

Young
Royal
Kennel Club



YRKC RALLY



RALLY COMPETITIONS
RULES 2026 (CRUFTS 2027)



YRKC RALLY GENERAL RULES



YRKC HANDLING RULES - CHANGE LOG

1. Changes Dated 27/03/2026 – (v1.0 to v1.1).
 - i. Changed all YKC logos to YRKC.
 - ii. Changed all mention of YKC to YRKC.
 - iii. Changed all mention of Kennel Club to Royal Kennel Club.
 - iv. Added a new section (E) to the document to outline Crufts health testing requirement for RFG breeds.
 - v. F.8.ii changed 7 days to 14 days



A: HANDLERS

1. The following subcategory will be open for members to compete in:

06-24 Years

2. Only current YRKC members may compete YRKC Classes.

B: DOGS

1. Standard Royal Kennel Club rules surrounding which dogs may enter this rally class apply.
2. Bitches in season will not be allowed to compete in any YRKC Rally competition.
3. Dogs of any level may submit points for the YRKC Rally competition.
4. A dog may only be entered into this competition once, even if multiple handlers could qualify with the same dog.

C: YRKC RALLY QUALIFICATION - POINTS

1. **To qualify for YRKC Rally at Crufts, YRKC members may submit each of their qualifying scores from throughout the year which will be combined into an **OVERALL TOTAL**.**
 - i. The mark must have been awarded at a Royal Kennel Club licenced show in a standard class.
 - ii. The mark must have been obtained both;
 - a. between 01-Nov-2025 and 31-Oct-2026 for qualification to Crufts 2027.
 - b. By the YRKC member and dog combination looking to qualify.
2. **The “Qualifying Score” is defined in the KC Rally Regulations (S)**
 - i. **For Levels 1-4 the minimum qualifying score is 175**
 - ii. **For Levels 5&6 the minimum qualifying score is 180**
3. After the closing date for submitting scores has passed, a leaderboard will be created;
 - i. The highest 10 submitted **OVERALL TOTALS** on the leaderboard will be invited to compete at Crufts 2027.
 - ii. This will NOT be further subdivided by level or age, instead, all members who submit scores will be placed in the leaderboard together.
4. The points will be submitted on the YRKC website via a form.

PLEASE
NOTE

D: HOW MANY DOGS CAN I QUALIFY FOR RALLY?

1. You may submit qualifying scores for up to two dogs.
 - i. The YRKC will add your dog with the highest **OVERALL TOTAL** to the leaderboard first
 - ii. If there are still spaces left to fill after everyone’s highest **OVERALL TOTAL** scoring dogs have been added, the YRKC will add in members 2nd highest **OVERALL TOTAL** to the leaderboard until all spaces are filled.
2. Any YRKC member submitting an **OVERALL TOTAL** for 3 or more dogs will have the dogs with the lowest **OVERALL TOTAL(s)** removed from the entries until only the two highest remain.



E ■ NEW HEALTH ENTRY CRITERIA FOR BULLDOGS, FRENCH BULLDOGS AND PUGS AT CRUFTS

1. All Bulldogs, French Bulldogs and Pugs exceeding 14 calendar months on the first day of Crufts must have a valid Respiratory Function Grading (RFG) Scheme assessment to attend. This requirement is mandatory for entry into the show, not just individual classes.
2. **VALID RFG SCHEME ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS**
 - i. To gain entry, all eligible Bulldogs, French Bulldogs and Pugs must attach a valid RFG Scheme certificate dated within the last 24 months of the first day of the show to their entry.
 - ii. Dogs assessed as Grade 2 or 3 will be excluded and not allowed to enter or attend the show.
3. **CERTIFICATE UPLOAD AND VALIDATION**
 - i. The dog's RFG scheme certificate must be uploaded as part of your entry, including the expiry date and grade. The Royal Kennel Club will validate and approve the certificate.
4. **EXEMPTIONS AND AGE REQUIREMENTS**
 - i. Bulldogs, French Bulldogs and Pugs not exceeding 14 calendar months on the first day of the show are exempt from needing an RFG Scheme assessment, and a certificate is not required.
 - ii. Bulldogs, French Bulldogs and Pugs aged 7 years or older on the first day of the show do not need a valid RFG Scheme assessment; however, they must upload the last certificate awarded to the dog
 - a. The corresponding certificate must be uploaded prior to entry, but it does not need to be dated within the last 24 months.
 - b. The last certificate awarded must have the dog assessed as either Grade 0 or Grade 1.
5. **OVERSEAS ASSESSMENTS**
 - i. International RFG Scheme assessments issued by licensed organisations, and carried out by approved assessors, will be accepted. Overseas exhibitors must upload a valid certificate prior to entry, and ensure certificates meet the same standards as domestic entries.
6. **CROSSBREED DOG BREED DETERMINATION**
 - i. A crossbreed that has characteristics of either a Bulldog, French Bulldog or Pug will be asked to prove that there are none of the aforementioned breeds in the dog's breeding going back 5 generations.
 - ii. A crossbreed that has unknown lineage will be deemed as one of the designated breeds (Bulldog, French Bulldog or Pug) if it has characteristics that are associated with those breeds respectively.
 - iii. Any Crossbreed that is deemed to be one of the designated breeds (Bulldog, French Bulldog or Pug) is subject to the same health testing restrictions as outlined in E1 through E5 in this document.
 - iv. If there is any doubt whether a dog should be deemed as one of the designated breeds (Bulldog, French Bulldog or Pug) AND that dog has been entered into Crufts without submitting a valid RFG scheme certificate, the judge of the competition will adjudicate.
 - a. The judge may ask for a second opinion from the YRKC show organisers.
 - b. If it is deemed that the dog is one of the designated breeds, that dog shall be asked to leave the show immediately.
7. **More Information**
 - i. For information on where the scheme is available, expected costs and more information on why the RKC is implementing these rules: please visit <https://www.royalkennelclub.com/rfgscheme>



F: YRKC RALLY AT CRUFTS – FINAL

1. **By entering a YRKC class, the YRKC member and anyone representing them (parent/guardian etc) agree to abide by the YRKC's Code of Conduct.**
2. Unless otherwise specified in this document, YRKC Rally classes will be subject to all in-force Royal Kennel Club regulations for rally competitions. Including, but not limited to:
 - i. (S) Rally Regulations
 - ii. (O) Regulations for The Young Royal Kennel Club
3. The YRKC Rally competition at Crufts will be set at Level 2
 - i. even if you and your dog would not usually be eligible for this class
 - ii. If your dog is level 3 or above, you should complete the course off-lead as you usually would in competition
 - a. Level 1&2 dogs should remain on lead for the course
4. There will be a maximum of 8 minutes to walk the course
 - i. A printout of the course layout will be given to you when you check in for the day.
5. The bonus exercise will be used during the normal round
 - i. The bonus will be used as a tie break in the normal way (i.e. there is a tie between two competitors in terms of score and time taken) and only if it affects a place between 1st and 5th
6. Standard Royal Kennel Club marking will apply
7. The classes at Crufts must be run in strict running order, if you miss your allocated time, you will be unable to compete.
 - i. The running order will be generated pseudo-randomly
 - a. The YRKC will initially do a completely random draw, if a YRKC member does have two dogs in a class, and those dogs get drawn one after the other, the YRKC may manipulate the running order to ensure there is a gap between dogs to ensure the smooth running of the ring. If the YRKC does do this, we will NOT alter which of the two dogs is set to be run first.
8. A handler is only allowed to swap dogs after entries close if they submitted points for a second dog, and that second dog was above the threshold to have qualified for YRKC Rally, in this case, they may swap to the other qualified dog.
 - i. This must be reported to the YRKC at the earliest opportunity
 - ii. The latest a dog may be swapped is 14 days prior to the first day of Crufts.

G: CLOTHING @ CRUFTS

1. Rally Handlers should wear smart plain black or navy trousers with a smart plain short sleeve t-shirt/polo shirt of their choice.
2. Footwear should be functional for completing a rally round. Plain trainers would be ideal. No item of clothing worn should be a distraction to either the dog (e.g. baggy or long-sleeved clothes) or judge.

H: YRKC RALLY – PRIZEGIVING

1. **The following awards will be presented in the YRKC ring for the YRKC Rally final**

06-24 Years

- 1st to 5th

2. All non-placed competitors will receive finalist rosette when exiting the prize-giving
 - i. To receive this award, members must be present for the prize-giving.