

Category 1: Presentation

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General

Maximum 9 points

Cooperation

Flow

Responsiveness

Commands/signalling

Presentation on the day

Correct execution of moves

Core parts of the Rules

In a good Freestyle routine you remember the good Freestyle you've seen.

In a good HtM routine you remember the good heelwork you have seen.

We award points for behaviours we want to see, instead of deducting for things we don't want to see.

Cooperation

Ideal co-operation requires the dog to be attentive toward the handler at all time and the handler to be attentive towards the dog equally. This should always be achieved without the help of any props, toys or parts of costume. The team works together in a positive manner, both parties enjoy working and support each other throughout the routine.

Key words:

- Attentive towards the handler/towards the dog equally
- Works together in a positive manner

Flow

The team's work appears easy and effortless. There are no unintended breaks between the moves.

Key words:

- No unintended breaks

Responsiveness

The dog responds to handling without hesitation. This means, that in addition to paying attention to what the handler is doing, the dog is motivated and constantly reacts to signalling.

Key words:

- Responds to handling without hesitation

Commands/signalling

All the commands and signals that the handler is giving should be incorporated in the routine. Hand signals should not stand out from the choreography and overall movement of the handler. Vocal commands should never be angry or harsh in tone and a louder voice should only be used when necessary for the dog.

Key words:

- Commands and signals should be incorporated in the routine

Presentation on the day

The dog and handler should perform the routine fluently without struggling or obvious mistakes from beginning to end.

Key words:

- Perform the routine fluently from beginning to end

Correct execution of moves

In HTM the heelwork is performed flawlessly according to the rules. In freestyle the dog executes the moves consistently, is able to perform the moves and the moves are well defined from a clear beginning to a controlled ending.

Key words:

- Flawless Heelwork
- Consistent and well defined Freestyle

Heelwork positions

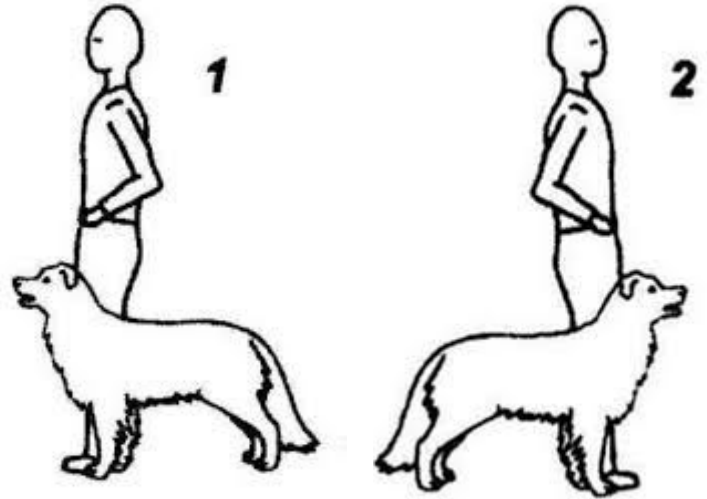
In an ideal HTM position the distance between dog and handler is constant and no further than 15 cm. Neither the dog nor the handler should restrict each other's movement. The dog must always adapt to the handler's pace and direction. It's desired for the dog to remain parallel in all positions and only to move in one track, unless it is sideways movement. If the distance between the dog and the handler is further than 50 cm it is considered Freestyle. The dog lagging or pushing ahead is unwanted. The distance is measured from the closest part of the handler to the closest part of the dog. The dog has to walk on all fours. The dog should be equality comfortable working on both sides of the handler. The dog should move in a natural manner.

- Constant distance between dog and handler
- Distance between dog and handler less than 15 cm, if more than 50 cm it's considered freestyle
- Neither dog nor handler should restrict each other's movement
- The dog adapts to the handler.
- Lagging or pushing ahead is unwanted,
- The dog should remain parallel except in sideways movement
- The dog walks on all fours
- The dog is equally comfortable on both sides of the handler
- The dog should move in a natural manner.

The distance is measured from the closest part of the handler to the closest part of the dog.

1: The right shoulder of the dog is situated parallel and next to the left leg of the handler (left side).

2: The left shoulder of the dog is situated parallel and next to the right leg of the handler (right side).





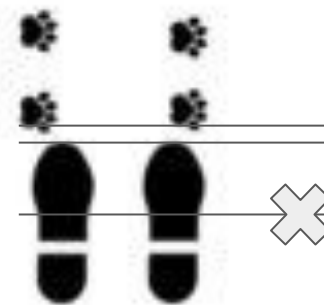
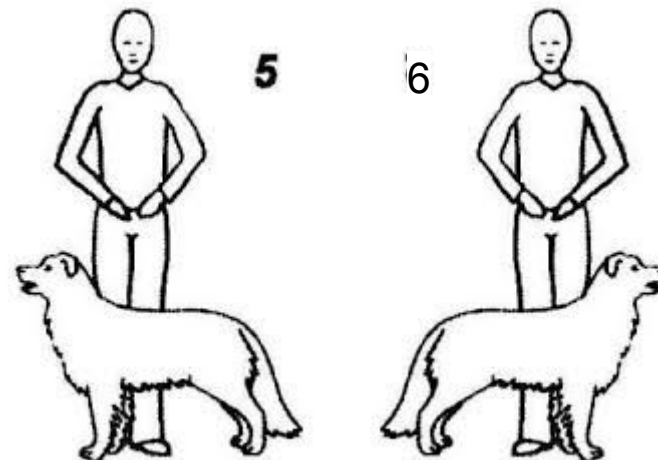
3: The right shoulder of the dog is situated parallel to the right leg of the handler. The dog is looking towards the handler (inverted right side).

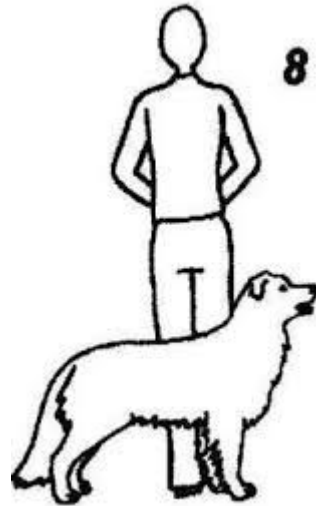
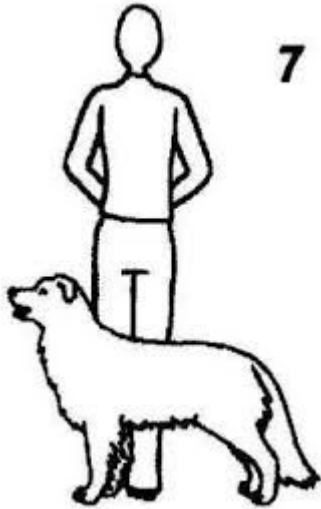
4: The left shoulder of the dog is situated parallel to the left leg of the handler. The dog is looking towards the handler (inverted left side).

5: The dog is standing sideways in front of the handler, with his right side towards the front side of the handler. The right shoulder of the dog is situated at the right leg of the handler. This may be on either the inside or the outside of the handler's right leg.

6: The dog is standing sideways in front of the handler, with the left side towards the front side of the handler. The left shoulder of the dog is situated at the left leg of the handler. This may be on either the inside or the outside of the handler's left leg.

Remember that the position distance is counted from the point of the handler closest to the dog, to the closest point of the dog. In Position 5 and 6 the toes of the handler will be close to the dogs legs.



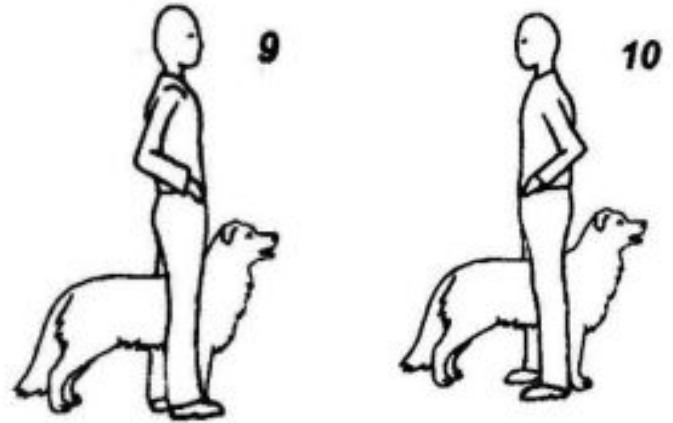


7: The dog is standing behind the handler, with the right shoulder of the dog at the left leg of the handler.

8: The dog is standing behind the handler, with the left shoulder of the dog at the right leg of the handler.

9: The dog is situated between the legs of the handler and looking in the same direction as the handler. His shoulders are at the legs of the handler.

10: The dog is situated between the legs of the handler and looking in the opposite direction to the handler. His shoulders are at the legs of the handler.



Important things to keep in mind whilst judging HtM:

- Is there a difference in the positions when the dog has their left or right side closest to the handler?
- Does a change in direction affect the quality of the position?
- Is it the handler, or the dog, who begins the change of pace, direction or position?
- Is the quality of the heelwork the same throughout the routine?

In good heelwork you, as a judge, should never have to be unsure of what position you're shown.

Freestyle

- Distinct moves
- Consistency
- Well defined moves
- Controlled moves

Important things to keep in mind whilst judging Freestyle:

- Is there a difference in the execution of the moves in the beginning of the routine compared to in the end?
- Is it the handler, or the dog, who begins a move?
- Is the quality of the moves the same throughout the routine?

Questions

Discussions to have with your fellow judges after the seminar

Which dog has the better presentation in Heelwork:

Dog 1: consistently works with 15 cm to the handler in all positions

Dog 2: works 5 cm from the handler in 5 positions and 20 cm to the handler in 5 positions