**NQs (AUTOMATIC NON-QUALIFIERS):** Any of the following will result in a NQ score in Rally Obedience.

* Deductions totaling more than 10 points for any single exercise
* Dog/handler teams exceeding the maximum allotted time
* Handler using harsh physical and/or verbal corrections
* Dog leaving the ring while on course
* Use of food or other reward as a lure during an exercise
* Performing an exercise out of order
* For the ‘Sit-Down-Sit’ exercise, failure to sit after the down
* For the ‘Halt-Sit-Walk Around’ exercise, the dog must not break the sit before the handler returns to heel and cues the dog
* For the ‘Halt-Sit-Down-Walk Around’ exercise, the dog must not break the down before the handler returns to heel and cues the dog

**MAJOR POINT DEDUCTIONS:** The following behaviors result in substantial point deductions as described.

* Knocking over a cone or sign
* Failure to perform an exercise properly (maximum 10-point deduction depending on severity)
* Dog failing to respond to the first cue (3-point deduction)
* Handler moving to the side rather than straight back for the ‘front’ to get the dog straight (3-point deduction)
* Breaking a sit but remaining in position (3-point deduction)
* Failure to sit at each halt (5-point deduction) – additional points are deducted if the dog fails to sit AND fails to remain in position
* For the ‘Sit-Down-Sit’ exercise, standing from the down (5-point deduction)
* For the ‘Halt­-1, 2 3 Steps Forward’ exercise each failure to sit (3-point deduction)