

North American Mixed Breed Registry



Rules & Regulations for Obedience Trials and Sanction Matches

February 19, 2006

North American Mixed Breed Registry
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NORTH AMERICAN MIXED BREED REGISTRY

All individuals, clubs and organizations holding NAMBR approved events are required to have at least one copy of the latest edition of these Rules and Regulations for Obedience Trials available for reference at the event.

The North American Mixed Breed Registry acknowledges, with appreciation, the contributions of the following persons who developed this document, the first of its kind for NAMBR.

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The development of this document came about as the result of a need to establish guidelines for NAMBR Obedience Trials and Sanctioned Obedience Matches. The mandate of the committee was to establish guidelines consistent with the requirements of comparable organizations which provide for the equal, unbiased assessment of the dog and handler team being evaluated. It has not been an easy task and there have been disagreements during the process but the result is the consensus of the committee.

Obviously, these Rules and Regulations are subject to amendments from time to time and we welcome your ideas. Proposed amendments may be forwarded to NAMBR for consideration. All such proposals must be in writing and must include the name, full mailing address and telephone number of the originator. All comments and/or suggestions may be forwarded to NAMBR, RR2 8649 Appleby Line, Campbellville, ON L0P 1B0 or by e-mail to info@nambr.cardoso.ca.

Thanks to all of you who have supported this endeavor. It has been very much appreciated.

Sylvia Milne
Chair, NAMBR Obedience Rules and Regulations Committee 1998/99

Document Revisions:

<u>Revision Date</u>	<u>Revision By</u>
February 19, 2006	Kim Oatway, Deryl Drysdale, Bev Fox

NORTH AMERICAN MIXED BREED REGISTRY

CONTENTS

Purpose of Obedience Trials and Matches.....	Page 5
The Sport.....	Page 5
Dogs Eligible to Compete.....	Page 5
Handlers with Disabilities.....	Page 5
Class Eligibility/Restrictions.....	Page 5
Recognition.....	Page 6
Application to hold a NAMBR approved event.....	Page 6
Officials.....	Page 6
Stewards.....	Page 6
Judges and Judging Standards.....	Page 6
Judge's Book.....	Page 7
Ring Size.....	Page 7
Premium List.....	Page 7
Schedule.....	Page 8
Entries.....	Page 8
Qualifying Performance.....	Page 9
Bitches in Season.....	Page 9
Official Classes.....	Page 10
Preferred Category.....	Page 10
Unofficial Classes.....	Page 11
Praise, Food or Petting.....	Page 11
Leash and Collar.....	Page 11
Heel Position.....	Page 11
Catalogue and Catalogue Order.....	Page 12
Protests.....	Page 12
Awards.....	Page 12
Titles.....	Page 12
Class Advancement (Move-ups).....	Page 12
Novice A and Novice B Classes Tests, Scores, and Order of Judging.....	Page 14
Heel on Leash and Figure Eight.....	Page 14
Stand for Examination Off Leash.....	Page 15
Heel off Leash.....	Page 15
Recall.....	Page 16
Group Sit.....	Page 16
Group Down.....	Page 17
Open A and Open B Classes Tests, Scores, and Order of Judging.....	Page 18
Heel Free and Figure Eight.....	Page 18
Drop on Recall.....	Page 19
Retrieve on the Flat.....	Page 20
Retrieve Over High Jump.....	Page 21
Broad Jump.....	Page 22
Group Sit and Group Down Exercises.....	Page 22

NORTH AMERICAN MIXED BREED REGISTRY

CONTENTS, cont'd

Utility Class Tests, Scores, and Order of Judging.....	Page 23
Seek Back	Page 23
Scent Discrimination.....	Page 24
Signal Exercise	Page 25
Moving Stand for Examination.....	Page 26
Directed Jumping	Page 27
Pre-Novice Class Tests, Scores, and Order of Judging.....	Page 28
Novice C Class Tests, Scores, and Order of Judging.....	Page 28
Veterans Class Tests, Scores, and Order of Judging.....	Page 28
Honour Class Tests, Scores, and Order of Judging.....	Page 29
End of Trial Requirements.....	Page 30
High Jump standard.....	Page 31
Broad Jump standard.....	Page 31
Bar Jump standard.....	Page 31
Sanctioned Obedience Match	Page 32

Purpose of Obedience Trials and Matches

The purpose of obedience trials and matches is to demonstrate the ability of well trained dogs to behave in a variety of environments and situations and to be a useful companion of man.

The Sport

Obedience trials and matches offer the opportunity for handlers to demonstrate good sportsmanship both inside and outside the ring. The various exercises in each class are constructed in such a way as to allow judges to compare a performance with a standard and to score that performance without bias.

Dogs Eligible to Compete

Only those dogs registered with NAMBR are permitted to enter and compete in NAMBR approved events. The dog must be at least 1 year of age; may be debarked, spayed, or neutered; may not be lame (it is the judge's responsibility to determine whether a dog is lame); may not compete if it has tape or bandages that may impair its working ability, and, under no circumstances may it be returned later for judging after the tape or bandages have been removed.

Handlers with Disabilities

Handlers with disabilities may compete, provided they can move around the ring without physical assistance. The use of a wheelchair, crutches, or cane is acceptable. When necessary, an exercise may be modified to help the handler execute the exercise but it must not aid in the performance of the dog. The heeling exercises are expected to be performed at a brisk pace and there must be a definite change of pace during the 'slow' and 'fast' portions. Failure to do so will result in a penalty. Proper heel position must be determined prior to the commencement of the exercises and this position should be maintained throughout.

Blind Handler - A blind handler may be assisted to get from one exercise to another. Soft verbal cuing by the stewards during the Figure 8 may be permitted by the judge. The judge may permit the handler to leave their dog and walk to and feel a jump in order to determine its exact location.

Deaf Handler - The judge should position them self so that it will be conveniently possible for the handler to continuously observe the judge during the performance of the individual exercises. The judge may use prearranged signals in lieu of verbal commands to the handler, or the handler may provide an interpreter.

Physically Incapacitated Handler - A handler who cannot throw a dumbbell the required distance on the retrieve exercises may be permitted to line the dog up in the desired position and then, on the judge's command "Throw it",

- I. Give a stay command and/or signal, leave the dog, throw the dumbbell, and then return alongside the dog to continue the exercise.
- II. Throw the dumbbell with the aid of a device.

In the Group Exercises, extra assistance or space may be allowed depending upon the situation. However, the dogs must be in catalogue order.

Class Eligibility/Restrictions

Once a dog has been entered in the Open A or B class, they are no longer eligible to compete in Novice A or Novice B. Once a dog has been entered in the Utility class, they can no longer compete in the Open A class. Where any of the obedience trial regulations require that a dog shall have won a particular obedience title before being entered in a specific class, eligibility to enter in that class shall be as follows. A dog may be entered in such a class in any obedience trial of which the final closing date occurs after the handler has been notified by at least 2 different judges that the dog has earned 3 qualifying scores for the required title, even though the owner has not received official notification from NAMBR that the dog has earned the title. However, the owner must forfeit any prizes and qualifying scores earned in that particular class if NAMBR does not subsequently notify the owner officially that the required title has been awarded. Where any of the regulations exclude from a particular class, dogs which have earned

NORTH AMERICAN MIXED BREED REGISTRY

a particular obedience title, eligibility to enter that class shall be determined as follows. A dog may continue to be exhibited in such a class after the handler has been notified by at least 2 judges that he has earned 3 qualifying scores for such title. However, a dog may not be entered in such class in any obedience trial of which the official closing date for the entries occurs after the owner has received official notification from NAMBR that the dog has earned the particular obedience title.

Recognition

Only members, member clubs, or member associations in good standing with NAMBR may make application to hold obedience trials and/or sanctioned obedience matches under its auspices.

Application to Hold a NAMBR Approved Event

Application for permission to hold an obedience trial or a sanctioned obedience match must be made on a form provided by NAMBR (available on request). The application must be submitted so as to be received at least 60 days prior to the date of the proposed event so that it may be posted in the NAMBR events calendar for the area and be promoted accordingly. There must be no advertising of the event(s) until official permission is given in writing. Once approval is granted, NAMBR will inform the club, association or individual. If the date is granted but the event is not held on the date granted and ribbons (provided by NAMBR) have been sent, an administrative fee as set by NAMBR will be assessed. NAMBR shall have the authority to grant or withhold approval of an application for an event date. Priority rights for specific dates may also be applied for, however, the dates must be validated each year by submission of the appropriate date application. The application must be submitted so as to be received not less than 180 days prior to the date of the proposed event, or priority will automatically become null and void for the remainder of the priority dates held and those dates will become available to other organizations.

Officials

An obedience trial committee must be appointed and should be comprised of at least one fully knowledgeable and experienced person. This committee shall have full authority at the event and shall have sole jurisdiction over all the matters which may come before it. A Trial Secretary must be named and is the point of contact between NAMBR officials and the trial holding club, association, or individual. The application for approval to hold the event must include the full name, telephone number and mailing address of that individual. When approval is given and a Premium List is being prepared for distribution, the Trial Secretary shall be designated as the person who is to receive entries.

Stewards

The ring stewards shall be supplied by the host. There shall be a minimum of two experienced stewards in each ring. Their responsibilities are to assist the judge as required, to ensure the ring runs smoothly by being attentive and responding to the judge's needs and to ensure the ring is kept clear of unauthorized persons at all times. They shall be courteous and respectful both to the judge and exhibitors. They shall not discuss any scores or related policies with an exhibitor but instead, depending on the circumstances, should refer the person to the judge or to the Trial Secretary. It is strongly suggested potential ring stewards access the NAMBR document "Guidelines for Stewarding at Obedience Trials and Sanction Matches".

Judges and Judging Standards

NAMBR maintains a list of judges approved to judge at NAMBR approved events and wherever possible, effort should be made to utilize one of those persons. The selection of the judge is the responsibility of the host; however, it is crucial the judge be knowledgeable of the rules and abides by them. If the host selects a judge other than from the list of judges maintained by NAMBR, the individual must be approved by NAMBR. Judges selected shall have achieved a UD title or equivalent with at least one dog of their own. NAMBR will require the prospective judge to provide a summary of the individual's obedience experience including a list of breeds trained indicating obedience titles and dates earned, obedience judging experience i.e.: correction matches and any other information that may be relevant to the suitability of the individual as an obedience judge. Where it is noted by NAMBR that a judge is being

NORTH AMERICAN MIXED BREED REGISTRY

used frequently within an area within a short time frame, or about whom serious complaints have been received, the Trial Secretary, as noted on the application form, will be advised as it could impact their entry. Judges must adhere to the rules and regulations and must not qualify dogs that do not meet the minimum requirements nor may they introduce their own variations into any of the exercises. The judge must see that each handler and dog executes the various exercises exactly as described in the standard, and in the same manner. The dogs must be judged on their ability to perform the tests set for them and not on their physical appearance. Each dog and handler team is tested separately except for the Group Exercises when groups of dogs are in the ring together. Any dog that interferes willfully with another competitor or competitor's dog or any dog which the judge considers unfit to compete, shall be excused and the reason noted on the judge's sheets. The owner or handler of the dog must be advised of the reason before they leave the ring.

The judge shall not disclose any score or partial score to handlers or spectators until they have completed the judging of the entire class, except that immediately following the group exercises, and before the handlers have left the ring, the judge shall inform all handlers whether or not they have qualified. After all of the scores for the class are recorded, the judge shall call for all available dogs that have earned qualifying scores to be brought into the ring. Before awarding the prizes, the judge shall inform the spectators as to the maximum number of points for a perfect score, and shall then announce the score of each prize winner, and announce to the handlers the score of each dog that has won a qualifying score.

In the case of a tie score in the Novice and Open Classes, the dogs shall be re-tested again by having them perform individually, all or the same part of one or more of the regular exercises in that class. In the case of a tie for High in Trial, the dogs shall be tested again by having them perform individually the heel off lead exercise as this exercise is consistent to all classes. In the case of a tie in Utility, the dogs shall be tested again by performing individually all or the same part of the signal exercise. The original scores shall not be changed.

Judge's Book

The judge shall not judge any dog until they have entered the scores of all dogs judged previously in the official judge's book, and until they have subtotaled such scores. Scores for the Group Exercises must be entered in the judge's book immediately after each group of dogs has been judged. No scores may be changed except to correct a mathematical error and no person other than the judge may make an entry in the judge's book. All totals must be entered in the judge's book before prizes are awarded. Upon completion of the judging assignment, the judge must ensure that the High in Trial has been recorded, that the qualifying scores are noted, and that all pages have been signed.

Ring Size

When the event is held indoors, the ring size shall be a minimum 30 x 40 feet (9m x 12m) with a surface adequate to provide good footing for all dogs and handlers and rubber, or similar non-slip material, for the take-off and landing at all jumps. When held outdoors, the minimum size shall be 40 x 50 feet (12m x 15m) with grassed surfaces kept short and the ground as level as possible. Indoor or outdoor rings shall be enclosed with drapery, fencing or gates approximately 2 feet (60cm) high.

Premium List

A standard premium list must be published by all individual, clubs and associations holding obedience trials under these rules and regulations. The following information must be included:

- the words "Official Premium List"
- Approved by the North American Mixed Breed Registry
- the NAMBR logo
- the name and address of the North American Mixed Breed Registry
- the name of the club, association, or individual holding the event(s)

NORTH AMERICAN MIXED BREED REGISTRY

- the date(s) of the event(s)
- a statement indicating whether the trial is indoors, outdoors, or both
- the date and time for closing of entries
- No entries may be accepted after the official closing date and time for entries (no fewer than 10 days preceding the trial)
- the location of the trial (may include a map)
- a list of the Trial Committee with the address and telephone number of the Trial Secretary
- the address and telephone number of where entries are to be sent if different from that of the Trial Secretary
- a listing of the judges and their mailing addresses
- a complete list of each judge's assignment broken down for each day
- a list of awards and prizes, if offered
- if money is to be offered as prizes, the amount for each award must be given
- if Unofficial Classes are offered, a description of the classes i.e. Pre-Novice which is judged as is Novice with the exception that all exercises are judged on lead
- a statement that "All dogs must be registered with NAMBR before the closing date of the Trial"
- an entry form
- the listing fee for POD dogs

Schedule

After entries close, a judging schedule must be prepared showing the time scheduled for the start of judging and the armband numbers of each entrant in the order of judging. Entries in each class may be arranged according to the size of the dog.

The formula for preparation of the judging schedule shall be based on the judging of 8 Novice entries, 7 Open entries, and 5 Utility entries per hour. There must be a reasonable meal period of not less than 30 minutes taken at the option of the judge. If a judge must officiate for more than 7 hours (420 minutes, plus a meal period of not less than 30 minutes) per day based on this formula, the club or association holding the event shall be obligated to remunerate the judge for the additional entries as well as pay an administrative fee to NAMBR.

If an advertised judge is unable to fulfill their assignment in whole or in part, the trial-giving club shall appoint a qualified judge if one is readily available. If no qualified judge is available, the Committee shall choose a substitute whom it feels is capable. A qualifying score earned under a substitute judge will be considered as having been earned under the advertised judge.

Entries

Each entrant in an obedience trial must complete an entry form which must be received by the Trial Secretary before the advertised closing date and time of the trial. Entries must close not less than 10 days in advance of the trial and all entries must be in the hands of the Trial Secretary by that date and time. Incomplete entry forms and entry forms received after the advertised closing date and time of the trial must be rejected and returned promptly to whoever submitted it.

Subject to the provisions set in these rules, no dog may be entered in any class for which it is not eligible at the time entries for the trial close nor may such an entry be altered to another class after entries close. If a dog completes the requirements for a title the dog may advance to the next class providing a move-up form is completed and submitted to the trial secretary at least 30 minutes prior to the start of the trial. A dog may be entered only once in each class.

Obedience judges are allowed to exhibit dogs they co-own and dogs owned by other people at an obedience trial providing they are not judging in that trial. Immediate family members of obedience judges are allowed to exhibit at

NORTH AMERICAN MIXED BREED REGISTRY

trials at which they are officiating, but may not exhibit under that family member. In the case of a tied score, the exhibiting family member must withdraw because of conflict. Obedience judges are permitted to judge one day at a trial and exhibit in obedience on another day (if they are not judging) when the event is held at the same venue.

No entry shall be made at any obedience trial under a judge of any dog which the judge, or any member of his immediate family or household, owns, has owned either wholly in part, sold, held under lease, handled in the ring, boarded, trained, or instructed regularly, within 6 months prior to the date of the trial. This includes judges who train professionally or as amateurs, and applies equally to judges who train individual dogs, as well as those who train dogs in classes with or through their handlers. However, the above limitations as to trainers shall not apply at sanctioned obedience matches.

Handlers who train professionally or instruct a training class may not exhibit under a judge who has participated in the handler's training class within 6 months prior to the date of the trial.

There shall be no intensive or abusive training of dogs within the area of the obedience trial and, if observed, may result in the removal of the dog from further competition at that obedience trial on that day. No dog may be allowed to enter a ring at any obedience trial unless it is registered with NAMBR and the entry fee has been paid. Tendering of a dishonored cheque in payment of entry fees is an offense and is subject to an administration fee.

The following must appear on the entry form:

- a. The event reference number as designated by NAMBR
- b. The class(es) offered at the trial
- c. Call name of dog and its titles
- d. Breed, or type of dog
- e. NAMBR registration number
- f. Sex of dog
- g. Age and/or date of birth of dog
- h. Class or classes in which the dog is entered
- i. The height of the dog at the withers for Open and Utility
- j. Name and complete address of the owner of the dog
- k. Signature and telephone number of the owner or authorized agent
- l. Name of the handler if the dog is not to be handled by the owner or member of his immediate family
- m. The date of entry
- n. Armband # - to be assigned by Trial Secretary
- o. Category of Entry (regular or preferred)

Qualifying Performance

A qualifying score must never be given to a dog whose performance has not met the minimum requirements, nor to a dog that shows fear, resentment or aggression, nor that relieves itself at any time in the ring, nor that leaves the ring during an exercise (other than to complete a retrieve) nor to a handler who disciplines or abuses their dog in the obedience ring. Only in the Official Classes does a qualifying score merit a 'leg' toward a degree.

Bitches in Season

NAMBR fully endorses the spaying of females. However, it is recognized there may be instances where unaltered females are entered. Bitches in season are not permitted to compete. The judge of an obedience event must remove from competition any bitch in season, or any bitch which appears so attractive to males as to be a disturbing element. When

a bitch comes into season after entry of the bitch has been submitted to the Trial Secretary, a veterinarian's certificate, certifying that the bitch was in season within the 10 day period preceding the trial, must reach the Trial Secretary on or before the date of the trial at which time, the entry fee and service charge (if any) must be refunded.

NORTH AMERICAN MIXED BREED REGISTRY

Official Classes

The Official Classes are Novice A, Novice B, Open A (Regular and Preferred), Open B (Regular and Preferred), Utility (Regular and Preferred), and Exhibition Only. Only in the Official Classes do qualifying scores apply toward the attainment of a NAMBR obedience title. To attain a qualifying score, the dog and handler must receive more than 50% of the available points in each individual exercise and a total score of 170 points or more out of a possible 200 points.

Novice A is for dogs which have not earned the title of CD (Companion Dog) in any country. A dog which has earned a comparable title in any country is not eligible for entry in this class but may be entered in the Novice B class. No trainer or any person who has previously exhibited a dog through its UD/OTCH. (Utility Dog/Obedience Trial Champion) title in Canada or elsewhere shall be allowed to compete in this class but may be entered in the Novice B class. No person who assists in an obedience training class may enter this class but must enter the Novice B class. One dog only may be entered in this class by any one exhibitor, who must handle the dog in all exercises. Every dog in the class must be handled by the owner or a member of their immediate family.

Novice B is for dogs which have not earned the title of NAMBR CD. A dog which has earned the title of CD or comparable title in any country must compete in the Novice B class. Dogs in this class may be handled by the owner or any other person. A person may enter more than one dog in this class. The same handler who handled each dog in the first 4 exercises must handle each dog in the sit and down exercises, except where a handler has handled more than one dog in the first 4 exercises, there must be an additional handler for the Group exercise. No dog may be entered in more than one Novice class at any one Trial.

Open A is for all dogs which have earned the title of NAMBR CD but have not earned the title of CDX (Companion Dog Excellent) in any country. A dog that has earned a comparable title in any country must enter the Open B Class. No trainer or any person who has previously exhibited a dog through its UD/OTCH title in Canada or elsewhere is allowed to compete in this class but may enter in the Open B class. One dog may be entered in this class by any one exhibitor, who must handle the dog in all the exercises. Every dog in the class must be handled by the owner or a member of his immediate family. No dog may enter both Open A and Open B at the same trial

Open B is for dogs which have earned their NAMBR CD. A dog which has earned the title of CDX or comparable title in any country must compete in the Open B class. Dogs in this class may be handled by the owner or any other person. Dogs eligible for entry in the Utility class may also enter the Open B class at the same Trial.

Utility is for dogs which have earned the title of NAMBR CDX. Dogs entered in this class may be handled or exhibited by the owner or any other person. Dogs eligible for, and entered in this class, may also enter the same dog in the Open B class at the same trial.

The Exhibition Only class is an official class and shall be for all dogs registered with NAMBR. No dog so entered can compete in any Regular class. However, it may be entered in and compete in any Unofficial Class or Parade if provided for in the classification of the trial and on payment of the prescribed fees.

Preferred Category

A handler and dog team may choose to compete in the Open and Utility classes at a lower jump height by entering the preferred category. Dogs which are moved to the preferred category will be unable to move back to the regular category and any titles obtained thereafter will be under the preferred category. Preferred jump heights will be determined according to the following table:

<u>Measured height of dog at withers</u>	<u>Height to be jumped</u>
Less than 12 ½" (32cm)	8" (20cm)

NORTH AMERICAN MIXED BREED REGISTRY

12 ½" (32cm) to less than 15" (38cm)	10" (25cm)
15" (38cm) to less than 17 ½" (44cm)	12" (30cm)
17 ½" (44cm) to less than 20" (51cm)	14" (36cm)
20" (51cm) to less than 23" (58cm)	16" (41cm)
23" (58cm) to less than 25 ½" (65cm)	18" (46cm)
25 ½" (65cm) to less than 28" (71cm)	20" (51cm)
28" (71cm) to less than 31" (79cm)	22" (56cm)
31" (79cm) to less than 33 ½" (85cm)	24" (61cm)
33 ½" (85cm) to less than 36" (91cm)	26" (66cm)
More than 36" (91cm)	28" (71cm)

Unofficial Classes

The Unofficial Classes are Pre-Novice, Novice C, Honor, and Veterans. Additional classes may be offered at the discretion of the host, however passing scores will not contribute to the title CD, CDX, OTCH, nor OTCHX. Passing scores in the Unofficial Classes do not apply toward the attainment of a NAMBR obedience title nor to High in Trial. To attain a passing score in all but the Honor Class, the dog and handler must receive more than 50% of the available points in each individual exercise and a total score of 170 or more out of a possible 200 points. In the Honor Class, the dog must remain in a down position without whining, barking, crawling, sitting, or getting up before the handler returns.

The Pre-Novice class shall be for all dogs registered with NAMBR which have not earned the title of CD (Companion Dog) or equivalent. A dog which has entered any trial in the Novice class or which has earned a leg toward its CD may not be entered in the Pre-Novice class.

The Novice C class shall be for all dogs registered with NAMBR which have earned their CD (Companion Dog) title, or equivalent, but have not yet earned a leg toward their CDX (Companion Dog Excellent), or equivalent.

The Honor class shall be for all dogs registered with NAMBR regardless of legs or titles earned.

The Veterans class shall be for all dogs registered with NAMBR which are 7 years of age or older at the closing date of the trial entered.

Praise, Food or Petting

There is to be no food allowed in the ring. Verbal praise and petting between exercises is permitted. In the Novice Class, the dog may be gently guided by the collar to the start of each exercise. In the Open and Utility classes, there shall be no physical contact with the dog other than that which is required to perform an exercise. All dogs must enter and leave the ring on leash. Likewise, all dogs will be brought into and leave the ring on leash for all Group exercises.

Leash and Collar

The leash used in the Novice Classes shall be approximately 6 feet in length and must be fabric or leather. Collars shall be a well-fitting buckle (metal or plastic), slip, quick release, Volhart or Martingale. Slip collars of an appropriate length of leather, fabric, or chain with 2 rings, one on each end, are acceptable. Special training collars or collars which are either too tight or so large that they hang down unreasonably in front of the dog are not permitted. There shall not be anything hanging from the collars. It is the responsibility of the judge to see that the dog is wearing the proper equipment before judging begins.

Heel Position

Heel position, whether the dog is sitting, standing, lying down, or moving at heel means that the dog's body shall be in a straight line facing the same direction as the handler. The dog's head to shoulder area should be in line with the handler's left hip and the dog should heel close to the handler but not to the point of touching.

NORTH AMERICAN MIXED BREED REGISTRY

Catalogue and Catalogue Order

Every trial holding organization must have on hand a standard catalogue which must state on its cover “This trial is held under the North American Mixed Breed Registry rules”. A complimentary copy of the catalogue should be provided to each officiating judge. The catalogue shall list in class order, the name and address of each exhibitor, the NAMBR registration number, the armband number assigned and available pertinent details about the dog such as name, age, and breed description. Judges are not required to wait for dogs but dogs must be judged in catalogue order to the extent it is practical to do so without holding up the judging in any ring for a dog that is entered in more than one class at the trial. It is the responsibility of each handler to be ready with his dog at ringside when required, without waiting to be called, and if there is likely to be a conflict, it is the handler’s responsibility to notify the ring steward, who, in turn, notifies the judge. Regardless of the order in which the dogs were judged in the individual exercises, the Group exercises are done in Catalogue order number. In the case of a conflict between an official obedience class and an unofficial obedience class, the official class takes precedence.

Protests

All protests must be made in writing accompanied by a \$25.00 fee submitted to the host club Trial Committee with a copy sent to NAMBR. If the host club is unable to resolve the protest, the protest is to be forwarded to NAMBR for resolution. If a complaint is deemed justifiable, the \$25.00 fee will be refunded.

Awards

All awards being offered at an obedience trial must be listed in the premium list and must be presented by the judge to the person handling the dog in the ring and only to those receiving a qualifying score. The following information shall appear on the face of each qualifying score ribbon in the Official classes:

- name of the club or association holding the trial
- the NAMBR logo
- the words “Qualifying Score”
- qualifying ribbons (flats) must be yellow in color.

Rosettes may be offered for 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th place in each class but, if offered, must identify the class and the standing. The colors selected are the option of the host. A rosette for High in Trial may be offered for the highest scoring dog in an obedience trial. If offered, the rosette shall bear the words “High in Trial”. The color selected is the option of the host. Other awards may be offered but must be given for qualifying scores only and be published in the official premium list. Only those awards listed in the official premium list may be presented.

Titles

NAMBR Companion Dog (N-CD), NAMBR Companion Dog Excellent (N-CDX), and NAMBR Obedience Trial Champion (N-OTCH) titles are awarded to those dogs which have attained a qualifying score in three trials under at least two different judges at each level. NAMBR Obedience Trial Champion Excellent (N-OTCHX) title will be awarded to a dog which has qualified in both the Open and Utility Class in the same trial on 5 different occasions after completion of a Utility title. NAMBR Preferred Companion Dog Excellent (NP-CDX) and NAMBR Preferred Obedience Trial Champion (NP-OTCH) titles are awarded to those dogs which have attained a qualifying score in three trials under at least two different judges at each level and are trialing under the preferred category. NAMBR Preferred Obedience Trial Champion Excellent (NP-OTCHX) title will be award to a dog which has qualified in both Open and Utility Class in the same trial on 5 different occasions after completion of a Utility title and is trialing under the Preferred Category.

Class Advancement (Move-ups)

After a dog earns a title, it may be moved up to the next class in a future trial even though the closing date for the trial has passed. This move-up may be requested if, according to the owner’s records, the dog has completed the requirements for the title after the closing date of the trial in which the move-up entry is to be made. The required move-up form must be completed and presented to the superintendent or trial secretary at least 30 minutes prior to the

NORTH AMERICAN MIXED BREED REGISTRY

start of the trial. Move-ups may be approved, provided the next class and judge is available and the class has not reached its limit. If a dog is incorrectly moved-up and obtains a qualifying score at the new level, the qualifying score will be disallowed and the dog will be moved back to the proper level until the requirements for that level have been completed.

NORTH AMERICAN MIXED BREED REGISTRY

NOVICE A AND NOVICE B TESTS, SCORES, AND ORDER OF JUDGING

The tests, scores and order of judging for a perfect performance in the Novice A and B classes shall be as follows:

Tests	Maximum Score
Heel on Leash with Figure Eight	40 points
Stand for Examination off Leash	30 points
Heel Free	40 points
Recall	30 points
Long Sit	30 points
Long Down	30 points
Maximum Total Score	200 points

Novice A and Novice B Heel on Leash and Figure Eight

The objective of this exercise is to demonstrate the ability of dog and handler to work as a team.

The commands of this exercise include: “Forward” ... “Halt” ... “Right Turn” ... “Left Turn” ... “About Turn” ... “Slow” ... “Normal” ... “Fast” ... “Figure Eight” ... “Exercise Finished”

The handler shall enter the ring with the dog on a loose leash and shall wait at the starting position until the judge asks “Are you ready?” At this point the dog should be sitting at heel position.

On the judge’s command to “Forward”, the handler shall give either command or signal to heel and start walking briskly with the dog on a loose leash. The dog shall walk close to the left side of the handler without interfering with the handler’s freedom of motion.

During the execution of the exercise, points shall be deducted for extra commands or for failure to show a noticeable change from “slow” to “fast” or a failure to sit at the “Halt”.

A score of zero shall be given if the dog is unmanageable, or if the handler continually adjusts their pace to that of the dog, or if there is unreasonable tugging on the leash, or if leash corrections are given by the handler. In performing the “About Turn”, the handler will do a Right About Turn in all cases. It is permissible for the handler to give the command or signal to heel after each halt. The instructions to “Forward”, “Halt”, etc. may be given in any sequence and may be repeated if seen necessary.

On the Figure Eight, the dog and handler shall walk at a brisk pace around and between two (2) stewards who shall stand approximately 8 feet (2.44m) apart. The dog and handler are required to go completely around the Figure Eight at least twice with at least one halt during and another at the end of this exercise.

NORTH AMERICAN MIXED BREED REGISTRY

Novice A and Novice B Stand For Examination Off Leash

The objective of this exercise is to demonstrate the ability of the dog to stand and remain in position before, during, and after an examination by the judge without indicating shyness, resentment, or aggression.

The commands for this exercise are:

“Stand your dog for examination and leave when ready” ... “Back to your dog” ... “Exercise finished”

On command from the judge to “Stand your dog for examination and leave when ready”, the handler will remove the leash and give it to a Ring Steward who will place it on the judge’s table.

The handler will stand and or pose his dog, give the command and/or signal to “Stay”, and walk away in front of the dog to a distance of 6 feet (1.83m) before turning to face the dog. The scoring of this exercise begins as soon as the handler has given the command and/or signal to “Stay” except for such things as rough treatment by the handler or active resistance by the dog to the stand which shall be penalized substantially. The examination will consist of a touch to the dog’s head, body and hindquarters only. The judge will always approach from the front.

On command from the judge “Back to your dog”, the handler shall return, walking around behind the dog to heel position. The dog shall remain in a standing position until the judge says “Exercise finished”.

A dog that sits, lies down, moves away from the place where left, displays shyness or resentment, or that growls or snaps at any time shall be scored zero whether it be before or during the examination.

Depending on the circumstances, substantial or minor deductions shall be given for backing away from the dog, not being the proper distance from the dog during the examination, for any dog that moves its feet or that sits or lies down after the examination but before the judge says “Exercise finished” and for any handler who does not return to proper heel position.

Novice A and Novice B Heel off Leash

The objective of this exercise is to demonstrate the ability of the dog and handler to work as a team without the constraints of a leash.

The commands and requirements for this exercise are the same as for the Heel on Leash. The exercise shall be performed in the same manner as in the Heel on Leash except that there shall be no figure eight exercise and the dog shall be off leash.

NORTH AMERICAN MIXED BREED REGISTRY

Novice A and Novice B Recall

The objective of this exercise is to have the dog remain where left and to come promptly and briskly to the handler when called.

The commands for this exercise are:

“Leave your dog” ... “Call your dog” ... “Finish” ... “Exercise finished”

On command from the judge to “Leave your dog”, the handler will command and/or signal the dog to stay in the sitting position, leave his dog, and go about 40 feet (12.19m), turn and face the dog.

On command or signal from the judge to “Call your dog”, the handler will call or signal the dog which must come straight in at a brisk pace, sitting straight in front of the handler, close enough so that he can readily touch the dog’s head without moving either foot or having to stretch forward.

On command or signal from the judge to “Finish”, the dog on command or signal should go smartly to heel. The method in which the dog goes to heel in the finish should be the option of the handler, providing it is done smartly.

A score of zero will be given if the dog fails to remain where left until called, or requires an additional command or signal to stay after the handler leaves, or fails to come on the first command or signal, or does not come close enough for the handler to touch the dog’s head without moving either foot. Deductions will be made for giving a second command or signal to stay before the handler leaves, for standing or lying down instead of waiting in the sit position, for a slow response to come, for failure to sit in front or to finish, for interfering with the handler, for sitting between the handler’s feet, or for giving an extra command or signal to finish. The handler’s hands must remain straight at the side while the dog is approaching.

Substantial deductions will be made if the hands are held in front of the handler or if the hands fall to the side after taking position or while the dog is coming.

Novice A and Novice B Group Sit

The objective of this exercise is to have the dog stay and remain in the sitting position for a period of one minute, until the handler returns to the dog.

The commands for this exercise are:

“Sit your dogs” ... “Leave your dogs” ... “Back to your dogs” ... “Exercise finished”

The competing dogs take this exercise together to a maximum of 8 dogs. If there are more than 8 dogs, they are split into groups. The group will be judged immediately following their individual exercises. The dogs must be brought into the ring on leash and line up in catalogue order with armbands and leashes placed behind the dogs. On order from the judge to “Sit your dogs”, the handlers shall sit their dogs and on further order from the judge to “Leave your dogs”, shall give the command and/or signal to stay and immediately leave their dogs, go to the opposite side of the ring, and line up facing their respective dogs. Scoring begins when the judge gives the command “Sit your dogs”.

On command from the judge “Back to your dogs”, the handlers must promptly return, each walking around behind his own dog to the heel position. The dogs should not move from the sitting position until the judge says “Exercise finished”. A score of zero shall be given to any dog that moves a substantial distance from the place in which it was left, or goes to another dog, or fails to remain in the sitting position until the handler returns to the dog, or that barks or whines unreasonably.

NORTH AMERICAN MIXED BREED REGISTRY

Novice A and Novice B Group Down

The objective of this exercise is to have the dog stay and remain in the down position for a period of three minutes until the handler returns to the dog.

The commands for this exercise are:

“Down your dogs” ... “Leave your dogs” ... “Back to your dogs” ... “Exercise finished”

The long down is done in the same manner as the long sit except that instead of sitting the dogs, the handlers, on orders from the judge, will down their dogs by command and/or signal.

The scoring of the long down begins when the judge gives the command “Down your dogs”. A score of zero shall be given to any dog that moves a substantial distance from the place in which it was left, or goes to another dog, or fails to remain in the down position until the handler returns to the dog, or that barks or whines unreasonably.

Substantial deductions shall be given for repositioning a dog after the dog is in the down position, for sitting, standing, or lying down, after the handler has returned to the heel position but before the judge has said “Exercise finished”.

Depending on the circumstances, substantial or minor deductions shall be given for touching the dog or its collar in getting it into the down position, occasional barking or whining, or movement from position before the handler has returned to the heel position.

NORTH AMERICAN MIXED BREED REGISTRY

OPEN A AND OPEN B TESTS, SCORES, AND ORDER OF JUDGING

All exercises in the Open classes are done off leash.

Dogs are to be taken into the ring on leash, directly to the starting position, where, once the dog is sitting at heel, the leash is to be removed and given, with the dumbbell to the ring steward who shall place both items on the judge's table.

Alternatively, the dumbbell may be placed on the judge's table on entering the ring. However the dog must be taken to the starting position on leash.

The tests, scores and order of judging for a perfect performance in the Open A and B classes shall be as follows:

Tests	Maximum Score
Heel Free and Figure Eight	40 points
Drop on Recall	30 points
Retrieve on Flat	25 points
Retrieve over High Jump	35 points
Broad Jump	20 points
Long Sit	25 points
Long Down	25 points
Maximum Total Score	200 points

Open A and Open B Heel Free and Figure Eight

The objective of this exercise is to demonstrate the ability of dog and handler to work as a team. The commands and scoring for this exercise are the same as for the "Heel on Leash and Figure Eight" in the Novice class.

NORTH AMERICAN MIXED BREED REGISTRY

Open A and Open B Drop on Recall

The objective of this exercise is to demonstrate, in addition to the requirements in the Novice Recall, the dog's ability to drop on command or signal and then remain in place until called or signaled by its handler to come.

The commands for this exercise are: "Leave your dog"..."Call your dog"..."Drop your dog"..."Call your dog"..."Finish"..."Exercise Finished"

In this exercise, on order or signal from the judge to "Leave your dog", the handler will give his dog the command and/or signal to stay in the sitting position, leave his dog, and go about 40 feet (12m) and then turn and face the dog.

Upon command or signal from the judge to "Call your dog", the handler will call or signal the dog which must come straight in at a brisk pace.

While the dog is in motion, upon order or signal from the judge, or at a pre-designated point, the handler will command or signal the dog to drop.

On further command or signal from the judge to "Call your dog", the handler will call or signal the dog which must rise and come straight, at a brisk pace, sitting straight in front of the handler close enough that the handler can readily touch the dog's head without moving either foot or having to stretch forward. The balance of the exercise is as in the Novice Recall exercise.

A score of zero shall be given to any dog that does not come when called or signaled, or that anticipates the drop, or does not drop all the way to the down position on a single command or signal, or that gets up from the down position before being called or signaled by the handler to come, plus those penalties described in the Novice Recall exercise.

Deductions shall be made for a slow response to the drop, or for delay or slowness in response to either of the recalls, plus those penalties described in the Novice Recall exercise.

Open A and Open B Retrieve on the Flat

The objective of this exercise is to have the dog demonstrate its ability to retrieve a dumbbell and return it to its handler.

The commands for this exercise are:

“Throw it” ... “Send your dog” ... “Take it” ... “Finish” ... Exercise finished”

Upon commands from the judge to “Throw it”, the handler will give the command and/or signal to stay and shall throw the dumbbell approximately twenty feet. The judge will order “Send your dog”, whereupon the handler gives a command or signal to the dog to retrieve the dumbbell. The next order shall be “Take it”, whereupon the handler may command the dog to give it up, and then takes it. On command or signal from the judge to “Finish”, the dog on command or signal from the handler should go smartly to heel.

A score of zero shall be given any dog which fails to go out on the first command or signal, or which fails to retrieve, or which goes to retrieve before the command or signal is given, or fails to return close enough for the handler to take the dumbbell without moving either foot, or fails to give up the dumbbell, plus those penalties described in the Novice Recall exercise.

Deductions shall be made for slowness in going out or returning, slowness in picking up the dumbbell, for reluctance to release the dumbbell to the handler, or for the handler having to stretch forward to take the dumbbell, plus those penalties described in the Novice Recall exercise.

Open A and Open B Retrieve Over High Jump

The objective of this exercise is to demonstrate the dog's ability, on command or signal, to jump the High Jump, retrieve the dumbbell, and return with it over the jump to the handler.

The commands for this exercise are:

“Throw it” ... “Send your dog” ... “Take it” ... “Finish” ... “Exercise finished”

The jump shall be set as nearly as possible the height of the dog at the withers or 36 inches (91cm), whichever is less. Where a dog's height at the withers includes a measurement of $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$, or $\frac{3}{4}$ inches (0.64cm, 1.27cm or 1.91cm), the jump shall be set at the next lowest height. For example, a dog measuring 28 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches (72cm) at the withers shall jump 28 inches (71cm). If a dog is entered in the preferred category the jump height will be set according to the table shown under the “Preferred Category” section of this document.

It is the shared responsibility of the judge and handler to make sure the dog jumps the correct height and where a measurement is in doubt, the judge has the authority to request the dog be measured before beginning the first Open exercise. The Retrieve over High Jump is executed in the same manner as the Retrieve on the Flat, except that the dog must jump the high jump both going away from and returning to the handler. The handler must stand a minimum of 8 feet (2.44m) from the high jump and remain in the same position throughout the exercise. The dumbbell must be thrown a distance of at least 8 feet (2.44m) beyond the jump and the high jump shall be jumped clear.

A score of zero shall be given any dog which fails to go out over the high jump on the first command or signal, climbs the jump or uses the top of the jump as an aid in going over, or fails to retrieve over the jump, or goes to retrieve before the command or signal is given, or fails to return over the jump, or fails to come close enough for the handler to take the dumbbell without moving either foot, or fails to give up the dumbbell, plus those penalties described in the Novice Recall. Deductions shall be given for touching the jump, or slowness in going out or returning, or slowness in picking up the dumbbell, mouthing or playing with the dumbbell, dropping the dumbbell, or for reluctance to release the dumbbell to the handler, or for the handler having to stretch forward to take the dumbbell, plus those penalties described in the Novice Recall.

Open A and Open B Broad Jump

The objective of this exercise is to demonstrate the dog's ability to stay where left and to jump promptly on command or signal.

The commands for this exercise are:

“Leave your dog” ... “Send your dog” ... “Finish” ... “Exercise finished”

When set up, the jump shall be spaced so as to cover a distance equal to twice the height of the high jump, as set for the particular dog, with the low side of each hurdle and the lowest hurdle nearest the dog.

The handler will stand, with his dog sitting at heel position, at least 8 feet (2.44m) from and in front of the jump.

On command from the judge to “Leave your dog”, the handler will give his dog the command and/or signal to stay and go to a position facing the right side of the jump about 2 feet (0.61m) from the jump and within the range of the first and last hurdle.

On command from the judge to “Send your dog”, the handler shall give the command or signal to jump and the dog should clear the entire width of the broad jump without touching it and, without further command or signal, return to a sitting position straight in front of the handler as in the Recall.

The handler shall change his position while the dog is in mid-air by executing a right turn.

On command from the judge to “Finish”, the dog, on command or signal, should go smartly to heel.

A score of zero shall be given any dog which fails to stay until directed to jump, is given an extra command to stay after the handler leaves, refuses the jump on the first command or signal, walks over any part of the jump, fails to clear the full distance, or fails to come close enough for the handler to touch the dog's head without moving either foot.

Deductions shall be given for the dog being given an extra command or signal to stay before the handler leaves, for the handler standing too close to the jump, for the dog that stands or lies down before directed to jump, for touching the jump going over, for the handler not turning while the dog is in mid-air, or for a poor return, plus all applicable penalties described in the Novice Recall exercise.

Open A and Open B Group Sit and Down Exercises

The objectives of these exercises and the commands and deductions for these exercises are the same as for the Novice Group Sit and Down exercises. They are performed in the same manner except that, after leaving their dogs, the handlers must immediately leave the ring and go to a place designated by the judge out of sight of their dogs where they must remain until the time limit of 3 minutes for the Long Sit and 3 minutes for the Long Down (from the time the judge gave the order to “Leave your dogs”) has expired.

NORTH AMERICAN MIXED BREED REGISTRY

UTILITY TESTS, ORDER OF JUDGING AND SCORES

Dogs are to be taken into the ring on leash, directly to the starting position, where, once the dog is sitting at heel, the leash is to be removed and given to the ring steward who shall place the leash on the judge's table.

The tests, scores and order of judging for a perfect performance in the Utility class shall be as follows:

Tests	Maximum Score
Seek Back	30 points
Scent Discrimination Article No. 1	30 points
Scent Discrimination Article No. 2	30 points
Signal Exercise	35 points
Moving Stand for Examination	35 points
Directed Jumping	40 points
Maximum Total Score	200 points

Seek Back

The objective of this exercise is to have the dog display its ability to seek and retrieve a glove and return promptly with it to the handler.

The commands of this exercise are:

“Forward” (followed by any other orders which the judge may give from the Heel Free Routine.

“Drop it” ... “Halt” ... “Send your dog” ... “Take it” ... “Finish”, “Exercise finished”

On entering the Utility ring, the handler will surrender his articles to the ring steward who will place them on the judge's table, and the handler (carrying the glove in readiness for the first exercise) will then, with the dog on lead, proceed to the start position, The glove must be plain and dark, must be approved by the judge, and must be carried in the right hand. The handler will stand with the dog in the heel position and, on order from the judge, will signal or command the dog to walk at heel and then, on specific order or signal from the judge, will execute such portions of the Heel Free exercise as the judge may order.

On command from the judge to “Drop it”, the handler will surreptitiously drop the glove as he is walking with the dog at heel. After the dog and handler have proceeded at least 30 feet (9m) following the dropping of the glove, on order or signal from the judge, the handler will turn and halt, facing the end of the ring where the glove was dropped.

Then, on command or signal from the judge, the handler will give the command to seek and retrieve the glove. The handler must not point to the glove, but may point in the direction of the trail, and he is to remain in the place from which the dog is sent. The dog may retrieve either by sight or scent and is expected to pick up the glove, smartly return to the handler and sit in front of the handler holding the glove. On order from the judge to “Take it”, the handler may command the dog to give it up, and then the handler takes it. Upon order or signal from the judge to “Finish”, the dog on command or signal should go smartly to heel.

A score of zero shall be given any dog that fails to leave his handler on the first command, or goes before commanded, or does not continue to seek, or does not find and pick up the glove, or does not return close enough for the handler to take it without moving either foot, or refuses to give up the glove. Deductions shall be given for poor heeling, or playing with the glove, or going or returning slowly, or failure to return directly, or reluctance to release the glove. All penalties listed under the Heel Free and Retrieve on Flat exercises shall apply.

Utility Scent Discrimination

The objective of this two part exercise is to demonstrate the dog's ability to select articles from among other articles by scent alone, and return the article(s) promptly to the handler.

Scent Discrimination consists of two separate exercises in which the dog must select by scent and retrieve an article which has been handled by the handler. The articles shall be provided by the handler and shall consist of 2 sets, each of 5 identical articles; one set of leather, and one set of metal. The articles must be numbered legibly, on both ends, 1 through 5. When 2 trials are held on one day, articles numbered 6 may be substituted for the articles used in the first trial. All articles will be placed in full view and about 15 feet (4.6m) in front of the handler and the dog, about 6 inches (15 cm) apart and may be handled by the steward or judge. The handler and dog shall face the articles as they are being laid out. The judge will select one article from each of the two types and will place them on the judge's table or chair until the handler is ordered by the judge to "Take an article". Should a dog retrieve a wrong article in either of the 2 exercises, that article shall be placed on the judge's table or chair and the handler's article must also be removed from the remaining articles. At the close of these exercises all articles shall be picked up and returned to the judge's table.

The commands for this exercise are:

"Take an article" ... "Send your dog" ... "Take it" ... "Finish" ... "Exercise finished"

On command from the judge to "Take an article", the handler will choose one of the 2 designated articles. The handler shall confirm the number of the article with the judge and one steward, and then, with the hands, impart his scent to the article, which must remain in sight. When ready, or when requested by the judge, the handler will put the article on the judge's book or clipboard and the judge will place the article among the other articles while the dog and handler remain with their backs towards those articles. The taking of the article from the handler will be considered to be the first order and scoring of the exercise will begin at that time.

The judge will then give the command "Send your dog" at which time the handler may either give the dog the command or signal to heel, execute a right about turn, stop to face the articles (at which time the dog sits at heel), then give the command or signal to retrieve. Or, the handler may give the command or signal to retrieve before he executes the right about turn toward the articles. In this case, the dog does not stop at the heel position but goes directly out to the articles. The method by which the handler sends the dog must be the same for both (2) articles. In either case, the handler may give the dog his scent by cupping the palm of one hand in front of the dog's nose before giving the command or signal to retrieve. However, the hand must be returned to a normal position before the command or signal to retrieve is given. The dog shall go briskly to the articles, but may take a reasonable time to select the right article provided the dog works continuously. After finding and picking up the right article, the dog should bring it briskly back to the handler and sit in front of the handler facing him. The exercise is completed as in the Retrieve exercise.

A score of zero shall be given any dog which fails on the first command or signal to go out to the articles, goes before commanded, which fails to return the correct article close enough for the handler to take it without moving either foot, fails to give up the article, or a handler who changes his method of sending his dog.

Substantial deductions shall be made for a dog that is excessively slow going or returning, which picks up a wrong article, even though the dog puts it down immediately. Deductions shall be made for a dog that is slow, inattentive, does not work continuously, plays excessively with the articles, mouths the articles, or is reluctant to give up the article to the handler. All applicable penalties described under Retrieve on Flat shall apply.

Utility Signal Exercise

The objective of this exercise is to demonstrate the dog's ability to respond correctly to the handler's signals. In the Signal Exercise, the heeling is done in the same manner as the Heel Free exercise except that throughout the entire exercise, the handler uses signals only and must not speak to his dog at any time.

The commands for this exercise include:

“Forward” ... “Left turn” ... “Right turn” ... “About turn” ... “Halt” ... “Slow” ... “Normal” ... “Fast” ... “Stand your dog” ... “Leave your dog”

and in addition, the judge must give the handler signals to signal the dog to:

“Drop”
“Sit”
“Come”
“Finish”

On command or signal from the judge “Forward”, the handler signals his dog to walk at heel and then, on specific order from the judge in each case the handler and dog execute a “Left turn”, “Right turn”, “About turn”, “Slow”, “Fast”, “Normal” “Halt”. These orders may be given in any sequence and may be repeated if necessary.

On command from the judge, the handler shall signal the dog to “Stand” in the heel position near the end of the ring. The signal to Stand the dog must be given while the handler and dog are heeling at a Normal pace.

On further command from the judge to “Leave your dog”, the handler shall signal the dog to stay, walk to the end of the far end of the ring and turn to face the dog. Then on specific signals from the judge, the handler shall signal the dog to Drop, to sit, to come, and to finish, after which the judge will say “Exercise finished”.

All signals must be given smartly with one single gesture, with either arm and hand only.

A score of zero shall be given to any dog that fails on a signal to stand and remain standing where left, or to drop, or to sit and stay, or to come and sit close to the handler, or which receives an audible command to do any part of these exercises.

Substantial deductions shall be made for any audible command given during the heeling part of the exercise or for the finish. Deductions shall be made for a dog that makes minor moves on the stand, and/or drop, and/or sit portions of the exercise.

All applicable penalties described under Heel Free and Recall exercises shall apply.

Utility Moving Stand for Examination

The objectives of this exercise are to have the dog demonstrate its ability to heel, stand, and stay as the handler moves away; accept the examination without shyness, resentment, or aggression; and return to the handler on command.

The commands for this exercise are:

“Forward”

“Stand your dog”

“Call your dog”

“Exercise finished”

The scoring of this exercise will not start until after the judge has given the order to “Stand your dog”.

On command from the judge to “Forward”, the handler and dog will walk briskly with the dog walking close to the left side of the handler without interfering with the handler’s freedom of movement.

On command from the judge to “Stand your dog”, the handler will, while still moving, command and/or signal the dog to stand. The handler will continue walking (without pausing) to a distance of approximately 10 feet (3m), then turn and face the dog.

The judge will perform an examination of the dog which consists of a touch to the dog’s head, body and hindquarters only. The judge will always approach from the front. The dog must remain standing until called or signaled to heel position.

On command from the judge to “Call your dog”, the handler will call and/or signal the dog to heel position. The dog must come briskly and promptly, directly to heel position without sitting in front of the handler.

A score of zero shall be given to any dog that sits or lies down, or moves even a minor distance from where they were left before the handler calls the dog to heel position, or to any dog that growls, snaps, or shows shyness or resentment, or barks or whines repeatedly during the exercise.

Deductions must be made for any dog that moves its feet during the exercise.

Utility Directed Jumping

The objective of this two part exercise is to demonstrate the ability of the dog to go away from the handler in the direction indicated, stop when commanded, and jump as directed.

This exercise requires two jumps; a Bar Jump and a High Jump. The judge and handler are responsible for making sure the dog jumps the correct height as described in the Open exercises. The jumps shall be placed mid-way in the ring at right angles to the sides of the ring, not less than 14 feet (4m) apart. The Bar Jump is to be placed on one side and the High Jump on the other side. The handler will stand with his dog at heel position on the centre line of the ring about 20 feet (6m) from the line of the jumps.

The commands for this exercise are:

“Send your dog”

After the dog is sitting at the far end of the ring, the judge shall designate which jump, “Bar Jump” or “High Jump” is to be taken.

“Finish”

“Exercise finished”

On command from the judge to “Send your dog”, the handler commands and/or signals the dog to go forward at a brisk pace between the jumps to the other end of the ring to an equal distance beyond the jumps and in the approximate centre where the handler stops the dog by command. The dog should stop, turn, and sit with its attention on the handler. The dog need not sit squarely at this point.

The judge will then designate which jump (bar jump or high jump) is to be taken first; whereupon the handler commands and/or signals the dog to return over the designated jump. The signal must be a single gesture with one arm and hand only, and the arm must be promptly returned to its normal position. While the dog is in mid-air, the handler may turn to face the dog as it lands. The dog shall sit in front of the handler and finish as in the Recall exercise.

When the dog is in heel position for the second part of the exercise, the judge will ask “Are you ready?” before giving the order to “Send your dog” for the second jump. The same procedure is to be followed for the opposite jump. It is the judge’s option which jump he designates to be taken first but both jumps must be taken to complete the exercise. The judge must not designate the jump to be taken until the dog is at the far end of the ring.

A score of zero shall be given to a dog that does not leave the handler, that leaves before the command and/or signal is given, that does not go out between the jumps, does not go out and stop on command at least 10 feet (3m) beyond the jumps, that does not jump as directed in either half of the exercise, that climbs the jumps, or knocks off the bar, or a handler who gives a second command to jump.

Substantial deductions shall be given to any dog that does not sit on command. Deductions shall be given to any dog that does not stop in the approximate centre of the ring about 20 feet (6m) beyond the line of the jumps, or is slow going or returning, or touches the jumps, or a handler who turns to face the dog before it has jumped or after it has landed. All applicable deductions as described in the Recall exercise shall apply.

NORTH AMERICAN MIXED BREED REGISTRY

Pre-Novice Class Tests, Scores, and Order of Judging (Unofficial Class)

The objective of all the exercises in the Pre-Novice Class is to demonstrate the dog's ability to perform willingly on a loose leash.

The tests, scores, and order of judging are as described for the Official Novice class except that all exercises are performed on lead. A score of zero will be given on any exercise in which, in the opinion of the judge, the dog would not have performed without the guidance of the leash, or the dog is unmanageable, sits before or during an examination, or growls or snaps, does not come on the first command or signal or does not remain in place during the Long Sit and/or Down exercises, disturbs another dog or stands or lays down during the Long Sit exercise or sits or stands on the Long Down exercise.

Novice C Class Tests, Scores, and Order of Judging (Unofficial Class)

The objective of this class is to provide a venue for those handlers who are working toward their CDX (Companion Dog Excellent) title but who are not ready to enter that class and wish to keep their dogs active in Trials. It also demonstrates the dog's ability to perform with the added distraction of a second dog in the ring (where an Honour class dog is present).

The same rules and requirements apply to the Novice C class as in the Official Novice class. Where the Honour Class is offered at a trial, the Novice C exhibitor shall have the option of allowing an honouring dog in the ring with him or not. There shall be no penalty for declining.

Veteran Class Tests, Scores, and Order of Judging (Unofficial Class)

The objective of all the exercises in the Veteran Class is to demonstrate the dog's ability to perform willingly.

This class is open only to those dogs which are seven (7) years of age and older at the closing date of the Trial entered. The tests, scores, and order of judging are as described for the Official Novice class

NORTH AMERICAN MIXED BREED REGISTRY

Honour Class Tests, Scores, and Order of Judging (Unofficial Class)

The objective of this class is to demonstrate the ability of the Honouring Dog to remain in place while a Novice C dog performs a Heel on Leash and Figure Eight exercise.

This class may be offered only if the Novice C class is offered at the Trial(s) and acceptance of entry is dependent on the willingness of the Novice C class entrant(s) to have an honouring dog in the ring while they are exhibiting. Only one honouring dog shall be in the ring at a time with any Novice C class exhibitor.

A perfect score in this class is 100 points.

The commands for this class are:

“Down your dog” ... “Leave your dog” ... “Return to your dog” ... “Exercise finished”

The honouring dog and handler shall enter the ring before the Novice C dog and take a position in the ring as designated by the judge. This will be a position that will not interfere with the Judge and the dog that is working, but will be close enough that the honouring dog is exposed to the distraction of the working dog. The honouring dog will sit and the handler will place their leash behind the dog. The handler shall not remove their armband. The dog shall remain in the Sit position until the Novice C dog is in the ring and ready to start the “Heel on Leash” exercise.

On command from the judge to “Down your dog”, the handler will command and/or signal the dog down and then on command from the judge to “Leave your dog”, the handler will command and/or signal his dog to stay and will then walk across the ring, and turn and face his dog. The dog shall remain in the long down facing its handler. The handler will stand so as not to interfere with the working dog, its handler, or the Judge.

At the completion of the Figure Eight exercise by the working dog, the judge will command the handler of the honouring dog “Back to your dog”, at which time the handler shall return to heel position after walking behind his dog. At the command from the Judge “Exercise finished”, the honouring dog is released, the leash put on, and dog and handler leave the ring,

A score of zero shall be given to the dog that does not remain in place, whines, barks, or stands, or sits before the handler returns or that requires an extra command or signal to “Stay” after the handler leaves. A dog that makes repeated errors may be excused by the judge.

Substantial deductions shall be given for rough treatment, repeated commands, forcing the dog to a down position by any means, or pulling on the dog’s collar, or if the dog sits, stands or whines as the handler returns. Minor deductions shall be given for the dog that sits, stands, whines or moves as the handler walks around to heel position.

NORTH AMERICAN MIXED BREED REGISTRY

End of Trial Requirements

The Trial Secretary shall forward to the NAMBR Obedience Co-ordinator the following material so as to be received within the 21 days following the last day of the trial.

- Copy of unused official show catalogue
- Copy of unused premium list
- All entry forms
- All judge's books completed and signed
- Extra ribbons, armbands and any other unused supplies
- Remittance statement for each trial
- Payment owing to NAMBR

An administrative fee as set by NAMBR will be imposed for each day's delay in the returns reaching NAMBR. NAMBR will notify the handler of a title earned and ensure the corresponding certificate is in their hands within 90 calendar days of the completion of the trial at which the title was earned.

NORTH AMERICAN MIXED BREED REGISTRY

High Jump Standard

The side posts of the High Jump shall be 4 feet (1.22m) high and the jump shall be 5 feet (1.5m) wide between the posts, and shall be so constructed as to provide adjustment for each 1 inch (2.54cm) increment, from 4 inches (10cm) to 36 inches (91cm). The bottom board shall be 4 inches (10cm) wide to give the minimum height required from the ground or mat surface, together with additional boards as follows.

- One 1 inch (2.5cm) board
- One 2 inch (5cm) board
- One 4 inch (10cm) board
- One 6 inch (15cm) board
- Three 8 inch (20cm) boards

The jump shall be painted a flat white. The width in inches shall be marked clearly on each side of each board in black, in 2 inch (5cm) figures with the exception of the 1 inch (2.5cm) board. The various boards' width shall be set up in such a manner that they shall be as nearly as possible the height of the dog at the withers without going higher than that height.

Broad Jump Standard

The broad jump shall consist of 5 separate hurdles built to telescope for convenience. There shall be 3 hurdles 8" (20cm) wide and 2 hurdles 4" (10cm) wide. The largest hurdle should measure about 5 feet (1.5m) in length and 7 inches (18cm) in height at the highest point. All should be painted a flat white. The two 4" (10cm) hurdles pushed together will represent the first 8" (20cm) hurdle in all distances jumped over 14 inches (35.5cm). When fewer than 4 hurdles are required, the highest hurdle shall be removed first. The judge and handler are responsible for making sure the dog jumps the correct distance as required by these rules.

The hurdles shall be set for the various jumps as follows:

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 50" (127cm) to 72" (183cm) | four 8" (20cm) hurdles |
| 30" (70cm) to 48" (123cm) | three 8" (20cm) hurdles |
| 16" (41cm) to 28" (71cm) | two 8" (20cm) hurdles |
| 08" (20cm) to 14" (35.5cm) | two 4" (10cm) hurdles |

Bar Jump Standard

The Bar Jump shall consist of a bar between 2" (5cm) and 2 ½" (6cm) in diameter. It may be round or square with the 4 edges rounded sufficiently to remove any sharpness. The bar shall be painted a flat black and white in alternate sections of about 3 inches (8cm) each. The bar shall be supported by two unconnected upright posts 5 feet (1.5m) apart. The bar shall be adjustable in 1 inch (2.5cm) increments in height from 4 inches (10cm) to 36 (91cm) inches and the jump shall be so constructed and positioned that the bar can be knocked off without disturbing the uprights.

Sanctioned Obedience Match

A Sanctioned Obedience Match is a competition at which all dogs, one year of age or older, registered with NAMBR may compete, but not for legs toward an obedience title, and is regarded as a learning experience for all trial officials, stewards, judges, and handlers. No score made at a sanctioned obedience match shall be considered as “qualifying” or as a leg toward a title but instead, simply as a “passing” score. The requirements for a passing score shall follow those of NAMBR Obedience Trials.

The set-up procedure followed at sanctioned obedience matches should follow that of NAMBR Obedience Trials.

Dates must be applied for, using a form provided by NAMBR, not less than 60 days prior to the date of the sanctioned match. If approved, there is a fee payable to NAMBR of \$10.00 to cover the cost of reproducing and mailing materials to the applicant. In the event an Obedience Trial is already scheduled for that date, the applicant will be notified so that conflicts will be avoided. In all cases, the Obedience Trial date application shall take precedence.

On approval of the date, NAMBR will forward a package to the designated Trial Secretary (the point of contact for exhibitors and NAMBR) containing:

- a blank sheet for the judge’s book which may be duplicated as required
- a sample of the score sheets for each of the classes applied for and which may be duplicated as needed.

A copy of these Rules and Regulations must be available for reference at all sanctioned matches and, with the exception of sections regarding titles, shall apply.

The selection of judges is at the discretion of the host, however it is strongly recommended that the selection be made from the list of persons interested in judging maintained by NAMBR. A person should not be expected to judge classes at a level higher than that in which he has completed titles on a dog or in which he lacks confidence.

Ribbons may be given for passing scores and, if offered, must be dark green in color with the following information on the face of each ribbon:

- the name of the club or association holding the match
- the words “NAMBR Sanctioned Obedience Match”
- the NAMBR logo
- the words “Passing Score”

Other awards, ribbons and/or rosettes may be offered at the discretion of the host but must be other than dark green in color. No awards, ribbons or rosettes are to be given to any dog that has not achieved a passing score.

At completion of the Sanctioned Obedience Match, all records are to be retained by the host for a period of one year (12 months from the date of the match) and be made available to NAMBR if required.