



Companion Dog Sports Program

Rules and Regulations

Video Titles Supplement

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Document History

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| 1.0 | New document effective 10/1/2017 |
| 1.1 | New section: Versatility and Utility B Title Requirements 12/23/2017 |
| 1.2 | Additional Utility B video requirement 12/26/2017 |

General Rules and Regulations

Purpose of Video-Based Obedience Tests

Because regular Companion Dog Sports Program (CDSP) trials are not available everywhere, and the burden of bringing in qualified judges is out of the reach of most small groups, CDSP is offering the option of working toward an obedience title by submitting videos of a performance.

Because the support, encouragement, and companionship—and, yes, pressure—at trials cannot be duplicated, exhibitors are encouraged to attend trials if they are able to do so.

It is obvious that the experience of competing by video will not be the same as attending a trial in person, and for that reason titles that are earned through video submission will be distinguished with a small “v” at the end, for example, “CD-Cv” for a video-based CDSP Novice title.

All videos will be evaluated by approved CDSP judges. At least two different judges will be used to evaluate the three qualifying runs required for a title.

Registration Numbers Do Not Transfer

Your dog’s CDSP Video registration number does not transfer to the parent CDSP venue, and neither does a CDSP number transfer to CDSP Video.

If, for some reason, you have earned a CDSP title at live trials but are no longer able to attend CDSP trials, you may resume your title progression via CDSP Video. For example, if your dog has already earned a CDSP title, you may submit a copy of your highest earned CDSP title certificate, register your dog with CDSP Video for \$10, and apply for evaluation of your runs at the next level up the progression.

Validating Titles

If, after earning a video-based title, an exhibitor wishes to enter a live trial, the team will be required to register with the parent CDSP organization. Then the team should enter the trial and complete a qualifying run in person at the most recent level of video title earned before advancing to a higher class. Thus, if you have earned a video-based Novice title and you wish to enter Open or Versatility, you should enter Novice B and qualify in one trial before advancing to Open or Versatility. If you earn an Open title via video, you should demonstrate proficiency in an Open B class before moving up to Utility A.

Title Progression

A video applicant must progress through the normal order of classes. Refer to the main CDSP rules for eligibility requirements for Starter Novice and for the A and B sections of other classes. We do not check on your qualifications or lack of them; we trust you to be honest.

- Starter Novice is an *optional* title. You may not enter Starter Novice if you have a qualifying score in Novice or its equivalent in any venue.
- Novice is the first regular title, and may be followed by Open, and then Utility.
- Versatility is an *optional* title available to teams that have earned a Novice title.

Versatility and Utility B Title Requirements

Requirements for completing the Versatility and Utility B video titles are slightly different from those required at live trials. The three orders of tests for these two classes contain *different* exercises, not just the same exercises in a different order.

- To earn the Versatility title, the exhibitor must use two of the three available orders; for example, Order 1, Order 2, and Order 1. Exhibitors may also elect to do each of the three orders.

Utility B is *not* a titling class and can only be entered after earning the title in Utility A. The three Utility B test orders contain exercises from Novice, Open, and Utility A. Each order contains different exercises.

- Six qualifying scores of 170 from Utility B are required for the UDX-Cv title. The exhibitor must use each test order at least once to complete the title. The title can be earned with the pass/fail option, using a single camera.
- Utility B is also the class in which OTCH-Cv points are earned. Points and UDX-Cv legs may be earned simultaneously. (See the parent CDSP rules for an explanation of how points are calculated.)
- Because the OTCH-Cv title is based on points, it must be scored, meaning that two camera views are required.

Utility B is also the only class with a bonus exercise. Successful completion of the bonus can earn additional points that can be applied only toward the OTCH-Cv total. Bonus points don't apply to placements or high-in-trial or high-combined awards. Failing the bonus has no effect on the test score—it can only add points. The bonus exercise should be performed in a scored test with two cameras.

The optional Baseball Bonus is performed at the end of a Utility B test; the handler and dog stay in the ring and the cameras must continue filming during set-up.

Utility C, in which a championship may be earned, contains the same exercises as the Utility A class, in three different orders. A qualifying score in the C class is 185 points; the pass/fail requirements are elevated as well.

Eligibility to Earn a CDSP Title Through Video Tests

Below are the normal eligibility CDSP requirements, with exceptions underlined.

- Any dog over the age of six months may be entered. Females in estrus may be shown, assuming they do not pose a distraction to other dogs while being videoed. If more than one team is being filmed, run the female dog last. Clothing is not permitted.
- Dogs may be handled by any member of the owner's immediate family including: spouse, life partner, sibling, child, parent, brother/sister-in-law, and mother/father-in-law.
- Dogs must have a CDSP Video registration number in order to compete. (These are available from the Video Coordinator and may be obtained by postal mail or electronically.)
- Dogs with disabilities are allowed to compete, provided they are not in pain.
- Dogs with bandages, stitches, or open sores/wounds are not allowed to compete.
- All dogs must start in the Starter Novice or Novice class, regardless of any competition obedience titles they have earned in other registries.
- Having earned a rally title in any venue does not in any way affect which obedience class you should enter.

Rules for Video Titles

All rules and test orders that are contained in the Companion Dog Sports Program will also apply to video titles.

The requirements for ring size and equipment are the same as for a regular trial. They are summarized below.

Ring Size

Rings should be approximately 40 feet x 50 feet. The Starter Novice/Novice/Open ring should not be less than 30 feet x 40 feet and the Utility/Versatility ring should not be less than 35 feet x 50 feet. Indoor rings must have firm footing, using rubber or other non-slip material. Outdoor rings must have the grass mown short and be free from holes and debris.

Equipment

Indoor rings must be enclosed with ring gates. Outdoor rings may be enclosed by ring gates or snow fencing. Roping is not acceptable. Snow fencing should have a minimum height of 20 inches, and shall be taut.

Stewards & Stand-in Judge

You will need the same number of stewards as you would in a live test—for example, for figure-8 posts and walking steward. You will also need someone to perform as the judge, who will call a heeling pattern and begin and end exercises as in a trial. The stand-in judge may carry a clipboard with a script and notes about a heeling pattern, if desired.

Ring Performance

The exhibitor should give any verbal commands loud enough to be picked up by the camera. For that reason, try to minimize background noise, do not play music, and instruct your camera handlers to not talk.

Video Requirements

Be aware that submitting a video performance is much like taking an open book test. Review your performance and do not submit any videos that you aren't sure will pass the review process.

- Make sure the area is well lit and movements can be seen in all parts of the ring being used.
- Performances taped with a single, stationary camera will be judged as Pass/Fail, with no score awarded. Legs and titles shall be awarded on passing runs.
- The performance shall be scored if there are two cameras operating simultaneously and with views at right angles to each other. Precision is important in obedience and two views will help the judge more completely assess the performance.
- Film in "landscape" mode, so the video is wider than it is tall. (No exceptions will be permitted.) YouTube has excellent tutorials on video formats; we recommend mp4 file type.
- Review the video to make sure exercises being judged are in focus and the team is always in view and occupy as much of the screen as possible without clipping out the dog.
- We strongly recommend using a tripod for the camera.
- A stationary camera is fine. If you have an operator for each camera, he or she may pan from side to side, focusing as much as possible on the dog's performance.
- Submit a complete video for each test from beginning to end, in one long take, whether from a single camera or two cameras. Be sure the dog and handler are visible the whole time.

- MAKE NO EDITS. No. None. Title cards are not needed either, but may be included provided they do not obscure any part of the test, including the team's ring entrance and exit.
- For purposes of video evaluation, a run or test is one complete set of exercises, including entering and exiting the ring, since it's part of the performance.
- Runs do NOT need to be filmed consecutively. You may end filming between tests. You may omit any runs you do not think will pass.
- You may submit one test at a time, or two, or three tests for a title.
- There is a small price difference for submitting multiple runs, with a slight advantage to submitting more runs at one time. (Refer to the application form.)
- Upload your videos to YouTube, Vimeo, Google Drive, or Facebook and send links with your application for video review.

Submitting Your Test

After you have completed recording and uploading, submit contact the Video Coordinator to apply for an evaluation. You will complete a form and indicate your preferred method of payment. PayPal will be available, but a check payment by mail is acceptable.

Resources

If you have questions or require further assistance, please feel free to contact:

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<https://www.facebook.com/cdspvideo/>