

Notes From Previous Judges Seminars

Judge's Notes

(1) Re: Judging of Group Exercises

Group exercises are normally conducted after 10 dogs have been judged.

This a guideline not a rule, Judges may use commonsense in deciding when to conduct group exercises and assess the circumstances at the time.

Example (1) - If there are 22 dogs present, the Judge may chose to conduct groups after the first 11 dogs have been judged.

Example (2) – If, after 10 dogs have been judged, there are only 1 or 2 qualifiers, the Judge may elect to continue with individual exercises. However, Judges must ensure that the section on Group Exercises in the Glossary (p.13) is satisfied, including the minimum & maximum number of dogs in a group.

(2) Re: RE-Judging of Group Exercises

Judges are reminded of the Glossary section on Re-judging (p 14).

"In a group exercise, any dog which has not been affected by the peculiar or unusual circumstances should be allowed to complete the exercise before re-judging commences"
NOTE: The dogs which have completed the Group Exercises are not re-judged and are not required to do the exercise again.

Notes From the Judge's Seminar Held on 17th November 2006

Vicki Etherington welcomed attendees and commented on CCD, UDX and Herding.

It was noted that there is a website for judges on the Dogs NSW home page. Judges can provide their email address for the provision of information/news. Judges without email addresses will continue to receive written correspondence.

It was noted that these seminars are to be held annually. Judges should send in any recommendations for rule changes as they arise.

The following comments were noted and questions answered by the judges committee.

General

Measurements /Distances

Distances specified in the rule book state "approximately", "at least" and "no closer than"

Novice

Anticipating finish on recall

As specified on page 29 the appropriate deduction is a minor (up to 20%) eg in novice the deduction is up to 8 points.

Retrieve on flat – failure to sit in front

At present there is no deduction specified. A minor deduction could be made under the lesser points of the exercise

The following questions and comments arose from the recent open book reviews.

UD

Seek back

Judges should stand on the right side of the dog so as not to cross the dog's track

Scent Discrimination

UD – tongs are for the scented articles only

UDX – unscented cloths are put out with tongs, not hands

Signals

If a dog sits at the stand command prior to being left how should this be scored? This is a substantial deduction within the heelwork. This is not a zero, because the distance control has not started yet, move the handler forward again.

Open

Stay signals for retrievers.

Handler may not give stay signal with dumbbell in hand. No deduction for changing hands to clear hand to give signal.

UDX

UDX ring sketches

Some in the open book review left out critical features

Seek back with Decoy

The decoy must be a scent discrimination article. It does not have to be leather but must not be conspicuous – so if metal, then not shiny.

Most competitors are using wood.

Distance between scent discrimination articles

Approx 50cm

Positions in Motion

If handler gives wrong command – they should receive a zero score.

Distance Control

Commands from the Judge must be those listed. For example, the judge cannot say "1 means sit". Unlike UD there is no set pattern. The judge should try to use as many different combinations as possible

Cloth size

Ambiguity between glossary and description of exercise (approx 30cm square)

What happens with the remaining cloth

Judges can take the cloth back if he desires or the handler may keep the cloth. Either method is acceptable.

General

Extreme weather conditions

The purpose of the question was to specify that group exercises can be completed in the shade. If conditions change, the group exercises don't have to be complete in the same place i.e. can do later groups in the shade if it gets hotter.

Eligibility for making application for a title
Must be qualifying scores and gained under at least two different judges.

Testing Procedures

Answer is on page 15 of the rule book. Every dog is to be tested the same

Dog Given food outside the ring immediately after the completion of judging
This should be a disqualification if it was obvious that the handler was carrying food during judging. The judge must see the handler in the act of taking food from the pocket. If the dog is disqualified for the above reason the judge should report it.

How fast is slow pace?

The judge must take into account the size of the dog. Must remember section 10 of the rule book. Must be a change of pace (refer to rule book). Must also allow judges to be judges – set a standard and be consistent

Tied Score

If total scores are tied use the count back as per the class you are judging, then look at other exercises. If still tied can go back and look at eg heeling again.

If every single score is identical, have to perform a rerun.

Must not have two dogs placed equal.

Heeling

Should remember to look for enthusiasm and willingness to work, and to penalise fear or dislike of work.

Figure of Eight – not negotiating post

Novice – can still pass if miss a post (minor deduction).

Open – non-qualification (over 50% deduction)

Dog's name

There must be a distinct pause between dog's name and the command.

Stand for examination

What is "tendency to attack"? One example is a dog that growls as the judge approaches. Judge can zero the dog and does not have to continue with exercise. Or can be visual signals/body language. Judges should report a dog which shows a tendency to attack

Winner of Winners

What exercises should be used? The Obedience and Tracking Committee have prepared the following notice.

The Committee would prefer that winner of winners not be held, because of complications presented by CCD. However it is up to individual clubs to decide how winner of winners should be judged if it is offered. There are no hard rules as this is a fun event. It must be advertised in the journal, including what exercises are to be used.

Questions from the floor

What is the maximum number of CCD dogs to be judged?

Currently 40 dogs. Obedience and Tracking Committee is putting forward a recommendation.

If there are two trials on the same day do these limits apply?

Yes but, currently per Trial not per day. Limits are per trial but judging per hour limit applies. Judges shouldn't accept an appointment with a load which is too heavy as it is difficult to concentrate for that long

Suggestion – make it a per day limit where there are multiple trials

Country trials?
Same numbers

Novice - What should the judge score when the handler finishes the dog when the judge says return?

It should be a minor deduction under the lesser points of the exercise.

Is there a required order for trials which have CCD and CD in the same ring?

It should be advertised and the catalogue should be followed. A suggested default is CCD followed by novice followed by open however there is no rule.

UDX – directed send away. Can the handler give the direction (prolonged) then stand upright then send the dog?

The judge needs to decide whether the signal is too prolonged and deduct accordingly. Must the handler stand upright before sending the dog?

The rules are contradictory and NSW has requested clarification. At present the committee is accepting either interpretation.

Judges jurisdiction – where does it start and finish? Does jurisdiction start and finish in the ring?

Eg does jurisdiction cover disqualifying handler for having food after leaving ring? Yes

What are the boundaries of the metropolitan area?

This is found in the regulations