

Rally Hints and Tips

The Walk Around Dog Stations

#30 / #31 / #36 / #48



30. Halt - Walk Around Dog - Handler halts and dog sits. With the dog sitting in heel position, the handler commands and/or signals the dog to stay, then proceeds to walk around the dog to the left, returning to heel position. The handler must pause in heel position before moving forward to the next station. (Stationary exercise)



31. Halt – Down - Walk Around Dog - Handler halts and dog sits. With the dog sitting in heel position, the handler commands and/or signals the dog to down and stay, then proceeds to walk around the dog to the left, returning to heel position. The handler must pause in heel position before moving forward to the next station. The dog heels forward from the down position. (Stationary exercise)



36. Halt - Stand Dog - Walk Around - Handler halts and dog sits. With the dog sitting in heel position, the handler stands the dog commands and/or signals the dog to stay as the handler walks around the dog to the left, returning to heel position. The handler must pause in heel position before moving forward to the next station. In the Advanced Class, the handler may touch the dog, move forward to stand the dog, and may pose the dog as in the show ring. (Stationary exercise)



48. Moving Stand - Walk Around Dog - While heeling and without pausing, the handler will stand the dog and walk around the dog to the left, returning to heel position. The handler must pause in heel position after returning to the dog. Dog must move forward from the standing position.

There are four “Walk Around Dog” stations in Rally O. Two in Novice (#30 & #31), one in Advanced (#36) and one in Excellent (#48).

While they are all different, they all have one very important thing in common the last part of the exercise.

The handler **must pause** in heel position ...

The pause part of the exercise is one of the principal parts and failure to pause will be -10 points for Incorrect Performance. A pause must be significant enough for the judge to recognise it as a pause – feet must come together and handler must come to a distinct stop.

So the extra second or two you might gain from rushing through the pause isn't worth the chance of losing 10 points. Make sure you make a distinct pause and you won't get penalised. Besides, that second or so that you have to pause, is an excellent opportunity to say “**Good Dog!**”

Rally O Working Party