



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...

Saving Withdrawals from Your 200 Account



Today's Random Little Tidbit – What to Carry in Your Judge's Case?

A judge's case is comprised of one's tools of the trade. Many of the items needed for judging are supplied by the judge. It is NOT the obligation of a club, Superintendent or Show Secretary to provide anything other than:

1. Obedience Ring(s)
2. Jumps if needed
3. Stewards
4. Judge's Book
5. Ribbons

The club and Superintendent/Show Secretary will work out between themselves who will provide the above. These items are not your concern, except to make sure they conform to the Obedience Regulations. The case the judge brings to the ring has the items he/she needs to carry out the duties of judging. What is in your case will depend on what you feel will be needed to do your job in an effective and efficient manner. Judges may travel "light," or they may be prepared for almost anything that might occur.

If this is your first time to outfit a judge's case, listed below are a few items to consider:

1. AKC Obedience Regulations - Always carry your own *current* copy.
2. AKC Misconduct Booklet - Don't rely on one being at the trial.
3. Group exercise sheet(s) - It is NOT up to the club, etc. to provide these for your use.
4. Clipboard
5. Several pens & pencils
6. Stopwatch or timer - For the Group Exercise.
7. Tape Measure (25' works well) - For measuring jumps and distances.
8. Ruler - For measuring dogs, if needed, to be certain of correct heights per the Regulations.
9. Worksheets - For scoring individual dogs and being able to refer back to and give input to the handler, if asked.
10. Exercise order sheets for posting – You may make your own or a set can be downloaded from the AKC web page.
11. Markers - Sticky dots, chalk, etc. to mark distances and/or starting areas for handlers.
12. Steward instructions - A paper that lists your instructions will serve you well. It helps you remember every instruction, plus it gives the stewards a hard copy to refer back to. Laminate for extended usage.
13. Judge Badge - Not always provided. You might consider having one made up with your name. Most office supply stores make an assortment of badges, and there is often a dog show vendor who can make one while you wait.
14. Jump Chart – Extra sheet listing jump heights and jump requirements for different breeds as per Chapter 4, Section 11. Such a chart will assist the stewards and save time looking in the Regulations. Laminate for extended usage.
15. Correspondence - Take your club correspondence with you! You may need to refer to it for phone numbers, or contact person during your travel. Also, the correspondence will state the contract terms if there is a question.
16. Expense Sheet - Make a copy for the club and your records. You might create a form outlining expenses (and fee, if charged) so they are spelled out for the club treasurer.
17. Carbon paper - Handy for making a copy of what you might have to write inside the Judge's Book cover. You will then have a copy to refer back to at a later time if questioned. Yes, carbon paper is still sold (Google).
18. A #10 envelope to store all your receipts, keeping them all in one place.
19. Antacid & Aspirin - For those times when you can't leave the ring.
20. Hand sanitizer or wipes to have in your case.

You will find that a tailored judging case that fits your needs is an important tool in judging. Take the time and effort and be prepared. Your day of judging will be more enjoyable because you planned ahead and are ready to do your BEST job!

AKC Blog Address: <https://akcobedrlyjudges.wordpress.com/about/> Sign up to receive updates.

John Cox, AKC obedience judge. dog-talk@comcast.net