Poised for Success Freestyle



Guide to the Harmony Division Harmony Only

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Harmony Division Notes:

Congratulations!! You have completed the two foundation Divisions in the Poised for Success Freestyle Titling Program, and you are now eligible to begin working toward the Harmony Division Title.

The Harmony Division is designed to be a bridge between exploration of foundation Freestyle skills and the creation of Freestyle performances! In this Division, options contain a higher level of complexity, and often consist of multiple steps.

Please note the following before you begin to create your submissions:

- There are several options in the "Training" category of the Handling Leg that consist of presentation of three parts of a training process using various types of targets, barriers, etc.

  If you choose any of these options to demonstrate for titling, it is **strongly** recommended that you select a behavior or skill that you have not trained previously, or – at least – that you have not trained to fluency.

  The purpose of these exercises is to demonstrate the process of starting with a target stick, ground target, barrier, etc., and then fully training the behavior to fluency.

  Please avoid demonstration of a fully trained behavior that you did not actually use the training aid to teach.

- In the demonstration of the training progression using targets, barriers, or platforms, you may use video clips where food or toys are visible to the dog, or where you use training aids such as baited targets.

  However, no food or toys should be visible in the clip where your dog performs the final, and fully trained, behavior.

- If you choose to complete any of the training progression options, please clearly identify the behavior that you are training. You can do this in the video clip title (playlist), on a caption on the video, or you can let me know by email when you submit your entry. (Example: "For Option HH1, I am training my dog to spin at a distance).

Harmony Division Titling Requirements
Submission Checklist – Handling Leg

General Rules

_____ Treats/toys concealed in pocket or container until each task is complete

_____ If clicker used in "Training" category, held in manner that keeps it as hidden from the dog as possible.

_____ Audio can be heard on the video. Music need not be playing for this category, but verbal interaction with your dog should be audible

_____ No editing, except to trim the beginning and end of clips, if necessary

_____ Dog and handler are fully visible in all video clips.

Or, permission has been secured to submit clips that do not include a "full picture" effect. If your working space makes this impossible, please contact Kristine to discuss options – we will make it work!

Submission Clips – Overture Handling Leg (Scroll Down for Exercise Descriptions)

Training – Choose Four

____ Follow Through Training: _____ Pivot Platform OR _____ Ground Target

____ Precision Marking

____ Moving Target _____ Step #1 _____ Step #2 _____ Step #3

____ New Location

____ Two Paw Target/Backing Up Into the Garage OR _____ Barrier

____ Delayed Reinforcement _____ #1 _____ #2 _____ #3

____ Training Contrasting Skills

____ Training Engagement and Animated Focus

____ Backchaining Sequences

Cues – Choose One;

_____ Props as Cues

_____ Cue Discrimination

_____ Find the Cue

_____ Polishing Physical Cues

Props and Fitness – Choose Six

_____ Two Paws OR _____ Paw Pods

_____ Hold

_____ Theme OR _____ Fitness Gym

_____ Plank

_____ Dance on a Pedestal OR _____ Balance Paws

_____ Sling Shot

_____ Back Around

_____ Can Can

_____ Paw Wrap

_____ Distance Props Combination

_____ Dance Inside a Prop

_____ Hoop Sequence

_____ Hand Held Cane Sequence

_____ Prop Transition of Position

_____ Opposite Circles Around a Prop

_____ Make Your Own Prop Behavior

Harmony Division - Handling Leg – Options/Requirements Descriptions

Training Category

Choose any **four** options from this category. Each box contains one option.

HHT1 – Follow Through Training – Pivot Platform OR **Ground Target**

Follow Through Training – Pivot Platform

Demonstrate a 3 step (minimum) progression, starting with training a behavior on the pivot platform and ending with the behavior fluent without the platform, of one fully trained behavior. A different item may be used for the "fading" step of this process.

Separate video clips may be used to demonstrate each step of the process. These video clips need not be shot in the same training session.

OR

Follow Through Training - Ground Target

Demonstrate a three step (minimum) progression starting with training a distance freestyle behavior, where you begin with use of a ground target and finish with the dog performing the behavior fluently at a distance without the ground target. For the finished performance, the dog may be sent away to perform the behavior, or the handler may move away from the dog as he or she waits to create distance.

A different target or item may be used for the "fading" step of this process.

Separate video clips may be used to demonstrate each step of the process. These video clips need not be shot in the same training session.

"Distance" for this exercise is: at least 3 dog lengths away for dogs with a body length of less than 2 feet, and at least 6 feet away for larger dogs.

HHT2 - Precision Marking - Have your dog perform a behavior at a distance and precisely mark the dog's commitment to the behavior. The dog may return to you for reinforcement, or you can go to your dog to reinforce.

No props or targets may be used for this option.

The mark (such as a click, or marker word) must be audible, or visible (if you are using a tactile marker), for the judge.

HHT3 – Training Progression - Moving Target - Demonstrate a 3 step (minimum) progression, starting with training one of the following behaviors with a target stick or target cup, and ending with the behavior fluent without the target stick, of any of the following behaviors. You may incorporate other training props (targets, cones, platforms, etc.), but those must also be faded by the time the behavior is fluent.

- Dog starts facing you and moves into position facing away from you
- Dog moves beyond the distance of your arm to one side, performs a spin
- Dog moves in a large 360 degree arc around you beyond the distance of your arm to one side (you pivot at least 360 degrees).
- Dog moves to a low object that is at least three feet from the team's starting spot, places four paws on the object and holds the position for at least 5 seconds. Dog may face handler on the object, but is not required to do so.

Separate video clips may be used to demonstrate each step of the process. These video clips need not be shot in the same training session.

HHT4 - New Location - Go to a location where you have not yet filmed any video clips for this titling program. This can be an outdoor of indoor location. If you are working in your home, it can be a room where you have not yet filmed, or your yard or porch.

Have your dog perform a 3 – 5 behavior sequence (may include types of movement as a behavior) in the new location.

HHT5 – Completion Training: Two Paw Platform/Back Up Into the Garage OR **Completion of Barrier Training**

Two Paw Platform/Backing Up Into the Garage - Once you have achieved the distance that you desire for your dog to back up (at least 4 steps of backing), using the two paw target OR backing into the garage, choose a cue (physical or verbal) and demonstrate the behavior, performed on cue, first with the platform or "garage", and then without use of the platform or garage. These may be separate video clips. Only two video clips are required: one showing the dog training with the platform or garage (at any stage of training), and one showing the finished behavior without the platform or garage present.

Dog should back independently, as you remain still.

OR

Completion of Barrier Training - Once your dog has mastered a behavior with use of a barrier, create a series of three video clips – one showing the behavior carried out with the barrier, one showing the dog performing the behavior with the barrier being faded out, and one showing the dog performing the behavior fluently without the barrier. These clips need not be shot in the same session.

HHT6 – Delayed Reinforcement

Have a container of treats, or a toy, out of your dog's reach, but visible to your dog.

Standing at least three feet from the reinforcer, have your dog perform any three of the following:

- One single behavior such as sit, down, stand (from a sit or down)
- One Freestyle behavior
- One behavior using a prop
- A large circle with dog in heel or side. Dog may be on inside or outside of circle. Team should circle away from reinforcer and then back to starting point (three feet from reinforcer)
- A sequence of three Freestyle behaviors
- A stay (sit, down, or stand) while handler moves six feet away and then returns. Dog may also wait with two or four paws on a prop. Handler should move away from the reinforcer.

After the exercise is successfully completed, team should go to reinforcer together and the handler should jackpot (treats) or play with the dog interactively with the toy.

HHT7 – Training Contrasting Skills – Choose two skills that can be used to incorporate contrast into a performance. These may include, but are not limited to: Pace Changes, Close Movement vs. Distance, Synchronized Movement vs. Dog or Handler Only Moving, Movement vs. Pause, etc.

Video a training session where you work on the two contrasting skills in succession. This should all take place in one training session, although you may split up and trim your video for the sake of time.

For this option, you may have reinforcers visible to your dog, and you may use clickers, targets, barriers, or props to train.

Please identify the contrasting skills in the title of your video, caption of your video, or with your emailed entry.

HHT8 – Training Engagement and Animated Focus – Video a training session where you are working with your dog on building engagement and animated focus in a Freestyle context. You can work on heelwork, movement, sequencing, or moves, but no props, targets, barriers, etc. may be used.

In your video, please explain the game, or technique, that you are using to build engagement and animated focus. You may do this by explaining on camera, incorporating a title screen, or by explaining in your emailed entry. (Continued on next page)

HHT8 (Continued) - Reinforcers may be visible to your dog for this option for motivation, but they should not be used as lures. (Example: You could have a toy in your hand as your dog performs a spin, and reinforce with it afterward, but you may not use the toy to lead your dog through the spin, nor to cue it).

HHT9 – Backchaining Sequences – Choose any three Freestyle moves or behaviors. Synchronized movement may be used as one behavior, as long as the movement is sustained for a noticeable duration. (Examples: dog moves with handler in a circle, dog backs up as handler moves toward dog, dog and handler move laterally, etc.)

Design a sequence in which your dog will perform these three behaviors, one after the other and then video the following training progression.

- Cue the LAST behavior and generously reinforce your dog. Repeat.
- Cue the SECOND behavior, and have your dog immediately move into the LAST behavior and generously reinforce your dog. (Do not stop and reinforce in between. Repeat.
- Finally, have your dog perform the FIRST and then the SECOND and then the LAST behavior, all in a row, and reinforce generously after the LAST behavior.

You may praise your dog and give verbal encouragement throughout the sequence, but you should not have your dog stop and pause as you do so.

Cues Category

Choose **one** option from this category. Each box contains one option.

HHC1 - Props as Cues - Use a hand held prop to cue three different Freestyle behaviors. This can be one continuous video clip, or three separate clips.

Movement of the prop may resemble a way that a behavior might have been trained.

HHC2 – Cue Discrimination - Choose a prop that your dog can use to carry out three different behaviors, with the prop in the same configuration for all three.

Create a video clip of your dog carrying out all three behaviors, with clear understanding of the three distinct cues.

You may reinforce with treats or toys in between behaviors.

Then, create a second clip with your dog carrying out the same three behaviors on cue in a different order.

HHC3 - Find the Cue (A Verbal Cue Option) - Choose three behaviors that your dog knows well on verbal cue.

Have five pieces of treat in your pocket, or a toy.

With arms in a neutral, but natural, configuration, cue one of the five behaviors verbally.

When your dog successfully carries out the behavior, reinforce with a single piece of treat or a short burst of play. In addition, a treat may be tossed to set your dog up for the next repetition.

Cue a second (different) behavior. Again, reinforce, as described above.

Go back and cue the first behavior again. Reinforce as above.

Cue the third behavior. Reinforce.

Go back and cue the first behavior again. Reinforce as above.

That's it – just five repetitions. Feel free to jackpot the final repetition.

This exercise may be performed using physical cues for dogs who are unable to hear.

HHC4 - Polishing Physical Cues - Choose any three behaviors that your dog knows well.

Using either physical cues, or concurrent cues, cue the three behaviors, in succession, in a way that is clear to your dog but "polished" to an extent that the physical cue does not appear to be a lure. The cue may resemble the way the behavior was trained, but the dog should demonstrate clear response to the cue.

Example: stand straight up and wave a physical cue for a spin above your dog's head instead of leaning forward to hold your hand near your dog's nose level.

Physical cues do not need to appear "dancy" or graceful – they should simply look like physical signals rather than lures.

Props and Fitness Category

Choose **six** options from this category. Each box contains one option.

HHP1 - Two Paws OR **Paw Pods**

Two Paws - Have your dog place two front paws on a cane (dowel, stick) and hold the position for at least 4 seconds. The dog's paws should be resting on the top of the cane, supporting the dog's weight, or appearing to do so.

Dog may stand on hind legs, or "sit pretty".

OR

Paw Pods - Have your dog place two front paws on paw pods, or two similar items, and hold the position for at least 5 seconds

HHP2 – Hold - Have your dog pick up a prop in his or her mouth (an imitation flower, a basket, etc.) and hold the prop for at least 4 seconds

HHP3 – Theme OR **Fitness Gym**

Theme - Identify a theme that you might incorporate into a Freestyle performance and select a prop that communicates that theme in some way. Include a caption that identifies the theme, or include it in the video clip title (playlist).

Have your dog perform at least two behaviors with that prop in one video clip.

This is not intended to be a choreographed performance (see Artistry for that option!). Simply demonstrate the prop behaviors, one after the other.

The same prop, and behaviors, may be incorporated into the "Theme Through Setting" option for the Artistry Leg.

Or

Fitness Gym - Create a "gym" of at least three pieces of fitness equipment and have your dog complete an exercise with each one, in a flowing sequence. Dog may hold positions as part of the sequence.

HHP4 – Plank - Set two sturdy props, or pieces of fitness equipment side by side and have your dog put both front paws on one and both back paws on the other. There should be some space in between the two props.

HHP5 - Dance on a Pedestal OR **Balance Paws**

Dance on a Pedestal - Have your dog get onto a prop that is sturdy. Have your dog perform two Freestyle behaviors in a row on the prop.

Or

Balance Paws - Have your dog put paws on a platform or a piece of fitness equipment and hand you each of his or her front paws, one at a time.

HHP6 - Sling Shot - Send your dog around a prop that is at least two feet from the dog's starting point. (More is better, if possible)

As your dog makes a loop around the prop, turn away and pick your dog up in heel or side position and then make a large 450 degree circle with your dog on the outside of the curve. You and your dog will pass the prop as you loop around.

Small Space Option

Send your dog around a prop that is at least two feet from the dog's starting point. (More is better, if possible). Remain facing your dog.

As your dog returns to you, cue your dog to circle behind you (either direction). As your dog comes into heel or side position, complete a 450 degree turn (as large as your space allows) with your dog on the outside of the curve, passing the prop as you make the turn.

HHP7 - Back Around - Have your dog make a backward circle around a prop. You may hold the prop (example: cane), or the prop may be free standing.

HHP8 - Can Can - Dog sends to a prop at least 4 feet away and performs a set of 4 alternating paw kicks. Dog may sit or stand on the prop.

HHP9 – Paw Wrap – Dog should wrap one, or two, paws around a prop. Dog may wrap paw(s) around a free standing prop or a prop held by the handler, or the dog can wrap paws around a cane to hold it up. The paw must be wrapped around the prop, not just resting on top of the prop.

HHP10 – Distance Props Combination

Set up two separate props with which your dog can perform two different prop behaviors, set them both at a distance of at least 5 feet away from you, set at least 5 feet apart. Have your dog perform each behavior at least once with one or the other of the props, without returning to you first. Your dog may start by you and send out to the props, or start near the props and begin at a distance.

HHP11 – Dance Inside a Prop – Have your dog perform at least two Freestyle moves with all four paws inside a prop that has at least a couple inches of height to the sides, such as a suitcase or box. A flat prop, such as a hula hoop may not be used for this option.

HHP12 – Hoop Sequence – Have your dog carry out a sequence of at least three Freestyle moves, at least one of which is a move that incorporates a hoop (or something similar).

HHP13 – Hand Held Cane Sequence - Have your dog carry out a sequence of at least three Freestyle moves, at least one of which is a move that incorporates a hand held cane (or other prop). Although the dog only need interact with the cane for one behavior, the cane should be held throughout the sequence.

HHP14 – Prop Transition of Position - Start moving with your dog in any position relative to you. This need not be formal heelwork, just movement with you. Send your dog to a prop, or set of props, and have your dog perform some kind of independent behavior with the prop, or props, (send around, circle around, Figure 8, put paws on the prop and hold the position). As your dog disengages from the prop to return to you, pick your dog up in a different position relative to you, or have your dog perform a transition of position move immediately upon return to end up in a different position relative to you. Finish by moving at least several steps with your dog in the new position.

HHP15 – Opposite Circles Around a Prop

Have your dog continually loop around a prop as you move around the prop, outside of your dog, in the opposite direction. Prop may be hand held, such as a cane, or free standing.

Both dog and handler must complete at least one full circle. Dog and handler need not circle at the same pace.

HHP16 – Make your own prop behavior

Choose a prop that you have not yet worked with in any of your titling clips. Have your dog carry out a prop behavior that has not yet been a part of the titling program prop behaviors.

Harmony Division Titling Requirements
Submission Checklist – Harmony Technical Leg
General Rules

_____ Treats/toys concealed in pocket or container until each task is complete.

_____ Audio can be heard on the video. Music need not be playing for this category, but verbal interaction with your dog should be audible

_____ No editing, except to trim the beginning and end of clips, if necessary

_____ Dog and handler are fully visible in all video clips.

Or, permission has been secured to submit clips that do not include a "full picture" effect. If your working space makes this impossible, please contact Kristine to discuss options – we will make it work!

Submission Clips – Harmony Technical Leg (Scroll Down for Exercise Descriptions)

<u>Movement and Heelwork</u>

Choose Five:

_____ Transitions of Position

_____ Backing

_____ Laterals

_____ Moving Pivots

_____ In Step

_____ Inside Curve

_____ Leash Handling

_____ Precision – Handler's Choice

_____ Synchronized Movement Sequence

<u>Tricks and Moves</u>

Choose Six:

_____ Leg Circles

_____ Simultaneous Spins in Motion

_____ March/Kicks

_____ One Paw Pose

_____ Leg Weave Sequence

_____ Cross Paws

_____ Zoom

_____ The "Dean Dog"

_____ Simultaneous Distance Move

_____ Complex Transition of Position

_____ Signature Move

Harmony Division – Technical Leg – Options/Requirements Descriptions

Movement and Heelwork Category

Choose **five** of the following options. Each box contains one option.

HTM1 – Transitions of Position – Complete the following sequence:

1. Move forward with your dog on your left. Pause and have your dog perform any transition move to your right. You may move (as with a switch), but your dog should not remain stationary.

2. Move forward with your dog on your right. Pause and have your dog perform any transition to center position (in front of you) other than a direct "call front". Again, you may move as your dog transitions, but your dog should not remain stationary.

   The two transitions may mirror each other, but this is not required.

3. Break off and reinforce your dog

4. Repeat the entire sequence, but have your dog perform transitions from one position to the other that are clearly distinct from those in your first performance.

5. Break off and reinforce your dog

6. Repeat the entire sequence, but have your dog perform a third set of transitions that are clearly distinct from the other two performances.

Transition suggestions: Switches, Dog Circles Handler, Pivots, Leg Weaves, Cut Behind, Swing (from left to right)

HTM2 – Backing - Start moving forward with your dog in heel, side, or center, at least a few steps.

Transition your dog (transition of your choice) from the starting position to the position of your choice (heel, side, or center), and then move with your dog as your dog moves backward for at least four (of your) steps. Your dog may pause slightly after the transition, but the pause should not be significant.

Backing does not have to be perfectly straight, but your dog should back up with clear mastery of the skill, and with confidence.

HTM3 – Laterals (Dog moves sideways)

Start moving forward with your dog in heel, side, or center and move with your dog for at least a few steps.

Transition your dog (transition of your choice) from the starting position to the position of your choice (heel, side, or center), and then move with your dog as your dog moves laterally for at least four (of your) steps. If your dog is in heel or side, your dog may move away from you or toward you.

Your dog may pause slightly after the transition, but the pause should not be significant.

Lateral movement does not have to be perfectly straight (dog's rear end need not line up with his or her head perfectly), but your dog should move sideways with clear mastery of the skill, and with confidence.

HTM4 - Moving Pivots - Start moving forward with your dog in heel, side, or center and move with your dog for at least a few steps.

Transition your dog (transition of your choice) from the starting position to the position of your choice (heel, side, or center), and then you and your dog should complete a 360 degree pivot together, in synchronized movement.

If possible, try to make the transition to pivot fluid, without a pause as your dog moves into position. However, a slight pause is acceptable, as long as it is not cued deliberately by the handler.

HTM5 - Inside Curve - Dog heels in a large circle (at least 6 feet in diameter) with the dog on the inside of the circle. The dog may be in heel or side position, but must be on the inside of the circle.

Handler should walk briskly, and the dog should not appear crowded.

Team should complete the circle at least two times.

<u>Small Space Option</u>

Dog heels on the inside of a circle that is as large as the space allows, with handler moving as briskly as is possible within that space.

Team should complete the circle at least two times.

HTM6 - In Step - Find music that matches your dog's footfalls when your dog is moving with an open, natural gait. Demonstrate 30 seconds to one minute of movement to this music in a way that features your dog stepping in time to the music.

You may incorporate a few moves and tricks into this segment, but those should serve as contrast, not as the "main feature" of the video clip – that should be your dog's movement to the beat of the music.

HTM7 - Leash Handling - Perform a segment of movement and moves with your dog on leash.

As you and your dog perform, handle the leash in a way that maintains a clear "J" in the leash at all times.

The leash should not be used to move your dog, or restrict his or her movement in any way.

This movement segment need not be complicated, but it should include moves and movements that require you to switch the leash from one hand to the other at least three times, and pass it behind your back at least once.

HTM8 - Precision – Handler's Choice - Identify a precision skill that you would like to demonstrate with your dog. This can be precision moving into a particular position (stationary), or precision movement in heel, side, or center, or precision of a particular trick or move, etc. You define the criteria for this option!

Create a video clip of you and your dog carrying out this skill with the precision that you describe.

Please include your precision criteria in an email along with your entry.

HTM9 – Synchronized Movement Sequence – Design a five-skill sequence where you and your dog move in synchronization throughout. This may include movement skills, such as forward and backward movement with your dog in position, lateral movement, pivots. This may also include synchronized moves, such as synchronized spins, switches, turns.

At least one of the moves must be a transition of position.

Throughout this entire sequence, dog and handler should be doing the same thing side by side, with the exception of movement in center position where dog moving toward handler as handler moves backwards and vice versa is permitted.

Tricks and Moves Category

Choose **six** of the following options. Each box contains one option.

HTT1 - Leg Circles - Have your dog circle one of your legs, making at least two consecutive circles

HTT2 - Simultaneous Spins in Motion - Starting on the move (dog can be in heel, side or center), cue your dog to spin and, as your dog spins, you spin at the same time. If your dog is in heel or side, you should spin in the same direction as your dog. If your dog is in center, you may spin in either direction.

HTT3 - March/Kicks - Have your dog perform at least four alternating paw lifts, one after the other. Dog may be standing or sitting, and may be positioned anywhere in proximity to you.

HTT4 - One Paw Pose - Have your dog perform a paw touch to your knee or lower leg, or to the back of your leg and hold that pose for at least three seconds.

HTT5 - Leg Weave Sequence - Perform a series of 4 – 6 leg weaves in a weave pattern that is not: Figure 8 Weaves (handler stationary) or dog weaving forward while handler weaves forward. Be creative!

HTT6 – Cross Paws - Sitting, standing, or lying down, dog crosses one paw over the other in turn. Dog should perform at least two crosses.

HTT7 – Zoom – Starting in any position, dog backs up in at least a 3/4 circle around the handler. Dog may finish in any position.

HTT8 – The "Dean Dog" – Starting in front of the handler (who remains stationary), dog backs up several steps and performs any Freestyle move, or trick, at a distance from the handler. Dog may immediately return to handler after the trick is complete. Dog may back straight away from the handler, or may back at an angle.

HTT9 - Simultaneous Distance Move – Starting with your dog at a visible distance from you, have your dog perform a distance move that you will carry out at the same time. This might be simultaneous spins, or simultaneous paw/foot lift or paw/hand wave, backing up several steps away from each other, etc. Distance need not be maintained once behavior has been successfully completed.

HTT10 – Complex Transition of Position – Create a complex transition of position by combing two distinct Freestyle moves that flow together to result in your dog starting in one position relative to you and ending up in a different position.

Both moves need not be transition of position moves, and neither move need be complex in and of itself, but the two combined together should result in a flowing combination that accomplishes the transition.

Both moves should feature dog movement. Handler may remain stationary, or move, but dog should not be stationary while the handler moves for this option.

HTT11 - **Signature Move** - Develop a "signature move" with your dog. This should be something creative and interesting that your dog obviously enjoys performing.

The signature move may be made up of a combination of two or three moves that form a "whole", but in that case they should be connected together in some obvious way.

This move should not be any of the Tricks/Moves listed in this category at any level, and it may not include use of a prop.

Harmony Division Titling Requirements
Submission Checklist – Artistry Leg

General Rules

_____ Treats/toys concealed in pocket or container until each task is complete – **unless otherwise stated**. Treats and toys visible to the dog, even in hand, are permitted in some of the exercises for this leg. See Exercise Descriptions (below) for details. ** (Indicates this allowance)

_____ Audio can be heard on the video. **Music is required in all clips for this leg.** Some of the options in this Division require choreography. For those that do not, music must be playing so the dog can hear it – at this Level music can not be added to the clip as an overlay.

_____ No editing, except to trim the beginning and end of clips, if necessary

_____ Dog and handler are fully visible in all video clips.

Or, permission has been secured to submit clips that do not include a "full picture" effect. If your working space makes this impossible, please contact Kristine to discuss options – we will make it work!

Submission Clips – Harmony Artistry Leg (Scroll Down for Exercise Descriptions)

Sequencing and Duration – Choose five:

_____ Duration of Focus

_____ Performance of Synchronized Movement Sequence

_____ Harmony Division Tricks and Moves Sequence

_____ Delayed Reinforcement

_____ Floor Pattern with Transitions **

_____ Sling Shot

_____ Duration of Behavior

_____ Transitions in Movement

_____ Combined Transitions

Music and Choreography – Choose Five:

_____ Hand Held Prop **

_____ Theme Through Choreography **

_____ Theme Through Setting **

_____ Opening Pose

_____ Dance **

_____ Arms

_____ Contrast **

_____ Outdoor Performance **

_____ Holiday or International Theme **

_____ Attire **

_____ Something About Your Dog **

Harmony Division – Artistry Leg – Options/Requirements Descriptions

Sequencing and Duration Category – Complete **five** Exercises. Each box contains one option.

HAS1 - Duration of Focus - With music playing, move with your dog in your performance area for 20 – 30 seconds, and actively reinforce duration of focus.

You may use praise, or you may click, or verbally mark, and treat (on the move!), as much as you need to, but your praise or mark should reinforce focus, not create it.

No behaviors should be cued during for this option – not even heeling, although if your dog offers heeling or some other behavior, that is perfectly fine.

Strive to make this an enjoyable exercise for both your dog and yourself!

No food or toys may be visible to the dog during this exercise, although you may reach into your pocket, or bait bag, for treats as often as you wish.

HAS2 – Performance of Synchronized Movement Sequence - With music playing, carry out a performance of a Synchronized Movement Sequence, as described in Option HTM9 (Above) from the Technical Leg. If you completed that option for the Technical Leg, you may perform the same sequence, but it must be a separately filmed performance of the sequence. However, a different sequence that meets the same criteria may be performed. No food or toys may be visible to your dog during this exercise, but you may reach into your pocket, or bait bag, for treats as often as you wish. Performance of this option provides you with preparation to create routines for the "Poised for Success Style Heelwork-to-Music" category for the Performance Divisions.

HAS3 – Harmony Division Tricks and Moves Sequence – Design at least a five move/movement sequence (no maximum number of behaviors!) that incorporates any three of the "Tricks and Moves" listed for the Technical Leg in the Harmony Division.

Film a performance of this sequence with your dog.

Behaviors may be repeated, and any other moves/movements may be incorporated into the sequence. There is no minimum or maximum time for this option.

Please list the three Harmony "Tricks and Moves" that you are incorporating in the title or text of your video, or with your emailed entry. Performance of this option provides you with preparation to create routines for the "Trick it Up" category for the Performance Divisions.

HAS4 - Delayed Reinforcement - For this option, you and your dog will Perform the "Circle Sequence" from the Melody Division.

You choose the moves to have your dog perform at 12:00 and 6:00, but I recommend keeping these as simple as possible. Use moves that your dog enjoys and performs with confidence. Remember to start and end the sequence with heeling, not with the moves.

Set up a reinforcer, as is described in the "Delayed Reinforcement" option under Training and Cues in this Division.

Demonstrate the following progression of delayed reinforcement:

1. Demonstrate the sequence once, with reinforcement on you. For this step, the food or treats may be in your hand and visible to the dog, or in your pocket.

   After completing the sequence, jackpot your dog, or play interactively with the toy.

2. Place all reinforcers at the location that is out of your dog's reach.

   Have your dog begin to perform the sequence once, but stop at some point before you are halfway through the sequence to go to the reinforcer and reward your dog.

   I recommend marking the dog as correct (click a clicker or give a verbal marker) before breaking off so your dog knows that he or she is performing correctly. Then go to the reinforcer together.

3. Perform the entire sequence. While still moving at the end mark your dog as correct and then go to the reinforcer together and jackpot or play interactively.

4. Perform the sequence one last time with reinforcers on you, as you did in Step #1.

This option does not have to be filmed as one continuous video clip, but the whole four step progression should happen in one training session.

Practice this before filming so that neither you, nor your dog, become frustrated when you film. If you do encounter frustration, I strongly recommend breaking off the session and going back to training before filming at another time.

HAS5 – Floor Pattern with Transitions

Devise one movement pattern that you and your dog can trace on the floor as you move together, which requires at least three changes of side as you and your dog carry out the pattern, performing three different transitions at logical changes of direction or path. The movement pattern need not be highly complex – it can be as simple as diagonals across the floor in a zig zag but should consist of more than a single straight line.

This pattern should fill at least half of the space in which you are working. If you are using a large space, you may section off a smaller "ring" area.

Move through this pattern with your dog at least one twice.

The two performances of the pattern may be videoed separately or in succession. Your dog may begin in heel, side, or center position. No behaviors or moves, other than the transitions, should be used in the pattern.

You may have food visible to your dog and may reinforce wherever needed, but try to maintain as much flow as you can through the patterns.

HAS6 – Sling Shot – Without any reinforcers visible to your dog:

1. Send your dog around a prop that is at least two feet away (or more!)

   Remain facing the prop so that your dog is in center position (roughly) upon return to you.

   As your dog returns, cue any Freestyle move. This move need not happen close to you. The move can be carried out at a distance, or close to you, but the move should happen "in flow". There should not be a significant pause before your dog begins the move.

2. Again, send your dog around the prop. Cue the same move as you did the first time, and then transition your dog into heel or side position. Again, this should happen "in flow".

3. Finally, send your dog around the prop a third time. Cue the same first move, the same transition, and then a move in heel or side position, again "in flow".

This can be presented as one single video clip, or three separate video clips. In either case, you may reinforce your dog and/or take a break in between the three steps.

In training I recommend practicing each step multiple times to ensure confidence and understanding before raising criteria.

HAS7 – Transitions in Movement - Perform for 20 – 30 seconds, having your dog perform at least four different transitions of position. Positions may include: center, heel, side, criss-cross in front of you, behind you, or in heel or side, but flipped "backward". However, it is sufficient for this exercise to have your dog only in center, heel, or side position.

You may have your dog perform any other movements or moves, as well, but only the transition moves count toward your total of four.

Be sure to include some movement through your performance space in this exercise. A large space is not needed, but this should not be a stationary performance.

Performance of this option provides you with preparation to create routines for the "Transition Showcase" category for the Performance Divisions.

HAS8 - Duration of Behavior - Demonstrate mastery of one of the following examples of "duration of behavior":

- Dog backs away from handler (any direction) for more than six feet
- Dog makes three consecutive circles around handler, without stopping
- Dog makes consecutive circles around a prop (near handler or at a distance) at least three circles
- Dog moves in heel or side position, with at least 75% focus for at least 30 seconds (handler can change direction, but no transitions or moves should be included)

Multiple cues can be given, and verbal bridges may be used, but the dog should not pause at any point to wait for an additional cue.

HAS9 – Combined Transitions - Create a movement sequence that is made up entirely of two or three transitions that can be performed in a small space.

<u>One</u> of the transitions can consist of handler movement alone (example, the handler movement from a Scallop).

The sequence of transitions can be completed with the handler stationary, or the handler can move up to two steps in either direction from the starting point. There is no restriction on dog movement in this exercise.

You and your dog may perform any moves or movements prior to the transition sequence (although none or required), and the sequence can be started from a stand-still, or with movement.

Music and Choreography Category

Choose **five** of the following options. Each box contains one option.

HAC1 - Hand Held Prop - Create a short performance (25 seconds – 1 minute) in which you hold a hand-held prop (cane, "sword", "wand" etc.) throughout the performance. Your dog should interact with the prop in some meaningful way (moving around it, putting paws on it, jumping over it, etc.) at least twice times within the performance.

The handler may use the prop to cue the dog, and the dog may follow the prop as if it were a target, but this is not required

Reinforcers may be visible to the dog for this option.

Performance of this option provides you with preparation to create routines for the "Hand Held Prop" category for the Performance Divisions.

HAC2 - Theme Through Choreography - Choose music that has an obvious theme, or identify a theme that is somehow related to the music. Please state the intended theme when you submit your entry, or on the video itself.

Create a short performance (25 seconds – 1 minute) that expresses that theme.

Every move and movement does not have to convey the theme. The choreography segment overall should convey the theme through key moves and/or movements.

Props may be used, but presence of the prop alone cannot convey the theme.

However, particular use of the prop may do so.

Reinforcers may be visible to the dog for this option.

Performance of this option provides you with preparation to create routines for the "Theme Through Choreography" category for the Performance Divisions.

HAC3 – Theme Through Setting – Choose music that has an obvious theme.

Choose, or create, a setting that expresses that theme in some way. Setting can include decoration or props. The entire area need not be a "set", but props or decorations should clearly communicate the theme.

Natural settings may also be used.

Create and perform up to 25 seconds to one minute of choreography in that setting. If props are present that can be used by the dog and handler team, they should be used at least once. Background decorations need not be incorporated into the performance.

Reinforcers may be visible to the dog for this option.

Performance of this option provides you with preparation to create routines for the "Theme Through Setting" category for the Performance Divisions.

HAC4 - Opening Pose - Create and demonstrate an opening pose that demonstrates the connection that you and your dog share as a team.

Team should hold the pose for at least 5 seconds.

No food or toys should be visible to the dog for this option.

HAC5 – Dance - Choose a song or piece of music that is strictly a "dance" piece. Although a dance really can be created to any music, for this option, please avoid songs that tell a story.

Create up to one minute of choreography with your dog that features your dog's movement, flow, and musical artistry. Any tricks incorporated should demonstrate these qualities, rather than stand out in their own right.

Reinforcers may be visible to the dog for this option.

Performance of this option provides you with preparation to create routines for the "Freestyle Dance" category for the Performance Divisions.

HAC6 – Arms - Demonstrate a sequence of at least three moves and/or movements and change your arm position as your dog transitions from one move/movement to another.

No food or toys should be visible to the dog for this option.

HAC7 – Contrast – Perform a sequence, or set of sequences, that demonstrates the use of contrast in the performance. Contrast may be shown through: use of different movement paths (ex. straight lines vs. curves), pace changes, close work and distance, movement and stillness, etc.

Maximum time for this option is 1 minute. Food or toys may be visible to the dog for this option.

HAC8 – Outdoor Performance – Design and perform a short routine (25 seconds – one minute) and film the performance with your dog outdoors. A leash may be used, but may not be held tight, nor used to move your dog through moves or sequences.

No particular moves or movements are required.

Food or toys may be visible to the dog for this option.

Performance of this option provides you with preparation to create routines for the "Hills are Alive" category for the Performance Divisions

HAC9 – Holiday or International Theme – Design and perform a short routine (25 seconds – 1 minute) to a piece of music that either has a clear holiday theme (any holiday) or from a country or culture other than your own.

Incorporate any one of the following artistic skills into the performance:

- At least two transitions of position, or a complex transition of position, or a prop transition of position
- A clear element of contrast (pace change, pause and movement, etc.)
- Synchronized movement
- Use of a prop to feature your dog's movemement

Other than that, no particular moves or movements are required.

Food or toys may be visible to the dog for this option.

Performance of this option provides you with preparation to create routines for either the "Holiday Theme" or "International Theme" categories for the Performance Divisions

HAC10 – Attire – Perform with your dog for 20 – 30 seconds. You can do whatever you like. You can use props, or not. You could re-film one of the other options that you have already performed (if long enough). You could improvise movement with your dog, or plan something and perform it. Have fun here – your performance will not be judged.

For your performance, wear attire that stands out as distinct for performance.

This need not be a "costume" per se. Your attire could express a theme "example: red sweater for a Christmas theme), but it does not have to. For instance, with my almost all-black Border Collie, I used to wear a black skirt and top to match him. (You need not match your dog).

If you want to wear casual clothing, choose music with a casual theme (example: jeans for a country song)

The point of this option is to start thinking about using clothing to "pull together" the look of a performance.

Reinforcers may be visible to the dog for this option.

HAC11 – Something About Your Dog – Create a short performance (25 seconds – one minute) that expresses something about your dog, such as: athleticism, grace, smoothness, sweetness, eagerness, etc.

Expression can be made through use of movement, props, choreography, attire, etc.

Please express positive attributes and be sure to identify what you are expressing in the title of your video, or with your entry.

Reinforcers may be visible to the dog for this option.

Performance of this option provides you with preparation to create routines for the "Something About Your Dog" category for the Performance Divisions.