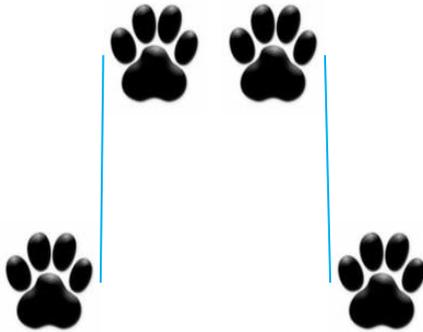


The initial stack –

Legs at each of the four corners of the dog... With the back legs- the inner toe should be inline with outer toe of the front foot- see the blue lines in the diagram below. Feet should be straight- and NOT twisted . As the handler if your dog has feet that are “eastie/westie” then YOU twist the leg/foot to give the impression of being correct



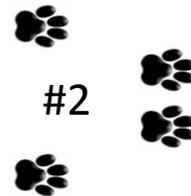
When viewed from the side.. The front legs should be straight- from elbow to pastern – Rear legs..should be straight (vertical) from the hock through the pastern- depending on the rear angles of the dog- this line MAY extend through the rear hip joint – view the picture of Mark to the left for reference (this picture and the angles of Mark do not support the rear being in line with the rear hip joint



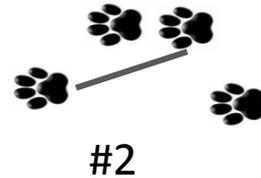
Placement board

Judges table

Typically... the judge or steward will have you stack your dog along the closest “wall” . Leave plenty of room between you and the other dogs in your class. If you are the only dog in the class- stop and stack shortly after entering the ring...sort of where I have the #3 paw icon.



Ring entry



Be aware of your surroundings- be quick, sure, and attentive to the judges words, motions, or intentions. If you don't understand- ask. Typically the judge will instruct you to go around the ring and stop at the "numbers" –these are the placement boards – often next to the judges table. Gait or trot (diagonal legs moving together) your dog around to the area in which the judge instructed- leave room between you and the dog in front of you. If you are the first dog – be sure to check with the dog behind you – to ensure they are ready. Once you get to the location – be sure to get your dog stacked for the independent go-over with the judge.

The Individuals

There are only three “Regularly” used patterns.. The following slides give you the idea of what they are... this is where you have to be listening! Judges rarely change from one dog to the next- they may however change from class to class – so be watchful and aware of what is going on.

Placement board

Judges table



Down and Back

Most commonly asked for.. This is also referred to straight and back, to the corner and back.. And can be noted as a point and a head nod- once you return to the judge- attempt a “free stack” showing the training and natural balance of your dog.

Ring entry

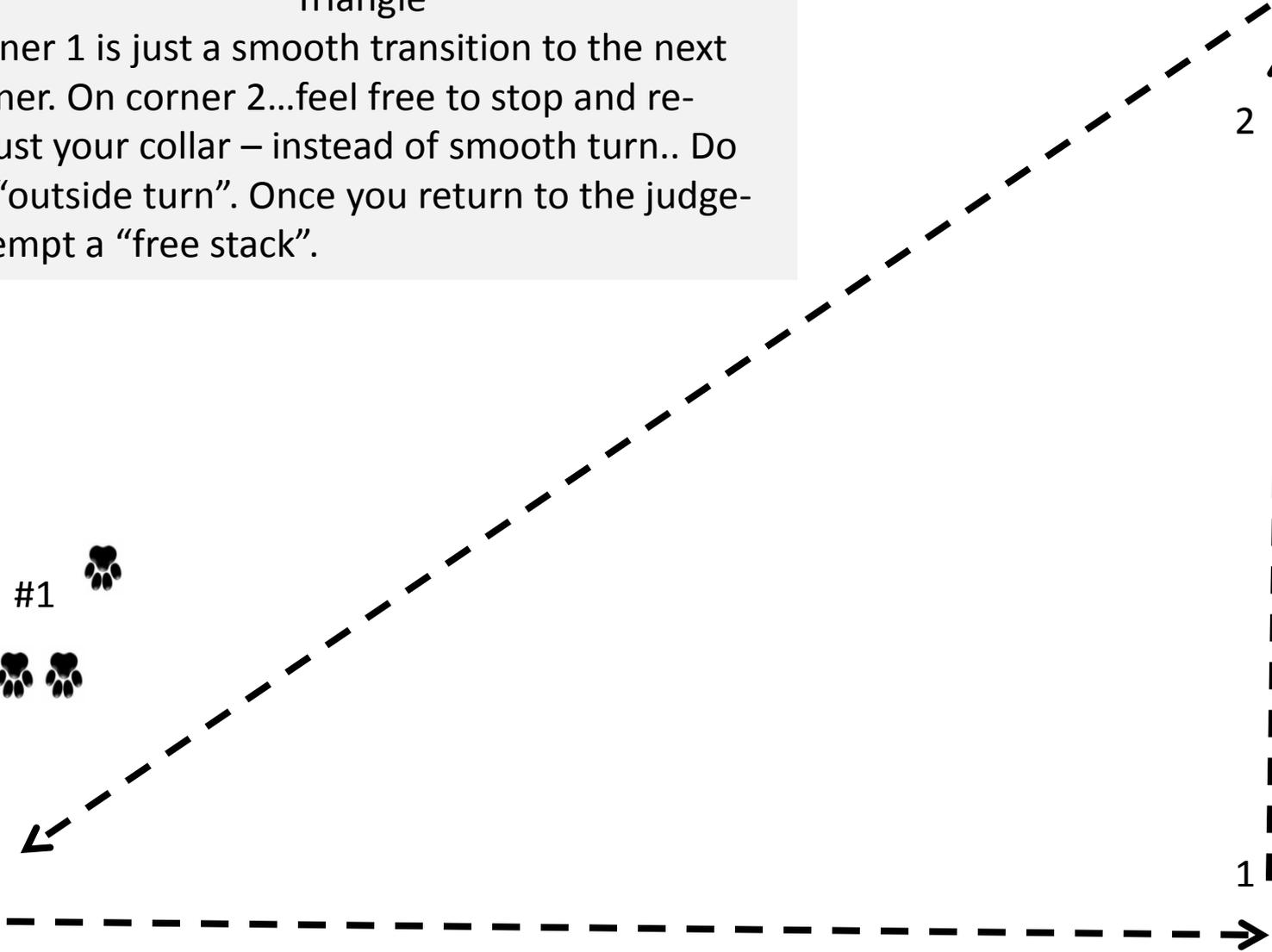
The Individuals

Triangle

Corner 1 is just a smooth transition to the next corner. On corner 2...feel free to stop and re-adjust your collar – instead of smooth turn.. Do an “outside turn”. Once you return to the judge- attempt a “free stack”.

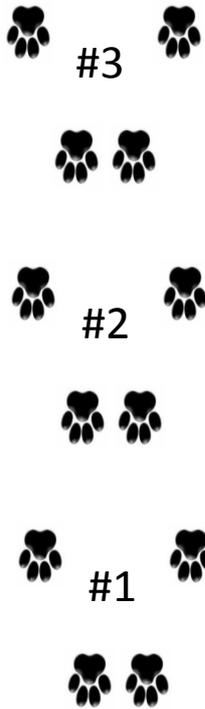
Placement board

Judges table



Ring entry

Placement board



Judges table

Once you have done your individual – the judge will often tell you to “go around” the ring...and fall into place behind the other dogs. Depending on the number of dogs in your class - play with the dog- as a reward for doing what you have asked..and then get back to stacking – giving the dog a chance to play and work..play and work. If you are the last dog in the class- just have to stack..no playtime for you! Judges can also just point to general area for you to move your dog too and wait till they are done with the other individuals..that is their prerogative..watch and listen!

Ring entry

Placement board

Once the individuals have been done- now the moving and placements start happening-Often the judges will have everyone move together- again- don't crowd and move out when the judge asks you to. The judge may also ask you to move one at a time- be watchful for when the judge nods at you or points at you to go. He may juggle dogs in the line up to move "like" dogs together.

Keep a watchful eye on the judge.. A quick hand movement maybe all that designates your placement- often the judges will use hand signals..one finger, two fingers and so on... there are only 4 placements..if you don't get the finger point.. Congratulate the winners and leave the ring...there is always tomorrow!

The Winners class is the most complicated when it comes to keeping an eye on the judge- there are literally hundreds if not thousands of ways they will move everyone around the ring- most important thing..WATCH the judge!

Judges table

Ring entry