



### Background

Run offs are used in Competitive obedience, when 2 or more competitors are on the same score at the end of the exercises and in a place 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup>. There are currently a number of different interpretations of the regulation G33 (i), which has caused some confusion and this was accentuated last summer by rumours that if a competitor conceded the run-off their place was forfeited. It was also claimed that if neither wanted to run off the places would be withheld. Towards the end of the season, it was deemed necessary that if one person conceded the other had to enter the ring and complete an exercise.

The OLC have received a request from a member of the obedience community to clarify the regulation.

### Summary of Proposal

### Regulation in Question

#### **G 33.(i) Judges and judging.**

In the event of dogs obtaining equality of marks, 'Run Offs' to decide the winning dogs will be judged one at a time by completing one or more of the tests for that class as set out in Annex A

#### **Changed to:**

In the event of dogs obtaining equality of marks, 'Run Offs' to decide the winning dogs will be judged one at a time by completing one or more of the tests for that class as set out in Annex A. **In the event that one or more of the handlers involved do not wish to run off, the order shall be decided at the discretion of the judge.** (Insertions in bold)

### Recommendation

We recommend that the regulation on run-off is made clearer and that handlers have the choice of completing the run-off or not without losing the place they had already achieved.

The Judge will decide which exercises to complete in the run off as set out in Annex A, however it does not need to be the whole round even for first place.

In the event that neither parties want to run-off then it should be decided by the judge.

### Rationale

There may be a multitude of reasons why a handler does not want to or cannot complete the run-off (e.g. disability, health, welfare of dog & /or handler, weather conditions, having to leave early) and they should not be penalised as they had beaten the remainder of the class.

By adding this clarification, it will be much clearer to judges and competitors and safeguard the welfare of the dogs at time of bad weather (hot or cold).



### Action Required

The OLC would like to receive the views of the community. Please submit your view using ONE of the following options.

Please follow this link to a form that can be completed to share your views on this proposal. <https://forms.gle/iHUACjkezELM4RcP9>

Or

Please attend a meeting with the OLC reps at one of the shows they are holding meetings. These can be found listed on the OLC Facebook page.

Or

Please contact one of your reps directly to give your thoughts.

Your feedback option must be completed by **19<sup>h</sup> April 2026**