

WHAT IS RALLY OBEDIENCE

“Rally” is a sport in which a dog and handler compete to demonstrate their team’s ability to perform basic obedience exercises. A judge will design a course, which is a sequence of obedience tasks to be performed by each team in turn. The number and type of tasks will vary, depending on the venue and ability level of participating teams. All rally courses are timed events.

Judging is typically less strict in Rally than it is in “traditional obedience”. There are a number of similarities between Rally, Obedience, AKC Canine Good Citizen, and virtually any other sport requiring a dog and handler to establish an effective working rapport. One very important objective of Rally is to provide a fun, fast-paced environment where teams can showcase the abilities they have developed so they can perform in any environment. Another equally important goal is to provide a competitive experience that will reflect positively upon the teams and the sport. In other words, rally is about having fun!

Here at TCKC, we provide an opportunity to learn about the three major registries that offer Rally Obedience (often abbreviated to Rally-O) here in the Central Illinois area. These three registries are: American Kennel Club (AKC), United Kennel Club (UKC) and World Cynosport Rally (WCR). The exercises taught during TCKC classes should give students a fundamental understanding on how to apply these exercises at other Rally registries should they chose to compete. We hold four sessions of classes a year and each session we rotate our focus between AKC and UKC (which are combined because of their similarities) and WCR.

In order to compete in AKC, UKC or WCR, your dog must be registered with each individual registry and have a number assigned. Dogs can register with TCKC to take these rally classes. However, they are not required to be registered with AKC, UKC or WCR to attend classes at TCKC.

Basic requirements for participation in Rally classes at TCKC are:

Minimum requirements for Rally Level 1 or Novice (AKC/UKC and WCR):

Dog must have passed the Canine Good Citizenship Test and/or have Instructor approval.

Minimum requirements for Rally Level 2/3 or Advanced/Excellent (AKC/UKC and APDT):

Dog must have passed the Canine Good Citizenship Test and/or have Instructor approval.