



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 – Judges need to ask themselves – Are YOU ready?

Time is fast approaching in regards to the Obedience Trial you will be officiating at. Ask yourself, are **YOU** ready?...long before asking the first exhibitor if they are ready. Exhibitors show up at ringside and everything looks to be in order and set for the action to begin. The judge and stewards are in the ring, the equipment is all set out and the start time is nearing.

What exhibitors may not be aware of is *all the prep work* that the judge has done, starting days out, before and up to the first exhibitor entering the ring on the day of the trial. Let's take a look at some of the prep work in detail. It all varies from judge to judge and the class(es) being judged for that assignment. This article is aimed at a general overview to give a perspective of some of the preparation for a day of judging.

Let's review the BIG 3 (Regular Novice, Open & Utility):

- I. Prep work days before the trial
- II. Prep work for setting up the ring for Novice & posting of required materials
- III. Prep work for setting up the ring for Open & posting of required materials
- IV. Prep work for setting up the ring for Utility & posting of required materials

I. Prep work days before the trial

1. If out of town reservations may need to be made: Airline, Hotel, Airport parking, Transportation, etc.
2. Downloading the Premium List and Judging Program.
3. Printing out and preparing judging worksheets. If asked, Supertendents/Show Secretaries may supply the armband numbers, breeds and jump heights. Having this information ahead of the show will save valuable time at the show. As you know the start of a class is the busiest time and having this information on your worksheets beforehand is BIG timesaver. **Random Tidbit #44**, (Tips on Saving Time and Managing a Ring).
4. Double check your attaché making sure all your needed equipment is there for the classes being judged. **Random Tidbit #65**, (What to carry in Your Judge's Case?).
5. Set aside time for reviewing the Regulations for the classes being judged, **Random Tidbit #27**, (Principal feature & non-principal features of an exercise).
6. Judging Procedures, **Random Tidbit #49**, (Judging Procedures From the Regulations!).
7. If judging a class with random order of exercises, review the exercise order for efficiency and judging positions.
8. Review filling out a Judge's Book correctly. For example, Release vs. Excused, HLR, Fix 'n Go, etc., **Random Tidbit #83**, (Visual Examples for Marking the Judge's Book).
9. The Awards, **Random Tidbit #61**, (The Awards Ceremony – What to Expect).
10. The AKC Blog, **Random Tidbit #70**, (Keeping Up With the AKC Blog, or Snoozing).

II. Prep work for setting up the ring for Novice

1. Review **Random Tidbit #31**, (Principal feature & non-principal features of the Novice Exercises).
2. Review **Random Tidbit #52**, (Be careful of your perception in regards to the duties of an Obedience Judge).
3. Review **Random Tidbit #78**, (Know ALL Your Distances for the Various Exercises).
4. Review **Random Tidbit #89**, (Timing is of the Essence When Giving Judge's Orders).

III. Prep work for setting up the ring for Open

1. Review Foundation exercises & Applicable penalties, **Random Tidbit #74**, (Novice, Open & Utility Are Linked Together).
2. Review **Random Tidbit #32**, (Principal feature & non-principal features of the Open Exercises).
3. Review **Random Tidbit #52**, (Be careful of your perception in regards to the duties of an Obedience Judge).
4. Review **Random Tidbit #78**, (Know ALL Your Distances For The Various Exercises).
5. Review **Random Tidbit #89**, (Timing is of the Essence When Giving Judge's Orders).

III. Prep work for setting up the ring for Utility

1. Review Foundation exercises & Applicable penalties, see **Random Tidbit #74**, (Novice, Open & Utility Are Linked Together).
2. Review **Random Tidbit #33**, (Principal feature & non-principal features of the Utility Exercises).
3. Review **Random Tidbit #52**, (Be careful of your perception in regards to the duties of an Obedience Judge).
4. Review **Random Tidbit #78**, (Know ALL Your Distances For The Various Exercises).
5. Review **Random Tidbit #89**, (Timing is of the Essence When Giving Judge's Orders).

To view all the Random Little Tidbits, log on to: <https://saintbernardarchive.com/library/>

Near the bottom of that page are samples of judging materials , worksheets, steward instructions, heeling patterns and charts for ideas.

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

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