

Basic Obedience → Play & Control

Dog:

Handler:

Trainer:

<i>Lure may be used in all exercises</i>		
Dog Skill	Yes/No	Notes
Sit		
Down		
Call to middle or heel position		
Stay (leash may be attached) for 20 seconds, handler 5 metres away		
Recall from 5 metres (may be a restrained recall)		
Loose leash walking in a circle and figure of 8's for 30 seconds		
Nose touch on each hand		
Handler can touch dogs collar and take leash on/off without losing control of dog (attach a second leash for safety)		
Handler skills		
Demonstrates correct use of cues. Behaviour cue: 'Sit'. Food reward marker 'Yes'. Release cue 'Ok'. (Cues may be different between handlers, but must handler must be consistent)		
Manages dog in a group setting		

The checklist above is intended as a guideline to help assess each student's readiness for graduation. Please also take into account the dog's overall progress, confidence, and consistency throughout the term, not just their performance on the day.

Play & Control → Pre-Agility

Dog:

Handler:

Trainer:

<i>Dog must be at least 12 months to graduate into pre-agility</i>		
Dog Skill	Yes/No	Notes
Off leash walking and jogging circles and figure of 8's for 30 seconds (lure may be used)		
20 second offleash wait* at 5 metres (*This may be a wait, stay or leadout at trainers discretion)		
Drive to reward (food or toy) on the ground with consistent cue use ('Get it')		
Wrap a cone in both directions with no lure		
Dog can put feet on piece of fitness equipment		
Handler skills		
Shows good understanding of reward markers (stationary delivery vs driving to reward) and has clear timing Reward food/toy from hand Reward food/toy on ground		
Demonstrate a blind cross on the flat from restrained recall		
Uses correct reward zone (hand closes to dog)		

For dogs under 12 months, trainers can advise handlers to stay at current level of play and control, move to Hoopers Foundation for a term, or trainers can nominate discretionary entrance to Pre-Agility to the Agility Co-Ordinator.

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Pre-Agility → Elementary

Dog:

Handler:

Trainer:

Dog Skill	Yes/No	Notes
Off leash walking and jogging circles and figure of 8's for 30 seconds (no lure)		
Dogs can wait in a lead out to be released over 1-2 obstacles on both sides.		
Intro to contacts (plank behaviour)		
Weave intro (6 poles with guides)		
Driving to reward in straight lines through 2-3 obstacles.		
Dog can complete a small sequence (minimum of 5 obstacles including a tunnel) offleash (lure is acceptable)		
Dog can successfully complete a tyre and long jump at an appropriate height for dogs size and age with a lead out.		
Handler skills		
Demonstrate a front cross on flat		
Demonstrate a rear cross on flat		
Ability to walk a short sequence		

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Elementary → Starters

Dog:

Handler:

Trainer:

<i>Dog must be at least 16months to graduate into Starters</i>		
Dog Skill	Yes/No	Notes
Dog can perform a minimum of 6 obstacle sequence of non-contacts/weaves with no lure in hand (may have reward in pocket or treat pouch). Dog must perform sequence without leaving the handler.		
Dogs can wait in a lead out while handler jogs away to be released over 1- 2 obstacles on both sides.		
6 weaves without guides		
Contact confidence at low height		
Dog can jump their full competition height (hurdle, long jump and tyre)		
Handler skills		
Handler can describe their contact criteria and knows how to train it both on and off equipment		
Understanding of soft/hard turns		
Handler shows reasonable understanding of how to get around a simple course (walking it solo and choosing an appropriate path for their dog and themselves).		

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The only mandatory exercise is off-leash control with no visible lure during a sequence, but please use your best judgement of the dogs overall performance during the term.

Starters → Novice

Dog:

Handler:

Trainer:

Dog Skill	Yes/No	Notes
Competent with 12 weaves in a course and handler on both sides		
Full-height contacts with consistent criteria		
Dog consistently generalising obstacles and not bypassing jumps		
Dogs can wait in a lead out while handler leads out minimum of 2 obstacles in a straight line		
Can complete a full starter course of minimum 15 obstacles (including 12 weaves)		
Handler skills		
Regular attendance and practice at home		

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