



RALLY - SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

from The Kennel Club Working Party Meeting 15 April and 23 July 2020

	Subject	Recommended	Action
1.	Membership of the Working Party	<p>Mrs Wells was re-elected as chairman for the term of the Working Party (January 2019 – December 2021)</p> <p>Mrs Coughlan-Khan was re-elected as the Working Party’s representative on the Activities Committee.</p> <p>Ms Prince was elected as the Working Party’s representative on the Activities Health and Welfare Sub-Group.</p> <p>Mrs Bradley was re-elected as the Working Party’s representative on the Activities Judges Sub-Group.</p>	Competitors, judges and competition organisers to note.
2.	Regulation Amendments	<p>The Working Party noted that the Board at its meeting of 16 July 2019, approved the following amendments to S Regulations:</p> <p>New Regulation S19.h. Judging TO: Judges must submit course plans to the Secretary and/or the Chief Steward no later than 10 days prior to the competition date. (Insertion in bold) (Subsequent paragraphs to be renumbered) (Effective 1 January 2020)</p> <p>Regulation S2.b. TO: b. Only dogs of six calendar months of age and over on the first day of the competition are eligible to take part in Level 1, 2, or 3 and Level 2 classes. Only dogs of 12 calendar months of age and over on the first day of the competition are eligible</p>	Competitors, judges and competition organisers to note.



	<p>to take part in Level 3 4 or higher classes or special classes which incorporate jumps or similar exercises. (Insertions in bold. Deletions struck through) (Effective 1 January 2020)</p> <p>Regulation S15.a. TO: Facilities and Equipment .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 the dogs (for Level 3 4 and above), proposed ring size, and venue surface. (Deletion struck through. Insertion in bold.) Effective 1 January 2020.</p> <p>Regulation S21.h. TO: Dogs must compete in a 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. A medicated collar may also be worn in the ring. (Insertion in bold.) (Effective 1 January 2020)</p> <p>Regulation S(A)2. Eligibility TO: When entered for a competition in a standard class, a dog must be entered at the level for which it is eligible. The dog may also, if desired, be entered in up to two additional classes, one further standard class at the subsequent higher level, one additional special class, or two additional special classes. A dog may be entered in special classes only, up to a maximum of 3 classes. Special classes do not count towards progression. Once a dog has gained any level or excellent title, it is no longer eligible for any lower level. (Insertion in bold) (Effective 1 January 2020)</p>	
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	<p>Regulation S(C) 56. SIT LEAVE DOG - RECALL OVER JUMP. TO: This exercise requires two signs. At the first sign (A) the handler and dog stop with the dog sitting at heel. The jump must be approximately 4 metres from sign (A). The handler cues the dog to wait then walks to the second sign (B) which is approximately 4 metres away from the opposite side of the jump. The handler turns and faces the dog and recalls the dog. The dog must come over the jump and sit in front of the handler. The handler then cues the dog to Finish either Right or Left. (Insertion in bold) (Effective 1 January 2020)</p> <p>Regulation S(C) 66. SIT - LEAVE DOG - ANGLED RECALL OVER JUMP. TO: This exercise requires two signs. At the first sign (A) the handler and dog stop with the dog sitting at heel. The jump must be approximately 4 metres from sign (A). The handler cues the dog to wait then walks to the second sign (B) which is placed approximately 4 metres away from the jump and 1 metre to either the right or left of the jump. The handler turns and faces the dog and cues the dog to jump. The dog must come over the jump and sit straight in front of the handler. The handler then cues the dog to Finish either Right or Left. (Insertion in bold) (Effective 1 January 2020)</p> <p>Regulation S(B)3.i. Bonus Exercise TO: The Bonus Exercise is an optional exercise. Handlers are not required to perform the Bonus Exercise, but must advise the judge at the Start Line if they wish to do so... (Deletion struck through) (Effective 1 January 2020)</p> <p>Regulation S(B)2 TO: (2) Once used, an exercise should not be repeated, with the exception of right and left turns and normal pace.</p>	
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	<p>(Insertion in bold) (Effective 1 January 2020)</p> <p>Regulation S(C) Sign17 TO: NORMAL PACE. As the dog/handler team draw level with the sign they move forward at a normal pace that is comfortable for the dog and handler. NB: at Levels 1 and 2 this is a separate exercise but at Level 3 or above the change in pace and return to normal pace is judged as one complete exercise. (Deletion struck through) (Effective 1 January 2020)</p> <p>The Working Party wished to emphasised that show organisers should be reminded that it would be necessary to add a sticker to the reverse of the sign in respect of the above amendment.</p> <p>Regulation S(C)59 TO: 59. SEND OVER JUMP - HANDLER RUNS BY. As the handler and dog team approach the sign the handler sends the dog towards the jump which is approximately 4 metres in front of and 1.5 metres to the left of their path. The handler continues at a brisk pace along a line 1.5 metres to the right of the jump. When the dog has completed the jump, the handler calls the dog to the heel position and the dog/handler team continues to the return to their normal pace as they heel towards the next exercise approximately 4 metres ahead. If the dog is much faster than the handler, the dog may be called back to the handler without penalty. A line may be drawn on the ground to indicate the 1.5 metres mark. NB. This sign is now placed on the handler's right, not on their left where it was previously placed. (Deletion struck through. Insertion in bold) (Effective 1 January 2020)</p> <p>Regulation S(B)3.a. TO: a. Sign Placement Signs must be placed so that they are on the handler's right with the following exceptions:</p>	
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		(2) Straight figure 8, distraction exercises, Spiral Left, Serpentine, and Side Step Right and Send Over Jump signs are placed so that they are on the handler's left. (Deletion struck through. Insertion) (Effective 1 January 2020)	
3	Exercise Modification Form	<p>It was suggested that the Exercise Modification Form be amended to include more guidance to assist competitors in completing the document. Following these suggestions, at the Working Party meeting on 23 July 2019 the revised form was considered. Subject to a few minor amendments, the document was approved by the Working Party for use.</p> <p>The Exercise Modification Form can be found on the Kennel Club website, here: https://www.thekennelclub.org.uk/media/389049/exercise_modification_request_form.pdf</p>	Competitors, judges and competition organisers to note.
4.	New Accredited Trainers	The Board approved the appointment of the following Accredited Trainers for Rally: Miss Collier Ms R Cooper Ms J Bodsworth Miss A Jackson Mrs S Lindsey	Competitors, judges and competition organisers to note.
5.	Inter-Regional Competition at Crufts	It was noted that Mrs Garner had decided to stand down from her role as Event Co-ordinator for the Rally and Obedience Inter-Regional competition at Crufts, and Mrs Bradley, had been appointed to take over the Rally role from 2020 onwards.	Competitors and Inter-Regional organisers to note.
6.	Videos of exercises	<p>A suggestion of providing videos to assist competitors understanding of how exercises should be performed was discussed. The Working Party agreed that short films relating to the way in which any individual exercises should be judged and marked would be very useful for both judges and competitors.</p> <p>The matter is to be considered and progressed via the Activities Judges SubGroup.</p>	Competitors and judges to note.
7.	Judging and competing at the same competition	It was noted that the matter had already been given adequate consideration on previous occasions, and the Working Party was not of the view that any change to the relevant Regulation should be made.	Judges and competition organisers to note.



8.	Integrity of exercises	<p>The Working Party considered the Integrity of exercises, and concluded that all exercises should stand-alone and should not impinge on any other exercise. It made recommendations for a relevant amendment to S Regulations, which would be subject to consideration by the Activities Committee and subsequently by the Board.</p> <p>The Working Party agreed that simple and clear guidance should be provided to Chief Stewards, and should also be incorporated into the revised Guide for Rally Judges.</p>	Competitors, judges, competition organisers and chief stewards to note.
9.	Clarification of Regulations	<p>The Working Party discussed a request to clarify whether a competitor must advise the judge at the start of the course if they intended to perform the Bonus Exercise or not.</p> <p>The Working Party was of the view that a competitor may perform the Bonus Exercise if they wished to do so, but did not consider it necessary that the judge should be advised at the start of the course. However, they must ensure that they had any necessary equipment with them. Regulation change listed in subject 2 (Regulation Amendments).</p> <p>The Working Party discussed how an additional cue, and an extended cue, may be defined for the purpose of scoring. It was of the view that it was not possible to be too prescriptive in respect of how additional and extended cues should be defined, and that judges should be permitted to use their own discretion. It was noted that the proposed training videos would provide guidance for judges on this issue.</p>	Competitors, judges and competition organisers to note
10.	Rally Events at Breed Shows	<p>A Successful KC Rally competition took place on Monday 6th August 2018 at Paignton and District Fanciers' Association. It was hoped Rally competitions would run again from 2020 onwards.</p> <p>A Have A Go Rally session was held at United Kingdom Toy Dog Society on the 30th March 2019 and it was understood that it was a very positive experience for those taking part.</p> <p>The Working Party noted, at its 23 July meeting, that a good number of toy breed dogs took part in Rally and it was hoped that the Society would continue to support Rally.</p>	Competitors, judges and competition organisers to note.



11.	Communication with the Rally Community	<p>The Working Party wished to encourage members of the Rally community to email members of the Working Party with any suggestions or concerns, or talk to them at competitions.</p> <p>Contact details for the Working Party can be found on the Kennel Club website, here: https://www.thekennelclub.org.uk/activities/rally/rally-working-party/rallyworking-party-members/</p>	Competitors, judges and competition organisers to note.
12.	YKC	It was noted that only 5 competitors had taken part in the YKC Rally competition at Crufts 2019, although the standard had been very high. The YKC would in future be offering Rally training in the hope that the number of young handlers would increase.	YKC members to note.
13.	Clarification on blind dogs participating in Kennel Club licensed competitions	<p>The Working Party wished to reiterate the views of the Activities Committee on this matter, following a query raised by Rally competitors.</p> <p>The Activities Committee is of the view that blind dogs must not compete in Kennel Club licensed competitions. The Committee was strongly of the view that all dog owners must be mindful of a dog's welfare when putting it into a competitive situation.</p>	Competitors, judges and show organisers to note.
14.	Clarification on collars	The Working Party wished to emphasise that a half-slip, or half-check type of collar was not permitted within the S Regulations. It was clarified that decorations such as printed patterns, or crystals embedded into a collar did not contravene the Regulation and should not be used as a reason to NQ a dog.	Competitors, judges and show organisers to note.
15.	Proposal to allow food and toy rewards in Special classes	The Working Party made a recommendation that food and toy rewards should be permissible in Special classes when detailed in the schedule. The recommendation would be subject to consideration by the Activities Committee and subsequently by the Board.	Competitors, judges and show organisers to note.
16.	Date of Next Meeting	The Working Party noted that its next meeting will be held in January 2020, exact date to be confirmed. Items for the agenda must be submitted three weeks prior to the meeting date.	Competitors, judges and show organisers to note.