Open Course

The dog in an Open class is one that can reliably work off lead.

Objective: To prepare the dog for competition in the AKC, CKC or UKC Open class in the respective clubs event.

Training consists of:

- Dog will heel off lead on the handlers left side (heel position) with attention on the handler in a pattern that will include straight line heeling, turning right angle corners, both left and right, about turns (to the right), halts with a straight sit in heel position.
- Dog will heel in a figure eight with two people standing as posts 8 feet apart.
- Dog will stay when told and remain in that position until the handler commands it to do otherwise or releases it.
- The dog will come when called.
- The dog will drop into a down position from a distance upon the handlers command both while stationary and while moving.
- The dog will take an object from the handler and hold it until commanded to give it into the handlers hand.
- The dog will retrieve an object when told to and deliver the object to the handlers hand.
- The dog will retrieve an object when told to both on the flat and over a high jump. The height of the jump will depend on the dogs height at the withers and at times the breed of the dog.
- The dog will stay about 8 feet in front of a broad jump. The dog must clear a broad jump when commanded to do so and come to a front position facing the handler.
- The dog will execute a finish defined as traveling from a front position to a heel position when commanded to do so. The dog will be able to execute both left and right finishes.
- The dog will hold a sit stay position while the handler goes out of sight for a minimum of 3 minutes.
- The dog will hold a down stay position while the handler goes out of sight for a minimum of 5 minutes.
- The dog will respond to both verbal and hand signals for heeling, finishes, recall, sit and down.
- The handler will demonstrate knowledge of the AKC regulations for the Open obedience class