



# Dodge County Dog Project Handbook 2025-2026



**Extension**  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON



**Please retain these Dog Project Guidelines.  
This is your 2025-2026 Guidelines.**

You only get updated information each project year!

## **Dodge County Dog Project Handbook**

### **Dodge County Dog Show Guidelines:**

OBEDIENCE CLASSES: Divided by Grade if 6 or more in class.

Beginner Pre-Novice = Member training their first dog.

Pre – Novice A = First year in pre-novice.

Pre – Novice B = Members who have had previous experience in training a dog, but are now training a different untrained dog or inexperienced member taking a previously trained dog or did not qualify in Pre – Novice A the year before.

Novice A = First year in Novice

Novice B = Members not receiving a qualifying score in Novice A. Members who have had previous experience training Novice, but now are training a different novice dog – or – inexperienced member taking a previously trained dog.

Grad – Novice

Pre – Open

Open

Pre – Utility

Utility

SHOWMANSHIP CLASSES:

Novice (1<sup>st</sup> Year in dog project)

Junior (Grades 4 through 6)

Intermediate (Grades 7 through 9)

Senior (Grades 10 and up)

AWARDS: (Obedience and Showmanship Classes)

Award for First Blue in each class

Award for Best Junior Handler

Award for Highest Scoring Non-Regular (Pre-Novice) dog (as long as qualifying score)

Award for Highest Scoring Regular (Novice and above) dog (as long as qualifying score)

Team Event (Awards given to each member of first placed team)

Brace (Pre-Novice and Novice)

Ribbons will be given to ALL participants in the County 4-H Dog Show

### **Dodge County Fair and Show Guidelines:**

1. **Females in season** may NOT compete in Showmanship, *but the member can show a substitute dog. Females in season may compete in obedience, but PLEASE DO NOT bring her in the building!* (1) Report to your ring and get your armband; (2) Notify a Dog Project Leader that your dog is in season BEFORE the Show, and (3) Member will be told WHEN they will be judged.
2. If there is a **complaint**, the child with the complaint should in person report such complaint to the Show Committee, *WITHOUT the parent*. Should the parent interrupt or

interfere, the child will be disqualified. Harassment of judges by child/parent will be a disqualification for the child and you will be asked to leave.

3. **Judges are NOT required to wait for dogs.** Handler of each dog is responsible for having it ready at ringside when its class is to be judged. (Catalog order will be followed as closely as possible)
4. Most AKC Rules will be followed in the regular and non-regular Obedience Classes, *with the following exceptions:*
  - A. A blind, deaf, lame or mixed breed dog may compete, but no other exceptions to the rules will be made (such as: how high they have to jump in the high jump or how far they have to jump in the broad jump). *They must complete all exercises the same as any other dog in the classes.*
  - B. A pregnant and or nursing dog must have written vet approval within two weeks prior to the 4-H Dog Show and handed into dog project leader at least 48 hours prior to dog show in order to participate with that dog.
5. **NO TRAINING IN BUILDING ON SHOW DAY!**
6. No one will be allowed to abuse any dog on the show or class site. This could lead to a disqualification.
7. Exhibitors must be present at Dog Performance Show during the Dodge County Fair to receive award – **NONE WILL BE MAILED.**
8. **DOGS MUST BE ON LEASH AT ALL TIMES**, except when exhibiting in the Ring.

#### **Qualifications:**

1. Open only to youth enrolled in 4-H Dog Project, FFA or other approved Dodge County youth groups.
2. Exhibitor and dog must meet the local county requirements of attendance, training, and exhibiting.
3. Dog entries must be listed on regular Fair Entry Forms.
4. Each handler is limited to 2 dogs which must be trained solely by him/her.
5. Exhibitor must have completed the training requirements specified and authorized by the County Dog Project Committee. This training must be at Dodge County Dog Training Classes.
6. The dog is to be shown in the class for which it received training in that particular year. A dog that has attained a qualifying score at any dog show must advance to the next higher class the following year. If you do not get a qualifying score you do not have to advance.
7. All dogs to be exhibited must have the following vaccinations with dates vaccinated which is based on State 4-H Dog Show Guidelines.
  - a. Distemper and rabies must be current through training, shows, and performances.
  - b. A copy of the current rabies vaccination must be provided to the leader at the start
  - c. A fecal check is encouraged but only required if evidence that parasites are present if observed by a trainer. A negative fecal test will be required for the dog to return to classes.
  - d. Suggested all dogs be heartworm checked and on preventative medication for heartworm and flea and ticks. It is also recommended to receive a Bordetella vaccination.

### **Training Requirements:**

1. County Dog Project fee requirement (\$20/member) should be mailed along with the shot record and rabies certification. (\$20 check payable: DODGE COUNTY 4-H DOG PROJECT)
2. To show at Dodge County Dog Show you and your dog must train at Dodge County Dog Training Classes.
3. Members **MUST ATTEND** class at a minimum of at **LEAST ONCE PER MONTH** to show at the County Dog Show. If extenuating circumstances occur, the member is to consult with the trainer committee in order to fulfill attendance requirements. To receive credit for class, the member and the dog must be an **ACTIVE** participant for at least 30 minutes of the appropriate session. In the event of discrepancy, the trainer's attendance record will prevail. If your dog is unable to attend class, the member is still encouraged to attend. If notice is given to the training committee, a substitute dog will be provided for that class.
  - I. If multiple dogs are shown by a handler, the second dog must be approved prior to the County Dog Show by the training committee.
4. To show at the State 4-H Dog Show, member must complete all the training requirements of the Dodge County 4-H Dog Project in order to participate at the state level.

### **Special Notes and Guidelines:**

- Never allow your dog to come in contact with another dog at training class. Keep your attention onto your dog at all times and know what he is doing.
- Dogs showing aggression may be excused from class and the dog cannot return until additional outside training/evaluation occurs to address the aggression. In the meantime, the member is allowed to bring a substitute dog (upon training committee's approval).
- Any cancellations due to the weather will be announced on WBEV/WXRO and WTKM and on the Dodge County 4-H Dog Project Facebook page. If unsure, please contact your instructor or committee member. A decision will be made by 3pm on the day of class.
- If you have a problem or question, **ASK FOR HELP**. That is why the trainers are there.
- All classes begin on time, whether members are there or not. Also, members must be picked up from class no later than 5 minutes after the scheduled end of training class.
- Do NOT bring a female in season to class without asking the instructor.
- Keep your dog on lead to and from class.
- Be sure to exercise your dog before class. "A tired dog is a happy dog." Give your dog adequate exercise each and every day. It just might improve the learning ability and behavioral problems of your dog.
- Anyone observed being abusive towards ANY dog will be excused from training and/or the show, with no attendance credit given for that class.
- No dog under 6 months of age can be shown, but with special permission can attend class for socialization.
- Wear proper clothing and tennis shoes (no opened toed or slip-on shoes allowed). You will be dismissed and excused from class and class will not count towards training requirements.
- Do not feed your dog before class. Ideal, no food after noon of training day. May cause and lead to car/motion sickness or anxiety in class.
- You are responsible for YOUR dog's accidents and are expected to clean up after them and take it home with you. This means members carry baggies with them at all times and bring a roll of paper toweling.

## **Equipment:**

To bring with you to class every night –

- Dog (unless your dog is in season or another unforeseen event comes about). Just because your dog cannot come that night, still come to class. You can learn what everyone else is doing for the week and take it home to practice with your dog.
- Cleaning supplies – Poop bags, paper toweling (Bleach spray bottles will be provided by your instructor)
- Training Equipment:
  - Training Collar: Buckle collar, or metal or nylon slip collar with no attachments (Save the name tags and rabies tags for the everyday collar). **COLLAR MUST FIT PROPERLY!!!** For safety reasons, collars will be examined by leaders for the correct fit.
  - Leash – 6 foot leather, nylon or web with only a metal snap attached.
    - \* Non-official training collars will be allowed under supervision after trainer approval, but they are not allowed in the show ring.
    - \*\* Chained leashes will not be allowed!!!
  - Showmanship Lead – many forms of leads, which ever best works with your dog and you.
- Protective gloves to help against leash abrasions.
- Rewards – explained in training notes.
- Official hardwood or plastic dumbbells must be used and fit your dog properly.

Supplied Equipment –

- Jumps and ring mats will be furnished

## **Training Notes**

Remember all dogs are different and learn at their own pace, just like people. Go slowly through each exercise and make sure your dog had it steady before moving on. This means that your dog does it 90% correctly (9 out of 10 times right).

### **Rewards:**

Treats should be very enticing and irresistible to your dog. If using a food reward, they should be a very small, soft piece, so that he will immediately gulp it down and look to you for more. If the dog must chew food rewards, pieces will fall on the floor, and the dog will be looking around the ground and not at you. (examples: hot dogs, cheese, cooked chicken or beef)

Dogs that are not interested in food rewards, rewards can be a toy or a brief play. This is a good way to combine play with training. It is fun for you and your dog.

High Value Treats = Your dog's favorite! Use these in locations with more distractions.

Low Value Treats = Ones he likes, but are not his favorites.

### **Salmon Dog Treats**

2 (15 ounce) cans of salmon or 12 ounce can of tuna

14 to 16 ounces bag of stuffing mix (crumbly type) or 14 to 16 ounces container of bread crumbs

1 to 2 teaspoons garlic powder

½ to 1 cup hot water (depending on moisture in fish)

Mix undrained fish, stuffing (or bread crumbs), and garlic powder. Add hot water as needed to make dough very soft but not sticky. Spread on greased, full-sized cookie sheet (use rolling pin to smooth, if desired). Score dough with a pizza cutter before baking. Bake 1 to 1 ½ hours at 350 degrees, until medium brown. Longer baking for crispier treats.

Refrigerate or freeze because there are no preservatives in recipe. You can also add the contents of a Vitamin E capsule into the dough to add a natural preservative. But still refrigerate or freeze.

#### **Liver Bait**

1 pound beef liver with juice  
1 cup flour  
1 ½ cup cornmeal  
½ teaspoon garlic powder

Cut up liver and puree in blender. To this mixture hand mix flour, cornmeal and garlic powder. Spread on greased cookie sheet. Bake at 350 degrees for 20 minutes. Allow to cool for 10 minutes. Cut into squares. 2 pounds fills a full-sized cookie sheet and yields about 26 squares.

Refrigerate or freeze because there are no preservatives in recipe. You can also add the contents of a Vitamin E capsule into the dough to add a natural preservative. But still refrigerate or freeze.

**Intermittent reinforcement** is used when the dog has reliably learned the exercise (example: reward 3 of 4, 1 of 2, 1 of 3, but bridge and praise every time.) Vary reinforcement so the dog doesn't know when you will reinforce. Exercises that are reinforced on this variable schedule are very persistent, because the dog has learned that if he keeps responding, eventually he will get what he wants. Soda machine vs. slot machine.

**Bridge** is a sound or word that tells the dog it has just done something right and the reward may be coming.

**CORRECT TIMING** – Bridge must occur immediately and tell your dog the reward might be coming, or the dog may not associate it with the proper behavior.

**CONSISTENCY** – Everyone in the family should use the same commands and bridge and always be rewarding the desired behaviors and never reward for undesired behaviors.

**Release** cue is a word or action that say to the dog “Okay, you have done a good job and you are done with that behavior.”

#### Eliminating “No” From Your Vocabulary –

How many times do you use the word “No” and how many times do you say “Good dog” when communicating with your dog? Whenever possible you should substitute a positive for a negative. For example, when your dog jumps on you, instead of yelling “No Rover, Down, Rover, Get off or I’ll kill you,” teach the Sit on command. Now when he jumps, or even better, when he is *thinking* of jumping on you, say “Sit”. When you get the right response, sincerely praise with “What a good dog you are.”

In dealing with your dog, ask yourself “What exactly do I want Rover to do and not to do?” Use a “Do” command instead of a reprimand wherever possible so you can praise your dog.

Your dog only does what comes naturally. Your job is to show Rover in a positive way what you expect!

Practice 5 to 15 minutes at a time for a total of 20 to 45 minutes a day, depending on what length of time your dog and you can tolerate.

Signs of your dog not tolerating lessons – Hyperactivity (running around, bouncing up and down, and jumping on you), whining, barking, mouthing, getting in front of you anticipating commands. “Being silly or tiresome.” But they are coping behaviors for your dog. Lethargy (freezing, slinking behind you, running away, or responding slow to commands), seems tired and wants to lay down, sluggish and disinterested. Muscle tremors, excessive panting and drooling, digestive upsets.

**Learning is Stressful.** Training has nothing to do with *winning*, but with *teaching*. You can walk away from a training session at any time, whether or not you think you have been successful. When you see that no further learning is taking place, **Stop!** If you don't and insist on forcing the issue, you will undermine your dog's trust in you and the relationship you are trying to build. Play with your dog and come back later that day or the next day.

Always remember that training is supposed to be fun. Find a way to end every training session on a positive note, with a behavior that your dog loves.

### **FIRST YEAR Families Please Review the Following Pages**

**Finding Rewards:** Find “things” that your dog would enjoy to have and do anything for.

Examples: dry dog food, dried liver, cat food, cat treats, soft human food (hot dogs, cheese, liver, cooked roast beef), carrot sticks, broccoli, tennis balls, rubber balls, squeaky balls, tug ropes, kongs, old shirts, plush squeaky toys, etc....

Rank every reward you find into two categories: Low value “treats” and High value “treats”.

\*\*Refer to explanation in Training Notes.

**Teaching Bridge Word:** Refer to explanation in Training Note Section.

Decide what word or sound you will use to tell your dog she is right and reward is coming!

Pick a quiet time and place when your dog is doing nothing wrong and say the word or make the sound. Immediately smile and give the dog a treat. Repeat this 10 to 20 times until she is looking expectantly at you every time she hears the bridge.

Note: Start off rewarding with your high-value treats because your dog is learning something new. When your dog is getting the idea, you can start rewarding with low-value treats and add a high-value treat reward occasionally.

When your dog knows this one, you will never have to “practice” it again. Every time you Bridge and reward for a behavior during training, you are reinforcing the connection between the Bridge and the treat.

**Petting Your Dog:** Pick a quiet time and place. Pet your dog calmly and happily. If you enjoy it, your dog will too. Start with petting and stroking areas on your dog that he is used to being petted – top of the head, back, shoulders, etc. Praise and reward him in a calm voice “Good dog”. Work on petting his legs, ears and mouth with him still being calm. Praise and reward him for his good efforts. Work on petting his tail, under his belly and between his legs. Work on moving his ears to look inside and moving his lips to look at his teeth (you can also work on brushing your dog’s teeth). Work on touching his legs and feet, and picking them up and putting them down.

Goal: For your dog to become comfortable with you touching anywhere on his body.

Final Goal: For your dog to be comfortable being touched at dog classes, the vet’s office, showmanship class in the show ring, etc...

**Name Game:**

Pick a quiet time and place. Have your bridge ready and treats in hand. Say your dog’s name one time. If he looks at you, bridge and feed him a treat. If he doesn’t look at you, don’t say his name again. Make a kissy noise or some other sound that gets his attention. The instant he looks, bridge and treat.

Goal: For your dog to know his name. His name means “look at me and wait for further instructions.”

**Practice Leadership with Your Dog:**

- Go through doorways and narrow opening before your dog.
- Have you dog wait for his food
- Eat before your dog eats

- Do not allow him on furniture or on your bed
- Groom him
- Have him wait while you go up stairs first.
- Have him do something for you before you pet or play with him (a simple sit or down will do, but every time!)
- Train him regularly
- At the end of a game with a toy, take the toy and put it away.
- Ignore or discourage pawing, nudging and whining.

### **Practice Footwork and Handling without Your Dog!!**

Goal: You, the handler, will learn to be consistent with your body language. You will hold the leash the same way each and every time along with placing your hands and arms in the same position each time you are and aren't working with your dog. You will be consistent with your footwork in the starting and stopping of the heeling exercise along with the footwork of the about turns, right and left turns, slow and fast will be consistent every time.

Final Goal: Your dog will understand your body language and learn to follow it. You and your dog will work together as a consistent team.

Note: **Pretend** to have your dog on the left side of you doing everything correct. Only after you have mastered the footwork – you don't have to "think" about your actions – then your dog can be added.

### **Starting and Stopping of the Heel Exercise:**

Start standing with a comfortable feet position and with you standing up straight, shoulders, hips and feet should all be in line and facing the same direction. Start the heel exercise by stepping forward first with your left foot. Step right, left, shorter right, and together with the left.

Note: The left, shorter right, and together with left is the stopping footwork.

Practice several times these very short start and stops. When flowing smoothly and you don't have to think about your actions, add a couple of extra steps between the start and stop to lengthen the distance you are traveling. Make sure you are starting out with your left and halting with left, shorter right, together with the left.

Goal: To start and stop the heel exercise the same way every time. To increase the distance traveled. Final Goal: To have the footwork of the starts and stops of the heel exercise consistent and your dog understanding the footwork.

Diagram of Starting and Stopping of Heel:



**Right Turns:** There are two ways of doing this. Choose the way that will work best for your dog. Practice both ways and try it with your dog when the time comes to figure out what way your dog works best with.

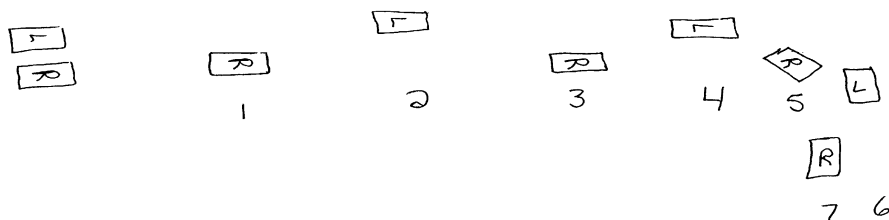
Way #1 – Practice...

Step right, left, right, left, right at a 45° angle in the right direction, left at a 90° angle in the same direction.

Note: You have just made a 90° right turn.

Continue on.....Another Note: After doing four right turns, you should end up right back in your original position.

Diagram of Right Turn Way #1:



Way #2 – Practice...

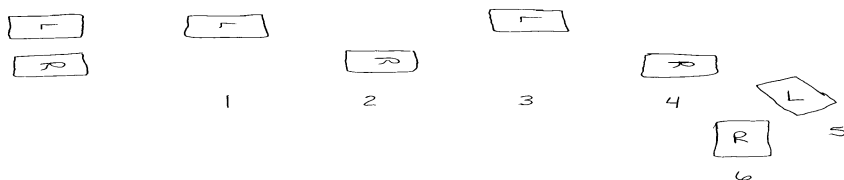
Step left, right, left, right, left at a 45° angle crossing over right in right direction, right at a 90° angle in the same direction.

Note: You have just made a 90° right turn.

Continue on.....

Another Note: After doing four right turns, you should end up right back in your original position.

Diagram of Right Turn Way #2:



**Left Turns:** Practice...

Step left, right, left, right, left at a 45° angle in the left direction, right at a 90° angle in the same direction.

Note: You have just made a 90° left turn.

Continue on.....

Another Note: After doing four left turns, you should end up right back in your original position.

Diagram of Left Turn:

**About Turns:** There are two ways of doing this. Choose the way that will work best for your dog. Practice both ways and try it with your dog when the time comes to figure out what way your dog works best with.

Way #1 – Practice...

Step right, form a “T” with left in front of right, reverse right and step forward with right, left, right...

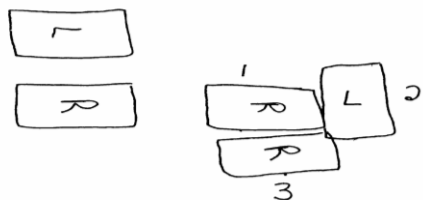
Note: You have just made an 180° turn.

Now Practice...

Step right, left, right, form a “T” with left in front of right, reverse right and step forward with right, left, right...

Note: You have just made another 180° turn.

Diagram of About Turn Way #1:



Turn Way #2:



#### Way #2 – Practice...

Step right, left toes at the bridge of right foot, turn right heel right at 180° and step through with left...

Note: You have just made a 180° turn.

#### Now Practice...

Step right, left, right, left toes at bridge of right foot, turn right heel right at 180° and step through with left, right, left...

Note: You have just made another 180° turn.

Another Note: Remember to keep your shoulders going in the direction of the movement. Do not turn your head to look at your dog for this will create your shoulders to become out of line with your hips and possibly creating your dog to lag behind you.

**Slows:** There are two ways of doing this. Choose the way that will work best for your dog. Practice both ways and try it with your dog when the time comes to figure out what way your dog works best with.

#### Way #1 – Practice...

When heeling (in motion) in a straight line in order to slow your pace of your dog, slow the timing of your steps down, but take the same size of steps. Also lean your shoulders slightly back when you are changing the pace.

#### Way #2 – Practice...

When heeling (in motion) in a straight line in order to slow your pace of your dog, keep the same pace of your steps, but cut the length of your step by at least half. Also lean your shoulders slightly back when you are changing the pace.

#### **Fasts:** Practice...

When heeling (in motion) in a straight line in order to quicken your pace of your dog, lean your shoulders slightly forward to get momentum to quicken the pace. Go as fast as you need (walk faster to a jog) to change your dog's pace.

## **Beginner's Pre Novice**

AKC's Beginner Novice is the basis for these exercises. However, they have been modified for the Wisconsin 4-H program. If you choose to compete in AKC, please be aware that there are differences in the requirements of some of the exercises between the two programs.

<b><u>Beginner's Pre Novice</u></b>	<b><u>Maximum Score</u></b>
1. Heel on Leash	40 points
2. Figure Eight (on leash)	40 points
3. Sit for Exam (on leash)	40 points
4. Recall (on leash-No finish)	40 points
5. Sit Stay (on leash)	40 points

### **Heel on Leash**

The purpose of this exercise is to demonstrate the ability of the handler and dog to work as a team. Orders for this exercise are "*Forward*," "*Halt*," "*Right Turn*," "*Left Turn*," "*About Turn*," "*Slow*," "*Normal*," and "*Fast*." All "*About Turns*" will be right about turns. Orders for halts and turns will be given only when the handler is moving at normal speed. The other orders may be given in any sequence, and turns and halts may be repeated.

**The leash must be a 6 foot leash** and may be held in either hand or in both hands, but the hands must be held in a natural position. Any tightening or jerking of the leash and use of any extra commands and/or signals will be penalized.

The handler will enter the ring with the dog on a loose leash and stand with the dog sitting in the heel position. The judge will say to the handler, "*Are you ready?*" The handler should answer either "*Yes*," "*No*," or "*Ready*." When the handler is ready the judge will give the order, "***Forward***." The handler and dog walk briskly, and in a natural manner, with the dog on a loose leash. The dog should walk close to the handler's left side without swinging wide, lagging, forging, or crowding. The area from the dog's head to shoulder should be in line with the handler's left hip. The dog must not interfere with the handler's freedom of motion at any time. The handler may give a command **OR** signal to heel, **NOT** both.

#### **Remaining Orders given by the Judge:**

***Halt:*** When the judge says, "*Halt*," the handler stops. The dog should sit straight and promptly in the heel position. The handler should not give a command **OR** signal to the dog. The dog should not move until the handler again moves forward on the judge's command. After each halt, the handler is permitted to give a command **OR** signal to heel before again moving forward.

***Right Turn:*** When the judge says, "*Right Turn*," the handler and dog make a ninety-degree (90°) turn to the right. This turn should be made squarely.

***Left Turn:*** When the judge says, "*Left Turn*," the handler and dog make a ninety-degree (90°) turn to the left. This turn should be made squarely.

***About Turn:*** When the judge says, "*About Turn*," the handler and dog make a one-hundred-eighty degree (180°) turn to the right.

**Slow:** When the judge says, “*Slow*,” the handler and dog walk at a noticeably slower pace than normal.

**Normal:** The handler and dog begin the heeling pattern at a normal pace. After the judge gives the order to walk “*Slow*” or “*Fast*,” he/she will give the order, “*Normal*.” The handler and dog then return to a normal pace.

**Fast:** When the judge says, “*Fast*,” the handler and dog must run, moving forward at a noticeably accelerated pace.

At the completion of the Heel exercise, the judge will say, “**Exercise Finished.**” At this time it is appropriate for the handler to praise his/her dog.

### **Figure Eight**

For this exercise, the handler will stand and the dog will sit in heel position facing the judge, midway between the two stewards who will be standing eight (8) feet apart. The judge will ask, “*Are you ready?*” The handler will say, “*Yes*,” “*No*,” or “*Ready*.” After the handler and dog are ready, the judge will give the order, “*Forward*.” The handler may choose to go in either direction. The handler and dog will walk briskly around and between the two stewards twice. The judge will order at least one halt during this exercise and another halt at the end. There will be no about turn, fast, or slow during this exercise. At the completion of the Figure Eight exercise, the judge will say, “**Exercise Finished.**” At this time it is appropriate for the handler to praise his/her dog.

### **Sit For Exam**

The principal feature of this exercise is that the dog sits in position before and during the examination without displaying resentment. Orders are: “Sit your dog and leave when you are ready,” “Back to your dog” and “Exercise finished.” This exercise is to be performed with the dog on a 6-foot leash.

On the judge’s order, the handler will command the dog to sit. The handler will then stand with the dog sitting in the heel position, give the command **OR** signal to stay, walk straight forward about 6 feet to the end of the leash and then turn and face the dog. The judge will approach the dog from the front. Using the fingers and palm of one hand, **the judge will touch only the dog’s head.**

On the order “Back to your dog,” the handler will walk around behind the dog and return to the heel position. The handler may gather the leash at any time while returning to the dog. The dog must remain sitting until the judge has said, “Exercise finished.”

### **Recall on Leash** (with no finish)

The principal features of this exercise are that the dog stay where left until called by the handler, and that the dog responds promptly. Orders are: “Leave your dog,” “Call your dog,” and “Exercise finished.”

On order from the judge, the handler may give a command **OR** signal to the dog to stay in the sit position. The handler will then walk forward, to the end of the 6-foot leash, and turn to face the dog.

On the judge’s order or signal, the handler will command **OR** signal the dog to come. The dog must come directly, and sit in front of the handler. The dog must be close enough to its handler so that the handler could touch its head without excessive bending, stretching, or moving either foot.

### Sit Stay on Leash – 45 seconds

The principal feature of this exercise is that the dog remains in the sit position for 45 seconds. This is not a group exercise and is done in the ring individually.

Orders for this exercise are: "Sit your dog," "Leave your dog," "Return to your dog," and "Exercise finished."

The handler will stand with the dog sitting in heel position. Prior to starting the exercise, the judge will ask if the handler is ready. When the judge gives the order "Sit your dog," the handler will command **OR** signal the dog to sit, if they are not already sitting. The judge will order "Leave your dog," and the handler will give a command **OR** signal to stay and immediately proceed to the end of the leash and turn to face the dog. The dog will remain seated for 45 seconds.

At the judge's command of "Return to your dog," the handler will approach the dog from the front, and proceed to walk around and in back of the dog to the heel position. Once the handler has returned to heel position, the judge will give the order "Exercise finished." The judge should not deduct points if the leash either touches or does not touch the ground.

### **Training Log Beginner and Pre-Novice**

Week of...	Exercise
Week 1	Watch
	Sit
	Down
	Puppy Push-ups (Work up to this exercise throughout the week of practice)
	Footwork and Handling
Week 2	Review Sits and Downs on Command
	Targeting
	Stand
	One – Steps
	Scoots
Week 3	Review Week 1 and 2 Homework
	Come Watch
	Two-Step Heel
	Left and Right Pivots
	Showmanship – Explanation and Stacking Your Dog
Week 4	Review Week 1, 2 and 3 Homework
	The Promise – Gambling with Your Dog
	Sit and Stay
	Footwork Practice – Starts and Stop of Heeling Exercise
	Showmanship – Judge's Evaluation and

	Stacking Your Dog
Week 5	Review Previous Weeks Homework
	Four – Step Drills
	Automatic Sits
	Down and Stay
	Two Step Comes
	Footwork Practice – Left and Right Turns without Your Dog
	Showmanship – Gaiting Your Dog
Week 6	Review Previous Weeks Homework
	Heeling in Straight Line and Automatic Sits
	Right Turns and Left Turns
	Six Foot Come
	Stand for Exam
	Footwork Practice – About Turns, Slow and Fast without Your Dog
	Showmanship – Down and Back Pattern
Week 7	Review Previous Weeks Homework
	Change of Pace
	About Turns
	Swing Finish
	Around Finish
	Showmanship – L Pattern
Week 8	Review Previous Weeks Homework
	Circle Right
	Circle Left
	Showmanship – Triangle and Reverse Triangle Pattern
Week 9	Review Previous Weeks Homework
	Figure 8s
	Showmanship – Arrow Pattern
Week 10-13	Review Previous Weeks Homework
	Showmanship – Double Down and Back Pattern

Beginner and Pre-Novice Class  
Week 1

**Watch:** Your dog is sitting at your left side. Leash in right hand, left hand forms OK sign around the leash with the treat between thumb and index finger. Lower the treat until your

dog sees it and looks at it. Raise the treat until it is in a direct line between the dog's eyes and yours. Say "Watch." Praise your dog and reward him with the treat after a few seconds of watching. Gradually lengthen the time he must watch before getting the treat (you can praise your dog quietly when he is "watching" you).

Goal: Your dog will watch for one minute without looking away, even if distractions are present (people, balls, etc...). Final Goal: Your dog will watch when not treat is visible.

Caution: Do not let the treat "drift" toward the center of your body. It will probably cause your dog to start to lean around to see it, he will begin to sit with a flare (hindquarters away from you, no longer straight.) Keep your left wrist glued to you hip.

**Sit:** Your dog is at your left side. Leash in right hand, treat in left hand. Get dog's attention by putting the treat right in front of his nose (within one inch). Slowly raise the treat up and back, towards the dog's tail. Hold the treat in that position until the dog sits to relieve the pressure created on his spine by looking up. When the dog sits, say your bridge word, reward, and praise calmly for a few seconds. Wait a few seconds more, release with your release word. When your dog has become 90% efficient of being lured into this behavior, then add the "Rover, Sit" cue before you move your hand to direct your dog to sit.

Goal: Your dog will sit on command, quickly and straight. Final Goal: Your dog will sit on command when the treat is not visible. Dog will remain sitting until released.

**Down:** Start with your dog sitting at your left side. Hold the treat in front of your dog's nose and lead his head down toward the ground. When the dog goes down, use your bridge word immediately when your dog's elbows touch the ground, praise calmly for a few seconds, wait a few seconds more, and release with your release word. When your dog has become 90% efficient of being lured into this behavior, then add the "Rover, Down" cue before you move your hand to direct your dog to down.

Goal: Your dog will down on command, quickly. Final Goal: Your dog will down on command, quickly, when treat is not visible. Your dog will remain down until released.

**Suggested Activity:** Research your particular breed. Find out what special characteristics apply to your breed, what its original purpose was, the work it did, and how you can make use of these qualities in training. If your dog is a mixed breed, determine what breeds he is a mixture of and find out about those breeds. (example: Beagle, bred for using his nose to hunt. In training it will take more patience to teach the dog not to sniff during exercises. It will be easier to teach him scenting exercises in utility class.)

### **General Information:**

Use your dog's training collar only for training sessions when you are with him. When you are not training, it is safer to keep a buckle collar on your dog.

In order to succeed, you need to train your dog at least five days per week, not including training class. Two short periods of training are better for your dog than one long one.

How to put on a training collar: Hold one ring and drop the rest of the chain through it to make a collar/loop. Make the collar form the letter P ("P" is for puppy). Facing your dog, look through the P and see your dog's nose. Slip the collar over his head from this position.

When your dog is at your left side, the collar is on correctly if the end attached to the leash goes over the dog's neck.

## Beginner and Pre-Novice Class Week 2

**Targeting:** Your dog starts in front of you. With a treat in the right hand, show your dog your left hand (open and palm side to your dog). As soon as your dog's nose touches your left hand, say your bridge word, reward and praise calmly. If your dog is not getting the idea of touching your left hand, place your right hand with the treat in it right in back of your left hand. The dog will then have to touch your left hand in order to smell the treat. After your dog gets the idea of touching your left hand, then start moving your hand to the sides of you and all around in different locations. Move your left hand so that the dog has to get up and move to your left in order to touch it.

Goal: Dog will follow your left hand. This would be helpful in the heeling exercises and finishes. **Final Goal:** The dog will follow your left hand quickly when the treat is not visible.

**One Steps:** Start with your dog sitting at your left side, straight (facing exactly the way you are facing), and watching. Leash in your right hand, left hand making an OK sign around the leash with the treat between the thumb and index finger. Say "Come up." Step forward with your right foot and encourage the dog to move up with you. Bring your left foot up to your right foot. Lift the treat and say "Rover, Sit." DO NOT pull the dog with the leash. He will resist the leash by pulling away rather than coming with you.

Goal: Your dog will move one step with you without looking away. Keeping the "watch" is the most important part of this exercise. Final Goal: With no treat visible your dog will heel with you without looking away, even if distractions are present.

NOTE: Move slowly until your dog gets the idea of what you want. Remember that watching is the most important part of this exercise. Also KEEP THE LEASH COMPLETELY LOOSE!!

**Scoots:** This is the start of the recall exercise. Start with your dog sitting straight (facing exactly the way you are facing) at your left side. Make a stop sign with your flat left hand in front of your dog's face and tell your dog "Wait". Step in front of him, so you are facing him toe to toe (very close). Leash in left hand, treat in right hand (hand held in front of your dog, in the center of your body). Say "Rover, Come." Step back one step with your right foot. Lower the treat hand (right hand), palm up and very close to your body, in front of your dog to lead him forward. Move your left foot even with your right foot. Say "Sit" and curl the treat hand up and toward you (keep it close to your body) to create a sit. Use your bridge word immediately when your dog sits, quietly praise and reward. Repeat with the other foot first to step out on. Alternate feet as you do the exercise to keep your dog centered.

Goal: Your dog will move with you, stay close, and sit when you stop without a command. Final Goal: Your dog will learn that "Come" means "Get to this spot in front of me as fast as you can, and sit there." Your dog will do scoots quickly, straight, and without a sit command, even if treat is not visible.

**Stand:** Start with your dog at your left side. Hold the leash in your left hand, treat in your right hand. Hold the treat in front of your dog's nose (close) and lead him forward to the

standing position with the treat. Keep the treat at nose level – lifting it up may cause your dog to sit or jump up. As soon as your dog is standing, stop all forward motion of the treat in your right hand and allow the dog to nibble the treat at nose level as he stands. With your left hand, stroke the dog's back in long, steadying motions. Keep the dog standing for a few seconds, then release word, praise and reward. When your dog has become 90% efficient of being lured into this behavior, then add the "Rover, Stand" cue before you move your hand to direct your dog into a stand. Gradually lengthen the amount of time the dog stands until he stands for one minute. Work towards standing up straight besides your dog as he stands.

If your dog does not remain standing, use your left hand and tickle him under the tuck up, just in front of the back legs, or put your foot on the ground right in front of his back feet, so he can't move them forward to sit.

Goal: Your dog will stand on command and remain standing until released. Final Goal: Your dog will stand and remain standing while you move six feet in front of him and combine it with the stay command. He will stay still (not move any of his feet) while another person approaches and touches his head, shoulders, and back. He will stand still while you walk in a circle around him.

**New Environment Exercise:** Choose an exercise from week 1 (watch, targeting, or sit on command) that your dog knows the best (has the hang of it pretty well). Practice this exercise in your everyday practicing spot, such as on the grass in your front yard or in the living room of your house. Do 4 quick responses (they must be perfect responses from your dog) from your dog of its exercise that your dog knows the best. Remember to use to your bridge word immediately when your dog has done it right, praise calmly and reward after each good response from your dog. Then choose a new location, such as the driveway or the cement in the garage, and ask your dog to do the exact same exercise. Practice this signal exercise until the dog gets the hang of it in this new practicing spot. Some dogs think that they can only do certain exercises in certain spot. Praise and reward extra to begin with when the dog is learning something new. The exercise might be old, but doing the same exercise in a new location is a new event.

Goal: This New Environment exercise tells your dog that "You can down on the grass, now I want to show you that you can down on the carpeting." Final Goal: You want your dog to say to its self, "I can do this exercise in a spot that I feel comfortable and I can do this exercise in a spot that I do not know."

**Reminder: Practice at home is what brings success. Class is designed to teach you what to teach your dog at home!!!**

### Beginner and Pre-Novice Class Week 3

**Two Step Heel:** Review lesson for One-Steps (homework lesson from week 2). Increase distance traveled to two steps.

Goal: To lengthen the distance traveled while your dog maintains the "watch".

Note: Remember that the "watch" is the most important part of this exercise. If your dog is not watching you, he cannot stay with you and learn from you. Go slowly and keep the watch!

**Come Watch:** Start with your dog sitting straight at your left side and watching. Make a stop sign with your flat left hand, say “Wait” and step in front of your dog, facing him and toe to toe. With leash in the left hand and treat in the right hand, encourage the dog to watch, using the same procedure you used when you were teaching watch at your side. Reward after a few seconds at first, then gradually lengthen the time the dog watches before he is rewarded (you can praise your dog quietly and calmly when your dog is watching you fully).

When your dog is steady, add distractions. Raise your arms slowly, straight out from your body, while your fingers, hold tennis balls in your hands and drop them, etc. Use your face, voice, and treat to encourage the dog to continue looking at you no matter what happens around him.

Goal: Your dog will watch the handler when in the front position. Final Goal: Your dog will watch the handler when in the front position, during long stays, and at all other times.

### **Extra Credit**

**Left Pivot:** Start with your dog sitting or standing straight at you left side. Left hand inside the collar, fingers down, palm back, knuckles against the dog’s neck. Treat in your right hand. Left hand close to left leg (grab you pant leg to be sure). All at the same time do the following:

Your right foot forms a “T” in front of the left foot.

Your right hand moves treat from dog’s nose to the left, turning his head left (move the treat from the dog’s nose as if you want to put it into his left ear!).

Left hand holds firmly, or puts pressure back on the collar.

You and your dog will make one quarter turn (90 degrees) to the left.

*Keep the watch!!*

When your dog has become 90% efficient of being lured into this behavior, then add the “Get-In” cue before you move your hand to direct your dog into a pivot left.

Goal: Your dog will turn one quarter turn to the left on command by moving in a scissors-like motion with its back legs. Final Goal: Any time your dog is commanded to “Get In” (with no treat visible) he will position himself with his hindquarters in as in the left pivot. Your dog will watch the handler throughout the movement.

Note: When practicing, after doing 4 left pivots you should end up facing the same direction you were facing when you began.

Another Note: If your dog begins in a “hip sit” with his hip rolled under, it is much more difficult for him to get up and move as he must to do this exercise. Lure your dog slightly forward so he is sitting up on his hocks before attempting a left pivot.

### **Extra Credit**

**Right Pivot:** Start with the dog sitting or standing straight at your left side and watching. Leash in the left hand, treat in the right hand. All at the same time, do the following:

Move your left foot forward to make a “T” with your right foot.

Lead your dog forward and one quarter turn (90 degrees) to the right with the treat.

Move your right foot next to your left foot.

Say “Sit”.

Lift up with the treat to create a sit.

*Keep the watch!!!*

When your dog has become 90% efficient of being lured into this behavior, then add the “Rover, Heel” cue before you move your hand to direct your dog into a right pivot.

Goal: On command your dog will move one quarter turn to the right, staying close to you and sitting straight. Final Goal: Your dog will turn with the handler, staying close and watching, on all turns that start to the right (right turn, about turn, figure eight, etc.). Your dog will watch the handler throughout the movement.

Caution: Keep the treat directly in front of your dog. If the treat hand “drifts” toward the center of your body, your dog will wrap around you in order to see it, causing a flared (hindquarter away from you, not straight) sit.

Note: When practicing, after doing 4 right pivots you should end up facing the same direction you were facing when you began.

**Suggested Activity:** Similar to New Environment Exercise. This week, train your dog in three different distraction free places (examples: back yard, front yard, grandma’s yard). This will teach your dog that obedience work doesn’t only happen in the place where you usually practice. It will help to strengthen all of your dog’s learning.

**Footwork Practice:** Start and Stop of Heel without Your Dog.

#### Beginner and Pre-Novice Class Week 4

This is **Patience Week**. Be patient if your dog seems to have forgotten everything you ever taught him.

**The Promise:** Please refer to the training notes (Intermittent reinforcement). You have taught your dog many behaviors by leading him with a treat. Now that he knows how to do the behaviors, he must learn to do them without being led by the treat. The treat will still be used as a reward for a job well done.

When he understands what to do, begin rewarding in a unpredictable way (on the third down, then the fifth, then the second, etc.).

Goal: Your dog will follow commands with no treat visible.

Note: If the first successful “promise” takes a long time, don’t be discouraged. Every one after the first will be quicker. The first one is sometimes hard for the dog to figure out!

The promise can be used for all exercises. It is not limited to the down.

**Sit and Stay:** This is an inductive stay. Do one step at a time. Move on only when your dog is very steady with that step.

For every step start with your dog sitting straight at your left side. Make a stop sign with your flat left hand in front of the dog’s face and say “Stay”. *Finish* with your release word and praise.

Step 1 – Take one step with your right foot only, turn and immediately reward your dog for staying. Say “Good Stay”. Repeat until your dog is steady.

Step 2 – Take one step with your right foot, and bring your left foot up to it. Turn and immediately reward your dog for staying. Say “Good Stay”. Repeat until your dog is steady.

Step 3 – Take two steps forward, immediately return and reward. Say “Good Stay”. Repeat until your dog is steady.

Step 4 – Walk to the end of your leash and turn to face the dog. Immediately return and reward. Say “Good Stay”. Repeat until your dog is steady.

Step 5 – Walk to the end of the leash, turn to face your dog, pause. Return and reward. Say “Good Stay”. Repeat, gradually lengthening the pause, until your dog is steady.

Step 6 – Walk two step forward, turn to face the dog. With the leash in your left hand, make a stop sign with your flat right hand and say “Stay”. Gently apply steady pressure (not a tug or jerk) to the dog’s collar by pulling on the leash. Look for the dog to lock the muscles of his front legs to resist the pull. Release the pressure and say “Good Stay”, return to your dog and reward. Say “Good Stay”. Repeat entire sequence until dog is steady.

Step 7 – Gradually increase pressure until your dog is resisting strongly. You are using the sense of touch to teach your dog. He is feeling what it means to “stay”. When your dog is very steady, practice pulling to the left or right, up or down.

Goal: Your dog will stay on command, even if distractions are present. Final Goal: Your dog will stay in sit, down, and stand positions until released, even if distractions are present.

Note: If the dog does not stay at one of the steps, he was probably not steady enough on the previous steps. Go back as many steps as necessary for the dog to have success. Rushing through the steps does not help the dog learn!!! It may lengthen the total time it takes your dog to learn to stay.

**Suggested Activity:** Teach your dog to wait for you to go through doorways first. Use your voice or the door to prevent your dog from rushing through. Practice going through various doorways and narrow places. Each time your dog waits for you to go first, you earn leadership points from your dog.

#### Beginner and Pre-Novice Class Week 5

**Four – Step Drill:** Start with your dog sitting straight at your left side and watching. Leash in the right hand, left hand around leash in an OK sign with treat between thumb and index finger. Step out as follows:

Left, right, left, shorter right, and together. Keep the watch!!!

Goal: To teach your dog to watch you for four steps. To teach you and your dog the footwork you will use to start and stop.

**Automatic Sits:** Begin to do One – Steps without giving the command to sit. Use a quick movement of the treat or lift up gently on the collar to help your dog to sit without a verbal cue. Work to eliminate all cues.

Goal: While heeling, your dog will sit without a command every time the handler stops.

**Down and Stay:** Use the same method as the Sit and Stay but start each step with dog in down position. This is an inductive stay. Do one step at a time. Move on only when your dog is very steady with that step.

Goal: Your dog will stay on command, even if distractions are present. Final Goal: Your dog will stay in sit, down, and stand positions until released, even if distractions are present.

Note: If your dog does not stay at one of the steps, he was probably not steady enough on the previous steps. Go back as many steps as necessary for your dog to have

success. Rushing through the steps does not help your dog learn!!! It may lengthen the total time it takes your dog to learn to stay.

**Two – Step Comes:** Start with your dog sitting at your left side. Make a stop sign with your flat left hand in front of the dog's face and say "Wait". Step in front of your dog, facing him and toe to toe. With the leash in your left hand, make a stop sign with your flat right hand and say "Wait". Take two steps back. Pause. Say "Rover, Come". Lower the treat hand, palm up and very close to your body, to encourage your dog to come to you. When your dog is close to you, say "Sit" and curl the treat hand up and towards your (keep it close to your body) to create a sit. Praise and reward.

Goal: To lengthen the "Come" which was started with "Scoots". To create understanding of the "Wait" command, and gradually lengthen the "Wait".

**Footwork Practice:** Left and Right Turns without Your Dog.

### Beginner and Pre-Novice Class Week 6

**Six Foot Come:** Starting with the Two – Step Come, gradually (one step per day and your dog becomes 90% efficient) lengthen the number of steps you take away from your dog while he is waiting.

When you can back to the end of the leash, change the way you leave your dog. Start with your dog sitting straight at your left side. Make a stop sign with your flat left hand and tell your dog to "Wait". Walk straight away from your dog to the end of the leash (do not turn around and back away). When you reach the end of the leash, turn and face your dog.

Goal: Your dog will wait while the handler walks straight away from him to the end of the leash and turns to face him. Your dog will come on one command, with leash loose and no extra cues. Your dog will sit automatically and straight in the front position.

Note: Whenever you call your dog, always use 1.) His Name and 2.) the word "Come." Get in the habit of "Rover, Come!" so that in an emergency (Rover is headed for the road to chase a squirrel) you will automatically say the right words to get him to come back.

Your dog should not move towards you in this exercise until you call. If you turn at the end of the leash and call immediately every time, your dog will learn to come when you turn, instead of waiting for your call. To avoid this, wait different amounts of time after you turn before calling your dog (5 seconds, 15 seconds, 8 seconds, etc). Fool your dog occasionally. Don't call him after you leave him. Instead, return to him and give him a treat for staying. Be unpredictable so the dog never thinks he can do the whole thing without you!

"Come" is a primary command. It may not be disobeyed by your dog, and it overrules any previous command. If your dog is not 100% reliable on the "come", DO NOT TRY TO DO IT OFF LEASH! You must be able to enforce it every time until the dog learns he must come. Every time your dog comes to you must be a very pleasant experience for him. Even if he did something awful and you have been chasing him for hours, if he finally comes to you, he must be praised. He will not associate a scolding with whatever he did was wrong. He will associate it with coming to you, and next time he'll stay away from you as long as he can!

**Straight Line Heeling / Automatic Sits:** Start with the dog sitting straight at your left side and watching. Say “Rover, Heel” and step out on your left foot. Keep the watch! After 5 to 20 steps (vary the steps each time), halt (end with left, shorter right, together, as in the Four Step Drill). Do not say “Sit”. Your dog must sit automatically when you stop.

Do not do turns (left, right, or about) during this drill. Heel in a straight line until you run out of space. When you run out of space, release your dog, praise him and start again in the other direction.

Goal: Your dog will watch at all times during straight line heeling. Your dog will sit automatically every time the handler stops. The handler will learn start and stop footwork. The dog and handler will have fun.

Note: This drill concentrates on watch and automatic sits. Don’t worry about other things, but *don’t accept anything but you dog’s best on the watch and automatic sits.*

**Left Turn:** While heeling (in motion), plant the left foot at a 45 degree angle to the left and step around it another 45 degree angle with the right foot to turn (90 degrees) to complete the left turn.

Goal: To turn left (while heeling) in the same way every time, so your dog can learn your body cue for the turn. To learn to turn consistently.

Note: Do Not pull or tug on the leash to force your dog on any turn. Pulling on the leash will cause your dog to resist the turn. Use the edible leash (treat) to induce your dog to move.

**Right Turn:** While heeling (in motion), plant the right foot at a 45 degree angle to the right and step around it another 45 degree angle with the left foot to turn (90 degrees) to complete the right turn.

OR: While heeling (in motion), plant the left foot at a 45 degree angle over your right foot and stepping around it with your right foot at another 45 degree angle. (All that is different is what foot you start the right turn on in the first place).

Goal: To turn right (while heeling) in the same way every time, so your dog can learn your body cue for the turn. To learn to turn consistently.

Note: Practice turns without your dog for at least half of your turn practice time. It is much easier to think about your feet if you don’t have to think about a dog. If you become smooth and consistent with the turns, your dog will become smooth and consistent, too!

### **Stand and Stay:**

Day 1: Stand your dog (remember to say “Stand”). Remain at his side. Keep him standing perfectly still for 2 minutes, pause, bridge, reward, praise and release. (Work up to 2 minutes and make sure your dog is comfortable before increasing the time).

Day 2: Review Day 1, then stand your dog, command “Stay”, pivot in front, count to ten, pivot back to your dog, pause, bridge, reward, praise, release.

Day 3: Review Day 1 and Day 2, then stand your dog, command “Stay”, pivot in front, count to 20, pivot back to your dog, pause, bridge, reward, praise, and release.

Day 4: Review Day 1, Day 2 and Day 3, then stand your dog, command “Stay”, go 3 feet in front of your dog, turn and face him. Count to 30, then step back to his side, pause, bridge, reward, praise, and release.

Day 5: Review previous days, then stand your dog and command “Stay”. Go 6 feet in front of your dog, turn and face him. Count to 30 and return around behind your dog, pause, bridge, reward, praise, and release.

Day 6: Review previous days, then stand your dog and command “Stay”. Go 6 feet in front of your dog and face him. Count to 60 and return around to heel position, pause, bridge, reward, praise and release.

**Footwork Practice:** About Turns, Slow and Fast without Your Dog.

**Suggested Activity:** This week, go to a park or shopping center at least one time to practice. Your dog should listen to you (and watch) even though there are distractions. Practice exercises which your dog knows quite well. Save the new exercises for your more quiet training areas. If your dog acts nervous, do not comfort him. He will think you are praising him for being frightened and you will cause the behavior to increase. Ignore any nervous or frightened behavior and build your dog’s confidence by praising and rewarding everything he does right, no matter how small. The more distracted or nervous your dog seems, the simpler the exercises you practice should be, and the richer your praise when they are done well.

#### Beginner and Pre-Novice Class Week 7

**About Turns:** Follow all of the about turns, start with your dog sitting straight at your left side and watching. Do not pull or tug on the leash to force the dog to turn. Pulling on the leash will cause your dog to resist the turn. Use the edible leash (treat) to induce your dog to move.

**Stationary About Turn:** Leash in left hand, treat in right hand. All at the same time, do the following:

Say “Rover, Heel”. Follow footwork diagram in the Footwork and Handling Section of this book. When you stop say “sit” and lift up with the treat to create the sit. *Keep the Watch!*

**One Step About Turns:** Add one step before you complete the “Stationary About Turn”. Once you and your dog are 90% efficient move onto the Two Step About Turn. *Keep the Watch!*

**Two Step About Turns:** Add two steps before you complete the “Stationary About Turn”. *Keep the watch!*

**Goal of the About Turns:** Dog and handler well reverse directions (180 degrees) in the same way every time. The handler’s footwork will help the dog stay close and turn quickly. The dog will watch the handler throughout the turn.

**Finish, 2 cookie:** Start with the dog sitting straight at your left side. Make a stop sign with your flat left hand, tell the dog, “Wait” and step in front of him, so you are facing him toe to toe. Step on the leash. Hold a cookie in each hand. While holding the cookie in your left hand tightly against the side of your left leg (so dog doesn’t see it), use the cookie in your right hand to lead the dog around your body to the right. As the dog moves behind you, bury the cookie in the right hand against back or your right leg, pick up the dog’s nose with cookie in the left hand, and lead the dog forward to a straight sitting position at your left side.

GOAL: The dog will move from sitting in front of the handler to the heel position. By uses of hand, dog will learn the signal for “Around”.

GOAL: Dog and handler will reverse directions in the same way every time. The handler’s footwork will help the dog stay close and turn quickly. The dog will watch the handler throughout the turn.

**Swing Finish:** Start with your dog sitting straight at your left side. Make a stop sign with your flat left hand, tell your dog “Wait” and step in front of him, so you are facing him and toe to toe. Close enough to pet your dog on the head. The leash is in your right hand and treats are in your left hand. The leash is to keep her from leaving, not to be used to pull or guide your dog into position. Take a long step straight back with your left foot. Lure your dog to your left side and back of you with the treat. Turn your dog towards you with the treat and bring your dog back up along your left side and lure her into a sit. Use the “Sit” word to have her sit. When your dog is 90% efficient of this, add the “Swing” cue before you start luring your dog along the side of you.

#### Beginner and Pre – Novice Week 8

**Circle Right & Circle Left:** Add variation to straight line heeling by pivoting 360 degrees (a full circle) to the right or left. The dog makes a circle around the handler.

Right Circle – encourage the dog with a treat, your voice, and the words “ComeUp.” Do NOT PULL on the leash to encourage your dog around you. Pulling will slow your dog down instead of speed him up!

Left Circle – repeat “Get In” to encourage your dog to do continuous left pivot around you in a circle. If you have a problem with this exercise, it is time to go back and teach the left pivot more thoroughly.

GOAL: The dog will manage his front and hind legs to turn quickly and tightly with his handler. This exercise will help to improve left, right, and about turns, attention, and basic heeling.

#### Beginner and Pre – Novice Class Week 9

**Figure 8:** During the Figure 8 exercise, your dog adapts to your pace and position. He must stay in heel position. It is your job to help him by being very consistent in your handling and by turning the 8s into simple straight lines connected by smooth curves. Practice your footwork without your dog for part of your practice time each day.

Think of the Figure 8 in as two straight lines connected by two half circles to make an 8. As you round one half circle, line up on the straight line and walk along it. A Figure 8 that snakes in the middle is more difficult for a dog to negotiate.

The dog must not bump on the inside curve (dog on the inside), nor lag on the outside curve (do on the outside). Do Not use the leash to pull a lagging dog around the outside curve! It will cause him to resist and make the problem worse. Encourage him by using a treat or motivator, holding it or throwing as you were shown in class. Make him think that coming around that curve quickly is truly in his best interest, not to mention fun.

**Suggested Activity:**

Part 1: As part of two separate training sessions this week (different days), put your dog in a long down for 15 minutes. You may do something (read a book on dog psychology, paint your toenails purple, etc) while your dog is down, but he must remain in your sight so you can put him back down immediately if he gets up. Do not pet the dog during the down.

Part 2: Have you earned any leadership points from your dog lately? Remember that earning leadership with your dog is an ongoing and very important process. Try writing down things you do to earn points. Examples: Go through doorways first, have the dog wait for his food, eat before the dog eats, do not allow him on furniture or your bed, groom him, have him wait while you go up stairs first, have him do something for you before you pet or play with him (a simple sit or down will do, but every time!), train him regularly, at the end of a game with a toy take the toy and put it away, etc. Every leadership point you earn makes training easier and your dog a better behaved and happier family member.

**Novice  
Training Log**

Week of...	Exercise
Week 1	Watch
	Sit
	Down
	Targeting
	Stand
	Puppy Push-ups (Work up to this exercise throughout the week of practice)
	Footwork and Handling
Week 2	Review Sits and Downs on Command
	One – Steps
	Scots
	Left and Right Pivots
	Sphinx Down (optional)
Week 3	Review Week 1 and 2 Homework
	Watch w/ Handler movement
	Kickback Stand (optional)
	Left and Right Pivots
	Stay
	Footwork Practice – start and stop
	Showmanship – Explanation and Stacking Your Dog
Week 4	Review Week 1, 2 and 3 Homework
	Four Step Drill
	Take It
	Off!
	Give
	Two Step Come

	Footwork Practice – Left and Right Turns without Your Dog
	Showmanship – Judge’s Evaluation and Stacking Your Dog
Week 5	Review Previous Weeks Homework
	Finish
	Swing
	Right Turns and Left Turns
	Footwork Practice – About Turns, Slow and Fast without Your Dog
	Showmanship – Gaiting Your Dog
Week 6	Review Previous Weeks Homework
	About Turns
	Heeling in Straight Line and Automatic Sits
	Promise
	Six Foot Come
	Stand for Exam
	Showmanship – Down and Back Pattern
Week 7	Review Previous Weeks Homework
	Two Step Oblique Come
	Change of Pace
	Figure Eight
	Group Stay
	Showmanship – L Pattern
Week 8	Review Previous Weeks Homework
	Back
	Zig Zag Heeling Pattern
	Circle Down Stay
	Heel off leash 1-steps and 4-steps
	Showmanship – Triangle and Reverse Triangle Pattern
Week 9	Review Previous Weeks Homework
	Circle Right and Left
	Circle sit stay
	Heeling off leash – straight line
	Circle stand stay
	Release Reward
	Showmanship – Arrow Pattern
Week 10-13	Review Previous Weeks Homework
	Showmanship – Double Down and Back Pattern

Novice Class & Above  
Week 1

*See Pre-Novice Class week 1 exercises plus the following exercises Targeting and Stand.*

**Targeting:** Start in a quiet place. Put handful of treats in your right hand and stand/sit in front of your dog. Put left hand, with palm open, close to your dog's nose. When dog reaches out and touches it give bridge and treat. Repeat until dog is consistently touching your left hand. Gradually move left hand further away so that eventually dog is moving forward to touch left hand. When dog is reliably moving to touch your hand, you can begin to move your hand and bridge dog for following it.

**Stand:** Dog sits at left side in heel position. Take two steps forward, if she follows bridge & treat. If she doesn't stand lure, click! & treat. To get her to stand longer let her nibble the treat instead of eating it. When you know she will stand when you move say stand click! & treat. After about 6 times or more fade the movement.

Week 2

**One Steps:** Start with the dog sitting at your left side, straight (facing exactly the way you are facing), and **watching.** Leash in your right hand. Left hand forms OK sign around leash with treat between thumb and index finger. Say, "Come up." Step forward with your right foot and encourage dog to move up with you. Bring left foot up to your right foot. Lift the treat and say, "Sit." **Do NOT** pull the dog with the leash. (He will resist and pull away, rather than come with you)

GOAL: The dog will move one step with you without looking away. Keeping the "watch" is the most important part of this exercise. Eventually with no treat visible the dog will heel with you without looking away, even if distractions are present.

NOTE: Move slowly until your dog gets the idea of what you want. Remember that watching is the most important part of this exercise. **Leash must be kept loose at all times.**

**Scoots:** Start with dog sitting straight at your left side. Tell dog "WAIT" and step in front of him, so you are facing him and toe to toe. Leash in left hand, treat in right hand (hand held in front/center of your body). Say, "COME." Step back one step with your right foot. Lower the treat hand; palm up and very close to your body, in front of the dog to lead him forward. Move your left foot even with your right foot. Say, "SIT" and curl the treat hand up and toward you to create a sit. Praise and reward. Repeat with other foot. Alternate feet as you do the exercise to keep the dog centered.

GOAL: The dog will move with you, stay close, and sit when you stop without a command. Eventually dog will learn that "COME" means "Get to this spot in front of me as fast as you can, and sit there." Dog will do scoots quickly, straight, and without a sit command, even if treat is not visible.

**Left Pivot:** Start with your dog sitting straight at you left side. Left hand inside the collar, fingers down, palm back, knuckles against the dog's neck. Treat in your right hand. Left hand close to left leg (grab you pant leg to be sure). All at the same time do the following:

Your right foot forms a "T" in front of the left foot.

Your right hand moves treat from dog's nose to the left, turning his head left (move the treat from the dog's nose as if you want to put it into his left ear!).

Left hand holds firmly, or puts pressure back on the collar.

You and your dog will make one quarter turn (90 degrees) to the left.

*Keep the watch!!*

When your dog has become 90% efficient of being lured into this behavior, then add the "Get-In" cue before you move your hand to direct your dog into a pivot left.

Goal: Your dog will turn one quarter turn to the left on command by moving in a scissors-like motion with its back legs. Final Goal: Any time your dog is commanded to "Get In" (with no treat visible) he will position himself with his hindquarters in as in the left pivot. Your dog will watch the handler throughout the movement.

Note: When practicing, after doing 4 left pivots you should end up facing the same direction you were facing when you began.

Another Note: If your dog begins in a "hip sit" with his hip rolled under, it is much more difficult for him to get up and move as he must to do this exercise. Lure your dog slightly forward so he is sitting up on his hocks before attempting a left pivot.

**Right Pivot:** Start with the dog sitting straight at your left side and watching. Leash in the left hand, treat in the right hand. All at the same time, do the following:

Move your left foot forward to make a "T" with your right foot.

Lead your dog forward and one quarter turn (90 degrees) to the right with the treat.

Move your right foot next to your left foot.

Say "Sit".

Lift up with the treat to create a sit.

*Keep the watch!!!*

When your dog has become 90% efficient of being lured into this behavior, then add the "Rover, Heel" cue before you move your hand to direct your dog into a right pivot.

Goal: On command your dog will move one quarter turn to the right, staying close to you and sitting straight. Final Goal: Your dog will turn with the handler, staying close and watching, on all turns that start to the right (right turn, about turn, figure eight, etc.). Your dog will watch the handler throughout the movement.

Caution: Keep the treat directly in front of your dog. If the treat hand "drifts" toward the center of your body, your dog will wrap around you in order to see it, causing a flared (hindquarter away from you, not straight) sit.

Note: When practicing, after doing 4 right pivots you should end up facing the same direction you were facing when you began.

**Sphinx Down:** Three Methods of Teaching Sphinx Down

1. Stand in front of the dog while it is standing.

Get the dog's attention (nose) with a treat, and lead the nose downward and back toward the floor under the dog's chest.

2. Same as #1, but move the treat downward and forward, toward the floor in front of the dog.

3. With dog standing, stand in front of dog.

Ask dog to back, and while it is backing, say "DOWN" and lead the dog's head with a treat down and back toward the floor under the dog's chest and between its front legs.

Repeat until dog goes down with verbal and/or hand signal, without being led with the food.

GOAL: Dog downs immediately, front elbows touching the ground first, on command. Eventually the dog downs, front elbows first, when at a distance from handler, on voice command or hand signal.

**DOGS DO WHAT WORKS!  
BEHAVIOR IS UNDER THE CONTROL OF ITS CONSEQUENCES!**

Novice Class & Above  
Week 3

**Watch with Handler Movement:** Start with the dog sitting straight at your left side, watching. Say, "WAIT" and maintain the watch as you move slowly in front of dog, around to his right side, back to the front, and return to the heel position. Reward and praise after returning to the heel position.

GOAL: Dog will maintain watch throughout handler movement. Eventually dog will watch handler at all times, with handler in any position, close or distant.

**Kickback Stand:** The dog does not move his front feet/legs when entering the stand position. The front legs remain stationary while the hind legs "kick back" into the standing position. Start with dog sitting straight at your left side. Turn to face the dog's right shoulder, with you knees even with his shoulders. Drop the leash and grasp the dog's collar with your left hand at the side of the dog's neck (grasping at top of neck encourages sitting.) With the treat between the fingers of your flat right hand, do the following all at the same time:

1. Say. "STAND."
2. Move your flat right hand (treat between fingers) toward the dog's face.
3. Move your left leg/foot back to brush the front of the dog's hind leg.

When dog is standing, allow him to nibble the treat in your right hand. Use your left hand to stroke the dogs back in long, smooth strokes, or to tickle under the tuck-up. When the dog has held the standing position for a few seconds, release, praise. Gradually eliminate the stroking/tickling, and lengthen the amount of time the dog stands (without moving) to one minute.

GOAL: On command, the dog will stand by keeping the front legs still and moving the hind legs back into a standing position. The dog will remain in the standing position without moving until released. Eventually on command, the dog will stand (kickback style) and will remain standing and motionless as a stranger examines him and the handler returns to the heeling position.

**Sit and Stay:** This is an inductive stay. Do one step at a time. Move on only when your dog is very steady with that step.

For every step: start with your dog sitting straight at your left side. Make a stop sign with your flat left hand in front of the dog's face and say "Stay". *Finish* with your release word and praise.

Step 1 – Take one step with your right foot only, turn and immediately reward your dog for staying. Say "Good Stay". Repeat until your dog is steady.

Step 2 – Take one step with your right foot, and bring your left foot up to it. Turn and immediately reward your dog for staying. Say "Good Stay". Repeat until your dog is steady.

Step 3 – Take two steps forward, immediately return and reward. Say "Good Stay". Repeat until your dog is steady.

Step 4 – Walk to the end of your leash and turn to face the dog. Immediately return and reward. Say “Good Stay”. Repeat until your dog is steady.

Step 5 – Walk to the end of the leash, turn to face your dog, pause. Return and reward. Say “Good Stay”. Repeat, gradually lengthening the pause, until your dog is steady.

Step 6 – Walk two steps forward, turn to face the dog. With the leash in your left hand, make a stop sign with your flat right hand and say “Stay”. Gently apply steady pressure (not a tug or jerk) to the dog’s collar by pulling on the leash. Look for the dog to lock the muscles of his front legs to resist the pull. Release the pressure and say “Good Stay”, return to your dog and reward. Say “Good Stay”. Repeat entire sequence until dog is steady.

Step 7 – Gradually increase pressure until your dog is resisting strongly. You are using the sense of touch to teach your dog. He is feeling what it means to “stay”. When your dog is very steady, practice pulling to the left or right, up or down.

Goal: Your dog will stay on command, even if distractions are present. Final Goal: Your dog will stay in sit, down, and stand positions until released, even if distractions are present.

Note: If the dog does not stay at one of the steps, he was probably not steady enough on the previous steps. Go back as many steps as necessary for the dog to have success. Rushing through the steps does not help the dog learn!!! It may lengthen the total time it takes your dog to learn to stay.

**Footwork Practice:** Start and Stop of Heel without Your Dog.

#### Novice Class & Above Week 4

**Four Step Drill:** Start with the dog sitting straight at your left side and watching. Leash in the right hand, left hand around leash in OK sign with treat. Step out as follows: Left, Right, Left, Shorter Right, Together. Keep the WATCH!

GOAL: To teach the dog to watch you for four steps. To teach you and your dog the footwork you will use to start and stop.

**Two Step Come:** Start with the dog sitting at your left side. Make stop sign with your flat left hand in front of the dog's face and say "Wait". Step in front of dog, facing him and toe to toe. With the leash in your left hand, make a stop sign with your flat right hand and say "Wait". Take two steps back. Pause. Say "Come." Lower the treat hand, palm up and very close to your body, to encourage the dog to come to you. When the dog is close to you, say "Sit" and curl the treat hand up and toward you to create a sit. Praise and reward.

GOAL: To lengthen the "Come" which was started with "Scoots". To create understanding of the "Wait" and gradually lengthen the "Wait".

**Take it:** Offer a treat from your hand, and say “Take it!” As his mouth closes on the treat, click. Repeat several times, holding the treat in different places so he has to work to get it. Get creative! Move it away as you say “take it!” so he has to follow. Click and give him a treat each time he responds to the “take it” cue by reaching for the treat. Now start using his favorite toy. Get him excited, when you see he really wants the toy, hold it out and say “take it”, when he grabs it, click and treat. Do not worry about getting it back. When he is easily

taking the toy toss it and say “take it”. Keep your “Take It” sessions short – you want to stop the game before he gets tired and bored.

**Off:** Stand in front of dog with one treat in a closed fist, palm up. Hold your other hand behind your back, with clicker and treats. Say ‘off’ one time, as you lower your closed fist just below dog’s nose. Let her sniff, gnaw, and lick. At the split second she stops or looks away, click and treat with the other hand. Keep repeating until she backs up or turns her head at the word off. When she reliably moves away from closed fist immediately on the ‘off’ cue, repeat with your hand open. If she dives for the food, just close your fist to prevent her from getting it. DO NOT SAY “NO!” or give any type of correction. When she can do Off with your hand open, place the forbidden treat on the floor and follow the same steps, using your hand as a shield to protect the food until she realizes that you’re playing the same game.

**Give:** Hold dog’s favorite toy in one hand. Get her excited about toy and offer it to her or drop it on the ground so she can grab it. When she has it in her mouth, get her attention by saying her name or making kissy sounds. When she looks at you hold out your hand with a tasty treat in your fingers. Don’t move toward her or say anything. She will likely move toward you and sniff the treat. When she opens her mouth to eat the treat say, “give” in a happy tone. As she opens her mouth for the treat the toy falls to the ground, click but hold the treat, letting her nibble at it. As she nibbles, reach down and pick up the toy, then give her the whole treat. Now she gets a life reward too – you’re going to toss the toy again. After several repetitions, you can start asking for the behavior with the “give” cue before you offer the treat. When she is giving up toys easily, start practicing with real forbidden objects and her dumb bell. Remember to keep playing with toys and life rewards by tossing the toy back after she gives it up. If you only do forbidden object she will learn give ends the game.

**BEHAVIOR IS REWARD DRIVEN! ATTENTION IS THE KEY THAT MAKES TRAINING POSSIBLE.**

Novice Class & Above  
Week 5

**Finish, 2 cookie:** Start with the dog sitting straight at your left side. Make a stop sign with your flat left hand, tell the dog, “Wait” and step in front of him, so you are facing him toe to toe. Step on the leash. Hold a cookie in each hand. While holding the cookie in your left hand tightly against the side of your left leg (so dog doesn’t see it), use the cookie in your right hand to lead the dog around your body to the right. As the dog moves behind you, bury the cookie in the right hand against back or your right leg, pick up the dog’s nose with cookie in the left hand, and lead the dog forward to a straight sitting position at your left side.

GOAL: The dog will move from sitting in front of the handler to the heel position. By use of hand, dog will learn the signal for “Around”.

GOAL: Dog and handler will reverse directions in the same way every time. The handler’s footwork will help the dog stay close and turn quickly. The dog will watch the handler throughout the turn.

**Swing Finish:** Start with your dog sitting straight at your left side. Make a stop sign with your flat left hand, tell your dog “Wait” and step in front of him, so you are facing him and toe to toe. Close enough to pet your dog on the head. The leash is in your right hand and treats are in your left hand. The leash is to keep her from leaving, not to be used to pull or guide

your dog into position. Take a long step straight back with your left foot. Lure your dog to your left side and back of you with the treat. Turn your dog towards you with the treat and bring your dog back up along your left side and lure her into a sit. Use the “Sit” word to have her sit. When your dog is 90% efficient of this, add the “Swing” cue before you start luring your dog along the side of you.

**Left Turn:** While heeling (in motion), plant the left foot at a 45 degree angle to the left and step around it another 45 degree angle with the right foot to turn (90 degrees) to complete the left turn.

Goal: To turn left (while heeling) in the same way every time, so your dog can learn your body cue for the turn. To learn to turn consistently.

Note: Do Not pull or tug on the leash to force your dog on any turn. Pulling on the leash will cause your dog to resist the turn. Use the edible leash (treat) to induce your dog to move.

**Right Turn:** While heeling (in motion), plant the right foot at a 45 degree angle to the right and step around it another 45 degree angle with the left foot to turn (90 degrees) to complete the right turn.

OR: While heeling (in motion), plant the left foot at a 45 degree angle over your right foot and stepping around it with your right foot at another 45 degree angle. (All that is different is what foot you start the right turn on in the first place).

Goal: To turn right (while heeling) in the same way every time, so your dog can learn your body cue for the turn. To learn to turn consistently.

Note: Practice turns without your dog for at least half of your turn practice time. It is much easier to think about your feet if you don't have to think about a dog. If you become smooth and consistent with the turns, your dog will become smooth and consistent, too!

## Novice Class & Above Week 6

**Quick Sit Drill:** Begin to do 1- steps without giving the command to sit. Use a quick movement or treat or lift up gently on the collar to help the dog sit without a verbal cue. Work to eliminate the cues.

GOAL: While heeling, the dog will sit without a command every time the handler stops.

**About Turns:** Follow all of the about turns, start with your dog sitting straight at your left side and watching. Do Not pull or tug on the leash to force the dog to turn. Pulling on the leash will cause your dog to resist the turn. Use the edible leash (treat) to induce your dog to move.

**Stationary About Turn:** Leash in left hand, treat in right hand. All at the same time, do the following:

Say “Rover, Heel”. Follow footwork diagram in the Footwork and Handling Section of this book. When you stop say “sit” and lift up with the treat to create the sit. *Keep the Watch!*

**One Step About Turns:** Add one step before you complete the “Stationary About Turn”. Once you and your dog are 90% efficient move onto the Two Step About Turn.

*Keep the Watch!*

**Two Step About Turns:** Add two steps before you complete the “Stationary About Turn”.

*Keep the watch!*

Goal of the About Turns: Dog and handler well reverse directions (180 degrees) in the same way every time. The handler’s footwork will help the dog stay close and turn quickly. The dog will watch the handler throughout the turn.

**Six Foot Come:** Starting with the Two – Step Come, gradually (one step per day and when dog is 90% efficient) lengthen the number of steps you take away from your dog while he is waiting.

When you can back to the end of the leash, change the way you leave your dog. Start with your dog sitting straight at your left side. Make a stop sign with your flat left hand and tell your dog to “Wait”. Walk straight away from your dog to the end of the leash (do not turn around and back away). When you reach the end of the leash, turn and face your dog.

Goal: Your dog will wait while the handler walks straight away from him to the end of the leash and turns to face him. Your dog will come on one command, with leash loose and no extra cues. Your dog will sit automatically and straight in the front position.

Note: Whenever you call your dog, always use 1.) His Name and 2.) the Word Come. Get in the habit of “Rover, Come!” so that in an emergency (Rover is headed for the road to chase a squirrel) you will automatically say the right words to get him to come back.

Your dog should not move towards you in this exercise until you call. If you turn at the end of the leash and call immediately every time, your dog will learn to come when you turn, instead of waiting for your call. To avoid this, wait different amounts of time after you turn before calling your dog (5 seconds, 15 seconds, 8 seconds, etc). Fool your dog occasionally. Don’t call him after you leave him. Instead, return to him and give him a treat for staying. Be unpredictable so the dog never thinks he can do the whole thing without you!

“Come” is a primary command. It may not be disobeyed by your dog, and it overrules any previous command. If your dog is not 100% reliable on the “come”, DO NOT TRY TO DO IT OFF LEASH! You must be able to enforce it every time until the dog learns he must come. Every time your dog comes to you must be a very pleasant experience for him. Even if he did something awful and you have been chasing him for hours, if he finally comes to you, he must be praised. He will not associate a scolding with whatever he did was wrong. He will associate it with coming to you, and next time he’ll stay away from you as long as he can!

**The Promise:** Please refer to the training notes (Intermittent reinforcement). You have taught your dog many behaviors by leading him with a treat. Now that he knows how to do the behaviors, he must learn to do them without being led by the treat. The treat will still be used as a reward for a job well done.

When he understands what to do, begin rewarding in an unpredictable way (on the third down, then the fifth, then the second, etc.).

Goal: Your dog will follow commands with no treat visible.

Note: If the first successful “promise” takes a long time, don’t be discouraged. Every one after the first will be quicker. The first one is sometimes hard for the dog to figure out!

The promise can be used for all exercises. It is not limited to the down

**Change of Pace:** Review slow and fast footwork without your dog.

**Actually your dog is paying attention and learning things all the time.  
Now we'd like him to pay attention and learn from you!**

Novice Class & Above  
Week 7

**2 Step Oblique Come:**

Do a two-step come ("Wait" two steps back, "Come"), But step back and one back and to your right/left. The dog must adjust to sit straight. Don't settle for a crooked sit! Repeat "Come" or "Come Straight" and help the dog sit straight by taking another tiny step back, or twisting your shoulders, trunk, and arms to encourage the dog to move its rear into a straight position. Praise and reward when the dog is straight.

GOAL: On command, the dog will straighten his front position. The dog will learn the "picture" or a straight front position. The dog will adjust himself, without extra command, to always sit straight in the front position.

**Figure 8:** During the Figure 8 exercise, your dog adapts to your pace and position. He must stay in heel position. It is your job to help him by being very consistent in your handling and by turning the 8s into simple straight lines connected by smooth curves. Practice your footwork without your dog for part of your practice time each day.

Think of the Figure 8 in as two straight lines connected by two half circles to make an 8. As you round one half circle, line up on the straight line and walk along it. A Figure 8 that snakes in the middle is more difficult for a dog to negotiate.

The dog must not bump on the inside curve (dog on the inside), nor lag on the outside curve (do on the outside). Do Not use the leash to pull a lagging dog around the outside curve! It will cause him to resist and make the problem worse. Encourage him by using a treat or motivator, holding it or throwing as you were shown in class. Make him think that coming around that curve quickly is truly in his best interest, not to mention fun!

**Group Stay:** This can only be done in class, but to be successful practice stay at home. Practice stay for short periods of time, rewarding the dog for staying BEFORE he moves. Gradually extend the time and distance. When the dog is steady add distractions.

GOAL: The dog will sit and stay for one minute, down and stay for tree minutes, and stand and stay to be examined. During this time the dog will not move, make any sound, or sniff. The dog will stay in position until the handler is back in heel position and releases the dog. Long sits and downs are done off leash in Novice.

**Pace Changes:** Fast and slow.

**Your relationship with your dog is based on trust and cooperation.**

Novice Class & Above  
Week 8

**Back:** Use one of the following three methods to teach your dog to back. Decide which works best with your dog.

1. Stand the dog. Take a position directly in front of the dog and facing him. Say "Back" and take very small steps toward the dog, forcing it to back up. If the dog backs up,

even a tiny step, praise & reward. Repeat this process enough times for the dog to be comfortable backing several steps. If the dog tends to turn and end up going forward, GENTLY hold the head with a hand on each side so the dog must keep facing you and back straight. Remember, if YOU do all the work, the dog won't learn a thing. The dog does the work, you simply guide it! Repeat until the dog learns the motor skill needed to back without help.

2. Proceed as about, but assist the dog further with a treat. Hold the treat in front of the dog and allow him to nibble it. Say "Back" and take a very small step toward the dog, at the time pressing the treat and your hand gently into the front of the dog's muzzle. When a step is taken, bridge and reward. Practice until the treat is no longer needed and the dog is comfortable taking several backward steps.

3. Stand the dog parallel to a wall or fence. Stand facing the side of the dog, so his shoulder is directly in front of your knees. With the hand that is closest to the dog's head, put a treat in front of the dog and allow him to nibble it. Say "Back" and gently press the treat and your hand into the front of the dog's muzzle, guiding him to take a step backward. When a step is taken, praise and reward. Repeat, using the wall and your body as a chute to guide the dog straight back, until the dog is comfortable taking several steps backward. Then, practice without the aid of the treat (give occasionally), and eventually without the aid of the wall and your body.

GOAL: The dog walks backward in front of and beside handler. Remember to be patient until the dog learns what to do with his front and back legs in order to back up. Reward for even tiny steps by the dog in the right direction.

**Zig Zag Heeling Pattern:** Practice left and right turns by heeling in a zig zag pattern. Go very slowly at first, keeping your dog in perfect heel position at all times. When he is in the right position, encourage him with your voice - the more correct he is, the more excited your voice becomes! When he is out of position, help him with "Get In," "Come Up," "Back," or "Eh-eh" (which means something's wrong with where you are - figure it out and fix it, please). As the dog becomes more accurate, gradually increase your pace until it approaches normal speed.

GOAL: The dog will maintain heel position. The dog will learn what the handler looks like from perfect heel position. The dog will work to maintain the picture of his handler. The handler will learn consistent right and left turns.

**Circle Down Stay:** This can only be done in class, but to be successful practice down stay at home. Practice stay for short periods of time, rewarding the dog for staying BEFORE he moves. Gradually extend the time and distance. When the dog is steady add distractions.

GOAL: The dog will down and stay for three to five minutes. During this time the dog will not move, make any sound, or sniff. The dog will stay in position until the handler is back in heel position and releases the dog. Long downs are done off leash in Novice and out of sight for above.

**Heel Off Leash - 1-Steps & 4-Steps:** Warm up with heeling, 1-Step and 4-Step Drill on leash. With the dog in heel position, remove the leash. Using treat and voice only, practice 1-Step off leash. If necessary, alternate a few off leash with a few on leash. When the dog is steady with 1-Steps, move on to the 4-Step Drill off leash, maintaining correct heel position and watching.

GOAL: The dog will heel one and four steps off leash, maintaining correct heel position and watching.

**Think of ways you can use your dog's training in  
"Real life."**

**Practice makes your dog a better canine citizen of the world.**

Novice Class & Above  
Week 9

**Circle Right & Circle Left:** Add variation to straight line heeling by pivoting 360 degrees (a full circle) to the right or left. The dog makes a circle around the handler.

Right Circle - encourage the dog with a treat, your voice, and the words "ComeUp." Do NOT PULL on the leash to encourage your dog around you. Pulling will slow your dog down instead of speed him up!

Left Circle - repeat "Get In" to encourage your dog to do continuous left pivot around you in a circle. If you have a problem with this exercise, it is time to go back and teach the left pivot more thoroughly.

GOAL: The dog will manage his front and hind legs to turn quickly and tightly with his handler. This exercise will help to improve left, right, and about turns, attention, and basic heeling.

**Circle Sit Stay:** This can only be done in class, but to be successful practice sit stay at home. Practice stay for short periods of time, rewarding the dog for staying BEFORE he moves. Gradually extend the time and distance. When the dog is steady add distractions.

GOAL: The dog will sit and stay for one minutes. During this time the dog will not move, make any sound, or sniff. The dog will stay in position until the handler is back in heel position and releases the dog. Lone sits are done off leash in Novice.

**Release Reward:** Start with the dog in the heel position. Say, "Watch." When the dog watches, say "Good Watch." Look forward (as toward the judge), imagine the judge saying, "Are you ready?" Answer the judge, "Ready." Give your dog his release word, release him with the treat forward and upward. The dog should have to move to get the treat (jumping upward with head extended is ideal).

GOAL: When you say "Ready," the dog's attention and focus will increase as he prepares to get the release word and treat. In the show ring, responding to the judge with "Ready" will prime your dog. His performance will have extra attention and intensity.

**Heel Off Leash - Straight Line:** Extend the off leash work you have been doing in a straight line. Do not include turns. When you reach the end of your line, release the dog and praise. Use your voice and treat to keep the dog's attention on you. Gradually use the treat/reinforcer less. If needed, do one length off leash, the rest on leash.

GOAL: The dog will heel off leash, maintaining heel position and watching.

**Think of things you can do to play with your dog after training session. Be sure it's something both you and your dog enjoy!**

Pre-Open and Above  
Training Log

Week of...	Exercise	Command
Week 1	Motivational Jumping (Never use NO)	Jump Word
	Walk Over – single, pairs, all	Jump Word, Praise!
	Call Over – single, pairs, all	Jump Word, Praise!
	Review Hold	Hold
	Moving Hold	Hold
	Resistance Hold	Hold
Week 2	Jump Call Over –all	Jump Word
	Jump Cue & Run	Jump Word
	Hold Stay	Hold
Week 3	Jump Cue & Throw	Jump Word
	Change Jump Spacing	
	Hold Scoots – extend distance	Hold
Week 4	Jump Cue & Return (extend gradually)	Jump Word
	Increase Height of Jumps (1-2")	
	Measuring	Stand
	Forced Retrieve (5/day, every day)	Take It, Out
Week 5	Stick Jumping	Jump Word
	Forced Retrieve Progression	Take It, Out
Week 6	Broad Jump (Call, Run, Ball, Cookie)	Jump Word
	Retrieve – Progression, Promise	Take It, Out
Week 7	Broad Jump Footwork	
	Come Retrieve – front & rear	Take It
	Restrained Retrieve	Take It
Week 8	High Jump (call, run, throw, cue)	Jump Word
	Retrieve Chase & Through Returns	Take It
Week 9	High Jump: Set-up & Lift Points	
	Handler Distance Practice	5/day each side
	Jump Habit – throw from set point	Jump Word
	Retrieve – hold call over high jump	Hold, Jump Word
Week 10	High Jump w/bell – call, run, send	Hold, Jump Word
	Mark	Mark
Week 11	Retrieve Over High Jump	Wait, Jump Word
Week 12	Intro to Go Outs, Gloves, Etc	

### Pre-Open and Above

## **Exercises**

Heel Off Leash	Broad Jump
Figure 8 off leash	Long sit – 3 minutes (out of sight)
Drop on recall	Long down – 5 minutes (out of sight)
Retrieve on flat	NO physical guidance of dog allowed between exercises
Retrieve over the high jump	

### **Retrieve on Flat**

Handler starts with dog sitting in the heel position at a spot designated by the judge. Judge will ask "Are you ready?" Then will order you to "Throw your dumbbell." Before you throw the dumbbell you must give your dog a verbal command or signal to stay. The dumbbell must be thrown a distance of at least 20 feet. If the dumbbell is not thrown at least 20 feet, the judge will have the dumbbell re-thrown at the judge's discretion. No points will be deducted for mis-throws. When the dumbbell comes to rest, the judge will order the handler to send the dog. A single verbal command (Take it, fetch, etc) or a hand signal (not both) may be given for the dog to retrieve the dumbbell. The dog should go directly to the dumbbell, pick it up without playing, and return directly back to the handler in the "front" position. The judge will say "Take it" or something similar: the handler should then give a verbal command (out, give, etc) as he/she removes the dumbbell from the dog's mouth. The dog should readily release hold of the dumbbell when commanded. The dog must not drop the dumbbell or play "tug of war" as it is removed. The judge will then give the command "finish your dog." As in all other exercises where a finish is required, the handler may give either a verbal command or hand signal for the dog to return to the heel position.

### **Broad Jump**

The handler will stand with the dog in the heel position and at least eight feet in front of the jump. When ordered by the judge to "Leave your dog" the handler will give the verbal command or hand signal to stay. The handler will then go to the right side of the jump, turn to face the jump (1/4 turn to left), remaining two feet away from the jump. When told by the judge to "send your dog," the handler will give a verbal command (jump, over, etc) or a hand signal for the dog to jump over the jump. The dog must clear the full length of the jump – not touching any board. When the dog is in midair, the handler will turn 1/4 turn to the right but will remain in the same spot. Upon completing the jump, the dog will go to the "front" position. When signaled or told by the judge to "finish your dog" the handler will again give the command or signal for the dog to return to the heel position. The length the dog is required to jump is two times the height of the dog at the withers, to the closest even number.

### **Retrieve Over the High Jump**

The retrieve over the high jump is done exactly like the retrieve on the flat, except your dog must jump over the high jump on the way to retrieve the dumbbell and on the way back to you after he/she has picked up the dumbbell. The jump height will be one times the height of the dog. Your dog must not climb the wall either going or coming. You will also lose points if your dog hits the jump on the way out or coming back but that is not a DQ. The dumbbell must be thrown a distance of at least eight feet beyond the jump. The height the dog is required to jump is one times the height of the dog at the withers.

## Junior Showmanship Tips

- I. Questions you may have regarding junior showmanship
  - A. What should I wear?
    1. Girls – wear a dress or blouse and skirt or a skort.
    2. Boys – wear a suit and sit or a nice shirt and nice pants and preferably a tie. **NO JEANS!!**
    3. Shoes – wear nice looking, clean shoes that are comfortable that you can run in and preferably with a rubber sole.
  - B. What questions might the judge ask me?
    1. Certain parts of the dog – refer to the dog parts page.
    2. What breed is your dog? If it isn't purebred know what the mix is.
    3. What is your dog's best quality and what is it's worst quality?
    4. How many teeth does your dog have?
  - C. Does my dog need to be groomed?
    1. **YES!** Give it a bath, clean it's teeth and ears and clip it's toenails.
  - D. Can I talk to my dog in the ring?
    1. Yes – you can tell them to stand and stay and coax them while you are gaiting but make sure it's not too loud or obvious.
  - E. What do I do if my dog isn't listening to me and won't keep it's pose?
    1. **BE PATIENT and KEEP CALM!** If your dog keeps breaking it's pose simply put it's feet back where they belong. Never give up! The judge notices how much you keep trying in the ring.
  - F. Can I talk to my friends next to me while I'm in the ring?
    1. It's not a good idea. The judge usually sees everything your doing. You should either be concentrating on your dog or where the judge is.
  - G. Can I use a squeaky toy or bait in the ring to get my dog's attention?
    1. Yes, but only use it when the judge is looking at your dog. You don't want to overuse it because it can be distracting to the other dogs. Keep it in your pocket or a bait bag.
  - H. What should I do the day of the dog show?
    1. You should look neat and clean as well as your dog.
    2. Arrive at least 15 minutes before your class starts. Check in at your ring to receive your arm band.
    3. Exercise your dog before entering the ring.
    4. Bring with you your dog (of course), your showmanship lead, and your bait bag and treats (if you use them).
    5. Relax, put a smile on your face and have fun!!
- II. Important things to remember while you are in the ring.
  1. Always know where your judge is. Make occasional eye contact and **smile**.
  2. Remember when gaiting to use the L – Arm position.
  3. Always keep your back straight.
  4. Leave enough space between you the dog in front of you.
  5. Be ready for the judge's examination.

6. Be courteous to others in the ring.
7. You don't have to keep up with the dog in front of you when the entire class is gaiting around the ring. Keep your dog at a steady gait and make sure it doesn't walk or gallop.

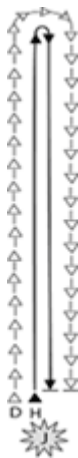
### III. Special reminders

1. No matter what placing you receive don't be disappointed as long as you did your best. It is also proper ring etiquette to congratulate the first place winner and to thank the judge after he/she gives out the placing.
2. If you are a blue ribbon winner for your class, stick around because all of the blue ribbon winners from each class will compete together for the Best Junior Handler.
3. You may talk to the judge after your class to see how you did and what you can do to improve.

The 4-H'er will be asked to perform one or more of the following patterns:

1. Down and Back
2. Triangle pattern
3. Reverse Triangle
4. "L" pattern
5. "T" pattern
6. Arrow Pattern

**1. Down and Back** – The 4-H'er and dog will be asked to gait across the ring eight on the diagonal or from end to end. At the opposite end of the ring, the 4-H'er has the option to do (1) an about turn or (2) to switch hands with the lead.

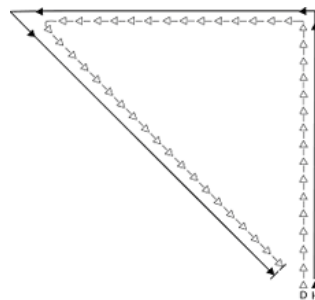


1. The Down and Back with an about-turn.

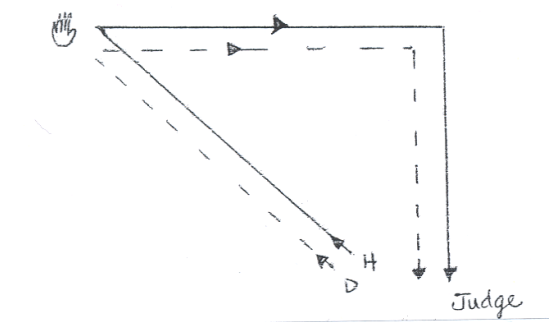


2. The Down and Back with a hand switch.

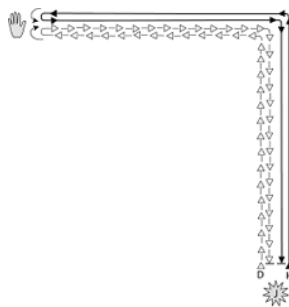
**2. "Triangle" Pattern** – This pattern is performed in the shape of a right triangle. The 4-H'er and dog will proceed in a straight line away from the judge to the opposite end of the ring. At the corner make a left turn and proceed all the way to the next corner. Make another left turn back down the diagonal toward the judge.



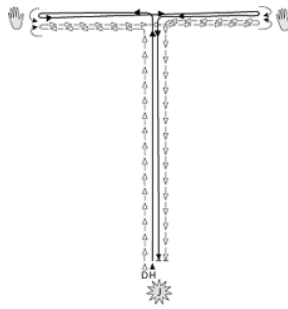
**3. “Reverse Triangle”** – This pattern is performed in the shape of a right triangle. The 4-H'er and dog will proceed at a diagonal away from the judge to the opposite end of the ring. At the corner make a right turn and proceed all the way to the next corner. And finally right at the last corner back to the judge.



**4. “L” Pattern** – This pattern is performed in the shape of an uppercase letter “L”. The 4-H'er and dog will proceed in a straight line away from the judge to the opposite end of the ring. At the corner make a left turn and proceed all the way to the next corner. The 4-H'er then switches hands with the lead. The 4-H'er and dog turn into/toward each other and proceed back to the other end of the ring. At this corner, the 4-H'er has three options:

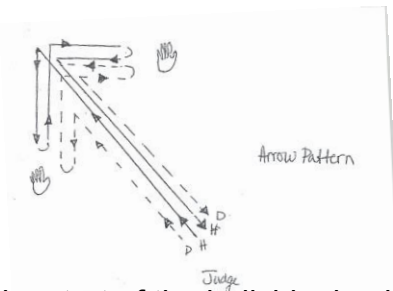


**5. “T” Pattern** – This pattern is performed in the shape of an uppercase letter “T”. The judge will indicate where to start the “T” pattern. The 4-H'er and dog will proceed in a straight line away from the judge to the opposite end of the ring. The 4-H'er should left and proceed to the corner of the ring. The 4-H'er then switches hands with the lead. The 4-H'er and dog turn into/toward each other and proceed to the other end of the ring. At the other end, the 4-H'er again switches hands with the lead. The 4-H'er and dog again turn into/toward each other and proceed back to the center of the ring. The 4-H'er then turns back toward the judge and proceeds in a straight line back to the judge.



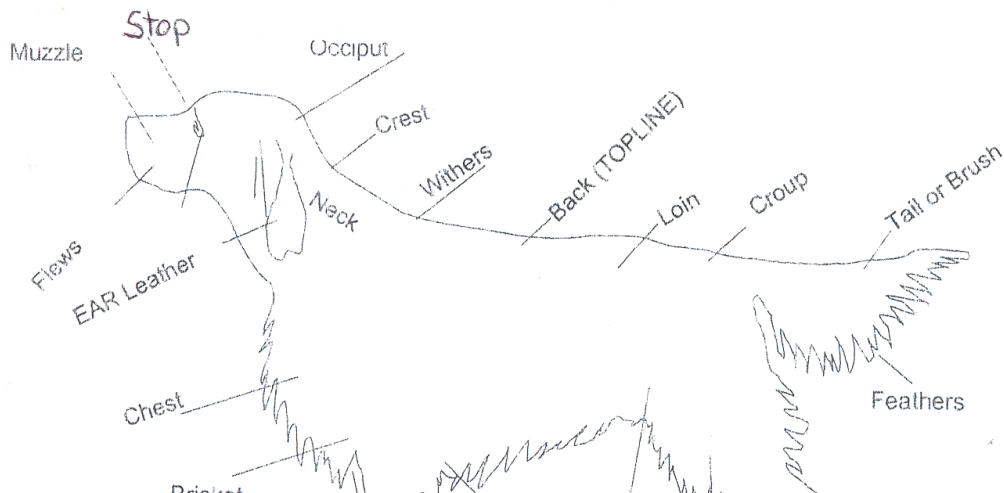
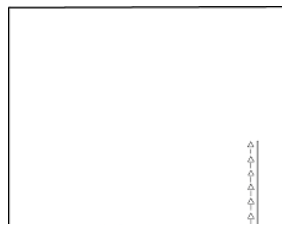
The "T" pattern.

**6. Arrow Pattern** – This pattern is performed in the shape of an arrow. Much like the "T" pattern but at an angle following the mats. (The "T" is done perpendicular to the diagonal mat). The 4-H'er starts up the diagonal to the opposite corner, turning left down the mat, switching hands going back and down the other side. Switching hands again. Then turning left to return to the judge.



**7. Courtesy Turn** – (used at the start of the individual gaiting pattern). A courtesy turn is optional in 4-H, but is recommended to get the dog moving from its stacked position. To do a courtesy turn, the 4-H'er will use a right hand turn before beginning the individual pattern designated by the judge. The courtesy turn should be executed quickly and smoothly and there should not be any break in the gaiting pattern. At this point it is acceptable for the 4-H'er to briefly pass between his/her dog and the judge.

A correct courtesy turn.





# **SHOWMANSHIP** **JUDGE'S SCORECARD**



For Judges use ONLY - Not to be distributed

Show \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Class \_\_\_\_\_

Breed & Dog #										
Handling of Dog  50 Pts										
Member's Apearance  10 Pts										
Grooming of Dog  10 Pts										
Knowledge of Dogs  10 Pts.										
Totals  80 Pts.										
Rank In Class										

## OBEDIENCE SCORING

<p><b>BEGINNER PRE-NOVICE A &amp; B *</b>  (all work on a 6 foot leash) <u>OB &amp; Brace Team</u> Heel on Leash 40 points 160 points Figure 8 on Leash 40 points 160 points Sit for Exam On Leash 40 points 160 points (judge to touch only the dog's head)  Recall on Leash (no finish) 40 points 160 points Sit/Stay On Leash (45 Seconds) <u>40 points 160 points</u> Total: 200 points 800 points</p>	<p><b>PRE-UTILITY</b>  Signal Exercise 40 points Retrieve over High Jump 40 Points Directed Retrieve (only gloves 1 &amp; 3 to be used) 40 Points Directed Jump (high jump only) Go out 25 Points  Directed Jump 25 points Moving Stand <u>30 points</u> Total: 200 points</p>
<p><b>PRE-NOVICE A &amp; B *</b>  (all work on a 6 foot leash)  Heel on Leash &amp; Figure 8 50 points Stand for Examination 40 points Recall 50 points Long Sit (1 minute) 30 points  Long Down (1 minutes) <u>30 points</u> Total: 200 points</p>	<p><b>UTILITY</b>  Signal Exercise 40 points Scent Discrimination (leather, metal or wood)  Article 1 30 points Article 2 30 points Directed Retrieve 40 points  Directed Jump (high jump and bar jump) 40 points  Moving Stand <u>20 points</u> Total: 200 points</p>
<p><b>NOVICE *</b>  Heel on Leash &amp; Figure 8 40 points Stand for Examination (off leash) 30 points Heel off leash 40 points Recall (off leash) 30 points Long Sit (1 minute) (on leash) 30 points Long Down (1 minutes) (on leash) <u>30 points</u> Total: 200 points</p>	<p><b>PRE-NOVICE TEAM</b> (All work on a 6 foot leash)  (4 team members plus alternate)  Heel on leash &amp; Figure 8 200 points Stand for Examination 160 points Recall 200 points Long Sit (1 minute) 120 points Long Down (1 minutes) <u>120 points</u> Total: 800 points</p>
<p><b>GRADUATE NOVICE*</b>  Heel on Leash 30 points Stand for Examination (off leash) 30 points Heel Free &amp; Figure 8 (off leash) 40 points Drop on Recall (off leash) 40 points Long Sit (2 minutes – handler in sight, drop leash) 30 points Long Down (3 min.- handler in sight, drop leash) <u>30 points</u> Total: 200 points</p>	<p><b>NOVICE TEAM</b> (4 team members plus alternate)  Heel on 6 Foot Leash &amp; Figure 8 160 points Stand for Examination 120 points Heel off leash 160 points Recall (off leash) 120 points Long Sit (1 minute) (on leash) 120 points Long Down (1 minutes)(on leash) <u>120 points</u> Total: 800 points</p>
<p><b>PRE-OPEN</b> (all work off leash)*  Heel Free &amp; Figure 8 40 points Drop on Recall 40 points Retrieve on Flat 30 points Recall over Broad Jump 30 points Long Sit (3 minutes – handler in sight) 30 points  Long Down (5 minutes - handler in sight) <u>30 points</u> Total: 200 points</p>	<p><b>PRE-NOVICE BRACE</b>  (Coupler may not be shorter than 6 inches. All work on a 6 foot leash) Heel on Leash &amp; Figure 50 points Stand for Examination 40 points Recall 50 points Long Sit (1 minute) 30 points  Long Down (1 minutes) <u>30 points</u> Total: 200 points</p>
<p><b>OPEN</b> (all work off leash)*  Heel Free &amp; Figure 8 40 points Drop on Recall 30 points Retrieve on Flat 20 points Retrieve over High Jump 30 points Broad Jump 20 points Long Sit (3 minutes – handler in sight) 30 points Long Down (5 minutes – handler in sight) <u>30 points</u> Total: 200 points</p>	<p><b>NOVICE BRACE</b>  (Coupler may not be shorter than 6 inches)  Heel on 6 foot leash &amp; Figure 8 40 points Stand for Examination (off leash) 30 points Heel off leash 40 points Recall (off leash) 30 points Long Sit (1 minute) (on leash) 30 points Long Down (1 minutes) (on leash) <u>30 points</u> Total: 200 points</p>

**SHOWMANSHIP\***

1. Skill by the exhibitor in handling the dog
2. Grooming and condition of dog
3. Conformation of the dog will not be considered
4. Knowledge of dogs body parts
5. Member's appearance
6. Females in season may not be shown
7. Courtesy turns optional

\*Denotes classes that may be divided by grades depending on number of entries.

2024-25

**Points for Judging**

<b>BEGINNER PRE-NOVICE A &amp; B *</b> (all work on a 6 foot leash)			<b>PRE-UTILITY</b>	
		Team	Signal Exercise	40 points
Heel on Leash	40 points	160 points	Retrieve over High Jump	40 points
Figure 8 on Leash	40 points	160 points	Directed Retrieve (only gloves 1 & 3 to be used)	40 points
Sit for Exam On Leash	40 points	160 points	Directed Jump (high jump only)	
(judge to touch only the dog's head)			Go out	25 points
Recall on Leash (no finish)	40 points	160 points	Directed Jump	25 points
Sit/Stay On Leash (45 Seconds)	40 points	160 points	Moving Stand	30 points
	Total: 200 points	800 points		Total: 200 points
<b>PRE-NOVICE A &amp; B *</b> (all work on a 6 foot leash)			<b>UTILITY</b>	
Heel on Leash & Figure 8	50 points		Signal Exercise	40 points
Stand for Examination	40 points		Scent Discrimination (leather, metal or wood)	
Recall	50 points		Article 1	30 points
Long Sit (1 minute)	30 points		Article 2	30 points
Long Down (1 minutes)	30 points		Directed Retrieve	40 points
	Total: 200 points		Directed Jump (high jump and bar jump)	40 points
			Moving Stand	20 points
				Total: 200 points
<b>NOVICE *</b>			<b>PRE-NOVICE TEAM (All work on a 6 foot leash)</b> (4 team members plus alternate)	
Heel on Leash & Figure 8	40 points		Heel on leash & Figure 8	200 points
Stand for Examination (off leash)	30 points		Stand for Examination	160 points
Heel off leash	40 points		Recall	200 points
Recall (off leash)	30 points		Long Sit (1 minute)	120 points
Long Sit (1 minute) (on leash)	30 points		Long Down (1 minutes)	120 points
Long Down (1 minutes) (on leash)	30 points			Total: 800 points
	Total: 200 points			
<b>GRADUATE NOVICE*</b>			<b>NOVICE TEAM (4 team members plus alternate)</b>	
Heel on Leash	30 points		Heel on 6 Foot Leash & Figure 8	160 points
Stand for Examination (off leash)	30 points		Stand for Examination	120 points
Heel Free & Figure 8 (off leash)	40 points		Heel off leash	160 points
Drop on Recall (off leash)	40 points		Recall (off leash)	120 points
Long Sit (2 minutes – handler in sight, drop leash)	30 points		Long Sit (1 minute) (on leash)	120 points
Long Down (3 min.- handler in sight, drop leash)	30 points		Long Down (1 minutes)(on leash)	120 points
	Total: 200 points			Total: 800 points
<b>PRE-OPEN (all work off leash)*</b>			<b>PRE-NOVICE BRACE</b> (Coupler may not be shorter than 6 inches. All work on a 6 foot leash)	
Heel Free & Figure 8	40 points		Heel on Leash & Figure 8	50 points
Drop on Recall	40 points		Stand for Examination	40 points
Retrieve on Flat	30 points		Recall	50 points
Recall over Broad Jump	30 points		Long Sit (1 minute)	30 points
Long Sit (3 minutes – handler in sight)	30 points		Long Down (1 minutes)	30 points
Long Down (5 minutes - handler in sight)	30 points			Total: 200 points
	Total: 200 points			
<b>OPEN (all work off leash)*</b>			<b>NOVICE BRACE</b> (Coupler may not be shorter than 6 inches)	
Heel Free & Figure 8	40 points		Heel on 6 foot leash & Figure 8	40 points
Drop on Recall	30 points		Stand for Examination (off leash)	30 points
Retrieve on Flat	20 points		Heel off leash	40 points
Retrieve over High Jump	30 points		Recall (off leash)	30 points
Broad Jump	20 points		Long Sit (1 minute) (on leash)	30 points
Long Sit (3 minutes – handler in sight)	30 points		Long Down (1 minutes) (on leash)	30 points
Long Down (5 minutes – handler in sight)	30 points			Total: 200 points
	Total: 200 points			
<b>SHOWMANSHIP*</b>				
1. Skill by the exhibitor in handling the dog			5. Member's appearance	
2. Grooming and condition of dog			6. Females in season may not be shown.	
3. Conformation of the dog will not be considered			7. Courtesy turns optional	
4. Knowledge of dogs				
*Denotes classes that may be divided by grades depending on number of entries.				