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Upcoming Changes to June 2025 Program Rules

All changes included in this document are effective beginning June 1, 2025.

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Obedience Program

OB.24.03 Graduate Novice Retrieve Over the High Jump

Approved by ASCA Board of Directors: June 27, 2024

Current Wording:

9.7 Dumbbell Recall Over High Jump

The principal features of this exercise are that the dog promptly takes the dumbbell from the handler, stays until directed to jump, and promptly comes to the handler over the jump holding the dumbbell. Orders are “Give your dog the dumbbell,” “Leave your dog,” “Call your dog,” “Take it,” and “Finish.”

The handler shall stand with their dog sitting in heel position at least 8 feet, or any reasonable distance beyond 8 feet, from the jump. On order, “Give your dog the dumbbell,” the handler shall give the dog the dumbbell to hold. On order, “Leave your dog,” the handler will command and/or signal for the dog to stay in the sit position while the handler walks at least 8 feet beyond the other side of the jump and then turns and directly faces dog as in the Novice Recall. On the judge’s order, the handler will command or signal the dog to jump. The dog must clear the high jump and come sit in front of the handler to deliver the dumbbell. The high jump structure shall be the same as defined in the Open rules. Jump heights shall be the same as defined in the Open rules.

9.8 Dumbbell Recall Over High Jump, Scoring

A dog that fails to take the dumbbell on the first command must be scored non-qualifying (NQ). Minor or substantial deductions, depending on the extent, shall be made for a dog that drops, plays with or mouths the dumbbell as the handler walks away. In addition, all applicable penalties for the Novice Recall, Open Retrieve on the Flat and Open Retrieve Over the High Jump shall apply.

New Wording Effective June 1, 2025:

9.7 ~~Dumbbell Recall~~ Retrieve Over High Jump

The principal features of this exercise are that the dog ~~promptly takes the dumbbell from the handler, stays until directed to jump, and promptly comes to the handler over the jump holding the dumbbell~~ goes out over the jump, picks up the dumbbell and promptly returns with it over the jump. Orders are ~~“Give your dog the dumbbell,” “Leave your dog,” “Call your dog,”~~ “Throw it,” “Send your dog,” “Take it,” and “Finish.” This exercise shall be executed in the same manner as the Retrieve on the Flat, except that the dog must clear the High Jump both going and coming. The handler ~~shall~~ must stand ~~with their dog sitting in heel position at least~~ 8 feet, or any reasonable distance beyond 8 feet, from the jump, must remain in the same spot throughout the exercise, and must throw the dumbbell at least 8 feet beyond the jump. ~~On order, “Give your dog the dumbbell,” the handler shall give the dog the dumbbell to hold. On order, “Leave your dog,” the handler will~~

~~command and/or signal for the dog to stay in the sit position while the handler walks at least 8 feet beyond the other side of the jump and then turns and directly faces dog as in the Novice Recall. On the judge's order, the handler will command or signal the dog to jump. The dog must clear the high jump and come sit in front of the handler to deliver the dumbbell.~~ After the judge's order to "Send your dog," the handler may give a command and/or signal to jump, a command and/or signal to pick up dumbbell and a command and/or signal to return over the high jump.

The high jump structure shall be the same as defined in the Open 4.64 Retrieve Over the High Jump rules. ~~Jump heights shall be the same as defined in the Open rules.~~ The high jump structure shall be the same as defined in the Open 4.64. Retrieve Over the High Jump rules. The dog shall jump at least one half (1/2) their required jump height. Refer to the Reference Sheet for detailed jump heights for all breeds. Handlers requesting their dogs jump more than the minimum required height shall neither be penalized nor receive extra consideration. The jumps may be set by the stewards based on the handler's advice as to the dog's height. The judge must make certain that the jump is at least the minimum required for each dog and must also be aware that the jump shall be set at a higher height if requested by the handler. The judge may, at their discretion, verify the height of any dog at the withers.

9.8 ~~Dumbbell Recall~~ Retrieve Over High Jump, Scoring

The scoring of this exercise shall be as in Section 9.6, Retrieve on the Flat, Performance and Scoring. In addition, ~~A~~ a dog that fails, either going or returning, to ~~take the dumbbell on the first command~~ go over the full height of the jump, or that climbs or uses the jump for aid in going over, must be scored non-qualifying (NQ). Minor or substantial deductions, depending on the ~~extent~~ specific circumstances in each case, shall be made for ~~a~~ the dog that ~~drops, plays with or mouths the dumbbell as the handler walks away~~ touches the jump in going over or displays any hesitation or reluctance to jump. All appropriate penalties for the Retrieve on the Flat apply. In addition, all applicable penalties for the Novice Recall, Open Retrieve on the Flat and Open Retrieve Over the High Jump shall apply.

Rally Program

RA.24.11 Clarification in List of Required Signs

Approved by ASCA Board of Directors: May 27, 2024

Current Wording:

1.15.2 Signs and Holders

A. A full set of Signs consists of one of each sign except for Right Turn, Left Turn, 270 Right Turn, 270 Left Turn, 45 Diagonal Left, 45 Diagonal Right, 225 Loop Left, 225 Loop Right, Normal Pace, Send Over Jump, and Halt, Leave Dog; two each of these must be included.

New Wording Effective June 1, 2025:

1.15.2 Signs and Holders

A. A full set of Signs consists of one of each sign except for Right Turn, Left Turn, 270 Right Turn, 270 Left Turn, 45 Diagonal Left, 45 Diagonal Right, 225 Loop Left, 225 Loop Right, Normal Pace, and Send Over Jump, ~~and Halt, Leave Dog~~; two each of these must be included.

RA.24.12 Addition of New Signs to 19.3.2 Sign Placement

Approved by ASCA Board of Directors: June 27, 2024

Current Wording:

19.3.2 Sign Placement

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F. Fast (sign #3), Halt Fast (sign #2), About Turn Fast (sign #228), and U Turn Fast (sign #229) must be followed by the Normal sign.

Last updated 6/27/2024

G. Slow (sign #4), Halt Slow (sign #300), About Turn Slow (sign #317), and U Turn Slow (sign #318) may be followed by either the Normal sign or the Finish sign.

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New Wording Effective June 1, 2025:

19.3.2 Sign Placement

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F. Fast (sign #3), Halt Fast (sign #2), About Turn Fast (sign #228), ~~and~~ U Turn Fast (sign #229), 270 Left Fast (sign #232), 270 Right Fast (sign# 233), 225 Loop Left Fast (sign # 234), and 225 Loop Right Fast (sign# 235) must be followed by the Normal sign.

G. Slow (sign #4), Halt Slow (sign #300), About Turn Slow (sign #317), ~~and~~ U Turn Slow (sign #318), 270 Left Slow (sign #328), 270 Right Slow (sign# 329), 225 Loop Left Slow (sign # 330), and 225 Loop Right Slow (sign# 331) may be followed by either the Normal sign or the Finish sign.

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