

***AMENDED 9/21/26**

SCDOC TOP DOG CHALLENGE & PRACTICE MATCH RULES & AWARDS 2026



Event Date: November 7, 2026

Location: Pikes Peak Park, 97 Sixth Street Norco, CA 92860.

Time: Check-in starts at 8 am. Setups allowed from 6:30am.

Obedience Entries close at 9:30am, Rally Entries close at 10:30am

Obedience Judging starts at 9am, Rally judging starts at 11am.

General Information

The purpose of this event is to provide an opportunity for handlers and dogs to compete in and/or practice Obedience and Rally and showcase SCDOC clubs.

Challenge Scorecards will be provided for all dogs entered in the Challenge Competition.

The **Practice Match is “Show & Go” only**, so tickets, not scorecards, will be provided for those entries.

The first ring-entry must be the Challenge Competition entry for that dog and event (subsequent entries will not be scored).

A dog may only compete on one Obedience Team and/or one Rally Team but may also be entered in non-competition Practice Runs (to be *performed after Challenge entries*).

If a dog is excused by the judge (e.g. for soiling the ring or uncontrolled behavior) **it will receive a zero score for all exercises.** In Team exercises the Time will stop for ring cleanup, but other team members may then continue.

Current AKC Obedience and Rally regulations govern the Challenge event competition EXCEPT as follows:

- 1) All passing scores for Obedience Exercises will be totaled for the Team score, even if that dog has failed to qualify in other exercises.***
- 2) Team dogs must be handled by members of the club they represent.***
- 3) Rally Teams have 3 dogs which may have any (or no) prior Rally titles.***
- 4) Obedience dogs are eligible to compete in classes at or above their highest earned AKC Obedience Qualifying Score.***
- 5) AKC Registration is not required and assigned judges may or may not be AKC certified.***
- 6) Veteran Dogs (7 years of age and older) may choose to jump AKC Preferred height (i.e. ½ the height of the dog at the withers).***
- 7) The Directed Jumping exercise is scored in two separate parts, so a dog can earn points for correctly completing one jump.***

OBEDIENCE RULES

An Obedience Team is defined as 3 different dogs (1 Novice, 1 Open, 1 Utility). Their scores (all exercises) will be submitted for both Team and Individual competition.

One exhibitor may show no more than 2 different dogs per Obedience team

A club may enter several teams, but a dog cannot be on more than one team per sport. (i.e. 1 Rally and/or 1 Obedience Team)

If a dog or handler is unable to compete on day of show, a substitute may be submitted by the Team Captain.

RALLY RULES

A Rally Team here is defined as 3 dogs, who will run the course consecutively and all be timed together.

The Rally course will be judged at the level of **Rally Intermediate only**. (All exercise on leash.)

There will be **No Individual Rally competition**, but individual Rally runs are available in the Practice Match.

WHO MAY ENTER

Any Member Club of SCDOC may enter one or more Obedience Challenge Team(s) and/or Rally Challenge Team(s). Team members are required to be active members of that Club.

A handler may compete for only one club each year (even if an active member of other clubs).

Non-member groups may enter to compete as Independent Challenge Teams in Obedience or Rally.

Any Individual may enter as a Single independent Challenge Entry in Obedience.

Pre-entries will be allowed to compete BEFORE the day of show entries.

There are **no single Rally Challenge competition entries (only Teams)**.

The Practice Match is open to all for single entries (Novice, Open & Utility Obedience and Rally Intermediate).

ENTRY FEES

SCDOC Member Club Team (3 dogs) Obedience: \$40, Rally \$30

Independent Team Obedience: \$50, Rally \$40

Single Independent Obedience Challenge Entry: \$20

Practice Runs (*i.e. Show & Go with no score card*) **\$10 first run. \$5 second run** for each event.

CHALLENGE CARDS (SCORECARDS)

Ring Stewards will total and verify Challenge Cards with the judge for each dog upon completion of all required exercises, and then turn them in to the Tabulation Committee.

Scores will be placed on the public score board by the Tabulation Committee when Awards are being presented.

AWARDS:

In 2026 the Top Dog Challenge offers **\$700 in Cash Prizes:**

- 1) High Scoring Team in Obedience: \$200 Cash Award to 1st Place Team** and 1st-4th place Rosettes
- 2) High Scoring Team in Rally: \$150 Cash Award to 1st Place Team** and 1st-4th place Rosettes
- 3) High Scoring Team Dog in Obedience: \$150 Cash Award** with Rosette (Highest score by a Team member in any Obedience class)
- 4) High Scoring Single Entry in Obedience: \$100 Cash Award** with Rosette (Highest score in any Obedience class by Independent Entry)
- 5) High Scoring SCDOC Team in Obedience: \$60 Cash Award** with Rosette
- 6) High Scoring SCDOC Team in Rally: \$40 Cash Award** with Rosette

Note that an exhibitor may win two or more of the above awards if eligible.

Club in Charge of Score Tabulation – SAVKC (Santa Ana Valley)

Club in Charge of Rosettes – SWOC (Southwest)

Questions or Concerns?

Call/text Match Chair : Gabrielle Beaubrun (310)-418-1620.

On day of match, rule concerns or complaints will be handled by an assigned 3 person Rules Committee.