**2025 NOTC MTG – ATTACHMENT 6c – DOGS QLD**

**DOGS QUEENSLAND – OBEDIENCE RULES SUBMISSIONS 2024**

**(QLD) OLD RULE**

**4. CLASSES**

1. COMMUNITY COMPANION DOG CLASS: For dogs, six months of age or over, and of either sex which are not eligible for the title of ‘Community Companion Dog’ (C.C.D.). Under no circumstances except where an application for a C.C.D. Title has been rejected on a technicality, shall a dog, which has gained a qualifying score in a Novice Class, be eligible to compete in the Community Companion Dog Class. A dog is not permitted to compete in the Community Companion Dog Class and a Novice Class at the same trial.
2. NOVICE CLASS: For dogs, six months of age or over, and of either sex which are not eligible for the title of ‘Companion Dog' (C.D.). Under no circumstances except where an application for a C.D. Title has been rejected on a technicality, shall a dog which has competed in an Open Class be eligible to compete in the Novice Class.

**(QLD) NEW RULE**

1. COMMUNITY COMPANION DOG CLASS: For dogs, ~~six~~ twelve months of age or over, and of either sex which are not eligible for the title of ‘Community Companion Dog’ (C.C.D.). Under no circumstances except where an application for a C.C.D. Title has been rejected on a technicality, shall a dog, which has gained a qualifying score in a Novice Class, be eligible to compete in the Community Companion Dog Class. A dog is not permitted to compete in the Community Companion Dog Class and a Novice Class at the same trial.
2. NOVICE CLASS: For dogs, ~~six~~ twelve months of age or over, and of either sex which are not eligible for the title of ‘Companion Dog' (C.D.). Under no circumstances except where an application for a C.D. Title has been rejected on a technicality, shall a dog which has competed in an Open Class be eligible to compete in the Novice Class.

**RATIONALE:**

A dog must be a minimum of twelve (12) months of age to enter in an Obedience Trial.

The education of dog breeding, psychology, growth and behaviour is more available to consumers today.

Education on the welfare of dogs, including their growth patterns, their mental abilities, and their physicality, gives proof that we should not put stress on the dog’s mental ability or physical structure until the growth plates have occurred.

Dogs Australia should be promoting the welfare and care of our dogs so that they have a long and healthy life.

**(QLD) OLD RULE**

**8. EXHIBITORS AND HANDLERS**

**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 marker’ on whichever side preferred, and sit the dog in the heel position. The exception is for Group exercises when the Handlers will take up position with their right foot next to the stay marker. Unless otherwise stated in the description of the exercise, the dog must be sitting in the heel position before the exercise commences.

**(QLD) Proposed New Addition:**

**8. EXHIBITORS AND HANDLERS**

**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 marker’ on whichever side preferred, and sit the dog in the heel position. The exception is for Group exercises when the Handlers will take up position with their right foot next to the stay marker. Unless otherwise stated in the description of the exercise, the dog must be sitting in the heel position before the exercise commences. For those classes where all the exercises are done with the dog off lead the dog may, when entering and exiting the ring, wear a collar and lead or a collar and separate slip lead.

**Rationale:**

Most of the other dog sports, where the dog works off lead, as well as a collar have incorporated the use of a slip lead when a dog is entering or exiting the ring. These choices are used quite successfully. This gives Handlers a more suitable choice of control for their particular breeds or temperament types while still ensuring the dog is under control.

**(QLD) OLD RULE**

**8. EXHIBITORS AND HANDLERS**

**Heel Position:**

The dog is at the Handler's left side as close as practicable to the Handler.

**(QLD) New Rule:**

**Heel Position:**

The dog may be either on the Handler’s left or right side and as close as practicable to the Handler.

**Rationale**:

To ensure the future viability of our sport it is vital that the sport evolves and develops to suit the needs of our participants. There is really no reason why the dog cannot heel on either the left or right side of the handler. It does not affect, in any way, the manner in which the exercises are performed. While there was an historic reason for using the left side that is not applicable to the dog sport world as it stands today. We need to modernise or slowly perish. Many of the other current dog sport disciplines already include the dog working on either side.

**(QLD) CONSEQUENTIAL CHANGES**

**10. GUIDE TO JUDGES**

(f) during the heel routines, the Handler must walk briskly with the dog at their left or right side. In the 'Heel on Lead' exercise the lead must be completely loose. Guiding the dog by means of the lead shall be penalised;

**(QLD) OLD RULE**

**10. GUIDE TO JUDGES**

(f) during the heel routines, the Handler must walk briskly with the dog at their left side. In the 'Heel on Lead' exercise the lead must be completely loose. Guiding the dog by means of the lead shall be penalised;

**(QLD) New Rule:**

(f) during the heel routines, the Handler must walk briskly with the dog at their left side. Dog and Handler should walk in a natural manner. In the 'Heel on Lead' exercise the lead must be completely loose. Guiding the dog by means of the lead shall be penalised;

**Rationale**:

There has been instances now occurring in the ring where either or both the handler and the dog have been moving in a way that is exaggerated and, in the case of the dog, potentially harmful to the dog’s body structure. It is beholden upon the administrators of our sport to ensure that we do not accept anything which could possibly cause long term harm to either the handler or the dog. With the ever increasing critical eye of the public upon us we need to be seen to do be doing everything within our power to ensure the safety and welfare of both humans and dogs.

**(QLD) OLD RULE**

# **11.1 EQUIPMENT**

**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 white, except for the bar used in the Bar Jump.

 **(QLD) New Rule**

It is the Judge’s responsibility to see that jumps are set for each dog in accordance with these rules. All jumps must be white, except for the bar used in the Bar Jump. All jumps must be collapsable.

**Rationale:** All jumps must be displaceable, both bar and solid, to reduce risk of injury. Safety issues concerning our dogs need to be first and foremost.

**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 450mm | 300mm | 600mm | 3 |
| 450mm and under 550mm | 400mm | 800mm | 3 |
| 550mm and over | 500mm | 1000mm | 3 |

**Broad Jump:**

The Broad Jump must consist of three separate hurdles a minimum of one and a half (1.5) metres and a maximum of two (2) metres wide. All other dimensions are as per the diagram below. For convenience, the three jumps may be built to nest together.

When decreasing the number of hurdles in the jump, the highest hurdle will be removed first

**(QLD) Proposal to Eliminate the Broad Jump exercise and replace with Scent Discrimination**

**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 450mm | 300mm | ~~600mm~~ | ~~3~~ |
| 450mm and under 550mm | 400mm | ~~800mm~~ | ~~3~~ |
| 550mm and over | 500mm | ~~1000mm~~ | ~~3~~ |

~~Broad Jump:~~

~~The Broad Jump must consist of three separate hurdles a minimum of one and a half (1.5) metres and a maximum of two (2) metres wide. All other dimensions are as per the diagram below. For convenience, the three jumps may be built to nest together.~~

~~When decreasing the number of hurdles in the jump, the highest hurdle will be removed first.~~

**~~~~**

 (Delete above drawings of broad jump.)

**Rationale for Deleting and Replacing the Broad Jump exercise**

If the Broad Jump is deleted as proposed, the description of it must be removed from the front part of the Rulebook.

The Broad Jump exercise is not progressive in any way – nothing at levels below lead up to it and no exercises at higher levels rely on the skills developed in this exercise.

Broad jump is not a useful exercise in everyday life. Very few handlers choose to do this exercise.

Handlers with older or less sound dogs prefer to avoid jumping exercises. Jumping a spread from a near standstill then abruptly turning right is physically demanding.

The broad jump is a cumbersome piece of equipment for Clubs to obtain and store given its low frequency of use.

The broad jump clutters up the ring and makes it more difficult to find a place for Directed Retrieve. In at least one known case, a judge tripped over the broad jump while walking backwards for the Drop on Recall and broke her wrist.

The space freed up in the Open test by deleting the broad jump can be better used to lay a progressive foundation for the advanced scent discrimination exercises required in UD and UDX. It is proposed replacing the optional Broad Jump exercise with an optional introductory Scent Discrimination exercise modelled on the UK Kennel Club Test A (handler scent vs no human scent, 6 articles in a line), to give handlers the opportunity and impetus to begin teaching this skill before suddenly confronting the highly complex scent discrimination exercise in UD (15 articles of three types, handler vs other scent).

**(Qld) New Rule (see proposed new exercise in UD)**

**Hoops:**

Side posts and Top bar must be white and consist of plastic conduit material 25 – 40mm in diameter. Hoops must be 1000mm high and 600mm wide and have sufficient bottom bars to be stable.

(Drawing of hoop can be provided. Description in consequential changes)

**Rationale**: Eliminating the jumping exercise in UD will allow handlers to compete with dogs that are older and/or no longer physically able to negotiate jumps safely. The majority of dogs competing in this Class are usually older by the time they achieve this title and they can continue competing in this class safely.

**Consequential Change to UD - Directed Jumping**

**(QLD) New Rule (see proposed new exercise in UD)**

Hoops:

Side posts and top bar must be white and consist of plastic conduit material 25 – 40mm in diameter. Hoops must be 1000mm high and 600mm wide and have sufficient bottom bars to be stable.

(Drawing of hoop can be provided)

**(QLD) OLD RULE**

**11. EQUIPMENT**

**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 750mm 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 marker.

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

**(QLD) New Rule:**

**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 750mm and it will be fitted with a quick release fastener. All dogs must enter and leave the Ring on a lead. In Classes where the lead is removed before commencement of the exercises a collar, harness or slip lead may be used to enter and exit the ring. In exercises that require a dog to be off‑lead, the lead will be taken off and ~~handed to the Steward at the start marker~~ secured by the Handler.

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:**

The use of a slip lead for the dog entering and exiting the ring is already being used successfully in other dog sports. A slip lead can be removed and replaced quickly and without fuss. This is particular useful for dog breeds with long coats or with Handlers who no longer have the physical dexterity in their hands to quickly and calmly clip on or off the fastener on a lead. The dog will still have a collar on during the runout and will still be under effectual control entering and leaving the ring.

The lead being managed by the Handler rather than the Steward came into use during Covid and has proved to be a very positive change with Judges, Handlers and Stewards. The dog obedience fraternity have expressed its desire to keep this action. The safety aspect is also improved as the Handler can replace the lead at the end of the runout much faster than having to wait for a Steward to return the lead to them.

**(QLD) Consequential Change if the new Scent Discrimination exercise in CDX is passed.**

**11. Equipment**

Scent Discrimination (CDX):

Scent Discrimination articles must consist of three sets of articles comprising three wooden, three metal and three leather. The articles must be a minimum of 100mm and a maximum of 200mm long. The other dimensions must not exceed: wood 18mm square; leather 25mm wide and 6mm thick; and metal a maximum external diameter of 18mm. The metal articles may be knurled but no articles are to be coated or covered with any material. The size of the articles may be proportional to the size of the dog.

Articles may be painted white on one end to a width of 25mm. The number or letter will be superimposed in the painted area with a contrasting colour.

Each set of articles must be legibly numbered 1-3 or alphabetically marked A-C and the articles in each set must be identical.

The Scent Discrimination articles shall not be set out until the completion of the previous exercise.

The Handler will supply a full set of Scent Discrimination Articles.

**(QLD) OLD RULE**

**11. Equipment**

Scent Discrimination (UD):

Scent Discrimination articles must consist of three sets of articles comprising five wooden, five metal and five leather. The articles must be a minimum of 100mm and a maximum of 200mm long. The other dimensions must not exceed: wood 18mm square; leather 25mm wide and 6mm thick; and metal a maximum external diameter of 18mm. The metal articles may be knurled but no articles are to be coated or covered with any material. The size of the articles may be proportional to the size of the dog.

Articles may be painted white on one end to a width of 25mm. The number or letter will be superimposed in the painted area with a contrasting colour.

Each set of articles must be legibly numbered 1-5 or alphabetically marked A-E and the articles in each set must be identical.

The Scent Discrimination articles shall not be set out until the completion of the previous exercise.

The Handler will supply a full set of Scent Discrimination Articles.

A mat of canvas or similar material (excluding vinyl plastic) for the Scent Discrimination exercise for each U.D. ring and a spare mat will be provided by the Affiliate and must measure 1.5 metres by 1.5 metres and be pegged at the corners. The mat is to remain on the ground for the duration of judging of the individual exercises and only removed or replaced if fouled. The mat may be removed before the commencement of the Group Exercises.

 **(QLD) NEW RULE
11. Equipment**

Scent Discrimination (UD):

Scent Discrimination articles must consist of three sets of articles comprising five wooden, five metal and five leather.

Each set of articles must be legibly numbered 1-5 or alphabetically marked A-E and the articles in each set must be identical.

The Scent Discrimination articles shall not be set out until the completion of the previous exercise.

The Handler will supply a full set of Scent Discrimination Articles.

The articles may be of one of the following options, at the handler’s choice:

**Option A:**
The length of the articles should suit the size of the dog, starting at 100mm long for small dogs up to 250mm for giant breed dogs. The other dimensions must not exceed: wood 10mm up to 50mm square; leather 10mm up to 25mm wide and 6mm to 20mm thick; and metal a 10mm up to 20mm external diameter. The metal articles may be knurled, leather articles stitched but no articles are to be coated or covered with any material.

**Option B:**
All articles must comprise two square ends and a single bite bar (forming a dumbbell shape). The size of the square ends may range from 45mm to 65mm square and the length of the bite bar from 75mm to 150mm. The bite bar may be round with a diameter from 10mm up to 20mm or square from 10mm up to 20mm squared.

The metal and wood articles may comprise any metal or wood for both ends and bars. The leather articles extra-thick leather ends, and the bite bar may be made solely of leather or be wood or metal and covered with a soft, durable leather. The leather may be stitched.

All articles must be from the same option and may not be mixed.

A mat of canvas or similar material (excluding vinyl plastic) for the Scent Discrimination exercise for each U.D. ring and a spare mat will be provided by the Affiliate and must measure 1.5 metres by 1.5 metres and be pegged at the corners. The mat is to remain on the ground for the duration of judging of the individual exercises and only removed or replaced if fouled. The mat may be removed before the commencement of the Group Exercises.

**Rationale**

There are dogs who correctly identify the scented articles but have trouble picking them up.

The principal feature of the UD scent exercise is for “The dog, on command, to select the correct articles by scent and promptly retrieve.” Therefore, there is no reason for handlers to not have the option of using articles that make it easier for a dog to pick up.

Recently the USA and Canadian rules have been changed from dumbbell shaped articles to “items of everyday use” while the current UK rules require that articles “must be easily picked up by any breed entered in that class”.

The articles in Option A are those used at present, so handlers do not need to make any change if they chose this option.

The articles proposed in Option B are shown in Appendix A.

Appendix A. Proposed articles for option B. The photograph also shows extra un-numbered articles suitable for UDX directed retrieves.

**CONSEQUENTIAL CHANGE IF SUBMISSION 2 TO CDX – SCENT DISCRIMINATION IS ACCEPTED.**

**(QLD) NEW RULE**

**11. Equipment**

**Scent Discrimination (CDX)**

The scent cloths will be the same colour, made of towelling or similar material (e.g. face washcloths) and shall be approximately 300 mm square. The cloths will be folded in half, rolled firmly and secured at each end with a matching coloured elasticised band or similar. The cloths shall be supplied by the Handler.

**(QLD) OLD RULE**

**11. Equipment**

**Seek Back Article/s (UD and UDX):**

The Seek Back article/s must not be white or conspicuous in colour and must be the same shape as, and the dimensions are not to exceed those of a Scent Discrimination article. It may be comprised of any material.

**(QLD) NEW RULE**

**11. Equipment**

**Seek Back Article/s (UD and UDX):**

The Seek Back article/s must not be white or conspicuous in colour and must be the same shape as, and the dimensions are not to exceed those of a UD Scent Discrimination article. It may be comprised of any material.

**RATIONALE:**

This change will ensure that the article is of the same definition as the UD Scent Discrimination and not as the UDX cloth articles.

**COMMUNITY COMPANION DOG CLASS**

**(QLD) OLD RULE**

**1. HEEL ON LEAD**

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.

Orders from Judge:

'Forward', 'Right Turn', ‘Left Turn', ‘Right About Turn’, 'Left About Turn’, ‘Fast Pace’, ‘Slow Pace’, ‘Normal Pace’, ‘Halt’, ‘Down (Down Your Dog)’, ‘Stand (Stand Your Dog)', 'Figure Eight, ‘Lead Out', ‘Exercise Finished’. These orders may be given in any sequence and repeated.

Deductions:

Zero Score: For a dog which is unmanageable.

Over 50%: If the Handler continually tugs on the lead, or adapts his pace to the dog, or continually guides the dog with the lead, 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 occasional guidance with the lead; for the use of more than one command; for failure to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise.

**(QLD) Proposed Rule:**

**1. HEEL ON LEAD**

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. The handler may speak quietly to the dog for encouragement during the heeling exercise.

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.

Orders from Judge:

'Forward', 'Right Turn', ‘Left Turn', ‘Right About Turn’, 'Left About Turn’, ‘Fast Pace’, ‘Slow Pace’, ‘Normal Pace’, ‘Halt’, ‘Down (Down Your Dog)’, ‘Stand (Stand Your Dog)', 'Figure Eight, ‘Lead Out', ‘Exercise Finished’. These orders may be given in any sequence and may be repeated.

Deductions:

Zero Score: For a dog which is unmanageable.

Over 50%: If the Handler continually tugs on the lead, or adapts his pace to the dog, or continually guides the dog with the lead, 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 occasional guidance with the lead; for the use of more than one command (where the dog demonstrates resistance); for failure to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise.

**Consequential Changes**

**Present Rule:**

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.

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.

Except in the CCD Class, any unusual noise, prolonged or extended signal or movement of the Handler may be considered by the Judge as a 'signal', or extra command. In the CCD Class, communication from the Handler to the dog is to be encouraged and not penalised and Handlers may speak quietly to the dog for encouragement during the heeling exercise.

**Consequential Change**

Present Rule:

Dog's Name:

Unless otherwise stated under Description of Exercise, the dog's name may be used only at the commencement of any exercise enjoyment and willingness to work is to be desired; fear and dislike of work shall be penalised;

Dog's Name:

Unless otherwise stated under Description of Exercise, except in the CCD Class, the dog's name may be used only at the commencement of any exercise.

**Consequential Change**

**Present Rule:**

10. GUIDE TO JUDGES

The responsibility for making the test interesting to the public and worthwhile to the Exhibitor is left to the Judge who must not permit the judging to be prolonged so that Handlers and those watching become bored and to cause competing dogs to tire. Judges must remember that they are judging the dogs on their ability to perform the tests set for them and not on their show points or conformation. Judges must not be too lenient in their marking of dogs, as dogs should not attain their Titles upon work of poor quality.

Orders from Judges should be those listed in the Rules. The single word or phrase orders listed are optional at the discretion of the judge. The listed executive word must be used. The Member Body may modify these Rules to the extent necessary to permit disabled persons to compete, provided that they can negotiate the exercises unassisted.

The Judge must look for the following in testing a dog and penalise accordingly –

(a) enjoyment and willingness to work is to be desired; fear and dislike of work shall be penalised;

(b) gentleness and smoothness of handling is to be greatly desired;

(c) a Handler shall give a command once only except in the case of the command to 'Heel' which

may be repeated to the dog each time the Judge tells the Handler to go forward;

(d) signalling correction to a dog from a distance is not permitted;

(e) talking to the dog by the Handler, snapping of fingers, slapping of sides and stamping of feet,

etc., must be penalised;

(f) during the heel routines, the Handler must walk briskly with the dog at his left side. In the 'Heel

on Lead' exercise the lead must be completely loose. Guiding the dog by means of the lead

shall be penalised;

(g) the dog must never anticipate the Handler's commands but must wait for commands;

(h) at the Judge's order for the Handler to halt, the Handler must stop and the dog must sit smartly at

heel without command and not move until commanded to do so.

**Consequential change**10.GUIDE TO JUDGES

The responsibility for making the test interesting to the public and worthwhile to the Exhibitor is left to the Judge who must not permit the judging to be prolonged so that Handlers and those watching become bored and to cause competing dogs to tire. Judges must remember that they are judging the dogs on their ability to perform the tests set for them and not on their show points or conformation. Judges must not be too lenient in their marking of dogs, as dogs should not attain their Titles upon work of poor quality.

Orders from Judges should be those listed in the Rules. The single word or phrase orders listed are optional at the discretion of the judge. The listed executive word must be used. The Member Body may modify these Rules to the extent necessary to permit disabled persons to compete, provided that they can negotiate the exercises unassisted.

The Judge must look for the following in testing a dog and penalise accordingly -

(a) enjoyment and willingness to work is to be desired; fear and dislike of work shall be penalised;

(b) gentleness and smoothness of handling is to be greatly desired;

(c) except for the CCD Class, a Handler shall give a command once only except in the case of the

command to 'Heel' which may be repeated to the dog each time the Judge tells the Handler to go

forward;

(d) signalling correction to a dog from a distance is not permitted;

(e) except in the CCD Class, talking to the dog by the Handler, snapping of fingers, slapping of sides

and stamping of feet, etc. must be penalised;

 (f) during the heel routines, the Handler must walk briskly with the dog at his left side. In the 'Heel

on Lead' exercise the lead must be completely loose. Guiding the dog by means of the lead

shall be penalised;

(g) the dog must never anticipate the Handler's commands but must wait for commands;

(h) at the Judge's order for the Handler to halt, the Handler must stop and the dog must sit smartly at

heel without command and not move until commanded to do so.

In the CCD Class, a Handler may speak quietly to the dog for encouragement or use extra signals and not be penalised unless the dog is demonstrating resistance.

**Rationale:**

The CCD (Community Companion Dog) Class is a class which members may enter but is not a mandatory class for progression to the higher classes. This class consists of the very basic obedience skills from both the handler and the dog. Therefore, experienced members do not enter this class, although many do enter to give their dog competition experience. It is noted that the CCD class is an entry obedience competition level for new handlers and when successful the team can gain a title.

As there are now so many different disciplines available to our members and the obedience entry numbers are generally declining, allowing Handlers to communicate with their dogs in a positive manner will have more appeal to new members wishing to compete. This attitude and behaviour was demonstrated at Crufts this year, where the handler and dog team completed a series of basic skills with the handler talking to their dog and giving extra subtle hand signals. This event is shown around the world displaying happy teams competing at the basic skill level of obedience.

Australia should not get left behind with this initiative.

These changes will not, and its proven that it does not, diminish the standard expected from the team in the higher classes. It will hopefully encourage more Handlers and their dogs to compete.

There are many other countries outside the UK which have successfully taken this approach with their first level Obedience Classes.

As this class is not a mandatory class and stands alone there should be no need to drop the title when the team achieves other titles

**(QLD) OLD RULE**

1. **HEEL ON LEAD Maximum Points: 30**

**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 themselves.

**Orders from Judge:**

'Forward', 'Right Turn', ‘Left Turn', ‘Right About Turn’, 'Left About Turn’, ‘Fast Pace’, ‘Slow Pace’, ‘Normal Pace’, ‘Halt’, ‘Down (Down your Dog)’, ‘Stand (Stand your Dog)'~~, 'Figure Eight, ‘Lead Out'~~, ‘Exercise Finished’. These orders may be given in any sequence and repeated.

**Deductions:**

**Zero Score:** For a dog which is unmanageable.

**Over 50%:** If the Handler continually tugs on the lead, or adapts their pace to the dog, or continually guides the dog with the lead, 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 occasional guidance with the lead; for the use of more than one command; for failure to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise.

**(QLD) NEW RULE**

1. **HEEL ON LEAD Maximum Points: 30**

**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 themselves.~~

**Orders from Judge:**

'Forward', 'Right Turn', ‘Left Turn', ‘Right About Turn’, 'Left About Turn’, ‘Fast Pace’, ‘Slow Pace’, ‘Normal Pace’, ‘Halt’, ‘Down (Down your Dog)’, ‘Stand (Stand your Dog)', ‘Exercise Finished’. These orders may be given in any sequence and repeated.

**Deductions:**

**Zero Score:** For a dog which is unmanageable.

**Over 50%:** If the Handler continually tugs on the lead, or adapts their pace to the dog, or continually guides the dog with the lead, 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 occasional guidance with the lead; for the use of more than one command; for failure to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise.

**Rationale:** Proposal to separate the Figure Eight exercise into a separate exercise.

**SUBMISSION 1**

**(QLD) NEW RULE**

1. **FIGURE EIGHT Maximum Points: 15**

**Principal Feature:**

The dog on the lead, and the Handler to work as a team in a Figure Eight pattern.

**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 and 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 themselves.

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.

**Orders from Judge:**

'Into Figure Eight Forward', ‘Halt’, Forward', ‘Lead Out', ‘Halt’, ‘Exercise Finished’.

**Deductions:**

**Zero Score:** For a dog which is unmanageable.

**Over 50%:** If the Handler continually tugs on the lead, or adapts their pace to the dog, or continually guides the dog with the lead, or if the dog does not complete the Principal Feature of the exercise.

**Minor:** For failing to sit, for occasional guidance with the lead; for the use of more than one command; for failure to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise.

**Rationale:** Separating the Figure Eight exercise will allow novice dogs in this class to have a break after an already long heel pattern and give the handler the opportunity to praise the dog. Then recommence a new exercise. It also eliminates the situation where the Figure Eight should be at the beginning or the end of the heel pattern.

**Consequential Changes to:**

Table of Contents – Class exercise list, Exercise list at beginning of Community Companion Dog Class, Score Sheet

**(QLD) OLD RULE**

1. **STAND FOR EXAMINATION Maximum Points: 20**

**Principal Feature:**

The dog to stand steadily on the lead until completion of the exercise, and not show undue resentment or shyness.

**Description of Exercise:**

On order from the Judge, the Handler will move forward and stand the dog. On further order from the Judge, the Handler may give a command to stay and will walk forward to the front of the dog, turn around and stand facing the dog. The dog should be held at the end of a loose lead with the Handler directly in front of the dog.

The Judge must approach the dog from the right or left front and not direct front. The Judge will examine the dog by touch from the withers and along the back only. The head, mouth, tail and legs must not be examined.

The Judge will then give the order ‘Return (Return to your Dog)’ whereupon the Handler will return to the dog. The dog must remain in a standing position until after the Judge orders 'Exercise Finished' and must not show undue resentment or shyness.

**Orders from Judge:**

'Forward’, ‘Stand (Stand your Dog)', 'Leave (Leave your Dog)’, ‘Return (Return to your Dog)', 'Exercise Finished'.

**Deductions:**

**Disqualification:** For a dog which attacks.

**Zero Score:** For a dog which shows an obvious tendency to attack, breaks from position.

**Minor:** For a dog that requires a second command to stand, moves its feet or for poor stands or for failing to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise.

**(QLD) NEW RULE**

**3. STAND FOR EXAMINATION Maximum Points: 20**

**Principal Feature:**

The dog to stand steadily on the lead until completion of the exercise, and not show undue resentment or shyness.

 **Description of Exercise:**

The Judge will give the order ‘Take up position’. On further order from the Judge ‘Leave (Leave your Dog)’, the Handler may give a command to stay and will walk forward to the front of the dog, turn around and stand facing the dog. The dog should be held at the end of a loose lead with the Handler directly in front of the dog.

The Judge must approach the dog from the right or left front and not direct front. The Judge will examine the dog by touch from the withers and along the back only. The head, mouth, tail and legs must not be examined.

The Judge will then give the order ‘Return (Return to your Dog)’ whereupon the Handler will return to the dog. The dog must remain in a standing position until after the Judge orders 'Exercise Finished' and must not show undue resentment or shyness.

**Orders from Judge:**

'Take up position’, 'Leave (Leave your Dog)’, ‘Return (Return to your Dog)', 'Exercise Finished'.

**Deductions:**

**Disqualification:** For a dog which attacks.

**Zero Score:** For a dog which shows an obvious tendency to attack, breaks from position.

**Minor:** For a dog that ~~requires a second command to stand~~ moves its feet or for poor stands or for failing to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise.

**Rationale:**

The Principal Feature is for the dog to stand steadily off the lead until the completion of the exercise and not show undue resentment or shyness.

The requirement to move forward from the starting marker does not compliment the principal feature. The heel forward and halt with the dog standing is already assessed in another exercise “Heel free”.

**(QLD) Proposed changes to 2. Stand for Examination**

1. **~~STAND FOR EXAMINATION~~ Maximum Points: 20**

**STAND STAY WALKAROUND**

**Principal Feature:**

The dog to stand steadily on the lead until completion of the exercise, and not show undue resentment or shyness.

**Description of Exercise:**

On order from the Judge, the Handler will move forward and stand the dog. On further order from the Judge, the Handler may give a command to stay and will walk forward to the front of the dog, turn around and stand facing the dog. The dog should be held at the end of a loose lead with the Handler directly in front of the dog.

~~The Judge must approach the dog from the right or left front and not direct front. The Judge will examine the dog by touch from the withers and along the back only. The head, mouth, tail and legs must not be examined.~~

The Judge will walk a loop around dog-handler team, going behind the Handler first then proceeding around the dog and returning to level with the Handler. The Judge shall maintain a distance of approximately 1.5m from dog and Handler as they pass by each.

The Judge will then give the order ‘Return (Return to your Dog)’ whereupon the Handler will return to the dog. The dog must remain in a standing position until after the Judge orders 'Exercise Finished' and must not show undue resentment or shyness.

**Orders from Judge:**

'Forward’, ‘Stand (Stand your Dog)', 'Leave (Leave your Dog)’, ‘Return (Return to your Dog)', 'Exercise Finished'.

**Deductions:**

**Disqualification:** For a dog which attacks.

**Zero Score:** For a dog which shows an obvious tendency to attack, breaks from position.

**Minor:** For a dog that requires a second command to stand, moves its feet or for poor stands or for failing to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise.

**Rationale for replacing Stand for Examination with** **Stand Stay Walkaround**

Asking a dog to stand still for a stranger to approach and touch it is inconsistent with our increased understanding of what helps dogs feel psychologically safe (agency and control); provides an inappropriate role model to spectators about approaching dogs they do not know (on the one hand seeing judges approach and touch dogs while often being told to “let the dog decide if it wants to interact with you”); and may jeopardize the safety of judges – attacks have been known to occur.

The purpose of the existing Stand for Examination exercise relates to the way dogs interact with unknown persons who may be encountered in everyday life. First, a safe dog should be reasonably comfortable (no undue resentment or shyness) in the vicinity of an unknown person. Second, a friendly dog should be able demonstrate enough self-control to resist approaching or jumping on an unknown person when asked not to. To demonstrate both of these, it is not necessary for the person to come close enough to actually physically touch/examine the dog.

The proposed Stand Stay Walkaround exercise assesses skills similar to those in the existing Stand for Examination exercise with less risk to dogs and judges while setting a better example for spectators. The proposed exercise requires the demonstration of skills equally essential to pet dogs in society – tolerating a reasonably close approach by an unknown person and refraining from approaching or jumping on the person when asked not to.

The Principle Feature, Judge’s Orders and Deductions do not change from the current Stand for Examination exercise.

The Stand for Examination does not appear in any level of the UK Kennel Club Obedience Tests.

**Consequential Changes to:**

Table of Contents – JUDGING PROCEDURES – Examinations, Class exercise list, Exercise list at beginning of Community Companion Dog Class, Score Sheet

General Rules – 9. Judging Procedures – Breaking from Position and Examinations.

 11. Equipment – Collars and Leads

**(QLD) OLD RULE**

**~~5. 1 Min. SIT STAY Maximum Points: 15~~ (Qld) to be replaced as below)**

**~~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 Marker 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 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.~~

**~~5. 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 Marker 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.~~

**(QLD) NEW RULE – THIS IS AN INDIVIDUAL EXERCISE**

1. **DOWN RETURN Maximum points: 15**

**Principal Feature:**

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

**Description of Exercise:**

The Judge will give the order ‘Take up position’. On further order from the Judge 'Leave (Leave your Dog)', the Handler may give the command to stay and will leave the dog in a down position and walk to a marker at least ten (10) metres away from the dog. The handler will about turn and return to the dog without pause. The handler will return around the back of the dog into the heel position. The dog must not move from the down position until after the Judge has ordered ‘Exercise Finished.’

**Orders from Judge:**

‘Take up position’, 'Leave (Leave your Dog)’, ‘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.

**Rationale:** This exercise will replace the Group Stays and therefore reduce the number of incidents. It will make this entry level class safer and more achievable for novice handlers thus encouraging new comers to the sport. It will also mean competitors do not have to wait and re-enter the ring once they have completed their exercises, thus reducing the judging time spent on this Class overall.

**Consequential Changes to:**

Table of Contents – JUDGING PROCEDURES – Group Exercises, Excluding Dogs from Group Exercises, Class exercise list, Exercise list at beginning of Community Companion Dog Class, Score Sheet.

General Rules:

4. Notes (c)

7. Exhibits – Dog Wearing Protective Clothing and Withdrawal of a dog

8. Exhibitors and Handlers – Entering the Ring

9. Judging Procedures – Testing Procedure, Change of Position, Group Exercises, Excluding

 dogs from Group Exercise, Re-judging.

11. Equipment - Markers

**NOVICE CLASS**

 **(QLD) OLD RULE**

1. **HEEL FREE Maximum Points: 40**

**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 themselves.

**Orders from Judge:**

‘Forward’, ‘Right Turn’, ‘Left Turn’, ‘Right About Turn’, ‘Left About Turn’, ‘Fast Pace’, ‘Slow Pace’, ‘Normal Pace’, ‘Halt’, ‘Down (Down your Dog)’, ‘Stand (Stand your Dog)’, ‘Figure Eight, ‘Lead Out’, ‘Exercise Finished’. These orders may be given in any sequence and repeated.

**Deductions:**

**Zero Score:** For a dog which is unmanageable.

**Over 50%:** If the Handler continually guides the dog, or adapts their 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 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.

**(QLD) New Rule**

1. **HEEL FREE Maximum Points: 40**

**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 themselves.~~

**Orders from Judge:**

‘Forward’, ‘Right Turn’, ‘Left Turn’, ‘Right About Turn’, ‘Left About Turn’, ‘Fast Pace’, ‘Slow Pace’, ‘Normal Pace’, ‘Halt’, ‘Down (Down your Dog)’, ‘Stand (Stand your Dog)’, ‘Exercise Finished’. These orders may be given in any sequence and repeated.

**Deductions:**

**Zero Score:** For a dog which is unmanageable.

**Over 50%:** If the Handler continually guides the dog, or adapts their 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 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**: Proposal to separate the Figure Eight exercise into a separate exercise.

**(QLD) NEW RULE**

1. **(QLD) FIGURE EIGHT Maximum Points: 30**

**Principal Feature:**

The dog and Handler to work as a team without the use of a lead in a Figure Eight pattern.

**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 and 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 themselves.

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.

**Orders from Judge:**

'Into Figure Eight Forward', ‘Halt’, Forward', ‘Lead Out', ‘Halt’, ‘Exercise Finished’.

**Deductions:**

**Zero Score:** For a dog which is unmanageable.

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

**Minor:** For failing to sit, for poor sits, for failing to accompany the Handler around one Figure Eight 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:** Separating the Figure Eight exercise will allow novice dogs in this class to have a break after an already long heel pattern and give the handler the opportunity to praise the dog. Then recommence a new exercise. It also eliminates the situation where the Figure Eight should be at the beginning or the end of the heel pattern.

**Consequential Changes to:**

Table of Contents – Class exercise list, Exercise list at beginning of Companion Dog Class, Score Sheet

**(QLD) OLD RULE**

1. **STAND FOR EXAMINATION Maximum Points: 30**

**Principal Feature:**

The dog to stand steadily off the lead until completion of the exercise, and not show undue resentment or shyness.

**Description of Exercise:**

On order from the Judge, the Handler will move forward and stand the dog. On further order from the Judge, the Handler may give a command to stay and will move forward. The Judge will order the Handler to about turn and then halt approximately two (2) metres from the dog.

The Judge must approach the dog from the right or left front and not direct front. The Judge will touch the dog's head and body. The mouth, legs or tail must not be examined.

The Judge will then give the order 'Return (Return to your Dog)' whereupon the Handler will return to the dog. The dog must stand steadily and not move until after the Judge orders 'Exercise Finished' and must not show undue resentment or shyness.

**Orders from Judge:**

'Forward', 'Stand (Stand your Dog)', 'Leave (Leave your Dog)', ‘About Turn’, ‘Halt’, 'Return (Return to your Dog)', 'Exercise Finished'.

**Deductions:**

**Disqualification:** For a dog which attacks.

**Zero Score:** For a dog which shows an obvious tendency to attack or breaks from position.

**Minor:** For a dog that requires a second command to stand, moves its feet or for poor stands or for failing to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise.

**(QLD) NEW RULE**

**3. STAND FOR EXAMINATION Maximum Points: 30**

**Principal Feature:**

The dog to stand steadily on the lead until completion of the exercise, and not show undue resentment or shyness.

 **Description of Exercise:**

The Judge will give the order ‘Take up position’. On further order from the Judge ‘Leave (Leave your Dog)’, the Handler may give a command to stay and will ~~move~~ walk forward. The Judge will order the Handler to about turn and then halt approximately two (2) metres from the dog.

The Judge must approach the dog from the right or left front and not direct front. The Judge will touch the dog's head and body. The mouth, legs or tail must not be examined.

The Judge will then give the order 'Return (Return to your Dog)' whereupon the Handler will return to the dog. The dog must stand steadily and not move until after the Judge orders 'Exercise Finished' and must not show undue resentment or shyness.

**Orders from Judge:**

'Take up position’, 'Leave (Leave your Dog)’, ‘About Turn’, ‘Halt’, 'Return (Return to your Dog)', 'Exercise Finished'.

**Deductions:**

**Disqualification:** For a dog which attacks.

**Zero Score:** For a dog which shows an obvious tendency to attack, breaks from position.

**Minor:** For a dog that ~~requires a second command to stand,~~ moves its feet or for poor stands or for failing to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise.

**Rationale:**

The Principal Feature is for the dog to stand steadily off the lead until the completion of the exercise and not show undue resentment or shyness.

The requirement to move forward from the starting marker does not compliment the principal feature. The heel forward and halt with the dog standing is already assessed in another exercise “Heel free”.

Some class descriptors of this exercise use ‘walk’ forward and some ‘move’ forward. Should be all the same and prefer ‘walk’ forward.

 **(QLD) NEW RULE**

1. **~~STAND FREE FOR EXAMINATION~~ Maximum Points: 30**

**STAND FREE WALKAROUND**

**Principal Feature:**

The dog to stand steadily off the lead until completion of the exercise, and not show undue resentment or shyness.

**Description of Exercise:**

On order from the Judge, the Handler will move forward and stand the dog. On further order from the Judge, the Handler may give a command to stay and will move forward. The Judge will order the Handler to about turn and then halt approximately ~~two (2)~~ three (3) metres from the dog.

~~The Judge must approach the dog from the right or left front and not direct front. The Judge will touch the dog's head and body. The mouth, legs or tail must not be examined.~~

The Judge will walk around the dog, going between the dog and Handler as they circle the dog once. The Judge shall maintain a distance of approximately 1.5m from dog as they pass by.

After circling the dog and moving away from the dog and well out of the Handler’s path, the Judge will then give the order 'Return (Return to your Dog)' whereupon the Handler will return to the dog. The dog must stand steadily and not move until after the Judge orders 'Exercise Finished' and must not show undue resentment or shyness.

**Orders from Judge:**

'Forward', 'Stand (Stand your Dog)', 'Leave (Leave your Dog)', ‘About Turn’, ‘Halt’, 'Return (Return to your Dog)', 'Exercise Finished'.

**Deductions:**

**Disqualification:** For a dog which attacks.

**Zero Score:** For a dog which shows an obvious tendency to attack or breaks from position.

**Minor:** For a dog that requires a second command to stand, moves its feet or for poor stands or for failing to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise.

**Rationale for Replacing Stand Free for Examination with Stand Free Walkaround**

Asking a dog to stand still for a stranger to approach and touch it is inconsistent with our increased understanding of what helps dogs feel psychologically safe (agency and control); provides an inappropriate role model to spectators about approaching dogs they don’t know (on the one hand seeing judges approach and touch dogs while often being told to “let the dog decide if it wants to interact with you”); and may jeopardize the safety of judges – attacks have been known to occur.

The purpose of the existing Stand for Examination exercise relates to the way dogs interact with unknown persons who may be encountered in everyday life. First, a safe dog should be reasonably comfortable (no undue resentment or shyness) in the vicinity of an unknown person. Second, a friendly dog should be able to demonstrate enough self-control to resist approaching or jumping on an unknown person when asked not to. To demonstrate both of these, it is not necessary for the person to come close enough to actually physically touch/examine the dog.

The proposed Stand Free Walkaround exercise assesses skills similar to those in the existing Stand Free for Examination exercise with less risk to dogs and judges while setting a better example for spectators. The proposed exercise requires the demonstration of skills equally essential to pet dogs in society – tolerating a reasonably close approach by an unknown person and refraining from approaching or jumping on the person when asked not to.

The proposed Novice Stand Free Walkaround exercise represents a progression from the proposed CCD Stand Stay Walkaround exercise where the dog was on lead and the handler a lead-length away to the handler being a full three (3) meters away (currently 2 meters away) while the judge walks between dog and handler and around the dog at a distance of 1.5m.

The Principle Feature, Judge’s Orders and Deductions do not change from the current Stand for Examination exercise.

The Stand for Examination does not appear in any level of the UK Kennel Club Obedience Tests.

**Consequential Changes to:**

Table of Contents – Class exercise list, Exercise list at beginning of Companion Dog Class, Score Sheet

**(QLD) OLD RULE**

1. **RECALL Maximum Points: 40**

**Principal Feature:**

The dog to sit where left off the lead and promptly obey the Handler's command to come.

**Description of Exercise:**

The Judge will give the order 'Forward' and then 'Halt'. On further order from the Judge ‘Leave (Leave your Dog)', the Handler may give the command to stay and will leave the dog in a sitting position and walk at least fifteen (15) metres away from the dog. On further order from the Judge, the Handler will about turn and halt. On order from the Judge, the Handler may attract the dog's attention by saying its name once and then give a command to come. The dog must come straight to its Handler at a brisk pace and sit directly in front without further command.

On order from the Judge 'Finish', the Handler must give a command and the dog must go briskly to the heel position and sit.

**Orders from Judge:**

'Forward', 'Halt', 'Leave (Leave your Dog)', 'About Turn', 'Halt', 'Call (Call your Dog)’, 'Finish', ‘Exercise Finished'.

**Deductions:**

**Zero Score:** For a dog that breaks from position, or does not come on the first command or for a dog that anticipates the command to come.

**Substantial:** For slow response to commands, for failure to come at a brisk pace, for failure to sit in front of the Handler or finish or for anticipating the finish.

**Minor:** For a dog that fails to sit automatically when the Handler halts. For the Handler failing to leave a distinct pause between the dog’s name and the command to come. For poor sits or finishes, for failure to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise.

**(QLD) NEW RULE**

1. **RECALL Maximum Points: 40**

**Principal Feature:**

The dog to sit where left off the lead and promptly obey the Handler's command to come.

**Description of Exercise:**

The Judge will give the order ‘Take up position’. On further order from the Judge ‘Leave (Leave your Dog)’, the Handler may give the command to stay and will leave the dog in a sitting position and walk at least fifteen (15) metres away from the dog. On further order from the Judge, the Handler will about turn and halt. On order from the Judge, the Handler may attract the dog's attention by saying its name once and then give a command to come. The dog must come straight to its Handler at a brisk pace and sit directly in front without further command.

On order from the Judge 'Finish', the Handler must 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)', 'About Turn', 'Halt', 'Call (Call your Dog)’, 'Finish', ‘Exercise Finished'.

Deductions:

Zero Score: For a dog that breaks from position, or does not come on the first command or for a dog that anticipates the command to come.

Substantial: For slow response to commands, for failure to come at a brisk pace, for failure to sit in front of the Handler or finish or for anticipating the finish.

Minor: ~~For a dog that fails to sit automatically when the Handler halts~~. For the Handler failing to leave a distinct pause between the dog’s name and the command to come. For poor sits or finishes, for failure to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise.

**Rationale:**

The Principal Feature is for the dog to promptly obey the handler’s command to come.

The requirement to move forward from the starting marker does not compliment the principal feature. The heel forward and halt with the dog sitting is already assessed in another exercise “Heel free”.

**(QLD) OLD RULE**

1. **~~1 Min. SIT STAY Maximum Points: 30~~ (Qld) to be replaced as below)**

**~~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 Marker, 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, they 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 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.~~

1. **~~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 Marker 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.~~

**SUBMISSION 1**

**(QLD) NEW RULE – INDIVIDUAL EXERCISE**

1. **Down Return Maximum points: 30**

**Principal Feature:**

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

**Description of Exercise:**

The Judge will give the order ‘Take up position’. On further order from the Judge 'Leave (Leave your Dog)', the Handler may give the command to stay and will leave the dog in a down position and walk to a marker at least fifteen (15) metres away from the dog. The handler will about turn and return to the dog without pause. The handler will return around the back of the dog into the heel position. The dog must not move from the down position until after the Judge has ordered ‘Exercise Finished.’

**Orders from Judge:**

‘Take up position’, 'Leave (Leave your Dog)’, ‘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.

**Rationale:** This exercise will replace the Group Stays and therefore reduce the number of incidents. It will make this entry level class safer and more achievable for novice handlers thus encouraging new comers to the sport. It will also mean competitors do not have to wait and re-enter the ring once they have completed their exercises, thus reducing the judging time spent on this Class overall.

**Consequential Changes to:**

Table of Contents – Class exercise list, Exercise list at beginning of Companion Dog Class, Score Sheet

**SUBMISSION 2**

 **(QLD) NEW RULE – INDIVIDUAL EXERCISE**

**5. SENDAWAY Maximum Points: 30**

**Principal Feature:**

The dog will be in a standing position in heel position. On order from the judge the handler will cue the dog to leave the Handler and go substantially in the right direction to the Prescribed Area and sit. The handler on order from the judge will go to the dog’s side. The dog to remain in a sitting position until the exercise is finished.

**Description of the Exercise:**

The Judge will give the order ‘Take up position’ five (5) metres from the prescribed area. On further order from the Judge Send (Send your Dog)', the Handler will give the command to send away. The dog will leave the heel position and go to the prescribed area at a brisk pace and sit within the prescribed area. On judges order the handler will go to the dog’s side. The dog must not move from the sit position until after the Judge orders ‘Exercise Finished'.

**Orders from Judge:**

‘Take up position’, ‘Send/Send your dog’, ‘return to your dog’

**Deductions:**

**Zero:**

For a dog that does not go into the prescribed area or for a dog that does not remain within the prescribed area until the exercise is finished.

**Minor:**

For a dog that does not move ahead at a brisk pace, for not being substantially within the prescribed area and for not maintaining a stable position inside the prescribed area, for a dog that moves before the exercise is finished.

**Rationale:** This is also an individual exercise which will save judging time and this exercise also ties in with Tricks and UD exercises.

**Consequential Changes to:**

Table of Contents – Class exercise list, Exercise list at beginning of Companion Dog Class, Score Sheet

**SUBMISSION 3**

**(QLD) NEW RULE**

**6. 1 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 Marker 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 one (1) minute 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.

**Rationale:** Dogs in this class have a little more experience and should be able to perform one off lead group exercise. Eliminating the Sit exercise completely, makes this fairer for dogs who are uncomfortable sitting for a length of time. Dogs are usually more settled in the down position and the duration of one minute is achievable.

**Consequential Changes to:**

Table of Contents – Class exercise list, Exercise list at beginning of Companion Dog Class, Score Sheet

**OPEN CLASS**

**(QLD) OLD RULE**

**2. STAND FREE FOR EXAMINATION Maximum Points: 20**

**Principal Feature:**

The dog to stand steadily off the lead until the completion of the exercise and not show undue resentment or shyness.

**Description of Exercise:**

On order from the Judge, the Handler will move forward and stand the dog. On further order, the Handler may give a command to stay and must move forward approximately five (5) metres. The Judge will order the Handler to about turn and halt.

The Judge must approach the dog from the right or left front and not direct front. The Judge will physically examine the dog’s head, body, legs and hindquarters only. The mouth and tail must not be examined.

The Judge will then give the Order 'Return (Return to your Dog)', whereupon the Handler will return to the dog. The dog must stand steadily and not move until after the Judge orders 'Exercise Finished' and must not show undue resentment or shyness.

**Orders from Judge:**

'Forward', 'Stand (Stand your Dog)', 'Leave (Leave your Dog)', 'About Turn', 'Halt', 'Return (Return to your Dog)', 'Exercise Finished'.

**Deductions:**

**Disqualification:** For a dog which attacks.

**Zero Score:** For a dog which shows an obvious tendency to attack or breaks from position.

**Substantial:** For a dog that requires a second command to stand.

**Minor:** For a dog that moves its feet or for poor stands, for failure to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise.

**SUBMISSION 1**

**(QLD) NEW RULE**

1. **STAND FREE WALKAROUND Maximum Points: 20**

Principal Feature:

The dog to stand steadily off the lead until the completion of the exercise and not show undue resentment or shyness.

Description of Exercise:

On order from the Judge, the Handler will move forward and stand the dog. On further order, the Handler may give a command to stay and must move forward approximately five (5) metres. The Judge will order the Handler to ~~about turn and~~ halt facing away from the dog.

~~The Judge must approach the dog from the right or left front and not direct front. The Judge will physically examine the dog’s head, body, legs and hindquarters only. The mouth and tail must not be examined.~~

The Judge will walk around the dog, going between the dog and Handler as they circle the dog once. The Judge shall maintain a distance of approximately 1.5m from dog as they pass by.

After circling the dog and moving away from the dog and well out of the Handler’s path, the Judge will then give the Order 'Return (Return to your Dog)', whereupon the Handler will return to the dog. The dog must stand steadily and not move until after the Judge orders 'Exercise Finished' and must not show undue resentment or shyness.

Orders from Judge:

'Forward', 'Stand (Stand your Dog)', 'Leave (Leave your Dog)', ~~'About Turn',~~ 'Halt', 'Return (Return to your Dog)', 'Exercise Finished'.

Deductions:

Disqualification: For a dog which attacks.

Zero Score: For a dog which shows an obvious tendency to attack or breaks from position.

Substantial: For a dog that requires a second command to stand.

Minor: For a dog that moves its feet or for poor stands, for failure to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise.

**Rationale for Replacing Stand Free for Examination with Stand Free Walkaround**

Asking a dog to stand still for a stranger to approach and touch it is inconsistent with our increased understanding of what helps dogs feel psychologically safe (agency and control); provides an inappropriate role model to spectators about approaching dogs they don’t know (on the one hand seeing judges approach and touch dogs while often being told to “let the dog decide if it wants to interact with you”); and may jeopardize the safety of judges – attacks have been known to occur.

The purpose of the existing Stand Free for Examination exercise relates to the way dogs interact with unknown persons who may be encountered in everyday life. First, a safe dog should be reasonably comfortable (no undue resentment or shyness) in the vicinity of an unknown person. Second, a friendly dog should be able to demonstrate enough self-control to resist approaching or jumping on an unknown person when asked not to. To demonstrate both of these, it is not necessary for the person to actually come close enough to physically touch/examine the dog.

The proposed Open Stand Free Walkaround exercise represents a progression from the proposed Novice Stand Free Walkaround exercise. In the former, the handler is 3 meters away and facing the dog while the judge walks between dog and handler and around the dog at a distance of 1.5m. In the proposed Open Stand Free Walkaround exercise, the handler is 5 meters away from the dog and facing away from the dog while the judge walks between dog and handler and around the dog at a distance of 1.5m.

The proposed exercise assesses skills similar to those in the existing Stand Free for Examination exercise without the risks. The proposed exercise requires the demonstration of skills equally essential to pet dogs in society – tolerating a reasonably close approach by an unknown person and refraining from approaching or jumping on the person when asked not to.

The Principle Feature and Deductions do not change from the current Stand for Examination exercise.

The Stand for Examination does not appear in any level of the UK Kennel Club Obedience Tests.

**Consequential Changes to:**

Table of Contents – Class exercise list, Exercise list at beginning of Companion Dog Excellent Class, Score Sheet

**SUBMISSION 2**

 **(QLD) NEW RULE**

**2. STAND FREE FOR EXAMINATION Maximum Points: 20**

**Principal Feature:**

The dog to stand steadily off the lead until the completion of the exercise and not show undue resentment or shyness.

**Description of Exercise:**

The Judge will give the order ‘Take up position’. On further order, the Handler may give a command to stay and must move forward approximately five (5) metres. The Judge will order the Handler to about turn and halt.

The Judge must approach the dog from the right or left front and not direct front. The Judge will physically examine the dog’s head, body, legs and hindquarters only. The mouth and tail must not be examined.

The Judge will then give the Order 'Return (Return to your Dog)', whereupon the Handler will return to the dog. The dog must stand steadily and not move until after the Judge orders 'Exercise Finished' and must not show undue resentment or shyness.

**Orders from Judge:**

'Take up position’, 'Leave (Leave your Dog)', 'About Turn', 'Halt', 'Return (Return to your Dog)', 'Exercise Finished'.

**Deductions:**

**Disqualification:** For a dog which attacks.

**Zero Score:** For a dog which shows an obvious tendency to attack or breaks from position.

**Minor:** For a dog that moves its feet or for poor stands, for failure to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise.

**Rationale:**

The Principal Feature is for the dog to stand steadily off the lead until the completion of the exercise and not show undue resentment or shyness.

The requirement to move forward from the starting marker does not compliment the principal feature. The heel forward and halt with the dog standing is already assessed in another exercise “Heel free”.

**(QLD) OLD RULE**

1. **DROP ON RECALL Maximum Points: 30**

**Principal Feature:**

The dog to sit where left off lead and promptly obey the Handler's command to come, to down, and to come again when called from the down position.

**Description of Exercise:**

The Judge will give the order 'Forward' and 'Halt'. On further order from the Judge, the Handler may give a command to stay and will leave the dog in a sitting position and walk at least twenty (20) metres away. On further order from the Judge, the Handler will about turn and halt.

On order from the Judge, the Handler may attract the dog's attention by saying its name and then give a command to come. The dog must come straight towards its Handler at a brisk pace.

On further order from the Judge, the Handler will command the dog to down and it must drop promptly to the down position and remain there until given a command to come. The dog must come straight to its Handler at a brisk pace and sit directly in front without further command. The Handler may say the dog's name again before giving a command to come from the down position.

On order from the Judge 'Finish', the Handler may give a command and the dog must go briskly to the heel position and sit.

The Judge must inform the Handler before the start of the exercise if he intends using a signal in lieu of a verbal order.

**Orders from Judge:**

'Forward', 'Halt', 'Leave (Leave your Dog)’, 'About Turn', 'Halt', ‘Call (Call Your Dog)', ‘Down (Down your Dog)’, ‘Call (Call your Dog)’, 'Finish', 'Exercise Finished'.

**Deductions:**

**Zero Score:** A dog that anticipates the command to come or drop, fails to remain in the sit position, does not come, down, or come again on the first command.

**Substantial:** For a dog failing to sit automatically when the Handler halts. For the Handler failing to leave a distinct pause between the name of the dog and the command. For slow response to commands and for failure to come at a brisk pace; for failure to sit in front, or finish, or for anticipating the finish.

**Minor:** For poor sits, downs, finishes, or for failure to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise.

**(QLD) NEW RULE**

**3. DROP ON RECALL Maximum Points: 30**

**Principal Feature:**

The dog to sit where left off lead and promptly obey the Handler's command to come, to down, and to come again when called from the down position.

**Description of Exercise:**

The Judge will give the order ‘Take up position’. On further order from the Judge, the Handler may give a command to stay and will leave the dog in a sitting position and walk at least twenty (20) metres away. On further order from the Judge, the Handler will about turn and halt.

On order from the Judge, the Handler may attract the dog's attention by saying its name and then give a command to come. The dog must come straight towards its Handler at a brisk pace.

On further order from the Judge, the Handler will command the dog to down and it must drop promptly to the down position and remain there until given a command to come. The dog must come straight to its Handler at a brisk pace and sit directly in front without further command. The Handler may say the dog's name again before giving a command to come from the down position.

On order from the Judge 'Finish', the Handler may give a command and the dog must go briskly to the heel position and sit.

The Judge must inform the Handler before the start of the exercise if he intends using a signal in lieu of a verbal order.

**Orders from Judge:**

'Take up position’, 'Leave (Leave your Dog)’, 'About Turn', 'Halt', ‘Call (Call Your Dog)', ‘Down (Down your Dog)’, ‘Call (Call your Dog)’, 'Finish', 'Exercise Finished'.

**Deductions:**

**Zero Score:** A dog that anticipates the command to come or drop, fails to remain in the sit position, does not come, down, or come again on the first command.

**Substantial:** ~~For a dog failing to sit automatically when the Handler halts.~~ For the Handler failing to leave a distinct pause between the name of the dog and the command. For slow response to commands and for failure to come at a brisk pace; for failure to sit in front, or finish, or for anticipating the finish.

**Minor:** For poor sits, downs, finishes, or for failure to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise.

**Rationale:**

The Principal Feature is for the dog to promptly obey the handler’s command to come, to down, and to come again when called from the down position.

The requirement to move forward from the starting marker does not compliment the principal feature. The heel forward and halt with the dog sitting is already assessed in another exercise “Heel free”.

**(QLD) OLD RULE**

1. **RETRIEVE DUMBBELL ON FLAT Maximum Points: 30**

**Principal Feature:**

The dog to retrieve the dumbbell on command.

**Description of Exercise:**

The Judge will give the orders ‘Forward', 'Halt’. On further order from the Judge to throw the Dumbbell, the Handler may give a command to stay and must throw the dumbbell forward at least six (6) metres. On order from the Judge 'Send (Send your Dog)' the Handler will give a command to retrieve. The exercise must be done at not less than a brisk pace.

Where the dumbbell is not thrown at least six (6) metres a minor deduction must be incurred and a re‑throw allowed from the same position.

The dog must sit directly in front of the Handler and hold the dumbbell until the Judge orders 'Take it' when 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.

**Orders from Judge:**

'Forward', 'Halt', 'Throw it', ‘Send (Send your Dog)', ‘Take it’, 'Finish’, 'Exercise Finished'.

**Deductions:**

**Zero Score:** For a dog that does not retrieve the dumbbell on one command, anticipates the command to retrieve, or where the dumbbell is dropped and not delivered to hand or the dog refuses to give up the dumbbell.

**Substantial:** For a dog failing to sit automatically when the Handler halts. For failure to retrieve at a brisk pace, for slow response to commands, excessive mouthing, failing to sit, or finish, or anticipating the finish.

**Minor:** For poor sits and finishes; for minor mouthing of, or playing with the Dumbbell; where the Dumbbell is dropped and immediately picked up without further command or where a re‑throw of the dumbbell is ordered; if the Handler drops the dumbbell after it has been taken from the dog; for failure to carry out any of the lesser parts of the exercise.

**(QLD) NEW RULE**

**4. RETRIEVE DUMBBELL ON FLAT Maximum Points: 30**

**Principal Feature:**

The dog to retrieve the dumbbell on command.

**Description of Exercise:**

The Judge will give the order ‘Take up position’. On further order from the Judge to throw the Dumbbell, the Handler may give a command to stay and must throw the dumbbell forward at least six (6) metres. On order from the Judge 'Send (Send your Dog)' the Handler will give a command to retrieve. The exercise must be done at not less than a brisk pace.

Where the dumbbell is not thrown at least six (6) metres a minor deduction must be incurred and a re‑throw allowed from the same position.

The dog must sit directly in front of the Handler and hold the dumbbell until the Judge orders 'Take it' when 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.

**Orders from Judge:**

'Take up position’, 'Throw it', ‘Send (Send your Dog)', ‘Take it’, 'Finish’, 'Exercise Finished'.

**Deductions:**

**Zero Score:** For a dog that does not retrieve the dumbbell on one command, anticipates the command to retrieve, or where the dumbbell is dropped and not delivered to hand or the dog refuses to give up the dumbbell.

**Substantial:** ~~For a dog failing to sit automatically when the Handler halts.~~ For failure to retrieve at a brisk pace, for slow response to commands, excessive mouthing, failing to sit, or finish, or anticipating the finish.

**Minor:** For poor sits and finishes; for minor mouthing of, or playing with the Dumbbell; where the Dumbbell is dropped and immediately picked up without further command or where a re‑throw of the dumbbell is ordered; if the Handler drops the dumbbell after it has been taken from the dog; for failure to carry out any of the lesser parts of the exercise.

**Rationale:**

The Principal Feature is for the dog to retrieve the dumbbell on command.

The requirement to move forward from the starting marker does not compliment the principal feature. The heel forward and halt with the dog sitting is already assessed in another exercise “Heel free”.

**(QLD) Proposal to Remove 6a. Broad Jump (optional) and replace with 6a. Scent Discrimination (optional)**

1. **~~(a) BROAD JUMP (Optional) Maximum Points: 20~~**

**~~Principal Feature:~~**

~~The dog, on command, must jump the entire width of 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 anywhere between the first and last hurdles.~~

~~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 entire width within the outside lines of 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.~~

~~It is the Judge’s responsibility to see that the width to be jumped is correct.~~

**~~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 or does not clear the entire width within the outside lines of the jump, 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.~~

**SUBMISSION 1**

**(QLD) NEW RULE**

6. (a) Scent Discrimination (Optional) Maximum Points: 20

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 scented by its Handler from amongst two (2) of each scent discrimination articles that have not been scented (i.e. two (2) each of wood, leather and metal- total of six (6) articles). This exercise to be carried out with the articles placed on the ground.

Preparation:

1. On entering the Ring, the Handler must surrender six (6) clean articles which must be kept on the Judge's table.

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

(iii) The Judge will confirm with the handler which article type they will command the dog to retrieve.

 (iv) The Judge or Steward must use tongs to place five (5) of the articles in a straight line approximately fifty (50) cm apart with a space for the handler’s scented article. All articles must be at least one (1) metre from the edge or the side of the ring.

The Exercise:

After the five (5) articles have been placed, the Judge or Steward will offer the remaining article to the Handler (with tongs or by offering the Handler’s container containing one remaining article). The Handler must scent the article using only their hands which must remain in plain sight.

On order from the Judge, the Handler must surrender the scented article to the Judge or Steward who will use tongs to place it among the other articles on the ground. The Judge or Steward must not touch the scented article or any other article.

The Handler will then be asked ‘Are You Ready? On order from the Judge, the Handler and the dog will about turn and halt facing the articles. On further order, the Handler may place their 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 it 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 without further command, and hold the article until given a command to surrender.

The Judge will state 'Exercise Finished,' then take the article from the Handler and say ‘Article Correct' or ‘Article Incorrect.'

Orders from the Judge:

Are You Ready’, ‘Scent Your Article,‘ ‘Thank You,’ ‘About Turn’, ‘Halt’, ‘Send your Dog’, ‘Take It’, ‘Exercise Finished’, ‘Article Correct’ or ‘Article Incorrect’.

Deductions:

Zero: For a dog that anticipates the command to retrieve, fails to retrieve the correct article on a single command, 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. Slow to go out to or return from the articles, does not work constantly, excessively mouths or plays with the article, picks up the wrong article even though the dog puts it down immediately, fails to sit in front on return.

Minor: Minor mouthing, poor turns or sits, if the Handler drops the article after it has been taken from the dog, where the article is dropped by the dog and immediately picked up without further command or for failures to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise.

**Rational for adding Scent Discrimination as another option for Broad Jump/Distance Control**

At present, the gap between Open and UD is very large and many handlers fail to continue training beyond Open. A major part of the gap is the appearance in UD of a complex scent discrimination exercise (15 articles of three types, handler vs other scent) with no foundation in lower levels.

An introductory scent discrimination exercise modelled on the UK Kennel Club Test A (handler scent vs no human scent, 6 articles in a line) is proposed for Open class. This will give handlers the opportunity and impetus to begin teaching scent skills earlier and make the transition to UD easier.

The new Scent Discrimination exercise would be optional, paired with Broad Jump and Distance Control, and carry the same number of points.

**Consequential Changes to:**

Table of Contents – Equipment – Jumps. Class exercise list, exercise list at beginning of Companion Dog Excellent Class, Score Sheet

**SUBMISSION 2**

**(QLD) NEW RULE**

1. (a) Scent Discrimination (Optional) Maximum Points: 20

Principal Feature:

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

Description of Exercise:

The dog must select by scent and retrieve a cloth which has been scented by its Handler from amongst five (5) similar cloths that have not been scented. This exercise to be carried out with the cloths placed on the ground.

Preparation:

1. On entering the Ring, the Handler must surrender six (6) clean rolled cloths secured with different coloured elastic bands, which must be kept on the Judge's table.

(ii) The Handler, with the dog sitting at heel, will take up position as directed by the Judge, approximately five (5) metres from and facing in the opposite direction to where the cloths will be placed.

(iii) The Judge or Steward must use tongs to place five (5) of the cloths in a straight line approximately 50cm apart with a space for the handler’s scented cloth. All cloths must be at least one (1) metre from the edge or the side of the ring.

The Exercise:

After the five (5) cloths have been placed, the Judge or Steward will offer the remaining cloth to the Handler (with tongs or by offering the Handler’s box containing one remaining cloth). The Handler must scent the cloth using only their hands which must remain in plain sight.

On order from the Judge, the Handler must surrender the scented cloth to the Judge or Steward who will use tongs to place it among the other cloths on the ground. The Judge or Steward must not touch the scented cloth or any other cloth.

The Handler will then be asked ‘Are You Ready? On order from the Judge, the Handler and the dog will about turn and halt facing the cloths. On further order, the Handler may place their hand gently over the dog's nose and may give a command to retrieve. The dog must go to the cloths at a brisk pace, but may take a reasonable time to select the right one provided that it works smartly and continuously and does not pick up any cloth other than the one designated. After picking up the correct cloth, the dog must promptly return and sit directly in front of the Handler without further command, and hold the cloth until given a command to surrender.

The Judge will state 'Exercise Finished,' then take the cloth from the Handler and say ‘Cloth Correct' or ‘Cloth Incorrect.'

Orders from the Judge:

‘Are You Ready’, ‘Scent Your Cloth,‘ ‘Thank You,’ ‘About Turn’, ‘Halt’, ‘Send your Dog’, ‘Take It’, ‘Exercise Finished’, ‘Cloth Correct’ or ‘Cloth Incorrect’.

Deductions:

Zero: For a dog that anticipates the command to retrieve, fails to retrieve the correct cloth on a single command, refuses to give up the cloth 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. Slow to go out to or return from the cloths, does not work constantly, excessively mouths or plays with the cloths, picks up the wrong cloth even though the dog puts it down immediately, fails to sit in front on return.

Minor: Minor mouthing, poor turns or sits, if the Handler drops the cloth after it has been taken from the dog, where the cloth is dropped by the dog and immediately picked up without further command or for failures to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise.

**Rationale for Removing the Broad Jump exercise**

The Broad Jump exercise is not progressive in any way – nothing at levels below lead up to it and no exercises at higher levels rely on the skills developed in this exercise.

Broad jump is not a useful exercise in everyday life.

Very few handlers choose to do this exercise.

The broad jump is a cumbersome piece of equipment for Clubs to obtain and store given its low frequency of use.

Handlers with older or less sound dogs prefer to avoid jumping exercises. Jumping a spread from a near standstill then abruptly turning right is physically demanding.

The broad jump clutters up the ring and makes it more difficult to find a place for Directed Retrieve. In one case I know of, a judge tripped over the broad jump while walking backwards for the Drop on Recall and broke her wrist.

**Rational for adding Scent Discrimination in place of Broad Jump**

At present, the gap between Open and UD is very large and many handlers fail to continue training beyond Open. A major part of the gap is the appearance in UD of a complex scent discrimination exercise (15 articles of three types, handler vs other scent) with no foundation in lower levels.

The space freed up in the Open test by deleting the broad jump is better used to lay a progressive foundation for the more advanced scent discrimination exercises encountered in UD and UDX.

An introductory scent discrimination exercise modelled on the UK Kennel Club Test A (handler scent vs no human scent, 6 articles in a line) is proposed for Open class. This will give handlers the opportunity and impetus to begin teaching scent skills earlier and make the transition to UD easier.

The new Scent Discrimination exercise would be optional, paired with Distance Control, and carry the same number of points as the deleted Broad Jump exercise.

**Consequential Changes to:**

Table of Contents – Equipment – Jumps, Equipment – new definition for articles, Class exercise list, exercise list at beginning of Companion Dog Excellent Class, Score Sheet

 **(QLD) OLD RULE**

1. **~~3 Min. DOWN STAY‑ Maximum Points: 30~~ (Qld) to be replaced as below)**

**~~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 Marker 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 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 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.~~

**SUBMISSION 1**

**(QLD) NEW RULE – INDIVIDUAL EXERCISE**

1. **DOWN RETURN Maximum points: 30**

**Principal Feature:**

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

**Description of Exercise:**

The Judge will give the order ‘Take up position’. On further order from the Judge 'Leave (Leave your Dog)', the Handler may give the command to stay and will leave the dog in a down position and walk to a marker at least twenty (20) metres away from the dog. The handler will about turn and return to the dog without pause. The handler will return around the back of the dog into the heel position. The dog must not move from the down position until after the Judge has ordered ‘Exercise Finished.’

**Orders from Judge:**

‘Take up position’, 'Leave (Leave your Dog)’, ‘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.

**Rationale:** This exercise will replace the Group Stay and therefore reduce the number of incidents. It will make this class safer and in this era handlers should not be leaving dogs unattended. It will also mean competitors do not have to wait and re-enter the ring once they have completed their exercises, thus reducing the judging time spent on this Class overall.

**Consequential Changes to:**

Table of Contents – class exercise list, exercise list at beginning of Companion Dog Excellent Class, Score Sheet

**SUBMISSION 2 – If Submission 1 fails**

**(QLD) NEW RULE**

**Addition to Description of Exercise:**

Dogs that are not on a qualifying score may participate in the Group Stay on lead only with the handler remaining beside.

**Rationale:** Dogs not on a qualifying score may still experience trial conditions, but these dogs will not be allowed off lead to potentially jeopardise those dogs which are sitting on a possible qualifying score. This also assists in ensuring the safety of those dogs.

**UTILITY CLASS**

 **(QLD) OLD RULE**

**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 sent. The jumps shall be approximately halfway, 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 midway 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 9). 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 the 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 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.

**SUBMISSION 1**

**(QLD) New Rule:**

**Additional Option to Directed Jumping**

**2. (b) Directed Recall**

Maximum Points: 40

Principal Feature:

In each part 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 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. This prescribed area may be the same prescribed area as used for the Directed Jumping Exercise. The dog will recall between the jumps.

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 sent.

This exercise consists of two parts. For each part of the exercise, the Handler shall stand the dog in the position indicated by the Judge, in front of and the required distance 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 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.

On order from the Judge, the Handler may attract the dog’s attention by saying its name and then give a command to come. The dog must come straight towards its Handler at a brisk pace. On further order from the Judge, the Handler will command the dog to drop, sit or stand and the dog must promptly adopt the position commanded and remain there until given a command to come. The dog must come straight to its Handler at a brisk pace and sit directly in front without further command. The Handler may say the dog’s name again before giving a command to come from the adopted position. The Judge must order the same position (drop/sit/stand) for each dog in each part of the exercise. A different position will be used for each part.

On order from the Judge ‘Finish’, the Handler may give a command and the dog must go briskly to the heel position and sit. The Judge must inform the Handler before the start of the exercise if he intends using a signal in lieu of a verbal order.

Orders from Judge: ‘Take up your position’; ‘Send (Send Your Dog)’; ‘Call (Call Your Dog)’, ‘Drop/Sit/Stand (Drop/Sit/Stand your Dog)’, ‘Call (Call your Dog)’, ‘Finish’, ‘Part Exercise Finished’; ‘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 9). Goes past the back edge of the prescribed area or enters from behind. 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. A dog that anticipates the command to come or to drop/sit/stand, fails to remain in the sit position in the prescribed area, fails to come, drop/sit/stand, or come again on the first command.

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. For the Handler failing to leave a distinct pause between the name of the dog and the command.

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

Praise may be given to the dog between parts 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.

**Rationale:**

In past rules review there was an alternative provided in the Companion Dog Excellent Class for the Retrieve Over the Solid Jump. This was the Directed Retrieve and provided the avenue for a dog to compete in this class without having to jump. This has left the situation where the only class now in Obedience where the dog must jump is the Utility Dog Class.

Many dogs have difficulty in jumping which can be caused by such things as being a particular breed type, injury, age or night blindness. A dog jumping is not an important attribute of the dog being a part of its family or community. In actual fact, dogs jumping can cause problems e.g. clearing fences. Jumping is obviously key to agility sports, but it is not a pivotal criterion for demonstrating excellence in Obedience trialling.

There is already a considerable amount of equipment in the UD ring which limits open space where another exercise may be accommodated, especially one that involves the use of equipment. By providing this exercise as an alternative it not only gives the handler the choice of doing one or the other but it uses the equipment already in the ring meaning that no extra equipment needs to be placed in the ring or provided by the Affiliate.

This exercise is equal in difficulty to the Directed Jumping exercise.

**Consequential Changes to:**

Table of Contents – class exercise list, exercise list at beginning of Utility Dog Class, Score Sheet

**OPTION 2**

**(QLD) NEW RULE**

**Delete present 2. DIRECTED JUMPING**

**2. SENDAWAY WITH HOOPS 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 return through a hoop as directed.

**Description of Exercise:**

The hoops, will be placed approximately seven and a half (7.5) metres apart on each side of the Ring.

 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 hoops 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 hoops 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 midway between and in front of the hoops. 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, they 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 hoop 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 return through the designated hoop. 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)', ‘Left or Right Hoop’, 'Finish', 'Part Exercise Finished', 'Exercise Finished'.

**Deductions:**

**Zero Score:** For a Handler who directs the dog to the incorrect hoop. 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 as directed, does not return through a hoop, 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 over a hoop, 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. 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.

**Rationale**: Eliminating the jumping exercise in UD will allow handlers to compete with dogs that are older and/or no longer physically able to negotiate jumps safely. The majority of dogs competing in this Class are usually older by the time they achieve this title and they can continue competing in this class safely.

**Consequential Changes to:**

Table of Contents – class exercise list, exercise list at beginning of Utility Dog Class, Score Sheet

**(QLD) OLD RULE**

 **(QLD) TO BE REPLACED AS BELOW**

**~~4. SIGNAL EXERCISE Maximum Points: 30~~**

**~~Principal Feature:~~**

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

**~~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.~~

**~~Orders from Judge:~~**

~~'Forward', followed by any orders from the Heel Free exercise routine, 'Stand (Stand your Dog)', 'Leave (Leave your Dog)', 'About Turn', 'Halt', 'Down (Down your Dog)', 'Sit (Sit your Dog)', 'Recall (Call your Dog)’, 'Finish', 'Exercise Finished'.~~

~~The order for those parts of the exercise done with the dog at heel may be given in any order and may be repeated, but those orders given after the Handler has left the dog in the Stand position must be given in the order specified.~~

**~~Deductions:~~**

**~~Zero Score:~~** ~~For a dog which is unmanageable, or receives an audible command from the Handler, or which fails on a single signal to stand where left, or drop, or sit or come, or fails to sit in front, or fails to finish and sit, or anticipates the signals given after the dog has been left.~~

**~~Over 50%:~~** ~~For a dog which moves more than half its body length when changing from the Stand to the Down or from the Down to the Sit, when signals are given after the dog has been left.~~

**~~Substantial:~~** ~~For any double signal or failure to sit, stand or down during the heel routine, prolonged signals, slow response to signals.~~

**~~Minor:~~** ~~For imperfections in heeling and for failure to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise.~~

**SUBMISSION 1**

**(QLD) NEW RULE**

**4. COMMAND EXERCISE Maximum Points: 30**

**Principal Feature:**

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

**Description of Exercise:**

The heeling is done in the same manner as in the Heel Free exercise excluding the ‘Figure Eight’.

Commands to be by a single verbal OR a physical hand signal (but not both together).

The Handler must nominate prior to the commencement of the exercise their designated command (verbal or physical hand signal) and must be used consistently for the entire exercise.

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 from the Judge, 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.

**Orders from Judge:**

'Forward', followed by any orders from the Heel Free exercise routine, 'Stand (Stand your Dog)', 'Leave (Leave your Dog)', 'About Turn', 'Halt', 'Down (Down your Dog)', 'Sit (Sit your Dog)', 'Recall (Call your Dog)’, 'Finish', 'Exercise Finished'.

The order for those parts of the exercise done with the dog at heel may be given in any order and may be repeated, but those orders given after the Handler has left the dog in the Stand position must be given in the order specified.

**Deductions:**

**Zero Score:** For a dog which is unmanageable, or receives a verbal and physical hand signal command from the Handler, or an incorrect command, or which fails on a single command to stand where left, or drop, or sit or come, or fails to sit in front, or fails to finish and sit, or anticipates the commands given after the dog has been left.

**Over 50%:** For a dog which moves more than half its body length when changing from the Stand to the Down or from the Down to the Sit, when commands are given after the dog has been left.

**Substantial:** For any double command or failure to sit, stand or down during the heel routine, prolonged commands, slow response to commands.

**Minor:** For imperfections in heeling and for failure to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise.

**Rationale**: The principle feature is to assess how well the dog responds to the handler and it should not matter whether the commands are verbal or physical as long as they are applied consistently throughout the exercise.

**Consequential Changes to:**

Table of Contents – class exercise list, exercise list at beginning of Utility Dog Class, Score Sheet

**SUBMISSION 2**

**(QLD) Proposed changes to Points for 4. Signal Exercise**

1. **SIGNAL EXERCISE Maximum Points: ~~30~~ 40**

**Principal Feature:**

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

**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.

**Orders from Judge:**

'Forward', followed by any orders from the Heel Free exercise routine, 'Stand (Stand your Dog)', 'Leave (Leave your Dog)', 'About Turn', 'Halt', 'Down (Down your Dog)', 'Sit (Sit your Dog)', 'Recall (Call your Dog)’, 'Finish', 'Exercise Finished'.

The order for those parts of the exercise done with the dog at heel may be given in any order and may be repeated, but those orders given after the Handler has left the dog in the Stand position must be given in the order specified.

**Deductions:**

**Zero Score:** For a dog which is unmanageable, or receives an audible command from the Handler, or which fails on a single signal to stand where left, or drop, or sit or come, or fails to sit in front, or fails to finish and sit, or anticipates the signals given after the dog has been left.

**Over 50%:** For a dog which moves more than half its body length when changing from the Stand to the Down or from the Down to the Sit, when signals are given after the dog has been left.

**Substantial:** For any double signal or failure to sit, stand or down during the heel routine, prolonged signals, slow response to signals.

**Minor:** For imperfections in heeling and for failure to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise.

**Rationale for Reallocating Group Examination Points to the Signal Exercise**

It is proposed that the points from the deleted Group Examination be reallocated the Signal exercise. This 30-point exercise is complex and demanding, requiring both a full heel pattern with no voice cues and then silent distance control. It is often failed. 40 points is more in keeping with the actual difficulty of the exercise compared to e.g. Seekback which is also worth 30 points at present.

**Consequential Changes to:**

Table of Contents – class exercise list, exercise list at beginning of Utility Dog Class, Score Sheet

**(QLD) OLD RULE**

~~6. Group Examination 10~~ 1 submission to remove entirely with points reallocated

6. Stand for Examination 10 2 submission to replace with individual exercise

**6. ~~GROUP EXAMINATION: Maximum Points: 10~~ (Qld) to be replaced as below)**

**~~Principal Feature:~~**

~~The dog to stand steadily off the lead until the completion of the exercise and not show undue resentment or shyness.~~

**~~Description of Exercise:~~**

~~This is a Group exercise. The Handlers will take up their positions with their right foot next to the Stay Markers, which are to be placed in a line approximately two and a half (2.5) metres apart, and with their dogs in the stand 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 their dogs and move forward approximately five (5) metres. On further order from the Judge to 'About Turn', the Handlers will about turn and halt on command.~~

~~The Judge must approach each dog from the right or left front, but not direct front. The Judge will physically examine the dog’s head, body, legs and hindquarters only. The mouth and tail must not be examined. This exercise should take no more than three minutes to complete.~~

~~The Judge will give the order 'Return (Return to your Dog)' whereupon the Handlers will return to their dogs. The dogs must remain in the stand position until after the Judge orders 'Exercise Finished' and must not show undue resentment or shyness to the Judge, to other dogs or to the Handlers.~~

~~The Judge may instruct a Steward to watch the other dogs while they conduct the individual examinations and to inform them of any incidents.~~

~~If there are insufficient competitors, the Judge will ask the Steward to furnish stand‑in dogs to make up a Group. These dogs will not be examined and may be left on lead with their Handlers.~~

~~If a dog starts to roam, the Judge may instruct a Steward or the 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'.~~

**~~Deductions:~~**

**~~Disqualification:~~** ~~For a dog that attacks.~~

**~~Zero Score:~~** ~~For a dog which shows an obvious tendency to attack, breaks from position.~~

**~~Minor:~~** ~~For a dog that moves its feet, for poor stands, or if Handlers do not leave and return with other Handlers.~~

**(QLD) NEW RULE**

**SUBMISSION 1 – Remove entirely and reallocate points**

**Rationale for Dropping Group Examination and Reallocating points to Signal Exercise**

Reduces the time needed to call all dogs back for a group exercise.

Consistent with other submissions to remove all group exercises due to concerns about dog on dog attacks as the class assembles outside the ring, during the exercise, or as they exit.

Consistent with prior parts of this submission to remove all Stand for Examination exercises. Asking a dog to stand still for a stranger to approach and touch it is inconsistent with our increased understanding of what helps dogs feel psychologically safe (agency and control); provides an inappropriate role model to spectators about approaching dogs they don’t know (on the one hand seeing judges approach and touch dogs while often being told to “let the dog decide if it wants to interact with you”); and may jeopardize the safety of judges – attacks have been known to occur.

By this level, the dog’s stability in all three positions has been thoroughly tested, including in the stand position for approach by the judge. It’s rare for a dog in UD to fail this exercise. If the proposed Open Stand Free Walkaround exercise is adopted, the dog will have already demonstrated stability in the stand position for a close approach by the judge with the handler 5 meters away and facing away from the dog.

It is proposed that the points from the Group Examination be reallocated the Signal exercise. This 30-point exercise is complex and demanding, requiring both a full heel pattern with no voice cues and then silent distance control. It is often failed. 40 points is more in keeping with the actual difficulty of the exercise compared to e.g. Seekback which is also worth 30 points at present.

**Consequential Changes to:**

Table of Contents – class exercise list, exercise list at beginning of Utility Dog Class, Score Sheet

**SUBMISSION 2**

**(QLD) Replace with individual exercise**

**6. STAND FOR EXAMINATION: Maximum Points: 10**

**Principal Feature:**

The dog to stand steadily off the lead until the completion of the exercise and not show undue resentment or shyness.

**Description of Exercise:**

The Judge will give the order ‘Take up position’. The Handler will be asked ‘Are you Ready’. The next command will be ‘Leave (Leave your Dog)' whereupon the Handler may give their dog a command to stay and will immediately leave their dogs and move forward approximately ten (10) metres. On further order from the Judge to 'About Turn', the Handlers will about turn and halt on command.

The Judge must approach the dog from the right or left front, but not direct front. The Judge will physically examine the dog’s head, body, legs and hindquarters only. The mouth and tail must not be examined.

The Judge will give the order 'Return (Return to your Dog)' whereupon the Handler will return to their dog. The dog must remain in the stand position until after the Judge orders 'Exercise Finished' and must not show undue resentment or shyness.

**Orders from Judge:**

'Take up position’, 'Leave (Leave your Dog)', 'About Turn', 'Halt', 'Return (Return to your Dog)', 'Exercise Finished'.

**Deductions:**

**Disqualification:** For a dog which attacks.

**Zero Score:** For a dog which shows an obvious tendency to attack or breaks from position.

**Minor:** For a dog that moves its feet or for poor stands, for failure to carry out any of the lesser points of the exercise.

**Rationale:** This exercise will replace the Group Examination and therefore reduce the number of incidents. It will make this class safer and is a natural progression with increased distance from prior classes. It will also mean competitors do not have to wait and re-enter the ring once they have completed their exercises, thus reducing the judging time spent on this Class overall.

**Consequential Changes to:**

Table of Contents – class exercise list, exercise list at beginning of Utility Dog Class, Score Sheet

**(QLD) OLD RULE**

**7. ~~5 Min. DOWN STAY Maximum Points: 25~~ (Qld) to be replaced as below)**

 **~~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 positions with their right foot next to the Stay Markers which are to 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 Dog)'. 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 to take the dog away from the other dogs.~~

**~~Orders from Judge:~~**

~~'Leave (Leave your Dog)', 'Return (Return to your Dog)' (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 and return with other Handlers.~~

**(QLD) NEW RULE - INDIVIDUAL EXERCISE**

**7. DOWN RETURN Maximum points: 25**

**Principal Feature:**

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

**Description of Exercise:**

The Judge will give the order ‘Take up position’. On further order from the Judge 'Leave (Leave your Dog)', the Handler may give the command to stay and will leave the dog in a down position and walk to a marker at least thirty (30) metres away from the dog. The handler will about turn and return to the dog without pause. The handler will return around the back of the dog into the heel position. The dog must not move from the down position until after the Judge has ordered ‘Exercise Finished.’

**Orders from Judge:**

‘Take up position’, 'Leave (Leave your Dog)’, ‘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.

**Rationale:** This exercise will replace the Group Down Stay and therefore reduce the number of incidents. It will make this class safer and in this era handlers should not be leaving dogs unattended. It will also mean competitors do not have to wait and re-enter the ring once they have completed their exercises, thus reducing the judging time spent on this Class overall.

**Consequential Changes to:**

Table of Contents – class exercise list, exercise list at beginning of Utility Dog Class, Score Sheet

**UTILITY DOG EXCELLENT CLASS**

**(QLD) Proposed changes to points for 4. Directed Sendaway and Recall – as part of deleting Group Examination.**

**4. DIRECTED SENDAWAY AND RECALL Maximum Points ~~30~~ 35**

**Rationale for Reallocating Some Group Examination Points to Directed Sendaway and Recall, increasing its value to 35 points**

It is proposed that the points from the Group Examination be reallocated across two of the most demanding 30 point exercises in UDX, one of which is Directed Sendaway and Recall. (Alternatively, should another submission propose a different way to use these points for a new UDX exercise that removes both stays and examinations, that could be of interest.)

**(QLD) Proposed changes to points for 5. Distance Control – as part of deleting Group Examination.**

**5. DISTANCE CONTROL Maximum Points ~~30~~ 35**

**Rationale for Reallocating Some Group Examination Points to Distance Control, increasing its value to 35 points**

It is proposed that the points from the Group Examination be reallocated across two of the most demanding 30 point exercises in UDX, one of which is Distance Control.

**Consequential Changes to:**

Table of Contents – class exercise list, exercise list at beginning of Utility Dog Excellent Class, Score Sheet

**(QLD) OLD RULE**

**6. MULTIPLE RETRIEVE: Maximum Points 30**

**Principal Feature:**

The dog to retrieve the designated articles on command.

**Description of Exercise:**

This exercise consists of two (2) retrieves only.

The Handler will provide three leather Scent Discrimination articles that may be 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.

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 must be used. Articles to be placed approximately one (1) metre from the edge of the ring. The Handler should be able to look over their 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’, ‘Halt’. 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 a further article is to be retrieved. Should the dog retrieve the wrong article, or does not retrieve an article where a further article is 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’, ‘Halt, ‘Send (Send your Dog)’, ‘Take it’, ‘Finish’, ‘Part Exercise Finished’, ‘Exercise Finished’, ‘Article Correct’ or Article Incorrect’ followed by ‘Take Up Position’ if a further article is 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.

**(QLD) NEW RULE**

**6. MULTIPLE RETRIEVE: Maximum Points 30**

**Principal Feature:**

The dog to retrieve the designated articles on command.

**Description of Exercise:**

This exercise consists of two (2) retrieves only.

The Handler must nominate at the commencement of the exercise to use either;

1. Three identical leathers that may be any colour including white or black; OR
2. Three identical dumbbells as per the dumbbell equipment requirements; OR
3. Three identical gloves as per the gloves equipment requirements.

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 must be used. Articles to be placed approximately one (1) metre from the edge of the ring. The Handler should be able to look over their 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’, ‘Halt’. 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 a further article is to be retrieved. Should the dog retrieve the wrong article, or does not retrieve an article where a further article is 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’, ‘Halt, ‘Send (Send your Dog)’, ‘Take it’, ‘Finish’, ‘Part Exercise Finished’, ‘Exercise Finished’, ‘Article Correct’ or Article Incorrect’ followed by ‘Take Up Position’ if a further article is 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.

**Rationale:** The principle feature is to assess the dogs’ ability to retrieve the designated articles on command. The dogs have already utilised gloves and dumbbells in lower classes and hence this is a natural progression. Also, leather articles are sometimes not visible in long grass.

**(QLD) OLD RULE**

**7. Group Examination Maximum Points 10**

**Principal Feature:**

This is a group exercise. The dog is to stand steadily off the lead until the completion of the exercise and not show undue resentment or shyness.

**Description of Exercise:**

On the order to ‘Take up your Position’ the Handlers will command their dog to stand in the heel position with their right foot next to the Stay Markers, which are to be placed in a line approximately two and a half (2.5) metres apart. The Handlers will be asked ‘Are you Ready’. The next command will be ‘Leave (Leave your Dogs)’ whereupon the Handlers may give their dog a command to stay and walk approximately ten (10) metres and halt as directed, with their backs to the dogs.

The Handlers are not permitted to look over their shoulders at the dogs.

The Judge will approach each dog from the right or left front not direct front. The Judge will physically examine the dog’s head, body, legs and hindquarters only. The mouth or tail must not be examined. An approximate time of three (3) minutes should be sufficient for this exercise. After the dogs have been examined the Handlers will be ordered to return to their dogs. Dogs must remain in position until after the Judge orders ‘Exercise Finished’.

If there are insufficient competitors, the Judge will ask the Steward to furnish stand‑in dogs to make up a Group. These dogs will not be examined and may be left on lead with their Handlers.

**Orders from Judge:**

‘Take Up your Position’, ‘Are you Ready’, ‘Leave (Leave your Dogs)’, ‘Halt’, ‘Return (Return to your Dogs)’, ‘Exercise Finished’.

**Deductions:**

**Disqualification:** For a dog which attacks.

**Zero Score:** For a dog that shows an obvious tendency to attack, breaks from position. For Handlers that look over their shoulders at their dogs.

**Minor:** For a dog that moves its feet, for poor stands, or if the Handlers do not leave and return with other Handlers.

 **(QLD) SUBMISSION 1 - To be removed entirely and points reallocated.**

**(Rationale for Dropping Group Examination and Reallocating points to Directed Sendaway and Recall and Distance Control**

Reduces the time needed to call all dogs back for a group exercise.

Consistent with other submissions to remove all group exercises due to concerns about dog on dog attacks as the class assembles outside the ring, during the exercise, or as they exit.

Consistent with prior parts of this submission to remove all Stand for Examination exercises. Asking a dog to stand still for a stranger to approach and touch it is inconsistent with our increased understanding of what helps dogs feel psychologically safe (agency and control); provides an inappropriate role model to spectators about approaching dogs they don’t know (on the one hand seeing judges approach and touch dogs while often being told to “let the dog decide if it wants to interact with you”); and may jeopardize the safety of judges – attacks have been known to occur.

By this level, the dog’s stability in all three positions has been thoroughly tested. It’s very rare for a dog in UDX to fail this exercise. If the proposed CDX Stand Free Walkaround exercise is adopted, the dog will have already demonstrated stability in the stand position for a close approach by the judge with the handler 5 meters away and facing away from the dog.

It is proposed that the points from the Group Examination be reallocated to two of the most demanding 30 point exercises in UDX: Directed Sendaway and Recall and Distance Control.

**Consequential Changes to:**

Table of Contents – class exercise list, exercise list at beginning of Utility Dog Excellent Class, Score Sheet

**(QLD) NEW RULE - SUBMISSION 2 (if Submission 1 fails – this is an individual exercise.)**

**7. STAND FOR EXAMINATION: Maximum Points: 10**

**Principal Feature:**

The dog to stand steadily off the lead until the completion of the exercise and not show undue resentment or shyness.

**Description of Exercise:**

The Judge will give the order ‘Take up position’. The next command will be ‘Leave (Leave your Dog)’ whereupon the Handler may give their dog a command to stay and walk approximately fifteen (15) metres and halt as directed, with their back to the dog.

The Handler is not permitted to look over their shoulders at the dog.

The Judge must approach the dog from the right or left front, but not direct front. The Judge will physically examine the dog’s head, body, legs and hindquarters only. The mouth and tail must not be examined.

The Judge will give the order 'Return (Return to your Dog)' whereupon the Handler will return to their dog. The dog must remain in the stand position until after the Judge orders 'Exercise Finished' and must not show undue resentment or shyness.

**Orders from Judge:**

'Take up position’, 'Leave (Leave your Dog)', 'Halt', 'Return (Return to your Dog)', 'Exercise Finished'.

**Deductions:**

**Disqualification:** For a dog which attacks.

**Zero Score:** For a dog that shows an obvious tendency to attack, breaks from position. For Handlers that look over their shoulders at their dog.

**Minor:** For a dog that moves its feet, for poor stands.

**Rationale:** This exercise will replace the Group Examination and therefore reduce the number of incidents. It will make this class safer and is a natural progression with increased distance from prior classes. It will also mean competitors do not have to wait and re-enter the ring once they have completed their exercises, thus reducing the judging time spent on this Class overall.

**Consequential Changes to:**

Table of Contents – class exercise list, exercise list at beginning of Utility Dog Excellent Class, Score Sheet