## CRO Foundation Rally Skills Titling Program (revised Oct 22, 2024)



#### **Table of Contents**

General Information	1
Registration	1
Entry Fees	2
Levels, Qualifying, and Titles	2
Entry by Video	2
Scoring and Non-Qualifying Entries (NQs)	2
Dog Equipment	3
Cueing	3
Demonstration Videos	3
FS Level 1	4
FS Level 2	7
FS Level 3	11
FS Level 4	14

#### **General Information**

The CRO Foundation Rally Skills Titling Program is open to dogs and handlers of all skill levels. The program is an optional adjunct to the CRO titling tracks and may be done at any time before, during, or after a dog has earned other CRO titles.

The skills demonstrated in this program pertain to rally but also serve as a foundation for other dog sports, boosting confidence and enhancing the relationship between dog and handler. The program is a structured and easy way to introduce an inexperienced handler and/or dog (whether puppy or adult) to the fun of training. It is also a way to enjoy low-stress training with an older dog.

*ALL* teams are welcome to enjoy this program. Dogs and/or handlers with disabilities will find CRO to be flexible and accommodating. In addition, although "dogs" are referenced throughout this document, other animals (cats, horses, sheep, goats, etc.) are welcome to participate.

The exercises can all be done at home. Most can be done in a very small space. No special equipment is needed.

## Registration

Dogs must be registered with CRO to participate in this program. You can register your dog online at the <u>CRO website</u>.

## **Entry Fees**

Entry fees and retry fees are the same as for other CRO entries. See the CRO Rules and Guidelines for details, including the multiple entry discount. Use the Entry Form on the CRO website

## Levels, Qualifying, and Titles

There are four levels and four titles. Dogs may complete any or all levels in any order. There are no prerequisites for any level. More than one level may be entered with the same entry form. It is suggested that inexperienced handlers and/or dogs begin with Level 1 and complete each level in order.

To qualify for each title, the team must perform each exercise safely, skillfully, and with willingness on the dog's part.

Completion of the FS Level 1 requirements earns the CRO-FS1 title.

Completion of the FS Level 2 requirements earns the CRO-FS2 title.

Completion of the FS Level 3 requirements earns the CRO-FS3 title.

Completion of the FS Level 4 requirements earns the CRO-FS4 title.

Teams earning a title will receive a title certificate by email and a title ribbon by mail. Teams earning all four FS Level titles earn the FS Super Star title, CRO-FS-SS.

## **Entry by Video**

All entries are by video only. Video your team doing each exercise. The entire team must be in view for the entire clip (a second or two of head or tail out of frame will not NQ the entry). Make a video compilation of the exercises or a YouTube playlist (or Vimeo showcase, etc.) of all ten clips. Number each exercise (1-10) based on its order in the compilation or playlist. Label each exercise by its correct name as used in the list of exercises for each level (pages 4-16) followed by its level and exercise number. For example, if Level 1 Exercise 2, Focus and Following, were the first clip in a Level 1 compilation or playlist, its numbering and label would be, "#1. Focus and Following L1-2" or "1. Focus and Following L1-2".

Except where specified, each exercise must be on a single clip. See the CRO Rules and Guidelines for more video instructions (R&Gs page 9-1).

## Scoring and Non-Qualifying Entries (NQs)

Scoring is pass/fail. Each exercise is judged separately. All exercises in the entry must be performed correctly for the entry to qualify.

The entry will NQ if the judge determines that any of the following has occurred:

- (a) the handler is treating the dog harshly in any clip
- (b) there are more than two instances of a tight leash in the entry
- (c) the dog has not completed each exercise skillfully and willingly
- (d) the dog is wearing disallowed equipment (see "Dog Equipment", below)

Non-qualifying entries may be retried within 30 days of the date of the results email at a reduced entry fee of \$10. After 30 days regular entry fees apply. The retry may include clips of any properly performed exercises taken from the original entry.

## **Dog Equipment**

Collars, leashes, and harnesses are optional and not required at any level. Handlers are encouraged to use a leash when appropriate for safety or comfort, such as when working at a public park or near a busy street. In addition to the exercises, the entry video must show a separate picture or short clip of the dog's equipment, either on or off the dog.

Harnesses are permitted, either front or rear clip. "Clothing" such as cool wraps, Thundershirts, bandanas, sweaters, etc., are permitted. Tags on collars/harnesses are permitted.

Certain equipment is not allowed. Use of any of these will NQ the entry: e-collars, pinch/prong collars, slip ("choke") collars (whether chain or otherwise), and head halters.

## Cueing

Unless otherwise stated in the exercise, the handler may give multiple cues (physical and verbal) during all exercises. Except for teams with dogs who are blind or deaf, handlers may not cue the dogs by touching them. Unlimited praise and/or use of a Keep-Going Signal is permitted.

#### **Demonstration Videos**

Demonstration videos for all FS Exercises are on the <u>CRO youtube channel</u>.

FS Level 1 Demos, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8sTW6WKaeOg

FS Level 2 Demos, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X-Jh2ltp1Ow

FS Level 3 Demos, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eJfDGyw2ZXI

FS Level 4 Demos, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TM1DRwTijeo

Handlers of all skill levels are encouraged to view the demonstration videos to ensure correct understanding of the exercises. If questions remain, email <u>info@cyberrally-o.com</u> or post in the <u>Cyber Rally-O public facebook group</u>.

**Reinforcing and Luring:** Reinforcing with food or toys, praising, and petting are permitted and encouraged even while doing an exercise. The handler may not physically manipulate the dog. Except where noted, luring is permitted for all exercises. Target sticks and hand targets may be used instead of or in addition to a food lure. Toy lures are not permitted. Platforms and barriers are <u>not</u> permitted (unless they are part of the exercise). Food may be kept in a pocket or a treat pouch (pocket is preferred).

**Requirements:** Choose ten (10) exercises from the list below. Teams must complete all ten exercises safely, skillfully, and with willingness on the dog's part.

#### FS Level 1 Exercises:

- 1. Putting on the Equipment: The dog waits calmly while the handler puts a collar or harness on the dog and attaches a leash.
- 2. Focus and Following: The handler walks a few steps in one direction, then a few steps in the opposite direction, then a few steps in the first direction. The dog must focus on and move with the handler, changing directions when the handler does. This is <u>not</u> a heeling exercise (heeling will not NQ the entry). It is an exercise in attention and following the handler's lead when the handler changes direction. If working on leash, any instance of a tight leash during this exercise will NQ the entry.

**NOTE: This exercise may not be done with a lure**, but the handler may use verbal and body signals to keep the dog focused and following.

- 3. Mark and Reinforce: In this exercise, the handler shows how to mark and reinforce one of the following behaviors: Sit (from a stand or down), Down (from a sit or stand), or Stand (from a sit or down). The marker signal can be a click from a clicker, a word such as "Yes!" or any other type of signal. The reinforcer can be treats, toys, praise, and/or petting. It must be obvious to the judge that the reinforcer is something the dog likes and wants.
- 4. Voluntary Two-Way Eye Contact: Without giving any verbal or physical cue, the handler stands (or sits) with the dog beside or in front of the handler. When the dog makes eye contact, the handler marks then delivers a treat from a pocket or treat pouch (pocket is preferred). After five repetitions the exercise is complete.

NOTE: This exercise may not be done with a lure. Food may not be held in a hand or in the handler's mouth for this exercise.

5. Targeting with Four Paws: This exercise requires a flat stable, non-slip target, no higher than hock-height, such as a folded towel, small rug, bath mat, low platform. The dog is cued to get on the target with all four paws and wait there (in a sit, down or stand) for at least 2 seconds with all paws stationary.

- 6. Backing on the Flat: The dog backs at least two steps on the ground. "Two steps" are counted as each of the dog's rear legs moves. So each back leg will move backwards at least once. This exercise may be done in approximate Heel, Side, or Front position. The line need not be straight as long as the steps are taken backwards. The handler may move with the dog if the handler is beside the dog and may use a lure, target stick or hand target. The handler may NOT move with the dog if the handler is in front of the dog. This exercise may be done using a target for the rear feet. It may also be done using gates or barriers to help the dog stay straight.
- 7. Stationary Heel/Side Position: The dog stands in Heel or Side position, shoulder next to handler's left leg (Heel) or right leg (Side), close to and facing the same direction as the handler. The team remains in this position for at least 2 seconds. The exercise is repeated facing a different direction and then repeated again facing the first direction.
- 8. Jump Stanchion Exercise: Using a jump stanchion, chair, or other object of a suitable size (use of a jump with jump bar is <u>not</u> permitted in this exercise), the team moves forward in Heel or Side position (accuracy of position is not required) towards the object and passes it with the dog going on one side and the handler on the other. The team then continues to move forward in Heel/Side position.
- 9. Position Changes in Heel/Side: The team stands in Heel or Side position (the dog must stand). The handler cues the dog to a Sit from standing. The team pauses. Next, the handler cues the dog to a Down from sitting. The team pauses. The handler may reinforce the dog after and during the position changes as well as at the end of the exercise.
- 10. Finding Front Game: The handler stands with feet apart, facing the dog, and tosses a treat between his/her (handler's) feet behind him/her (the handler). Simultaneously with the toss, the handler cues the dog to chase the treat. The dog runs between the handler's feet to get the treat, and the handler moves forward and turns to face the dog and tosses another treat between his/her (handler's) feet. After five repetitions the exercise is complete. For teams with very large dogs, the treat can be placed at the handler's feet and the handler then runs backwards several steps to repeat the exercise. This "large dog" option is open to any team, not just handlers with large dogs.
- 11. Hand Targeting: The dog targets the handler's left and right hands, alternately, twice on each side. The handler may reinforce between each hand target. The dog need not touch the hand to perform this correctly but must clearly move towards the hand each time.
- 12. Spins: Dog turns 360 degrees in each direction (CW and CCW). The dog may perform the turns beside or in front of the handler. It is recommended that the handler reinforce in between the two turns. The dog <u>must</u> do the turns in a controlled manner, without jumping or throwing his/her body around, and without the nose high in the air.

The turns should be done with the dog's head slightly lowered, nearly level with the dog's back. Luring or targeting works well for this exercise. If working with a small dog, the handler may kneel, squat or sit on the floor or a chair or stool while luring the dog. The two spins may be shown on the same or separate video clips.

- 13. Do a Trick: Demonstrate any trick in which at least the two rear feet remain on the ground. Suggestions are a raised paw, crossing paws, Peek position (standing between handler's legs facing forwards or backwards), hand shake, bow, and barking on cue.
- 14. Speed Changes (Handler Only): The handler demonstrates the following speed change sequences: Normal, Slow, Normal and Normal, Fast, Normal. To accommodate working space and video view, the handler may turn around during the exercise but must maintain the pace during the turns. The handler must show at least three steps for each pace in each sequence. The sequences may be shown on the same or separate video clips.
- 15. Pivot for Hind End Awareness: The dog places two front paws on or in an object suitable for pivoting. The object should be stable, non-slip, and at or below hock-height. The dog pivots 180 degrees in each direction. The handler may move around next to or in front of the dog, remain stationary, and/or lure. Be sure the dog completes <u>at least</u> 180 degrees in each direction. The two directions may be shown on the same or separate video clips.
- 16. Targeting for Front Position: The dog places two front paws or all four paws on a flat or slightly raised target positioned in front of the handler so that upon targeting, the dog will be in accurate Front position. Front position is "accurate" if the dog is lined up with an imaginary line extending directly in front of the handler. The target should be stable, non-slip, and at or below hock-height. Begin the exercise by tossing a treat away in any direction. Call the dog to Front (the cue is your choice). You may lure the dog onto the target and into position. The dog must remain in accurate Front position, on the target, for at least 2 seconds with all paws stationary.

**FS Level 1 Demonstration Videos:** https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8sT-W6WKaeOg

**Reinforcing and Luring:** Reinforcing with food or toys, praising, and petting are permitted and encouraged, but only praising is permitted while doing an exercise (unless delivering a treat is part of the exercise). The handler may not physically manipulate the dog. Lures and target sticks are <u>not</u> permitted for any exercise except where noted. Hand targets are permitted for all exercises. Toy lures are not permitted. Platforms and barriers are <u>not</u> permitted (unless they are part of the exercise). Food may be kept in a pocket or a treat pouch (pocket is preferred).

**Requirements:** Choose ten (10) exercises from the list below. Teams must complete all ten exercises safely, skillfully, and with willingness on the dog's part.

#### FS Level 2 Exercises:

- 1. Release Cue: The dog is cued to sit, down, or stand and may also be given a Wait cue. After a few seconds the handler gives a release cue (okay, release, free, etc.) and the dog leaves the position. Instead of using a release cue, the handler may cue another behavior to release the dog from the position. For example, if the dog is sitting, the handler may cue a down or stand.
- 2. Recall: The dog responds to a recall cue by going to the handler upon hearing or seeing the cue. This may be done while the dog is engaged in another activity, while the dog is waiting in a position cued by the handler, or while the dog and handler are moving around separately. No position is required when the dog reaches the handler.
- 3. Voluntary One-Way Eye Contact: Without giving any verbal or physical cue, the handler stands with the dog in Heel or Side position. The dog may sit or stand. The team needs to be facing a mirror or other reflective surface so the handler can look straight forward but still see when the dog makes eye contact. When the dog makes eye contact, the handler delivers a treat from a pocket or treat pouch (pocket is preferred). A marker is not necessary, but may be used. When the team has demonstrated five repetitions the exercise is completed.

NOTE: This exercise may not be done with a lure. Food may not be held in a hand or the handler's mouth for this exercise.

4. The Ready Game: In Heel or Side position, the handler calls out, "Are you ready?". The handler asks this as though at the Start sign of a rally run with the judge asking the handler "Are you ready?" The handler then calls out, "Ready!" (or other affirmative word of choice) as though answering the judge's question. Without cueing the dog, the handler waits for the dog to make eye contact. When the dog makes eye contact, the handler delivers a treat from a pocket or treat pouch (pocket is preferred). A marker is not necessary, but may be used. When the team has demonstrated five repetitions, the exercise is completed. The dog may sit or stand in Heel/Side position. The handler may

be watching the dog during the exercise or may be looking straight ahead (a mirror or other reflective surface will be needed so the handler can see the dog's response to "Ready!")

This game mimics the routine at the start line of a rally run. "Ready!" becomes a cue for attention and "Are you ready?" becomes a precursor to the Ready cue.

5. Schutzhund Turn (Left About Turn) Dissected: The team stands in Heel (or Side) position with the dog standing, not sitting. The handler cues the dog to wait and turns 180 degrees towards the dog so s/he is facing the opposite direction from the dog. The handler then cues the dog to come behind the handler and into Heel (or Side) position. The dog should (but is not required to) remain standing at the end of the exercise.

Note: Lures and target sticks may be used for this exercise, both to keep the dog stationary while the handler turns into position and to bring the dog around the handler into Heel (or Side) position.

6. Dog Circles Handler (Lured): The team begins in Heel or Side position with the dog sitting or standing. Using a lure, hand target, or target stick, the handler cues the dog to circle the handler (CW from Heel position or CCW from Side position) until the dog returns to the initial Heel or Side position. The dog may stand or sit upon returning to Heel/Side.

Note: Lures and target sticks are permitted for this exercise.

- 7. Turns by Degrees (Handler Only): Using an actual rally station (any sign and holder) or a cone or other marker, the handler demonstrates the following turns: 45 (AKC "Diagonal"), 90, 180, 225 (AKC "Loop"), 270, 360, and 450 degrees. The handler approaches the "station", performs the turn in front of the station, and leaves the station moving in the new direction. Only one direction is required for each turn and a mixture of right and left turns is fine. Only a step or two is required for the approach and exit. The turns may be shown on a single or multiple video clips.
- 8. Single Cone: The team performs a 180 degree turn around a single cone (or other suitable object, such as a chair or box). The exercise is to be performed turning to the right and also turning to the left. Each direction may be shown on a single or separate video clips. Only a step or two is required for the approach and exit from the turn.

Note: Lures and target sticks are permitted for this exercise.

9. Figure 8 Around the Legs: The dog does a figure 8 between/around the handler's legs. No speed is required and going more slowly is better for the dog's body and will create more body awareness. One complete figure 8 is all that is required (between the legs, around one leg, between the legs, around the other leg).

Note: Lures and target sticks are permitted for this exercise. It is easiest if the dog starts in front of or beside the handler rather than behind the handler, but all are acceptable. If starting from Heel or Side, the dog will go between the handler's legs only two times.

10. Finish Loop/Circle (Finish Left/Right): The team begins with the dog standing or sitting in Front position. Without moving his/her feet during this exercise, the handler cues the dog to do a Loop finish - to the handler's left to Heel position or to the handler's right to Side position. (This is called a "Left" finish in most venues that only include left-side heeling.) The team repeats the exercise, but this time the handler cues the dog to do a Circle finish - CW around handler to Heel position or CCW around the handler to Side position. (This is called a "Right" finish in most venues that only include left-side heeling.) Once in Heel or Side position, the dog may stand or sit. Each finish may be shown on a single or separate video clips.

Note: Lures and target sticks are permitted for this exercise.

- 11. Two Cone Recall: This exercise uses two cones (or other suitable objects) set side by side with a space between them of approximately four to eight feet. The team stands on one side of the cones in Heel or Side position facing the space between the cones. The handler cues the dog to wait and walks between the cones to the other side. The handler calls the dog between the cones. The dog moves between the cones to the handler (no particular position is required).
- 12. Walk Around (Lured): The team stands in Heel or Side position with the dog sitting or standing. The handler cues the dog to wait then walks around the dog (CCW from Heel, CW from Side) Handler may hold a treat or target stick at the dog's nose to keep the dog in place during the walk around. Handler returns to the original position and gives the dog a treat. A marker is optional.

Note: Lures and target sticks are permitted for this exercise.

- 13. Position Changes at Heel or Side: The team stands in Heel or Side position (the dog must stand). The handler cues the dog to a Sit from standing. The team pauses. Next, the handler cues to dog to a Down from sitting. The team pauses. The handler may reinforce the dog <u>only at the end</u> of the exercise.
- 14. Pivot 180 into Position: The dog places two front paws on an object suitable for pivoting. The object should be stable, non-slip and at or below hock-height. The handler faces the dog as though the dog were standing in Front position. The handler cues the dog to pivot (CCW to Heel position or CW to Side position). As the dog begins to pivot, the handler takes a step to the right for Heel or to the left for Side so the dog's shoulder will be next to the handler's leg when the dog completes the pivot into Heel or Side position. The handler may move forward slightly after stepping to the left or right in order to get a better Heel/Side position depending on the size of the dog. The dog's front paws must remain on the object while pivoting.
- 15. First Step Reinforcement: The team stands in Heel or Side position. The dog may sit or stand. The handler gives the cue to move forward. The handler takes a step forward and the dog moves with the handler's first step. The handler marks the first step and then reinforces. **Note: If the dog does not move with the handler, this exercise will not pass.**

16. Precision Cone Loops (Lured): Moving in Heel (or Side) position, the team approaches a cone offset to the right (or left) of their path. With as much precision as possible, the team performs a single cone loop (a complete circle around the cone) with the dog on the outside curve. After performing the loop, the team completes the exercise by resuming their original direction and path. The team must heel several steps for the approach and exit from the loop. The exercise is then repeated with the cone offset to the left (or right) and the dog on the inside curve. The two performances may be on a single or separate clips.

Note: Lures and target sticks are permitted for this exercise.

FS Level 2 Demonstration Videos: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X-Jh2ltp1Ow

**Reinforcing and Luring:** Reinforcing with food or toys, praising, and petting are permitted and encouraged, but only praising is permitted while doing an exercise (unless delivering a treat is part of the exercise). The handler may not physically manipulate the dog. Luring is <u>not</u> permitted. Target sticks are <u>not</u> permitted. Platforms and barriers are <u>not</u> permitted (unless they are part of the exercise). Hand targets are permitted for all exercises, where relevant. Food may be kept in a pocket or a treat pouch (pocket is preferred).

**Requirements:** Choose ten (10) exercises from the list below. Teams must complete all ten exercises safely, skillfully, and with willingness on the dog's part.

#### **FS Level 3 Exercises:**

- 1. Wait/Stay with Release Cue: Dog is cued to a position (sit, down, or stand). Handler cues the dog to wait/stay, moves at least five feet away from the dog, and the dog holds the position for at least 2 seconds. Handler gives the release cue and the dog moves from the position.
- 2. Send to Target (Beginning Distance): From a distance of at least three feet, the dog targets a mat (or similar flat target) with two front or four feet. The target should be stable, non-slip, and at or below hock-height such as a folded towel, small rug, bath mat, low platform. The dog must remain on the target for at least 2 seconds with all paws stationary. The handler must remain at least three feet from the nearest edge of the target.
- 3. Stop and Wait: The dog and handler walk forward in Heel (or Side) position. The handler cues the dog to stop, and both dog and handler stop (the dog may sit or stand). The handler cues the dog to wait and takes one or more steps forward. The dog must wait while the handler steps forward. The handler returns to the dog (no particular position is required) and gives a treat (or praises/pets). The handler again cues the dog to wait, moves forward one or more steps, pauses, and calls the dog to Heel (or Side). The dog comes to the cued position, and the team walks forward again. A pause is optional when the dog comes to the cued position.
- 4. Advanced Schutzhund Turn (Left About Turn) Dissected: The team stands in Heel (or Side) position with the dog standing, not sitting. The handler cues the dog to wait and turns 180 degrees towards the dog so s/he is facing the opposite direction from the dog. The handler then cues the dog to come behind the handler and into Heel (or Side) position. As the dog moves into position, the handler cues the dog to move forward and the team moves forward in Heel (or Side).

- 5. Dog Circles Handler (Sit and Stand): The team begins in Heel or Side position with the dog sitting. The handler cues the dog to circle the handler (CW from Heel position or CCW from Side position) until the dog returns to the initial Heel or Side position. The dog must sit upon completing the exercise. The team repeats the exercise, but this time the dog must stand at the start and end of the exercise. The two performances may be on a single or separate video clips.
- 6. Moving in Heel or Side Position: The team moves in Heel or Side position in a straight line for 5-7 of the handler's steps. Perfect position is not required, but an observer should be able to easily recognize the team's position.
- 7. 3 Cone U-Turn: Facing a horizontal line of three cones (or other suitable objects) spaced approximately four to eight feet apart, the team moves in Heel or Side position to make a U-turn (180 degrees) around the center cone. This exercise is to be performed twice once with the team turning around the cone to the right and once to the left. The two performances may be on a single or separate video clips.
- 8. Distraction Bowl Exercise: In Heel or Side position, the team moves in a 360 degree (or more) circle around an open container containing at least 10 treats. The dog may look at the treats but must not move towards them. The dog must be on the inside curve of the circle, closest to the treats. The diameter of the circle must be small enough so the dog is no more than two dog lengths (tip of nose to base of tail) from the treats. The handler may give cues (heel/side, watch, leave it, etc.) at any time during this exercise.
- 9. Turns in Position: Moving in Heel or Side position, the team demonstrates 90 degree and 180 degree turns to the left and to the right. The four turns may be on a single or separate video clips.
- 10. Serpentines and Spirals (Handler Only): The handler will demonstrate four cone exercises: Single Serpentine (also called Single Serpentine Weave Once), Double Serpentine (also called Straight Figure 8 Weave Twice), Spiral Right, and Spiral Left. Serpentines require four cones (or other suitable objects), Spirals require three. Each exercise must be labeled with a title on the clip or by the handler stating which exercise is going to be performed. The performances may be on a single or separate video clips.
- 11. Cone Figure 8: Moving in either Heel or Side position, the team approaches two cones (or other suitable objects) set approximately six to eight feet apart and performs the Figure 8 exercise. The handler may stop to reinforce the dog during the exercise but may not keep food in his/her hand or use a lure. There is no limit to the number of times the team can stop for the reinforcement, but no treats are to be given while the team is in motion. Food may be kept in a pocket or a treat pouch (pocket is preferred).
- 12. Serpentines and Spirals (Dog and Handler): Moving in either Heel or Side position, the team approaches a set of cones (or other suitable objects) set approximately four to eight feet apart and performs two of the following exercises: Single Serpentine (also

called Single Serpentine Weave Once), Double Serpentine (also called Straight Figure 8 Weave Twice), Spiral Right, and Spiral Left. Serpentines require four cones (or other suitable objects), Spirals require three. Each of the two exercises must be labeled with a title on the clip or by the handler stating which exercise is going to be performed. The handler may stop to reinforce the dog during the exercise but may not keep food in his/her hand or use a lure. There is no limit to the number of times the team can stop for the reinforcement, but no treats are to be given while the team is in motion. Food may be kept in a pocket or a treat pouch (pocket is preferred). The two performances may be on a single or separate video clips.

- 13. AKC Offset Serpentines (Handler Only): The handler will demonstrate the AKC Offset Serpentine Right and Offset Serpentine Left cone exercises. The handler may use cones or other suitable objects. Each exercise must be labeled with a title on the clip or by the handler stating which exercise is going to be performed. The performances may be on a single or separate video clips.
- 14. Foundation for Jumps: Two jump stanchions or similar items, including chairs, can be used for this exercise. The stanchions will be set approximately four to six feet apart. The jump bar (which can be a PVC pole, a broom, or any similar item) lays on the ground (no height is allowed) The handler and dog stand in Heel or Side position on one side of the "jump". The handler cues the dog to wait and walks to the other side of the "jump". The handler calls the dog and the dog moves between the jump stanchions and goes to the handler. No particular position is required when the dog reaches the handler.
- 15. Finishes with a Wait: The team begins with the dog standing or sitting in Front position. Without moving his/her feet during this exercise, the handler cues the dog to do a Loop finish to the handler's left to Heel position or to the handler's right to Side position. (This is called a "Left" finish in most venues that only include left-side heeling.) The team repeats the exercise, but this time the handler cues the dog to do a Circle finish CW around handler to Heel position or CCW around the handler to Side position. (This is called a "Right" finish in most venues that only include left-side heeling.) Once in Heel or Side position, the dog may stand or sit. The performances may be on a single or separate video clips.
- 16. Finishes with a Forward: The team begins with the dog standing or sitting in Front position. Without moving his/her feet, the handler cues the dog to do a Loop finish to the handler's left to Heel position or to the handler's right to Side position. (This is called a "Left" finish in most venues that only include left-side heeling.) As the dog moves into Heel or Side position, the handler gives the cue to move forward and team moves forward in Heel or Side position. The team repeats the exercise, but this time the handler cues the dog to do a Circle finish CW around handler to Heel position or CCW around the handler to Side position. (This is called a "Right" finish in most venues that only include left-side heeling.) The performances may be on a single or separate video clips.

FS Level 3 Demonstration Videos: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eJfDGyw2ZXI

**Reinforcing and Luring:** Reinforcing with food or toys, praising, and petting are permitted and encouraged, but only praising is permitted while doing an exercise (unless delivering a treat is part of the exercise). The handler may not physically manipulate the dog. Luring is <u>not</u> permitted. Target sticks are <u>not</u> permitted. Platforms and barriers are <u>not</u> permitted (unless they are part of the exercise). Hand targets are permitted for all exercises, where relevant. Food may be kept in a pocket or a treat pouch (pocket is preferred).

**Requirements:** Choose ten (10) exercises from the list below. Teams must complete all ten exercises safely, skillfully, and with willingness on the dog's part.

#### FS Level 4 Exercises:

- 1. Send to Target (Distance): From a distance of at least six feet, the dog targets a mat (or similar flat target) with two front or four feet. The target should be stable, non-slip, and at or below hock-height such as a folded towel, small rug, bath mat, low platform. The dog must remain on the target (in a sit, stand or down) for at least 2 seconds with all paws stationary. The handler must remain at least six feet from the nearest edge of the target.
- 2. 360 Degree Turns: The team, moving in Heel position or Side position, demonstrates 360 degree turns to the right and to the left. A few steps are required leading into and coming out of each turn. The performances may be on a single or separate video clips.
- 3. Stop and Wait (Right/Left Turns): The dog and handler walk forward in Heel (or Side) position. The handler cues the dog to stop, and both dog and handler stop (the dog may sit or stand). The handler cues the dog to wait and takes one or more steps to the right (90 degree turn for the handler). The dog must wait while the handler turns and steps to the right. The handler returns to the dog, stands in Heel (or Side) and gives a treat (or praises/pets). The handler again cues the dog to wait, takes one or more steps to the right, pauses, and calls the dog to Heel (or Side). The dog comes to the cued position, and the team walks forward again. A pause is optional when the dog comes to the cued position. The exercise is repeated with the handler turning and stepping left instead of right. The performances may be on a single or separate video clips.
- 4. Schutzhund Turns: The Team demonstrates a Schutzhund Turn and a Double Schutzhund Turn (also called Left About Turn and Double Left About Turn). The turns may be performed in Heel or Side. At least 2-3 steps are required leading into and coming out of each exercise. The performances may be on a single or separate video clips.
- 5. Figure 8 Cone Exercise: Using two cones or other suitable objects, the team

demonstrates the Figure 8 exercise. The handler may reinforce the dog only at the end of the exercise.

- 6. Serpentines: Using four cones or other suitable objects, the team demonstrates the Single Serpentine and the Double Serpentine (also called Serpentine Weave Once and Straight Eight Weave Twice). The handler may reinforce the dog only at the end of each Serpentine exercise. The performances may be on a single or separate video clips.
- 7. Spirals: Using three cones or other suitable objects, the team demonstrates the Spiral Right and Spiral Left exercises. The handler may reinforce the dog only at the end of each Spiral exercise. The performances may be on a single or separate video clips.
- 8. AKC Offset Serpentines: Using three cones or other suitable objects, the team demonstrates the AKC Offset Serpentine Right and Offset Serpentine Left exercises. The handler may reinforce the dog only at the end of each Serpentine exercise. The performances may be on a single or separate video clips.
- 9. Hand Target Recall: The handler cues the dog to Wait and moves away at least 8 feet. The handler gives the hand target cue. The dog comes to the handler, targeting the hand. During this exercise the handler may <u>only</u> give a hand target cue, not any other type of recall cue. No particular position is required when the dog comes to the handler.
- 10. Position Changes in Heel/Side: The team stands in Heel or Side position. The dog may sit or stand. The handler cues the dog to the following five positions, <u>making sure the team pauses in each position</u>: Down, Stand, Down, Sit, and Stand. The position changes must be performed exactly as written and not include any intermediate positions. The handler may hold a paper with the sequence of positions rather than memorize them. The handler may reinforce the dog for each position before cueing the next position.
- 11. Backing in Heel/Side: Standing by a wall or other barrier in either Heel or Side position (the dog must stand at the start of the exercise), the team takes three steps (handler's steps, not the dog's steps) backwards. The dog is to be positioned between the handler and the barrier.
- 12. Distraction Exercise: The team begins in Heel or Side position. The dog may sit or stand. The handler tosses five treats a few feet in front of the team, one at a time, a few seconds apart. After five treats have been tossed, and the dog remains in position, the exercise is complete. The handler may give cues (wait, watch, leave it, etc.) at any time during this exercise.
- 13. Spins in Front Position: The team begins with the dog in accurate Front position. Front position is "accurate" if the dog is lined up with an imaginary line extending directly in front of the handler. The dog may sit or stand, but standing is recommended. The handler cues a spin (CW or CCW). The dog executes the spin, returning to fairly

accurate Front position (standing is preferred, but the dog may sit). Upon completion of the spin it is acceptable for the dog's hind end to be up to 45 degrees off the imaginary line.

- 14. Spins in Heel/Side Position: The team begins with the dog in accurate Heel (or Side) position. The dog may sit or stand, but standing is recommended. The handler cues a spin (CW or CCW). The dog executes the spin, returning to Heel (or Side) position (standing is preferred, but the dog may sit). Upon completion of the spin it is acceptable for the dog's hind end to be up to 45 degrees off the accurate Heel/Side position.
- 15. Call Front Sequence: The team executes these three exercises, in succession, as though on a rally course, without stopping to reinforce between exercises. The team may do the sequence in Heel or Side position. The last two exercises may be coupled. In small spaces, the team may do a 180 degree turn between exercises, as needed.

Call Front, Finish (Loop), Forward.	[Call Front – Finish Left - Forward]
Call Front, Finish (Circle), Wait.	[Call Front – Finish Right - Sit]
Stop. Down. Walk Around	[Halt – Down – Walk Around]

16. Turn Sequence: The team executes these three exercises, in succession, as though on a rally course, without stopping to reinforce between exercises. The team may do the sequence in Heel or Side position. In small spaces, the team may do a 180 degree turn between exercises, as needed.

Schutzhund Turn [Left About Turn]
180 Right [About Turn Right]
360 Left [360 Left]

FS Level 4 Demonstration Videos: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TM1DRwTijeo

# ENJOY YOUR DOG & YOUR TRAINING! WE LOOK FORWARD TO RECEIVING YOUR ENTRY!

