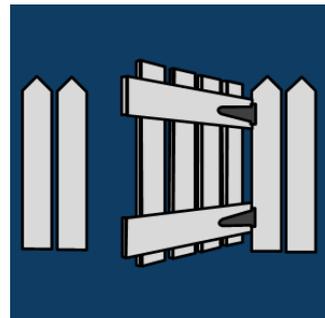


YKC Young Kennel Club

GCDS PRE-BEGINNERS STAKES FOR YKC MEMBERS REGULATIONS



YKC Young Kennel Club

GCDS PRE-BEGINNER STAKES REGULATIONS



DEFINITION

- This regulation document is for the YKC members section of the GCDS Pre-Beginner stakes competition. For the full breakdown, please visit the GCDS website.
- The GCDS Pre-Beginner Stakes competition is designed as a way of introducing new dogs (and handlers) into the world of competitive obedience.
- The exercises featured in this special class are a combination of the Good Citizen Dog Scheme Bronze Award and the Standard Pre-Beginner Obedience class. Handlers will be encouraged to motivate their dog throughout the test. Handlers will not be penalised for encouragement or extra commands except during the stay exercise. Judges or Stewards must not use the words "last command" except in the Stay exercise.

CLASS

- To compete in this special class a handler or dog must not have won a First Prize in Pre-Beginners nor gained a third place or above in any other standard obedience class. Exhibits must have obtained a minimum of their Kennel Club Good Citizen Dog Scheme Bronze Award prior to the closing date of the show.
- When entering this class, you Members must state on the show entry form that the handler is a YKC member.
 - Dogs and handlers should be eligible to enter this class at the time of entering a heat. Any subsequent awards gained after the show closing date and before the date of the show will not affect a dog or handler's eligibility to compete at a heat.

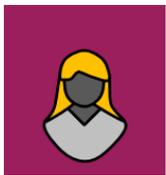
HANDLERS



- In the qualifiers, YKC members will compete alongside adult competitors, and will receive points if they are the highest placed YKC competitor in each of the following three age categories and also additional points if they are placed in the class.



- **Under 12** (Handlers 6 years and up to, but not including 12th birthday)



- **12 Years and Over** (Handlers 12 years and up to, but not including 18th birthday)



- **18 Years and Over** (Handlers 18 years and up to, but not including 25th birthday)

- The age groups will be managed by the office, you only have to indicate that you are a YKC member on the entry form to be eligible to gain points for this competition.
- After the commencement of judging the responsibility for dogs being brought to the ring to compete is entirely the competitors. (Make sure you are not late!)
- In all tests the left side of a handler will be regarded as the "working side" unless:
 - The handler suffers from a physical disability and has the Judge's permission to work the dog on the right hand side, or;
 - The handler is working more than one dog in a stay exercise
- To enter a GCDS Pre-Beginners stakes competition as a YKC member, the handler must be a fully paid, up to date member of the YKC on the date of the qualifier and Crufts (if they have successfully qualified)

DOGS



- To enter qualifying heats, dogs must have completed the “Good Citizen Dog Scheme Bronze Award”.
- All competing dogs must be six (6) calendar months of age or over on the day of competition.
- Dogs must be registered with the Kennel Club when entering Kennel Club licenced shows.
 - Dogs can either be registered on the breed register or the activity register.
- Dogs may be any breed or Crossbreed
- Food shall not be carried by the handler or given to a dog in the ring.
- Appropriate toys may be used for the “play with / motivate your dog” exercise.

JUDGING



- The judge will set the course for the competitors to complete.
- If either the dog or handler withdraws from competition after the closing of entries then both dog and handler are withdrawn from that class
- No substitute of dog or handler may take place.
- Any dog which is not presented for stay exercises when called for testing will be considered to have withdrawn from the class.

QUALIFYING FOR CRUFTS

- At a GCDS Pre-Beginners stakes qualifying heat, each highest placed YKC member (in their respective age category) will be awarded a special rosette and gain points towards a place in the Final for YKC Members. All members' points will be added to a score table. The highest scoring members in each age group will then be invited to enter the competition.
- The GCDS Pre-Beginner Stakes for YKC members is run by the GCDS Team and the final will take place in the GCDS ring at Crufts.
- GCDS Pre-Beginners stakes qualifiers run from the 1st April to the 31st October for the following year's Crufts and are held at KC licenced open and championship obedience shows.
- All points are reset to zero (0) on 1st January of each year. No points are carried over from previous years.
- The points gained are for the dog and handler combination. If you score points with two different dogs, they are not combined. Similarly, if either a dog or handler cannot compete at Crufts, neither can be substituted and the qualification place is forfeited.
- *Make sure you do not confuse the points gained for getting places in classes with the points for exercises below. If in any doubt, if you have received a best YKC member rosette, you have probably received points towards the score table. Make sure you check the YKC website for an up to date total of your points.*

GCDS PRE-BEGINNER STAKES CLASS REQUIREMENTS

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

For dogs that have **NOT** won:

- 1 or more first prizes in a Pre-Beginners class or;
- 1 or more third prizes or above in any standard Obedience class held at a KC Licensed Open or Championship Obedience Show.

The dog must also have completed at least:

- Kennel Club Good Citizen Dog Scheme Bronze Award

The GCDS Pre-Beginners stakes test can be broken down into the following six sections:



Play with or motivate your dog:
5 points



Heel on Lead
10 points



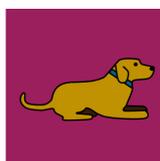
Examination of the Dog (handler to show judge)
15 points



Recall with Finish
10 points



Control at Gate
15 points



Stay for 1 minute off lead, SIT or DOWN position, handler in sight
15 points

TOTAL 70 POINTS

GCDS PRE-BEGINNER STAKES CLASS BREAKDOWN

Play with, Reward or Motivate your dog:



- To show how a handler can motivate their dog in preparation for Obedience work. Handlers may use a toy for this exercise.
- Play should be under the handler's control and if it involves articles, the dog should give up the toy readily.
- No play fighting is allowed, and any play should be safe for the dog. You cannot use a formal exercise as a reward.
- Any form of aggression will be penalised.

Heel on Lead:



- It is recommended that this exercise follows Play With or Motivate Your Dog and should last no more than one minute.
- This is an introduction to competitive heelwork and should be straightforward, include minimal turns and not more than two halts.
- A large circle is permissible in either direction, at the judge's discretion. The handler should walk briskly and the dog should walk with its shoulder approximately level with and reasonably close to the handler's leg at all times while the handler is walking.
- The lead should be slack at all times.
- The test will start and finish with the dog sitting at the handler's side.

Examination of the Dog:



- The handler will show the judge how they can settle and examine their own dog.
- This exercise will be carried out on lead.
- The dog will be required to have its mouth, teeth, throat, eyes, ears and feet inspected when standing, sitting or lying down on either side or on its back.

Recall (with finish):



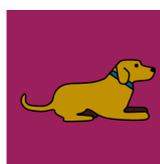
- Recall off lead from the sit or down position at handler's choice.
- The dog should be recalled by handler when stationary and facing the dog, the judge or steward will indicate when you should call for your dog.
- The Dog should return quickly but under control to the handler, sit in front, go to heel – when instructed by the judge or steward.

Control at gate:



- Walk on lead through gate with the dog under control.
- Handler to start exercise with dog in the sit, down or stand position.
- Dog to wait while handler opens gate and walks through the gate.
- Handler to then recall dog through the gate on lead.
- Dog to then wait in stand, sit or down position, while handler secures the gate.
- The dog should not pull or be pulled through the doorway.
- Marks must be deducted for anticipation, tight lead or lack of control.

Stand, Sit or Down Stays:



- Group Exercise - off lead
- Stand, Sit or Down Stay, handler's choice)
- Handlers may face their dogs. Individual handlers may choose the stay position for their own dog.