



Companion Dog Sports Program

# Trial Official Qualification Requirements

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## Document History

Version	Updates
1.0	New document effective 07/07/2014
1.1	Effective 1/19/2015 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Added sentence “An applicant completing the requirements to become a judge for the Utility class will also be qualified to judge the Versatility class.” (Chapter 2: Judge’s Qualifications <i>Requirements</i>)</li> </ul>
2.0	Effective 10/1/2015 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Added sentence “An applicant completing the requirements to become a judge for the Novice class will also be qualified to judge the Starter Novice class.” (Chapter 2: Judge’s Qualifications <i>Requirements</i>)</li> </ul>

## **Chapter 1: Representative's Qualifications**

### **Requirements**

In order to become a CDSP Representative, each applicant must meet the following requirements:

- Support the Companion Dog Sports Program mission to nurture the human/animal bond and foster an environment in which people respect all living creatures.
- Read and understand the *CDSP Rules and Regulations*.
- Be thoroughly familiar with the classes and their respective exercises.
- Maintain familiarity with new/updated rules, regulations, and guidelines as they are issued.
- Qualify in three or more of the following areas:
  - Acted as a show secretary or similar position/title for at least two dog sports events in the last five years.
  - Earned titles in competition obedience (any registry) or in WCRL Rally Level 3. (See note below for additional information about this requirement.)
  - Stewarded at least three events (sanctioned or not) in competition obedience.
  - Is currently a dog training professional with at least two years' experience in teaching competition obedience classes.

**NOTE:** Applicants who have not earned a competition obedience title will be required to attend a CDSP obedience seminar before receiving approval to be a CDSP Representative. If you have attended a CDSP obedience seminar prior to applying, please indicate the date and location on the application. If you attend a seminar after submitting the application, you must furnish this information to the CDSP Coordinator within ten days of attending the seminar.

### **Apply to Become a CDSP Representative**

Complete the steps below in order to become a CDSP Representative:

1. Applicant shall fill out the *CDSP Representative Application Form* and send the completed application, along with a non-refundable \$15.00 processing fee, to the address indicated on the form.
2. Upon receipt of the application, processing fee, and verification of qualifications, the CDSP Coordinator will forward a written test on *CDSP Rules and Regulations* to the applicant.
3. Applicant will return the completed test to the address indicated.
4. The test will be graded by the CDSP Coordinator and a score of 85% or higher is considered a passing score for the test.
5. Each applicant will receive prompt notification of the passing/failing score.

An applicant who completes all of the steps and passes the test will be approved as a CDSP Representative and added to the *Trial Officials List*.

## Chapter 2: Judge's Qualifications

### Requirements

In order to become a CDSP Judge, each applicant must meet the following requirements:

- Support the Companion Dog Sports Program mission to nurture the human/animal bond and foster an environment in which people respect all living creatures.
- Read and understand the *CDSP Rules and Regulations*.
- Be thoroughly familiar with the classes and their respective exercises.
- Maintain familiarity with new/updated rules, regulations, and guidelines as they are issued.
- Qualify in any of the following areas:
  - Currently a licensed or approved judge in competition obedience (any registry). An applicant licensed or approved as an obedience judge for any registry may apply to judge all classes of CDSP obedience.
  - Currently a licensed or approved judge in competition rally obedience (any registry). An applicant licensed or approved as a rally obedience judge for any registry may apply to judge the classes of CDSP obedience as follows:
    - An applicant approved to judge WCRL Level 1 and/or all levels of AKC Rally Obedience may apply to judge the CDSP Novice level.
    - An applicant approved to judge WCRL Level 2 may apply to judge CDSP Novice and Open classes.
    - An applicant approved to judge WCRL Level 3 may apply to judge all classes of CDSP Obedience.
  - Earned titles in the recognized canine sport of competition obedience (any registry) as follows:
    - An applicant who has earned a Novice (CD) title may apply to judge the CDSP Novice class.
    - An applicant who has earned an Open (CDX) title may apply to judge the CDSP Open class.
    - An applicant who has earned at least one qualifying score in Utility may apply to judge the CDSP Utility class.
  - Earned titles in the recognized canine sport of competition rally obedience (any registry) as follows:
    - An applicant who has earned a Rally Level 2 (RL2) or Advanced (RA) title may apply to judge the CDSP Novice class.
    - An applicant who has earned a Rally Level 3 (RL3) or Excellent (RE) title may apply to judge the CDSP Open class.
    - An applicant who has earned a Rally Level 3 (RL3) title may apply to judge the CDSP Utility class.

**NOTE:** An applicant must apply to judge each CDSP class separately. An applicant completing the requirements to become a judge for the Novice class will also be qualified to judge the Starter Novice class. An applicant completing the requirements to become a judge for the Utility class will also be qualified to judge the Versatility class.

**NOTE:** Applicants who have not earned a competition obedience title will be required to attend a CDSP obedience seminar before receiving provisional approval to be a CDSP Judge. If you have attended a

CDSP obedience seminar prior to applying, please indicate the date and location on the application. If you attend a seminar after submitting the application, you must furnish this information to the CDSP Coordinator within ten days of attending the seminar.

### **Apply to Become a CDSP Judge**

Complete the steps below in order to become a CDSP Judge:

1. Applicant shall fill out the *CDSP Judge Application Form* and send the completed application, along with a non-refundable \$15.00 processing fee, to the address indicated on the form.
2. Upon receipt of the application, processing fee, and verification of qualifications, the CDSP Coordinator will forward a written test on *CDSP Rules and Regulations* to the applicant.
3. Applicant will return the completed test to the address indicated.
4. The test will be graded by the CDSP Coordinator and a score of 85% or higher is considered a passing score for the test.
5. Each applicant will receive prompt notification of the passing/failing score.

An applicant must complete the written tests in class order: Novice, Open, and Utility.

**NOTE:** An applicant completing the requirements to become a judge for the Novice class will also be qualified to judge the Starter Novice class. An applicant completing the requirements to become a judge for the Utility class will also be qualified to judge the Versatility class.

### **Apprenticeship**

After successfully passing the judge's written test, an applicant not already licensed or approved to judge in another obedience registry will be required to apprentice one (1) class of six (6) or more dogs with an approved (not provisional) CDSP Judge.

An applicant who is not a licensed or approved judge in another obedience registry may take all levels of the judge's written test at one time but the applicant is required to successfully apprentice a Novice class before apprenticing an Open class and successfully apprentice an Open class before apprenticing a Utility class.

An apprentice judge will not receive compensation for apprenticing, since it is a requirement to become a CDSP Judge.

An apprentice judge must notify the CDSP Coordinator of the trial date and location prior to apprenticing at a trial. The CDSP Coordinator will then contact the officiating judge and the trial host to confirm arrangements. An apprentice judge may not apprentice and show in the same class.

### **Day of Trial Requirements for Apprentice Judge**

- The trial host will provide duplicate score sheets for the apprentice judge to use.
- The apprentice judge and officiating judge shall score each performance independently and simultaneously. Each judge should attempt to make notes on the score sheets of reasons for deductions.
- The apprentice judge shall be in a position so as to view the performance from the same perspective as the officiating judge, but must not interfere with either the officiating judge's movement around the ring or the team's execution of the course.

- At the conclusion of each team's run, the officiating judge shall turn in the score sheet to the desk steward. The apprentice judge shall keep all apprentice score sheets until the conclusion of the trial. Only score sheets from the officiating judge shall be used to determine team scores.
- At the conclusion of the trial, after all ribbons and prizes have been awarded, the officiating judge and the apprentice judge shall review the apprentice's score sheets and the officiating judge's score sheets.
- The officiating judge will file an *Apprentice Judge Evaluation Report* with the CDSP Coordinator which may be sent separately from the trial paperwork.

An applicant who completes all of the steps, passes the test, and receives a satisfactory apprentice evaluation will be approved as a CDSP Provisional Judge and added to the *Trial Officials List*.

### **Provisional Status**

A judge who passes the written judge's test, and, where necessary, has completed the CDSP apprenticeship requirements, will be given provisional approval. A judge will be considered provisional until three (3) classes of six (6) or more dogs have been judged with a positive evaluation for each class.

Upon satisfying the provisional judging requirements, a provisional judge will be approved as a CDSP Approved Judge and the judge's status will be updated on the *Trial Officials List*.