



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 – **Our Sport is in Need of an Infusion!**

All judges were once where **you** are at this very moment before they took that first step to judge, and now a good number of them are reaching the age of going emeritus status after decades of service. What does this say for the future of our sport if too few applicants come along?

Give some ****serious**** thought to applying to become a judge and to give back to the sport in whole a new way. **Yes, you!** Take those first baby steps one day at a time towards this new goal, and you will find the rewards like no other. Take that first step today looking towards the future in a new adventure in the sport you love.

There are villages of knowledgeable judges who will devote time and effort to help you along. Just ask!!!

1. Maybe the first step could be just setting up a practice ring and running some of your friends through the paces.
2. Experiment.
3. Go to a show and just sit and watch judging.
4. Ask a judge to sit with you and point out what all goes into setting up a ring with a good pattern and flow.
5. Observe ring setups, heeling patterns, and ring time management.
6. Observe with the Obedience Regulations in your hand to see how scoring is done and supported by the Regulations.
7. Design some judging sheets to see what works for you for scoring.
8. Have some fun and take a friend along for discussions.
9. If you see someone that you think would make an excellent judge, mention it to them. Sometimes this can be just the nudge needed that gets them thinking on the subject.
10. Check out the AKC Judging process... <https://akcobedrlyjudges.wordpress.com/2022/04/14/obedience-and-rally-judging-application-updates-april-2022/>

To help assist you in gaining more judging knowledge, log on to <https://saintbernardarchive.com/library/> and scroll down to "**Judging Materials**" (under the Tidbit articles). You will find many samples of scoresheets and other helpful items and ideas to get you started.

The exhibitor may also find this helpful in understanding all the thought processes on the subject and have a better idea what a judge is doing, and why, while in the ring.

1. **Check out the Dog Talk articles.** There are quizzes in those articles to tweak your understanding.
2. **Check out the Charts.** They work as good references to review.
3. **Check out all the Random Little Tidbits articles.** There is an index at the top of the articles which will help guide you to the articles specifically aimed at judging.
4. The following pages will provide ideas and suggestions as what to observe when watching a team and judge in the ring.

See Random Little Tidbit #92 for more on this subject, plus helpful links.

<https://saintbernardarchive.com/library/>

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