**Novice Tricks**

## N.1 Search and Identify – 3 objects / 2 metres

##### Current Rule:

##### Set up

The handler will provide three (3) flower pots or similar sized containers and an article (which may be a treat or toy) to be placed under one of the pots.

If using a food treat, it must be in a sealed food container with holes in the lid; food must not be placed directly on the ground. If using a toy, the toy must be able to fit under the pot.

The steward will place the pots approximately 2.5 metres apart. The handler and dog will be at least two (2) metres from the closest container.

The handler and dog will face away from the containers while the steward places the article under the selected container. The handler and the dog will turn and face the pots once the article is in place.

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to find the designated container and article.

##### Action

On cue the dog will go to the containers and will clearly indicate the correct container, by touching or turning the container over or dropping in front of or adjacent to the container.

Once the article is found, the handler and dog may return to the reward station where the dog may eat the treat or play with the article.

The only container which may be disturbed is the one which is hiding the food/toy. If the dog indicates an incorrect container, a non-qualifying score will be awarded.

Proposed Amendment:

##### Set up

The handler will provide three (3) flowerpots or similar sized containers and an article (which may be a treat or toy) to be placed under one of the pots.

If using a food treat, it must be in a sealed food container with holes in the lid; food must not be placed directly on the ground. If using a toy, the toy must be able to fit under the pot.

The steward will place the pots approximately 2.5 metres apart. The handler and dog will be at least two (2) metres from the closest container.

The handler and dog will face away from the containers while the steward places the article under the selected container. The handler and the dog will turn and face the pots once the article is in place.

Prior to the commencement of the trick, the handler will indicate to the judge as to how the dog will identify the container.

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to find the designated container and article.

##### Action

On cue the dog will go to the containers and will clearly indicate the correct container, by the previously indicated method.

Once the article is found, the handler and dog may return to the reward station where the dog may eat the treat or play with the article.

The only container which may be disturbed is the one which is hiding the food/toy. If the dog indicates an incorrect container, a non-qualifying score will be awarded.

Rationale: To add clarity for the judges as to how the dog will indicate the correct container

## N.1 Search and Identify – 3 objects / 2 metres

##### Current Rule:

##### Set up

The handler will provide three (3) flower pots or similar sized containers and an article (which may be a treat or toy) to be placed under one of the pots.

If using a food treat, it must be in a sealed food container with holes in the lid; food must not be placed directly on the ground. If using a toy, the toy must be able to fit under the pot.

The steward will place the pots approximately 2.5 metres apart. The handler and dog will be at least two (2) metres from the closest container.

The handler and dog will face away from the containers while the steward places the article under the selected container. The handler and the dog will turn and face the pots once the article is in place.

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to find the designated container and article.

##### Action

On cue the dog will go to the containers and will clearly indicate the correct container, by touching or turning the container over or dropping in front of or adjacent to the container.

Once the article is found, the handler and dog may return to the reward station where the dog may eat the treat or play with the article.

The only container which may be disturbed is the one which is hiding the food/toy. If the dog indicates an incorrect container, a non-qualifying score will be awarded.

Proposed Amendment:

##### Set up

The handler will provide three (3) flower pots or similar sized containers and an article (which may be a treat or toy) to be placed under one of the pots.

If using a food treat, it must be in a sealed food container with holes in the lid; food must not be placed directly on the ground. If using a toy, the toy must be able to fit under the pot.

The steward will place the pots approximately 2.5 metres apart. The handler and dog will be at least two (2) metres from the closest container.

If a re-try is required a fresh set of equipment may be required.

The handler and dog will face away from the containers while the steward places the article under the selected container. The handler and the dog will turn and face the pots once the article is in place.

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to find the designated container and article.

##### Action

On cue the dog will go to the containers and will clearly indicate the correct container, by touching or turning the container over or dropping in front of or adjacent to the container.

Once the article is found, the handler and dog may return to the reward station where the dog may eat the treat or play with the article.

The only container which may be disturbed is the one which is hiding the food/toy. If the dog indicates an incorrect container, a non-qualifying score will be awarded.

Rationale: To eliminate any contamination and a re-try will bring the standard required for this trick to be in line with other tricks within this level.

Current Trick name:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| N.2 | Go Round – 3 m/ 1 ½ circles |

## N.2 Go Round - 3 metres / 1 ½ circles

Proposed amendment**:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| N.2 | Around Cone/pole – 3 m/ 1 ½ circles |

## N.2 Around Cone/pole - 3 metres / 1 ½ circles

Rationale: Change of wording better describes the trick. Some people get confused with this trick and Circle Handler

Will affect the score sheet

## N.2 Go Round - 3 metres / 1 ½ circles

## Current Rule:

##### Set up

The handler will provide a cone or pole and will place it at least three (3) metres from the start point. The dog will be in a stance of the handler’s choice and will normally be beside the handler. The handler will indicate to the Judge whether the dog will move in a clockwise or anti-clockwise direction.

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to go round the cone/pole.

##### Action

On cue the dog, without stopping, will leave the handler, complete 1½ circles of the cone or pole in a clockwise or anti-clockwise direction, and will then return close to the handler.

Proposed Amendment:

##### Set up

The handler will provide a cone or pole and will place it at least three (3) metres from the start point. The dog will be in a stance of the handler’s choice and will normally be beside the handler. (Last sentence deleted)

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to go round the cone/pole.

##### Action

On cue the dog, without stopping, will leave the handler, complete 1½ circles of the cone or pole in a clockwise or anti-clockwise direction, and will then return close to the handler.

Rationale: Handlers seldom advise the judge - less for the handler to remember on the day

## N.3 Circle the Handler - 3 times

## Current Rule:

##### Set up

The dog will be in a stance of the handler’s choice and beside the handler. The handler will indicate to the judge whether the dog will move in a clockwise or anti-clockwise direction.

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to circle him.

##### Action

On cue the dog will make three (3) complete circles forwards around the handler. The handler will remain stationary.

Proposed Amendment:

##### Set up

The dog will be in a stance of the handler’s choice and beside the handler (Last sentence deleted)

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to circle him.

##### Action

On cue the dog will make three (3) complete circles forwards around the handler and finish in the start position. The handler will remain stationary.

Rationale: Handlers seldom advise the judge - less for the handler to remember on the day. Trick needed a ‘finish’ position.

## N.4 Circle Spin - Twice

##### Current Rule:

##### Set up

The dog will be in a stance of the handler’s choice and may be in front of or beside the handler. The handler will indicate to the Judge whether the dog will spin in a clockwise or anti-clockwise direction.

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to circle spin.

##### Action

On cue the dog will complete either –

1. two (2) 360 degree circles/spins in the same direction; or
2. one (1) 360 degree circle/spin clockwise and one (1) 360 degree circle/spin anti-clockwise.

Whichever option is chosen, the dog will finish in the start position. The handler may be stationary or move forwards while the dog executes the circle spins.

Proposed Amendment:

##### Set up

The dog will be in a stance of the handler’s choice and may be in front of or beside the handler. (Last sentence deleted).

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to circle spin.

##### Action

On cue the dog will complete either –

1. two (2) 360 degree circles/spins in the same direction; or
2. one (1) 360 degree circle/spin clockwise and one (1) 360 degree circle/spin anti-clockwise.

Whichever option is chosen, the dog will finish in the start position. The handler may be stationary or move forwards while the dog executes the circle spins.

Rationale: Handlers seldom advise the judge - less for the handler to remember on the day

## N.5 Leg Weaves – 2 Figures of 8, moving

## Current Rule:

##### Set up

The dog will be in a stance of the handler’s choice and beside the handler. The handler will be standing.

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to weave through his legs as the handler moves forwards four (4) steps.

##### Action

On cue, as the handler moves forwards, the dog will weave through the handler’s legs, making two (2) figures of eight around the handler’s legs; the handler will not lift his legs to step over the dog. The dog will finish in the same position as at the start of the trick.

Proposed Amendment:

## N.5 Leg Weaves – Forward moving – 4 Steps

##### Set up

The dog will be in a stance of the handler’s choice and beside the handler. The handler will be standing.

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to weave through his legs as the handler moves forwards four (4) steps.

##### Action

On cue, as the handler moves forwards, the dog will weave through the handler’s legs, for 4 steps; the handler will not lift his legs to step over the dog but may bend his legs slightly as he moves forward. The dog will finish in the same position as at the start of the trick.

Rationale: To clarify the requirements more accurately. To reflect the handler’s normal walking gait rather than using stiff legs

## N.6 Nose to Hand Touch - 4 touches / 2 seconds each

##### Current Rule:

##### Set up

The dog will be in the stand position. The handler will be in front of and at least 0.5 m away from the dog.

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to touch each hand in turn. The handler will extend his arm and present his left and right hands in turn, away from his body and at different levels and locations, for a total of four (4) touches.

##### Action

On cue the dog will touch the handler’s hand with his nose, when that hand is presented and will perform four (4) touches, which should include two (2) touches to each hand and at different levels and locations, and maintain contact for two (2) seconds on each hand. The actual nose to hand touches must be clearly visible to the Judge.

Proposed Amendment:

## N.6 Nose to Hand Touch - 2 touches / 2 seconds each

## (This is the Starter trick moved to Novice – the below is the Starter descriptor)

##### Set up

The dog will be in the stand position. The handler will be in front of the dog.

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to touch each hand in turn. The handler will present his left hand to his left front and right hand to his right front and away from his body, once only for each hand. Hands may be presented in any order.

##### Action

On cue the dog will touch the handler’s left and right hand respectively with his nose, when that hand is presented and maintain contact on each hand for two (2) seconds. The judge will indicate when that time has elapsed. The dog must clearly move to target each presented hand; the handler may not move their hand to the dog. The actual nose to hand touches must be clearly visible to the judge.

Rationale: The Starter descriptor for this trick is considered more appropriate for the Novice level

\*\* Will affect score sheet

## N.8 Step Up and Pivot in Front

## Current Rule:

##### Set up

The handler will provide a step or perch/box that must have a non-slip surface, be of a suitable size and provide distinct elevation, relative to the size of the dog.

The dog will be in a stance of the handler’s choice and immediately adjacent to the perch/step; the handler will be on the other side of the perch/step, facing the dog.

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to put his front feet only on the perch/step. The handler will then move in a circle to the left or right, still facing the dog, and cue the dog to move to the right or left so that the dog remains in front position as the handler moves.

##### Action

On cue the dog will move to and place his front feet on the perch/step and stand facing the handler. On further cue, while maintaining his front feet on the perch/step and facing the handler, the dog will move his hindquarters to the right or left until both the handler and the dog have completed one circle around the perch/step.

## Proposed Amendment:

##### Set up

The handler will provide a step/perch/box that must have a non-slip surface, be of a suitable size and provide distinct elevation, relative to the size of the dog.

The dog will be in a stance of the handler’s choice and next to the step/perch/box; the handler will be on the other side of the step/perch/box, facing the dog.

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to put his front feet only on the step/perch/box. The handler will then move in a circle to the left or right, still facing the dog, and cue the dog to move to the right or left so that the dog remains in front position as the handler moves.

##### Action

On cue the dog will move to and place his front feet on the step/perch/box and stand facing the handler. On further cue, while maintaining his front feet on the step/perch/box and facing the handler, the dog will move his hindquarters to the right or left until both the handler and the dog have completed one circle around the step/perch/box.

Rationale: Consistent wording with other levels and using ‘next’ instead of ‘adjacent’ provides better clarity for the handler.

## N.9 Step Up and Pivot at Side

##### Current Rule:

##### Set up

The handler will provide a step or perch/box that must have a non-slip surface, be of a suitable size and provide distinct elevation, relative to the size of the dog.

The dog will be in a stance of the handler’s choice and immediately adjacent to the perch/step; the handler will be adjacent to the box/perch in a position of the handler’s choice.

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to put his front feet only on the perch/step. After the handler is in left or right heel position, he will then move in a circle to the left or right around the perch/step and cue the dog to move to the right or left so that the dog remains in the relevant heel position as the handler moves.

##### Action

On cue the dog will move to and place his front feet on the perch/step; the handler will move into position so that the dog is in left or right heel position. On further cue, while maintaining his front feet on the perch/step and maintaining the relevant heel position, the dog will move his hindquarters to the right or left in unison with the handler/s movement, until both the handler and the dog have completed one (1) circle around the perch/step.

Proposed Amendment:

##### Set up

The handler will provide a step/perch/box that must have a non-slip surface, be of a suitable size and provide distinct elevation, relative to the size of the dog.

The dog will be in a stance of the handler’s choice and immediately next to the step/perch/box; the handler will be next to the step/perch/box in a position of the handler’s choice.

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to put his front feet only on the step/perch/box and –

1. The handler & dog may go to the step/perch/box in left or right heel position
2. The handler may send the dog to the step/perch/box then the handler moves into left or right heel position
3. The handler may call the dog to the step/perch/box then the handler moves into left or right heel position

After the handler is in left or right heel position, he will then move in a circle to the left or right around the step/perch/box and cue the dog to move to the right or left so that the dog remains in the relevant heel position as the handler moves.

##### Action

On cue the dog will move to and place his front feet on the step/perch/box; the handler will move into position so that the dog is in left or right heel position. On further cue, while maintaining his front feet on the step/perch/box and maintaining the relevant heel position, the dog will move his hindquarters to the right or left in unison with the handler/s movement, until both the handler and the dog have completed one (1) circle around the step/perch/box.

Rationale: Consistent wording with other levels and provides better clarity for the handler by adding to the descriptor and using ‘next’ instead of ‘adjacent’.

## N.11 Back Up – 3 body lengths

## Current Rule:

##### Set up

The dog will be in a stand, in front of, facing and a distance of at least 0.5 m from the handler.

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to back up.

##### Action

On cue the dog will move backwards at least three (3) body lengths. The handler will remain stationary as the dog steps backwards.

Proposed Amendment:

##### Set up

The dog will be in a stand, in front of, facing and a distance of at least 0.5 m from the handler.

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to back up.

##### Action

On cue the dog will move backwards at least three (3) body lengths. The handler will remain stationary as the dog steps backwards. The verbal and/or physical cue may be repeated until the dog has completed the distance required in the trick.

Rationale: Dogs given a cue to back up are generally taught to continue until the cues are removed. This will prevent the dog from stopping before the required distance has been completed.

## N.12 Jump Cane or Hoop

##### Current Rule:

##### Set up

The handler will provide a cane or hoop for the dog to jump over or through. When the handler presents the cane/hoop it must be at least 15 cm off the ground.

The dog will be in a stance of the handler’s choice. The handler will leave the dog and be at least one (1) metre away from and facing the dog.

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to stay and move to his position; the handler will then present the cane/hoop and cue the dog to jump over the cane or through the hoop.

##### Action

On cue the dog will remain in place while the handler takes up position. On further cue the dog will jump over the cane or through the hoop, land on the other side and return close to the handler.

Proposed Amendment:

##### Set up

The handler will provide a cane or hoop for the dog to jump over or through. When the handler presents the cane/hoop it must be at least 15 cm off the ground.

The dog will be in a stance of the handler’s choice. The handler will leave the dog and be at least one (1) metre away from and maybe facing or standing sideways to the dog.

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to stay and move to his position; the handler will then present the cane/hoop and cue the dog to jump over the cane or through the hoop.

##### Action

On cue the dog will remain in place while the handler takes up position. On further cue the dog will jump over the cane or through the hoop, land on the other side and return close to the handler.

Rationale: Provides for a choice and easier position for the handler

## N.14 Sleeping Beauty - 3 seconds

## Current Rule:

##### Set up

The dog will be in an upright down position in front of the handler. The handler will be at a distance of the handler’s choice away from the dog but may not touch the dog.

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to lie flat on his side or his back. The handler may bend over or kneel to cue the dog.

##### Action

On cue the dog will roll to lie completely on his side or back and remain in this position for three (3) seconds. The Judge will indicate when that time has elapsed.

Proposed Amendment:

##### Set up

The dog will be in a drop position in front of the handler. The handler will be at a distance of the handler’s choice away from the dog but may not touch the dog.

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to lie flat on his side or his back. The handler may bend over or kneel to cue the dog.

##### Action

On cue the dog will roll to lie completely on his side or back and remain in this position for three (3) seconds. The Judge will indicate when that time has elapsed.

Rationale: Not all dogs can lie in an upright down position. The use of the word ‘drop’ more clearly identifies the position required.

## N.15 Moving Carry – 6 body lengths

## Current Rule:

##### Set up

The handler will provide a toy or other article for the dog to carry. The dog will be in a stance of the handler’s choice and be beside the handler. The handler will give the dog the article to hold.

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to take/hold the article and then cue the dog to move forward.

##### Action

On cue the dog will take hold of the article. On further cue, while holding the article and without mouthing it, the dog will move forward with the handler for a distance of at least six (6) body lengths. On further cue from the handler, the dog will release the article to the handler’s hand.

Proposed Amendment:

##### Set up

The handler will provide a toy or other article for the dog to carry. The dog will be in a stance of the handler’s choice and be beside the handler. The handler will give the dog the article to hold.

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to take/hold the article and then cue the dog to move forward.

##### Action

On cue the dog will take hold of the article. On further cue, while holding the article and without continual mouthing, the dog will move forward with the handler for a distance of at least six (6) body lengths. On further cue from the handler, the dog will release the article to the handler’s hand.

Rationale: Allows for slight mouthing when the dog first takes the article and any necessary slight adjustment during the trick.

## N.16 Crawl - 2 body lengths

## Current Rule:

##### Set up

The dog will start in the upright down position and will be in front of or beside the handler. The handler may move backwards (with the dog in front) or forwards (with the dog on his left or right) as the dog moves forward in the crawl.

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to crawl; the handler may bend over to cue the dog.

##### Action

On cue the dog will crawl forwards a distance of at least two (2) body lengths.

Proposed Amendment:

##### Set up

The dog will start in a drop position and will be in front of or beside the handler. The handler may move backwards (with the dog in front) or forwards (with the dog on his left or right) as the dog moves forward in the crawl.

##### Cue

The handler will cue the dog to crawl; the handler may bend over to cue the dog.

##### Action

On cue the dog will crawl forwards a distance of at least two (2) body lengths.

Rationale: Not all dogs can lie in an upright down position. The use of the word ‘drop’ more clearly identifies the position required.

## N.17 Roll Over – Once

## Current Rule:

##### Set up

The dog will be in an upright down position in front of the handler. The handler will be at a distance of the handler’s choice away from the dog but may not touch the dog.

***Cue***

The handler will cue the dog to roll over. The handler may bend or kneel to give the cue.

##### Action

On cue the dog will roll over once only. The dog may lie on his side to start the roll over and, at the conclusion of the trick, may remain in the down or may stand.

Proposed Amendment:

##### Set up

The dog will be in a drop position in front of the handler. The handler will be at a distance of the handler’s choice away from the dog but may not touch the dog.

***Cue***

The handler will cue the dog to roll over. The handler may bend or kneel to give the cue.

##### Action

On cue the dog will roll over once only. The dog may lie on his side to start the roll over and, at the conclusion of the trick, may remain in the drop position or may stand.

Rationale: Not all dogs can lie in an upright down position. The use of the word ‘drop’ more clearly identifies the position required.