

Kansas 4-H Dog Show

Judge's Guidelines

Showmanship/Obedience



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Judge's Guidelines

As a judge you symbolize the entire program of 4-H dog training.

It is vitally important that judges understand their responsibility to promote the purpose and objectives of the 4-H Dog Care and Training Project. The objectives are to help 4-H'ers:

- Develop leadership, initiative, self-reliance, sportsmanship, and other desirable traits of character.
- Experience the pride and responsibility of being involved with a dog.
- Acquire skill, patience and understanding by training a dog.
- Realize a greater love for animals and a humane attitude toward them.
- Prepare for citizenship responsibilities by working together in groups and supporting community dog projects and activities.

As a judge, you have been given the authority and the opportunity to make a valued contribution to the program. The manner by which judges exercise their authority has a direct impact on the program. The maintenance of high standards and the respect for 4-H dog training by others is largely the responsibility of the judge. The quality of performance is directly related to the quality of judging. Thus, these influences must always be kept uppermost in the judge's mind and actions.

Because of the authority position the judge occupies, he/she must:

- Be impartial. Do not make concessions to one competitor unless those concessions will be extended to all.
- Be friendly and courteous while remaining unprejudiced and firm in your decisions.
- You can be sympathetic toward some unexpected failure provided that decisions and scoring are not affected.
- Expect each 4-H'er to enter the ring prepared to perform all exercises and judge the participant accordingly.
- Be a professional in the ring by:
 - being confident,
 - knowing the regulations and guidelines,
 - scoring realistically and fairly according to the regulations,
 - scoring every dog and handler against the theoretically "perfect performance" rather than other participants, and
 - keeping your voice at an appropriate volume, neither too loud nor too soft.
- Give every handler and dog equal time and opportunity to compete.
- Act as a diplomat, arbiter, and lady or gentleman at all times.
- Be dignified in dress and actions, remembering the focus is the 4-H'er and the dog
- Be willing to discuss the scoring awarded, but refrain from engaging in an argument.

Other Judge Responsibilities:

- 1. To the 4-H'er and their Dog:** Give the beginning classes in Showmanship and Pre-Novice obedience as much courtesy and attention as the more accomplished classes.
- 2. To the Show and its Sponsors**
 - a. Chairman:** Confirm your judging assignment before the show with the chairman or person responsible for requesting your services. When you arrive, check in with the show chair. Check to see if there are special rules or circumstances that are different than usual. Review the scoring

sheet that will be used.

- b. Spectators:** Since there will be parents, relatives and friends watching the show who do not know the rules, it is important for the judge to avoid any actions that might degrade the 4-H'er or the dog. Remember, spectators form virtually their entire opinion of the 4-H Dog Care and Training Project based on the actions of the judge, the 4-H'er and the dog.
- c. Scoring and Determining Penalty Points:** Any action or inaction on the part of the handler or the dog that results in the display less than that of a theoretically perfect performance should be penalized. A "minor" penalty is considered to be a deduction of less than two points. (No penalty of less than one-half point should be charged). A "major" or substantial penalty is considered to be a deduction of two points or more. There is no published list of reasonable and customary penalty points for the various faults and errors, so there are some variations in the scoring systems of individual judges. Because Dog Showmanship is all done on a show lead, practically all 4-H'ers will have enough control of their dogs to complete a Showmanship class. The *Kansas 4-H Dog Show Rule Book* specifically identifies the principal parts the judge will observe while the 4-H'er and dog work as a team. The movement patterns defined in the rule book should be used so each team will be able to practice them before being judged. (No other patterns should be used that might confuse a handler.) Obedience judging is more complex because of the progressively more difficult classes. However, individual exercises are defined into principle parts. In most cases the qualifying portion of the score sheet will be assessed with "minor" penalties and the non-qualifying portion will be scored with "major" penalties up to the loss of all the points. With time and experience you will be able to develop a system which defines how many penalty points are appropriate for any given fault.

Helpful hints:

- Wear comfortable shoes. (You may be on your feet for four to eight hours)
- Go lightly on colognes or perfumes.
- Get to the show site early, at least 30 minutes before judging is scheduled to begin.
- Check the ring set-up. Determine if special equipment will be needed during the show. If it is needed, check to see where it is.
- Meet the ring stewards. Write their names down and use them. Acknowledge their assistance sometime during the show.
- Arrange the showmanship dogs by size if possible. Generally, larger dogs are sent into the ring first.
- Bring your own judging equipment and supplies — clip board, sharpened pencils, enough score sheets for the first class and copies that can be duplicated for the other classes, stop-watch, 6-foot folding ruler or tape measure, chalk, a marking device for scratching marks in dirt rings, towelettes or similar items with which to clean your hands if necessary, calculator, tongs to hold retrieving items for scent exercises, a copy of the *Kansas 4-H Dog Show Rule Book (S46)*, *Kansas 4-H Dog Show Judge's Guidelines(S82)*, *Kansas 4-H Agility Dog Show Rule Book (S124)*, and *Kansas 4-H Rally Obedience Rule Book (4H965)*.

Showmanship

(Showmanship is based on a 100-point scale)

1. Fitting of the Dog — 30 points

The judge will evaluate each dog individually for grooming. The hair and coat should be clean, smooth, not scaly or matted and free from loose hair. The judge will bear in mind that long-haired dogs will be losing their coats during the summer. If it is apparent that the 4-H'er has made an attempt to

eliminate the loose hair, the judge will score the dog accordingly. The judge will check for parasites. If parasites are present, the dog's score should be penalized. Ears should be free of dirt, parasites and excessive hair. Eyes should be clean and free of matter. Toenails should be cut so as not to touch the floor. Teeth should be free from matter and free of staining, as appropriate for the age of the dog.

No dog should be judged on its conformation.

2. Showmanship of Handler — 35 points

- a. Appearance of handler** — The 4-H'er should present a well groomed appearance. The dress is optional but should look neat and clean. If the show has a dress code, the 4-H'er should comply with regulations. Dress should not be a major consideration in scoring this category.
- b. Grace and ease of showing** — This is evident in the manner the 4-H'er moves his/her dog, moves around his/her dog and the method by which the dog is stacked. The turns should be smooth, and the gait of the dog should not be unduly impaired. The 4-H'er should not step across the dog. The 4-H'er should avoid getting between the dog and the judge. The 4-H'er should be sure that the dog is stacked at any time it is not moving. This should be done quickly and discreetly. The 4-H'er should display enthusiasm and enjoyment while in the ring.
- c. Avoids getting in awkward and unsightly positions** — The 4-H'er should maintain his/her balance. When making a turn, the 4-H'er should not have to step across the dog. The 4-H'er will watch the judge in such a manner to know where the judge is, but not to the point of awkwardness. The 4-H'er, when returning to the judge, should stop an appropriate distance away upon judge's request. When showing the dog the 4-H'er should avoid reaching across the dog if it will interfere with the judge's view. The handler should exhibit good footwork and use verbal commands and/or subtle signals with hands or feet to assist the dog in maneuvering or posing.
- d. Easy and smooth movement** — The handler should handle the lead smoothly and should not have to keep the dog "strung up" tightly. When passing the lead from one hand to the other, it should be done gracefully. When the handler finds it necessary to readjust the dog's coat or "stacking pose," this should be done so as to not appear as "diving at the dog."
- e. Sportsmanship** — The handler should be penalized for crowding or interfering with another team.
- f. Knowledge about dog's care, condition, and problems** — The 4-H'er should be able to respond to any question the judge asks about the dog's care, condition, or obvious problems and health.

3. Coordination Between Handler and Dog — 35 points

- a. Dog's reaction to handler** — The 4-H'er and dog should move as a team. The dog should not forge or lag. The show lead should not be taut as evidence of having to control the dog. The dog should not sit when coming to a halt. The dog should not exhibit aggressive behavior toward the handler or judge. When stacked the dog does not change positions unless the 4-H'er requires it to.
- b. General communication between dog and handler** — This can be done on different levels. The 4-H'er may verbally encourage the dog. The dog may watch the 4-H'er closely. The dog should display an enthusiasm while being shown. Lead jerking or pulling while moving is penalized. During all phases of handling, the handler's concentration should be on the dog and not on the judge, but not to the extent that he/she is unaware of what is going on in the ring.
- c. Straight, smooth and even gait** — The gait of both the 4-H'er and the dog should be even and constant. The pace and stride of the 4-H'er should be appropriate for the size of the dog.
- d. Works as a team** — They should move together smoothly and effortlessly making smooth corners and turns. Again, the handler should assist the dog by giving any necessary verbal commands and/or subtle signals with hands or feet to help the dog to maneuver smoothly.

Obedience

General Guidelines

(See Appendix A for classes and point totals)

Heel Position — The Heel position, whether the dog is sitting, standing, lying down, or moving at heel, means that the dog shall be straight in line with the direction in which the handler is facing, at the handler's left side, and as close as practicable to the handler's left leg without crowding, permitting the handler freedom of motion at all times. The area from the dog's head to shoulder shall be in line with the handler's left hip.

Hands — In all exercises in which the dog is required to heel free, one of the options below shall be followed: (1) the handler's arms and hands shall move naturally at the handler's sides while in motion; or (2) the right hand and arm must move naturally, while 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 to maintain balance.

There may be a deduction if the hands and arms are, in the opinion of the judge, being used as a second command or signal.

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 their 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 used as a second command or signal during the exercise.

Commands and Signals — A command is a verbal direction for the dog. A signal is a single gesture with one arm and hand only.

Signaling correction to a dog is forbidden and must be penalized. In addition, a second command is forbidden and must be penalized.

The dog's name, when given immediately before a verbal command, shall not be considered as an additional command. The name shall not be used with any signal not given simultaneously with a verbal command.

The dog should never anticipate the handler's direction, 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.

Commands which, in the judge's opinion, are excessively loud may be penalized.

Additional Commands or Signals — If a handler gives an additional command or signal, either when no command or signal is permitted, or simultaneously with or following a permitted command or signal, or uses the dog's name with a permitted signal but without a permitted command, a deduction is made.

If a double command is given, the dog will be scored less than 50 percent of the total for that exercise.

Praise — Praise and petting are allowed between and after exercises, but points may 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.

Misbehavior — Any display of fear or nervousness by the dog, or any uncontrolled behavior such as snapping, barking, or running away – whether it occurs during an exercise, between exercises, or before or after judging – must be penalized according to the seriousness of the misbehavior. The judge may expel or excuse the dog from further competition in the class.

Any dog that relieves itself at any time while in the ring for judging will receive an automatic white ribbon. However, the dog may continue to be scored.

Training and Disciplining in the Ring — The judge shall not permit any handler to train the 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 they are judged. A dog whose handler disciplines it in an inappropriate manner in the ring shall be excused and will not be further scored in that class.

If a dog has failed to complete an exercise, the judge may permit the 4-H'er another attempt. However, the second attempt should not be treated as a successful attempt. The 4-H'er should not receive a qualifying score based on the second attempt.

Heel on Leash and Figure Eight — This exercise is a part of the Novice class. Heel on Leash is an exercise in the Graduate Novice class. Before starting any exercise the judge will ask, "Are you ready?"

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 noticeably accelerate from their normal pace, enough so as to change the pace of the dog. In executing the "About turn," the handler will always do a right about turn. Orders for "Halt" 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, providing 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 the 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 walk briskly and in a natural manner with the 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 handler's freedom of motion at any time. At each order to halt, the handler will stop and the 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 order from the judge. 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 handler and dog, from a starting position about equidistant from the two stewards and facing the judge, shall briskly walk twice completely around and between the two stewards, who shall stand 8 feet apart. The Figure Eight in the novice classes shall be done on leash. 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.

Heel on Leash and Figure Eight Scoring — If a dog is unmanageable, or its handler constantly controls its performance by tugging the leash or adapts pace to that of the dog, a deduction is made.

Deductions shall be made for additional commands or signals to heel and for failure of dog or handler to noticeably accelerate speed forward during "Fast" and noticeably decelerate speed forward during "Slow." Deductions are made for such things as lagging, heeling wide, forging, crowding, poor sits, handler failing to walk at a brisk pace, occasional guidance with leash, and other heeling imperfections.

In scoring this exercise the judge shall accompany the handler at a discreet distance so that he/she 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.

Stand for Examination — This exercise is a part of the Novice and Graduate Novice classes.

The principal features of this exercise are that the dog stand in position before and during the examination, and that the dog display neither shyness nor resentment.

Orders are, “Stand your dog and leave when you are ready,” “Back to your dog,” and “Exercise finished.” There will be no further command from the judge to the handler to leave the dog.

On 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 the dog to the place indicated by the judge, and on judge’s order, the handler will stand and/or pose the dog off leash by the method of his/her choice, taking any reasonable time to pose the dog as in the show ring. When ready, the handler will stand with the dog in the heel position, and give a command and/or signal to the dog to stay, walk forward about 6 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 hind-quarters, using the fingers and palm of one hand only. On the order, “Back to your dog,” the handler shall walk around behind the dog and return to the heel position. The dog must remain standing until after the judge has said, “Exercise finished.”

Stand for Examination Scoring — 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 the handler’s attempts to make it stand. Either of these shall be penalized.

A dog shall receive a deduction if it displays shyness or resentment, growls or snaps at any time, sits or lies down before or during the examination, or moves away from the place where it was left either before or during the examination. If deductions are made for the reasons stated above, the dog shall not receive a qualifying score.

Minor or substantial deductions, depending on the circumstance, shall be made for a dog that moves its feet at any time or sits or moves away after the examination has been completed.

Heel Off Leash, Performance and Scoring — This exercise is part of the Novice, Graduate Novice, Open A and Open B classes.

This exercise shall be executed in the same manner as Heel on Leash except that the dog shall be off leash. Orders and scoring also shall be the same. This exercise is used for run-offs when tie scores occur. In the case of a tie, hold a run-off utilizing the Heel Off Leash exercise, one team at a time, with same pattern.

Recall — This exercise is a part of the Novice class.

The principal features of this exercise are that the dog stay where left until called by its handler, and that the dog respond 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 command and/or signal 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/she shall turn and stand in a natural manner facing the dog. On judge’s order or signal, the handler will give command or signal for the dog to come. The dog should come directly in 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 should not touch the handler or sit between the handler’s feet.

On judge’s order the handler will give a command or a signal to finish, and the dog must go smartly to the heel position and sit. The manner in which the dog finishes is optional, provided it is prompt and the dog sits straight at heel.

Recall Scoring — A dog must receive a deduction and a non-qualifying score for the following: requiring additional command or signal to stay, failure to come on the first command or signal, moving from the place where left before being called or signaled, stopping prior to reaching the handler.

Deductions shall be made for a slow response to come, varying with the extent of the slowness; failure of the dog to come at a satisfactory pace; standing or lying down instead of waiting in the sit position; failure to sit in front; failure to finish or sit at heel; or for extra command or signal to sit or finish.

Minor to substantial deductions shall be made depending on the specific circumstances in each case for failure to come directly to the handler.

Minor deductions shall be made for slow or poor sits or finishes which are not prompt or smart, for touching the handler on coming in or when finishing, or sitting between the handler's feet.

Group Exercises: Novice and Pre-novice

The principal feature of these exercises is that the dog remain in the sitting 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."

Competing dogs in the class take these exercises together, except that if there are 12 or more dogs they shall, at the judge's option, be judged in groups of not less than six nor more than 12 dogs. When the same judge does both Novice A and Novice B, the two classes may be combined if there are not more than 12 dogs competing in the combined class. The judge shall divide the class into approximately equal sections. The group exercises shall be judged after each section. The dogs that are in the ring shall be lined up in catalog order along one of the four sides of the ring. Handler's armbands, weighted with leashes or other articles if necessary, shall be placed behind the dogs.

For the Long Sit the handlers shall, on order from the judge, 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. (In Pre-Novice, the handler will go to the end of the lead).

If a dog gets up and starts to roam or follows its handler, or if a dog 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 the judge has ordered the handlers to leave their dogs, the judge will give the order to return, whereupon the handlers must promptly go back to their dogs, each walking around and in back of their 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 instead of sitting their dogs the handlers shall, on order from the judge, down their dogs to a position facing the opposite side of the ring, and the judge will order the handlers to return after three minutes. The dogs should 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.

Group Exercise Novice and Pre-Novice Scoring — During these exercises the judge shall stand in such a position that all dogs and handlers are in his/her line of vision without having to turn around. The judge may request stewards to assist in timing and watching the dogs.

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. These may be penalized. In extreme cases the dog may be excused.

The dog should not have to be forced into position after receiving the handler's command and/or signal to sit or down. The team should be penalized with a minor deduction if, in the judge's opinion, the dog was forced or placed into position.

A score of zero should be given if the dog does not remain in place or goes to another dog. The term "Did not remain in place" covers such behavior as scooting, crawling, or rolling more than a distance of one body length from the place where it was left by the handler.

A penalty of more than 50 percent of available points is assessed if the dog stands or lies down on the Long Sit, stands or sits on the Long Down, or repeatedly whines or barks during either of the exercises. These penalties should apply throughout the exercise and while the handler is returning to the dog.

Minor deductions will be given if the dog breaks the position it was left in after the handler returns to heel position and before the judge says, "Exercise Finished."

Drop on Recall — This exercise is a part of the Graduate Novice, Open A and Open B classes.

The principal features of this exercise, in addition to those listed under the Novice Recall, are the dog's prompt response to the handler's command or signal to drop, and the dog's remaining in the down position until called or signalled 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 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 order from the judge, the handler may command and/or signal 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/she turns and stands in a natural manner facing the dog. On judge's order or signal, the handler shall command or signal to come, and the dog must start directly toward the handler. On the judge's arm or hand signal or predetermined location, the handler shall give the command or signal to drop, and the dog must immediately drop to the down position, where it must remain until, on the judge's order or signal, the handler again gives command or signal to come. The dog then completes the exercise as in the Novice Recall.

Drop on Recall Scoring — Deductions, varying with the extent, shall be made for delayed or slow response to the handler's command or signal to drop, delay or slowness to down, slow response to either of the recalls and any anticipation of a command or signal. Penalties as in the Novice Recall shall apply.

Retrieve on Flat — This exercise is a part of the Open A and Open B classes.

The principal feature of this exercise is that the dog retrieve promptly.

Orders are: "Throw it," "Send your dog," "Take it," and "Finish."

The handler shall stand with the dog sitting in the heel position in a place designated by the judge. On order, "Throw it," the handler shall give command and/or signal to stay, which signal may not be given with the hand that is holding the dumbbell, and throw the dumbbell a distance of at least 15 feet. On order to send the dog, the handler shall give command or signal to retrieve. The retrieve shall be executed at a brisk trot or gallop, the dog going directly to the dumbbell and retrieving it, and returning directly to the handler without unnecessary mouthing or playing. The dog must sit straight to deliver, centered immediately in front of the handler's feet, close enough that the handler can readily take the dumbbell without moving either foot or having to stretch forward. The dog must not touch the handler nor sit between his/her feet. On order from the judge to "Take it," the handler shall give command or signal and take the dumbbell.

The finish shall be executed as in the Novice Recall.

The dumbbell, which must be approved by the judge, shall be made of one or more solid pieces of one of the heavy hardwoods, or of a rigid or semi-rigid, firm, nontoxic, nonwooden material, similar in size, shape, color, and weight to a wooden dumbbell. Dumbbells shall not be hollowed out. Metal dumbbells are not permitted. It may be unfinished, or coated with a clear finish, or painted white. It shall have no decorations or attachments but may bear an inconspicuous mark for identification. The size of the dumbbell shall be proportionate to the size of the dog. The judge shall require the dumbbell to be thrown again before the dog is sent if, in judge's opinion, it is thrown less than 15 feet, or too far to one side, or too close to the ringside.

Retrieve on Flat Scoring — A dog must be scored a zero if it fails to go out on the first command or signal, goes to retrieve before the command or signal, fails to retrieve, or does not return with the dumbbell sufficiently close that the handler can easily take the dumbbell as described above.

Substantial deductions, depending on the extent, shall be made for slowness in going out or returning or in picking up the dumbbell, for not going directly to the dumbbell, and for reluctance or refusal to release the dumbbell to the handler. All other applicable penalties listed under the Novice Recall apply.

Retrieve over High Jump — This exercise is a part of the Open B class.

The principal features of this exercise are that the dog go out over the jump, pick up the dumbbell, and promptly return with it over the jump. Orders are: "Throw it," "Send your dog," "Take it," and "Finish." This exercise shall be executed in the same manner as the Retrieve on Flat, except that the dog must clear the High Jump both going and coming. The handler must stand at least 8 feet, or any reasonable distance beyond 8 feet, from the jump but must remain in the same spot throughout the exercise and must throw the dumbbell at least 8 feet beyond the jump. The minimum jump shall be set at the nearest multiple of 2 inches to three-quarters the height of the dog at the withers, with no dog jumping less than 8 inches nor more than 36 inches.

Handlers having their dogs jump more than the minimum required height shall neither be penalized nor receive extra consideration.

The minimum jumps shall be set in accordance with the following table:

Measured height of dog at withers	Height to be jumped
Less than 12½"	8"
12½" to less than 15"	10"
15" to less than 17½"	12"
17½" to less than 20"	14"
20" to less than 23"	16"
23" to less than 25½"	18"
25½" to less than 28"	20"
28" to less than 31"	22"
31" less than 33½"	24"
33½" to less than 36"	26"
36" to less than 39"	28"

Note: Broad jump still remains twice the length of high jump.

The jumps may be preset by the stewards based on the handler's advice as to the dog's height. The judge must make certain the jump is at least the minimum required height for each dog, and must also be aware that the jump shall be set at a higher height if requested by the handler. The judge may, at his/her discretion, verify the height of any dog at the withers.

The side posts of the high jump shall be 4 feet high and the jump shall be 5 feet wide and constructed to provide adjustment for each 2 inches from 8 inches to 36 inches. It is suggested that the jump have a bottom board 8 inches wide, including the space from the bottom of the board to the ground or floor, together with three other 8-inch boards, one 4-inch board, and one 2-inch board. A 6-inch board may also be provided. The jump shall be painted a flat white. The width in inches, and nothing else, shall be painted on each side of each board in black 2-inch figures, the figures on the bottom board representing the distance from the ground or floor to the top of the board.

Retrieve over High Jump Scoring — Scoring of this exercise shall be as in Retrieve on Flat. In addition, a dog that fails, either going or returning, to go over the full height of the jump, or climbs or uses the jump for aid in going over, must be scored a zero.

Minor to substantial deductions, depending on the specific circumstances in each case, shall be made for the dog that touches the jump in going over or displays any hesitation or reluctance to jump. All other appropriate penalties for the Retrieve on Flat apply.

Broad Jump — This exercise is a part of the Open A, Open B, and Utility A classes.

The principal features of this exercise are that the dog stay where left until directed to jump and that the dog clear the jump on a single command or signal.

Orders are: “Leave your dog,” “Send your dog,” and “Finish.”

The handler will stand with the dog sitting in the heel position in front of and at least 8 feet from the jump. On order from the judge to “Leave your dog,” the handler will give the command and/or signal to stay and go to a position facing the right side of the jump, with his/her 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 order from the judge 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 returning to a sitting position in front of the handler as in the Novice Recall. The handler shall change position by executing a right-angle turn while the dog is in midair, but shall remain in the same spot. The dog must sit and finish as in the Novice Recall.

The broad jump shall consist of four hurdles, built to telescope for convenience, made of boards about 8 inches wide, the largest measuring about 5 feet in length and 6 inches high at the highest point, all painted a flat white. When set up they shall be arranged in order of size and shall be evenly spaced so as to cover a distance equal to twice the height of the high jump as set for the particular dog, with the low side of each hurdle and the lowest hurdle nearest the dog.

Use 4 hurdles for a jump of 48” to 72”

3 hurdles for a jump of 28” to 44”

2 hurdles for a jump of 16” to 24”

When decreasing the number of boards in the jump, the highest hurdle is removed first. It is the judge’s responsibility to assure the distance jumped is that required by regulations for that size dog.

Broad Jump Scoring — A dog that fails to stay until directed to jump, refuses the jump on the first command or signal, steps on or between the boards, uses the jump for aid in going over, or fails to clear the full distance must be scored zero. Minor or substantial deductions, depending on each circumstance, shall be made for a dog that does not return directly to the handler, displays any hesitation or reluctance to jump, or that touches the jump. All other applicable penalties listed under the Novice Recall apply.

Graduate Novice, Open A & B, Utility A Group Exercises, Performance and Scoring — These exercises are a part of the Graduate Novice, Open A, Open B and Utility A classes. During the Long Sit and the Long Down exercises, the judge shall stand in such a position that all dogs and handlers will be in his/her line of vision both while in and out of the ring, without having to turn around.

These exercises in the Graduate Novice, Open A & B and Utility A classes are performed in the same manner as in the Novice classes except that, after leaving their dogs the handlers must cross to the opposite side of the ring, leave the ring in single file as directed by the judge, and go to a place designated by the judge, completely out of sight of their dogs. Handlers must remain in place until called by the judge after the time limit of three minutes in the Long Sit and five minutes in the Long Down, from the time the judge gave the order to "Leave your dogs." On order from the judge the handlers shall return to the ring in single file in reverse order, lining up facing their dogs at the opposite side of the ring, and return to their dogs on order from the judge.

Orders and scoring are the same as in the Novice Group exercises.

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 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 the dog at any time. On order from the judge, "Forward," the handler may signal the 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." 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 order from the judge, and while the dog is walking at heel, the handler shall signal the dog to "Stand in the heel" position near one end of the ring. (To facilitate this, the judge should give the command to stand when the dog and handler are near one end of the ring.) On further order, "Leave your dog," the handler shall signal the dog to "Stay," go to the other end of the ring, and turn to face the dog. On separate and specific signals from the judge, the handler shall give the signals to "Drop," "Sit," "Come," and "Finish" as in the Novice Recall. 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, i.e. only "Heel" signals (signals to heel) are allowed in the heeling part of this exercise.

Signal Exercise Scoring — This exercise is a part of the Utility A and Utility B classes.

A dog that fails, on a single signal from the handler, to stand or remain standing where left, to drop, to sit and stay, to come, or that receives a command or audible signal from the handler to do any of these parts of the exercise shall be scored zero.

Minor or substantial deductions, depending on the specific circumstances in each case, shall be made for a dog that walks forward on the stand, drop or sit portions of the exercise. A substantial deduction shall be made for any audible command during the heeling or finish portions of the exercise.

All the penalties listed under the Heel on Leash and Figure Eight, and Novice Recall exercises shall apply.

Scent Discrimination — This exercise is a part of the Utility A and Utility B classes.

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 before 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 written note of the numbers of the two articles 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/her hand only one article at a time. The judge or steward will handle each of the remaining eight articles as he/she places them on the floor or ground at random and about 6 inches apart, with the closest article being about 15 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/her scent to each article only with hands and that, between the time the handler picks up each article and the time it is given to the judge, the article is held continuously in the handler's hands which must remain in plain sight.

On order from the judge, the handler will immediately place the article on the judge's book or work sheet. The judge, without touching the article with their hands, will place it among those on the ground or floor.

On order from the judge to "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. The handler may give their scent to the dog by gently touching the dog's nose with the palm of one open hand, but 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 if 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 Flat.

These procedures shall be followed for both articles. Should a dog retrieve 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.

Scent Discrimination Scoring — Deductions shall be the same as in the Novice Recall and the Retrieve on Flat. In addition, a dog that fails to go to the group of articles, or retrieves a wrong article, or fails to bring the right article to the handler, must be scored zero for the particular exercise.

Substantial deductions shall be made for a dog that picks up a wrong article, even though it puts it down again immediately, for any roughness by the handler in parting their scent to the dog, and for the handler not turning in place.

Minor or substantial deductions, depending on the circumstances in each case, shall be made for a dog that is slow or inattentive, that does not go directly to the articles or that does not work continuously, and for any excessive motions by the handler in turning to face the articles. There shall be no penalty for a dog that takes a reasonably long time examining the articles provided the dog works smartly and continuously.

Directed Retrieve — This exercise is a part of the Utility B class.

The principal features of the exercise are that the dog stay until directed to retrieve, that it go directly to the designated glove, and that it retrieve 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 their back to the unobstructed end of the ring with the dog sitting in the heel position midway between and in line with the two jumps. The judge or steward will then drop the three gloves across the end of the ring, while the handler and dog are facing the opposite direction, 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 reposition the dog. The handler will then 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, 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 Flat.

The handler may bend 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 arms at sides.

The exercise shall consist of a single retrieve. Before the start of judging the judge shall make the decision to either assign the gloves to dogs so that successive dogs in catalog order will have different gloves, or to assign the gloves as the dog appear in the ring for judging so that two successive dogs do not receive the same glove. In either case each glove shall be used approximately the same number of times.

Directed Retrieve Scoring — All applicable penalties listed under the Novice Recall and the Retrieve on Flat shall apply. In addition, a score of zero is required for any commands or signals by the handler, after turning, to position the dog to face the designated glove, for not going directly to the designated glove, or for not retrieving the glove.

Depending on the extent, a substantial deduction even to the point of zero shall be made for not turning in place or not turning to face the designated glove.

Depending on the extent, a minor to substantial deduction shall be made for a handler who touches the dog or uses excessive motions while turning to face the glove.

Depending on the extent, substantial or minor deductions shall be made for a handler who overturns or touches the dog or uses excessive motions when turning to face the glove.

Directed Jumping — This exercise is a part of the Utility B class.

The principal features of this exercise are that the dog go away from the handler in the direction indicated, stop when commanded, jump as directed, and return 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 and 18 to 20 feet apart, the bar jump on one side, the high jump on the other. The judge must make certain 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 center line of the ring and about 20 feet from the line of the jumps, shall stand with the dog sitting in the heel position and on order from the judge shall command

and/or signal the dog to go forward at a brisk trot or gallop to a point about 20 feet beyond the jumps and in the approximate center. When the dog has reached this point the handler shall give a command to sit; the dog must stop and sit with 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 after 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 order from the judge, 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.

It is optional with the judge 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 2 and 2 ½ 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. The bar shall be supported by two unconnected 4-foot upright posts about 5 feet apart. The bar shall be adjustable for each 2 inches of height from 8 inches to 36 inches, and the jump shall be so constructed and positioned that the bar can be knocked off without disturbing the uprights.

Directed Jumping Scoring — A dog must receive a score of zero for the following: anticipating the handler’s command and/or signal to go out, not leaving the handler, not going out between the jumps, not stopping on command and remaining at least 10 feet beyond the jumps, anticipating the handler’s command and/or signal to jump, not jumping as directed, knocking the bar off the uprights, and climbing or using the top of the high jump for aid in going over.

Substantial deductions shall be made for a dog that does not stop in the approximate center of the ring about 20 feet beyond the jumps, for a dog that turns, stops or sits before the handler’s command to sit and for a dog that fails to sit.

Substantial or minor deductions, depending on the extent, shall be made for slowness in going out or for touching the jumps, or for any display of hesitation or reluctance to jump. All of the penalties listed under Novice Recall shall also apply.

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 with out shyness or resentment, and, on command, return to the handler.

Orders for the exercise are “forward,” “stand your dog,” given while the handler is walking, and “call your dog to heel.”

The handler stands with the 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 the 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, without pausing, commands and/or signals the dog to stand, continues forward 10 to 12 feet and turns around, either to the right or left, and stands facing the dog. The dog must stand and stay in position.

The judge approaches the dog from the front and examines the dog by going over it with his/her hands as in dog show judging except that in no circumstances shall the examination include the dog’s

mouth or testicles. (This should be done in the manner of Stand for Examination. The judge will touch the dog's head, body, and hindquarters.)

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.

Moving Stand and Examination Scoring — A score of zero is required for the following: A dog displaying fear or resentment, moving from the place where it was left, sitting or lying down before being called, growling or snapping at any time during the exercise, repeated whining or barking, the dog's failure to heel, stand and stay, accept the judge's examination, or return to the handler.

Substantial to minor deductions, depending on the circumstances, must be made for a dog that moves its feet repeatedly while remaining in place, or for a dog that returns close enough to the handler so that the handler could readily touch the dog's head without moving either foot or having to stretch, but not to the heel position.

All appropriate penalties of the Novice Heel Free, Stand for Examination, and Recall exercises shall apply. Minor or substantial penalties, depending on extent, shall be made for the handler that changes the manner of walking or hesitates or pauses while giving the command and/or signal to stand, or if the dog fails to return briskly or sit properly in the heel position.

APPENDIX A

CLASSES AND POINT TOTALS

Showmanship	1. Fitting of the Dog	30 points
	2. Showmanship of Handler	35 points
	3. Coordination Between Handler and Dog	35 points
	Total	100 points

Obedience	Pre-Novice (All on Leash)	Possible points
	Heel and figure eight	35
	Stand for examination	30
	Recall	35
	Long sit (1 minute)	30
	Long down (3 minutes)	30
	Total	160

	Novice	
	Heel on leash and figure eight	35
	Stand for examination (off leash)	30
	Heel (off leash)	45
	Recall (off leash)	30
	Long sit (1 minute off leash)	30
	Long down (3 minutes off leash)	30
	Total	200

	Graduate Novice	
	Heel on leash	35
	Stand for examination (off leash)	30
	Heel free and figure eight	45
	Drop on recall	30
	Long sit (member out of sight 3 minutes)	30
	Long down (member out of sight 5 minutes)	30
	Total	200

Open A	Possible Points
Heel free and figure eight	40
Drop on recall	30
Retrieve on flat	40
Broad jump	40
Long sit (member out of sight 3 minutes)	25
Long down (member out of sight 5 minutes)	25
Total	200

Open B	
Heel free and figure eight	40
Drop on recall	30
Retrieve on flat	25
Retrieve over high jump	35
Broad jump	20
Long sit (member out of sight 3 minutes)	25
Long down (member out of sight 5 minutes)	25
Total	200

Utility A	
Hand signal exercise	40
Article 1 (scent discrimination)	30
Article 2 (scent discrimination)	30
Retrieve over high jump	30
Broad jump	20
Long sit (member out of sight 3 minutes)	25
Long down (member out of sight 5 minutes)	25
Total	200

Utility B	
Hand signal exercise	40
Article 1 (scent discrimination)	30
Article 2 (scent discrimination)	30
Directed retrieve	30
Directed jumping	40
Moving stand and examination	30
Total	200

APPENDIX B
Class Scoresheets

TEAM Armband Number _____	FINAL SCORE _____	CIRCLE PLACING: Purple (95–100) Blue (90–94.5) Red (80–89.5) White (79.5 or less)
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4-H Dog Showmanship

Class: Junior Intermediate Senior
(Circle one)

4-Her's Name _____ Dog's Name _____ Breed _____

Show Location _____ Date _____ Judge _____

Judge's Comments and Suggestions for Improvement:

STRENGTHS:

WEAKNESSES:

		Maximum Points	Points Lost	Score
1. Fitting of the Dog:	Possible Problem Areas:			
a. Hair and coat	Clean, natural, not scaly, not matted, free from loose hair	5		
b. General absence of parasites.	Fleas, lice, mites and ticks	5		
c. Ears	Clean inside	5		
d. Eyes	Clean, free from matter	5		
e. Toenails	Not excessively long	5		
f. Teeth	Clean, free from excessive tartar	5		
2. Showmanship of the Handler:	Possible Problem Areas:			
a. Appearance of handler	Clothing ____ Footwear ____ Grooming ____	35		
	Smiling ____ Friendly ____ Confident ____			
b. Grace and ease of showing	Correct lead usage ____			
	Keeps dog set up ____ Follows instructions ____			
c. Avoids getting in awkward and/or unsightly positions	Keeps dog between judge and 4-H'er ____			
	Good footwork ____ Commands ____ Signals ____			
d. Easy and smooth movement	Lead handling _____			
e. Sportsmanship	Crowding or bothering another team _____			
f. Knows about this dog's care, condition and problems	Other _____			
3. Coordination Between Handler and Dog:	Possible Problem Areas:			
a. Dog's reaction to handler	Extra loud commands _____ Dog not responsive _____	35		
b. General communication between dog and handler	Unnecessary jerking or pulling _____ Dog cowering or unhappy _____			
c. Straight and even gait: DOG should move faster than a normal walk	Straight, even gait ____ Weaving ____ Dog lagging ____ Bumping handler ____ Crowding handler ____ Dog pulling away ____			
	d. Works as a team			
Maximum Points		100		
Heavy disciplining Shows fear Fouling ring Disqualified Dismissed Excused Less penalty for unusual behavior				
Updated 2/14	Explanation of Penalty	Total Net Score		

TEAM
Armband Number

FINAL
SCORE

CIRCLE PLACING:
Purple (150-160)
Blue (135-149.5)
Red (120-134.5)
White (119.5 or less)

4-H Dog Obedience

Class: Pre-Novice (A) (B) (C)
(County use only) (Circle one)

4-Her's Name _____ Dog's Name _____ Breed _____

Show Location _____ Date _____ Judge _____

Judge's Comments and Suggestions for Improvement:

Exercise	Non-Qualifying		Qualifying	Maximum Points	Points Lost	Net Score
	Zero	Less than 50%				
Heel on Leash and Figure 8	Unmanageable ____	Handler continually adapts pace to dog ____ Constant tugging on leash or guiding ____	Heeling Fig. 8 Extra command to heel or sit _____ Improper heel position _____ Occasional tight leash _____ Forging _____ Lagging _____ Heeling wide (Turns ____ Abouts ____) _____ No change of pace (Fast ____ Slow ____) _____ No sits _____ Poor sits _____ Crowding handler _____ Sniffing _____ Lack of naturalness, smoothness _____ Handler error _____	35		
Stand for Examination on Leash	Sits before or during examination ____ Growls or snaps ____	Moves away before or during examination ____	Resistance to handler posing _____ Extra command to stay _____ Moving slightly during exam _____ Moving after examination _____ Sits as handler returns _____ Lack of naturalness, smoothness _____ Handler error _____	30		
Recall on Leash	Didn't come on first command or signal ____	Extra command or signal to stay ____ Moved from position ____ Anticipated recall command ____ Sat out of reach ____ Leaving handler ____	Stood or lay down ____ No finish ____ Extra command to come ____ Extra command to finish ____ Slow response ____ Poor finish ____ No sit in front ____ Poor sit at finish ____ Poor sit in front ____ Lack of naturalness ____ Touched handler ____ or smoothness ____ Sat between feet ____ Handler error ____	35		
Maximum Subtotal				100		
Long Sit on Leash (1 minute)	Did not remain in place ____ Goes to another dog ____	Stood or lay down as handler returns ____ Repeated whines or barks ____	Forcing into position ____ Stood or lay down after handler returns to heel position ____ Minor move before handler returns ____ Minor whine or bark ____ Excessively loud commands ____	30		
Long Down on Leash (3 minutes)	Did not remain in place ____ Goes to another dog ____	Stood or sat as handler returns ____ Repeated whines or barks ____	Forcing into position ____ Stood or sat after handler returns to heel position ____ Minor move before handler returns ____ Minor whine or bark ____ Excessively loud commands ____	30		
Maximum Points				160		
Heavy disciplining Shows fear Fouling ring Disqualified Dismissed Excused Less penalty for unusual behavior						
Updated 3/12 Explanation of Penalty					Total Net Score	

TEAM Armband Number _____	FINAL SCORE _____	CIRCLE PLACING: Purple (190-200) Blue (170-189.5) Red (150-169.5) White (149.5 or less)
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4-H Dog Obedience

Class: Novice

4-Her's Name _____ Dog's Name _____ Breed _____

Show Location _____ Date _____ Judge _____

Judge's Comments and Suggestions for Improvement:

Exercise	Non-Qualifying		Qualifying	Maximum Points	Points Lost	Net Score
	Zero	Less than 50%				
Heel on Leash and Figure 8	Unmanageable ____	Handler continually adapts pace to dog ____ Constant tugging on leash or guiding ____	<div style="text-align: right; margin-bottom: 5px;">Heeling Fig. 8</div> Extra command to heel or sit _____ Improper heel position _____ Occasional tight leash _____ Forging _____ Lagging _____ Heeling wide (Turns ____ Abouts ____) _____ No change of pace (Fast ____ Slow ____) _____ No sits _____ Poor sits _____ Crowding handler _____ Sniffing _____ Lack of naturalness, smoothness _____ Handler error _____	35		
Stand for Examination off Leash	Sits before or during examination ____ Growls or snaps ____	Moves away before or during examination ____	Resistance to handler posing _____ Extra command to stay _____ Moving slightly during exam _____ Moving after examination _____ Sits as handler returns _____ Lack of naturalness, smoothness _____ Handler error _____	30		
Heel off Leash	Unmanageable ____	Handler continually adapts pace to dog ____	Extra command to heel or sit _____ Forging _____ Improper heel position _____ Lagging _____ Heeling wide ____ (turns ____ abouts ____) No change of pace (fast ____ slow ____) Lack of naturalness, smoothness _____ Sniffing _____ No sits _____ Poor sits _____ Crowding handler _____ Handler error _____	45		
Recall off Leash	Didn't come on first command or signal ____ Extra command or signal to stay ____	Moved from position ____ Anticipated recall command ____ Sat out of reach ____ Leaving handler ____ Double command or signal to come ____	Stood or lay down _____ No finish _____ Extra command to come _____ Extra command to finish _____ Slow response _____ Poor finish _____ No sit in front _____ Poor sit at finish _____ Poor sit in front _____ Lack of naturalness _____ Touched handler _____ or smoothness _____ Sat between feet _____ Handler error _____ Hands not at sides _____	30		
Maximum Subtotal				140		
Long Sit off Leash (1 minute)	Did not remain in place ____ Goes to another dog ____	Stood or lay down as handler returns ____ Repeated whines or barks ____	Forcing into position _____ Stood or lay down after handler returns to heel position _____ Minor move before handler returns _____ Minor whine or bark _____ Excessively loud commands _____	30		
Long Down off Leash (3 minutes)	Did not remain in place ____ Goes to another dog ____	Stood or sat as handler returns ____ Repeated whines or barks ____	Forcing into position _____ Stood or sat after handler returns to heel position _____ Minor move before handler returns _____ Minor whine or bark _____ Excessively loud commands _____	30		
Maximum Points				200		
Heavy disciplining Shows fear Fouling ring Disqualified Dismissed Excused Less penalty for unusual behavior						
Explanation of Penalty						Total Net Score

TEAM
Armband Number

FINAL
SCORE

CIRCLE PLACING:
Purple (190-200)
Blue (170-189.5)
Red (150-169.5)
White (149.5 or less)

4-H Dog Obedience

Class: Graduate Novice

4-Her's Name _____ Dog's Name _____ Breed _____

Show Location _____ Date _____ Judge _____

Judge's Comments and Suggestions for Improvement:

Exercise	Non-Qualifying		Qualifying	Maximum Points	Points Lost	Net Score
	Zero	Less than 50%				
Heel on Leash	Unmanageable ____ Unqualified heeling ____	Handler continually adapts pace to dog ____ Constant tugging on leash or guiding ____	Extra command to heel or sit ____ Forging ____ Improper heel position ____ Lagging ____ Occasional tight leash ____ No sits ____ No change of pace (fast ____ slow ____) Crowding handler ____ Sniffing ____ Heeling wide ____ (turns ____ abouts ____) Handler error ____	35		
Stand for Examination off Leash	Growls or snaps ____	Sits or moves away before or during examination ____	Resistance to handler posing ____ Extra command to stay ____ Moving slightly during exam ____ Moving after examination ____ Sits as handler returns ____ Handler error ____	30		
Heel off Leash and Figure 8	Unmanageable ____ Unqualified heeling ____	Handler continually adapts pace to dog ____	Heeling Fig. 8 Extra command to heel or sit ____ Improper heel position ____ Forging ____ Lagging ____ Heeling wide (turns ____ abouts ____) No change of pace (fast ____ slow ____) No sits ____ Poor sits ____ Crowding handler ____ Sniffing ____ Handler error ____	45		
Drop on Recall	Does not come on first command or signal ____ Does not drop on first command or signal ____ Sat out of reach	Extra command or signal to stay after handler leaves ____ Moved from place left ____ Anticipated or failed to: Recall ____ Drop ____ Come in ____	Stood or lay down ____ No finish ____ Extra command or signal before leaving ____ Hands not at sides ____ Touched handler ____ Slow response ____ Sat between feet ____ Slow return ____ Poor sit ____ Poor finish ____ Slow drop ____ No sit in front ____ Handler error ____	30		
Maximum Subtotal				140		
Long Sit (3 min., handler out of sight)	Did not remain in place ____ Goes to another dog ____	Stood or lay down as handler returns ____ Repeated whines or barks ____	Forcing into position ____ Stood or lay down after handler returns to heel position ____ Minor move before handler returns ____ Minor whine or bark ____ Excessively loud commands ____	30		
Long Down (5 min., handler out of sight)	Did not remain in place ____ Goes to another dog ____	Stood or sat as handler returns ____ Repeated whines or barks ____	Forcing into position ____ Stood or sat after handler returns to heel position ____ Minor move before handler returns ____ Minor whine or bark ____ Excessively loud commands ____	30		
Maximum Points				200		
Heavy disciplining Shows fear Fouling ring Disqualified Dismissed Excused Less penalty for unusual behavior						
Updated 3/12 Explanation of Penalty					Total Net Score	

4-H OBEDIENCE CLASSES JUDGE'S WORKSHEET

Class _____

Date _____

BREED

Team Number												

Long Sit:												
Excessively loud commands												
Minor move before handler returns												
Minor whine or bark												
Did not remain in place												
Stood or lay down after handler returns to heel position												
Score												

Long Down:												
Excessively loud commands												
Forcing into position												
Minor move before handler returns												
Minor whine or bark												
Did not remain in place												
Sat or stood after handler returns to heel position												
Score												

CLASS:	Pre-Novice	Novice	Grad. Novice	Open A	Open B	Utility A
How performed:	On lead	Off lead	Out of sight	Out of sight	Out of sight	Out of sight
Maximum Points Possible:						
Long Sit:	30	30	30	25	25	25
Long Down:	30	30	30	25	25	25

TEAM
Armband Number

FINAL
SCORE

CIRCLE PLACING:
Purple (190-200)
Blue (170-189.5)
Red (150-169.5)
White (149.5 or less)

4-H Dog Obedience

Class: Open A

4-Hers Name _____ Dog's Name _____ Breed _____

Dog's Height (at withers) _____ Broad Jump set at _____ inches

Show Location _____ Date _____ Judge _____

Judge's Comments and Suggestions for Improvement:

Exercise	Non-Qualifying Zero	Qualifying	Maximum Points	Points Lost	Net Score
Heel Free and Figure 8	Unmanageable ____ Unqualified heeling ____ Handler continually adapts pace to dog ____	Heeling Fig. 8 Extra command to heel or sit ____ Improper heel position ____ Forging ____ Lagging ____ Heeling wide (Turns ____ Abouts ____) No change of pace (Fast ____ Slow ____) No sits ____ Poor sits ____ Crowding handler ____ Sniffing ____ Handler error ____	40		
Drop on Recall	Does not come on first command or signal ____ Does not drop on first command or signal ____ Extra command or signal by handler ____ Moved from place ____ Anticipated command ____ Sat out of reach ____	Stood or lay down ____ Touched handler ____ Poor sit ____ No finish ____ Sat between feet ____ Poor finish ____ No sit in front ____ Hands not at sides ____	30		
Retrieve on Flat	Goes before command or signal ____ Fails to go out on first command or signal ____ Fails to retrieve ____ Extra command or signal ____ Sat out of reach ____	Slow (going ____ returning ____) Dropping dumbbell ____ No sit in front ____ Mouthing or playing ____ Touching handler ____ Poor delivery ____ No finish ____ Poor sit ____ Poor finish ____ Sat between feet ____ Handler error ____	40		
Broad Jump	Goes before command or signal ____ Refuses to jump on first command or signal ____ Walks over any part ____ Does not clear jump ____ Sat out of reach ____	Minor jump touch ____ Touching handler ____ Poor return ____ No finish ____ Poor sit ____ Poor finish ____ Sat between feet ____ Handler error ____ No sit in front ____	40		
Maximum Subtotal			150		
Long Sit (3 min., handler out of sight)	Did not remain in place ____ Stood or lay down as handler returns ____ Goes to another dog ____ Repeated whines or barks ____	Forced into position ____ Stood or lay down after handler returns to heel position ____ Minor move before handler returns ____ Minor whine or bark ____ Excessively loud commands ____	25		
Long Down (5 min., handler out of sight)	Did not remain in place ____ Stood or sat as handler returns ____ Goes to another dog ____ Repeated whines or barks ____	Forced into position ____ Stood or sat after handler returns to heel position ____ Minor move before handler returns ____ Minor whine or bark ____ Excessively loud commands ____	25		
Maximum Points			200		
Heavy disciplining Shows fear Fouling ring Disqualified Dismissed Excused Less penalty for unusual behavior					
Updated 3/12			Explanation of Penalty		Total Net Score

TEAM Armband Number _____	FINAL SCORE _____	CIRCLE PLACING: Purple (190-200) Blue (170-189.5) Red (150-169.5) White (149.5 or less)
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4-H Dog Obedience

Class: Open B

4-H'ers Name _____ Dog's Name _____ Breed _____

Dog's Height (at withers) _____ Broad Jump set at _____ inches High Jump set at _____ inches

Show Location _____ Date _____ Judge _____

Judge's Comments and Suggestions for Improvement:

Exercise	Non-Qualifying Zero	Qualifying	Maximum Points	Points Lost	Net Score
Heel Free and Figure 8	Unmanageable ____ Unqualified heeling ____ Handler continually adapts pace to dog ____	Heeling Fig. 8 Extra command to heel or sit _____ Improper heel position _____ Forging _____ Lagging _____ Heeling wide (Turns ____ Abouts ____) No change of pace (Fast ____ Slow ____) No sits _____ Poor sits _____ Crowding handler _____ Sniffing _____ Handler error _____	40		
Drop on Recall	Does not come on first command or signal ____ Does not drop on first command or signal ____ Extra command or signal by handler ____ Moved from place ____ Anticipated command ____ Sat out of reach ____	Stood or lay down ____ Touched handler ____ Poor sit ____ No finish ____ Sat between feet ____ Poor finish ____ No sit in front ____ Hands not at sides ____	30		
Retrieve on Flat	Goes before command or signal ____ Fails to go out on first command or signal ____ Fails to retrieve ____ Extra command or signal ____ Sat out of reach ____	Slow (going ____ returning ____) Dropping dumbbell ____ No sit in front ____ Mouthing or playing ____ Touching handler ____ Poor delivery ____ No finish ____ Poor sit ____ Poor finish ____ Sat between feet ____ Handler error ____	25		
Retrieve Over High Jump	Fails to go out on first command or signal ____ Fails to jump going or returning ____ Goes before command or signal ____ Extra command or signal ____ Fails to retrieve ____ Sat out of reach ____ Climbing jump ____	Slow (going ____ returning ____) Dropping dumbbell ____ No sit in front ____ Mouthing or playing ____ Touching handler ____ Poor delivery ____ No finish ____ Touching jump ____ Poor finish ____ Poor sit ____ Handler error ____ Sat between feet ____	35		
Broad Jump	Goes before command or signal ____ Refuses to jump on first command or signal ____ Walks over any part ____ Does not clear jump ____ Sat out of reach ____	Minor jump touch ____ Touching handler ____ Poor return ____ No finish ____ Poor sit ____ Poor finish ____ Sat between feet ____ Handler error ____ No sit in front ____	20		
			Maximum Subtotal	150	
Long Sit (3 min., handler out of sight)	Did not remain in place ____ Stood or lay down as handler returns ____ Goes to another dog ____ Repeated whines or barks ____	Forced into position ____ Stood or lay down after handler returns to heel position ____ Minor move before handler returns ____ Minor whine or bark ____ Excessively loud commands ____	25		
Long Down (5 min., handler out of sight)	Did not remain in place ____ Stood or sat as handler returns ____ Goes to another dog ____ Repeated whines or barks ____	Forced into position ____ Stood or sat after handler returns to heel position ____ Minor move before handler returns ____ Minor whine or bark ____ Excessively loud commands ____	25		
			Maximum Points	200	
Heavy disciplining Shows fear Fouling ring Disqualified Dismissed Excused Less penalty for unusual behavior					
Updated 3/12			Explanation of Penalty	Total Net Score	

4-H Dog Obedience

Class: Utility B

TEAM Armband Number _____	FINAL SCORE _____	CIRCLE PLACING: Purple (190-200) Blue (170-189.5) Red (150-169.5) White (149.5 or less)
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4-H'ers Name _____ Dog's Name _____ Breed _____

Dog's Height (at withers) _____ High Jump set at _____ inches Bar Jump set at _____ inches

Show Location _____ Date _____ Judge _____

Judge's Comments and Suggestions for Improvement:

Exercise	Non-Qualifying Zero	Qualifying	Maximum Points	Points Lost	Net Score
Signal Exercise	Handler adapts to pace of dog ___ Unqualified heeling ___ Unmanageable ___ Any audible command, or Failure on first signal to: Stand ___ Stay ___ Drop ___ Sit ___ Come ___ Anticipated command to: Stand ___ Stay ___ Drop ___ Sit ___ Come ___ Sat out of reach ___	No change of pace (fast ___ slow ___) Heeling wide ___ (turns ___ abouts ___) Lagging ___ Forging ___ Crowding handler ___ Sniffing ___ Holding signals ___ Poor sits ___ Extra command or signal: to heel ___ to finish ___ Slow response to signal: stand ___ down ___ sit ___ come ___ Sat between feet ___ No finish ___ Touching handler ___ Poor finish ___	40		
Scent Discrimination	Does not go out on first command Wrong article Extra command Does not retrieve Anticipated Sat out of reach	Leather Metal Doesn't work continuously ___ ___ Dropping article on return ___ ___ Picked up wrong article then dropped ___ ___ No sit in front ___ ___ Sat after turn ___ ___ Mouthing ___ ___ Touched handler ___ ___ Slow response ___ ___ Sat between feet ___ ___ Poor sit ___ ___ Poor finish ___ ___ No finish ___ ___	Leather 30 Metal 30		
Directed Retrieve	Fails to go out on first command or signal ___ Does not: Go directly to glove ___ Retrieve correct glove ___ Anticipated ___ Sat out of reach ___	Touching dog sending ___ No sit in front ___ Slow response to commands ___ Touching handler ___ Dropping article ___ Poor sit ___ Mouthing or playing ___ No finish ___ Poor delivery ___ Poor finish ___ Handler error ___	30		
Directed Jumping	Does not: High Jump Bar Jump Leave on order ___ ___ Stop on command ___ ___ Jump as directed ___ ___ Climbing jump ___ ___ Knocking bar off ___ ___ Anticipate command ___ ___ Go at least 10 feet beyond jumps ___ ___	High Jump Bar Jump Holding signals ___ ___ Slow response to directions ___ ___ Slightly off direction ___ ___ Not back far enough ___ ___ Handler error ___ ___ Hesitation or reluctance to jump ___ ___ Does not sit on command ___ ___ Anticipated: turn ___ stop ___ sit ___ No sit in front ___ Touched handler ___ Sat between feet ___ Poor sits ___ Anticipate finish ___ No finishes ___ Poor finishes ___	40		
Moving Stand and Examination	Sat out of reach ___ Displays fear or resentment ___ Sitting or lying down ___ Growling or snapping ___ Repeated whining or barking ___ Failure to: Heel ___ Stand and stay ___ Accept examination ___ Return to handler ___	Forging ___ Lagging ___ Wide ___ Moves slightly on stand ___ Handler hesitates or pauses ___ Fails to return briskly ___ Poor sit ___ Return to heel position ___ Slow response ___ Handler error ___ Poor finish ___	30		
Maximum Points			200		
Heavy disciplining Shows fear Fouling ring Disqualified Dismissed Excused Less penalty for unusual behavior					
Updated 3/12			Explanation of Penalty		Total Net Score

4-H Judging Your Judge

Judge's name _____ Show Date _____ Class Judged _____

I want to be the best judge that you have ever had. I know that all judges are different because all of us have our own individual views and feelings. These have been formed by our training, experiences and research of the 4-H Dog Project.

You can have an impact on helping us to judge more uniformly by taking a little time to score this sheet. Please offer any suggestions for improvement that you or your family can think of.

Thank you for allowing me to judge you and your dog! Keep up the good work! You and your dog will only get better and better!

(Circle the answer that best reflects your feelings)

- | | | | |
|---|-----|----------|----|
| 1. Did the judge speak clearly and give good instructions? | Yes | Somewhat | No |
| 2. Did the judge have a safe ring set up? | Yes | Somewhat | No |
| 3. Did the judge make you feel comfortable showing to him/her? | Yes | Somewhat | No |
| 4. Was the judge friendly to you and your dog? | Yes | Somewhat | No |
| 5. Did the judge treat you fairly? | Yes | Somewhat | No |
| 6. Did the judge give you and your dog the same amount of judging time that was given to the other teams? | Yes | Somewhat | No |
| 7. Was the judge interested in you and your dog? | Yes | Somewhat | No |
| 8. Did the judge offer you any suggestions for improvements? | Yes | Somewhat | No |

9. Judge's Strengths:

10. Judge's Weaknesses:

Your name _____ (optional)

Thank you very much. Happy Heeling!

Please return this to your judge or the table steward today.

NOTES

NOTES

NOTES

These guidelines were prepared by State 4-H Dog Care and Training Action Team. Special acknowledgment is given to Keith Neuway for major contributions to this document. Credit is given to the American Kennel Club “Obedience Regulations” as a major reference in preparing the obedience section of these guidelines.

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