

Rally Obedience (commonly called Rally O or just Rally) was created to promote a positive relationship between the dog and its owner. The emphasis is on fun and excitement for the dog and handler.



Rally O is often described as a combination of Agility and Obedience. A Rally O course is set out with numbered “stations”, also a start and a finish. The judge sets out a different course for every trial. The handlers walk the course in a group before competing individually. They navigate the course by following the numbers of each station. At each station they perform the exercise shown on the sign. Dogs work on the handlers left side in the “Heel” position between exercises.



At Novice level, the course has 10 to 15 signs (not including the start and finish) and dogs work on lead. At the Advanced, Excellent and Master levels the dogs work off-lead. The highest level of Rally O uses up to 24 signs including many of the more complex ones. There is a total of 59 signs of gradually increasing complexity.

Rally O was designed with the average dog owner in mind, as a way to introduce them into the world of dog sports and for people to just have fun with their dog. It is also suitable for accomplished Obedience or Agility triallers. It provides them with another way to interact with their dog, particularly

as their dog becomes older and less able to manage some of the more strenuous aspects of those sports.

In Rally O competitors complete the course on their own and are allowed to use multiple hand and verbal cues. They can talk to, praise and encourage their dog throughout the performance – it has a far more relaxed atmosphere than other dog sports! Each trial has a different series of exercises – you never know what the course will be until you walk the course.



If you want to know more about Rally O, you should contact any one of the three Obedience Clubs in the ACT:

ACT Companion Dog Club  
[www.actcdc.org.au](http://www.actcdc.org.au) ph: 02 6295 7764

Belconnen Dog Obedience Club  
[www.bdoc.asn.au](http://www.bdoc.asn.au) ph: 02 5105 0992

Tuggeranong Dog Training Club  
[www.tdtc.asn.au](http://www.tdtc.asn.au) ph: 02 6293 4122

### Further information

Further information about DOGS ACT activities including getting involved in Rally Obedience, can also be found at [www.dogsact.org.au](http://www.dogsact.org.au) OR call our office and speak to our staff during Business Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday – 9.30am to 2.30pm, on 02 6241 4404.

