



## Dog Scouts of America Evaluation Criteria

## Rally Obedience 2

**PURPOSE:** This badge shows that the handler has taught his or her dog basic obedience as needed for a typical Rally Obedience course above the novice level, and that the two can negotiate a typical course, performing as indicated on the signs. A full upper level Rally Obedience course must be completed.

**DOG REQUIREMENTS:** Dog knows basic behaviors such as heel- while handler moves in any direction, sit, down, stay, come, and stand, and will perform them correctly on cue. The majority of the badge criteria should be demonstrated during a rally course, but if a few of the signs don't fit into the course, those must be demonstrated separately.

**HANDLER REQUIREMENTS:** Handler understands the rules of Rally Obedience and has developed a partnership with his dog using positive training methods. The owner must make his/her way from station to station, getting the dog to perform as indicated well enough to have a qualifying performance in an open or advanced/excellent level rally trial. This includes knowing what side of the sign to be on, avoiding knocking down a sign (handler or dog), etc. The standards for competition rules are used in evaluating behaviors for this badge.

**EQUIPMENT NEEDED:** A set of Rally equipment is needed including signs, stands, cones, etc. and a flat, open area to set up a course. The badge is based on the AKC rally venue, but equipment from any venue can be used. AKC signs can be printed from their Rally rulebook if desired.

**PROCESS:** The process for evaluation is just like it is for Rally Obedience 1, with the dog/handler team quickly and correctly performing the required exercise and moving along the course smoothly. Teams must perform the exercises with precision. The judge plans and sets the course. Dog/handler teams never know the signs that will be used on the course or in the order they might be used.

Video of up to 2 rally show courses may be used when earning this badge if a qualified DSA evaluator is not the person designing and setting the course. Additional video clips are needed to show any moves that were not covered by show courses. If a show course is used for evaluation a scan or photo of the course map(s) provided by the judge.

### ALLOWED:

- Extra cues
- Talking to the dog

### NOT ALLOWED:

- On-leash performance
- Using non-approved training methods
- Using food on the courses
- Any conduct unbecoming a Dog Scout team