

## **Pre Utility**

AKC's Graduate Open is the basis for these exercises. However, they have been modified for the Wisconsin 4-H program. If you choose to compete in AKC, please be aware that there are differences in the requirements of some of the exercises between the two programs.

<b><u>Pre-Utility</u></b>	<b><u>Maximum Score</u></b>
1. Signal Exercise	40 points
2. Retrieve over High Jump	40 points
3. Directed Retrieve	40 points
4. Directed Jump	50 points
5. Moving Stand	30 points

## **Signal Exercise**

The exercise and scoring will be the same as in the Utility Signal Exercise, except that leaving the dog will be from 10 to 20 feet and the handler may give the command and/or signal on the judge's signals to Stay, Sit, Come and Finish.

The orders are the same as in the novice Heel on leash, except for the judge's order to "stand your dog." This order will only be given when the dog and handler are walking at a normal pace and will be followed by the order to "leave your dog." the judge must use signals for directing the handler to command and/or signal the dog to down, sit, come (in that sequence) and to finish.

Heeling will be done as in the Heel Free, except that handlers may use signals only and must not speak to their dogs at any time during this portion of the exercise. While the dog is heeling at one end of the ring, the judge will order the handler to "stand your dog." on further order to "leave your dog," the handler will signal the dog to stay, go at least ten (10) feet from the dog, then turn and face the dog. On the judge's signal, the handler will give a command and/or signal to down, sit, come and finish as in the novice recall.

## **Retrieve over High Jump**

The principal features of this exercise are that the dog go out over the jump, pick up the dumbbell and promptly return with it over the jump. The orders are: "throw it," "send your dog," "take it," and "Finish."

The handler will stand with the dog sitting in heel position at least 8 feet (or any reasonable distance beyond 8 feet) from the jump and will remain in the same spot throughout the exercise. On the judge's order the handler will throw the dumbbell at least 8 feet beyond the jump.

Jump heights shall be set in multiples of 2 inches with no dog jumping less than 4 inches or more than 36 inches. A jump height is determined by the height of the dog at the withers. The actual height of the dog shall be rounded to the nearest multiple of 2 inches to determine the minimum jump height, with the exception of dogs eligible for the 4-inch jump height. Dogs eligible for the 4-inch jump height must be less than 7 1/2 inches at the withers. Handlers who choose to have their dogs jump more than the minimum required height will neither be penalized nor receive extra consideration. The minimum jump height for breeds listed in Appendix A shall be set to three-quarters the dog's actual height at the withers. This jump height shall also be rounded to a multiple of 2 inches. The minimum jump heights for approved breeds will be set in accordance with the table listed in Appendix

B. Handlers of these breeds may choose to have the dog jump higher than listed in the table. The stewards, based on the jump height listed, will pre-set the jumps. The judge will make certain the jump is at least the minimum required height for each dog and must also be aware that the jump may be set at a higher height if requested by the handler. Judges may, at their discretion, verify the height of any dog at the withers. The high jump will be 5 feet wide and built to be set at a height of 4 inches and adjustable at 2-inch increments from 8 inches to 36 inches. The uprights of the high jump will be 4 feet high. In addition, four 8-inch boards, one 4-inch board and one 2-inch board should be available for use. The jump will be a flat white. The height of each board will be indicated in black 2-inch numbers

### **Directed Retrieve**

The exercise and scoring will be performed the same as the Utility Directed Retrieve Exercise. There will be only two gloves used. Glove 1 & Glove 3 will be used and no center glove will be used.

### **Directed Jump**

**Go Out** – This will be performed in a similar fashion as the Utility class except the Go-Out and the Directed Jumping will be two separate parts to the exercise. The Go-Out will be performed first as follows: The dog must go away from the handler to the opposite end of the ring and stop as directed. The orders are: “Send your dog” and “Return to your dog”.

Unlike Utility, the handler will stand at a point determined by handler which can be from the approximate center of the ring between the jumps to any distance up to the normal utility distance of the exercise (20 ft from the center of the ring between the jumps) facing the unobstructed end of the ring and stop as directed. The judge will order “Send you dog,” and the handler will command and/or signal the dog to go forward at a brisk trot or gallop to a point about 20 feet past the jumps in the approximate center of the ring. When the dog reaches this point, the handler will give the command to sit. The dog must stop and sit with it’s attention on the handler, but does not need to sit squarely. The judge will then order the handler, “return to your dog,” and the handler will return to the heel position.

**Directed Jumping** – The second part of this exercise is the directed jumping and will be as follows: The handler will stand with the dog sitting in the heel position at the end and in the center of the ring. The judge will order “Leave your dog,” and the handler will walk to the far end of the ring and turn and face the dog. The judge will order “High” for the jump, and the handler will command and/or signal the dog to return to the handler over the designated jump. While the dog is in mid air, the handler may turn to face the dog as it returns. The dog will sit in front of the handler, and on order from the judge, finish as in the Novice recall. The dog will be sent only over the high jump.

### **Moving Stand and Examination**

The principal features of the exercise are that the dog heel, stand and stay as the handler moves away; accept the examination without shyness or resentment; and return to the handler on command. The orders are: “Forward,” “stand your dog,” and “call your dog to heel.”

The handler will stand with the dog sitting in heel position in a place designated by the judge. The judge will ask,

“Are you ready?” before giving the first order. On the judge’s order the handler may command or signal the dog to heel. After the handler has proceeded about 10 feet, the judge will order “stand your dog.” Without pausing, the handler will command and/or signal the dog to stand and continue forward about 10 to 12 feet. The handler will then turn either to the right or left to face the dog, which must stand and stay in position. The judge will approach the dog from the front to examine it. The exam will consist of the judge gently using both hands in a single smooth motion beginning at the sides of the dog’s neck, proceeding along the body and ending at the dog’s croup. The exam will not include the head, teeth, legs, testicles, or tail. On the judge’s order, the handler will command and/or signal the dog to return to the heel position. The dog should return to heel position in a brisk manner.