**AKC JUNIOR SHOWCASE EVENTS**

**A COMPETITION FOR JUNIORS**

*SUPPLEMENTAL GUIDELINES FOR CLUBS HOSTING JUNIOR TRIALS IN*

*AGILITY, OBEDIENCE & RALLY*

# INTRODUCTION

Junior Showcase Events (JSE) are special events for agility, obedience and rally trials, and showmanship in which the host club offers an event limited to Juniors only. All the regulations and rules governing a JSE event are the same as what is required at a regular trial. The difference is that JSE are meant to promote and increase youth participation in the sports of agility, obedience, rally and showmanship, and therefore, are limited to any junior who is under 18 years old on the day of the trial. Clubs offering JSE may tailor the classes at these events to best suit the interests of juniors, which promotes camaraderie and provides an enjoyable experience for all.

Many AKC clubs have a relationship with local youth organizations. JSE are an opportunity for these clubs to provide meaningful events that appeal to young dog owners. Clubs are encouraged to invest in the future of the sports by hosting these events.

Clubs may offer a reduced entry fee, or no entry fee, for juniors to participate; however, the recording fee for all entered dogs as required in the regulations. Many clubs have provided lunches, goodie bags or special prizes for juniors attending the events to foster a relationship. The club may do as little or as much as they wish to promote the event and to mentor juniors. By fostering a relationship with the junior and the junior’s family, it may help a club to build additional club membership.

The AKC is committed to promoting youth involvement in our sports. Like AKC’s successful Junior Showmanship program, Junior Showcase events will provide another visible symbol of this commitment. To learn more about AKC’s Junior Showcase events including application forms, please see – <http://www.akc.org/events/junior-showcase-events>.

All the normal sport regulations will apply except as noted in the regulations.

# GENERAL EVENT INFORMATION

**Section 1. Application to Hold Junior Showcase Events.** Clubs will apply to hold a Junior

Showcase event on its own application. There is no application fee to hold an event. If a sport is limited on the number of events a club may hold in a year, JSE do not count against that limit.

JSE must be open to all breeds, including dogs listed with AKC Canine Partners, except at Specialty events limited to one breed and Junior Showmanship.

**Section 2. Eligibility as a Junior.** Any Junior who is under 18 years old on the day of the show is eligible to compete as a Junior in Companion Events. The Junior must obtain a Junior Number prior to the day of the event *(see the section on Records)*.

The dog ownership requirement for participating is the same as in Conformation Junior Showmanship.

**Section 3. Eligibility of Dogs.** All dogs must be eligible for the classes in which they are entered. They must meet the dog ownership requirements for junior recognition. At All-Breed trials, dogs enrolled in the Canine Partners program are eligible to participate.

**Section 4. Classes Offered.** Clubs have two options to host a JSE. They may be held in conjunction with a club’s regular event, or they may be held as a stand-alone event.

 If a JSE is held in conjunction with a club’s regular event, they may choose to run the events concurrently or consecutively, which ever works best for the club. When trials are held concurrently, the JSE classes may be held in the same ring at the same time as the regular event’s classes. In obedience and rally events, judges will be provided with separate judges’ books for the regular event and the JSE event for each class. In agility events running concurrently, clubs should have a means to identify the JSE scribe sheets separately from the regular event’s scribe sheets. Awards described in the sport’s regulations will be offered for the juniors. Juniors will be scored and awarded separately from the regular event.

**Clubs:** Clubs may elect at their option to limit the classes offered at JSE, however, they should follow the class requirements in the sport’s regulations. JSE may be limited to beginner level classes but should tailor the classes at these events to the interests of juniors.

**Judge Selection:** Any judge eligible for the event type and classes offered may judge a Junior Showcase event. Normal judging assignment conflicts are waived for Junior Showcase judges. The purpose of a JSE is to provide a low-stress, mentoring environment, with camaraderie in a relaxed atmosphere. Clubs should choose a judge that will meet these requirements to support juniors to achieve their goals.

**Juniors:** In JSE, junior handlers are permitted to have a mentor walk with them during the exhibitor walkthrough times in all classes that allow a walkthrough.

The dogs are scored individually on their performance and AKC recognizes Juniors participating in events that handle a dog to a title. If a dog has already successfully completed a title in a class, the junior will not receive individual credit for any qualifying scores but will be eligible for class awards for their performance.

If a JSE is offered in connection with another event on the same site, same day, juniors may participate in both events at their option.

**Section 3. Records.** The dog’s score in these events will be linked to the Junior Handler’s number through the use of the Junior Certification Form. This form can be obtained from the Show Secretary, Superintendent, or by contacting the American Kennel Club. (See the end of this section for a sample.)

It is the responsibility of the Junior to have the Junior Certification Form filled out and signed by the judge, Trial Secretary/Superintendent or AKC Field Rep on the day of the event for any qualifying score. The Trial Secretary/Superintendent will retain one copy to be mailed in with the event results to the American Kennel Club while returning the other to the Junior.

**Section 4. Awards.** The American Kennel Club will acknowledge any Junior who successfully completes a title. The Junior must have been the handler of record for all qualifying scores leading to the title.

Juniors can verify their records by requesting an access code from the following link: <https://www.apps.akc.org/apps/kids_juniors/jrauth_request.cfm>

After receiving the access code juniors may view their event records. If any errors are found, juniors may contact Juniors@akc.org for assistance.

**Section 5. Catalog.** The JSE is a separate with its own event number. Catalog information on any dog entered shall be listed by class as required in the sport’s regulations. The following information is shall be included:

* Junior Handler’s Name
* Junior Handler’s Number
* Full AKC Name of Dog
* Dog’s AKC Number
* Dog’s Date of Birth, Breeder, Sire, Dam – if known
* Breed
* Sex
* Name(s) of Owner(s)/Co-owner(s)
* Jump Height – if applicable for the class

Dogs enrolled in the AKC Canine Partners program should list the breed as All American Dog.

# HELPFUL AKC Contact Information:

**To obtain a Junior Handler number:**

 Email juniors@akc.org

**JR Certification forms:**

Phone (919) 233-9767 Email \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_orderdesk@akc.org

*Certification forms are also available for download on the AKC website.*

**Companion Events – Regulation Questions**

Phone \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (919) 816-3575

Email \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_agility@akc.org

Email \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Obedience@akc.org

 Email \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ rally@akc.org

**Customer Service & Registration:**

Phone (919) 233-9767

 