



The aim of the creation of Obreedience is to introduce a team Obedience competition to Crufts to showcase Obedience as a competitive activity in which all breeds can take part; with the knock on effect of encouraging dog owners to take part in Kennel Club licensed Obedience competitions.

The competition will be based on teamwork rather than individual competition and be introduced at Crufts 2014 and 2015 for display competition. There are 9 different breed teams, consisting of 4 dogs and handlers as well as a reserve, which have been invited to participate at Crufts 2014:

- Afghan Hounds
- Boxers
- Corgis
- Hovawarts
- Papillons
- Rottweilers
- Spanish Water Dogs
- Staffordshire Bull Terriers
- Tibetan Terriers

Mr Neville Uden has been invited to judge the event at Crufts 2014. He has been a member of the Good Citizen Dog Scheme Working Party for eleven years and has been involved in competing and judging Obedience, Agility and Showing for over forty years.

The competition will be held in the main Obedience ring after the Championship classes are completed on Saturday. It is estimated the competition will last approximately two hours. There will be commentary throughout the test relating to both the characteristics of each breed as well as the heelwork and exercises.

Competition Exercises

The exercises are designed at a beginner/novice level and include a number of exercises adapted from the Good Citizen Dog Scheme.

The first round will see all four dogs complete a round of heelwork as a group in unison. The dogs will be assessed on their ability to complete different moves whilst remaining synchronised with their team mates. This round will be marked out of ten points.

Round two features four set exercises and each team member is required to successfully complete one of exercise to secure as many points as possible for their team. The

exercises will take place concurrently with all dogs in the ring. The exercises will be Scent Over Articles, Send to Bed, Stop the Dog and a Retrieve (handler's own article.) This round will be marked out of 40 points (10 per set exercise).

Crufts 2016

Following the successful display events it is anticipated that Obedience show societies would be encouraged to apply to hold Obedience qualifying classes during 2015, with a Crufts final held in 2016. Qualification would be on a points-based structure with points being achieved by the team throughout the year.