

2025 College Royal™ Dog Show Novice Class Scorecard

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

Exercise	Point Value	Minor Point Deduction (-1 Point)	Major Point Deduction (-2 to -5 points)	Comments	Score
Novice Tricks (2)	10	Extra Commands	Luring Fails to Perform Trick	<i>Best of the 2 is marked</i>	
Heel on Leash	40	Tight Leash Forging/Lagging No Sit at Halt Crooked Sit Extra Commands	Luring Breaks Heel No Change of Pace Verbal Correction		
Figure 8	30	Tight Leash Forging/Lagging No Sit at Halt Crooked Sit Extra Commands	Luring Breaks Heel Verbal Correction		
Position Changes + stay (sit, stand, down, stay, walk around)	20	Luring Extra Commands Slow to Respond Minor Physical Assistance	Fails to Respond to Handler's Cues Verbal Correction Wrong Position Breaks Stay Major Physical Contact (-10)		
Sit for Exam	20	Excessive Shifting Extra Commands	Breaks Stay Verbal Correction Cookie Exam (-10)		
Recall with Finish	30	Breaks Wait No Sit in Front Crooked Sit Jumps on Handler Extra Commands	Fails to Recall (-10) Sniff/Lag/Detour Fails to Finish. Verbal Correction		
Attitude	10	Dog Inattentiveness Dog Lack of Willingness to Perform Exercises	Handler Verbal Corrections Poor Sportsmanship		
Subtotal	160				
On Leash Sit Stay (30 sec)	20	Excessive Shifting Sniffing Barking/Whining Extra Commands	Change of Position Breaks Stay Verbal Correction		
On Leash Down Stay (1 min)	20	Excessive Shifting Sniffing Barking/Whining Extra Commands	Change of Position Breaks Stay Verbal Correction		
Total	200				
Non Qualifying Behaviour		Physical/Verbal Abuse Handler Leash Correction Dog Aggression Unsportsmanlike Behaviour Soiling the Ring Dog Out of Control/ Leaves Ring			

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

Summary of Exercises:

1. Individual Exercises

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| i) Novice Tricks | (10 points) |
| ii) Heel on Leash | (40 points) |
| iii) Figure 8 (On Leash and 12 feet) | (30 points) |
| iv) Position Changes + stay | (20 points) |
| v) Sit for Exam | (20 points) |
| vi) Recall with Finish | (30 points) |
| vii) Attitude | (10 points) |

2. Group Exercises

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| i) On Leash Sit Stay – 30 Seconds | (20 points) |
| ii) On Leash Down Stay – 1 Minute | (20 points) |

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:

Novice Tricks – 10 points

This exercise is designed to highlight the dog's natural abilities and the fun aspects of dog training. Any tricks are acceptable at the novice level but are expected to be performed to a higher standard than beginner tricks. 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 should show a happy working attitude. This exercise should consist of the following challenges: 2 halts (the dog must sit, handler can tell them to sit), 2 changes of pace (from normal to fast and back to normal and from normal to slow and back to normal). In addition, the exercise must contain the following changes of directions: left turn, right turn and right about turn (dog on the outside). Wide turns are allowed as long as they do not cause a tight leash fault. Handlers are allowed to reward their dogs during the exercise as long as it doesn’t interfere with the flow of the exercise. Handlers are also permitted to give verbal commands to sit without penalty.

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)

- 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 2 feet ahead or behind the handler.
- No Sit at Halt – Dogs are expected to sit at the halt. Handlers are permitted to cue the sit without deduction. If the dog fails to sit a minor point deduction should be applied.
- Crooked Sit – This is defined as the dog sitting more than 45 degrees out of position.
- 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. Handler 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)

- 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. A constant lure is defined as luring for 10 seconds or more and can result in a maximum of 2 deductions per course run from this category.
- 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.

On Leash Figure 8 (12 Feet)– 30 points

The goal of this exercise is to highlight the dog and handler ability to work as a team. The pylons will be placed 12 feet apart, and the team will start at the midway point, on the opposite side of the judge. Upon the start of the exercise, the team can start either direction. On the judge's order, the handler, with the dog on a loose leash, shall go twice completely around the Figure 8 with *one* halt at the end of the exercise. The handler may give the dog a verbal command to sit. Handlers are permitted to give a maximum of two (2) extra commands to heel without penalty.

Exercise Commands: "This is your figure 8 exercise, you may go either direction, are you ready?" "Halt" "Exercise Finished"

Minor Point Deductions (-1 point)

- 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 2 feet ahead or behind the handler.

- No Sit at Halt – Dogs are expected to sit at the halt. Handlers are permitted to cue the sit without deduction. If the dog fails to sit a minor point deduction should be applied.
- Crooked Sit – This is defined as the dog sitting more than 45 degrees out of position.
- 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 lunged at the distraction, lagged or forged without penalty. Handler 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)

- 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.
- 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.
- Lunges at Distraction– A major point deduction should be incurred when the dog lunges at the distraction but then comes back under handler control. A dog that touches/eats a distraction should be deducted more heavily than one that does not.
- 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 - 20 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 the basic positions 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. Luring for any position change is allowed with minor deduction. This will be done with the handler at the end of the leash.

Sequence Pattern: sit, stand, pivot in front of dog, down, stay, walk around.

The dog must begin in stand position and finish in down position

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.
- 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 -10 points)

- Fails to Respond to Handler's Cues – If the dog refuses to perform the change at all a major deduction should be applied.
- 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)
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

Sit for Exam – 20 points

This exercise is designed to test the dog's ability to be approached and examined by a stranger. The exercise should begin with the dog sitting on the handler's left side (heel position). The handler is asked to leave their dog. The handler cues the dog to stay and walks out to the end of a 6 foot leash. The judge then approaches the dog and touches the dog on their head. Once the judge is finished they will ask

the handler to return to their dog. The handler should return around the back of the dog and move into heel position.

Exercise Commands: “Are you ready?”, “Sit your dog for examination and leave when ready,” “Back to your dog” and “Exercise finished.”

Minor Point Deductions (-1 to -2 points)

- Excessive Shifting – This is defined as the dog excessively lifting its paws, turning to look at the judge or shifting its weight during the examination.
- Extra Commands – This is defined as excessively using the dog’s name or other commands in order to maintain the dog’s attention or prevent it from breaking the stay. 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)

- Breaks Stay – If the dog stands up and moves toward or away from the judge or handler a major point deduction applies. The number of points deducted will be dependent on the dog’s behaviour, if the dog jumps on the judge or shies away, they should receive a greater deduction than if they simply move due to excitement.
- 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.
- Cookie Exam (-10) – In some cases dogs who are nervous of strangers can elect to have the judge not touch the dog but to give the dog a cookie exam instead. The dog must remain sitting and complete the exercise otherwise normally. In order to qualify for a cookie exam the dog and handler must be nominated by their trainer and they must indicate their desire for a cookie prior to the beginning of the class. A notation will appear on the judging sheet indicating to the judge which dogs will be having a cookie exam.

Recall with Finish – 30 points

This is an off leash exercise. This exercise begins with the dog sitting in heel position. The handler will unclip the dog’s leash and hand it to the judge or steward. The handler will leave the dog in a stay or wait on the judge’s cue. They will walk a ring length away, turn and face the dog. Handlers are expected to walk away from the dog and a deduction should be applied for backing away. They will wait for the judge’s cue to call their dog. The dog should come straight to the handler and sit in front. The handler will then be asked to cue the dog to finish into heel position using

either a swing or around finish. *Handlers are permitted to reissue a command without penalty once the dog is at/passed the halfway point, not before.*

Exercise Commands: “Are you ready?”, “Leave your dog,” “Call your dog,” “Put your leash on” and “Exercise finished.”

Minor Point Deductions (-1 point)

- Breaks Wait – This is defined as the dog attempting to follow the handler after the handler asks the dog to wait or stay.
- No Sit in Front – If the dog does not sit in front of the handler or sits out of the handler’s reach (without moving their feet) then a minor point deduction is applied to the score.
- Crooked Sit – This is defined as the dog sitting more than 45 degrees out of position.
- Jumps on Handler – If the dog jumps on its handler upon return a minor deduction is applied.
- Extra Commands – This is defined as excessively using the dog’s name or other commands in order to maintain the dog’s attention or prevent it from breaking the stay. 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 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.
- Sniffing/Lagging/Detouring – If the dog is slow to respond, or sniffs the mats, or goes on a journey around the ring, but otherwise completes the exercise, then a minor point deduction may be applied to the score.
- Fails to Finish – If the dog does not return to heel position using either an around or swing finish.
- 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 - 10 points

Dog training should be fun, and as a result, this component of the novice exercises is designed to reward teams that work well together. This is given at the judge’s discretion. 5 points should be awarded for good working attitude from the dog. Inattentiveness or unwillingness to perform exercises should be treated as a minor point deduction. 5 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 Stay- 30 Seconds – 30 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 cue their dogs to sit. They will then be asked to leave their dogs as a group. The handlers will walk to the end of their leash (6 feet) and turn to face their dog. At the end of the 30 second stay the handlers are asked to return to their dogs. The handler should return around behind the dog and move into heel position. The judge will announce the end of the exercise. During the exercise, handlers are allowed to reward and encourage the dog at their discretion.

Exercise Commands: "Are you ready?", "Sit your dogs", "Leave your dogs," "Back to your dogs," "Exercise finished. Maintain control of your dogs."

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.
- Sniffing – The dog sniffs the ground but does not change position.
- Barking/Whining – If the dog barks or whines throughout the stay, due to impatience, a minor point deduction may 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 shifted or sniffed 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 treats at their discretion.

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.

On Leash Down Stay- 1 Minute – 30 Points

This exercise is done in a group with no more than 8 dogs per group. Dogs will already be in the ring from the previous exercise. The dogs begin the exercise in heel position. At the judge's instruction, the handlers down their dogs. They will then be asked to leave their dogs as a group. The handlers will walk to the end of their leash (6 feet) and turn to face their dog. At the end of the 1 minute stay the handlers are asked to return to their dogs. The handler should return around behind the dog and end up in heel position. The judge will announce the end of the exercise. During the exercise, handlers are allowed to reward and encourage the dog at their discretion.

Exercise Commands: "Are you ready?", "Down your dogs," "Leave your dogs," "Back to your dogs," "Exercise finished. Maintain control of your dogs."

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.
- Sniffing – The dog sniffs the ground but does not change position.
- Barking/Whining – If the dog barks or whines throughout the stay, due to impatience, a minor point deduction may 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 shifted or sniffed 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 treats at their discretion.

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 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.

Novice Level Notes:

- Teams at this level *ideally* shouldn’t need to lure their dogs through the exercises but will likely need frequent verbal encouragement
- This level should be taken as a near equivalent to CKC Pre-Novice
- Overall the dogs should perform more accurately than the Beginner Class(es)

You should feel as though teams receiving outstanding scores in this class in theory would be ready to start teaching off leash heeling and stand for exams the next day