

Qld Recommendations as at 1.1.2016

- **Distance markers** – recommend that clubs buy markers - need 1x5m and 4x3m – and that judges use these to mark the distance work in Masters. Competitors have to go at least to the marker and complete the exercise (either turn or call). Judges to pace out distance to 3 m or to 5m - doesn't need to be exactly measured. If exercise executed short of the marker – IP. **Recommend this be included in all Judges briefings.**
- **New distance work stations** - where handler has to leave your dog and walk away with their back to them. How does the handler know if the dog has moved and thereby eligible for a retry? **Recommend that the Judge says “Your dog has moved”**. Then the handler can decide whether to go back and retry, continue with exercise (IP) or go back to get dog and continue to next station (IP) (once they originally left the dog that constitutes attempting the station so cannot be NQ Station Not Attempted).
- **Moving in change of position work** - use the wording from the Open Obedience rules regarding moving from position. **Recommend 1 body length = IP.**
- **Retries.** Competitors sometimes ask the judge if they can retry or if they have used all their retries. Judges cannot communicate with the handlers. Suggest that in Novice, some help and advice can be offered. In the higher levels, no communication.
- **Failure to Clear Jump (IP)** – includes walking through or on a broad jump, baulking or going around a jump. All these are eligible for retry. Where a bar is knocked down, it should be IP but not eligible for retry (unless the bar jump is to be used again and then it would be NQ for Station Rendered Unusable).
- **Non Qualifying Scores** - “If a team receives a non-qualifying score on a course, judging will cease immediately and no retries will be allowed.” Recommend if competitor is doing very badly or very slow, they can be asked to leave. If NQ'ed early, judging can cease but competitor can continue to the finish.
- **Station 51 Spin** – have to allow either handlers to slow pace slightly or allow some degree of out of position while dog turns away from handler walking forward – should not be penalised in the first instance. Have to allow for body shape / physical ability of dog to perform this and how quickly. If not performing correctly or too slow to catch up, then penalties apply.
- **Station 52 Four Cone** – to be completed as a continuous “cloverleaf” by **cross centre point 5 times**



- **Station 53 Back up 3 steps** – heel off the straight line / veering to stay level with dog – IP. Dog performing exercise at an extreme angle 45 deg or over - IP. Between 0 deg and 45 deg – penalised.

Qld Recommendations (cont)

- **Station 59** - Judges to leave LOTS of room to complete this – **recommend at least an extra 6m**. Must not anticipate – IP. Must not forge significantly – IP. Fails to catch up- IP. Change pace significantly to let the dog catch up = 1-10 Handler Error
- **Station 59** - Distance Call to Heel – can't look over shoulder or turn body to look back at dog. – this is double command **Recommend Handler Error 5 points**
- **Retry** - Handlers have to advise the judge of a retry. We **recommend** not advising the Judge as per the Rules should result in an IP
- **Station 46 – Recommend**– That the handler does not commence running until they have given the command for the dog to go over the jump.
- **Station 40** – “shall be performed after the station”. **Recommend** this means “Must be performed”
- **Dog picking up a distraction** - isn't covered under the Rules – we **recommend** NQ by Minimum requirements not met.
- **Stopping in any turn** (except pivot turns) – Rules state that turns must be executed as in Traditional Obedience. – Minor deduction in obedience so our **recommendation** is 1 point Handler Error.
- **Pivots** - Pivots should be executed with the feet remaining within an area approx. the size of a dinner plate (or appropriate to the size of the feet). Extra stepping or shuffling is IP
- **How do we determine the “pause”?** We **recommend** – Feet come together and handler comes to a distinct Stop
- **Where must the team execute a Station** relevant to “Ring Procedure” in the Rules? Rules say “near the designated sign, either directly in front or in the front and to the left of said sign”. We **recommend** that the team must execute each Station within 600mm of said station with obvious exceptions. We **recommend** that if the handler goes past the sign before giving the command then it will be scored an IP.
- **“Multiple commands and/or signals ... are allowed”** under the Rules however a dog that performs without multiple commands has to receive a better score than one who needs extra therefore multiple commands will be penalized. We **recommend** scoring for Multiple Commands will be as follows:
 - 1st Missed command &/or Signal 1 point Lack of Teamwork
 - 2nd Missed command &/or Signal 3 points Lack of Teamwork
 - 3rd Missed command &/or Signal 5 points Lack of Teamwork
 - 4th Missed command &/or Signal NQ Dog Unmanageable
- Dogs are not expected to do automatic sits. Handlers may use a ‘sit’ command when executing the halt at the beginning of a station and where any sit is required during a station without penalty.