

GOOD CITIZEN DOG SCHEME BRONZE AWARD ACHIEVERS HAVE A CHANCE TO QUALIFY FOR CRUFTS 2014 IN THE PRE-BEGINNER OBEDIENCE STAKES

The Kennel Club Good Citizen Dog Scheme Pre-Beginner Obedience Stakes were introduced in 2005. Their purpose is to encourage Bronze Award achievers to take part and enter the world of Obedience competition.

The stakes test is a combination of the current GCDS exercises and the Pre-Beginner Obedience test. Dogs must have obtained their Bronze Award prior to the closing date of the show.

Rosettes and prize cards will be awarded, for 1st –10th place in each heat. There will be heats which are spread throughout the UK. Each stakes class or split class offers qualifying places to the 2 highest placed dogs. In the event of the 2 highest placed dogs being a BC/WSD an additional qualifying place will be awarded to the highest placed ABC. In the event of the 2 highest placed dogs being an ABC, an additional qualifying place will be awarded to the highest placed BC/WSD. The Northern Semi Finals will be held in Stirling, Scotland on Sunday 19th October and the Southern Semi Finals at Discover Dogs on Saturday 8th November and 9th November. The Grand Final will be held at Crufts on Saturday 7th March 2015.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Does my dog have to be Kennel Club registered to take part?

Yes. In accordance with KC Rules and Regulations, all dogs entering a KC Licensed event must be registered either on the Breed or Activity Dog Register.

How can my dog take part ? Dogs must be KC Registered and at least 6 months old to take part at KC Licensed Obedience show. Each dog must have obtained a minimum of it's Kennel Club Good Citizen Dog Scheme Bronze Award prior to the closing date of the show and the 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.

Does the stay exercise have to be on or off lead?

The stay exercise must be conducted off lead.

Should the Play or Motivate Your Dog Exercise be conducted on or off the Lead?

This exercise can be conducted on or off lead at the discretion of the handler.

Do I need to show my Bronze certificate on the day of the show? No, although for verification purposes random spot checks may be made by the GCDS office either prior to or after the show date.

For further information and show details please contact:-

**The Kennel Club Good Citizen Dog Scheme,
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Fax: 0207 518 1050, e-mail gcds@thekennelclub.org.uk**

Or visit our website at www.gcds.org.uk

THE KENNEL CLUB GOOD CITIZEN DOG SCHEME SPECIAL PRE- BEGINNER OBEDIENCE STAKES 2014 HEATS 2014 CORRECT AS OF 08/03/14

Show Date

Name of Show

SATURDAY 26 TH APRIL	FINDON DOWNS DTC
SATURDAY 20 TH APRIL	KNIGHTSWOOD DTC
SUNDAY 4 TH MAY	CHESVALE DTC
SUNDAY 11 TH MAY	PLYMOUTH DTC
SUNDAY 11 TH MAY	IRVINE VALLEY DTC
SATURDAY 17 TH MAY	SOUTHPORT ALSATIAN DTC
SUNDAY 25 TH MAY	EXETER DTC
SUNDAY 1 ST JUNE	PETERSFIELD & DISTRICT DTC
SUNDAY 8 ^H JUNE	DANESFORD DTC
SATURDAY 21 ST JUNE	WARLINGHAM DTC
SATURDAY 28 TH JUNE	BILLINGSHURST DTC
SUNDAY 6 TH JULY	CHADKIRK DTC
SATURDAY 12 TH JULY	NORMANTON DTC
SUNDAY 13 TH JULY	WINCHESTER CITY DTC
SATURDAY 26 TH JULY	BURNHAM ON SEA
SUNDAY 27 TH JULY	NORTH WEST KENT DTC
SUNDAY 27 TH JULY	GLANDORE DTC OF ULSTER
SUNDAY 3 RD AUGUST	HATCHFORD BROOK DTC
SATURDAY 9 TH AUGUST	GOVAN & DIST DTC
SATURDAY 9 TH AUGUST	NEWTON HEATH DTC
SATURDAY 16 TH AUGUST	DITTON DTC
SATURDAY 23 RD AUGUST	CAMBRIDGESHIRE DTC
SUNDAY 24 TH AUGUST	WIGTON DTC
MONDAY 25 TH AUGUST	WAKEFIELD DOG TRAINING CLUB
SUNDAY 7 TH SEPTEMBER	EAST KILBRIDE DTC
SUNDAY 14 TH SEPTEMBER	BAGSD (SOUTHERN AREA)
SUNDAY 21 ST SEPTEMBER	NORFOLK BROADS DTC
SUNDAY 28 TH SEPTEMBER	BAGSD (BIRMINGHAM NORTH)



CRITERIA

Eligibility

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. Exhibitors must have obtained a minimum of their Kennel Club Good Citizen Dog Scheme Bronze Award prior to the closing date of the show.

Aim

The exercises featured in this special class will be a combination of the Bronze Award and the Pre-Beginner class. This test will serve as an introduction to basic competitive obedience and handlers will be encouraged to motivate their dog throughout the test. Toys and/or other training aids may be used briefly between exercises, although during the exercise, these must be placed on the Judges table. Toys should be of a suitable size and texture. Handlers will not be penalised for encouragement or extra commands except during the stay exercise. Food must not be used as an incentive and must not be brought into the ring. Judges or Stewards must not use the words "last command" except in the Stay exercise.

Qualifying for the Semi Finals

These heats will be held at Open or Championship Obedience shows in 2013. The class will be a mixed sex class and will require one judge. The judge will be appointed by the Show Society in accordance with current Kennel Club G Regulations.

Each stakes class or split class offers qualifying places to the 2 highest placed dogs. In the event of the 2 highest placed dogs being a BC/WSD an additional qualifying place will be awarded to the highest placed ABC. In the event of the 2 highest placed dogs being an ABC, an additional qualifying place will be awarded to the highest placed BC/WSD.

Breed Classification

Category A - BC/WSD will be classed as Border Collie or Working Sheepdog.

Category B - ABC will be classed as Anything But a Collie hence all breeds excluding the Border Collie or Working Sheepdog.

In the event of a dispute the judge's discretion will be final. In all instances, both qualifying dogs must have completed the test. In the event of the entry exceeding 60, the class will be split, and two qualifiers from each division of the heat will qualify for a semi final place.

Once a dog has qualified for a semi final, further heats may be entered for competition. Although any placing in these heats will not affect the dog's eligibility for the semi final, it is most important that handlers who gain a place in a heat with a previously qualified dog inform the show secretary on the day of the show of this fact. Hence if a dog has already qualified, the dog may be placed at future shows but the qualifying place will be awarded to the next eligible dog of that category. Please refer to breed classifications as printed above.

Rosettes (1st –10th place) and qualifying certificates will be issued by the Kennel Club to all clubs running the heats. All heat qualifiers will receive a certificate and an invitation to attend one of two semi finals.

Dogs and handlers should be eligible to enter pre-beginners at the time of entering a heat. Any subsequent wins gained by the handler or dog will not alter their eligibility to compete in the final.

THE TEST

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|---|------------------|
| (1) Play With or Motivate Your dog | 5 Points |
| (2) Heel on lead | 10 Points |
| (3) Examination of the Dog (handler to show judge) | 15 points |
| (4) Recall With Finish | 10 Points |
| (5) Control at Gate Exercise | 15 Points |
| (6) Stay one minute, handler in sight | 15 Points |

70 Points

(1) Play with or Motivate your dog (handler's choice - on or off lead) 5 Points
It is recommended that the Judge commences with this exercise and that it last approximately 30 seconds. 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 they should be readily given up by the dog. Play should be appropriate to the dog under test but should not include play fighting. Formal exercises will not be deemed as appropriate. Any form of aggression must be penalised.

2) Heel on Lead 10 Points
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.

(3) Examination of the dog (handler to show judge) 15 points
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.

(4) Recall with Finish 10 Points
Recall from Sit or Down position at handler's choice. Dog to be recalled by handler when stationary and facing the dog. Dog to return smartly to the handler, sit in front, go to heel – all on command of judge or steward to handler.

(5) Control at Gate Exercise 15 Points
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.

(6) Stay one minute, handler in sight (Group Exercise - off lead)
(Stand, Sit or Down Stay, handler's choice)

15 Points

Handlers may face their dogs. Individual handlers may choose the stay position for their own dog.

TOTAL

70 Points