

**Pet Dog Rally Freestyle** is a new division for PDRO in 2016, combining moves and positions from HWTM Freestyle in the format of Rally-Obedience. Incorporating the ethos of PDRO, this new division will build on the team's obedience skills while encouraging creative and novel behaviours on a Rally-Obedience style course.

In essence, a team will follow a numbered course with the dog performing the exercises at each station.

Many of the signs are familiar to PDRO competitors in the 'ON Side' levels.

For 2016, PDRF will have two levels – Novice (can be performed on lead) and Intermediate (Off lead). Advanced will follow.

Courses will be 15 exercises at each level. There is no bonus on a course.

Each course will include four Handler choice stations, one Handler Choice Pose, one Handler Choice Action and two Handler Choice, either action or pose. Handler Choice moves must be safe to perform.

A good resource for suggested choices is the Paws n Music Move Development Scheme.

If exercises are placed next to each other, the order the exercises are read is left to right.

The handler performs the exercise close to the sign, in front, behind or next to, as they determine best not to obstruct the flow of the round.

The start sign will indicate the initial position of the dog relative to the handler. The finish sign is judged and will always request that the dog take a final bow.

A team choosing not to execute a behaviour or passes a sign without attempting to perform the behaviour will earn no score for that station. The team may still qualify, however, if their total score reaches the minimum qualifying score for the class entered.

The Rally Freestyle course maps will be available to competitors at least 14 days prior to the event. This allows handlers to plan their Free Choice exercises.

### **Judging Criteria**

PDR Freestyle judging will apply subjective scoring. In determining the points awarded for each exercise, judges will assess the dog's responsiveness to handler cues, the precision and execution of the

behaviour(s) represented on each sign, the precision of the start and ending position of each behaviour(s) indicated on each sign, the apparent teamwork between dog and handler (that is, the evident engagement, support and willingness to work together and also the apparent enjoyment derived from working together), and the ability of the dog to focus on both the task and the handler. A handler that chooses to perform their run on lead needs to take into consideration their ability to use the lead appropriately. Leads should not be shorter than 4 ft. including "tabs", or longer than 6ft. Retractable leads are not allowed in the performance ring.

PDRO rules and guidelines should be followed in relation to collars.

Harsh handling will result in the team being asked to leave the ring.

Leads may not be used to manipulate the dog or restrict the dog's movement in the form of a "tight lead". The use of a tight lead will result in a lower score for execution of the behaviour as well as lower scores in Heelwork and Teamwork. It is recommended that exhibitors work to maintain a "J" between the clip of the lead on the dog's collar and the hand which holds the lead. This will help to ensure that a tight lead does not occur.

Any exercise where the handler uses the lead for lead pops/jerks will be scored a zero (0). If lead pops/jerks are used between the exercises while performing, the team will receive a score of zero (0) for both Teamwork and Heelwork. A judge will request a handler that corrects the dog through the lead persistently to leave the ring.

Leads may be dropped while performing behaviours in which the dog passes through the handler's legs or Free Choice behaviours where the lead would impede the dog's ability to complete the behaviour. The lead must then be picked up before continuing to the next exercise.

Large lure-like hand cues at any level will earn lower scores than subtle hand or body cues or verbal-only cues.

PDR Freestyle is not a timed event.

Food/toy rewards may be given prior to passing the Start and after the Finish sign.

On course, reinforcement may be given where this does not affect the flow of the round.

LURING Teams will not score over 1 – 3 at an exercise where they are judged to have 'lured'. Attention and Teamwork scores cannot exceed 1 – 3 when the team is judged to have 'lured'. You may request the judge to allow a training round and use toys and food throughout.

Competitors must ensure their rewards to not break or drop onto the floor or they may be excused from the ring. Play with the dog must be contained that it does not disrupt the course. Toys with squeaks or other sounds are not allowed in the ring or competition vicinity.

### **Scoring Guidelines**

Each team enters the ring with 0 points. There are no deductions taken in PDR Freestyle. Teams earn their points through the execution of each sign, their heelwork, attention and additional points earned for creativity, execution and complexity at each Handler Choice sign. Competitors can earn a maximum of 200 points and need a total score of 120 points to qualify.

Scoring is subjective.

### **Points are awarded based on a 1-10 scale:**

A sign performed "With Significant Deficiencies" can earn 1-3 points

A sign performed "Adequately to Well" can earn 4-7 points

A sign performed "Very Well to Superb" can earn 8-10 points

Light Green = DOG

Dark Green = Handler

Black = Novice

Blue = Intermediate

### Freestyle 1

#### **Change Sides Parallel Left**



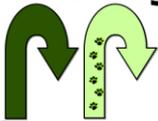
Gold Star 1, Jan 13

Dog is at heel.

The dog and handler make a parallel u-turn to the left, effecting a change of direction with the dog changing to the right hand side of the handler.

### Freestyle 2

#### **Change Sides Parallel Right**



Gold Star 4, Jan 13

Dog is at side. The dog and handler make a parallel about turn to the right, effecting a change of direction with the dog changing to the left hand side of the handler.

### Freestyle 3

#### **Change Sides Turn Away**



Freestyle 2018

Dog is at heel. With the dog on the handler's left side the dog and handler make an opposite about turn away from each other, effecting a change of direction with the dog changing to the right hand side of the handler.

### Freestyle 4

#### **Change Sides Turn Away**



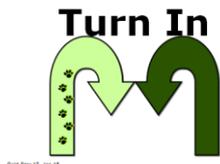
Freestyle 2018

Dog is at side. With the dog on the handler's right side the dog and handler make an opposite about turn away from each other,

effecting a change of direction with the dog changing to the left hand side of the handler.

### Freestyle 5

#### Change Sides



Dog is at heel. With the dog on the handler's left side the dog and handler make a 180 degree turn towards each other, effecting a change of direction with the dog changing to the right hand side of the handler. The team continue in Normal Pace.

### Freestyle 6

#### Change Sides



\_\_Dog is at side. With the dog on the handler's right side, the dog and handler make a 180 degree turn towards each other, effecting a change of direction with the dog changing to the left hand side of the handler. The team continue in Normal Pace.

### Freestyle 7



Dog is at Heel. While walking forward, the handler calls the dog front and takes some steps back before making a 180 degree turn to their left and proceeding with the dog at Side. Normal pace and flow are maintained throughout.

### Freestyle 8



Dog is at Side. While walking forward, the handler calls the dog front and takes some steps back before making a 180 degree turn to their right and proceeding with the dog at Heel. Normal pace and flow are maintained throughout.



take up position next to the dog.

### **Freestyle 14**



As above, but the handler crosses behind the dog.

### **Freestyle 15**

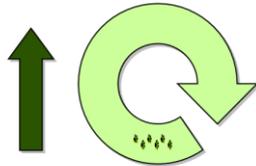
#### **DOG CIRCLES LEFT**



With the dog on the left side, the dog only makes a circle to the left. The handler may be stationary or walking forward in Normal Pace. The dog must effect a 360 degree turn back to side position before the handler continues.

### **Freestyle 16**

#### **DOG CIRCLES RIGHT**



With the dog on the right side, the dog only makes a circle to the right. The handler may be stationary or walking forward in Normal Pace. The dog must effect a 360 degree turn back to side position before the handler continues.

### **Freestyle 17**



At the sign the handler calls the dog to the front position from either side. The dog does not sit. Together the team make one side step to the handlers left. Handler cues dog back to heel position they commenced the exercise in and the team move forward.

## Freestyle 18



As above, but the step is taken to the handler's right.

## Freestyle 19



At the sign the handler calls the dog to the front position from either side. The dog does not sit. Together the team make two steps, the handler moves forward as the dog moves backward. The dog is cued back to the heel position they commenced the exercise in and the team move forward.

## Freestyle 20



With the dog on either side and without stopping the handler calls the dog to stand front and together the team take four sideways steps to the handlers left. The handler cues the dog to the heel position they commenced the exercise in and the team move forward.

## Freestyle 21



As above, but the side steps are made to the handler's right.

## Freestyle 22



With the dog on either side and without stopping the handler calls the dog to stand front and together the team take four steps. The dog is going backward as the handler goes forward. The handler cues the dog to to the heel position they commenced the exercise in and the team move forward.

## Freestyle 23



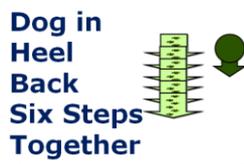
With the dog in heel position and without stopping, the team take two backward steps together before moving forward.

## Freestyle 24



With the dog in side position and without stopping, the team take two backward steps together before moving forward.

## Freestyle 25



With the dog in heel position and without stopping, the team take six backward steps together before moving forward.

## Freestyle 26



With the dog in side position and without stopping, the team take six backward steps together before moving forward.

## Freestyle 27.



At the sign the handler cues the dog to pass across the front of him/her and make an about turn right. At the same time the handler makes a 180° turn to the left, and the team move forward together in the heel position having effected a change of direction. Not a change of side.

## Freestyle 28



At the sign the handler cues the dog to pass across the front of him/her and make an about turn left. At the same time the handler makes a 180° turn to the right, and the team move forward together in the side position having effected a change of direction. Not a change of side.

## Freestyle 29



Dog is in heel, the handler cues the dog to pass across the front of him/her and circle to the left back to the left heel position.

## Freestyle 30



Dog is in side, the handler cues the dog to pass across the front of him/her and circle to the right back to the right side position.

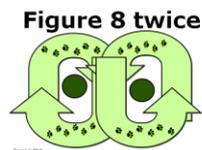
## Freestyle 31

## Freestyle 32



The dog makes two complete circles from any heel position.

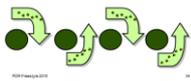
## Freestyle 33



: Dog performs a figure 8 thru handler's legs 2 times, crossing under the handler's legs a total of 4 times. Handler's legs should not move excessively and appear to be posts for the dog to perform a figure 8 around.

## Freestyle 34

**Walking Weave Thru 4 times**



: Dog performs a walking weave, passing thru the handler's far leg 4 times.

## Freestyle 35

**SERPENTINE Two loops**



: The team make a series of 4 loops, in heel or side position, to arrive at the next exercise.

## Freestyle 36

**SERPENTINE Four Loops**



: The team make a series of 4 loops, in heel, side or front position, to arrive at the next exercise.

## **FREE CHOICE SIGNS.**

Handler cues dog to perform any behaviour handler chooses, as long as it is safe. If a moving behaviour, it must be completed prior to the next sign. Handler must cue the dog to move back into original position on approach to the Freestyle sign, before continuing to next sign. Handler may carry prop or place at sign.

### **Freestyle 37**

#### **FREESTYLE POSE**

Freestyle 37 - Examples - Sit, Down, Stand, Bow, Beg, paw work, cover eyes, play dead, stand on hind legs supported or unsupported.

### **Freestyle 38**

#### **FREESTYLE ACTION**

Freestyle 38 - Examples – Rollover, jump over arm, leg or other body part, through arm as hoop. Free jump or bounce. Get into or on object. Crawl. Collect article, deposit article. Props to be placed on course prior to commencement of round.

### **Freestyle 39 and 40**

#### **FREESTYLE CHOICE**

Freestyle 39 - Examples - Any of the above. Circle handler, handlers leg, circle prop.

Backwards moves, different heel positions from higher level.

### **Freestyle 41**

#### **SIT**

Freestyle 41 - Handler remains in position, the dog sits.

## Freestyle 42

### **DOWN**

Freestyle 2018

- Handler remains in position, the dog downs.

## Freestyle 43

### **SIT PAW TO HAND**

Freestyle 2018

- Handler may move out of position to cue the paw to hand, then return to position before continuing.

## Freestyle 44

### **SIT PAW TO FOOT**

Freestyle 2018

- Handler may move out of position to cue the paw to foot. Return to position before continuing.

## Freestyle 45

### **PAW WORK 4 PAW MOVEMENTS**

Freestyle 2018

- Handler may move out of position to cue the paw work. Return to position before continuing.

## Freestyle 46

### **POSE Hold for 4 Seconds**

Freestyle 2018

- Handler may move out of position to cue the pose. Return to position before continuing.

## Freestyle 47

**Dog in Side  
Move Four  
Steps LEFT**



Freestyle 2018 - Dog is side right, team move to the left x 4 handler steps.

## Freestyle 48

**Dog in Heel  
Move Four  
Steps RIGHT**



Freestyle 2018 - With the dog at heel left, team move to the right x 4 handler steps.

## Freestyle 49



**Follow  
Behind  
Four  
Steps**

Freestyle 2018 - Handler cues dog behind and the team move forward for four handler steps.

## Freestyle 50

**Dog in heel  
Pivot 180  
Left  
Dogs front feet  
are pivot point**

Freestyle 2018 - With the dog at heel left, the team make at 180 degree turn to the left. The dog's front feet are the pivot point.

## Freestyle 51

**Dog in side  
Pivot 180  
Right  
Dogs front feet  
are pivot point**

Freestyle 2018 - With the dog at side right, the team make at 180 degree turn to the side. The dog's front feet are the pivot point.

## Freestyle 52

**Dog in Side  
Pivot 360°  
RIGHT**

Dogs front feet are  
pivot point

## Freestyle 53

**Dog in heel  
Pivot 360°  
LEFT**

Dogs front feet are  
pivot point

As above, but the team pivot through 360 degrees.

## Freestyle 54



Freestyle 2016

From any position, handler cues the dog to stand front.

## Freestyle 55



Freestyle 2016

## Freestyle 56



Freestyle 2016

## Freestyle 57



## Freestyle 58



## Freestyle 59



Dog drops his chest toward the floor while keeping his hind end up. The handler may move from position to cue the bow.