



Differences and similarities between UKC and AKC Rally Obedience

Presented by the UPA Performance Committee with Marguerite Plank's permission

	UKC	AKC
Levels & Titles	Level 1, RO1 (A, B, C*) Level 2, RO2 (A, B) Level 3, RO3 (A, B) Level M, ROM (A, B) *Dogs with URO1 title may compete here indefinitely, but are not eligible for High in Trial)	Novice, RN (A, B) Intermediate, RI (optional, no A/B div.) Advanced, RA (A, B) Excellent, RE (A, B) Master, RM (no A/B division) Choice, RC (optional, no A/B division)
Number of Signs	Level 1, 15-17 Level 2, 15-17 Level 3, 15-17 Master, 15-17	Novice, 10-15 Intermediate, 12-17 Advanced, 12-17 Excellent, 15-20 Master, 15-20 Choice, 15-20
On-Leash?	All Level 1 classes	All Novice classes Intermediate (per Jan. 2023 rules)
Jumps required?	None in Level 1. Not required at all in higher classes	None in Novice, Intermediate, or Choice 1 in Advanced 2 in Excellent 1 in Master
Honor stay?	Yes, in Level 3	No
Stay and get leash?	No	Yes, in Excellent
Treats on handler	Never. Having treats in the ring will result in an NQ	Never, as in UKC
Petting or touching the dog on course?	Never, except to briefly untangle leash	Never
Help from judge?	Judge MAY call "Fault!" before handler reaches next sign if handler commits an error that would result in NQ. Retry once for -3 points. Handler may also ask judge if a sign was performed correctly, but judge may not explain why.	None
Failure to perform a sign correctly	NQ, unless corrected after judge calls "Fault." Limit of 1 re-try.	IP, or a 10-point deduction
Signaling Dog	Multiple commands are allowed, but a team may earn a penalty for "slow response" if the dog does not promptly perform as asked. Clapping may be penalized and the appearance of luring could result in an NQ.	Handlers are not allowed to pat their legs or clap their hands to encourage the dog in Excellent, Master, and Choice. There is a 1 point penalty for each occurrence, as in pat-pat-pat = 3 points. Verbal encouragement, multiple commands and/or inaudible signals using one or both arms and hands are allowed; the handler's arms need not be maintained in any particular position at any time. Handlers may not touch their dog or make any physical corrections without penalty

Compiled by Marguerite Plank, senior UKC obedience and rally judge #7117, with thanks to judge Kim Alexander Thomson for helpful feedback.