

2025 College Royal™ Dog Show
Beginner Class Scorecard

Armband #: _____ Dog: _____ Handler: _____
Judge: _____

Exercise	Point Value	Minor Point Deduction (-1 Point)	Major Point Deduction (-2 to -5 points)	Comments	Score
Beginner Tricks (2)	15	Extra Commands	Luring Fails to Perform Trick	<i>Best of 2 Tricks is Marked</i>	
Heel on Leash	40	Luring Tight Leash Forging/Lagging Extra Commands	Breaks Heel. Verbal Correction No Change of Pace		
Position Change Sequence	30	Luring Extra Commands Minor Physical Assistance	Fails to Respond to Handler's Cues Verbal Correction Out of Sequence Major Physical Contact (-10)		
Sit for Greeting	20	Tight Leash Extra Commands Shifting	Jumps on Judge Fails to Sit Breaks Stay Verbal Correction		
Recall	40	Sniffing/Detouring No Sit in Front Jumps on Handler	Fails to Recall (-10) Dog Avoids Leashing Verbal Correction		
Attitude	15	Dog Inattentiveness Dog Lack of Willingness to Perform Exercises	Verbal Correction Poor Sportsmanship		
Subtotal	160				
On Leash Sit or Down Stay (30 Sec)	40	Excessive Shifting Extra Commands	Change of Position Breaks Stay Verbal Correction	<i>Handler's Choice of Sit or Down</i>	
Total	200				
Non Qualifying Behaviour		Physical/Verbal Abuse Dog Aggression Unsportsmanlike Behaviour Soiling the Ring Dog Out of Control/ Leaves Ring			

2025 College Royal™ Dog Show
 Beginner Class Group Exercise Scorecard

Judge: _____

On Leash Sit or Down Stay (30 Sec)¹

Armband	Minor Point Deduction (-1 Point)	Major Point Deduction (-2 to -5 Points)	Score
	Excessive Shifting Extra Commands	Change of Position Breaks Stay Verbal Correction	
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	Excessive Shifting Extra Commands	Change of Position Breaks Stay Verbal Correction	

¹The handler is permitted to choose either a sit or a down stay.

2025 College Royal™ Dog Show
Beginner Class Judge's Notes

Summary of Exercises:

1. *Individual Exercises*

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------|
| i) Beginner Tricks | (15 points) |
| ii) Heel on Leash | (40 points) |
| iii) Position Change Sequence | (30 points) |
| iv) Sit for Greeting | (20 points) |
| v) Recall | (40 points) |
| vi) Attitude | (15 points) |

2. *Group Exercises*

- | | |
|---|-------------|
| i) On Leash Sit or Down Stay – 30 Seconds | (40 points) |
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Rewards and Encouragement during the Exercises:

Handlers have been encouraged to reward, praise and encourage their dogs through the exercises. No point deductions should be incurred because of rewarding or encouraging between and during the exercises as long as it does not constitute an "extra command". Toy rewards are allowed in the ring but they cannot leave the handler's hand.

Exercises:

Beginner Tricks – 15 points

This exercise is designed to highlight the dog's natural abilities and the fun aspects of dog training. Any trick is acceptable at the beginner level. Props are allowed as long as they can be carried with one hand (i.e. hoops, bars, balls, frisbees). The handler can show 2 tricks and the best trick is marked.

Minor Point Deductions (-1 point)

- Extra Commands – This is defined as re-cuing the trick more than once or excessively using the dog's name or other commands in order to maintain the dog's attention. A verbal cue and hand signal used at the same time is considered a single command. This should not be confused with providing encouragement to the dogs for a job well done. Handlers are encouraged to verbally praise the dog for a good job.

Major Point Deductions (-2 to -5 points)

- Luring – Luring is defined as a cookie or toy being present in the hand of the handler and being placed on the dog's nose in order to coerce the dog into performing the trick.
- Fails to Perform Trick – If the dog fails to perform the trick to the judge's satisfaction a major fault can be applied.

Heel on Leash – 40 points

This exercise is designed to highlight the dog's ability to keep pace with the handler. The dog may walk slightly ahead, behind or to the side of the handler but they should not be more than 2 feet away from the handler. This exercise should consist of 2 changes of pace (from normal to fast and back to normal and from normal to slow and back to normal). This exercise should also have a 2 halts where the dog must stop and sit with the handler, however the handler will be allowed to give a command to sit. In addition, this exercise should contain a left turn, right turn and a right about turn. Wide turns are permitted so long as they do not lead to a tight leash deduction. *Handlers are allowed to reward their dogs during the exercise as long as it doesn't interfere with flow of the exercise.*

2025 Heel Pattern: Normal, Halt, Left Turn, Slow, Normal, About Turn, Halt, Right Turn, Fast, Normal, About Turn, Halt

Exercise Commands: "Are you ready?" "Forward" "Halt" "Foward" "Left Turn" "Slow" "Normal" "About Turn" "Halt" "Forward" "Right Turn" "Fast" "Normal" "About Turn" "Halt" "Exercise Finished"

Minor Point Deductions (-1 point)

- Luring – Luring is defined as a cookie or toy being present in the hand of the handler and being placed on the dog's nose in order to coerce the dog into performing the behaviour.
- Tight Leash – This is defined as the dog pulling at the end of the leash and the handler having to exert force to keep the dog in place.
- Forging/Lagging – The following errors should be considered a forging or lagging error. The dog fails to change direction with handler. The dog fails to keep up with the handler when he or she changes pace. The dog walks ahead of the handler. A forging or lagging deduction should only be applied if the dog is more than 1 foot ahead or behind the handler.
- Extra Commands – This is defined as excessively using the dog's name or other commands in order to maintain the dog's attention. A verbal cue and hand signal used at the same time is considered a single command. Handlers may re-cue behaviours if the dog has lagged or forged without penalty. Handlers may also re-cue following halts, changes of pace or change of direction without penalty. This should not be confused with providing encouragement to the dogs for a job well done. Handlers are encouraged to verbally praise the dog for a good job.

Major Point Deductions (-2 to -5 points)

- Breaks Heel – This is defined as the dog leaving heel position by more than a forge or lag. This deduction can also be applied if the dog fails to loose leash walk for 50% or more of the exercise.

- No Change of Pace – This error is defined as the handler failing to noticeably change to a fast or slow pace when prompted. If the handler changes pace and the dog does not, this is a lagging or forging error.
- Verbal Correction (i.e. no reward markers) – Mild verbal correction in the context of what the dog has done is allowed but should be considered a major point deduction. If used excessively it is the judge’s discretion as to whether this constitutes excessive punishment.

Position Change Sequence – 30 points

The goal of this exercise is to highlight the dog’s ability to respond to position changes that will be crucial for its potential future as an obedience dog. This exercise will go through all basic position a dog can be asked to work from, a sit, stand and down. It is recommended the pattern include the handler pivoting in front of the dog before the lay down, and if the dog is to change from a down to a sit. The team should not be asked to go from a down to a stand as that’s too difficult for this level. The team may start with the dog standing or sitting. If starting from a stand, the dog must sit as the first change, if starting from a sit, the dog can skip and move straight onto a position change to a stand. The judge will remind the handlers of the order before the exercise begins, and will call the position changes throughout the exercise. In addition, handlers are permitted to gently help their dog with the stand by touching the dogs flank. Luring for any position change is allowed with minor deduction.

2020 Sequence Pattern: Sit, Stand, Pivot In Front of Dog, Down, Sit

Exercise Commands: “This is your position sequence. Your order is, Sit, Stand, Pivot In Front, Down, Sit. Your dog may start in either a sit or a stand. Are you Ready?”
 “Sit” “Stand” “Pivot In Front” “Down” “Sit” “Exercise Finished”

Minor Point Deductions (-1 point)

- Luring – Luring is defined as a cookie or toy being present in the hand of the handler and being placed on the dog’s nose in order to coerce the dog into performing the behaviour.
- Minor Physical Assistance - This is defined as a gentle touch to help the dog change position, such as touching the flank for a stand or the top of the rump for a sit. This should be a touch that simply *reminds* a distracted dog what they’re being asked to do, but should never *force* them to do the movement.
- Extra Commands – This is defined as excessively using the dog’s name or other commands in order to maintain the dog’s attention. A verbal cue and hand signal used at the same time is considered a single command. This should not be confused with providing encouragement to the dogs for a job well done. Handlers are encouraged to verbally praise the dog for a good job.

Major Point deductions (-2 to -5 points)

- Fails to Respond to Handler's Cues – If the dog refuses to perform the change at all a major deduction should be applied.
- Verbal Correction (i.e. no reward markers) – Mild verbal correction in the context of what the dog has done is allowed but should be considered a major point deduction. If used excessively it is the judge's discretion as to whether this constitutes excessive punishment.
- Out of Sequence - This is defined by the dog being out of the set sequence of changes. (i.e. laying down when they should've been sitting)
- Major Physical Contact (-10 point deduction) - This is defined as any rough or forceful contact to get the dog to perform the exercise. This kind of contact is no longer a gentle reminder but instead is physically manipulating the dog to change position. (i.e. pushing hard on the rump to force the dog to sit). At the discretion of the judge, if the behaviour is too forceful it can be considered physical abuse or unsportsmanlike behaviour and can result in a disqualification.

Sit for Greeting – 20 points

This exercise is designed to test the dog's ability to greet people politely and keep their paws on the ground while being approached by a stranger. The handler should have the dog sitting on their left side (heel position). The judge approaches the handler and speaks to the handler and the dog. The judge should not attempt to touch the dog or encourage the dog to interact.

Exercise Commands: "This is your sit for greeting, are you ready?" "Sit your dog"
"Exercise Finished"

Minor point deductions (-1 to -2 points)

- Tight Leash – This is defined as the handler tightening the leash to prevent the dog from breaking the stay or approaching the judge.
- Extra Commands - This is defined as the handler having to give multiple commands to keep the dog sitting while the judge approaches
- Shifting - This is defined by the dog remaining sitting, but shifting their paws or butt around while the judge approaches

Major Point Deductions (-2 to -5 points)

- Jumps on Judge – If the dog attempts to jump up on the judge a major point deduction applies.
- Fails to Sit – If the dog fails to sit at the handler's side a minor point deduction should be applied.

- Breaks Stay – If the dog stands up but otherwise does not make an attempt to jump on the judge then a minor point deduction may be applied.
- Verbal Correction (i.e. no reward markers) – Mild verbal correction in the context of what the dog has done is allowed but should be considered a major point deduction. If used excessively it is the judge’s discretion as to whether this constitutes excessive punishment.

Recall – 30 points

In this exercise the judge or steward holds the leash of the dog while the handler walks half of the ring length away from the dog. The handler then calls the dog on the judge’s instruction. The dog should come directly to the handler and sit in front close enough for the handler to take the dog’s leash without moving. The dog is not required to finish.

The handler may re-issue their command once without penalty once the dog has reached the halfway point.

Exercise Commands: “This is your recall exercise, are you ready?” “Leave your dog” “Call your dog” “Take your leash” “Exercise Finished”

Minor Point Deductions (-1 point)

- Sniffing/Detouring – If the dog is slow to respond, or sniffs the mats, but otherwise completes the exercise, then a minor point deduction may be applied to the score.
- No Sit in Front – If the dog does not sit in front of the handler or the handler cannot reach the leash (without moving their feet) from where the dog has stopped then a minor point deduction is applied to the score. The handler is allowed to cue the sit in front without deduction.
- Jumps on Handler – If the dog jumps on its handler upon return a minor deduction is applied.

Major Point Deductions (-2 to -5 points)

- Fails to Recall (-10) – If the dog makes no move to come when called or does not return to the handler then a major 10 point deduction is applied.
- Dog Avoids Leashing- Deducted if the dog attempts to avoid the handler reaching for the leash.
- Verbal Correction (i.e. no reward markers) – Mild verbal correction in the context of what the dog has done is allowed but should be considered a major point deduction. If used excessively it is the judge’s discretion as to whether this constitutes excessive punishment.

Attitude – 15 points

Dog training should be fun, and as a result, this component of the beginner scoring is designed to reward teams that work well together. This is given at the judge's discretion. 5 points should be awarded for the good working attitude of the dog. Inattentiveness or unwillingness to perform exercises should be treated as a minor point deduction. 10 points should be awarded for the happy upbeat demeanour of the handler, verbal corrections or poor sportsmanship should be faulted as a major point deduction.

On Leash Sit or Down Stay (Handler's Choice) - 30 seconds – 40 Points

This exercise is done in a group with no more than 8 dogs per group. Dogs are escorted into the ring in order of arm band number. The dogs begin the exercise in heel position. At the judge's instruction, the handlers sit or down their dogs. They will then be asked to leave their dogs as a group. The handlers will then step away and face their dogs approximately 3 feet away from the dog's head. At the end of the 30 second stay the handlers are asked to return to their dogs. *The handler does not need to return around the dog, and instead can just pivot back into place with the dog in heel position.* The judge will announce the end of the exercise. Handlers are allowed to reward and encourage the dog at their discretion.

Minor Point Deductions (-1 point)

- Excessive Shifting – Minor shifting or paw movement should not be faulted but if the dog is shifting or paw lifting the entire stay then a minor point deduction should be applied.
- Extra Commands – This is defined as excessively using the dog's name or other commands in order to maintain the dog's attention. A verbal cue and hand signal used at the same time is considered a single command. Handlers may re-cue behaviours if the dog has changed position without penalty. This should not be confused with providing encouragement to the dogs for a job well done. Handlers are encouraged to verbally praise the dog for a good job and may reward them with a maximum of 3 treats without penalty. Any additional treats given should be considered an extra command (i.e. If 5 treats are given in total, the judge should deduct 2 points for 2 extra commands).

Major Point Deductions (-2 to -5 points)

- Change of Position – The dog lies down from a sit or sits from a down but otherwise remains in the stay.
- Breaks Stay – If the dog goes to the handler or bothers another dog a major point deduction should be applied. A handler should not be faulted for extra commands and a dog should not be heavily faulted for changing position if they are interfered with by another dog.
- Verbal Correction (i.e. no reward markers) – Mild verbal correction in the context of what the dog has done is allowed but should be considered a major point deduction. If used excessively it is the judge's discretion as to whether this constitutes excessive punishment.

Non-Qualifying Behaviour – Automatic Disqualification

There are some behaviours that are contrary to the spirit of College Royal and as such the dog and handler will be asked to leave under the following conditions.

- Physical or Verbal Abuse of a Dog – This includes yelling, hitting, swatting, grabbing the dog's muzzle, and handler-initiated leash corrections.
- Dog Aggression – Aggression towards other dogs, the handler or the judge is grounds for disqualification. The judge may use their judgement to determine if behaviour is aggressive in nature. Snapping, lip lifting, biting, growling or lunging with the intent to harm are all considered aggressive behaviours. Jumping up on judge or handler or lunging at another dog with the intent to play is not considered aggressive. It is up to the judge whether the team is allowed to attempt the remaining exercises.
- Unsportsmanlike Behaviour – At the judge's discretion, any action by the handler that is deemed contrary to the spirit of the College Royal Dog Show may result in disqualification.
- Soiling the Ring – Urinating or defecating in the ring.
- Dog Out of Control/ Leaves the Ring – An out of control dog is one that excessively jumps on the handler or judge, lunges at the end of the leash, or is uncontrollably loose in the ring. Leaving the ring is defined as the dog making an attempt to leave the ring by either jumping over or rushing the gate.

Notes for Beginner Class:

- Dogs competing in this level will likely be lured/talked to for most of their heeling.
- This level is below CKC Pre-Novice, exercises are kept simple as the biggest hurdle for these dogs will be being in the ring
- Dogs at this level are not expected to be accurate, we just want them to show that the dog does respond appropriately to the signals given (do they know what "come" means, do they know what "Sit" means)

You should feel as though teams receiving outstanding scores in this class in theory would be ready to start teaching finishes and proper sit for exams the next day.