

## **Beginner's Pre Novice**

AKC's Beginner Novice 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>Beginner's Pre Novice</u></b>	<b><u>Maximum Score</u></b>
1. Heel on Leash	40 points
2. Figure Eight (on leash)	40 points
3. Sit for Exam (on leash)	40 points
4. Recall (on leash-No finish)	40 points
5. Sit Stay (on leash)	40 points

### **Heel on Leash**

The purpose of this exercise is to demonstrate the ability of the handler and dog to work as a team. Orders for this exercise are *"Forward," "Halt," "Right Turn," "Left Turn," "About Turn," "Slow," "Normal,"* and *"Fast."* All *"About Turns"* will be right about turns. Orders for halts and turns will be given only when the handler is moving at normal speed. The other orders may be given in any sequence, and turns and halts may be repeated.

**The leash must be a 6 foot leash** and may be held in either hand or in both hands, but the hands must be held in a natural position. Any tightening or jerking of the leash and use of any extra commands and/or signals will be penalized.

The handler will enter the ring with the dog on a loose leash and stand with the dog sitting in the heel position. The judge will say to the handler, *"Are you ready?"* The handler should answer either *"Yes," "No,"* or *"Ready."* When the handler is ready the judge will give the order, ***"Forward."*** The handler and dog walk briskly, and in a natural manner, with the dog on a loose leash. The dog should walk close to the handler's left side without swinging wide, lagging, forging, or crowding. The area from the dog's head to shoulder should be in line with the handler's left hip. The dog must not interfere with the handler's freedom of motion at any time. The handler may give a command **OR** signal to heel, **NOT** both.

### **Remaining Orders given by the Judge:**

***Halt:*** When the judge says, *"Halt,"* the handler stops. The dog should sit straight and promptly in the heel position. The handler should not give a command **OR** signal to the dog. The dog should not move until the handler again moves forward on the judge's command. After each halt, the handler is permitted to give a command **OR** signal to heel before again moving forward.

***Right Turn:*** When the judge says, *"Right Turn,"* the handler and dog make a ninety-degree (90°) turn to the right. This turn should be made squarely.

***Left Turn:*** When the judge says, *"Left Turn,"* the handler and dog make a ninety-degree (90°) turn to the left. This turn should be made squarely.

***About Turn:*** When the judge says, *"About Turn,"* the handler and dog make a one-hundred-eighty degree (180°) turn to the right.

**Slow:** When the judge says, “*Slow*,” the handler and dog walk at a noticeably slower pace than normal.

**Normal:** The handler and dog begin the heeling pattern at a normal pace. After the judge gives the order to walk “*Slow*” or “*Fast*,” he/she will give the order, “*Normal*.” The handler and dog then return to a normal pace.

**Fast:** When the judge says, “*Fast*,” the handler and dog must run, moving forward at a noticeably accelerated pace.

At the completion of the Heel exercise, the judge will say, “***Exercise Finished.***” At this time it is appropriate for the handler to praise his/her dog.

### **Figure Eight**

For this exercise, the handler will stand and the dog will sit in heel position facing the judge, midway between the two stewards who will be standing eight (8) feet apart. The judge will ask, “*Are you ready?*” The handler will say, “*Yes*,” “*No*,” or “*Ready*.” After the handler and dog are ready, the judge will give the order, “*Forward*.” The handler may choose to go in either direction. The handler and dog will walk briskly around and between the two stewards twice. The judge will order at least one halt during this exercise and another halt at the end. There will be no about turn, fast, or slow during this exercise. At the completion of the Figure Eight exercise, the judge will say, “*Exercise Finished.*” At this time it is appropriate for the handler to praise his/her dog.

### **Sit For Exam**

The principal feature of this exercise is that the dog sits in position before and during the examination without displaying resentment. Orders are: “Sit your dog and leave when you are ready,” “Back to your dog” and “Exercise finished.” This exercise is to be performed with the dog on a 6-foot leash.

On the judge’s order, the handler will command the dog to sit. The handler will then stand with the dog sitting in the heel position, give the command **OR** signal to stay, walk straight forward about 6 feet to the end of the leash and then turn and face the dog. The judge will approach the dog from the front. Using the fingers and palm of one hand, **the judge will touch only the dog’s head.**

On the order “Back to your dog,” the handler will walk around behind the dog and return to the heel position. The handler may gather the leash at any time while returning to the dog. The dog must remain sitting until the judge has said, “Exercise finished.”

### **Recall on Leash** (with no finish)

The principal features of this exercise are that the dog stay where left until called by the handler, and that the dog responds promptly. Orders are: “Leave your dog,” “Call your dog,” and “Exercise finished.”

On order from the judge, the handler may give a command **OR** signal to the dog to stay in the sit position. The handler will then walk forward, to the end of the 6-foot leash, and turn to face the dog.

On the judge’s order or signal, the handler will command **OR** signal the dog to come. The dog must come directly, and sit in front of the handler. The dog must be close enough to its handler so that the handler could touch its head without excessive bending, stretching, or moving either foot.

### **Sit Stay on Leash – 45 seconds**

The principal feature of this exercise is that the dog remains in the sit position for 45 seconds. This is not a group exercise and is done in the ring individually.

Orders for this exercise are: "Sit your dog," "Leave your dog," "Return to your dog," and "Exercise finished."

The handler will stand with the dog sitting in heel position. Prior to starting the exercise, the judge will ask if the handler is ready. When the judge gives the order "Sit your dog," the handler will command **OR** signal the dog to sit, if they are not already sitting. The judge will order "Leave your dog," and the handler will give a command **OR** signal to stay and immediately proceed to the end of the leash and turn to face the dog. The dog will remain seated for 45 seconds.

At the judge's command of "Return to your dog," the handler will approach the dog from the front, and proceed to walk around and in back of the dog to the heel position. Once the handler has returned to heel position, the judge will give the order "Exercise finished." The judge should not deduct points if the leash either touches or does not touch the ground.