

# RALLY O - HINTS & TIPS

- When practicing new stations you have to learn for rally, try doing them without your dog for a while until you have them down pat. THEN you can teach your dog correctly without flubbing it and confusing him. This is especially helpful where the handler has footwork to learn eg Back up 3 steps, side steps, Step Right-Call to Heel and the Moving Stand. Read the rules carefully to know exactly what you – the handler – must do.
- Walk the course following the numbers the first time through – don't even look at the stations – just get the directions straight first. In the higher classes, the courses will have more stations and will become more difficult. Get the path straight and then study the stations, this will help you find the best entrances and exits.
- The spirals are still confusing some people and will confuse new people to the sport – they are the exercises most removed from our regular obedience. Put a spiral in EVERY training course/ session you do until they become totally familiar.
- Just a reminder about Call Fronts. The Call Front part of the exercise is always the same, regardless of what comes after (finish left or right or back 1-2-3). (not to be mistaken for the "Halt – Call Front", this is a different exercise).

The regular Call Front exercises say, "While heeling, the handler stops forward motion and calls the dog to the front position (dog sits in front and faces the handler). The handler may take several steps backward as the dog turns and moves to sit in the front position."

In the Back 1-2-3, some people are still missing the 1st step back. Complete the call front, dog sitting in front, and THEN start 1 step (feet together), 2 steps (feet together), 3 steps (feet together).