



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 – [Handler's Guide For Saving Points + Handler's Guide For "Going the Distance"](#)



**The best advice is to read** the Obedience Regulations in full, especially Chapter 2, plus the class chapters a handler will be showing in. The following chart may be used as a review guide for a few quick reminders of where common faults *may* be made. **Tidbits #55, #56 & #57** have more detailed descriptions on handler errors, all aimed to gain knowledge for improving one's performance. Check out the **Random Little Tidbits Index** for other Tidbits to gain even more knowledge of this dog sport.

Maybe post the chart in your training building as reminders when training? The game of Obedience is to compete against the Obedience Regulations and save as many points as possible to achieve one's goal. That is part of the fun and challenge in this Sport. Knowing where points may be lost is good information for honing one's skills. Enjoy the challenge to better one's game plan!

For the handler (or judge) it is imperative to know your distances for each of the different AKC Obedience exercises:

1. As a handler, one needs to know what to expect and train for when showing in the ring.
2. As a judge, one needs to know the distance requirements for Standardized Judging in accordance with the Regulations.

The Regulations address the required ring requirements, the class exercises (in detail), including the needed "judging distances" to be aware of when training or judging. If an actual "measured distance" is not covered, a guideline is provided for performing that exercise in the exercise description, Judging Procedures or Obedience Judges' Guidelines. Check them out!

The chart's 8-font is to make everything fit. 😊 One can expand it on a desktop/phone etc., or an office supply store can print it to a larger size than 8 ½ x 11, if needed. Consider laminating the sheets back-to-back for your training case or judge's attaché to review.

It may seem like a lot to remember at first, so try focusing on one of the exercise's details at a time with your training buddies.

### [For additional charts, log on to the link below and scroll down to "Charts":](#)

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

1. Jump Height Chart
2. Visual Jump Setting Chart
3. Group Exercise sheet
4. Score Conversions, from fractional points off to Total & Final Scores
5. Judge's Book Release/Excuse Chart
6. Filling Out a Judge's Book
7. Know When and What Applicable Penalties May Apply
8. Judge's Orders in Quotes, a part of Standardized Judging
9. Judge's Distance Chart
10. Judging Procedures
11. Tally Sheet for Regular and Preferred Class Placements
12. Tally Sheet for figuring:
  - a. Regular High Combined Award
  - b. Preferred High Combined Award
  - c. Rally High Combined Award
  - d. Rally Triple High Combined Award

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# \* AKC Obedience Regulations – Handler’s Guide For Saving Points \* + Handler’s Guide For “Going the Distance” Stated in the Exercises



The best advice is to read the Obedience Regulations in full, especially Chapter 2, plus the class chapters a handler will be showing in. Below are a few quick reminders to review where common faults in a variety of exercises may be made. Tidbits #55, #56 & #57 have more detailed descriptions on handler errors, all aimed to gain knowledge for improving one’s performance. Check out the [Random Little Tidbits Index](#) for other Tidbits to gain even more knowledge of this sport. The game of Obedience is to compete against the Obedience Regulations to earn as many points as possible to achieve one’s goal. That is part of the fun and challenge. Knowing where points may be lost is good information for honing one’s skills. Enjoy the challenge to better the game plan!

<b>Regular Novice Exercises</b> <small>Chapter 3</small>	<b>Heel On Leash and Figure Eight</b> Chapter 3 Sections 5 & 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* <b>Chapter 2, Section 19:</b> In all exercises where the dog is required to heel free, one of these options should be followed: (1) when the handler is in motion, the arms and hands must move naturally at the sides and must hang naturally at the sides when stopped; or (2) the right hand and arm must move naturally at the side, while the left hand must be held against the front of the body, centered in the area of the waist, with the left forearm carried against the body. There will be a substantial deduction if the hands and arms are not carried in one of these positions. The hands and arms may be adjusted during the fast portion of an exercise in order to maintain balance.</li> <li>* <b>Chapter 2, Section 20:</b> Excessively loud commands by handlers to their dogs create a poor impression of obedience and should be avoided. When using a signal, it must be a <u>single gesture with one arm and hand only</u>, and the arm and hand <u>must immediately be returned to a natural position</u>.</li> <li>* Position of the arms, hands and movements of the head and/or body <u>that aid</u> the dog will be considered additional signals.</li> <li>* Noticeably <u>accelerate</u> and <u>decelerate</u> on the Fast and Slow.</li> </ul> <p><b>Distances:</b> Keep turns true. Avoid <u>wide Left turns</u>. Avoid <u>military Right turns</u>. Keep <b>About turns tight</b> (going into the turn and coming out on the same pathway.) In other words, avoid making “U” turns.</p>																		
	<b>Cones</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Avoid adapting pace to the dog around the turns.</li> <li>* Avoid widening the outside turn or shortening the inside turn. Keep both turns as equal as possible when rounding the cones.</li> </ul> <p><b>Distances:</b> For the Figure Eight, the handler will stand facing the judge, <u>midway between the two cones</u>.</p>																		
	<b>Stand For Examination</b> Chapter 3 Sections 7 & 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Make sure the dog is comfortable in the position in which it was placed. This will help insure no movement on the dog’s part.</li> <li>* Make sure to <u>start and finish the exercise in Heel Position (Chapter 2, Section 18)</u>.</li> <li>* When leaving the dog, <u>walk forward the full distance</u>, then turn to face the dog. Any backing away from the dog while leaving will result in points lost—even up to non-qualifying (NQ) if backing up nearly the full distance traveled.</li> </ul> <p><b>Distances:</b> The handler is required to walk forward <b>about 6 feet</b>. Practice how many paces that will be. As another guide, the judge is often standing at <b>about 6 feet</b> out and off to the side from the dog at the start of the exercise.</p>																		
	<b>Heel Free</b> Section 9... Refer to Chapter 3 Sections 5 & 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* See <b>Heel on Leash and Figure Eight</b>, the only difference is the dog is off leash.</li> </ul>																		
	<b>Recall</b> Chapter 3 Sections 10 & 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* On the judge’s order, the handler will then walk <u>forward</u> to the <u>other end of the ring</u> and turn to face the dog. Keep in mind, the “other end” is close to the ring barrier. When reaching that point, leave room for the dog to accomplish a smart finish without the ring barrier interfering with its movements. Five feet out from that ring barrier is a good guide for stopping. Not going the full distance (stopping short) at the “other end” is judged as a handler error.</li> <li>* Hands are to be hanging naturally at the handler’s sides while a dog is coming in to Front.</li> <li>* <b>Chapter 2, Section 20:</b> Excessively loud commands by handlers to their dogs create a poor impression of obedience and should be avoided. If a signal is used, it must be a <u>single gesture with one arm and hand only</u>, and the arm and hand <u>must immediately be returned to a natural position</u>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Distances:</b> Go the other end of the ring, but leave room for a smart finish. Be aware of stopping too short.</p>																		
	<b>Sit Stay - Get Your Leash</b> Chapter 3 Sections 12 & 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* When leaving the dog to retrieve the leash, remember to  <b>and wait</b> for the judge’s order “<b>Back to your dog.</b>” Failure to stop and wait for the order will result a penalty, not a NQ.</li> <li>* Make sure to <u>finish the exercise in Heel Position (Chapter 2, Section 18)</u>.</li> <li>* Leave the ring with the dog under control, without jumping, pulling or tugging on the leash.</li> </ul> <p><b>Distances:</b> The handler and dog will be positioned <b>at least 30 feet</b> from and facing the direction of the gate entrance.</p>																		
	<b>Group</b> Chapter 3 Sections 14 & 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Remember, a <b>6 foot</b> leash is <u>required</u> for this exercise. It is to be <u>clipped</u> to the collar. On the judge’s order to leave your dog, handlers are to <u>walk forward immediately</u> to the end of the leash <u>without jerking or tightening the leash</u>, turn, and face their dogs. The leash must remain loose with slack throughout the entire exercise.</li> <li>* Refrain from placing the dog in a Sit or Down with <u>physical guidance</u>. (<b>Chapter 2, Section 23</b>)</li> <li>* On the judge’s order, the handler is to return to <b>Heel Position</b>.</li> <li>* Leave the ring with the dog under control, without jumping, pulling or tugging on the leash.</li> </ul> <p><b>Distances:</b> Dogs must be spaced with a <b>minimum of 6 feet</b> between each dog and a <b>minimum of 4 feet</b> from the ring barriers. Judges will position the dogs in the <u>approximate center of the ring</u> in one row or back-to-back in two rows with a <b>minimum of 6 feet</b> between the rows. On a <b>50’</b> side of the ring the maximum number of dogs allowed in a single row would be six and in a back-to-back row of twelve dogs (see table):</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto; text-align: center;"> <thead> <tr style="background-color: #000080; color: white;"> <th>Ring Length</th> <th>Maximum # of Dogs Single Row</th> <th>Maximum # of Dogs Back-to-Back Row</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>50’</td><td>6</td><td>12</td></tr> <tr><td>45’</td><td>5</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>40’</td><td>4</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>35’</td><td>4</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>30’</td><td>3</td><td>6</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Ring Length	Maximum # of Dogs Single Row	Maximum # of Dogs Back-to-Back Row	50’	6	12	45’	5	10	40’	4	8	35’	4	8	30’	3	6
	Ring Length	Maximum # of Dogs Single Row	Maximum # of Dogs Back-to-Back Row																	
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<small>Novice &amp; Open exercises are referred to Foundation exercises.</small>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* <b>When an exercise first appears in an early chapter it is referred to as a Foundation exercise. In future chapters of the scoring sections one will observe the wording “All applicable penalties under the _____ will apply.”</b></li> </ul>																			

**Regular & Preferred Open Exercises**  
Chapters 4 & 12

<p><b>Heel Free &amp; Figure Eight</b> Chapter 4, Section 6</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* This exercise will be performed and scored in the same manner as the <b>Novice Heel On Leash and Figure Eight</b> exercise, except that the dog will be off leash.</li> <li>* Refer to <b>Chapter 3, Sections 5 &amp; 6</b> (Foundation exercise)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Command Discrimination</b> Chapter 4 Sections 7 &amp; 8</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* <b>Chapter 2, Section 20:</b> Loud commands by handlers to their dogs create a poor impression of obedience and should be avoided.</li> <li>* If a signal is used, it must be a <u>single gesture with one arm and hand only</u>, and the arm and hand <u>must immediately be returned to a natural position</u>. If a command and signal are given together, they are to be given simultaneously.</li> <li>* Position of the arms, hands and movements of the head and/or body <u>that aid</u> the dog will be considered additional signals.</li> <li>* Make sure to <u>finish the exercise in Heel Position</u>. (<b>Chapter 2, Section 18</b>).</li> </ul> <p><b>Distances:</b> This exercise may be performed in an area of the ring <u>that is at least 40 feet in length</u>. The <b>15 foot</b> distances must be <u>clearly marked</u>. Stand near that mark for each position change; avoid cutting it short.</p>
<p><b>Drop On Recall</b> Chapter 4 Sections 9 &amp; 10</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* On the judge's order, the handler will then walk <u>forward</u> to the <u>other end of the ring</u>, turn to face the dog. Keep in mind, the "other end" is close to the ring barrier. When reaching that point, leave room for the dog to accomplish a smart finish without the barrier interfering with its movements. Five feet out from that barrier is a good guide for stopping. Not going the full distance (stopping short) at the "other end" is judged as handler error.</li> <li>* Loud commands by handlers to their dogs create a poor impression of obedience and should be avoided.</li> <li>* If a signal is used, it must be a <u>single gesture with one arm and hand only</u>, and the arm and hand <u>must immediately be returned to a natural position</u>.</li> <li>* Hands are to be hanging naturally at the handler's sides while a dog is coming in to Front.</li> <li>* Position of the arms, hands and movements of the head and/or body <u>that aid</u> the dog will be considered additional signals.</li> </ul> <p><b>Distances:</b> Go the other end of the ring, but leave room for a smart finish.</p>
<p><b>Retrieve On Flat</b> Chapter 4 Sections 11 &amp; 12</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Avoid moving one's feet or position once the exercise starts. Hold that stance throughout the exercise. Movement of the feet or position is scored as a handler error after the exercise starts.</li> <li>* Hands are to be hanging naturally at the handler's sides while a dog is coming in to Front.</li> </ul> <p><b>Distances:</b> The dumbbell is to be thrown <u>at least 20 feet</u>. <u>The judge will require the dumbbell to be thrown again before the dog is sent if it is thrown less than 20 feet, too far to one side or too close to the ring's edge.</u></p>
<p><b>Retrieve Over High Jump</b> Chapter 4 Sections 13 &amp; 14</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Avoid moving one's feet or position once the exercise starts. Hold that stance throughout the exercise. Movement of the feet or position is scored as a handler error after the exercise starts.</li> <li>* Hands are to be hanging naturally at the handler's sides while a dog is coming in to Front.</li> </ul> <p><b>Distances:</b> The handler will stand with the dog sitting in heel position <u>at least 8 feet</u> (or any reasonable distance <b>beyond 8 feet</b>) from the jump and will remain in the same spot throughout the exercise. On the judge's order, the handler will throw the dumbbell <u>at least 8 feet</u> beyond the jump. (These <b>8 foot</b> distances must be clearly marked by the judge).</p>
<p><b>Broad Jump</b> Chapter 4 Sections 15 &amp; 16</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* The handler is to make a 90-degree pivot while the dog is in <u>midair</u> over the hurdle(s)</li> <li>* Hands are to be hanging naturally at the handler's sides while a dog is coming in to Front.</li> </ul> <p><b>Distances:</b> The handler will stand with the dog sitting in the heel position <u>at least 8 feet</u> from the jump facing the lowest side of the lowest hurdle. (This <b>8 foot</b> distance must be clearly marked by the judge.)</p> <p>* Handlers may stand anywhere between the lowest edge of the first hurdle and the highest edge of the last hurdle with their toes <u>about two 2 feet</u> from the jump.</p>
<p><b>Stand Stay - Get Your Leash</b> Chapter 4 Sections 17 &amp; 18</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* When leaving the dog to retrieve the leash, remember to <u>step out of the ring to pick up the leash, come back into the ring, STOP and wait</u> for the judge's order "<b>Back to your dog.</b>" Failure to stop and wait for the order will result a penalty, not a NQ.</li> <li>* Make sure to <u>finish the exercise in Heel Position</u> (<b>Chapter 2, Section 18</b>).</li> <li>* Leave the ring with the dog under control, without jumping, pulling or tugging on the leash.</li> </ul> <p><b>Distances:</b> The handler will stand with the dog sitting in heel position in a place designated by the judge, <u>approximately 15 feet</u> from the ring gate. Prior to the start of judging, the judge will decide where the leash will be placed <u>outside</u> the ring on a chair or similar leash holder. <u>It will be in a direct line of vision as the handler leaves and returns to the ring.</u></p>
<p><b>Jumps Classes</b> Chapter 4 Sections 13 &amp; 15</p>	<p>Refer to <b>Chapter 4, Sections 13 &amp; 15</b> for specific High Jump &amp; Broad Jump measurements and requirements. Check to see the jumps are set correctly for the dog <u>before entering</u> the ring. This should be a part of the game plan!</p>
<p><b>Measuring Dogs</b> Chapter 4 Section 13</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* In all classes with jumps, as the dog is brought into the ring the judges may, at their discretion, measure the dog to verify the height at the withers. The measurement is made using an ordinary folding ruler or steel tape. Nothing may be attached to determine level position. No other measuring device is required or acceptable in the ring. (<b>Chapter 2, Section 1</b>) Review <b>Appendix A &amp; Appendix B</b> for Standard Jump Height, Preferred and ¾ Jump Height Table. A savvy handler may want to train for this just to be ready if it were to occur. Know the dog's height at the withers.</li> </ul>

**Regular & Preferred Utility Exercises**  
Chapters 5 & 13

<p><b>Signal Exercise</b> Chapter 5 Sections 6 &amp; 7</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Heeling will be done as in the <b>Novice Heel On Leash</b>.</li> <li>* The judge will order "Leave your dog." The handler will go to the other end of the ring, then turn and face the dog.</li> <li>* When using a signal, it must be a <u>single gesture with one arm and hand only</u>, and the arm and hand <u>must immediately be returned to a natural position</u>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Distances:</b> Go the other end of the ring, but leave room for a smart finish. Be aware of stopping too short.</p>
<p><b>Scent Discrimination</b> Chapter 5 Sections 8 &amp; 9</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* After scenting the article the arms and hands must be returned to a "natural" position.</li> <li>* <u>Turn in place</u> to face the articles—turning in the circle that was occupied by the handler before they started to turn.</li> <li>* <u>After the dog leaves to retrieve</u>, the handler's arms and hands should then be hanging naturally at their sides.</li> </ul> <p><b>Distances:</b> The closest article should be <u>about 20 feet</u> from the handler and dog.</p>
<p><b>Directed Retrieve</b> Chapter 5 Sections 10 &amp; 11</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* <u>Turn in place</u> to face the designated glove. Be aware of over or under turning to face the glove.</li> <li>* In giving the <u>required verbal command</u> either simultaneously or immediately following the giving of the direction, keep in mind the judge (who is standing behind the handler) needs to hear it!</li> <li>* Hands are to be hanging naturally at the handler's sides while a dog is coming in to Front.</li> </ul> <p><b>Distances:</b> One glove is dropped <u>about three 3 feet</u> in from each corner, and the remaining glove is dropped in the center, <u>about three 3 feet</u> from the end of the ring. Handlers will stand with their backs to the <u>unobstructed end</u> of the ring <u>midway</u> between and in line with the jumps.</p>

	<b>Moving Stand and Examination</b> Chapter 5 Sections 12 & 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* In regards to the <b>about 10 feet</b> of heeling, refer to the <b>Novice Heel on Leash Exercise</b>.</li> <li>* Know how many paces it takes to travel <b>10-12 feet</b> after leaving the dog. Be aware of stopping too short or going too far.</li> <li>* Avoid pausing or hesitating when giving the command and/or signal to stand.</li> </ul> <p><b>Distances:</b> Heeling is <b>about 10 feet</b>. After leaving the dog, the handler moves <b>forward 10-12 feet</b>. Practice those distances.</p>
	<b>Directed Jumping</b> Chapter 5 Sections 14 & 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Position of the arms and hands, movements of the head and/or body <u>that aid</u> the dog will be considered additional signals.</li> <li>* If the handler chooses to turn to face the dog when returning, this is to be done while the dog is <u>midair over the jump</u>.</li> <li>* In (Utility B), after the last exercise, leave the ring with the dog under control, without jumping, pulling or tugging on the leash.</li> </ul> <p><b>Distances:</b> The handler will stand in the approximate center of the ring, <b>about 20 feet</b> back from the jumps, and <u>midway</u> between them.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* When the dog is <b>about 20 feet</b> past the jumps on the Go Out, the handler will give a command to sit.</li> </ul>
<b>Preferred Novice Exercises</b> Chapter 11	<b>Review</b> → Chapter 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* <b>Novice Heel on Leash and Figure Eight, Stand For Examination, Heel Free, Recall, Sit Stay – Get Your Leash</b>, as they are all judged in the same manner as in the <b>Regular Novice</b> classes. Leave the ring with the dog under control, without jumping, pulling or tugging on the leash after the last exercise.</li> </ul>
	<b>Stay – Sit / Down Handler Walk Around the Ring</b> Chapter 11 Sections 8 & 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* The handler will walk around the inside perimeter of the ring in a direction as indicated by the judge.</li> <li>* Be aware not to cut the corners when walking the perimeter or returning to the dog.</li> <li>* Make sure to <u>finish the exercise in Heel Position (Chapter 2, Section 18)</u>.</li> <li>* Leave the ring with the dog under control, without jumping, pulling or tugging on the leash.</li> </ul> <p><b>Distances:</b> Walk the full distance of the perimeter of the ring and avoid cutting corners.</p>
<b>Beginner Novice Exercises</b> Chapter 16	<b>Review</b> → <b>Heel On Leash</b> Chapter 3, Sections 6 & 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Refer to <b>Regular Novice Heel on Leash</b> as the Beginner Novice is judged in the same manner, but with signs that give the orders in place of the judge.</li> </ul>
	<b>Figure Eight</b> Chapter 3, Sections 8 & 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Refer to <b>Regular Novice Figure Eight</b> exercise as the Beginner Novice Figure Eight are judged in the same manner.</li> </ul>
	<b>Sit For Exam</b> Chapter 16 Sections 10 & 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Make sure the dog is comfortable in the position that it was placed in. This will help insure no movement on the dog's part.</li> <li>* Make sure to <u>start and finish the exercise in Heel Position (Chapter 2, Section 18)</u>.</li> <li>* When leaving the dog, <u>walk forward the full distance</u>, then turn to face the dog. Any backing away from the dog while leaving will result in points lost--even up to non-qualifying (NQ) if backing up nearly the full distance traveled.</li> </ul> <p><b>Distances:</b> The handler is required to walk forward <b>about 6 feet</b>. Practice about how many paces that will be. As another guide, the judge is usually standing <b>about 6 feet</b> out and off to the side from the dog at the start of the exercise.</p>
	<b>Sit Stay – Handler Walks Around The Ring</b> Chapter 16 Sections 12 & 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* The handler will walk around the inside perimeter of the ring in a direction as indicated by the judge.</li> <li>* Be aware not to cut the corners when walking the perimeter or returning to the dog.</li> <li>* Make sure to <u>finish the exercise in Heel Position (Chapter 2, Section 18)</u>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Distances:</b> Walk the full distance of the perimeter of the ring and avoid cutting corners.</p>
	<b>Recall</b> Chapter 16 Sections 14 & 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* On the judge's order, the handler will then walk <u>forward</u> to a location directed by the judge. Not going the full distance of 25-feet (stopping short) is judged as a handler error.</li> <li>* Hands are to be hanging naturally at the handler's sides while a dog is coming in to Front.</li> <li>* <b>Chapter 2, Section 20:</b> Excessively loud commands by handlers to their dogs create a poor impression of obedience and should be avoided. If using a signal, it must be a <u>single gesture with one arm and hand only</u>.</li> <li>* Leave the ring with the dog under control, without jumping, pulling or tugging on the leash.</li> </ul> <p><b>Distances:</b> The handler will then walk forward, <b>approximately 25 feet</b>, to a location directed by the judge.</p>
<b>Graduate Novice Exercises</b> Chapter 17	<b>Review</b> → <b>Open Heel Free</b> Chapter 4, Section 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* This exercise will be performed and scored in the same manner as the <b>Open Heel Free</b> exercise.</li> <li>* Refer to <b>Chapter 3, Sections 5 &amp; 6</b> (Foundation exercise)</li> </ul>
	<b>Drop On Recall</b> Chapter 17 Sections 5 & 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* On the judge's order, the handler will then walk <u>forward</u> to the <u>other end of the ring</u> and turn to face the dog. Keep in mind, the "other end" is close to the ring barrier. When reaching that point, leave room for the dog to accomplish a smart finish without the barrier interfering with its movements. Five feet out from that barrier is a good guide for stopping. Not going the full distance (stopping short) to the "other end" is judged as handler error.</li> <li>* Loud commands by handlers to their dogs create a poor impression of obedience and should be avoided.</li> <li>* If a signal is used, it must be a <u>single gesture with one arm and hand only</u>, and the arm and hand <u>must immediately be returned to a natural position</u>. If a command and signal are given together, they are to be given simultaneously.</li> <li>* Hands are to be hanging naturally at the handler's sides while a dog is coming in to Front.</li> <li>* Position of arms and hands and movements of the head and/or body <u>that aid</u> the dog will be considered additional signals.</li> </ul> <p><b>Distances:</b> Go to the other end of the ring, but leave room for a smart finish.</p>
	<b>Dumbbell Recall</b> Chapter 17 Sections 7 & 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* On the judge's order, the handler will then walk <u>forward</u> to the <u>other end of the ring</u> and turn to face the dog. Keep in mind, the "other end" is close to the ring barrier. When reaching that point, leave room for the dog to accomplish a smart finish without the barrier interfering with its movements. Five feet out from that barrier is a good guide for stopping. Not going the full distance (stopping short) to the "other end" is judged as handler error.</li> <li>* Avoid moving one's feet or position after the dog is called. Hold that stance! Movement of the feet or position is scored as a handler error.</li> <li>* Hands are to be hanging naturally at the handler's sides while a dog is coming in to Front.</li> </ul> <p><b>Distances:</b> Go to the other end of the ring, but leave room for a smart finish.</p>
	<b>Dumbbell Recall Over High Jump</b> Chapter 17 Sections 9 & 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* On the judge's order, the handler will then walk <u>forward</u> to the <u>other side of the High Jump</u>, turn to face the dog.</li> <li>* Avoid moving one's feet or position after the dog is called. Hold that stance throughout the exercise. Movement of the feet or position is scored as a handler error.</li> <li>* Hands are to be hanging naturally at the handler's sides while a dog is coming in to Front.</li> <li>* Position of arms, hands and movements of the head and/or body <u>that aid</u> the dog will be considered additional signals.</li> </ul> <p><b>Distances:</b> The handler will stand with the dog sitting in the heel position <b>at least 8 feet</b> from the jump. (This <b>8 foot</b> distance must be clearly marked by the judge.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* After leaving the dog the handler will go around and <b>at least 8 feet</b> beyond the jump.</li> </ul>

	<b>Recall Over Broad Jump</b> Chapter 17 Sections 11 & 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* <b>Chapter 2, Section 20:</b> Excessively loud commands by handlers to their dogs create a poor impression of obedience and should be avoided. If using a signal, it must be a <u>single gesture with one arm and hand only</u>.</li> <li>* Hands are to be hanging naturally at the handler's sides while a dog is coming in to Front.</li> <li>* Position of arms, hands and movements of the head and/or body <u>that aid</u> the dog will be considered additional signals.</li> </ul> <p><b>Distances:</b> The handler will stand with the dog sitting in the heel position <b>at least 8 feet</b> from the jump facing the lowest side of the lowest hurdle. (This <b>8 foot</b> distance must be clearly marked by the judge.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* After leaving the dog the handler will go around the hurdle(s) <b>at least 8 feet</b> beyond the jump.</li> </ul>
	<b>Stand Stay – Get Your Leash</b> Chapter 4 Sections 17 & 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* When leaving the dog to retrieve the leash, <b>step out of the ring to pick up the leash, come back into the ring, stop</b> and wait for the judge's order "<b>Back to your dog.</b>" Failure to stop and wait for the order will result a penalty, not a NQ.</li> <li>* Make sure to <u>finish the exercise in Heel Position (Chapter 2, Section 18)</u>.</li> <li>* Leave the ring with the dog under control, without jumping, pulling or tugging on the leash.</li> </ul> <p><b>Distances:</b> The handler will stand with the dog sitting in heel position in a place designated by the judge, <b>approximately 15 feet</b> from the ring gate. Prior to the start of judging, the judge will decide where the leash will be placed, <u>outside</u> the ring on a chair or similar leash holder. <u>It will be in a direct line of vision as the handler leaves and returns to the ring.</u></p>
<b>Graduate Open Exercises</b> Chapter 18	<b>Signal Exercise</b> Chapter 18 Sections 4 & 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Heeling will be done as in the <b>Novice Heel Free</b>. While the dog is heeling at one end of the ring, the judge will order the handler to "Stand your dog."</li> <li>* When using a signal, it must be a <u>single gesture with one arm and hand only</u>, and the arm and hand <u>must immediately be returned to a natural position</u>.</li> <li>* If a signal and command are used they must be given <u>simultaneously</u>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Distances:</b> The handler will command and/or signal the dog to stay, go <b>at least 10 feet</b> from the dog, then turn and face the dog.</p>
	<b>Scent Discrimination</b> Chapter 18 Section 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* This exercise will be performed and scored the same as in the <b>Utility Scent Discrimination</b>, <u>except as stated</u> in Graduate Open, <b>Chapter 18, Section 6</b>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Distances:</b> The closest article should be <b>about 20 feet</b> from the handler and dog.</p>
	<b>Go Out</b> Chapter 18 Sections 7 & 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* The handler will stand with the dog sitting in the heel position facing the <u>unobstructed end</u> of the ring.</li> <li>* If a signal and command are used they must be given <u>simultaneously</u>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Distances:</b> Standing In the approximate <u>center</u> of the ring at any distance from <b>about 20 feet</b> in front the jumps up to <u>midway</u> between the jumps.</p>
	<b>Directed Jumping</b> Chapter 18 Sections 9 & 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* The handler will stand with the dog sitting at the <u>unobstructed end</u> and in the <u>center</u> of the ring.</li> <li>* If a signal and command are used they must be given <u>simultaneously</u>.</li> <li>* If the handler chooses to turn to face the dog when returning, this is to be done while the dog is <u>midair over the jump</u>.</li> <li>* Hands are to be hanging naturally at the handler's sides while a dog is coming in to Front.</li> </ul> <p><b>Distances:</b> The handler is to walk <u>forward</u> to the <u>other end</u> of the ring after leaving the dog.</p>
	<b>Moving Stand And Examination</b> Chapter 18 Section 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* This exercise will be performed and scored the same as in the <b>Utility Moving Stand And Examination</b>.</li> <li>* Handlers may pause/hesitate when giving the command and/or signal to stand.</li> <li>* If a signal and command are used they must be given <u>simultaneously</u>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Distances:</b> Heeling is <b>about 10 feet</b>. After leaving the dog, the handler moves <b>forward 10-12 feet</b>.</p>
	<b>Directed Retrieve</b> Chapter 18 Section 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* This exercise will be performed as in the <b>Utility Directed Retrieve</b> except that a <u>center glove is not used</u>.</li> <li>* <u>Turn in place</u> to face the designated glove. Be aware of over or under turning to face the glove.</li> <li>* In giving the <u>required verbal command</u> either simultaneously or immediately following the giving of the direction, keep in mind the judge (who is standing behind the handler) needs to hear it!</li> <li>* Hands are to be hanging naturally at the handler's sides while a dog is coming in to Front.</li> </ul> <p><b>Distances:</b> Two gloves are dropped <b>about 3 feet</b> in from each corner. Handlers will stand with their backs to the <u>unobstructed end</u> of the ring <u>midway</u> between and in line with the jumps.</p>