



Canine Obedience Trial Association Handbook

Ambassadors

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- Contact information

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C.O.T.A Certified Trainers

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 - Tammy Tan
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Costs

- Initial Trial Entry: \$99.99 USD
 - Re-Trial Entry: \$59.99 USD
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Rewards

- “Bronze” Trial goers who successfully complete their trial will receive a Certificate Title of Completion and a Bronze Medal
 - “Silver” Trial goers who successfully complete their trial will receive a Framed Certificate Title of Completion and a Customized Silver trophy
 - “Gold” Trial goers who successfully compete their trial will get a Customized plaque, Lifetime 10% off at any C.O.T.A training company's, initial Trial Fee returned, Free custom C.O.T.A Shirt and Hoodie, custom acrylic trophy and put in the C.O.T.A Gold Rankings and Hall of Fame... forever
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Mission: At C.O.T.A. We are dedicated to fostering the bond between dogs and their owners through dynamic and engaging Obedience Trials. Our mission is to create a vibrant community that showcases the skills, competitive instinct, interaction, intelligence and hard work owners have put in with their dogs, while promoting responsible ownership, teamwork, and a passion for canine excellence. We aim to inspire, and celebrate the unique abilities of every dog and their human partner and give Achievements to Reflect back on, while giving dogs and owners the outlet in sport that they seek and desire in a positive way!

Important things to know:

- Trials will be Judged by the C.O.T.A Ambassadors
- Trials will be Judged on Scorecards based on Regulations provided in the Article Below
Scoring
- A score of 75 or higher will result in a Pass, anything below will result in a Fail
- Initial Trial Fees \$100.00 USD/ Re-Trial fees will be \$60.00

- Will Not be allowed to Re-Trial the same day
- Cannot skip over Trials, must be completed in order (Level 1 “Bronze”, Level 2 “Silver”, level 3 “Gold”)
- All breeds are allowed
- Reactivity = Not Eligible
- Scorecards will be given to Handlers after their Bronze Trial and must/will be used to get entry into higher levels
- Must successfully sign our Contract and Social Media Forms

Rules And Regulations

- NO E-Collars, NO prong collars, NO harnesses, NO gentle leaders, NO slip leashes during Trial
- ONLY flat collars allowed during Trial
- ONLY 6ft normal leashes (Biothane, Leather, Vinyl) allowed during Trial
- NO clickers during Trial
- NO hand signals or “fake luring” during Trial
- Trial entry must be prepaid 72 hours before trial date or Dog will be unable to trial
- ABSOLUTELY NO photography of Dogs during Trial, pictures will be provided
- NO yelling during Trial, talking shall be at a minimum while Dogs trial
- Dog MUST be 1 year of age to trial
- Dog can only trial once per Trial Day
- Dog cannot be in heat or have any medical injuries
- NO food rewards
- To pass, Dog must achieve 75 points or higher
- CAN NOT carry any toys or Food During Trials
- No such things as warnings, the rules are the rules. No discussion/debate
- Only 3 attempts per Quadrant

Scoring

Dogs and their Owners start with 100 points at the start of their Trial, and points will be deducted as the Trial goes on.

Point deductions

- -2 EVERYTIME Owner repeats a command
- -2 Dog’s fixation on background
- -2 For each hand signal Owner uses
- -5 EVERYTIME Dog does the wrong command
- -5 EVERYTIME Dog breaks Loose Leash Heel
- -5 for Barking and/or Whining
- -5 EVERYTIME Dog breaks their stationary position
- -5 If Dog does not Recall or runs past Owner during Recall

- -7 Dog jumps on Owner
- -10 Dog jumps on Judge
- -10 If Dog touches any of the distractions
- -15 Dog using the bathroom during Trial
- -15 Quadrant Fail
- AUTO FAIL Dog bites Judge, bystander, or other dog
- AUTO FAIL Dog runs off Trial Field
- Carrying Toys or food during a trial is an Automatic Fail

Possible Distractions

- Balls
- Toys
- Dogs
- Bowls of Food
- Realistic Stuffed Animals
- Mannequins
- Speaker Playing sounds (Dogs, Cars, Etc)
- Air Horn
- Banging of Metal Can
- Trash

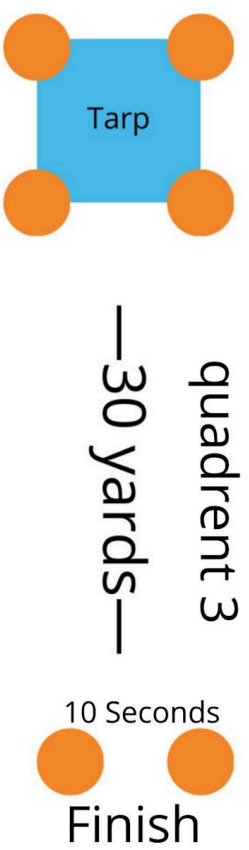
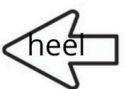
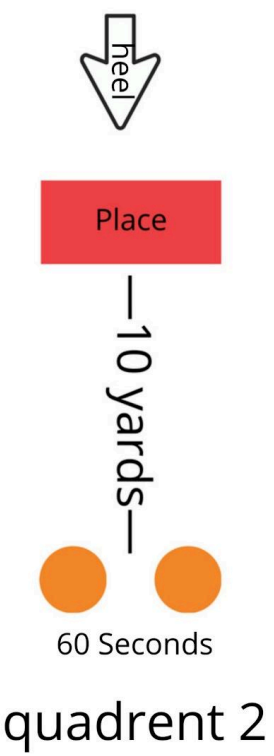
The Trials

Level 1 “Bronze Rank”

- Quadrant 1: Dog must be able to Loose Leash Heel on one specific side for 20 yards forward, an outside turn, and back without any Leash Tension (Air Horn on way back) and Heel to Quadrant 2.
- Quadrant 2: Dog must be able to Hold Place for 60 Seconds while Owner stands 10 feet away. After timer is over, Owner can walk back and retrieve their Dog and move on, but the Dog must remain on Place until released or points will be deducted.
- Quadrant 3: Owner and Dog will then walk to the next Quadrant where Dog must Sit on a blue painters tarp while Owner walks 20 yards away. Dog must hold Sit position for 10 seconds. While 20 yards away, Owner will give “Down” command which Dog must complete and hold for another 10 seconds. Owner will then Recall their Dog from 20 yards away. Dog must come straight back to Owner and into a Sit to complete the Trial.

LEVEL 1 “Bronze”

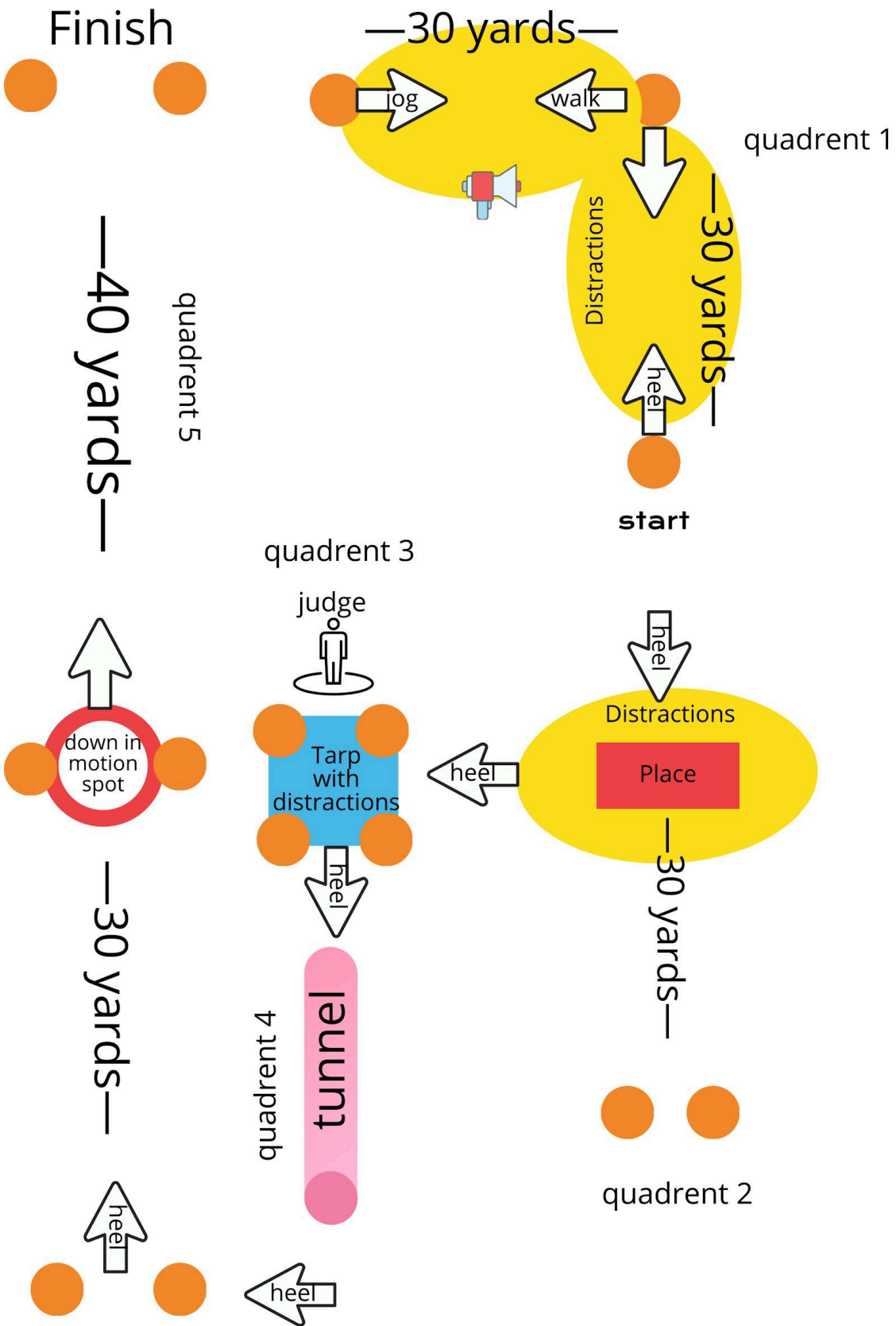
quadrant 1



Level 2 “Silver Rank”

- Quadrant 1: Dog will be given an “L” shape pattern to Loose Leash Heel around through a variety of distractions. Pattern will be in an “L” shape where Owner will Heel their Dog straight 20 yards, turn right while walking at a slower pace, make a U-turnaround the end cone, jog with their dog in a Heel to the middle cone, and finish in a normal Heel back to the starting cone (Toys and Air Horn Distractions). Dog must remain by Owner with a Loose Leash on ONLY one side the entire time or points will be deducted.
- Quadrant 2: Dog must Hold Place in a Down around various distractions for 2 Minutes while Owner stands 30 yards away. Once timer is up, Owner may WALK OVER to their Dog and Loose Leash Heel them over to the Judge in the next Quadrant.
- Quadrant 3: Dog will be put into a Sit on a blue painters tarp, surrounded by distractions, while a Judge will approach, greet the Owner, and attempt to pet the Dog. Dog must remain in their position, or points will be deducted.
- Quadrant 4: Owner will then Loose Leash Heel over to an agility tunnel/pool filled with water bottles and must successfully get their Dog in and out of it without showing any signs of stress or anxiety. Owner will then Loose Leash Heel to the next Quadrant.
- Quadrant 5: Owner will Loose Leash Heel their Dog 30 yards, then put their Dog into a Down IN MOTION while continuing to walk an extra 40 yards. Owner will Recall their Dog into a Heel position to complete the Trial.

LEVEL 2 “Silver”



Level 3 “Gold Rank”

Completed Entirely Off-Leash

- Quadrant 1: Dog will Heel around 4 cones in a Zig-Zag formation to work outside and inside turns through an elite series of distractions such as an airhorn, bowls of food, and toys along the course. In 20 yard increments, Owner and Dog will be changing up their rhythm from walk to jog to slow walk. Owner and Dog will then continue to Heel all the way into the Figure 8 cone section, where they will perform a Figure 8 pattern with their Dog in a heel, testing their mobility all the way to the start of Quadrant 2.
- Quadrant 2: Owner will send their Dog through an agility tunnel and put their Dog into a Heel on the other side. Dog must successfully go through agility tunnel without showing any signs of stress or anxiety. Owner and Dog will then Heel all the way over to the pool filled with water bottles. Owner will put their dog in the pool as “Place” and walk 50 yards away. Dog will hold Place for 3:30 minutes until the Judge instructs Owner to Recall their Dog and Heel to the next Quadrant.
- Quadrant 3: Handler will make their Dog successfully climb up and over the A-Frame, and get back into a Heel. They will next enter a 4 come square, where Dog will do a “Down” to a “Sit” while remaining in a Heel. Then, when instructed by the Judge, Owner and Dog can continue to Heel to Quadrant 4.
- Quadrant 4: Owner will be given a toy by the Judge. Owner will then throw the toy WITH THEIR DOG IN A HEEL POSITION (Dog cannot get up to get the toy just yet). Owner will wait 5 seconds and then give Dog the fetch command to fetch and bring the toy back to Owner. Owner will then perform a “Drop It” or “Out” command, Heel their Dog, and return the toy to the Judge before proceeding to the next Quadrant.
- Quadrant 5: Owner will Heel through various distractions to a tarp filled with more distractions. Owner will successfully Down their Dog in motion on the tarp and continue to walk another 50 yards. Dog must hold Down on the tarp for 60 seconds until Owner Recalls them straight into a Heel to Quadrant 6.
- Quadrant 6: Owner will put their Dog in a Sit or Down position inside the square of 4 cones. Owner will leave Dog and walk 15 yards to the space available in Quadrant 6. A Judge will attempt to pet their Dog and actively attempt to get the

Dog to break position with food and toy distractions for 30 seconds. Dog must keep its composure and hold position. After the interaction, the Owner (not the Dog) will be instructed to walk to the final location to get ready to perform the final Recall while the Dog remains in its position at Quadrant 6.

- Quadrant 7: Owner will walk 80 yards away from their Dog, who will continue to hold their position at Quadrant 6. At 80 yards, Owner will perform a Recall and Down their Dog Mid-Recall in the designated area before recalling their Dog again. Dog must come straight to a Sit in front of the Owner to complete the Trial.

