

LIST OF CHANGES TO RALLY REGULATIONS
COMING INTO EFFECT 1 JANUARY 2019

Regulation S9.a. Schedules

TO:

- a. A Schedule, incorporating an entry form **and an Exercise Modification Request form**, must be published for each competition.

Regulation S10. Entry for Competition.

TO:

- c. **If entered in a standard class, a dog must be entered at the level for which it is eligible. It may also be entered in up to two additional classes, one of which may be at the subsequent higher level.**
 - d. **A dog can be entered in special class(es) only.**
 - e. **Special classes do not count towards progression.**
- (Subsequent paragraphs to be renumbered)

Regulation S11.f. Acceptance of Entries

TO:

- f. ~~The competition host must send out confirmations by post or email for all accepted entries, either immediately following processing or after the closing date. If confirmations do not include running order/ team number(s), walk-through times, ring plans and all other pertinent information, this information must be sent separately to all competitors with accepted entries no later than seven days before the first day of the competition.~~ **Competitors must send an SAE if they are unable to access the show information via the internet. The schedule must detail where to find the competition information.**

Regulation S15. Facilities and Equipment

TO:

It is the competition organiser's responsibility to provide the following:

- a. **Information to the judge as soon as possible after the closing of entries concerning the number of entries, Exercise Modification Forms, the height of dogs (for Level 3 and above), proposed ring size, and venue surface.**
- a. ~~b.~~ Rally exercise signs, station numbers and appropriate holders.
- b. ~~c.~~ Judging rings shall not in any circumstances contain less than ~~96~~ **100** sqm of clear floor space and shall not be less than 8 metres in length except that for Level 3 and above the ring must contain not less than ~~444~~ **150** sqm. Rings must be **clearly defined** enclosed with ring ropes, barriers, fencing or netting and have a suitable, level surface.
- c. ~~A large flip chart and easel, blackboard or equivalent for posting order and score information.~~
- d. Rosettes & Awards.
- e. ~~Armbands, r~~Ring numbers or adhesive labels for dog and handler identification.

- h. All jumps must be constructed in a manner that provides stability and safety for all dogs. **Jump Pole** width is to be between 1.2 metres and 1.5 metres. **It must be a single bar jump which is able to fall in either direction. The jump must not have wings.** ~~Single bar jumps are preferable but not required.~~

Regulation S18. Awards

TO:

- b. The host organisation shall also provide certificates and/or qualifying rosettes to all ~~handlers~~ **dogs** ~~who~~ **which** receive a qualifying score.
- c. Other rosettes and special awards may be offered at the discretion of the competition host.
- d. **In standard classes, rosettes and/or place cards shall only be awarded to dogs that have achieved a qualifying score.**

Regulation S19. Judging

TO:

- b. Before judging a Level 1 or Level 2 class at an Open Rally competition a judge must have:
- (1) handled a dog and achieved the Level Title for the Level which he or she is judging.
 - (2) must have acted as a scribe steward for a complete standard Rally class on at least ~~one~~ **two** occasions **with two different judges**.
 - (3) have attended a Kennel Club Rally Regulations and Judging Procedure Seminar and passed the Regulations and Judging Procedure examination.
 - (4) have attended a Kennel Club Rally Practical Judging Seminar.
 - (5) a judge's first ~~two~~ **three** appointments must be restricted to Level 1 or Level 2.
- c. **The next two appointments may be at Level 3. Before judging Level 4 a judge must have undertaken two appointments at Level 3.**
- d. **Before a judge can judge Level 5 they must have undertaken two appointments at Level 4.**
- e. **Before judging Level 6 a judge must have carried out two appointments at Level 5.**
- f. **Judges must ensure that they have scribed at every level they intend to judge.**
- ~~e. The next two appointments may include Level 3 or Level 4.~~
- ~~d. Before a judge can judge Level 5 or Level 6 they must have undertaken at least two appointments at Level 3 or Level 4.~~
- ~~(Regulation b., c. and d. effective 1 January 2015)~~
- ~~ik. Judges to provide dog bowls, freestanding mesh cover and food if they wish to include exercises where the use of these is required.~~
- l. Judges accepting regular appointments are encouraged to source their own judging equipment.**

(Subsequent paragraphs to be renumbered)

Regulation 21. Competing

TO:

- c. **All dogs must enter and leave the judging ring on lead.**
(Subsequent paragraphs to be renumbered)
- gh. Dogs must compete in a flat buckle or snap collar. Collars may have tags on them. Decorations and/or costumes, **harnesses, slip leads, check and half-check collars** are not allowed.
(Subsequent paragraphs to be renumbered)
- ij. **Jump Heights** – Dogs ~~are not~~ **may be** required to be measured on the day of competition prior to the judging. ~~However, j~~ Judges have the option of measuring any dog prior to his/her performance if the dog appears to be entered in a group ~~lower~~ **other** than might be indicated by his/her registered shoulder height.
Shoulder Height under 30 cm Jump 10cm
Shoulder Height 30 cm to under 40 cm Jump 20 cm
Shoulder Height 40 cm to under 50 cm Jump 30 cm
Shoulder Height 50 cm and over Jump 40 cm

S(B)

PERFORMANCE AND SCORING GUIDELINES AND COMPETITION MANAGEMENT

1. PERFORMANCE

a. Heel Position

The dog is considered in heel position when both dog and handler are facing the same direction and the dog is working in a consistent position within arm's length of the handler. The dog must work on the left side of the handler, unless the handler suffers from a physical disability ~~and has the Judge's permission to work on the right hand side.~~ **and has completed an Exercise Modification Request form (preferably in advance of the competition).**

d. Bonus Exercise

The Bonus Exercise is optional and is performed after the dog/handler team crosses the finish line. Dog/handler teams may earn up to ten additional points for the bonus ~~exercise performance~~. There is one bonus exercise on each course. The bonus is scored the same as other exercises. **Handlers are allowed to touch reward and/or play with their dog after the Finish and before the start of the Bonus Exercise.**

~~e. Guidance for exercises 11-14~~

e. Exercises that involve turns

The handler should make a turn within an approx. diameter of 45cm./18inches. **Exercises that involve a pivot should be executed as tightly as possible.** The dog should maintain a consistent position, depending on size and breed.

f. **Unless specified in the exercise description, exercises are executed as the handler approaches the sign.**

g. **Courses for Levels 1 and 2 are performed on lead, with the exception of Bonus Exercises 4 and 5. Levels 3 and above are performed off lead, regardless of the Bonus Exercise used.**

2. COURSE DESIGN

The following guidelines must be observed by Judges when designing courses. The layout of the course depends partly on the positioning of doors and fittings which should be considered when planning. A judge must be familiar with the ~~floor finish~~ **venue surface** before planning any jumping exercises for Levels 3-6.

General guidance, applicable to all levels:

- (1) There should be a minimum distance of 2 metres between exercises.**
- (2) Once used, an exercise should not be repeated, with the exception of right & left turns.**
- (3) There should be a balance between static exercises and moving exercises.**
- (4) A static exercise is one that ends in a sit, stand or down position. Others are moving exercises.**
- (5) In levels where they are permitted, there should be a maximum of two jump exercises.**

a. Level 1

~~This guidance is applicable to all levels:~~

- ~~(1) Stations should be equally spaced with a minimum recommended distance of 2 metres.~~
- ~~(2) Once used, an exercise sign should not be repeated, with the exception of right & left turns.~~
- ~~(3) There should be a balance between static exercises and moving exercises.~~
- ~~(4) A static exercise is one which ends with a Stop or a Finish. Others are moving exercises. Most of the static exercises are executed within approximately 60 to 120 centimetres of the sign.~~

There should be a minimum of ten and a maximum of twelve exercises, with no more than six static positions.

b. Level 2

~~This guidance is applicable to all levels from this level:~~

- ~~(1) The same markers may be used in the execution of two exercises, for example cones used for Spiral Left, Spiral Right, Figure 8 or Serpentine.~~
- Junctions may not be used at this level.**

- (2) There should be a minimum of twelve and a maximum of fifteen exercises, with no more than eight static positions.**
- (3) There should be a ratio of one-third Level 2 exercises to two-thirds Level 1 exercises.**

c. Level 3

~~Follow the general guide lines given for Levels 1 and 2.~~

- (1) There should be a minimum of twelve and a maximum of fifteen exercises, with no more than eight static positions.**
- ~~(2) There should be a ratio of one-third Level 3-4 exercises signs to two-thirds Level 1 and 2 signs exercises.~~
- ~~(3) Multiple sign stations may be used to join a maximum of 2 Exercise signs at this level. A maximum of two exercises may be linked at this level.~~
- (4) There should be a maximum of one Distraction Exercise, including the Bonus Exercise.**

d. Level 4

~~Follow the general guide lines given for Levels 1 and 2.~~

~~(1) There should be a minimum of six Level 3-4 signs.~~

(1) There should be a minimum of fifteen and a maximum of seventeen exercises, with no more than twelve static positions.

~~(2) NB. Some Level 3-4 exercises comprise more than one sign e.g. Exercise 34 Stop, Leave Dog, Recall must be followed by Exercise 35 Turn and Call Front and Exercise 36 or 37 Finish Right or Left. All three signs make up one complete exercise.~~

(2) There should be a minimum of one and a maximum of four exercises from Level 3, and a minimum of one and a maximum of four exercises from Level 4.

e. Level 5-6

~~Levels 5 and 6 courses should incorporate a maximum of six exercises from Level 5-6 and a maximum of six from Level 3-4. The following should be included:~~

~~(1) A maximum of two jump exercises:~~

~~Exercise 43 Send Over Jump—Handler Runs By~~

~~Exercise 55 Recall Over Jump~~

~~Exercise 57 Stop—Leave Dog—Turn and Send Over Jump~~

~~(2) A maximum of two Level 5-6 recall exercises:~~

~~Exercise 55 Recall Over Jump~~

~~Exercise 61 Stop—Leave Dog—Down on Recall~~

~~(3) At least one Level 5-6 Moving Stand Exercise:~~

~~Exercise 49 Moving Stand Walk Around~~

~~Exercise 50 Moving Stand Leave Dog and 51 Turn and Call to Heel~~

~~Exercise 52 Moving Stand Leave Dog and 53 Down, Sit, Call Front and Finish~~

~~(4) A maximum of two Level 3-4 turns:~~

~~Exercise 40 Stop—From Sit—About Turn Right & Forward~~

~~Exercise 41 Stop—From Sit—About “U” Turn & Forward~~

~~Exercise 48 Left About Turn~~

~~Exercise 38 Stop—180 Pivot Right—Stop~~

~~Exercise 39 Stop—180 Pivot Left—Stop~~

~~(5) At least one Level 5-6 turn:~~

~~Exercise 59 Right Turn, 1-2 Steps, Down, Forward~~

~~Exercise 60 Left Turn, 1-2 Steps, Down, Forward~~

e. Level 5

(1) There should be a minimum of fifteen and a maximum of seventeen exercises, with no more than twelve static positions.

(2) There should be a minimum of one and a maximum of four exercises from Level 4, and a minimum of one and a maximum of four exercises from Level 5.

f. Level 6

(1) There should be a minimum of sixteen and a maximum of eighteen exercises, with no more than sixteen static positions.

(2) There should be a minimum of one and a maximum of four exercises from Level 5, and a minimum of one and a maximum of four exercises from Level 6.

3. RING MANAGEMENT

a. Sign Placement

Signs must be placed so that they are on the handler's right with the following exceptions:

- (1) Turns and ~~180-degree~~ pivots may be placed directly in the handler's path.
- (2) Straight figure 8, ~~Offset Figure 8~~ **distraction exercises**, Spiral Left, Serpentine, Side Step Right and Send Over Jump signs are placed so that they are on the handler's left.

(3) For all two-sign exercises, the signs will be placed 2-3 metres apart unless otherwise stated.

(Subsequent sub-paragraphs to be renumbered)

b. ~~Multiple Sign Stations~~ **Linked Exercises**

Linked exercises ~~Multiple sign stations are designed to share a static element (e.g. Stop Sit and Stop Sit Down). The dog/handler team may choose to perform the shared element (Sit) once or may move forward after completing the first sign to perform the second sign separately.~~

The dog/handler team may choose to perform the second sign separately.

Linked exercises may not be used in Levels 1 and 2. At Level 3, no more than two exercises may be linked at a time. At Level 4 and above, more than two exercises may be linked.

d. Booking In

All competitors must ~~personally~~ report to the ringside of all classes entered and book in, by marking a list of entries, within one hour of the scheduled time for the commencement of judging of the Class. The class lists are to be provided by the Show Management and should be available from the stated opening time of the Show.

e. Walk-throughs

Handlers are provided with a maximum 30 minute period during which to walk the course (without dogs) and ask the judge questions. The time allocated should be relevant to the number of entries. **Only handlers entered in the class may walk the course.**

g. Start

The Judge will indicate to the dog/handler team that they may begin. Timing will begin when the dog/handler team crosses the Start Line, **with the sign on their right**. The dog does not have to be sitting in heel position to begin the course. Dog/handler teams should cross the start line at their normal heeling pace.

4. SCORING GUIDELINES

Each dog/handler team enters the ring with a perfect score of 200 points. Deductions are scored based on the exercise requirements and the scoring guidelines. ~~Deductions are made in one-point increments from a minimum of one point up to a maximum ten point deduction in relation to any one fault.~~ The judge indicates point deductions on the score sheet as faults occur on the course. He or she may be assisted by a scribe steward in recording the deductions.

- a. The minimum deduction is one point.
- b. Dogs which are unmanageable, and/or bark excessively will receive deductions based on the severity of the behaviour. The judge may require the removal of a dog from the ring for unmanageable or disruptive behaviour. In severe cases the dog may be required to be removed from the event as set out in **the Removal of Dogs Regulation 23 (Removal of Dogs)**.
- ~~c. If the handler uses physical or harsh verbal corrections, the judge shall note "NQ - P/V/C" on the score sheet for that dog/handler team. The judge may, at his or her discretion, dependent on the severity of the correction, require the dog and handler to leave the ring immediately.~~
- d. **c** Any handler who has been required to leave the ring due to physical or harsh verbal corrections **or for the dog being out of control** shall be reported to the chief steward and the competition secretary or competition manager. ~~and~~**This should must** be noted in the competition's Incident Book, which must be submitted to the Kennel Club.
- ~~e. If a dog leaves the Rally ring the judge shall score that dog/handler team's performance as NQ - DLR, and make a notation of such on the score sheet.~~
- ~~f. If a dog/handler team goes off course (performs one or more exercises out of order) the team shall receive a non-qualifying score and the judge shall make a notation of NQ - OC on the score sheet.~~
- ~~f. Touch rewards are allowed when the dog/handler team has completed a static exercise. A static exercise is considered complete when the team has performed all the features of the exercise.~~
- ~~g. Any petting or touching rewards that significantly interrupt the flow of the performance of the test shall be scored with a deduction of 1 point or more. "Significantly interrupts" shall be defined as impeding the natural forward flow of movement of the dog/handler team.~~
- h d. Tied scores for place awards** - in the event that two or more dog/handler teams score an equal number of points which are sufficient to qualify one or more of them for a fourth place or higher award, the team(s) with the fastest recorded time(s) shall be placed above those with slower times. In the event that one or more such dog/handler teams have equal scores and equal times, **or where at least one of the competitors has not had a time recorded**, they shall be invited to participate in a run-off using the Bonus Exercise.

5. SCORING

a. 1 point deduction

- (1) Tight lead, each occurrence.
- (2) Slightly out of position —~~includes performing an exercise with the sign on the wrong side. Apart from exercises defined under 'Ring Management — Sign Placement' above, exercises should be performed with the sign on the handler's right hand side~~
- (3) Additional cues (given to prompt the dog to perform the exercise).
- (4) Dropped lead **(the lead should be picked up by the handler prior to continuing. If the lead is not immediately picked up a 5 points deduction should be made for performing an exercise incorrectly).**

b. 2 points deduction

- (1) Moderately out of position. ~~sits/downs/fronts/stands/walking eg whilst heeling — persistent lack of attention, dog facing the wrong way, handler unable to touch the dog's head.~~
- (2) Failure of **the** dog to move with handler **on the handler's cue** as specified in **the** exercise description.
- ~~(3) Overly large circles/270's/about turns/weaves/spirals, etc.~~
- (4 **3**) Lack of attention/motivation.
- ~~(5 4)~~ Excessive barking or jumping up whilst competing.
- (6 **5**) ~~Movement out of position during stand.~~ **Minor movement out of position during statics.**

c. 3 points deduction

- (1) Failure to ~~change pace~~ **maintain a consistent pace.**
- (2) Dog sitting on or not completing turns.
- (3) Significantly out of position ~~sits, downs, stands, walking, presents, finishes, etc.~~
- (4) Harsh cues/signals.
- (5) Wide/curved/inaccurate/loose ~~left/right~~ turns.
- (6) **Overly large circles/weaves/spirals and walk arounds etc.**
- (7) **Dog sniffs distractions.**
- (8) **Extended/Excessive cue e.g. giving a continuous hand signal when leaving a dog for a recall or continuous hand-touch in heelwork.**

d. 5 points deduction

- (1) Handler is in front of jump/uprights when sending a dog over.
~~Levels 3 and 4~~
- (2) Failure to sit, down, stand, wait, come **or** finish.
- (3) Failure of handler to pivot.
- ~~(4) Exercise not completed~~
- ~~(5) Exercise in wrong direction~~
- (6 **4**) Incorrect finish.
- (7 **5**) ~~Knocking over a cone, or exercise sign~~ **or piece of ring equipment (e.g. jump upright, distraction covers) so that it has to be reset (or with sufficient force that it would have moved if not pegged down). If a dog taps a piece of equipment with their wagging tail this should not be penalised.**
- ~~(8) Performing an obstacle exercise backwards or in the wrong direction~~
- (6) **Exercise performed incorrectly e.g. in the wrong direction; static positions in the wrong order; failure to change pace.**
- (7) **Handler and/or dog pass on the wrong side of a piece of equipment.**
- (8) **Dog refuses, misses or knocks down a jump.**
- (9) **Dog fails to pick up a retrieve article.**

e. Non-Qualifying

- (1) Touching the dog to prompt an exercise.
- ~~(2) Dog and handler pass on opposite sides of a cone~~
- (3 **2**) Nipping **or** mouthing.
- ~~(4) Deductions totalling ten or more points on any exercise.~~
- (5 **3**) Exceeding course time (unless an exercise modification for time has been approved).
- (6 **4**) Dog leaves the ring **or dog is not under sufficient control to continue.**
- ~~(7) Petting/touching rewards given on the move or before exercise is completed~~

(8 5) Consistently tight lead.

~~(9) Handler performs exercises out of sequence (off course)~~

~~(40 6)~~ Handler **and/or dog** misses or does not attempt an exercise **or goes off course.**

~~(44 7)~~ Dogs which eliminate or become ill in the ring will be excused from the ring and receive a non-qualifying score.

~~(42 8)~~ Physical/harsh verbal correction.

(9) Dog competes wearing the wrong type of collar or the handler carries food or a toy.

- f. In Levels 1 and 2 ~~only~~, when an exercise requires more than one sign to complete, each exercise sign should be listed on the judge's score sheet. Each sign should be scored separately. In Level 3 and above where an exercise requires multiple signs, this is scored as 1 exercise on the judges score sheet.
- g. The Bonus Exercise has a total point value of ten points. If no deductions are taken, ten points are added to the dog/handler team's score. If errors are made in the performance, deductions are taken off the total **bonus** exercise value of ten. **The final number score** for the **bonus** exercise is added onto the **team's score from their round to give their final score.**

A score of zero on ~~this exercise~~ **the bonus** does not impact the dog/handler team's final score. **If the handler chooses not to perform the bonus exercise at any time there is no impact on the dog/handler team's score. All normal non-qualifying criteria apply.**

~~However, if during the Bonus Exercise, the dog leaves the ring, eliminates in the ring, becomes ill, attacks/attempts to attack the judge, or other situations occur that would require the judge to excuse the dog and score the run as an NQ, the dog/handler team will receive a non-qualifying score on their performance. This exercise is performed after the dog/handler team crosses the finish line and the timer has stopped timing. (See Annex B.1.d)~~

(Insertions in bold. Deletions struck through.)