

RALLY JUDGING GUIDELINES wef August 2022

	FUN	NOV	ADV	EXC	MAST	G/MAS	SNR
Lag/wide/forgive/sniffing/t-lead	1/2	1/2	1	1	1	1	1/2
Crooked sit, stand, down <45	1/2	1/2	1	1	1	1	1/2
Crooked sit, stand, down >45	1	1	2	2	2	2	1
Barking/bouncing (excessive)	1	1	2	2	2	2	1
Continuous Fault	3	3	5	5	5	5	3
Dog touches sign	1/2	1/2	1	1	1	1	1/2
Slow response	1/2	1/2	1	1	1	1	1/2
Handler touches sign/cone	1	1	2	2	2	2	1
Moving feet in static exercises	1	1	2	2	2	2	1
Dog moves out of static	1	1	2	2	2	2	1
Out of box	1	1	2	2	2	2	1
Anticipation	1	1	2	2	2	2	1
Dog changes heel side	1	1	2	2	2	2	1
Wrong pace (partial)	1	1	2	2	2	2	1
Wide on slalom/spiral	1	1	2	2	2	2	1
Sign element wrong	1	1	2	2	2	2	1
Whole sign wrong	2	2	4	4	4	4	2
Sign missed/ course lost	2	5	5	5	6	6	5
Excessive cues-Penalties after 3 commands given for the same action, to be applied over the whole course	1/2 - 1	1/2 - 1	1 - 2	1 - 2	1 - 2	1 - 2	1/2 - 1
Moves to distraction per time	n/a	n/a	1	1	1	1	1
Refuses jump	n/a	1	2	2	2	2	n/a
Hard handling	5	5	5	5	5	5	5

D/Q DOG FOULS RING, CONTINUOUS OR INTENTIONAL DROPPING TREATS, HARSH HANDLING, DOG LEAVES RING (all 4 paws), AGGRESSIVE DOG, IF HANDLER HAS FOOD/TOY ON THEM (NOV-GR.MASTERS)

Notes:

1. Need to relax extra commands in Fun and Novice where we have beginner dogs that are learning.
2. Dog/ Handler touching/luring in Fun, unless giving a treat should be penalised.
3. Each competitor should get a quick (30 second) brief so they know where they went wrong
4. Lead dropping if accidental shouldn't be penalised, but deliberate e.g. placing lead on dog's back in a down should be. Time will come into play here.

RALLY JUDGING GUIDELINES – Revision August 2022

- The judging guidelines have been set up to assist judges in deducting points from the total points allocated per class level. **The total points allocated for all classes is 100.**
- Deductions are made based on the Judge's assessment of the dog and handler from the Start marker to the Finish marker and all Test cards on the course.
- The dog and handler are timed from the Start to the Finish marker, with a cut off time of 4 (four) minutes permitted on the course. Exceeding the time limit results in disqualification, this applies to all classes except the Senior class.
- Dogs from the age of 6 (six) months may enter the FUN class and dogs from 12 (twelve) months may start competing in the Novice class and upwards.
- To compete in the Senior class, dogs can be 8 (eight) years or older, or younger than 8 years if they have compromised movement, however, they may not be in any pain or discomfort. A letter from a member of the South African Veterinary Council (SAVA) is to be produced and shown to the judge prior to the dog starting on the course. The letter may not be older than 6 (six) months.
- A dog's physical nature & size are to be taken into account when judging, for example, dachshunds often cannot sit straight due to their longer back legs. Likewise, a Boerbull / Mastiff size dog, or a Great Dane, might struggle with the tunnel. Judges are not to deduct points when they can see the dog is physically unable to perform an exercise (particularly in the Fun and Senior classes).
- Re-trying of an exercise is permitted once per Test Card, this applies to all classes. There is no deduction for re-trying a test card, as the team will 'lose time' by doing this in any event.

Summary of Classes

FUN (non-champ shows only) – to commence AFTER other rally classes (due to treats being permitted). Dog on lead, food, toy, praise & encouragement allowed. Once a dog has qualified with 90% or higher, 10 (ten) times, they must move to the Novice class. The fun class is the only class where toys/treats are permitted.

NOVICE (all shows) – first competitive class in Rally. On lead (or offlead at handlers' discretion, no extra points awarded for offlead). Encouragement & praise is permitted. Cut off time of 4 (four) minutes is introduced, timing from Start to Finish marker. A dog qualifies by achieving 90% or higher and after a minimum of 3 (three) times and a maximum of 5 (five) times, the dog moves up to the Advanced class.

ADVANCED (all shows) – dogs may remain on lead at the handlers' discretion. No food, treats or toys permitted in the ring. Encouragement and praise is permitted. A dog qualifies by achieving 90% or higher and after a minimum of 3 (three) times and a maximum of 5 (five) times, the dog moves up to the Excellent class.

SENIOR (non champ shows only) – all dogs over 8 years and dogs of any age who are movement compromised (without pain or discomfort). Dogs can be on lead or off lead (handlers' choice). There is no limit to how many times the dog competes in senior and there is no qualifying percentage, only placings are issued. The Senior class will compete on the same course as the Advanced class (after Advanced).

EXCELLENT (all shows) – Dogs work off lead from this class onwards. Leash to be removed either outside the ring or before the Start marker with the dog in the sit position. The handler may keep the lead on his/her person whilst on the course, or the lead may be placed outside the ring. Encouragement and limited words of praise are permitted. A dog qualifies by achieving 90% or higher and after a minimum of 3 (three) times and a maximum of 5 (five) times, the dog moves up to the Master class.

MASTER (all shows) – See above re off lead in the ring, as well as removal of lead. Encouragement and limited words of praise are permitted. A dog qualifies by achieving 95% or higher, at 3 (three) Championship shows, under 3 (three) different judges. Once this is achieved, the dog is eligible for Championship status.

GRAND MASTER (All shows) – Once a dog has achieved 3 (three) QC's in the Master class, the team move to the Grand Master class. All criteria for the Master class applies. After achieving 15 (fifteen) QC's at Championship shows, the dog qualifies for Grand Champion status. The 3 (three) QC's achieved in the Master class counts towards the 15 (fifteen) required for Grand Champion status.