**2025 NOTC MTG - Attachment 6f - DOGS TAS - A PROPOSED CHANGE TO UDX STAND FOR EXAM**

REMOVE GROUP EXAMINATION REPLACE WITH STAND FREE FOR EXAMINATION -UDX

~~7. GROUP EXAMINATION Maximum Points 10~~

~~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~~

7 STAND FREE 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:** 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 ten (10) metres. The Handler is not permitted to look over their shoulder at the dog The Judge will order the Handler to 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:**

‘‘Are you Ready’, ‘Forward’, ‘Stand (Stand your dog)’, ‘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 dogs.

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

Rationale

**GENERAL RULES INCLUDING GLOSSARY**

1. **INTRODUCTION**

Obedience trials are a sport, and it is expected that all participants will be guided by the principles of good sportsmanship both inside and outside of the ring.

Obedience Trials demonstrate the dog and handler’s ability to work together with precision and publicly showcase the training that has been undertaken to achieve this. Classes are designed to be progressive, allowing the dog and handler to grow in skill and experience as titles are earned. The performance of the dog and handler in the ring must be accurate and correct according to these rules and regulations. It is also essential that the dog demonstrates willingness and enjoyment while it is working and that the handler demonstrates smooth and natural handling without using harsh commands.

As listed above the sport of Obedience is to test the dog and handlers’ ability to work together, removing stays does not affect the intention of obedience trialling in fact it enhances the harmony of which the teams will compete, and brings it more, not less, in line with the mission statement above

Leaving dogs in an out of sight group stay no longer fits into modern day society. Neither does leaving a group of dogs in a stand, which it is very easy for a dog if it decided to move over to another dog before any intervention could happen. Our rules are based on the American and UK exercises both these countries have taken groups stays out of competition for the welfare of dogs, judges and stewards. We live in a litigious world and the threat of a civil complaint if a person is injured is something we should take seriously. It is also unfair with modern day training of building a bond that the bond can be easily broken if a dog is interfered with in the stays. This will take less time for the current stays being performed in the ring work as there is no gathering of competitors and waiting for them to have their dogs ready.