



FCI International Dog Dancing Judges Conference



22nd & 23rd January 2022
by Médauer Corinne

About myself,

Corinne Médauer, I live in France

I have 3 dogs, 2 border collies and 1 berger des Pyrénées

I am judge since 2005 and I had the opportunity over the years to judge in several countries

As competitor

- world championship 2010-2012-2014
- OEC 2011-2013-2015

As coach of the french team
2018-2019

Since 2019 responsible for Dog Dancing in France
And member of the FCI commission

Organizer WC 2022



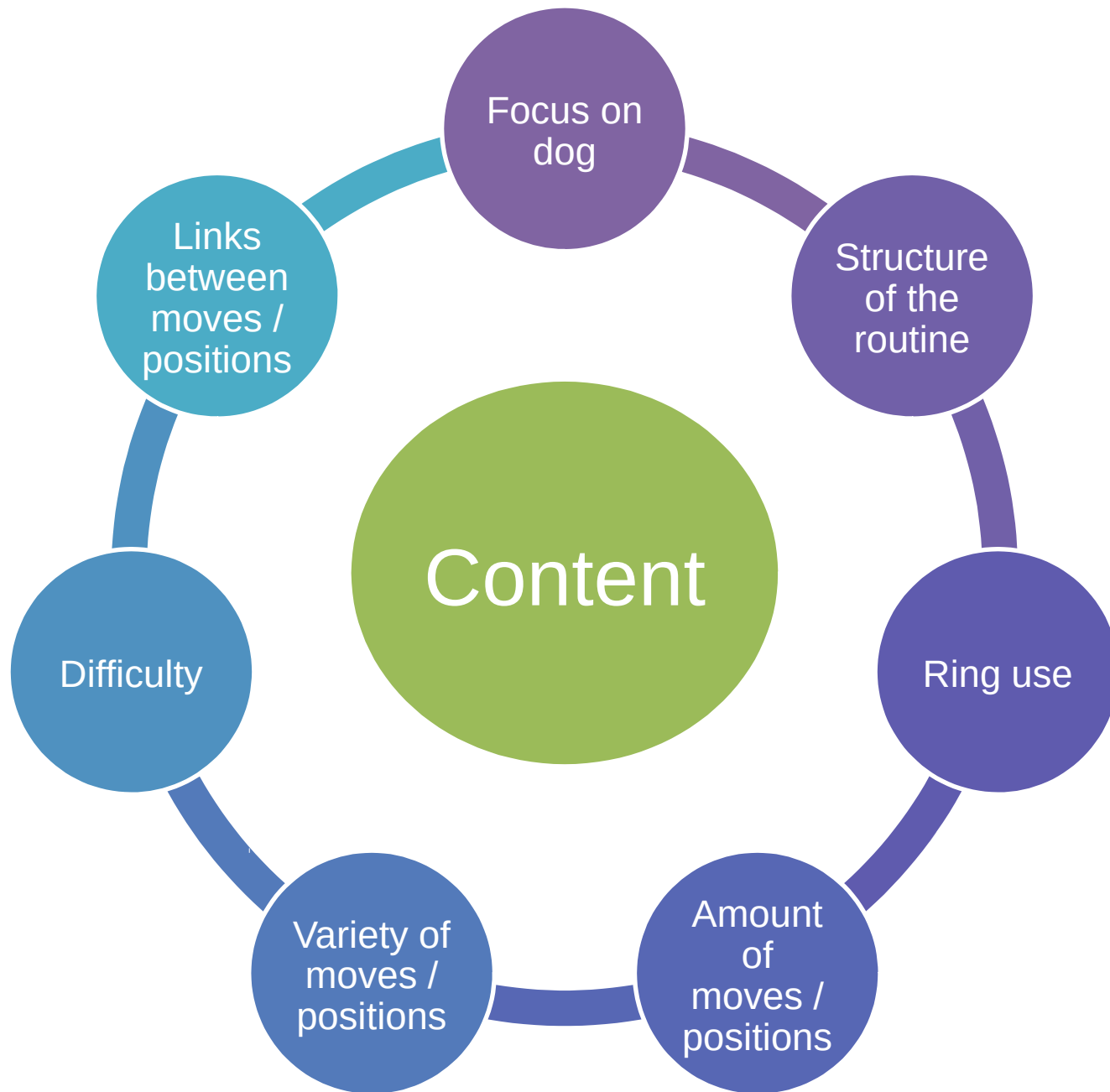
How to judge « content » criteria in Dog Dancing

What do we have to look at ?



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Content

- It must be obvious that the performed routine is a freestyle routine, or HTM routine and not for example a mix 50/50
- The handler has also to take into account the 25%/75% rule



Content is scored on 9 points

In this section we talk about what was planned in advance



It's about concept, structure, props, difficulty and variety of moves...

Content in HTM

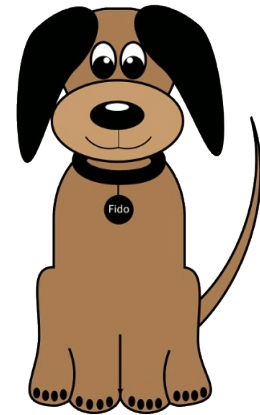
In HTM we have only the 10 positions in content (FCI), so we are looking for variety of positions.

How many positions are shown ?

Does the dog work on both sides of the handler ?

How many directions are shown ?

Are there enough positions according to the level ?



Does the dog work independently knowing the positions ? Or does he follow a hand target ?

Can the dog work in the back of the handler ? We have to appreciate the difficulty of working in the back and without eye contact.

Content in HTM



- We want to see changes in directions
- We want to see paces changes
- The routine should cover the ring, the team should move in different patterns, showing work in line, in circle, from corner to corner.
- We want to see fluency and nice links between 2 positions
- We should see enough steps to appreciate the work
- The dog should move freely following the handler in his pace and direction choice
- Is the highlight on the dog ?



Content in HTM

- We have to ask ourselves what do we expect from each level ?
What is the most important ? showing a lot of positions that are not all well performed or less positions in various directions being well performed ? The less can be the more if well performed.
- If less positions we need to see more directions
- We have to appreciate the difficulty
- The handler could do something else while the dog is performing
- Make use of prop if there are some

Content in freestyle

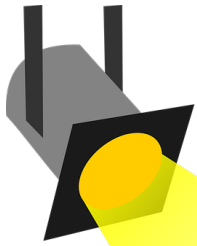
- A wide variety of moves. Meaning enough moves to make the routine interesting but not too packed that the dog has to struggle to perform or that it becomes a trick competition.
- We do not want to see a single move repeated too often or performed in different ways but various moves. The dog should have time to perform the tricks.
- Do we see a lot of basic moves ? Or also intermediate and advance moves ?
- Original moves ?



Content in freestyle

- Does the dog work on different levels ? High - low - intermediate
- Does the handler work on different levels ?
- Do we see combined moves ? Which increases the difficulty
- What is the handler doing while the dog is performing the trick ?
- Is the routine built that the exercises fit together with fluency





Content in freestyle

- Is **the highlight** on the dog during the routine ? the handler should **never** overshadow the dog
- Work on hind leg does not have to be shown during too long time, but rather once and combined with other moves, the dog should always be able to perform this move
- We do not take into account the breed, it's the handler's choice to show moves that suit to his dog / breed, the handler has to highlight his dog
- We should be able to appreciate the work put into a single move, that can be hard to teach for some dogs



Content



- In some way the criterias are linked together but we should not punish something twice so it's important to keep in mind that the different sections can have different points
- Judging content means to take into account what fit's in this section and score it independently from the others. So even with bad presentation the scoring in content could be high.

Scoring sheets

- Find a scoring sheet that will help yourself to keep a consistant level throughout the competition/class you are judging.
- Try not to take your eyes of the dog and handler
- Sometimes it happens that handlers will ask



In content you could take points off if...

Even if we do not have a deduction box, sometimes you will give less points if obviously something planned gets wrong, like :

- Dog steps out of the ring during a big circle
- Uncorrect use of props that was planned and got wrong
- Only basic moves in advanced level
- Only 3 positions and 1 direction in HTM advanced level
- Focus on handler
- Ring not well used
- The team moves only in circle
- Dog works just on one side of the handler
- ...



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Judges



Question time

