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| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>VICTORIA – PROPOSED RULE CHANGES RECEIVED IN RELATION TO<br/>OBEDIENCE RULES FROM DOGS VICTORIA MEMBERS.</b></p> |
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## **1. SUBMITTED BY DAWN HOWARD**

### **Page 9 Glossary**

#### **Withdrawal of Dog:**

A dog may be withdrawn during judging of the individual exercises with the consent of the Judge, but must not take any further part in that class. Should a competitor choose to withdraw after the individual exercises, they should inform the Judge or Steward prior to the commencement of the Group exercises.

#### **Change**

#### **Withdrawal of Dog:**

A dog may be withdrawn during judging of the individual exercises with the consent of the Judge, but must not take any further part in that class, **except where required as a stand in Dog in a group exercise**. Should a competitor choose to withdraw after the individual exercises, they should inform the Judge or Steward prior to the commencement of the Group exercises.

**Rationale:** Procedural change. Sometimes we require a dog for the group exercises and it needs to be made clear that a withdrawn dog can still be a non-competitive stand in dog.

## **2. SUBMITTED BY LORNA PIPER**

### **Page 9 - Glossary**

#### **Current**

#### **Commands:**

Where the word “command” appears in specific exercises, it will mean “command and/or signal” unless otherwise specified.

All verbal commands must be in the English Language unless approved otherwise by the Judge.

One command only is given to the dog for a specific action on the part of the dog. The verbal command must be a single word.

The command may be given by the use of the Handler’s voice and/or specific action of the Handler in the form of a signal.

A voice command and a signal may be given, but must be used simultaneously. A signal should be a single gesture of the arms and/or hands only, which must be promptly returned to their pre-command position. Signals must be inaudible and must not touch the dog.

Any unusual noise, prolonged or extended signal or movement of the Handler **may** be considered by the Judge as a 'signal', or extra command.

Where the dog's name is used to attract its attention, a distinct pause between the name of the dog and the command is required.

When giving the command to stay before throwing the dumbbell or the Command to finish in every exercise that requires a retrieve, the hand holding the dumbbell or the retrieved article must not be used to give the signal to stay or finish. Failure to comply will result in a deduction for failing the lesser points of the exercise.

### **Proposed**

Any unusual noise, prolonged or extended signal or *other* movement of the Handler **must** be considered by the Judge as a 'signal', or extra command **and penalised accordingly**.

#### ***Rationale:***

By adding in *other* movement, body movement will be addressed. By removing ". . . may . . ." and replacing it with MUST it will support paragraph five (5) under Commands (see below). At the moment handlers are making excessive body movements on some exercises and not all judges are recognising/penalising these actions, the change will ensure that all judges penalise movement other than hand/arm :-

*A voice command and a signal may be given, but must be used simultaneously. A signal should be a single gesture of the arms and/or hands only, which must be promptly returned to their pre-command position. Signals must be inaudible and must not touch the dog.*

### **3. SUBMITTED BY DEARNE JACKSON**

#### **Page 10 - Glossary**

#### **ENTERING THE RING**

##### **Current wording**

Entering the Ring: On the Steward's call of the dog's catalogue number, the Handler will enter the Ring with the dog on lead and stand near the "Starting Peg" on whichever side preferred, except for Group exercises when the Handlers will take up position in close vicinity of the stay pegs.

##### **Change**

Entering the Ring: On the Steward's call of the dog's catalogue number, the Handler will enter the Ring with the dog on lead and stand near the "Starting Peg/**marker**" on whichever side preferred, except for Group exercises when the Handlers will take up position **with right foot** in close vicinity of the stay **pegs** marker.

***Rationale:*** Create consistency with the revision of the Peg glossary entry.

#### 4. SUBMITTED BY DAWN HOWARD

##### Page 10 – Glossary

Current rule

##### **Failure to Leave the Starting Peg:**

Should the dog require more than two commands to leave the Starting Peg in any one exercise, it must be declared unmanageable and receive a Zero score for that exercise or part exercise, whichever is applicable.

Change:

##### **Failure to Leave the Starting Peg:**

Should the dog require more than two commands to leave the Starting Peg in any one exercise, it must receive a Zero score for that exercise or part exercise, whichever is applicable.

**Rationale:** A dog is not necessarily unmanageable just because it sits at the starting post. It should just be given a penalty.

#### 5. SUBMITTED BY DEARNE JACKSON

##### Page 12 Glossary

Current definition

Examinations: For all examinations the Judge must approach the dog from the right or left front and not direct front. In examining the dog, the Judge will touch those parts of the dog's body detailed in the exercise description for each class. This is a temperament test so undue pressure must not be exerted on the dog's shoulders, back or hips to test for 'stability'.

Where stand-in dog/s are required for the Utility and Utility Dog Excellent 'Group Examination', the standin dog/s must not be examined.

Change to:

Examinations: For all examinations the Judge must approach the dog from the right or left front and not direct front. In examining the dog, the Judge will touch those parts of the dog's body detailed in the exercise description for each class. This is a temperament test so undue pressure must not be exerted on the dog's shoulders, back or hips to test for 'stability'.

Where stand-in dog/s are required for the Utility and Utility Dog Excellent 'Group Examination', the stand-in dog/s must not be examined **and dogs must be examined in catalogue order.**

**Rationale:** There is no clear directive as to which order judges may examine dogs once in line. This clarifies which order the judge will examine the dogs. Grammatical correction for second “stand-in”

## 6. SUBMITTED BY DEARNE JACKSON

### Page 12 Glossary

#### Group Exercises

##### Current Wording

Group Exercises: Group Exercises must consist of a minimum of three (3) dogs and a maximum of ten (10) dogs and must be judged by the same person who officiated in the individual exercises segment of the Trial. Each dog must have a separate Handler for the Group Exercises. If there are insufficient entrants the Judge will ask the Steward to furnish stand-in dogs to make up a Group. These dogs must be left on lead and the Handler must stay next to the dog in the heel position. Unless an exhibitor has multiple entries an exhibit must be handled by the one competitor for all exercises. In extreme weather conditions the Judge shall consider using areas of shade where practical to conduct the group stay exercises. The distance between dogs for all group exercises must be approximately two and a half (2.5) metres.

##### Change:

Group Exercises: Group Exercises must consist of a minimum of three (3) dogs and a maximum of ten (10) dogs and must be judged by the same person who officiated in the individual exercises segment of the Trial. Each dog must have a separate Handler for the Group Exercises. If there are insufficient entrants the Judge will ask the Steward to furnish stand-in dogs to make up a Group. These dogs must be left on lead and the Handler must stay next to the dog in the heel position. Unless an exhibitor has multiple entries an exhibit must be handled by the one competitor for all exercises. In extreme weather conditions the Judge shall consider using areas of shade where practical to conduct the group stay exercises. The distance between dogs for all group exercises must be approximately two and a half (2.5) metres. **A second steward must be provided for all out of sight group stay exercises.**

**Rationale:** In out of sight group stays the steward accompanies the competitors and ensures they remain out of sight leaving the judge alone in the ring watching the dogs. As a safety requirement, a second steward present will enable the judge to continue adjudicating the dogs without having to deal with a dog that moves out of position. In the current wording of the Open Group exercises **If a dog gets up and starts to roam, the Judge may instruct a Steward to take the dog away from the other dogs.** This can only be done if a second steward is required

to be present. If the judge deals with the roaming dog the judge's attention is no longer on the entire class but on the roaming dog.

## 7. SUBMITTED BY DEARNE JACKSON

### Page 13 - Glossary

Substantially Within Nominated Area

Current description:

Substantially within the Nominated Area: Where a dog is substantially but not entirely within the nominated area i.e. the dog has a minor part of its body, such as only one leg outside the nominated area, it shall receive a minor deduction

Proposed change:

Where a dog is substantially but not entirely within the nominated area i.e. the dog has a minor part of its body, such as only one leg outside the nominated area, it shall receive a minor deduction. **A dog which does not sit with its body substantially within the prescribed area, i.e. it has two or more legs outside the area, shall receive a substantial deduction.**

***Rationale:*** To provide clarity of what deduction should be given for a dog that is **not** substantially within the Nominated Area. The exercise deductions are clearly defined for not sitting in the nominated area (zero) and a minor part of the body outside ie substantially "in" receiving a minor deduction.

## 8. SUBMITTED BY DEARNE JACKSON

### Page 14 - Glossary

Calculation of Height & Width of Jumps ....

Current

Calculation of the Height and Width of Jumps: The dog's height shall be measured at the withers to the nearest 10mm. The dog's jump height shall be stated on the entry form by the exhibitor.

| Height of Dog at Withers | Height to be jumped | Broad Jump | Number of Broad Jump Hurdles |
|--------------------------|---------------------|------------|------------------------------|
| Under 250mm              | 150mm               | 300mm      | 2                            |
| 250mm and under 380mm    | 200mm               | 400mm      | 2                            |
| 380mm and under 500mm    | 300mm               | 600mm      | 3                            |
| 500mm and over           | 500mm               | 1000mm     | 3                            |

Change to

| Height of Dog at Withers | Height to be jumped | Broad Jump | No. of Broad Jump Hurdles |
|--------------------------|---------------------|------------|---------------------------|
| Under 250mm              | 150mm               | 300mm      | 2                         |
| 250mm and under 380mm    | 200mm               | 400mm      | 2                         |
| 380mm and under 500mm    | 300mm               | 600mm      | 3                         |
| 500mm and over           | 400mm               | 800mm      | 3                         |

**Rationale:** This increases safety for the dog by setting the jump heights/widths to be the same as those used for the Rally discipline which then enables same equipment to be used thus reducing costs to affiliates.

This also means for on line entries, there is not a different height requirement to be recorded for Rally or Obedience disciplines.

## 9. SUBMITTED BY MELISSA FERABEND

### Glossary

Calculation of Height & Width of Jumps ....

### Page 18 – EQUIPMENT – Calculation of the Height and Width of Jumps

*Currently reads:*

Calculation of the Height and Width of Jumps: The dog's height shall be measured at the withers to the nearest 10mm. The dog's jump height shall be stated on the entry form by the exhibitor.

| Height of Dog at Withers | Height to be jumped | Broad Jump | Number of Broad Jump Hurdles |
|--------------------------|---------------------|------------|------------------------------|
| Under 250mm              | 150mm               | 300mm      | 2                            |
| 250mm and under 380mm    | 200mm               | 400mm      | 2                            |
| 380mm and under 500mm    | 300mm               | 600mm      | 3                            |
| 500mm and over           | 500mm               | 1000mm     | 3                            |

### Change to:

Calculation of the Height and Width of Jumps: The dog's height shall be measured at the withers to the nearest 10mm. The dog's jump height shall be stated on the entry form by the exhibitor.

| Height of Dog at Withers | Height to be jumped | Broad Jump | Number of Broad |
|--------------------------|---------------------|------------|-----------------|
| Jump Hurdles Under 250mm | 150mm               | 300mm      | 2               |
| 250mm and under 380mm    | 200mm               | 400mm      | 2               |
| 380mm and under 500mm    | 300mm               | 600mm      | 3               |
| 500mm and over           | <b>400mm</b>        | 1000mm     | 3               |

**Rationale:** To allow fairer jumps for dogs with Height at withers of 500 and bring the heights in line with Rally Jump Heights in turn making equipment easier for clubs

## 10. SUBMITTED BY LORNA PIPER

### Glossary

Calculation of Height & Width of Jumps ....

#### Jumps:

It is the Judge's responsibility to see that jumps are set for each dog in accordance with these Rules.

All jumps must be painted white or a very light colour, unless otherwise stipulated.

#### Calculation of the Height and Width of Jumps:

The dog's height shall be measured at the withers to the nearest 10mm. The dog's jump height shall be stated on the entry form by the exhibitor.

| Height of Dog at Withers | Height to be jumped | Broad Jump | Number of Broad Jump |
|--------------------------|---------------------|------------|----------------------|
| <b>Hurdles</b>           |                     |            |                      |
| Under 250mm              | 150mm               | 300mm      | 2                    |
| 250mm and under 380mm    | 200mm               | 400mm      | 2                    |
| 380mm and under 500mm    | 300mm               | 600mm      | 3                    |
| 500mm and over           | 500mm               | 1000mm     | 3                    |

#### Proposed

| Height of Dog at Withers | Height to be jumped | Broad Jump | No. of Broad Jump |
|--------------------------|---------------------|------------|-------------------|
| <b>Hurdles</b>           |                     |            |                   |
| Under 250mm              | 150mm               | 300mm      | 2                 |
| 250mm and under 350mm    | 200mm               | 400mm      | 2                 |
| 350mm and under 450mm    | 300mm               | 600mm      | 3                 |
| 450mm and under 550mm    | 400mm               | 800mm      | 3                 |
| 550 and over             | 500mm               | 1000mm     | 3                 |

**RATIONALE:** Brings in a 400 jump and keeps dogs jumping less than their height at wither

## **11. SUBMITTED BY DAWN HOWARD**

### **Page 15 - Glossary**

#### **Solid Jump:**

The Solid Jump must consist of two uprights 1200 mm high a minimum of one and a half (1.5) metres and a maximum of two (2) metres wide with fill in boards of various sizes so as to provide adjustment for the jump to be set at the prescribed heights. The height in millimetres must be clearly visible on each side of each board in black figures. The figure on the baseboard must represent the distance from the ground to the top of the board. Suggested size of the boards 1 x 250 mm, 2 x 100 mm, 1 x 50 mm combined to make each dog's required jump height.

Any alternate design must be approved by the relevant ANKC Ltd Member Body.

#### **Change**

#### **Solid Jump:**

The Solid Jump must consist of two uprights 1200 mm high a minimum of one and a half (1.5) metres and a maximum of two (2) metres wide with fill in **panels** of various sizes so as to provide adjustment for the jump to be set at the prescribed heights. The height in millimetres must be clearly visible on each side of each **panel** in black figures. The figure on the baseboard must represent the distance from the ground to the top of the **panel**. Suggested size of the **panels** 1 x 250 mm, 2 x 100 mm, 1 x 50 mm combined to make each dog's required jump height.

Any alternate design must be approved by the relevant ANKC Ltd Member Body.

**Rationale:** The term board suggests a timber board. The term panel allows for more materials and designs to be used.



## **12. SUBMITTED BY ANNETTE SLAVIN**

### **Page 16 - Glossary**

#### **CURRENT RULE**

Page 16 - All Classes – Paragraph 2\*

Currently Reads:

##### **Collars and Leads:**

All dogs must have a slip or fixed collar which fits loosely around only the dog's neck and which must remain on the dog at all times. No spiked collars, electronic collars or collars which give additional head control shall be permitted.

\*The minimum length of lead will be 750 mm and it will be fitted with a quick release fastener. All dogs must enter and leave the Ring on a lead. In exercises that require a dog to be off-lead, the lead will be taken off and handed to the Steward at the Start Peg.

All exercises with the exception of 'Heel on Lead' and 'Stand for Examination' in the Community Companion Dog Class must be executed off-lead.

#### **CHANGE TO:**

Collars and Leads:

All dogs must have a slip or fixed collar which fits loosely around only the dog's neck and which must remain on the dog at all times. No spiked collars, electronic collars or collars which give additional head control shall be permitted.

\*The minimum length of lead will be 750 mm and it will be fitted with a quick release fastener. All dogs must enter and leave the Ring on a lead. In exercises that require a dog to be off-lead, when asked by the Judge to remove the lead, it will be placed in a sash like manner over the handler's left shoulder with the buckle on the handlers right side facing away from the dog or folded and placed in a pocket on the handler's right side away from the dog. A spare lead to be available on the table in every ring.

All exercises with the exception of 'Heel on Lead' and 'Stand for Examination' in the Community Companion Dog Class must be executed off-lead.

***RATIONALE:*** This will not only free up Judges & Stewards to concentrate more of the dogs and the exercise at hand in the individual exercises, it is also a safety issue, particularly during stays, giving the handler quick access to the lead to secure their dog immediately an issue arises. This of course is more difficult in "out of sight stays" but still when a handler is called back to the ring to pick up a wandering dog, they have the lead on hand rather than having to fossick on a table for it or having to wait for the Steward to find it amongst other leads. It is general practice in European Countries to keep a lead with the handler at all times.

### 13. SUBMITTED BY LORNA PIPER

#### Page 16 – Glossary

##### NOMINATED AREA

###### **Nominated Area (UDX):**

A Nominated area is to be designated for the Directed Sendaway and Recall exercise. The area is to be

**INSERT - behind a** two (2) metres **DELETE - square INSERT - line DELETE - and the corners are to be** defined by cones that are to be white, clearly visible to the Handler and Judge no smaller than 75mm and no larger than 250mm high. At the Judge's discretion, the equipment forming the 'Nominated Area' may remain on the ground for the duration of judging, or it may be removed from the ring and only set in place specially for the judging of the Directed Sendaway.

**RATIONALE:** Does away with an unnecessary back line, I believe the exercise would become more understandable to the dogs with only two cones present.

### 14. SUBMITTED BY DEARNE JACKSON

#### Page 16 - Glossary

##### **Pegs**

###### Current definition

**Pegs:** Each judging Ring must contain a marker to show where a contestant must stand before the start of individual exercises. Stay pegs are numbered pegs which must be used in marking dogs positions in the Group exercises.

###### Change to

**Pegs-Position Marker:** Each judging Ring must contain a marker to show where a contestant must stand before the start of individual exercises. Stay ~~pegs~~ **markers** are numbered ~~pegs~~ **markers** which must be used in marking dogs positions in the Group exercises.

**Rationale:** The definition already refers to marker to show where a contestant must stand before the start of the individual exercises. Change of the word “peg” to “marker” retains consistency of terminology.

## **15. SUBMITTED BY MELISSA FERABEND COMMUNITY COMPANION DOG CLASS**

### **Page 18 – CCD – Exercise – Heel on Lead**

*Currently reads:*

Principal Feature: The dog on the lead, and the Handler to work as a team.

Description of Exercise: On order from the Judge 'Forward' the Handler may attract the dog's attention by saying its name then give a command to heel and, at the same time, commence walking briskly or at the directed pace. The dog must work on a loose lead. Any tightening or tugging of the lead, any unusual or additional act, signal or command which in the opinion of the Judge gives the dog assistance, must be penalised. At each order from the Judge to 'Halt', the Handler must stop and the dog must sit smartly at heel without command and not move until ordered to do so. The Handler and dog must execute a 'Figure Eight' at normal pace in which they must heel at least twice around two Stewards standing approximately three (3) metres apart. There must be at least one 'Halt' during this portion of the exercise. The Judge may replace a Steward in the 'Figure Eight' or may take the place of a Steward himself.

Change to:

#### **Part 1: Heel on Lead**

Description of Exercise: On order from the Judge 'Forward' the Handler may attract the dog's attention by saying its name then give a command to heel and, at the same time, commence walking briskly or at the directed pace. The dog must work on a loose lead. Any tightening or tugging of the lead, any unusual or additional act, signal or command which in the opinion of the Judge gives the dog assistance, must be penalised. At each order from the Judge to 'Halt', the Handler must stop and the dog must sit smartly at heel without command and not move until ordered to do so.

#### **Part 2: Figure 8**

Description of Exercise: On order from the Judge 'Forward' the Handler may attract the dog's attention by saying its name then give a command to heel and, at the same time, commence walking briskly straight into the Figure 8. The Handler and dog must execute a 'Figure Eight' at normal pace in which they must heel at least twice around two Stewards standing approximately three (3) metres apart. There must be at least one 'Halt' during this exercise. The Judge may replace a Steward in the 'Figure Eight' or may take the place of a Steward himself.

The dog must work on a loose lead. Any tightening or tugging of the lead, any unusual or additional act, signal or command which in the opinion of the Judge gives the dog assistance, must be penalised. At each order from the Judge to 'Halt', the Handler must stop and the dog must sit smartly at heel without command and not move until ordered to do so.

**Rationale:** The figure 8 I believe should be a separate exercise to the heeling pattern. Points to be adjusted – perhaps 20 for the heel on lead and 10 for the fig 8

## 16. SUBMITTED BY LORNA PIPER

### COMMUNITY COMPANION DOG CLASS

**General comment on stays - that the sit stay be retained in CCD and Novice, and down stay be retained in Open and UD (no sit)**

**Page 18**

#### **Current**

The exercise for each dog and the maximum points shall be:

|                                  |     |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Heel on Lead                  | 30  |
| 2. Stand for Examination on lead | 20  |
| 3. Recall                        | 20  |
| 4. 1 min Sit Stay                | 15  |
| 5. 2 min Down Stay               | 15  |
| TOTAL                            | 100 |

#### **Proposed**

The exercise for each dog and the maximum points shall be:

|                                  |                    |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Heel on Lead                  | 30                 |
| 2. Stand for Examination on lead | 20                 |
| 3. Recall                        | 20                 |
| 4. <b>Finish (left or right)</b> | <b>15</b>          |
| 4. 1 min Sit Stay                | 15                 |
| 5. <b>2 min Down Stay</b>        | <b>15 (DELETE)</b> |
| TOTAL                            | 100                |

#### **Stay**

**Rationale :** There is a growing concern over the group stays, by removing the drop stay but retaining the sit at 5 metres, will help to answer those with concerns over stays.

#### **Description of exercise**

##### **4. Finish (left or right)**

##### **Principle Feature**

That the dog will, on command, promptly return to the heel position from a sit in front.

##### **Description of Exercise**

The handler will command the dog to wait/stay, move to the front of the dog's nose, on order from the judge will command the dog to return to heel. The dog must go briskly to the Heel position either directly from the front or around the back of the Handler and sit without further command immediately it reaches that position.

## **Deductions**

**Minor** deduction for crooked sit, slow response, failure to sit at heel.

**Zero** for a dog that fails to return to heel on the first command, anticipates the return

## **Judge's Orders**

Leave your dog, Finish, Exercise Finished

## **17. SUBMITTED BY DEARNE JACKSON**

### **Community Companion Dog Class**

#### **Page 19**

#### **SIT STAY**

Current

#### **4. 1 Min. SIT STAY**

Maximum Points: 15

**Principal Feature:** The dog to stay off the lead in a sit position until the completion of the exercise. **Description of Exercise:** This is a Group exercise. The Handlers will take up their positions with their right foot next to a Stay Peg which shall be placed in a line approximately two and a half (2.5) metres apart, and with their dogs sitting in the heel position. On order from the Judge 'Leave (Leave Your Dog)', the Handlers may give their dogs a command to stay and will immediately leave and walk approximately five (5) metres. On order from the Judge or Steward the Handlers will turn to face their dogs and halt. After one (1) minute from the time the Judge has ordered the Handlers to leave, he will give the order 'Return (Return to Your Dog)'. The Handlers must return to their dogs together. The dogs must not move from the sitting position until after the Judge orders 'Exercise Finished'. If a dog gets up and starts to roam, the Judge may instruct a Steward, or Handler, to take the dog away from the other dogs.

**Orders from Judge:** 'Leave (Leave Your Dog)', 'About turn', 'Halt', 'Return (Return to Your Dog)', 'Exercise Finished'. Judges may delegate a Steward to give the orders 'About Turn', 'Halt', 'Return'. (Return to your Dog)' **Deductions:** **Zero Score:** For a dog which fails to remain in the sitting position or which moves more than half of its body length from where it was left. **Minor:** For minor movements, e.g. fidgeting, or if Handlers do not leave or return with other Handlers.

Change:

**Principle Feature:** The dog to stay **ON** the lead in a sit position until the completion of the exercise

Description of Exercise: This is a Group exercise. The Handlers will take up their positions with their right foot next to a Stay Peg which shall be placed in a line approximately two and a half (2.5) metres apart, and with their dogs sitting in the heel position. On order from the Judge **'To the end of the lead Leave (Leave Your Dog)'**, the Handlers may give their dogs a command to stay and will immediately leave ~~and walk approximately five (5) metres and~~ **stand facing their dog at the end of the lead.**

Judge Orders: **'To End of Lead, Leave (Leave Your Dog)'**, 'About turn', 'Halt', 'Return (Return to Your Dog)', 'Exercise Finished'. Judges may delegate a Steward to give the orders 'About Turn', 'Halt', 'Return'. (Return to your Dog)

No change to marking required.

**Rationale:** Safety. Dog remains on lead. Handler at end of lead, dog still has to perform sit position until the completion of the exercise.

## **18. SUBMITTED BY JULIE URIE**

### **COMMUNITY COMPANION DOG CLASS**

#### **PAGE 19 -**

#### **4. 1 Min. SIT STAY Maximum Points: 15**

**Principal Feature- Currently Reads:** The dog to stay off the lead in a sit position until the completion of the exercise.

**Change To:**

**Principal Feature:** The dog to stay off the lead, substantially in a sit position until the completion of the exercise.

**Deductions – Currently Reads:**

**Zero Score:** For a dog which fails to remain in the sitting position, or which moves more than half of its body length from where it was left.

**Minor:** For minor movements, e.g. fidgeting, or if Handlers do not leave or return with other Handlers.

**Deductions – Change To:**

**Zero Score:** For a dog which fails to remain in the sitting position for at least the first 30 seconds or moves more than half of its body length from where it was left.

**Substantial:** For a dog which remains in the sitting position for at least the first 30 seconds, but subsequently breaks from this position without moving more than half of its body length from where it was left.

**Minor:** For minor movements, e.g. fidgeting, or if Handlers do not leave or return with other Handlers.

**Rationale:** This will allow dogs, which remain in the sit position for a minimum of 50% of the time stipulated, to still achieve a passing score. At any given trial, a large proportion of dogs will not qualify due to failing a stay exercise, even though they have performed all other

exercises to a high standard. This is very demoralising to competitors as it is seen as a 'cut throat' exercise, which allows no room for error. The overall performance of the dog should be taken into consideration, instead of penalising one mistake to the point where the dog is failed.

## **19. SUBMITTED BY MELISSA FERABEND**

### **Page 19 – CCD – Exercise – 1 min Sit Stay**

*Currently reads:*

Principal Feature: The dog to stay off the lead in a sit position until the completion of the exercise.

Description of Exercise:

This is a Group exercise. The Handlers will take up their positions with their right foot next to a Stay Peg which shall be placed in a line approximately two and a half (2.5) metres apart, and with their dogs sitting in the heel position. On order from the Judge 'Leave (Leave Your Dog)', the Handlers may give their dogs a command to stay and will immediately leave and walk approximately five (5) metres. On order from the Judge or Steward the Handlers will turn to face their dogs and halt. After one (1) minute from the time the Judge has ordered the Handlers to leave, he will give the order 'Return (Return to Your Dog)'. The Handlers must return to their dogs together. The dogs must not move from the sitting position until after the Judge orders 'Exercise Finished'. If a dog gets up and starts to roam, the Judge may instruct a Steward, or Handler, to take the dog away from the other dogs.

*Change to:*

This is an Individual exercise. The Handler will take up position with their dog sitting in the heel position.

On order from the Judge 'Leave (Leave Your Dog)', the Handler may give their dog a command to stay and will immediately leave and walk directly to the ring table, collect the dogs lead, about turn and return to their dog.

The dog must not move from the sitting position until after the Judge orders 'Exercise Finished'.

***Rationale:*** Sit is not a natural position for a dog to remain in for long periods of time however this still allows a sit stay to be demonstrated.

Points to be adjusted – perhaps 10 for the sit and 20 for the group down stay

## **20. SUBMITTED BY BELINDA O'SHEA**

### **Page 19 – CCD – Exercise – 1 min Sit Stay**

#### **CCD Class P19**

#### **Currently reads**

#### **4. 1 Min. SIT STAY**

Maximum Points: 15

**Principal Feature:** The dog to stay off the lead in a sit position until the completion of the exercise. **Description of Exercise:** This is a Group exercise. The Handlers will take up their positions with their right foot next to a Stay Peg which shall be placed in a line approximately two and a half (2.5) metres apart, and with their dogs sitting in the heel position. On order from the Judge 'Leave (Leave Your Dog)', the Handlers may give their dogs a command to stay and will immediately leave and walk approximately five (5) metres. On order from the Judge or Steward the Handlers will turn to face their dogs and halt. After one (1) minute from the time the Judge has ordered the Handlers to leave, he will give the order 'Return (Return to Your Dog)'. The Handlers must return to their dogs together. The dogs must not move from the sitting position until after the Judge orders 'Exercise Finished'. If a dog gets up and starts to roam, the Judge may instruct a Steward, or Handler, to take the dog away from the other dogs.

**Orders from Judge:** 'Leave (Leave Your Dog)', 'About turn', 'Halt', 'Return (Return to Your Dog)', 'Exercise Finished'. Judges may delegate a Steward to give the orders 'About Turn', 'Halt', 'Return'. (Return to your Dog)

**Deductions:** Zero Score: For a dog which fails to remain in the sitting position or which moves more than half of its body length from where it was left. Minor: For minor movements, e.g. fidgeting, or if Handlers do not leave or return with other Handlers.

#### **Change to**

#### **4. 5m Get your leash**

Maximum points 15

**Principle feature:** The dog is to remain in a sit position while the handler leaves to retrieve the leash and return to the dog with it

**Exercise Description:** The handler will stand with the dog sitting in heel position in a place designated by the judge. On the judge's order the handler may command and/or signal the dog to sit without touching either the dog or the dog's collar. On further order to "Leave your dog to get your leash," the handler may give a command and/or signal to stay and will walk forward immediately to the place designated by the judge for the leash, pick up the leash, turn, face the dog and halt. The judge will give the order "Return to your dog." The handler



must return directly to the dog. The dog must not move from the sitting position until after the judge has said "Exercise finished." The handler will then clip the leash to the collar and leave the ring. Judging The judge will instruct the steward to place the leash at the designated location after the Recall exercise. The handler and dog will be positioned at least 5m from and facing the direction of the gate entrance. The judge must be in position to watch the dog and handler throughout the exercise including exiting the ring.

Orders from judge: 'Take up your position', 'Leave your dog and get your leash', 'Return to your dog', 'exercise finished'

Deductions: Zero Score: For a dog which fails to remain in the sitting position or which moves more than half of its body length from where it was left. Minor: For minor movements, e.g. fidgeting,

**Rationale:** The idea behind these changes is to change the Sit Stay to an individual exercise which is carried out as the last exercise in the ring. This exercise is a more realistic use of a sit stay as the sit is not a natural position for a dog to stay for an extended period of time amongst other dogs. The down stay will be left as they are as the group exercise for CCD, Novice and Open Classes

## **21. SUBMITTED BY DEARNE JACKSON**

### **Community Companion Dog Class**

#### **Page 19**

Current

#### **4. 2 Min. DOWN STAY**

Maximum Points: 15

Principal Feature: The dog to stay off the lead in the down position until the completion of the exercise.

Description of Exercise: This is a Group exercise. The Handlers will take up their positions with their right foot next to a Stay Peg which shall be placed in a line approximately two and a half (2.5) metres apart and with their dogs in the Down position.

On order from the Judge to 'Leave (Leave Your Dogs)', the Handlers may give their dogs a command to stay and will immediately leave and walk approximately five (5) metres. On order from the Judge or Steward the Handlers will turn to face their dogs and halt. After two (2) minutes from the time the Judge has ordered the Handlers to leave, he will give the order 'Return (Return to Your Dogs)'. The Handlers must return to their dogs together. The dogs must not move from the down position until after the Judge orders 'Exercise Finished'. If a

dog gets up and starts to roam, the judge may instruct a Steward, or Handler, to take the dog away from the other dogs.

Orders from Judge: 'Leave (Leave Your Dog)', 'About Turn'. 'Halt', 'Return (Return to Your Dog)', 'Exercise Finished'. Judges may delegate a Steward to give the orders 'About Turn', 'Halt', 'Return (Return to Your Dog)'.

Deductions: Zero Score: For a dog which fails to remain in the down position or which moves more than half its body length from where it was left.

Minor: For minor movements, e.g. fidgeting, or for a dog that lies down in a position which is commonly known as the 'Dead Dog' position, or if Handlers do not leave or return with other Handlers.

Change:

Principle Feature: The dog to stay **ON** the lead in the down position until the completion of the exercise

Description of Exercise: This is a Group exercise. The Handlers will take up their positions with their right foot next to a Stay Peg which shall be placed in a line approximately two and a half (2.5) metres apart, and with their dogs in the Down position. On order from the Judge **'To the end of the lead** Leave (Leave Your Dog)', the Handlers may give their dogs a command to stay and will immediately leave ~~and walk approximately five (5) metres~~ **and stand facing their dog at the end of the lead.**

Judge Orders: **'To End of Lead**, Leave (Leave Your Dog)', 'About turn', 'Halt', 'Return (Return to Your Dog)', 'Exercise Finished'. Judges may delegate a Steward to give the orders 'About Turn', 'Halt', 'Return'. (Return to your Dog)'

No change to marking required.

**Rationale:** Safety. Dog remains on lead. Handler at end of lead, dog still has to perform down position until the completion of the exercise.

## 22. SUBMITTED BY JULIE URIE

### COMMUNITY COMPANION DOG CLASS

#### PAGE 20 -

#### 5. 2 Min. DOWN STAY Maximum Points: 15

**Principal Feature – Currently Reads:** The dog to stay off the lead in the down position until the completion of the exercise.

**Change To:**

**Principal Feature:** The dog to stay off the lead, substantially in a down position until the completion of the exercise.

**Deductions – Currently Reads:**

**Zero Score:** For a dog which fails to remain in the down position, or which moves more than half its body length from where it was left.

**Minor:** For minor movements, e.g. fidgeting, or for a dog that lies down in a position which is commonly known as the 'Dead Dog' position, or if Handlers do not leave or return with other Handlers.

**Deductions – Change To:**

**Deductions: Zero Score:** For a dog which fails to remain in the down position for at least the first minute or moves more than half of its body length from where it was left.

**Substantial:** For a dog which remains in the down position for at least the first minute, but subsequently breaks from this position without moving more than half of its body length from where it was left.

**Minor:** For minor movements, e.g. fidgeting, or for a dog that lies down in a position which is commonly known as the 'Dead Dog' position, or if Handlers do not leave or return with other Handlers.

**Rationale:** This will allow dogs, which remain in the down position for a minimum of 50% of the time stipulated, to still achieve a passing score. At any given trial, a large proportion of dogs will not qualify due to failing a stay exercise, even though they have performed all other exercises to a high standard. This is very demoralising to competitors as it is seen as a 'cut throat' exercise, which allows no room for error. The overall performance of the dog should be taken into consideration, instead of penalising one mistake to the point where the dog is failed.

## NOVICE CLASS

### 23. SUBMITTED BY LORNA PIPER

#### Page 22

#### NOVICE CLASS

The exercise for each dog and the maximum points shall be:

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| 1. Heel Free  | 40  |
| 2. Stand Free for Examination                           | 30  |
| 3. Recall   | 40  |
| 4.(a) Retrieve on the Flat or<br>(b) Change of Position | 30  |
| 5 1-min Sit Stay  | 30  |
| 6 3-min Down Stay                                       | 30  |
| TOTAL   | 200 |

#### Proposed

The exercise for each dog and the maximum points shall be:

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| 1. Heel Free  | 35          |
| 2. Figure 8 twice   | 25          |
| 3. Stand Free for Examination                                 | 20          |
| 4. Recall   | 30          |
| 5. Change of position (sit, forward, down)                    | 30          |
| 6 (a) Retrieve on the flat or<br>(b) Send over the solid jump | 30          |
| 7 1-min Sit Stay  | 30          |
| 6 3-min Down Stay   | 30 (delete) |
| TOTAL   | 200         |

#### Figure 8 Twice

##### Description of Exercise

The judge and the steward or two stewards will take up position 3m apart there will also be two cones 3m apart. The dog and handler will be ordered to enter the figure of 8, they shall complete a figure 8 around the two persons twice then when ordered proceed to complete two figure 8s around the cones. The dog and handler will be ordered to halt next to either judge or steward. The 'design' of this may be either a straight line, parallel lines or square at the judge's discretion

**Judge's Orders** - Forward into figure 8, halt, forward, change, lead out, halt, exercise finished.

**Rationale:** More than the normal figure 8 to fully test the dog's ability to negotiate obstacles and to be confident near people. Also to be an exercise worthy of 25 points.

*If stays remain add compulsory change of position and figure 8 to allocate points more evenly - question are we returning to two heeling patterns by doing this?*

## Proposed

The exercise for each dog and the maximum points shall be:

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| 1. Heel Free                               | 30        |
| <b>2. Figure 8 twice</b>                   | <b>20</b> |
| 3. Stand Free for Examination              | 20        |
| 4. Recall                                  | 30        |
| 5. Change of position (sit, forward, down) | 20        |
| 6 (a) Retrieve on the flat or              | 30        |
| (b) Send over the solid jump               |           |
| 7 1-min Sit Stay                           | 25        |
| 6 3-min Down Stay                          | 25        |
| Total                                      | 200       |

## 24. SUBMITTED BY MELISSA FERABEND

### Page 22 – NOVICE – Exercise – Heel Free

*Currently reads:*

#### 1. HEEL FREE

Principal Feature: The dog and Handler to work as a team without the use of a lead

Description of Exercise: On order from the Judge 'Forward' the Handler may attract the dog's attention by saying its name then give a command to heel and, at the same time, commence walking briskly or at the directed pace. The dog must work off lead. Any unusual or additional act, signal or command, which in the opinion of the Judge gives the dog assistance, must be penalised. At each order from the Judge to 'Halt', the Handler must stop and the dog must sit smartly at heel without command and not move until ordered to do so. The Handler and dog must execute a 'Figure Eight' at normal pace in which they must heel at least twice around two Stewards standing approximately three (3) metres apart. There must be at least one 'Halt' during this portion of the exercise. The Judge may replace a Steward in the 'Figure Eight' or may take the place of a Steward himself.

Change to:

#### **Part 1:** Heel Free

On order from the Judge 'Forward' the Handler may attract the dog's attention by saying its name then give a command to heel and, at the same time, commence walking briskly or at the directed pace. The dog must work off lead. Any unusual or additional act, signal or command, which in the opinion of the Judge gives the dog assistance, must be penalised. At each order from the Judge to 'Halt', the Handler must stop and the dog must sit smartly at heel without command and not move until ordered to do so.

#### **Part 2:** Figure 8

On order from the Judge 'Forward' the Handler may attract the dog's attention by saying its name then give a command to heel and, at the same time, commence walking briskly straight into the Figure 8. The Handler and dog must execute a 'Figure Eight' at normal

pace in which they must heel at least twice around two Stewards standing approximately three (3) metres apart. There must be at least one 'Halt' during this exercise. The Judge may replace a Steward in the 'Figure Eight' or may take the place of a Steward himself.

**Rationale:** The figure 8 I believe should be a separate exercise to the heeling pattern. Points to be adjusted – perhaps 30 for the heel on lead and 10 for the fig 8

## **25. SUBMITTED BY MELISSA FERABEND**

### **Page 22 – NOVICE – Deductions**

*Currently reads:*

Over 50%: If the Handler continually guides the dog, or adapts his pace to the dog, or if the dog does not complete the Principal Feature of the exercise or if the dog fails to negotiate the Figure Eight.

Minor: For failing to sit, stand or down; for poor sits, downs, stands, for failing to accompany the Handler around one Figure Eight (8) post, for occasional guidance or for the use of more than one command, for failure to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise.

*Change to:*

Over 50%: If the Handler continually guides the dog, or adapts his pace to the dog, or if the dog does not complete the Principal Feature of the exercise.

Minor: For failing to sit, stand or down; for poor sits, downs, stands, for failing to accompany the Handler around one Figure Eight (8) post, for occasional guidance or for the use of more than one command, for failure to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise.

**Rationale:**

By deleting the wording “or if the dog fails to negotiate a Figure Eight post” it allows it to be a Minor deduction rather than over 50%

## **26. SUBMITTED BY JULIE URIE**

### **NOVICE CLASS**

#### **Page 24 –**

#### **4. (b) CHANGE OF POSITION (Optional) Maximum Points 30**

**Principal Feature – Currently Reads:** The dog to promptly respond to the Handler's command 'Down' given from a distance.

**Change To:**

**Principal Feature – Change To:** The dog to respond to the Handler's command 'Down' given from a distance.

**Deductions – Currently Read:**

**Zero Score:** For a dog that fails to down on one command, or breaks from position when left, or when the Handler returns or returns to the Handler during the change of position.

**Substantial:** Slow response to commands, moving more than one body length when changing position.

**Minor:** For failure to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise.

### **Deductions – Change To:**

**Zero Score:** For a dog that breaks from position when left, or when the Handler returns or returns to the Handler during the change of position.

**Substantial:** For a dog which requires a second command, Slow response to commands, moving more than one body length when changing position.

**Rationale:** Currently, a dog can perform to a high level in all other Novice exercises, yet will subsequently fail, because it does not respond to the first command in this exercise. In comparison, a dog will only be given a minor deduction in the Novice Heel Exercise for failing to sit, stand or down or for the use of more than one command. The overall performance of the dog should be taken into consideration, instead of penalising one mistake to the point where the dog is failed.

## **27. SUBMITTED BY LORNA PIPER**

### **Page 24 NOVICE**

#### **Change of Position – compulsory**

#### **Description of Exercise**

The handler, on judge's order, leaves the dog in a stand for a distance of three metres, about turns and commands the dog to sit, handler then returns to dog. On order from the judge handler and dog heel forward. On judge's order the handler will leave the dog in the stand position and move forward approximately three metres, about turn, command the dog to down, return to dog.

#### **Judge's Orders**

Take up position, Leave your dog, About turn, Halt, Sit your dog, return. Forward, Stand, Leave, down your dog, return, exercise finished.

#### **Deductions**

**Minor** moves less than half a body length, out of position when heeling, crooked stand in exercise (not at start of exercise), slow response,

**Zero** moves more than half a body length when changing position, fails to stand, sit or down on first command.

**RATIONALE:** Need to reallocate the points in this class, can do that with an additional compulsory exercise. Change of position exercise will be a progression toward Open. The Optional exercise Send over the Jump is progressive toward the Open class and is an option for dogs that can't retrieve, the retrieve provides an option for those dogs that cannot jump.

## **28. SUBMITTED BY LORNA PIPER**

### **NOVICE**

### **NEW EXERCISE**

#### **6. SEND OVER SOLID JUMP**

**Maximum Points: 20**

##### **Principal Feature:**

The dog, on command, must take the jump and return to the Handler.

##### **Description of Exercise:**

The Judge must order the Handler to take up position in front of the jump, the Handler to choose the actual position with the dog sitting at heel.

On order from the Judge, the Handler may give a command to stay and will go to a position facing the right-hand side of the jump and stand at least 600mm from the jump

On order from the Judge 'Send (Send Your Dog)', the Handler may say the dog's name and will give a command to jump. The dog must clear the jump and return to the Handler and sit directly in front without further command. The Handler must turn right whilst the dog is in mid-air. On order from the Judge 'Finish', the Handler may give a command and the dog must go briskly to the heel position and sit.

##### **Orders from Judge:**

'Take up position', 'Leave (Leave Your Dog)', 'Send (Send Your Dog)', 'Finish', 'Exercise Finished'.

##### **Deductions:**

**Zero Score:** For a dog that refuses to jump on the first command, , anticipates the command to jump, or does not complete the Principal Feature of the exercise.

**Substantial:** For failing to leave a distinct pause between the dog's name and the command, for failing to return briskly to the Handler, slow response to commands, failing to sit or finish, or anticipating the finish.

**Minor:** For the Handler not standing the required distance from the jump. For tipping the jump or for crooked jumps, for poor sits or finishes. For failure to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise.

**RATIONALE:** This will assist in the transition to the Open Class, both for the Retrieve and the Broad Jump

OR

##### **Description of Exercise**

The handler to sit the dog in front of the jump, on order from the judge to leave the dog at least two metres past jump in line with the upright. The handler facing the dog commands over, as the dog is in the air the handler turns and the dog must sit at heel.

##### **Deductions**

**Minor** - tipping the jump, crooked sits,

**Substantial** - slow response, handler failing to turn when dog is in the air, failure to sit at heel



**Zero** - dog that anticipates the jump, does not jump

**Rationale:** To lead into Open class by taking the jump. The finish being a sit at heel should not detrimentally affect the progress of the exercise for the dumbbell

## **29. SUBMITTED BY DEARNE JACKSON**

### **NOVICE CLASS**

#### **Page 24 –**

#### **1 MINUTE SIT STAY**

Current

#### **5. 1 Min. SIT STAY**

Maximum Points: 30

Principal Feature: The dog to stay off the lead in a sit position until the completion of the exercise. Description of Exercise: This is a Group exercise. The Handlers will take up their positions with their right foot next to a Stay Peg, which shall be placed in a line approximately two and a half (2.5) metres apart, and with their dogs sitting in the heel position. On order from the Judge 'Leave (Leave Your Dog)', the Handlers may give their dogs a command to stay and will immediately leave and walk approximately ten (10) metres. On order from the Judge or Steward the Handlers will turn to face their dogs and halt. After one (1) minute from the time the Judge has ordered the Handlers to leave, he will give the order 'Return (Return to Your Dog)'. The Handlers must return to their dogs together. The dogs must not move from the sitting position until after the Judge orders 'Exercise Finished'.

If a dog gets up and starts to roam, the Judge may instruct a Steward, or Handler, to take the dog away from the other dogs.

Orders from Judge: 'Leave (Leave Your Dog)', 'About turn', 'Halt', 'Return (Return to Your Dog)' 'Exercise Finished'. Judges may delegate a Steward to give the orders 'About Turn', 'Halt', 'Return'. Deductions: Zero Score: For a dog which fails to remain in the sitting position or which moves more than half of its body length from where it was left. Minor: For minor movements, e.g. fidgeting, or if Handlers do not leave or return with other Handlers.

Change to:

Principal Feature: The dog to stay **ON** the lead in a sit position until the completion of the exercise.

Description of Exercise: This is a Group exercise. The Handlers will take up their positions with their right foot next to a Stay Peg, which shall be placed in a line approximately two and a half (2.5) metres apart, and with their dogs sitting in the heel position. On order from the Judge '**To the end of the lead** Leave (Leave Your Dog)', the Handlers may give their

dogs a command to stay and will immediately leave and walk ~~approximately ten (10) metres~~ to the end of the lead and face their dog. ~~On order from the Judge or Steward the Handlers will turn to face their dogs and halt.~~ After one (1) minute from the time the Judge has ordered the Handlers to leave, he will give the order 'Return (Return to Your Dog)'. The Handlers must return to their dogs together. The dogs must not move from the sitting position until after the Judge orders 'Exercise Finished'.

~~If a dog gets up and starts to roam, the Judge may instruct a Steward, or Handler, to take the dog away from the other dogs.~~

Orders from Judge: '**To the end of the lead** Leave (Leave Your Dog)', 'About turn', 'Halt', 'Return (Return to Your Dog)' 'Exercise Finished'. ~~Judges may delegate a Steward to give the orders 'About Turn', 'Halt', 'Return'.~~

**Rationale:** Novice is an entry level title. Therefore dogs are not proven to be competent at staying off lead. Safety issue. Removes need for steward and judge to potentially have to step in and separate dogs in during an incident.

## **30. SUBMITTED BY JULIE URIE**

### **NOVICE CLASS**

#### **Page 24**

#### **1 MINUTE SIT STAY**

##### **5. 1 Min. SIT STAY Maximum Points: 30**

**Principal Feature – Currently Reads:** The dog to stay off the lead in a sit position until the completion of the exercise.

**Principal Feature – Change To:** The dog to stay off the lead substantially in a sit position until the completion of the exercise.

#### **Deductions – Currently Read:**

**Zero Score:** For a dog which fails to remain in the sitting position, or which moves more than half of its body length from where it was left.

#### **Deductions – Change To:**

##### **Deductions:**

**Zero Score:** For a dog which fails to remain in the sitting position for at least the first 30 seconds or moves more than half of its body length from where it was left.

**Substantial:** For a dog which remains in the sitting position for at least the first 30 seconds, but subsequently breaks from this position without moving more than half of its body length from where it was left.

**Rationale:** This will allow dogs, which remain in the sit position for a minimum of 50% of the time stipulated, to still achieve a passing score. At any given trial, a large proportion of dogs will not qualify due to failing a stay exercise, even though they have performed all other exercises to a high standard. This is very demoralising to competitors as it is seen as a 'cut

throat' exercise, which allows no room for error. The overall performance of the dog should be taken into consideration, instead of penalising one mistake to the point where the dog is failed.

### **31. SUBMITTED BY MELISSA FERABEND**

#### **Page 24 – Novice – Exercise – 1 min Sit Stay**

*Currently reads:*

Principal Feature: The dog to stay off the lead in a sit position until the completion of the exercise.

Description of Exercise: This is a Group exercise. The Handlers will take up their positions with their right foot next to a Stay Peg, which shall be placed in a line approximately two and a half (2.5) metres apart, and with their dogs sitting in the heel position. On order from the Judge 'Leave (Leave Your Dog)', the Handlers may give their dogs a command to stay and will immediately leave and walk approximately ten (10) metres. On order from the Judge or Steward the Handlers will turn to face their dogs and halt. After one (1) minute from the time the Judge has ordered the Handlers to leave, he will give the order 'Return (Return to Your Dog)'. The Handlers must return to their dogs together. The dogs must not move from the sitting position until after the Judge orders 'Exercise Finished'. 25 If a dog gets up and starts to roam, the Judge may instruct a Steward, or Handler, to take the dog away from the other dogs.

*Change to:*

This is an Individual exercise. The Handler will take up position with their dog sitting in the heel position.

On order from the Judge 'Leave (Leave Your Dog)', the Handler may give their dog a command to stay and will immediately leave and walk directly to the ring table, collect the dogs lead, about turn and return to their dog.

The dog must not move from the sitting position until after the Judge orders 'Exercise Finished'.

**Rationale:** Sit is not a natural position for a dog to remain in for long periods of time however this still allows a sit stay to be demonstrated.

Points to be adjusted – perhaps 20 for the sit and 40 for the group down stay

## **32. SUBMITTED BY BELINDA O'SHEA**

### **Page 24 – Novice – Exercise – 1 min Sit Stay**

#### **Currently reads**

Principal Feature: The dog to stay off the lead in a sit position until the completion of the exercise. Description of Exercise: This is a Group exercise. The Handlers will take up their positions with their right foot next to a Stay Peg, which shall be placed in a line approximately two and a half (2.5) metres apart, and with their dogs sitting in the heel position. On order from the Judge 'Leave (Leave Your Dog)', the Handlers may give their dogs a command to stay and will immediately leave and walk approximately ten (10) metres. On order from the Judge or Steward the Handlers will turn to face their dogs and halt. After one (1) minute from the time the Judge has ordered the Handlers to leave, he will give the order 'Return (Return to Your Dog)'. The Handlers must return to their dogs together. The dogs must not move from the sitting position until after the Judge orders 'Exercise Finished'.

If a dog gets up and starts to roam, the Judge may instruct a Steward, or Handler, to take the dog away from the other dogs. Orders from Judge: 'Leave (Leave Your Dog)', 'About turn', 'Halt', 'Return (Return to Your Dog)' 'Exercise Finished'. Judges may delegate a Steward to give the orders 'About Turn', 'Halt', 'Return'.

Deductions: Zero Score: For a dog which fails to remain in the sitting position or which moves more than half of its body length from where it was left. Minor: For minor movements, e.g. fidgeting, or if Handlers do not leave or return with other Handlers.

#### **Change to**

##### **4. 10m Get your leash**

Maximum points 30

Principle feature: The dog is to remain in a sit position while the handler leaves to retrieve the leash and return to the dog with it

Exercise Description: The handler will stand with the dog sitting in heel position in a place designated by the judge. On the judge's order the handler may command and/or signal the dog to sit without touching either the dog or the dog's collar. On further order to "Leave your dog to get your leash," the handler may give a command and/or signal to stay and will walk forward immediately to the place designated by the judge for the leash, pick up the leash, turn, face the dog and halt. The judge will give the order "Return to your dog." The handler must return directly to the dog. The dog must not move from the sitting position until after the judge has said "Exercise finished." The handler will then clip the leash to the collar and leave the ring. The judge will instruct the steward to place the leash at the designated location after the Retrieve on the flat/ Change of position exercise. The handler and dog will be positioned

at least 5m from and facing the direction of the gate entrance. The judge must be in position to watch the dog and handler throughout the exercise including exiting the ring.

Orders from judge: 'Take up your position', 'Leave your dog and get your leash', 'Return to your dog', 'exercise finished'

Deductions: Zero Score: For a dog which fails to remain in the sitting position or which moves more than half of its body length from where it was left. Minor: For minor movements, e.g. fidgeting,

**Rationale:** The idea behind these changes is to change the Sit Stay to an individual exercise which is carried out as the last exercise in the ring. This exercise is a more realistic use of a sit stay as the sit is not a natural position for a dog to stay for an extended period of time amongst other dogs. The down stay will be left as they are as the group exercise for CCD, Novice and Open Classes

### **33. SUBMITTED BY DEARNE JACKSON**

#### **NOVICE CLASS**

#### **Page 24 –**

### **3 MINUTE DOWN STAY**

Current

#### **6. 3 Min. DOWN STAY**

Maximum Points: 30

Principal Feature: The dog to stay off the lead in the down position until the completion of the exercise.

Description of Exercise: This is a Group exercise. The Handlers will take up their positions with their right foot next to a Stay Peg which shall be placed in a line approximately two and a half (2.5) metres apart and with their dogs in the Down position. On order from the Judge to 'Leave (Leave Your Dogs)', the Handlers may give their dogs a command to stay and will immediately leave and walk as directed approximately ten (10) metres.

On order from the Judge or Steward the Handlers will turn to face their dogs and halt. After three (3) minutes from the time the Judge has ordered the Handlers to leave, he will give the order 'Return (Return to Your Dogs)'. The Handlers must return to their dogs together. The dogs must not move from the down position until after the Judge orders 'Exercise Finished'.

If a dog gets up and starts to roam, the judge may instruct a Steward, or Handler, to take the dog away from the other dogs.

Orders from Judge: 'Leave (Leave Your Dog)', 'About Turn'. 'Halt', 'Return (Return to Your Dog)', 'Exercise Finished'. Judges may delegate Steward to give the orders 'About Turn', 'Halt', 'Return (Return to Your Dog)'.

Deductions: Zero Score: For a dog which fails to remain in the down position or which moves more than half its body length from where it was left.

Minor: For minor movements, e.g. fidgeting, or for a dog that lies down in a position which is commonly known as the Dead Dog position, or if Handlers do not leave or return with other Handlers.

Change to:

Principal Feature: The dog to stay **ON** the lead in the down position until the completion of the exercise.

Description of Exercise: This is a Group exercise. The Handlers will take up their positions with their right foot next to a Stay Peg, which shall be placed in a line approximately two and a half (2.5) metres apart, and with their dogs in the down position. On order from the Judge **'To the end of the lead** Leave (Leave Your Dog), the Handlers may give their dogs a command to stay and will immediately leave and walk ~~approximately ten (10) metres~~ to the end of the lead and face their dog. ~~On order from the Judge or Steward the Handlers will turn to face their dogs and halt.~~ After three (3) minute from the time the Judge has ordered the Handlers to leave, he will give the order 'Return (Return to Your Dog)'. The Handlers must return to their dogs together. The dogs must not move from the sitting position until after the Judge orders 'Exercise Finished'.

~~If a dog gets up and starts to roam, the Judge may instruct a Steward, or Handler, to take the dog away from the other dogs.~~

Orders from Judge: **'To the end of the lead** Leave (Leave Your Dog)', 'About turn', 'Halt', 'Return (Return to Your Dog)' 'Exercise Finished'. ~~Judges may delegate a Steward to give the orders 'About Turn', 'Halt', 'Return'.~~

**Rationale:** Novice is an entry level title. Therefore dogs are not proven to be competent at staying off lead. Safety issue. Removes need for steward and judge to potentially have to step in and separate dogs in during an incident.

## **34. SUBMITTED BY JULIE URIE**

### **NOVICE CLASS**

**Page 25 –**

#### **6. 3 Min. DOWN STAY Maximum Points: 30**

**Principal Feature – Currently Reads:** The dog to stay off the lead in the down position until the completion of the exercise.

**Principal Feature – Change To:** The dog to stay off the lead substantially in the down position until the completion of the exercise.

**Deductions – Currently Read:**

**Zero Score:** For a dog which fails to remain in the down position, or which moves more than half its body length from where it was left.

**Deductions – Change To:**

**Zero Score:** For a dog which fails to remain in the down position for at least the first 90 seconds or moves more than half of its body length from where it was left.

**Rationale:** This will allow dogs, which remain in the down position for a minimum of 50% of the time stipulated, to still achieve a passing score. At any given trial, a large proportion of dogs will not qualify due to failing a stay exercise, even though they have performed all other exercises to a high standard. This is very demoralising to competitors as it is seen as a 'cut throat' exercise, which allows no room for error. The overall performance of the dog should be taken into consideration, instead of penalising one mistake to the point where the dog is failed.

### 35. SUBMITTED BY LORNA PIPER

#### OPEN CLASS

##### Pg 27

The exercise for each dog and the maximum points shall be:

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| 1. Heel Free                             | 30  |
| 2. Stand Free For Examination            | 20  |
| 3. Drop on Recall                        | 30  |
| 4. Retrieve Dumbbell on Flat             | 20  |
| 5a. Retrieve Dumbbell over Solid Jump or |     |
| 5b. Directed Retrieve                    | 30  |
| 6a. Broad Jump or                        |     |
| 6b. Distance Control                     | 20  |
| 7. 3-min. Sit Stay-Handler Out of Sight  | 25  |
| 8. 5-min. Down Stay-Handler Out of Sight | 25  |
| TOTAL                                    | 200 |

#### OPTION ONE

The exercise for each dog and the maximum points shall be:

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| 1. Heel Free  | 30        |
| 2. Stand Free For Examination                             | 20        |
| 3. Drop on Recall   | 30        |
| 4. Retrieve Dumbbell on Flat                              | 20        |
| 5a. Retrieve Dumbbell over Solid Jump                     |           |
| 5b. Directed Retrieve                                     | 30        |
| 6a. Broad Jump or   |           |
| 6b. Distance Control                                      | 20        |
| 7. <b>DELETE 3-min. Sit Stay-Handler Out of Sight</b>     | <b>25</b> |
| <b>INSERT Option One - Sendaway to box OR</b>             | <b>25</b> |
| <b>INSERT Option Two - Directed Jump</b>                  |           |
| <b>INSERT Option Three - Scent Discrimination</b>         |           |
| 8. <b>5-min. Down Stay-Handler Out of Sight</b>           | <b>25</b> |
| 9. <b>INSERT - 3 min Down Stay - Handler Out of Sight</b> | <b>25</b> |
| TOTAL   | 200       |

**RATIONALE:** Will be discussed at the individual exercises

### 36. SUBMITTED BY LYNN KLECKA

#### Page 27 – OPEN – Exercise – Heel Free

Failing to negotiate a Figure Eight post is an over 50% deduction in the Open Class whilst in CCD and Novice it is a Minor.

I propose that if a dog fails to negotiate a Figure Eight post in the Open Class is be penalised with a substantial deduction.

Deduction currently reads:



Over 50% - If the Handler continually guides the dog, or adapts his pace to the dog, or if the dog does not complete the Principal Feature of the exercise, or if the dog fails to negotiate a Figure Eight Post.

Change to read:-

Over 50% - If the Handler continually guides the dog, or adapts his pace to the dog, or if the dog does not complete the Principal Feature of the exercise.

Add Substantial Deduction:- For a dog that fails to negotiate a Figure Eight Post.

**Rationale:** By changing this penalty to a substantial in the Open Class for failing to negotiate one figure eight post is fairer as many times this is really a handler error and it seems extreme to fail a team for one error a substantial is penalty enough.

### **37. SUBMITTED BY MELISSA FERABEND**

#### **Page 27 – OPEN – Exercise – Heel Free**

*Currently reads:*

##### **1. HEEL FREE**

Principal Feature: The dog and Handler to work as a team without the use of a lead.

Description of Exercise: This exercise must be performed at a higher standard than in the Novice Class. On order from the Judge 'Forward', the Handler may attract the dog's attention by saying its name and then give a command to heel and, at the same time, commence walking briskly or at the directed pace. The dog will work off-lead. Any unusual or additional act or command, which, in the opinion of the Judge, gives the dog assistance, must be penalised. At each order from the Judge to 'Halt', the Handler must stop and the dog must sit smartly at heel without command and not move until ordered to do so. The Handler and dog must execute a 'Figure Eight' at normal pace in which they must heel at least twice around two Stewards standing approximately three (3) metres apart. There must be at least one 'Halt' during this portion of the exercise. A Judge may replace a Steward in the 'Figure Eight', or may take the place of a Steward himself.

Change to:

##### **Part 1: Heel Free**

On order from the Judge 'Forward' the Handler may attract the dog's attention by saying its name then give a command to heel and, at the same time, commence walking briskly or at the directed pace. The dog must work off lead. Any unusual or additional act, signal or command, which in the opinion of the Judge gives the dog assistance, must be penalised. At each order from the Judge to 'Halt', the Handler must stop and the dog must sit smartly at heel without command and not move until ordered to do so.

##### **Part 2: Figure 8**

On order from the Judge 'Forward' the Handler may attract the dog's attention by saying

its name then give a command to heel and, at the same time, commence walking briskly straight into the Figure 8. The Handler and dog must execute a 'Figure Eight' at normal pace in which they must heel at least twice around two Stewards standing approximately three (3) metres apart. There must be at least one 'Halt' during this exercise. The Judge may replace a Steward in the 'Figure Eight' or may take the place of a Steward himself.

**Rationale:** The figure 8 I believe should be a separate exercise to the heeling pattern. Points to be adjusted – perhaps 20 for the heel on lead and 10 for the fig 8

### **38. SUBMITTED BY MELISSA FERABEND**

#### **Page 27 – OPEN – Deductions**

*Currently reads:*

Over 50%: if the Handler continually guides the dog, or adapts his pace to the dog, or if the dog does not complete the Principal Feature of the exercise, or if the dog fails to negotiate a Figure Eight post.

Minor: For failing to sit, stand or down; for poor sits, downs and stands; for occasional guidance or for the use of more than one command; for failure to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise

*Change to:*

Over 50%: if the Handler continually guides the dog, or adapts his pace to the dog, or if the dog does not complete the Principal Feature of the exercise.

Minor: For failing to sit, stand or down; for poor sits, downs and stands; for occasional guidance or for the use of more than one command; for failure to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise

**Rationale:** By deleting the wording “or if the dog fails to negotiate a Figure Eight post” it allows it to be a Minor deduction rather than over 50%

### **39. SUBMITTED BY JULIE URIE**

#### **OPEN CLASS**

#### **Page 31**

#### **6. (b) DISTANCE CONTROL (Optional) Maximum Points: 20**

**Deductions – Currently Read:**

**Zero Score:** For a dog, which is unmanageable, breaks from position or which fails on a single command to down, or sit or come. Anticipates the commands given after the dog has been left, moves more than one body length when changing from one position to the next

when commands are given after the dog has been left or does not complete the Principal Feature of the Exercise.

**Substantial:** For a dog which moves more than half its body length when changing from one position to the next, when commands are given after the dog has been left. Fails to sit in front, anticipates the finish or fails to finish. Slow response to commands.

#### **Deductions – Change To:**

**Zero Score:** For a dog, which is unmanageable or breaks from position. Anticipates the commands given after the dog has been left, moves more than one body length when changing from one position to the next when commands are given after the dog has been left or does not complete the Principal Feature of the Exercise.

**Substantial:** For a dog which requires a second command. For a dog which moves more than half its body length when changing from one position to the next, when commands are given after the dog has been left. Fails to sit in front, anticipates the finish or fails to finish. Slow response to commands.

**Rationale:** Currently, a dog can perform to a high level in all other exercises, yet will subsequently fail, because it does not respond to the first command. In comparison, a dog will only be given a minor deduction in the Open Heel Exercise for failing to sit, stand or down or for the use of more than one command. The overall performance of the dog should be taken into consideration, instead of penalising one mistake to the point where the dog is failed.

## **40. SUBMITTED BY LORNA PIPER**

### **OPEN CLASS**

Page 32

#### **7. 3 Min. SIT STAY Maximum Points: 25 HANDLER OUT OF SIGHT**

##### **7. 3 Min. SIT STAY - HANDLER OUT OF SIGHT**

**Delete this exercise** - the dogs have already completed sit stays - will give opportunity to include more exercise to aid the transition to UD. Also massive increase in skill level to go from 1 minute sit stay in sight to 3 minutes out of sight. Perhaps not such a necessary social skill in this day and age, If dogs are left they must generally be on lead

## **41. SUBMITTED BY JULIE URIE**

### **OPEN CLASS**

Page 32

#### **7. 3 Min. SIT STAY Maximum Points: 25 HANDLER OUT OF SIGHT**

**Principal Feature – Currently Reads:** The dog to stay off the lead in the sit position until the completion of the exercise.

**Principal Feature – Change To:** The dog to stay off the lead substantially in the sit position until the completion of the exercise.

**Deductions – Currently Read:**

**Zero Score:** For a dog which fails to remain in the sitting position, or which moves more than half its body length from where it was left.

**Deductions – Change To:**

**Zero Score:** For a dog which fails to remain in the sitting position for at least the first 90 seconds or moves more than half of its body length from where it was left.

**Substantial:** For a dog which remains in the sitting position for at least 90 seconds, but subsequently breaks from this position without moving more than half of its body length from where it was left.

**Rationale:** This will allow dogs, which remain in the sit position for a minimum of 50% of the time stipulated, to still achieve a passing score. At any given trial, a large proportion of dogs will not qualify due to failing a stay exercise, even though they have performed all other exercises to a high standard. This is very demoralising to competitors as it is seen as a ‘cut throat’ exercise, which allows no room for error. The overall performance of the dog should be taken into consideration, instead of penalising one mistake to the point where the dog is failed.

## **42. SUBMITTED BY MELISSA FERABEND**

### **Page 32 – Open Class – Exercise – 3 min Sit Stay**

*Currently reads:*

**Principal Feature:** The dog to stay off the lead in the sit position until the completion of the exercise.

**Description of Exercise:** This is a Group exercise. The Handlers will take up their position with their right foot next to a Stay Peg, which shall be placed in a line approximately two and a half (2.5) metres apart, and with their dogs sitting in the heel position. On order from the Judge 'Leave (Leave Your Dog)', the Handlers may give their dogs a command to stay and will immediately leave and, accompanied by a Steward, go out of sight of the dogs to a point previously designated by the Judge. After three (3) minutes from the time the Judge has ordered the Handlers to leave their dogs, the Steward will order 'Return (Return to Your Dogs)'. The Handlers must return to their dogs together. The dogs must not move from the sitting position until after the Judge orders 'Exercise Finished'. If a dog gets up and starts to roam, the Judge may instruct a Steward to take the dog away from the other dogs. Orders from

*Change to:*

This is an Individual exercise. The Handler will take up position with their dog sitting in the heel position.

On order from the Judge 'Leave (Leave Your Dog)', the Handler may give their dog a command to stay and will immediately leave and walk directly to the ring table, collect the

dogs lead, about turn and return to their dog.

The dog must not move from the sitting position until after the Judge orders 'Exercise Finished'.

***Rationale:*** Sit is not a natural position for a dog to remain in for long periods of time however this still allows a sit stay to be demonstrated.

Points to be adjusted – perhaps 15 for the sit and 35 for the group down stay

#### **43. SUBMITTED BY BELINDA O'SHEA**

#### **Page 32 – Open Class – Exercise – 3 min Sit Stay**

#### **Currently reads**

#### **7. 3 Min. SIT STAY Maximum Points: 25**

**HANDLER OUT OF SIGHT** Principal Feature: The dog to stay off the lead in the sit position until the completion of the exercise.

Description of Exercise: This is a Group exercise. The Handlers will take up their position with their right foot next to a Stay Peg, which shall be placed in a line approximately two and a half (2.5) metres apart, and with their dogs sitting in the heel position. On order from the Judge 'Leave (Leave Your Dog)', the Handlers may give their dogs a command to stay and will immediately leave and, accompanied by a Steward, go out of sight of the dogs to a point previously designated by the Judge. After three (3) minutes from the time the Judge has ordered the Handlers to leave their dogs, the Steward will order 'Return (Return to Your Dogs)'. The Handlers must return to their dogs together. The dogs must not move from the sitting position until after the Judge orders 'Exercise Finished'. If a dog gets up and starts to roam, the Judge may instruct a Steward to take the dog away from the other dogs. Orders from Judge: 'Leave (Leave Your Dogs)', 'Return (Return to Your Dogs)' (may be given by a Steward), 'Exercise Finished'.

Deductions: Zero Score: For a dog which falls to remain in the sitting position, or which moves more than half its body length from where it was left. Minor: For minor movements, e.g. fidgeting, or if Handlers do not leave or return with other Handlers.

#### **Change to**

#### **20m Get your leash**

Maximum points 25

Principle feature: The dog is to remain in a sit position while the handler leaves to retrieve the leash and return to the dog with it

**Exercise Description:** The handler will stand with the dog sitting in heel position in a place designated by the judge. On the judge's order the handler may command and/or signal the dog to sit without touching either the dog or the dog's collar. On further order to "Leave your dog to get your leash," the handler may give a command and/or signal to stay and will walk forward immediately to the place designated by the judge for the leash, pick up the leash, turn, face the dog and halt. The judge will give the order "Return to your dog." The handler must return directly to the dog. The dog must not move from the sitting position until after the judge has said "Exercise finished." The handler will then clip the leash to the collar and leave the ring. The judge will instruct the steward to place the leash at the designated location after the Broad Jump/Distance Control exercise. The handler and dog will be positioned at least 20m from and facing the direction of the gate entrance. The judge must be in position to watch the dog and handler throughout the exercise including exiting the ring.

**Orders from judge:** 'Take up your position', 'Leave your dog and get your leash', 'Return to your dog', 'exercise finished'

**Deductions:** Zero Score: For a dog which fails to remain in the sitting position or which moves more than half of its body length from where it was left. Minor: For minor movements, e.g. fidgeting,

***Rationale:*** The idea behind these changes is to change the Sit Stay to an individual exercise which is carried out as the last exercise in the ring. This exercise is a more realistic use of a sit stay as the sit is not a natural position for a dog to stay for an extended period of time amongst other dogs. The down stay will be left as they are as the group exercise for CCD, Novice and Open Classes

#### **44. SUBMITTED BY DEARNE JACKSON**

#### **Page 32 – Open Class – Exercise – 3 min Sit Stay**

#### **Open Class – Replacement of Sit Stay exercise.**

3 Min Sit Stay – Handler out of Sight

Page 32

Current

#### **7. 3 Min. SIT STAY**

Maximum Points: 25 HANDLER OUT OF SIGHT

**Principal Feature:** The dog to stay off the lead in the sit position until the completion of the exercise. **Description of Exercise:** This is a Group exercise. The Handlers will take up their

position with their right foot next to a Stay Peg, which shall be placed in a line approximately two and a half (2.5) metres apart, and with their dogs sitting in the heel position.

On order from the Judge 'Leave (Leave Your Dog)', the Handlers may give their dogs a command to stay and will immediately leave and, accompanied by a Steward, go out of sight of the dogs to a point previously designated by the Judge. After three (3) minutes from the time the Judge has ordered the Handlers to leave their dogs, the Steward will order 'Return (Return to Your Dogs)'. The Handlers must return to their dogs together. The dogs must not move from the sitting position until after the Judge orders 'Exercise Finished'. If a dog gets up and starts to roam, the Judge may instruct a Steward to take the dog away from the other dogs.

Orders from Judge: 'Leave (Leave Your Dogs)', 'Return (Return to Your Dogs)' (may be given by a Steward), 'Exercise Finished'.

Deductions: Zero Score: For a dog which fails to remain in the sitting position, or which moves more than half its body length from where it was left. Minor: For minor movements, e.g. fidgeting, or if Handlers do not leave or return with other Handlers.

## **Replace with**

### **Send Away and recall**

### **Maximum points 25**

Principle Feature: The dog, on command, to leave the Handler and go substantially in the right direction to the prescribed area and sit and come as directed.

Description of Exercise.

The Judge shall prescribe an area, which will be marked and positioned no closer than three (3) metres from the edge of the ring and no more than ten (10) metres from the point from which the dog is sent. For an indoor ring, the prescribed area shall be no closer than one (1) metre from the edge of the ring and a minimum of ten (10) metres from where the dog is to be sent.

The Handler shall stand the dog in the position indicated by the Judge, which shall be approximately 10 metres from the prescribed area. On order from the Judge, the Handler shall command the dog to go to the prescribed area. The dog must go substantially in the right direction and at a brisk pace. It must not go past the prescribed area or enter from behind. Once the dog is in the prescribed area, it should sit automatically. The dog is not required to sit squarely on to the Handler. Where the Handler chooses to command the dog to sit, he may attract the dog's attention by using its name before giving the command. If this is done a penalty will be incurred.

On separate order from the Judge, the Handler will command the dog to come. The dog must come briskly and remain sitting in front of the Handler until after the Judge orders 'Finish'. On the Handlers command, the dog must go briskly to the heel position, sit and remain in that position.

Orders from Judge: 'Take up your position', 'Send (Send Your Dog)', 'Call' (Call Your Dog), 'Finish', 'Exercise Finished'.

Deductions: Zero Score: For a dog which requires more than one command to leave the Handler or to sit in the prescribed area, anticipates any part of the Principal Feature, does not go substantially in the right direction or fails to sit substantially within the prescribed area (see Section 8). Goes past the back edge of the prescribed area or enters from behind. Does not return to the Handler.

Substantial: If a dog is slow going out or returning or responds slowly to commands; fails to sit in front or finish, or anticipates the finish or for a dog that requires a command to sit in the prescribed area.

Minor: Where the dog is substantially but not entirely within the prescribed area. For poor sits or finishes and for failure to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise.

Note: New item of equipment needed for Open could be the either the prescribed area frame or nominated area as described in the Glossary.

**Rationale:** This exercise replaces the group stay out of sight sit stay which removes the need for an additional steward to be present and removes the risk to dog's safety being left in an unknown environment with other dogs.

This exercise adds a degree of difficulty in that the dog must go to a prescribed area and remain there until called unlike a recall where the dog has been left and then called.

#### **45. SUBMITTED BY LORNA PIPER**

##### **OPEN CLASS**

Page 32

#### **8. 5 Min. DOWN STAY- Maximum Points: 25 HANDLER OUT OF SIGHT**

##### **8. 5 Min. DOWN STAY-**

##### **Change to 3 min Group Down Stay Handler Out of Sight**

**RATIONALE:** Only one stay is necessary, keeping the down stay. The reduction in time aids the transition from Novice to Open

#### **46. SUBMITTED BY JULIE URIE**

##### **OPEN CLASS**

Page 32

#### **8. 5 Min. DOWN STAY- Maximum Points: 25 HANDLER OUT OF SIGHT**

**Principal Feature – Currently Reads:** The dog to stay off the lead in the down position until the completion of the exercise.



**Principal Feature – Change To:** The dog to stay off the lead substantially in the down position until the completion of the exercise.

**Deductions – Currently Read:**

**Zero Score:** For a dog which fails to remain in the down position, or which moves more than half its body length from where it was left.

**Minor:** For minor movements, e.g. fidgeting, or for a dog that lies down in a position which is commonly known as the 'Dead Dog' position, or if Handlers do not leave or return with other Handlers.

**Deductions – Change To:**

**Zero Score:** For a dog which fails to remain in the down position for at least the first 2.5 minutes or moves more than half of its body length from where it was left.

**Substantial:** For a dog which remains in the down position for at least the first 2.5 minutes, but subsequently breaks from this position without moving more than half of its body length from where it was left.

**Rationale:** This will allow dogs, which remain in the down position for a minimum of 50% of the time stipulated, to still achieve a passing score. At any given trial, a large proportion of dogs will not qualify due to failing a stay exercise, even though they have performed all other exercises to a high standard. This is very demoralising to competitors as it is seen as a 'cut throat' exercise, which allows no room for error. The overall performance of the dog should be taken into consideration, instead of penalising one mistake to the point where the dog is failed.

## **47. SUBMITTED BY DEARNE JACKSON**

### **OPEN CLASS**

Page 32

#### **Open Down Stay out of Sight Replacement Exercise**

Current

#### **8. 5 Min. DOWN STAY- Maximum Points: 25 HANDLER OUT OF SIGHT**

**Principal Feature:** The dog to stay off the lead in the down position until the completion of the exercise.

**Description of Exercise:** This is a Group exercise. The Handlers will take up their position with their right foot next to a Stay Peg which shall be placed in a line approximately two and a half (2.5) metres apart and with their dogs In the Down position.

On order from the Judge to 'Leave (Leave Your Dog)', the Handlers may give their dogs a command to stay and will immediately leave and, accompanied by a Steward, go out of sight of the dogs to a point previously designated by the Judge.

After five (5) minutes from the time the Judge has ordered the Handlers to leave their dogs, the Steward will order 'Return (Return to Your Dogs)'. The Handlers must return to their dogs together. The dogs must not move from the down position until after the Judge orders 'Exercise Finished'.

If a dog gets up and starts to roam, the Judge may instruct the Steward to take the dog away from the other dogs.

Orders from Judge: 'Leave (Leave Your Dogs)', 'Return (Return to Your Dogs)' (may be given by a Steward), 'Exercise Finished'.

Deductions: Zero Score: For a dog which fails to remain in the down position, or which moves more than half its body length from where it was left.

Minor: For minor movements, e.g. fidgeting, or for a dog that lies down in a position which is commonly known as the 'Dead Dog' position, or if Handlers do not leave or return with other Handlers.

## REPLACE EXERCISE WITH

### (a) SPEAK ON COMMAND (Optional)

Maximum Points: 25

Principal Feature: The dog to stay and, on command, 'Bark'.

Description of Exercise: On order from the Judge, the Handler will leave the dog in the ordered position and move forward at least three (3) metres, turn to face the dog and halt. On further order from the Judge, 'now' (Bark Your Dog), the Handler will command the dog to bark. On the order 'Return' the Handler will return to the dog.

Praise may be given to the dog between parts of the exercise. The exercise shall consist of one position either a Sit, Stand or Down. This position must be the same for each dog in the class on the day.

Orders from Judge: 'Forward', 'Halt', 'Stand (Stand Your Dog)', or 'Down (Down Your Dog)', 'Leave (Leave Your Dog)', 'About Turn', 'Halt', 'Now (Bark Your Dog)', 'Return (Return to your Dog)', 'Part Exercise Finished', 'Exercise Finished'.

Deductions: Zero Score: For a dog that fails to bark on any command, breaks from position, or anticipates any part of the Principal Feature.

Substantial: For additional commands to sit, stand or down.

Minor: For any dog that fails to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise.

OR

### (b) FOOD REFUSAL (Optional)

Maximum Points: 25

Principal Feature: The dog to stay and refuse the food offered.

Description of Exercise: The food will consist of a single variety, which will be kept in a sealed container on the Judge's table and will be offered to the dog only once when in position. The exercise shall consist of either a Sit, Stand or Down. This position must be the same for each dog in the class on the day.

On order from the Judge 'Leave', the Handler will leave the dog in the ordered position and move at least five (3) metres away. The Judge will order the Handler to halt with his back to

the dog. In leaving the dog, the only verbal command permitted by the Handler shall be the word 'Stay'. The Judge will approach the dog from the front and offer the food by hand, or from a suitable receptacle or by placing the receptacle on the ground. The Judge must not use force, open the dog's mouth, touch the dog with the food or receptacle or speak to the dog. The dog may smell, but must not take or lick the food offered to it. On order from the Judge; the Handler will about turn and return to the dog.

Orders from Judge: 'Forward', 'Halt', 'Stand (Stand Your Dog)' or 'Down (Down Your Dog)', 'Leave (Leave Your Dog)', 'Halt', 'Return (Return to Your Dog)', 'Exercise Finished'.

Deductions: Disqualification: For a dog that attacks.

Zero Score: For a dog that shows an obvious tendency to attack, breaks from position, or takes or licks the food. If any other word is used rather than the executive word 'Stay' when the Handler is leaving the dog.

Substantial: For additional commands to sit, stand or down.

Minor: For any dog that fails to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise

***Rationale:*** These optional exercises replace the Group out of sight down stay. Which removes the need for an additional steward to be present and removes the risk to dog's safety being left in an unknown environment with other dogs.

This exercise adds a degree of difficulty in that the dog must be further trained to perform an action (either speak on command or refuse food offered) and remain there until exercise has finished.

These alternate options lead into the UD exercises with a lower level of difficulty in the same way that the introduction of the Directed Retrieve does as an alternate exercise to the Retrieve over the Solid Jump.

## **48. SUBMITTED BY LORNA PIPER**

### **OPEN CLASS**

## **SUGGESTED EXERCISES TO REPLACE THE REMOVED STAY**

Will become Exercise 7 -

### **Option One**

#### **7 SENDAWAY**

**Maximum points 25**

#### **Principal Feature:**

The dog, on command, to leave the Handler and go substantially in the right direction to the prescribed area(box) and sit.

#### **Description of Exercise:**

The Judge shall prescribe an area, which will be marked by a frame positioned no closer than three (3) metres from the unobstructed end of the ring, and no more than twelve (12) metres

from the point from which the dog is sent. For an indoor ring, the prescribed area shall be no closer than one (1) metre from the end of the ring. On order from the Judge, the Handler shall command the dog to go to the prescribed area. The dog must go substantially in the right direction and at a brisk pace. The handler can command the dog to sit as needed without penalty. At the completion of the exercise the handler will go and collect the dog.

**Orders from Judge:**

'Take up your position', 'Send (Send Your Dog)', Return to your dog 'Exercise Finished'.

**Deductions:**

**Zero Score:** For a dog which requires more than one command to leave the Handler or to sit in the prescribed area, anticipates any part of the Principal Feature, does not go substantially in the right direction

**Substantial:** For that particular part of the exercise, if a dog is slow going out or returning or responds slowly to commands; or for a dog that requires a command to sit in the prescribed area.

**Minor:** For that particular part of the exercise, where the dog is substantially but not entirely within the prescribed area.

**OR**

**OPTION TWO**

**7. DIRECTED JUMP**

**Maximum Points 25**

**Principal Feature:**

The dog, on command, to jump as directed.

**Description of Exercise:**

The solid jump, will be used for this exercise. It will be placed no closer than one and a half metres to the edge of the ring. The dog will begin the exercise in the prescribed area, be to the right or left of the jump 10m metres distant and 4 metres away from a the inner upright of the jump. It is the Judge's responsibility to see that the height jumped is that required for that particular dog's height.

The dog shall be left in a sit position 10 metres from the jump, the handler will about turn 10m after the jump. Then on the Judge's order the handler shall command the dog to jump. While the dog is jumping the Handler will turn and face it, so that the dog will come in to sit squarely in front. On order from the Judge, the Handler will command the dog to finish, whereupon the dog must go briskly to the heel position and sit.

**Orders from Judge:**

'Take up your position', 'Leave', 'About Turn', 'Send (Send Your Dog)', 'Finish', 'Exercise Finished'.

**RATIONALE:** This exercise is a step toward the next class.

## **NEW EXERCISE**

### **7.c. SCENT DISCRIMINATION**

#### **Principal Feature:**

The dog, on command, to select the correct article by scent and promptly retrieve.

#### **Description of Exercise:**

The dog must select by scent and retrieve an article, which has been handled by its Handler (i.e. leather, metal and wood). The Handler will supply the articles.

#### **Preparation:**

- (i) On entering the Ring, the Handler must surrender the articles, which must be kept on the Judge's table. The Handler may provide a set of leather, wood or metal to work with
- (ii) The Judge must designate one number/letter of the set.
- (iii) The remaining 4 articles must be placed by hand and at random at least 150 mm apart on the grass by either the Judge or the Steward.

#### **The Exercise:**

The Handler, with the dog sitting at heel, will take up position as directed by the Judge, at least five (5) metres from and facing in the opposite direction to the articles.

The Judge or Steward will offer the designated articles to the Handler. Judging commences at this point. Immediately after receiving the article, and before imparting his scent, the Handler must show and say the number to the Judge. The Handler's scent must be imparted only from his hands which must remain in plain sight at all times for the duration of the scent discrimination exercise. The Handler must not show the article to the dog

On order from the Judge, the Handler must immediately surrender the article to the Judge or Steward who will place it among the other articles either on the ground as requested by the Handler. The Judge or Steward must not touch the scented article. On order from the Judge, the Handler and the dog will turn and face the articles. On further order, the Handler may place his hand gently over the dog's nose and may give a command to retrieve. The dog must go to the articles at a brisk pace, but may take a reasonable time to select the right one provided that he works smartly and continuously and does not pick up any article other than the one designated. After picking up the correct article, the dog must promptly return and sit directly in front of the Handler, and hold the article until given a command to surrender.

The dog must remain sitting in front of the Handler until after the Judge orders 'Exercise Finished'

#### **Orders from Judge:**

'Take up Position', 'Scent your Article', 'Thank You', 'About Turn', 'Send (Send Your Dog)', 'Take it', 'Exercise Finished', 'Article Correct ' or 'Article Incorrect'.

#### **Deductions:**

**Zero Score:** For a dog which fails on a single command to retrieve the designated article, or refuses to give up the article, does not deliver to hand, or anticipates the Principal Feature

**Substantial:** For the particular part of the exercise in which the dog is slow in going out or returning, does not work constantly, plays with or excessively mouths the article, picks up the wrong article even though he puts it down immediately, fails to sit or finish, or anticipates the finish.

**Minor:** For that particular part of the exercise, for minor mouthing or poor sits and where the article is dropped and immediately picked up without further command, if the Handler drops the article after it has been taken from the dog, for failure to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise.

**RATIONALE:** Provides a direct link to the next class also gives points towards the 200 as the sit stay is removed.

## UTILITY CLASS

### 49. SUBMITTED BY SUE COLLIER

#### Page 35 – Utility Class – Change the Order of the Exercises

*Currently reads*

1. Seek Back
2. Directed jumping
3. Scent Discrimination
4. Signal Exercise
5. (a) Speak on Command-or
  - (b) Food Refusal-or
  - (c) Directed Retrieve
6. Group Examination
7. 5 Min Down Stay-Handler Out of Sight

#### **Change to**

1. Seek Back
2. Scent Discrimination
3. Signal Exercise
4. (a) Speak on Command-or
  - (b) Food Refusal-or
  - (c) Directed Retrieve
5. Directed jumping
6. Group Examination
7. 5 Min Down Stay-Handler Out of Sight

**Rationale:** Changing the order of exercises would have the following advantages:

1. The exercises involving scent are grouped together
2. The dog will be jumping after it is warmed up

## 50. SUBMITTED BY MELISSA FERABEND

### Page 35 – Utility Class – Change the Order of the Exercises

*Currently reads*

The exercise for each dog and the maximum points shall be:

1. Seek Back 30
2. Directed jumping 40
3. Scent Discrimination 45
4. Signal Exercise 30
5. (a) Speak on Command-or (b) Food Refusal-or (c) Directed Retrieve 20
6. Group Examination 10
7. 5 Min Down Stay-Handler Out of Sight 25
- TOTAL 200

*Change to:*

The exercise for each dog and the maximum points shall be:

1. Seek Back 30
2. Signal Exercise 30
3. Scent Discrimination 45
4. Directed jumping 40
5. (a) Speak on Command-or (b) Food Refusal-or (c) Directed Retrieve 20
6. Group Examination 10
7. 5 Min Down Stay-Handler Out of Sight 25
- TOTAL 200

**Rationale:** Swapping the order of Directed Jumping and the Signal Exercise as many dogs confuse the send to the prescribed area as a second seek back

## 51. SUBMITTED BY LORNA PIPER

### Page 35 – Utility Class –Exercises

#### UTILITY CLASS

The exercise for each dog and the maximum points shall be:

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| 1. Seek Back                                       | 30  |
| 2. Directed jumping                                | 40  |
| 3. Scent Discrimination                            | 30  |
| 4. Signal Exercise                                 | 30  |
| 5. (a) Speak on Command-or                         |     |
| (b) Food Refusal-or                                | 20  |
| (c) Directed Retrieve - compulsory                 | 20  |
| 6. Group Examination                               | 10  |
| 7. DEL 7 INS 4. min Down Stay-Handler Out of Sight | 20  |
| TOTAL  | 200 |



## **52. SUBMITTED BY DEARNE JACKSON**

### **Submission for Utility Dog class exercise Directed Jumping to be made an optional exercise with a new exercise.**

#### **Current Exercise**

#### **Page 36 - UTILITY**

### **2. DIRECTED JUMPING**

Maximum Points: 40

Principal Feature: The dog, on command, to leave the Handler and go substantially in the right direction to the prescribed area and sit and jump as directed.

Description of Exercise: The jumps, consisting of a bar and a solid jump, will be placed approximately seven and a half (7.5) metres apart on each side of the Ring. It is the Judge's responsibility to see that the height jumped is that required for that particular dog's height. The Judge shall prescribe an area, which will be marked by a frame positioned no closer than three (3) metres from the unobstructed end of the ring and in the middle, and no more than twenty-five (25) metres from the point from which the dog is sent. The jumps shall be set at approximately halfway, but no closer than ten (10) metres from the position from where the dog is sent or from the prescribed area. For an indoor ring, the prescribed area shall be no closer than one (1) metre from the end of the ring and a minimum of ten (10) metres from where the dog is to be sent. The jumps shall be approximately half way, but no closer than five (5) metres from the position from where the dog is to be sent. For each part of the exercise, the Handler shall stand the dog in the position indicated by the Judge, which shall be mid way between and in front of the jumps.

On order from the Judge, the Handler shall command the dog to go to the prescribed area. The dog must go substantially in the right direction and at a brisk pace. It must not go past the prescribed area or enter from behind. Once the dog is in the prescribed area, it should sit automatically. The dog is not required to sit squarely on to the Handler at this point. Where the Handler chooses to command the dog to sit, he may attract the dog's attention by using its name before giving the command. If this is done a penalty will be incurred. The Judge must indicate by order or signal which jump is to be taken and will not advise the Handler until the dog is sitting within the prescribed area. The Handler will then command the dog to jump the designated jump. While the dog is jumping the Handler will turn and face it, so that the dog will come in to sit squarely in front. On order from the Judge, the Handler will command the dog to finish, whereupon the dog must go briskly to the heel position and sit. Praise may be given to the dog between parts of the exercise.

Orders from Judge: 'Take up your position', 'Send (Send Your Dog)', 'Bar Jump (Over the Bar Jump)', or 'Solid Jump (Over the Solid Jump)', 'Finish', 'Part Exercise Finished', 'Exercise Finished'.

**Deductions: Zero Score:** For a Handler who directs the dog to the incorrect jump. For a dog which requires more than one command to leave the Handler or to sit in the prescribed area, anticipates any part of the Principal Feature, does not go substantially in the right direction or fails to sit substantially within the prescribed area (see Section 8). Goes past the back edge of the prescribed area or enters from behind. Does not jump as directed, on command; knocks the bar off the bar jump, climbs the solid jump, or does not return to the Handler, must be marked zero for that particular portion of the exercise and the Judge's Chart endorsed 'non-qualifying' score.

**Substantial:** For that particular part of the exercise, if a dog is slow going out or returning or responds slowly to commands; fails to sit in front or finish, or anticipates the finish or for a dog that requires a command to sit in the prescribed area.

**Minor:** For that particular part of the exercise, where the dog is substantially but not entirely within the prescribed area or where the dog tips either jump. For poor sits or finishes and for failure to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise.

**Note:** A non-qualifying score in a part of this exercise shall be deemed to be a non-qualifying score for the whole of the exercise.

Change to:

### **Directed Jumping.**

OR

### **(New Exercise) Directed Sendaway, recall and position in motion**

#### **DIRECTED SENDAWAY RECALL AND POSITION IN MOTION:**

**Maximum Points 40**

**Principal Feature:** The dog, on command, to leave the Handler and go to the Prescribed Area as directed, to sit, and to come and be left as directed. The dog and Handler are to work as a team without the use of a lead. The dog to promptly perform either the Sit or Down on the first command, whilst the Handler is still in motion.

#### **Description of Exercise:**

The Judge shall prescribe an area, which will be marked by a frame positioned no closer than three (3) metres from the unobstructed end of the ring and in the middle, and no more than twenty-five (25) metres from the point from which the dog is sent. The dog on command is to be sent away to the prescribed area and sit as directed, then recalled to heel and continue heeling with the Handler as ordered by the Judge. For an indoor ring, the prescribed area shall be no closer than one (1) metre from the end of the ring and a minimum of ten (10) metres from where the dog is to be sent.

Simultaneous command and signal is permitted.

The Handler will take up a position indicated by the Judge at approximately twenty (20) metres from the Box.

The Handler shall stand the dog in the position indicated by the Judge. The Judge will then order "Send". The Handler may give the dog the direction to the Prescribed Area with a single motion of either the left or right hand and arm. The Handler may bend the body and knees to the extent necessary in giving the direction to the dog. The command to send will be given either simultaneously with, or immediately after the giving of the direction, after which the Handler will stand erect in a natural position.

The dog must go directly to the Prescribed Area. The dog must go substantially in the right direction and at a brisk pace. It must not go past the Prescribed Area or enter from behind. Once the dog is in the Prescribed Area, it should sit automatically

Where the Handler chooses to command the dog to sit, the handler may attract the dog's attention by using its name before giving the command. If this is done a penalty will be incurred. The Judge will order the Handler to move 'Forward' 'and then perform an 'About Turn'. The Handler must be given the 'About Turn' approximately ten (10) (ie approximately between the jumps) metres from the Prescribed Area. The Judge may order the Handler to 'Call (Call your Dog)' before ordering the About Turn. On command from the handler, the dog must go briskly to the heel position and with the handler execute the position in motion as directed by the judge.

Orders for the Position in Motion will be the same for each dog and will be selected by the Judge. The judge will alert the Handler that a Position in Motion is coming up by naming the position coming up. The Judge will then order 'Now' and the Handler may give the appropriate command to the dog and walk on alone without hesitation. The Handler will walk forward approximately 3 metres from the dog, the Judge will give the order to 'about turn' and the Handler will walk back past the dog's right hand side until, at approximately 3 metres behind the dog, the Judge will order 'about turn, collect your dog'. When the Handler is alongside the dog, the dog may be commanded to take up the heel position.

Orders from the Judge: 'Take up Position', 'Send' (Send your Dog)', 'Forward', 'Call' (Call your Dog)', 'About Turn',) plus one of the following: 'Sit Position Coming Up', 'Down Position Coming Up', position must be followed by the order 'Now', 'About Turn', 'About Turn', 'Collect Your Dog', 'Halt', 'Exercise Finished'.

### **Deductions:**

**Zero Score:** For a dog which is unmanageable, for a dog which needs more than one command to leave the Handler, fails to enter the Prescribed Area, fails to sit where sent, fails to remain sitting until called, sits entirely outside the Prescribed Area, fails to go the required distance. For the Handler giving a command to sit whilst the dog is outside the Prescribed Area, for a dog that fails to come on the first command or anticipates any part of the Principal Feature. For a dog that during the Positions in Motion fails to either sit, down, stand or

remain in position. If a handler commands the dog to take up an incorrect position for any of the positions in motion.

**Substantial:** If a dog is slow going out to Prescribed Area, slow response to commands, does not go directly to the Prescribed Area, for a dog that requires a command to sit in the prescribed area, fails to heel with the Handler after being recalled. For a Handler who hesitates when leaving the dog, or returns past the dog on the left side, for any double command or failure to Sit, Stand or Down during the during the Position's in Motion heelwork section, prolonged commands or slow response to commands

**Minor:** For that particular part of the exercise, where the dog is substantially but not entirely within the Prescribed Area. For imperfections in heeling: poor Sits, Stands, Downs and for failure to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise.

***Rationale for change:***

To make the Directed Jumping exercise an optional exercises thus providing a non jumping pathway to UDX.

A dog can achieve Open without having to do jumping exercises, but this option is not available at Utility Dog.

The optional exercise combines the send away portion of the Directed Jumping exercise with the additional requirements of performing a recall to the handler position followed by one position in motion of judge's choice.

No new/additional equipment required. The Prescribed area (ie Frame) is already present in the UD ring as is the Position the dog is sent from (being same as for the Directed Jumping).

No change in Maximum Points required, so no adjustment to scoring of other exercises in Utility Dog class.

The exercise still presents the degree of difficulty in requiring a dog to go away from the handler directly to the prescribed area and to respond to command from a distance. The exercise removes the jump component for the return to the handler, but requires the dog to remain in position until directed to return even though the handler has moved forward and away. The exercise presents a further degree of difficulty in that it requires the handler and dog to immediately adjust to working again as a team in the positions in motion component with only one chance to get the position right. The exercise presents a modified degree of difficulty to the UDX position in motion section in that both signal and command can be used at the same time.

### 53. SUBMITTED BY MELISSA FERABEND

#### Page 37 – Utility Class – Scent Discrimination

##### *Currently reads*

On order from the Judge, the Handler and the dog will turn and face the articles. On further order, the Handler may place his hand gently over the dog's nose and may give a command to retrieve. The dog must go to the articles at a brisk pace, but may take a reasonable time to select the right one provided that he works smartly and continuously and does not pick up any article other than the one designated. After picking up the correct article, the dog must promptly return and sit directly in front of the Handler, and hold the article until given a command to surrender. The dog must remain sitting in front of the Handler until after the Judge orders 'Finish'. On the Handlers command, the dog must go briskly to the heel position, sit and remain in that position. The Judge will take the article from the Handler and state 'Part Exercise Finished' or 'Exercise Finished' and then 'Article Correct' or 'Article Incorrect' followed by 'Take up Position' if further articles are to be retrieved.

##### *Change to:*

On order from the Judge, the Handler and the dog will turn and face the articles. On further order, the Handler may place his hand gently over the dog's nose and may give a command to retrieve. The dog must go to the articles at a brisk pace, but may take a reasonable time to select the right one provided that he works smartly and continuously and does not pick up any article other than the one designated. After picking up the correct article, the dog must promptly return and sit directly in front of the Handler, and hold the article until given a command to surrender. The dog must remain sitting in front of the Handler until after the Judge takes the article from the Handler and states 'Part Exercise Finished' or 'Exercise Finished' and then 'Article Correct' or 'Article Incorrect' followed by 'Take up Position' if further articles are to be retrieved.

**Rationale:** There are currently up to 8 Finishes in UD (8 if the option is Directed Retrieve) so the 3 within the Scent Discrimination could be removed without detriment. The handler would at 'Part Exercise Finished' or 'Exercise Finished' and then 'Article Correct' or 'Article Incorrect' then Take up a the position facing away from the articles if more are to be retrieved.

### 54. SUBMITTED BY LORNA PIPER

#### Page 37 – Utility Class – Scent Discrimination

#### SCENT DISCRIMINATION

##### **Description of Exercise:**

The dog must select by scent and retrieve an article, which has been handled by its Handler in each of the **DELETE - three** **INSERT - two** tests (i.e. leather, metal and wood. The Judge will select the order in which the different articles are to be retrieved.

**Preparation:**

- (i) On entering the Ring, the Handler must surrender the articles, which must be kept on the Judge's table.
- (ii) The Judge must designate ). **INSERT - which two articles will be retrieved ie wood and leather and** one number/letter of each of the sets.
- (iii) The remaining 12 articles must be placed by hand and at random at least 150 mm apart by either the Judge or the Steward. The Affiliate conducting the fixture will provide a mat if requested

**The Exercise:**

..... The dog must remain sitting in front of the Handler until after the Judge orders **DELETE - 'Finish'. On the Handlers command, the dog must go briskly to the heel position, sit and remain in that position. The Judge will take the article from the Handler and state** 'Part Exercise Finished' or 'Exercise Finished' and then 'Article Correct' or 'Article Incorrect' followed by 'Take up Position' if further articles are to be retrieved.

**Orders from Judge:**

'Take up Position', 'Select your Article', 'Thank You', 'About Turn', 'Send (Send Your Dog)', 'Take it',  
**DELETE - Finish**', 'Part Exercise Finished', 'Exercise Finished', 'Article Correct ' or 'Article Incorrect'.

**Deductions:**

**Zero Score:** For a dog which fails on a single command to retrieve the designated article, or refuses to give up the article, does not deliver to hand, or anticipates the Principal Feature must be marked zero for the particular part of the exercise, and the Judge's Chart endorsed 'Non-Qualifying Score'.

**Substantial:** For the particular part of the exercise in which the dog is slow in going out or returning, does not work constantly, plays with or excessively mouths the article, picks up the wrong article even though he puts it down immediately, fails to sit **DELETE - or finish, or anticipates the finish.**

**RATIONALE:** The judge selecting which articles will be used for the exercise will ensure the dog knows how to do all the materials. Removing the finishes decreases the number of finishes required in UD and presents a more 'real life' scenario

**55. SUBMITTED BY LORNA PIPER****Utility Class –****DIRECTED RETRIEVE COMPULSORY****Preparation for udx,**

\*\*\*UD that jumps can be replaced by upright 'hoops' so the dogs are sent to the prescribed area and then directed through a hoop rather than over a jump.

\*\*\*That hoops can be used in place of jumps at all levels.

## 56. SUBMITTED BY MELISSA FERABEND

### Page 38 – Utility Class – Exercise – Directed Jumping - Deductions

#### *Currently reads:*

Zero Score: For a Handler who directs the dog to the incorrect jump. For a dog which requires more than one command to leave the Handler or to sit in the prescribed area, anticipates any part of the Principal Feature, does not go substantially in the right direction or fails to sit substantially within the prescribed area (see Section 8). Goes past the back edge of the prescribed area or enters from behind. Does not jump as directed, on command; knocks the bar off the bar jump, climbs the solid jump, or does not return to the Handler, must be marked zero for that particular portion of the exercise and the Judge's Chart endorsed 'non-qualifying' score.

Substantial: For that particular part of the exercise, if a dog is slow going out or returning or responds slowly to commands; fails to sit in front or finish, or anticipates the finish or for a dog that requires a command to sit in the prescribed area

#### *Change to:*

Zero Score: For a Handler who directs the dog to the incorrect jump. For a dog which requires more than one command to leave the Handler or to sit in the prescribed area, anticipates any part of the Principal Feature, does not go substantially in the right direction or fails to sit substantially within the prescribed area (see Section 8). Goes past the back edge of the prescribed area or enters from behind. Does not jump as directed, on command, or does not return to the Handler, must be marked zero for that particular portion of the exercise and the Judge's Chart endorsed 'non-qualifying' score.

Substantial: For that particular part of the exercise, if a dog is slow going out or returning or responds slowly to commands; knocks the bar off the bar jump, climbs the solid jump; fails to sit in front or finish, or anticipates the finish or for a dog that requires a command to sit in the prescribed area

**Rationale:** The dog is still completing the principal feature to go over the jump. Just moving the wording “knocks the bar off the bar jump, climbs the solid jump” from Zero Score to Substantial

## 57. SUBMITTED BY MELISSA FERABEND

### Page 38 – Utility Class – Exercise – Signal Exercise

#### *Principal Feature Currently reads:*

The dog to work at heel in response to signals only, then promptly respond to the Handler's signals given from a distance.

Change to: The dog to work at heel in response to **commands** only, then promptly respond to



the Handler's **commands** given from a distance.

*Description currently reads:*

Description of Exercise:

The heeling is done in the same manner as in the Heel Free exercise except that the Handler uses

signals only and must not speak to the dog at any stage.

The Judge must give the Heel Free exercise routine excluding 'Figure Eight'.

The Judge will order 'Normal Pace' and on further order or signal from the Judge, the Handler will signal

the dog to stand. On further order or signal from the Judge, the Handler may signal the dog to stay and

will move forward approximately five (5) metres. On further order or signal, the Handler will turn to face

the dog. On separate and specific order or signal from the Judge in each case, the Handler will give the

signals to down, to sit, to come, and to finish.

*Change to:*

The heeling is done in the same manner as in the Heel Free exercise except that the Handler uses

**a single verbal command OR a physical hand signal only (but not both together).**

The Judge must give the Heel Free exercise routine excluding 'Figure Eight'.

The Judge will order 'Normal Pace' and on further order or signal from the Judge, the Handler will **command** the dog to stand. On further order or signal from the Judge, the Handler may **command** the dog to stay and will move forward approximately five (5) metres. On further order or signal, the Handler will turn to face the dog. On separate and specific order or signal from the Judge in each case, the Handler will give the **commands** to down, to sit, to come, and to finish.

***Rationale:*** The rule book also has on page 9 under 8. EXHIBITORS AND HANDLERS, Commands:

“Where the word “command” appears in specific exercises, it will mean “command and/or signal” unless otherwise specified. One command only is given to the dog for a specific action on the part of the dog. The verbal command must be a single word.

The command may be given by the use of the Handler’s voice and/or specific action of the Handler in the form of a signal.”

The hand signal and voice command either together or separately both direct the dog to perform what the handler wants them to do. Some dogs are “sight” and some are “sound” dogs and they respond better to one or the other. It also heads towards the distance control and positions in motion in the UDX class.



## **58. SUBMITTED BY JULIE URIE**

### **UTILITY CLASS**

**Page 41** –

#### **7. 5 Min. DOWN STAY Maximum Points: 25 HANDLER OUT OF SIGHT**

**Principal Feature – Currently Reads:** The dog to stay off the lead in the down position until the completion of the exercise.

**Principal Feature – Change To:** The dog to stay off the lead substantially in the down position until the completion of the exercise.

**Deductions – Currently Read:**

**Zero Score:** For a dog which fails to remain in the down position, or which moves more than half its body length from where it was left.

**Deductions – Change To:**

**Zero Score:** For a dog which fails to remain in the down position for at least the first 2.5 minutes or moves more than half of its body length from where it was left.

**Substantial:** For a dog which remains in the down position for at least the first 2.5 minutes, but subsequently breaks from this position without moving more than half of its body length from where it was left.

**Rationale:** This will allow dogs, which remain in the down position for a minimum of 50% of the time stipulated, to still achieve a passing score. At any given trial, a large proportion of dogs will not qualify due to failing a stay exercise, even though they have performed all other exercises to a high standard. This is very demoralising to competitors as it is seen as a ‘cut throat’ exercise, which allows no room for error. The overall performance of the dog should be taken into consideration, instead of penalising one mistake to the point where the dog is failed.

## UTILITY DOG EXCELLENT CLASS

### 59. SUBMITTED BY DEARNE JACKSON

#### Utility Dog Excellent Class

#### Page 44

##### 1. SEEK BACK WITH DECOY ARTICLE

Maximum Points 30

Principal Feature: The dog, on command, to seek and retrieve the correct article.

Description of Exercise: The dog must retrieve the article which has been scented by its Handler. On entering the ring, the Handler will surrender two identical, differently numbered Scent Discrimination articles, which will be placed on the Judge's table. The Judge must designate the article to be scented by the Handler.

The Handler will take up position at the Starting Peg. Using tongs, the Judge or Steward will offer the designated article to the Handler. Judging commences at this point. Immediately after receiving the article, and before imparting his scent, the Handler must show the article and say its number to the Judge. The Handler's scent must be imparted only from his hands, which must remain in plain sight. The Handler will then surrender the designated article on command to the Judge or Steward. The Judge or Steward must not touch the Handler's article with anything other than the tongs.

The articles will be placed discreetly on the track by the Judge or Steward whilst the Handler and dog are executing a heel pattern which will contain turns only and a final 'About Turn' and 'Halt'. **The decoy article will be scented by the Steward and placed discreetly on the track by the Judge or Steward no closer than five (5) metres from the Handlers scented article.**

When the dog and Handler have proceeded at least twenty (20) metres after the placement of both articles, the Judge must order 'About Turn' 'Halt' and will order the Handler to send the dog. The Handler may place his hand gently over the dog's nose and will give the command to retrieve. The Handler must not point to the articles but may point in the direction of the track. As soon as the dog has commenced the return with an article, the Judge must order the Handler to turn and face the dog. The Handler must turn in place. The dog is to find the Handler's scented article, to pick it up promptly, return, sit directly in front of the Handler and hold the article until the Judge orders 'Take it', whereupon the Handler may give a command to surrender. The dog must remain sitting in front of the Handler until the Judge orders 'Finish'. On the Handler's command, the dog must then go briskly to the heel position and sit. The primary function of the heel work is to lay a track. Neither the Handler, Judge or Steward will cross the track nor will the Handler be halted less than twenty (20) metres from the articles. Orders from the Judge: 'Thank You', 'Forward', (followed by heeling at normal pace with turns only and excluding the Figure Eight), 'About Turn', 'Halt', 'Send (Send your Dog)', 'Face (Face your Dog)', 'Take It', 'Finish', 'Exercise Finished', 'Article Correct' or

‘Article Incorrect’. Deductions Zero Score: For a dog which does not find and retrieve the correct article on one command, retrieves the decoy article, anticipates the command to seek, refuses to give up the article, or does not deliver to hand.

Substantial: For a dog that fails to sit before being sent out or does not leave the Handler promptly; does not constantly seek or promptly return to the Handler with the article at least at a brisk pace; picks up the decoy article even though he puts it down immediately; excessively mouths the article. Fails to sit in front or finish or anticipates the finish. Minor: For heeling imperfections, playing with or minor mouthing of the correct article or where the article is dropped and immediately picked up again without further command. If the Handler drops the article after it has been taken from the dog. For failure to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise.

Change:

To Description of Exercise third paragraph

The decoy article will be scented by the Steward and placed discreetly on the track by the Judge or Steward ~~no closer than~~ **approximately** five (5) metres from the Handlers scented article.

**Rationale.** Currently the wording “no closer” allows for the decoy article to be placed further along the track at a greater distance than 5 metres eg 10 metres which means the dog has to do more searching, thus adding to time taken to complete the exercise. Being consistent with the use of the word approximately ensures that there is not excessive distance between the two articles and the dog is more likely to have to make a discrimination between the decoy and scented article rather than never crossing/finding the decoy during the search.

## **60. SUBMITTED BY MELISSA FERABEND**

### **Page 45 – Utility Dog Excellent Class – Exercise – Distance Control**

*Description of Exercise currently reads:*

Commands to be by a single verbal OR physical hand signal (but not both together). The Judge will order the Handler to take up position at a designated point with the dog in the stand position. After the Handler has indicated they are ready, the Judge will order ‘Leave’ (Leave your Dog)’. The Handler may command the dog to stay and move forward approximately ten (10) metres, and on the Judge’s order ‘About Turn’ and ‘Halt’. On separate orders from the Judge, the Handler will command the dog to sit, stand or down until six (6) changes of position have been completed. The Judge will decide the order of the positions; the same order is to be completed by each dog. The dog must perform a Sit, Stand and Down at least once. At the completion of the changes of position, the Judge will order ‘Return’ (Return to Your Dog)’.

*Change to:*

Commands to be by a single verbal OR physical hand signal (but not both together). The Judge will order the Handler to take up position at a designated point with the dog in the stand position. After the Handler has indicated they are ready, the Judge will order 'Leave' (Leave your Dog). The Handler may command the dog to stay and move forward approximately ten (10) metres, and on the Judge's order 'About Turn' and 'Halt'. On separate orders from the Judge, the Handler will command the dog to sit, stand or down until **three (3)** changes of position have been completed. The Judge will decide the order of the positions; the same order is to be completed by each dog. The dog must perform a Sit, Stand and Down at least once. At the completion of the changes of position, the Judge will order 'Return' (Return to Your Dog). Orders from Judge: 'Take Up Your Position'

**Rationale:** By performing each position correctly once, the dog has demonstrated it can do the exercise and change into the various positions as directed.

## **61. SUBMITTED BY JULIE URIE**

### **Utility Dog Excellent Class**

**Page 47**

#### **5. DISTANCE CONTROL Maximum Points 30**

##### **Deductions – Currently Read:**

**Zero Score:** For a dog that is unmanageable, fails on a command to stand where left, fails to sit, stand or down on a single command or signal, anticipates the commands or signals, where the Handler anticipates the Judge's orders or gives the wrong command. For a dog that moves more than one and a half body length from where it was left, such movement to be from the initial stand position to the final position or the Handler uses a physical hand signal and verbal command together.

**Substantial:** Slow response to commands, or prolonged commands.

**Minor:** For failure to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise.

##### **Deductions – Change To:**

**Zero Score:** For a dog that is unmanageable, fails on a command to stand where left, anticipates the commands or signals, where the Handler anticipates the Judge's orders or gives the wrong command. For a dog that moves more than one and a half body length from where it was left, such movement to be from the initial stand position to the final position or the Handler uses a physical hand signal and verbal command together.

**Substantial:** For any second command or signal, or slow response to commands, or prolonged commands.

**Minor:** For failure to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise.

**Rationale:** Currently, a dog can perform to a high level in all other exercises, yet will subsequently fail, because it does not respond to the first command in this exercise. The overall performance of the dog should be taken into consideration, instead of penalising one mistake to the point where the dog is failed.

## **62. SUBMITTED BY DEARNE JACKSON**

### **Utility Dog Excellent Class**

#### **Page 48**

### **MULTIPLE RETRIEVE**

Current:

#### **6. MULTIPLE RETRIEVE:**

Maximum Points 30

Principal Feature: The dog to retrieve the designated articles on command.

Description of Exercise: This exercise consist of two (2) retrieves only The Handler will provide three leather Scent Discrimination articles that may be white or any colour and may be numbered. The articles must not be covered with any material or painted. The dog must retrieve an article in each of the two (2) tests.

The Handler, with the dog sitting at heel, will stand in the ring facing in the opposite direction to, and at approximately twelve (12) metres from where the centre article is to be placed. The Judge or Steward will then place three articles in a straight line with the articles approximately six (6) metres apart, tongs may be used. Articles to be placed approximately one (1) metre from the edge of the ring. The Handler should be able to look over his shoulder to watch where the articles are placed. Preferably articles and markers should not be visible to the dog at the commencement of the exercise

The positions should be designated 'One' 'Two' 'Three' reading from left to right when the Handler turns to face them.

The Judge will give the order 'One' 'Two' or 'Three' and then order the Handler to 'About Turn'. The Judge will decide the order for each dog. The same two (2) articles must be used for all dogs in that class. The Handler will give the command to Heel, then turn in place, right or left, and come to a halt with the dog sitting at heel and facing the designated position. The Handler must not touch or reposition the dog.

The Judge will order 'Send' (Send Your Dog). The Handler will give the dog the direction to the designated position with a single motion of either the left or right hand and arm. The Handler may bend the body and knees to the extent necessary in giving the direction to the dog. The command to retrieve will be given either simultaneously with or immediately after the giving of direction, after which the Handler will stand erect in a natural position.

The dog will go directly to and retrieve the designated article at a brisk pace, without unnecessary mouthing or playing with it. The dog must sit directly in front of its Handler and hold the article until the judge orders 'Take it' whereupon the Handler may give a command to surrender. The dog must remain sitting in front of the Handler until after the Judge orders 'Finish'. On the Handler's command the dog must go briskly to the heel position and sit.

The Judge will state 'Part Exercise Finished' or 'Exercise Finished', followed by 'Take up position' if further articles are to be retrieved. Should the dog retrieve the wrong article, or does not retrieve an article where further articles are to be retrieved, the Steward will replace the article and remove the article to be retrieved in that test once the Judge orders 'Take up Position' for the next part of the exercise.

Praise may be given to the dog between parts of the test. The same procedure will be followed in each section of the test. Orders from Judge: 'Take up Position', 'Article Number One, Two or Three', 'About Turn', 'Send' (Send your Dog), 'Take it', 'Finish', 'Part Exercise Finished', 'Exercise Finished', 'Article Correct' or Article Incorrect' followed by 'Take Up Position' if further articles are to be retrieved.

Deductions: Zero Score: For a dog that does not retrieve the designated article on one command, or retrieves the incorrect article; anticipates the command to retrieve, refuses to give up the article or does not deliver to hand, where the incorrect article is picked up even though it is immediately put down. For any additional command to reposition the dog to face the designated position. Substantial: For slowness, excessive mouthing, for failing to sit in front, or finish, or anticipates the finish. For touching the dog or excessive motions when turning to face the article. For a dog which fails to sit when turning to face the position.

Minor: For poor sits or finishes, minor mouthing or playing with the article or where the article is dropped and immediately picked up without further command. If the Handler drops the article after it has been taken from the dog. For failure to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise, Note – A 'non-qualifying' score in a part of this exercise shall be deemed to be a non-qualifying score for the whole of the exercise.

#### Change Description of Exercise

The Handler will provide three leather Scent Discrimination articles that may be ~~white or~~ any colour **including white or black** and may be numbered. The articles must not be covered with any material or painted. The dog must retrieve an article in each of the two (2) tests.

**Rationale:** White is included separately as it is not a colour. But black is not included in the description and is not a colour. Black is a natural leather hue, therefore should be included as an option.