

Preparing the Course and Correct Placement of Signs

The judge must pay careful attention to the placement of the signs in relation to the path the handler/dog must take when moving from one exercise station to the other. Exercise stations should be a minimum of 10 feet apart and judges should make allowances for large breed dogs to be able to negotiate the course.

The judge should walk the course, following the path of the handler as indicated on the course design. It is advisable for the judge to walk the course several times, checking distance and placement of the signs, and ensuring that the sign holders are correctly numbered to indicate the sequence of the course.

Signs that direct the handler to continue moving forward in the same direction should be placed to the right of the handler.

The signs that result in a directional change (e.g. left, right, reverse) are to be placed directly in the path of the handler, **whenever possible**.

Generally, all stations are performed in front of the sign and or to the left. In the case of the moving side step right, or side step right or left, the handler may move past the sign to complete the station.

~~The slow pace and fast pace signs MUST be followed by the normal pace sign, unless they are used as the last station before the team crosses the finish line.~~

The slow pace may be followed by a fast pace and the fast pace may also be followed by a slow pace however this sequence of two different paces must be followed by a normal pace OR be the second to last station in a course. If only one change of pace is required (either fast or slow) it must be followed by a normal pace OR be the second to last station in a course.

Stations that require the handler to spiral or weave should not be placed in succession of each other.

The weave exercises (Station 1 and Station 29) require 4 cones in a row while the spiral exercises (Stations 25 and 26) have three cones. If a spiral is combined with a weave, they may have one cone in common, but they must be arranged at an angle to each other so that the two exercises are easily distinguished. The cones for the spiral and the cones for the weave exercise may not be in a line.

The following two set ups are allowed



The following three set ups are not allowed - where there are four cones, and these four cones represent both the weave exercise and the spiral exercise

