

Course Design - Part 6

Level 6 Since my last course design article (*RallyNews December 2023 edition*), the Rally Rules and Regulations have altered a little. Possibly, the most useful change is the ability to use the 270 turns more than once on a course, this does allow more flexibility and is an excellent move by the Rally Working Party.

So, Level 6 introduces 6 more course exercises, of which two (63 & 66) are classified as static exercises, two (64 & 65) have at least one static position and two (67 & 68) are moving exercises. Four of these exercises (63, 66, 67 & 68) change the direction of handler and dog. Hence exercises 63 & 66 are frequently linked with other exercises due to the number of static positions they contain, 5 & 3 respectively. It is also possible to link the static element of exercise 64 (*Stand*) to a prior exercise, e.g; exercise 2, *Sit, Stand*. It is not possible to link exercise 65 due to the nature of the down exercise.

Three more bonus exercises have been introduced, of which 2 are essentially progressions of previous bonus exercises; the Retrieve and Send to Mat exercises. Bonus exercise 15. SEND AROUND POLE – LOOP TO HEEL- FORWARD is new and an exercise I would love to see turned into a course exercise.

The actual Level 6 course must have a minimum of sixteen and a maximum of eighteen exercises, with no more than sixteen static positions. A minimum of one and a maximum of four exercises from Level 5, and the same minimum and maximum requirements for Level 6 exercises.

Available ring space and working surface will be key to which exercises a judge is likely to use in their course. The Turn Heel Back exercises obviously require space for the backward movement and so careful thought is required for their placement on the course. Not in a corner of the ring! It is possible to produce a totally minimum course, with just one Level 5 exercise and one Level 6 exercise and no statics, however it will require duration of heel work. Whether it is as testing as a totally maximum course is another matter.

It would be great to have your thoughts on these courses. So, as in the last edition of Rallynews, I have produced a variety of courses. Enjoy.

63A



63B



64A



64B



65A



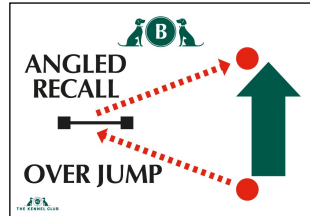
65B



66A



66B



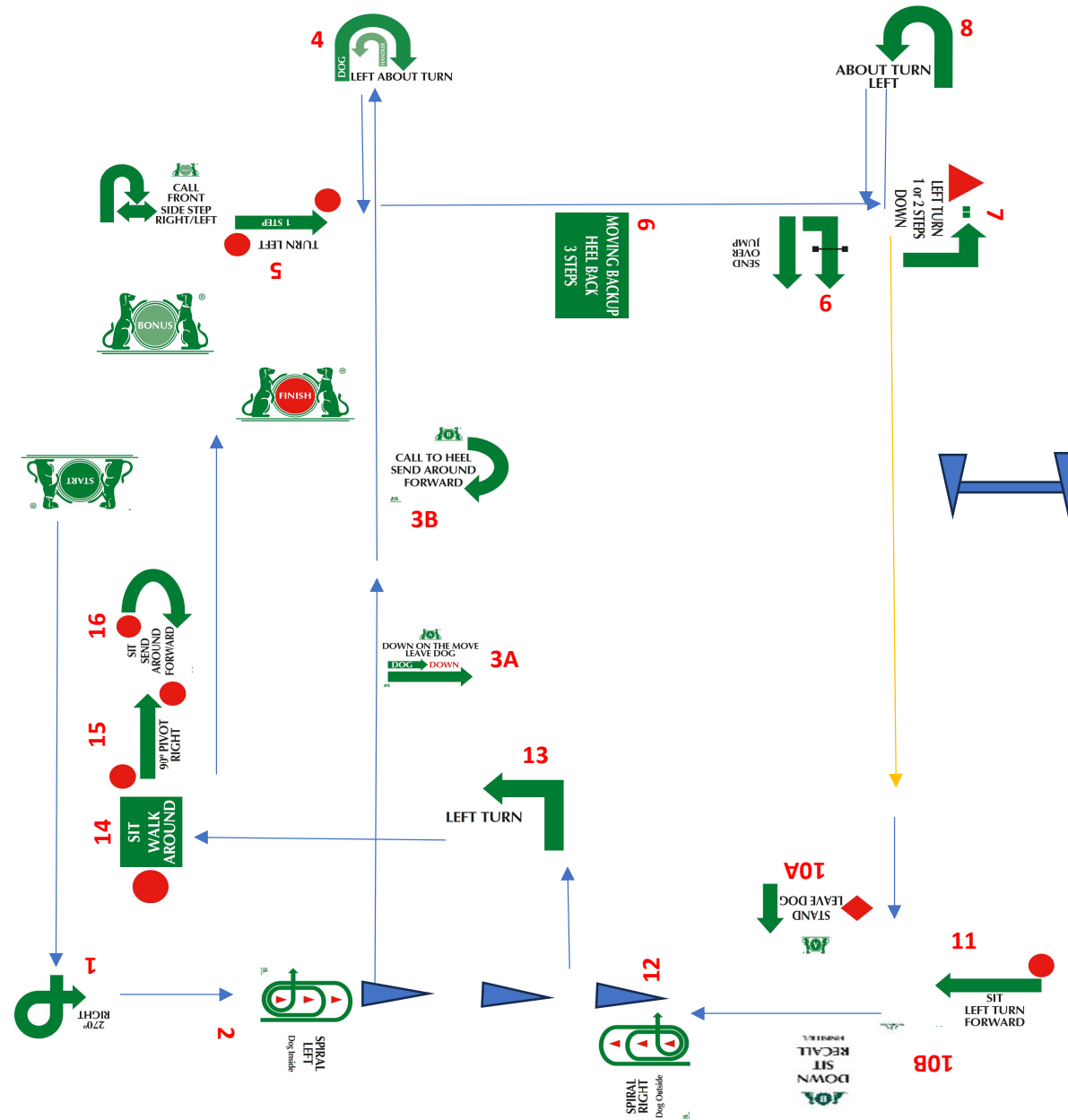
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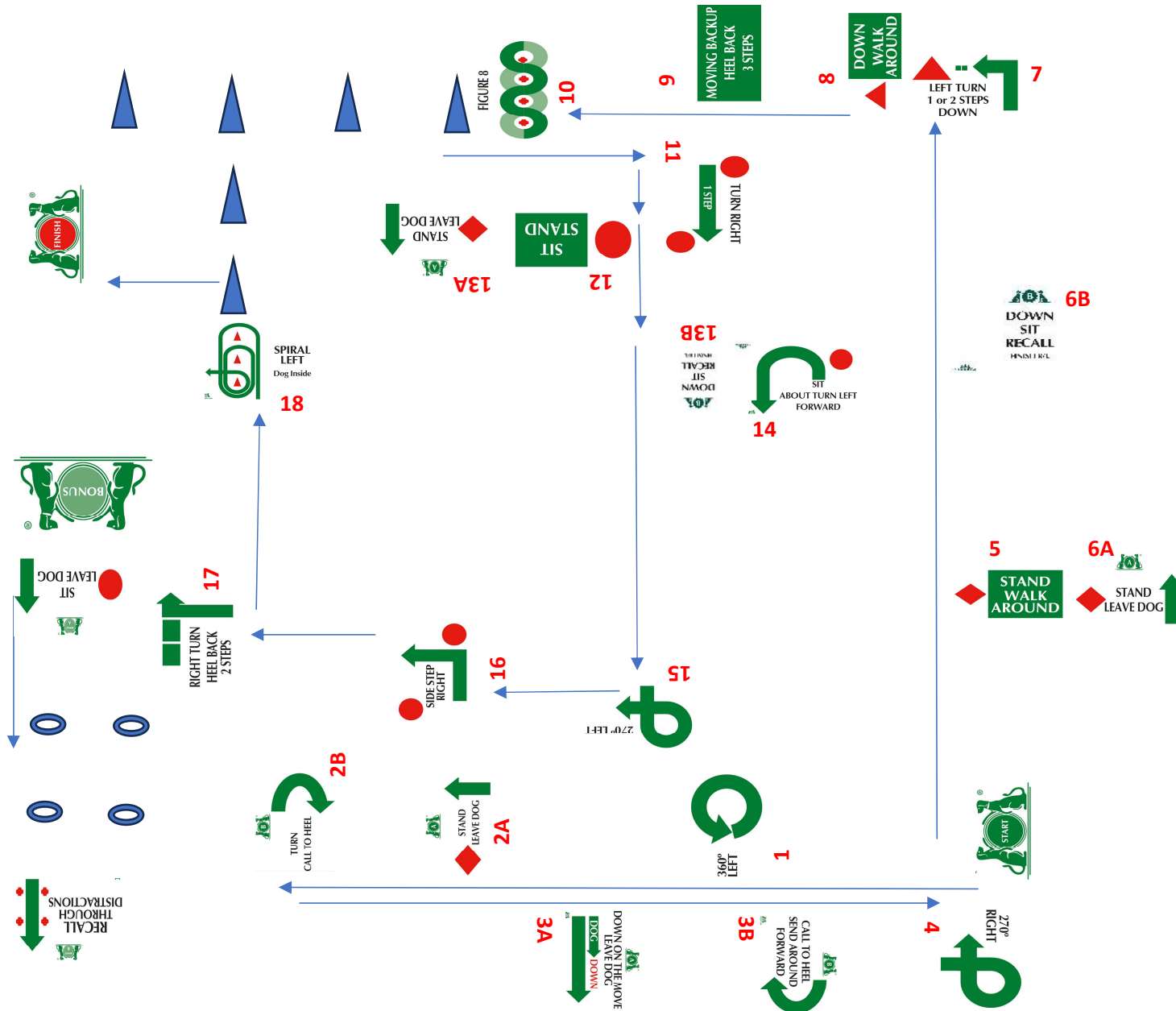
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Station	Ex.no.	Exercise	Level	Linked
Start				
1	9	270 right	1	no
2	34	spiral left-dog inside	2	no
3a	65a	down on the move-leave dog	6	no
3b	65b	call to heel-send around-forward	6	no
4	40	left about turn	3	no
5	30	sit-turn left-1 step-sit	2	no
6	58	moving backup-heel back 3 steps	5	no
7	61	left turn-1 or 2 steps-down	5	no
8	8	about turn left	1	no
9	59	send over jump-handler runs by	5	no
10a	63a	stand-leave dog	6	no
10b	63b	down-sit-recall-finish	6	yes
11	20	sit-left turn-forward	1	yes
12	33	spiral right-dog outside	2	no
13	6	left turn	1	no
14	23	sit-walk around	2	yes
15	27	sit-90 pivot right-sit	2	yes
16	32	sit-send around-forward	2	yes
Finish				
Bonus	Bonus Ex 11	turn-sit-retrieve-finish		



Station	Ex.no.	Exercise	Level	Linked
Start				
1	26	360 left	2	no
2a	57a	stand-leave dog	5	no
2b	57b	turn-call to heel	5	no
3a	65a	down on the move-leave dog	6	no
3b	65b	call to heel-send around-forward	6	no
4	9	270 right	1	no
5	52	stand-walk around	4	yes
6a	63a	stand-leave dog	6	yes
6b	63b	down-sit-recall-finish	6	no
7	61	left turn-1 or 2 steps-down	5	yes
8	53	down-walk around	4	yes
9	58	moving backup-heel back 3 steps	5	no
10	21	figure 8	1	no
11	29	sit-turn right-1 step-sit	2	yes
12	2	sit-stand	1	yes
13a	63a	stand-leave dog	6	yes
13b	63b	down-sit-recall-finish	6	yes
14	39	sit-about turn left-forward	3	yes
15	25	270 left	2	no
16	49	sit-side step right-sit	4	no
17	67	right turn-backup	6	no
18	34	spiral left-dog inside	2	no
Finish				
Bonus	Bonus Ex 8	sit-leave dog-recall through distractions		