



GOOD CITIZEN AWARDS SCHEME

© Elaine Henley

Take the Lead Pet Dog School Good Citizen Scheme Platinum Award

Aim

The Platinum Award is the highest level of Good Citizenship and builds upon the skills learned in the Silver Award. For the Platinum Award examiners will only accept dogs that have already been awarded a Bronze, Silver and Gold Award Certificate, that have proper means of identification and, whose handlers can show their means of cleaning up after their dog. In addition to this, dogs must not have bitten or shown aggression towards any human in the preceding six months prior to the examination date. They must not have shown excessive aggression towards other dogs in the preceding six months prior to the test. For clarification, please consult your trainer.

The Platinum award will take place in a park or a similar location.

Heeling on lead and off lead:

At the beginning of each trial section, the two handlers and their dogs must report in to the judge in a sportsmanlike manner. One dog and handler will be performing the test while the other dog is left in a down stay, with his handler at least 20 paces away from him. At the end of the first dogs test, that dog will be positioned in the down for the duration of the second test.

The handler enters the field with his dog on lead and reports in the basic position, (sit). Each exercise begins and ends in the basic position. The dog sits straight, on the left side and next to the handler. From this position, at the judge's signal. Dog and handler will walk approximately 40 paces without stopping. The dog is to stay at the left side of the handler.

After travelling about 40 paces, the handler will make an about turn. Then show the exercise at a run for 10 paces a slow for 10 paces then back to normal. After showing, the changes of pace the team will demonstrate a right turn, a left turn, and an about turn with a minimum of 10 paces between. Then they will move into a group stopping at least once in the middle and showing a left and right turn in the group.

As the owner takes the dog out of the group, the lead is removed. The above exercise is repeated off lead, before returning to the Judge. Note that the dog should be by the handlers side at all times.

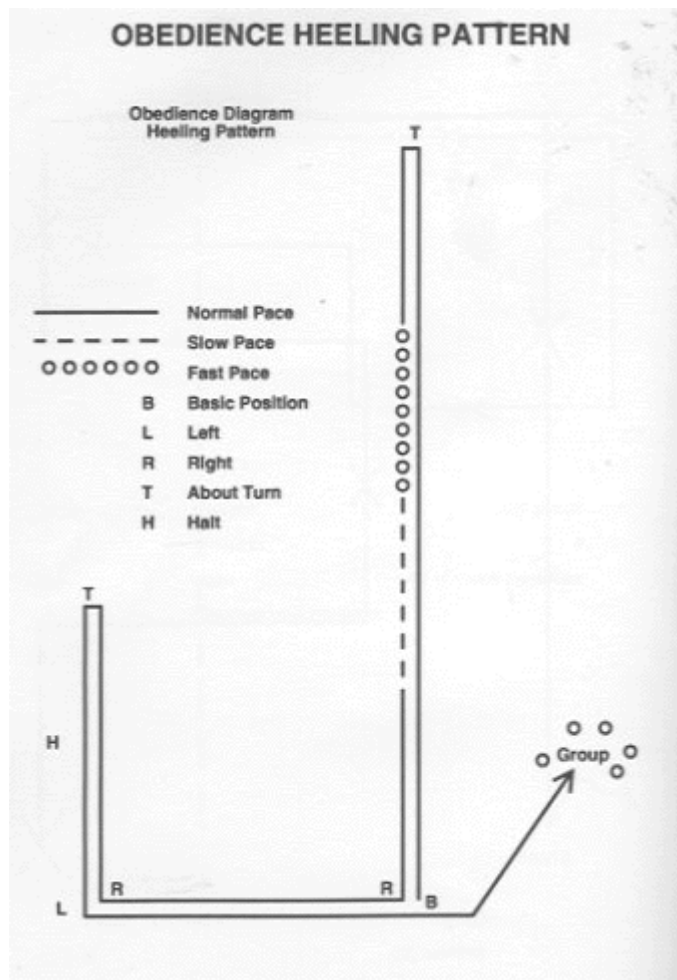
Then when directed to the owner will carry out the following- off lead exercises.

- Starting in the sit position, the handler when directed to by the judge shall walk 15 paces then direct the dog to "sit", before leaving the dog and walking a further 30 paces away from the dog, without turning to look at the dog. When directed to by the Judge the owner should return to the dog and direct the dog to walk back to the starting position.
- As above except the handler should direct the dog to "down".

Note: the handler may not turn to look at their dog as they give the command to "sit" or "down". Any more than one command to the dog is at the discretion of the Judge.

- Starting from a point indicated by the Judge, the owners will send their dogs to an object, when the dog reached the object the owner will tell the dog to "down"
- The dog will remain in the down position until the Judge indicates to the owner to recall the dog to them.

Note: The object will either be a small chair or a small traffic cone. The owner will be sending the dog to a distance of not more than 100 paces. The dog will be expected to down with the minimum of commands. The dog will remain in a down for at least 60 seconds before being recalled to the handler.



Long down out of sight.

All dogs entered for testing will take part in this test. The object of the exercise is for the dogs to be left in the down position when off lead and in a public area for 10 minutes while the owners are out of sight.

A space of 10 steps must be left between each dog.

Sit and stay.

The dog will sit and stay for 5 minutes; the owners should stand 40 paces away. The dog should not change position. **Note** if the dog has passed the other stages, the judge may allow one or two changes in position.