

# Exercises---Beginner Novice A and Beginner Novice C-1<sup>st</sup> Year

✚ All exercises will be done on-lead. Leash should be no less than 6 feet long.

## ☐ Heel on Leash-Important Tips

- Ability of dog and member to work as a team
- Orders are: "Forward" and "Exercise Finished"
- Signs: Rally signs will be used. "Right Turn", "Left Turn", "About Turn", "Slow", "Normal", "Fast" and "Halt/Sit"
- Fast means-handler must run, and the handler and dog must move forward at a noticeably accelerated speed.
- Turns will be used only when the handlers is moving at a normal speed.
- Both changes of pace signs must be followed by a normal sign.
- Turns signs may be placed in any sequence and may be repeated.
- Two of each turn sign must be available for the judge's use.
- The "Halt/Sit" sign will be used once at the end of the exercise.
- The judge should standardize the heeling pattern for all dogs in the class.
- The leash may be held in either hand or in both hands, but the hands must be held in a natural position.
- Any tightening or jerking of the leash and use of any extra commands and/or signals will be penalized.
- The handler will enter the ring with the dog on a loose leash and stand with the dog sitting in the heel position.
- The judge will ask if the handler is ready before giving the order, "Forward".
- The handler may give a command or signal to heel and will walk briskly and naturally with the dog on a loose leash.
- The dog should walk close to the handler's left side without swinging wide, lagging, forging, or crowding.
- The dog must not interfere with the handler's freedom of motion at any time.
- At the "Halt/Sit" sign, the handler will stop.
- The dog shall sit straight and promptly in the heel position without command or signal.
- The judge will order, "Exercise finished" at the completion of this exercise.

## ☐ Heel on Leash, Scoring

- ❖ **Serious Fault**—Handler is constantly controlling the dog by tugging on the leash, constantly talking to the dog or is adapting to the dog's pace.
- ❖ **Minor Deductions shall be made for:**
  - ✓ Lagging, heeling wide, forging, crowding, poor sits, failure to sit at a halt, and other heeling imperfections.
- ❖ **Other Deductions:**
  - ✓ Handler who guides the dog with the leash or does not walk at a brisk pace.
  - ✓ Additional commands or signals to heel or for failure of dog or handler to speed up noticeably for the fast or slow down noticeably for the slow.
- ❖ A onetime single phrase of praise or encouragement, by the handler to the dog, will be allowed without penalty (Good, yes, nice, super, great, and atta boy/girl, are some examples of praise that would be allowed).
- ❖ During scoring, judges should be near enough to observe any signals or commands given by the handler to the dog without interfering with either.

□ **Figure Eight---Important Tips:**

- Ability of the dog and handler to work as a team.
- Orders are: “Forward”, “Halt”, and “Exercise Finished”.
- Handler will stand and the dog will sit in heel position facing the judge, midway between the two stewards, the handler may go around either steward first.
- Judge will ask “Are you ready?” and gives the order, “Forward”, the handler and dog will walk briskly around and between the two stewards twice.
- There will be no about turn, fast or slow, but the judge must order at least one halt during this exercise and another halt at the end.
- After each halt, it is permissible for the handler to give a command or signal to heel before moving forward again.
- A onetime single phrase or encouragement, by the handler to the dog, will be allowed without penalty.

□ **Figure Eight, Scoring**

- ❖ Scoring is the same as the Heel on Leash exercise.

□ **Sit For Exam—Important Tips**

- Dog sits in position before and during the examination without displaying resentment.
- Orders are: “Sit your dog and leave when you are ready”, “Back to your dog”, and “Exercise Finished”.
- To be performed with the dog on a 6 foot leash.
- On the judge’s order, the handler will command the dog to sit.
- Handler will then stand with the dog sitting in the heel position.
- Handler will give the command and/or signal to stay, walk straight forward about 6 feet to the end of the leash, turn and face the dog.
- Judge will approach the dog from the front. Using the fingers and palm of one hand, the judge will touch only the dog’s head
- Judge will order, “Back to your dog”, the handler will walk around behind the dog and return to the heel position.
- Handler may gather the leash at any time while returning to the dog.
- Dog must remain sitting until the judge has said, “Exercise Finished”.

□ **Sit For Exam, Scoring**

- ❖ Scoring will not start until the handler has given the command and/or signal to stay.
  
- ❖ **Serious Fault—**
  - ✓ If the dog stands, lies down, or moves away from the place where it was left either before or during the examination,
  - ✓ Growls, snaps or displays resentment.
  
- ❖ **Minor Deductions will be given for:**
  - ✓ Tightening of the leash during the exercise,
  - ✓ Extra commands to the dog after the handler has given the command and/or signal to stay and left the heel position.
  - ✓ Rough treatment by the handler
  - ✓ active resistance by the dog to sit.
  - ✓ Dog moves its feet at any time or stands or moves away after the examination has been completed.
  
- ❖ **Minor Deduction or Serious Fault**
  - ✓ Extremely shyness

□ **Sit-Stay—On Lead—Important Tips**

- Dog remains in the sit position.
- Orders are: “Sit your dog”, “Leave your dog,” “Return to your dog”, and “Exercise finished”.
- Handler will stand with dog sitting in heel position
- Prior to the starting the exercise, the judge will ask if the handler is ready.
- *The leash remains on the dog and held by the handler for the entire exercise.*
- Judge gives the order “Sit your dog”; the handler will command and/or signal the dog to sit, if they are not already sitting.
- Judge will order “Leave your dog”, and the handler will give a command and/or signal to stay and immediately walk to the end of the lead facing away from the dog as they walk.
- Once the handler reaches the end of the lead he will turn and face the dog.
- The stay will be held for 45 seconds.
- Handler must remain still, with their hands held at their sides. No other commands can be given during the 45 seconds that the dog is in the stay.
- After 45 seconds has passed, judge will give the order “Return to your dog”.
- Handler will walk back to the dog and will return to the heel position with the dog on their left side, by walking around behind the dog.
- During the return to and around the dog, the handler may use their hands to take up the slack in the lead to avoid tripping over it, but may not command the dog either with their hands or their voice.
- Once handler has returned to heel position, the judge will give the order “Exercise finished”.

□ **Sit-Stay, Scoring**

❖ **Serious Fault—**

- ✓ If the dog moves a substantial distance away from the place where it was left any time during the exercise
- ✓ Not remaining in the sit position until the handler has returned to heel position
- ✓ Repeatedly barking or whining.

❖ **Substantial Deduction will be given for:**

- ✓ If a dog moves even a short distance from where it was left
- ✓ Barks or whines only once or twice
- ✓ Changes position after the handler has returned to the heel position and before the judge has given the order “Exercise finished”.
- ✓ Rough treatment of a dog by its handler
- ✓ Resistance by a dog to its handler’s attempts to make it sit
- ✓ In extreme cases, the dog may be excused

❖ **Minor Deductions will be given for:**

- ✓ Additional commands to the dog after the handler has commanded and/or signaled the dog to stay (this can even be to the point of substantial or even serious fault)
- ❖ Scoring of the exercises will not start until after the judge has ordered the handler to leave their dog.
- ❖ Judge will not give the “Exercise finished” order until the handler has returned to heel position.

□ **Recall –Important Tips**

- Dog stays where left until called by the handler, and the dog responds promptly
- Orders are: “Leave your dog”, “Call your dog”, and “Exercise finished”.
- Leash will stay attached to the collar and held by the handler for the entire exercise.
- Judge will order “Leave your dog”
- Handler will give a command and/or signal to the dog to stay in the sit position.
- Handler will then walk to the end of the lead with their back to the dog and turn and face the dog only after reaching the end of the lead.
- Judge’s order or signal, handler will command and/or signal the dog to come.
- Dog must come directly, as quickly as is allowed by the size of the dog, and sit in front near the handler.
- Handler may not command the dog to sit when it comes to front.
- Dog must be close enough to its handler so that the handler could touch its head without excessive bending, stretching, or moving either foot. (No finish will be required of the dog by the handler)
- Judge then orders “Exercise finished”.
- A onetime single phrase of praise or encouragement while the dog is coming to the handler will be allowed without penalty. (Good, yes, nice, super, great, atta boy/girl, are some examples of praise that would be allowed.)

□ **Recall, Scoring**

❖ **Serious Fault--**

- ✓ If the dog is given an additional command and/or signal to stay
- ✓ If more than two commands and/or signals are required for the dog to come
- ✓ If the dog fails to come
- ✓ If the dog moves from the place it was left before being called and/or signaled to come
- ✓ If the dog does not come close enough to its handler so that the handler could touch its head without excessive bending, stretching, or moving either foot.

❖ **Minor or Substantial Deductions will be given for:**

- ✓ Handler’s extra command or signal to come or to sit
- ✓ If the dog fails to come as quickly as is allowed by the size of the dog
- ✓ Fails to sit
- ✓ Slow or poor sits