she can touch the dog's head without excessive stretching or moving a foot, or the exercise is to be scored as non-qualifying. However, remember that corrective commands may be given to move the dog close enough before sitting. Errors in the performance of the turns as the handler moves forward or in the finishes, may be assessed for lagging, but as long as the dog catches up to the heel position with the handler, the exercise is not to be scored as non-qualifying.

Exercise 19, Slow Pace,

Exercise 20, Fast Pace, and

Exercise 21, Normal Pace.

These exercises are performed and evaluated in exactly the same way as in traditional Obedience. Failure to change pace as directed by any of these signs requires an assessment, but the exercise is not to be scored as non-qualifying. Encouragement, verbal or signals (tapping the handler's leg) may be given to keep the dog in the heel position.

Chapter 4 - Judging the Performance [con't]

7. Definitions and Scoring the Individual Exercises [con't]

The numbers in this list are the same as the numbers in the List of Exercises in Chapter 3.

Exercise 22, Moving Side Step Right.

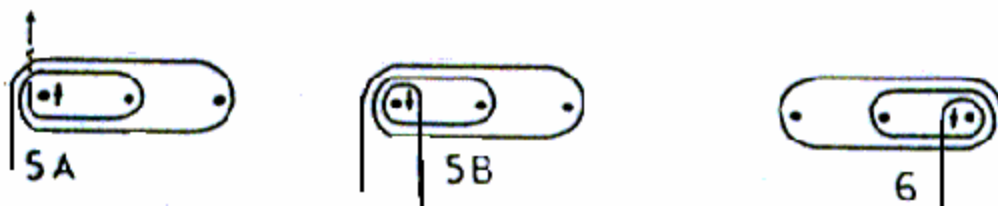
This exercise requires the handler to take a step to his/her right, with the right foot followed by the left foot, while moving with the dog in heel position and then continue on in the same direction. Assessments may be made for the dog failing to stay in heel position but as long as the dog moves back into heel position to continue on to the next exercise, the exercise is not to be scored as non-qualifying.

Exercises 23, HALT - 90 (degree) Pivot Right - HALT, and Exercise 24, HALT - 90 (degree) Pivot Left - HALT.

These exercises are begun with the dog sitting in the heel position as indicated by the first HALT on the sign. In Exercise 23, the handler pivots 90 degrees in place to his/her right. The dog moves with the handler and sits as the handler halts. In Exercise 24, the handler pivots 90 degrees in place, to his/her left. The dog moves backward as the handler turns and sits in the heel position. These exercises are to be done in place. However, if they are performed in a tight circular pattern, they may be penalized but the exercise is not to be scored as non-qualifying. Assessments may be made for the dog failing to stay in proper heel position while making the pivot with the handler, but as long as the dog sits and then moves to change direction with the handler, the exercise is not to be scored as non-qualifying.

Exercise 25, Spiral Right, and Exercise 26, Spiral Left.

This exercise requires three pylons or posts placed in a straight line with spaces between them of approximately 5 - 7 feet. Spiral right indicates the handler must turn to the right when moving around each pylon or post. This places the dog on the outside of the turns. The approaches, spiral patterns and directions of exits are illustrated in Figures 5A & 5B & 6 (arrow indicates the path of the team). The exercise sign is placed nearest the first pylon or post (this could be at either end, depending on the approach from the previous exercise) where the spiral is started. Assessments may be made for such things as tight leads, lagging, heeling wide, forging, crowding, etc, but as long as the team completes the weaving pattern through the series of three cones the exercise is not to be scored as non-qualifying. Knocking over a cone must be assessed as a pronounced error, but the exercise is not to be scored as non-qualifying.



Chapter 4 - Judging the Performance [con't]

7. Definitions and Scoring the Individual Exercises [con't]

The numbers in this list are the same as the numbers in the List of Exercises in Chapter 3.

Exercise 27, HALT - 1, 2 & 3 Steps Forward.

This exercise is started with the team coming to a halt and the dog sitting at heel. The handler then takes one step forward; the dog moves with the handler and comes to a sit as the handler stops. This is repeated with the handler taking two steps and then three steps with the dog sitting each time the handler comes to a halt.

Assessment of points may be made for errors occurring in heeling and for not sitting, but failure for the dog to sit at least once of the three times indicated in the description of the exercise requires the exercise to be scored as non-qualifying.

Exercise 28, HALT, - Turn Right - 1 Step - HALT.

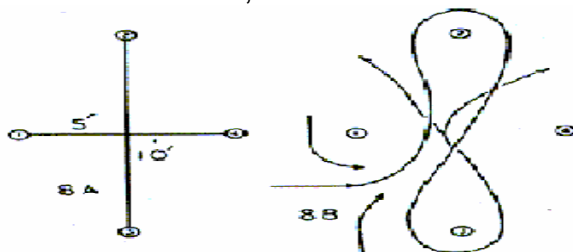
This exercise consists of the handler halting, and then turning to his/her right and at the same time taking a full step before coming to a halt again. The dog must move with the handler and not sit until the handler has come to a stop 1 step away from the original position. If the dog moves as in a pivot and sits, and then moves up to the heel position 1 step forward, it is scored as a pronounced error, but the exercise is not to be scored as non-qualifying.

Exercise 29, Straight Figure 8.

This exercise consists of the team first weaving in and out around the four (4) cones/pylons and then returning, weaving in the opposite direction. This exercise is evaluated in much the same way as the Figure 8 in traditional Obedience. Assessments may be made for such things as tight leads, lagging, heeling wide, forging, crowding, etc, but as long as the team completes the weaving pattern through the series of three does not accumulate over 10 assessment points, the exercise is not to be scored as non-qualifying.

Exercise 30, Offset Figure 8.

This exercise requires four bowls with tempting treats. A screen cover is to be placed over the treats to prevent a dog that might break heel position from getting any of the treats to eat. The essential part of the exercise is the handler and dog in heel position performing a Figure 8 around the two "end" bowls that are 10 feet apart. The other two bowls are 5 feet apart and are located on a cross line midway between the two end bowls. The team may proceed together in performing the Figure 8 (or approximate Fig. 8) in any of the example patterns illustrated in C. Kramer's Rally-Obedience book. As long as the team performs a Figure 8 around the two end bowls, the exact pattern in which it is done does not matter. Breaking the heel pattern to investigate the bowls and then return to complete the exercise is to be assessed 1 to 10 points, but it is not to be scored as non-qualifying. However, if the dog bites at the screen or attempts to turn over the bowls, the exercise is to be scored as non-qualifying.



Chapter 4 - Judging the Performance [con't]

7. Definitions and Scoring the Individual Exercises [con't]

The numbers in this list are the same as the numbers in the List of Exercises in Chapter 3.

Exercise 31, HALT - Stand -, Exam -Leave, and Exercise 32, Return and Forward from Stand.

These two combined exercises are performed and judged in much the same manner as the Stand-for Examination in traditional Obedience. The exercise begins with the dog sitting at heel. The handler may break the heel position to stand the dog in the same manner as might be done in conformation. The handler leaves automatically and the judge examines the dog by touching it on the head, shoulders and croup. When the judge leaves the dog, the handler returns automatically and commands the dog to move forward from the stand. The exercise is scored as non-qualifying if the dog sits or lies down, or moves away from the place where it was left before or during the examination. Dogs that show shyness may receive deductions of 1 to 10 points or if severe enough, the performance may be scored as non-qualifying. If the dog shows resentment, growls or snaps at any time, it may be excused.

Exercise 33, HALT - Recall - Leave Dog, and Exercise 34, Turn and Call Front.

These combined exercises are performed and judged in much the same manner as the Recall in traditional Obedience. The handler leaves the dog in the sit position at the Exercise-33 sign and moves (approximately 30 to 35 feet) toward the Exercise 34 sign. When in front of the Exercise-34 sign, the handler turns and calls the dog to the front position. Exercise 35, Finish Right or Exercise 36, Finish Left must follow this exercise. Failure of the dog to stay until called and not come close enough so that the handler can touch the dog's head without moving either foot must be scored as non-qualifying. (Refer to the discussion for Exercises 15-18.) Second commands may be given for the dog to come, but after a reasonable time and the dog does not come, the exercise must be scored as non-qualifying. Repeat commands may be given to move the dog close enough to the handler, but if the dog fails to do so, the exercise must be scored as non-qualifying. Deductions of 1 to 10 points may be assessed for not responding to the first command to come, failure for the dog to come at a brisk trot or gallop, for the dog standing or lying down instead of waiting in the sit position, or for failure to sit in front.

Exercise 35, Finish Right, and Exercise 36, Finish Left.

Exercise 34, Finish right is the same as the "around finish" often used in traditional Obedience. With the dog sitting in the front position, the dog moves to the handler's right, continues around behind the handler and sits in the heel position. Exercise 35, Finish Left also begins with the dog sitting in the front position and on command moves to the handler's left, turns toward the handler and sits in the heel position. Depending on the severity of the error, 1 to 10 points may be assessed for not properly completing the exercise, but any attempt to perform the exercise will result in a qualifying score. This is consistent with scoring this exercise in traditional Obedience where failure to finish is scored as a substantial deduction.

Chapter 4 - Judging the Performance [con't]

7. Definitions and Scoring the Individual Exercises [con't]

The numbers in this list are the same as the numbers in the List of Exercises in Chapter 3.

Exercise 37, HALT - 180 Pivot Right - HALT, and Exercise 38, HALT- 180 Pivot Left - HALT.

These exercises are performed and judged in much the same manner as Exercises 23 and 24, except that Exercises 37 and 38 are 180 degree turns.

Exercise 39, From Sit - About Turn Right & Forward, and Exercise 40, From Sit - About "U" Turn & Forward.

With the exception that these exercises are begun with the dog sitting at heel rather than moving with the dog at heel as performed in Exercises 9 and 10, they are performed and judged in much the same manner as Exercises 9 and 10.

Exercise 41, Call Front - 1, 2 & 3 Steps Backward.

This exercise begins with the handler calling the dog front while moving forward as explained in Exercise 15. With the dog sitting in the front position, the handler takes 1 step backward and commands the dog to move forward at the same time the handler moves backward. As the handler stops, the dog assumes a ~sit in the front position. This procedure is repeated with the handler taking 2 steps and then 3 steps backward with the dog sitting at each halt. Errors in response to the commands and sitting in front after each series of steps may be assessed 1 to 10 points in deductions, but as long as the dog moves and remains in front of the handler, and sits at least one of the three times indicated, the exercise is not to be scored as non-qualifying.

Exercise 42, Send (dog) Over Jump - Handler Runs By

The sign for this exercise is located approximately 20 feet in front and 6 feet to the right of the jump. As the team approaches the sign, the handler sends the dog to the left toward the jump. The dog must go to and complete the jump, then return to the heel position with the handler who runs along a line 6 feet from the end of the jump. The team then continues on to the next exercise location. If the dog hesitates or turns past the jump the handler may attempt to encourage the dog to continue on and complete the jump. This must be done from the handler's path 6 feet distant from the jump. Penalty of 1 to 10 points may be made for the dog hesitating or not running directly to the jump. However, as long as the dog does complete the jump within a reasonable time, the exercise is scored a qualifying. The handler must remain along the line approximately 6 feet from the edge of the jump. It is not necessary for the handler to keep up with the dog while it is completing the jump. If the dog is faster and runs ahead of the handler, the dog may be called back into heel position after the dog has completed the jump regardless of where the handler is along the path.

Exercise 43, HALT - Leave - Call (dog) Front While Running.

With the dog sitting in heel position, the handlers places the dog on a wait or stay command and then immediately starts running forward with his/her back to the dog. After taking 2 - 3 running steps, the handler calls the dog front. The dog must immediately start running to catch up to the handler. As the dog approaches the handler, he/she slows down, stops and may even take several steps backward to allow the dog to come to the front position. This portion of the exercise is performed the same as described in Exercise 15. The dog is to wait until called after the handler has run several steps. However if the dog breaks before being called, 1 to 10 points are to be assessed but the exercise is not to be scored non-qualifying. The "Call Front" portion of the exercise is to be judged as described for Exercise 15.

Chapter 4 - Judging the Performance [con't]

7. Definitions and Scoring the Individual Exercises

The numbers in this list are the same as the numbers in the List of Exercises in Chapter 3.

Exercise 44, Moving Down & Forward.

While moving with the dog at heel, the handler may break the heel position by turning toward the dog as the handler commands the dog to drop directly into down position without first coming to a halt. When the dog is down, the handler resumes the heel position and commands the dog to move forward from the down position. If the dog fails to down on the first commands, the handler may give repeated commands for the dog to drop from a stationary standing position. If the dog should sit rather than down, it must be placed in a stand before being commanded to down. Although the dog may then assume the down position from a stationary stand, a deduction should be assessed. As long as the dog goes down from the standing position, the exercise is to be scored as qualifying. If the handler is unable to place the dog in a down from the standing position within a reasonable time, the exercise must be scored as non-qualifying.

Exercise 45, Fast Forward from Sit.

With the dog sitting in the heel position, the handler immediately starts running forward while at the same time commands the dog to do the same, so that the team proceeds at a fast pace with the dog in heel position. Exercise 21, Normal Pace, must follow this exercise or this exercise (Exercise 45) may be placed as the last exercise in the course design where the exercise and performance are concluded as the dog crosses the Finish Line. An assessment may be made for the dog failing to immediately move from the sit to a fast pace. Other aspects of the exercise are judged as Exercise 20, Fast Pace. In this exercise (#45), the dog must immediately move in to a fast pace along with the handler. In Exercise 43, the dog must wait until the handler has moved several steps away at a fast pace before calling the dog.

Exercise 46, HALT - Side Step Right - HALT.

With the dog sitting in the heel position, the handler takes one side step directly to his/her right with the right foot while remaining facing in the same direction. The handler then moves the left foot over next to the right foot and at the same time, calls the dog to the heel position. The exercise concludes with the handler standing stationary and the dog sitting at heel facing the original direction, but one step to the right. This exercise is evaluated in much the same way as Exercise 28, except that after moving to the right, the dog must turn back to sit facing the original direction rather than turning to sit facing to the right. Assessments may be made for errors of response or crooked sits, but, as long as the dog moves and attempts to resume its sit in the heel position, the exercise is to be scored as qualifying.

Exercise 47, Left About Turn.

While moving with the dog in the heel position, the handler makes an about turn to his/her left (toward the dog), while at the same time the dog turns to its right moving around the outside of the handler and back to the heel position to continue moving with the handler in the opposite direction. Judging is done in much the same manner as judging the About Turn - Right and About "U" Turn. Assessments may be made for errors in the performance, but as long as the dog completes the turn around the handler and moves into heel position, the exercise is not to be scored as non-qualifying.

Chapter 4 - Judging the Performance [con't]

7. Definitions and Scoring the Individual Exercises

The numbers in this list are the same as the numbers in the List of Exercises in Chapter 3.

Exercise 48. Halt, Heel backwards 3 steps

While heeling, handler comes to a halt, backs up 3 steps then continues forward heeling. The Dog maintains heel position throughout the exercise including backing up with the handler.

Exercise 49. Ad-Lib Routine.

This is the only sign used for this segment of Rally Master course designs. Each handler is to design his/her own routine of seven (7) exercises that can be performed within an area of 12 X 12 feet. These routines are to be designed prior to the day of the trial. All but one of the exercises are to be selected from the list below, while one exercise that includes a HALT element as a part of the exercise is to be selected by the handler. Good examples of Exercises with Halts that could be selected are Exercises 1 – 6 described above. The exercises listed below are all continuously moving without a halt. Any of them may be used more than once in the routine.

- Right Turn
- Left Turn
- About Turn Right
- About "U" Turn
- Left About Turn
- 270° Right (turn)
- 270° Left (turn)
- 360° Right (turn)
- 360° Left (turn)

Signs 50 through 58. These are duplicate signs of seven exercises included in the list of Exercises 1 through 29 that may be used to facilitate the completion of course designs for all Levels:

50. HALT - Sit
51. Right Turn
52. Right Turn
53. Left Turn
54. Left Turn
55. About Turn - Right
56. 270 Right
57. 270 Left
58. Normal Pace

However, as a general guideline, 1 to 10 points may be assessed for most errors that must receive point deductions. These are referred to as pronounced errors. The deduction of 10 points is considered the maximum assessed for errors committed during the performance of a single exercise that is otherwise scored as qualifying. If more than 10 points are assessed for errors committed in the performance of an exercise, that exercise is recorded only as non-qualifying. The actual points deducted are irrelevant and thus are not recorded. Performances in which an exercise has not been completed must be recorded in the judge's book as non-qualifying; a numerical score is not recorded.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Brisk, briskly – keenly alive, alert, energetic

Command – verbal order from handler to dog

Gently – with kindness, without harshness or roughness

Natural – not artificial; free of affectation, and customarily expected in the home or public places

Order – direction from judge to handler

Signal – nonverbal direction from the handler to dog

Withers – highest point of the dog's shoulder

Willingness, enjoyment –

90°, 180° - pivots performed in place

270°, 360° - turns performed as a tight circle

Halt – Dog must sit in heel position

Lack of control – dog is temporarily distracted, but returns to working as a team and completes the course

Unmanageable – dog not under control and does not work as a team

Regulations are subject to revision by the World Wide Kennel Club.