

DOGS Victoria/OTEC submission received for Rally

From Victorian members

GLOSSARY

Submitted by Dearne Jackson

Glossary Inclusion into the Exhibitors and Handlers section.

How a station is performed.

The text description given for a station shall be the definitive way in which a station is to be performed. The image shown is a visual guide only as to how a station will be performed.

Rationale

Inclusion of the item in the glossary clarifies how a station is to be performed when inconsistency between the image shown and the text description exists, without having to regenerate all existing signs with new images or changed text description.

Eg: Station 51 image text reads Leave Dog 5 Metres, About Turn, Return to Dog. However the image shows an about turn right, but the station text description states that the handler is to "about turn" and there is no specific about turn required. The intent of the image is to show that the handler has to return back to the dog, not that the turn must be a right about turn.

Submitted by Lorna Piper

Rule change,

Suggest Novice signs are preceded by a N, Advanced by A then Excellent E and Masters M ie N.1, N.2, etc.

Rationale – so that stations can be added/removed from each level without renumbering all the stations

Submitted by Dearne Jackson

Numbering of Stations

Set each Class level station numbering starting at 1 – the highest number and then any new signs added at that given class level receive the next available number.

ie currently this would make the stations at Class Level:

Novice N1 – N32

Advanced A1 - A21

Excellent X1 – X12

Master M1 – M11

Rationale:

New signs are going to continue to be suggested at subsequent rule changes. There should be no reason why signs have to be inserted into class levels eg Novice and cause every level above to have to be reprinted. Making the change now as part of the 2025 rule change means that new signs added to any level in this rule change go at the end of the existing signs for the given level and so forth in future year changes.

There is no need to have to put N, A, X on a sign to denote that a station can be used at a lower level because that should be treated as a given that a higher class level can use a station from a lower level.

Impugning the judge – any person that impugns a judge’s decision shall be barred from the days event.

Submitted by Dearne Jackson

Page 7 Current

CLASSES

All classes must be available for competition at the Trial and included on the trial schedule unless special permission is granted by the Member Body. No classes other than the following shall be provided or withdrawn without the special permission of the Member Body. Qualifications up to and including the date of closing of entry shall count as eligibility to compete in any class.

Proposed Change

4. CLASSES

Affiliates are not required to schedule all available classes for competition. But must schedule all classes up to the highest-class level wanted. E.g. Rally Novice, Rally Advanced
~~All classes must be available for competition at the Trial and included on the trial schedule unless special permission is granted by the Member Body. No classes other than the following shall be provided or withdrawn without the special permission of the Member Body. Qualifications up to and including the date of closing of entry shall count as eligibility to compete in any class~~

Rationale:

This change would bring the Rally rules in line with the Tracking and Track and Search Dog rules released 1 January 2024. This would enable Affiliates to contract a desired judge for

the class levels of licences currently held, without the need to have an additional judge for the class(es) that will not have any entrants anyway. Eg at a Restricted to Breed event. And without the need for an Affiliate to formally request special permission from of the Member Body. Thereby creating opportunities for judges progressing through judge licence levels to achieve the necessary judging appointments at events that the affiliate knows it does not have potential entrants in higher level classes.

Submitted by Ray Ashman

CLASSES Page 7

Rally Excellent

This class shall be for dogs that have qualified for the Rally Advanced (RA) Title.

All exercises are judged off lead.

The Excellent class must have fifteen (15) - twenty (20) stations (not including Start and Finish) and use a minimum of 3 to a maximum of 10 stationary exercises and requires two jumps (not consecutive). Courses shall have a minimum of 6 Advanced level stations and a minimum of 4 Excellent level stations, including the jumps.

Jumps may be a Broad Jump, Solid Jump, Bar Jump.

A station consists of a single jump.

One or two types of jump may be used on the course.

A single jump may be used in two stations.

Jumps must not be used consecutively on the course.

Change

Rally Excellent

This class shall be for dogs that have qualified for the Rally Advanced (RA) Title.

All exercises are judged off lead.

The Excellent class must have fifteen (15) - twenty (20) stations (not including Start and Finish) and use a minimum of 3 to a maximum of 10 stationary exercises and requires ~~two~~ **one excellent** jump—s (not consecutive). Courses shall have a minimum of 6 Advanced level stations and a minimum of Excellent level stations, ~~including the jumps.~~

Jumps may be a ~~Broad Jump~~, Solid Jump, Bar Jump.

A station consists of a single jump.

~~One or two types of jump may be used on the course.~~

~~A single jump may be used in two stations.~~

Jumps must not be used consecutively on the course.

Rationale: If the new station is accepted then the Glossary will need to reflect the change. The reduction of the number of jumps is to conserve space in the courses. This new station is an Excellent jump as the degree of difficulty has increased. The Advanced jump can still be used as an optional Advanced station if the judge desires. The broad jump will be removed from the excellent jump option as it is not conducive the new exercise. However, if the Advanced jump station is used the broad jump is still acceptable in Excellent.

Submitted by Dearne Jackson

PAGE 9

CURRENT:

Entering and Leaving the Ring:

On the Steward's call of the dog's catalogue number, the Handler will enter the Ring and take up position at the "Start Station". All dogs must enter and leave the ring on lead. In Exercises that require a dog to be off lead, the lead will be taken off upon instruction from the judge, and handed to the Steward.

PROPOSED:

Entering and Leaving the Ring:

On the Steward's call of the dog's catalogue number, the Handler will enter the Ring and take up position at the "Start Station". All dogs must enter and leave the ring on lead. In Exercises that require a dog to be off lead, the lead will be taken off upon instruction from the judge, and ~~handed to the Steward~~ *retained by the handler. They may place the lead over their shoulder or in their pocket.*

Rationale:

This retains the ANKC general rule introduced during Covid and retained post covid until the forthcoming rule change.

Submitted by Ray Ashman

Page 9 Glossary

Current:

Entering and Leaving the Ring: On the Steward's call of the dog's catalogue number, the Handler will enter the Ring and take up position at the "Start Station". All dogs must enter and leave the ring on lead. In Exercises that require a dog to be off lead, the lead will be taken off upon instruction from the judge, and handed to the Steward.

Change to:

Entering and Leaving the Ring: On the Steward's call of the dog's catalogue number, the Handler will enter the Ring and take up position at the "Start Station". All dogs must enter and leave the ring on lead. In Exercises that require a dog to be off lead, the lead will be taken off upon instruction from the judge and *may be handed to the Steward at the start marker or retained by the handler*

Submission by Dani Sherrin–

SECTION “RINGS”

Page 8

Change: Insert an additional line on ring fencing after the last paragraph.

Change to: “Where a ring shares a boundary line with another ring, an opaque barrier is to be present. This may be safety barrier mesh, netting, foldable timber, PVC or other similar opaque barrier”.

Rationale: *An opaque barrier will help reduce incidences between dogs interfering with other rings by interrupting line of sight and presenting a physical barrier to direct ring interference. While not a perfect solution, this would help buy stewards and handlers extra time to contain a loose dog. This would also provide reassurance to new and nervous handlers and demonstrate that obedience takes dog safety seriously.*

SECTION “RINGS”

Page 8

Change: Insert an additional line on minimum distance from ring after the last paragraph.

Change to: “Handlers and observers must not congregate within five (5) metres of the entry and exit points, except in the instance of the next Handler called to go in the ring waiting at the designated entry point.”

Rationale: *People who are new to trials or who have been training without a club are not always aware of the finer common courtesy parts of a trial. By building this into the rules, it will become an expected part of the trial culture and help prevent bottlenecks and congestion at these locations.*

SECTION “EXHIBITORS AND HANDLERS”

PAGE 9

Change: Remove the requirement on the English language.

Currently reads... “All verbal commands must be in the English Language unless approved otherwise by the Judge.”

Change to: “One command only is given to the dog for a specific action on the part of the dog. The verbal command must be a single word but may be in any language.”

Rationale: *Australia is a multi-cultural country with many languages. Handlers also train under a range of sports. To be more open and inclusive, propose removing the requirement of English language only. Judges are able to use tone and repetition to determine if a repeat command was used, or if a corrective command was used.*

Submission by Lynn Klecka

Exhibitors and Handlers

PAGE 9

Current:

Entering and Leaving the Ring: On the Steward's call of the dog's catalogue number, the Handler will enter the Ring and take up position at the "Start Station". All dogs must enter and leave the ring on lead. In Exercises that require a dog to be off lead, the lead will be taken off upon instruction from the judge, and handed to the Steward.

Change to:

Entering and Leaving the Ring: On the Steward's call of the dog's catalogue number, the Handler will enter the Ring and take up position at the "Start Station". All dogs must enter and leave the ring on lead. **On direction from the Judge, the Handler shall remove the lead, where required. The lead will be retained by the Handler. It can be placed in a pocket or around their body, so it does not impede the dog's performance.**

Submission by Dani Sherrin-

SECTION "EXHIBITORS AND HANDLERS"

PAGE 9

Change: Insert new definition between "Dress Code" and "Entering and Leaving the Ring"

Change to: "Removal of Lead: When directed to remove the lead, the handler shall either place the lead over their body and secured in a way so as not to impact the dog, or, be secured in a pocket on the right side of the body."

Rationale: *This would formalise the changes that occurred during social distancing, where handler's kept the lead on their body. In addition to continuing to maintain hygiene, this would allow a handler to quickly secure their dog in the event of an emergency, disqualification or when withdrawing from an event. Care should be taken that the secured lead does not impact the heeling dog.*

SECTION "EQUIPMENT"

PAGE 13

Change: Insert an additional line under "Calculation of the Height and Width of Jumps" and into the table.

Change to: "A dog that is physically disabled (vision impaired, wheelchair, missing a leg, hip dysplasia) will have a jump height of 0"

Height of Dog at Withers	Height to be jumped	Broad Jump	Number of Broad Jump Hurdles
Physically disabled	0mm	n/a	n/a
Under 250mm	150mm	300mm	2
250mm and under 380mm	200mm	400mm	2
380mm and under 450mm	300mm	600mm	3
450mm and under 550mm	400mm	800mm	3
550mm and over	500mm	1000mm	3

Rationale: This would allow Handlers with dogs that are physically unable to jump, to continue trialling in Rally, while still performing the intent of the exercises by running between the upright poles of the lowered jump.

Handlers putting in a height of 0mm to be jumped will be a signal to Judges of a likely disabled dog entering, which will inform the Judge to use a Bar or Pole jump instead of a broad jump (which cannot be adjusted to run between upright poles)

SECTION "EQUIPMENT"

PAGE 13

Change: Add in the optional inclusion of tick collars

Currently reads... "The minimum length of lead will be 750 mm and it will be fitted with a quick release fastener. The lead must be made of fabric or leather and must be long enough to provide adequate slack. All dogs must have a slip or fixed collar which fits loosely around only the dog's neck and which must remain on the dog at all times. No spiked collars, electronic collars or collars which give additional head control shall be permitted."

Change to:

Add new line: "A loosely fitted tick collar is permitted in addition to the slip or fixed collar."

Rationale: Areas free of the Australian paralysis tick are reducing. This would provide ongoing protection to dog's trialling in areas with ticks.

SECTION "EQUIPMENT"

PAGE 13 Collars and Leads

Change: Add in the option for dogs to wear a harness

Currently reads... "All dogs must have a slip or fixed collar which fits loosely around only the dog's neck and which must remain on the dog at all times. No spiked collars, electronic collars or collars which give additional head control shall be permitted."

Change to:

“...All dogs must have a slip or fixed collar which fits loosely around only the dog's neck and which must remain on the dog at all times. At the Handler's discretion, the dog may wear a harness that allows the dog to move freely with the lead attached at the back. No spiked collars, electronic collars, collars which give additional head control or 'no-pull harnesses' shall be permitted.”

Rationale: *It is increasingly common for dogs to be walked and trained in harnesses instead of collars, often for welfare concerns.*

Providing the option for those who use harnesses to wear in the ring will demonstrate to the wider dog community that rally is a proactive and modern discipline that takes dog welfare concerns seriously.

To keep trials a level playing field, where a harness is present the lead should be specified to attach at the back. A requirement that harnesses that give additional control are not to be used in the ring should also be included to keep the level playing field.

As a harness is equivalent to a fixed collar, it would not provide advantage or disadvantage to handlers that prefer to use them.

Submission by Nyorie Lindner Dogs Vic number : 3002761680)

Summary of changes

The aim of this submission is to make the sport of Rally more accessible to people with dogs who are healthy and active but cannot or should not jump. Two options have been proposed.

Option 1 (page 2)

1. Handler to get a vet certificate/letter stating that dogs shouldn't or can't jump. Submit a copy where appropriate.
2. The Handler would then record a height 0 on the Height form.
 - a. In this case a pole or plank would lie on the ground.
 - b. the 0 height would let judges know that a broad jump won't work for that particular class.

Option 2 (page 5)

1. Remove jumps and all references to Jumps from Rally rules (this includes The Signs, Advanced Class and Excellent Class.)

Rationale:-

- *Either option would make the sport of Rally more accessible for dogs which are otherwise healthy and active, but can't or shouldn't jump. This would encourage more people to participate in the sport of Rally and stay involved.*
- *I believe that Rally Masters was introduced into Australia 8 – 10 years ago without jumps to cater for older dogs who may no longer be able to jump. This has surely set*

a precedent to cater for dogs that can't or shouldn't jump. Why not extend this opportunity to other dogs who may not be able to jump, that may want to participate and progress in Rally but are currently prevented from doing so because they would not be able to achieve a qualifying score in Advanced or Excellent.

- In the case of Option 2 (removal of jumps), it would save the stewards having to change jump heights and mean that country clubs would not have to maintain a set of jumps for Rally trials.*

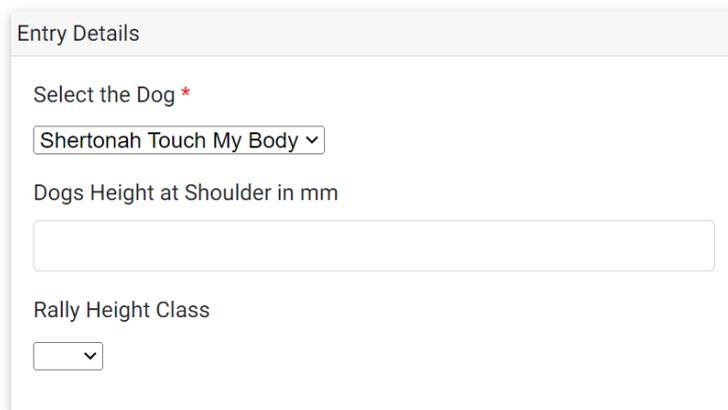
OPTION 1. Handler to get a vet certificate/letter stating that dogs shouldn't or can't jump.

The following are the changes required for this option.

1 Description. Change the Trial Entry form to allow it to show that a dog will not be jumping.

Below is an example of an entry to Rally for Advanced or Excellent classes. The box below "Dogs Height at Shoulder in mm" would be left blank and the "Rally Height Class" would be left as blank.

Once the judge has received all entries and can see one or more dogs has no height, they would not use the broad jump.



The screenshot shows a form titled "Entry Details" with the following fields:

- "Select the Dog *" with a dropdown menu showing "Shertonah Touch My Body".
- "Dogs Height at Shoulder in mm" with an empty text input field.
- "Rally Height Class" with a dropdown menu showing a blank space.

2 Description Competitor would need to show vet certificate when registering at the trial.

3 Description. Add a note into the Jumps description in the Rally Excellent section about dogs which have a registered jump height of zero.

P7 RALLY EXCELLENT (4th paragraphs) – currently reads

Jumps may be a Broad Jump, Solid Jump, Bar Jump.
A station consists of a single jump.
One or two types of jump may be used on the course.
A single jump may be used in two stations.
Jumps must not be used consecutively on the course.

Change to (sentence in underlined has been added)

Jumps may be a Broad Jump, Solid Jump, Bar Jump. Note. For classes where there are competitors who have a vet certificate and have registered a jump height of Zero, the broad jump will not be used, and the bar or solid plank(s) of Solid jump will be lain on the ground.

A station consists of a single jump.

One or two types of jump may be used on the course.

A single jump may be used in two stations.

Jumps must not be used consecutively on the course.

4 Description. Make changes in the Jumps section to accommodate dogs with registered zero height.

P 13 “Jumps” currently reads

It is the Judge’s responsibility to see that jumps are set for each dog in accordance with these Rules.

All jumps must be white, except for the bar used in the Bar Jump.

Calculation of the Height and Width of Jumps:

The dog's height shall be measured at the withers to the nearest 10mm. The dog’s jump height shall be given on the entry form.

Height of Dog at Withers Height	Height to be jumped	Broad Jump	# Broad Jump Hurdles
Under 250mm	150mm	300mm	2
250mm and under 380mm	200mm	400mm	2
380mm and under 500mm	300mm	600mm	3
500mm and over	400mm	800mm	3

Change to (sentence and row in table in underlined been added)

It is the Judge’s responsibility to see that jumps are set for each dog in accordance with these Rules.

All jumps must be white, except for the bar used in the Bar Jump.

Calculation of the Height and Width of Jumps:

The dog's height shall be measured at the withers to the nearest 10mm. The dog’s jump height shall be given on the entry form. Competitors, whose dog has a vet certificate, will have registered a jump height of Zero. In this case the broad jump will not be used, and the bar or solid plank(s) of Solid jump will be lain on the ground.

Height of Dog at Withers Height	Height to be jumped	Broad Jump	# Broad Jump Hurdles
<u>0 recorded</u>	<u>Na</u>	<u>Na</u>	<u>na</u>
Under 250mm	150mm	300mm	2
250mm and under 380mm	200mm	400mm	2
380mm and under 500mm	300mm	600mm	3
500mm and over	400mm	800mm	3

5 Description Add a note to the Sign 53 description to describe what will happen with a competitor with a jump height of zero.

P24 Sign 53 Description of Jump (add Note in blue at the end of the description of how to complete the sign)

53. *Send Over Jump - Handler Passes By - Whilst moving with the dog in heel position, the Handler directs the dog to take the jump as the Handler passes by the jump without any pause, hesitation or stopping. The Handler may increase speed or run while passing by the jump. When the dog has completed the jump in the proper direction, it is called to heel position and the team continues to the next exercise. A Retry shall not be permitted on this exercise if the bar is knocked from a bar jump or the dog walks on a broad jump.

Note. Where competitors' dogs have a vet certificate and have registered a jump height of Zero, the competitor will still need to complete the jump as described except that the dog will not have to jump, but will still pass through the up rights.

Submission by Dani Sherrin

SECTION "EQUIPMENT"

PAGE 13

Change: Insert an additional line under "Calculation of the Height and Width of Jumps" and into the table.

Change to: "A dog that is physically disabled (vision impaired, wheelchair, missing a leg, hip dysplasia) will have a jump height of 0"

<u>Height of Dog at Withers</u>	<u>Height to be jumped</u>	<u>Broad Jump</u>	<u>Number of Broad Jump Hurdles</u>
<u>Physically disabled</u>	<u>0mm</u>	<u>n/a</u>	<u>n/a</u>
<u>Under 250mm</u>	<u>150mm</u>	<u>300mm</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>250mm and under 380mm</u>	<u>200mm</u>	<u>400mm</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>380mm and under 450mm</u>	<u>300mm</u>	<u>600mm</u>	<u>3</u>

450mm and under 550mm	400mm	800mm	3
550mm and over	500mm	1000mm	3

Rationale: This would allow Handlers with dogs that are physically unable to jump, to continue trialling in Rally, while still performing the intent of the exercises by running between the upright poles of the lowered jump.

Handlers putting in a height of 0mm to be jumped will be a signal to Judges of a likely disabled dog entering, which will inform the Judge to use a Bar or Pole jump instead of a broad jump (which cannot be adjusted to run between upright poles)

Submission by Helen Campbell

Currently many (2021) rally signs show a single right U shaped arrow to signify a 180 degree right turn which most handlers are taught as a "right about turn" However the name of this manoeuvre differs - sign 7 and 34 call it "about turn right" Sign 43 says "180 pivot right" where handler pivots and dog does U turn. Sign 47, 60, 62, all call movement "right U turn"

a) I propose that all signs showing a right U shaped single arrow name the manoeuvre "right U turn" to provide a single, consistent term throughout all rally signs in 2025 rules. (Rename sign 43 "180 pivot Right U Turn")

Similarly signs with a left single U shaped arrow are inconsistent - sign 8 lists "about turn left" sign 33 says "about U turn" 44 says "180 pivot left" handler does pivot dog does U turn left. Signs 48, 61, 63 call movement "left U turn".

b). I propose that all signs showing a left U shaped single arrow name the manoeuvre "left U turn" to provide a single, consistent term throughout all rally signs in 2025 rules. (Rename sign 44 "180 pivot Left U Turn")

Sign 29 has a double arrow indicating the dog turns right moving behind its handler who turns left towards the dog.

This is called "Left about turn".

c) Fortunately (2021) signs 29, 49, 60, 61, 62, 63 already use the same name "left about turn" and therefore set a precedent for uniformity of terms as proposed above in a) and b) as conformity within sign parameters is greatly to be desired for 2025 Rally rules.

Multiple signs use an arrow to indicate dog's movement direction including call front, finish, return to heel, spiral, serpentine, turns, spins etc. Accordingly handlers are able to consistently train their dogs to move according to arrows on signs. A number of signs require handler to leave their dog, move forward then make a U turn indicated by a directional arrow on the sign.

Signs 51, 58, 59 all show a U shaped arrow for handler to turn- Sign 51 to right, sign 58, 59 both turn left. However, the Description of exercise states handler does "an about turn to face the dog".

Some handlers have reported being marked IP because they turned contrary to arrow direction on sign believing they had option of direction for their turn.

d) I propose that, where a handler's turn direction is clearly indicated by a single U shaped arrow on a sign, the description of that exercise must specify the turn direction required by the handler ie "handler will perform a right U turn and face the dog" or "handler will perform a left U turn and face the dog". Such a change would clarify the handler's movement and position, prevent any confusion due to ambiguity of wording, create consistency of performance and judging by using uniform terms proposed in - a) b) above, and currently in use- c) above

RALLY NOVICE

Submission from Ross Carlson, Kim Houlden, Gaye Todd:

Novice class: Allocating other stations to Novice from Advanced

Move station #47 (double right about turn) from Advanced to Novice (page 23)

Move station #48 (double left about turn) from Advanced to Novice (page 23)

Move station #49 (double left U turn) from Advanced to Novice (page 24)

***Rationale:** Moving these stations to Novice will assist handlers to develop heeling position and enable more moving stations. By having more of these moving stations, courses can be more engaging between handler and dog which will improve the connectivity in the team and motivation for a brisk moving course.*

Introduction of new **NOVICE** station

Figure 8

This exercise requires two pylons or posts placed about 2.45 – 3.00 metres apart, around which the team will perform a complete Figure 8, crossing the centre line three times. Entry must be between the pylons or posts. The exercise sign may be placed on or near the cone where entry is made into the Figure 8.

Proposal by Kim Houlden submitted by Lorna Piper



The handler will approach the sign toward the right hand corner to enable the 360⁰ left turn to the to be completed in front of the sign and pass the sign on the right to enable a right diagonal forward motion.

The handler will approach the sign toward the left hand corner to enable the 360⁰ right turn to the to be completed in front of the sign and pass the sign on the left to enable a left diagonal forward motion



Rationale – to give more flow to courses when a diagonal change of direction is required



The handler will complete a u turn to the left at a diagonal.

The handler will complete a u turn to the left at a diagonal



The handler and dog to perform a 45° (sharp) turn to the left for a diagonal exit



The handler and dog to perform a 45° (sharp) turn to the right for a diagonal exit

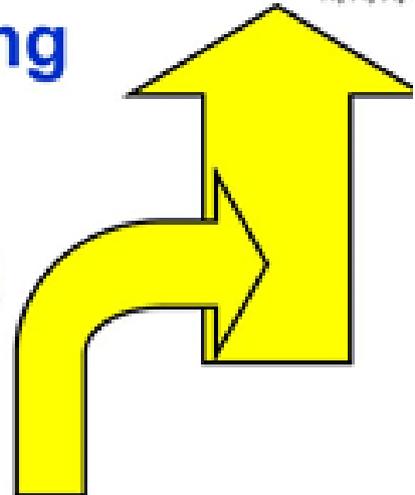
Rationale: to introduce a new turn that allows for a diagonal exit,

Submitted by Dearne Jackson

CURRENT SIGN and description

20. Moving Sidestep Right –
Whilst heeling, the Handler takes one step **diagonally to the right**, leading with the right foot, and continues moving forward along the newly established line. The dog moves with the Handler. The exercise shall be performed just after the exercise sign.

**Moving
Side
Step
Right**



REPLACE IMAGE WITH

20. Moving Sidestep Right - Whilst heeling, the Handler takes one step diagonally to the right, leading with the right foot, and continues moving forward along the newly established line. The dog moves with the Handler. The exercise shall be performed just after the exercise sign.

Moving
Side
Step
Right



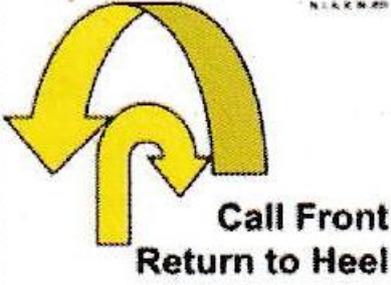
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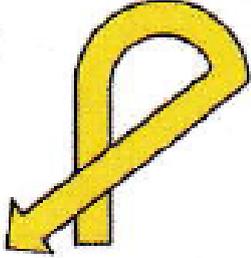
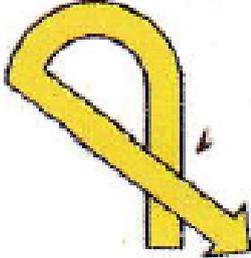
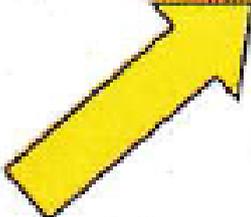
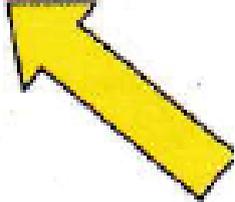
The wording of the Australian station is slightly different to the American original. The Australian description includes the word "Diagonally" which does not align with the current image. Therefore changing the image to show a diagonal movement makes the image clearer to the intent of the station.

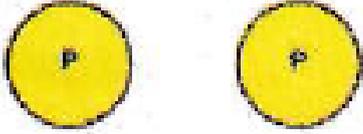
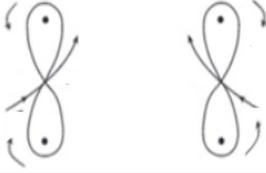
Submitted by Dearne Jackson

Suggested New Rally Signs

NOVICE LEVEL

	<p>CALL FRONT – RETURN TO HEEL While heeling, the Handler stops forward motion and commands/signals the dog to front. The Handler may take several steps backward. The dog must come and sit in front. The dog must stay sitting while the handler walks around the dog back behind the dog to RETURN to the heel position. The HANDLER MUST PAUSE before heeling forward (Stationary exercise)</p>	<p>ANKC Sign 35</p>
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<p>Loop Right</p> 	<p>LOOP RIGHT – While heeling, the Dog and Handler loop right crossing over the original path to change direction</p>	<p>ANKC Sign 37</p>
<p>Loop Left</p> 	<p>LOOP LEFT – While heeling, the Dog and Handler loop left crossing over the original path to change direction</p>	<p>ANKC Sign 38</p>
<p>Diagonal Right</p> 	<p>DIAGONAL RIGHT - While heeling, the dog and handler make an open angle turn to the right.</p> <p>The dog must move with the handler.</p> <p>This sign will be placed directly in line of the team's path.</p>	<p>ANKC Sign 39</p>
<p>Diagonal Left</p> 	<p>DIAGONAL LEFT - While heeling, the dog and handler make an open angle turn to the left.</p> <p>The dog must move with the handler.</p> <p>This sign will be placed directly in line of the team's path.</p>	<p>ANKC Sign 40</p>

 <p>Figure 8 No Distractions</p>	<p>FIGURE 8 - NO DISTRACTIONS - This sign requires two pylons spaced approximately 3 meters apart. The Figure 8 may be entered with the pylons on either the left or right side and will perform a complete figure 8 around the pylons. Crossing the center line three times.</p> 	<p>ANKC Sign 32</p>
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RALLY ADVANCED

Submitted by Lorna Piper

Station 50

50. Call front, Handler Reverses Three Steps - Finish The Handler calls the dog to the front, reverses three steps, with the dog moving with Handler. The dog returns to heel and continues heeling forward without stopping. The dog does not sit during this exercise. The team must maintain continuous motion throughout the turn without partially sitting or stopping

Change – ~~The Handler calls the dog to the front~~ dog will be called to front position after which the handler reverses three steps with the dog moving with them.

Rationale - *The correction will allow large dogs to get into a correct front position before the backward steps are taken giving a more collected performance, ensuring the station is performed as was intended. Deductions are made if the dog sits crooked in the 'front' position with the 'call front and recall stations, if the dog is not straight in front in this station then deductions should be made, this would greatly penalise the larger dogs that require more than three steps from the handler to become straight. **

**note – there was a lot of investigation when introducing this station initially in the action of giant breeds and toy breeds, this is why the change should reflect the intention of the original submission*

Submission by Ulla Werner

Sign 46 Halt - Leave Dog - Recall (page 23)

The current wording on the actual sign is :

Leave Dog 3 metres

About turn

Recall Dog

Handler Return

Proposed wording on the actual sign:

Leave Dog 3 metres

About turn

Call Dog to Front

Return to Dog

Rationale: *The exercises performed at station 46 (Adv) and station 57 (Exc) are identical apart from the distance you have to leave the dog (3m vs 5 m). Therefore the wording on the signs should be identical (apart from the distance)*

50. Call front, Handler Reverses Three Steps - Finish (page 24)

Current wording :

The Handler calls the dog to the front, reverses three steps, with the dog moving with Handler. The dog returns to heel and continues heeling forward without stopping. The dog does not sit during this exercise. The team must maintain continuous motion throughout the turn without partially sitting or stopping.

Suggested wording :

The Handler calls the dog to the front, reverses three steps, with the dog moving with Handler. The dog returns to heel and continues heeling forward without stopping. The dog does not sit during this exercise. The team must maintain continuous motion throughout the turns without partially sitting or stopping. The counting of the three steps commences at the time the Handler recalls the dog.

Rationale: This exercise is currently being judged inconsistently as some handlers/judges start counting when the handler calls the dog to front and other handlers/judges start counting once the dog is in front of the handler

Submission by Clare Hodges

Rally Advanced - add sign Down walk around dog

Rationale: Currently we have a down, and a sit, down walk around dog. There is no alternative for judges to use without a sit which in advanced leads to a lot of sits. In masters we have a moving down but no progression through from a down in the heel position to the moving down without a sit. Adding a down walk around dog allows from natural progression through exercises and gives judges more options that do not involve a sit.



Rally advanced - add sign Stand walk around dog.

Rationale: In novice there is a stand in the heel position and there are various signs incorporating a stand but until dogs hit excellent there is no stand walk around dog, and the excellent sign is a moving stand. Adding a stationary stand walk around dog provides a natural progression through the grades for dog and handler teams and allows judges more options without sits.

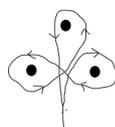


Submission from Sharon Semple/Dearne Jackson

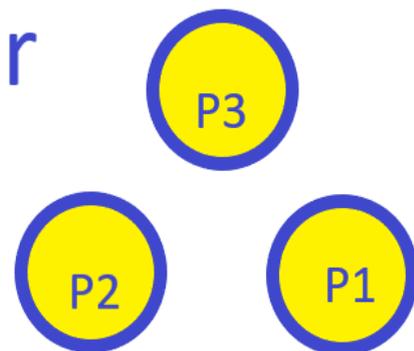
New station sign for Advance

CLOVER LEAF TURN

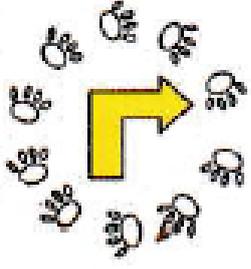
This exercise requires three posts or cones placed about 2.5 – 3.00 metres apart, around which the team will perform one right U turn and two left U turns, crossing the centre line four times to form a “clover” pattern. The dog and handler do not stop moving. This station changes course direction.



**Clover
Leaf
Turn**



Submitted by Dearne Jackson

<p>Right Turn</p> <p>Dog Circles Right Forward</p> 	<p>RIGHT TURN - DOG CIRCLES RIGHT - FORWARD – While heeling, the handler turns right and the dog circles around the handler to the right returning to heel position and heeling forward with the handler. After turn, the handler may pause as needed for dog to complete the circle. The dog does not pause or sit before it is sent around the Handler or when returning to the heel position.</p>	<p>ANKC Sign 119</p>
<p>Left Turn</p> <p>Dog Circles Right Forward</p> 	<p>LEFT TURN - DOG CIRCLES RIGHT - FORWARD While heeling, the handler turns left and the dog circles around the handler <i>to the right</i> returning to heel position and heeling forward with the handler. After turn, the handler may pause as needed for dog to complete the circle. The dog does not pause or sit before it is sent around the Handler or when returning to the heel position.</p>	<p>ANKC Sign 120</p>

RALLY EXCELLENT

Submission from Ross Carlson, Kim Houlden, Gaye Todd:

1. Excellent class: Allocating other stations to Excellent from Masters

Move station #69 (Moving Down, Walk around dog) from Masters to Excellent (page 28)

Move station #70 (Moving Sit, Walk around dog) from Masters to Excellent (page 28)

***Rationale:** There is already the Moving stand, walk around dog (Station 56) in excellent. These two stations are the same principle where you leave a dog in a position and immediately move around them. With the introduction of new Masters stations that build upon these stations, it is necessary to move these back to Excellent so the teams can build up to them.*

Alteration to jump requirement

Page 7

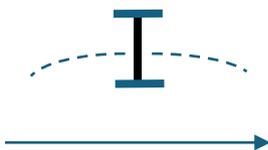
Current wording: **Jumps must not be used consecutively on the course.**

Proposal: Jumps **may** be used consecutively on the course.

***Rationale:** Maintaining control throughout the course is important. Being able to use the two jumps consecutively enable courses to be engaging, and fast moving whilst also demonstrating control over the dog.*

Submitted by Lorna Piper Rally Excellent Class – R.E.

New Station



***Send Over Jump - Handler Passes By** - Whilst moving with the dog in heel position, the Handler directs the dog to take the jump set 2m from the path of the Handler, the handler continues move in a straight line past the jump as the dog leaves to complete the jump and returns to the heel position as the Handler passes by the jump without any pause, hesitation or stopping. The Handler may increase speed or run while passing by the jump. When the dog has completed the jump in the proper direction, it is called to heel position and the team continues to the next exercise. A Retry shall not be permitted on this exercise if the bar is knocked from a bar jump or the dog walks on a broad jump.

***Rationale:** The jump exercise in Advanced has the jump next to the handler's path, by moving the jump 2 (two) metres out from the path of the handler the complexity of the jump is increased to indicate the development of skill in the jump exercise.*

Submitted by Dearne Jackson

Suggested Level – Excellent	
Station Text Description	Visual Aid
<p>Origin: AKC Sign 208/9 While heeling, Handler will stop forward motion and the dog must Stand and stay on command. Handler will walk to marker 3 metres and about turn to face the dog. On Command, the dog must sit. There must be a pause before the Handler will call the dog who must recall to the front of the Handler. On command, the dog must finish to the Right and sit. (Stationary)</p>	
<p>Origin: AKC Sign 208/9 While heeling, Handler will stop forward motion and the dog must Stand and stay on command. Handler will walk to marker 3 metres and about turn to face the dog. On Command, the dog must sit. There must be a pause before the Handler will call the dog who must recall to the front of the Handler. On command, the dog must finish to the Left and sit. (Stationary)</p>	
<p>Origin: AKC Sign 208/9 While heeling, Handler will stop forward motion and the dog must Stand and stay on command. Handler will walk to marker 3 metres and about turn to face the dog. On Command, the dog must down. There must be a pause before the Handler will call the dog who must recall from the down position to the front of the Handler. On command, the dog must finish to the Right and sit. (Stationary)</p>	
<p>Origin: AKC Sign 208/9 While heeling, Handler will stop forward motion and the dog must Stand and stay on command. Handler will walk to marker 3 metres and about turn to face the dog. On Command, the dog must down. There must be a pause before the Handler will call the dog who must recall from the down position to the front of the Handler. On command, the dog must finish to the Left and sit. (Stationary)</p>	

Suggested Level – Excellent	
Station Text Description	Visual Aid
<p>Origin: AKC Sign 208/9 While heeling, Handler will stop forward motion and the dog must Down and stay on command. Handler will walk to marker 3 metres and about turn to face the dog. On Command, the dog must sit and remain in place. There must be a pause before the Handler will call the dog who must recall from the Sit position to the front of the Handler. On command, the dog must finish to the Right and sit. (Stationary)</p>	
<p>Origin: AKC Sign 208/9 While heeling, Handler will stop forward motion and the dog must Down and Stay on command. Handler will walk to marker 3 metres and about turn to face the dog. On Command, the dog must sit and remain in place. There must be a pause before the Handler will call the dog who must recall from the Sit position to the front of the Handler. On command, the dog must finish to the Left and sit. (Stationary)</p>	
<p>Origin AKC Sign 301 Handler and Dog Halt Handler leaves dog and proceeds to marker 5 metres on opposite side of jump and about turns to face dog. Handler commands dog to jump and recall and sit in front of handler. On Command the dog will finish Right. The handler and dog will pause before making a Pivot turn to the Right and continuing forward. (Stationary)</p>	

Submitted by Dearne Jackson

	<p>SEND TO JUMP At the sign the dog must leave the handler to jump. The dog must clear the jump on the first attempt in the proper direction without stopping and return to heel. The handler must remain at least 1 meter away from the jump and may not pass the jump until the dog has returned to the heel position. This is not a stationary exercise.</p>	<p>ANKC Sign 210</p>
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Submitted by Lorna Piper

Rally Excellent - add sign Stand, leave dog 1 metre down, return to dog.

Rationale: In Masters we have a variety of signs with various changes of position at a distance; in advanced we have position changes in the heel position. There's currently no progression. Adding a single position from a short distance provides a natural progression for dog and handler teams.



Rally Excellent - add sign Stand, leave dog 1 meter sit, return to dog.

Rationale: In Masters we have a variety of signs with various changes of position at a distance, in advanced we have position changes in the heel position. There's currently no progression. Adding a single position from a short distance provides a natural progression for dog and handler teams.



Submission by Dani Sherrin-

SECTION Appendix A – Rally Signs & Explanations

PAGE 29

Change: Propose new Excellent sign 'Call Dog Front – Pivot 180° Left – Finish Left'

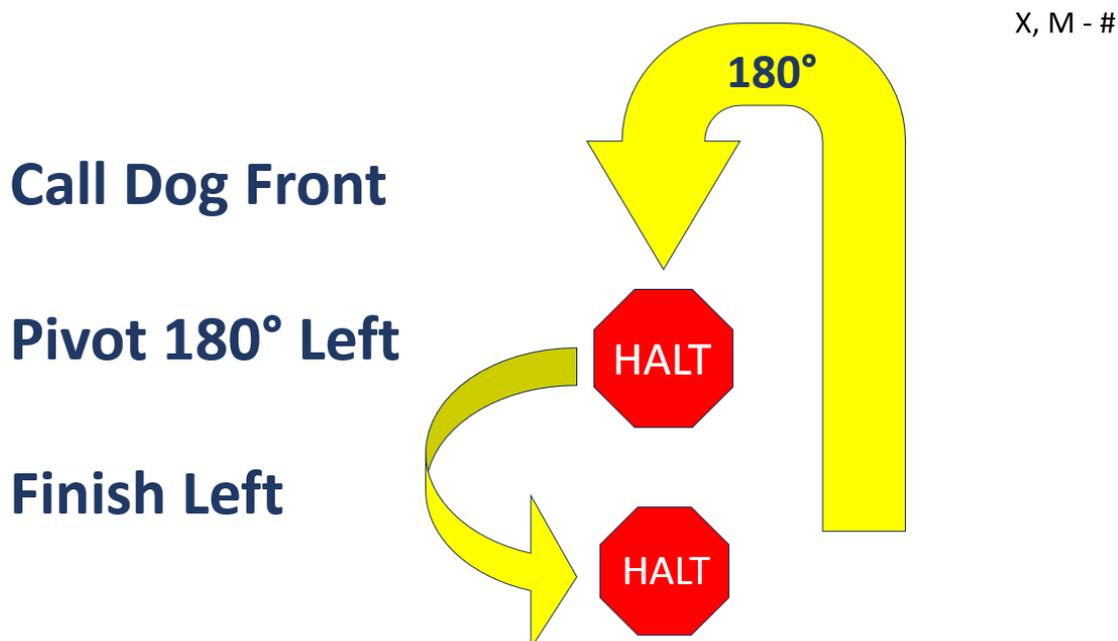
Change to:

#. Call Dog Front – Pivot 180° Left – Finish Left – While heeling, the Handler stops forward motion and calls the dog to the front position. The Handler may take several steps backwards as the dog turns and moves to sit in the front position. With the dog sitting in the front position, the Handler pivots 180° to the left and halts. The dog moves with the Handler and sits in the front position. On command/cue the dog then moves from the front position to the left of the Handler and sits in the heel position. Handler must remain stationary. (Stationary exercise)

***Rationale:** There are multiple signs with the dog pivoting while next to handler to demonstrate the heel position. There are no signs that demonstrate a similar understanding of front position.*

This sign would also serve as a direction change sign, as there are currently no new directional change signs for the Excellent Level.

Concept of potential sign:



NEW SIGN PROPOSALS

SECTION Appendix A – Rally Signs & Explanations

PAGE 29

Change: Propose new **Excellent** sign ‘Halt – Send Dog to Place – Distance Down – Recall Dog – Return to Dog’

Change to:

“#. Halt – Send Dog to Place – Down – Call Dog – Return to Dog – The Handler halts and the dog sits. The dog is commanded/cued to leave the owner and lays down without pause in the prescribed place. The Handler shall then call the dog to come and the dog shall sit in the front of the Handler. The Handler will return to the right side of the dog by either a step back to the side or around the dog. Handler must become stationary upon returning to the dog. (Stationary exercise)

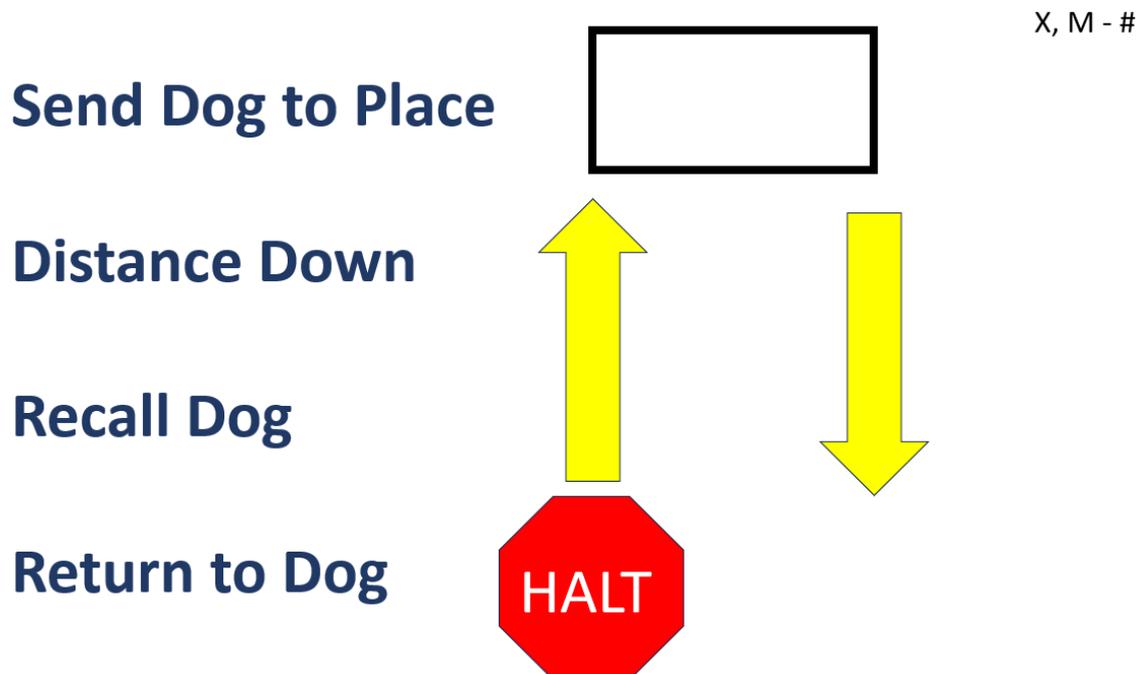
This exercise requires a place in the form of either a circle or square, placed at a distance of about 2 metres from where the team halts. The prescribed place may be a hoop or square frame that can accommodate a range of dog sizes. The place must be visible from the dog at the starting point. The exercise sign will be placed where the team is to halt. The Handler may command/cue the dog to down or the dog may down automatically.

Rationale: *This is a common skill taught to pet dogs and sport dogs alike, as the ability to “station” a dog has lots of practical applications.*

In obedience, agility and dance with dogs disciplines, there are exercises where owners are able to demonstrate their ability to send their dog a short distance away from them. This exercise would allow rally handlers in to also demonstrate this skill.

This sign would also serve as a direction change sign.

Concept of potential sign:



SECTION Appendix A – Rally Signs & Explanations

PAGE 29

Change: Propose new Excellent sign 'Call Dog Front – Pivot 180° Right – Finish Right'

Change to:

“#. Call Dog Front – Pivot 180° Right – Finish Right – While heeling, the Handler stops forward motion and calls the dog to the front position. The Handler may take a step backwards as the dog turns and moves to sit in the front position. With the dog sitting in the front position, the Handler pivots 180° to the right and halts. The dog moves with the Handler and sits in the front position. On command/cue the dog then moves from the front position around the right of the Handler and sits in the heel position. Handler must remain stationary. (Stationary exercise)

Rationale: *There are multiple signs with the dog pivoting while next to handler to demonstrate the heel position. There are no signs that demonstrate a similar understanding of front position.*

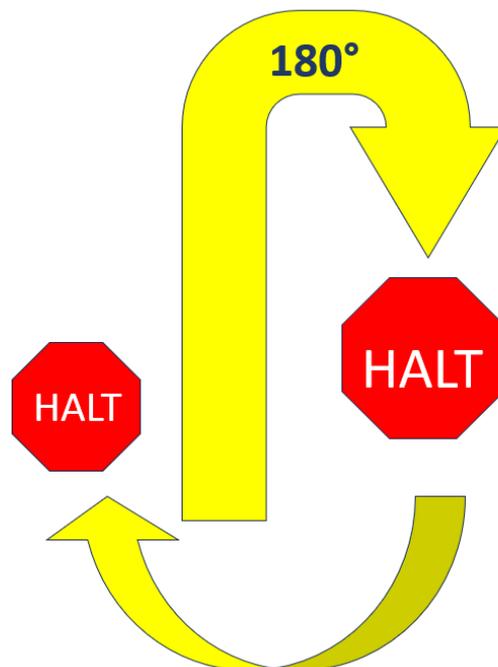
This sign would also serve as a direction change sign, as there are currently no new directional change signs for the Excellent Level.

Concept of potential sign:

Call Dog Front

Pivot 180° Right

Finish Right



X, M - #

RALLY MASTER

Submission from Ross Carlson, Kim Houlden, Gaye Todd:

Introduce new **MASTER** stations

Stand – Leave Dog - Call To Heel – The Handler halts and the dog stands. The Handler leaves the dog and moves forward 3 metres to the marker, and without becoming stationary, calls the dog to heel. The dog is expected to catch up into heel position as the Handler moves forward and before the Handler reaches the next station. The dog must not anticipate the recall and must not forge significantly ahead of the Handler when coming into heel position. (Stationary exercise)

Down – Leave Dog - Call To Heel – The Handler halts and the dog drops. The Handler leaves the dog and moves forward 3 metres to the marker, and without becoming stationary, calls the dog to heel. The dog is expected to catch up into heel position as the Handler moves forward and before the Handler reaches the next station. The dog must not anticipate the recall and must not forge significantly ahead of the Handler when coming into heel position. (Stationary exercise)

***Rationale:** These two additional stations follow on from station 71 where the dog is left in a sit position. The stations are identical except for the starting position. They add additional challenges for the dogs to remain in position and allow for more flexibility in training.*

Introduce new **MASTER** stations

Moving Stand – Leave Dog 3mtrs – About Turn – Walk Past dog 3 metres – Return to heel – Whilst heeling and without pausing, the Handler commands and/or signals the dog to stand and stay and moves forward 3 metres to the marker, performs an about turn and returns past the left hand side of the dog another 3 metres. The handler then returns to the dog and without pausing, continues on with the dog in the heel position. The Handler must not become stationary during this station. The dog must not move from the stand position and must not change position.

Moving Down – Leave Dog 3mtrs – About Turn – Walk Past dog 3 metres – Return to heel – Whilst heeling and without pausing, the Handler commands and/or signals the dog to down and stay and moves forward 3 metres to the marker, performs an about turn and returns past the left hand side of the dog another 3 metres. The handler then returns to the dog and without pausing, continues on with the dog in the heel position. The Handler must not become stationary during this station. The dog must not move from the down position and must not change position.

Moving Sit – Leave Dog 3mtrs – About Turn – Walk Past dog 3 metres – Return to heel – Whilst heeling and without pausing, the Handler commands and/or signals the dog to sit and stay and moves forward 3 metres to the marker, performs an about

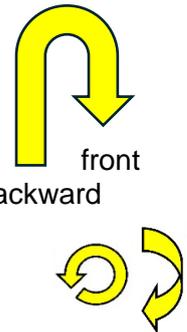
turn and returns past the left hand side of the dog another 3 metres. The handler then returns to the dog and without pausing, continues on with the dog in the heel position. The Handler must not become stationary during this station. The dog must not move from the sit position and must not change position.

***Rationale:** These three additional stations follow on from station 68 where the dog is left in a stand position and upon return the team move forward without a pause and extend stations 69, 70 and 56. The stations are identical except for the starting position. They add additional challenges for the dogs to remain in position and allow for more flexibility in training. Being non stationary they do not take up a lot of time and keep the flow of the course moving.*

Submitted by Lorna Piper

New station to follow or precede existing station 75

Call Front – Circle Spin Left – Finish Right – The Handler calls dog to the position, the dog completes a left 360 spin in front (Handler continues to move backward until dog has completed spin). Send dog to heel right.



Rationale – this compliments station 75 and flows more smoothly.

Change

75. Call Front – Circle Spin Right – Finish Left – The Handler calls dog to the front, the dog completes right 360 spin in front (Handler continues to move backward until dog has completed spin). Send dog to heel left.

75. Call Front – Circle Spin Right – Finish Left – The Handler calls **the** dog to the front **position (Insert)**, the dog completes right 360 spin in front **of the** Handler who continues to move backward until dog has completed **the** spin **(remove brackets)**. Send dog to heel left.

Rationale to ensure the dog is in a correct front position before spinning; removal of brackets incorporates the movement into the performance more clearly

Submitted by Dearne Jackson

Suggested Level –Master	
Station Text Description	Visual Aid
<p>Origin: AKC Sign 208/9 While heeling, Handler will stop forward motion and the dog must Down and Stay on command. Handler will walk to marker 5 metres and about turn to face the dog. On Command, the dog must Stand and remain in place. There must be a pause before the Handler will call the dog who must recall from the Stand position to the front of the Handler. On command, the dog must finish to the Right and sit. (Stationary)</p>	
<p>Origin: AKC Sign 208/9 While heeling, Handler will stop forward motion and the dog must Down and Stay on command. Handler will walk to marker 5 metres and about turn to face the dog. On Command, the dog must Stand and remain in place. There must be a pause before the Handler will call the dog who must recall from the Stand position to the front of the Handler. On command, the dog must finish to the Left and sit. (Stationary)</p>	
<p>Origin: AKC Sign 208/9 While heeling, Handler will stop forward motion and the dog must Sit and Stay on command. Handler will walk to marker 5 metres and about turn to face the dog. On Command, the dog must Stand and remain in place. There must be a pause before the Handler will call the dog who must recall from the Stand position to the front of the Handler. On command, the dog must finish to the Right and sit. (Stationary)</p>	
<p>Origin: AKC Sign 208/9 While heeling, Handler will stop forward motion and the dog must Sit and Stay on command. Handler will walk to marker 5 metres and about turn to face the dog. On Command, the dog must Stand and remain in place. There must be a pause before the Handler will call the dog who must recall from the Stand position to the front of the Handler. On command, the dog must finish to the Left and sit. (Stationary)</p>	

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Suggested Level –Master	
Station Text Description	Visual Aid
<p>Origin AKC Sign 306 While heeling, Handler will stop halt and the dog must Sit. On command from the handler the dog will go to the cone placed 5 metres away and turn and sit facing the handler within a body length of the cone. Once the dog has sat, the Handler shall return to the dog. The handler may walk around the cone if needed to return to heel position. The handler must pause before moving forward with the dog. (Stationary)</p>	

Submitted by Dearne Jackson

	<p>HALT. DOG CIRCLES RIGHT. HALT While heeling the Handler halts and the dog sits. The dog then circles around the Handler to the right and returns to the heel position and sits. (Stationary)</p>	<p>ANKC Sign 216</p>
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Submitted by Dani Sherrin

SECTION Appendix A – Rally Signs & Explanations

PAGE 29

Change: Propose new **Master** sign ‘Halt – Leave Dog – Call Over Jump – Return around Dog’

Change to:

“#. Halt – Leave Dog – Call Over Jump – Return around Dog - The Handler halts and the dog sits. The Handler leaves the dog and walks forward 5 metres to the marker and does an about turn to face dog. Handler recalls dog over the jump. The dog must sit in front of the

Handler. The Handler shall return around the back of the dog to the heel position. The Handler must become stationary before command/cueing the dog to heel forward to the next station.”

Rationale: Proposed as a Master Sign to introduce an exercise that involves recalling your dog over a jump. This exercise is intended to imitate parts of the “Retrieve over jump” exercise in the Obedience ring, minus the requirement to carry an object. This would also increase the variety of jump signs available.

Concept of potential sign:



Submitted by Dani Sherrin

SECTION Appendix A – Rally Signs & Explanations

PAGE 29

Change: Propose new Master sign ‘ Halt – Send Dog Around Cone – Return to Dog’

Change to:

“#. Halt – Send Dog Around Cone – Return to Dog – The Handler halts and the dog sits. The dog is commanded/cued to leave the owner and go around the cone/pole. The dog returns to the front of the handler and sits. The Handler shall return to the right side of the dog by either a step back to the side or around the dog. Handler must become stationary upon returning to the dog. (Stationary exercise)

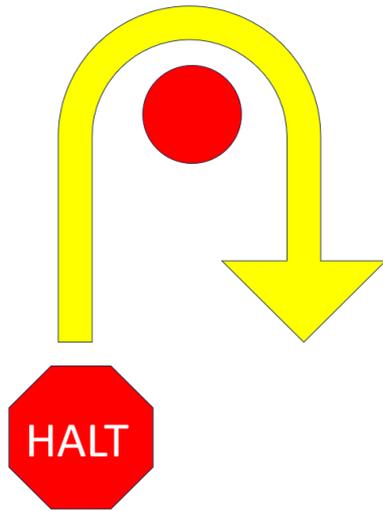
This exercise requires one large visible cone or pole at a distance of about 2 metres from where the team halts. The exercise sign will be placed where the team is to halt. The dog may go around the cone/pole from either direction. (Stationary exercise)

Rationale: In obedience, agility and dance with dogs disciplines, there are exercises where owners are able to demonstrate their ability to send their dog a short distance away from them. This exercise would allow rally handlers in also demonstrate this skill.

This sign is intended to be a progression on the proposed excellent sign “Halt – Send Dog to Place – Distance Down – Recall Dog – Return to Dog”

This sign would also serve as a direction change sign.

Concept of potential sign:



M - #

**Send Dog
around Cone**

Return to Dog