

## ASCA vs AKC Obedience Rule Differences as of June 2020

### 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, 2020** with the **AKC Obedience Regulations** dated **May 1, 2020**.

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

<i>Minor</i>	slight differences between ASCA and AKC
<i>Major</i>	major differences between ASCA and AKC
<b><u>Radically differ</u></b>	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.

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Summary of Radical Differences involving Judging

Exercise/ Class	ASCA Ch./Sec.	AKC Ch./Sec.	ASCA rule	AKC rule	Level of Difference
Novice Groups	3.12	Ch. 3 Sec. 14	Group exercises may be held <b>either before or after</b> 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 <b>after</b> each section	<u>Radically differ</u> ASCA groups may occur first
Novice Groups	3.12	Ch. 3 Sec. 13	No more than 7 dogs in a group are lined up with a 6’ distance between dogs along the edge of one side of the ring.	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.	<u>Radically differ</u> These are different arrangements.
ODX	4.1, 4.3, 4.8		ASCA offers 2 alternate Open-level titles: <b>CDX</b> and <b>ODX</b> . A dog may be <b>entered in ONLY one</b> 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
Broad Jump	4.6.8	Ch. 4 Sec. 13	Judge will <b>ask handler what method</b> he/she will use. The handler will respond with either “ <b>at the jump</b> ” or “ <b>beyond the jump</b> ”. The handler using “beyond the jump” will leave dog, continue about <b>ten (10) feet beyond</b> the end of the last hurdle, standing <b>two (2) feet</b> from the line of the jump and facing the same direction as in the “at the jump” method. After calling dog, handler <b>will not pivot</b> but will remain motionless. The dog comes to front performing a <b>90 degree turn</b> .	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 Sec. 12	Handler walks a <b>T-pattern</b> (either <b>left</b> or <b>right</b> turns, as indicated by judge) while dog does a Sit Stay	Handler walks <b>around the ring</b> while dog does a Sit Stay.	<u>Radically differ</u>

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<b>Alternative Titling classes</b>	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 <b>offers</b> Preferred Novice, Open, Utility, UDX, and OTCH <b>alternative</b> titles.	<b><u>Radically differ</u></b> ASCA doesn't have the Preferred options, and instead offers an alternative route.
<b>Other Optional Titling classes</b>	Ch. 8-10	Ch. 17-19	ASCA offers Beginner Novice, Grad Novice, and Versatility optional titles.	AKC <b>offers</b> Grad Novice, Graf Open, and Versatility <b>optional</b> titles.	<b><u>Radically differ</u></b> ; ASCA doesn't have an Grad Open Optional title
<b>Bitch in Season</b>	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	<b><u>Radically differ</u></b> BIS are not allowed in any AKC Obedience event.
<b>Alternative Titling classes</b>		Ch. 11-15	ASCA does not offer alternative titles, rather an alternative track through Open and UDX. CDX-O and UDX-O are the titles.	AKC offers Preferred Novice, Open, Utility, UDX, and OTCH alternative titles.	<b><u>Radically differ</u></b> ASCA doesn't have and alternative title sequence.
<b>Other Optional Titling classes</b>		Ch. 17-19	ASCA offers Beginner Novice, Graduate Novice, and Versatility.	AKC offers Grad Open.	<b><u>Radically differ</u></b> ASCA doesn't have Grad Open

**Summary of Major Differences involving Judging**

	<b>ASCA Ch./Sec.</b>	<b>AKC Ch./Sec.</b>	<b>ASCA rule</b>	<b>AKC rule</b>	<b>Level of Difference</b>
<b>Jump Heights</b>	Reference sheet	Ch. 4 Sec. 11, Appendix A, Appendix B	Dog's actual height shall be <b>rounded down</b> to the <b>nearest multiple of 2"</b> to determine the minimum jump height. Dogs aged <b>7 and older</b> may jump either <b>2" or 4" lower</b> than specified height. List of breeds jumping ¾" height in ASCA differs from that of AKC.	Dog's actual height shall be <b>rounded (up or down)</b> to the <b>nearest multiple of 2"</b> to determine the minimum jump height. List of breeds jumping ¾" height in AKC differs from that of ASCA.	<b>Major</b>

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<b>Judge's Book &amp; Score Sheets</b>	2.10	Ch. 2 Sec. 10	The <b>judge or his/her designated steward</b> enter points into judge's book. Judge's designated <b>steward</b> may enter <b>scores</b> only	The <b>judge</b> must enter points into judge's book. No person other than the judge may make any <b>numerical</b> entry	<b>Major</b>
<b>Use of Leash</b>	2.16	Ch. 2 Sec.16		Dogs may be carried into ring for awards	<b>Major</b> ASCA doesn't specify
<b>Novice A class</b>	3.1	Ch. 3 Sec. 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.	<b>Major</b> ASCA doesn't offer this
<b>Open &amp; Utility Intro and General Info</b>	4.1, 5.1		Dogs aged <b>7 and older</b> may jump either <b>2" or 4" lower</b> than specified height		<b>Major</b> AKC doesn't have this
<b>Dogs that may not compete</b>	1.34	Ch. 1 Sec. 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 compete.	<b>Major</b> AKC only addresses noticeable sickness.
<b>Scent Discrimination</b>	5.8, 5.9	Ch. 5 Sec. 8	Judging begins when handler <b>gives scented article to judge</b> for placement in pile. <b>No penalty</b> for <b>touching</b> dog while scenting article, or for <b>dog moving</b> prior to giving article to judge	Judging begins <b>prior to taking article</b> for scenting. While scenting the article, handler make talk to but <b>not pet the dog.</b> <b>Dogs are penalized for moving while handler is taking or scenting article</b>	<b>Major</b> AKC more restrictive

**Chapter 1: General Regulations**

GENERAL REGULATIONS	ASCA Ch./Sec.	AKC Ch./Sec.	ASCA rule	AKC rule	Level of Difference
<b>Groups</b>	1.2.2	Ch. 3 Sec. 12	Group exercises may be held <b>either before or after</b> 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 <b>after</b> each section	<b>Radically differ</b> ASCA groups may occur first

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<b>Dogs That May Not Compete</b>	1.9	Ch. 1 Sec. 14	An <b>obedience judge's immediate family or household members may compete under other officiating judges</b> 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.	<b>No dog belonging wholly or in part to any member of a judge's or trial secretary's household</b> may be entered in any dog show or obedience trial at which the judge/secretary officiates or is scheduled to officiate.	<i>Minor</i> AKC more restrictive
<b>Dogs That May Not Compete</b>		Ch. 1 Sec. 14	ASCA no longer has a rule 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 <b>six (6) months</b> 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 <b>participated in a training session</b> taught by that judge, or has <b>regularly served as a trainer or instructor</b> of that judge, either individually or through classes, within <b>thirty (30) days</b> prior to date of the event.	<i>Minor</i> AKC more restrictive regarding time periods
<b>When Titles are Won</b>	1.11	Ch. 1 Sec. 16a	<b>Move-ups</b> are allowed after lower titles are won, if done before the start of the next trial.	<b>Transfers</b> are allowed after lower titles are won, if done at least 30 minutes before the start of the next trial, <b>unless premium states that transfers are not allowed</b>	<i>Minor</i> AKC more restrictive
<b>Disqualification and Ineligibility</b>	1.12	Ch. 1 Sec. 17	<b>Deaf</b> dogs allowed to compete	<b>Deaf</b> dogs <b>not allowed</b> to compete	<i>Minor</i> AKC more restrictive
<b>Disqualification and Ineligibility</b>	1.12	Ch. 1 Sec. 17	When judge disqualifies or excuses a dog, the dog shall be marked as "Disqualified" or "Excused", with reason stated, in the <b>judge's book</b> . 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 ( <b>AEDSQ1</b> ). Dog excused for attacking another dog in the ring: fill out the required "Dog on Dog Attack" form ( <b>AEDSQ3</b> ).	<i>Minor</i> reporting and form differences.

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<b>High Score Junior Handler</b>	1.17		<b>High Score Junior Handler</b> ribbon shall be awarded		<i>Major</i> AKC doesn't specify
<b>Judging Program</b>	1.21	Ch. 1 Sec. 26	Judging based on no more than <b>nine (9) Beginner Novice entries, eight (8) Novice entries, seven (7) Open entries, or six (6) Utility entries</b> , per hour	Judging based on no more than <b>ten (10) Beginner Novice entries, nine (9) Novice entries, eight (8) Open entries or seven (7) Utility entries</b> per hour	<i>Minor</i> AKC expects faster judging
<b>Limitation of Entries</b>	1.22	Ch. 1 Sec. 27	<b>Non-regular</b> classes shall <b>not exceed 25%</b> 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 <b>UDX class</b> must be designated in premium.	<i>Minor</i>
<b>Ring Conditions</b>	1.26	Ch. 1 Sec. 32	Outdoors: grass must be no more than <b>one inch (1") long</b>	Outdoors: grass must be ' <b>short</b> '	<i>Minor</i>

**Chapter 2: Regulations for Performance and Judging**

<b>PERFORM. &amp; JUDGING</b>	<b>ASCA Ch./Sec.</b>	<b>AKC Ch./Sec.</b>	<b>ASCA rule</b>	<b>AKC rule</b>	<b>Level of Difference</b>
<b>Standardized Judging</b>	2.1	Ch. 2 Sec. 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	<i>Minor</i> ASCA doesn't spell this out
<b>Re-judging</b>	2.8	Ch. 2 Sec. 8	When re-judging, the <b>entire exercise</b> is repeated	When re-judging, only the <b>portion</b> of a <b>two-part exercise</b> in which the unusual condition occurred is repeated	<i>Minor</i>
<b>Ties</b>	2.9	Ch. 2 Sec. 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	<i>Minor</i>
<b>Judge's Book &amp; Score Sheets</b>	2.10	Ch. 2 Sec. 10	The <b>judge or his/her designated steward</b> enter points into judge's book. Judge's designated <b>steward</b> may enter <b>scores only</b>	The <b>judge</b> must enter points into judge's book. No person other than the judge may make any <b>numerical</b> entry	<i>Major</i>
<b>Judge's Book &amp; Score Sheets</b>	2.10	Ch. 2 Sec. 10	<b>Unofficial score sheets</b> for regular obedience classes <b>must be provided</b> to handlers upon <b>request</b>	Unofficial score sheets not mandatory	<i>Minor</i>

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<b>Use of Leash</b>	2.11	Ch. 2 Sec. 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.	<b>Major</b> ASCA doesn't specify
<b>Handicapped</b>	2.14	Ch. 2 Sec. 14	<b>Blind handlers</b> may have a <b>Steward</b> assist them in individual and group exercises	<b>Someone</b> may position a <b>blind handler</b> before, between and after each exercise.	<i>Minor</i>
<b>Collars</b>	2.17	Ch. 2 Sec. 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.	<i>Minor</i> AKC doesn't specify
<b>Hands</b>	2.19	Ch. 2 Sec. 19		Any <b>movement of the handler's hands</b> or arms from the time the dog sits in front and <b>prior to the dog returning to the heel position</b> will be considered an <b>additional signal</b> or command and will be <b>penalized</b> unless such movement is otherwise permitted by these regulations.	<i>Minor</i> ASCA doesn't specify
<b>Misbehavior</b>	2.25	Ch. 2 Sec. 25	Additional points are deducted from total score under ' <b>Misbehavior</b> '. 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 ' <b>Miscellaneous Penalties</b> ' <b>Handler is required to enter and exit ring with the dog under control and without jumping, pulling, or tugging on the leash.</b> Judge may release out of control dog from class.	<i>Minor</i>
<b>Misbehavior</b>	2.25	Ch. 2 Sec. 25	Nationals, Finals, and Team competitions: any dog that fouls the ring will lose the total 200 points.		<i>Minor</i> AKC doesn't specify
<b>Stewards</b>	1.25	Ch. 3 Sec. 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.	<i>Minor</i> AKC is more lenient

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**Chapter 3: Novice**

NOVICE	ASCA Ch./Sec.	AKC Ch./Sec.	ASCA rule	AKC rule	Level of Difference
Novice A	3.1	Ch. 3 Sec. 1	Novice A class is for dogs that have not earned the CD title from <b>any registry</b> . 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 <b>AKC CD</b> 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	<b>Major</b> ASCA recognizes other registries
Novice A	3.1	Ch. 3 Sec. 1	Handler must own or <i>co-own</i> the dog entered or be a member of the owner's household or immediate family	Handler must <b>own</b> the dog entered or be a member of the <b>owner's household or immediate family</b>	<i>Minor</i>
Novice A	3.1	Ch. 1 Sec. 16	A dog may continue to be shown in Novice A for <b>180 days</b> after earning the CD title, and thereafter until an <b>Open leg</b> or <b>HIT</b> is earned	A dog may continue to be shown in Novice A for <b>60 days</b> after earning the CD title; they may not be shown in Novice A after <b>showing in Open</b> .	<i>Minor</i> In AKC you can stay if HIT is earned.
Novice A class	3.1	Ch. 3 Sec. 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.	<b>Major</b> ASCA doesn't offer this
Novice B	3.2	Ch. 1 Sec. 16	A dog may continue to be shown in Novice B for <b>180 days</b> after earning the CD title, and thereafter until an <b>Open leg</b> or <b>HIT</b> is earned. Dogs may <b>not compete</b> in both <b>Novice and Open</b> at the same trial.	Dogs <b>may</b> compete in Novice B until they earn an Open leg or a HIT within 60 days of earning the CD title.	<i>Minor</i>
Heel on Leash / Fig 8, Scoring	3.6	Ch. 3 Sec. 6	<b>Substantial</b> 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.	<b>Minor or substantial</b> 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.	<i>Minor</i> ASCA more restrictive
Stand for Exam, Scoring	3.8	Ch. 3 Sec. 8	A dog shall be scored non-qualifying (NQ) if it displays <b>shyness</b>	<b>Minor or substantial</b> deductions, even to the point of a non-qualifying (NQ) score, will be made for <b>shyness</b>	<i>Minor</i>
Recall	3.10	Ch. 3 Sec. 10	Handler walks forward about <b>thirty-five (35) feet</b> to the other end of the ring	Handler walks to the <b>other end of the ring</b>	<i>Minor</i>

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<b>Groups</b>	1.2.2	Ch. 3 Sec. 12	Group exercises may be held <b>either before or after</b> 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 <b>after</b> each section	<b><u>Radically differ</u></b> ASCA groups may occur first
<b>Groups</b>	3.12	Ch. 3 Sec. 14	Maximum of <b>7 dogs</b> per group	Dogs spaced minimum of 4' apart, maximum of 12 dogs back to back down the center axis of ring.	<b><u>Radically differ</u></b>
<b>Groups</b>	3.12	Ch. 3 Sec. 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.	<b>Major</b>

Chapter 4: Open

OPEN	ASCA Ch./Sec.	AKC Ch./Sec.	ASCA rule	AKC rule	Level of Difference
<b>Intro and General Info</b>	4.1		Dogs aged <b>7 and older</b> may jump either <b>2" or 4" lower</b> than specified height		<b>Major</b> AKC doesn't have this
<b>Intro and General Info; ODX; DOE Exercises for ODX</b>	4.1, 4.3, 4.8		ASCA offers 2 alternate Open-level titles: <b>CDX</b> and <b>ODX</b> . A dog may be <b>entered</b> in <b>ONLY one</b> of these per trial. Clubs must offer both CDX and ODX classes at all sanctioned trials.		<b><u>Radically differ</u></b> AKC doesn't have ODX
<b>Open A</b>	4.1	Ch. 4 Sec. 1	Open A class is for dogs that have earned an ASCA CD title but not an <b>ASCA CDX or ODX</b> title	Open A class is for dogs that have earned an AKC CD title but not an <b>AKC CDX</b>	<b>Minor</b> AKC does not have ODX
<b>Open A</b>	4.1	Ch. 4 Sec. 2		Anyone who has <b>trained or exhibited</b> a dog that has earned an <b>OTCH may not enter or handle</b> dogs in this class. Each dog will be handled by its <b>owner</b> or by a member of the owner's <b>immediate family or household</b> .	<b>Minor</b> AKC more restrictive

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<b>Open A</b>	4.1	Ch. 1 Sec. 16	A dog may continue to be shown in Open A CDX for <b>180 days</b> 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.	<b>Major</b> No grace period before having to move to Open B in AKC
<b>Order of Exercises for Open B</b>	4.5	Ch. 4 Sec. 4	Open B order of exercises II-V are distinct from AKC; ASCA has <b>five (5) different orders</b>	Open B order of exercises II-VI are distinct from ASCA; AKC has <b>six (6) different orders</b>	<b>Minor</b> orders differ except for I
<b>Order of Exercises for Open B</b>	4.5	Ch. 4 Sec. 2	The Open B order of exercises shall be posted at ringside at least <b>thirty (30) minutes</b> before the class.	The Open B order of exercises shall be posted at ringside at least <b>forty-five (45) minutes</b> before the class.	<b>Minor</b>
<b>Drop on Recall</b>	4.6.2	Ch. 4 Sec. 9	Judge's signal must be clear to the handler but not obvious or distracting to the dog.	Judge will give a clear signal	<b>Minor</b>
<b>Drop on Recall</b>	4.6.2	Ch. 4 Sec. 9	Handler walks forward about <b>thirty-five (35) feet</b> to the other end of the ring	Handler walks to the <b>other end of the ring</b>	<b>Minor</b>
<b>Drop on Recall, Scoring</b>	4.6.3	Ch. 4 Sec. 9	<b>Substantial</b> deductions for delayed or slow response to the handler's command or signal to drop and for slow response to either of the recalls	<b>Minor or substantial</b> deductions for delayed or slow response to the handler's command or signal to drop and for slow response to either of the recalls	<b>Minor</b> ASCA more restrictive
<b>Retrieve on the Flat</b>	4.6.4	Ch. 4 Sec. 9	Dumbbell shall be made of one or more solid pieces of one of the <b>heavy hardwoods</b> , or of a <b>rigid or semi-rigid firm, non-toxic</b> , non-wooded material	Dumbbell will be made of one or more solid pieces of <b>wood</b> or non-wooden material.	<b>Minor</b>
<b>Retrieve on the Flat, Scoring</b>	4.6.5	Ch. 4 Sec. 10	<b>Substantial</b> 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	<b>Minor or substantial</b> 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	<b>Minor</b> ASCA more restrictive
<b>Retrieve over High Jump</b>	4.6.6	Ch. 4 Sec. 11		8-foot distances on either side of high jump must be clearly marked	<b>Minor</b> no marking needed in ASCA
<b>Broad Jump</b>	4.6.8	Ch. 4 Sec. 13	Judge will <b>ask handler what method</b> he/she will use. The handler will respond with either " <b>at the jump</b> " or " <b>beyond the jump</b> ". The handler using "beyond		<b>Radically differ</b> AKC does not offer

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			the jump” will leave dog, continue about <b>ten (10) feet beyond</b> the end of the last hurdle, standing <b>two (2) feet</b> from the line of the jump and facing the same direction as in the “at the jump” method. After calling dog, handler <b>will not pivot</b> but will remain motionless. The dog comes to front performing a <b>90 degree turn</b> .		‘beyond the jump’ option
<b>Broad Jump</b>	4.6.8	Ch. 4 Sec. 13		8-foot distance before broad jump’s lowest board must be clearly marked	<i>Minor</i> no marking needed in ASCA
<b>Directed Open Exercises for ODX</b>	4.8		ASCA has an Open alternative track. See relevant rule book for description of the exercise.		<b><u>Radically differ</u></b> AKC has no such alternative.

**Chapter 5: Utility**

UTILITY	ASCA Ch./Sec.	AKC Ch./Sec.	ASCA rule	AKC rule	Level of Difference
<b>Intro and General Info</b>	5.1		Dogs aged <b>7 and older</b> may jump either <b>2” or 4” lower</b> than specified height		<b>Major</b> AKC doesn’t have this
<b>Utility A</b>	5.2	Ch. 5 Sec. 1		Anyone who has <b>trained or exhibited</b> a dog that has earned an <b>OTCH may not enter or handle</b> dogs in this class. Each dog will be handled by its <b>owner</b> or by a member of the owner’s <b>immediate family or household</b> .	<i>Minor</i> AKC more restrictive
<b>Utility A</b>	5.2	Ch. 1 Sec. 16	A dog may continue to be shown in Utility A for <b>180 days</b> after earning the UD title.	A dog may continue to be shown in Utility A for <b>60 days</b> after earning the UD title.	<i>Minor</i>
<b>Utility Exercises &amp; Scoring</b>	5.4	Ch. 5 Sec. 4	Utility B order of exercises II-V are distinct from AKC; ASCA has <b>five (5) different orders</b> .	Utility B order of exercises II-VI are distinct from ASCA; AKC has <b>six (6) different orders</b> .	<i>Minor</i> orders differ except for I

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<b>Utility Exercises &amp; Scoring</b>	5.4	Ch. 5 Sec. 2	The Utility B order of exercises and glove number shall be posted at ringside at least <b>thirty (30) minutes</b> before the class.	The Utility B order of exercises and glove number shall be posted at ringside at least <b>forty-five (45) minutes</b> before the class.	<i>Minor</i>
<b>Signal Exercise, Scoring</b>	5.7	Ch. 5 Sec. 7	<b>Moving forward</b> on Stand, Sit or Drop could be <b>minor or substantial</b>	<b>Moving forward</b> could be an <b>NQ</b>	<i>Minor</i> AKC more restrictive
<b>Scent Discrimination</b>	5.8	Ch. 5 Sec. 8	Articles consist of 3 sets: metal, wood and leather,	Articles consist of any 2 sets from 3 choices: metal, leather, or <b>wood</b>	<i>Minor</i>
<b>Scent Discrimination</b>	5.8	Ch. 5 Sec. 8	Objects used as scent articles should not be longer than 6" in length.	The size of the articles will be <b>proportionate</b> to the <b>size of dog</b> .	<i>Minor</i>
<b>Scent Discrimination</b>	5.8, 5.9	Ch. 5 Sec. 8, 9	Judging begins when handler <b>gives scented article to judge</b> for placement in pile. <b>No penalty</b> for <b>touching</b> dog while scenting article, or for <b>dog moving</b> prior to giving article to judge	Judging begins <b>prior to taking article</b> for scenting. While scenting the article, handler make talk to but <b>not pet the dog</b> . <b>Dogs are penalized for moving while handler is taking or scenting article</b>	<b>Major</b> AKC more restrictive
<b>Scent Discrimination</b>	5.8	Ch. 5 Sec. 8	To send directly, the handler will do a <b>right</b> about turn	To send directly, the handler will do <b>either right or left</b> turn	<i>Minor</i> ASCA more restrictive
<b>Scent Discrimination</b>	5.8	Ch. 5 Sec. 8	If the scented articles are to be kept separate from the others at the end of the Scent Discrimination exercise, it is the <b>handler's</b> responsibility to notify steward		<i>Minor</i> AKC doesn't specify
<b>Directed Retrieve</b>	5.10	Ch. 5 Sec. 10	Handler will provide three (3) predominantly white, <b>cotton</b> work gloves	The handler will provide three (3) gloves that are predominately white	<i>Minor</i> ASCA more restrictive
<b>Directed Retrieve Scoring</b>	5.11	Ch. 5 Sec. 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.	<i>Minor</i> ASCA doesn't specify
<b>Moving Stand</b>	5.12	Ch. 5 Sec. 12	Judge examines as in <b>dog show</b> ; doesn't include mouth, tail, testicles	Judge examines in <b>one smooth 2-handed motion from neck to croup</b> ; doesn't include <b>head, teeth, legs, testicles, tail</b>	<i>Minor</i>
<b>Directed Jumping, Scoring</b>	5.15	Ch. 5 Sec. 15	<b>Substantial</b> 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.	<b>Minor or substantial</b> deductions will be made for a dog that anticipates handler's command to sit, fails to sit, or does not stop on command	<i>Minor</i> ASCA more restrictive

ASCA vs AKC Obedience Rule Differences as of June 2020

**Chapter 6: Utility Dog Excellent**

UDX	ASCA Ch./Sec.	AKC Ch./Sec.	ASCA rule	AKC rule	Level of Difference
Utility Dog Excellent	6.3	Ch. 6 Sec.1, 2	In addition to the UDS, ASCA offers the UDX-O for dogs competing in Utility B and Open ODX B	UDX only	<i>Major</i>

**Chapter 7: Obedience Trial Champion**

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

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

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

ASCA vs AKC Obedience Rule Differences as of June 2020

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

**Chapter 11: Non-Regular Classes**

NON-REGULAR	ASCA Ch./Sec.	AKC Ch./Sec.	ASCA rule	AKC rule	Level of Difference
<b>Alternative Titling classes</b>		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 <b>offers</b> Preferred Novice, Open, Utility, UDX, and OTCH <b>alternative</b> titles.	<b><u>Radically differ</u></b> ASCA doesn't have and alternative title sequence.
<b>Other Optional Titling classes</b>		Ch. 17-19	ASCA offers Beginner Novice, Graduate Novice, and Versatility.	AKC <b>offers</b> Grad Open.	<b><u>Radically differ</u></b> ASCA doesn't have
<b>Non-regular classes</b>	Ch. 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	<i>Minor</i>