
**Central Bedfordshire Canine Trust
Regulations For
Central Bedfordshire Obedience Champion Title (CBOC)**

Approved By The Board Of Trustees On This The 16th October 2012

Reference Points

This Appendix J, should be read in conjunction with the Central Bedfordshire Canine Trust - Trust Deed and the Central Bedfordshire Canine Trust Deed - Appendix C (Regulations for Awards & Titles) & D (Regulations for Dog Registration).

1. The Central Bedfordshire Canine Trust, Board of Trustees shall be responsible for the operation and regulation of the title “Central Bedfordshire Obedience Champion” assisted by the Executive Advisory Committee of the Central Bedfordshire Canine Trust. The Central Bedfordshire Dog Show Committee of the Central Bedfordshire Canine Trust shall be responsible for the organising of any testing events on behalf of the Board of Trustees.
2. As from the 1st January 2013 the former Central Bedfordshire Canine Trust Advanced Obedience Award which automatically gained the title of Central Bedfordshire Obedience Champion shall be withdrawn. As from the 1st January 2013 the former Lugari Dog Club Obedience Champion Title shall no longer be recognised by the Central Bedfordshire Canine Trust. Dogs may gain awards and titles under these new regulations immediately.
3. In replacement a modified Advanced Obedience Award shall be introduced which will be assessed over a period of up to eight weeks, at an approved training class. On successful completion a Central Bedfordshire Canine Trust Advanced Obedience Certificate shall be issued.
4. In order to gain the title of Central Bedfordshire Obedience Champion (CBOC), there are two methods:
 - a. A dog must be able to complete all of the Advanced Obedience Award exercises to the required standard at a testing event approved by the Board of Trustees of the Central Bedfordshire Canine Trust.

OR

 - b. A dog must be awarded three Central Bedfordshire Canine Trust “Obedience Excellence” certificates for qualifying wins at Central Bedfordshire Canine Trust approved obedience competition events. The issuing of “Obedience Excellence” certificates at a competition event shall be on a case by case basis, on application to the Board Of Trustees by the competition organisers and the qualifying class criteria may vary to that of the standard testing event but must be worthy of the title.
5. The Board of Trustees shall have the ultimate power to approve and adjudicate the awarding of the title of Central Bedfordshire Obedience Champion, and shall also have the power to rescind and/or place additional criteria upon a dog being awarded a title.

ADVANCED OBEDIENCE AWARD

6. Aim Of Advanced Obedience Award

The Central Bedfordshire Canine Trust Advanced Obedience Award aims to firmly establish the knowledge and skill set of the dog and handler in the principles and requirements of Obedience. The Advanced Obedience award is fun and not aimed at competitive obedience, and is intended to provide the handlers with an in-depth and wide ranging knowledge and understanding of Obedience exercises and training of their canine companion.

7. Eligibility For Advanced Obedience Award

The award is aimed at all dogs, there is no maximum age limit, however dogs must be over twelve months of age to start training for the award. Dogs are required to have completed the Central Bedfordshire Canine Trust Gold Obedience Award or the Kennel Club Good Citizen Dog Scheme Gold Award (issued by Central Bedfordshire Canine Trust) prior to training for the Advanced Award. A reliable level of control and sound temperament is expected of the dog prior to them starting training for the award.

8. Standard Required For Advanced Obedience Award

The award and course is non competitive but instructors must be satisfied that dogs are worthy of passing. Instructors should observe the spirit of the award, which is to produce happy, contented dogs, which are capable of completing the exercises taught during the course. A certificate will be awarded on the last week of the course, if the required standard and attendance has been achieved.

9. Assessment Of Advanced Obedience Award

- a. No part of the award is competitive and assessments should be carried out in a relaxed and informal manner. Remember the course should be focused around the progress of the dog and its owner over the period of the course, and not on the first or one particular class.
- b. The Assessor will enter the comment "Passed" or "Not Ready" alongside each exercise. The dogs must receive the comment "Passed" for each exercise and have attended a minimum of four weeks in one course in order to receive a Certificate. In any exercise aggressive behaviour from the dog or undue fear will classify the dog as "Not Ready".
- c. The class Instructor may act as Assessor. The organisers of the course must ensure that the Instructor they appoint is competent and able to fulfil the requirements of the course proficiently. Periodically the Central Bedfordshire Canine Trust may appoint a "Monitor" to evaluate course classes, instructors and the assessment of the award.
- d. Unless otherwise stated, practical assessments for the Advanced Award must be carried out off lead. Food and treats may be used.

10. Exercises For Advanced Obedience Award

The exercises for the Advanced Obedience Award shall be those, as set out in Annex A to this Appendix J to the Central Bedfordshire Canine Trust, Deed of Trust.

11. Progression From Advance Obedience Award

On completion of the Advanced Obedience Award, the handler and dog may progress onto being tested for the Central Bedfordshire Obedience Champion Title.

CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE OBEDIENCE CHAMPION TITLE (CBOC)

12. Central Bedfordshire Obedience Champion Title

The Central Bedfordshire Obedience Champion Title (CBOC) is designed to be the highest and ultimate accolade a dog can achieve in Obedience at Central Bedfordshire Canine Trust. The award is fun and not aimed at competitive obedience, but is intended to test and certify the handlers in-depth and wide ranging practical dog handling skills and understanding of obedience exercises and advanced training of their canine companion.

13. Eligibility For Central Bedfordshire Obedience Champion Title

The title is aimed at all dogs there is no maximum age limit, however dogs must be over twelve months of age to be tested for the title. Dogs are required to have completed the Central Bedfordshire Canine Trust Gold Obedience Award or The Kennel Club Good Citizen Dog Scheme Gold Award, prior to being tested for the title of Central Bedfordshire Obedience Champion. Handlers must submit with their entry to the testing session a copy of their award certificate proving their dog's eligibility.

14. Standard Required For Central Bedfordshire Obedience Champion Title

- a. The title is non competitive but the judge must be satisfied that dogs are worthy of passing and have met the criteria of the title. Judges should observe the spirit of the title, which is to produce happy, contented dogs, which are capable of completing the criteria of the title.
- b. Any uncontrolled, mouthing, barking, growling or other threatening behaviour is not acceptable and further training will be required before the dog can be passed. In order that it be meaningful the testing must be carried out rigorously. Emphasis must be placed upon the ability of the handler to handle, care for and generally be responsible for their dog.
- c. If at the testing event the judge is satisfied that the dog has met the standard required, the judge will sign a judging sheet. The handler must then submit the judging sheet to the trust office, along with an application form and the application fee. Once approved by the Central Bedfordshire Canine Trust, Board of Trustees, the title will be recorded in the official Central Bedfordshire Canine Trust Stud Book and a certificate will be awarded. The title is not confirmed until the certificate has been issued and the award has been approved by the Board of Trustees in meeting.

15. Assessment Of Central Bedfordshire Obedience Champion Title

- a. No part of the title is competitive and assessments should be carried out in a relaxed and informal manner. Unless otherwise stated in the exercise description, assessment must be carried out off lead. Preferably the testing event shall take place outside.
- b. Food must not be used as an incentive and must not be carried by the handler or brought into the ring. Any use of treats or luring (handler acting as treats are in hand) will deem the dog as "Not Ready". Toys may be used briefly between exercises, although during exercises they must be placed on the judges table.
- c. Dogs may only wear a slip chain or flat collar when in the ring. No muzzles, harnesses or other training aids are permitted.

- d. Handlers will not be penalised for encouragement or extra commands, except during stay and wait exercises. In stay and wait exercises, the steward will give the instruction “last command” and if the handler gives any further commands it will deem the dogs as “Not Ready”. To signal the completion of each exercise the steward shall give the command “exercise finished”.
- e. In all exercises the left side of the handler shall be deemed as the “working side” unless the handler has a disability and the judge and the event organiser have given permission for the dog to be worked on the other side.
- f. After a dog has commenced competing in a test, no substitution of handlers is permitted.
- g. The running order of the testing will be made available on the day, and handlers are responsible for presenting their dog for testing at the required time. Any dog which has not been presented when required will be deemed to have been withdrawn.
- h. Dogs may be tested singly or in groups. The testing must be carried out at one “testing event” however at the discretion of the judge and organisers, exercises may be split. The same format of testing must be consistent and used for every dog being tested at that session.
- i. The organisers of the testing must ensure that the judge they appoint is competent and able to fulfill the requirements of the testing proficiently. The appointment must be approved by the Board of Trustees of the Central Bedfordshire Canine Trust. Periodically the Central Bedfordshire Canine Trust may appoint a “Monitor” to evaluate the judge and the testing of the title.
- j. During testing the Judge will have stewards to assist him/her with the testing. This shall be at the judge’s discretion and they shall be there to assist the judge. It will be the judge’s decision on all matters of testing the title that shall be final even if his/her decision is contra to the views of the stewards.

16. Exercises For Central Bedfordshire Obedience Champion Title

- a. The exercises for the Central Bedfordshire Obedience Champion Title at testing events shall be those, as set out in Annex A to this Appendix J to the Central Bedfordshire Canine Trust, Deed of Trust.
- b. The judge will enter the comment “Passed” or “Not Ready” alongside each exercise. The dog must receive the comment “Passed” for each exercise at one test event in order to pass the test and apply for the title.
- c. The decision of the judge is final in relation to whether a dog has passed the test at the event.
- d. Dogs may only attempt each exercise once.

17. Decision Of The Judge Is Final

The decision of the judge is final when marking the test. In the event that the judge and event organiser agree that a dog was unfairly disadvantaged during an exercise, they may permit the dog to retake the exercise. In the event of a retake the event organiser shall decide when the dog should retake the exercise and adjust the running order accordingly.

ADVANCED AND OBEDIENCE CHAMPION EXERCISES

1. Heel Free At Normal Pace (With Sit And Down Positions)

The dog shall be required to walk at heel free, and will be tested at normal pace only. The dog should be sitting straight at the handler's side. On command the handler should walk briskly forward in a straight line with the dog off lead at heel. The dog's shoulder should be approximately level with and reasonably close to the handler's leg at all times when the handler is walking. On the command to turn, the handler should turn smartly in the direction indicated and the dog should keep its position at the handler's side.

At some time during this test, at the discretion of the Judge, the dog shall be required, whilst walking at heel at normal pace, to be left Sit and Down position in any order (the order to be the same for each dog) as and when directed by the Judge. The handler shall continue forward alone without hesitation, and continue as directed by the Judge until reaching the dog when both shall continue forward together until halted.

Permissible turns are turns of 90 degrees to the left or right and 180 degrees about turns to the left or right. Diagonal turns are permissible. Turning manoeuvres must not be coupled together. The handler and dog must be allowed several paces if required to turn again. On the command "Halt" the handler should halt immediately and the dog should sit straight at the handler's side. Throughout the test the handler may not touch the dog or make use of luring without being marked as "Not Ready".

2. Recall In Straight Line To Heel (From Sit Or Down Position)

Recall from Sit or Down position at handler's choice. Dog to be recalled to heel by handler, on command of Judge or Steward, whilst handler is walking away from dog, both to continue forward until ordered to halt. The recall and halt points to be the same for each dog and handler. Test commences following handler's last command to dog, for the wait.

3. Recall And Finish (From Sit Or Down Position)

Recall from Sit or Down position at handler's choice. Dog to be recalled by handler when stationary and facing the dog. Dog to return smartly to handler, sit in front, go to heel - all on command of Judge or Steward to handler. Distance at discretion of Judge. Test commences when handler leaves dog.

4. Send Away, Drop & Recall

On command of Judge the handler to bring the dog to the place indicated, set up the dog and stand upright. On further command, the handler will send the dog in the direction indicated by the Judge. After the dog has been dropped, the handler will walk where directed by the judge, when directed call the dog to heel whilst walking and both will continue forward until ordered to halt. No obstacle to be placed in path of dog. Markers, if used, must be stationary and contain no moving parts.

5. Retrieve Handlers Article And Finish

Retrieve any article. Handlers may use their own article. At the start of this exercise the dog should be sitting at the handler's side. On command the handler must throw the article in the direction indicated. The dog should remain in the Sit position until the handler is ordered to send it to retrieve the article. The dog should move out promptly at a smart pace to collect the article cleanly. It should return with the article at a smart pace and sit straight in front of the handler. On command the handler should take the article from the dog. On further command the dog should be sent to heel.

6. Handlers Scent On Cloth

The handler's scent on a marked cloth supplied by the judge in the ring. There must be a total of six scent cloths; this total must not include any decoys. These six cloths must be set out in a straight line, which may be in any direction. Cloths must be placed in position by a steward and must be at least 1m (3ft) and not more than 1.6m (5ft) apart. Any cloth which is fouled in any way (e.g. mouthed) must be replaced with a fresh cloth.

At the commencement of the test the dog must be brought to a designated point. The dog must be facing away from the cloths and the handler must give the dog the scent from the cloth, the dog must remain facing away, while the scented cloth is placed in position by the steward. When the cloth has been placed, the handler must position the dog facing the cloths, stand up straight and send the dog on command from the judge or steward to find the correct cloth. Once the dog is sent the handler may not issue any command to the dog which directs which cloth should be picked up. The time limit for finding the correct cloth is three minutes from being sent. The dog should return with the article at a smart pace and sit straight in front of the handler. On command the handler should take the cloth from the dog. On further command the dog should be sent to heel.

Note:

For the Advanced Obedience Award only the handler's scent will be on a marked cloth supplied by the handler, which must be of a standard obedience scent cloth type and mainly white.

7. Stays

The Judge or Steward will direct handlers to positions in the ring. The command "Last Command" will be given and handlers should then instantly give their final command to their dogs. Any further commands or signals to the dogs after this "Last Command" deem the dog as "Not Ready". Handlers will then be instructed to leave their dogs and walk to positions indicated until ordered to return to them.

These are group tests and all dogs must compete together, but where this is impracticable at an indoor show, the class may be equally divided but the Judging for the groups must be consecutive. The two stays are separate exercises and must be completed before doing the next. It is permissible for one stay to be carried out, as soon as the previous stay is completed.

a. Sit Stay In Sight (2 Minutes)

Dogs should remain in the Sit position throughout the test.

b. Down Stay Out Of Sight (3 Minutes)

Dogs should remain in the Down position throughout the test. Dogs are allowed minor changes in position (e.g. rolling onto side), but must not get up for a down position.

8. Distance Control (Down Only)

The dog shall start the exercise in the sit position, with its front feet behind a designated point, not less than 10 paces and not more than 20 paces from handler, on command from judge to handler the dog must smartly go into the down position. When the dog is in the down position the exercise is complete. Excessive movement, i.e. more than the body length of the dog, in any direction by the dog, having regard to its size, will be deemed "Not Ready". The dog shall start the exercise with its front feet behind a designated point. No penalty for excessive movement in a forward direction shall be imposed until the back feet of the dog pass the designated point.