

YRKC OBEDIENCE (YKCOBD) A: B: HANDLERS 1. The following three YRKC Obedience competitions are available for members to compete in, each with three age subcategories:

YRKC Basic Obedience • Handler 06-11 Years • Handler 12-17 Years • Handler 18-24 Years

YRKC Novice Obedience • Handler 06-11 Years • Handler 12-17 Years • Handler 18-24 Years

YRKC High Flyers Obedience • Handler 06-11 Years • Handler 12-17 Years • Handler 18-24 Years
24.

Handlers may not be swapped after the closing date of the show.

1. This means no on-the-day swapping of YRKC handlers at any obedience qualifier.
2. If the handler entered at the show is not competing with that dog, that entered dog must withdraw from the competition.
3. Only current YRKC members may compete in YRKC competitions.
4. A YRKC member's age on the first day of the show, must be the age category entered at the show.

DOGS

1. Standard Royal Kennel Club rules regarding which dogs may enter an obedience class apply.

2. Bitches in season will not be allowed to compete in any YRKC obedience competition.

3. Once a dog has competed with a given YRKC handler in an obedience qualifier, that dog may only compete with that handler in any future obedience qualifiers for the rest of the qualifying season.

4. Each of the YRKC Obedience competitions are only open to dogs that are eligible to enter specific standard Kennel Club obedience classes, these are as follows. The qualification period for Crufts 2027 is: 01-March 2026 till 31-Oct-2026

5. Unless otherwise specified in this document, YRKC Obedience classes will be subject to Royal Kennel Club regulations for obedience competitions. Including, but not limited to: i. (G) Obedience Show Regulations ii. (O) Regulations for The Young Royal Kennel Club

6.. **YRKC Basic** - For The YRKC Basic obedience class Heelwork exercise, the judge will choose one of three Heelwork pattern options A, B or C. Copies of these rounds can be found on the [YRKC webpage link](#). Other exercises in this class will be set by the judge in line with the class requirements.

7. YRKC Novice & High Flyers - The YRKC obedience competition courses will be set by the judge. Novice and High Flyers tests may contain circles but must also include straight lines and a combination of turns appropriate to the level being judged. A full breakdown and explanation of these exercises can be found on [YRKC webpage Link](#)

8 In all YRKC classes, handlers may use as many commands and signals as necessary unless specified (High Flyers -Scent).

i. 7. Any play exercise must not last longer than 20 seconds but can be 15 seconds if the judge is satisfied with the standard of the dog and handler. i. ii. Toys may not be carried in the ring. Where an exercise includes a toy, check with the judge or steward on how to obtain the toy.

v1.2 3 YRKC OBEDIENCE (YKCOBD) D: YRKC OBEDIENCE QUALIFIERS

1. By entering a YRKC qualifier, the YRKC member and anyone representing them (parent/guardian etc) agree to abide by the YRKC's Code of Conduct
2. There will be a prize giving ceremony.
3. Once a dog has qualified for the YRKC Obedience Finals , they may still compete in further qualifying classes in that competition year.
4. Each YRKC member/handler is permitted to compete with up to a maximum of 3 dogs in any one qualifying year. This means each YRKC member/handler can qualify up to a maximum of 3 dogs for the YRKC Obedience Finals at Crufts.
5. Practice Rounds (Training Rounds) are permitted. Handlers must ask the Judges permission before entering the ring. The practice round will deem your dog to have withdrawn from competition in that class and a mark of WFC will be noted on the scoreboard.
6. Food is not permitted to be carried in the ring.
7. YRKC members & dogs must only enter YRKC Obedience competitions that they are eligible for at the point of entry and following the standard G regulation 25 rule. During a qualifying year, if a dog wins out of a class into a higher standard class, this will affect which class the dogs can be entered into. At Crufts - Dogs will only be permitted to be entered in their lowest class.
8. A YRKC member is only eligible to be awarded a qualifying place if none of the exercises in their round score full marks. i. Judges should judge in the same manner in which they would judge a standard class. a. Failure to complete an exercise should result in maximum points for that exercise.
9. YRKC Obedience qualifying shows are listed on the website. Only qualifiers shows listed on the YRKC website will be eligible for qualification. Please ensure that you are entering a valid YRKC qualifier.

v1.2 4 YRKC OBEDIENCE (YKCOBD) E: WHO QUALIFIES FOR THE YRKC OBEDIENCE FINALS?

- In each age category , First & Second places in YRKC Basic, Novice and High Flyers Obedience classes will qualify for a place in the YRKC Obedience Finals. i. This is providing that qualification space is not withheld.
2. The YRKC reserves the right to amend this qualification method if numbers are vastly oversubscribed for the final OR if not enough spaces are filled. The YRKC will only amend qualification criteria in exceptional circumstances.
 3. The handler cannot be substituted. Once a qualifying place has been achieved.
 4. When all qualifying classes have been held, the YRKC contact you to confirm which dogs are qualified and may be entered in the YRKC Obedience final.
 5. Dogs will only be permitted to be entered in one class at the YRKC Obedience Finals at Crufts 2027. Dogs must be entered in their lowest class to which they are qualified.
 6. Each YRKC member will be allowed to compete with up to a maximum of 3 dogs in any one qualifying year. This means that handlers can only qualify up to a maximum of 3 dogs for the YRKC Obedience Finals.

5. Once entries for Crufts have closed, there will be no additional dogs invited to enter the YRKC Obedience finals .
2. If either a dog or handler cannot compete at Crufts, neither can be substituted.

YRKC OBEDIENCE FINALS AT CRUFTS

1. By entering a YRKC competition, the YRKC member and anyone representing them (parent/guardian etc) agree to abide by the YKC's Code of Conduct
2. Details of approximate timings e.tc will be confirmed when entries have closed.
3. When qualifying for YRKC Obedience finals, each dog must be entered in their lowest class for which they are eligible. Only one class entry per dog is permitted in the YRKC Obedience Finals at Crufts.
4. At Crufts, the YRKC will calculate which age category each competitor shall be entered in based on the YRKC members age on the first day of Crufts. i. ii. This may be a different age category to the one where the YRKC member qualified.

Handlers who turn 25 before the first day of Crufts are not eligible to compete at Crufts in the YRKC Obedience Finals. Any qualifications gained for the YRKC will be forfeit.

At Crufts, in each of the YRKC Obedience classes, dogs will be subject to a running order, arranged through random draw. Competitors MUST run in strict running order; If you are not in position with the collecting ring steward when it is your turn to compete, you will have missed your turn and will not be allowed to compete later.

ii. The running order for the final will be determined in a pseudo-random nature. a. Any handlers with more than one dog in a YRKC Obedience competition final will have at least three other dogs between their turns where possible or a short break will be added

In each YRKC Obedience class, the YRKC will provide rosette's 1st-3rd, qualifying certificates 1st & 2nd, and placed certificates 3rd-6th in each age group for all 3 classes.

Note - The Young Royal Kennel Club (YRKC) class updates are effective from 01.03.26. **Note** there are no changes to the exercises. The eligibility for each class has been updated to continue to align with G regulations but will affect YRKC Obedience class wins from the 01.03.26. This means that YRKC Obedience Class win at Crufts 2026 count towards class progression and Crufts 2027 qualification. It does not affect previous wins in YKC Obedience classes prior to the 01.03.26 .

Winning out of YRKC classes

In estimating the number of awards won, all wins up to and including 25 days before the start of the competition shall be counted when entering for any YRKC class. YRKC Obedience classes held at Crufts count towards progression.

YRKC Basic Eligibility

From 01.03.26 to compete in YRKC Basic a dog must not have won two first places in YRKC Basic, YRKC Novice or have won two first places in either Pre-Beginners or Beginners nor gained a third place or above in any other competitive obedience class (Introductory Class excepted) and have not elected to progress on points from Pre-Beginners.

To progress out of YRKC Basic first places in YRKC Obedience classes must have been achieved where a minimum of three dogs are present in the class (Each YRKC age group will count as a separate class). YRKC Obedience classes held at Crufts count towards progression.

YRKC Basic Round Specification

There are 3 Heelwork patterns for the Judge to choose from A or B or C.

YRKC Basic Test

- a. [10 Points] – Play or Motivate your dog for 20 seconds
- b. [10 Points] – Heel on lead – choice
- c. [10 Points] – Recall with finish to heel position
- d. [10 Points] – Examination of the dog (Handler to show the judge)

Total [40 points]

YRKC Novice Eligibility

From 01.03.26 to compete in YRKC Novice a dog must not have won a total of two first places in YRKC Novice or YRKC Highflyers or have won a total of two or more first places in Beginners class or one first place in any other competitive obedience class (Introductory class and Pre-Beginners excepted) and have not elected to progress on points from Beginners.

To progress out of YRKC Novice, first places in YRKC Obedience classes must have been achieved where a minimum of three dogs are present in the class. (Each YRKC age group will count as a separate class). YRKC Obedience classes held at Crufts count towards progression.

YRKC Novice Test

- a. [10 Points] – Play or Motivate your dog for 20 seconds
- b. [20 Points] – Heel on lead
- c. [20 Points] – Heel Free (Heelwork off lead)
- d. [10 Points] – Recall with finish to heel position
- e. [20 Points] – Retrieve own article with finish to heel position.

Total [80 points]

YRKC High Flyers Eligibility

Open to dogs that are not eligible for YRKC Basic. YRKC Members may handle dogs in any ownership providing the dog is eligible for the class. Dogs qualified for Championship C are not eligible to compete in YRKC Obedience classes.

YRKC High Flyers Test

(Extra commands permitted in all exercises except Scent)

- a. [10 Points] – Play or Motivate your dog for 20 seconds
- b. [40 Points] – Heel Free (Heelwork off lead) – Normal / Slow & Fast Paces
- c. [25 Points] – Sendaway & Down on command
- d. [15 Points] – A-Recall with commands
- e. [30 Points] – Retrieve article (Provided by the judge) with finish to heel position.
- f. [30 Points] – Scent

Total [150 point)