



NOVICE – Class 1

The judge will call, “Novice, exhibit {number}.”

Handler will enter the ring and take their position to the left of the cone.

The judge will ask, “Are you ready?”

Handler will check their dog is in the *ready* position and indicate with a verbal, “Yes”

The judge will say, “forward.”

The handler will be asked to perform the following heeling exercises up to 3 times each:

Sit – stand – drop – right turn – right about turn - recall

The handler has a maximum of 5 seconds to perform each task before the judge continues the session.

When the judge says, “exercise finished” the handler must return to the starting position at the cone.

The handler will be asked to perform the following stationary task:

Stand stay

The judge will say, “forward and stand your dog.”

The handler will take 3 steps forward to put their dog in a stand.

The judge will say, “stay your dog”

The handler will command their dog to stay and remain in their position next to their dog.

The judge will approach and walk past the dog.

The judge will say, “exercise finished, you may leave the ring.”

The handler walks their dog out of the ring before releasing/praising their dog.

Sit stay

Once all exhibits from Class 1 and Class 2 have been assessed, the judge will call, “All novice exhibits to the ring”.

Each handler is to enter the ring in order of their number from lowest to highest.

The judge will say, “Are you ready?”

All dogs must be in a sitting position before the handlers answer, “yes”

The judge will say, “For a one-minute sit stay, leave your dog”

Class 1 handlers are to move to the front of their dog

The judge will say, “Return to your dog”

Class 1 handlers must remain in their position until the conclusion of the Class 2 down-stay

At the conclusion of the Class 2 down-stay the judge will say, “exercise finished, you may leave the ring”

Handlers are to leave the ring in single file.



WHAT IS BEING JUDGED FOR CLASS 1

All exercises are performed on lead

Heeling – lead is loose and held in both hands. Left arm is firm by the handler’s side, Right arm is either at the handler’s side or across their mid-section.

Sit – Stand – Drop – handler gives a verbal command, with a hand signal. Focus on, “command once, then correct”.

Right Turn – Turn must be sharp and not rounded, handler to give a verbal command, “heel” or “come right”, dog to turn in a reasonably sharp arc. Corrections allowed: small check, verbal command repeated once.

Right About Turn – Handler must pivot 180° to their right and give a verbal command, “heel” or “come around”, dog to turn without exaggerated arc. Corrections allowed: small check, verbal command repeated once.

Recall – on lead from heeling. During a heeling exercise, the examiner instructs the handler to “call your dog”. Handler stops forward motion and takes 5 or 6 rapid steps backwards calling their dog, “{name}... come!”. The exercise is complete when the dog is either sitting or standing in front of their handler.

Stand Stay – Handler must wait for instructions, then command their dog to “stay”. Examiner will approach but not touch the dog. The dog should not sit or step off their position.

Sit Stay – 1 minute. Handler must wait for instructions, then stand in front of their dog. Handler **must not** be more than one step away from their dog. Upon direction, the handler steps back to their dog’s side.

Bridge and Reward – handler is permitted to bridge and reward their dog ONLY when the examiner says, “exercise finished”.

NOTE: The use of treats and clickers are permitted, however, point penalties apply for each use, except when told the exercise is finished.

Example scoring for a dog that drops on command

1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
refused	Reluctant keeps breaking position	Required treat	Required correction	Performed task un-aided

Example scoring for a dog that drops only when lured with a treat

1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>
refused	Reluctant keeps breaking position	Required treat	Required correction	Performed task un-aided