

# Positioning the signs around poles and jump exercises in RALLY-O

There is a regulation that states 1 point is deducted for “Touching any equipment excepting items used as measurement markers or tails touching equipment.” This includes signs.

It is therefore important as Judges that we are careful not to place the sign in the dog’s path where it might accidentally touch the sign and so gain a one point penalty, or even injure itself (or trip up the handler).

The regulations also refer to Sign placement.

## **26.9 Sign Placement**

26.9.1 Signs are to be placed to the right of the participant’s course pathway except where indicating a change of direction.

26.9.2 Where change of direction is indicated, the sign is to be placed directly in front of the participant’s pathway, to assist in achieving the direction required.

## **Placing signs to the right of the participants course path.**

This works for the jump (below) where the handler will move between the cones and the sign.



**Where change of direction is indicated, the sign is to be placed directly in front of the participant's pathway, to assist in achieving the direction required.**

Look at the signs below in relation to the pole.

- a. Where the exercise is an About pole, the sign (left) could be touched by the dog as it returns to the handler.
- b. Middle: the dog could knock the sign as it goes around the pole.
- c. In the picture right the sign is well back from the pole and not in the way of the dog or the handler.



## Signs on Jumps.

In the picture right the sign is right at the 1m mark and could get in the way of the handler and the dog. This isn't good sign placement.



**Left:** Sign placed alongside jump – this should theoretically be out of the way of the dog and handler, unless the dog refuses the jump till the last possible moment.

**Right:** the sign is placed on the far left side of the jump and won't be in the way of the dog or the handler. This is excellent sign placement.



**Left:** The sign is placed as per the regulation and works well. However it could limit the course design as its in the middle of the course and the whole station takes up quite a bit of space