

Introduction

This document is **not in any way** intended to replace the ASCA *Obedience Rules and Regulations*. For actual rules and *exact* wording, please refer to the ASCA *Obedience Rules and Regulations*. Rather, this document is meant only as a brief guide to point out the more important, significant differences between ASCA and AKC obedience rules, for those judging and / or competing in both registries.

This version compares the **ASCA Obedience Rules and Regulations** dated **June 1, 2018** with the **AKC Obedience Regulations** dated **May 1, 2018**.

Three (3) levels of difference between the two registries were denoted in the last column of the tables:

Minor	slight differences between ASCA and AKC
<i>Major</i>	major differences between ASCA and AKC
<u><i>Radically differ</i></u>	complete departures between ASCA and AKC and / or only offered in either one or the other program

A summary of the main **Radical Differences** and ***Major*** differences affecting judging are shown on the following 2 pages, followed by all changes arranged by ASCA rulebook Chapter / Section.

Summary of Radical Differences involving Judging

REFERENCE SHEET	ASCA Ch/Sept.	AKC Ch/Sept.	ASCA rule	AKC rule	Level of Difference
Novice Groups-timing	3.12	3.14	Group exercises may be held either before or after individual exercises. If the Premium fails to state how group exercises will be held, they will follow the individual exercises.	Group exercises will be judged after each section	<u>Radically differ</u> ; ASCA groups may occur first
Novice Groups-structure	3.12	3.13	Up to 10 dogs in a group are lined up along a side of the ring. Leashes are removed and placed behind the dog. Handlers are told to sit their dogs, leave their dogs and cross to the opposite side where they stand facing the dog for 1 minute.	All novice dogs are lined up along the center axis of the ring with half facing in one direction, the other half, situated back to back, facing the opposite direction. Leashes are left on..	<u>Radically differ</u> . These are different exercises.
Novice group exercises		3.14		Sit-stay-get your leash exercise	<u>Radically differ</u> . This is only in AKC
Open Groups	4.2	4.7 and 8	Open stay groups may be held either before or after individual exercises. These are out of sight stays with leashes off. In Open CDX A a 3 minute sit is followed by a 5 minute down. In Open CDX B, the 5 minute down may be first or second, depending on the order being used.	There are no stay groups in AKC. Stay group exercises have been replaced with the Command Discrimination exercise, and the Stay while handler goes out of the ring to get the leash.	<u>Radically differ</u> . These are different exercises
Open Intro and General Info; ODX; DOE Exercises for ODX	4.1; 4.3; 4.8	–	ASCA offers 2 alternate Open-level titles: CDX and ODX . A dog may be entered in ONLY one of these per trial. Clubs must offer both CDX and ODX classes at all sanctioned trials. Dogs can progress from either class to a regular UD.	–	<u>Radically differ</u> ; AKC doesn't have ODX

REFERENCE SHEET	ASCA Ch/Sect.	AKC Ch/Sect.	ASCA rule	AKC rule	Level of Difference
Broad Jump	4.6.8	Ch 4 Sect. 13	Judge will ask handler what method he/she will use. The handler will respond with either “ at the jump ” or “ beyond the jump ”. The handler using “beyond the jump” will leave dog, continue about ten (10) feet beyond the end of the last hurdle, standing two (2) feet from the line of the jump and facing the same direction as in the “at the jump” method. After calling dog, handler will not pivot but will remain motionless. The dog comes to front performing a 90 degree turn .	_AKC only has the “at the jump” option.	<u>Radically differ</u> ; AKC does not offer ‘beyond the jump’ option
BN Sit Stay	8.12	Ch 16 Sect. 12	Handler walks a T-pattern (either left or right turns, as indicated by judge) while dog does a Sit Stay.	Handler walks around the ring while dog does a Sit Stay.	<u>Radically differ</u>
Alternative Titling classes	4.1_	Ch 11-15	_ASCA’s Open ODX, allows handlers a different Open option that does not require the group stays. It is a different route to UD classes rather than an entire alternative path. After the UD title, the dog who has done the ODX can go on to do the UDX-O option and be eligible for High Combined.	AKC offers Preferred Novice, Open, Utility, UDX, and OTCH alternative titles.	<u>Radically differ</u> ; ASCA doesn’t have the Preferred options, and instead offers an alternative route not requiring out of sight group stays.
Other Optional Titling classes	_8, 9, 10	Ch 17-19	_ASCA offers Beginner Novice, Grad Novice, and Versatility optional titles.	AKC offers Grad Novice, Open, and Versatility optional titles.	<u>Radically differ</u> ; ASCA doesn’t have an Open Optional title

REFERENCE SHEET	ASCA Ch/Sept.	AKC Ch/Sept.	ASCA rule	AKC rule	Level of Difference
Bitch in Season	1.13,		BIS are allowed at Nationals. Clubs can elect to allow BIS to participate; premiums must state whether or not BIS will be allowed.	BIS are not allowed	<u>Radically differ.</u> BIS are not allowed in any AKC Obedience event.
Alternative Titling classes	–	Ch 11-15	_ASCA does not offer alternative titles, rather an alternative track through Open and UDX that does not require stay groups. CDX-O and UDX-O are the titles.	AKC offers Preferred Novice, Open, Utility, UDX, and OTCH alternative titles.	<u>Radically differ; ASCA doesn't have and alternative title sequence.</u>
Other Optional Titling classes	–	Ch 17-19	_ASCA offers Beginner Novice, Graduate Novice, and Versatility.	AKC offers Grad Open.	<u>Radically differ; ASCA doesn't have</u>

Summary of Major Differences involving Judging

REFERENCE SHEET	ASCA Ch/Sept.	AKC Ch/Sept.	ASCA rule	AKC rule	Level of Difference
Jump Heights	Reference sheet	Ch 4 Sect. 11; Appendix A; Appendix B	dog's actual height shall be rounded down to the nearest multiple of 2" to determine the minimum jump height. Dogs aged 7 and older may jump either 2" or 4" lower than specified height. List of breeds jumping ¾" ht in ASCA differs from that of AKC.	dog's actual height shall be rounded (up or down) to the nearest multiple of 2" to determine the minimum jump height. List of breeds jumping ¾" ht in AKC differs from that of ASCA.	Major
Judge's Book & Score Sheets	2.10	Ch 2 Sect. 10	The judge or his/her designated steward enter points into judge's book. Judge's designated steward may enter scores only	The judge must enter points into judge's book. No person other than the judge may make any numerical entry	Major
Use of Leash	2.16	2,16	–	dogs may be carried into ring for awards	Major; ASCA doesn't specify

REFERENCE SHEET	ASCA Ch/Sect.	AKC Ch/Sect.	ASCA rule	AKC rule	Level of Difference
Novice A class	3.1	3.1	–	In the Novice A class, a walkthrough up to 10 minutes prior to the start of the class will be allowed for handlers without their dogs.	Major ; ASCA doesn't offer this
Novice Groups	3.12	3.14	unattached leashes placed behind dog	leash attached to dog's collar	Major
Open & Utility Intro and General Info	4.1; 5.1	–	Dogs aged 7 and older may jump either 2" or 4" lower than specified height	–	Major ; AKC doesn't have this
Dogs that may not compete	1.34	1.17	Dogs are not allowed to show or be on show grounds if they show clinical symptoms of infectious diseases, have known to have been in contact with dogs with infectious diseases, or have been kenneled within 30 days prior to the show anywhere having infectious diseases	Does not deal with infectious diseases. A dog that demonstrates sickness in the ring must be excused as unfit to complete.	Major . AKC only addresses noticeable sickness.
Scent Discrimination	5.8; 5.9	5.8	Judging begins when handler gives scented article to judge for placement in pile. No penalty for touching dog while scenting article, or for dog moving prior to giving article to judge	Judging begins prior to taking article for scenting. While scenting the article, handler make talk to but not pet the dog . Dogs are penalized for moving while handler is taking or scenting article	Major ; AKC more restrictive

Reference Sheet

REFERENCE SHEET	ASCA Ch/Sect.	AKC Ch/Sect.	ASCA rule	AKC rule	Level of Difference
Jump Heights	Reference sheet	Ch 4 Sect. 11; Appendix A; Appendix B	dog's actual height shall be rounded down to the nearest multiple of 2" to determine the minimum jump height. Dogs aged 7 and older may jump either 2" or 4" lower than specified height. List of breeds jumping $\frac{3}{4}$ " ht in ASCA differs from that of AKC.	dog's actual height shall be rounded (up or down) to the nearest multiple of 2" to determine the minimum jump height. List of breeds jumping $\frac{3}{4}$ " ht in AKC differs from that of ASCA.	Major

Chapter 1 **General Regulations**

GENERAL REGULATIONS	ASCA Ch/Sept.	AKC Ch/Sept.	ASCA rule	AKC rule	Level of Difference
Groups	1.2.2	Ch 3 Sect. 12	Group exercises may be held either before or after individual exercises. If the Premium fails to state how group exercises will be held, they will follow the individual exercises	Novice Group exercises will be judged after each section	<u>Radically differ</u> ; ASCA groups may occur first
Dogs That May Not Compete	1.9	1.14	An obedience judge's immediate family or household members may compete under other officiating judges at the same trial. Judges may show in cluster trials in the trials that they are not judging, including separate trials on the same day as the judging assignment, as long as the trials do not overlap.	No dog belonging wholly or in part to any member of a judge's or trial secretary's household may be entered in any dog show or obedience trial at which the judge/secretary officiates or is scheduled to officiate.	Minor; AKC more restrictive
Dogs That May Not Compete		Ch 1 Sect. 14	ASCA no longer has a rule restricting restricting judge/exhibitor relationship.	No dog may be entered or shown under a judge at an obedience trial if the dog has been owned, sold, leased, or handled in the ring within six (6) months prior to the date of the obedience trial by the judge or by any member of his immediate family or household. No exhibitor may show a dog under a judge at an obedience trial if the exhibitor has participated in a training session taught by that judge, or has regularly served as a trainer or instructor of that judge, either individually or through classes, within thirty (30) days prior to date of the event.	Minor; ASCA more restrictive regarding time periods
When Titles are Won	1.11	Ch 1 Sect. 16a	Move-ups are allowed after lower titles are won, if done before the start of the next trial.	Transfers are allowed after lower titles are won, if done at least 30 minutes before the start of the next trial, unless premium states that transfers are not allowed	Minor; AKC more restrictive

GENERAL REGULATIONS	ASCA Ch/Sept.	AKC Ch/Sept.	ASCA rule	AKC rule	Level of Difference
Disqualification and Ineligibility	1.12	Ch 1 Sect. 17	deaf dogs allowed to compete	deaf dogs not allowed to compete	Minor; AKC more restrictive
Disqualification and Ineligibility	1.12	Ch 1 Sect. 17	When judge disqualifies or excuses a dog: the dog shall be marked as "Disqualified" or "Excused", with reason stated, in the judge's book . Judge shall give Trial Secretary a brief report of the dog's actions which shall be submitted to ASCA® along with the trial report.	Dog disqualified for attacking person in ring: fill out required "Disqualification for Attacking" form (AEDSQ1). Dog excused for attacking another dog in the ring: fill out the required "Dog on Dog Attack" form (AEDSQ3).	Minor reporting and form differences.
High Score Junior Handler	1.17	–	High Score Junior Handler ribbon shall be awarded	–	Major ; AKC doesn't specify
Judging Program	1.21	Ch 1 Sect. 26	judging based on no more than nine (9) Beginner Novice entries, eight (8) Novice entries, seven (7) Open entries, or six (6) Utility entries , per hour	judging based on no more than ten (10) Beginner Novice entries, nine (9) Novice entries, eight (8) Open entries or seven (7) Utility entries per hour	Minor ; AKC expects faster judging
Limitation of Entries	1.22	Ch 1 Sect. 27	Non-regular classes shall not exceed 25% of limited entry. ASCA doesn't specify UDX class	No rules regarding proportion of entries from non-regular classes in limited entry. When Open B and/or Utility B classes limited, a UDX class must be designated in premium.	Minor
Ring Conditions	1.26	Ch 1 Sect. 32	Outdoors: grass must be no more than one inch (1") long	Outdoors: grass must be ' short '	Minor

Chapter 2 **Regulations for Performance and Judging**

PERFORM. & JUDGING	ASCA Ch/Sept.	AKC Ch/Sept.	ASCA rule	AKC rule	Level of Difference
Standardized Judging	2.1	Ch 2 Sect. 1	–	The judge will inform the first exhibitor in each class what the heeling pattern will be before that exhibitor enters the ring, either verbally, by posting the pattern ringside or by demonstration	Minor; ASCA doesn't spell this out
Re-judging	2.8	Ch 2 Sect. 8	When re-judging, the entire exercise is repeated	When re-judging, only the portion of a two-part exercise in which the unusual condition occurred is repeated	Minor
Ties	2.9	Ch 2 Sect. 9	Any placement and/or leg the team won shall not be changed regardless of the outcome of the run off. This includes, but is not limited to, events such as a dog fouling the ring.	not spelled out regarding fouling the ring	Minor
Judge's Book & Score Sheets	2.10	Ch 2 Sect. 10	The judge or his/her designated steward enter points into judge's book. Judge's designated steward may enter scores only	The judge must enter points into judge's book. No person other than the judge may make any numerical entry	Major
Judge's Book & Score Sheets	2.10	Ch 2 Sect. 10	Unofficial score sheets for regular obedience classes must be provided to handlers upon request	Unofficial score sheets not mandatory	Minor
Use of Leash	2.11	Ch 2 Sect. 11	–	Dogs may be carried into ring for awards. Leash that slips through the collar can be used to take dog into and out of ring for off leash exercises.	Major ; ASCA doesn't specify
Handicapped	2.14	Ch 2 Sect. 14	Blind handlers may have a Steward assist them in individual and group exercises	Someone may position a blind handler before, between and after each exercise.	Minor
Collars	2.17	Ch 2 Sect. 17	The collar may be of a buckle, slip or martingale type Dog's name and/or title may not be on the collar	Properly fitted collar approved by judge. _	Minor; AKC doesn't specify

PERFORM. & JUDGING	ASCA Ch/Sect.	AKC Ch/Sect.	ASCA rule	AKC rule	Level of Difference
Hands	2.19	Ch 3 Sect. 5	In all on-lead exercises, one of two options shall be followed: (1) Handler's arms and hands shall move naturally at his/her sides while in motion, with the leash held in the left hand, or (2) The hand(s) holding the leash will be held against, and centered in the front of the body, in the area of the waist. The forearm(s) shall be carried, as much as possible, against the body.	The leash may be held in either hand or in both hands, but the hands must be held in a natural position.	Minor; ASCA more specific
Hands	2.19	Ch 2 Sect. 19	-	Any movement of the handler's hands or arms from the time the dog sits in front and prior to the dog returning to the heel position will be considered an additional signal or command and will be penalized unless such movement is otherwise permitted by these regulations.	Minor; ASCA doesn't specify
Misbehavior	2.25	Ch 2 Sect. 25	Additional points are deducted from total score under ' Misbehavior '. Out of control behavior, display of fear or nervousness, snapping, barking, running away from handler must be penalized. If excessive, judge may excuse dog/handler.	Additional points are deducted from total score under ' Miscellaneous Penalties ' Handler is required to enter and exit ring with the dog under control and without jumping, pulling, or tuggin on the leash. Judge may release out of control dog from class.	Minor
Misbehavior	2.25	Ch 2 Sect. 25	Nationals, Finals, and Team competitions: any dog that fouls the ring will lose the total 200 points.	-	Minor; AKC doesn't specify
Stewards	1.25	3.14	Handlers may steward in classes other than those in which they are entered	Handlers may not serve as table steward in class in which they are entered.	Minor. AKC is more lenient

Chapter 3 Novice

NOVICE	ASCA Ch/Sept.	AKC Ch/Sept.	ASCA rule	AKC rule	Level of Difference
Novice A	3.1	Ch 3 Sect. 1	Novice A class is for dogs that have not earned the CD title from any registry . Any person who has previously handled or regularly trained a dog that has earned a CD title from any registry may not be entered in the Novice A class	Novice A class is for dogs that have not won the AKC CD title. Any person who has previously handled or regularly trained a dog that has earned any AKC CD, CDX, or UD title may not be entered in the Novice A class	Major-ASCA recognizes other registries
Novice A	3.1	Ch 3 Sect. 1	Handler must own or <i>co-own</i> the dog entered or be a member of the <i>owner's</i> household or immediate family	Handler must own the dog entered or be a member of the owner's household or immediate family	Minor
Novice A	3.1	Ch 1 Sect. 16	A dog may continue to be shown in Novice A for 180 days after earning the CD title, and thereafter until an Open leg or HIT is earned	A dog may continue to be shown in Novice A for 60 days after earning the CD title; they may not be shown in Novice A after showing in Open .	Minor. In AKC you can stay if HIT is earned.
Novice A class	3.1	Ch 3 Sect. 1	–	In the Novice A class, a walkthrough up to 10 minutes prior to the start of the class will be allowed for handlers without their dogs.	Major ; ASCA doesn't offer this
Novice B	3.2	Ch 1 Sect. 16	A dog may continue to be shown in Novice B for 180 days after earning the CD title, and thereafter until an Open leg or HIT is earned. Dogs may not compete in both Novice and Open at the same trial.	Dogs may compete in Novice B until they earn an Open leg or a HIT within 60 days of earning the CD title.	Minor
Heel on Leash / Fig 8, Scoring	3.6	Ch 3 Sect. 6	Substantial deductions for additional commands or signals to heel and for failure of dog or handler to noticeably accelerate forward for the Fast and noticeably decelerate their forward speed for the Slow.	Minor or substantial deductions for additional commands or signals to heel and for failure of dog or handler to noticeably accelerate forward for the Fast and noticeably decelerate their forward speed for the Slow.	Minor; ASCA more restrictive
Stand for Exam, Scoring	3.8	Ch 3 Sect. 8	A dog shall be scored non-qualifying (NQ) if it displays shyness	Minor or substantial deductions, even to the point of a non-qualifying (NQ) score, will be made for shyness	Minor
Recall	3.10	Ch 3 Sect. 10	handler walks forward about thirty-five (35) feet to the other end of the ring	handler walks to the other end of the ring	Minor

NOVICE	ASCA Ch/Sept.	AKC Ch/Sept.	ASCA rule	AKC rule	Level of Difference
Sit-Stay-Get your leash		Ch.3,12	ASCA doesn't have this exercise	AKC added this exercise (30 points)	Radically different
Groups	1.2.2	Ch 3 Sect. 12	Group exercises may be held either before or after individual exercises. If the Premium fails to state how group exercises will be held, they will follow the individual exercises	Group exercises will be judged after each section	<u>Radically differ</u> ; ASCA groups may occur first
Groups	3.12	Ch 3 Sect. 14	maximum of 10 dogs per group	dogs spaced minimum of 4' apart, maximum of 12 dogs back to back down the center axis of ring.	Radical difference
Groups	3.12	Ch 3 Sect. 14	unattached leashes placed behind dog with armbands	leash attached to dog's collar and held by handler who also keeps armband on.	Radical difference
Groups	3.12	Ch 3 Sect. 14	The handler may ask that their dog be released from group exercises, either before or during the group exercise..	Only dogs that qualify in individual exercises can do group exercises. Dogs that do not stay in place for the first group exercise must be released.	Major
Group Scoring	3.12		60 points for group stays	30 points for group stays	Major

Chapter 4 **Open**

OPEN	ASCA Ch/Sept.	AKC Ch/Sept.	ASCA rule	AKC rule	Level of Difference
Intro and General Info	4.1	–	Dogs aged 7 and older may jump either 2" or 4" lower than specified height	–	Major ; AKC doesn't have this
Intro and General Info; ODX; DOE Exercises for ODX	4.1; 4.3; 4.8	–	ASCA offers 2 alternate Open-level titles: CDX and ODX . A dog may be entered in ONLY one of these per trial. Clubs must offer both CDX and ODX classes at all sanctioned trials.	–	<u>Radically differ</u> ; AKC doesn't have ODX

OPEN	ASCA Ch/Sect.	AKC Ch/Sect.	ASCA rule	AKC rule	Level of Difference
Open A	4.1	Ch 4 Sect. 1	Open A class is for dogs that have earned an ASCA CD title but not an ASCA CDX or ODX title	Open A class is for dogs that have earned an AKC CD title but not an AKC CDX	Minor; AKC does not have ODX
Open A	4.1	Ch 4 Sect. 2	–	Anyone who has trained or exhibited a dog that has earned an OTCH may not enter or handle dogs in this class. Each dog will be handled by its owner or by a member of the owner's immediate family or household.	Minor; AKC more restrictive
Open A	4.1	Ch 1 Sect. 16	A dog may continue to be shown in Open A CDX for 180 days after earning the CDX title. Dog may be shown in Open B indefinitely	A dog must move up to Open B after earning the CDX, but may continue to be shown in Open B indefinitely.	Major. No grace period before having to move to Open B in AKC
Order of Exercises for Open B	4.5	Ch 4 Sect. 4	Open B order of exercises II-V are distinct from AKC; ASCA has five (5) different orders	Open B order of exercises II-VI are distinct from ASCA; AKC has six (6) different orders	Minor; orders differ except for I
Order of Exercises for Open B	4.5	Ch 4 Sect. 2	The Open B order of exercises shall be posted at ringside at least thirty (30) minutes before the class.	The Open B order of exercises shall be posted at ringside at least forty-five (45) minutes before the class.	Minor
Drop on Recall	4.6.2	Ch 4 Sect. 9	Judge's signal must be clear to the handler but not obvious or distracting to the dog.	Judge will give a clear signal	Minor
Drop on Recall	4.6.2	Ch 4 Sect. 9	handler walks forward about thirty-five (35) feet to the other end of the ring	handler walks to the other end of the ring	Minor
Drop on Recall, Scoring	4.6.3	Ch 4 Sect. 9	Substantial deductions for delayed or slow response to the handler's command or signal to drop and for slow response to either of the recalls	Minor or substantial deductions for delayed or slow response to the handler's command or signal to drop and for slow response to either of the recalls	Minor; ASCA more restrictive
Retrieve on the Flat	4.6.4	Ch 4 Sect. 9	dumbbell shall be made of one or more solid pieces of one of the heavy hardwoods , or of a rigid or semi-rigid firm, non-toxic , non-wooded material	dumbbell will be made of one or more solid pieces of wood or non-wooden material.	Minor

OPEN	ASCA Ch/Sect.	AKC Ch/Sect.	ASCA rule	AKC rule	Level of Difference
Retrieve on the Flat, Scoring	4.6.5	Ch 4 Sect. 10	Substantial deductions for slowness in going, returning, or picking up dumbbell, not going directly to the dumbbell, mouthing, playing with, or dropping the dumbbell, and reluctance or refusal to release the dumbbell to handler	Minor or substantial deductions for slowness in going, returning, or picking up dumbbell, not going directly to the dumbbell, mouthing, playing with, or dropping the dumbbell, and reluctance or refusal to release the dumbbell to handler	Minor; ASCA more restrictive
Retrieve over High Jump	4.6.6	Ch 4 Sect. 11	–	8-foot distances on either side of high jump must be clearly marked	Minor; no marking needed in ASCA
Broad Jump	4.6.8	Ch 4 Sect. 13	Judge will ask handler what method he/she will use. The handler will respond with either “ at the jump ” or “ beyond the jump ”. The handler using “beyond the jump” will leave dog, continue about ten (10) feet beyond the end of the last hurdle, standing two (2) feet from the line of the jump and facing the same direction as in the “at the jump” method. After calling dog, handler will not pivot but will remain motionless. The dog comes to front performing a 90 degree turn .	–	<u>Radically differ</u> ; AKC does not offer ‘beyond the jump’ option
Broad Jump	4.6.8	Ch 4 Sect. 13	–	8-foot distance before broad jump’s lowest board must be clearly marked	Minor; no marking needed in ASCA
Groups for CDX	1.2.2	Ch 4 Sect. 15; Ch 3 Sect. 12	Group exercises may be held either before or after individual exercises. If the Premium fails to state how group exercises will be held, they will follow the individual exercises	No group exercises. Command Discrimination individual exercise has been substituted. See the rule book for description of the relevant exercise..	<u>Radically differ</u> ; ASCA groups may occur first
Directed Open Exercises for ODX	4.8		ASCA has an Open alternative track which does not require stay groups. See relevant rule book for description of the exercise.		<u>Radically differ</u> . AKC has no such alternative.

OPEN	ASCA Ch/Sect.	AKC Ch/Sect.	ASCA rule	AKC rule	Level of Difference
Stay-Get your Leash		4.17		Substitutes for one of the stay group exercises. See rule book for description	<u>Radically differ.</u>

Chapter 5 Utility

UTILITY	ASCA Ch/Sect.	AKC Ch/Sect.	ASCA rule	AKC rule	Level of Difference
Intro and General Info	5.1	–	Dogs aged 7 and older may jump either 2” or 4” lower than specified height	–	Major ; AKC doesn’t have this
Utility A	5.2	Ch 5 Sect. 1	–	Anyone who has trained or exhibited a dog that has earned an OTCH may not enter or handle dogs in this class. Each dog will be handled by its owner or by a member of the owner’s immediate family or household.	Minor; AKC more restrictive
Utility A	5.2	Ch 1 Sect. 16	A dog may continue to be shown in Utility A for 180 days after earning the UD title.	A dog may continue to be shown in Utility A for 60 days after earning the UD title.	Minor
Utility Exercises & Scoring	5.4	Ch 5 Sect. 4	Utility B order of exercises II-V are distinct from AKC; ASCA has five (5) different orders.	Utility B order of exercises II-VI are distinct from ASCA; AKC has six (6) different orders.	Minor; orders differ except for I
Utility Exercises & Scoring	5.4	Ch 5 Sect. 2	The Utility B order of exercises and glove number shall be posted at ringside at least thirty (30) minutes before the class.	The Utility B order of exercises and glove number shall be posted at ringside at least forty-five (45) minutes before the class.	Minor
Signal Exercise, Scoring	5.7	Ch 5 Sect. 7	Moving forward on Stand, Sit or Drop could be minor or substantial	Moving forward could be an NQ	Minor; AKC more restrictive
Scent Discrimination	5.8	Ch 5 Sect. 8	Articles consist of 3 sets: metal, wood and leather,	Articles consist of any 2 sets from 3 choices: metal, leather, or wood	NO DIFFERENCE
Scent Discrimination	5.8	Ch 5 Sect. 8	Objects used as scent articles should not be longer than 6” in length.	The size of the articles will be proportionate to the size of dog.	Minor

UTILITY	ASCA Ch/Sept.	AKC Ch/Sept.	ASCA rule	AKC rule	Level of Difference
Scent Discrimination	5.8; 5.9	Ch 5 Sect. 8; 9	Judging begins when handler gives scented article to judge for placement in pile. No penalty for touching dog while scenting article, or for dog moving prior to giving article to judge	Judging begins prior to taking article for scenting. While scenting the article, handler make talk to but not pet the dog. Dogs are penalized for moving while handler is taking or scenting article	Major ; AKC more restrictive
Scent Discrimination	5.8	Ch 5 Sect. 8	to send directly, the handler will do a right about turn	to send directly, the handler will do either right or left turn	Minor; ASCA more restrictive
Scent Discrimination	5.8	Ch 5 Sect. 8	If the scented articles are to be kept separate from the others at the end of the Scent Discrimination exercise, it is the handler's responsibility to notify steward	–	Minor; AKC doesn't specify
Scent Discrimination Scoring	5.9	Ch 5 Sect. 9	Substantial deductions shall be made for a dog that picks up a wrong article even though he puts it down again immediately. Dog needs to work smartly and continuously	Minor or substantial deductions should be made for a dog that picks up the wrong article even though he puts it down again immediately. Dog needs to work continuously	Minor; ASCA more restrictive
Directed Retrieve	5.10	Ch 5 Sect. 10	handler will provide three (3) predominantly white, cotton work gloves	the handler will provide three (3) gloves that are predominately white	Minor; ASCA more restrictive
Directed Retrieve Scoring	5.11	Ch 5 Sect. 11	–	A handler who does not give a verbal command to retrieve simultaneously or immediately after giving the direction to retrieve must receive a nonqualifying (NQ) score.	Minor; ASCA doesn't specify
Moving Stand	5.12	Ch 5 Sect. 12	judge examines as in dog show ; doesn't include mouth, tail, testicles	judge examines in one smooth 2-handed motion from neck to croup ; doesn't include head, teeth, legs, testicles, tail	Minor
Directed Jumping, Scoring	5.15	Ch 5 Sect. 15	Substantial deductions shall be made for a dog that anticipates handler's command to sit, fails to sit, or is obviously stopped by the ring barrier rather than the handler's command.	Minor or substantial deductions will be made for a dog that anticipates handler's command to sit, fails to sit, or does not stop on command	Minor; ASCA more restrictive

Chapter 6: **Utility Dog Excellent**

Utility Dog Excellent	6.3	6.1 and 2	In addition to the UDS, ASCA offers the UDX-O for dogs competing in Utility B and Open ODX B	UDX only	Major difference
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Chapter 7 **Obedience Trial Champion**

OTCH / OTCH-O	ASCA Ch/Sept.	AKC Ch/Sept.	ASCA rule	AKC rule	Level of Difference
OTCH & OTCH-O	7	13	OTCH and OTCH-O based on scores	OTCH based on placements and number of dogs beaten	<u>Radically differ</u>

Chapter 8 **Beginner Novice (BN) Optional Titling Class**

BN OPTIONAL TITLING	ASCA Ch/Sept.	AKC Ch/Sept.	ASCA rule	AKC rule	Level of Difference
Beginner Novice	8.1	Ch 16 Sect. 2	BN class is for dogs that have not earned an ASCA CDX or ODX title .	BN class is for dogs that have not earned an AKC CD or PCD title	Minor
Beginner Novice A	8.2	Ch 16 Sect. 2	Any person who has previously handled or regularly trained a dog that has earned a BN or CD title from any registry may not enter the BN A class.	Any person who has previously earned any AKC obedience title may not enter the BN A class. Handler must own the dog entered or be a member of the owner's household or immediate family .	Minor
Beginner Novice A	8.2	Ch 1 Sect. 16	A dog may continue to be shown in Beginner Novice A for 180 days after earning the BN title.	A dog may continue to be shown in Beginner Novice A for 60 days after earning the BN title.	Minor
Sit for Exam, Scoring	8.11	Ch 16 Sect. 10	A dog shall be scored non-qualifying (NQ) if it displays shyness	Minor or substantial deductions, even to the point of a non-qualifying (NQ) score, will be made for shyness	Minor

BN OPTIONAL TITLING	ASCA Ch/Sect.	AKC Ch/Sect.	ASCA rule	AKC rule	Level of Difference
Sit Stay	8.12	Ch 16 Sect. 12	Handler walks a T-pattern (either left or right turns, as indicated by judge) while dog does a Sit Stay.	Handler walks around the ring while dog does a Sit Stay.	<u>Radically differ</u>
Ties	8.16	Ch 2 Sect. 9	Ties shall be broken by having teams sequentially perform the BN Heel on Leash exercise. Should a tie not be broken, the teams will then sequentially perform the Novice Heel on Leash exercise.	Ties shall be broken by having teams sequentially perform the BN Heel on Leash exercise.	Minor

Chapter 9 (ASCA) Chapter 17 (AKC) Graduate Novice

Sit-Stay-Get your Leash		17		Only AKC has this exercise	<i>Radical Difference</i>
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Chapter 11 Non-Regular Classes

NON-REGULAR	ASCA Ch/Sect.	AKC Ch/Sect.	ASCA rule	AKC rule	Level of Difference
Alternative Titling classes	–	Ch 11-15	_ASCA does not offer alternative titles, rather an alternative track through Open and UDX that does not require stay groups. CDX-O and UDX-O are the titles.	AKC offers Preferred Novice, Open, Utility, UDX, and OTCH alternative titles.	<u>Radically differ</u> ; ASCA doesn't have and alternative title sequence.
Other Optional Titling classes	–	Ch 17-19	_ASCA offers Beginner Novice, Graduate Novice, and Versatility.	AKC offers Grad Open.	<u>Radically differ</u> ; ASCA doesn't have
Non-regular classes	9	Ch 20	ASCA offers; Sub Novice Brace; Seniors; Wild Card Novice, Open, Utility;; Team	AKC offers Wild Card classes in Novice, Open, Utility; Brace; Veterans; Team	Minor

Chapter 10 **Honorary Titles**

HONOR DOG	ASCA Ch/Sect.	AKC Ch/Sect.	ASCA rule	AKC rule	Level of Difference
Honor Dog	10	–	The title of Honor Dog will be accorded to any ASCA registered Australian Shepherd who receives a score of 195 or better in the first three (3) attempts toward any obedience title.	–	<u>Radically differ</u> ; AKC doesn't have

Chapter 11 **Obedience Finals**

FINALS	ASCA Ch/Sect.	AKC Ch/Sect.	ASCA rule	AKC rule	Level of Difference
Obedience Finals	11	Ch 16	ASCA Obedience Finals have numerous rules and procedures that differ from other ASCA obedience trials . Eligibility to participate in Finals is based on scores earned per year. There is NO overall high scoring dog , only one (1) high scoring dog in each division .	One (1) National Obedience Champion (NOC) title awarded to winner of National Obedience Championship; eligibility to participate in NOC based on OTCH points earned per year and/or place in an AKC Regional qualifier.	<u>Radically differ</u> ; ASCA Finals and AKC NOC differ greatly