

Below is the next in a series of Random Tidbits of information (from me) in regards to the AKC Obedience Regulations. Knowledge of the Regulations provides you the power for...

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Today's Random Little Tidbit – PVC Leash Holders – Now, a point to ponder.

With the new Obedience Regulations *now in effect* and the Judge required to designate a place for the placement of the leash in a few revised classes; clubs, give some thought to the idea of having leash holders available for all rings. They work well for the handler, stewards and Judge. These holders are easy to move as the **Regular Novice, Preferred Novice, Veterans, Brace, and Team** require the leash **inside** the ring and the **Regular Open, Preferred Open and Graduate Novice** require the leash **outside** the ring. A simple project to assemble, inexpensive and easy to store for upcoming trials. The leash holder eliminates the use an extra chair to hold the leash or having to make limited table space available. Hanging the leash on a ring barrier (all barriers are not created equal) is not a good idea as the leash may become tangled which could lead to other catastrophes we don't want to think about. Leash holders have an added side bonus for ALL classes - the ring runs more efficiently for all which is a good thing! For those who have attended the AKC National Obedience Championship (NOC) or Classic these leash holders (pictured) have been in use at those events. Follow AKC's lead.



Most national hardware chains (Ace, Home Depot, Lowes, or online <https://www.pvcfittingsonline.com>) will have PVC piping, pipe fittings and/or "furniture" joints and caps. Along with a hacksaw, PVC glue and, WALLAH, you have leash holders. Adding some colored duct tape as striping bands adds to the visibility. Clubs can use their colors to carry their theme or Superintendents may want to use their name or logo. For outdoor use on grass or dirt, metal "U" clips or small sandbags will hold the stands upright.

Pictured below is a parts inventory of 1-inch PVC stock to illustrate assembly. Cut pipe accordingly making sure the base provides good balance and pay attention to height so a handler in a wheelchair may be able to reach their leash with ease:

- 6 end caps** – (2) pictured at the top view & (4) at the bottom view
- 2 elbows** – pictured at the top view
- 1 tee** – pictured at the top view
- 1 5-way furniture fitting** – pictured at the bottom view, this may be the difficult one to find locally (phone ahead).
- 1 section of pipe** – cut accordingly.



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