

# Novice A/B/C



## Suggested Ring Layout and Heeling Pattern

Ring shown is 50 ft × 40 ft (15.24 m × 12.19 m).

Novice rings should not be less than 30 ft × 40 ft (9.14 m × 12.19 m). [CDSP Rules, Chapter 1: Ring Size]

**Eligibility:** A Starter Novice title is not required to enter Novice.

- The Novice A class shall be for dogs who have not earned any other obedience title in any registry.
- The Novice B class shall be for dogs who have earned an obedience title in any registry.
- The Novice C class shall be for dogs who have earned a CDSP Novice title (CD-C, CD-H, CD-Cv) in either the A or B class.

Rally titles do not count. Full information for A/B/C class eligibility is in the rules, Chapter 4: Novice Class.

**Heeling patterns:** The judge may call a different heeling pattern than the one shown, so long as it follows these guidelines from the rules [Chapter 4: Novice Class; On-Leash Heeling Pattern]:

When the team is ready to begin, the judge will instruct the handler “Forward” and the team must heel forward at a brisk pace. During the heeling pattern, the judge will call at least one halt during the pattern and again at the completion. The judge will also instruct the following turns: *Right Turn*, *Left Turn* and *About Turn*. The judge will call a *Slow Pace*, followed by *Normal Pace* and a *Fast Pace* followed by *Normal Pace*. These instructions may be given in any order but the order must be consistent for all teams.

A steward will provide the distraction during the first leg of the heeling pattern, before the judge has instructed the handler to turn in either direction. The steward will be waiting at the opposite end of the ring and when the team heels forward on the judge’s instructions, the steward will walk parallel to and approximately eight (8) feet [2.4 m] away from the team, but towards the team. The steward will pass the dog approximately eight (8) feet to the side of the dog.

### Novice ring and equipment requirements:

One bar jump. When judge decides which direction the dog will go, set the jump so if the dog hits the jump, only the bar will fall (and not the whole jump). Do not use a high jump or broad jump.

The handler may have any length of leash, so long as there is slack during the heeling exercise.

**Pandemic modification:** For the Off-leash Figure-8 exercise, use two chairs facing each other 8 feet apart instead of human stewards. Drape a shirt or jacket on the back of each chair. They may be placed in the ring before the test at a place where they will not interfere with other exercises.

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### Filming:

Cameras must capture both ring entry and exit, and not stop or pause in between. [See Rules.]

The camera operator may stand outside the ring at the end or the side. The camera may be moved between exercises, so long as it is not turned off, the team is in view, and the entire test is captured in one take.

If using two cameras so the run may be scored, place one in the middle of the side and one in the middle of the end. A second option is to place, one camera near one corner and the other at the next corner on the same side. The goal is to have cameras filming at approximate right angles to each other, not facing each other.

The two cameras do not need to be synchronized, so long as the entire test is filmed in one take, including ring entry and ring exit.

Judges and handlers should speak instructions or commands clearly in order to be heard on camera. The camera operator and observers, of course, should remain silent.



## Suggested Judge's Scripts

Judge may remind camera operator to start filming before ring entry and not stop or pause until after team exits the ring, keeping team in view all of the time.

### Judge invites the exhibitor into the ring.

**NOTE:** Judge should ensure that the team is set up so the walking steward passes on the **dog's side**, at a distance of about 8 feet.

#### 1. On-Leash Heeling

- This is the on-leash heeling exercise. Do you have any questions?
- Are you ready?
- Forward.
- Halt.
- Left turn.
- Slow.
- Normal.
- About turn.
- Right turn.
- Fast.
- Normal.
- Halt. (Alternatively, "About turn; halt.")
- Exercise finished.

#### 2. Off-Leash Figure 8 Heeling Pattern

- (If handler doesn't remove the leash before instructed, prompt "Please hand your leash to the steward on your right.")\*
- This is the off-leash figure-8 exercise. Are you ready?
- Forward.
- Halt.
- Forward.
- Halt.
- Exercise finished.

#### 3. Moving Stand for Exam

- This is the moving stand. Are you ready?
- Forward.
- Stand your dog.
- Leave your dog.
- Return to your dog.
- Exercise finished.

#### 4. Recall Over the Bar Jump

- This is the recall over the bar jump exercise. Are you ready?
- Leave your dog.
- Call your dog.
- Finish.
- Exercise finished.

#### 5. Sit/Down Stay

- This is the sit or down stay exercise. Will you be doing a sit or a down?
- Are you ready?
- Sit your dog. [OR] Down your dog.
- Leave your dog.
- Return to your dog.
- Exercise finished.

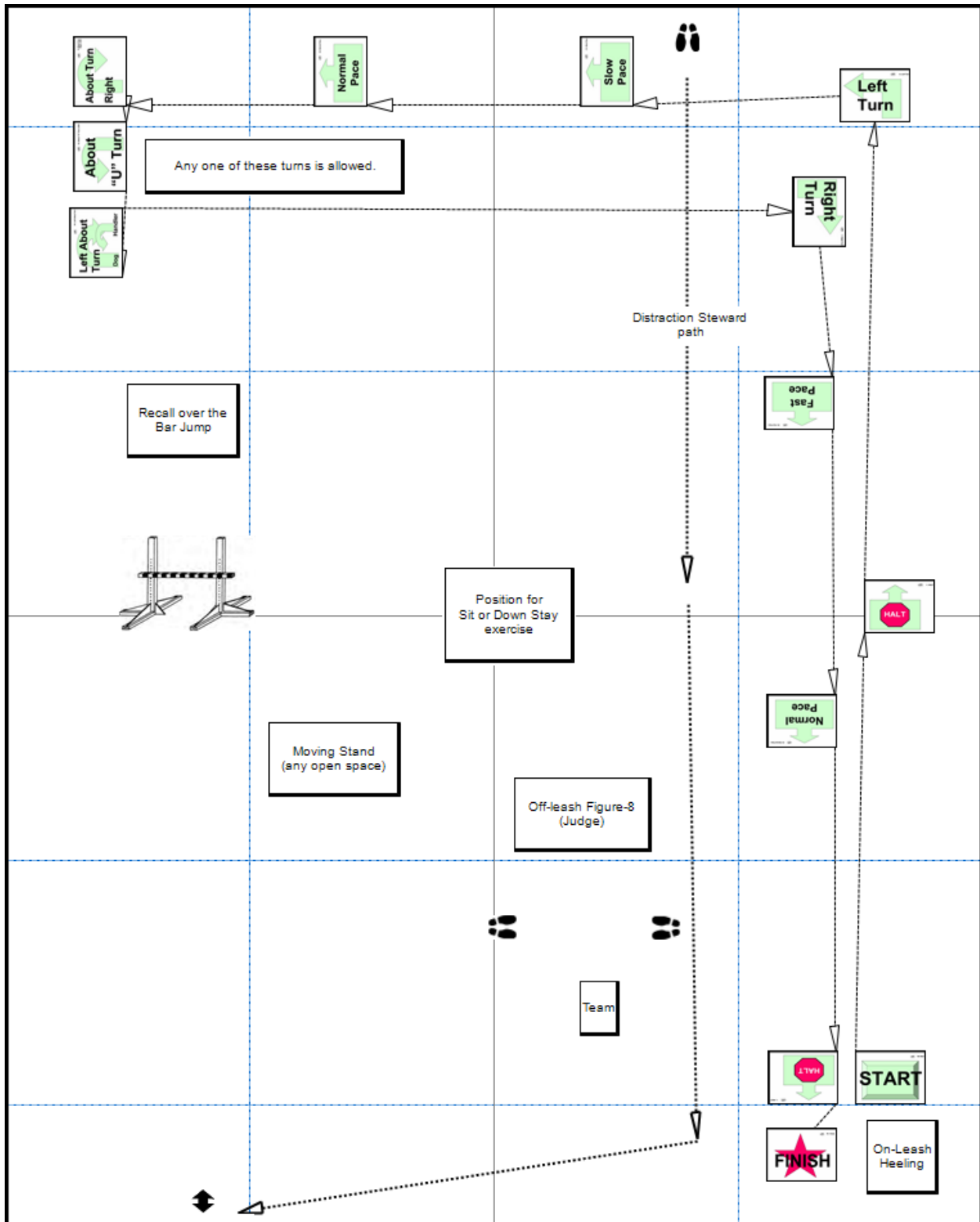
**Judge may say "thank you" as exhibitor leaves ring.**

\*The figure-8 uses two human stewards, not cones, who stand 8 feet apart with hands crossed in front of the chest. The steward holding the leash should fold it tightly and conceal it in his or her arms.

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Novice (Signs are for instruction only. No signs are used in CDSP.)



Team enters and leaves ring on leash. This must be part of video.