

Agility-Rally-Freestyle

The ARF class will consist of 19 -22 exercises selected from the ARF, Advanced and Starter class. At least 8 exercises must be from the ARF class. This class is performed off leash. A qualifying score is 70 points or better.





A well balanced dog has four legs and as such after four qualifying scores from at least 2 different judges in the ARF Class, the team will be awarded the C-WAGS ARF title of CW-ARF.






See Divisions A / B / Jr. TO on page 7. This class has unique exercises not normally found in other organizations. So most teams that enter this class should start as in the “A”division until the title is earned.





= Indicates multiple signs may be used on course

ss = Indicates signs that may be used in conjunction with the Side Switch sign to change dog / handler sides – from left heeling to right or from right to left side heeling in the ARF class.





® = Indicates exercises which may be used with the dog heeling on the right side in the ARF class.

	<p>®</p>	<p>R1. HALT – STEP LEFT – HALT: (Used only with the dog heeling on the right). The team halts with the dog sitting in heel position. The handler takes one step to the left. The dog should move with the handler and sit in heel position.</p>
		<p>R2. DOG CIRCLE RIGHT: Handler will pause forward motion while cuing dog to circle to the right around the handler. As dog returns to heel position, handler should begin moving forward. Dog does not sit in this exercise.</p>
		<p>PR3. DOUBLE LEFT ABOUT: Handler will perform two about “U” turns while the dog performs two right about turns. (Handler will be circling left – inner circle- while the dog circles right – an outer circle). After completing the circle they will continue forward in the original direction.</p>
		<p>PR4. HEEL BACK 3 STEPS: While heeling forward, handler pauses, dog does not sit. Handler takes 3 steps back. Dog should remain in heel position while also walking backward</p>

		<p>R5. TURN FACE DOG – 3 STEPS FORWARD: This exercise follows a “Leave Dog” exercise or an exercise that ends with the dog in the front position. Dog should stand and move in a straight back direction while handler is taking 3 steps towards dog. Dog should not sit while backing.</p>
	<p>® SS</p>	<p>PR6. MOVING STAND – WALK AROUND: While heeling the handler cues the dog to stand/stay and without pausing, the handler continues forward and turning to the left walks around the dog returning to heeling position. { If used as a side switch exercise the handler will go only half the way around the dog, stopping so that the dog is on their opposite side. }</p>
	<p>® SS #</p>	<p>PR7. MOVING STAND – LEAVE DOG: While heeling forward the handler will cue the dog to “stay/stand”. The handler should not pause, but continue forward to the next sign. The dog should remain in position.</p>
	<p>® SS #</p>	<p>PR8. MOVING DOWN – LEAVE DOG: While heeling forward, handler will cue the dog to down. The handler should not pause, but continue forward to the next sign. The dog must down and remain in position.</p>
	<p>® SS #</p>	<p>APR9. JUMP: may be used up to 3 times on course. May be a moving line jump of one to two jumps with handler maintaining a distance of up to 6’. Must have a minimum distance of 15’ between jumps. May be used as a side switch exercise; as a turn/change of direction. Judge must clearly indicate dog’s path and handler’s distance, if any, on the course map.</p>

	<p>® SS #</p>	<p>R10. TUNNEL: 24” minimum diameter. May be straight or curved. May be used in conjunction with a Leave Dog exercise, side switch, or as a moving exercise. When approaching the tunnel while heeling, the handler will cue the dog to go through the tunnel. The sign will be positioned at the point the handler will send their dog through the tunnel. Judge to determine distances which may be 0’ to 6’ May be used twice on a course. (Trial host option of using this exercise.)</p>
	<p>® SS</p>	<p>R11. TABLE: An agility style table will be used for this exercise. There will be a “Sit” or a “Down” on the table which the judge will indicate either on the course map or at the class briefing. Table height will be 8”. The sign will be placed at a distance of 6’ from the table. Handler must stay at least 6’ from the table until the dog has assumed the correct position. The handler may send their dog to the table from any distance greater than six foot, once the preceding exercise is completed. Once the dog is in the position, the handler may move into the table area, call the dog to heel and continue on the course. May be combined with a jump or tunnel, in which case, the dog may not come to heel position until after completing the second exercise. (Trial host option of using this exercise)</p>
	<p>® SS #</p>	<p>R12. SIDE SWITCH: This sign is used in conjunction with any other exercise that is designated “ss”. The dog will change to the opposite side heeling at this exercise sign. Object of all side switches is to show that the dog can work on both sides and that the dog and handler can change sides smoothly. Side Switch sign is not a numbered sign on the course.</p>
	<p>®</p>	<p>R13. RIGHT ABOUT TURN SIDE SWITCH: The dog and handler will perform separate parallel right about turns. This will cause the dog to end on the opposite side of the handler.</p>

	<p>®</p>	<p>R14. LEFT “U”ABOUT TURN SIDE SWITCH: The dog and handler will perform separate parallel left “U” about turns. This will cause the dog to end on the opposite side of the handler.</p>
	<p>®</p>	<p>R15. TURN AWAY SIDE SWITCH: The dog and handler will perform simultaneous and opposite about turns. Each will turn to the outside, coming back to heel position, going the opposite direction. This will cause the dog to end on the opposite side of the handler.</p>
	<p>®</p>	<p>R16. TURN IN SIDE SWITCH: The dog and handler will perform simultaneous and opposite about turns. Each will turn to the inside, coming back to heel position, going the opposite direction. This will cause the dog to end on the opposite side of the handler.</p>
		<p>R17. FREESTYLE SHORT: Handler will choose 4 exercises they will perform. These moves may be rally moves or anything that does not endanger the dog, handler or spectator and that can be performed within the confines of the ring space. *See complete description below. (counts as 4 exercises in course design). (Pass / Fail Exercise)</p>
	<p>®</p>	<p>R18. PAUSE BOX: An agility style Pause Box will be used for this exercise. There will be a “Sit” or a “Down” in the box which the judge will indicate either on the course map or at the class briefing. The sign will be placed at a distance of 6’ from the box. Handler must stay at least 6’ from the box until the dog has assumed the correct position. The handler may send their dog to the box from any distance greater than six foot, once the preceding exercise is completed. Once the dog is in the position, the handler may move into the box area, call the dog to heel and continue on the course. May be combined with a jump or tunnel, in which case, the dog may not come to heel position until after completing the second exercise. (Trial host option of using this exercise) The box should be approximately 48 inches square (inside measurement). The walls may be constructed of wood or PVC pipe with a height of approximately 2” to 4”</p>

<p>LATERAL SIDE STEP <small>PR 19</small></p> 		<p>PR19. LATERAL SIDE-STEP RIGHT: While heeling the team will pause/stop with the dog remaining standing. The handler will step straight to the right side one step. The dog should move with the handler.</p>
<p>LATERAL SIDE STEP <small>PR 20</small></p> 	<p>®</p>	<p>PR20. LATERAL SIDE-STEP LEFT: While heeling the team will pause/stop with the dog remaining standing. The handler will step straight to the left side one step. The dog should move with the handler.</p>
<p>SEND OUT AROUND <small>R21 49</small></p> 	<p>® SS</p>	<p>R21. SEND OUT AROUND: The sign will be placed at a distance of 6' from a cone (minimum height 15") or jump stanchion (post). The handler will send the dog out to go around the outside of the post/cone and return towards the handler. The dog may go around from either direction. The handler will not cross past the 6' distance. The team may halt/pause before sending the dog out and around. This exercise will be followed by a "finish", "forward" "front", or Handler About Turn Forward exercise</p>
<p>BROAD JUMP <small>A 25</small></p> 	<p>®</p>	<p>PR22. BROAD JUMP: May be used as a moving jump. (Handler may run by – no distance). May be used in conjunction with the "Leave Dog" "Call Dog Front" exercises</p>

Exercises that may follow a Leave Dog exercise: A9, A15, A16, A17, A18, P9, APR9, R5, R10

Maximum of four exercises with the dog on the handler's right per course, they do not have to be consecutive. Exercises to switch sides do not count towards the maximum of 4.

Freestyle Short Description:

- ◇ When the handler checks in with the ring steward they will turn in a piece of paper with 4 moves they intend to perform during this exercise, numbered in the order they intend to perform them.

- ◇ These moves may be anything that does not endanger the dog, handler or spectator and that can be performed within the confines of the ring.
- ◇ The handler may use (1) prop that is small enough for them to carry (not drag) with (1) hand and that doesn't leave pieces of itself all over the floor while being moved. Prop will be left with steward who will place it at the starting point for the Freestyle exercise.
- ◇ The list must be neatly hand-printed or typed. Please make the descriptions short but complete. For example a list might include:
 - 1) leg weaves - 4 times
 - 2) spin right while in front of handler - 2 times
 - 3) circle a cane held by handler - 3 times
 - 4) bow from a front position
- ◇ Space designated for this should be at least 15' x 15'
- ◇ Counts as 4 exercises for course design.
- ◇ 30 possible points – must earn at least 20 points to qualify on this exercise.
- ◇ **Points earned/deducted in this exercise are not reflected in the score. This exercise is a Pass/Fail. As long as 20 points are earned the exercise is passed. A Fail in the exercise would result in an NQ score for the class.**

The performance will be judged on the following criteria:

Difficulty – 12 points possible

Execution – 12 points possible

Entertainment – 6 points possible

This is a Pass or Fail exercise. Points given do not directly affect total score as long as it is a Pass.

- ◇ Difficulty means – how difficult are these moves to teach the “average” dog?
- ◇ Execution means – how well did the team perform these moves? (as in Canine Musical Freestyle heel position is not strictly judged and is in fact only a general place near the handler)
- ◇ Entertainment – was it fun to watch?

Let me give you 2 examples of extremes. Let's look at the 4 example behaviors, generally those behaviors would be somewhat difficult for the average dog and handler so I would give a high mark in difficulty (3 points each for 1,2,3 and 1.5 points for 4). It is easy to understand Execution – if the dog did the behaviors well give high scores and if not so well give lower scores. On Entertainment value – was it fun to watch? Was there a nice flow from one move to the other or did the person stop and restart for each move – which would be boring for an audience to watch. The above 4 moves have the potential to receive a high score assuming the execution and transitions from move to move were done well.

Let's look at a second example.

- 1) sit
- 2) down

- 3) roll-over
- 4) sit-up, beg

This set has very little difficulty and would receive low marks in that category, probably only 6 (1.5 points for each behavior – maybe only 5 ½ - 1 point for the sit and down each). Now let's imagine that our team performed flawlessly, you could award 12 points, but the entertainment value I imagine was yawn time 1-3 points. So this exhibitor would receive from 21 (a generous judge) to 18 points (a more critical judge). I imagine that if the dog had done excellent in the first 3 exercises the judge would lean towards the 21 points and if they just barely squeaked by or didn't qualify in the first 3 then would award the 18 ½ point non-qualifying score.

YES! *This is open to very subjective judgment calls, there is no way around it. It is only a dog sport.*