



JUNIOR HANDLER MANUAL

(2ND EDITION)

REVISED JANUARY 2010 IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ANKC
JUNIOR HANDLER COMMITTEE

PRODUCED BY THE JUNIOR HANDLER WORKING PARTY OF DOGS NSW

MANUAL ILLUSTRATIONS BY MRS LISA BRACK 2006

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SPORTSMANSHIP

IN JUNIOR HANDLERS

Friendships in Junior Handler Competition can be established in many different ways. They can result from a simple talk at the side of the ring, or while waiting in the ring during a large class. Once you become friends with your fellow exhibitors, you will find that most of them have feelings and goals very similar to your own. As these friendships develop, you may be able to assist one another in improving your skills. By helping one another, you establish a team effort that can greatly enhance your enjoyment of the sport. If it is not your day to win, you can take pleasure in the wins of your friends. When you are successful, they can take pleasure in yours. Friendship can help bring the most important purpose of Junior Handler Competition back into focus – winning does not have to be the most important objective. This is a much healthier outlook.

AGE GROUPS

JUNIOR HANDLER DOG COMPETITIONS:

7 years to under 10 years (Not applicable in Qld)

10 years to under 13 years

13 years to under 18 years

HEAT WINS

There are limitations to the number of heats a Junior may win and this is covered by a State regulation.

Refer your State Control for clarification.

Dogs used in Junior Handlers must be ANKC registered.

All dogs handled must be over the age of 12 months.

NO BITCHES IN SEASON ARE PERMITTED IN ANY COMPETITIONS.

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INTERPRETATIONS OF TERMINOLOGY

(Explanation of Words)

ANTI-CLOCKWISE	the opposite direction to which the hands on a clock go around.
CLOCKWISE	the way in which the hands on a clock go around.
COILED, COILING	collecting the lead in your hand.
CROWDING	getting too close to other dogs and handlers.
DOG EYE CONTACT	allowing the dogs to look at each other.
DOG'S BITE	showing the dog's bite, both side views and front.
FREE STAND	allowing the dog to stand naturally, without touching the dog.
FRONT MOVEMENT	seeing the front view of the dog coming back to the Judge.
LEAD DANGLING	the end of the lead hanging loosely from the hand.
LEFT ABOUT TURN	the dog and handler turn anticlockwise and return on the same line.
LINE UP	a line up of dogs and handlers.
LOOSE LEAD	a lead, which whilst not tight, still allows control of the dog.
REAR MOVEMENT	seeing the rear view of the dog going away from the Judge.
RELAX YOUR DOG	allowing the dog to take it easy and not to be in a stacked position.
RING CRAFT	the ability to show and handle a dog to its best advantage.
SET UP / STACK	placing the dog in the required body position for that breed.
STANCE	the overall look of the dog when it is standing still.
TEAM WORK	talking to the dog and working together as a team.
TENSION ON LEAD	pulling or dragging or a tight lead.
USING FOOD	baiting or rewarding the dog with food or treats whilst in the ring.

Rules and Advice

FOR JUNIOR HANDLERS

- Dogs used for Junior handler competitions must be ANKC registered and in some States must be entered in the show.
- Juniors must not take Bitches in season into any Junior Handler competitions.
- Never place yourself between your Dog and the Judge.
- Be clean and suitably dressed for the show ring. For instance, for girls it is not desirable to wear mini skirts in which you cannot bend over properly to set up your dog. Footwear should be suitable for moving around the ring. NO thongs, scuff type footwear allowed.
- Have a lead that is suitable and not too long as it will encourage you to fiddle with the lead.
- Make sure the lead is not too short to enable you to step around your dog comfortably without stepping over the back of your dog, as this will be penalised.
- Keep the lead coiled in your left hand. Never dangle or drop any part of it.
- Choose a dog carefully. Make sure it is one with which you feel comfortable.
- All dogs must be over the age of 12 months to compete in a Junior Dog Handler competition.
- Exhibit a number on your left-hand side where it can be clearly seen. Only wear one card.
- Get to know all about the breed of dog you are showing. E.g. What breed it is? How old is the dog you are handling?
- Listen to the Judge's instructions carefully. If unsure of the instruction, politely ask the Judge to repeat it.
- Learn how to show a dog's bite, both front and side views of the mouth, except breeds that do not have their bites examined. E.g. Griffon, Pug, Pekingese. If asked to show the bite on such a breed, politely advise the judge that "this breed does not have its bite examined."
- When returning to the Judge set up or free stand your dog as requested.
- Be sure not to set your dog up too early, as your dog may become unsettled. The best time to set your dog up for final placing is when the last dog is moving around the ring.
- When returning to your position, don't walk up the back of line of the handlers, as you will block the view of your dog from the Judge. It is advisable to bring your dog forward from the line and move to the position requested. If the Judge requests you to return to the line at the rear of the other handlers and dogs, take care not to crowd or upset the other dogs.
- If using food in the ring, make sure that the food does not interfere with any other dog or handler. Always pick up any food that you may drop. Handlers should be penalised for not picking up bait.

RULES & ADVICE FOR JUDGES

“Never judge the dog, always Judge the Handling”

- Always make sure there is a suitable table available for the younger age groups.
- Judges should give clear and concise instructions. Be specific, never try to confuse or trick the handlers.
- Handlers should show the dog’s bite, both front and side views of the bite. Breeds such as Pugs, Pekingese and Griffon do not have their bites examined. The Junior Handler may politely advise the judge that the breed of dog does not have its bite examined.
- Never assume that because a dog is moving well or stands like a statue, it is being well handled.
- Make sure you are aware of the different ring exercises. They are Out & Back, Triangle, Round the Ring (Circle), Out & Back Together with the dogs on the left hand side (show side) and Out & Back together with the dogs Side by Side, (all of which are illustrated in this manual). Always bring the 2 handlers out from a line to you to do this exercise so when the handlers return with their dogs head to tail, the handlers do not come back to the original line to have eye to eye contact with the other dogs.
- When asking for an Out and Back Together exercise, be specific in which of the two exercises you require. i.e. Out & Back Together with the dogs on the left-hand side (Show side) or Out & Back Together with the dogs Side by Side. Always bring the 2 handlers out from a line to you to do this exercise so when the handlers return with their dogs head to tail, the handlers do not come back to the original line to have eye to eye contact with the other dogs
- A score sheet is provided for Judges wishing to score each handler. Use of this is optional.
- Ask what breed of dog it is? How old is the dog?
- Look for smooth handling and kind hands.
- Look for enjoyment whilst participating.
- When asking for a particular exercise, you should also ask the handler to either come back and free stand or set up their dog.
- Look for Teamwork.
- You should not self examine the bites of the dogs; this is a test for the handlers.
- You should not examine dogs.
- A Judge who has judged a Junior Handler competition shall not judge the same age group within 90 days or 100 km by the shortest road. Specialty and Semi-Specialist shows are exempt.

HANDLERS SHOULD BE PENALISED FOR:

- Getting in between the Judge and their dog.
- Not following Judge's instructions.
- Not clearly exhibiting a number.
- Dangling any part of their lead, or dropping the lead.
- Not knowing the breed of dog being shown.
- Rough handling of the dog.
- Having lead too tight, making it uncomfortable for the dog.
- Moving the dog incorrectly for the breed being handled.
- Not standing the dog the correct way for that breed.
- Walking up the back of a line of handlers when leaving and returning to a position.
- Lack of control of the dog at all times.
- Stepping over the dogs back.
- Not picking up bait.

GUIDELINES FOR JUNIOR HANDLERS ENTERING THE RING

- Look before entering the ring to see where the Judge is standing.
- Listen to either the steward or the Judge as to where they want you to go.
- Make sure not to crowd the handler in front, leave plenty of space between each handler and dog and enough room for the Judge to walk between.
- Always keep an eye on the Judge, so you never walk between your dog and the Judge.
- Have your dog on show at all times unless instructed to relax your dog.
- Move towards the rear of the dog as the Judge comes to its front by giving a command, if need be, to steady your dog. Move towards the front of the dog's head as the Judge approaches the rear end again. Give a command to steady the dog if need be.
- When walking towards the rear of your dog, never step over the dog's back. Progress slowly step by step and, if need be, give the dog a command to stand steady.
- As the last dog moves around have your dog set up for the Judge to view.

Setting Dogs Up Head To Tail



SETTING UP A DOG

You are required to set up any breed of dog in exactly the same manner as in the show ring. This should be done as quickly and efficiently as possible.

Sometimes there are only a few seconds before the Judge will be ready to look at your dog.

During a line-up you should present your dog in one of the following ways, depending on the breed. The front and rear feet should be set up in accordance with the breed being shown.

Diagram 1: Handler standing beside the dog



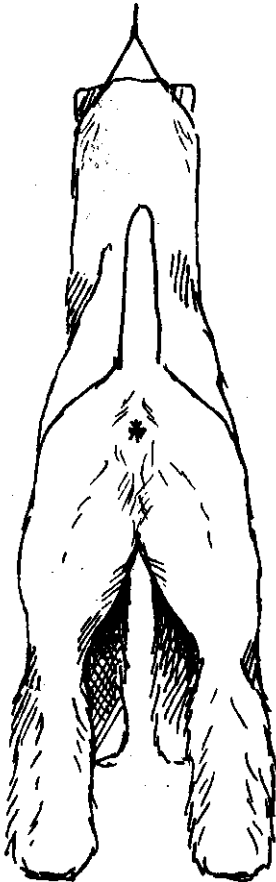
SETTING UP OF A DOG - FRONT AND REAR VIEWS

Diagram 2: Front and rear views

Front view of Dog



Rear view of Dog



HEAD

The dog's head is held in a natural position. The breed standard will indicate high or low lead position

Diagram 1: Head held with lead



Diagram 2: Head held by collar

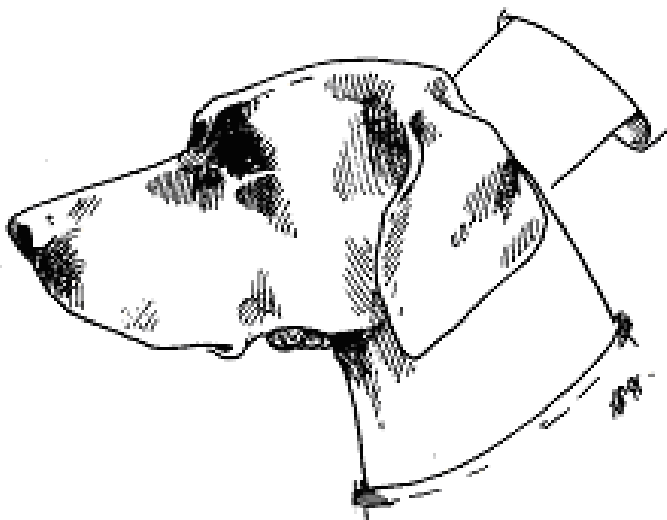


Diagram 3: Head held by hand

HOLDING OF DOG'S TAIL

Holding of the tail position according to the breed.



Diagram 3: Handler holding dog's tail.



Diagram 4: Holding a Natural Tail for breeds that have their tails held.

TABLED DOGS

Place the dog safely towards the front end of the table as shown in the diagram below. Be careful that the dog is not placed too close to the edge to avoid falling and causing serious injury.

Do not place your lead around your neck. You must have full control of your dog at all times and keep the lead coiled in your hand.

Note: The lead is held in the hand for your safety and the security of the dog.

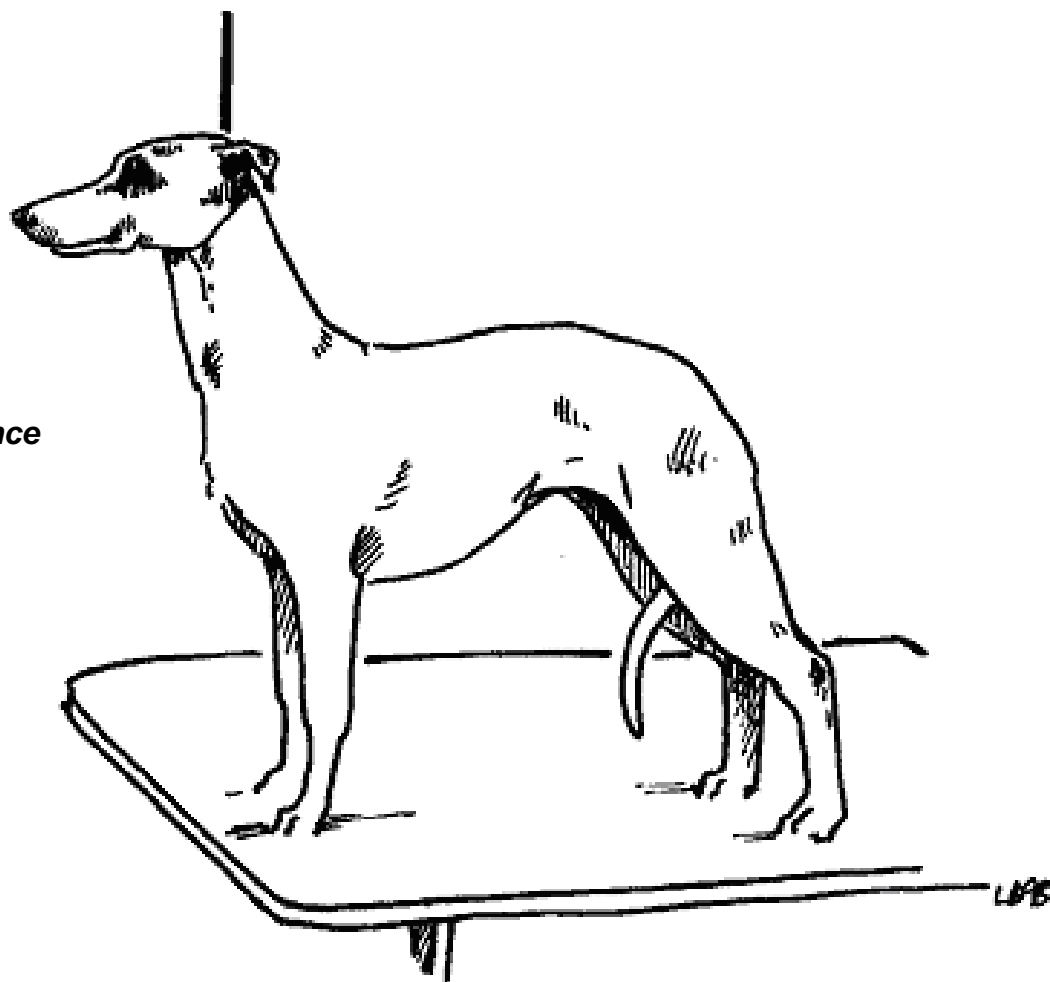


Diagram 5: Stance

SHOWING DOG'S BITE, ALL VIEWS

Place a hand underneath the dog's chin to steady the dog's head.

Lift the dog's lip to show the bite with the teeth together and never use force, as this will upset the dog. Also move your hand around to lift the dog's lip to show both side views of teeth.

Breeds such as Pugs, Pekingese and Griffon do not have their bites examined and Junior Handlers should politely advise the judge that the breed does not have its bite examined.

Note: Be sure that all views of the bite are gently presented to the Judge.



. Example of showing bite with one hand



Example of showing bite with two hands

OUT & BACK

All Ages - All Competitions

Aim of Exercise

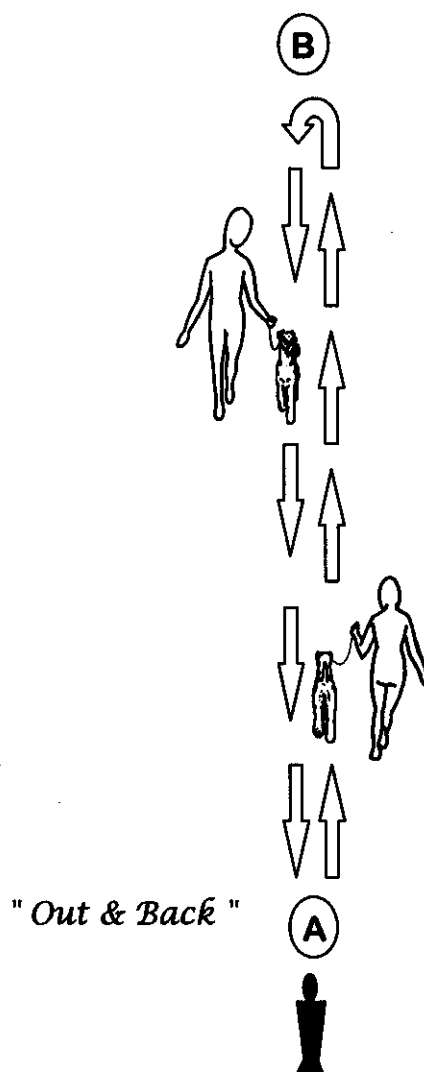
This is used to enable the Judge to see the dog's rear movement when going away and to see the front movement when coming back.

Observe the starting point of the Judge before commencing to enable you to come back straight to the Judge's position.

Position your dog in front of the Judge, line an object up in front so you are moving in a straight line.

The dog must be moved along the Judge's line of vision and returned with a left about turn along the same line.

Never place yourself between the Judge and your Dog. Go out from point (A) to point (B), and then return on same line from point (B) to point (A) stopping approx 2 metres (6ft) away from the Judge and presenting dog as per Judge's instructions.



Note: At NO time should you touch the dog's head on the corner of the exercise.

Do not over use your lead, keep it coiled up in your left hand. DO NOT have any part of the lead dangling.

Always watch the ring and as the last dog moves, have your dog "set up" ready for the Judge to view.

THE TRIANGLE

All Ages - All Competitions

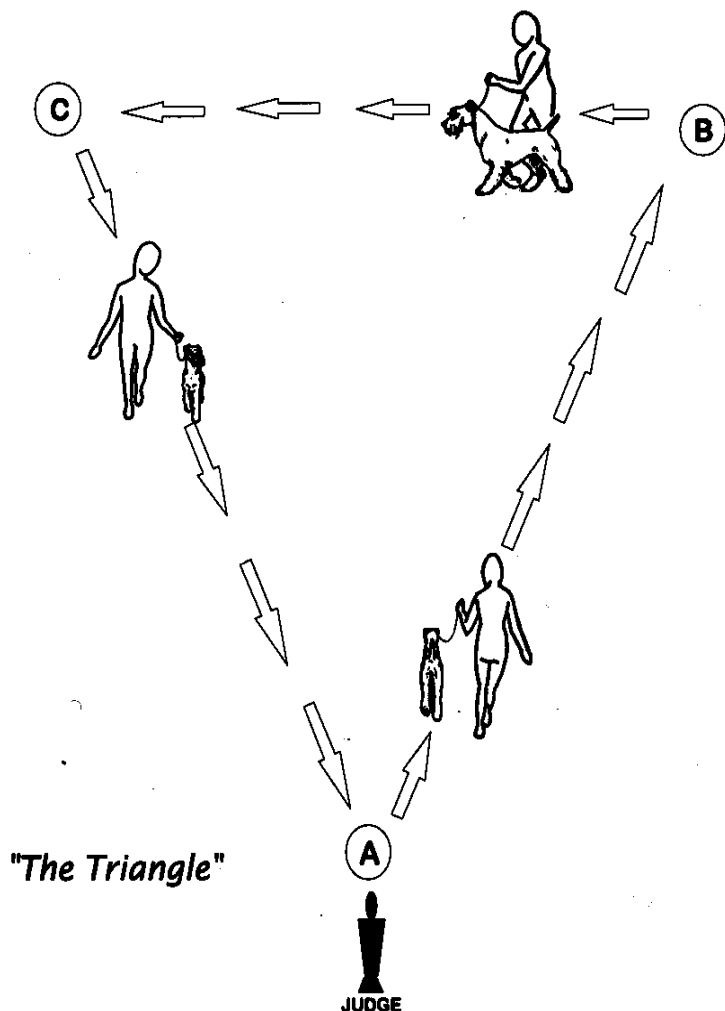
Aim of Exercise

This is used to enable the Judge to see the rear, side and front views of the dog.

Observe the starting point of the Judge before you commence. The Judge should not find it necessary to move position to obtain the correct view of the dog. The triangle should not be so wide as to be outside the Judge's line of vision, nor too narrow because the side view would be short. Aim for an equilateral triangle (all three sides' similar length).

Never place yourself between the Judge and your dog.

Position your dog in front of the Judge. Go from point (A) to point (B) and then from (B) to (C). This should cross the Judge's line of vision. Bring dog back from (C) to (A) stopping approx 2 metres (6ft) away from the Judge and present dog as per Judge's instructions. (Line your objects up before leaving so you can go to each point to form a triangle before starting.)



Note: At NO time should you touch the dog's head on the corner of the exercise.

Do not over use your lead, keep it coiled up in your left hand. DO NOT have any part of the lead dangling.

Always watch the ring and as the last dog moves, have your dog "set up" ready for the Judge to view.

ROUND THE RING

All Ages - All Competitions

Aim of Exercise

This pattern is to see the handler's control of the dog and the ring craft of the handler / handlers. Handlers should use the whole ring unless instructed by the Judge.

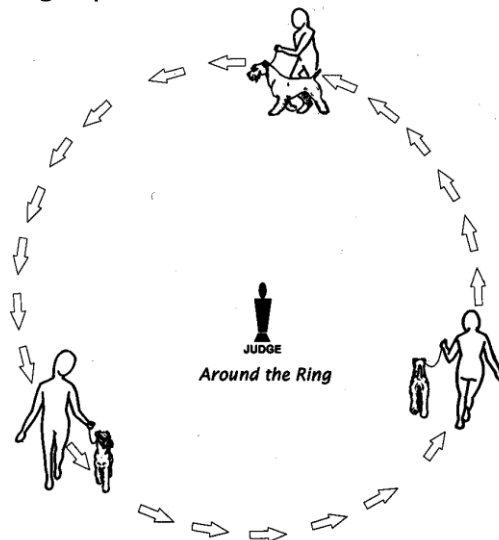
Always keep the dog moving at a correct pace according to the size and breed of dog.

Do not overtake the dog in front. If the dog in front is slow, stop and give them plenty of room. This enables you to show your dog correctly and not run too close to the dog in front. The dog should be on the left-hand side of the handler and you should move the dog around the ring in an anti-clockwise direction.

If you have to go past the Judge at any time with your dog, you are required to change the lead into the right hand on the nearest corner to the Judge and bring the dog past the Judge and then change the dog back to the left hand on the other corner just past the Judge.

NB: There is no need for the handler to change position of the dog if not going past the Judge.

Present your dog as per Judge's instructions, stopping approx 2 metres (6ft) away from the Judge after completing a pattern



Note: At NO time should you touch the dog's head on the corner of the exercise.

Do not over use your lead, keep it coiled up in your left hand. DO NOT have any part of the lead dangling.

Always watch the ring and as the last dog moves, have your dog "set up" ready for the Judge to view.

OUT AND BACK TOGETHER WITH DOGS ON THE LEFT HAND SIDE

(Show Side)

(All Age Groups)

Aim of Exercise

This is to enable the Judge to see two dogs' rear and front movement together and to see the co-ordination of the handlers handling the breed of dog being shown.

Both handlers have their dogs on their left-hand side to avoid dog eye contact with each other. Going out and back from the Judge, both handlers should do a left about turn together and return to the Judge together, still with the dog on the left hand side stopping approx. 2 metres (6ft) away from the Judge.

When returning to the Judge, both handlers should present their dogs as if they were in a class line-up. i.e. head to tail.

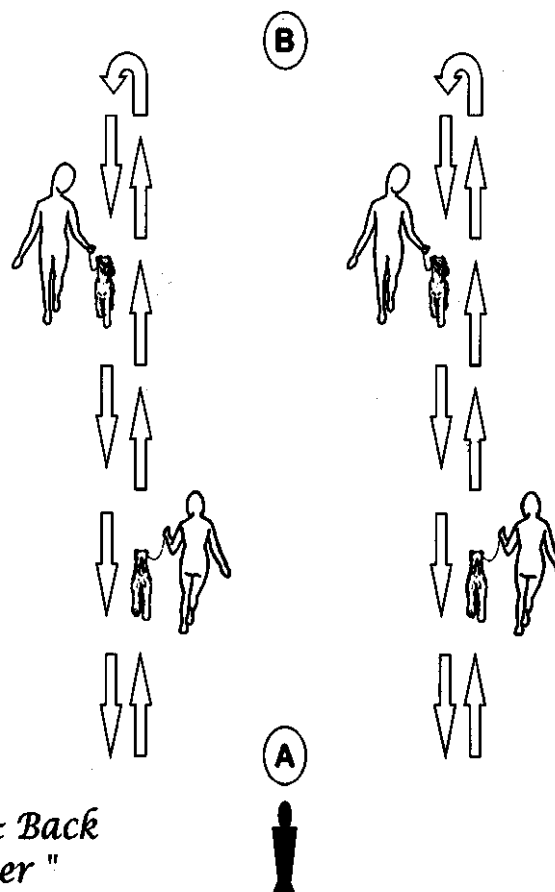
The Judge will be judging your ability to keep your dog under control when it is close to another dog, as well as your ability to pace yourself to another handler's gait.

It is a challenge to you as a handler to keep your dog moving smoothly and in unison. The handler of the smaller dog should set the pace. The handler of the large dog may have to move the dog at a walking pace to keep the two dogs together.

Note: At NO time should you touch the dog's head on the corner of the exercise.

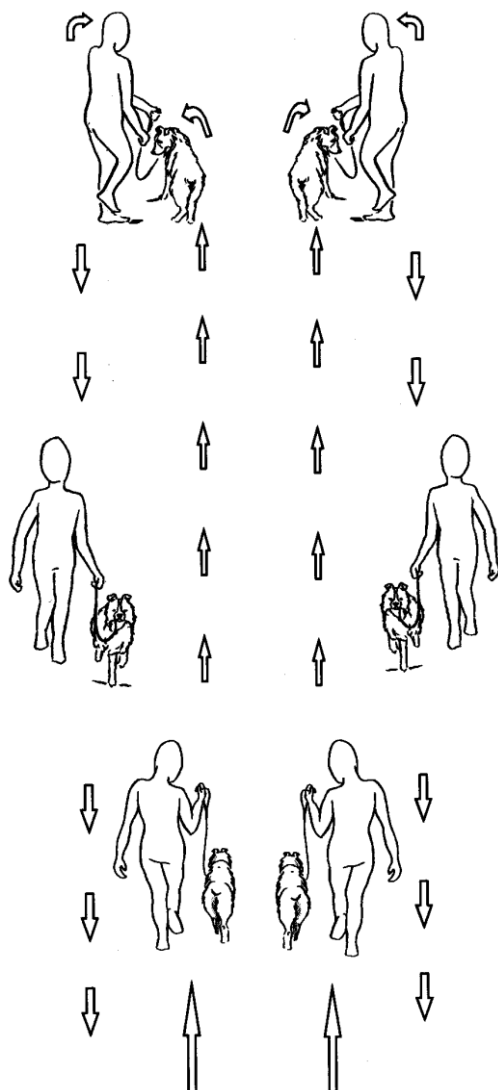
Do not over use your lead, keep it coiled up in your left hand. DO NOT have any part of the lead dangling.

Always watch the ring and as the last two dogs move, have your dog "set up" ready for the Judge to view.



OUT AND BACK TOGETHER WITH THE DOGS SIDE BY SIDE (ALL AGE GROUPS)

Aim of Exercise



This is another way for the Judge to see two dogs' rear and front movement together and to see the co-ordination of the handlers, handling the breed of dog being shown.

In this exercise the 2 dogs will go Side-by-Side and the handlers on the outside going out and back together.

The Judge will be judging your ability to keep your dog under control when it is close to another dog, as well as your ability to pace yourself to another handler's gait.

In this exercise, both handlers move in the out and back pattern with both the dogs moving on the inside of the handlers. Each handler will change the lead at the top of the out and back so that both the dogs remain together on the inside and the handlers remain on the outside. Each handler turns the dogs head towards themselves rather than the other dog. This will prevent the two dogs from making eye contact.

When returning to the Judge, both handlers should present their dogs as if they were in a class line-up. i.e. head to tail, stopping approx 2 metres (6ft) away from the judge.

The handler will move the dog smoothly and in unison. The handler of the smaller dog should set the pace. The handler of the large dog may have to move the dog at a walking pace to keep the two dogs together.

Note: At NO time should you touch the dog's head on the corner of the exercise.

Do not over use your lead, keep it coiled up in your left hand. DO NOT have any part of the lead dangling.

Always watch the ring and as the last two dogs move, have your dog "set up" ready for the Judge to view.

OTHER TECHNIQUES AND RING EXERCISES USED AROUND THE WORLD But Not Used In Australia

ROUND THE RING AND COME STRAIGHT BACK TO ME.

The handler is required to use the full ring and then come straight back to the Judge and either free stand or set up their dog as requested by the Judge.

SHOW AND PRESENT YOUR DOG.

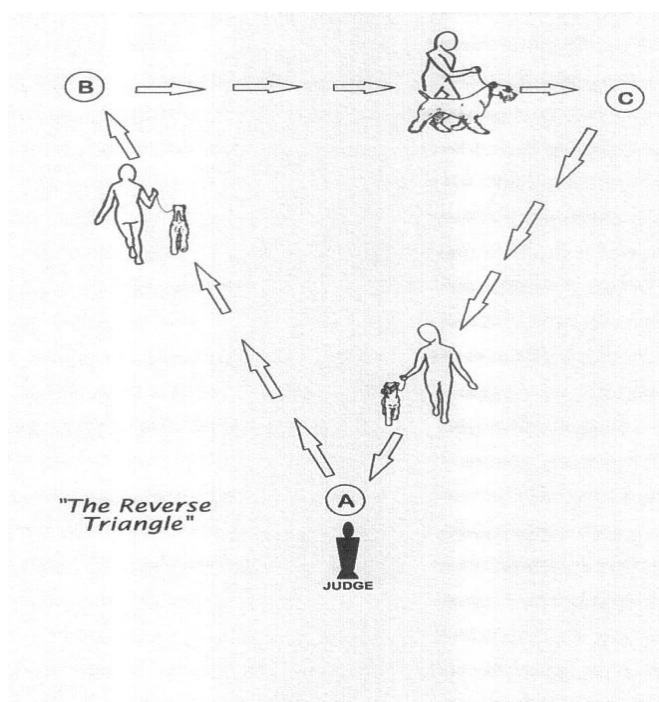
Handler is required to go into centre of ring and present their dog.

JUDGE MOVES FROM POSITION

If a Judge changes position completely during an exercise, the handler should complete the pattern originally asked for by using the Judge's old line of vision, then return the dog across the Judge's new line of vision for presentation.

REVERSE TRIANGLE

The handler should complete the Reverse Triangle moving clock wise, keeping the lead and the dog on the right hand side. Return back to Judge stopping approx 2 metres (6ft) away from the Judge and either free stand or set up the dog as per Judge's instructions.



ANKC Regulations: Part 15

Junior Handler Competitions & Junior Handler Showmanship Competition.

These regulations and definitions apply to all Junior Handler Competitions and competitions included in the Definitions.

Part A - Definitions.

In these regulations, so far as the context permits or the subject matter otherwise indicates or requires;

1. ***“Junior Handler Manual”*** means the ANKC Junior Handler Manual, which is current at the time of a competition.
2. ***“Judge/Junior Handler Judge”*** means an approved Junior Handler Judge, who is listed as such on the ANKC judges list.
3. ***“Junior Handler Open Book Examination”*** means an examination conducted by a Controlling Body for persons who wish to obtain their Junior Handler Judges Licence.
4. ***“Junior Handler”*** means a minor who is over the age of 7 years and under the age of 18 years and competes in a competition.
5. ***“Competition” “Junior Handler Competition” and “Junior Handler Showmanship Competition”*** includes a competition, heat or event for junior handlers which is conducted at a recognized ANKC affiliated show.
6. ***“State”*** includes any state or Territory within Australia.
7. ***“Field Day”*** means a Junior Handler training event organized by a Committee or Person nominated by a controlling Body to oversee Junior Handler events.
8. ***“Affiliated Club”*** means a Club or Association, which is affiliated with an ANKC Affiliate or a Controlling Body.
9. ***“State Champion Junior Handler”*** means the winner of the final heat referred to in 1.5 (iii) below.
10. ***“Year”*** means a twelve-month period during which a competition for a State Champion Junior Handler is conducted under the auspices of a Controlling Body. For the purposes of these Regulations a year will commence on 1st July in any year unless a different commencement date is nominated by the Controlling Body conducting the competition.

ANKC Regulations: Part 15

Junior Handler Competitions & Junior Handler Showmanship Competition

11. ***“State Controlling Body”, “Controlling Body” and “ANKC Affiliate” means an affiliate of ANKC.***
12. ***“ANKC” means the Australian National Kennel Council.***

Part B - Regulations.

1. ***The Judge of a competition must be registered on the accredited Junior Handler Judges list maintained by the ANKC.***
 - 1.1 (i) ***Breed Judges and other Members of a Controlling Body, who wish to qualify to judge a competition, will be required to complete a written open book exam on the information contained in the "Junior Handler Manual". The Member's Controlling Body shall prepare the examination. The pass mark for the exam shall be 75% and persons who achieve a pass, shall be eligible to be registered on the ANKC Junior Judges Handler List of accredited Junior Handler Judges.***
 - 1.1 (ii) ***A list of all Junior Handler Judges appointed by individual States to be listed on the ANKC web site and made available to all States.***
 - 1.2 ***A Junior Handler Judge may judge Junior Handler Competitions in any State. However, they are required to familiarize themselves with any changes to the Junior Handler age groups applicable to that State.***
 - 1.3 ***A Junior Handler Judge shall, in every consecutive three-year period commencing from the date of becoming accredited, attend a Junior Handler field day to demonstrate their commitment to the sport. Field days shall be conducted by the committee, working party or person nominated by the Controlling Body in a judge's state of residence.***
 - 1.4 ***Judges visiting Australia from other affiliated countries be permitted to judge Junior Handler competitions provided they are licensed in their own country. The State Junior Handler Committee must confirm their status.***
2. ***Controlling Bodies shall each appoint a committee, working party or person to oversee all the activities of and associated with Junior Handler Competitions conducted in their State***

Part B - Regulations.

- 2.1 *Controlling Bodies shall ensure that, if there are any major changes to the Junior Handler Manual from time to time, a further open book examination shall be completed by Junior Handler judges within a period of 6 months from their publication.*
3. *A Junior Showmanship Competition at a Show shall be subject to 6 below, contain the following age classes: -*
 - 7 years to under 10 years - for boys and girls*
 - 10 years to under 13 years - for boys and girls;*
 - 13 years to under 18 years - for boys and girls*
4. *It shall be a condition of all competitions that Junior Handler Judges must make their awards strictly in accordance with the requirements of the ANKC Junior Handlers' Manual.*
5. *Junior Handler Judges may use the Score Sheet provided in the Junior Handlers' Manual, however it is not mandatory,*
6. *A Controlling Body shall have the right to select different age groups for competitions; however, it is recommended that all States maintain the age groups set out in 3.*
7. *An Affiliated Club, other than a Breed or Group Specialist Club, must conduct a Junior Showmanship Competition at one of its shows in each calendar year.*
 - 7.1 *Where an Affiliated Club conducts more than one show over a weekend the Junior Handler Showmanship must not be conducted on a regular school day and must be conducted on the weekend or days proclaimed a school holiday.*
 - 7.2 *Where a Junior Showmanship Competition is to be held by an Affiliated Club, the competition must be advertised in the official schedule lodged with the controlling Body in respect of the show.*
 - 7.3 *Entry fees may not be charged in respect of Junior Handler competitions.*
8. *A judge who has judged a Class in Junior Handler competition at a Show, must not Judge the same age group in a competition at any subsequent show during the succeeding 90 days, held at any venue which is within a distance, of 100 kilometres by the shortest route from the earlier show.*

Part B - Regulations.

- 8.1 *Regulation 8 shall not apply to competitions conducted at Breed Specialty Shows.*
- 8.2 *A judge may judge any one or more age groups in a Competition where time and entry numbers reasonably permit.*
9. *Each State shall conduct a State Champion Junior Handler Final competition for the purpose of selecting an overall State winner for the year.*
 - 9.1 *Subject to 9.3 below, the final competition shall consist of a heat for each of the age group winners at competitions conducted in the State since the commencement of the year who are, at the date of the final, of the age required for the competition that they won.*
 - 9.2 *The winners of each of the said heats shall be entitled to contest a final heat and the winner thereof shall be the State Champion Junior Handler for the year.*
 - 9.3 *A Junior Handler who wins a Junior Handler heat in a State other than their State of residence, shall be entitled to compete in the State Champion Junior Handler Final competition conducted by their State of residence provided that evidence of their win is submitted to the Controlling Body thereof.*