**STARTER TRICKS**

Current Trick name:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| S.1 | Go Round - Once |

S.1 Go Round - once

Proposed amendment:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| S.1 | Around Cone/Pole- Once |

## S.1 Around Cone/Pole – once

Rationale: Change of wording better describes the trick. Some people get confused with this trick and Circle Handler

Will affect the score sheet

**S2 Circle Handler - Once**

Current Rule:

##### Set up

The dog will be in a stance of the handler’s choice and close to the handler.

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to circle him.

##### Action

On cue the dog will make one complete circle forward around the handler, and finish in the same position as at the start of the trick.

Proposed amendment:

##### Set up

The dog will be in a stance of the handler’s choice and close to the handler.

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to circle him.

##### Action

On cue the dog will make one complete circle forward around the handler, and finish close to the handler.

Rationale: Consistency and same wording as the Set Up descriptor

**S.3 – Circle Spin – once**

Current Rule:

##### Set up

The dog will be in a stance of the handler’s choice and close to the handler.

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to circle spin.

##### Action

On cue the dog will complete one circle spin away from the handler and return to the start position. The dog may spin in a clockwise or anti-clockwise direction. The handler may be stationary or moving as the dog does the circle spin.

Proposed amendment:

##### Set up

The dog will be in a stance of the handler’s choice and close to the handler.

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to circle spin.

##### Action

On cue the dog will complete one circle spin away from the handler and return close to the handler. The dog may spin in a clockwise or anti-clockwise direction. The handler may be stationary or moving as the dog does the circle spin.

Rationale: Consistency and same wording as the Set Up descriptor

**S4 – Leg Weave – Stationary Figure of 8**

Current Rule:

##### Set up

The dog will be in a stance of the handler’s choice and may be on the left or right side of the handler.

##### Cue

The handler will have their legs apart and the handler’s feet will remain stationary until the dog has returned to the start position. The handler will cue the dog to weave through his legs.

##### Action

On cue the dog will weave through the handler’s legs, making one (1) figure eight around the handler’s legs, then return to the start position.

Proposed Amendment:

##### Set up

The dog will be in a stance of the handler’s choice and may be on the left or right side of the handler.

##### Cue

The handler will have their legs apart and the handler’s feet will remain stationary until the dog has returned to the start position. The handler will cue the dog to weave through his legs.

##### Action

On cue the dog will weave through the handler’s legs, making one (1) figure eight around the handler’s legs, then return to the start position. The handler’s legs are permitted to bend slightly during the weave.

Rationale: Easier for the handler to execute the trick and more in line with DWD

**S.4 Leg Weave – Stationery figure of 8**

Current Rule:

##### Set up

The dog will be in a stance of the handler’s choice and may be on the left or right side of the handler.

##### Cue

The handler will have their legs apart and the handler’s feet will remain stationary until the dog has returned to the start position. The handler will cue the dog to weave through his legs.

##### Action

On cue the dog will weave through the handler’s legs, making one (1) figure eight around the handler’s legs, then return to the start position.

Proposed Amendment:

##### Set up

The dog will be in a stance of the handler’s choice and may be on the left or right side of the handler.

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to weave through his legs.

##### Action

On cue the dog will weave through the handler’s legs, making one (1) figure eight around the handler’s legs, then return to the start position. The handler’s feet will remain stationary until the dog has returned to the start position.

Rationale: To assist and clarify to the handler as to how the trick is to be performed.

**S.5 Nose to hand touch – 2 touches/ 2seconds**

Current Rule:

##### Set up

The dog will be in the stand position. The handler will be in front of the dog.

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to touch each hand in turn. The handler will present his left hand to his left front and his right hand to his right front and away from his body, once only for each hand. Hands may be presented in any order.

##### Action

On cue the dog will touch the handler’s left and right hand respectively with his nose, when that hand is presented and maintain contact on each hand for two (2) seconds. The Judge will indicate when that time has elapsed. The dog must clearly move to target each presented hand; the handler may not move their hand to the dog. The actual nose to hand touches must be clearly visible to the judge.

Proposed Amendment:

**S.5 Nose to hand touch – 2 touches** (time is deleted)

##### Set up

The dog will be in the stand position. The handler will be in front of the dog.

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to touch each hand in turn. The handler will present his left hand to his left front and his right hand to his right front and away from his body, once only for each hand. Hands may be presented in any order.

##### Action

On cue the dog will touch the handler’s left and right hand respectively with his nose, when that hand is presented. The dog must clearly move to target each presented hand; the handler may not move their hand to the dog. The actual nose to hand touches must be clearly visible to the judge. (Sentences deleted with respect to time)

Rationale: Trick is too hard for Starter level

\*\* Will affect the score sheet – rename

**S.6 Follow the Target Stick**

Current Rule:

##### Set up

The dog may be on the left or right side of the handler. The handler must use a target stick or cane which is at least as long as the dog’s body length.

Cue

The handler will hold the target stick out in front of the dog and may also use a verbal cue.

##### Action

On cue the dog will move and follow the target stick as the handler -

1. turns in a full 360 degree turn; or
2. moves forward at least two (2) body lengths.

The dog will move at a distance from the handler, with focus on the end of the target stick. The dog should not jump up at the target stick.

Proposed Amendment:

##### Set up

The dog may be on the left or right side of the handler. The handler must use a target stick or cane which is at least as long as the dog’s body length.

**Cue**

The handler will hold the target stick out in front of the dog and may also use a verbal cue.

##### Action

On cue the dog will move and follow the target stick as the handler -

1. turns in a full 360 degree turn; or
2. moves forward at least two (2) body lengths.

The dog will move at a distance from the handler, with focus generally on the end of the target stick. It should be obvious to the judge that the dog is following the end of the target stick. The dog should not jump up at the target stick.

Rationale: The dog should not be penalised for checking down, if it is clearly following the handler’s direction to follow the target stick.

**S.7 Step Up – 5 seconds**

Current Rule:

##### Set up

The handler will provide a step or perch/box that must have a non-slip surface and be of a suitable size for the dog and provide distinct elevation, relative to the size of the dog.

The dog will be in a stance of the handler’s choice and may be with the handler or left in a stay adjacent to the perch/step. The handler will remain at least one (1) metre from the perch/step throughout the trick.

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to put his front feet only on the perch/step.

##### Action

On cue the dog will move to and place his front feet on the perch/step and hold that position for five (5) seconds. The Judge will indicate when that time has elapsed.

Proposed Amendment:

**Set Up**

The handler will provide a step/perch/box that must have a non-slip surface and be of a suitable size for the dog and provide distinct elevation, relative to the size of the dog.

The dog will be in a stance of the handler’s choice and may be with the handler or left in a stay adjacent to the step/perch/box. The handler will remain at least one (1) metre from the step/perch/box throughout the trick.

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to put his front feet only on the step/perch/box.

##### Action

On cue the dog will move to and place his front feet on the step/perch/box and hold that position for five (5) seconds. The Judge will indicate when that time has elapsed.

Rationale: Consistency of wording with other levels

**S.7 Step Up – 5 seconds**

Current Rule:

##### Set up

The handler will provide a step or perch/box that must have a non-slip surface and be of a suitable size for the dog and provide distinct elevation, relative to the size of the dog.

The dog will be in a stance of the handler’s choice and may be with the handler or left in a stay adjacent to the perch/step. The handler will remain at least one (1) metre from the perch/step throughout the trick.

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to put his front feet only on the perch/step.

##### Action

On cue the dog will move to and place his front feet on the perch/step and hold that position for five (5) seconds. The Judge will indicate when that time has elapsed.

Proposed Amendment

##### Set up

The handler will provide a step or perch/box that must have a non-slip surface and be of a suitable size for the dog and provide distinct elevation, relative to the size of the dog.

The dog will be in a stance of the handler’s choice and may be with the handler or left in a stay next to the perch/step. The handler will remain at least one (1) metre from the perch/step throughout the trick.

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to put his front feet only on the perch/step.

##### Action

On cue the dog will move to and place his front feet on the perch/step and hold that position for five (5) seconds. The Judge will indicate when that time has elapsed.

Rationale: Clarity for handlers

**S.9 Back Up - 1 body length**

Current Rule:

##### Set up

The dog will be in a stand in front of and facing the handler. There will be a distance of at least 0.5 m between the dog and the handler and the handler must not crowd the dog.

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to back up.

##### Action

On cue the dog will back up at least one (1) body length. The handler will remain stationary but may take a step forward to initiate the movement; however, this step must not encroach on the minimum distance of 0.5 m from the dog which must be maintained throughout the trick.

Proposed Amendment:

##### Set up

The dog will be in a sit or stand in front of and facing the handler. There will be a distance of at least 0.5m between the dog and the handler and the handler must not crowd the dog.

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to back up.

##### Action

On cue the dog will back up at least one (1) body length. The handler will remain stationary but may take a step forward to initiate the movement; however, this step must not encroach on the minimum distance of 0.5 m from the dog which must be maintained throughout the trick.

Rationale: To add flexibility and assist handlers whose dogs commence in a sit

**S.9 Back Up - 1 body length**

Current Rule:

##### Set up

The dog will be in a stand in front of and facing the handler. There will be a distance of at least 0.5 m between the dog and the handler and the handler must not crowd the dog.

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to back up.

##### Action

On cue the dog will back up at least one (1) body length. The handler will remain stationary but may take a step forward to initiate the movement; however, this step must not encroach on the minimum distance of 0.5 m from the dog which must be maintained throughout the trick.

Proposed Amendment:

##### Set up

The dog will be in a stand in front of and facing the handler. There will be a distance of at least 0.5m between the dog and the handler and the handler must not crowd the dog.

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to back up.

##### Action

On cue the dog will back up at least one (1) body length. The verbal and/or physical cue may be repeated until the dog has completed the distance required in the trick. The handler will remain stationary but may take a step forward to initiate the movement; however, this step must not encroach on the minimum distance of 0.5 m from the dog which must be maintained throughout the trick.

Rationale: Dogs given a cue to back up are generally taught to continue until the cues are removed. This will prevent the dog from stopping before the required distance has been completed.

## S. 10 Send over Jump – from 1 metre

## Current Rule:

##### Set up

The handler will provide a jump (which may be a bar jump or a solid jump and must be safe for the dog to jump) with a minimum height of 150mm and of a maximum height of 400mm. The height which the dog jumps should be suitable for the dog’s abilities. The handler and dog will stand at least one (1) metre (on either side) from the jump with the dog in a stance of the handler’s choice and beside the handler on either left or right side.

The handler may -

1. remain at the start point and send the dog over the jump; or
2. run past the jump with the dog, to encourage him to jump; or
3. leave the dog and move to stand at the side of the jump and send the dog over; or
4. move to the opposite side of the jump and stand at least one (1) metre away from the jump.

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to take the jump. The handler is not required to inform the Judge which option he will be using. The handler may take a step forward to send the dog but this step must not encroach on the minimum distance of one (1) metre from the jump.

##### Action

On cue the dog will jump over the jump, land on the other side and return close to the handler.

Proposed Amendment:

##### Set up

The handler will provide a jump (which may be a bar jump or a solid jump and must be safe for the dog to jump) with a minimum height of 150mm and of a maximum height of 400mm. The height which the dog jumps should be suitable for the dog’s abilities. The handler and dog will stand at least one (1) metre (on either side) from the jump with the dog in a stance of the handler’s choice and beside the handler on either left or right side.

The handler may -

1. remain at the start point and send the dog over the jump; or
2. run past the jump with the dog, to encourage him to jump; or
3. leave the dog and move to stand at the side of the jump and send the dog over; or
4. move to the opposite side of the jump and stand at least one (1) metre away from the jump.

##### The handler will move to their chosen position.

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to take the jump. The handler is not required to inform the Judge which option he will be using. The handler may take a step forward to send the dog but this step must not encroach on the minimum distance of one (1) metre from the jump.

##### Action

On cue the dog will jump over the jump, land on the other side and return close to the handler.

Rationale: Clarity for handlers

**S.12 Send Away – from 2 metres**

Current Rule:

**Footnote 6.** This may include a mat, box, suitcase, hula hoop, laundry basket, baby bath or other low sided barrier or object which clearly marks the perimeter of the area.

Proposal Amendment:

**Footnote 6.** This may include a mat, box, suitcase, hula hoop, laundry basket, baby bath or other low sided barrier or object which clearly marks the perimeter of the area. The defined area must not be enclosed.

Rationale: Prevents people using an enclosed object eg. crates

\*\* Affects – N.13 footnote 7, I.9 footnote 12

## S. 13 Find Straddle Position - 2 seconds

## Current Rule:

##### Set up

The dog may be in any position other than straddle and, if behind the handler, will be at least one (1) body length away.

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to wait while he takes up position and moves his legs apart to form an inverted ‘V’. The handler will further cue the dog to move into straddle position.

##### Action

On cue, the dog will take up position with his shoulder/chest between the handler’s legs and facing the same direction as the handler. The dog will maintain this position for two (2) seconds. The Judge will indicate when that time has elapsed.

Proposed Amendment:

##### Set up

The dog may be in any position other than straddle and, if behind the handler, will be at least one (1) body length away.

The handler will move their legs apart to form an inverted V prior to the commencement of the trick.

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to wait while he takes up position. The handler will further cue the dog to move into straddle position.

##### Action

On cue, the dog will take up position with his shoulder/chest between the handler’s legs and facing the same direction as the handler. The dog will maintain this position for two (2) seconds. The Judge will indicate when that time has elapsed.

Rationale: Clarity for the handler

## S.14 Stationary Hold - 2 seconds

## Current Rule:

##### Set up

The handler will provide a retrieve object (which may be a toy). The dog will be in a stance of the handler’s choice and may be directly in front of the handler or beside the handler.

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to take the object and hold it.

##### Action

On cue the dog will take the object and hold it, without mouthing it, for two (2) seconds; the time starts once the dog has taken the article from the handler. The Judge will indicate when that time has elapsed.

Proposed Amendment:

##### Set up

The handler will provide a retrieve object (which may be a toy). The dog will be in a stance of the handler’s choice and may be directly in front of the handler or beside the handler.

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to take the object and hold it.

##### Action

On cue the dog will take the object and hold it, without continual mouthing, for two (2) seconds; the time starts once the dog has taken the article from the handler. The Judge will indicate when that time has elapsed.

## Rationale: Allows for slight mouthing when the dog first takes the article and any necessary slight adjustment during the trick.

## S.15 Sit Pretty – 2 seconds

## Current Rule:

##### Set up

The dog will be in a stance and position of the handler’s choice.

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to Sit Pretty.

##### Action

On cue the dog will sit securely balanced on his hindquarters and will -

1. raise his front paws in the air, without support; or
2. raise his front paws onto the arm of the handler.

In either case the dog will hold the position for two (2) seconds. The Judge will indicate when that time has elapsed.

Proposed Amendment:

##### Set up

The dog will be in a stance and position of the handler’s choice.

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to Sit Pretty and present the arm if option (b) is chosen.

##### Action

On cue the dog will sit securely balanced on his hindquarters and will -

1. raise his front paws in the air, without support; or
2. raise his front paws onto the arm of the handler.

In either case the dog will hold the position for two (2) seconds. The Judge will indicate when that time has elapsed.

Rationale: Clarity for the handler