

## CHAPTER VIII

### Traditional Obedience Classes, Divisions and Titles

#### SECTION 1

**Divisions:** There shall be an “A” Division and a “B” Division in all classes. All teams must earn a minimum qualifying score of designated value for each level or better with a minimum of 50% of the possible points earned from each of the required exercises. Teams must meet the minimum required points four times under at least 2 different judges in all divisions and in all classes.

**“A” Division** is defined as: 1.) Any dog/s that has not earned any Traditional Obedience or any Obedience title higher than the beginner or Novice Levels in any other organization including CHU. 2.) Dogs that have earned the CHU Traditional Level 1 Obedience title may not show in the “A” Division. All dogs competing in “A” Divisions must be on leash.

**“B” Division** is defined as: 1.) those dogs who have previously earned the “A” Division CHU Traditional Basic title. 2.) Dogs who have earned an Obedience title. 3.) Dogs who have earned any Obedience title higher than beginner or Novice Levels. 4.) After earning CHU Traditional Obedience title in “A” Division may continue to compete in the “B” Division indefinitely while working on their Championship titles. 5.) Championship titles will be awarded after competing continuously in “B” Division with earned legs of 10 additional qualifying scores at each level. Championships are awarded as Gold, Silver and Bronze. 6.) Teams may choose to be on or off leash.

**Trial Officials Division** is defined as: a division for the Ring Judge’s family members or any trial officials who choose to not receive a placement.

#### SECTION 2

##### Traditional Obedience Classes

**Obedience Level 1:** This class will consist of (7) seven exercises and must be performed on a minimum 6 foot leash. The Ring Judge will decide the order in which the exercises will be run and will remain the same for all Teams entered in the entire class. Exercises 1 – 6 may be run in any order, with exercise 7 the mandatory end. As each exercise is completed the Ring Judge will release the Team with the phrase; “Exercise Finished”. The Handler may pet, praise and/treat the dog at this time without penalty/disqualification. A minimum qualifying score in this class is 70 pts or better, with a total of 100 possible.

Titles for this level will be as such:

CHUOB1A	4 legs qualified
CHUOB1B	4 legs qualified
CHUOB1B3 Bronze	10 legs qualified
CHUOB1B2 Silver	10 legs qualified
CHUOB1B1 Gold	10 legs qualified

Exercises for this level are:

- |                            |       |
|----------------------------|-------|
| 1. Heeling                 | 30pts |
| 2. Figure 8 On Leash       | 10pts |
| 3. Recall to Front, finish | 20pts |
| 4. Position Change         | 10pts |
| 5. Recall to Heel          | 10pts |
| 6. Sit or Down Walk Around | 10pts |
| 7. Judge's Greeting        | 10pts |

1.) **Heeling:** Orders for this exercise are: “Are You Ready?”, “Forward”, “Halt”, “About Turn”, “Right Turn”, “Left Turn”, “Slow”, “Normal” and “Fast”. Pace changes must demonstrate definitive changes of pace. All commands may be given in any order; however, the order will remain the same for the entire class. Teams will be dismissed with a final order of “Exercise Finished”. The leash may be held in either hand or both hands as long as there is slack. Arms may swing freely. Hand/arm cues may be used during the heeling exercises only when cuing the Halt-Sit and Forward. Each additional cue will receive a 2 point deduction. Dog must heel in a (1) one foot arch next to Handlers side. About Turns may be performed in any direction.

2.) **Figure 8 On Leash:** The Orders for this exercise are: “Are you Ready?”, “Forward”, “Halt” and “Exercise Finished.” This exercise begins with the Handler will stand facing the Ring Judge with the dog in a sit at the heel, between the two stewards. The stewards will be spaced 8 feet apart, facing each other with arms and hands by their sides. On the Forward command, the Team will walk briskly around and between the two stewards, the Team may go around either steward first. There may not be any pace change, and the Ring Judge must order a “Halt” at least once during this exercise and another one to end the exercise. A total of two passes are to be performed.

3.) **Recall to Front, Finish:** The Orders for this exercise are: “Are you Ready?”, “Leave Your Dog”, “Recall Your Dog”, “Forward”, and “Exercise Finished”. This exercise begins with the dog sitting in the heel position. The Ring Judge will instruct the handler to leave the dog, the Handler will go out approximately 4 feet and recall the dog. The dog must recall briskly and sit straight, centered in front of the Handler close enough to touch its head without excessively bending by the Handler. The Ring Judge will instruct the handler “Forward” and the handler will “Finish” the dog automatically before proceeding forward. The method of the finish is the handler’s option.

4.) **Position Change:** The Orders for this exercise are: “Are You Ready?”, a hand signal from the Ring Judge will be given to change position from a Sit to a Down and then again from a Down to a Sit, and a verbal “Exercise Finished”. This exercise begins with the dog sitting in the heel position. Anticipation by the dog will result in a Disqualifying score.

5.) **Recall To Heel:** The Orders for this exercise are: “Are You Ready?”, “Leave Your Dog”, “Recall Your Dog”, and “Exercise Finished”. This exercise begins with the dog sitting in the heel position. The Ring Judge will instruct the handler to leave the dog and proceed forward to a designated area, back remaining to the dog, and finally to “call” their dog. The dog must recall with reasonable briskness and sit in the heel position.

Ring Judge will then release the team. Anticipation by the dog will result in a Disqualifying score.

6.) **Sit or Down and Walk Around:** The Orders for this exercise are: “Are You Ready?”, “Sit Your Dog”, or “Down Your Dog”, and “Exercise Finished”. This exercise begins with the dog in a sit at the heel position, upon instruction from the Ring Judge, the handler will Sit or Down their dog. The handler will then walk one circle around their dog and return to the heel position. The team will be released upon completion. Any minor movement sideways by the dog during the walk-around will receive a minor deduction. A change of position or turns 90 degrees or more once the handler begins the walk around, will result in a Disqualifying score.

7.) **Judge’s Greeting:** The Orders for this exercise are: “Are You Ready?”, “Sit”, “Down” and “Exercise Finished”. This exercise will always be the last exercise of the class. The Ring Judge will order the handler to sit or down the dog, in the heel position. The Ring Judge will approach the team, shaking hands is the Ring Judge’s option and thank them for competing in the class this day. The Ring Judge will then move away from the Team. The dog must remain in commanded position. Anticipated change in position will result in a Disqualifying score.

**Obedience Level 2:** This class will consist of (9) nine exercises and will be performed on a minimum 6 foot leash and off leash. The Ring Judge will decide the order in which the exercises will be run and will remain the same for all Teams entered in the entire class. Exercises 2 – 8 may be run in any order and off leash, with exercise 9 the mandatory end. As each exercise is completed the Ring Judge will release the Team with the phrase; “Exercise Finished”. The Handler may pet, praise and/treat the dog at this time without penalty/disqualification. Teams must earn a minimum qualifying score of 170 out of a possible high of 200 points.

Titles for this level will be as such:

CHUOB2A	4 legs qualified
CHUOB2B	4 legs qualified
CHUOB2B3 Bronze	10 legs qualified
CHUOB2B2 Silver	10 legs qualified
CHUOB2B1 Gold	10 legs qualified

Exercises for this level are:

- |  |        |
|--|--------|
| 1. Heeling                                   | 30 pts |
| 2. Figure 8 Off Leash                        | 20pts  |
| 3. Moving Down With Recall to Heel Position  | 20pts  |
| 4. Position Change                           | 20pts  |
| 5. Moving Stand With Recall to Heel Position | 20pts  |
| 6. Recall Over Jump                          | 30pts  |
| 7. Long Sit 1 Minute                         | 20pts  |
| 8. Signal Sit                                | 20pts  |
| 9. Leave Dog for Leash                       | 20pts  |

1.)**Heeling:** Orders for this exercise are: “Are You Ready?”, “Forward”, “Halt” (2), “About Turn”, “Right Turn”, “Left Turn”, “Double About Turn”, “Right or Left Circle Turn”, “Slow”, “Normal” and “Fast”. Pace changes must demonstrate definitive changes of pace. All commands may be given in any order; however, the order will remain the same for the entire class. Teams will be dismissed with a final order of “Exercise Finished”. The leash may be held in either hand or both hands as long as there is slack. Arms may swing freely. Hand/arm cues may be used during the heeling exercises only when cuing the Halt-Sit and Forward. Each additional cue will receive a 2 point deduction. Dog must heel in a (1) one foot arch next to Handlers side. About Turns may be performed in any direction.

2.) **Figure 8 Off Leash:** The Orders for this exercise are: “Are you Ready?”, “Forward”, “Halt” and “Exercise Finished.” This exercise begins with the Handler standing and facing the Ring Judge with the dog in a sit at the heel, between the two stewards. The stewards will be spaced 8 feet apart, facing each other with arms and hands by their sides. On the Forward command, the Team will walk briskly around and between the two stewards, the Team may go around either steward first. There may not be any pace change, and the Ring Judge must order a “Halt” at least once during this exercise and another one to end the exercise. Leash must be removed and placed in designated area prior to beginning this exercise.

3.) **Moving Down With Recall to Heel Position:** The Orders for this exercise are: “Are you Ready?”, “Forward”, “Down Your Dog”, “Recall Your Dog”, and “Exercise Finished”. This exercise begins with the dog sitting in the heel position. The Ring Judge will instruct the handler to move forward with the dog in the heel position. Upon instruction from the Ring Judge the Handler will command their dog into down position, not breaking stride and proceed on approximately 4 feet and recall the dog. The dog must recall briskly and sit straight, in the heel position. The Ring Judge will release the team.

4.) **Position Change:** The Orders for this exercise are: “Are You Ready?” “Leave the Dog”, and “Return to Your Dog”. A hand signal from the Ring Judge will be given to change position from a Sit to a Down and then again from a Down to a Sit, and a verbal “Exercise Finished”. This exercise begins with heeling the dog to a designated area, command to sit at the heel position. Handler will leave the dog for a distance of 4 to 6 feet. At the Ring Judges’ command, the Handler will cue the dog to change position to a down, then to a sit. Handler will then return to the dog by way of walking around and back to heel position. Anticipation by the dog will result in a Disqualifying score.

5.) **Moving Stand:** The Orders for this exercise are: “Are You Ready?”, “Forward”, signal to Stand and “Exercise Finished”. This exercise begins with the dog sitting in the heel position. The Ring Judge will instruct the handler to heel forward approximately 5 feet, the handler will then command the dog to “Stand”, leave the dog and proceed forward to a designated area, back remaining to the dog, and finally to “call” their dog. The dog must recall with reasonable briskness and sit in the heel position from 4 to 6 feet. Ring Judge will then release the team. Anticipation by the dog will result in a Disqualifying score.

6.) **Recall Over Jump:** The Orders for this exercise are: “Are You Ready?”, “Leave Your Dog”, “Recall Your Dog”, “Finish”, and “Exercise Finished”. This exercise begins with the dog sitting in the heel position approximately 8 feet on either side of jump as designated by the Ring Judge. The Ring Judge will instruct the handler to leave the dog and proceed forward to a designated area 8 feet on the other side of the jump, facing the dog. The Ring Judge will give the order to “call” their dog. The dog must recall over the jump with reasonable briskness and sit in the heel position. Ring Judge will then order a finish and finally release the team. Anticipation by the dog, refusal to jump or knocking the bar off the supports will result in a Disqualifying score.

7.) **Long Sit (1 minute):** The Orders for this exercise are: “Are You Ready?”, “Sit Your Dog”, and “Exercise Finished”. This exercise begins with the dog in a sit at the heel position, upon instruction from the Ring Judge, the handler will Sit their dog. The handler may remain at the dog’s side in the heel position. The team will be released upon completion of a 1 minute timed sit. Any minor movement sideways by the dog during the time will receive a minor deduction. A change of position or turns 90 degrees or more, will result in a Disqualifying score.

8.) **Signal Sit Exercise:** The Orders for this exercise are: “Are You Ready?”, “Down Your Dog”, “Leave Your Dog”, “Sit Your Dog”, “Recall” and “Finish” in that order. The Ring Judge will instruct the handler to down their dog at a designated place, to leave the dog and order the position change and recall in exact order. The distance between the handler and dog will be no less than 8 feet. The handler may not give verbal cues, only hand signals may be used. Any failure to perform commands, handler speaking or anticipation will result in a Disqualifying score.

9.) **Leave Dog for Leash:** The Orders for this exercise are: “Are You Ready?”, “Leave Your Dog”, and “Exercise Finished”. Only other instruction from the judge will be given in the briefing to determine if the class will sit or down their dog prior to leaving the dog. After the Ring Judge asks “Are You Ready?”, the handler will move the dog at a heel to the designated area, place the dog in the predetermined sit or down and leave the dog to retrieve the leash. Upon returning to the dog, the handler must walk behind the dog to return to the heel position, attach the leash. Once the leash is attached, the team will then return to the set heel position, (handler standing and dog sitting at the heel). The Ring Judge will then release the team. The dog must not break position before being commanded and/or released. Breaking position or moves 90 degrees or more, will be cause for a Disqualifying Score. Minor sideways movement will receive a Slight to Major Deduction.

**Obedience Level 3:** This class will consist of (9) nine exercises and will be performed off leash. The Ring Judge will decide the order in which the exercises will be run and will remain the same for all Teams entered in the entire class. Exercises 2 – 7 may be run in any order and off leash, with exercise 9 the mandatory end. As each exercise is completed the Ring Judge will release the Team with the phrase; “Exercise Finished”. The Handler may pet, praise and/treat the dog at this time without penalty/disqualification. Teams must earn a minimum qualifying score of 170 out of a possible high of 200 points.

Titles for this level will be as such:

CHUOB3A	4 legs qualified
CHUOB3B	4 legs qualified
CHUOB3B3 Bronze	10 legs qualified
CHUOB3B2 Silver	10 legs qualified
CHUOB3B1 Gold	10 legs qualified

Exercises for this level are:

- |                                |       |
|--------------------------------|-------|
| 1. Heeling                     | 30pts |
| 2. Down On Recall              | 20pts |
| 3. Stand for Handler Exam      | 20pts |
| 4. Directed Jump               | 20pts |
| 5. Position Change With Recall | 20pts |
| 6. Signal Down Exercise        | 20pts |
| 7. Long Down 1 Minute          | 20pts |
| 8. Leave Dog for Leash         | 20pts |
| 9. Honor On Leash              | 30pts |

1.) **Heeling:** Orders for this exercise are: “Are You Ready?”, “Forward”, “Halt” (2), “About Turn”, “Right Turn”, “Left Turn”, “Double About Turn”, “Right or Left Circle Turn”, “Slow”, “Normal” and “Fast”. Pace changes must demonstrate definitive changes of pace. All commands may be given in any order; however, the order will remain the same for the entire class. Teams will be dismissed with a final order of “Exercise Finished”. This exercise is performed off leash. Arms may swing freely. Hand/arm cues may be used during the heeling exercises only when cuing the Halt-Sit and Forward. Each additional cue will receive a 2 point deduction. Dog must heel in a (1) one foot arch next to Handlers side. About Turns may be performed in any direction.

2.) **Down On Recall:** The Orders for this exercise are: “Are you Ready?”, “Leave Your Dog”, “Call Your Dog”, “Drop (signal)”, “Call (signal)” and “Exercise Finished.” This exercise begins with the Dog and Handler in the heel position facing the Ring Judge. The Ring Judge will instruct the Handler to walk to the designated area approximately 15’ across the ring. On the Call command, the Handler will recall the dog, the dog must recall at a reasonable brisk pace. The Ring Judge will give the drop signal, handler must drop/down the dog, the dog must not down closer than 3 feet from handler. The Ring Judge will signal to call the dog, and the dog must recall to the front. Teams will be dismissed with a final order of “Exercise Finished”. Failure of the dog to come or down/drop on the first cue will result in a Disqualifying Score. Minor to Major deductions will be made should the dog not drop promptly. A Major deduction will be

made for any dog that does not recall to the handler directly, lags or changes position without being cued.

3.) **Stand for Handler's Exam:** The Orders for this exercise are: "Are You Ready?", "Forward", "Stand and Leave Your Dog when ready", "Return and Examine Your Dog", and "Exercise Finished". This exercise begins with the dog sitting in the heel position. The Ring Judge will instruct the handler to heel forward approximately 8 feet, handler will then be ordered to stand and leave the dog and proceed forward to a designated area, turn and face the dog, and finally to return and examine their dog. Upon instruction to return and examine, the handler must be able to 1.) Look at the teeth 2.) Pick up a front leg and touch the pad 3.) Run both hands from the head to the tail of the dog. The dog must remain in a stand. Ring Judge will acknowledge each segment of examination with a "Thank You". Once all parts are completed, the Ring Judge will then release the team. Minor movement during the examine is considered normal, any resistance or taking steps will result in a minor to major deduction. Any change in position by the dog will result in a Disqualifying score. Dogs because of their size or their Handler's physical disabilities may elect to place their dog on a table for this exercise.

4.) **Directed Jump:** The Orders for this exercise are: "Are You Ready?", "Leave Your Dog", "Send", "Finish" and "Exercise Finished". Handler will sit the dog in heel position at a designated place at least 15' on the other side of the jump and the handler will stand approximately 6' to the side of the jump facing the dog. The Ring Judge will instruct the handler to "Send" the dog. Handler cues the dog to jump, handler must remain straight ahead when cuing and remain so until after the dog jumps. Handler may turn as dog is in midair, to face the dog as he returns to the front position. Only a single bar jump may be used in this exercise. Ring Judge will instruct to finish and then release the team. Failure to return to front position or anticipate a finish will result in a Disqualifying Score.

5.) **Position Change With Recall:** The Orders for this exercise are: "Are You Ready?", "Stand Your Dog", "Leave Your Dog", "Down", "Sit", "Come" and "Finish" in that order. The Ring Judge will instruct the handler to stand their dog at a designated place, to leave the dog and order the position changes in exact order. The Finish can be designated by Ring Judge or Handlers Choice. The distance between the handler and dog will be no less than 8 feet and not greater than 15 feet. Any failure to perform commands or anticipation will result in a Disqualifying score.

6.) **Signal Down Exercise:** The Orders for this exercise are: "Are You Ready?", "Sit Your Dog", "Leave Your Dog", "Down Your Dog", "Recall" and "Finish" in that order. The Ring Judge will instruct the handler to sit their dog at a designated place, to leave the dog and order the position change and recall in exact order. The distance between the handler and dog will be no less than 8 feet and not greater than 15 feet. The handler **may not give verbal cues**, only hand signals may be used. Any failure to perform commands, handler speaking or anticipation will result in a Disqualifying score.

7.) **Long Down (1 minute):** The Orders for this exercise are: "Are You Ready?", "Down Your Dog", and "Exercise Finished". This exercise begins with the dog in a sit at the heel position, upon instruction from the Ring Judge, the handler will Down their dog. The handler may remain at the dog's side in the heel position. The team will be released upon completion of a 1 minute timed down. Any minor movement sideways by



the dog during the time will receive a minor deduction. A change of position or turns 90 degrees or more, will result in a Disqualifying score.

8.) **Leave Dog for Leash:** The Orders for this exercise are: “Are You Ready?”, “Leave Your Dog”, and “Exercise Finished”. Only other instruction from the judge will be given in the briefing to determine if the class will sit or down their dog prior to leaving the dog. After the Ring Judge asks “Are You Ready?”, the handler will move the dog at a heel to the designated area, place the dog in the predetermined sit or down and leave the dog to retrieve the leash. Upon returning to the dog, the handler must walk behind the dog to return to the heel position, attach the leash. Once the leash is attached, the team will then return to the set heel position, (handler standing and dog sitting at the heel). The Ring Judge will then release the team. The dog must not break position before being commanded and/or released. Breaking position or moves 90 degrees or more, will be cause for a Disqualifying Score. Minor sideways movement will receive a Slight to Major Deduction.

9.) **Honor On Leash:** The Orders for this exercise are: “Are You Ready?”, “Sit or Down Your Dog”, and “Exercise Finished”. This exercise will be performed on leash and will always be the last exercise of the class. The Ring Judge will order the handler to sit or down the dog, in the heel position. The Ring Judge will proceed to score the next team in the class for the Heeling portion of their competition. The scoring for the Honor dog begins with the command “Forward” to the next team and ends when the order of “Exercise Finished” is given to that team. The Honor Steward will watch the Honor team and repeats the “Exercise Finished” command releasing the Honor Team. The Team will then leave the ring. The dog must remain in commanded position. Anticipated change in position will result in a Disqualifying score.

**Obedience Level 4:** This class will consist of (8) eight exercises and will be performed off leash. The Ring Judge will decide the order in which the exercises will be run and will remain the same for all Teams entered in the entire class. Exercises 2 – 6 may be run in any order, with exercise 7 then 8 the mandatory end. As each exercise is completed the Ring Judge will release the Team with the phrase; “Exercise Finished”. The Handler may pet, praise and/treat the dog at this time without penalty/disqualification. Teams must earn a minimum qualifying score of 170 out of a possible high of 200 points.

Titles for this level will be as such:

CHUOB4A	4 legs qualified
CHUOB4B	4 legs qualified
CHUOB4B3 Bronze	10 legs qualified
CHUOB4B2 Silver	10 legs qualified
CHUOB4B1 Gold	10 legs qualified

Exercises for this level are:

- |                              |       |
|------------------------------|-------|
| 1. Heeling                   | 30pts |
| 2. Directed Retrieve         | 30pts |
| 3. Directed Tunnel           | 20pts |
| 4. Retrieve on Flat          | 20pts |
| 5. Retrieve over Jump        | 20pts |
| 6. Scent/Item Discrimination | 30pts |
| 7. Leave Dog for Leash       | 20pts |
| 8. Honor Off Leash           | 30pts |

1.) **Heeling:** Orders for this exercise are: “Are You Ready?”, “Forward”, “Halt” (2), “About Turn”, “Right Turn”, “Left Turn”, “Double About Turn”, “Right or Left Circle Turn”, “Slow”, “Normal” and “Fast”. Pace changes must demonstrate definitive changes of pace. All commands may be given in any order; however, the order will remain the same for the entire class. Teams will be dismissed with a final order of “Exercise Finished”. This exercise is performed off leash. Arms may swing freely. Hand/arm cues may be used during the heeling exercises only when cuing the Halt-Sit and Forward. Each additional cue will receive a 2 point deduction. Dog must heel in a (1) one foot arch next to Handlers side. About Turns may be performed in any direction.

2.) **Directed Retrieve:** The Orders for this exercise are: “Are you Ready?”, “1”, “2” or “3”, “Take It”, and “Exercise Finished.” This exercise begins with the Handler and dog in the heel position, sitting in the middle of the ring. The Team will be facing opposite direction of the Ring Judge and Ring Steward. The Judge and Steward will drop one white cloth glove in 2 of the corners of the ring, approximately 3’ from the corners. The 3<sup>rd</sup> glove will be placed between the #1 and #2 glove approximately 3’ from the edge of the ring. The gloves will be designated #1, #2, #3 from left to right in the ring, and the retrieved glove will be varied amongst the Teams. Upon instruction the handler will turn to face the gloved designated for retrieval, and send the dog to retrieve the glove. The dog must go directly to retrieve that glove and promptly return to the front position. The Ring Judge will then give the order to take the glove from the dog. The team is then released. Minute deduction to the dog that drops the glove, picks it back up and brings

to front position. Minor deductions to handlers who do not pivot on the turn to face the glove, as well as to the dog for not repositioning the sit on the pivots, a dog that does not go directly to and retrieve the glove and back directly to the front position. Any dog that does not retrieve the correct glove will receive a Disqualifying Score.

3.) **Directed Tunnel:** The Orders for this exercise are: “Are You Ready?”, “Send”, “Finish” and “Exercise Finished”. Handler will sit the dog in heel position at a designated place at least 15’ centered on the side of the tunnel. The Ring Judge will instruct the handler to “Send” the dog. Handler cues the dog to “tunnel”, handler must remain straight ahead when cuing and remain so until after the dog returns to front. Handler may turn only ¼ turn to face the dog as the dog exits the tunnel, to face the dog as he returns to the front position. The order to finish your dog will then be given, the handler may choose the direction to finish. Only a tunnel longer than 15’ may be used in this exercise. The tunnel will have the openings facing opposite ends of the ring, and may have slight curve or shape if desired. Ring Judge will instruct to finish and then release the team. Failure to return to front position or anticipate a finish will result in a Disqualifying Score.

4.) **Retrieve on the Flat:** The Orders for this exercise are: “Are You Ready?”, “Leave Your Dog”, “Send”, “Take”, “Finish” and “Exercise Finished”. Handler will sit the dog in heel position at a designated place at one end of ring, handler will then toss the dumbbell/retrieve article approximately 8’ toward the center of the ring. The Ring Judge will instruct the handler to “Send” the dog. Handler cues the dog to go out and retrieve the article. The dog must retrieve the article without further cue. The Handler must remain straight ahead when cuing and remain so until after the dog retrieves and returns. The dog must return to the front position with dumbbell. The Ring Judge will then instruct the handler to “Take” the dumbbell. Dog must give willingly. Ring Judge will instruct to finish and then release the team. Minute to minor deductions will be made for dropping of the article/dumbbell or not releasing it. Failure to retrieve, return to front position or anticipate a finish will result in a Disqualifying Score.

5.) **Retrieve over Jump:** The Orders for this exercise are: “Are You Ready?”, “Leave Your Dog”, Send”, “Take”, “Finish” and “Exercise Finished”. Handler will sit the dog in heel position at a designated place at least 8’ on one side of the jump, and place their retrieve dumbbell on the other side of the jump at a distance of 6’ centered and the handler will stand approximately 2’ to the side of the jump facing the dog. The Ring Judge will instruct the handler to “Send” the dog. Handler cues the dog to jump, and the dog must retrieve the article without further cue. The Handler must remain straight ahead when cuing and remain so until after the dog jumps and retrieves. Handler may pivot 90 degrees as dog is in midair, to face the dog as he returns to the front position with dumbbell. The Ring Judge will then instruct the handler to “Take” the dumbbell. Dog must give willingly. Only a single bar jump may be used in this exercise. Ring Judge will instruct to finish and then release the team. Minute to minor deductions will be made for dropping of the article/dumbbell or not releasing it. Failure to retrieve, return to front position or anticipate a finish will result in a Disqualifying Score.

6.) **Scent Discrimination:** The Orders for this exercise are: “Are You Ready?”, “Seek or Find It”, “Take”, and “Exercise Finished”. The handler must provide 5 identical scent articles or dumbbell scent articles or a variety of daily objects. The articles must be proportionate to the size of the dog. Articles may be “everyday” type articles, but

identical and numbered 1 – 5. Prior to start of the exercise the Handler will tell the Judge which article will be indicated as designated article to find. Four of the articles will be given to the Ring Steward who will randomly place the articles about six inches from each other. The handler will keep the 5<sup>th</sup> article. All articles will be 15' away from the Team. The Team may watch this process. Once the four articles are placed on the ground, the Team will pivot 180 degrees from these articles, the handler will scent mark the 5<sup>th</sup> article. As the Ring Judge is handed the article, who gives the article to the Ring Steward to place the article amongst the rest. The Ring Judge will ask which method the handler will use to send their dog, the handler must answer with one of the following: “Send Directly” or “After a sit”. This exercise begins with the Ring Judge ordering the handler to send the dog, handler sends dog after giving the scent to the dog, and pivots toward the articles. If a “Send Directly” order is given, upon pivoting, dog must not sit and go directly to retrieve the scented article. The dog must return to front and handler must wait for the “Take” order to be given. If the “After a sit” command is indicated the dog must turn and sit before going to the pile of articles. The handler may not talk to the dog once the dog reaches the pile of articles. The Ring Judge will release the Team with “Exercise Finished”. Minute to minor deductions will be given for dropped articles or not releasing the article on cue. Failure of the dog to retrieve the correct article, or not retrieving any article, or giving a second “Seek” will result in a Disqualifying Score.

7) **Honor Off Leash:** The Orders for this exercise are: “Are You Ready?”, “Sit or Down Your Dog”, and “Exercise Finished”. This exercise will be performed off leash and will always be the last exercise of the class. The Ring Judge will order the handler to sit or down the dog, in the heel position and hand the leash to the Honor Steward. The Ring Judge will proceed to score the next team in the class. The scoring for the Honor dog begins with the command “Forward” to the next team and ends when the order of “Exercise Finished is given to that team. The Honor Steward will hold the leash for the Honor team and repeats the “Exercise Finished” command releasing the Honor Team. The Team will then leave the ring. The dog must remain in commanded position. Anticipated change in position will result in a Disqualifying score.

8) .) **Leave Dog for Leash:** The Orders for this exercise are: “Are You Ready?”, “Leave Your Dog”, and “Exercise Finished”. Only other instruction from the judge will be given in the briefing to determine if the class will sit or down their dog prior to leaving the dog. After the Ring Judge asks “Are You Ready?”, the handler will move the dog at a heel to the designated area **20 feet** away from leash, place the dog in the predetermined sit or down and leave the dog to retrieve the leash. Upon returning to the dog, the handler must walk behind the dog to return to the heel position, attach the leash. Once the leash is attached, the team will then return to the set heel position, (handler standing and dog sitting at the heel). The Ring Judge will then release the team. The dog must not break position before being commanded and/or released. Breaking position or moves 90 degrees or more, will be cause for a Disqualifying Score. Minor sideways movement will receive a Slight to Major Deduction.

## SECTION 3

**General Judging Guidelines and Definitions:** Level 1 class shall have a possible 100 Total points possible with a minimum of 70 points to qualify, Levels 2 – 4 shall have a possible 200 Total points with a minimum of 170 points to qualify.

**Anticipation By Dog:** A Disqualifying score will result for any anticipation by the dog. Exceptions to this are: a finish, all heeling, all figure 8 pattern heeling and sitting, and when the Exercise Finished command is given. Anticipation in these exercises will incur a minor to major deduction. Any minor foot movement or scooting will incur a minute to major deduction.

**Barking:** more than 3 to 4 consecutive barks will receive a **3 point** deduction. Continuous barking will result in a (DQ) Disqualifying score.

**Cues:** Handlers are permitted, and encouraged, to talk to, praise and encourage the dog through out the trial/performance. Additional guidelines pertaining to cues:

- \* Both hand and voice cues may be given *simultaneously* for all parts of any exercise.

- \* Additional cues *to get* a behavior, whether it be verbal, hand/body posturing, stomping feet, clapping hands, or other noise will result in a **3 point** deduction.

- \* Foot movement to achieve a behavior is considered an additional cue.

A **1 to 3 point** deduction may be assessed depending on the cue.

Example of a 1 point deduction: *small movement of the handler's feet while cuing the dog to perform a finish.*

Example of a 3 point deduction: *Stepping forward on a Drop/Down on Recall.*

- \* The dogs name may be used with a cue and will not be considered nor penalized as an additional cue, unless it is used as a cue.

Example of no penalty: Fido Sit.

Example of a penalized cue: Fido (pause longer than 2 seconds) followed by a Sit Command.

- \* Hand cues must not be held in place for longer than 2 seconds and must return to their original position once cue is given. Hand cues held in place for longer than 2 seconds will result in an additional cue deduction of **3 points**.

- \* When using the "Stay" command, as long as the dog is not moving, a repeated "Stay" will not be penalized.

- \* Any loud and/or intimidating commands, cues or signals will receive a minimum **5 point** deduction and up to a DQ and/or dismissal from the ring and/or trial grounds.

**Deduction:** A Minute deduction in Traditional Obedience is 1/2 to (1) one point. A Minor deduction is (2 -3) two to three points. A Major point deduction is (4) four points or higher.

**DQ:** Disqualifying score. Any score not meeting the minimum requirements. No points will be earned or kept track of toward a possible title or placement in class.

**Division Combining:** All divisions may be combined and run in the same ring for the same class for ring efficiency. Separate placements will be given to at least the top 4 teams in each division, excluding the Trial Officials Division.

**Entering/Leaving the ring:** Dogs must be leashed when entering or leaving the ring. This includes dogs being carried in and out of the ring, all the same rules apply. Leashes will only be removed as part of an exercise and placed in designated area or given to a Ring Steward, and replaced prior to leaving the ring. Dogs leaving the ring unleashed, and not under control will receive a DQ. Dogs leaving the ring under control, but have not passed the gate area and return for the leash will receive a 5 point deduction.

**Excusals:** Dogs must be excused if they become ill or eliminate in the ring. They may not complete the course. Dogs with sutures, open wounds, or bandages will be excused from the ring immediately. Dogs that become aggressive, show signs of extreme fear or other uncontrollable behavior will result in the Team being excused.

**Food/Treat/Petting Rewards:** Food or petting may be given without penalty at the end of stationary exercises only. Food must be kept in a pocket and not in a treat pouch until current exercise is finished and before proceeding on to next station. The handler may treat the dog upon entering the ring and before responding to the Ring Judge's call of "Are you ready?"

**Gate Zone:** Area approximately 5 foot arc in front of ring entrance or exit where no standing/loitering is allowed. This prevents double handling. This area will be monitored by the Trial personnel.

**Hand/Leash Position:** The leash should be held so as to demonstrate no tension/tightness on the dog's collar. The leash can be held in either or both hands. The leash may change hands throughout the course. Arm movement may be considered as cues, and may be used alone or with verbal cues. Delay in hand or arm position may result in an additional cue penalty.

**Handler Error:** Errors that may result in deductions incurred directly due to the handlers performance in the ring and not the dogs performance. Ring Judges may deduct minute to major points for handler errors in any performance.

**Heel Position:** The dog's body shall remain in line with the handler's left side - regardless of moving, sitting, downing, or standing. The dog's right shoulder line should be within a 12" arc of the handler's left hip line. Seam of trousers is usually a fair guideline for handler's left hip line. Circle turns or 270 turns should be no larger than a standard hula hoop.

**Interference:** Any interference that appears to aid the Team – such as a dog that would have left the ring if not for person/s or dog/s outside of ring blocking it will result in the working Team receiving a DQ. This is double handling.

**Judge's Briefing:** Prior to each class the Ring Judge will hold a short briefing to discuss any areas on the course that they may feel needs explaining. The class will be allowed to ask questions about the course at this time.

**Jump:** A bar jump with fabrication regulations the same as required for agility courses. The uprights must be between 4' – 5' apart with no wings. Jump heights will be 4", 8", 12", 16" and 18". The following scale may be used in determining the proper height for bars to be placed, though a competitor may request a higher setting:

Dog's Height	Bar Height
Under 11"	4"
11" to under 15"	8"
15" to under 20"	12"
20" to under 24"	16"
23" and over	18"

**Junior Handler Program:** This program applies to all handler's 17 years and younger. The youth must be able to control the dog they are showing. Minimum standards still need to be met in the ring. This is a separate division. Judges should take into consideration that these teams are young, inexperienced and still developing. The Judge's should also recognize the handler's age when deductions are made for handler errors.

**Retries:** There are limited retries of an exercise made prior to beginning the next station on the course. The "A" division has the option of one retry of two exercises on the course. The "B" division has the option of one retry total on the course. The "JR" division has a total of 3 retries on the course. Protocol for retries is as such:

The station/exercise sign being Retried must be re-approached and the exercise began from the beginning. If it is successfully completed on the retry, the points deducted prior to the retry will be deleted (up to 10), and 3 points for the retry along with any error points shall be deducted.

In the case of DQ's, retries may not be used to change those deductions. Deductions listed as 10 point errors may be retried with the same parameters. Exceeding the retry limits will result in a DQ.

**No Spectator Zone:** This refers to the 5 foot space or area between the ring border and the area where spectators may be allowed to observe or stand. This area will be monitored by Trial personnel.

**Ties:** Ties between Teams will be broken by performing the heeling pattern. This will be division specific. An example of a division specific tie is two competitors from same division with scores resulting in a tie.

**Touching of the Dog or Collar for control:** In the off leash portions of Level 2 and higher, the handler may guide their dog gently by the collar after the last exercise in the class prior to attaching the leash. Touching the dog or collar at any other time for control will result in a **3 point** deduction.

## SECTION 4

**Point Summary:** Deduction guidelines.

### **Minute Deduction: 1/2 Point – 1 point :**

Heeling errors: tight leash, forging, lagging, wandering, wide, casual “bump”, wide circles/loops or turns.

Circle Turns or 360 Degree turns wider than hula hoop size  
Additional cues (1-3): including foot, hand, voice, posturing

Slight movement from dog on any Walk Around or Leave Dog exercises once the dog is in position. (a step forward, or to the side).

Handler error may be 1 – 5 points

### **Minor Deduction: 1 - 3 Point :**

Extra cues to achieve a behavior

Pivot made larger or performed as a circle

Failure of Team, Handler or Dog to maintain a pace change

Out of Position errors for positions of 90 degrees from heel position

Delay in response to a command from the dog

Handler giving a hand/arm cue while heeling other than for “forward” or “sit”; will result in an additional cue deduction of **3 points**.

Touching the dog for control

Barks of 3 – 4 quantity

Stepping forward on the Drop/Down on Recall as an additional cue



### **Major Deduction: 4 or more Point:**

Failure of the dog to go to the heel position when performing the “Call to Heel” exercise will result in a **5 point** deduction.

Position change not completed; such as a missed front, stand or down

Loud command or intimidating signaling

Dog moving: up to 1/2 of its body length **or** 1 to 2 steps forward, **or** moving up to 1/4 turn to the side during any Leave Dog/Walk Around Exercises.

Pace change by only one half of the Team

Circle Turns or 360 Degree Turns performed in the wrong direction

Handler pausing on any of the Moving Leave Dog Exercises

Leaving the ring without the leash attached, not yet passing the gate area, but returning to be leashed and then leaving

Making a marked leash or collar correction of any kind during a performance

Dog sitting prior to Down on Drop/Down on Recall Exercise

Failure of dog to respond to first “come” cue

Failure of dog to “down” on any Moving Down exercise

Dog dropping less than (3') three feet from handler on Down/Drop on Recall

### **DQ (Disqualifying Score):**

Dog leaving the ring during performance

Dog refusing to perform an exercise

Dog leaving the ring after the course has been run without a leash attached

Dog eliminates in the ring

Physical or harsh verbal corrections. The Ring Judge may excuse the Team from the ring and up to removal from the trial

Continuous barking of more than 4 barks at any one exercise

Jump bar is knocked off its supports

Handler constantly changing pace to match the dog's pace

No change of pace by Team, handler or dog

Signs of aggression; extreme fear; or any uncontrollable behavior. Ring Judge may excuse the Team.

Constant and/or consistent tight leash

Food/treat reward given prior to end of exercise

Food/treat out of pocket prior to end of exercise

Dropped food/treat

Dog changing position **or** moving more than 1/2 of its body length **or** more than 1 to 2 steps forward, **or** moving more than 1/4 turn to the side during any Leave Dog/Walk Around Exercises.

Dog not completing tunnel

Dog not taking jump

Dog stepping on broad jump

