

YKC Young Kennel Club Heelwork to Music

WHAT IS HEELWORK TO MUSIC

Heelwork to Music is a competition giving handlers an opportunity to demonstrate skillful movements by their dog and to perform heelwork and freestyle movements in a combined manner that interprets the chosen music and reflects the dog and handler working as a team. There are two types, freestyle and heelwork to music, the main difference being that heelwork to music focuses on a dog's ability to stay in variations of the heel position while the handler moves to music, whereas freestyle demands that the dog perform a variety of tricks and other obedience talents.

HEELWORK TO MUSIC NOTES / REQUIREMENTS AT THE SHOW

Ensure that your dog is exercised and has a drink, and then leave it safe whilst you go and find the rings that you will be running in. The class number is listed on your ring card. By the ring there will be a notice that tells you the classes that will be run in that ring. Each member should provide their own music. It can be a CD (clearly marked with the track to be used) or audio cassette tape with the music at the beginning of a blank tape.

It is advisable to bring two copies of the tape or CD with one for back up.

LENGTH OF MUSIC

Elementary classes up to 2 minutes. Primary classes up to 2 ½ minutes. Open classes up to 3 minutes.

An over-run of 5% is permitted, but 2 marks will be deducted from the final score for any time taken in excess of this.

DRESS

Costume appropriate to the routine is encouraged. Dogs may only wear dress collars.

Food shall not be carried in the hand or given to a dog in the ring.

HOW TO COMPETE? HEELWORK TO MUSIC CLASSES

YKC Heelwork to Music classes which can qualify members to take part at Crufts are held at appointed shows throughout the year.

These classes can be found at www.ykc.org.uk.

The first and second placed handler and dog in each subdivision at each qualifying show listed on the YKC website will be invited to take part in the Final at Crufts (provided there are at least six dogs entered into the division. If there are less than six dogs only the first place will qualify).

ELIGIBILITY

All handlers must be a fully paid up member of the YKC before entering a Heelwork to Music competition.

Only dogs of twelve (12) calendar months of age and over on the day of competition are eligible for entry into a YKC qualifying Heelwork to Music class.

No activity shall be conducted which permits, encourages or develops aggression in a dog.

Dogs entered must be registered at the K C in accordance with Kennel Club Regulations for Classification and Registration B.

If your dog is a rescue or crossbreed, the Kennel Club has an Activity Register for dogs that do not qualify for the breed register

YKC CRUFTS FINALS H T M (HEELWORK AND FREESTYLE) – RULES AND QUALIFICATION PROCEDURE

Class Definition

Open to Young Kennel Club members only.

Dogs entered must be registered at the Kennel Club in accordance with Kennel Club Regulations for Classification and Registration B. If your dog is a rescue or crossbreed, the Kennel Club has an Activity Register for dogs that do not qualify for the breed register.

Restrictions....Members must be aged 6 years and up to, but not including 18th birthday.

There are twelve classes divided by age of member, level and style as listed below.

Under 12 (Handlers 6 years and up to, but not including 12th birthday) Elementary Heelwork

Under 12 (Handlers 6 years and up to, but not including 12th birthday) Primary Heelwork

Under 12 (Handlers 6 years and up to, but not including 12th birthday) Open Heelwork

12 Years and Over (Handlers 12 years and up to, but not including 18th birthday) Elementary Heelwork

12 Years and Over (Handlers 12 years and up to, but not including 18th birthday) Primary Heelwork

12 Years and Over (Handlers 12 years and up to, but not including 18th birthday) Open Heelwork

Under 12 (Handlers 6 years and up to, but not including 12th birthday) Elementary Freestyle

Under 12 (Handlers 6 years and up to, but not including 12th birthday) Primary Freestyle

Under 12 (Handlers 6 years and up to, but not including 12th birthday) Open Freestyle

12 Years and Over (Handlers 12 years and up to, but not including 18th birthday) Elementary Freestyle

12 Years and Over (Handlers 12 years and up to, but not including 18th birthday) Primary Freestyle

12 Years and Over (Handlers 12 years and up to, but not including 18th birthday) Open Freestyle

Please note that we do not hold Young Kennel Club Heelwork to Music classes for members aged 18 years and above as they are eligible to enter the adult classes.

Class Definition

Elementary – For members & dogs who have not won a First Prize in any YKC Heelwork to Music class.

Primary – For members & dogs who have not won 2 or more 1st Prizes in any YKC HTM class (Elementary exempt).

Open – For members & dogs that have won out of the Primary class in that category.

The first and second placed dog and handler in each subdivision from each heat will qualify for the Final which will take place at Crufts. (Please note that there must be at least six dogs entered into the subdivision in the heat. If there are less than six dogs, only the first place dog and handler will qualify).

All competing dogs must be aged 12 calendar months or over on day of competition.

Handlers are placed into the age group in accordance with their age on the first day of Crufts.

No persons shall carry out punitive correction or harsh handling of a dog at any time.

Dogs must not wear any type of slip, half-slip collar or lead when under test. A flat, close fitting, leather or webbing collar is permitted providing the only attachment is a plain identification panel as an integral part of the collar, i.e. not attached by a ring.

Food shall not be carried in the hand or given to a dog in the ring.

Dogs may only wear a collar which may be decorated.

No costume or routine should bring any discredit to the sport. Props appropriate to the routine may be used. The use of firearms is prohibited nor must any simulated gunshot be used.

No activity shall be conducted which may be injurious to the dog.

The music and routine must be suitable for a family audience and the spectator appeal of the programme should be apparent.

The decision to withdraw from competition is entirely at the discretion of the competitor, however, a competitor may not withdraw once a routine has been completed and scored.

A dog cannot be entered into the same class more than once.

Once a dog has entered the ring to compete, no further practice may be carried out.

A member can run a dog that has already qualified but if it wins the next placed dog and handler will qualify.

Judges Marking Criteria

There must be three judges for each class, except in exceptional circumstances, whereby the Society should notify the Kennel Club as soon as possible. Each judge will mark all three sections of the Judging

Criteria as follows: a) Programme Content – 10 marks

1) The programme content conforms to the definitions for Heelwork to Music or Freestyle.

2) The programme should be varied with no excessive repetition of moves.

3) The movements of the dog should have a greater impact than those of the handler.

4) Movements should be appropriate to the structure and conformation of the dog.

5) Degree of difficulty of movements should be taken into account.

b) Accuracy and Execution of Movement – 10 marks

1) Movements are accurately and smoothly executed.

2) The accuracy of heel work must be taken into account.

3) The bearing and deportment of the handler is appropriate to the routine.

4) The dog should work in a natural and willing manner.

5) The dog responds promptly and appropriately to the cues given.

6) Handler and dog should work as a team.

7) Any props used should be appropriate to the routine.

c) Musical Interpretation – 10 marks

1) Interpretation of the music, rhythm and phrasing is apparent.

2) The programme flows and is not a series of disjointed movements.

3) Handlers dress is applicable to the programme.

4) Emphasis of interpretation is on the dogs movements although the handler may be expressive.

5) Choreography should be apparent and flowing. The routine should include balance, structure and making best use of available space.

6) The harmony and relationship should show the strength of the dog and handler partnership.

7) Handler and dog should work as a team.

8) Choice of music should suit the team.

In the event of dogs obtaining equal marks in Heelwork to Music competitions, the Accuracy and Execution of Movement mark will decide the result. In a Freestyle Competition, the Musical

Interpretation mark will decide the result. Where there is still equality of marks the order shall be decided at the discretion of the lead (head) judge. When assessing a routine the judges should take into account any degree of departure from the Regulations for handlers and dogs. Where applicable judges should mark to one decimal place. The dog should work in a willing and natural manner. Excessive barking must be penalised and a maximum of 4 marks can be deducted from the overall score at the judge's discretion.

YKC Young Kennel Club Obedience

WHAT IS OBEDIENCE

Obedience training ranges from the very basic, such as teaching the dog to reliably respond to basic commands such as “sit”, “down”, “come”, and “stay”, to high level competition within clubs where additional commands, accuracy and performance are scored and judged.

In competition the dog and handler must perform the exercises off lead and in a carefully defined manner. For example, on a recall, the dog must come directly to the handler, without sniffing or veering to one side, and must sit straight in front of the handler, not at an angle or off to one side or the other.

You can obtain the address for your nearest dog training club from Clubs and Training at www.thekennelclub.org.uk

OBEDIENCE NOTES / REQUIREMENTS GENERAL

In all Classes the dog should work in a happy and natural manner but should not impede the handler and prime consideration should be given to judging the dog and handler as a team. The dog may be encouraged and praised except where specifically stated. Instructions and commands to competitors may be made either by the Judge or the Steward by delegation except during heelwork when commands must be given by the Caller Steward.

In all tests the left side of a handler will be regarded as the “working side” unless the handler suffers from a physical disability and has the Judge’s permission to work the dog on the right hand side.

To signal the completion of each test the handler will be given the command “test finished”.

It is permissible for handlers to practise their dogs before going into the ring provided there is no punitive correction; this is similar to an athlete warming up before an event.

The dog should be lead into the ring for judging with a smooth collar or slip chain, lead attached (unless otherwise directed) and should be at the handler’s side.

TESTS

Heel on Lead

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 at heel.

The dogs shoulder should be approximately level and reasonably close to the handlers leg at all times when the handler is walking.

The lead should be slack at all times. 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.

Turning manoeuvres must not be coupled together.

The handler and the 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 handlers side.

Throughout the test the handler may not touch the dog or make use of the lead without penalty.

Heel Free

The dog must be off the lead throughout this test.

The Test must be carried out in the same manner as Heel on Lead and the same restriction on turns except as specified below.

Need to check specific class requirements.

Recall

See specific Class Tests.

Retrieve a Dumb-bell / Article

At the start of the exercise the dog should be sitting at the handlers side.

On command the handler must throw the dumb-bell / article in the direction indicated.

The dog should remain in the Sit position until the handler is ordered to send it to retrieve the dumb-bell / article.

The dog should move out promptly at a smart pace to collect the dumb-bell / article cleanly.

It should return with the dumb-bell / article at a smart pace and sit straight in front of the handler.

On command the handler should take the dumb-bell/article from the dog. On further command the dog should be sent to heel.

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” will be penalised.

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 these groups must be consecutive.

Sit / Stay – Dogs should remain in the Sit position throughout the test.

Down / Stay – Dogs should remain in the Down position throughout the test.

Scent Discrimination

Cloths must be placed in position by a steward and must be at least 1m (3ft) and not more than 1.6m (5ft) apart.

The method of taking scent is at the handlers discretion. CHECK INDIVIDUAL CLASSES.

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 while scented / decoy cloths are placed in position. When the cloths have been placed, the handler must give the dog scent, stand up straight and send the dog on command from the judge or steward to find the correct cloth. The dog, on finding the correct cloth must then complete the test as for the Retrieve Test.

Limiting the time for this test is at the judges discretion.

COMPETING

Dogs will not be allowed to be swapped or transferred after the closing date of entries.

After a dog has commenced competing in a Class, no substitution of Handler is permitted in that Class.

Dogs may only wear a slip chain or smooth collar when in the ring.

Nothing may be carried, worn or displayed by a handler or a dog during judging which is capable of indicating the identity of the dog or owner nor must anything be said or any action taken which identifies the dog other than by exhibit number.

Every handler shall ensure that whilst the dog is competing, its correct ring number is displayed.

After the commencement of judging the responsibility for dogs being brought to the ring to compete is entirely the competitors.

Any dog which is not presented for stay or scent exercises when called for testing will be considered to have withdrawn.

Food shall not be carried or given to a dog under test.

The use of a toy as an incentive in the ring between or during exercises is prohibited.

No person shall carry out punitive correction or harsh handling of a dog at any time within the boundaries of the Show.

HOW TO COMPETE? OBEDIENCE CLASSES

YKC Obedience classes which can qualify members to take part at Crufts are held at appointed licensed obedience shows throughout the year. These classes can be found at www.ykc.org.uk.

The class winner (provided he/she is within qualifying marks) will automatically qualify for the same class at Crufts. If he/she wins the same class more than once in the qualifying year he/she will remain in that class. If he/she should win a higher class in the qualifying year, he/she will be entered into the higher class at Crufts.

Please note that the YKC office will only accept wins from classes that are listed on the YKC website. If a show has a YKC class scheduled which we have not approved and included on the website, it will not qualify for Crufts.

DIPLOMAS

In addition members can take part in obedience classes held at K C licensed events and gain a YKC obedience diploma and badge. Diplomas will be issued where a member achieves a set amount of marks over the whole test (see individual class classifications for points required).

Five diplomas within qualifying marks with the same dog achieved in one calendar year will count as a Crufts qualification.

There is no ceiling to the number of diploma certificates that can be awarded at one show, providing each member has completed the test and achieved the required qualification marks.

Five diplomas gained with different dogs do not qualify for Crufts, one dog must achieve all five diplomas.

If diplomas are gained in different classes, the lowest class eligible for qualification applies.

Please note that a first prize win, places and diplomas awarded at the Crufts final in the YKC ring does not count toward a qualification for the following year.

Members need to send in their diplomas to the YKC office by 1 December. The diplomas will be copied, recorded and then returned within one month of receipt.

ELIGIBILITY

All handlers must be a fully paid up member of the YKC before entering an obedience competition.

Only dogs of six (6) calendar months of age and over on the day of competition are eligible for entry into a YKC qualifying obedience class. Please note that dogs must be of eight (8) calendar months of age and over on the day of competition into the Crufts finals in the YKC ring.

Dogs entered must be registered at the K C in accordance with Kennel Club Regulations for Classification and Registration B.

If your dog is a rescue or crossbreed, the K C has an Activity Register for dogs that do not qualify for the breed register.

YKC CRUFTS FINALS

Please note that the results of the Crufts Finals will be announced during the Obedience Presentations. Members will not find out their scores or placing until this time.

STARTERS - RULES AND QUALIFICATION PROCEDURE Class Definition

Open to Young Kennel Club members only.

Dogs entered must be registered at the Kennel Club in accordance with Kennel Club Regulations for Classification and Registration B. If your dog is a rescue or crossbreed, the Kennel Club has an Activity Register for dogs that do not qualify for the breed register.
Restrictions

Members must be aged 6 years and up to, but not including 18th birthday.

Members are only allowed to work one dog in the Starters final at Crufts.

A handler or dog must not have won a first prize in any YKC obedience class within qualifying marks or won a first prize in Pre-beginner or Beginners held at a KC Licenses Event, Open or Championship Obedience show.

The detailed tests will be:

Heel on Lead (right handed and left handed circle) 15 points

Recall (no finish) 10 points

Sit Stay (30 seconds – in sight) 10 points

Down Stay (1 minute – in sight) 15 points

Total 50 points

Rules

The first placed dog and handler in each qualifying class (provided they are in qualifying marks of 45 or more marks) will qualify for the final, which will take place at Crufts. A diploma will be awarded for 45 or more marks gained, except first prize winners. Handlers will not be penalised for encouragement or extra commands except in the sit and down tests. In these tests at the discretion of the judge, handlers may face their dogs. Judges or stewards must not use the words “last command” except in the sit and down tests.

Temperament Test (Dog to be on lead in the stand position, handler to stay by the dog, the judge to approach quietly from the front and to run hand gently down the dogs back. Judge may talk quietly to the dog to reassure it. Any undue resentment, cringing, growling, or snapping to be penalised). This is not a stand for examination or stay test.

All competing dogs must be aged 8 calendar months or over on day of competition for Crufts.

ELEMENTARY Class Definition

Open to Young Kennel Club members only.

Members are only allowed to work one dog in the Elementary final at Crufts.

Dogs entered must be registered at the Kennel Club in accordance with Kennel Club Regulations for Classification and Registration B. If your dog is a rescue or crossbreed, the Kennel Club has an Activity Register for dogs that do not qualify for the breed register.
Restrictions

Members must be aged 6 years and up to, but not including 18th birthday. A handler or dog must not have won two or more first prizes in any YKC Obedience class (Starters exempt) within qualifying marks or won a first prize in Beginners (Pre-Beginners exempt) or any other Obedience class held at a KC Licensed Event, Open or Championship Obedience show.

The detailed tests will be:

Temperament Test 10 points

Heel on Lead 15 points

Heel Free 20 points

Recall with Finish 20 points

Sit Stay (1 minute – in sight) 15 points

Down Stay (2 minutes – in sight) 20 points

Total 100 points

Rules

The first placed dog and handler in each qualifying class (provided they are in qualifying marks of 90 or more marks) will qualify for the final, which will take place at Crufts.

A diploma will be awarded for 90 or more marks gained, except first prize winners.

Handlers will not be penalised for encouragement or extra commands except in the sit and down tests.

In these tests at the discretion of the judge, handlers may face their dogs. Judges or stewards must not use the words “last command” except in the sit and down tests.

Temperament Test (Dog to be on lead in the stand position, handler to stay by the dog, the judge to approach quietly from the front and to run hand gently down the dogs back. Judge may talk quietly to the dog to reassure it. Any undue resentment, cringing, growling, or snapping to be penalised). This is not a stand for examination or stay test.

All competing dogs must be aged 8 calendar months or over on day of competition for Crufts.

GRADUATE Class Definition

Open to Young Kennel Club members only.

Dogs entered must be registered at the Kennel Club in accordance with Kennel Club Regulations for Classification and Registration B. If your dog is a rescue or crossbreed, the Kennel Club has an Activity Register for dogs that do not qualify for the breed register.
Restrictions

Members must be aged 6 years and up to, but not including 25th birthday.

For dogs that have not won three or more first prizes in an YKC Obedience class (Starters and Elementary exempt) within qualifying marks or won three or more first prizes in any Obedience class (Pre-beginners and Beginners exempt) held at a KC Licensed Event, Open or Championship Obedience Show.

The detailed tests will be:

Temperament Test 10 points

Heel on Lead 15 points

Heel Free 20 points

Recall with Finish 10 points

Retrieve own article 15 points

Sit Stay (1 minute – in sight) 10 points

Down Stay (2 minute – in sight) 20 points

Total 100 points

Rules

The first placed dog and handler in each qualifying class (provided they are in qualifying marks of 90 or more marks) will qualify for the final, which will take place at Crufts.

A diploma will be awarded for 90 or more marks gained, except first prize winners.

Handlers will not be penalised for encouragement or extra commands except in the sit and down tests. In these tests at the discretion of the judge handlers may face their dogs. Judges /stewards must not use the words “last command” except in the sit and down tests. Temperament Test (Dog to be on lead in the stand position, handler to stay by the dog, the judge to approach quietly from the front and to run hand gently down the dogs back. Judge may talk quietly to the dog to reassure it. Any undue resentment, cringing, growling, or snapping to be penalised). This is not a stand for examination or stay test.

All competing dogs must be aged 8 calendar months or over on day of competition at Crufts.

INTERMEDIATE Class Definition

Open to Young Kennel Club members only.

Dogs entered must be registered at the Kennel Club in accordance with Kennel Club Regulations for Classification and Registration

B. If your dog is a rescue or crossbreed, the K C has an Activity Register for dogs that do not qualify for the breed register.

Restrictions

Members must be aged 6 years and up to, but not including 25th birthday.

For dogs that have not won 3 or more first prizes in a YKC Intermediate or Advanced class within qualifying marks or have won 3 or more first prizes in class A or above in an Obedience class held at a KC Licensed Event, Open or Championship Obed. Show.

The detailed tests will be:

Temperament Test 10 points

Heel on Lead (fast, slow and normal paces from the halt) 30 points

A Recall 15 points

Retrieve a Dumbbell 25 points

Scent

(Handlers scent on cloth provided by the Judge – all blank cloths provided by the event organisers). A total of six cloths including the Judge’s cloth, these cloths must be set out in a straight line in any direction. No extra commands must be given.

30 points

Sit Stay (2 minutes – in sight) 10 points

Down Stay (3 minutes – out of sight) 30 points

Total 150 points

Rules

The first placed dog and handler in each qualifying class (provided they are in qualifying marks of 140 or more marks) will qualify for the final, which will take place at Crufts.

A diploma will be awarded for 140 or more marks gained, except first prize winners.

Handlers will not be penalised for encouragement or extra commands except in the sit and down tests. In these tests at the discretion of the judge, handlers may face their dogs. Judges/stewards must not use the words “last command” except in the sit and down tests. Temperament Test (Dog to be on lead in the stand position, handler to stay by the dog, the judge to approach quietly from the front and to run hand gently down the dogs back. Judge may talk quietly to the dog to reassure it. Any undue resentment, cringing, growling, or snapping to be penalised). This is not a stand for examination or stay test.

All competing dogs must be aged 8 calendar months or over on day of competition.

ADVANCED Class Definition

Open to Young Kennel Club members only.

Dogs entered must be registered at the K C in accordance with Kennel Club Regulations for Classification and Registration B. If your dog is a rescue or crossbreed, the Kennel Club has an Activity Register for dogs that do not qualify for the breed register.

Restrictions

Members must be aged 6 years and up to, but not including 25th birthday.

For dogs that have not gained a first place in 'C' at an Open or Championship Obedience show. CC and Reserve CC Obedience winners will not be able to compete at Crufts.

The detailed tests will be:

Temperament Test 10 points

Heel Free with fast, slow and normal paces, to include a weave during slow or normal pace (two poles).

40 points

Retrieve article provided by the Judge 30 points

Send away, Drop and Recall 40 points

Scent

(Handlers scent on cloth provided by the Judge – all blank cloths provided by the event organisers). A total of six cloths including the Judge's cloth, these cloths must be set out in a straight line in any direction. No extra commands must be given.

30 points

Sit Stay (2 minutes – in sight) 20 points

Down Stay (4 minutes – out of sight) 30 points

Total 200 points

Rules

The first placed dog and handler in each qualifying class (provided they are in qualifying marks of 185 or more marks) will qualify for the final, which will take place at Crufts.

A diploma will be awarded for 185 or more marks gained, except first prize winners.

Handlers will not be penalised for encouragement or extra commands except in the sit and down tests. In these tests at the discretion of the judge, handlers may face their dogs. Judges or stewards must not use the words "last command" except in the sit and down tests.

Temperament Test (Dog to be on lead in the stand position, handler to stay by the dog, the judge to approach quietly from the front and to run hand gently down the dogs back. Judge may talk quietly to the dog to reassure it. Any undue resentment, cringing, growling, or snapping to be penalised). This is not a stand for examination or stay test.

All competing dogs must be aged 8 calendar months or over on day of competition.

REBECCA POINTER Class Definition

Open to Young Kennel Club members only.

Dogs entered must be registered at the Kennel Club in accordance with Kennel Club Regulations for Classification and Registration B. If your dog is a rescue or crossbreed, the Kennel Club has an Activity Register for dogs that do not qualify for the breed register.

Restrictions

Members must be aged 6 years and up to, but not including 18th birthday.

Members are only able to win this competition once.

Rules

Members must collect points throughout the qualifying year at obedience shows and complete an application form and send into the office by 1 December.

Points are awarded for wins and places to sixth.

The points awarded for wins and places at Championship, Open, Limited shows and YKC Intermediate and Advanced Tests are as follows; 1st – 20, 2nd – 16, 3rd – 14, 4th – 12, 5th – 10 and 6th – 8. The points awarded for wins and places at Companion Dog Shows and YKC Starters, Elementary and Graduate Tests are as follows; 1st – 10, 2nd – 8, 3rd – 7, 4th – 6, 5th – 5 and 6th – 4.

Members who gain more than 150 points will receive a special certificate.

If you are interested in obtaining a pack detailing the Rebecca Pointer Award, please contact the YKC office on 020 7518 1030.

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES FOR YKC OBEDIENCE COMPETITIONS AWARDS

Rosettes will be provided for the first six in each class.