



**YKC HTM
(HTM & FREESTYLE)**



**HEELWORK TO MUSIC
RULES 2025 (CRUFTS 2026)**



A: HANDLERS

1. The following two YKC Heelwork competitions are available for members to compete in:
2. Only current YKC members may compete in YKC competitions.

YKC HTM: HEELWORK

- STARTERS
- NOVICE
- INTERMEDIATE
- ADVANCED

YKC HTM: FREESTYLE

- STARTERS
- NOVICE
- INTERMEDIATE
- ADVANCED

3. Members must be between 06-24 Years old on the first day of Crufts to be eligible to submit points for qualification.

B: DOGS

1. Dogs must be at least the following age
 - i. Heelwork competitions: 12 calendar months
 - ii. Freestyle competitions: 18 calendar months.
2. Bitches in season will not be allowed to compete in any YKC HTM competitions.
3. Dogs must be registered with the Kennel Club when entering Kennel Club licenced shows.
 - i. Dogs can either be registered on the breed register or the activity register.
4. Food & Toys shall not be carried in the hand or given to a dog in the ring.

C: YKC HTM JUDGING CRITERIA

1. YKC HTM classes are judged using the same criteria as would be expected for the standard Kennel Club classes (L Regulations).
2. If this document should clash with a rule in the L regulations, this documents rule will supersede the L regulations.
3. All requirements on track length and marking criteria will be in line with the L regulations in force at the time.

D: YKC HTM QUALIFICATION POINTS

1. To qualify for YKC HTM at Crufts, YKC members may submit their highest single score (out of 30) that they achieved during the qualifying year
 - i. The mark must have been awarded at a Kennel Club licenced show in a standard class.
 - ii. The mark must have been obtained both;
 - a. between 01-Jan-2025 and 31-Oct-2025 for qualification to Crufts 2026.
 - b. By the YKC member and dog combination looking to qualify.
2. After the closing date for submitting scores has passed, two leaderboards will be created;
 - i. One for HTM Heelwork and one for HTM Freestyle
 - a. The highest 8 submitted scores on both leaderboards will be invited to compete at Crufts 2026.
 - (1) This will NOT be further subdivided by level or age, instead, all members who submit scores will be placed in the leaderboard together.
3. The points will be submitted on the YKC website via a form.
4. A Dog may only appear on each leaderboard once.



E: HOW MANY DOGS CAN I QUALIFY FOR HTM?

1. You may submit scores for up to two dogs per class i.e.
 2. **Up to 2 dogs for HTM: Freestyle**
 3. **Up to 2 dogs for HTM: Heelwork**
 - i. The YKC will add your dog with the highest score to the leaderboard first
 - ii. If there are still spaces left to fill after everyone's highest scoring dogs have been added, the YKC will add in members 2nd highest to the leaderboard until all spaces are filled.
 4. Any member submitting points for 3 or more dogs will have the dog with the lowest removed from the entries until only 2 remain.
 5. The YKC will invite successful YKC members to enter Crufts via email before Christmas
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F: YKC HTM AT CRUFTS

1. **By entering a YKC class, the YKC member and anyone representing them (parent/guardian etc) agree to abide by the YKC's Code of Conduct.**
2. Unless otherwise specified in this document, YKC HTM classes will be subject to all in-force Kennel Club regulations for HTM competitions. Including, but not limited to:
 - i. (L) Regulations for Heelwork to Music
 - ii. (O) Regulations for The Young Kennel Club
3. If you have successfully qualified for Crufts, you and your dog must compete at the level you would compete at when entering a standard Kennel Club class.
4. The classes at Crufts must be run in strict running order, if you miss your allocated time, you will be unable to compete.
5. The running order will be generated pseudo-randomly
 - i. The YKC will initially do a completely random draw, if a YKC member does have two dogs in a class, and those dogs get drawn one after the other, the YKC may manipulate the running order to ensure there is a gap between dogs to ensure the smooth running of the ring. If the YKC does do this, we will NOT alter which of the two dogs is set to be run first.
6. In each class, the levels of dog will be grouped together. The levels will always be run;
 - i. Starters
 - ii. Novice
 - iii. Intermediate
 - iv. Advanced
7. You must submit your music to the YKC with your Crufts entry
 - i. The music should be in MP3 format
 - ii. When naming your MP3 – please call it the song name, then your name and the class
 - a. E.g. "Night Fever – Joe Bloggs – Freestyle"
 - iii. The music must not contain any profane language and the lyrics and content must be suitable for all ages
 - iv. Please edit the track to begin and end where you require.
8. You will also be required to bring a CD of your track as a backup



G: COSTUMES, PROPS & SPONSORSHIP

1. You are permitted to use props in line with the L regulations
 - i. In addition to the L regulations:
 - a. NO FIREARMS (real or imitation)
(1) Anything that looks like a gun is off limits
 - b. NO EXPLOSIVES (Real or imitation)
 - ii. Please also note that the air conditioning in the NEC is quite strong.
 - a. Ensure your props are able to free-stand and remain in position under such conditions.
 - iii. Props may not feature any sponsorship logo.
2. Any outfit worn must be in line with L regulations
 - i. In addition, any costume must be suitable for a family friendly audience.
 - a. The competitor shall ensure that the costume is suitable for the planned routine, and that, if there is a possibility that the costume may become revealing during the routine, sufficient clothing should be worn beneath the costume to ensure the competitors modesty.
 - b. Costumes should be free from sponsorship logos/brands.

H: YKC HTM - PRESENTATION

1. The following awards will be presented in the YKC ring for the YKC HTM Finals:

YKC HTM: HEELWORK

- STARTERS
 - 1st – 5th
- NOVICE
 - 1st – 5th
- INTERMEDIATE
 - 1st – 5th
- ADVANCED
 - 1st – 5th

YKC HTM: FREESTYLE

- STARTERS
 - 1st – 5th
- NOVICE
 - 1st – 5th
- INTERMEDIATE
 - 1st – 5th
- ADVANCED
 - 1st – 5th

2. All YKC unplaced competitors in the YKC HTM finals will receive a YKC Finalist Rosette, these must be collected upon exit from the presentation.