Regulations for Agility Trials and Agility Course Test (ACT)

Amended to January 1, 2020
Published by The American Kennel Club

Time 2 Beat Agility Standard
Fifteen and Send Time

International Sweepstakes
Jumpers With Weaves

NOTE: This rulebook contains the following inserts:
*Pink Insert - Effective January 1, 2021
*Orange Insert - Effective February 1, 2021
Chapter 1. REGULATIONS FOR AGILITY TRIALS

Section 14. Opening and Closing Dates.

Opening Date: For all trials, clubs shall set a date and time that entries will first be accepted. Entries received prior to the opening date shall be considered invalid entries and shall be returned as soon as possible.

Closing Date: Clubs shall set a date and time that entries will close.
- The closing date for the trial shall not be less than seven (7) days prior to the trial.
- Entries must be received prior to the published closing date and time.
- Entries for any agility trial may be accepted until the official closing date and time even though the advertised limit has been reached.
- The club may contact exhibitors to notify them of their entry status prior to the closing date.
- Following the closing date, the Trial Secretary shall promptly contact all entrants and advise them of their status. Entries not accepted shall be returned within seven (7) days of the closing date.
Revisions to the Regulations for Agility Trials and Agility Course Test (ACT) Effective February 1, 2021

This insert is issued as a supplement to the Regulations for Agility Trials and Agility Course Test (ACT) Amended to January 1, 2020 and approved by the AKC Board of Directors October 13, 2020

Chapter 15 – Regulations for Agility Course Test (ACT)

Section 2. ACT Event. There are two levels of ACT events – ACT1 (Standard)/ACT1J (Jumpers) and ACT2 (Standard)/ACT2J (Jumpers). ACT1/ACT1J are designed for the beginning level dog to show beginning sequencing and performance skills. ACT2/ACT2J requires an increased skill level shown by the additional obstacles to be performed.

Section 9. Course Size, Suitability and Facilities. Must be a minimum useable course area must be 3500 square feet for ACT1 and ACT2. For ACT1J and ACT2J the minimum useable course area must be 3200 square feet. The course area must be moderately level and clear, and be a minimum of 40 feet wide. Refer to Chapter 4, Sections 1 and 2 for additional information.

Section 13. ACT1/ACT1J. ACT1/ACT1J are entry level tests that are open to all dogs that have not earned a title in any AKC Agility class and that meet the age and physical requirements for a regular AKC agility trial (Chapter 1, Section 3). Dogs must have two passing ACT1 scores in order to earn the ACT1 title. For ACT1J dogs must have two passing ACT1J scores to earn the ACT1J title. To receive the title certificate and have the title added to a dog’s record, the dog must be registered/listed with the AKC.

STANDARD Classes

ACT1 (Standard) Performance Standards:
- Minimum allowable score required to qualify = 85
- Performance will be judges as set forth in Chapter 5, Sections 4, 5 & 6 with the following exceptions:
  - Run-outs and Refusals will not be judged
  - More than 3 attempts at the next correct obstacle (ascent side of contacts) will result in a Mandatory Elimination and will be signaled with an “F” by the judge.
  - The 4 –Paw rule is not in effect

ACT1 Standard Course Time:
The time for all jump heights is 60 seconds. This is also maximum course time. The course must be completed in less than 60 seconds.

ACT1 Minimum Obstacles Requirements:
- Quantity =10-12
- Obstacles required, allowed and not allowed - refer to Section 15 for chart.
• All obstacles must meet AKC equipment regulations in Chapter 3

JUMPERS Classes

ACT1J (Jumpers) Performance Standards:
• Minimum allowable score required to qualify = 85
• Performance will be judged as set forth in Chapter 5, Sections 4, 5 & 6 with the following exceptions:
  – Run-outs and Refusals will not be judged
  – More than 3 attempts at the next correct obstacle will result in a Mandatory Elimination and will be signaled with an “F” by the judge.

ACT1J Standard Course Time:
The time for all jump heights is 50 seconds. This is also maximum course time. The course must be completed in less than 50 seconds.

ACT1J Minimum Obstacles Requirements:
• Quantity = 10-12
• Obstacles required, allowed and not allowed - refer to Section 16 for chart.
• All obstacles must meet AKC equipment regulations in Chapter 3

Section 14. ACT2 (Standard)/ACT2J (Jumpers). ACT2/ACT2J are the second level Agility Course Tests that are open to all dogs that have dogs that have not earned a title in any AKC Agility class and that meet the age and physical requirements for a regular AKC agility trial (Chapter 1, Section 3). Dogs must have two passing ACT2 scores in order to earn the ACT2 title. For ACT2J dogs must have two passing ACT2J scores to earn the ACT2J title. To receive the title certificate and have the title added to a dog’s record, the dog must be registered/listed with the AKC.

STANDARD Classes

ACT2 Performance Standards:
• Minimum allowable score required to qualify = 85
• Performance will be judged as set forth in Chapter 5, Sections 4, 5 & 6 with the following exceptions:
  – Run-outs and Refusals will not be judged
  – More than 3 attempts at the next correct obstacle (ascent side of contacts) will result in a Mandatory Elimination and will be signaled with an “F” by the judge.
  – The 4 –Paw rule is not in effect

ACT2 Standard Course Time:
The time for all jump heights is 70 seconds. This is also maximum course time. The course must be completed in less than 70 seconds.

ACT2 Minimum Obstacles Requirements:
• Quantity = 11-13
• Obstacles required, allowed and not allowed – refer to Section 15 for chart.
• All obstacles must meet AKC equipment regulations in Chapter 3.

JUMPERS Classes

ACT2J (Jumpers) Performance Standards:
• Minimum allowable score required to qualify = 85
• Performance will be judged as set forth in Chapter 5, Sections 4, 5 & 6 with the following exceptions:
  − Run-outs and Refusals will not be judged
  − More than 3 attempts at the next correct obstacle will result in a Mandatory Elimination and will be signaled with an “F” by the judge.

ACT2J Standard Course Time:
The time for all jump heights is 60 seconds. This is also maximum course time. The course must be completed in less than 60 seconds.

ACT2J Minimum Obstacles Requirements:
• Quantity =11-13
• Obstacles required, allowed and not allowed - refer to Section 16 for chart.
• All obstacles must meet AKC equipment regulations in Chapter 3

Section 16. Obstacles for ACT1J and ACT2J.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OBSTACLES</th>
<th>ACT1J</th>
<th>ACT2J</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weaves poles</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>R (1) 6 poles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open tunnel</td>
<td>A Max (3)</td>
<td>A Max (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bar Jump</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Double Bar Jump</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>A (1)**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panel Jump</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tire Jump</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broad Jump</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>A (1)**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Triple Bar Jump</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>A (1) **</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Bar Jump</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qty of Obstacles</td>
<td>10-12</td>
<td>11-13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

R = Required Obstacles
A = Allowed Obstacles
N = Not Allowed
**A maximum of one spread jump required on the course.
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Chapter 1
Regulations for Agility Trials

Section 1. Purpose. The purpose of AKC® agility trials is to afford owners the opportunity to demonstrate a dog’s physical ability/soundness and willingness to work with its handler under a variety of conditions. The program begins with basic entry-level agility, and progresses to more complex levels that require dogs to demonstrate higher levels of training and interaction with their handlers.

Agility results in a better rounded, conditioned dog, provides good basic training for search and rescue dogs, demonstrates good training and citizenship and has excellent spectator appeal.

Agility trials are sporting events and all participants should be guided by the principles of good sportsmanship both in and outside the trial course.

Section 2. Agility Trials Defined. A member agility trial is a trial at which qualifying scores toward titles are awarded, given by a club or association, which is a member of the American Kennel Club®.

A licensed agility trial is a trial at which qualifying scores toward titles are awarded, given by a club which has been licensed by the AKC to hold the trial. In addition to agility clubs, any AKC club may be granted permission to hold agility trials provided the club holds the event(s) for which it was originally formed at least once every two years. FSS breeds with AKC approved parent clubs may become licensed to hold agility trials.

Sanctioned agility trials are informal events at which dogs may participate but not for AKC titles, held by a club or association by obtaining the sanction of the American Kennel Club. Generally, sanctioned events are held by clubs to qualify for approval to hold licensed or member club events.

Agility trials may not be held closer than 100 miles in distance on the same day except a club or association may be licensed to hold an agility trial within 100 miles of another club or association which has established its licensed trial on the same date only if, in each instance, it obtains the written permission of the club or association with the established date and submits the written permission along with its trial application. However, there may not be two all-breed agility trials on the same day at the same location.

Specialty clubs holding a limited agility trial for all AKC recognized breeds may accept entries of dogs of their own breed first then accept entries from all breeds and dogs listed with AKC Canine Partners (if offered) until the entry limit specified in the premium list is reached.

Clubs have the option to allow dogs listed with AKC Canine Partners to participate at all-breed AKC agility trials.

An AKC-recognized specialty club may offer a single breed specialty agility trial in conjunction with a club’s all-breed trial, sharing the same date, trial site, equipment and judges. Specialty trial participants shall be excluded from competing in the adjoining all-breed trial. Both agility trials may be run together; however, each club is required to maintain separate event records.

An AKC recognized single breed specialty club may offer two single breed specialties in one day on the same trial site for
their breed. The combined total entry for the two trials may not exceed the judging limits set for AKC Agility Judges in Chapter 1, Section 18 if the club is using two judges and two rings. If only one judge is used, the two trials are limited to a maximum of 250 runs between the two trials. Clubs may run the trials concurrently for efficiency. If trials are being run concurrently it must be noted in the premium list. Each trial must maintain separate trial records and be run on original courses.

Section 3. Eligibility of Dogs. All dogs fifteen (15) months of age or older that are registered with the American Kennel Club or that have AKC Limited Registration, Purebred Alternative Listing/Indefinite Listing Privileges (PAL/ILP) or an AKC Canine Partners listing number, or approved Foundation Stock Service (FSS) breeds are eligible to participate.

Dogs with a Purebred Alternative Listing/Indefinite Listing Privileges (PAL/ILP) or an AKC Canine Partners listing number must be spayed or neutered in order to compete. Wherever the word “dog” is used in these regulations it includes both sexes.

Agility trials are open to all registrable breeds and mixed breeds that have been listed with AKC Canine Partners (if offered), except that a specialty club, or a club formed to serve a specific variety group, may opt to hold an agility trial limited to that breed, or that group. If entries are to be limited to a single breed or a group, this restriction must be clearly stated in the premium list and in any other pre-trial advertising.

Dogs of an AKC-registrable breed that have been granted a Purebred Alternative Listing/Indefinite Listing Privilege (PAL/ILP) may participate providing their PAL/ILP number has been listed on the entry form (refer to Chapter 2 of the Rules Applying to Registration and Discipline for the listing of registrable breeds that may participate). Dogs of a registrable breed with an acceptable foreign registration number are eligible to participate subject to Chapter 11, Section 1, of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows.

Dogs eligible for entry in the Miscellaneous class at dog shows and dogs of Foundation Stock Service recorded breeds that meet the eligibility requirements for competition are eligible to participate provided their AKC identification number appears on the entry form.

Dogs that have been listed with AKC Canine Partners, that have been spayed or neutered, may participate providing their listing number has been listed on the entry form and the trial-giving club is holding an all breed trial and is offering participation for dogs enrolled in the AKC Canine Partners program.

Dogs disfigured as the result of accident or injury but otherwise qualified shall be eligible provided that the disfigurement does not interfere with functional movement. Dogs should be physically sound. Dogs that are blind shall not be eligible. Blind means without useful vision. No dog shall compete if it is taped or bandaged or in any way has anything attached to it for medical purposes. Deaf dogs are eligible to participate.

Spayed females and neutered males are eligible to participate.

Females in season shall not be eligible to participate. Entry fees for females in season must be refunded per Chapter 1, Section 9. The premium list must state refunds will be issued for bitches in season.
No dog may participate more than once in any type of class (Standard, Jumpers With Weaves, Time 2 Beat, FAST, Premier, etc.) offered by a club per day, unless they are entered in a single breed specialty that is offering two trials on the same site, same day. If eligible, dogs may participate in additional non-regular classes. If a club has been approved to hold a Special Event Agility Trial, the above participation limit does not apply for the approved Special Event.

Section 4. Eligibility to Hold Agility Trials. The Board of Directors of the American Kennel Club may, at its discretion, grant permission to clubs or associations to hold agility trials that shall be governed by such Rules and Regulations as from time to time shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

Section 5. Making Application. A club or association that meets the requirements of the American Kennel Club that wishes to hold a trial at which qualifying scores toward titles may be earned must make application to the American Kennel Club on the form provided for permission to hold the trial. An application fee must accompany each application.

A club may be approved to hold up to twelve (12) licensed or member events in a calendar year. A club can be approved to hold separate trials on consecutive days. Each day is considered a separate trial. A club shall not be approved to hold more than one trial on any single day except in the case of a specialty club offering a single breed specialty trial in conjunction with their all-breed trial or offering two single breed specialties on the same day per Chapter 1, Section 2.

Clubs licensed to hold agility in Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and geographically isolated clubs may hold up to fifteen (15) licensed or member events in a calendar year. Geographically isolated clubs will be determined by the club’s trial site being greater than 150 driving miles from the nearest trial site of another club that has held events within the past 18 months. Google Maps will be used to consider the driving distance from trial site to trial site.

Applications for licensed or member trials must be received by the American Kennel Club at least EIGHTEEN (18) weeks before the closing date for entries of the event.

A club that meets the requirements of the American Kennel Club may be approved to hold a sanctioned “A” or “B” agility trial (commonly known as Sanctioned Matches) by applying on a form provided by the American Kennel Club and paying an application fee. Applications for sanctioned agility trials must be filed with AKC at least six weeks prior to the date of the event.

All of these Regulations shall govern AKC-sanctioned “A” or “B” agility trials except those which specifically state that they apply to licensed and member trials.

All applicable rules found in Rules Applying to Dog Shows will govern the conduct of agility trials. They will apply to any person and dog entered, unless these regulations state otherwise.

Section 6. Agility Trial Secretary and Agility Trial Chairman. A club holding a trial must name an Agility Trial Secretary and an Agility Trial Chairman. The Chairman must be a member of the club.

The premium list for all licensed or member trials shall
designate the Agility Trial Secretary as receiving entries. Trial Secretaries and Chairmen shall be ineligible to judge at the event in which they are acting in these official capacities. Trial Secretaries and Chairmen may show at agility trials where they perform these duties.

Trial Secretaries must apply to become an AKC Licensed Trial Secretary if they act as the Trial Secretary for more than 12 events per calendar year.

Section 7. Appointment of the Event Committee. A club that has been granted AKC permission to hold a trial or match must appoint an Event Committee, which will have complete responsibility for planning and conducting the event. The Committee shall be comprised of at least five (5) club members (including the Chairman), and shall ensure the safe, efficient, and orderly conduct of the event. The Committee must have on hand, on the day of the trial, sufficient assistance and equipment, and must ensure that the area is free of dangerous materials or conditions.

The Committee is responsible for compliance with all of these Regulations, except those coming under the sole jurisdiction of the judges, and has the authority to decide all matters not under the jurisdiction of the judges. A minimum of five (5) Committee members must be present on the grounds during a licensed or member trial. In the event of absence of Committee members, the Chairman or an officiating officer shall appoint sufficient members to ensure compliance with this section.

The Committee must also be familiar with Chapter 5 of the AKC Rules Applying to Registration and Discipline and Dealing with Misconduct booklet.

Section 8. Stewards, Timers, Scribes. The host club must provide a minimum of one scorekeeper, a scribe, a gate steward and a timer per ring. In addition, 4-6 stewards should be scheduled per ring to help in various other tasks necessary to expedite the trial.

A scribe is required to record the scores as instructed by the judge. The judge is responsible for the accuracy of the scores insofar as knowing which dogs qualify and which dogs do not qualify.

Stewards, timers and scribes may compete in the trial if it does not conflict with the completion of their assignments. A person may not time or scribe in a jump height class in which they are directly competing.

Section 9. Premium Lists. A premium list must be provided for sanctioned “A,” licensed, and member trials. The premium list shall be printed (any printing or copying process is acceptable), and shall state whether the event is “sanctioned” or “licensed by the American Kennel Club” or held by an “AKC member club.” Premium lists shall measure not less than 5½ x 8½ inches or more than 8½ x 11 inches.

The following information shall be included in the premium list:

- Name of club holding the event
- The exact location (name of facility, address, city, state and zip code)
- Date of the event
• Name, address and telephone number of the Agility Trial Chairman
• Names of the Event Committee members (minimum of five including Chairman)
• Event number
• Trial hours
• Entry fees
• AKC recording fee shall be stated
• Classes offered
• Names and addresses of judges including their assignments
• Name, address, and telephone number of the Trial Secretary
• Date and closing time of entries
• A list of the officers of the event giving club with the address of the secretary
• It is recommended that any known breed specific regulation(s) for the city/county/state in which the trial is being held are listed.
• An official AKC entry form.

Premium lists shall also specify whether ribbons or rosettes will be offered, whether trophies will be awarded, and contain an outline of the conditions of any non-regular classes that may be offered.

Entry Fees/Special Inducements. A host club shall not accept an entry fee other than that published in its premium list or discriminate between exhibitors by offering certain owners or handlers special inducements such as rebates, prizes or other concessions unless allowed by another section of these regulations. Except a club, at its discretion, may allow for a reduced entry fee for dogs handled by juniors. A junior must have an AKC Junior Handler number and is defined as someone less than 18 years of age on the day of the trial. A trial is defined by a unique event number.

Clubs must specify in their premium list an exact amount and description of processing fee that will be deducted from refunds. Withdrawals after the event’s closing date and time due to a change of judge must receive a full refund (no fee is paid to the American Kennel Club). Females in season must be fully refunded if withdrawn by the Trial Secretary after closing and no later than one half hour prior to the start of the first class of the day of the trial. The club may retain a processing fee and must publish this information in the premium (no fee is paid to the American Kennel Club for females in season who are withdrawn). Clubs may determine the documentation if any, that is required confirming the female is in season. Clubs must list this AKC policy along with all other situations for which they will provide a refund. Clubs must treat all occurrences of a listed refund equally.

Premium lists must list entry limits (if any), include the method for accepting entries to a limited entry trial (first received or random draw), location where entries will be taken, indicate the ring size and surface to be used and also state additional information as required elsewhere in these Regulations.

Either four (4) paper copies of the premium list must be sent to AKC, Attention: Companion Events or the premium...
list may be submitted electronically by email attachment in either MS Word or PDF format to agilitypremiums@akc.org. Submittals to AKC must be sent at the same time the premium list becomes available to exhibitors. The premium list must be made available by paper and/or electronically to prospective entrants a minimum of two (2) weeks prior to the opening date for acceptance of entries for the event. Refer to the Agility Trial Manual.

Section 10. Risk. Owners or handlers entering dogs in a trial do so at their own risk and agree to assume responsibility for damage caused by them, or by their dogs. They also agree to abide by the Rules of the American Kennel Club and these Regulations.

Section 11. Entry Forms. The club must have the original entry forms on site at the event. To be an acceptable entry:

- The following shall be included (if unknown it may be omitted):
  - Date of birth
  - Place of birth
  - Name of breeder(s)
  - Name of sire
  - Name of dam
- Be submitted with required entry fee
- Be on an Official American Kennel Club® entry form
- Be signed by the owner or his duly authorized agent
- Be completed in full, accurate, and reflective of the dog entered
- Include all of the following information:
  - Name of trial giving club
  - Date of trial
  - Breed
  - Variety, if any
  - Sex
  - Name of class(es) entered
  - Jump height
  - Height at withers
  - Dog’s measurement status
  - Full AKC name of dog
  - Call name of dog
  - Name of owner(s)/co-owner(s)
  - Name of handler
  - Address of owner
- Include one of the following:
  - AKC number
  - PAL/ILP number
  - Foreign registration number and country for an unregistered imported dog
  - Identification number issued by AKC

Section 12. Entry Methods. An entry may be submitted via:

- Paper entry form submitted to club (includes faxes if club elects to accept faxes)
- Acceptable online entry system (See Agility Trial Manual or AKC website for Online Entry system requirements.)
Clubs are required to accept properly completed paper entries but are not required to accept online entries. If a club elects to accept online entries, it must select only one (1) online entries service provider. The name and address of the chosen service must be stated in the premium list.

If a club elects to accept online entries, AKC recommends carefully considering the needs of the exhibitors when determining the number of paper entries to accept.

**Section 13. Entry Limits.** A trial-giving club may impose a numerical limit on entries in any or all trial classes. If entry limits are used, AKC recommends that a “total entry limit” be used, stating a total number of runs allowed per judge and for the entire trial. Individual judging limits shall be 350 dogs maximum per day without regard to class level or type (Standard, JWW, T2B, FAST or Premier classes). If entries are limited, the numerical limitation(s) must be stated on the cover of the premium list.

**Section 14. Opening and Closing Dates.**

Opening Date: For all trials, clubs shall set a date and time that entries will first be accepted. Entries received prior to the opening date shall be considered invalid entries and shall be returned as soon as possible.

Closing Date: Clubs shall set a date and time that entries will close.

- The closing date for the trial shall not be less than fourteen (14) days prior to the trial.
- Entries must be received prior to the published closing date and time.
- Entries for any agility trial may be accepted until the official closing date and time even though the advertised limit has been reached.
- The club may contact exhibitors to notify them of their entry status prior to the closing date.
- Following the closing date the Trial Secretary shall promptly contact all entrants and advise them of their status. Entries not accepted shall be returned within seven (7) days of the closing date.

**Section 15. Paper Entry Forms Per Envelope.**

For limited trials, entries for a maximum of ten (10) dogs are allowed in each envelope submitted to the Trial Secretary. This maximum also applies to the number of dogs entered per online transaction. Envelopes/transactions containing entries for more than the ten (10) dog maximum shall be treated as an invalid entry and shall be returned to the sender.

**Section 16. Entry Acceptance Methods.** A club may choose either of the following methods for accepting entries to a limited entry agility trial. Please visit the AKC website or refer to the Agility Trial Manual for a checklist of steps for both entry-acceptance methods. The AKC strongly recommends using the Random Draw method for trials which are likely to exceed the “total entry limit” within the first 24 hours after the opening date and time.

1. **First Received-Entries** – Entries accepted in order of receipt.

   "**Paper and Online Limits**"
   
   - A club accepting online entries shall designate a
number of the “total entry limit” to be fulfilled by paper entries and a number to be fulfilled by online entries. These “initial limits” must be stated in the premium list.

- The initial paper and online entry limits are valid for the first 48 hours after the opening date.
- If the online limit has not been reached at the end of the 48 hour time period, the club may decrease the online entry limit and increase the paper limit accordingly. Likewise, if paper entries are not reached at the end of the period, the club may decrease the paper limit and increase the online limit accordingly.

**“Accepting Entries”**

- The club must select only one (1) USPS (United States Postal Service) or PMB (Postal Mail Box) address for receipt of paper entries.
- The mailing address must be stated in the premium list. Entries delivered to any other address are invalid and must be returned to the sender.
- Paper entries received within 24 hours of the opening date and time must:
  - Include postage or be metered
  - Be delivered by a multi-state or multi-national postal or carrier service, including but not limited to USPS, FedEx, UPS, and DHL (effectively disallows conventional “hand-deliveries” during the first 24 hours the trial is open)
  - If above conditions are not met, entries are invalid and must be returned to the sender.
- If stated in the premium list, a club may further restrict the delivery options (i.e. No FedEx, No “hand-deliveries at any time”). USPS delivery must be allowed.
- Paper entries must be accepted in order of receipt until the paper limit has been reached.
  - Trial Secretaries shall use all information to fairly and equitably determine which entries are received first.
- Online entries will be accepted in order of submission until the online limit has been reached.

**“Wait List”**

To fill openings created by entries withdrawn prior to a date and time established by the club. Such date may be beyond the event closing date; however, it must be a minimum of three (3) days prior to the first trial date of the set of trials. All entries must be received prior to the closing date and time. The club must establish a maximum number of entries that may be placed on the wait list. Whether a club is offering a wait list, how many entries are being accepted on the wait list and the closing date/time of the wait list must be published in the trial’s premium list. A full refund is to be reimbursed to any entrant whose entry is replaced by a wait-listed entry.

- Clubs may place paper entries exceeding the paper limit on a paper “wait list.” As paper entry spaces
become available, clubs may accept the wait-listed paper entries in order of receipt.

- The club may elect to allow the online entry system to place online entries exceeding the online limit on an online wait list. As online entry spaces become available, the wait-listed online entries will be accepted in order of submission.

“Guaranteed Entries for Trial Workers”

The First-Received method does not allow clubs to guarantee entry spaces for Trial Workers. The AKC recommends using the Random Draw method if there is a possibility of not securing enough workers from the First-Received entries.

2. Random Draw – Entries treated equally without regard to date/time received.

“Draw Period”

- Clubs determine a “Draw Period” during which time entries are accepted for the Random Draw.
- The start time and date of the Draw Period shall be the same as the Opening Date.
- The Draw Period must be at least seven (7) days in length (14 days recommended) and must have a defined finish date and time.

“Accepting Entries During the Draw Period”

- All entries received during the Draw Period shall be accepted for the Random Draw and shall be treated equally without regard to the date received or any other criteria.
- AKC recommends that trial secretaries open envelopes as they are received to verify the number of dogs per envelope does not exceed the maximum and to ensure entries are valid. Invalid entries shall be returned to the sender as soon as possible.

“Guaranteed Entries for Trial Workers”

- The club may guarantee entry spots for “Trial Workers” who have agreed to work at the trial.
- The maximum number of “handlers” who may receive guaranteed entry spots are as follows:
  1. 35 “handlers” for 1st ring
  2. 30 “handlers” for each additional ring if the rings are run simultaneously.
- Although there is no limit on the number of dogs a designated “Trial Worker” may run, the AKC recommends clubs select workers who will handle three (3) dogs or less.
- Entry spots filled by “Trial Workers” are part of the “Total Entry Limit” stated in the premium list.

“Conducting the Random Draw”

- If the stated entry limit(s) is exceeded during the “Draw Period” the club shall conduct a Random Drawing of all entries received. Otherwise, the Random Drawing is not necessary.
- The Random Drawing shall be held within 48 hours of the finish date and time of the “Draw Period.” The date, hour, and location of the draw must be stated in the premium list.
• The drawing shall be held in a place accessible to the public. The results of the draw shall be made available to the people present at the draw.
• In conducting the drawing for entries, the Trial Secretary shall avoid any method that raises any questions as to its randomness and impartiality.
• One drawing shall be held for consecutive trials. One secretary or one group of cooperating secretaries shall conduct the draw.
• The drawing may be:
  1. Manual: Trial Secretary selects envelopes (or numbers assigned to each envelope) at random and entries contained within each envelope shall gain entry to trial up to the stated entry limits.
  2. Computerized: The computerized method must be impartial, must select all entries submitted in one envelope as one group, and must conform to the standards of random selection.
• If the last envelope selected in the Random Draw contains entries that would exceed the stated entry limit, there shall be a manual or computerized random draw of the individual entries contained in the envelope. The total entries drawn may not exceed the limit(s) stated in the premium list.
• When the advertised limit of entries has been drawn, all remaining entries shall be drawn for a position on the Wait List. If openings in the trial become available prior to the closing date, the opening shall be filled in order by entries on the Wait List.

“Accepting Entries After the Draw Period”
• Clubs may continue to accept paper and online entries after the finish date and time of the Draw Period, though all entries must be received prior to the closing date.
• If the trial did not exceed the limit(s) during the Draw Period, all of the entries received during the Draw Period shall be accepted into the trial and entries received after the Draw Period shall be accepted according to the rules of the First-Received method as described in Item 1, “Accepting Entries” of Section 16.
• If the trial did exceed the limit(s) and a Random Draw was conducted, clubs may elect to add entries received after the Draw Period to the end of the wait list(s) in order of receipt.

“Closing Date”
The closing date shall not be less than fourteen (14) days prior to the trial and must be a minimum of ten (10) days after the Random Draw.

Section 17. Duplicate Entries. A club is under no obligation to offer refunds for duplicate entries for the same dog. The refund policy shall be stated in the premium list. A club may, at its discretion, make refunds for duplicate entries, but only if this is done consistently in a uniform manner.
Section 18. Event Limit Options, Judge Assignment Changes and Load Balancing Entries.

The maximum number of runs assigned to any judge in one day shall not exceed 350, not including runs in non-regular classes, or as described within this section and Chapter 1, Section 20.

If a club elects, it may place limits on a judge and/or a club may place limits on a single class or set of classes in the premium list. If a limit is placed on a single class or set of classes, no entries may be accepted beyond this established limit. If a limit is placed on a judge, the club must continue to accept entries and any additional dogs beyond the judge’s limit shall be assigned to another judge.

At no time may a Limited or Random Draw trial exceed its overall event limit. The premium list must state the overall event limit. If any other limits are established for the judge(s) or class(es), those limits must also be stated in the premium list.

All judges’ class assignments must be approved by the American Kennel Club. Once judging class assignments have been approved by the American Kennel Club, any change to assignments for any reason must also be approved by the American Kennel Club prior to publication.

After distribution of the premium list, if a judge assignment changes, exhibitors have the right to request a full refund of their entry fee for any classes affected. Exhibitors must submit requests in writing to the Trial Secretary a minimum of 30 minutes preceding the start of the event on the first day in which the exhibitor is entered.

After entries close and the judging schedule is being prepared, clubs may elect to change the class assignments of the individual judges in order to facilitate the smooth running of the event. Such adjustments can be done for any reason including overloads, low entries, equipment problems, etc. When such judging class changes are proposed, the club must first receive approval in writing from each judge affected and the club must receive final approval from the American Kennel Club prior to the distribution of the judging schedule. With the written permission of the judge, the club may choose to leave an overload of up to 20 runs with the judge they were originally entered under. This does not allow the club to go over the total trial entry limits, It is only for load balancing between judges once entries have closed. The club should make every effort to affect as few entries as possible while keeping in mind the most efficient running of the events. Clubs are allowed to remove judge(s) from the judging panel if entries are low and both the club and the judge(s) agree to this action in writing.

The judging schedule must clearly state which classes have been changed and must also state that exhibitors are entitled to a full refund for entries affected by the change. The refund request must be in writing and may be submitted to the Trial Secretary anytime up until 30 minutes prior to the start of the event on the first day in which the exhibitor is entered.

In the case of an emergency change of a judge (changes after the distribution of the judging schedule), it may not be possible to notify exhibitors of the change prior to the start of the trial weekend. The change must be posted at the
event and exhibitors are entitled to a full refund of entry fees provided the request for a refund is submitted in writing to the Trial Secretary prior to the start of judging of the affected class in which the dog is entered.

Section 19. Running Order. Following the closing of entries the Trial Secretary may contact all entrants and advise them of their entry’s status. This may be done using email, if an entrant has supplied an email address on their entry form, giving the Trial Secretary permission to contact the exhibitor in that manner. If no email address is supplied by the entrant then they must be contacted by USPS regular mail using the address supplied on the entry form. After the closing of entries, the running order within a height must be determined by a random drawing of the entries in each height division. Trial Secretaries must not allow their computer scoring systems to always use the same order of dogs within their database but must ensure that a random ordering of dogs within a height is achieved. Multiple entries in the same class and height which will be handled by a single individual must be separated as much as possible.

A judging schedule and the results of the random draw of each height and within each class will be sent to all entrants. Entrants will receive the catalog number assigned to each of their dogs only, along with their dog’s registration number for verification of accuracy in the catalog. Included in the judging schedule will be the quantity of dogs in each of the heights within the classes. It is not required that any of the catalog numbers for any of the other entrants be listed on the judging schedule. Due to the moving of entries after the close of the trial but in accordance with the move-up regulations the numbers assigned to dogs do not necessarily indicate what their running order will be at the trial.

The judging schedule will be sent to entrants as soon as possible after entries have closed but at least seven (7) days minimum, prior to the first day of the event. Trial secretaries may also publish a full running order that includes catalog number, the dog’s call name, breed of dog, along with handler and/or owner. This may be done using email as described above. Trial Secretaries shall include the following sentence on the required judging schedule and on the running order if one is published prior to the trial: “This is a preliminary judging schedule which is contingent upon the move-up entries that may not have been received yet.”

Exhibitors may be provided stickers (or armbands indicating their dog’s catalog number for that trial. These may be mailed with the judging schedule or available for pick up at the trial. The exhibitor must wear the sticker (or armband) if provided by the club.

Dogs may be run in a different height or dog order from that which was drawn when, in the opinion of the judge(s) and/or the Event Committee, such a change will result in a desirable and reasonable time savings.

Section 20. Move-ups. Move-ups prior to a set of trials: Dogs shall be moved up to a higher class at the request of the owner, as a result of qualifying for an agility title, provided that the request is made in writing to the Trial Secretary not later than 6:00 p.m. on the Monday preceding the set of trials for trials starting on a Thursday-Sunday. For trials that start on Monday-Wednesday, move-ups preceding
the set of trials shall be accepted if received by the Trial Secretary no later than seven (7) days prior to the trial (i.e., for a Tuesday trial move-up requests must be made prior to 6:00 p.m. on the previous Tuesday). All move-up documentation must be on site during the trial weekend. It is recommended that catalogs be printed with all dogs listed in the proper class that they are actually running in, having accounted for move-ups.

Day-to-Day Move-ups: Move-ups from day-to-day at a set of back-to-back agility trials shall be at the discretion of the club. The request for moving up must be made in writing at the trial site to the Trial Secretary not later than the day preceding the event. The club shall state clearly in its premium list whether move-ups will be allowed “day-to-day.” All move-up entries are subject to availability of the class and payment of any difference in entry fee.

When a dog is moved up in the official catalog after the catalog has been printed, it is only necessary to input the following information:

1. In the class where the dog was moved from, indicate which class the dog has moved to (i.e., Moved to Open 24”).
2. In the class where the dog has moved to, indicate the dog’s running order number and from what class it has moved from (i.e., Moved from Novice B 24”).

Note: all base information (i.e., AKC name, AKC number, etc.) need only be listed in the class the dog was originally entered in. The dog’s score should be recorded and scored in the class that it has moved to.

Individual judging limits may be exceeded only when the club has accepted move-ups, or when accepting wait-listed entries after closing.

Dogs having attained their first AKC Agility title (Std, JWW, T2B, or FAST) must be moved to the Novice B class (Std, JWW, or FAST) for all trials for which entries have not closed. If entries have already closed on the date the dog obtained its title, the dog shall remain in the class in which it was originally entered or be moved up in level (i.e., Novice to Open) at the request of the owner; subject to the move-up criteria, except as stated in Chapter 1, Section 21 regarding Novice A entries.

Section 21. For Exhibition Only. (This is a pilot program) At the option of the club, a handler may choose to change their FAST or Time2Beat entry into a For Exhibition Only (FEO) run. The handler must notify the scribe and the judge as they enter the ring prior to the start of the run that they are doing an FEO run. The scribe sheet shall be marked “FEO”, no time “NT”, and “E” for an excused, non-qualifying run. Allowing FEO runs is at the option of the club. It must be stated in the premium and any pre-trial publications.

Section 22. Change of Entry. In addition to Move-ups as described in Chapter 1, Section 20 entries may also be changed as noted in this section. A dog which has been entered in a Novice “A” class for which it is not eligible to be entered in due to class restrictions on the dog or handler may be moved to the Novice “B” class under the following conditions:
The request for the move must be in writing and presented to the superintendent or trial secretary at least 30 minutes prior to the start of each trial.

The request must state the reason and justification for the move from a Novice “A” class to the Novice “B” class.

After the close of entries a dog may be moved down in their class level (i.e., Master to Excellent). The request for the move to the class for which the dog is eligible must be in writing and submitted to the superintendent or trial secretary at least 30 minutes prior to the start of the trial.

If a VMO or Field Representative at a trial measures a dog into a height other than what they entered, the entry may be changed from Regular to Preferred or from Preferred to Regular, as long as the dog has not run any classes that day. If the dog has already run, the change may be made for the next trial day(s). The exhibitor must provide the Trial Secretary the AKC Agility Measurement Form when requesting the class change.

Section 23. Declining Entries and Excusing a Dog from the Trial. The Event Committee may decline any entries or may remove any dog from its event for cause, but in each such instance shall file good and sufficient reasons for doing so with the American Kennel Club.

Section 24. Handling Dog Aggression.

Event Committee Responsibility: Any dog, that in the opinion of the Event Committee, attacks a person or a dog at an AKC event, resulting in an injury, and is believed by that Event Committee to present a hazard to persons or other dogs, shall be disqualified. When the dog is disqualified by the Event Committee pursuant to this section, a report shall be filed with the Executive Secretary of the American Kennel Club. The disqualified dog may not again compete at any AKC event nor be on the grounds of an AKC event unless and until, following application for reinstatement by the owner to the American Kennel Club, the owner receives official notification in writing from the AKC that the dog’s eligibility has been reinstated. If the Event Committee becomes aware of any act of dog aggression that takes place in association with their event, the Committee must look into the incident and complete the form (AEDSQ4). No exhibitor complaint is required.

Judge’s Responsibility:

1. If the dog displays THREATENING OR MENACING BEHAVIOR towards a person in the ring, a dog at the start line, a dog or person outside the ring, or leaves the ring and displays these behaviors toward a dog or person outside the ring:
   • The judge must EXCUSE the dog from the ring and mark “EXCUSED” in the catalog, stating the reason. This information is to be included in the Judge’s Report to the Director of Agility.

2. If a dog in the ring ATTACKS another dog (usually at the start line), leaves the ring and ATTACKS another dog, or runs into the ring and ATTACKS another dog:
   • The judge must EXCUSE the dog and seriously consider doing so for the remainder of the day or series of trials, and must mark “EXCUSED” in the catalog, stating the reason.
• The judge must fill out a current DOG ON DOG ATTACK form (AEDSQ3) and have the Event Committee/Secretary FAX it to AKC Event Operations within 72 hours of the incident.

3. If a dog ATTACKS any person in the ring or ATTACKS the judge while being measured:
   • The judge must DISQUALIFY the dog, and mark “DISQUALIFIED” in the catalog, stating the reason.
   • The judge must fill out a current DISQUALIFICATION FOR ATTACKING form (AEDSQ1) and have the Event Committee/Secretary FAX it to AKC Event Operations within 72 hours of the incident.

4. If a dog either displays THREATENING OR MENACING BEHAVIOR, or ATTACKS a VMO or Field Representative while being measured:
   • The behavior must be reported immediately to the Event Committee, asking for an investigation to determine if the dog should be DISQUALIFIED and/or asked to leave the trial grounds. The Judge of Record should also be notified that the dog could not be measured.

5. Any dog presented for measurement by the Judge of Record that is unable to be measured due to AGGRESSION must be excused by the judge of record as described in Section 1 above.

Note:
• In any of the above situations, if there is an EXCUSAL, this type of report becomes part of the dog’s record and is applied toward the dog being permanently barred from AKC agility events. If two separate incidents are reported to the AKC Director of Agility, the dog will be disqualified from all future AKC events. The dog may not compete at any AKC event nor be on the grounds of any AKC event unless and until, following application for reinstatement by the owner to the AKC, the owner receives official notification in writing from the AKC that the dog’s eligibility has been reinstated.

• In any of the above situations, if there is a DISQUALIFICATION, this type of report signifies that the dog may not compete at any AKC event nor be on the grounds of any AKC event unless and until, following application for reinstatement by the owner to the AKC, the owner receives official notification in writing from the AKC that the dog’s eligibility has been reinstated.

• If a dog is DISQUALIFIED and the Event Committee determines the dog to be a possible danger, the dog must be removed from the trial grounds. The Event Committee always has the option of asking that any dog be removed from the trial grounds if they feel that the dog is a threat to other dogs or to people.

• In all instances of aggression associated with an event:
  – The judge must submit to the Director of Agility, a written report of the incident along with the judge’s trial report.
  – The Trial Chairman must submit to the AKC, a written report of the incident along with the Trial Chairman’s report.
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The Trial Secretary must submit to the AKC, a written report of the incident along with the trial catalog.

Section 25. Ribbons and Rosettes. A club holding a licensed or member trial shall offer a ribbon or rosette to each dog that receives a qualifying score, and to dogs placing first through fourth in each height division of each class.

Each qualifying score ribbon or rosette shall be dark green in color, at least two inches wide and approximately eight inches long and shall bear on the face a facsimile of the seal of the American Kennel Club, the words “Agility Trial,” “Qualifying Score,” and the name of the trial-giving club.

Ribbons or rosettes must also contain the name of the class, date and location of the event, all of which may appear on the face or the back tab or label.

Placement ribbons or rosettes shall conform to the foregoing requirements except that they shall state First, Second, Third, or Fourth Place in place of “Qualifying Score,” and shall be the following colors:

First Place ......................... Blue
Second Place ...................... Red
Third Place ....................... Yellow
Fourth Place ...................... White

At licensed or member trial, placement and qualifying ribbons are only required when there is an entrant in the class.

At a licensed or member trial, placement ribbons shall not be awarded to any dog that does not acquire a qualifying score.

If qualifying or placement ribbons or rosettes are awarded at sanctioned matches, they must not conform to the requirements specified above, but shall be the following colors:

First .................................. Rose
Second .................................. Brown
Third .................................... Light Green
Fourth .................................. Gray
Qualifying ............................. Green with pink edges

Section 26. Catalogs. A club holding a licensed or member club agility trial must prepare an official catalog once entries have been closed and drawn. The catalog must list the dogs in the order drawn in each class along with the full AKC name, AKC number, breed, date of birth, sex, name of owner (and handler, if different from owner) and if the dog is handled by a junior handler include their AKC junior handler number. Additionally, the catalog shall list the owners and their addresses.

The catalog must state the name of the trial-giving club, the date and exact location of the event, and whether the event is “licensed by the American Kennel Club,” or held by an “AKC member club.” The catalog shall measure not less than 5 ½ x 8 ½ inches, and not exceed 8 ½ x 11 inches and must have the AKC logo on the front cover.

The catalog must be prepared in the following class order regardless of the order in which the classes were run at the event. All Standard classes, followed by all Jumpers With Weaves classes, followed by the Time 2 Beat class, followed by all FAST classes. Within the Standard, Jumpers
with Weaves, and FAST title tracks, they must appear in the following order:

Novice A
Novice B
Open
Excellent
Master
Premier
Novice Preferred
Open Preferred
Excellent Preferred
Master Preferred
Premier Preferred

Time 2 Beat must be placed in the following order:

Time 2 Beat
Time 2 Beat Preferred

Within each title track, the height divisions must be arranged from low to high.

The following certifications must appear in the catalog and may not be truncated:

**Judge’s Certification**

I certify that ___ dogs received qualifying scores in Std class and ___ dogs received qualifying scores in JWW class and ___ dogs received qualifying scores in T2B class and ___ dogs received qualifying scores in FAST class in this event and that the above information identifying these dogs was entered prior to my/our signing this page.

__________________________________________________
Judge’s Signature

**Agility Trial Secretary’s Certification**

I certify that the Judge(s) has verified the above information and signed this page. Number of dogs entered in Std class ___, number of dogs entered in JWW class ___, number of dogs entered in T2B class ___, and number of dogs entered in FAST class ___. Number of dogs withdrawn from Std class ___, number of dogs withdrawn from JWW class ___, number of dogs withdrawn from T2B class ___, and number of dogs withdrawn from FAST class ___.

Total participating in Std class ___. Total participating in JWW class ___. Total participating in T2B class ___. Total participating in FAST class ___. Total number of qualifying scores ___.

__________________________________________
Trial Secretary’s Signature

A minimum of two (2) copies of an unmarked catalog must be printed after the closing date/time of pre-trial move-ups unless the club has the ability to make copies on-site and/or has redundant computer equipment on-site, then the minimum is reduced to one (1) copy. The printed catalog(s) must be updated daily to account for day-to-day move-ups if the trial weekend encompasses three (3) or more consecutive days. The unmarked catalog(s) must be at the event prior
to the start of the trial. Following completion of judging, the Agility Trial Secretary shall mark the official catalog with the letter “Q” for “Qualified” next to the names of all dogs that received qualifying scores. The judge(s) shall then certify the accuracy of the marked awards, and both Agility Trial Secretary and the judge(s) shall complete their appropriate certifications. Separate certifications (both judge(s) and Trial Secretary’s) for each judge of record, are required in the catalog.

Section 27. Scorekeeping Requirements. The following information shall be recorded in the official catalog submitted to the AKC.

- In the header for each height division of each class, the following information should appear:
  - Number of entries (number of entries at closing less the number of entries withdrawn)
  - Number competing in the class
  - Number of qualifying scores
  - Number of withdrawals
  - Course yardage (except FAST and T2B and Premier)
  - Standard Course Time (except for Premier)

- Record next to each entry of each dog one of the following:
  - Qualified (Q)
  - Did not qualify (NQ)
  - Absent (ABS)
  - Excused for aggression (EXC)
  - Disqualified for attack (DQ)
  - Withdrawn – in season (AIS)
  - Withdrawn – judge change (AJC)

- If “Qualified,” the dog’s score and actual running time (to the 100th of a second) shall also be recorded. Additionally, if the dog places first (1st) through fourth (4th) in its height class the placement shall be recorded next to the dog’s information in the left-hand column.

- If “NQ,” “ABS,” “AIS,” or “AJC” nothing else is recorded in the catalog. No recording fees are due for dogs that are withdrawn for a bitch in season or due to a judge change.

- If “EXC,” a brief description must also appear in the catalog and should also be described in the Trial Chairman’s report, the judge’s report, and the Trial Secretary’s report. In case of a dog-on-dog attack, the appropriate form must be completed.

- If “DQ,” a brief description must also appear in the catalog and should also be described in the Trial Chairman’s report, the judge’s report, and the Trial Secretary’s report. The appropriate form must be completed and faxed to the AKC.

Scores should be posted for the exhibitors at the trial site with dog’s actual running times to the 100th of a second (even for “NQ’s”). The club must make the following information available for each height class: the course yardage and Standard
Course Time, and for each participant their score (if qualifying), actual running time and placement (if first through fourth).

**Section 28. Recording Fees.** At every licensed or member club trial, a recording fee of $3.50 shall be required for the first entry of each dog, and $3.00 for each additional entry of the same dog. (Each day is a separate trial.) Non-regular agility classes do not require a recording fee. When a recording fee is calculated, it does not include withdrawals.

**Section 29. Submission of Records.** An official marked catalog containing the names and other identifying information for all entries indicating all dogs receiving qualifying scores and placements signed and certified by the judge(s) and the Trial Secretary, with a complete Trial Secretary’s report, and recording fees must be sent to the American Kennel Club so as to reach its office within seven (7) days after the close of the event. Also within seven (7) days, the Trial Chair shall complete an “Agility Trial Chair Report” form online and submit it to the AKC Director of Agility electronically.

A club holding a licensed or member trial shall provide the judge(s) with a marked catalog. The club shall retain a marked catalog for their records, a copy of the course maps, as well as maintain all entry forms, a copy of the completed Dogs To Be Measured List, and move-up forms for a period of at least one (1) year. The judge must be provided their copy of the marked catalog prior to leaving the show site.

**Section 30. Cancellation of Awards.** If an ineligible dog has been entered and run in a licensed or member trial, or if the person or persons named as owner or owners on the entry form are not the person or persons who actually owned the dog at the time entries closed, or if the dog is run in a class in which it is not entered or not eligible for, or its entry form is deemed invalid by the American Kennel Club under the Rules and Regulations, all resulting awards shall be canceled by the American Kennel Club.

If an award is canceled by the American Kennel Club, the entrant of the dog shall return all prizes to the Secretary of the trial-giving club within 10 days of receipt of notice from the American Kennel Club of said cancellation.

**Section 31. Approval of Judges.** The American Kennel Club must approve judges officiating at licensed or member trials. A club may submit for approval the name of any licensed agility judge to judge at their event. Licensed agility judges are required to remain current regarding new regulations and policies by completing a Continuing Education Seminar every three years.

**Section 32. Judges’ Responsibilities.** Judges are responsible for making agility trials meaningful and reasonably challenging, and for judging in accord with these *Regulations* and the *Agility Judges Guidelines*.

Judges must inspect the course area and check the equipment before starting the trial.

A judge may excuse a dog on any level if in his or her
opinion the dog cannot be controlled. A judge may also excuse any dog which he or she considers unfit to participate.

The judges must promptly excuse any handler who willfully interferes with another dog or handler, or who abuses their dog, or in any way displays conduct prejudicial to the sport of dogs and the American Kennel Club, or who disregards a judge’s direct order. The judge must report such incidents to the Event Committee for further action under Chapter 5 of the Rules Applying to Registration and Discipline and Dealing With Misconduct booklet.

Judges cannot compete in the event where they are judging.

Judges must attend an AKC continuing education seminar at least once every three (3) years and must meet the requirements as determined by AKC.

No judge may judge a dog at a licensed or member club trial if he or she or any member of his or her family owns or co-owns the dog. The word “family” shall include a spouse, domestic partner, parents, grandparents, children, grandchildren, siblings, mother-in-law, father-in-law, brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, daughters-in-law, and sons-in-law; adopted, half, and step members are also included in family, or a household member of the judge in question, but shall not extend to other blood or legal relationships.

A judge may not accept an assignment that is within 30 days and 200 miles of a previously accepted assignment. This requirement does not pertain to sanctioned trials, breed specialties where only one breed is exhibited, or non-regular classes. A non-regular class may be judged by a judge who is exhibiting at the trial as long as they are not entered in the non-regular class.

Judges shall not review video for determination or explanation of a dog’s score. Video may be used in case of a stopwatch malfunction to determine a dog’s time. Video may also be used to verify the correct run order of dogs in the event score sheets have been used out of order.
Chapter 2
Classes, Titles, and Height Divisions

Section 1. Classes. All agility classes held on the day of a member club or licensed trial must have prior approval by the AKC Secretary. Only approved classes such as the Standard (STD) Agility class, the Jumpers With Weaves class (JWW), Time 2 Beat class (T2B), FAST class and other approved non-regular classes are allowed. A dog may be entered in only one Standard Agility class, one Premier Standard Agility class, one Jumpers With Weaves class, one Jumpers With Weaves Premier class, one Time 2 Beat class, and one FAST class, offered by a club per day. This shall not preclude eligible dogs from competing in additional prior-approved non-regular classes on the same day. If a club has been approved to hold a Special Event Agility Trial or a Junior Agility Showcase with the same class offered multiple times, the above participation limit does not apply for the approved Special Event or Junior Agility Showcase.

A licensed or member agility trial need not include all of the agility classes, but a club will not be approved to hold the Open Standard/Jumpers With Weaves/FAST class unless it also holds the Novice Standard/Jumpers With Weaves/FAST class. A licensed or member agility trial will not be approved to hold Excellent/Master/Premier Standard/Jumpers With Weaves/FAST class unless it also holds the Open Standard/Jumpers With Weaves/FAST class. If a club has been approved to hold a Special Event Trial or a Junior Agility Showcase, the above limitation on how classes may be offered does not apply for the approved Special Event or Junior Agility Showcase.

Clubs are eligible to hold an all Standard class trial or an all Jumpers With Weaves class trial. A club may be approved to hold an Excellent/Master/Premier Standard and/or Excellent/Master/Premier Jumpers With Weaves only trial on the day preceding, or the day after a minimum of a two-day trial in which all levels of agility classes are offered. In addition, a club may offer all levels of the FAST class and the T2B class on the day preceding, or the day after a minimum of a two-day trial in which all levels of agility classes are offered.

The licensed or member agility trial may also offer the T2B class and Excellent/Master FAST classes, and/or the non-regular International Sweepstakes (ISC) class in conjunction with the Regular and Preferred classes on the Excellent/Master trial day. Any licensed or member club that has been approved to hold an agility trial may offer additional optional non-regular classes. The non-regular class must be submitted on a “Non-Regular Agility Class” application and approved by the AKC. If a non-regular class is one that is not defined in these regulations, a clear and complete description of both the eligibility and performance requirements must appear in the premium list.

Special Event Trial. Clubs may apply for two Special Event Trials per year. A Special Event Trial is where the club proposes a unique mix of regular AKC classes and/or non-regular classes or a unique eligibility criterion. A club may not change the other Regulations pertaining to regular classes including the equipment regulations. Special Event Trials must be open to all breeds including All-American dogs except at specialty events open to one breed. Regular classes
offered at Special Event Trials count toward titles. A Special Event Trial counts as one of the 12 events per year a club may offer.

The application for a Special Event trial cannot be done online. An Agility trial paper application along with a “Special Event Agility Trial” application must be submitted no later than eighteen (18) weeks prior to the event. The Special Event Agility Trial form must be reviewed and approved by the AKC.

**Junior Agility Showcase.** A Junior Agility Showcase is one in which the host club proposes a unique mix of regular AKC classes and/or non-regular classes for Juniors only to enter. A club may not change the other Regulations pertaining to regular classes including the equipment regulations.

Junior handlers entered in Junior Agility Showcase events will be permitted to have a mentor walk with them during the exhibitor walkthrough times.

Junior Agility Showcases must be open to all breeds including All American Dogs, except at specialty events open to one breed. Regular/Preferred classes offered at Junior Agility Showcases count toward titles.

The application for a Junior Agility Showcase cannot be completed online. An agility trial paper application form along with a “Special Event Agility Trial” form must be submitted no later than eighteen (18) weeks prior to the event. The Special Event Trial form must be reviewed and approved by the AKC. There will be no event application fee required for the junior only events.

A Junior Agility Showcase does not count as one of the twelve (12) events per year a club may offer.

**Regular Titling Classes**

**Novice Agility Standard & Novice Jumpers With Weaves Classes.** The Novice Agility Standard class and the Novice Jumpers With Weaves class are divided into Divisions A and B. Division A is for dogs that have never acquired any AKC agility title. Additionally, a dog entered in Novice A must be handled by a person that has never put an AKC agility title on any dog, and the handler must be the owner, co-owner, or a member of the owner’s household. Handlers that co-own a dog and have never put an AKC agility title on a dog may enter the Novice A class regardless of the other co-owner’s AKC agility accomplishments. Dogs eligible for Novice A may be entered in the Novice B class at the discretion of the owner. Division B is for dogs that have acquired the Novice Agility title, or the Novice Agility Jumper title, or for persons who have handled a dog to any AKC agility title, and for dogs being handled by someone other than the owner, co-owner, or household member subject to the restrictions listed above. A dog may continue to be shown in the Novice B class until they have acquired a qualifying score towards their Open title. Whenever the Novice class is offered, both divisions A and B must be offered.

**Open Agility Standard Class.** Open to dogs that have acquired the Novice Agility or the Open Agility titles but have not acquired a qualifying score towards their Agility Excellent title.

**Open Jumpers With Weaves.** Open to dogs that have acquired the Novice Agility Jumper or the Open Agility
Jumper titles but have not acquired a qualifying score towards an Excellent Agility Jumper title.

**Excellent Agility Standard Class.** Open to dogs that have acquired the Open Agility title, and to dogs that have acquired the Agility Excellent title but that have not acquired a qualifying score towards their Master Agility Excellent title.

**Excellent Jumpers With Weaves Class.** Open to dogs that have acquired the Open Agility Jumper title and to dogs that have acquired the Excellent Agility Jumper title but have not acquired a qualifying score towards their Master Excellent Jumper title.

**Master Agility Standard Class.** Open only to dogs that have acquired the Agility Excellent title, and to dogs that have acquired the Master Agility Excellent title.

**Premier Agility Standard Class.** Open to all dogs eligible to enter agility trials.

**Master Jumpers With Weaves Class.** Open only to dogs that have acquired the Excellent Agility Jumper title and to dogs that have acquired the Master Excellent Jumper title.

**Premier Jumpers With Weaves Class.** Open to all dogs eligible to enter agility trials.

Whenever the Excellent classes are offered both Excellent and Master classes must be offered.

(See FAST class descriptions in Chapter 9 and the Time 2 Beat class description in Chapter 10.)

**Section 2. Regular Agility Titles.** Credit toward AKC agility titles is earned only by qualifying in AKC licensed and member club agility trials. The titles earned at AKC agility trials are Novice Agility (NA), Novice Agility Jumper (NAJ), Open Agility (OA), Open Agility Jumper (OAJ), Agility Excellent (AX), Excellent Agility Jumper (AXJ), Master Agility Excellent (MX), Master Excellent Jumper (MXJ), Premier Agility Dog (PAD), Premier Jumpers Dog (PJD) and Master Agility Champion (MACH).

The regular Time 2 Beat title is Time 2 Beat (T2B). Regular FAST titles are Agility FAST Novice (NF), Agility FAST Open (OF), Agility FAST Excellent (XF), Agility Master FAST Excellent (MXF).

The AKC will identify dogs qualifying for titles by the appropriate title designations (NA, NAJ, OA, OAJ, AX, AXJ, MX, MXJ, PAD, PJD) following their AKC name in all official AKC records. In each case, the higher Standard or JWW title will supersede the preceding Standard or JWW title in all official AKC records such that the highest Standard and the highest JWW title will be listed. PAD and PJD titles will supersede all titles through the Excellent level (AX and AXJ), but will not supersede the Master level titles (MX and MXJ). The AKC will identify a dog that achieves the Master Agility Champion title (MACH) by the appropriate designation (MACH) preceding their AKC name in all official AKC records. The MACH designation will supersede all lower level Regular Standard and Regular Jumpers With Weaves agility titles, except the titles from the Premier classes.

In order to acquire an agility title, a dog must earn the following number of qualifying scores per class level under at least two different judges.
To obtain the Master Agility Champion title (MACH), a dog must exhibit superior performance on the agility course. Speed and consistency are the two major qualities denoting “superior performance” and therefore they are the basis for the Master Agility Championship program.

In order to acquire the Master Agility Champion title, a dog must achieve a minimum of 750 championship points and 20 double qualifying scores obtained from the Master Standard Agility class and the Master Jumpers With Weaves class.

**MACH Points**
750 points required minimum
- 1 point is awarded for each full second under standard course time. (No partial points are awarded.)
- Dogs earn points from the Master Agility Standard class and/or the Master Jumpers With Weaves class.

**Double Qualify (2Q’s)**
20 (2Q’s) required minimum
- Dogs qualifying with scores of 100 in both the Master Agility Standard class and the Master Jumpers With Weaves class on the same day.
- Qualifying in both the Master Agility Standard class and the Master Jumpers With Weaves class on the same day equals 1 (2Q).

**Requirements General Scoring.** Only scores of 100 (clear rounds) obtained in the Master classes will count towards a dog’s Master Agility Championship requirements.

A dog does not have to obtain the Master Agility Excellent title (MX) or the Master Excellent Jumper title (MXJ) prior to achieving scores that will count towards their Master Agility Championship title (MACH). A dog does not need to be in both of the Master classes in order to start accruing MACH points. Any score of 100 (clear round) obtained in the Master classes will count towards both the dog’s Championship requirements, and the dog’s MX titling requirements.

**Titles:** The MACH title initials will be followed by a numeric designation indicating the quantity of times the dog has met the requirements of the MACH title as defined above, e.g., 1500 MACH points and 40 2Q’s = MACH2.

**Section 3. Recognized Achievement.** In order to recognize consistency and longevity in the Master Standard,
Master Jumpers With Weaves and Master FAST classes, the AKC will record a Lifetime Achievement title on the dog’s record. There is no limit to this achievement. (For example, a dog with the MXC title plus twenty-five additional Master Standard class qualifying scores would have the MXB2 title.)

The AKC will identify dogs qualifying for Lifetime Achievement titles by the appropriate title designations (MXB, MXB2; MXS, MXS2; MXG, MXG2; MXC, MXC2, etc.) following their AKC name in all official AKC records. In each case, the higher Lifetime Achievement title will supersede the preceding Lifetime Achievement title in all official AKC records such that the highest title will be listed.

The Lifetime Achievement Standard titles and requirements are:

**Master Bronze Agility Title = MXB.** Requires twenty-five Master Agility Standard class qualifying scores of 100.

**Master Silver Agility Title = MXS.** Requires the MXB title plus twenty-five additional Master Agility Standard class qualifying scores of 100.

**Master Gold Agility Title = MXG.** Requires the MXS title plus twenty-five additional Master Agility Standard class qualifying scores of 100.

**Master Century Agility Title = MXC.** Requires the MXG title plus twenty-five additional Master Agility Standard class qualifying scores of 100.

The Lifetime Achievement Jumpers With Weaves titles and requirements are:

**Master Bronze Jumpers Title = MJB.** Requires twenty-five Master Jumpers With Weaves class qualifying scores of 100.

**Master Silver Jumpers Title = MJS.** Requires the MJB title plus twenty-five additional Master Jumpers With Weaves class qualifying scores of 100.

**Master Gold Jumpers Title = MJG.** Requires the MJS title plus twenty-five additional Master Jumpers With Weaves class qualifying scores of 100.

**Master Century Jumpers Title = MJC.** Requires the MJG title plus twenty-five additional Master Jumpers With Weaves class qualifying scores of 100.

The Lifetime Achievement FAST titles and requirements are:

**Master Bronze FAST Title = MFB.** Requires twenty-five Master FAST class qualifying scores of 60 points or greater.

**Master Silver FAST Title = MFS.** Requires the MFB title plus twenty-five additional Master FAST class qualifying scores of 60 points or greater.

**Master Gold FAST Title = MFG.** Requires the MFS title plus twenty-five additional Master FAST class qualifying scores of 60 points or greater.

**Master Century FAST Title = MFC.** Requires the MFG title plus twenty-five additional Master FAST class qualifying scores of 60 points or greater.
The Lifetime Achievement Premier titles and requirements are:

Premier Agility Dog Bronze Title = PDB. Will start with the PDB2, which require a PDC Title plus 25 additional legs with 5 legs earned for being in the 25% of the dogs that compete in their class.

Premier Agility Dog Silver Title = PDS. Requires PAD Title plus 25 additional legs with 5 legs earned for being in the 25% of the dogs that compete in their class.

Premier Agility Dog Gold Title = PDG. Requires PDS Title plus 25 additional legs with 5 legs earned for being in the 25% of the dogs that compete in their class.

Premier Agility Dog Century Title = PDC. Requires PDG Title plus 25 additional legs with 5 legs earned for being in the 25% of the dogs that compete in their class.

The Lifetime Achievement Premier Jumpers With Weaves titles and requirements are:

Premier Jumpers Dog Bronze Title = PJB. Will start with the PJB2, which require a PJC Title plus 25 additional legs with 5 legs earned for being in the top 25% of the dogs that compete in their class.

Premier Jumpers Dog Silver Title = PJS. Requires PJD Title plus 25 additional legs with 5 legs earned for being in the top 25% of the dogs that compete in their class.

Premier Jumpers Dog Gold Title = PJG. Requires PJS Title plus 25 additional legs with 5 legs earned for being in the top 25% of the dogs that compete in their class.

Premier Jumpers Dog Century Title = PJC. Requires PJG Title plus 25 additional legs with 5 legs earned for being in the top 25% of the dogs that compete in their class.

Additionally, in order to recognize consistency and longevity in the Time 2 Beat classes (Regular and Preferred), the Time 2 Beat title will be followed by a numeric designation indicating the number of times the dog has met the requirements of the T2B title (T2B2, T2B3, T2BP2, T2BP3, etc.).

Agility Grand Champion (AGCH) Title. The Agility Grand Champion (AGCH) recognizes dogs that show consistency and versatility across all classes of the AKC agility program. To earn the AGCH title, the following number of qualifying scores must be earned at the highest level in each of these classes: Standard & Jumper with Weaves – 100; Fast and Time 2 Beat – 75; Premier Standard and Premier JWW – 50. These qualifying scores may be earned from either the Regular or Preferred classes or a combination of both these classes. Qualifying scores will be grandfathered.

Section 4. Height Divisions, Measurement, Measuring Devices. Dogs may be entered in any height division they are eligible for but may only enter each class offered once per day. If a dog is entered in different jump heights the owner must submit separate entry forms, one for each height.
The following jump height divisions shall be used in all trial Regular classes:

- **8 Inches**: For dogs 11 inches and under at the withers.
- **12 Inches**: For dogs 14 inches and under at the withers.
- **16 Inches**: For dogs 18 inches and under at the withers.
- **20 Inches**: For dogs 22 inches and under at the withers.
- **24 Inches**: For dogs over 22 inches at the withers.

Dogs may not be entered in this class if they are 22 inches and under.

- **24 Inch Choice**: Dogs may be entered at this height at their owner’s discretion if their measurement is 22 inches and under at the withers.

Owners are responsible for entering the proper height divisions. Exhibitors are responsible for verifying the proper jump height is set prior to running. Handlers may opt to enter in a higher height division for all Regular titling classes, but not in a division lower than their proper height division. If the dog’s height at the withers exceeds the maximum allowed for the jump height which the dog has entered, the dog shall be moved-up into the proper jump height if the dog was measured prior to their run. In no case may a dog be moved down in height based on the judge of record’s measurement at a trial. Dogs that run in a height division lower than their proper division will be eliminated. Judges reserve the right to measure dogs they believe might belong in a different division, and any dog whose entry in a given division might be questioned. **Exception**: Owners/Handlers that have in their possession (on the trial grounds) a permanent or valid temporary Jump Height Card for the dog in question, issued by the AKC Agility Dept., are exempt from being measured and the judge shall accept the measurement that is listed on the Jump Height Card.

All clubs are required to have an AKC approved official measuring device on site at the event. Only the approved measuring device shall be used to determine a dog’s height for their Jump Height Card.

**Section 5. Jump Height Card.** All dogs competing in agility must possess an official AKC Jump Height Card. An official AKC Jump Height Card is defined as either a permanent jump height card, a valid temporary jump height form, copies of two different measuring forms (placing the dog in the same height class) dated on or after the dog’s second birthday, or copies of three different measuring forms (two of which place the dog in the same height class) dated on or after the dog’s second birthday.

At two (2) years of age two measurements are required by two different Volunteer Measuring Officials (VMO’s) or AKC Field Reps. If these two measurements put the dog in two different jump heights, then a third measurement will be used to determine the dog’s official jump height. The handler will retain all yellow forms until the second (or third) measurement is taken and the permanent jump height card is received from AKC. No permanent height card will be issued until the second (or third) measurement is officially recorded, with the exception of dogs measuring over 22 inches whose owner may request the issuance of a permanent height card with one measurement.
The owner’s request to issue a permanent card for a
dog that measures over 22 inches after one measurement
will negate the option of any additional measurements for
that dog’s permanent jump height card. To receive the card
after one measurement, the owner must sign and check
the appropriate box on the Agility Measurement Form
acknowledging the request to issue a permanent jump height
card for dogs over 22 inches. In making this decision, it still
allows for the owner to request that the dog be re-measured
by using the Challenge Measurement Process in the future.

For dogs between 15 months and two years of age, one
measurement is required. The handler will retain the yellow
measurement form. This form is the dog’s temporary jump
height card; no card will be issued by AKC. A card will not be
issued until the dog’s permanent measurement is recorded.
This temporary jump height card form expires on the dog’s
second birthday.

Dogs that do not have a valid Jump Height Card must be
measured by a judge of record for that trial and will only be
effective for that set of trials.

If an AKC Field Representative or a Volunteer Measuring
Official (VMO) is present, all dogs that have not been issued
a permanent Jump Height Card or temporary jump height
(yellow) form must be measured for a Jump Height Card
regardless of the jump height entered.

Any dog presented for measurement that is unable to be
measured by the judge of record due to aggression must be
excused by the judge of record. Dogs that cannot be measured
for any other reason by the judge of record should receive an
NQ in the catalog for all classes entered that day.

If a dog is measured by an AKC Field Representative or
Volunteer Measuring Official (VMO) and is now eligible to
jump in a lower height class, the measurement is effective
immediately for any future runs. This does not apply to a
challenge measurement for a permanent jump height card for
dogs two (2) years of age or older.

Prior to the second birthday, a dog may have one
additional measurement after the initial official measuring.
The measurement official shall be informed that the re-
measurement is a “challenge” measurement and the box on
the form shall be checked off.

Misrepresentation of a dog, including altering information
on a Jump Height Card, is grounds for misconduct. Exhibitors
should carry the original valid official Jump Height Card at
each trial to present upon request.

If there is not an AKC Field Representative or Volunteer
Measuring Official in attendance, all dogs that have not been
issued a permanent Jump Height Card or temporary jump
height (yellow) form may still compete; however, they must
be measured by a judge of record for the trial, prior to running
at each trial. The judge’s measurement will be valid for this
trial or back-to-back trials only. For the judge’s planning
purposes, the Trial Secretary should provide the judge with a
list of dogs that need to be measured. This list is comprised
of all entries where “My Dog Needs To Be Measured” was
check-marked on the entry form. Jump height cards (including
copies) do not have to be submitted to the trial secretary
nor are jump height cards required to be shown during
check-in. If a measurement is necessary, it is the exhibitor’s responsibility to have their dog(s) measured prior to running.

After the age of two (2), the owner of a dog is allowed a one-time request to make use of the challenge measurement process over the dog’s lifetime. This challenge measurement process consists of a minimum of two (2) challenge measurements. If both challenge measurements place the dog into the same jump height class, then AKC will issue a new permanent card. If only one of the two challenge measurements places the dog in a different jump height class, then a third challenge measurement is required to determine the dog’s jump height class.

Until such time that the dog has received all required challenge measurements, the dog must continue to compete at the “original” jump height. When the second (or third) measurement is completed in the Challenge Measurement Process and the new shoulder height is different from the Permanent Jump Height Card previously issued, the new shoulder height becomes effective immediately.
Chapter 3

Obstacle Specifications and Performance Requirements

Section 1. Obstacle and Jump Specifications. The following specifications will apply to all obstacles. When no tolerance or range is given for a dimension, a tolerance of 4.0 percent is implied. Tolerances do not apply when a range is specified.

Section 2. Obstacle Performance. The correct performance of each obstacle is listed immediately following the specifications for the obstacle.

Section 3. Obstacles.

1. A-Frame. The A-Frame is constructed from two panels, the top surface of which is constructed from wood or other fabricated material that can be properly surfaced. The panels are 35 to 49 inches wide, and their length is within 2 inches of 9 feet. Panels shall be flat and straight, and connected so as to eliminate gaps large enough to fit a dog’s foot or toe.

Panels may be 4 feet wide at the bottom and taper to 3 feet wide at the top if desired. The height of the A-Frame is to be set within 1 inch of 5 feet 6 inches, except for 4-inch and 8-inch jump heights, which shall have the A-Frame set to within 1 inch of 5 feet 0 inches.

Top surface is a non-slip surface when wet or dry. Glossy paint is not allowed. Slats are placed across the width of the panels to provide footing. They are \( \frac{3}{8} \)-inch to \( \frac{1}{2} \)-inch thick and \( \frac{3}{4} \)-inch to 1 \( \frac{1}{2} \)-inches wide, and they extend to within \( \frac{1}{4} \) inch of the panel sides. Slat edges shall be rounded or beveled so as not to be sharp, and \( \frac{1}{4} \)-inch radius is recommended.

The centers of the slats are placed at 12-inch intervals with a 2-inch tolerance, and no slat is within 4 inches of the top of a contact zone.

Contact zones are identified on the lower 42 inches of both panels with a \( \frac{1}{4} \)-inch tolerance. The color of the contact zone must be bright yellow. The remainder of the contact obstacle must be of a single color that contrasts with Bright Yellow. The bright yellow must extend on the side (edge) of the contact with no less than a 1” stripe to add visibility when viewed from the side."

Performance: Dogs must ascend one panel and descend the other in the direction designated by the judge and they must touch the contact zone on the down side only, with any part of one foot prior to exiting the obstacle.

2. Dog Walk. The Dog Walk consists of a center section and two ramp sections, the surfaces of which are made from wood or other fabricated material that can be properly surfaced. All sections are 12 inches wide, plus or minus (+/-) an inch, and all are 12 feet long. Planks shall be connected so as to eliminate gaps large enough to fit a dog’s foot or toe.

Within a 2-inch tolerance, the top of the center section is 48 inches above the ground. The top surfaces of all sections must be non-slip when wet or dry. Glossy paint is not allowed. Slats that conform to those described for the A-Frame are placed across the width of the ramp sections to provide footing. Contact zones are identified on the lower 42 inches of both ramps with a \( \frac{1}{4} \)-inch tolerance, using the color specification described for the A-Frame.
**Performance:** Dogs must ascend one of the ramps, cross the center section, and descend the other ramp in the direction designated by the judge. They must touch the down contact zone with any part of one foot prior to exiting the obstacle.

3. **Seesaw.** The Seesaw consists of a plank (or panel) made of a wood or fabricated material that can be properly surfaced and is supported near the center by a base that acts as a fulcrum. The plank is 12 inches wide with a 1-inch tolerance, and 12 feet long. The base extends at least 2 inches past the sides of the plank with a gap not to exceed 4 inches so that dogs can see the pivot point, with the exception of the ground support which may be wider. The plank is balanced so that it hits the ground in less than 3 seconds when a 3-pound weight is placed 12 inches from the raised end. Clubs must provide a 3-pound weight and stopwatch to check this setting. The class judge is required to test the Seesaw’s speed at the beginning of each trial. The club must have on-hand the materials to correct a slow-dropping Seesaw (example: Duct tape/fasteners, weights, etc.). The height of the Seesaw measured to the top of the board at the pivot point is 24 inches plus or minus (+/-) 1 inch. The top surface of the plank must be non-slip when wet or dry. Glossy paint is not allowed. Slats are not allowed on the Seesaw. Contact zones, 42 inches long, are identified on each end of the plank with a ¼-inch tolerance, using the color specification described for the A-Frame.

**Performance:** Dogs must ascend the plank touching the “up” contact zone with any part of one foot and cause the plank to pivot. At least one paw must touch the “down” contact zone after the plank has touched the ground and prior to exiting the obstacle with all four (4) paws. The dog must exit the descent end of the seesaw.

4. **Pause Table.** The top of the Pause Table is a 36-inch square, plus or minus (+/-) 2 inches, with a non-slip surface. The vertical edge of the top of the table top must be 3 inches or greater in height and it is required that the table edge and table top be of a color in contrast to the running surface and ring gating. The table top must be light in color, no dark color(s) are allowed. The height of the table (within 1 inch) is 8 inches for dogs in the 8-inch jump height; 12 inches for dogs in the 12-inch jump height; 16 inches for dogs in the 16-inch jump height; and 20 inches for dogs in the 20-inch, and 24-inch jump height.

**Preferred Class Requirement:** The Pause Table shall be set at 8 inches for the 4 and 8 inch jump height, 12-inches for the dogs in the 12 inch jump height, and 16 inches for the 16 inch jump heights and 20 inches for the 20-inch division.

**Performance:** The dog shall pause on the table for five consecutive seconds. The judge’s count shall start once all four (4) paws have touched the table (and the dog remains on the table top). Neither a sit nor a down position shall be required.

5. **Open Tunnel.** The Open Tunnel is a flexible tube of durable material that is capable of being formed into curved shapes. The two openings are round with a height and width of 25 inches plus or minus (+/-) 2 inches with 4-inch rib spacing required. Its length is 10 to 20 feet and it is secured.
in position to prevent a dog from moving it. No portion of a
tunnel holder that is underneath the tunnel shall be more than
1 1/2-inches thick and the tunnel supports shall not have a rigid
upright (i.e., steel/wood) that is capable of fitting between the
ribs thus possibly projecting into the tunnel.

Open tunnels must be made of an opaque material. To
ensure safety, the color of the material of an open tunnel may
not be black. Double-lined tunnels shall not be allowed.

**Performance:** Dogs enter the end specified by the
judge and exit the other end.

6. **Weave Poles.** The Weave Poles shall have a fixed
base with a rigid upright, to support the pole, no greater than 4
inches high as measured from the ground to the top of the rigid
support. The base shall be coated with a non-slip surface and
may be no higher than ¾-inch and no wider than 3 1/2-inches.
The base should be secured, so that the weave poles do not
move from their location on the course. The poles must be
nominal pipe size of ¾-inch PVC (1-inch approximate outside
diameter) +/- 1/16-inch tolerance and can be made from
Schedule 40 pipe or furniture grade PVC, 40 inches in height,
and uniformly spaced at 24 inches (measured center to center
using two of the rigid upright supports, with a +/- 1/2-inch
tolerance in spacing). The base support must be located
within 4 inches of the pole on the opposite side of the dog’s
path (e.g. the first support on the left side of the pole number
one, second support on the right side of pole number two,
etc.). It is required that the base supports be a minimum of six
inches long to a maximum of 18 inches long. Base supports
shall be located as follows: “Six-pole section” – centered and
placed at the off-side of the first and sixth pole and the off-side
of the second and fifth pole. “Four-pole section” – centered
and placed at the off-side of the first and fourth pole and the
off-side of the second and third pole. “Three-pole section” –
centered and placed at the off-side of the first and second poles
(based upon ¾-inch x 3-inch steel).

The pole shall be made out of Schedule 40 PVC or
furniture grade PVC material that provides an equal amount
of flex when set in the fixed base. Single color poles must be
striped with a contrasting color so as to be visible to the dog.
At a minimum, stripes must be placed at approximately 10
inches and 20 inches from the ground. Tape may not be used
for stripes. Stripes may only be painted on or extruded in the
pvc. Solid color poles may be used if they are of alternating
colors. Poles that are of alternating solid colors are not
required to have stripes. Poles that flex at the base (spring
type designs) are not allowed.

**Performance:** Dogs must enter the Weave Poles by
passing between poles number 1 and number 2 from right
to left. They must then pass from left to right through poles
number 2 and number 3 and continue this weaving sequence
until they pass between the last two poles. If the sequence is
broken, the dog must restart the weave poles at the first pole,
beginning anew between poles number 1 and number 2 from
right to left. Dogs are allowed three attempts at the weave
poles and then must go on.

7. **Bar Jumps.** Bar Jumps consist of bars that are
supported by bar supports that are mounted to uprights.
Uprights must be placeable. Jump wings attached to
uprights, either temporary or permanently, are permitted. Ground bars that are permanently attached to both uprights (e.g. welded, glued or non-rotating) are not permitted. It is recommended that ground bars not be utilized at all. The supports must be positioned so that the tops of the bars can be set within ¼ inch of the seven different jump heights (4, 8, 12, 16, 20, and 24 inches). Jump heights must be designated on the uprights by number or color coded. An additional position for a bar placed 2 to 6 inches above the ground is also required. Unless a jump is specified as a One Bar Jump by the judge, all jumps shall have at least two bars. In all classes the lower bar placement shall be determined by the judge.

The bars must be nominal pipe size of 1-inch PVC (1 5/16-inches approximate outside diameter) +/- 1/16-inch tolerance) and can be made from Schedule 40 PVC or Schedule 40 furniture grade PVC, 4 to 5 feet long and striped for visibility. Additionally, jump bars may not be glued riveted or screwed together. Jump bars may not contain any moving or metal parts or have anything inserted into the middle of the bar. If the bar includes end caps, they must be flush with the bar end and not exceed the outside diameter of the bar.

The bottom of the bar sits on top of the bar supports such that the bar is easily displaced. The minimum distance from the top of a jump bar to the support cup above it will be ¼ inch. Bar cups may be no wider than the bar, and they should have a lip that is no more than ¼-inch higher than the support, although lips up to ½-inch are allowed. Bar cups may be no longer than 1 ½ inches (e.g. distance that sticks out from the upright). Jump bars must fit in the jump cups so that they follow the contour of the cup. Bolts may not be used as bar supports. Bars “held” in place by Velcro™, magnets, bolts, etc. are not allowed. The inside of the uprights must be at least 32 inches tall, and the upright must be 1 to 4-inches wide.

Preferred Class Requirement: Bar Jumps are to be set at 4, 8, 12, 16, and 20 inches. For 4-inch jumping dogs a second (lower) bar is not required, but if provided, it should be placed under the top bar or directly adjacent to a ground bar that is directly under the top bar. Performance: Dogs must jump over the top bar, without displacing it, in the direction indicated by the judge.

8. Panel Jump. The Panel Jump uses six cross-boards to give the illusion of a solid wall from the jump height to the ground. Specifications for the board supports and uprights are the same as for the Bar Jump. The cross-boards are 4 to 5 feet long, 3 to 4 inches wide, and no thicker than 1 inch. The top board for all jump height classes shall be a maximum of 4 inches high. Panels are to be supported 1 ¼ to 1 ¾ inches below the top of the board so as to be easily displaceable. The support ends for the panels are required to be rounded like a jump bar fitting into a jump cup. This will keep the panels on the uprights in windy conditions; however, if wind conditions merit, the panel jump may be replaced with a bar jump. Performance: Dogs must jump over the top bar, without displacing it, in the direction indicated by the judge.

9. Double Bar Jump. The Double Bar Jump consists of two parallel bars, 5 feet in length, positioned at the jump heights specified for the Bar Jump. It may be built as a special
jump or assembled from two Bar Jumps. Solid sides that do not allow viewing of all bars from both sides of the obstacle are not permitted. The distance between the centers of the bars is one-half the jump height (within a ½-inch tolerance), as follows:

In addition, two bottom bars, 5 feet in length, must be placed one under each horizontal bar and crossed to the ground creating an “X.” All other specifications are the same as for the Bar Jump.

**Preferred Class Requirement:** For the 4-inch height class, only one bar shall be used set at the 4” height. Set on the back jump cup. Set the bar at the back of the jump, based on the first pass, if used on the course in two directions. No bottom bars are used for the 4” jump height.

**Performance:** Dogs must jump over the top bars, without displacing either one, in the direction indicated by the judge.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Division</th>
<th>Distance Between Center to Center of Bars (Inches)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4/8 Inches</td>
<td>2-4 Inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Inches</td>
<td>6 Inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Inches</td>
<td>8 Inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 Inches</td>
<td>10 Inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 Inches</td>
<td>12 Inches</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**10. Triple Bar Jump.** The Triple Bar Jump consists of a series of three ascending bars 5 feet in length. Solid sides that do not allow viewing of all bars from both sides of the obstacle are not permitted. The horizontal distance between adjacent bars is one-half the jump height, while the vertical distance is one-quarter the jump height. The table below lists the heights of the tops of the bars and the horizontal distance between the centers of the bars. Tolerances on these values are ¼ inch for the heights and ½ inch for the horizontal distances.

**Preferred Class Requirement:** The Triple Bar Jump for the 4-inch jump height class is to be set with the first bar on the ground approximately 4 inches in front of the back bar, which should be placed at 4 inches high. A third bar may be placed directly under the bar that is set at 4 inches. For 4-inch jumping dogs this jump will be set typically using two bars only. Dogs must clearly jump both bars for successful performance.

**Performance:** Dogs must jump over all the bars without displacing any, in the direction that starts with the lowest bar.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Division</th>
<th>Bar Heights (inches)</th>
<th>Horizontal Distance Between Center to Center of Bars (inches)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4 Inches</td>
<td>0, 4</td>
<td>4 Inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Inches</td>
<td>4, 6, 8</td>
<td>4 Inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Inches</td>
<td>6, 9, 12</td>
<td>6 Inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Inches</td>
<td>8, 12, 16</td>
<td>8 Inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 Inches</td>
<td>10, 15, 20</td>
<td>10 Inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 Inches</td>
<td>12, 18, 24</td>
<td>12 Inches</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
11. Tire Jump. The Tire Jump consists of a tire (or a circular object that resembles a tire) suspended from a rectangular frame. The tire is constructed of two (2) 180 degree segments that are connected at the top to allow for independent movement of each segment. The connection must be adjustable to allow for calibration/testing at the trial site by the Judge of record for that class that day. The setting for the connection is 16-20 pounds with 18 pounds preferred. The setting will be confirmed by using a calibrated scale (in foot pounds) attached to a tire side mounting point. With one side secured to the frame, the opposite side is pulled using the scale until the segments pull apart. After confirming that the tire meets the required 16-20 lbs. requirement, secure the tire to the frame with the provided strap or elastic band. Leave the straps loose enough to not apply any additional pressure on the tire. When the tire is broken open it may stay open or it may automatically close. The inner diameter of the tire is 24 inches plus or minus an inch, and the wall is 3 to 8 inches thick. The tire must be connected to the frame at 3 points. There must be at least 7 inches between the outside of the tire and the sides of the frame, and the frame must be tall enough to accommodate the tire at the five different jump heights. The uprights of the frame shall be secured to the base and the base must be weighted or secured properly to the running surface. The jump height is measured from the ground to the bottom of the tire opening. The tire shall not be displaceable off the frame. The tire shall have a minimum depth of 2 inches and must be made of a flexible material, such as rubber or plastic to allow some give if hit by the dog.

If the tire frame includes a bottom support bar, it is recommended that bar be flat in the center portion of the bar where the tire would sit, with a thickness of no more than 3/8" so that the tire can rest centered on the bar and be displaceable in either direction.

For the 4" and 8" heights, if the center bar is not flat and the tire is taken in only one direction, the tire shall be placed on the opposite side of the dog’s direction to allow the tire to break for safety purposes. If the tire is taken in both directions, it is up to the judge to determine the tire placement.

Preferred Class Requirement: The Tire shall be set at 4 inches lower than the Regular class jump height or as close as possible given the construction of the tire. In the 4" jump height the tire will be placed with the bottom edge on the ground.

Performance: Dogs must jump through the tire opening in the direction specified by the judge without breaking the tire segments apart or knocking the tire frame over. The tire’s jump height will be set one jump height lower than the Bar Jump height, with the exception of the 4 inch jump height.
12. Broad Jump. The Broad Jump is composed of four 8-inch sections and four corner markers. The sections are constructed from a top piece and two side pieces. The length of the sections are to be between 4 and 5 feet long, and they may be of different lengths. To improve visibility, either the center of the sections or both ends must be marked with a color-contrasting band that is at least 3 inches wide. The sections are of varying height, and they shall be arranged in ascending order.

Each section of a Broad Jump is at least \( \frac{1}{2} \)-inch higher than the previous one, and the height of the front edge of a section is at least \( \frac{1}{2} \)-inch lower than the back edge. No portion of any section may be lower than \( 3 \frac{1}{2} \) inches or higher than \( 8 \frac{1}{2} \) inches.

The length of the jump is twice the jump height of the division. Consequently, not all the sections are used in the lower height divisions. In those cases, the jump must be assembled with the lowest sections. The length of the jump (within 1 inch) and the number of sections is to be used for the different divisions as follows:

The corner markers are at least 1-inch wide and 36 inches high, and they may be decorated to improve visibility. They are either attached to the sides of the first and last sections, or they are freestanding and placed as close as possible to those positions. (Freestanding is recommended.)

**Preferred Class Requirement:** The Broad Jump shall be set as one board (the lowest) for the 4-inch jumping dogs.
Performance: Dogs must jump all sections without visibly moving or stepping on top of or between any broad jump board, entering between the marker poles placed near the front section and exiting between the poles placed near the back section. Touches and ticks of the leading edge of the first board and the trailing edge of the last board that do not visibly move the board shall not be faulted. The lowest section is the front. Touching or knocking over the corner markers is not faulted as long as the dog goes between them.

13. Jump Wings. Jump wings must be between 16- and 36-inches wide (24-inches recommended). Wings must be between 26- and 42-inches tall and can be angled. Wings may either be freestanding or attached to the upright of a jump. It is recommended that wings be placed at the rear of the triple bar jump (e.g. even with the highest bar) and at the mid-section of a double bar or ascending double jump (since the double may be bi-directional and the ascending double bar jump can be built using double bar jump). The combined width of a bar jump’s upright and wing may be no more than a maximum of 40-inches.

14. Ascending Double Bar Jump. The Ascending Double Bar Jump consists of two ascending bars 5 feet in length where the back bar is positioned at the jump heights specified for the Bar Jump. The front bar is set 4” lower than the back bar. The distances between the centers of the top bars as viewed from above will match the specifications for the Double Bar Jump. Solid sides that do not allow viewing of all bars from both sides of the obstacle are not permitted. It may be built as a special jump or assembled from two Bar Jumps. The front cups will be vertical (e.g. cup over cup like a Bar Jump) where the lower front bar must be placed. A double Bar Jump where both series of cups are on angled lines, forming a “V”, cannot be used as an Ascending Double Bar Jump.

In addition, one bottom bar, 5 feet in length, must be placed one under the back bar and angled to the ground. All other specifications are the same as for the Bar Jump.

Preferred Class Requirement: For the 4 inch height class, only one bar shall be used set at the 4” height and set on the back jump cup. No bottom bars are used for the 4” jump height.

Performance: Dogs must jump over the top bars without displacing either one, in the direction that starts with the lowest bar.

15. Wall Jump. The Wall Jump consists of two pillars, a Bottom Base (Triangle), four widths of boards, and “tops”.

The Pillars (also called Towers) measure 12 inches Square +/- 2 inches and are 48 inches tall +/- 2 inches. The Bottom Base is 10 inches high, 10 inches wide at the bottom, and tapers to 4 inches wide at the top. The boards are 4 inches wide and five feet in length +/- 2 inches. Board heights are 2 inches, 4 inches, 6 inches, and 8 inches in height. The Tops are 2 inches in height at their center and 4 inches wide and up to 15 inches long and must be of contrasting color.

Four tops are placed on top of the top bar or the bottom base and should be flush with the sides of the pillars and sit together without being so tight they cannot be displaced, but have no gaps exceeding ¼ inch. The tops must be able to slide off easily. The top of the tops must measure within +/- ¼ inch.
to the jump height of the dog. The corresponding board height table below indicates whether the bottom base is used, and the numbers of boards that are used per jump height. Tops are always placed on the very top in all cases.

**Performance:** Dogs must jump over the tops between the two pillars without knocking any of the 4 tops to the ground, in the direction indicated by the judge. The board dimensions are as follows:

The “Tops”: 15 inches long and 4 inches wide and 2 inches high and have a half rounded appearance.

The Bottom Base (triangle): 10 inches high, 10 inches wide at the bottom and taper to 4 inches at the top.

- 2 inch board: 4 inches wide, 2 inches high and 5 foot long.
- 4 inch board: 4 inches wide, 4 inches high and 5 foot long.
- 6 inch board: 4 inches wide, 6 inches high and 5 foot long.
- 8 inch board: 4 inches wide, 8 inches high and 5 foot long.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Division</th>
<th>Number of Boards</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4”</td>
<td>2 inch board + tops</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8”</td>
<td>6 inch board + tops</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12”</td>
<td>Bottom base + tops</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Bottom base + 4 inch board + tops</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Bottom Base + 8 inch board + tops</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Bottom Base + 8 inch board + 4 inch board + tops</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Chapter 4
General Course and Trial Requirements

Section 1. Course Size, Suitability, and Facilities.
The agility trial committee and officials of the club or association holding the trial are responsible for providing the ring material, facilities, paperwork, official measuring devices, and agility equipment which meet the requirements of these Regulations. The area available for an agility trial should provide adequate space for crating and warm-up areas, in addition to the minimum course area requirements. The minimum usable course area must be 5,000 square feet for Novice, 6,500 square feet for Open, and 8,000 square feet for Excellent/Master/Premier. Items that affect usable course space are columns, protrusions, bad/faulty surface, low ceilings and overhangs, etc. Equipment that is not being used may not be stored inside ring. Equipment must be behind ring gating and doing so may not decrease the ring size to below minimums required. While the previous square footage areas are the minimum sizes, a 100’ x 120’ ring is ideal for agility. There should be consultation between the judge(s) and the Trial Committee on site selection and suitability of the site for the type of equipment to be used.

The course area must be moderately level and clear, and must be a minimum of 60-feet wide. Judges have the option to request a change of venue, or to cancel the event if conditions pose a hazard or danger and cannot be modified or corrected.

Section 2. Surfaces, Matting. Courses must be set up on non-slip surfaces, whether indoors or outdoors (packed dirt, grass, carpeting and padded matting are acceptable surfaces). If a course is run on concrete, the area must be fully matted or padded.

Section 3. Course Requirements. All courses must have clearly designated start and finish lines and all obstacles/jumps must be clearly and sequentially numbered. The course layout for each class must be conspicuously posted at least one-half hour before the start of the class.

Course designs must comply with the current edition of the course design standards and be submitted for approval to the AKC Agility Department.

Section 4. Obstacle and Jump Positions. Obstacles should generally stand alone. In Novice, the entrances should never be adjacent to one another, but entrances can be adjacent in Open and Excellent/Master classes.

It is recommended that there be a minimum of 15 feet to 18 feet between obstacles, with a minimum of 18 feet to a jump, 21 feet to a spread jump, and a maximum of 30 feet between any two obstacles in sequence as measured along the anticipated path of a 20 inch high jumping dog. Spread jumps (Triple Bar and Broad Jump) shall not be the first obstacle on the course and if set up in sequence there shall be a minimum of 21 feet between the two spread jumps. To prevent the course from becoming spread out and too long, 25 feet to 30 feet spacing should be used only in special cases.

Contact obstacles such as the A-Frame, Dog Walk, and Seesaw shall not be set up in sequence, or as the first or last obstacle on a course.

The course must contain at least 50% winged jumps vs. non-winged jumps.
**Section 5. Approach Angles.** Approach angles are determined based on the anticipated path of a 20 inch high jumping dog through the obstacles. Approach angles to obstacles shall not exceed the following, with additional consideration for safety, based on the obstacle being approached and the running surface.

- All Novice classes – Generally not exceeding 90 degrees, but must not exceed two times at 135 degrees. (Exception: One 180 degree turn will be allowed.)
- All Open classes – Generally not exceeding 135 degrees, but must not exceed two times at 180 degrees.
- All Excellent/Master classes – Generally not exceeding 180 degrees, but must not exceed two times at 270 degrees.
- All class Levels – A 180 degree turn from the exit of an Open Tunnel to the ascent of the A-Frame is not allowed.

**Section 6. Preparing a Ring for Agility.** The judge is allowed to send a diagram showing the positions of all the obstacles no more than 48 hours prior to the date of the trial to facilitate course building. This diagram may not show obstacle numbers, start and/or finish lines or the Send Line on the course. The judge may send an equipment list more than 48 hours ahead if requested by the club. The Judge may send a diagram more than 48 hours ahead showing position of the contact obstacles and a list of the other obstacles that may be grouped together (bunched) in different areas of the ring. Once the obstacles are set no dogs may train or practice on the obstacles.

**Section 7. Course Distances, Times.** Course distances are determined by the judges based on the course as set and approved by the AKC Agility Department. When measuring the course distance, the judge shall use a 12-inch dog’s typical path for the 4-inch, 8-inch and 12-inch height division and a 20-inch dog’s typical path for the 20-inch, 24-inch and 24-inch Choice height divisions. The 16-inch height division will have the course distance based on an average of the 12-inch and 20-inch dog’s typical path.

**Section 8. Walk-throughs, Warm-ups.** Handlers are permitted to walk the course, without a dog, prior to the start of the class to plan their strategy. The walk-through is restricted to handlers entered in that class. It is recommended that each walk-through group does not exceed handlers from 60 entered dogs at a time. Umbrellas are not allowed on the course during the walk-through.

Warm-up jumps are recommended, but only one jump per warm-up area will be permitted. The warm-up jump shall be placed off to the side and not on the course. No other practice equipment is allowed on the grounds.

**Section 9. Collars.** At the handler’s option, dogs may run a course with or without a collar. The only collars allowed when running a course are flat buckle or rolled leather collars, but there shall be no attachments hanging or otherwise allowed on the collar. This shall not preclude painted or stitched designs or information on the collar. Dog’s names and/or identifying information may appear on the collar. No title, awards, or advertising may appear on the collar. Dogs may be brought to the start line on slip leads, choke
chains, body harnesses, head halters or other collars that are permitted on the trial grounds. Pinch/prong and electrical collars (dummy or not), and special training collars are not allowed anywhere on the trial grounds.

**Section 10. Leashes.** Handlers shall be allowed to bring their dog to the start line on leash. Handlers shall comply with the judge’s instructions for being ready to start their run, having their dog off leash and under control in a timely manner. Dogs shall not be faulted for the act of playing tug on the leash, nor for going to or picking up a leash laid in the ring (usually laid after the last obstacle or near the ring exit). A leash may not have excess material dangling from it, nor may it have any attachments including a fleece or leather wrap. The leash may have a single pick-up bag and/or identification tag attached to it. Dogs shall be on leash at all times when on the trial grounds except in the ring and at the warm-up jump area.

Dogs must enter and exit the ring with the leash attached to the dog’s collar or harness, or in the case of a slip lead, with the noose completely around the dog’s neck, with the other end of the leash held by the handler. Any entry or exit chutes added to the ring for the ease of getting dogs in and out of the ring are not considered to be part of the ring.

Clubs must provide a leash holder or a container for the leash runner to place the leash in or on, which can easily be located by the handler near the ring exit. Leashes or slip leads may not be hung on the ring barrier nor placed on the ground.

**Section 11. Hair Tie Back Policy.** Any dog whose hair over its eyes interferes with its vision, or whose hair on its ears interferes with the safe performance of the obstacles, may have the hair tied back with rubber bands.

**Section 12. Dogs With Coloring.** Dogs with artificial coloring in their coats may participate in AKC agility trials and ACT tests. The coloring must not cover more than one-third of the dog’s coat. Coloring below the hocks and elbows may not be yellow. Colored markings on a dog must not be in poor taste and cannot contain profanity or conflict with a sponsor of a trial. It is the responsibility of the judge to decide if the coloring is acceptable. This is a pilot program and will be reassessed by the Agility Department after approximately one year.

**Section 13. Handling Aids.** Food and toys are not permitted in the course area and handlers are not permitted to use or have in their possession while running the course, whistles, stopwatches, leashes, fanny packs, or other handling/training aids.

**Section 14. Handler’s Position.** Dogs can be worked on any side (left, right, front or behind) and at any distance in any class however; course layout (e.g., against a ring, gate, or wall) may restrict the handler’s position.

**Section 15. Starting and Completion.** Judging the performance of the dog shall start as soon as the dog enters the ring. A dog’s time starts whenever any part of the dog crosses the start line, defined as the plane of the first obstacle. A dog’s time stops whenever any part of the dog crosses the finish line in the correct direction when the dog
is in the closing sequence. The finish line is defined as the plane of the last obstacle. The closing sequence is defined by the completion of the second to last obstacle on the way to the finish obstacle. The dog shall be on leash when exiting the ring and not be allowed to run loose “off leash” around the trial site.

Section 16. Training on Trial Grounds. No agility obstacle training is allowed on the trial grounds except for the use of the warm-up jump. No training is allowed on the trial equipment starting at 12:00 am the first day of the trial(s). If the club chooses to build the course for the next day per Chapter 4, Section 6 then the restriction on obstacle training goes into effect at the point the course is built. The restriction on training/use of the trial equipment extends to 30 minutes after the completion of the trial (on the last day of any set of trials).

Section 17. Clothing/Identification. Club clothing or AKC event clothing may be worn by anyone exhibiting a dog or by ring stewards. Clothing may display the person’s name, the dog’s call name and/or the dog’s picture. Titles may not be displayed. Writing or graphics on the clothing must not be in poor taste or contain profanity. Clothing must not display any information that would be in conflict with a sponsor of the trial.
Chapter 5
General Scoring Criteria

Section 1. Maximum Score, Qualifying Score. The maximum attainable score in the Standard and JWW classes is 100 points, in the FAST class it is 80 points. In order to earn a qualifying score a dog must pass with the minimum allowable score or better, and not receive any non-qualifying deductions. Reference Chapters 6 and 7 for minimum allowable score per class level.

Section 2. Placements, Tied Scores. Dogs must have a qualifying score to be eligible for a placement. The four highest scores shall be awarded first through fourth placements, respectively, with tied scores decided by the fastest time. (Time shall be measured and recorded to the nearest 1/100th of a second.)

In case of a tie in both score and time, a run-off will be held on the course of record or a course of lower skill level. The winner of the run-off based on score then time shall be awarded the higher placement.

Section 3. Course Time Deductions. Course time deductions are made as follows:
• Novice: 1-point deduction for every second over course time rounding down to whole numbers.
• Open: 2-point deduction for every second over course time rounding down to whole numbers.
• Excellent/Master: 3-point deduction for every second over course time rounding down to whole numbers.
Time is called at course time plus 20 seconds, and the dog must be excused.

Section 4. Faults. The following penalties apply in all classes where applicable:

| “R”  | Refusal / Run-out (-5 points) |
| “W”  | Wrong Course (-5 points)     |
| “T”  | Pause Table Fault (-5 points) |
| “F”  | Failure to Perform / Elimination (NQ) |
| “E”  | Excusal (NQ)                  |

(a) Refusals and Run-outs.

Refusals: It is considered a refusal when a dog starts toward an obstacle and ceases forward motion, or starts toward an obstacle and turns back on his path. However, the dog shall not be faulted for a refusal on the approach if, in the judge’s opinion, the dog has not seen the obstacle. A dog is not considered to be on or in an obstacle until they are on it or in it with all 4 paws, thus being subject to refusals until they are totally on or in an obstacle. Conversely a dog has not exited an obstacle until it has left the obstacle with all 4 paws.

Weaves: A refusal occurs at each incorrect entry to the weave poles. A single refusal occurs if a poles or multiple poles are missed during a weaving attempt. A refusal is scored as a 5-point deduction.

Run-outs: A dog that passes the plane of the next correct obstacle, regardless of whether the dog saw or was approaching that obstacle, will be scored as a run-out. Run-out planes are
defined as the point at which they can no longer attempt or complete a particular obstacle without turning back.

Run-outs are scored and signaled the same as refusals.

(b) **Wrong Course.** A wrong course occurs when a dog engages any part of an obstacle that is not the next one in sequence or the next obstacle in the sequence in the wrong direction. A dog is considered to have engaged an obstacle if they touch it with one paw or if they cross the plane of the obstacle by jumping over, going under or crossing through it. (Exception: A dog going under the A-Frame, Dog Walk or Seesaw is not considered to have committed a wrong course penalty.) Also, back weaving is faulted as a wrong course when the dog has crossed the line of the Weave Poles three (3) times in a weaving motion in the wrong direction.

A wrong course is scored as a 5-point deduction per occurrence. An occurrence is defined as one deduction until the dog has returned to and engaged the correct obstacle, regardless of how many wrong obstacles are taken. When a dog does not return to the next correct obstacle, the judge shall signal an “F” in addition to the “W” and “R” if applicable, and will continue judging as if the wrong course had not occurred.

(c) **Pause Table Faults.**

- Leaving the table prior to completing the 5 second cumulative count. A 5-point deduction per occurrence and the dog must come back and finish the table with the 5-second count started anew.
- Anticipating the count (i.e. a dog is released or releases itself immediately before or during the judge’s command of “Go”). A 5-point deduction is incurred and the dog should not return to the table.

(d) **Outside Assistance.** Interference or outside assistance that aids or is intended to aid the performance of a singular dog or handler. Faults shall be at the judge’s discretion from a 5-point deduction to elimination.

(e) **Lead Out Advantage.** The following must be adhered to regarding lead out advantage:

- Handlers may lead out to as many obstacles as they wish.
- A handler may touch the dog to position the dog for the start of the course and may return to the dog and reposition it nicely without restriction, as long as neither the handler nor the dog has crossed the start line.
- Once a handler crosses the start line to lead out, he or she may not touch the dog for any reason. If the handler does so, he or she shall be faulted with an “F” or “E” depending on the circumstances.
- Once a handler has taken a lead out, if the dog breaks position (without crossing the start line), the handler may go back to reposition the dog to successfully approach obstacle #1, but may not touch the dog while doing so. The handler may not lead out again (e.g. the dog must leave with the handler).
- If a dog breaks position before the handler is ready and has started the course, the handler may not reposition the dog at the start of the course. This is training in the ring and the handler shall be excused.
Section 5. Mandatory Elimination (NQ). The following individual faults call for Mandatory Elimination which shall be marked as an “F” on the scribe sheet resulting in a non-qualifying score (NQ). The dog/handler may continue their run except as may be noted elsewhere in these Regulations:

1. Handler or dog knocking down any obstacle or jump, that is either presently being performed or will be performed. Handler jumps over, goes under, or steps on top of any obstacle. (If excessive the judge may excuse the handler for their own safety.)
2. Displaces the top bar(s) or panel of a jump or breaking apart the tire jump.
3. Failure to clear the span of the Broad Jump.
4. Missing a contact zone (except missing the upside of the A-Frame or Dog Walk is not faulted).
5. Seesaw fly-offs.
6. Failure to complete all obstacles that are part of the course as described in Chapter 3.
7. Running the wrong course and not correcting the run before crossing the finish line.
8. Handler touching any obstacle prior to completion of the course.
9. Contact between the handler and the dog that aids the performance of the dog.
10. Any contact of dog and handler at the Pause Table, Weave Poles, and contact obstacles.
11. Exceeding the refusal maximum for a given class.
12. Exceeding the wrong course maximum for a given class.

Section 6. Mandatory Excusals. Handlers can be excused by the judge at any time for inappropriate actions including, but not limited to those listed below. The following faults call for mandatory excusal. The scribe sheet shall be marked “E” and the dog and handler are excused from the ring.

1. Handler continuously or conspicuously leads the dog through the course (excessive handling), uses harsh commands, or corrections.
2. Unsportsmanlike conduct.
3. A dog that leaves the course area and/or discontinues working and/or is unresponsive and/or out of control.
4. Exceeding the maximum course time.
5. Dogs fouling (includes vomiting) the ring at any time.
6. Inappropriate collar on dog discovered after the dog has started its run.
7. A handler that runs the course with handling aids.
8. Training in the ring including corrections, purposefully touching the dog in order to get it to perform an obstacle or petting the dog on the Pause Table or contact obstacles to reinforce a behavior.
10. Exceeding the fault limit of the class. Fault limits may be applied only if both the judge and the Trial Chairman agree that it is in the best interest of the trial to do so. If applied the fault limit shall
be either three (3) or four (4) separate faults that would normally result in a non-qualifying score. When a dog has reached the established fault limit the dog shall be excused from the ring and the handler should endeavor to exit the ring in the most expedient manner possible. Fault limits are allowed only in the Excellent and Master Agility Standard and Excellent and Master JWW classes.

11. Failure to comply with judge’s verbal instructions.
12. Lead out advantage violation. Refer to Chapter 5, Section 4e; Lead Out Advantage.
13. Any dog that does not enter or exit the ring on leash. On leash is defined as having the leash attached to the dog’s collar or harness, or in the case of a slip lead, having the noose completely around the dog’s neck.
14. If the dog gets hung up going through the Tire, or falls off the ascent side of the Dog Walk, A-Frame, or Seesaw, the handler has the choice to immediately reattempt the obstacle once and then leave the course. Alternatively, the handler has the choice not to retry and continue running the course.

Section 7. For Exhibition Only. (This is a pilot program) For Exhibition Only (FEO) runs are allowed in FAST and Time2Beat classes at the option of the club. It must be stated in the premium and any pre-trial publications. If a team is running FEO, the handler may not use more than the standard course time for the chosen class. Time will be started by the Timer as soon as he handler starts their lead out. If the handler has not told the scribe and the judge prior to the start of the run that it is an FEO run, the judge will judge the run as a scored run and all regulations are in effect. In this case the judge will excuse the team for training in the ring as described in Chapter 4, Section 6.

When running FEO, the handler may use a toy to reward the dog. At no time may the toy leave the handler’s possession or be thrown, or they will be excused from the ring. No food, no toys that make noise and no balls that can roll away may be used. The handler may train any piece of equipment as many times as they would like. Handlers may touch equipment during the FEO run, which includes resetting the bars.

The judge shall not judge the dog’s run but will watch the run to ensure that the handler is not using harsh commands or corrections and that the run is being done safely. The judge will immediately whistle to excuse the team from the ring for any of these infractions. During FEO runs, dogs may be excused or disqualified for menacing or aggressive behavior as in Chapter 1, Section 23. The judge and ring crew must remain in the ring during an FEO run.

Section 8. Fix and Go On. At any time during a run the hander may immediately fix a single obstacle one time. The action shall be judged as an elimination, which
shall be marked as an “E” on the scribe sheet, resulting in a non-qualifying score (NQ). The handler may go back a few obstacles prior to the fix. If a jump bar (bar jump or single bar jump) is knocked, the handler may reset it, but the reset is limited to one jump bar. The dog may not be verbally or physically corrected for the error. Weave poles may be immediately re-attempted three times, but if the dog is brought back to obstacles prior to the weave poles, it will be considered the one time Fix and Go On attempt. Once handlers have used the one-time Fix and Go On option, they must immediately finish the course or exit the ring.

The judge shall not judge the dog’s run after the fix but will continue to watch the run to ensure that the handler is going on to complete the course correctly, is not using harsh commands or corrections and that the run is being done safely. The judge will immediately whistle to excuse the team from the ring for any of these infractions.
Chapter 6
Standard Agility Classes

Section 1. Criteria. The following criteria applies to the Standard Agility classes:

- Novice A and B Agility Standard
- Open Agility Standard
- Excellent Agility Standard
- Master Agility Standard

Section 2. Novice A and B Agility Standard Class.
The focus of the Novice class shall be obstacle performance with minimal handling.

Performance Standards:
- Minimum allowable score required to qualify = 85
- Additional non-qualifying faults (beyond those listed in Chapter 5, Sections 5 and 6).
  - More than 2 Refusal/Run-outs
  - More than 1 Wrong Course
  - More than 2 Table Faults
- Refusals and Run-outs during the performance of the Weave Poles will not be faulted.

Standard Course Time:
- 8-inch Division = 1.85 yards per second, plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table
- 12-inch Division = 2.0 yards per second, plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table
- 16-inch Division = 2.15 yards per second, plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table
- 20-inch Division = 2.25 yards per second, plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table
- 24-inch Division = 2.20 yards per second, plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table
- 24-inch Choice Division = 2.25 yards per second, plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table
- Time Penalties = 1 fault for every full second over Standard Course Time

Minimum Obstacle Requirements:
- Quantity = 14-16
- Obstacles required, allowed, and not allowed – refer to chart at the end of this chapter.

Section 3. Open Agility Standard Class. The focus of the Open Agility class is on enhanced obstacle performance with more handling required.

Performance Standards:
- Minimum allowable score required to qualify = 85
- Additional non-qualifying faults (beyond those listed in Chapter 5, Sections 5 and 6).
  - More than 1 Refusal/Run-out
  - More than 1 Wrong Course
  - More than 1 Table Fault

Standard Course Time:
- 8-inch Division = 2.25 yards per second, plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table
- 12-inch Division = 2.35 yards per second, plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table
- 16-inch Division = 2.5 yards per second, plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table
- 20-inch Division = 2.65 yards per second,
plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table
- 24-inch Division = 2.55 yards per second,
  plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table
- 24-inch Choice Division = 2.65 yards per second,
  plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table
• Time Penalties = 2 faults for every full second over
  Standard Course Time

Minimum Obstacle Requirements:
• Quantity = 16-18
• Obstacles required, allowed, and not allowed – refer to
  chart at the end of this chapter.

Section 4. Excellent Agility Standard Class. The focus of the Excellent class is to provide an opportunity for
  dogs and handlers to demonstrate their superior skills in agility.

Performance Standards:
• Minimum allowable score required to qualify = 85
• Additional non-qualifying faults (beyond those listed in
  Chapter 5, Sections 5 and 6).
  - Any Refusal/Run-out
  - Any Wrong Course
  - Any Table Fault

Standard Course Time:
- 8-inch Division = 2.50 yards per second,
  plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table
- 12-inch Division = 2.7 yards per second,
  plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table
- 16-inch Division = 2.85 yards per second,
  plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table
- 20-inch Division = 3.1 yards per second,
  plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table
- 24-inch Division = 2.9 yards per second,
  plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table
- 24-inch Choice Division = 3.1 yards per second,
  plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table
• Time Penalties = 3 faults for every full second over
  Standard Course Time
• Course Time Limits. The following is the greatest
  allowable Standard Course Time allowed for this class
  based on jump height.
  - 8-inch Division = 76 seconds
  - 12-inch Division = 71 seconds
  - 16-inch Division = 71 seconds
  - 20-inch Division = 68 seconds
  - 24-inch Division = 72 seconds
  - 24-inch Choice Division = 68 seconds
• Maximum Course Time. The maximum course time
  will be the Standard Course Time plus 20 seconds.

Minimum Obstacle Requirements:
• Quantity = 18-20
• Obstacles required, allowed, and not allowed – refer to
  chart at the end of this chapter.

Section 5. Master Agility Class. The focus of the
  Master class is to provide an opportunity for dogs and
  handlers to demonstrate their superior skills in agility.

Performance Standards:
• Minimum allowable score required to qualify = 100
• Additional non-qualifying faults (beyond those listed in Chapter 5, Sections 5 and 6).
  – Any Course Faults

**Standard Course Time:**

- 8-inch Division = 2.50 yards per second, plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table
- 12-inch Division = 2.7 yards per second, plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table
- 16-inch Division = 2.85 yards per second, plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table
- 20-inch Division = 3.1 yards per second, plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table
- 24-inch Division = 2.90 yards per second, plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table
- 24-inch Choice Division = 3.1 yards per second, plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table

• Time Penalties = 3 faults for every full second over Standard Course Time

• Course Time Limits. The following is the greatest allowable Standard Course Time allowed for this class based on jump height.
  - 8-inch Division = 76 seconds
  - 12-inch Division = 71 seconds
  - 16-inch Division = 71 seconds
  - 20-inch Division = 68 seconds
  - 24-inch Division = 72 seconds
  - 24-inch Choice Division = 68 seconds

• Maximum Course Time. The maximum course time will be the Standard Course Time plus 20 seconds.

**Minimum Obstacle Requirements:**

• Quantity = 18-20

• Obstacles required, allowed, and not allowed – refer to chart at the end of this chapter.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Obstacles</th>
<th>Nov. Std.</th>
<th>Open Std.*</th>
<th>Exc/Master Std.*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dog Walk</td>
<td>R (1)</td>
<td>R (1)</td>
<td>R (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-Frame</td>
<td>R (1)</td>
<td>R (1)</td>
<td>R (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seesaw</td>
<td>R (1)</td>
<td>R (1)</td>
<td>R (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pause Table</td>
<td>R (1)</td>
<td>R (1)</td>
<td>R (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weave Poles</td>
<td>R (1)</td>
<td>R (1)</td>
<td>R (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6 poles</td>
<td>9-12 poles</td>
<td>9-12 poles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Tunnel</td>
<td>R Max (3)+</td>
<td>R Max (3)+</td>
<td>R Max (3)+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bar Jump</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Double Bar Jump</td>
<td>A (2) **</td>
<td>A (2) *</td>
<td>A (2) *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panel Jump</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tire Jump</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R****</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broad Jump</td>
<td>R (1)</td>
<td>A (1) *</td>
<td>A (1) *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Triple Bar Jump</td>
<td>A (1)</td>
<td>A (1) *</td>
<td>A (1) *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ascending Double Bar Jump</td>
<td>A (1) **</td>
<td>A (1) *</td>
<td>A (1) *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wall Jump</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>A (1) Premier Only **</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Bar Jump</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qty of Obstacles</td>
<td>14-16</td>
<td>16-18</td>
<td>18-20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*A minimum of two and a maximum of three spreads must be used and two different types of spread jumps must be used on the course. One of the two spreads must be the broad or triple jump. **Either the Double Bar Jump or the Ascending Double Bar Jump must be used for Novice Standard. The Broad Jump must be used. No more than three spreads may be taken on a Novice Standard Course. ***Only one wall jump may be used as a spread jump or in place of a Panel Jump in Standard Premier. The Wall Jump may only be used in Premier. ****Tire is optional in Premier +May only use 3 tunnel passes if one is a 10-13 foot tunnel and not curved more than 45 degrees.

R = Required Obstacle  
A = Allowed Obstacle  
N = Not Allowed  
( ) = Indicates the maximum number of times that this type of obstacle can be taken in the class. If not listed specifically otherwise, the quantity is unlimited.
Chapter 7
Jumpers With Weaves Class

Section 1. Purpose. This agility class is intended to be a fun yet competitive way to demonstrate a working relationship between dog and handler. In this class, dogs are not slowed down by the careful performance and control required by the contact obstacles and Pause Table. Dog/handler teams can therefore race through a course composed primarily of jumps demonstrating a dog’s speed and jumping ability.

The following criteria applies to the Jumpers With Weaves Agility classes:
- Novice A and B Jumpers With Weaves
- Open Jumpers With Weaves
- Excellent Jumpers With Weaves
- Master Jumpers With Weaves

Section 2. Novice A and B Jumpers With Weaves Class.
Performance Standards:
- Minimum allowable score required to qualify = 85
- Additional non-qualifying faults (beyond those listed in Chapter 5, Sections 5 and 6).
  - More than 2 Refusals
  - Any Wrong Course
- Refusals and Run-outs will not be faulted regarding the performance of the Weave Poles in this class.

Standard Course Time:
- 8-inch Division = 2.30 yards per second
- 12-inch Division = 2.5 yards per second
- 16-inch Division = 2.75 yards per second
- 20-inch Division = 3.0 yards per second
- 24-inch Division = 2.80 yards per second
- 24-inch Choice Division = 3.0 yards per second
- Time Penalties = 1 fault for every full second over Standard Course Time

Minimum Obstacle Requirements:
- Quantity = 14-16
- Obstacles required, allowed, and not allowed – refer to chart at the end of this chapter.

Section 3. Open Jumpers With Weaves Class.
Performance Standards:
- Minimum allowable score required to qualify = 85
- Additional non-qualifying faults (beyond those listed in Chapter 5, Sections 5 and 6).
  - More than 1 Refusal
  - Any Wrong Course

Standard Course Time:
- 8-inch Division = 2.80 yards per second
- 12-inch Division = 3.0 yards per second
- 16-inch Division = 3.25 yards per second
- 20-inch Division = 3.5 yards per second
- 24-inch Division = 3.30 yards per second
- 24-inch Choice Division = 3.5 yards per second
- Time Penalties = 2 faults for every full second over Standard Course Time
Minimum Obstacle Requirements:
• Quantity = 16-18
• Obstacles required, allowed, and not allowed – refer to chart at the end of this chapter.

Section 4. Excellent Jumpers With Weaves Class.
Performance Standards:
• Minimum allowable score required to qualify = 85
• Additional non-qualifying faults (beyond those listed in Chapter 5, Sections 5 and 6).
  – Any Course Faults

Standard Course Time:
  – 8-inch Division = 3.05 yards per second
  – 12-inch Division = 3.25 yards per second
  – 16-inch Division = 3.5 yards per second
  – 20-inch Division = 3.75 yards per second
  – 24-inch Division = 3.55 yards per second
  – 24-inch Choice Division = 3.75 yards per second
• Time Penalties = 3 faults for every full second over Standard Course Time
• Course Time Limits. The following is the greatest allowable Standard Course Time allowed for this class based on jump height.
  – 8-inch Division = 55 seconds
  – 12-inch Division = 52 seconds
  – 16-inch Division = 50 seconds
  – 20-inch Division = 48 seconds
  – 24-inch Division = 51 seconds
  – 24-inch Choice Division = 48 seconds

Minimum Obstacle Requirements:
• Quantity = 18-20
• Obstacles required, allowed, and not allowed – refer to chart at the end of this chapter.

Section 5. Master Jumpers With Weaves Class.
Performance Standards:
• Minimum allowable score required to qualify = 100
• Additional non-qualifying faults (beyond those listed in Chapter 5, Sections 5 and 6).
  – Any Course Fault including any time fault

Standard Course Time:
  – 8-inch Division = 3.05 yards per second
  – 12-inch Division = 3.25 yards per second
  – 16-inch Division = 3.5 yards per second
  – 20-inch Division = 3.75 yards per second
  – 24-inch Division = 3.55 yards per second
  – 24-inch Choice Division = 3.75 yards per second
• Time Penalties = 3 faults for every full second over Standard Course Time
• Course Time Limits. The following is the greatest allowable Standard Course Time allowed for this class based on jump height.
  – 8-inch Division = 55 seconds
  – 12-inch Division = 52 seconds
  – 16-inch Division = 50 seconds
  – 20-inch Division = 48 seconds
  – 24-inch Division = 51 seconds
  – 24-inch Choice Division = 48 seconds
• Maximum Course Time. The maximum course time will be the Standard Course Time plus 20 seconds.

**Minimum Obstacle Requirements:**
• Quantity = 18-20
• Obstacles required, allowed, and not allowed – refer to chart at the end of this chapter.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Obstacles</th>
<th>Novice JWW**</th>
<th>Open JWW*</th>
<th>Exc./ Master JWW*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dog Walk</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-Frame</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seesaw</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pause Table</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weave Poles</td>
<td>R (1) 6 poles</td>
<td>R (1) 12 poles</td>
<td>R (1) 12 poles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Tunnel</td>
<td>A (2)</td>
<td>A (2)</td>
<td>A (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bar Jump</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Double Bar Jump</td>
<td>A (2)**</td>
<td>A (2) *</td>
<td>A (2) *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panel Jump</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tire Jump</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broad Jump</td>
<td>A (1)**</td>
<td>A (1) *</td>
<td>A (1) *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Triple Bar Jump</td>
<td>A (1)**</td>
<td>A (1) *</td>
<td>A (1) *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ascending Double Bar Jump</td>
<td>A (1)**</td>
<td>A (1)*</td>
<td>A (1)*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wall Jump</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>A (1) Premier Only***</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Bar Jump</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qty of Obstacles</td>
<td>14-16</td>
<td>16-18</td>
<td>18-20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*A minimum of two and a maximum of three spreads must be used and two different types of spread jumps must be used on the course. One of the two spreads must be the broad or triple jump.

**A minimum of one and a maximum of two spreads is required in Novice JWW.

***Only one wall jump may be substituted as a required spread jump in JWW Premier. The Wall Jump may only be used in Premier.

R = Required Obstacle
A = Allowed Obstacle
N = Not Allowed
( ) = Indicates the maximum number of times that this type of obstacle can be taken in the class. If not listed specifically otherwise, the quantity is unlimited.
Chapter 8
Preferred Agility Classes
(established September 1, 2002)

Section 1. Purpose. These classes afford an opportunity for a greater variety of dogs, and their handlers to participate in the sport of agility. Owners/handlers have the choice of entering the Preferred classes with its modified standards as listed in this chapter, over those standards listed in Chapters 5, 6, and 7.

Section 2. Standards. The Preferred classes are subject to all standards as listed in the Regulations for Agility Trials, except as modified in this chapter.

Section 3. Eligibility. The Preferred classes are open to any dog eligible to enter an agility trial as defined in Chapter 1, Section 3.

The owner may choose to enter their dog in Preferred classes or in Regular classes at the same trial. A dog may only be entered once in each class offered. They may not enter a class in both Preferred and Regular. If a dog is entered in Preferred and Regular classes, the owner must submit two separate entry forms, one for Regular classes and one for Preferred classes. After the close of entry for a trial a dog may not be moved between Regular and Preferred classes except as noted in Chapter 1, Section 21.

Section 4. Classes. The Preferred Standard and Jumpers With Weaves classes are:

Preferred Standard Classes
Novice Agility Standard Preferred
Open Agility Standard Preferred
Excellent Agility Standard Preferred
Master Agility Standard Preferred
Premier Agility Standard Preferred

Preferred Jumpers With Weaves Classes
Novice Jumpers With Weaves Preferred
Open Jumpers With Weaves Preferred
Excellent Jumpers With Weaves Preferred
Master Jumpers With Weaves Preferred
Premier Jumpers With Weaves Preferred

A club holding an agility trial must offer all of the Preferred classes and Preferred class levels equivalent to the Regular classes and Regular class levels offered at the trial. It is highly recommended that the Preferred classes be run concurrently with the Regular classes using the same course as the Regular classes to minimize exhibitor walkthroughs, judge’s briefings, and jump height changes.

All dogs entering the Preferred classes for the first time must enter the Novice level in the Standard Preferred class, the Jumpers With Weaves Preferred class, the FAST Preferred class, unless they are crossing over from the Regular classes. If the dog is crossing over from the Regular classes to the Preferred classes they may be entered at the level the dog is eligible to compete at in the Regular classes. Crossovers from Regular to Preferred may be done in different classes at different times. Each change from Regular to Preferred is considered separately for Standard,
Jumpers, and FAST. This is a one-time crossover and the dog's eligibility is determined as of the date that they receive a qualifying score in the Preferred class (example: a dog with an AX and an OAJ and no legs at a higher level in either class may be entered in the Standard Preferred classes in Master Standard Preferred, Excellent Standard Preferred, or Novice Standard Preferred and in the Jumpers with Weaves Preferred Classes in Excellent JWW Preferred, Open JWW Preferred, or Novice JWW Preferred).

Once a qualifying score is earned, the dog is no longer eligible to be entered in a different class level for future entries in Preferred if they were entered using the one time crossover.

There is no grandfathering of titles or points from the Regular classes to the Preferred classes or from the Preferred Classes to the Regular classes. These classes are separate titling programs.

- A dog may be entered in only one Standard Agility class, one Premier Standard Agility class, one Jumpers With Weaves class, one Jumpers With Weaves Premier class, one Time 2 Beat class, and one FAST class, offered by a club per day.

- A dog may continue to compete at each level until they achieve a qualifying score at the next higher level. If the dog has crossed over from Regular, and has not received a qualifying score in the entered Preferred level, and there is a lower level they are eligible to enter they may do so for any trials that have not closed and the requested class(es) are not filled.

- The Standard Preferred class, the Jumpers with Weaves Preferred, the FAST Preferred class and the Time 2 Beat Preferred class are separate titling programs and a dog may advance faster in one than the other. (A dog that has achieved its Novice Agility Jumper. Preferred (NJP) title is eligible for and may enter the Open Jumpers With Weaves Preferred class. The same dog must also achieve three (3) qualifying scores in the Novice Standard Preferred class before being eligible to move-up to the Open Standard Preferred class, etc). This progression also applies on a crossover from Regular to Preferred. Once the dog has received a qualifying score at a class level in which they are eligible when they crossover, they then follow the above noted title progression from the level in which the qualifying leg was received.

In order to acquire a Preferred Agility title, a dog must earn the following number of qualifying scores per Preferred class level, under at least two (2) different judges. (See chart of Qualifying Scores.)
QUALIFYING SCORES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Preferred Standard Agility Title</th>
<th>Qualifying Scores Required</th>
<th>Preferred JWW Title</th>
<th>Qualifying Scores Required</th>
<th>Scores Obtained From</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NAP</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>NJP</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Novice Preferred</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OAP</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>OJP</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Open Preferred</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AXP</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>AJP</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Exc. Preferred</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MXP</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>MJP</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Master Preferred</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PADP</td>
<td>25 including 5 in top 25%</td>
<td>PJDP</td>
<td>25 including 5 in top 25%</td>
<td>Premier Class Preferred</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For Qualifying Score Charts regarding the FAST and Time 2 Beat classes, see Chapter 9: Fifteen and Send Time (FAST) Class and Chapter 10: Time 2Beat (T2B) Class.

Section 5. Preferred Agility Titles. The Preferred Standard & Jumpers With Weaves titles are: Novice Agility Preferred (NAP), Novice Agility Jumper Preferred (NJP), Open Agility Preferred (OAP), Open Agility Jumper Preferred (OJP), Agility Excellent Preferred (AXP), Excellent Agility Jumper Preferred (AJP), Master Agility Excellent Preferred (MXP), Master Excellent Jumper Preferred (MJP), Premier Agility Preferred (PADP) and Premier Jumpers Dog Preferred (PJDP).

The Preferred FAST titles are Agility FAST Novice Preferred (NFP), Agility FAST Open Preferred (OFP), Agility FAST Excellent Preferred (XFP) and Agility Master FAST Excellent Preferred (MFP).

The Preferred Time 2 Beat title is Time 2 Beat Preferred (T2BP).

Section 6. Recognized Achievement. In order to recognize consistency and longevity in the Master Agility Standard Preferred and the Master Jumpers With Weaves Preferred classes, the AKC will record and add to any dog’s title the number 2 for achieving 20 qualifying scores in the Master Preferred classes. There is no limit to this achievement. For example, a dog with 30 MXPC qualifying scores and 40 MJP qualifying scores would have the titles of MXP3 and MJP4.

The AKC will identify dogs qualifying for Lifetime Achievement titles by the appropriate title designations (MXPB, MXPB2; MXPS, MXPS2; MXPG, MXPG2; MXPC, MXPC2, etc.) following their AKC name in all official AKC records. In each case, the higher Lifetime Achievement title will supersede the preceding Lifetime Achievement title in all official AKC records such that the highest title will be listed.

The Lifetime Achievement Standard titles and requirements are:

Master Bronze Agility Preferred Title = MXPB.
Requires twenty-five Master Agility Standard Preferred class qualifying scores of 100.
Master Silver Agility Preferred Title = MXPS. Requires the MXPB title plus twenty-five additional Master Agility Standard Preferred class qualifying scores of 100.

Master Gold Agility Preferred Title = MXPG. Requires the MXPS title plus twenty-five additional Master Agility Standard Preferred class qualifying scores of 100.

Master Century Agility Preferred Title = MXPC. Requires the MXPG title plus twenty-five additional Master Agility Standard Preferred class qualifying scores of 100.

The Lifetime Achievement Jumpers With Weaves titles and requirements are:

Master Bronze Jumpers Preferred Title = MJPB. Requires twenty-five Master Jumpers With Weaves Preferred class qualifying scores of 100.

Master Silver Jumpers Preferred Title = MJPS. Requires the MJPB title plus twenty-five additional Master Jumpers With Weaves Preferred class qualifying scores of 100.

Master Gold Jumpers Preferred Title = MJPG. Requires the MJPS title plus twenty-five additional Master Jumpers With Weaves Preferred class qualifying scores of 100.

Master Century Jumpers Preferred Title = MJPC. Requires the MJPG title plus twenty-five additional Master Jumpers With Weaves Preferred class qualifying scores of 100.

The Lifetime Achievement FAST titles and requirements are:

Master Bronze FAST Preferred Title = MFPB. Requires twenty-five Master FAST Preferred class qualifying scores of 60 points or greater.

Master Silver FAST Preferred Title = MFPS. Requires the MFPB title plus twenty-five additional Master FAST Preferred class qualifying scores of 60 points or greater.

Master Gold FAST Preferred Title = MFPG. Requires the MFPS title plus twenty-five additional Master FAST Preferred class qualifying scores of 60 points or greater.

Master Century FAST Preferred Title = MFPC. Requires the MFPG title plus twenty-five additional Master FAST Preferred class qualifying scores of 60 points or greater.

The Lifetime Achievement Premier Agility titles and requirements are:

Premier Agility Dog Bronze Preferred Title = PDBP. Will start at the PDBP2 level, which requires a PDCP title plus 25 additional qualifying scores with five qualifying scores earned for placing in the top 25% of the dogs that competed in their jump height.

Premier Agility Dog Silver Preferred Title = PDSP. Requires the PADP title plus 25 additional qualifying scores with five qualifying scores earned for placing in the top 25% of the dogs that competed in their jump height.

Premier Agility Dog Gold Preferred Title = PDGP. Requires the PSDP title plus 25 additional qualifying scores with five qualifying scores earned for placing in the top 25% of
the dogs that competed in their jump height.

**Premier Agility Dog Century Preferred Title = PDCP.** Requires the PDGP title plus 25 additional qualifying scores with five qualifying scores earned for placing in the top 25% of the dogs that competed in their jump height.

**The Lifetime Achievement Premier Jumpers With Weaves Preferred titles and requirements are:**

**Premier Jumpers Dog Bronze Preferred Title = PJBP.** Will start at the PJBP2 level, which requires a PJCP title plus 25 additional qualifying scores with five qualifying scores earned for placing in the top 25% of the dogs that competed in their jump height.

**Premier Jumpers Dog Silver Preferred Title = PJSP.** Requires the PJBP title plus 25 additional qualifying scores with five qualifying scores earned for placing in the top 25% of the dogs that competed in their jump height.

**Premier Jumpers Dog Gold Preferred Title = PJGP.** Requires the PJSP title plus 25 additional qualifying scores with five qualifying scores earned for placing in the top 25% of the dogs that competed in their jump height.

**Premier Jumpers Dog Century Preferred Title = PJCP.** Requires the PJGP title plus 25 additional qualifying scores with five qualifying scores earned for placing in the top 25% of the dogs that competed in their jump height.

Additionally, in order to recognize consistency and longevity in the Time 2 Beat Preferred classes, the Time 2 Beat Preferred title will be followed by a numeric designation indicating the number of times the dog has met the requirements of the T2BP title (T2BP2, T2BP3, etc.).

**Section 7. Preferred Agility Excellent Title (PAX).** To obtain the Preferred Agility Excellent title (PAX), a dog must exhibit superior performance on the agility course. Consistency is the main quality denoting “superior performance” and therefore is the basis for the Preferred Agility Excellent program.

In order to acquire the Preferred Agility Excellent title, a dog must achieve 20 double qualifying scores obtained from the Master Agility Standard Preferred class and the Master Jumpers With Weaves Preferred class. Qualifying in both the Master Agility Standard Preferred class and the Master Jumpers With Weaves Preferred class on the same day equals one (1) double qualifying score (2Q).

**Requirements / General Scoring.** Scores of 100 (clean rounds) obtained in the Master Preferred classes will count towards a dog’s Preferred Agility Excellent requirement if the scores are earned in both Standard and Jumpers With Weaves on the same day.

A dog does not have to obtain the Master Agility Excellent Preferred (MXP) or the Master Excellent Jumper Preferred (MJP) titles prior to achieving scores that will count towards their Preferred Agility Excellent (PAX) title. Scores of 100 will count toward the dog’s MXP or MJP titles, and double qualifying scores count toward the PAX title even if the MXP or MJP title has not yet been achieved.

The PAX title will follow a dog’s AKC name in all official
AKC records. The PAX title will be followed by a numeric designation indicating the quantity of times the dog has met the requirement of the PAX title as defined above, e.g. 40 2Q’s = PAX2, 60 2Q’s = PAX3, etc. The PAX title will supersede all lower Preferred agility titles, e.g. PAX2 will supersede an MXP4 and MJP4 but will not supersede an MXP5 or MJP5 or higher.

Section 8. Preferred Agility Champion Title. To obtain the Preferred Agility Champion title (PACH), a dog must exhibit superior performance on the agility course. Speed and consistency are the two major qualities denoting “superior performance” and therefore they are the basis for the Preferred Agility Championship program.

In order to acquire the Preferred Agility Champion title, a dog must achieve a minimum of 750 championship points and 20 double qualifying scores obtained from the Master Agility Standard Preferred class and the Master Preferred Jumpers With Weaves Preferred class.

PACH Points
750 points required minimum
• 1 point is awarded for each full second under Standard Course Time. (No partial points are awarded.)
• Dogs earn points from the Master Agility Standard Preferred class and/or the Master Jumpers With Weaves Preferred class.

Double Qualify (2Q’s)
20 (2Q’s) required minimum
• Dogs qualifying with scores of 100 in both the Master Agility Standard Preferred class and the Master Jumpers With Weaves Preferred class on the same day.
• Qualifying in both the Master Agility Standard Preferred class and the Master Jumpers With Weaves Preferred class on the same day equals 1 (2Q).

Requirements General Scoring. Only scores of 100 (clear rounds) obtained in the Master Preferred classes will count towards a dog’s Preferred Agility Champion requirements.

A dog does not have to obtain the Master Agility Excellent Preferred title (MXP) or the Master Excellent Preferred title (MJP) prior to achieving scores that will count towards their Preferred Agility Champion title (PACH). A dog does not need to be in both Master Preferred classes in order to start accruing PACH points. Any score of 100 (clear round) obtained in the Master Preferred classes will count towards both the dog’s Preferred Championship requirements, and the dog’s MXP titling requirements.

Titles: The PACH title initials will be followed by a numeric designation indicating the quantity of times the dog has met the requirements of the PACH title as defined above, (e.g., 1500 PACH points and 40 2Q’s = PACH2).
Section 9. Height Divisions. The following jump height divisions shall be used in all Preferred classes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Height</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4 Inches</td>
<td>For dogs 11 inches and under at the withers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Inches</td>
<td>For dogs 14 inches and under at the withers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Inches</td>
<td>For dogs 18 inches and under at the withers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Inches</td>
<td>For dogs 22 inches and under at the withers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 Inches</td>
<td>For dogs over 22 inches at the withers.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Dogs shall be moved down to the proper jump height if entered in the incorrect Preferred class jump height only if measured by a Volunteer Measuring Official, AKC Agility Field Representative or Judge(s) of Record.

Section 10. Scoring Criteria. The scoring for the Preferred classes shall be equal to that of its equivalent level in the Regular classes, as listed in Chapters 6 and 7 of these Regulations, with the exception of the Standard Course Times.

Standard Agility Preferred Classes
- Novice Agility Standard Preferred = Novice A and B Agility Standard
- Open Agility Standard Preferred = Open Agility Standard
- Excellent Agility Standard Preferred = Excellent Agility Standard
- Master Agility Standard Preferred = Master Agility Standard
- Premier Agility Standard Preferred = Premier Agility Standard

Jumpers With Weaves Preferred Classes
- Novice JWW Preferred = Novice A and B JWW
- Open JWW Preferred = Open JWW
- Excellent JWW Preferred = Excellent JWW Preferred
- Master JWW Preferred = Master JWW
- Premier JWW Preferred = Premier JWW

Course Times: The Standard Course Times (SCT’s) for the Preferred classes will be the same as the Standard Course Times for the Regular classes, as listed in Chapters 6 and 7 of these Regulations, plus five (5) additional seconds as shown in the following chart.
### Maximum Course Time

The maximum course time will be the Standard Course Time plus 20 seconds.

Example: An Open Agility Standard course that is 160 yards long for the 20-inch Regular class would have a SCT of (60 seconds plus 5 seconds for the table) = 65 seconds, based on Chapter 6, Section 3 of these Regulations.

In the Open Agility Standard Preferred class the course yardage for the 16-inch class would also be 160 yards with a SCT of (65 seconds based on the Regular class plus 5 seconds for the table) = 70 seconds.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regular Class Jump Height</th>
<th>Preferred Class Jump Height</th>
<th>Course Distance Based On</th>
<th>SCT’s Based On Regular Classes (Chapters 6 and 7)</th>
<th>Added Time for Preferred Classes Std &amp; JWW</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24”</td>
<td>20”</td>
<td>20” Jumping Dog</td>
<td>24” Division SCT’s</td>
<td>Plus 5 Seconds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20”</td>
<td>16”</td>
<td>20” Jumping Dog</td>
<td>20” Division SCT’s</td>
<td>Plus 5 Seconds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16”</td>
<td>12”</td>
<td>16” Jumping Dog</td>
<td>16” Division SCT’s</td>
<td>Plus 5 Seconds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12”</td>
<td>8”</td>
<td>12” Jumping Dog</td>
<td>12” Division SCT’s</td>
<td>Plus 5 Seconds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8”</td>
<td>4”</td>
<td>12” Jumping Dog</td>
<td>8” Division SCT’s</td>
<td>Plus 5 Seconds</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Chapter 9
Fifteen and Send Time (FAST) Class
(established January 1, 2007)

Section 1. Purpose. This agility titling class is meant to be an additional test of strategy, skill, accuracy, speed, timing and distance handling, to demonstrate a dog’s athletic ability and willingness to work with its handler in a fast-paced atmosphere over a variety of agility obstacles. The class may be offered once per day as an additional class at a club’s option. In order to offer the Open level, the Novice A & B level must be offered, except as noted in Chapter 2, Section 1. In order to offer the Excellent & Master level, the Open level must be offered, except as noted in Chapter 2, Section 1. The class is not part of the Master Agility Championship titling program, but does count toward the Agility Grand Champion (AGCH) title.

The following criteria apply to the Fifteen and Send Time classes:

- Novice A & B FAST
- Novice FAST Preferred
- Open FAST
- Open FAST Preferred
- Excellent & Master FAST
- Excellent & Master FAST Preferred

Section 2. Definition. The Fifteen and Send Time class uses fourteen (14) to sixteen (16) point valued obstacles and/or obstacle combinations. The course will include a “Send Bonus” or distance element that will award a bonus of twenty (20) points if completed successfully, and is identified as the “Send Bonus.” Five to seven of the fourteen to sixteen point valued obstacles must be single bar jumps (typically winged) valued at one point each. Winged jumps are assumed to have a value of one point unless otherwise denoted by the judge. Nine (9) additional obstacles on the course will be assigned unique values from 2 through 10 by the judge.

Additional obstacles (typically non-winged jumps) maybe placed on the course, but with no assigned value. There is a maximum of 80 possible FAST class points awarded at all levels, which is the sum of the fourteen to sixteen point valued obstacles (60 points), (a maximum of 6 points may be accumulated utilizing the five to seven 1-point valued jumps); plus a Send Bonus value of 20 points. Teams must successfully complete the Send Bonus to achieve a qualifying score, as well as a minimum number of required points defined at each class level. To earn points, all obstacles must be completed in accordance with the obstacle performance requirements identified in these Regulations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Obstacles</th>
<th>Class</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Novice FAST</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dog Walk</td>
<td>R**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-Frame</td>
<td>R**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seesaw</td>
<td>R**</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### CHAPTER 9 – Section 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Obstacle</th>
<th>R (1)</th>
<th>R (1)</th>
<th>R (1)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pause Table</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weave Poles</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Tunnel</td>
<td>A (3)</td>
<td>A (3)</td>
<td>A (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bar Jump</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Double Bar Jump</td>
<td>A (2)</td>
<td>A (2)</td>
<td>A (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panel Jump</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tire Jump</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broad Jump</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Triple Bar Jump</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ascending Double Bar Jump</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wall Jump</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Bar Jump</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Tunnel may only be used 2 times in the Send.
**A minimum of 2 and a maximum 3 contacts may be on the course. A minimum of 2 contacts must be assigned a point value. A maximum of 4 contacts may be performed to earn points.

R = Required Obstacle  
A = Allowed Obstacle  
N = Not Allowed  
( ) = Indicates the maximum number of times that this type of obstacle can be taken in the class. If not listed specifically otherwise, the quantity is unlimited.

Course times are determined by level (Novice, Open or Excellent/Master) and jump height. Standard Course Times (SCT’s) are required as follows.

Teams will use the following Standard Course Time (SCT) to accumulate points, attempt a Send Bonus and to reach a judge-defined finish obstacle:

#### Regular Classes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jump Height</th>
<th>Standard Course Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8&quot;</td>
<td>38 seconds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12&quot; / 16&quot;</td>
<td>35 seconds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20&quot; / 24&quot; / 24&quot; Choice</td>
<td>32 seconds</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Preferred Classes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jump Height</th>
<th>Standard Course Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4&quot;</td>
<td>41 seconds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8&quot; / 12&quot;</td>
<td>38 seconds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16&quot; / 20&quot;</td>
<td>35 seconds</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Maximum Course Time. The maximum course time will be the Standard Course Time plus 20 seconds.

An electronic timing horn/buzzer (preferably) or whistle will sound at SCT completion, whereby handlers will no longer have the right to earn points while on course and dogs
must run to the finish obstacle to stop the clock. Electronic timing devices with horn or buzzer sounds are recommended for execution and consistent and accurate timing.

Handler contact aiding the performance of the dog to the finish obstacle will result in Elimination.

Teams will be assessed one (time) fault for every full second over SCT which will be subtracted from the total points (obstacle & Send Bonus total) accumulated on course to determine the final score. Order of placements will be determined by points first and fastest (shortest) time second.

In case of a tie in both points and time, a runoff must be offered. The runoff should be held preferably on the same course or alternately on a FAST course of another level. If a different course level is used to break the tie, the scoring method of that course will be used. This means it could be possible for an Excellent/Master level tie to be broken on an Open or Novice level FAST course or vice versa. If either team chooses not to rerun to break the tie then they may concede the win and take the lower placement. If a team is not available for a runoff (e.g. have left the trial site) then the team that is available will receive the higher placement. Another acceptable method of breaking a tie would be to flip a coin to determine the winner if both teams agree.

A minimum of two and maximum of three unique contact obstacles will be required on the course. A minimum of two contact obstacles must have a point value assigned. A maximum of four contacts may be performed to earn points (i.e. one contact taken twice for differing point values). Weave poles are a required obstacle on course: a minimum of 9-12 weave poles will be required for Excellent/Master/Open and Novice class levels. The balance of obstacles may include single, double jumps, open tunnels, panel jumps, and broad jumps or a combination of these obstacles.

Courses may be modified from either the Standard or Jumpers With Weaves courses approved for that event, with the stipulation that the course must be modified in such a way as to be random in pattern with no discernable flow. This will encourage variation in handler course strategies. Up to two (2) intersecting start lines may be set. A single Finish obstacle consisting of a jump or open tunnel is required somewhere on the course. Numbered flags (white background color and black number) or elevated placard signs for numbers 2 through 10 are highly recommended for ease of judging and scoring.

Obstacles that are bi-directional may be taken in either direction to earn points unless otherwise directed by the judge. The judge may require any obstacle to be taken in only one direction for points.

Bi-directional obstacles, whether they have dual point values or not, may not be taken back-to-back (immediately repeated without doing another obstacle in-between) for points. Faulted contact obstacles may be repeated for an attempt to earn points, but may not be attempted in back-to-back fashion.

Weave poles may be reattempted immediately from either end if faulted, but if bi-directional must be restarted at the original entry and completed correctly from start to finish to earn points. If a judge has elected to post dual values on the weave poles, one for each entry end, a competitor must complete all poles correctly in the designated direction to earn the assigned points.
Section 3. Additional Class Information

An electronic timing horn/buzzer (preferably) or whistle will sound at SCT completion, whereby handlers will no longer have the right to earn points while on course and dogs must run to the finish obstacle to stop the clock. Electronic timing devices with horn or buzzer sounds are recommended for execution and consistent and accurate timing.

Teams will be assessed one (time) fault for every full second over SCT which will be subtracted from the total points (obstacle and Send Bonus total) accumulated on course to determine the final score. Order of placements will be determined by points first and fastest (shortest) time second.

In case of a tie in both points and time, a runoff must be offered. The runoff should be held preferably on the same course or alternately on a FAST course of another level. If a different course level is used to break the tie, the scoring method of that course will be used. This means it could be possible for an Excellent/Master level tie to be broken on an Open or Novice level FAST course or vice versa. If either team chooses not to rerun to break the tie then they may concede the win and take the lower placement. If a team is not available for a runoff (e.g. have left the trial site) then the team that is available will receive the higher placement. Another acceptable method of breaking a tie would be to flip a coin to determine the winner if both teams agree.

Courses may be modified from either the Standard, Jumpers With Weaves, Time 2 Beat or Premier courses approved for that event, with the stipulation that the course must be modified in such a way as to be random in pattern with no discernable flow. This will encourage variation in handler course strategies. At the clubs discretion any of the level courses may be combined into one course with embedded sends (which will allow one course build and one walk through for all levels); or may be run as separate courses.

Up to two (2) intersecting start lines may be set. A single finish obstacle consisting of a jump, (which may be pointed) or a non-pointed open tunnel is required somewhere on the course. Numbered flags, elevated placard signs or standard cones for numbers 2 through 10 are highly recommended for ease of judging and scoring.

Microphone headsets may be used by the judge and scribe as an aid in scoring the run and answering any questions that arise. However, the judge’s calls must be audible to the competitor in the ring.

Obstacles that are bi-directional may be taken in either direction to earn points unless otherwise directed by the judge. The judge may require any obstacle to be taken in only one direction for points.

The Send Bonus portion of the course must contain two to three pointed-obstacles. Handler distance restrictions for the Send Bonus portion must be: 5 - 25 feet in Excellent/Master, 5 - 20 feet in Open, and 5-10 feet in Novice. The total point value for all obstacles contained in the Send Bonus portion of the course must be no less than five (5) points and no greater than fifteen (15) points.

In general, the Send Bonus portions should not be placed in close proximity to the start line(s). If contacts and weave...
poles are used in the Send Bonus portion of the Novice course, the minimum distance requirement of 5 feet must be used. One (1) dual pointed unidirectional obstacle may be used in the Send. If this obstacle is a tunnel it may be performed back-to-back for points. Obstacle discriminations and changes of flow and/or direction are allowed, in the Open and Excellent/Master Send Bonus sections. Judges shall call out “bonus” if the Send Bonus is correctly completed. A dog is considered to have completed the last obstacle of the Send Bonus when all 4 paws have touched the ground.

A tape used for marking the Send Bonus handler restricted distance must be of a bright contrasting color and should be secured to the floor or ground in an appropriate manner. Golf tees are an appropriate method of holding the line in place when on grass or dirt. Tape may be used when on indoor surfaces but silver duct tape is not allowed, as it is not visible enough to the handlers. Colors such as hot pink, bright green or yellow are recommended.

Refusal, run-out and wrong course faults will not be assessed on course except during the Send Bonus. Once the first Send Bonus obstacle is completed, any refusals, run-outs and/or wrong courses in the sequence will negate the Send Bonus and “FAULT” will be called. In this case, point values may still be earned for corrected refusals or for Send Bonus obstacles taken out of sequence, but will result in a non-qualifying score due to not completing the Send Bonus challenge properly. If the dog never attempts the Send Bonus and the SCT buzzer sounds, the judge shall call “FAULT” for the failure to attempt or complete the Send Bonus properly.

Section 4. Performance Requirements for All Classes.

1. Obstacles are bi-directional for point values except for the seesaw and broad jump or unless specified differently by the judge.

2. A maximum of 6 points may be earned utilizing the five to seven 1-point jumps on the course. The same jump may not be taken back-to-back.

3. Judges may choose one bi-directional obstacle and assign a unique point value for each approach.

4. If an obstacle is repeated or faulted competitors may continue to accumulate points elsewhere on the course. They may also earn points for correctly performing a previously faulted obstacle. The exception to this rule is a displaced bar, as these will not be reset.

5. Points may be awarded for two different pointed contact obstacles taken in succession.

6. Refusals or run-outs will not be faulted anywhere on the course other than during the Send Bonus, and will ONLY negate the opportunity to earn the 20 points for the Send Bonus.

7. Time penalties at all levels are one (1) point for each full second over SCT.

8. Teams running to the finish obstacle after the whistle/horn/buzzer sounds cannot be faulted for taking additional obstacles on the way, however, they
can be eliminated for handler contact that aids the
dog’s performance or by purposely touching the dog
prior to stopping the time.

9. Teams must successfully complete the Send Bonus
portion behind the judge-defined handler restriction
line. Stepping on any part of the line before the dog
has completed the last obstacle in the sequence will
negate earning the Send Bonus points.

Section 5. FAST Class Eligibility.

Novice FAST Classes. The Novice FAST class is
divided into Divisions A & B in the Regular classes. Dogs
are eligible to enter Division A if they have never acquired
any AKC agility title. Additionally, a dog entered in Novice A
FAST must be handled by a person that has never put an AKC
agility title on any dog, and the handler must be the owner, co-
owner, or a member of the owner’s household. Handlers that
co-own a dog and have never put an AKC agility title on a dog
may enter the Novice A FAST class regardless of the other
co-owner’s AKC agility accomplishments. Dogs eligible for
Novice A FAST may be entered in the Novice B FAST class at
the discretion of the owner.

Dogs are eligible to enter Division B if they have
acquired any Novice agility title. Additionally, Division B is for
persons who have handled a dog to any AKC agility title, and
for dogs being handled by someone other than the owner, co-
owner, or household member subject to the restrictions listed
above. A dog may continue to be shown in the Novice B FAST
class until they have acquired a qualifying score towards their
Agility FAST Open title. Whenever the Novice FAST class is
offered, both Divisions A & B must be offered. The Novice
FAST Preferred class is not divided.

Open FAST Class. Dogs are eligible to enter the Open
FAST class if they have acquired an Agility FAST Novice title
or an Agility FAST Open title but which have not acquired a
qualifying score towards an Agility FAST Excellent title.

Excellent FAST Class. Dogs are eligible to enter the
Excellent FAST class if they have acquired the Agility FAST
Open title, and to dogs that have acquired the Agility FAST
Excellent title, but that have not acquired a qualifying score
towards the Agility Master FAST Excellent title.

Master FAST Class. Dogs are eligible to enter the
Master FAST class if they have acquired the Agility FAST
Excellent title and to dogs that have acquired the Agility
Master FAST Excellent title.

Section 6. Novice A & B FAST and Novice FAST
Preferred Class. The focus of the FAST class at the Novice
level will be to introduce the skill, timing and minor distance
work involved in a game of strategy and point accumulation.

Performance Standards:
• Minimum score to qualify is 50 points which must
  include 20 points from the Send Bonus.
• Course requires two Send Bonus point valued
  obstacles taken at a handler restricted distance
  between 5 feet and 10 feet. Distance may vary
  within this range with a change in distance allowed
between the (4/8/12/16” small dogs’ heights and the (20/24/24”Choice) large dogs’ heights only.

• Send Bonus obstacles may include nine to twelve (9-12) Weave Poles or any contact obstacle if these are set at a handler restricted distance of no more than five (5) feet.

• Equipment allowed – see Section 2 table.

Section 7. Open FAST and Open FAST Preferred Class. The focus of the FAST class at the Open level will be to test skill, timing and intermediate distance work involved in a game of strategy and point accumulation.

Performance Standards:

• Minimum score to qualify is 55 points which must include 20 points from the Send Bonus.

• Course requires two or three Send Bonus point valued obstacles taken at a handler restricted distance of 5 to 20 feet depending on the number of obstacles used. If 2 obstacles are used in the send then one of the obstacles must be at a distance of 10 to 15 feet. If 3 obstacles are used than no more than one obstacle may be less than 10 feet and no more than one obstacle may be greater than 15 feet. Distance may vary within this range with a change in distance allowed between the (4/8/12/16”) small dogs’ heights and the (20/24/24”Choice) large dogs’ heights only.

• Equipment allowed – see Section 2 table.

Section 8. Excellent & Master FAST and Excellent & Master FAST Preferred Class. The focus of the FAST class at the Excellent and Master level will be to test skill, timing and distance work at the highest level involved in a game of strategy and point accumulation.

Performance Standards:

• Minimum score to qualify is 60 points which must include 20 points from the Send Bonus.

• Course requires three Send Bonus point valued obstacles taken at a handler restricted distance of 5 to 25 feet with a change of direction or obstacle discrimination. No more than one obstacle may be less than 15 feet and no more than one obstacle may be greater than 20 feet. Distance may vary within this range with a change in distance allowed between the (4/8/12/16") small dogs’ heights and the (20/24/24”Choice) large dogs’ heights only.

• Equipment allowed – see Section 2 table.

Section 9. Titles and Requirements.

Agility FAST Novice Title = NF. Requires three Novice A or B FAST class qualifying scores of 50 points or greater under at least two different judges.

Agility FAST Novice Preferred Title = NFP. Requires three Novice FAST Preferred class qualifying scores of 50 points or greater under at least two different judges.

Agility FAST Open Title = OF. Requires the NF title plus three Open FAST class qualifying scores of 55 points or
greater under at least two different judges.

**Agility FAST Open Preferred Title = OFP.** Requires the NFP or NF title plus three Open FAST Preferred class qualifying scores of 55 points or greater under at least two different judges.

**Agility FAST Excellent Title = XF.** Requires the OF title plus three Excellent FAST class qualifying scores of 60 points or greater under at least two different judges.

**Agility FAST Excellent Preferred Title = XFP.** Requires the OFP or OF title plus three Excellent FAST Preferred class qualifying scores of 60 points or greater under at least two different judges.

**Agility Master FAST Excellent Title = MXF.** Requires the XF title plus ten Master FAST class qualifying scores of 60 points or greater under at least two different judges.

**Agility Master FAST Excellent Preferred Title = MFP.** Requires the XFP or XF title plus ten Master FAST Preferred class qualifying scores of 60 points or greater under at least two different judges.

**Triple Q Excellent = TQX.** Requires the XF title. In order to acquire the Triple Q Excellent Title, a dog must receive 10 triple qualifying scores from the Master Agility Standard class, the Master Jumpers With Weaves class and the Master FAST class on the same day.

**Triple Q Excellent Preferred = TQXP.** Requires the XFP title. In order to acquire the Triple Q Excellent Preferred Title, a dog must receive 10 triple qualifying scores from the Master Agility Standard Preferred class, the Master Jumpers With Weaves Preferred class and the Master FAST Preferred class on the same day.
Table 1 – Title Table. [In order to acquire the following titles, a dog must earn the following number of qualifying scores and the minimum point value per class level under a minimum of two different judges.]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regular Titling Classes</th>
<th>Preferred Titling Classes</th>
<th># of Qualifying Scores &amp; Minimum Point Value</th>
<th>Scores Obtained From</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NF</td>
<td>NFP</td>
<td>3 Q’s &amp; 50 points minimum</td>
<td>Novice FAST Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OF</td>
<td>OFP</td>
<td>3 Q’s &amp; 55 points minimum</td>
<td>Open FAST Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XF</td>
<td>XFP</td>
<td>3 Q’s &amp; 60 points minimum</td>
<td>Excellent FAST Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MXF</td>
<td>MFP</td>
<td>10 Q’s &amp; 60 points minimum</td>
<td>Master FAST Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TQX</td>
<td>TQXP</td>
<td>10 triple Q’s</td>
<td>Master Agility Std/JWW/ FAST*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All FAST class titles are suffix titles.

*To earn a triple Q, dogs must qualify in the following Master classes on the same date: Standard, Jumpers With Weaves and FAST.
Chapter 10  
Time 2 Beat (T2B) Class  
(established July 1, 2011)

Section 1. Purpose. This optional agility titling class is meant to challenge the handler/dog to set a clean efficient line with an emphasis on speed and accuracy. The dog that sets the quickest time in each jump height will set the time to beat for that jump height. There will be a single class level and all dogs with any skill level (e.g. Novice, Open, Excellent, Master) will compete on the same course. The required course size is 6,500 square feet.

The class (Regular & Preferred) may be offered once per day as an additional class at a club’s option. This will aid clubs to add an additional class to the day without making multiple course changes that add time to the day.

Section 2. Definition. The Time 2 Beat (T2B) class is a combination course from the Standard and Jumpers With Weaves classes. While dogs of any skill level (e.g. Novice, Open, Excellent, Master) are allowed to compete in T2B, to be successful dogs will need to demonstrate athletic ability and an advanced skill level.

Section 3. Eligibility. T2B has a single class level. Dogs eligible to enter Novice, Open, Excellent, or Master level classes may enter the T2B class. Dogs will be judged and points awarded by jump height.

Section 4. Performance Standards.
• The course must be completed before the dog reaches or exceeds the Maximum Course Time (MCT).
• Wrong courses are scored with a “W” on the scribe sheet and will result in a non-qualifying (NQ) score.
• Mandatory Eliminations (NQ) established for equipment as stated in Chapter 5, Section 5 will apply and result in a non-qualifying score (NQ). An “F” shall be marked on the scribe sheet and the dog and handler may continue their run except as noted elsewhere in these Regulations.
• Mandatory Excusals stated in Chapter 5 Section 6 will apply. The scribe sheet shall be marked with an “E” and the dog and handler are excused from the ring.
• Refusals/Run-outs (R) will not be scored.
• Weave poles must be completed in three (3) attempts or less, or a failure to perform fault (F) will be scored and the judge will ask the handler to go on.

Section 5. Maximum Course Times (MCT).
• 50 seconds for the 20, 24, & 24 inch Choice jump heights
• 55 seconds for the 16 inch jump height
• 60 seconds for the 4, 8, 12 inch jump heights
No additional time is added for dogs entered in Preferred, as the fastest Preferred dog within each jump height will set the Time 2 Beat.

Section 6. Scoring Criteria. A qualifying score is obtained when the dog’s run time is under the MCT and has incurred no course faults.
• The dog within a jump height with the fastest time (before times are truncated) with no course faults shall earn first place and 10 points. In the case of a tie (e.g. same score and time), a run-off will be used.
to determine the first place dog. Only one dog per jump height shall be awarded 10 points. The time for the first place dog will establish the Standard Course Time (SCT) for the jump height division at the event. **NOTE:** If a dog within any jump height is disallowed by AKC after the trial has ended no scores for any qualifying dogs will be recalculated.

- All qualifying dogs with a time below that of the MCT shall earn between 1 point and 9 points (see chart below). A dog’s run time is truncated for the purpose of calculating how many points are to be awarded. All dogs whose time was within 10% of the SCT shall earn 9 points, within 20% shall earn 8 points, etc. See the chart below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dog's Run Time Compared to 1st Place Dog</th>
<th># of Points Earned</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Within 10%</td>
<td>9 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Within 20%</td>
<td>8 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Within 30%</td>
<td>7 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Within 40%</td>
<td>6 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Within 50%</td>
<td>5 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Within 60%</td>
<td>4 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Within 70%</td>
<td>3 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Within 80%</td>
<td>2 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Within 90% or greater, but under the MCT</td>
<td>1 point</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The formula for the upper end of the percentage range is: (Fastest time in a jump height multiplied by the percentage) plus the fastest time in the jump height. Both the low and high end of the percentage range are truncated. Each dog’s time gets truncated. A dog’s time falls into a percentage range if it is greater than the low end and less than or equal to the high end of the range.

**Point Calculation Example:**

If the Standard Course Time was: 28.73 seconds.

To calculate the range of dog’s run times that will earn 9 points: Take 28.73 and multiply it by 10% = 2.87. Add 28.73 and 2.87 = 31.60 and truncate the result = 31.00.

Truncate the SCT of 28.73 = 28.00. The range of dog’s run times for 10% is greater than or equal to 28 seconds and less than or equal to 31 seconds. Truncate the dog’s time.

All qualifying dogs whose truncated run time is greater than or equal to 28 and less than or equal to 31 seconds earn 9 points.

To calculate the range of dog’s run times that will earn 8 points: Take 28.73 and multiply it by 20% = 5.75. Add 28.73 and 5.75 = 34.48 and truncate the result = 34.00. The range of dog’s run times for 20% is greater than 31 and less than or equal to 34.

All qualifying dogs whose truncated run time is greater than 31 and less than or equal to 34 seconds earn 8 points.

To calculate the range of dog’s run times that will earn 7 points: Take 28.73 and multiply it by 30% = 8.62. Add 28.73
and \( 8.62 = 37.35 \) and truncate the result = 37.00. The range of dog’s run times for 30% is greater than 34 and less than or equal to 37.

All qualifying dogs whose truncated run time is greater than 34 and less than or equal to 37 seconds earn 7 points.

**Note:** Not all point values may be awarded for a jump height depending on the SCT for that jump height. If a dog’s time is equal to or greater than the MCT, no points are awarded.

**Section 7. Catalog Requirements.** Run times recorded in the marked catalog must not be truncated.

**Section 8. Titles.** To earn the Time 2 Beat (T2B) or Time 2 Beat Preferred (T2BP) title, a dog must earn 15 qualifying scores and 100 points. The T2B or T2BP title initials will be followed by a numeric designation indicating the number of times the dog has met the requirements of the title as defined above. Each time a dog earns the title the number of qualifying scores and points will be set to zero.

**Section 9. Minimum Obstacle Requirements.**
- Quantity = 17-19
- Obstacles required, allowed, and not allowed – refer to chart at the end of this chapter.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OBSTACLES</th>
<th>ELIGIBILITY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dog Walk</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-Frame</td>
<td>A* (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seesaw</td>
<td>A* (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pause Table</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weave poles 1 set of 12 poles</td>
<td>R*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Tunnel</td>
<td>A (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bar Jump</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Double Bar Jump</td>
<td>A**(2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Triple Bar Jump</td>
<td>A**(2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panel Jump</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broad Jump</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ascending Double Bar Jump</td>
<td>A ** (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Bar Jump</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tire</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

R = Required Obstacle; A = Allowed Obstacle; N = Not Allowed

* A combination of three (3) obstacles consisting of the Weave Poles and either the A-Frame, Seesaw, or both, are required to be used in course design. At least one contact and the Weave Poles are required on the course. The A-Frame or Seesaw may be taken twice to meet this requirement.

**One spread jump is required and only one spread jump may be used on a Time 2 Beat course. The spread jump may be a Double Bar Jump, an Ascending Double Bar Jump or a Triple Bar Jump.

( ) Indicates number of times that this obstacle can be taken on the course.
Chapter 11 – Premier Classes

Section 1. Purpose. These optional titling classes are designed to challenge dogs and handlers at an increased speed and skill level above those set for the Master level classes. Handlers/dogs will need to negotiate courses that require varied approach angles, spacing, and obstacle discriminations to be successful in these classes. These classes are offered as separate titling tracks and are not part of the MACH/PACH Championships.

Premier may be offered once per day as an additional class or classes. Clubs may, but are not required to offer Premier Standard and Premier Jumpers with Weaves on the same day.

Section 2. Eligibility. The Premier class has a single class level. Dogs Eligible to enter Novice, Open, Excellent or Master level classes may enter the Premier Class.

Section 3. Performance Standards

• Minimum allowable score required to qualify = 100.
• The course must be completed before the dog reaches the Maximum Course Time (MCT).
• Additional Non-Qualifying faults (beyond those listed in Chapter 5, Sections 5 and 6).
  – Any Course Fault

Maximum Course Times (MCT) Premier Standard
Regular:
• 55 seconds for the 20 and 24 inch Choice Regular jump heights.
• 60 seconds for the 16 and 24 inch Regular jump heights.
• 65 seconds for the 8 and 12 inch Regular jump heights.

Preferred:
• 60 seconds for 16 inch Preferred jump height.
• 65 seconds for 12 and 20 inch Preferred jump heights.
• 70 seconds for 4 and 8 inch Preferred jump heights.

Note: For timing purposes all Premier Standard classes may have timer set for MCT of 70 seconds.

Premier Jumpers With Weaves
Regular:
• 46 seconds for the 24 inch Regular jump height.
• 42 seconds for the 20 inch and 24 inch Choice Regular jump heights.
• 45 seconds for the 16 inch Regular jump height.
• 48 seconds for the 12 inch Regular jump height.
• 50 seconds for the 8 inch Regular jump heights.
Preferred:
• 51 seconds for the 20 inch Preferred jump height.
• 47 seconds for the 16 inch Preferred jump height.
• 50 seconds for the 12 inch Preferred jump heights.
• 53 seconds for the 8 inch Preferred jump heights.
• 55 seconds for the 4 inch Preferred jump height.

Note: For timing purposes all Premier Jumpers With Weaves classes may have timer set for MCT of 55 seconds.

Minimum Obstacle Requirements:
• Quantity = 19-21
• Obstacles required, allowed, and not allowed will be the same as the Master level courses as noted in Chapter 6, Section 5 for Standard; and Chapter 7, Section 5 for Jumpers With Weaves, except that both classes will have a maximum of three tunnel passes and Standard will not have a table.
• In both classes the wall jump, as described in Chapter 3, Section 16, can be substituted for the panel jump or a spread jump, as long as the wall jump can be set for all heights.

Section 4. Obstacle and Jump Positions. Shall generally follow the requirements set forth in Chapter 4, Section 4, with the following exceptions:
• A Distance of 25 – 30 feet between two obstacles may be approved up to two times on a course.
• Distances of greater than 30 feet between obstacles may be approved to allow for turns between obstacles as necessary.
• There may be one bi-directional tunnel or bar/single bar jump on the course.

Section 5. Approach Angles. Shall generally follow what is stated in Chapter 4, Section 5, except as detailed in the AKC Agility Judges Guidelines for the Premier Class.

Section 6. Titles. To earn the Premier Agility Dog (PAD), Premier Agility Dog Preferred (PADP), Premier Jumpers Dog (PJD) or Premier Jumpers Dog Preferred (PJDP) titles, a dog must earn 25 qualifying scores with five qualifying scores earned for placing in the top 25% of the dogs that competed in their jump height.

Dogs that are absent or withdrawn will not count toward the number of dogs competing in the jump height. The 25% calculation will be rounded to determine the number of 25% placements in each jump height. In the case of a tie both dogs will receive the top 25% placement. If a class has two or three dogs competing, the 1st place dog will be awarded a top 25% placement qualifying score. If only one dog competes in the jump height, there will be no top 25% placement earned in that jump height.
Chapter 12
National Agility Champion Title

Section 1. National Agility Champion Titles. A National Agility Championship title will be awarded annually to the overall winning dog of each jump height class at the AKC National Agility Championship. The overall winner for each jump height at the end of the event shall be entitled to be designated “National Agility Champion” (NAC) of _______ (year) and will be permitted to use the letters of NAC preceding the AKC name of each dog awarded this title.

Preferred National Agility Champion Title. A Preferred National Agility Championship title will be awarded annually to the overall winning dog of each Preferred jump height class at the AKC National Agility Championship. The overall winner for each Preferred jump height at the end of the event shall be entitled to be designated “Preferred National Agility Champion” (PNAC) of _______ (year) and will be permitted to use the letters of PNAC preceding the AKC name of each dog awarded this title.

Section 2. National Agility Champion Defined. The AKC National Agility Championship competition shall comprise a varied combination of Regular and Preferred Excellent/Master level class challenges, in each of the event classes, all of which may be modified.

Section 3. Dogs That May Compete. To be eligible to compete, dogs are required to meet the minimum qualifications during a qualifying period set each year.

All dogs that are registered with the American Kennel Club or that have AKC Limited Registration, Purebred Alternative Listing/Indefinite Listing Privileges (PAL/ILP), or an AKC Canine Partners listing number, or Foundation Stock Service (FSS) breeds and who meet the minimum entry qualifications set forth for the event are eligible to compete in the AKC National Agility Championship, providing the entry is received prior to any entry limits being reached and before the event closing date/time.
Chapter 13
Versatile Companion Dog

Section 1. Versatile Companion Dog Titles. Since January 1, 2001, the AKC has permitted the use of the letters following the names of each dog registered that completes the titles as follows:

Versatile Companion Dog 1 (VCD1)
CD, NA, NAJ, TD or CD, NAP, NJP, TD

Versatile Companion Dog 2 (VCD2)
CDX, OA, OAJ, TD or CDX, OAP, OJP, TD

Versatile Companion Dog 3 (VCD3)
UD, AX, AXJ, TDX or UD, AXP, AJP, TDX

Versatile Companion Dog 4 (VCD4)
UDX, MX, MXJ, VST or UDX, MXP, MJP, VST

Section 2. Versatile Companion Champion Title. Since January 1, 2001, the AKC has permitted the use of the letters VCCH preceding the name of each dog that completes the titles, as follows: OTCH, MACH or PACH and CT.

Note: Explanation of Titles

AX  Agility Excellent
AXJ  Excellent Agility Jumper
AXP  Agility Excellent Preferred
AJP  Excellent Agility Jumper Preferred
CD  Companion Dog
CDX  Companion Dog Excellent
CT  Champion Tracker
MX  Master Agility Excellent
MXJ  Master Agility Jumper
MXP  Master Agility Excellent Preferred
MJP  Master Excellent Jumper Preferred
MACH  Master Agility Champion
NA  Novice Agility
NAJ  Novice Agility Jumper
NAP  Novice Agility Preferred
NJP  Novice Agility Jumper Preferred
OA  Open Agility
OAJ  Open Agility Jumper
OAP  Open Agility Preferred
OJP  Open Agility Jumper Preferred
OTCH  Obedience Trial Champion
PACH  Preferred Agility Champion
TD  Tracking Dog
TDX  Tracking Dog Excellent
UD  Utility Dog
UDX  Utility Dog Excellent
VST  Variable Surface Tracker

Dogs listed with the AKC Canine Partners program are not eligible for Versatile Companion Dog titles.
Chapter 14
Non-Regular Agility Classes
International Sweepstakes Class

Section 1. Purpose. The International Sweepstakes Class (ISC) is a non-regular class providing a dog and handler an opportunity to demonstrate their advanced training and handling skills on various international style Standard and Jumpers With Weaves courses. The rules for this class are generally based on Fédération Cynologique International (FCI) rules.

The variety in International Agility course designs is very diverse, so handlers should be prepared to meet the “Challenge of the Day” when competing in the ISC class. The total challenge level may be easier, more difficult, or simply different from what is currently allowed in the Excellent or Master classes. Course designs will vary widely thus testing different skills on different days.

Section 2. Eligibility of Dogs. This class is open to dogs that are eligible to compete in AKC Agility Trials.

Section 3. Eligibility to Hold the ISC Class. Upon approval from the American Kennel Club, the ISC classes are allowed to be held in conjunction with an AKC approved agility trial. (The ISC classes may be held in conjunction with approved Excellent/Master only agility trials.)

The ISC class shall follow either the criteria for the Standard ISC class and/or the Jumpers With Weaves ISC class at the discretion of the club. It is recommended that if the ISC class is offered on two consecutive days, the club offer Standard ISC one day and JWW ISC the other day. However, clubs may offer both ISC classes on consecutive days.

Section 4. Ribbons, Rosettes and Awards. It is recommended that non-regular class ribbons, rosettes and other awards (including any monetary awards) if offered, shall be awarded to the first through fourth placements as defined under scoring.

Section 5. Recording Fees. None at this time.

Section 6. ISC Records. The ISC class shall be printed as the last class in the catalog. A completed ISC class record including a complete list of dogs entered, course distances, standard course times, scores and placements, shall be mailed separately to the Director of Agility.

Section 7. Jump Heights. The ISC class shall be split into three (3) separate categories: Small Agility for dogs measuring 13 ¾ inches and/or less at the withers, Medium Agility for dogs measuring 16 7/8 inches at the withers and/or less, and Large Agility for dogs measuring greater than 16 7/8 inches at the withers. As indicated in the equipment specifications for the ISC class, dogs entered in Small Agility jump 12 inches in height, dogs entered in Medium Agility jump 16 inches in height, dogs entered in Large Agility jump 24 inches in height. Exceptions and/or ranges exist at some jumps, see “Obstacle Specifications.”

Clubs may offer the ISC classes at heights specified in Chapter 2, Section 4 for Regular classes and Chapter 8, Section 9 for Preferred Classes. All heights must be included...
if the club offers jump heights in addition to those listed above for Small, Medium and Large Agility at the trial. Clubs may offer Preferred classes either as separate height classes or may combine them with the regular height the dog would be eligible to enter for the purpose of award placements in ISC classes. Jumps must conform to height specifications for the Regular and Preferred Heights. The A-Frame, Dog Walk and Seesaw specifications must conform to those set forth in Chapter 14, Section 9 if these classes are being offered in conjunction with a World Team Qualifier event. If ISC is being offered at other agility trials at the clubs discretion the contact obstacles may conform to the specifications in Chapter 3, Section 3.

**Section 8. Judges.** Only fully approved agility judges (non-provisional) will be approved to judge any ISC class. All judges shall submit course designs for review and approval 45 days prior to the trial.

**Section 9. Obstacle Specifications.** All specifications and performance requirements shall be as printed in Chapter 3, unless modified herein.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Obstacle</th>
<th>Specifications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A-Frame</td>
<td>The A-Frame shall be in compliance with the 9'-0&quot; panel specification. The apex of the A-Frame shall be set at 5'-6&quot; for Small and Medium dogs. The apex of the A-Frame shall be set at 5'-7&quot; for Large dogs. Performance: The dog must touch the upside contact zone as well as the downside with any part of one foot.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dog Walk</td>
<td>The dog walk shall be in compliance with the 12' plank specifications. The contact zones on the upside and downside shall be 36&quot; in length.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seesaw</td>
<td>The contact zones on the upside and downside shall be 36&quot; in length.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contacts in General</td>
<td>For altering contact zones for the ISC class-recommend placing a clearly visible line using duct tape with the upside of the duct tape at 36&quot; from the end of the board.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pause Table</td>
<td>Top set at 12&quot; for Small dogs, 16&quot; for Medium dogs and 24&quot; for Large dogs. <strong>Performance:</strong> The table count is a cumulative five (5) second count instead of a consecutive five (5) second count. The table position may be either the sit, down or stand position (where the dog is required to maintain the position for the five (5) second count). When the position is “stand” the count starts once the dog is standing and has stopped in place, with three or four feet in contact with the table. Significant movements will interrupt the judge’s five (5) second count. The judge resumes counting once the dog has stopped again.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Jumps including Bar Jumps, One Bar Jumps, Panel Jumps</td>
<td>The top bar or panel shall be set at 12&quot; for Small dogs, 16&quot; for Medium dogs and 24&quot; for Large dogs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jump Type</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broad Jump</td>
<td>Jump length set at 16”-20” for Small dogs (2 boards used), 28”-36” for Medium dogs (3 to 4 boards used) and 48”-54” (4 to 5 boards used) for Large dogs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wall Jump</td>
<td>Will comply with Chapter 3, Section 16 for construction and setting of jump heights.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Viaduct Jump</td>
<td>The Viaduct Jump is basically opaque like a panel jump with uprights on each end that are a minimum of 36” tall. Cut into the opaque surface are half-round like openings that the dog can see through. Size of the open half rounds will depend on the total height of the jump but shall not generally exceed ½ of the total surface area. The top of the Viaduct shall be set at 12”-14” for Small dogs, 16”-18” for Medium dogs and 24” for Large dogs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ascending Spread Jump</td>
<td>An Ascending Spread Jump is two bar jumps placed together to form a spread. The jump shall be set as follows:  4 inches, 0 in front, 0 width 8 inches, 4 in front, 4 width 12 inches - 12 in back, 8 in front, 8 wide 16 inches - 16 in back, 12 in front, 12 wide 20 inches, 20 in back, 14 in front, 14 wide 24 inches - 24 in back 18 in front, 18 wide The AKC ascending double bar jump may be used at judge’s discretion and shall be set as designated in Chapter 3, Section 15. <strong>Performance:</strong> Shall be the same as the Double Bar Jump.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tire Jump</td>
<td>The AKC standard tire jump shall be used with the height set at 8” for Small dogs, 8” for Medium dogs and 18” for Large dogs as measured from the ground to the bottom of the tire opening or set to AKC Heights.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Section 10. Course and Trial Requirements.** The recommended course size for the ISC class is 10,000-12,000 square feet. The minimum course size for the ISC class shall be 8,000 square feet with no side shorter than 60 feet.
Section 11. Equipment Requirements.

Standard ISC Class: 18 – 22 Total Obstacles Required

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REQUIRED OBSTACLES</th>
<th>QUANTITY RESTRICTIONS AND NOTES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dog Walk, A-Frame and Seesaw</td>
<td>Must have a Dog Walk, A-Frame and Seesaw on course. Each contact may only be taken one (1) time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spread Jump</td>
<td>A minimum of one (1) and a maximum of three (3) Spread Jumps are to be used on the course. (The Broad Jump, Ascending Double Bar Jump and Viaduct/Wall Jump are considered “Spread Jumps”.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Tunnel</td>
<td>Must be used a minimum of one time on the course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tire Jump</td>
<td>No quantity restrictions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Set of Weave Poles</td>
<td>One (1) set of 12 poles maximum.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Bar Jump</td>
<td>No quantity restrictions.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OPTIONAL OBSTACLES</th>
<th>QUANTITY RESTRICTIONS AND NOTES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pause Table</td>
<td>One (1) maximum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panel Jump</td>
<td>No quantity restrictions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Viaduct/Wall Jump</td>
<td>One (1) time maximum.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closed Tunnel</td>
<td>One (1) and may only be taken one time on course.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Bar Jumps</td>
<td>No quantity restrictions.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Jumpers ISC Class: 18 – 22 Total Obstacles Required

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REQUIRED OBSTACLES</th>
<th>QUANTITY RESTRICTIONS AND NOTES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12 Set of Weave Poles</td>
<td>One (1) set of 12 poles maximum.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spread Jump</td>
<td>A minimum of one (1) and a maximum of three (3) Spread Jumps are to be used on the course. (The Broad Jump, Viaduct/Wall and Ascending Double Bar Jump are considered “Spread Jumps”.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Bar Jump</td>
<td>No quantity restrictions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Tunnel</td>
<td>May be used at judges discretion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closed Tunnel</td>
<td>One (1) and may only be taken one time on course.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tire Jump</td>
<td>No quantity restrictions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panel Jump</td>
<td>No quantity restrictions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Viaduct/Wall Jump</td>
<td>One (1) time maximum.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Bar Jumps</td>
<td>No quantity restrictions.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Section 12. Course Distances and Times. The standard course times are at the sole discretion of the judge but shall generally follow these guidelines noted below. Course distance may not be greater than 240 yards.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Course Distance Guidelines</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Small Standard ISC Class</td>
<td>2.75 yards per second to 3.50 yards per second</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medium Standard ISC Class</td>
<td>3.00 yards per second to 3.75 yards per second</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Large Standard ISC Class</td>
<td>3.50 yards per second to 4.25 yards per second</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small Jumpers ISC Class</td>
<td>3.50 yards per second to 4.00 yards per second</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medium Jumpers ISC Class</td>
<td>3.75 yards per second to 4.25 yards per second</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Large Jumpers ISC Class</td>
<td>4.00 yards per second to 4.50 yards per second</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Trials including the Regular and Preferred Jump Heights will assign Standard Course Times (SCT’s) as follows:

For Regular jump heights:
- 8, 12 inches will be assigned the SCT calculated for Small Agility
- 16 inches will be assigned SCT calculated for Medium Agility
- 20, 24 inches will be assigned SCT calculated for Large Dog Agility.

For Preferred jump heights course time assigned will use the SCT for Regular heights as noted in above paragraph, plus 5 additional seconds.

Notes:
1. Five (5) seconds shall be added to the Standard Course Time for the Standard ISC classes if the table is used.
2. The flexibility in Standard Course Times reflects the degree of difficulty (flow) on the course, equipment to be performed, ring surface, and weather conditions.
3. Course shall be measured once for Small and Medium class (along a 12” jumping dog’s path) and once for Large class (along a 24” jumping dog’s path) using an efficient course path.
4. Spacing of obstacles shall generally comply with “AKC Course Design Guidelines.”
5. In order to reflect the international challenge level in the Small, Medium and Large agility classes, it is recommended that the judge designate a section or two of the course to reduce the spacing between obstacles from the Large class to Medium/Small class (which can have the same course spacing).

Section 13. Scoring. Dogs start with a score of zero to which faults are added for infractions.

Section 14. Placements and Tied Scores. All ISC class placements are based on faults then time, whereas the dog with the fewest faults wins. In cases where dogs have the same number of faults, the dog with the lowest (fastest) course time prevails. Placements are given out separately to
dogs in the Small, Medium and Large categories. A tie with two (2) dogs having the same score and time will require a run-off.

Example: (SCT 55 seconds)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dog's Time</th>
<th>Time Fault</th>
<th>Course Fault</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Placement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dog 1 53.25</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dog 2 49.25</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dog 3 56.25</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dog 4 49.75</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dog 5 53.05</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Dogs with faults can place. Eliminated dogs cannot place.)

Section 15. Course Time Penalties. One (1) fault for each full second over the Standard Course Time (SCT).

Section 16. Maximum Course Time. The maximum course time shall be equal to the Standard Course Time (SCT) plus 20 seconds.

Section 17. Standard Faults. Standard faults incurring a five (5) point penalty include:
1. A displaced bar, plank or placeable surface that the dog was to jump over.
2. Missed contact zones (including the upside zone of the A-Frame).
4. Leaving the table prior to completion of the five (5) second count. (This penalty can be assessed one time only.) Dog must complete the table before going on.
5. Anticipation of the table count. (A dog leaving between the word “One” and the word “Go.”) Dog proceeds with remainder of course.
6. Missed weave pole once entered correctly. (This penalty can be assessed one time only per set of weave poles.) However, missed poles must be re-attempted and completed.
7. Visibly moving or stepping on top of the Broad Jump.
8. Breaking apart the Tire Jump.

Section 18. Refusal Faults. Refusal faults incurring a five (5) point penalty include:
1. Refusals at any obstacle.
2. Run-outs at any obstacle.
3. Dog exiting a contact obstacle prior to starting its descent on that obstacle. If dog exits obstacle before descent, dog must re-attempt and complete obstacle. Starting descent is defined as crossing the apex of the A-Frame; placing one (1) paw on the downside board of the Dog Walk; Seesaw board as pivoted past the horizontal plane. (The “four paw rule” is not applicable in this class.)
4. Failure to enter the Weave Poles properly.
Section 19. Elimination Faults.
1. Three (3) refusals and/or run-outs on a course.
2. Dog running the wrong course, including touching the wrong obstacle with one (1) paw.
3. Dog/handler contact that aids the performance of the dog.
4. Handler contact with the equipment if it aids or was intended to aid the performance of the dog.
5. Outside assistance to the handler/dog in the ring that aided the performance.
6. Failure to complete all obstacles on the course.
   Completing an obstacle is defined as:
   a. Jumping over jumps and through tires, in the proper direction.
   b. Starting descent on a contact obstacle.
   c. Going through the tunnels in the proper direction.
   d. Pausing as directed at the Pause Table for five (5) seconds, (in the position directed by the judge).
   e. Weaving all Weave Poles after proper entry.

Section 20. Excusals. As listed in Chapter 5, Section 6 and:
   • Exceeding the fault limit (if applied). Based on the class size and judging schedules, fault limits may be applied at the discretion of the judge and club. Recommended criteria for applying fault limits are:
     - 20 faults is the minimum number of faults designated as the fault limit.
     - Dogs should be excused after their second elimination penalty. (i.e.: Second wrong course, one (1) wrong course + three (3) refusals, etc.)
     - If fault limits are used, then “time faults + course faults” in excess of the fault limit chosen shall equal an “E.”
Chapter 15
Regulations for Agility Course Test (ACT)

Section 1. Purpose. The Agility Course Test (ACT) is an entry level agility event to introduce beginning dogs and handlers to the sport of agility and the AKC agility program.

Section 2. ACT Event. There are two levels of ACT events – ACT1 and ACT2. ACT 1 is designed for the beginning level dog to show beginning sequencing and performance skills. ACT2 requires an increased skill level shown by the additional obstacles to be performed.

Section 3. Eligibility of Dogs. All dogs fifteen (15) months of age or older may enter a test. Dogs must be physically sound as described in Chapter 1, Section 3, Paragraph 7 of the Regulations for Agility Trials. In order to acquire the title certificate and have the title added to a dog's record, the dog must be registered/listed with the AKC. Canine Partner applications may be accepted at the test by the judge/evaluator and submitted with test results. Dogs that are not AKC registered/listed may participate and their performance will be recorded by the AKC under a temporary recording number. This temporary recording number will be e-mailed to the owner and must be used when entering subsequent ACT events and when the owner registers/lists the dog. Note: Temporary recording numbers may only be used to enter ACT events.

Section 4. Holding ACT Events. Any AKC club licensed to hold agility trials may hold an ACT event, either in conjunction with an agility trial or as a stand-alone event. An ACT event held in conjunction with an agility trial may be noted in the premium. In addition, any AKC agility judge/ACT evaluator may hold a stand-alone ACT event. The event does not have to be held by an AKC licensed club. No more than two ACT1 and/or two ACT2 events may be held per day.

No event application to the American Kennel Club is required. ACT events may be held as the graduation exercise for training classes provided they are judged by an AKC agility judge or ACT evaluator. See Section 8 for information about ACT evaluators.

Entries may only be accepted if the exhibitor has filled out an ACT entry form. The form must meet all requirements as set forth in Chapter 1, Section 11. Entries may be accepted prior to the event with a predetermined opening and closing date and/or they may be accepted on the day of the event.

All applicable regulations in Regulations for Agility Trials will govern the conduct of ACT events. They will apply to any person and dog entered, unless this chapter states otherwise.

Section 5. Ribbons, Rosettes and Awards.
Ribbons, rosettes and awards may be awarded at the club/evaluators’ discretion. Ribbons must bear a facsimile of the seal of the American Kennel Club, the words “ACT Event.” A label may be used to identify the Judge/Evaluator, Class, date of event and be placed on the back of the ribbon. Ribbons must be at least 2 inches wide and 8 inches long. Ribbons shall be the following colors:

First Place .........................Blue
Second Place .....................Red
Third Place .......................Yellow
Fourth Place…………………….White
Qualifying Score…………………Dark Green

Certificates, toys or other awards may be used in place of ribbons to recognize dogs that qualify.

Section 6. Submission of Results and Reports. Results must be submitted as noted in Chapter 1, Section 28. The judge or an ACT evaluator must submit the Test Report in place of Trial Chair and Trial Secretary Reports noted in Chapter 1, Section 28. No event kits will be mailed for ACT events. All forms must be downloaded from the AKC website located under downloadable forms. (www.akc.org/downloadable-forms/)

Section 7. Jump Height Divisions. Dogs may be entered at any of the following jump height divisions: 4, 8, 12, 16, 20 or 24 inches. There is no Regular or Preferred distinction in the ACT program. A jump height card is not required to enter an ACT event, but handlers are encouraged to have their dogs measured if a VMO is available.

Section 8. Judges/Evaluators. Approved AKC Agility Judges or ACT Evaluators may judge ACT tests. Evaluators must have earned a minimum of an AX/AXP title with one dog and pass an ACT Evaluator written test administered by the American Kennel Club.

Section 9. Course Size, Suitability and Facilities. Course areas must be a minimum of 3,500 useable square feet. The course area must be moderately level and clear, and be a minimum of 40 feet wide. Refer to Chapter 4, Sections 1 and 2 for additional information.

Section 10. Course Requirements. All courses must have clearly designated start and finish lines and all obstacles/jumps must be clearly and sequentially numbered. The course layout must be available prior to the walkthrough either by posting it and/or supplying course copies to the exhibitors.

Course designs must comply with the current edition of the AKC Agility Judges Guidelines and be submitted for approval to the AKC Agility Department. Courses may be reused by Judges/Evaluators at their discretion.

Section 11. Obstacle and Jump Positions. Refer to Chapter 4, Section 3. The following exceptions are in place for ACT1 and ACT 2:

– Obstacles may not have adjacent entrances in ACT1 and ACT2.
– A course may have less than 50% winged jumps.

Section 12. Approach Angles. Approach angles are determined based on the anticipated path of a 20-inch high jumping dog through the obstacles. Approach angles shall generally not exceed 90 degrees, but must not exceed two times at 135 degrees. Additional consideration for safety maybe needed based on the obstacle being approached and the running surface.

Section 13. ACT1. ACT1 is an entry level test that is open to all dogs that have not earned a title in any AKC Agility class and that meet the age and physical requirements for a regular AKC agility trial (Chapter 1, Section 3). Dogs must have two passing ACT1 scores in order to earn the ACT1 title. Both passing scores may be obtained under the same
judge/evaluator. To receive the title certificate and have the title added to a dog’s record, the dog must be registered/listed with the AKC.

**ACT1 Performance Standards:**
- Minimum allowable score required to qualify = 85
- Performance will be judged as set forth in Chapter 5, Sections 4, 5 and 6 with the following exceptions:
  - Run-outs and Refusals will not be judged
  - More than 3 attempts at the next correct obstacle (ascent side of contacts) will result in a Mandatory Elimination and will be signaled with an “F” by the judge/evaluator.
  - The 4 –Paw rule is not in effect.

**ACT1 Standard Course Time:**
The time for all jump heights is 60 seconds. This is also the maximum course time. The course must be completed in less than 60 seconds.

**ACT1 Minimum Obstacles Requirements:**
- Quantity =10-12
- Obstacles required, allowed and not allowed - refer to section 15 for chart.
- All obstacles must meet AKC equipment regulations in Chapter 3

**Section 14. ACT2.** ACT2 is the second level Agility Course Test that is open to all dogs that have not earned a title in any AKC Agility class except an ACT1 title and that meet the age and physical requirements for a regular AKC agility trial (Chapter 1, Section 3). Dogs must have two passing ACT2 scores in order to earn the ACT2 title. Both passing scores may be obtained under the same judge/evaluator. To receive the title certificate and have the title added to a dog’s record, the dog must be registered/listed with the AKC. The ACT 2 title will supersede the ACT1 title on a dog’s record.

**ACT2 Performance Standards:**
- Minimum allowable score required to qualify = 85
- Performance will be judged as set forth in Chapter 5, Sections 4, 5 & 6 with the following exceptions:
  - Run-outs and Refusals will not be judged
  - More than 3 attempts at the next correct obstacle (ascent side of contacts) will result in a Mandatory Elimination and will be signaled with an “F” by the judge
  - The 4 –Paw rule is not in effect.

**ACT2 Standard Course Time:**
The time for all jump heights is 70 seconds. This is also the maximum course time. The course must be completed in less than 70 seconds.

**ACT2 Minimum Obstacles Requirements:**
- Quantity =11-13
- Obstacles required, allowed and not allowed – refer to section 15 for chart
- All obstacles must meet AKC equipment regulations in Chapter 3.
Section 15. Obstacles for ACT1 and ACT2.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OBSTACLES</th>
<th>ACT1</th>
<th>ACT2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dog walk</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-frame</td>
<td>R(1) set at 5' for all heights</td>
<td>R(1) set at 5' for all heights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seesaw</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>R (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pause table</td>
<td>R (1)</td>
<td>R (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weaves poles</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>R (1) 6 poles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open tunnel</td>
<td>R Max (3)</td>
<td>R Max (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bar jump</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Double Bar Jump</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>A (1)**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panel Jump</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tire Jump</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broad Jump</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>A (1)**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Triple Bar Jump</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>A(1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ascending Double Bar Jump</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>A(1)**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Bar Jump</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qty of Obstacles</td>
<td>10-12</td>
<td>11-13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

R = Required Obstacles  
**A maximum of one spread jump is required on the course.**  
A = Allowed Obstacles  
N = Not Allowed
AKC Code of Sportsmanship

PREFACE: The sport of purebred dog competitive events dates prior to 1884, the year of AKC’s birth. Shared values of those involved in the sport include principles of sportsmanship. They are practiced in all sectors of our sport: conformation, performance and companion. Many believe that these principles of sportsmanship are the prime reason why our sport has thrived for over one hundred years. With the belief that it is useful to periodically articulate the fundamentals of our sport, this code is presented.

• Sportsmen respect the history, traditions and integrity of the sport of purebred dogs.
• Sportsmen commit themselves to values of fair play, honesty, courtesy, and vigorous competition, as well as winning and losing with grace.
• Sportsmen refuse to compromise their commitment and obligation to the sport of purebred dogs by injecting personal advantage or consideration into their decisions or behavior.
• The sportsman judge judges only on the merits of the dogs and considers no other factors.
• The sportsman judge or exhibitor accepts constructive criticism.
• The sportsman exhibitor declines to enter or exhibit under a judge where it might reasonably appear that the judge’s placements could be based on something other than the merits of the dogs.
• The sportsman exhibitor refuses to compromise the impartiality of a judge.
• The sportsman respects the AKC bylaws, rules, regulations and policies governing the sport of purebred dogs.
• Sportsmen find that vigorous competition and civility are not inconsistent and are able to appreciate the merit of their competition and the effort of competitors.
• Sportsmen welcome, encourage and support newcomers to the sport.
• Sportsmen will deal fairly with all those who trade with them.
• Sportsmen are willing to share honest and open appraisals of both the strengths and weaknesses of their breeding stock.
• Sportsmen spurn any opportunity to take personal advantage of positions offered or bestowed upon them.
• Sportsmen always consider as paramount the welfare of their dog.
• Sportsmen refuse to embarrass the sport, the American Kennel Club, or themselves while taking part in the sport.
AKC Agility Judge’s Guidelines

Amended to March 2020
Published by The American Kennel Club
AKC Agility Judges Guidelines

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CHAPTER 1
JUDGE’S RESPONSIBILITIES, PROTOCOL, AND PROCEDURES

Remember: You make it work!
As an American Kennel Club agility judge, you are an essential part of the program. The AKC agility system needs your dedication and expertise to function properly. We, the AKC Director of Agility and Field Representatives, believe these judging guidelines will make it easier for you to do your job and to contribute to the sport of agility in a positive manner.

This set of guidelines is meant to supplement and provide further explanation of the agility regulations. It does not repeat the regulations, nor is it intended to change or alter the regulations in any way; however, its contents are a valid extension of the regulations and should be adhered to as such. You should be thoroughly familiar with these guidelines, as well as all the AKC’s rules, regulations for agility trials, and policies if you:

• Are an approved or provisional judge
• Have accepted match judging assignments
• Plan to attend an AKC Judging Seminar

SECTION 1. Responsibilities as a Judge

Responsibilities to the sport of purebred dogs: Approval to judge carries with it the full endorsement of the American Kennel Club. Whether judging at a licensed trial or sanctioned match or engaging in any dog-related activity (including but not limited to exhibiting), judges must be cognizant of their responsibility to the sport.

Judges have a responsibility to work with the AKC staff and its Field Representatives to ensure that the standards of the AKC agility program are maintained. As a judge, you are required to meet these key criteria:

1. Knowledge: Through experience and continuing study, you must demonstrate sound knowledge of the sport of agility. Good judges never stop learning about the sport of agility. To ensure that all judges are knowledgeable, agility judges are required to attend and meet the requirements of a continuing education seminar at least once every 3 years.

Excellent sources of information for agility judges to stay current include:

• The AKC Gazette (http://www.akc.org/pubs/gazette/)
• The AKC web site (www.AKC.org)
Judge’s Newsletters and blog  
(https://akcagilityjudges.wordpress.com)

2. **Procedure:** You must demonstrate good course design, sound judging procedure, good decision-making skills, common sense, and efficient ring procedure. A judge who does this will earn the confidence of exhibitors and spectators alike.

3. **Impartiality:** It is essential that exhibitors have full faith in the impartiality and competence of the judge. There is no room for even the suggestion that anything other than the performance of the dog in the ring is involved in the judge’s decisions.

**General responsibilities:** An agility judge’s tasks include:
- Corresponding with the club in a timely manner
- Designing the courses and submitting them for approval
- Setting the proper atmosphere at the trial to project the attitude that agility is a fun sport
- Ensuring that the course is built correctly
- Removing all safety hazards related to the equipment and the ring area
- Measuring dogs without a valid height card or form to ensure that all dogs jump in the correct height divisions
- Determining and controlling the ring procedures
- Judging each dog’s performance
- Verifying that scores, course yardages, and Standard Course Times (SCT’s) are recorded accurately and that the official catalog is signed (certified) and initialed
  - Judges must make sure the Certification page in the catalog has the correct number of Qs listed before signing. An easy way to do this is to keep a running total of your Qs while reviewing scribe sheets throughout the day.
  - Ensuring that only approved courses are used at the trial for which they were designed

**Responsibilities to exhibitors:** Each exhibitor has paid an entry fee for the purpose of competing and having his or her dog’s performance evaluated. Judges are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner and to be friendly and courteous to all who enter the ring. Without exhibitors, there would be no trials. For every experienced exhibitor, there are many newcomers who have less experience with the regulations and typical show procedures that will look to you for guidance.

**Responsibilities to spectators:** Spectators form their opinion of the sport
through seeing the actions of the judge, the handlers, and the dogs. Care must be taken to avoid any action that might reflect poorly on the sport. Judges should work to maintain spectator appeal in the sport, while keeping foremost in mind the welfare and safety of the exhibitors and their dogs.

**SECTION 2. Protocol**

**Ethics:** Judges must possess and project an unwavering air of integrity and ethical behavior that maintains the reputation of the AKC and the impression that agility trials are fairly and properly judged. With common sense, judges can easily avoid situations that might raise ethical questions. Judges are presumed to be honest, competent, and dedicated. Nevertheless, it is all too easy for a judge to find himself or herself in uncomfortable or even inappropriate situations. These guidelines cannot cover every situation. They can, however, help judges avoid improprieties, real or perceived.

Some ethical rules are clear. For example:

- Never accept any payments or gifts, or anything that could be perceived as a payment or gift, for past or future placements, qualifying scores, or measurements.

- Advise potential exhibitors not to enter under you when their presence or the presence of their dogs might give the impression of unfair advantage. This may include, for instance, a person with whom you co-own dogs or your employer or employee.

- Do not use your status as a judge at a trial at which you are judging to promote seminars or sales of dog food or to hand out written material for such promotion. Do not sell equipment or merchandise on a day that you are judging.

- Judges are not allowed to conduct training or handling seminars of any kind for the club or exhibitors on the day prior to judging. To avoid any appearance of conflict of interest, judges should extend this period to at least one week prior to judging. Any day following the end of a trial or set of trials is allowed.

- The internet can pose challenges for a judge. If a judge corresponds with an exhibitor after a trial regarding a call or situation, that correspondence should remain private between the judge and the exhibitor. Judges must be very careful when posting messages to lists or websites. Denigration toward another judge, club, organization or the AKC is prohibited.
These are only examples. The key is to avoid situations that might give the impression of impropriety. There will always be gray areas that could cause problems. Ask yourself whether what is happening, however innocent, maintains an outward appearance of propriety.

The AKC recognizes that you cannot control who enters a trial. This does not diminish the importance of appearances. Everything possible must be done to keep your reputation above reproach. Appropriate action by the AKC will be taken for any ethical violation.

Social functions: If a club holding a show or trial holds a dinner or social function, it is recommended that the judge(s) attend. If exhibitors who might appear in your ring will be present, take extra care to avoid any appearance of impropriety during these functions.

Training and exhibiting: All judges start in the sport as exhibitors and trainers. It is natural to want to continue these activities after becoming a judge. It is acceptable to exhibit or have your dogs exhibited at trials at which you are not judging. Because it would give the impression of impropriety, it is not permissible for your spouse, family member, relative, or household member to enter their dogs or any dogs they co-own in an agility trial on the day that you are judging. You, as the judge, are not allowed to exhibit nor have your dog exhibited on the day that you are judging. Additionally, your dog or any dog co-owned by you may not be exhibited in conformation, obedience, or any other AKC venue on the day that you are judging if the show or trial is on the same show grounds.

Judges must be prudent in how and when they exhibit. They must demonstrate the utmost in decorum and sportsmanship. Judges who exhibit should expect to be subject to special scrutiny. It is inappropriate and unprofessional for an exhibitor who is also a judge, regardless of his or her experience, to verbally override or second-guess the judge of record, including “double judging” outside the ring. This type of behavior is subject to disciplinary action by the judge of record and/or the AKC. The judge of record has complete control of how the course is set, how the ring is administered, and how the performance of the dog is judged. The judge of record shall not be subjected to additional course tweaking, “double judging,” or interference of ring personnel by any exhibitor or judge, as these are misconductable offenses. An experienced judge can make helpful suggestions to a judge of record if their expertise is requested.

Exhibiting in other AKC events: Judges (including provisional judges) may enter the “A” class in other AKC events if otherwise eligible.
Judge’s attitude: As a judge, your attitude strongly affects the atmosphere of the trial. Thus, it is important that you be both pleasant and friendly. You should convey the impression that you want the dogs and handlers to succeed and, indeed, you should. It is your responsibility to design appropriately challenging courses and officiate over them correctly. If you do this properly, then you should be pleased to watch dogs perform successfully on your courses.

Because you are responsible for so many different aspects of the event, it is easy to overlook details. Since any number of details can have a large impact on a class, ranging from safety to a misunderstanding of the course that is to be performed, you should listen carefully to suggestions and comments made by the exhibitors. Remember that they are looking at the course from an entirely different perspective than you are. Even if you decide not to act upon a comment or suggestion, giving it careful consideration goes a long way in the eyes of the competitors.

Accepting assignments: As stated in the regulations, a judge may not accept an assignment that is within 30 days and 200 miles of a previously accepted assignment, with the exception of single breed specialties. Judges must check the mileage and number of days between trials when accepting assignments and signing contracts.

Judges must promptly return telephone calls or emails (accepting or declining) from clubs wishing to hire them. This will allow the club to either finalize their plans or continue to search for another judge.

Require clubs to give you a written contract or submit your own to the club. Their request should clearly specify the class(es) and date(s) you are being asked to judge. Promptly acknowledge all contracts, again in writing, with your judge’s number, and keep accurate records of assignments you accept. Judges must communicate with the Trial Chairman to aid in planning the judging schedule (class order) that is to be mailed out to the exhibitors. This judging schedule will set the entire order of judging for the weekend. The class order and start times listed for any class(es) must not be changed on the day of the trial.

Judges should understand that in accepting an assignment, they are committing themselves to the show-giving club for the entire day. Their travel plans should not be predicated on arriving late or on leaving early to get transportation home or to another show. Rushing exhibitors in order to catch a flight or leave earlier is unacceptable and grossly inconsiderate to those who have paid to
have their performance judged and is subject to disciplinary action.

As entry patterns have changed in some areas of the country, clubs are looking to drop a judge when entries are below the number needed for the number of judges contracted. ALL judges for the trial must agree to the change, not just the judge being dropped. Often when a judge is dropped that leaves the judge(s) left on the assignment with minimal time to create additional courses for the weekend. Due to the remaining judge(s) own personal schedules this may not be something the judge(s) is prepared to do. This judge also has the right to decline the change in assignment if they do not feel the change in the terms of their judging assignment works for them. Clubs may offer to purchase courses from the judge that has agreed to be dropped. All terms of a judging assignment should be spelled out in the contract with the judge(s). These terms should include how the club and judge will handle a reduction in the number of judges for the trial.

Provisional judges are required to submit a request to judge to the Director of Agility prior to accepting any judging assignment. At the Novice/Open provisional judging level, a minimum of two satisfactory supervisions are required before consideration is made to move the judge to the Excellent provisional judging level. At the Excellent provisional judging level, a minimum of one satisfactory supervision is required before consideration is made to move the judge to the fully approved judging level. These conditions are separate from the course design requirements and a judge may be required to remain on provisional course design status until the Director of Agility feels the obligation for gaining knowledge and practical experience has been met. An Agility Field Rep may be required to be present at any or all provisional assignments.

Transportation: Judges shall not travel to or from shows or stay with anyone who is likely to be exhibiting or handling under them. Transportation to the show grounds from a hotel, motel, or airport is not considered travel.

Expenses: When you accept an assignment, clearly inform the club officials what your fees will be. Expenses must be discussed and put into the contract so that the club will not be surprised by a larger-than-anticipated bill on the day of the trial. This is a contract between you and the club. The more specific details you and the club include in the contract, the less the potential for misunderstandings. These details might include who will arrange for transportation and accommodations (smoking or non-smoking rooms), dietary restrictions, and what expenses will be reimbursed, such as meals, parking, and course copies if applicable. It is also important to discuss when reimbursement will take place for items such as airfare that is
usually purchased weeks in advance of the travel date. This is an important consideration and a courtesy to the club. If you sign a contract, you and the club are responsible for abiding by its conditions. Clubs cannot be made responsible for the costs of boarding a judge’s dog(s).

**Proper attire:** All judges shall wear suitable attire. Business casual dress is highly recommended. It is important for a judge to maintain a proper and professional appearance and not be confused with the exhibitors. When an agility trial is held in conjunction with a conformation show or obedience trial, the agility judge is **required** to maintain an even higher level of dress, approximately matching that of the standard level of dress for judges of conformation and obedience, weather conditions allowing.

During periods of extreme hot weather, judges are permitted to wear warm weather clothing while judging. This policy applies to male and female judges alike. Please remember that collared shirts should be worn while you are judging.

- Judges may only wear shorts at agility-only trials. (Trials that are in conjunction with breed shows require more formal dress).
- Shorts must be clean and in good condition.
- The length of the shorts should be no shorter than just above the knee.
- A belt should be worn if the pants are so designed.
- For women, sleeveless shirts and dresses are permitted.
- No cut-off shorts or blue jeans material shorts are permitted.
- No “short” shorts or tight shorts (including but not limited to Spandex, Lycra, and bicycle or running type shorts) are permitted.
- No baggy “parachute” material shorts are permitted.
- No tank top shirts are permitted.
- Clogs, strapless sandals and certain dress shoes are not permitted since they do not allow a judge to move about the course in a quick, safe manner, or achieve the proper judging position on the course to make the correct calls.

When selecting your judging attire, understand that the judge is in the ring to evaluate the team performance, not to be the center of attention; however, the exhibitors should be able to recognize that you are the judge by more than just your name tag.

**Smoking, eating, and drinking:** Smoking is permissible only between classes, provided it does not delay judging. Judges, exhibitors, and ring crew may not smoke in the ring. Judges must comply with all no-smoking regulations of a facility or show grounds. Judges and ring crew may not eat or drink in the course area (except that water is allowed in the ring.)
Bottled water can be conveniently hidden under a nearby cone, or tucked under the A-frame to be available to the judge between jump heights or during bar setting. If a drink other than water is necessary, it should be attended to between classes or at jump height changes away from the course area.

**Special awards:** The club may offer high-in-trial or other special awards. It is up to the club or show committee to determine the basis for these awards. Judges shall not become involved with determining the criteria for any special awards, including high-in-trial awards. High-in-trial awards are discouraged due to the difficulty in providing a completely fair evaluation between the jump heights and class levels. Some clubs will still choose to have a high-in-trial award and will list it in their premium. Determination of the method used for awarding high-in-trial should be left to the show committee, and this method should be known and understood by the show committee and the score table prior to the start of the trial. *At no time shall a judge hold a runoff for this award.*

**SECTION 3. Procedures**

**Change of address:** Judges are responsible for promptly notifying the AKC office, AKC Director of Agility, and the AKC Field Representative who is responsible for review of their course designs, of any change in address, telephone and facsimile numbers, and e-mail address. The change will be reflected in the Judges Directory on the AKC website.

**Fitness to judge:** Judges are expected to be physically and mentally capable of performing the functions necessary to properly evaluate the dogs and handlers as they move quickly around the course.

This means that judges must have:
- The flexibility to measure dogs
- The dexterity to move at a sufficient speed and distance to adhere to the schedule of the trial-giving club and AKC policy
- The visual acuity, correctable by eyeglasses or contact lenses, to be able to judge dogs at an appropriate distance
- The capability to do all the necessary paperwork and course setting

When a judge can no longer properly perform the duties of a judge, he or she does the position of judge and the sport of agility a disservice by continuing to accept assignments. The AKC has a Judge Emeritus program to honor judges who have served the sport faithfully and wish to retire. If the judge wishes to return to fully approved judging status from the emeritus program, he or she will be required to attend and pass all requirements at a full judging seminar.
**Inability to fulfill a judging assignment:** If you find that you cannot fulfill an assignment because of illness, weather-related travel delays, or any other serious occurrence, immediately notify the Trial Chairman, Trial Secretary/Superintendent, or both, by telephone, overnight letter, telegram, facsimile, or e-mail.

The closer you are to the actual trial date, the more important it is for you to explore all means of communication until you get a hold of the party who can start looking for a replacement for you.

Additionally, The AKC Director of Agility or an AKC Agility Field Representative should be contacted so that he or she can help facilitate the process of replacing you on the judging panel, if necessary.

The procedure for replacing a judge at a trial due to illness or weather related travel is as follows:

• Once a judge is no longer able to judge, the trial chairman shall ask those exhibiting to be a replacement judge based on the following hierarchy:
  1. Any fully approved judge(s) present at the trial;
  2. Any provisional judge(s);
  3. Anyone who has attended a full judging seminar;
  4. and finally, the most experienced exhibitor.
• At the time the replacement judge starts judging, he or she becomes a judge of record and can no longer exhibit that day, nor can any of their household members, family members, or co-owned dogs. However, all qualifying scores earned prior to their starting judging are retained. Any licensed judge in attendance has a professional obligation to step up and become a judge of record in this instance.

Any replacement judge remains bound by these Guidelines and the Regulations for Agility Trials. Approved course designs should be transferred from the approved judge to the substitute judge, if possible, for their use. If they cannot be transferred, a Field Rep can assign any courses needed.

**Event Committee cancellation of a judge:** Clubs have the option of requesting that a judge cancel from an upcoming assignment with the following conditions:

• The cancellation request must be presented in writing from the club to all parties affected.
• All parties affected must agree on all parts of the cancellation agreement, including how to handle those courses already designed by the judge being cancelled.
• If you are the judge taking on additional classes and you wish to re-design or alter the already-approved courses, check with your reviewing Field Representative first (prior to accepting the cancellation request) if the cancellation is after the day courses for that trial were due.

**Judge vs. Event Committee responsibilities:** A judge’s responsibilities and duties are primarily within the ring. The Event Committee primarily deals with issues outside the ring. As a judge of record, be careful not to overstep your authority. For example:

- If there is a complaint leading to a misconduct hearing, you are not involved unless you personally witnessed the incident.
- Should an incident occur, please write up your description of who and what occurred in the Comments section of your Judge’s Post-Show web form report so that the details of the trial and the incident are in one document. Please do not send your write-up in a separate email.
- If you witness dogs wearing collars that are not allowed on the AKC show grounds, you should ask the Trial Committee to address it with the individual owners.
- If the rings are not running efficiently due to conflicts, you are required to discuss with the Trial Chairman and Trial Committee possibly switching the jump height order in the class (if it would help). The Trial Committee has the authority and final decision to switch the jump height order. However, the class order may not be switched from the published judging schedule. You are not allowed to start a class prior to its published start time. Any change to the jump height order should be carefully considered prior to implementing it due to the potential confusion among exhibitors. If any change is made, accommodation to the maximum extent feasible would be appropriate for confused exhibitors.
- The manner in which a club gives out its ribbons and awards is up to the club (after the judge has verified the accuracy of the scribe sheets), as long as it is within AKC policy. The club may ask the judge for his or her help, but it is the club’s choice.
- It is the judge’s responsibility to verify that the classes listed in the premium match the contract.

**SECTION 4. Judging Disciplinary Policies**

**Unapproved courses:** A judge that uses an unapproved course or fails to make required corrections to courses without just cause is subject to a reprimand. Depending on severity, this disciplinary action can range from one or more of the following: a verbal warning from the Agility Director that becomes a permanent part of the judge’s file, full suspension, returned to
Novice/Open provisional status, attend judge’s reeducation, required to return future courses 60 days in advance of trials, inactivation of judge’s license, attend and pass a judge’s seminar

**Unsatisfactory observations:** Any judge that has received three consecutive unsatisfactory supervisions or four out of five unsatisfactory supervisions at their current status level will immediately be returned to Novice/Open provisional status or be placed on inactive status and required to attend and pass a full judging seminar.

**Regulations violation:** Any judge that violates or fails to uphold the AKC’s rules, regulations, guidelines, judge’s blog and newsletters, policies and/or Code of Sportsmanship is subject to a reprimand. Depending on severity, this disciplinary action can range from one or more of the following: a verbal warning from the Agility Director that becomes a permanent part of the judge’s file, full suspension, returned to Novice/Open provisional status, attend judge’s reeducation, required to return future courses 60 days in advance of trials, inactivation of judge’s license, attend and pass a judge’s seminar.

**Prejudicial conduct:** Any judge that participates in any action that is prejudicial to the sport of agility or any other AKC event shall be subject to a reprimand. This disciplinary action can range from a verbal warning that becomes a permanent part of the judge’s file, to full suspension and/or fine depending upon the severity of the offense.

**SECTION 5. Late submission of courses**

**Submission of courses:** All courses for fully approved judges will be due to their reviewing Field Rep a minimum of 45 days in advance of the first day of a set of trials (60 days for provisional judges). A judge may be required to submit courses earlier, and if required to do so must be notified in writing of this requirement (cc’d to the Director of Agility). The timely submission of courses (both the initial submissions and any resubmitted courses) is essential to the sport of agility and to the enjoyment of the dog and handler as well as providing a unique experience to both. It allows the judicious reciprocation of courses between the judge and reviewing Field Rep, especially in cases where there may be several exchanges required. The late submission of courses may result in courses that do not comply with regulations and guidelines and may also jeopardize the safety of the dog and/or handler on the course.

These minimums can be waived if there is a late/emergency change of venue or assignment. Field Reps will return all original courses a minimum of 10 days prior to the first day of a set of trials.
Course submission offense policy - Late submission of any or all course design(s) will result in the following:

1st offense: A verbal warning shall be given to the judge by the reviewing Field Rep. An email must be sent from the Field Rep to the Director of Agility and cc’d to the judge stating that the verbal reprimand was given.

2nd offense: A written warning letter or email shall be sent to the judge from the reviewing Field Rep and cc’d to the Director of Agility. For the period of one calendar year, the judge will be required to return courses at least 60 days prior to the first day of the start of each trial.

3rd offense: A written warning letter shall be sent by certified mail from the Director of Agility, which must be signed by the judge and returned within 30 calendar days. For a period of two calendar years, the judge will be required to return courses at least 60 days prior to the first day of the start of each trial. If this letter is not returned within this time frame, the judge will immediately be placed on suspension for a period of 6 months, after which they will be reinstated to the Excellent Master level at provisional status requiring their assignments to be approved by the Director of Agility. (The judge will be allowed to complete up to two months’ worth of assignments before the suspension is invoked).

4th offense: The judge is immediately placed on suspension for a period of one year, after which they will be reinstated to the Open/ Novice level at provisional status, requiring their assignments to be approved by the Director of Agility. (The judge will be allowed to complete up to 2 months’ worth of assignments before status is invoked.)

Once the judge successfully completes all the disciplinary actions and returns to full judging status, the following will apply for repeat offences:

1st offense: A written warning letter or email shall be sent to the judge from the reviewing Field Rep and cc’d to the Director of Agility.

2nd offense: A written warning letter shall be sent by certified mail from the Director of Agility which must be signed by the judge and returned within 30 calendar days. If this letter is not returned within this time frame, the judge will no longer be eligible to judge agility for the American Kennel Club.

3rd offense: The judge will no longer be eligible to judge agility for the American Kennel Club.
If the judge has no late course submission offenses for a period of two years after their first written warning, their late course submission status will be wiped clean of previous offenses and any further offenses will again start at the beginning.

During any suspension, a judge will be allowed to attend a re-education seminar to remain current with judging information.

SECTION 6. Submission of Courses for Review and Correction

In addition to the requirement of submitting courses 45 days in advance of the first day of a set of trials (60 days for provisional judges), there are requirements for returning R&R and/or any course changes. If a judge receives an R&R, the judge has 7 days after receipt of the R&R to resubmit corrections. A judge also has 7 days from receipt of reviewed courses (non-R&R) to resubmit any changes.

Corrections to submitted courses: Individual comments may appear on courses returned to course designers after review. Each abbreviation is usually followed by an explanation, and possibly a recommendation as to how to fix the problem. The following is a list of the most typical notations used:

- **MC** – Must Change: A specific regulation or aspect of the guidelines has not been adhered to, and the course must be changed prior to the final draft. Not changing a “MC” on a course renders it unapproved and is basis for disciplinary action.

- **HR** – Highly Recommend: While the course is not in violation of a regulation or the guidelines for course design, the course reviewer strongly believes there is a problem that should be addressed. Course designers should carefully consider the course reviewer’s comments and suggestions; however, the final decision to change or fix the issue identified is up to the course designer.

Course approvals: Your courses will be sent back to you with one of the following designations:

- **Approved or APP** – No comments requiring change, the courses are ready to go.
- **Approved as Noted or AAN** – Comments requiring change(s) usually minor in nature and easily understood. *If changes are made as suggested, the courses will be ready to go. If the course designer wishes to fix the problem in a different way, the course must be resubmitted for review, or be considered unapproved. Resubmitted courses are due within 7 days from the date returned to the judge by the reviewer.*
- **Revise and Resubmit or R&R** – Course has been noted as to the
reason it does not comply with the guidelines or regulations, and the course must be redrawn and resubmitted for review and approval, whether any suggestions have been made by your reviewer. Any revisions must be resubmitted within seven days from the date they were returned to you by the reviewer.

• **Redesigned or RED** – Reviewing Rep has redesigned a course that would otherwise have been an R&R. *If the course designer wishes to fix the problem in a different way, the course must be resubmitted for review, or be considered unapproved. Resubmitted courses are due within 7 days from the date returned to the judge by the reviewer.*

**Course design deficiencies:** Any judge that has consistently demonstrated the inability to design courses according to the requirements in the *Regulations for Agility Trials* and the *AKC Agility Judge’s Guidelines* shall adhere to the following progression:

**1st offense:** A written warning letter or email shall be sent to the judge from the reviewing Field Rep cc’d to the Director of Agility. The judge may be required to provide a course checklist for all future courses. The checklist will be provided by their Field Representative. They may be required to complete on-line course(s), review material, special assignments and or videos specified by their Field Representative.

**2nd offense:** A written warning letter shall be sent by certified mail from the Director of Agility which must be signed by the judge and returned within 30 calendar days. The judge may be required to provide a course checklist for all future courses. The checklist will be provided by their Field Representative. They may be required to complete on-line course(s), review material, special assignments and or videos specified by their Field Representative. They may also be placed on Excellent/Master provisional status, accepting minimal assignments approved by the Director of Agility. If this letter is not returned within this time frame, the judge will immediately be placed on Novice/Open provisional status.

**3rd offense:** The judge shall immediately be placed on Novice/Open provisional status. Novice/Open provisional status will require the judge to contact the Agility Director to accept assignments. The judge will be required to submit future courses at least 60 days prior to the first day of a set of trials. The judge may be required to provide a course checklist for all future courses. The checklist will be provided by their Field Representative. They may be required to complete on-line course(s), review material, special assignments and or videos specified by their Field Representative.
Once the judge successfully completes all the disciplinary actions and returns to full judging status, the following will apply for repeat offences:

1\textsuperscript{st} offense: A written warning letter or email shall be sent to the judge from the reviewing Field Rep and cc’d to the Director of Agility.

2\textsuperscript{nd} offense: A written warning letter shall be sent by certified mail from the Director of Agility which must be signed by the judge and returned within 30 calendar days. If this letter is not returned within this time frame, the judge will no longer be eligible to judge agility for the American Kennel Club.

3\textsuperscript{rd} offense: The judge will no longer be eligible to judge agility for the American Kennel Club.

If the judge has no course deficiencies for a period of two years after their first written warning, their course deficiency status will be wiped clean of previous offenses and any further offenses will again start at the beginning. During any suspension, a judge will be allowed to attend a re-education seminar to remain current with judging information.

\textbf{AKC agility staff reserves the right to deny, with just cause, the privilege to become or remain an AKC agility judge.}

\textbf{SECTION 7. Certification}

All judges are required to attend and meet all requirements of a re-education seminar at least once within a three-year period. It is the judge’s responsibility to ensure that they engage in the re-education seminar and fulfill the current requirements prior to their anniversary date. Any judge who does not fulfill this requirement shall adhere to the following:

The judge shall be placed on inactive status as of the three-year anniversary of the date of their last attended re-education seminar. This status renders the judge unauthorized to judge any and all assignments from the third year anniversary date until such time as the requirements are met.

Once on inactive status, the judge can only be reinstated to fully-approved judging status by attending and fulfilling the requirements of a re-education seminar. Judges have one year from the date they were placed on inactive status to complete this requirement.

Once a judge has been on inactive status for more than one year, he/she will
be required to attend and pass all requirements of a full judging seminar in order to be restored to fully approved and active judging status.

AKC agility staff reserves the right to deny, with just cause, the privilege to become or remain an AKC agility judge.

Section 8. Handling Dog Aggression

Please refer to Chapter 1, Section 23 of the Regulations for Agility Trials for the policy on handling dog aggression. The following is a synopsis of this policy in an easy to follow table form.
All incidences of aggression should be described in the Judge's Report submitted to the Director of Agility.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INCIDENT</th>
<th>ACTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Aggressive behavior in the ring toward a person or dog*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Dog leaves the ring and threatens a dog or person and the Judge is able to see incident*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Dog either runs out of the ring and attacks another dog or into the ring and attacks another dog*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Dog attacks any person in the ring or while being measured by the Judge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Dog attacks any person or dog outside of the ring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Dog attacks any dog or person anywhere on the grounds and there is a serious injury</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Two incidents of aggressive behavior will cause the dog's disqualification.
** Disqualification by the Event Committee requires three things to be true: 1) There was an attack; 2) There was an injury; 3) The Event Committee believes the dog is a hazard to people or dogs. No member of the Event Committee need witness the attack. If the Event Committee becomes aware of an attack, they must consider disqualification.

TERMINOLOGY
Excusal: Recorded on scoresheet and in signed event catalog as "EXCUSED". Excusals are for lesser infractions and dogs get a second chance.
Disqualification by Judge: Recorded on scoresheet and in signed event catalog as "DISQUALIFIED". These are for significant infractions and dogs do not get a second chance.
Aggressive Behavior: This would include growling or threatening barking.
Attack: Any instance where the dog actually tried to grab someone or did grab them. Skin contact is not required.
CHAPTER 2
JUDGE’S DUTIES PRIOR TO THE TRIAL

SECTION 1. Communication

Communication with trial-holding club: Correspondence with the club prior to the trial will help ensure its success. Calls inquiring about availability for judges should be returned promptly. The judge should get both the Trial Secretary’s and the Trial Chairman’s phone numbers (cell phones and email addresses are also very helpful) to have at least two points of contact with the club.

Items requiring clarification prior to accepting assignments: Verifying these items is required prior to accepting an assignment from a club.

Dates and the trial location: This is so you can verify that you will not be in conflict with the regulations regarding other trials that you may have already committed to judge (200 miles within 30 days). If the distances are close, you or the club should request that the AKC verify the distance between trials based on the AKC’s “in-house” program that calculates the distance between trials.
Judge’s fees: Judge’s fees should be discussed and agreed to prior to accepting the assignment.

Expenses: Determine what expenses the club is paying for, such as course copies, travel fees (expectations of whether the judge will arrive by car or plane), meal costs, etc.

Classes: Determine the class(es) the judge is being asked to judge.

Judging limits: A judge should discuss his or her own personal judging limits (i.e., the number of dogs they feel they can judge consistently in one day) with the club if the number is less than the limit imposed by the AKC.

Travel arrangements: Determine who is responsible for making travel arrangements to get the best rates. Whoever makes the arrangements, it is important to note that the judge is committed to the club to judge all classes he or she agreed to judge. A judge may not leave prior to completing the assignment, which includes verification of all scores in the official catalog. It is imperative that a sufficient amount of time be allowed between the expected finish of judging, completion of all paperwork, and the time when the judge must leave. The Trial Chair or Secretary can give usual entries and judging lengths to give you some information on which to base your transportation choices.

Reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenses: Discuss how quickly the judge will be reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses. This is especially important
if the judge is arranging his or her own flights.

Judge’s number: If you agree to accept the assignment, give the club your judge’s number, as they will need it when they submit the judging panel for approval.

A written contract between the judge and the club is essential to clarify what each party expects. Items listed above should be in the contract. Additionally, a judge may wish to include other provisions in the contract such as food and beverage requirements or who picks up the expenses if the judge is unable to make the scheduled return flight, thus incurring another night of expenses.

Additional items a judge should inquire about prior to departing for the trial: Clarifying these items may help you head off problems before they can develop.

- How will the judge be transported from the airport to the hotel and then to the trial site? If a club member is picking the judge up, get the person’s name, phone number, and cell phone number.
- If the club wants course copies for the exhibitors, who is to get them and is the club willing to pay for them? Full courses shall not be released to anyone for printing or course setting prior to the day of the show.
- What amount of ring help is expected?
- What is the check-in procedure the club is expecting to use to ensure that all dogs requiring measuring are measured? Confirm that the club has an approved measuring device and a level hard surface (such as an extra pause table) for you to use.
- Does the club want a copy of the contact placements for the first class of the day? Be sure to provide course builder copies in BMP or PDF format. It is expressly forbidden for the judge to send to anyone the entire numbered course ahead of time. The judge may send the locations of the contact obstacles with the rest of the equipment grouped together in quadrants (not laid out) and coordinates for other obstacles so the club can ‘flag’ the course, using the baseline setting method. Within 48 hours of the trial, the judge may give the club a builder’s map with all of the obstacles in their locations BUT WITHOUT NUMBERS, ENTRY/EXIT, OR SEND LINES, so that the obstacles for the day’s first course can be set the night before the trial. The judge may leave a copy of the next days’ course(s) at the hotel’s front desk any time after 12:00 midnight.
- Judges shall keep the clubs up to date as to any changes to their phone number, address, or email address, so that clubs may stay in touch with the judge they hired.
**Items the judge must know prior to designing courses:** These are items the judge must obtain from the club prior to designing the courses.

- The exact course dimensions and the side where the ring gate openings should be placed.
- The running surface.
- Hazards that would need to be designed around, such as areas of uneven ground, columns, posts, trees, rounded corners, and anything else that may be in the intended ring.
- A complete equipment list, including lengths and quantities of open tunnels, widths of jump bars, and number of winged vs. wingless jumps along with wing sizes.
- Combinations of weave poles that can be formed.
- Whether electronic timers will/will not be used and what, if any, limitations they may have. If a club is not using electronic timers, it is recommended that they note this in their premium list.

If you have accepted an assignment and are having trouble obtaining the information listed above in a timely manner, please call your course-reviewing Field Representative for help. Alternately, you could email the club with your request for information and copy your Field Representative.

**Communication with the AKC:** Communication between an AKC agility judge and the AKC office and field staff is important to keep judges abreast of changes to the regulations, recent clarifications of the regulations, and any policy changes that may come about. It is essential that you contact your Field Representative in charge of course review and the agility office staff at the AKC offices if any of your contact information changes, such as name, phone number, fax number, email address, and postal address.

**SECTION 2. What to Bring on Your Assignment**

The following is a list of things that you should bring on your judging assignment:

- Course copies for posting (do not include judge’s path on these copies)
- Course copies for course builders with coordinates (minimum of 3 copies)
- Course copies for the club (complete copies shall not be given out until the day of the trial)
- A copy of the most current editions of the following:
  - Regulations for Agility Trials
  - AKC Agility Judge’s Guidelines
  - Rules Applying to Dog Shows
– Dealing with Misconduct
– Current Judge’s Newsletters and blog notes
  • Standard course time (SCT) worksheets
  • Copy of your posted briefing (it is optional to post your briefing)
  • Calculator for figuring course yardages and times
  • Whistle
  • Stop watch (as a back-up)
  • Tape measure

SECTION 3. Prior to Arriving on Site

Regulations review: A judge has many demands on his or her time at the trial so the better prepared a judge is prior to the morning of the trial, the quicker the trial goes, and the more professional a judge appears. Therefore, it is important that you re-read the Regulations, Guidelines, and judge’s blog within a few days before the trial to refresh yourself.

Review arrangements: You may want to contact the club a day or two prior to leaving for the trial to ensure that all preparations have been made and that nothing has changed in regards to your transport and lodging.
CHAPTER 3
COURSE DESIGN

In addition to the requirements listed in the current edition of the *Regulations for Agility Trials*, course designs shall comply with provisions of this chapter and any future interpretations published by the AKC Agility Department.

Refer to Appendix for diagrams listed in this chapter.

SECTION 1. Course Design Responsibility

**Course design responsibility:** The AKC encourages variety in its course designs, thereby ensuring agility exhibitors a truly unique experience each time they enter the ring. The AKC, through its regulations and guidelines, defines the limits within which you may design the courses for an agility trial. The course review process may provide additional information that you will find helpful in producing courses that contain appropriate challenges, and are fun yet challenging to run. However, you are the author of your courses and are ultimately responsible for their uniqueness and content.

Because the AKC encourages variety in its course design, courses that have been used previously must either be mirrored or substantially changed before they are again submitted for review. Any course(s) previously reviewed, mirrored or otherwise, must be noted when submitting the course(s) for review. Furthermore, the mirrored courses cannot be used during the same trial weekend or cluster of trials. An original course may only be mirrored once; a mirrored course may not be re-used again without substantial changes. Mirroring must not be done in a predictable fashion.

**Review process:** The complete set of course designs for an assignment must be submitted to the AKC Field Representative a minimum of 45 days for fully approved judges and a minimum of 60 days for provisional judges prior to the start of the trial, unless prior arrangements have been made with and approved by the reviewer.

All course designs shall have the following on each course:
- Required obstacles for the class level with obstacles numbered sequentially
- Start and finish lines indicated in FAST
- Timer location
- Judge’s path shown accurately
- Judge’s name (author of the course)
- Class type and level
- Actual and complete name of the club, not just their acronym
The judge must provide the following information on the cover sheet, if required, or in an email message submitted with a set of courses for review to ensure an informed course review can be completed:

- Actual date the course is to be used
- Running surface
- Actual ring dimensions
- Any obstructions in the course area including their dimensions
- Indication of whether the trial is indoors, outdoors, or outdoors under cover
- Return e-mail address and a phone number where the judge can be reached for questions
- If e-timing will not be used

SECTION 2. The Mechanics of Designing Courses

Getting started: Once you have obtained the necessary details about the available obstacles and ring conditions (as listed in Chapter 2 of these Guidelines), you can begin preparing course plans. All course plans shall be created using a computer program that ensures that all courses are drawn to scale.

Designing with a computer: Computer programs allow you to set the ring dimensions and locate any obstructions. The computer will keep everything within the drawing in scale but will not necessarily print out the course at a 1" = 10' scale (this is important for those setting courses by the baseline method). Computer programs will typically give you options for different sized equipment and a number of open tunnel shapes to choose from. Be accurate as to the placement of obstacles on your design since it is very important that the Field Representatives see exactly what you intend to set on the course. All courses must be submitted using the latest or announced approved version of Clean Run Course Designer.

Class levels, where to start: A set of courses that is nested has most obstacles in the same area of the course, if not in the same position (especially the contact obstacles), to make course changes quick and the ring crew more efficient. However, trying to achieve the ultimate nested set of courses is not the most important thing in course design. It is better to move a few things, even contacts if necessary, to ensure that dogs have unique and appropriate levels of challenge, approach angles and fun courses to run. To produce nested courses, some judges like to start with the Excellent/Master class and modify for Open and Novice, reducing the equipment, challenges, and angles. Other judges like to start with the Open class and modify up and down from there.
**Required obstacles:** In addition to the regulations regarding required, allowed, and not-permitted obstacles (listed in each class’s chapter in *Regulations for Agility Trials*), these are additional suggestions pertaining to required obstacles:

- It is permissible for the course to have a seesaw or an A-frame immediately following the table, subject to the ability to be correctly judged. Table to dog walk is not allowed.
- Given enough course area, it is generally recommended that jumps be winged rather than non-winged. Each type of jump requires a different skill in its performance. Non-winged jumps work best where space is limited or there are many obstacles in close proximity to one another; however, you must keep in mind that there must be a minimum of 50% winged jumps used on any given course. This count is to include actual jumps, not how many times they are used.
- Pause tables should be placed in the middle third of a standard course with a flat approach to the flow of the dog, and must not be placed anywhere on the course that does not allow the judge to be in position to properly judge any other obstacle.
- Refer to the required obstacle charts at the end of the class descriptions in *Regulations for Agility Trials*. Course designs must comply with the list of which obstacles are required, allowed, and not permitted for each class and with the number of times obstacles may be performed in each class level. Note that options for the course designer exist regarding spread jumps in some classes. These are designated by an asterisk (*).
- Only a panel, bar or one-bar jump, double, ascending double, wall, tire or tunnel is permitted to be used as the first obstacle. Only a panel, bar or one-bar jump, double, ascending double, wall, triple jump, tire or tunnel is permitted to be used as the last obstacle.
- If the double, ascending double, or wall is used as the first obstacle, it must be placed a minimum of 21 feet from barrier per dog’s path.
- If wind conditions merit, the panel jump may be replaced with a bar jump.
- If a judge’s course design includes the challenge of a backside approach (including a bidirectional jump in T2B or Premier), then it must be to a winged jump.
- Dummy obstacles are allowed on a course at the discretion of the course designer. Dummy obstacles are not performed in the normal sequence of the course, but are placed on the course (at the appropriate jump height) to provide an option or handler restriction, which increases the challenge level. A well-designed course may not need any dummy obstacles, and routine and/or overuse of dummy obstacles should be avoided. However, if they are used, no more than two dummy obstacles shall be placed on any course and no more than one on Novice courses.
• Dummy obstacles allowed:
  a) Panel jump, one-bar jumps, and bar jumps.
  b) Dummy open tunnels are allowed but not encouraged, and should be placed at the maximum distance allowed.

**Required quantity of obstacles per class level:** The required quantity of obstacles per class level is as listed in the *Regulations for Agility Trials* and must be strictly adhered to.

**Obstacle spacing:** Obstacle spacing is critical to good course design. If spacing is too tight, the course can become choppy and dogs will have a hard time making course time. If spacing is too wide open, it will cause the wrong course options to be muted due to distance. Also, a course that is really wide open may be such that slow handlers with fast dogs are greatly disadvantaged, for the dog will cover ground much faster than the handler and will be further from the handler when a wrong course option is encountered, or it may consistently cause refusals since there will be little in front of the dog to keep its focus.

For course review purposes, obstacle spacing is measured along the expected path of a dog jumping at the 20" height. Obstacle spacing minimums and maximums are spelled out in the *Regulations for Agility Trials* and shall be adhered to.

In addition to the above requirements, judges should be aware of the following when determining the spacing of obstacles on a course:

• 15 feet is the minimum spacing between two sequentially placed obstacles, with a minimum of 18 feet to jump obstacles (20 feet or more recommended) and a minimum of 21 feet to any spread jump (21 feet or more recommended after a spread jump).

• Spacing in excess of 25 feet should generally be used when there is a reason for it. This includes the following:
  a) Crossing patterns with 5 or more obstacles forming a box, which pushes obstacles further apart to keep the area on the course from being too congested.
  b) Wrap around jumps and pull-throughs.
  c) Layered jumps in some conditions.

• Uniform spacing promotes a rhythm to the performance of the obstacles and is less challenging than irregular or variable spacing that requires more skill, as the dog will need to adjust its stride length and speed to properly negotiate the obstacles.

• When setting a 270-degree jump sequence, judges must allow enough distance for the dog to make the turn without being right on top of an
off-course obstacle. A minimum of 7 feet is required from the run-out line of the second obstacle in the 270-degree turn to an off-course obstacle. (See diagram 322 for illustration)

• A 15' minimum shall be required to any direct wrong-course possibility and to any run-out line (ROL) of the next correct obstacle. Only off-course options that are in direct path of the dog as they complete the previous obstacle must be a minimum of 15 feet in distance. Off-course obstacles that the dog would have to adjust their path to navigate may be less than 15 feet in distance, depending upon whether the dog can navigate the approach angle safely.

Approach angles: Approach angles shall not exceed those listed in Regulations for Agility Trials, which indicates not only the maximum angle allowed for each class level, but also the maximum number of times a dog can be expected to perform these angles. Note that a course over-burdened with an excessive number of big angles or sharp turns is de-motivating for a dog and the course will lack flow, making it difficult for dogs to stride out and make course time.

The approach angle is calculated on the basis of the expected path of a dog jumping 20", not the pure geometric angle formed by the obstacles as they lay on the course plan. Approach angles depend greatly on where dogs are coming from, where they are going to, and the speed they are traveling when they need to make the turn. (See diagram 323)

Approaches to the triple at all class levels shall be as straight as possible, including as wrong course options. There must be enough room to square up to the spread jumps if the dog has to execute a turn prior to the spreads.

The approach angle to the tire, double, ascending double, and wall/viaduct should be straight to very mild at all class levels, including as wrong course options. This is due to the radically shrinking aperture of the tire as it is angled away from the dog’s approach path (the more acute the angle, the smaller the opening that is presented to the dog), and the increasing distance to clear a spread at an angle. If these obstacles are used more than once on the course, each approach must adhere to these requirements (see diagram 3.2.4).

At the Novice level, all obstacle approaches should be straight to mildly-angled. Degrees of a turn should generally not be more than 90 to 135; however, a maximum of one 180-degree turn will be allowed.

For all classes – A turn from the exit of a tunnel placed under or adjacent to the A-frame, to the ascent of the A-frame is not allowed. (See diagram
Placing of timers, scribes, and obstacle numbers:
Timers and scribes: Place them where they can be together and do not have to move to see you. Place in a location so that they can see the openings for the entrance of the start obstacle and the exit of the finish obstacle without moving, and where they will not be a visual or physical impediment on the course.

Obstacle numbers: Should be placed on the course design next to the approach side of the obstacle where you wish the ring steward to place the number when setting the course. Obstacle numbers should be placed so they are readable for someone running the course, but primarily they shall be placed where they will not be in the way of the dog and handler. When two obstacles are in close proximity to each other, the obstacle numbers should be placed so as not to cause exhibitor confusion when reading course maps or walking the course. The number for the weave poles may be removed after course walkthroughs if it has the potential of being in the handler’s way.

SECTION 3. Judge’s Position in Course Design

One of the most important aspects in course design is to develop a course that allows the judge to be where needed to judge the dog fairly and equitably. The course design should allow the judge to conserve his or her movements so as to not distract the dog, get in the dog’s or handler’s way, or become tired after potentially judging hundreds of dogs on the course. The judge and the judge’s movements are not to be the focus of the performance in the ring.

Places a judge must be on the course: The following are the maximum distances a judge can be from the dog being judged and the required locations a judge shall be when judging specific obstacles. The course design shall allow the judge to comply with the following (See diagram 33.1 for examples):

• A-frame, seesaw – Judge all approaches for refusals, and all judged contact zones from a distance no greater than 20 feet. Also be in position to see the contacts when they are an off-course possibility.
• Dog walk – Judge the approach from no further down the dog walk than even with the top of the down ramp, and judge the down contact zone from a distance no greater than 20 feet and be in position to see either ramp when it is an off-course possibility
• Tunnels – The judge shall be able to see all entry and exit openings, including when they present themselves as an off-course possibility, and including when they are the start or finish of a course
• **Tire** – The judge must be able to see the dog go through the opening, not just jump, as some dogs go between the tire and frame, thus judging the tire on its run-out line is not a viable position. The judge must be able to see if the tire splits/breaks.

• **Table** – The judge must be within 20 feet of the table at some point during the five-second count, with the handler **not** between the judge and the dog, to judge whether the dog is on the table as well as possible contact between the handler and the dog or table.

• **Weave poles** – The judge must be in place to see the dog’s entry and performance of each weave pole and any handler/dog contact.

• **Broad jump** – The judge must be within 30 feet of the broad jump during its performance to see if a board moves or is stepped on, and must not be directly in front of nor directly behind the broad jump.

• **Bar jumps, including spreads** – The judge must be able to see the bars of all jumps as the dog is jumping them to determine if the dog has displaced the top bar(s). Large solid wings, especially on the triple and double bar jumps, may force the judge to alter the judging path in order to see all bars.

• **Wall jump** – The judge must be within 30 feet of the wall/viaduct jump to judge whether a dog has visibly displaced or moved any of the “tops.” The judge’s path must be to the front or back of the jump to see each “top.”

• Obstacles may not be in between the judging path and the judged contact zones of any contact obstacle where the judge may need to be able to get “in” to be in proper position. Although 20 feet is the stated maximum, always keep in mind when designing courses that individual runs may require you to move in closer. (See diagram 3.3.2).

**Judge’s movement in course design:** Courses should allow for judges to move efficiently into place without the judge racing the dog and handler to get into position. Judging paths should not cross in front of the dog and handler unless there is plenty of time to do so without interfering with the dog or handler. The judge’s path shall not pass over, under, or through any obstacle. The judge’s path should be as consistent as possible for all dogs, and the judge’s position should not block possible off-course options, thus reducing the challenges on the course. On all Jumpers with Weaves courses, the judge shall be **REQUIRED** to move in order to properly see all run-out lines, tunnel entrances and exits, and weave pole performance and/or handler/dog contact.

**SECTION 4. Course Safety**

**Obstacle proximity to ring barriers, walls, and other obstacles:** Safety
should always be first and foremost in the judge’s mind; however, the sport of
agility, with its variety of obstacles, quick decisions, varied weather conditions,
and running surfaces has some inherent risk to it. The judge can mitigate some
of the safety concerns in the course design phase by avoiding the placement of
obstacles in close proximity to each other or to the ring barrier.

Not every dog runs the expected path, and some dogs can be somewhat out of
control; consequently, courses should be designed with this type of dog in
mind. Look at what could happen vs. what should happen. Distance may cure
many problems when it comes to safety. A greater distance to the ring barrier
or between obstacles that are side by side may well enable the less-than-
focused dog to recover prior to getting itself into trouble. The following are
minimum standards that must be maintained to provide as safe a course as
possible:

- For placement of all types of jumps and contacts in relation to a ring
  barrier or wall, provide a minimum of 6 feet of clear space if course
  flow is parallel with the ring barrier or wall, and a minimum of 15 feet
  if the dog is jumping or running into the ring barrier or wall (see
diagrams 3.4.1 and 3.4.2). This requirement also applies to possible off-
course jumps and dummy jumps.
- Tables shall not be placed any closer than 6 feet to a ring barrier, wall,
obstruction, or other obstacle as measured to the closest part of the
  table.
- Obstacles placed in close proximity to each other shall be set such
  that a dog has no chance of landing on one while jumping the other or
  of falling from a contact obstacle onto something sharp below.
- Any part of obstacles (other than tunnels for the dog walk and A-
  frame), must be the minimum distance listed below when placed next
to a contact obstacle:
  - Dog walk: 4 feet minimum next to the yellow zone (up and
down ramp); 6 feet minimum, if next to any other part of the dog
    walk
  - A-frame: 8 feet minimum
  - Seesaw: 4 feet minimum next to the entrance; 8 feet minimum
    next to the exit, 10 feet recommended
- Jumps that touch each other must be winged

Other safety issues that must be accounted for in the course design:

- Sufficient room to start and finish inside the ring is critical for the
  safety of the dog and the prevention of dog aggression. Courses must be
designed to allow for a minimum of 15 feet from the ring barrier to the
first obstacle and 20 feet after the last obstacle to the ring barrier,
measured along dog’s path (See diagram 3.4.3). Also remember that if
the double, ascending double, or wall/viaduct is used as the first
obstacle, there must be a minimum of 21 feet from the ring barrier to
the obstacle.
• The upside of the seesaw can present a hazard to handlers if it is placed
contrary to the course flow, and the handler’s expected running path
brings them in close proximity to it. Oftentimes, the handler’s attention is
diverted from their running path, for they are looking at the dog and may
not see the elevated plank (see diagram 3.4.5).
• Columns, posts, and things that stick up out of the ground can cause
safety concerns for both handlers and dogs. Handlers run into them for
the same reasons as described above. Dogs run into them if the previous
obstacle’s performance does not allow them enough time to physically
recover to steer clear of the danger. Placing wings of jumps and tunnels
directly adjacent to columns (engaging them) will mitigate their
presence (see diagram 3.4.6).
• Turns off spread jumps should be minimized, especially when the
running surface is mats on concrete, or has the potential to be slippery.
• The expected approach to the table shall be to a flat side of the table.
This prevents dogs from approaching the corner at speed. This is also a
judging issue, for you need a backside line from which to call run-outs
(see diagram 3.4.7).
• When a dog’s expected jumping and landing path sends the dog
directly at an obstacle, barrier, or obstruction (including the end of a
wing or the jump standard on a wingless jump), a minimum of 15 feet
is required. However, a variety of factors should be considered such
as speed coming into the area, running surface and visibility. Fifteen
feet may be sufficient, but based on the sequence and conditions, more
may be necessary.
• With e-timing, the location of the timer eyes must be considered when
the start or finish obstacle is taken more than once. Avoid designs
where the timer eye stanchion could be an obstruction (see diagram
3.4.8).

SECTION 5. Obstacle Placement in Course Design That Can Cause
Performance Concerns

The placement of obstacles in the design process can cause performance
problems on the agility course. The following should be avoided:
• Placing the weave poles too close to a wall or ring barrier can cause
visual problems for some dogs and some dogs need more space to feel
comfortable weaving. The minimum placement of weaves along the
barrier is 8 feet. If the weaves are placed perpendicular to the barrier or
wall, the minimum entry is 8’ to 10’, however, more is recommended (see
• Placing obstacles in close proximity to each other can cause an unfair advantage to some handlers. All obstacles shall be either greater than 4 feet apart (to their closest points) or closer than 12 inches. Either everyone gets between the two obstacles or no one should be able to get through (see diagram 3.5.2).

• Obstacles that require a straight approach should not have their entry angled towards a wall or ring barrier if placed in close proximity to a wall or ring barrier. Dogs do not like to work tight to walls, and placing obstacles too close to a wall will prevent them from having a straight approach to the obstacle.

• Tunnels in close proximity to barriers must leave a minimum space of 2 feet between the closest part of the tunnel and the barrier.

**SECTION 6. Challenges Defined**

Course designs and the challenges presented in them progress in difficulty from Novice to Open to Excellent/Master to Premier. The number of challenges shall increase, as listed in Section 7, and the types of challenges should increase in difficulty as well.

The best way to create challenges on a course design is to provide a course path with plenty of crossing patterns, which create options for dogs and side-switch opportunities for handlers. This keeps the course relatively smooth and flowing while providing challenges along the way. Handler restrictions that cause a handler to work away from their dog as well as options with discriminations, which are actually just more difficult options, can be added to the higher levels to provide a variety of challenges.

**Options, restrictions and side-switches defined**

**• Side-switches**
A side-switch is a place where the course makes an “S” curve, requiring the handler to switch from handling the dog off one side of his or her body to the other side. A handler who opts not to switch sides is forced to run around the outside of the obstacles and must run faster than the dog to keep up. The simplest side-switch to negotiate is one in which there are no options to confuse or lure the dog while the handler is making the side-switch. (See diagram 3.6.1).

**• Options**
An option is a point on the course where the dog has a choice of which obstacles to take (see diagram 3.6.2). Typically, options exist at crossing diagram 3.5.1).
patterns. Fifteen feet is the required minimum distance to a direct off-course option (i.e., an option where the wrong obstacle is placed directly in the dog’s expected path of travel). An obstacle must be sightable, accessible, and desirable (SAD) to be counted as an option. Off-course obstacles that are 21 feet or less from the previous obstacle, within the dog’s field of vision (90 degrees) based upon its path, and SAD, shall be considered an option. Obstacles that are in the direct line of sight (45 degrees) can be up to 23 feet from the previous obstacle. The exception to the distance requirement is a tunnel placed next to the contact zone of a dog walk or A-frame when the contact obstacle is the next correct obstacle. In this case, the tunnel will count as an option IF the entrance is even with any part of the contact zone AND no more than four feet away (see diagram 3.6.3).

Proximity options are obstacles that are SAD and the entrance is within 5 feet of the expected dog path. In certain cases, the proximity limit could be extended to 10 feet if the option is the most obvious obstacle, depending on the expected speed of the dog and/or the placement and relative visibility of the correct obstacle.

Weave poles may be counted as a challenge option only if the potential entry is within the distance requirement and the dog’s path is on the approach side (see diagram 3.6.4).

Options become more difficult based on:
   a) The proximity of the two options to each other.
   b) The speed of the dog going into the area where the option occurs based upon his expected path.
   c) The distance the handler is expected to be away from the dog when the dog must make the decision as to which obstacle is the correct one.
   d) How visible and enticing the wrong course obstacle may be compared with the correct one. Some dogs prefer one obstacle over another, but some obstacles such as tunnels and A-frames are highly enticing, as dogs have a tendency to accelerate towards them.

Novice requirements for options:
   a) Novice dogs shall be given the obvious or logical opening to tunnels if there is a choice, based upon the dog’s expected path.
   b) Approaches to two obstacles shall not be adjacent or in close proximity to each other. For example, a classic tunnel-contact option would not be allowed in the Novice class. However, a 180-degree turn from the exit of a contact into a tunnel will be allowed as long as the tunnel does not restrict the handler’s ability to work close to the obstacle and the dog.
• **Handler restrictions**

Handler restrictions, which require the handler to deviate from the ideal handling path, shall be counted as a challenge when determining the challenge level for a course (see diagram 3.6.5 for examples). To be counted as a handler restriction, a tunnel placed under the dog walk or A-frame must come out at least six feet, so that the handler has at least six feet of lateral distance from the contact obstacle. When designing a course, a judge must be careful not to overload a course with too many handler restrictions, and when placing obstacles to create a handler restriction, a judge must be careful not to create a safety issue due to the proximity of the two obstacles. Any handler restriction used may not restrict the judge from being in proper position to judge any obstacle.

**Novice requirements for handler restrictions:**

Handler restrictions are allowed in the Novice class; however, they must be placed carefully and should be simple in nature. A handler restriction in the Novice class should be used mainly for course flow and to maximize the course area in tight ring conditions, not for testing whether a dog can work apart from the handler. An example of an appropriate handler restriction in the Novice class would be a tunnel placed under the A-frame or dog walk to get the dog and handler to another part of the course area. The tunnel must be placed such that the handler is able to work tight to the contact obstacle from the logical side of the contact obstacle (i.e., the side you would expect the majority of handlers to normally choose).

**Multiple challenges at the same point on the course**

There may be places on the course where there are two types of challenges happening at the same time, such as a handler restriction with an option. Where multiple challenges occur at the same time, they are counted as one challenge when determining the total challenge level of the course. However, when they occur at separate times but between the same two obstacles, they may be counted individually (see diagram 3.6.6).

**Elements that may occur on a course, but are not counted towards the challenge level of the course**

- Angled approaches to obstacles can be used at the judge’s discretion for the desired effect, as long as they do not exceed maximum angles listed in the Regulations; however, such angled approaches are not considered a challenge and should be analyzed for safety.
- Right side or left side approaches can be used to any specific
obstacle, such as the weave poles, but do not increase the challenge level.

SECTION 7. Challenge and Side-Switch Requirements per Class Level

Minimum numbers per class level are listed below:

All *Novice* classes: A minimum of 2 and a maximum of 5 separate challenges (options/restrictions) **and** a minimum of 2 separate side-switches are required.

All *Open* classes: A minimum of 6 and a maximum of 8 separate challenges (options/restrictions) **and** a minimum of 3 separate side-switches are required.

All *Exc/Master* classes: A minimum of 9 separate challenges (options/restrictions) **and** a minimum of 3 separate side-switches are required.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Challenges</th>
<th>Side-Switches</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Novice</td>
<td>Min 2, Max 5</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open</td>
<td>Min 6, Max 8</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exc/Master</td>
<td>Min 9</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Side-switches:

- Side-switches are not counted as options/restrictions at any level.
- Side-switches at the table do not count toward the side-switch requirement at any level.
- In evaluating the number of side-switches and options/restrictions, Excellent/Master level handlers are assumed to have a lead-out at the start line to the second obstacle and at the table to the next correct obstacle, and Open handlers are assumed to have a lead-out halfway to the second obstacle and halfway from the table to the next obstacle; thus many options may be negated at these positions.
- When an option and side-switch happen at the same location, they will be counted separately for the purpose of conforming to the minimum requirements.

SECTION 8. Changes to Submitted Courses
Courses shall be set as close as possible to the approved course map. If circumstances such as course conditions, hazards, or insufficient equipment necessitate a change to these courses, such that you question yourself and/or the average competitor would say, “This course is different from the map” then attempt to contact an Agility Field Representative to aid you in any change(s) necessary and for field approval of said change(s). If no Field Representative is available, use your best judgment with the following in mind:

1. Modify first and foremost for safety. Respond to all unsafe conditions.
   **This does not include performance or training issues.**
2. Maintain the required obstacles and the required quantity of obstacles per class level.
3. Make sure the change is still judgeable.
4. Maintain the challenge level to the maximum extent feasible.
5. Submit all course changes with your judge’s report to the Director of Agility. Failure to do so constitutes usage of unapproved courses and is grounds for disciplinary action.
CHAPTER 4
PREPARING TO JUDGE – DAY OF TRIAL

SECTION 1. Upon Arriving at the Site

Avoiding conflicts: Judges should be personable and friendly to club members, workers, and exhibitors while at the trial. However, as the judge you must avoid spending too much time with any one exhibitor or group of exhibitors, so that your judgment or impartiality in the ring cannot be questioned. Prior to judging a class, judges shall not review a catalog to see who is, or who is not, competing at a trial. Discussions with exhibitors should be light and friendly and shall not include any handling advice, training ideas, or insight as to what you were thinking when you were designing the course for that day.

Time sensitive issues that require the judge’s attention: The judge should arrive at the site at least one hour prior to the scheduled start of judging for the first class, preferably earlier. Arriving earlier is especially important if the club is new, there is a large entry or number of dogs to be measured, or the club or show site is unfamiliar to the judge. The judge should introduce himself or herself to the trial secretary and chairman and, if provisional, to the Agility Field Representative sent to observe. The judge should proceed to check the following before he or she gets too busy with exhibitors arriving:

• Review of ring – You must check ring dimensions with the calibrated measuring wheel to verify usable square footage, any obstructions and where the ring openings are located to make sure the courses will work efficiently, including any ring gating that may infringe upon the course area. Also, go over the running surface to find any areas that may require attention or repair. Any deficiencies in the running surface or ring conditions should immediately be brought to the attention of the trial chairman, trial committee or chief course builder so that they may be corrected. If the deficiencies cannot be corrected, the judge will note this on the AKC marked catalog and the Judge’s Report to the Director of Agility. The judge should then proceed to judge the class under the deficient conditions. In extreme cases when the deficiencies, in the opinion of the judge, are of such major proportion that it is possible that they may affect the dog’s performance or safety, the judge must brief exhibitors as to the specific deficient conditions. It is then the handler’s decision whether to compete under such conditions.

• Course builder copies – Give the course builders the course copies (for that day only) from which they can build the courses. Make sure they know which course is first and they build it in the proper ring.

• Posted courses – Give the secretary or table steward copies for posting
of all the courses you will be judging that day. If you are giving out course copies, ensure that at least one copy of each course is posted for public viewing. The posted course copies shall be posted a minimum of 30 minutes prior to the scheduled start of judging. All courses for that day may be posted at the same time.

- **Club course copies** – The club must be given course copies to keep.
- **Check-in process** – Discuss with the club the procedure to ensure that all dogs that do not have a permanent jump height card, at least one yellow form, or a valid temporary form are measured prior to running in the ring. This is best done very early, since check-in is often left to someone who does not fully understand that the check-in process is tied very tightly to the measuring process and ensures that dogs jump in the proper height class. Prior to measuring any dog that is on the measuring list, ask the handler if they have a valid card or form, as these dogs will not need to be measured by the judge of record.
- **Equipment inspection** – You are required to evaluate the equipment to ensure that it meets the specifications in the *Regulations for Agility Trials*. Make sure that the equipment is safe and in good repair. Do not trust someone’s word as to whether the equipment is in compliance. Things happen over time or upon transport, and the equipment must be checked by the judge of record prior to running dogs. It is best to do this either the night before, if possible, or early in the morning. A summary of things to inspect are as follows:

  Measuring wheel: Check the wheel daily against a measuring tape on the ground to ensure its measurement is correct each day.

  Contacts: Width, height, length of contact zones, sturdiness, and surface is not too slick or abrasive. Ensure that there is a mark on chains to easily change A-frame height for the 4” and 8” dogs.

  Seesaw: Pivots properly using a 3lb weight 12" from end of board to calibrate drop rate within 3 seconds or less, and then returns to position. The club is required to have materials on hand for altering the drop if needed. This test must be conducted each day.

  Jumps: Displaceable, heights, spread width.

  Wings: Measure from a bar jump’s upright edge where the cups exist (but the measurement does not include the cup itself) to the outer edge of the wing for correct width, including the uprights.

  Tire: Sufficient opening, sturdy frame that will not tip over, and has the ability to be weighted or staked.
Tire height markings should match the jump height, so that the ring crew will not have to be aware of the “one jump height lower” rule. The break-away tire must be calibrated at the beginning of each day before use to break between 16 and 20 pounds of pressure.

Tunnels: Sufficient opening, holders are adequate and safe, no exposed wires. Ensure that the tunnel is fully extended, and not “squished” to accommodate a shorter length. Ensure that tunnels have 4” rib spacing.

Pause table: Sturdy at its highest height, surface is not too slick or abrasive.

Weave poles: Meets the dimension and construction specifications in the Regulations.

Broad jump: Meets the height and width dimensions listed in the Regulations.

Panel jump: Top panel is 4” wide for all jump heights.

Wall: Width and height of boards, base, and “tops.”

Equipment specifications for electronic timers:

- The electronic timer system must be capable of operating in bright sunlight as well as rain, snow, fog, or dust particles.
- The electronic transmitters and receiver supports must be constructed so that they do not inhibit the handler’s or dog’s path. The supports may not be taller than 46”. The base that supports the transmitter and receiver may not be wider than 24” and the support must be constructed so that the upright and the beam can be no more than 4” from the obstacle. It is recommended that the material and color of the upright be similar to those materials normally used in the construction of agility equipment.
- The timers must have re-settable eyes in the event that an eye is tripped prematurely or accidentally, and in the event that a start or finish obstacle is to be used more than once on a course. The timers must have a manual override option allowing time to continue.
- The timers must have the ability to be connected to an external display.
- The timers must be capable of recording individual times to the nearest 100th of a second.
- The width of the interface on the beam is to be expandable to accommodate 4 to 5 foot jump bars and tunnels.

Maintaining required equipment for the class level:

Occasionally you will encounter equipment that is inadequate. It is important to fix, modify, or otherwise construct a solution that is safe and reasonably within the obstacle specifications in the Regulations so that the show can go
on. Do not use equipment that cannot be made safe. Every attempt should be made to modify the equipment so it can be brought into reasonable compliance, especially with regards to safety. You should make it clear to the hosting club and exhibitors that the AKC reserves the right to disallow scores and discipline the club if mandatory equipment cannot be used. Often an exhibitor or vendor has equipment with them or close by that can be borrowed, thus avoiding the problem for the day. If the class must be run without mandatory pieces of equipment, the judge must attempt to contact an AKC Rep or the Director of Agility prior to the running of the class. They also must file a report with the AKC office and the AKC Director of Agility.

Solutions to equipment problems:

- Dog walks that have too much flex in the ramps can be stiffened by propping boards or PVC poles under each board.
- Seesaws that don’t tip properly, or that don’t return after tipping, can be modified by adding weight to the underside of the board.
- If wind conditions merit, the panel jump may be replaced with a bar jump.
- Clubs utilizing electronic timers must be prepared to use manual hand timing if the electronic timers cease functioning correctly or become unavailable.

A little ingenuity and a lot of duct tape will solve many problems.

SECTION 2. Measuring of Dogs

Judge’s responsibilities: If an AKC Volunteer Measuring Official (VMO) or Agility Field Representative is not present, the judge of record must measure all dogs that do not have a permanent card, at least a first-measurement yellow form or a valid temporary height card form with them. If a VMO or Field Representative is present, then all dogs must be measured by the VMO or Rep. If there are multiple VMOs measuring during the same trial weekend, an exhibitor whose dog is in need of a jump height card measurement is only required to obtain ONE measurement during the trial weekend. Although you may encourage additional measurements be obtained that weekend, there is no requirement to do so.

Handlers may challenge their own dog’s jump height. A dog must continue to compete at the “original” jump height until the final challenge measurement (either the second or, in the case of a tiebreaker, the third) indicates a new jump height. The new jump height becomes effective immediately. The challenge process can only be done once while the dog is under 2 years old and once while the dog is over 2 years old.
Dogs do not have to be measured when the dog has any yellow slip where the measurement was done after the dog turned 2 years of age.

The purpose of measuring is to ensure that dogs are not entered in a jump height lower than what they are allowed to jump and that preferred dogs are also not entered in a height higher than they are allowed to jump. An official measuring device is to be supplied by the host club. Be sure to ask the competitor if they have a permanent card or a valid yellow form in their possession.

Measuring shall take place on a smooth level surface such as a pause table. Calibrate the measuring device before you begin measuring and re-check it every time you return to do any further measuring. In general, greet the dog you are about to measure before attempting the measurement. Crouch low or squat down, but do not lean over the dog. Dogs should be standing squarely, not stretched out, looking straight ahead with the head in a normal position, not down or held down. Some dogs may hunch up from cold or tension, which can make them measure taller, so, if possible, it is advisable to let a dog become relaxed prior to placing the arm of the measuring device. Measure the dog at the peak of its withers, which is where the tops of the two shoulder blades come together, just below the neck.

If a dog is measured up into a higher jump height division, the move must be recorded in the official catalog, the gate steward must move the dog in the run order, and the scribe sheets must be re-arranged. The dog shall remain in the higher height for the remainder of the weekend or set of back-to-back trials unless a subsequent measurement done by a VMO or Agility Field Representative puts them in the lower jump height. If a higher measurement is done by a VMO or Agility Field Representative, at the handler’s discretion the dog may be moved to Preferred. The move can be lateral (at the corresponding level) or, if they don’t have the Novice Preferred title, to the Novice level.

Dogs entered in Preferred classes shall be moved to the proper jump height if measured into that height by a Volunteer Measuring Official, Field Rep or judge of record.

Each individual measurement for a permanent card must be done by a different VMO or Field Rep. VMOs must put their judge’s number at or below their signature on measuring forms.

**Host club responsibilities:** Host clubs shall provide the judge with an official measuring device and a suitable location to measure dogs that require it.
Additionally, the club shall provide assistance in the check-in and measuring process to ensure that all dogs are measured and recorded properly.

SECTION 3. Course Setting

Host club responsibilities: Course setting is primarily the responsibility of the host club. The host club is responsible for providing properly trained personnel, including a Chief Course Builder (CCB), and enough help to ensure efficient changes from class to class. Using the judge’s course designs (drawn to scale with grid lines or baseline measurements), the CCB shall, as precisely as possible, set the equipment in place and locate the start and finish lines. The CCB shall not stake or secure anything or place any bars until the judge has completed their walk through. After notifying the judge that the course is ready for review, the CCB and stewards shall accompany the judge to move or adjust any equipment that the judge requires. Upon final approval by the judge, equipment can be staked or secured in place; however, for Standard and JWW courses (excluding Premier), bars should not be set until the judge has measured the course twice for distance.

Judge’s responsibilities: It is the judge’s responsibility to ensure that the course is set as close as humanly possible to the course that was approved by the AKC, while accounting for site conditions as they relate to safety. It is highly recommended that the judge mark the location of any obstacle that is likely to move during the class.

If a CCB is struggling, it is advisable that the judge step in and help direct the course building process, perhaps teaching the process if it is appropriate. Judges must account for the fact that the CCB and ring stewards are volunteers and should always be treated professionally and courteously.

Electronic timers:
  • The judge is responsible for the appropriate placement of the timing eyes on the course in relation to the start and finish obstacles. At the start obstacle, the electronic timers must be placed on the approach side. At the finish obstacle, the electronic timers must be placed on the exit side.
  • For the tire, timer eyes should be placed at the bar-jump height of the class.
  • Judges must be knowledgeable in how to enter (program) standard course time (SCT) into the electronic timer console. The best way to determine whether or not a dog has exceeded maximum course time (MCT) when using electronic timing is to have the SCT programmed in
so that when the MCT is reached the time will stop and the horn will sound (if a speaker is attached). If a speaker is not attached, the Timer must then blow the whistle to indicate to the judge that the maximum time allowed on the course has been attained and the judge can direct the team to immediately leave the course.

• Judges are responsible for making sure that the correct SCT and/or MCT is programmed into the console for every class they judge. They are also responsible for ensuring that the eyes are programmed correctly for the number of times the finish obstacle is to be taken prior to the end of the course.

SECTION 4. Ring Crew Briefings

The ring crew that is going to work with you will need to be briefed as to the duties they are expected to perform. An experienced ring crew makes the briefing and the task of judging much easier; however, you should never assume that the ring crew knows fully what you expect of them, even though they may have done the job many times before. You should always brief the most important aspects of each job with all ring crew members regardless of their experience level. Be aware that a crew member may change even within a class and have to be briefed. It is also very important to have enough helpers to do all the jobs necessary for completing the trial. It is the host club’s responsibility to provide a large enough ring crew to efficiently run the trial. It is the judge’s responsibility to ensure that the ring crew is doing their job correctly. The judge must be courteous to all volunteers provided by the host club. If a volunteer is not up to the job that the host club has asked him or her to do, a reassignment may be in order. The judge should approach this situation cautiously and diplomatically so as not to offend the person involved.

The following is a list of the ring crew and their responsibilities. The judge shall ensure that the ring crew understands what is expected of them.

Score table stewards:
• Scribe sheets: Check with scorekeepers to make sure that they are using the proper (most current) scribe sheets for the class. Also make sure that they know how to translate the faults on a scribe sheet to a numerical score. Ensure that they know how to make the conversion for the dog’s time, if written in minutes and seconds on the scribe sheets, to seconds, truncating down any partial seconds to whole numbers when comparing the time to SCT, and assigning the proper faults for any full seconds over SCT.
• Catalogs: Go through with the secretary how to properly fill out the catalog
that is to be submitted to AKC per Chapter 1, Section 25 of the Regulations for Agility Trials.

- Postings: Stewards should properly and promptly make the unofficial individual results available as they come in, enabling exhibitors to check their scores and times. Times (to the 1/100th of a second) for all dogs, qualifying or not, shall be recorded on the posting sheet, as well as qualifying status (Qualified, NQ, ABS or Absent, Excused, DQ, AIS, or AJC). A prompt posting of scores allows exhibitors the opportunity to question a score before the judge has forgotten the run. Any questions should be presented to the judge as soon as practically possible. Approach the judge during breaks for height changes or the fixing of equipment, such as adjusting a tunnel or a knocked-over jump upright.

- Checking catalogs: Instruct the table stewards as to the judge’s need to check the scribe sheets against the official AKC catalog at the completion of each class and/or height division. Keeping the scribe sheets in catalog order will expedite the process. Results for the class’s jump height must be checked by the judge before ribbons and awards are presented/made available. The judge shall review and initial all pages of the official AKC catalog for all classes judged.

\textbf{Scribe:}

- Watching the judge: After the dog’s identity has been verified at the start line, the scribe should continuously watch the judge until the completion of judging.

- Scribe sheets: It is the scribe’s responsibility to ensure that the scribe sheet matches the dog on the line. There are a number of ways to do this, but it must be done on a dog-by-dog basis, not by relying on scribe sheets that were put in order prior to the start of the class. Changes to running orders happen frequently due to conflicts and changes to a dog’s jump height after measuring in, and the judge must be assured that the signals are recorded on the proper scribe sheet.

- Hand signals: The judge’s hand signals should be reviewed so that the proper symbols are recorded on the scribe sheet.

- Scribe sheets should be scored using a pen, not a pencil. Changes should be crossed out and rewritten. All changes should be initialed by the person authorized to make the change (i.e. the judge, trial secretary, or scribe).
SCRIE SIGNALS: STANDARD, JWW AND T2BTITLING CLASSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fault</th>
<th>Judge’s Signal</th>
<th>Symbol recorded on sheet</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Refusal/Run-out</td>
<td>Raised fist</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wrong Course</td>
<td>Raised open hand</td>
<td>W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Table Fault</td>
<td>Make a “T” with both hands or raise two fingers</td>
<td>T</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure</td>
<td>Raised two open hands</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excusal</td>
<td>Blow the whistle</td>
<td>E</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Recording the time: The time shall be recorded on the scribe sheet precisely as they read it on the timer’s stopwatch or e-timing console, to the 1/100th of a second. The scribe or timer shall not attempt to translate the minutes into seconds, as this slows up the class. It is the table steward’s job to do all translations.
- Questions: Instruct the scribe to ask you about any signals that he or she may have a question about; sometimes a scratch of the head or wipe of the brow may look like a fault signal that was not intended.

Timer:
- Stopwatch/electronic timer operation: Ensure that the timer understands the operation of the stopwatch and/or electronic timer.
- The timer: Shall release the dog from the start line when the judge and scribe have indicated they are ready.
- Start and finish lines: The exact locations of the start and finish lines shall be briefed; the line on a start or finish obstacle is the finite space between the uprights of a jump, or the inside diameter of a tire or tunnel opening. The timer must be able to clearly see the entry and exit to the start and finish obstacles. Instruct the timer that the start line is live after the timer has instructed the exhibitor to start, and that any part of the dog breaking that line starts the clock, whether the exhibitor is ready or not. Any part of the dog crossing the finish obstacle as the next proper obstacle, in the proper direction, stops the time. However, if the dog has missed an obstacle near the end of the course or only missed the finish obstacle, and the handler has called the dog back to correct the missed obstacle, the timer shall keep the time running (or hit RESTART if the e-timer has stopped running) until the dog has properly executed the last obstacle in the correct order and direction (See Chapter 4, Section 14 of the Regulations for Agility Trials). For e-timing, instruct the timer that if the dog did not
physically start the time by going through the electronic beam but
continued on through the course, as soon as the dog has completed
the third obstacle the time must be started manually. This is used
solely to know whether the team has exceeded the MCT. The timer
must also be instructed to press the RESTART button (not the
START button) when using e-timing if the last obstacle is taken as a
wrong course including if the dog runs past the last obstacle and then
takes it in the wrong direction, thus breaking the beam and stopping
the time. If the time starts properly, fails to stop when the dog crosses
the finish line, and is manually stopped by the timer, it is permissible
for that time to be assigned to the dog’s run vs assigning SCT or
requiring a re-run for time if the handler is in agreement.
• Reducing stopwatch/e-timer malfunctions: Instruct the timer to look at
the watch/e-timing console to ensure that it is running after starting each
run. At the completion of each run, the timer should look again at the
stopwatch/console to ensure that it has stopped. See Chapter 9 of these
Guidelines for dealing with stopwatch/e-timer malfunctions.
• Whistles: The timer shall be equipped with a whistle or a working
electronic horn/buzzer. If a dog starts across the line prior to being told to,
the timer shall blow the whistle or press the horn/buzzer button, and the
exhibitor shall be re-started if the error was deemed a mistake by the
judge. If there is a stopwatch/e-timer malfunction identified while the dog
is working the first three obstacles, the timer shall blow the whistle or
press the horn/buzzer button and the dog should be re-started. If a dog
reaches Maximum Course Time (MCT), the timer shall blow the whistle or
press the horn/buzzer button so the judge knows that maximum course
time has been reached and the exhibitor must then leave the course. The
judge must then blow their whistle as a follow-up to the timer
(indicating that the scribe should record E and “no time” and that the
dog and handler should leave the course), as many exhibitors do not
hear the buzzer/horn.

Gate steward:
• When to enter the ring: The gate steward’s primary job is to keep the
class running smoothly by getting the exhibitors ready to enter the ring
when instructed to by the judge. When clubs have opted to use
armbands/stickers, the gate steward should ensure that all exhibitors are
wearing their catalog number by visually comparing the number to the
gate sheet; if the handler is not wearing a number to verify, they will not
be permitted in to the course area. Usually the next dog is required to be
on the line ready to go while there is a dog in the ring being judged. The
handler should be instructed to remain with their dog at the start, under
control and within reach until instructed by the timer to begin their run.
The judge must tell the gate steward at which obstacle in the sequence the next dog should move to the start. If the judge excuses the team currently running the course at any time prior to when the next dog would normally be directed to be ready on the line, the handler should be directed to enter the ring immediately to be ready to start.

- How many dogs ready to go: To ensure that dogs make it to the line on time and that there are no delays, the gate steward usually will look for the next three to four dogs in the run order (which should be posted ringside adjacent to the ring entrance) to be in close proximity to the ring entry and in correct running order.

- Check-in ringside: The gate steward shall keep a run order list ringside and use it as a check-in list so that exhibitors can see how many dogs are before them and how many have checked in. The gate steward also makes any changes to this list due to exhibitor conflicts, per the judge’s direction. Since dogs must be run in catalog order except for those who have listed an approved conflict on the gate sheet, any dog not available for judging will forfeit its chance to compete. Approved conflicts are conflicts within a ring with multiple dogs, conflicts between multiple agility rings or conflicts with other venues on the same trial grounds.

- Jump height change notification: The gate steward should announce when the last dog in a jump height approaches the start line so that the ring crew can be ready to change the jumps at the completion of the run.

- Scribe sheet organization: Some host clubs ask that the gate steward organize the scribe sheets prior to the class. The gate steward should also verify each dog individually on a dog-by-dog basis, rather than a one-time basis prior to the start of the class, and relay this information to the scribe or scribe assistant.

- A-frame height change: It may be helpful to draw a brightly colored line on the gate sheet at the point in the running order when the A-frame height should be changed.

**Ring stewards:**

- Jump bar re-setting: Instruct the ring crew as to when displaced bars should be reset. Bars can be reset on jumps taken more than once if the course allows for resetting without interference with the dog or handler, except in FAST, where jumps must not be reset until the completion of the run.

- Tunnel straightening. The position of tunnels should be checked with greater frequency as the dogs get bigger. Large dogs can more readily displace the tunnel shape, which can change the challenges on the course and even the course distance.

- Changing jump heights: Instruct the ring crew as to how to set all equipment in their area of the ring.
Since ring stewards are often the least trained ring help, it is wise to check the double, triple, panel, and one-bar jumps prior to starting the first dog in each jump height, and each time any of these is reset after a run.

**Leash runner:**
- It is best to wait until the dog and handler have started their run to pick up the leash at the entrance, since this should be done in a fashion that does not disturb the dog. Leash runners should not throw leashes, which could potentially distract the dog. The leash runner must stay inside the ring while performing this duty since there may be times when the leash will need to get to the handler before the team gets to the finish.
- Leashes should be placed so that the handler can readily find it upon finishing the course. The leash shall not be set up as a target for the dog to run to (for example, right on the finish line). The leash must be placed in/on a container, hung on a holder, or placed in a bucket, on a chair, step stool, etc., but not on the ground or on the ring gating or barrier. All leashes must be placed in the same location as designated by the judge, not by the handler.
- Judges must brief the leash runner prior to the start of each class. Additionally, you should make a point of ensuring the leash holder is placed where you want it. Leash holders should be placed near, not at, the ring exit so that the dog does not accidentally step out of the ring while the handler is retrieving the leash, thus incurring an excusal fault.

**Score sheet runner:**
A runner that will carry the scribe sheets from the scribe to the score table is necessary. The runner should neither disturb the dog and handler in the ring or at the start line, nor distract the scribe from their job of watching the judge. The runner must give the scribe sheets to the score table ONLY. The exhibitor may look at their scored scribe sheet, but at no time may take possession of it unless it is a carbon copy.

**SECTION 5. Measuring the Course for Distance**

Judges must measure each course twice to determine the path of a 12" and 20" jumping dog respectively. These course measurements are used to determine the standard course times for the class. A judge shall use a measuring wheel to determine the distances a dog must travel to complete the course. All distances are measured on the ground and are based on the dog’s expected path. A judge shall measure around the outside of open tunnels and adjacent to contact obstacles and the weave poles.

Things that affect the dog’s expected path:
• 12" vs. 20" dog’s path (small dogs require less distance to make a turn).
• In general, a judge should measure from the inside 1/3 of a jump to the inside 1/3 of the next jump for a 12" path, allowing less room for landing than the 20" path would.
• In general, a judge should measure from the middle of a jump to the middle of the next jump for a 20" path, allowing room for landing and turning.
• Surface and weather conditions should be accounted for when measuring. If it is slippery or raining, the judge may account for this in the path.
• The speed a dog is expected to be traveling when asked to make a turn will affect the turning radius. For example, a dog with a straight 3-jump sequence into a 180-degree turn will turn much wider than a dog coming off a table going into the same 180-degree turn.
• Courses are NOT to be wheeled “in advance”. For example, if the course is currently set for Excellent Standard and there are only minor changes between that course and Open Standard, a judge is not allowed to wheel the Open course taking into account expected changes from the now-set Excellent course. The judge must wait until the Open course is actually built, then wheel.

SECTION 6. Standard Course Time (SCT) Tabulations

After completing the measurement of the course for a Standard or JWW class (except Premier), the judge shall compute the Standard Course Time (SCT) for each jump height and the Maximum Course Time (MCT) for the class. The judge converts the wheeled footage on the course to yards by dividing by 3 and rounding up to the nearest whole number if it is 0.5 or higher and rounding down if it is 0.4 or lower. This number is divided by the rate of speed assigned to each height and class level to determine the SCT (refer to the Regulations for rate of speed required in each height and class level). If the resulting value is not a whole number, it shall be rounded to the nearest whole number, with fractions of 0.5 and higher rounded up. The MCT for the class is determined by adding 20 seconds to the highest SCT. This whole number may be used for all dogs in the class.

SCTs in Excellent/Master Standard and Excellent/Master Jumpers with Weaves classes: There are maximum allowable course times (course time limits) assigned in the Regulations for all Excellent/Master classes. These course time limits may not be exceeded by the judge, regardless of the course length, running surface, or weather conditions. The AKC records computer will not accept course times greater than the maximum times published in the Regulations for Agility Trials. If the time limits are exceeded, the course must be adjusted to shorten the path; do not just assign the maximum allowed time.
All judges must retain for a period of one year a written record of the yardage that they wheeled and the SCTs calculated during their judging assignment.

SECTION 7. Exhibitor Briefings

The briefing for exhibitors should be delivered in such a way that puts exhibitors at ease. The regular and preferred classes of the same level should be briefed at the same time. The briefing should be short, but it should include the following:

• Introducing yourself and welcoming exhibitors to the host club’s agility trial.
• Where to enter and exit the ring, including the reminder that when exiting the course area, the dog must be on leash. The exhibitor shall put the dog on leash as soon as possible per the Regulations. It is required to have a dog on leash prior to exiting the ring, since a leash is required on the trial grounds. A handler may carry his or her dog into or out of the ring (nicely of course) but the dog must still have a leash on for the entry and exit.
• When you want the next dog on the line and how many should be waiting in line.
• If the club opted to use armbands/stickers, the need for all exhibitors to wear the club-supplied armbands or stickers in an appropriate place and in plain view for the gate steward to see.
• The yardages and standard and maximum course times if known at the time of the briefing. Otherwise, an announcement will need to be made with a posting of the yardages and SCTs at the gate steward’s check-in board.
• Any potential safety issues.
• How conflicts with other rings, multiple dogs or obedience or conformation will be handled.
• Reminding handlers that during a run, only flat or rolled, buckle or snap “non-corrective” collars are allowed. This does not include flat collars that cinch closed such as a martingale-style, braided leather or “double- ringed” collars. No attachments are permitted (including loose rings) on collars. It is permissible for an exhibitor’s dog to be wearing a flea collar in the ring during a run. Only one collar is allowed; the dog may not be wearing both the flea collar and a buckle/snap collar during a run.
• For Standard classes, the 4-paw safety rule, your table count, and which side of the table is considered the back for run-out purposes should be addressed.
• Instructing the handler to stay with their dog until the timer has told
them to begin their run, or they may stand to lose their lead-out advantage or be cited for training in the ring.

• Answering any questions.

SECTION 8. Course Walkthroughs

Exhibitors need time on the course to plan their handling strategy. This walkthrough period should be timed, and generally should be a set 8 to 10 minutes long for each group walking. Judges should consider splitting walkthroughs when the entry in a class exceeds 60 dogs. If walkthroughs are split, 8 minutes per group is the suggested length of time. When splitting walkthroughs, it is recommended that you let the first height(s) walk the course, and judge those dogs. Then let the next height(s) walk, and judge those dogs. This way no one will have to wait hours after walking their course before they are allowed to run it.

If the entry is greater than 60 dogs within a singular jump height and is split for walkthroughs, all dogs within that height shall walk the course before judging begins.

To avoid exhibitor confusion with split walkthroughs, it is highly recommended that:

• The same policy exists in all agility rings when there is more than one ring. Judges should confer prior to the first class on the first day of any set of trials to agree on which classes will have split walkthroughs and how the classes will be split.

• The same policy stays in effect for all consecutive days of a trial, unless it really isn’t working. Exhibitors get used to a system, and if there is a change, there will likely be exhibitors who will miss their walkthrough since they were relying on things staying the same.

There are times when an 8 minute walk-through may not be necessary. An example is a small class where there is lots of room to walk the course, and everyone on the course is satisfied and leaves before the 8 minutes are up. Another examples is that a ring may be built that is available while the other ring is running, and is opened for competitors to walk. Common sense should dictate whether less than 8 minutes is adequate.

After the last walk-through, the course must be cleared so that no exhibitors are walking the course. Once the course has been cleared, a five minute period must be given before judging begins. Judges should use the electronic count down timer whenever the horn and/or display are available.

There are some exceptions where a 5 minute period after the walkthrough may
not be necessary:

- For classes where at least the first 8 competitors in the running order are ringside and ready. Under no circumstances are these 8 competitors to be rushed in any way and if they need the full 5 minutes to prepare, then you must allow the full 5 minutes.
- When there is a large class and the walkthrough has been split, so that the first competitors walk the course, then leave for the 8 minutes for the second set of competitors to walk the course. In this case, the first group has had 8 minutes to prepare and may begin running the course immediately upon clearing the course of the second group. You may address conflicts this may cause.

Judges are encouraged to use the five minute period to:

- Brief the gate steward
- Check the gate board to be sure your instructions are being followed
- Brief the leash runner
- Place the leash holder
- Brief the bar setters
- Brief the timer and scribe
- Enter SCT in the timer console
- Get a bottle of water
- Check to be sure bars aren’t “pinched”
- Walk your judging path

SECTION 9. Dealing with Ring Conflicts

To the extent that it is practical, dogs will be judged in catalog order within each class level. Exhibitors have paid to enter the trial and to the greatest extent possible should be allowed to run. Approved conflicts are conflicts within a ring with multiple dogs, conflicts between multiple agility rings or conflicts with other venues on the same trial grounds. After consulting with those who have conflicts, judges can handle conflicts in any way they deem reasonable. Handlers with more than one dog who need more separation between their dogs may have their first dog moved forward or their second dog moved later in the height class. Under no circumstances may they switch the order that the dogs were to compete within the same jump height. However, it is acceptable to change the order of the dogs if the dogs compete in differing jump heights. Usually, holding dogs that have a conflict until all others have run will work. In this case, just move them to the end of the order and reset the bars once all dogs without conflicts have run. Occasionally, this will not work, especially if a dog is entered in Conformation classes. In this case, you may need to move dogs to the beginning of a class, or to wherever it works best, providing the least disruption to the rest of the class. Conflicts not noted on the gate sheet must run in catalog order or lose their opportunity to participate in the class.
Upon completion of a class, the judge shall direct the ring stewards to reset all bars for any dog handlers that notified the gate steward of a conflict and had not yet run. The judge may allow a very short walk through if it is determined that the exhibitor did not get to walk through with the rest of the class. The judge shall then judge those dogs that had a conflict. A judge is not required to hold a course, waiting for exhibitors who had missed their run, if they are not present upon completion of the class.

**SECTION 10. Warm-Up Jump**

Warm-up jumps are recommended per the Regulations and if used, there shall be a maximum of one warm-up jump for each ring, and each warm-up area shall be separated so that jumps may not be put together or sequenced. The warm-up area is for warming up the muscles of the dog, not for training. Place the warm-up jump, if possible, in an area that you might be able to see it from the ring so that any major abuses can be seen, but not so close that it will disturb dogs competing in the ring.
CHAPTER 5
JUDGING

SECTION 1. Judging Position

As a judge, it is your responsibility to be in proper position to judge the performance of the dog on each obstacle. Proper judging position is facilitated by good course design. Your judging path should allow you to move efficiently around the ring without racing the dog or handler to be in the proper position. Remember, you are the judge not the handler, and your movements should generally be more constrained than those of the dog and handler. Prior to judging dogs, you should go over your judging path several times to make sure you are comfortable with the path. Also, remember that your judging path was approved by a Field Rep and should be adhered to as closely as possible while judging the course. If any major changes are made to your approved path, they must be documented and included in your report to the Director of Agility.

Judge’s interference: The judge’s position can cause interference with the handler or dog if not planned properly. The judge’s path should avoid situations such as:

• Crossing in front of the dog’s path as the dog is coming at you, as this can distract the dog (see diagram 5.1.1).
• Sharp turns off contact obstacles, which turn the handler toward the judge’s position, and may cause the judge to be in the way or to not be in the proper position to judge the contact in the first place (see diagram 5.1.2).
• Placing obstacles that would require the judge to be in very close proximity to the dog and handler to be in the proper position to make a call (see diagram 5.1.3).

Required judging positions for obstacles: Remember: Your calls will hold much more weight if the exhibitors see that you are putting forth your best effort to be in the proper position to judge their dog’s performance.

• Contact obstacles (A-frame, seesaw, dog walk): The judge is required to be within 20 feet of each judged contact zone when the dog is performing the contact obstacle. The judge must see the approach to all contacts, including the A-frame and dog walk to determine refusals, and must be confident that they can see everything happening at those entry points. It is important to stay mobile and keep moving. You may think you are in the perfect position to judge the contact zone, but then the handler will make a movement that puts him or her in a position to block your view of the dog.
• **Pause table:** The judge must be within 20 feet of the table at some point during the count of 5 seconds, and must be able to maintain that position and still get to the next judging position in time. The judge must look for contact between dog and handler and ensure that the dog has gotten completely on the table and stays on the table. The judge may be moving while counting; however, the judge must keep the dog in sight at all times and the handler must be able to hear the count. Judges should not be any closer than 5 feet to the table so that they do not distract the dog.

• **Broad jump:** The judge must be within 30 feet of the broad jump to judge whether a dog has visibly moved or stepped on or between any of the broad jump boards. Additionally, the judge must be to the side of the broad jump, for it is difficult to judge the broad jump if the dog is jumping directly away from or towards you.

• **Wall jump:** The judge must be within 30 feet of the wall jump to judge whether a dog has visibly displaced or moved any of the “tops.” The judge’s path must be to the front or back of the jump to see each “top.”

• **Weave poles:** While there is no finite distance beyond which a judge must not be when judging the weave poles, the judge must be comfortable that he or she can see:
  1. That the dog gained proper entry (without passing the refusal/runout plane).
  2. That the dog is weaving between each pole.
  3. That the handler is not making contact with the dog or the weave poles.
  4. That the dog has exited the poles in the proper direction and has not skipped any poles.

Avoid judging the weave poles directly from an end, as it will be impossible to see if the dog skips any poles in the weaving sequence. A position that allows you an angled view from alongside the weaves is best.

• **Jumps (bar jumps, one-bar jumps, panel jumps, double bar jumps, ascending double bar jumps, and triple bar jumps):** Jumps may be judged from a considerable distance away; however, judges must be able to see that the dog has cleared each bar, that the bar has not been displaced from its cup or support, and that the dog has jumped the bar and not the wing. Jumps constructed with large wings may require you to alter your judge’s path to ensure that you can see the bars themselves as the dog jumps them.

• **Tire jump:** The judge must be able to see the dog jump through the
opening of the tire without breaking it open. A position alongside the tire should be avoided, for it will be impossible to be sure that the dog went through the tire rather than between the tire and frame, or if the tire broke open slightly and snapped back together.

• **Tunnels:** The judge must be on the approach side of the tunnel with the tunnel opening in full view to enable the judge to call refusals and run-outs properly, and must see the opening of exits to know when a dog has all four paws out.

• **Wrong course possibilities:** The judging position shall account for off-course possibilities, as the judge needs to see whether the dog places one paw on or in the wrong obstacle. Therefore, the judge must be able to see all tunnel openings and all contacts that are a wrong course possibility in the course design (see diagram 5.1.4).

• **Judging position at options:** The judge shall stay in close enough proximity to see if the dog has crossed a run-out line or committed an off-course. A good rule of thumb is that if you have a lot of challenge in an area, you probably don’t want to be too far away from that area to be able to judge all the possible things that can happen.

**SECTION 2. Coordination with Ring Crew**

**Scribe and timer:** The judge shall make sure that the timer and scribe are comfortable with and understand the system for matching scribe sheets to exhibitors in the ring prior to starting any class. The scribe is ultimately responsible for having the right scribe sheet to record faults signaled by the judge. The scribe shall indicate to the timer when ready, and the judge shall indicate to the timer when ready. The timer then gives an indication to the team on the line that everyone is ready for them to start their run, usually by pressing the “go” button on the console. If there is no speaker in use, statements such as “ready”, “please go”, “go now”, or “good luck handler” let the handler know the start line is live and it’s time to get started.

*Signaling the next dog to begin:* Once the dog has completed its run and is under the handler’s control, such as sitting next to the handler, or the handler has his or her hand on the dog’s collar, you may release the next dog to run by signaling the timer to start them when the scribe is ready. You do not have to hold up the ring by waiting until all sections of the previous dog’s harness or leash is attached.

**Gate steward:** Inform your gate steward to summon you between dogs if
there is someone who needs to question a score or discuss a conflict. If the jump height class is almost completed, waiting for the height change would be appropriate. The gate steward should also let you know if he or she is having a hard time getting exhibitors on the line as instructed in the exhibitor briefing.

SECTION 3. Judging Specific Obstacles

The Regulations state the performance requirements for each obstacle. The following is an obstacle-specific list of clarifications as to the intent of the performance standard for each obstacle listed in the Regulations.

Contact obstacles:

- To judge a dog’s performance on a contact obstacle, a judge should focus on the contact zones and determine if a paw (or part of a paw) lands within this zone. This method provides better results than to watch the dog’s movement over the board, for you may miss a back paw touching the contact zone as the dog is striding along the board.
- A dog is considered to be on a contact obstacle when on it with all 4 paws. Until a dog is on the contact obstacle with all 4 paws, it is subject to a refusal call.
- A dog is considered to have exited a contact obstacle when it has left the obstacle and all 4 paws have touched the ground.
- If a dog has completed a contact obstacle (exited the contact obstacle with all 4 paws touching the ground) and then re-engages the contact with 1 or more paws, the dog shall be assessed a wrong course fault.
- A dog shall not be faulted for the act of stopping, backing up, spinning, or reversing direction on a contact obstacle so long as the dog was fully on the obstacle when this occurred. The dog must ultimately complete the obstacle correctly by touching the descending contact zone before exiting the obstacle from the descent side.
- Once on a contact obstacle with all four paws, dogs may be stopped in the contact zone or partially on the contact zone and partially on the ground or with all four paws on the ground after the proper completion of the contact. If the dog is qualifying to that point, the handler may spend as much time as he or she wishes with the dog in this position. If the dog has NQ’d prior to the contact performance and the judge feels the handler is spending time working on a behavior rather than working the course, the judge should instruct the handler to move on. If the handler fails to do so, then the judge should excuse the handler for failing to comply with the judge’s verbal instructions. Additionally, dogs that miss the contact and are corrected for missing the contact by being told to down or sit or by otherwise restricting their forward
movement should be excused for training in the ring as this is a punitive action. See Chapter 6, Section 6 for more “training in the ring” situations.

**Offering a re-attempt:** Judges should only offer/allow the handler to re-attempt the obstacle after an F has been incurred if, in the judge’s opinion, it was a true instance of the dog falling off the obstacle. Brief the exhibitor that he or she has the option to reattempt the obstacle and then leave the course, or continue on to the next obstacle and finish the course.

**Non-faulted descent:** A dog that is descending a contact obstacle would not be faulted for placing one or more paws on the ground prior to placing a paw in the contact zone, as long as the movement is in the dog’s natural stride. This may occur with larger or long-bodied dogs that, with their natural stride, move over the majority of the contact before a rear paw engages the contact zone. Therefore, a dog whose front paw(s) hit the ground first and whose hind paw(s) then come to rest or push off the contact zone is considered to have successfully performed the contact obstacle and shall not be faulted.

**Faulted descent:** Conversely, a dog jumping off a contact obstacle prior to placing a paw in a contact zone, even though it might inadvertently make contact with the bottom edge of the contact zone, shall be faulted for a missed contact (e.g., a dog that leaps off the board, yet a small portion of a back paw or the rear end or hock of the dog lands on the bottom edge of the board). In this instance, the dog typically gathers itself prior to touching the contact and then leaps to get off the board. Therefore, the dog left the obstacle with all 4 paws in an attempt to get off the board and the coincidence of the dog landing on the end of the board is not to be considered the proper performance of the obstacle.

**Seesaw:** To properly perform the seesaw, the dog may not exit the plank until the elevated edge hits the ground for the first time. The dog must touch the descending contact zone at the same time or after the plank has hit the ground. The dog may exit the plank any time after that, even if the plank has bounced and is no longer touching the ground. Exiting the plank before its elevated edge hits the ground is faulted with an “F” for a flyoff. Merely slamming the plank loudly into the ground is not faulted; however, the dog must still be in control and have touched the contact zone at the same time or after the plank touches the ground. If all 4 paws are on the seesaw and the dog has missed the up contact, the F is called and the dog may not repeat the seesaw even if they come off before they have 4 paws past the fulcrum, as they have already earned a failure to perform for that obstacle.

**Pause table:** A dog is not on the table until completely on it with all 4 paws.
Until a dog is completely on the table, the dog is still subject to refusal and run-out calls. The judge should immediately begin the table count once the dog is completely on the table. A dog has not exited the table until all four paws are no longer in contact with the table and the dog has forward momentum (i.e., if the dog is laying on its back on the table, the dog does not have forward momentum and is still on the table). If a dog has one or more paws in contact with the table at the conclusion of the judge saying, “Go,” then no fault shall be called.

• If the dog completely exits the table with all four paws before the count is completed and before the judge says the word “GO”, a table fault (“T”) will be issued, and the count restarts from the beginning once the dog returns completely to the table.

• Once the dog has successfully gotten on the table, if they exit early they may re-enter the table from any side; refusals and run-outs are no longer faulted.

• If the dog completely exits the table with all four paws during or before the end of the word “GO”, a table fault (“T”) will be issued for anticipating the count and the dog must continue on in the course. Thus, returning to the table after this fault will then constitute a wrong course.

• If a dog exits the table with one, two or three paws and is able to return completely to the table, no table fault is assessed and the count restarts from the beginning.

• If the dog leaves the table without completing the 5-second count and engages any obstacle, a table fault (“T”) shall first be given followed by “W.” If the dog returns to the table, the count is started from the beginning. If the dog does not return to the table, an “F” is given for failure to perform the table.

• If a dog is on a wrong course when the next proper obstacle is the table, the new run-out line of the table will be the side furthest from the dog’s logical approach (see diagram 53.1)

• If the dog is approaching the table (next correct obstacle), then alters its path within the last 1/3rd to avoid the front side, a refusal call must be called even if the dog ultimately jumps up on the table from the side (see diagram 5.4.5B).

Weave poles:
A refusal/run-out occurs in each of the following cases, when a dog:
• Enters the weave poles incorrectly.
• Misses a pole in the sequence and has to make any backwards motion.
• Stops before having all 4 paws cross between the plane of poles #1 and #2.

Once the dog has fully entered correctly, it shall not be faulted merely for
stopping or sniffing in the poles.
• Runs by the entry to the weave poles without making the entry. Missed poles must be corrected by restarting the weave poles over from the beginning. Only the first missed pole during an attempt of the weave poles is called as a refusal until they are reattempted.
• At the Open/Excellent/Master levels, any action that is scored as a run-out or a refusal will count as one attempt.
• At the Novice level, any action that would normally be scored as a run-out or a refusal at the higher levels will count as one attempt.
   (See diagram 5.3.2)    
• A subsequent attempt cannot be assessed until the dog has all four paws on the approach side of the run-out plane of the weaves.
• If a dog re-enters the weaves after 3 attempts - DO NOT whistle the handler off the course for the dog re-entering, even if the handler told the dog to re-enter - just tell them to go on. They may have not heard or been able to react quickly enough to your directions. This is very different from the handler that ignores your repeated direction to go on. They may be whistled off for failure to follow the judge’s instructions or training in the ring.
• A dog who attempts the weave poles three times unsuccessfully and then moves on (per judge’s verbal instruction) should be assessed three “R” refusals (except in Novice) and an F for failure to complete the weaves, but no “W” wrong course for progressing to the next obstacle after the weave poles, as the next obstacle is the next correct obstacle after three attempts at the weave poles.

**A wrong course occurs in each of the following cases, when a dog:**
• Performs the weaves in the wrong direction (back-weaving) by consecutively crossing the plane of the weave poles three times in succession.
• Crosses through the plane of the weave poles when it is not the correct obstacle in sequence.
• Crosses through the plane of the weave poles before getting on the approach side when the weave poles are the next correct obstacle.

**Bar jumps:** Only the top bar of the jump must be cleared without displacing it. If for any reason, one or more bottom bars fall and the top bar remains in place, the dog shall not be faulted. If a dog hits a bar and the bar is not displaced from its support, the dog is not faulted. Dogs shall not be faulted for “banking” off bars unless the top bar is displaced. If the last bar on the course falls as a result of an action by the dog, it does not matter whether the dog has already stopped the clock before the bar falls, the dog shall be faulted for displacing the bar. If the top bar is displaced and falls to a lower
support but not fully to the ground, an “F” must be signaled.

If a jump is to be taken several times on the course and the dog displaces it the first time through the dog is given an “F.” If the bar is not reset when the dog returns to the jump, a second F is not given as long as he passes between the stanchions.

**Panel jump:** If the top plank is displaced from its support, the dog is faulted whether the plank falls all the way to the ground or not.

**Double bar jump and ascending double:** If either of the two top bars are displaced the dog shall be faulted with an “F.”

**Triple bar jump:** Any displaced bar of the triple results in an “F.”

**Broad jump:** The corner markers are placed at the corners of the broad jump for the sole purpose of determining whether the dog has jumped over all of the boards of the broad jump. A dog that touches or knocks one of these markers over is not faulted per the Regulations. Dogs shall not be faulted for this act unless the dog fails to clear the broad jump as stated in the regulations. Any action of the dog that visibly moves the broad jump boards, as well as stepping on top of or between the boards, is a failure.

**Wall jump:** If any of the four “tops” fall to the ground, the dog shall be faulted with an “F.”

**Start and finish lines:**
- Dogs that run past the first obstacle or the last obstacle will incur a runout fault.
- No refusals will be assessed prior to the dog crossing the plane of the first obstacle; however, a wrong course will be assessed if the dog takes any obstacle on the course prior to starting the time normally by taking the first obstacle.
- When starting, handlers may set their dogs at any distance or angle from the approach side of the first obstacle; however, the dog must remain inside the ring. If the dog is not started from the approach side of the first/start obstacle, a runout fault will be assessed.
- Dogs that run past the last obstacle will not be faulted for failure to complete the course as long as they return and complete the last obstacle prior to the dog exiting the ring. The time will continue to run until the dog has completed the last obstacle. Handlers who choose not to return to properly finish shall be whistled and given a “No Time.”
- Dogs that run past the last obstacle and commit a wrong course by taking it in the wrong direction will be assessed a runout and a wrong course fault. If
using electronic timing, the timer will be tripped when the dog passes between the eyes during the wrong course, thus the timer must hit the RESTART button as soon as this occurs so that the time will continue until the dog has completed the last obstacle in the proper direction.

- For e-timing, the start line is the plane between the timer eyes. If the dog does not go through this plane (i.e. goes around the first obstacle) and continues through the course, time must be started manually when the dog takes the third obstacle.
- The finish line “plane” is a finite line that only extends across the last obstacle on the course (for e-timing, between the two poles of the electronic timer eyes). It is NOT an infinite line, as defined for an obstacle’s run-out plane. Additionally, the finish line is not “live” until the dog is in the “closing sequence”, defined as the dog completing the second to last obstacle on the way to the finish obstacle. If a dog completes the third to last obstacle, runs around the second to last obstacle, and takes the finish obstacle (incurring both a run-out and a wrong-course fault), the timer should re-start the time and the handler has the right to bring their dog back to complete the second to last obstacle, then complete the course and earn a valid run time.
- In the closing sequence, a handler that stops the time at the finish obstacle (instead of the dog) will be whistled (E).
- Dogs that do not finish the course must be whistled to indicate that an E and No Time must be recorded on the scribe sheet.

SECTION 4. Course Faults

Course faults include refusals/run-outs, wrong courses, table faults, failures/eliminations, and excusals. The following is a clarification to what is written in the current edition of the Regulations for Agility Trials.

Refusals and run-outs are similar faults in their nature and in how they are signaled and scored. They both relate to the fact that the dog is not getting on, in, or over the next proper obstacle like they should. In order to be subject to a refusal fault, a dog must be in a position to see the next proper obstacle before they can be faulted. For run-outs, the dog does not have to see or be in close proximity to the next proper obstacle for a fault to be called. See examples 54.1 through 54.7 for practical applications of course faults.

Refusals (R):
Refusals are the most difficult fault to assess, because they are somewhat subjective. A refusal is assessed solely on the performance of the dog, with no consideration given to what commands were or were not given by the handler, or to the location of the handler. In addition to the guidance provided in the
Regulations, the following may help you in understanding refusals:

1/3 – 1/3 – 1/3 Refusal Guideline: The 1/3 – 1/3 – 1/3 refusal guideline can be used to help define when a refusal can occur. To apply this guideline, the space between the previous obstacle and the next proper obstacle is divided into three equal spaces as follows. Note that the ranges in distances given are due to the range of obstacle spacing allowed on the course and are in relation to the next proper obstacle.

Furthest 1/3 (landing area) is the 1/3 of the course distance that is the greatest distance from the next proper obstacle.

Middle 1/3 (judge’s discretion zone) is the middle 1/3 of the course distance between obstacles (usually 6 to 16 feet away from the next obstacle in sequence).

Closest 1/3 (refusal territory) is the 1/3 of the course distance just prior to the next proper obstacle in sequence (usually 0 – 7 feet away).

Judging of these 3 zones is as follows:

Furthest 1/3: It is highly improbable that you would call a refusal in this area. The dog is landing and needs this area to acclimate to the new position on course and see what options are available.

Middle 1/3: This is the area where you as the judge must determine whether the dog is in a position to see the next proper obstacle. Dogs in this area are subject to refusals if, in your opinion, the dog has had the opportunity to have seen the next proper obstacle.

Closest 1/3: Dogs in this zone are almost always considered to have seen the next proper obstacle whether approaching it directly, running parallel to it or spinning in front of it.

It is important to note that the closer a dog is to the next proper obstacle, the narrower its field of vision. Thus, the probability of it seeing the next proper obstacle is even greater. This is the basis of the 1/3 guideline.

Maneuvers by the dog to avoid an obstacle by altering its path are often obvious. The following examples should be faulted as refusals when they occur in relation to the next proper obstacle:

• Jumping over or passing through the wing of a jump in the correct direction.
• Jumping over a contact obstacle from side to side or jumping over a tunnel.
• Going under the top bar of a bar jump (in the correct direction).
• Passing between the tire and the frame (in the correct direction).
• Entering the broad jump correctly but exiting through the side.
• Entering through the side of the broad jump and exiting the other side or back.
• Exiting the entrance of a tunnel without going completely through the tunnel.
• Going under or jumping over the pause table without touching it (see diagram 545B2).

A dog is not subject to a refusal until it has placed all 4 paws on the proper approach side of the obstacle (see diagram 543D).

If a dog is given a refusal for stopping in front of an obstacle, it cannot be given another refusal for just standing there. The dog is not subject to another refusal until it makes some movement forward. Furthermore, a dog that stops in front of an obstacle, then turns back on its path is assessed one refusal since there has not yet been movement forward toward the intended obstacle.

**Run-outs (R):**
A run-out occurs each time the dog passes the run-out line of an obstacle without engaging that obstacle. Whether the dog was approaching that obstacle or has even seen it is of no consequence.

The run-out line is intended to mark the point at which a dog can no longer properly engage the obstacle without turning back on its path. It is defined as a line that passes across the front edge of all obstacles except the pause table, weave poles, and contact obstacles.

• On the weave poles, the run-out line is interpreted as passing perpendicular to the weave poles to the left of the first pole and to the right of the second pole.
• On the pause table, the run-out line passes across the back of the table. The back is determined by the natural flow of the course. Thus, it is possible that dogs may jump on the table from three different sides (the front and the two sides) without incurring a run-out. To better define the run-out line, the front face of the table should be square to the expected dog’s path.
• On the dog walk, the run-out line passes through the junction where the ascent ramp and the horizontal, middle ramp meet (see diagram 5.4.1).
• On the A-frame and seesaw, the run-out line passes through the back edge of the approach side’s contact zone.

Once the dog has passed the original runout line of the table, the line then flips to the opposite parallel plane for the purpose of judging the dog’s subsequent approach to the table. (See diagram 5.4.2B)

Run-outs occur immediately when they happen. Thus, in the case where a dog passes the run-out line for an obstacle first and then goes off course, the score
should read “R” for run-out and “W” for wrong course. However, if the dog goes off course and the wrong course obstacle carries the dog past the run-out line of the next correct obstacle, only a wrong course penalty is assessed (see diagrams 5.4.1 through 5.4.7 for examples).

A dog cannot be assessed a run-out until it has all 4 paws on the approach side of the next proper obstacle. This is especially important in situations, such as 270-degree turns, where the dog is not on the approach side of the next proper obstacle when it lands. The dog must land and then make its way to the approach side of the next proper obstacle (see diagram 5.4.3-D).

**Wrong courses (W):**
A wrong course is called when a dog performs the correct obstacle in the wrong direction. For example:
- Getting on the wrong end of a contact obstacle
- Jumping the next proper jump in the wrong direction.
- Entering the wrong end of a tunnel.
- Jumping backwards through the tire or backwards between the tire and frame.
- Back-weaving through the weave poles by consecutively crossing the plane of the weave poles three times.
- Back jumping the broad jump by entering through the rear of the broad jump and exiting through the side or front, or entering through the side of the broad jump and exiting through the front.
- Jumping over a contact or tunnel from side to side.

A wrong course also occurs when a dog engages an obstacle that is not the next proper obstacle to be performed. A dog is considered to have engaged a wrong course obstacle when the dog:
- Touches the obstacle with one or more paws (head, nose, shoulders, and tail are not considered).
- Jumps over any part of the obstacle.
- Goes under the table or a jump with one or more paws.
- Crosses through the weave poles with one or more paws.
- Placing one paw on an off course obstacle prior to starting the run, whether the dog is on or off leash.

If the weave pole 3-attempt is invoked, only a failure to perform fault is called. There is no wrong course called as the next obstacle is the correct obstacle to be performed.

Going under a contact obstacle is not considered to be a wrong course, unless the dog actually touches the contact obstacle with one or more paws.
Multiple obstacles taken while the dog is on the same wrong course are considered a single wrong course. The dog is not subject to additional wrong course penalties until it has engaged with one paw the next proper obstacle in the sequence.

If the handler has chosen to remain in the area of the next proper obstacle in an effort to get the dog to complete it, once the dog returns to the correct side of approach, they can again be subject to another refusal/runout since they are attempting to correct the wrong course and complete the next proper obstacle.

**Eliminations/Failures (F):**
Failures are infractions on the course that prevent the dog from qualifying at any class level. However, the handler and dog are allowed to continue and complete the remainder of the course. Judges shall continue to judge the remainder of the run, signaling all faults as described above even after a failure has been signaled. The Regulations contain a list of infractions that result in a failure being assessed. The following are some additional guidelines for assessing failures:

- If a dog omits an obstacle and the handler makes the decision to continue on without returning to complete the omitted obstacle, the judge shall signal a failure to perform (“F”), in addition to the possible “R” and the “W” already incurred, and then continue judging the dog’s performance from that point on.
- If a dog knocks a bar, panel, or wing down while on a wrong course and the dog has to complete that obstacle later on the course, the performance shall be faulted with an “F” for the knocked bar, panel, or wing (whether it is reset or not). The bar, panel, or wing being knocked down was a result of the dog’s action and the score shall not be dependent on a ring steward’s abilities in replacing the bar, panel, or wing. If the bar, panel, or wing is not to be taken in the remainder of the course then the dog would not be assessed a failure to perform.
- Displacing a tire from its frame, whether it falls to the ground or not, is a failure. Knocking the tire open is a failure.
- Handlers who touch, jump over, or go under equipment shall be faulted with an “F.” If the action is extreme or dangerous, the judge should excuse the handler rather than signal the failure.
- If a handler steps on a ground support causing the equipment to fall over or the top bar or plank to displace, then an “F” must be assessed.
- Handler contact with the dog sometimes occurs on the course. Handlers may stand anywhere they wish in the course area to direct their dogs around the course (except for on the equipment). There are various reasons for contact, and not all should be faulted. The fundamental point in deciding whether or not to fault the contact is whether or not it aided the performance of the dog or whether the handler knowingly placed himself or herself in a position where contact was a possibility (e.g. in attempting to
enhance the dog’s performance).

The following are examples of contact that would be faulted:
1. Any contact between the dog and handler at the contacts, table, or weave poles shall be faulted. In this case, the dog’s movement is restricted by the performance of the obstacle and the handler has decided to place himself or herself in close proximity to the dog, usually to enhance performance. This places the handler under greater scrutiny, and any contact under such conditions shall be faulted.
2. Dogs lunging and touching the handler’s hands because of the handler using his or her hands to guide the dog or “fake treat” the dog.
3. Handlers touching dogs by using knees or other body parts to guide the dog on, in, through, or off an obstacle.
4. Dog-handler contact or collision (inadvertent or not) that keeps the dog from going off course, picking up a run-out or refusal, or aids in the entry or approach to the next obstacle.

Examples of when a dog would not be faulted for contact would be:
1. Inadvertent contact between the dog and handler where no advantage to the dog has been gained and no fault has been avoided. *Exception: Any contact at the contacts, table and weave poles.*
2. Dogs jumping on handlers out of insecurity or excitement. This type of contact is innocent and should not be faulted unless the dog is nipping (see Excusals).

**Excusals (E):**
Excusals are infractions that are fairly serious in nature and result in the immediate end of the run. The judge shall immediately blow the whistle and instruct the exhibitor to leave the ring. The judge may need to explain to the exhibitor the reason for the excusal if it is not apparent. The length of the explanation and the general tone shall be dictated by the nature of the offense. Exhibitors excused from the ring must immediately and politely stop working their dog and leave the ring with their dog. Judges should consider filing a Misconduct for handlers not following their verbal instructions to leave the ring with their dog.

The Regulations contain a list of infractions that result in an excusal. The following are some additional guidelines for assessing excusals:

• Excessive handling: A handler should be excused when it is evident that the dog is completely untrained on the obstacles to the point that the dog would not be able to perform the obstacles without extreme movements on the handler’s part. Some examples are a handler leaving the dog at one end of the tunnel and going to hands and knees at the other end to call the dog.
through, and a dog that needs (fake) baiting by the handler throughout the entire course.

- Harsh commands: Some handlers get so excited that they start shouting their commands in negative tones. They usually are not even aware that they are doing this. In general, this should not be faulted, although you may bring it to their attention when you get a chance. Sometimes handlers become very frustrated with their dogs, particularly if they think their dogs are intentionally disobeying. In these cases, you can hear a distinct edge in the handler’s voice. The best time to warn a handler that his or her commands are too harsh is when the dog is on the table, since it is usually under control at this time. Consider the extra time it takes to warn the handler as a penalty. If it is not convenient or if it is too late to warn the handler during the run, do not hesitate to excuse the handler. (See Responsibilities to Spectators in Chapter 1, Section 1 of these Guidelines).

- Unsportsmanlike conduct: Any instances of unsportsmanlike conduct should result in immediate excusal from the ring. In cases when the conduct is extremely severe, such as dog abuse in the ring or verbal abuse, the infraction may also warrant a misconduct hearing.

- Dogs that leave the ring and/or discontinue working: Dogs that willfully leave the ring during their run should be excused. This is different from a dog whose momentum carries it out of the ring due to obstacle placement in close proximity to the ring barrier. In this case, the dog would not be faulted. A dog that willfully leaves the ring does so through his or her own volition. Sometimes this is an avoidance of the agility equipment or handler or just an opportunity to check out a toy or treat, another dog, or some other outside inducement. The type of ring barrier shall not be considered when assessing this penalty.

- Exiting the ring off-leash: If a dog has exited the ring with all 4 paws prior to being on leash the dog is considered to have left the ring without a leash and an “E” must be called. Once all 4 paws are over the plane of the ring barrier the dog has left the ring. Judges can set up teams for success by placing their last obstacle further back than 20 feet and managing where the leash holder is set. Placing the leash holder next to the opening for the exit makes it hard for handlers and dogs to leave the ring safely.

- Leashes and harnesses upon exiting the ring: A handler may bring a dog into the ring on a harness and a slip lead. Upon exiting the ring, the handler may choose to put the slip lead on the dog, for expedience, leaving the harness unclipped, which is acceptable. However, some form of leash or harness must be completely attached/snapped/closed before leaving the ring. If the dog is not attached to a completely secure leash or harness before exiting the ring, the handler is subject to an Elimination for leaving “off leash.”

- Dogs that are unresponsive and/or out of control, including after the last
obstacle.

• Fouling the ring: Dogs that foul the ring, including dogs throwing up, should be excused.

• Inappropriate collars: Discovery of an inappropriate collar on a dog after the run has started shall result in an excusal.

• Running the course with handling aids: Food, toys, and training devices are not allowed in the ring at any time. Articles of clothing such as glasses, hats, etc., if thrown for the dog to chase at the end of the round, would then be considered handling aids. Judges should not require exhibitors to remove keys, wallets, cell phones, pagers, etc., from their person, as just having them is not a training inducement. However, an exhibitor who uses one of these items as a training device, such as throwing it upon completing a run, or jingling keys in his or her pocket with a hand as an inducement for or punishment of the dog, should be excused.

• A handler who purposefully touches the dog (petting on a contact zone, picking up the dog to place it on the table or back on a contact zone), or the handler who uses negative touches, such as corrections, must be excused for training in the ring (see Chapter 9, Section 6 of these Guidelines). However, if the dog has fallen and the handler feels the need to check out the dog to make sure it is okay, the handler should receive an “F” for touching the dog, but not be excused for this act.

• Training in the ring: See Chapter 9 of these Guidelines for examples.

• Aggression of the dog towards the handler, judge, or ring crew: If a dog bites at its handler and holds on to clothing or continually attempts to nip at its handler, such that the run is more about not getting bitten than it is about agility, the dog must be excused from the ring. (Refer to Chapter 1, Section 1; Responsibility to Spectators in these Guidelines). If a dog is aggressive to the judge or ring crew, the dog must be excused (or disqualified depending upon the circumstances) and a report filed with the judge’s report.

• Failure to comply with the judge’s verbal directions: Use this area of the regulations when there is confusion. If the exhibitor fails to comply with your verbal instructions (directions based on the regulations and/or guidelines), he or she should be excused from the ring. The following are examples of when you may need to say something:

1. If a handler absolutely refuses to be on the line as directed, has been warned by the judge, and is still not on the line, causing delays, this is failure to comply with the judge’s verbal directions.

2. If there is confusion at the start line, and the handler has been told by the timer to go but does not go, the judge should say “go now.” If the handler fails to comply, he or she should be excused.

3. If the dog just can’t figure out how to get into, on, through, or over an obstacle and the handler, after many attempts, continues
to try, the judge should tell the handler to move on to the next obstacle. If the handler fails to comply, he or she should be excused. Judges should allow a minimum of four to five attempts on each obstacle.

4. A handler who fails to heed the judge’s warning about harsh handling is failing to comply with the judge’s verbal directions.

- Dogs that get hung up going through the tire or fall off the descent side of a contact obstacle and, given the choice by the judge, the handler chooses to immediately reattempt the obstacle once, are then required to leave the course.

- If a dog gets “stuck” on a contact obstacle, it is okay for the handler to hold the dog’s collar and help him finish the obstacle. It is also okay for the handler to help navigate the obstacle, such as gently pushing the seesaw board to the ground. The team would then be excused (whistle). The dog MUST initially have all four paws on the obstacle before “help” from the handler is allowed; the handler may not “help” the dog get onto the obstacle via holding the collar or touching the obstacle.

- Dogs that do not finish the course must be whistled to indicate that an E and No Time must be recorded on the scribe sheet. This includes a dog that does not take the finish obstacle and thus never stops the time.

- Veterinarian: The only situation that would require the judge to request the services of the show veterinarian would be when a dog in the ring requires immediate medical attention or when a judge needs the show veterinarian’s recommendation concerning the health of the dog in the ring. The judge must excuse a lame dog or any dog they deem as unfit to participate from competition (refer to the Regulations for Agility Trials Chapter 1, Section 31).

A dog does not need to be lame to be excused from the ring. Dogs whose actions make them appear physically unable to compete need to be excused for their own well-being. This can be manifested through many different actions on the dog’s part including, but not limited to, avoiding obstacles, stopping prior to attempting obstacles, looking like each obstacle takes great effort to complete and/or just walking off around the course, ignoring the handler.

SECTION 5. Judge’s Hand Signals

Standard hand signals:
The judge shall signal faults to the scribe by use of the standard hand signals and the use of the whistle, as described in Chapter 4, Section 4 of these Guidelines.

Correcting an incorrect hand signal:
If the judge inadvertently signals a fault, the judge should correct it immediately with the scribe once the dog has finished the run. The judge should go to the scribe and explain the change and look at the scribe sheet if there is any question as to whether the scribe has recorded the intentions of the judge correctly. This is also true if a judge wishes to add a fault that was not originally signaled on the course.

**Signals for multiple faults that happen quickly:**
Judges must be aware that scribes may miss a hand signal if many faults happen quickly on the course. Different scribes have different abilities to record a quick succession of signals from the judge; therefore, the judge needs to slow the process down so that the scribe can accurately record all faults signaled. If the dog has incurred several faults in a very short time, it is likely that the judge will need to slow the process down for the scribe. The judge may be signaling faults that happened even after the dog has left the area where the faults were incurred. To help the scribe out, deliberately and confidently raise your hand with the proper fault signal then lower it. Each fault should have a separate raise of the hand to identify a separate fault. Switching hands for faults that happen quickly will greatly help the scribe understand that you have signaled separate faults rather than hesitantly signaling the same fault when using the same hand.

**Follow these steps to ensure accuracy in recording your hand signals:**
- Make sure that your scribe knows the proper letter to record on the scribe sheet for each hand signal.
- Do not signal a fault until after it has happened. Sometimes judges can see something coming and will start to fault the dog, but the dog makes a great recovery, resulting in no fault. In this case, you would need to fix the incorrect signal at the end of the run.
- Do not raise your hand to signal a fault until you know which type of fault it is that you are going to signal. Do not raise your hand in a fist and open it up into an open hand once it is up. Scribes will wonder if this is an “R” or a “W,” thinking that you changed your mind while raising your hand, or both an “R” and a “W,” thinking that you just didn’t bring your arm down.
- Hold your calls if the A-frame is between you and the scribe, until you are clearly visible.
- Switch hands for multiple signals that happen quickly
- Generally, you should never take your eyes off the dog since you may miss a fault. One exception to this is that when the dog has failed an obstacle, you may want to look at the scribe briefly as you signal the “F” to make sure that the scribe sees this fault, which will prevent the dog from qualifying.
- The signal to your scribe for an Excusal (“E”) is your whistle, blown loud enough to be heard by your scribe.
Remember, scribes are to be watching the judge, not the dog. Scribes can only record what you signal, no more and no less, so you must be clear in your signals.

**Hand signals for the International Sweepstakes class (ISC):**

A judge must be clear with the scribe regarding hand signals in the ISC Class, since they are different from signals used in the Standard classes. The following is a list of the hand signals for this class:

- Use an open hand (which should be recorded as an “S”) for standard faults such as a knocked bar or missed contact zone. These are all 5-point faults.
- Use a closed fist for refusals and run-outs (same as in the regular classes).
- Use two open hands as an “F” for faults that will fail the dog and keep it from placing, such as a wrong course or handler-dog contact. This is done so the dog and handler may complete the course even though they have no chance of placing.
- Use a whistle for an excusal or when a dog has exceeded the fault limit if one has been imposed. Handlers should be encouraged to quickly exit the ring if excused. It is of no importance if the dog takes obstacles on its way out.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fault</th>
<th>Judge’s Signal</th>
<th>Symbol recorded on sheet</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Refusal</td>
<td>Raised fist</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard Fault</td>
<td>Raised open hand</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure</td>
<td>Raised two open hands</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elimination</td>
<td>Blow the whistle</td>
<td>E</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CHAPTER 6
FAST CLASS

SECTION 1. Course Design

All courses must meet the usual safety standards set forth in the Regulations for Agility Trials and elsewhere in these guidelines. In addition, the following factors must be taken into consideration when designing courses for the FAST class:

- All courses must adhere to spacing requirements indicated in the AKC design guidelines.
- The course must have a start line(s) or start jump. A start line must consist of a single straight line or two intersecting straight lines, allowing handlers wide latitude when planning their strategy. A visible marker (such as a stanchion or cone) must be placed at each end of the start line(s) to provide a line of sight for the Timer. A start jump must be indicated with a start line or text on the map, it must be a winged bar or 1-bar jump marked as unidirectional or bidirectional, and it may be pointed. The start line/jump must allow handlers wide latitude when planning their strategy; different starting paths must be available.
- No obstacle, including the finish obstacle, may be placed on the approach side of a start line; however, obstacles may be placed on the approach side of a start jump.
- A winged bidirectional bar or 1-bar jump or a tunnel must be designated as the finish obstacle; to improve efficiency and for safety, it is recommended that it be placed in close proximity to the ring exit.
- If the finish obstacle is a jump, it may be assigned a bidirectional point value.
- The start line and finish obstacle must be placed so as to allow for hand timing. The finish obstacle must be placed on the course in such a manner that would not require the timer to move from one static position.
- The start and finish obstacles must be different obstacles and for safety reasons must not be placed near each other.
- A Send Bonus consisting of 2 (Novice), 2 or 3 (Open), or 3 (Excellent/Master) obstacles must be designated. The Excellent/Master level Send Bonus must have a change of direction or discrimination element included. Handlers must have multiple paths available to get into and out of the send area for strategic variety.
- Obstacles that are part of the Send Bonus must be the required distance from the send line when measured from the closest end of the jump bar (not from the edge of the wing), or the closest edge of non-jump obstacles (see diagram 6.1.1). In Excellent/Master, the Send Bonus obstacles must be 5-25 feet from the send line; no more than one
obstacle may be closer than 15ft and no more than one obstacle may be more than 20ft. In Open the distances must be 5-20ft; if there are two obstacles in the Send Bonus, one must be 10-15ft; if there are three obstacles, no more than one obstacle may be closer than 10ft and no more than one obstacle may be more than 15ft. In Novice the distances must be 5-10ft.

- The exit of an obstacle that is part of the Send Bonus may be placed closer to or further from the send line than the mandated handler restriction distance for the class level; however, no obstacle may terminate on or past the Send Line. The only exception is that at the Novice level, contacts and weave poles, if used as part of the Send Bonus, must be a consistent 5 feet from the send line (i.e. both the start and finish of the obstacle must be 5 feet from the send line).

- The contact obstacles and Send Bonus must be positioned in such a way that the judge can consistently judge all contact zones, identify refusals and runouts on obstacles that are a part of the Send Bonus (other than the first Send Bonus obstacle), and determine whether the handler has crossed the send line prior to completion of the Send Bonus.

- Jumps designated as being worth 1 point should be winged when space allows. Bar jumps or one-bar jumps may be used.

- A single set of weave poles (9-12 poles) must be used. The required number of weave poles may be placed in the body of the course or may be part of the Send Bonus. The weave poles may not be separated into two or more smaller sets.

- The sum of the point values of the obstacles that make up the Send Bonus must be between 5 and 15.

- All other obstacles other than the seesaw and broad jump are bidirectional (i.e. they may be taken in either direction to earn points). However, the judge may designate one or more obstacles that can be taken in only one direction to earn points; this is usually done to increase the difficulty of the course.

- A single bidirectional obstacle may be designated as a dual point value obstacle (i.e. worth a certain point value when taken in one direction and a second point value when taken in the other direction). A dual point value obstacle may not be taken back-to-back to earn points, except for a tunnel taken consecutively in the Send Bonus. A dual-pointed obstacle used in the Send Bonus may be unidirectional (the first pass must have the higher value); if that obstacle is a tunnel, it may be taken consecutively but only with the same entrance end (the exit cannot be the next obstacle’s entrance). A dual-pointed obstacle not used in the Send Bonus must be bidirectional and cannot be taken consecutively for points.

- Approach angles and obstacle spacing for obstacles that are part of the Send Bonus must adhere to guidelines for the class level.
• Obstacles in the body of the course must be placed with a minimum of 8 feet of clear space from the send line to minimize the risk that handlers will run into these obstacles while directing their dogs through the Send Bonus.
• A minimum of two unique contact obstacles are required to have a point value.
• A maximum of three passes through tunnels are allowed to be used in a FAST course, with a maximum of two passes in the send. If a tunnel is used as the finish obstacle, that counts as a pass.
• The tire, triple, wall jump, ascending double and table are not allowed in FAST.
• At the club’s discretion, any/all FAST levels may be designed to be combined into one course with embedded Send Bonuses for each level. Levels may walk together (club’s option) with send lines noted for each level. Multi-level courses may have a maximum of two separate send areas. Point values may not change between obstacles (this would require a separate walk-through), but may change within an obstacle (for example, a unidirectional becomes bidirectional).

**Course submission requirements**

In addition to the elements required on all courses submitted for review, the following elements must be included on all FAST courses submitted for review:

• The 5-7 jumps designated as being worth 1 point and the 9 obstacles (or combination of obstacles) designated as being worth 2 through 10 points must be indicated. Numbers indicating point values must be placed in such a manner to clearly indicate whether the obstacle is unidirectional or bidirectional (see diagram 6.1.2).
• The finish obstacle (bar jump or tunnel) must be indicated.
• The start line/jump must be indicated.
• The timer position must be indicated. The timer must be positioned so that he or she can sight along the plane of the start line, or see the start jump, as well as see the plane of the finish obstacle.
• The entrance and exit to the course must be shown with the entrance closest to the timer/scribe for verification of the correct scribe sheet.
• The distance from the entry point of each obstacle in the Send Bonus to the closest point of the Send Line must be shown.
• The general judging area must be indicated.

**Adding interest to FAST courses**

Although the wide latitude in obstacle selection, including selection of obstacles in the Send Bonus, and obstacle placement allows for a great variety among FAST courses, additional factors can be used to add interest to individual courses:

• Use an obstacle that is not assigned any point value to assist the flow into
the Send Bonus.

• Use a 1-point jump (unidirectional or bidirectional) in the Send Bonus.
• Use a change of direction and/or obstacle discrimination in the Send Bonus at the Open level.
• Use one combination of obstacles in the body of the course that is assigned a single point value. Combinations should consist of 2 or 3 obstacles (in Novice, combinations may only consist of 2 obstacles). A combination may not be used in the Send Bonus. A combination is considered one obstacle with one point value. When combining pointed obstacles within a combination, the pointed obstacles must not coincide with the combination point values (see diagram 6.1.3). When combining levels in one course, combos must be adjusted to fit the level’s combo requirements. In Excellent/Master, the combo can be 2-3 obstacles executed properly in a specified order; in Open, 2-3 obstacles executed properly in a specified order, or a single indicated obstacle can be taken for the point value (no longer a combo for that level); in Novice, 2 obstacles executed properly in a specified order, or a single indicated obstacle can be taken for the point value (no longer a combo for that level).

• Offer more than one choice for the Send Bonus. However, keep in mind that taking a Send Bonus obstacle in the correct direction before attempting the Send Bonus results in a fault, so avoid overloading your Send Bonus or handlers may be forced to attempt it early, restricting variety in strategy.

SECTION 2. Judging General Requirements

• If a start jump is used, dogs must take the start jump in the correct direction to begin their run (defined as passing between the stanchions). If they engage any other obstacle first (with at least one paw), FAULT will be called and the timer will manually start the time. This includes taking a unidirectional start jump the wrong way.
• No obstacle may be taken back-to-back in an attempt to earn points (except a consecutively-taken tunnel in the Send Bonus) or the second pass will not be awarded points. Thus, if an obstacle has been committed to with all four paws in either direction (regardless of whether faulted or not), it may not be immediately reengaged from either direction to obtain points; another obstacle must be attempted first. The weaves are an exception; if the weaves are engaged, they may be reattempted immediately from the same end for points without attempting another obstacle first. After engaging one end, in order to earn points from the other end another obstacle has to be attempted first. A combo is treated like one obstacle. Once any obstacle in the combo is engaged, the combo is live. If any obstacles are faulted or
taken out of order prior to the successful completion of the required number of obstacles, the combo is negated. Another obstacle must be attempted before re-attempting the combo for points.

- The same contact obstacle may not be taken back-to-back in an attempt to earn points. However, points may be awarded for two different contact obstacles taken in succession. Handlers may direct their dogs to complete obstacles multiple times without penalty. As long as the handler is not being mean or harsh, the handler may direct the dog to multiple completions and use the allotted time any way he or she wishes.
- No bars or panels on any jumps will be reset during a run.
- Points are awarded only for obstacles successfully completed before the Standard Course Time whistle is blown. A dog is considered to have completed an obstacle when all four paws have touched the ground after the obstacle. This includes all four paws on the ground after a jump, all four paws out of a tunnel, all four paws past the plane between the second-to-last and the last weave pole, and all four paws on the ground after a contact obstacle.
- Once the SCT whistle has blown, no further points will be awarded.
- MCT shall be SCT plus 20 seconds.
- Because of the strategic nature of this class, any outside assistance will be scored as an “E”.
- Handlers that jump over or cross through obstacles must be faulted. The judge shall blow the whistle excusing the handler from the ring and the scribe sheet shall be marked with an “E” and no time entered (NT).
- The 3-attempt rule for weave poles shall only be administered when the weave poles are the second or third obstacle in the Send Bonus, when refusals and run-outs are being judged.
- If the Send Bonus has a choice of starting obstacles, the dog must be judged as starting the Send Bonus as soon as it takes one of the first obstacle choices in the correct direction.
- FAULT will be called if the handler touches equipment during the run.
- FAULT will be called for handler-dog contact that aids the dog.

Send Bonus requirements (diagram 6.2.1)
- The Send Bonus may be engaged at any time during the run after crossing the start line and before completing the finish obstacle.
- “FAULT” will be called if the handler is inside the send zone or stepping on the send line when the dog commits to the first obstacle in the Send Bonus in the correct direction or if the handler steps on or over the send line before the dog has completed all obstacles in the Send Bonus. The dog will be considered to have committed to the first obstacle in the Send Bonus when the dog has placed all four paws over, on, or into the obstacle and will be considered to have completed all obstacles in the Send Bonus.
when all four paws are on the ground after the last obstacle in the Send Bonus.

- The handler and dog may pass through the send zone at any time during the run; however, the handler must be outside the send zone when the dog commits to the first obstacle of the Send Bonus in the correct direction. A dog is considered to have committed to an obstacle if it has placed all four paws over, on, or into the obstacle.

- Successful completion of the Send Bonus is worth 20 points. In addition, the point values of the individual obstacles in the Send Bonus are awarded. Thus, 25 to 35 points (i.e. 20 points for the Send Bonus plus 5 to 15 points for the individual obstacles) will be awarded when the Send Bonus is successfully completed.

- A dog may take any single obstacle in the Send Bonus in the un-pointed direction without penalty. However, if two Send Bonus obstacles are taken in succession in reverse order, “FAULT” will be called.

- If the first obstacle in the Send Bonus is completed in the un-pointed direction, the dog must complete another obstacle before engaging the first obstacle in the Send Bonus since the obstacle cannot be taken back-to-back for points.

- If a jump that is a part of the Send Bonus is taken in the un-pointed direction prior to attempting the Send and a bar or panel is displaced, “FAULT” will be called and the bar or panel will not be reset.

- If a bidirectional obstacle in the Send Bonus is taken prior to the start of the Send Bonus, “FAULT” must be called, because the obstacle was taken in the correct direction before the first obstacle in the Send Bonus was taken.

- If the dog places 3 or fewer paws onto or into the first obstacle in the Send Bonus without continuing on, the handler may have the dog immediately reengage the obstacle in an effort to earn the Send Bonus points without any penalty.

- Once the first obstacle in the Send Bonus has been completed, “FAULT” will be called if the dog refuses or runs by any subsequent obstacle, or takes a wrong course in the Send Bonus.

- If the weave poles are part of the Send Bonus, they must be completed correctly for the dog to earn the Send Bonus points. The weave poles are considered to have been completed correctly if the dog enters between the first and second poles in the correct direction and completes all poles in succession from the first to the last pole. The weave poles are considered completed when the dog has all 4 paws past the plane between the second-to-last pole and the last pole.

- “FAULT” must be called if the Send Bonus was never attempted.

- When the first obstacle in the Send Bonus is a contact obstacle:
  - If a dog has committed to the contact with all four paws and jumps off
before beginning the descent, the dog must engage another obstacle before re-attempting the contact obstacle or “FAULT” will be called.

- “FAULT” will be called if the dog misses the up contact zone on the seesaw or if the dog misses the down contact zone on any contact obstacle.
- “FAULT” will be called if the handler is on the line or inside the send zone when the dog gets all four paws on the contact in the correct direction.

• When the first obstacle in the Send Bonus is the weave poles:
  – If a dog has committed to the weave poles with all four paws crossing the center line between poles one and two, and it misses a pole while weaving, the dog may directly re-attempt the weave poles from the beginning without engaging another obstacle first, just as they would do in the body of the course for the weaves. The weave poles must be correctly completed as a single set, while the handler remains outside the send zone.
  – “FAULT” will be called if the dog back-weaves or crosses through the weaves, thus incurring a wrong course for the Send Bonus, after having correctly completed the poles from the proper direction. If the dog has not successfully completed the poles and back-weaves, this is not a FAULT but another obstacle must be attempted before re-attempting the weaves.

• When the first obstacle in the Send Bonus is a tunnel:
  – If a dog has committed to the tunnel with all four paws and exits the entrance with all four paws instead of completing the tunnel, the dog must engage another obstacle before re-attempting the tunnel or “FAULT” will be called.

• When the first obstacle in the Send Bonus is a bar jump:
  – If the dog passes under the bar with all four paws, it is considered to have attempted the jump and a “FAULT” will be called if another obstacle is not engaged prior to reattempting the jump.

**Finish Obstacle**

• The finish obstacle is “live” at all times once the dog has crossed the start line; time is stopped and the run finished whenever the finite line of the finish obstacle is broken regardless of whether the obstacle was completed or not.

• If so desired, the handler may direct the dog to the finish obstacle any time prior to the SCT whistle being blown as part of the handler’s strategy to minimize any possible point loss due to time penalties.

• A dog cannot qualify unless a time is recorded, therefore dogs must cross the finish line to qualify.

• No penalty is assessed if the finish obstacle is faulted.
• If the finish jump is pointed, the points are earned if the dog completes the jump correctly (in either direction) before the buzzer/whistle marks the end of SCT.

Re-Run for Time
If the malfunction of the timing device is discovered after the run is over, the judge must check the scribe sheet to determine the following:
  • If the Send Bonus was faulted, nothing further needs to be done and the run will be scored as a NQ.
  • If the Send Bonus was awarded and the dog had obtained enough points to qualify, the dog will have to re-run for time, unless a video of the run is available to determine the time by clearly showing the start of the run, point accumulation, and the dog completing the finish obstacle before SCT or if the buzzer/whistle marking the end of SCT was heard by the judge during the run.
  • If the dog clearly completed the run under SCT, a re-run is not required and the handler may take SCT.

During the re-run:
  • The dog’s score will be set back to zero.
  • The dog must complete the Send Bonus in the correct numbered order; however, the handler is allowed to enter the send area with the dog and will not be faulted for doing so.
  • If the dog commits a wrong course in the Send Bonus, the error must be fixed by having the dog re-attempt and successfully complete the next correct obstacle. The handler does not have to re-start the dog at the beginning of the Send Bonus – just have the dog complete the Send Bonus from where it was faulted.
  • The dog must complete each obstacle in the Send Bonus but will not be faulted for dropped bars, missed contacts, refusals or wrong courses.
  • The dog is considered to have completed the obstacle when all four paws touch the ground after passing the uprights of a jump, the pivot point of the seesaw, the apex of the A-frame or hitting the descent ramp of the dog walk.
  • The dog must complete the tunnel and the weave poles from start to finish.
  • The body of the course will be scored as a new run.
  • Dropped bars and missed contacts will not earn points in the body of the course.

If the malfunction of the timing device is discovered before the run is over, the timer shall blow the whistle or sound the timing horn to let the judge know there is a timing malfunction. The judge must check the scribe sheet to determine the following:
• If the Send Bonus was faulted, nothing further needs to be done and the run will be scored as a NQ. The judge may excuse the dog from the ring unless the judge feels that there was substantial time left in the run, and may instruct the timer of the remaining time and allow the handler to continue the run; however the run will still be scored as an NQ.
• If the Send Bonus was never attempted before the timer indicated there was a malfunction, the run will simply begin again with a score of zero. Since the Send Bonus was never attempted, the handler must stay outside of the Send Zone when the dog is attempting the Send.
• If the Send Bonus was awarded, the handler and dog must re-run according to the criteria listed above.

If the horn sounds after the dog has taken the finish obstacle, which indicates that the timer did not stop, the judge may offer the handler the option of either standard course time or a re-run for time, as long as the Send Bonus was awarded.

If the dog has taken the finish obstacle and the timer notices the time is still running, he/she may hit the STOP button. If this time is at or under the standard course time, the judge may offer the handler the option of either this time or a re-run for time, as long as the Send Bonus was awarded. If this time is over the standard course time but the horn correctly sounded, the judge may offer the option of this time or a re-run for time, as long as the Send Bonus was awarded.

In both these cases, the judge should check with the timer to determine that the time was started correctly at the beginning of each run prior to offering this choice to the handler.

Actions that Result in a Whistle Fault (Excusal)
• Harsh corrections or training in the ring, whether at the start line, during the run, or immediately after the run prior to exiting the ring. This includes touching the dog while on a contact or taking the dog’s collar to guide it into the weave poles.
• Handler contact that aids the dog to the finish obstacle.
• Any action that would cause an excusal in the regular classes, excluding the Four Paw Rule. This also includes a handler that: i.e. passes through the plane of the weaves poles, jumps over the plank of the dog walk or runs through the uprights of a jump.
• A handler that stops the time at the finish obstacle instead of the dog passing the finish line to do so.

FAST Video Review for Points
If an exhibitor questions their point accumulation and/or qualification in FAST, the judge can view a video to confirm. In order to do this, the judge must have a map and be able to hear points called and/or see them signaled, and the points must correspond to the points on the course map. In the case of deciding whether the run was faulted or not, the judge must listen for “FAULT” or “BONUS.” It is important that the judge listen to the entire video, as “FAULT” or E/whistle may have been called toward the end of the run.

It is recommended that the judge look and listen to the video and call points as a scribe or trial secretary re-records what the judge calls.
CHAPTER 7
TIME TO BEAT (T2B)

SECTION 1. Course Design

All courses must meet the usual safety standards set forth in the Regulations for Agility Trials and elsewhere in these Guidelines. In addition, the following factors must be taken into consideration when designing courses for the Time 2 Beat class:

- A minimum of 17 and a maximum of 19 obstacles shall be used.
- One set of twelve weave poles is required.
- If both the A-frame and seesaw are used, then each must be taken once. If only one is used, it must be taken twice.
- A minimum of five and a maximum of nine options, and at least three side switches are required.
- A maximum of three 180-degree turns may be used.
- One 270-degree turn is allowed.
- All spacing and approach/entry requirements shall be the same as in all other classes.
- No adjacent entrances (i.e. tunnel under the A-frame).
- A maximum of one double bar jump, one ascending double, or one triple bar jump must be used on the course.
- The double bar jump, ascending double, or triple bar jump may be taken a maximum of two times.
- Obstacles not allowed in T2B are: pause table, wall jump, dog walk, and broad jump. They may not be present on the course regardless if they are being used in the next class.
- One-bar jumps are allowed.
- The open tunnel may be taken only two times in the course flow; one tunnel may be taken two times, or two tunnels may be taken one time each.
- The judge may designate one tunnel or jump on course as bidirectional if there is a strategic element involved. If a judge opts to use a bidirectional obstacle, it must be marked on the map as such by placing the number at the midpoint of the obstacle’s entrances (but not on the obstacle), with “bi” next to the number (see diagram 7.1.1).

SECTION 2. Preparing to Judge

Course times: The judge will not wheel the course for the purpose of determining SCT. The fastest qualifying dog in each Regular jump height division and each Preferred jump height division will set the winning time. That
time, to the hundredth place, will be the SCT for that jump height division.

The judge must ensure that the horn/whistle will sound if MCT is reached. For hand timing, the judge must brief the timer to blow a whistle at MCT as listed in the table below. For electronic timing, the judge must ensure the correct MCT is set for each jump height.

The following table shows the MCT for each jump height division, (regardless of whether the jumping height is Preferred or not):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jump Height Class</th>
<th>MCT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4”</td>
<td>60 seconds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8’</td>
<td>60 seconds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12”</td>
<td>60 seconds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16”</td>
<td>55 seconds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20”</td>
<td>50 seconds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24”</td>
<td>50 seconds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26”</td>
<td>50 seconds</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Preferred dogs will use the MCT of the height in which they are running, i.e. a Regular 20” dog running Preferred in the 16” height class will get an MCT of 55 seconds. The Regular and Preferred classes will be scored as separate classes and will each set their own SCT per height.

**E-timer notes:** To set e-timers that are version 2.6 or higher, SCT + 20 sec for MCT; enter 40 for the 4”/8”/12” jump heights (40 + 20 = 60 seconds); enter 35 for the 16” jump height (35 + 20 = 55 seconds); enter 30 for the 20”/24”/26” jump heights (30 + 20 = 50 seconds).

To set e-timers that have NOT been updated to version 2.6 or higher, thus are still set to calculate MCT as SCT times 1.5; enter 40 for the 4”/8”/12” jump heights; enter 37 for the 16” jump height; enter 34 for the 20”/24”/26” jump heights. Advise the club to get the e-timer programming upgraded.

**Exhibitor Briefings:** Exhibitor briefings for the Time 2 Beat class should include the following:

- A qualifying run requires that the course be completed under the MCT for that jump height, with no course faults.
- No refusals or run-outs will be called; however, the 4-paw rule will be in effect for each approach to the A-frame and/or seesaw.
- Three attempts at the weave poles will be allowed before the handler must move on in the course.
• Any course faults will result in a non-qualifying score (NQ).
• The course will not be wheeled for SCT since the fastest dog in the jump height sets the SCT.
• MCT for all jump heights.
• If the horn/whistle blows indicating MCT, the handler and dog must immediately leave the ring.
• If there is a bidirectional obstacle, indicate which one.

SECTION 3. Judging

General requirements
• Judging position and distance requirements are the same as in the Standard classes.
• Run-outs/refusals will not be faulted, including run-outs at the first obstacle. Any/all other course faults will apply as in other classes, and will result in an NQ.
• Three attempts at the weave poles are allowed before the handler and dog must move on to the next obstacle, resulting in a “Failure to Perform.”
• If a dog reaches MCT on a T2B course, the judge must blow the whistle. That signals the scribe to record “E” and “No Time” on the scribe sheet and that the run has ended and the dog and handler must leave the ring (the same as when a dog hits MCT on a Standard or JWW course).

Timer malfunctions: If a timer malfunction is discovered during a dog’s run within the first three obstacles, the timer will whistle or blow the horn to stop the run and the dog will start over. Any faults incurred will stand and judging will start at the point when the malfunction was signaled. If a timer malfunction is discovered after the third obstacle, the timer should wait until the dog has finished the run and then alert the judge. The judge will determine if the dog had a qualifying score. If it had course faults, no further action is needed. If the dog had no course faults:
• A video of the run may be used to determine the dog’s time if the start and finish are clearly visible.
• If no video is available, the judge must determine if he/she believes without a doubt that the dog ran the course under MCT. If so, the judge will offer the handler the option of receiving MCT minus one (1) second in lieu of the dog re-running for time.
• If the judge is not positive the dog ran the course under MCT, then the dog must re-run for time.
• All obstacles must be completed during the re-run; dropped bars, missed contacts, or wrong courses will not be faulted.
• Weave poles must be completed; this negates the three attempt requirement. If a weave pole is missed, the dog must start again at the first pole, just as during a regular run.

SECTION 4. Checking the Catalog

• At the top of the catalog page, the fastest time for that jump height will be listed; no yardage will be listed.
• Next to each dog’s name, the dog’s time (to the hundredth place) will be listed (if qualifying); no score shall be listed.
• The first place dog in each height division will have a “1” listed next to its time; no other placement shall be designated.
• All other dogs with a qualifying run will have a “Q” or “Qualified” listed next to their time.
SECTION 1. Course Design

Premier classes have an emphasis on handling. Judges should design to require a team to demonstrate a higher skill level than would typically be seen on Master courses. All courses must meet the usual safety standards set forth in the Regulations for Agility Trials and elsewhere in these Guidelines. In addition, the following factors must be taken into consideration when designing courses for the Premier classes:

• Course designs must comply with the obstacles required, allowed, and not allowed as explained in Chapter 11 of the Regulations for Agility Trials.
• A minimum of 19 and a maximum of 21 obstacles shall be used.
• A minimum of three side-switches and a minimum of five options are required.
• A minimum of four Premier sequences/elements are required. (See diagram 8.1.1 for examples of Premier elements and rules for incorporating them. Judges can also suggest sequences of their own to their reviewing Rep).
• Required obstacle spacing should follow the requirements of the other levels of Standard/JWW, except where longer distances are used to provide more challenge.
• The judge may designate one tunnel or jump on course as bidirectional if there is a strategic element involved. If a judge opts to use a bidirectional obstacle, it must be marked on the map as such by placing the number at the midpoint of the obstacle’s entrances (but not on the obstacle), with “bi” next to the number (see diagram 7.1.1).

SECTION 2. Preparing to Judge

Course Times: The judge will not wheel the course for the purpose of determining SCT. Maximum times for Premier are as listed in the tables below:
The timer can be set for a maximum course time of 70 seconds for all Premier Standard height divisions. The timer can be set for a maximum course time of 55 seconds for all JWW height divisions.

**E-timer notes:** To set e-timers that have been updated to the current system of SCT + 20 sec for MCT (version 2.6); enter MCT minus 20 seconds for the height division being judged. If multiple height divisions are being judged, enter the highest MCT minus 20 seconds, or enter 50 for Standard (MCT 70 seconds) and 35 for JWW (MCT 55 seconds).

MCT for all height divisions should be posted at the gate.

**Exhibitor Briefings:** Exhibitor briefings for the Premier classes should include the following:
- A qualifying run requires that the course be completed under the MCT for the height division with no course faults.
- MCTs are posted at the gate.
- If the course has a bidirectional obstacle, point it out and remind exhibitors that no Rs are called at a bidirectional obstacle.
- If the horn/whistle blows indicating MCT, the handler and dog must immediately leave the ring.

**SECTION 3. Judging**

**General Requirements:**
- Judging position and distance requirements are the same as in the other Standard/JWW class levels.
- At a bidirectional obstacle, run-outs/refusals will not be called; any/all other course faults will apply as in Master Standard/JWW classes, and will result in an NQ.
**Timer Malfunctions:** If a timer malfunction is discovered during a dog’s run within the first three obstacles, the timer will whistle or blow the horn to stop the run and the dog will start over. Any faults incurred will stand and judging will start at the point when the malfunction was signaled. If a timer malfunction is discovered after the third obstacle, the timer should wait until the dog has finished the run and then alert the judge. The judge will determine if the dog had a qualifying score. If it had course faults, no further action is needed. If the dog had no course faults:

- A video of the run may be used to determine the dog’s time if the start and finish are clearly visible.
- If no video is available, the judge must determine if he/she believes without a doubt that the dog ran the course under MCT. If so, the judge will offer the handler the option of receiving MCT minus one (1) second in lieu of the dog re-running for time.
- If the judge is not positive the dog ran the course under MCT, then the dog must re-run for time.
- All obstacles must be completed during the re-run; dropped bars, missed contacts, or wrong courses will not be faulted.
- Weave poles must be completed; this negates the three attempt requirement. If a weave pole is missed, the dog must start again at the first pole, just as during a regular run.
CHAPTER 9

WHAT-IFS WHILE JUDGING

This chapter addresses many of the non-typical things that can come up while judging. However, neither this chapter nor this booklet can cover all situations, nor can they substitute for common sense. For situations that come up that are not specifically spelled out, you will be required to make decisions that are fair and impartial for both the exhibitor involved and those against whom he or she is competing.

You should address any questions you have about judging procedure or conduct to the Director of Agility or an Agility Field Representative. Do not hesitate to call or write the AKC Agility Department. If you are judging at a trial and have questions and are unable to connect with any of the AKC agility personnel, the next person you should turn to would be another judge of record for that trial.

SECTION 1. Starting Errors

Various problems can occur at the start of each run, including exhibitors who delay starting the course after being told to go by the timer (delay of start), exhibitors who start too early prior to the timer giving the signal to go, and stopwatch/e-timer malfunctions. Listed below are various ways to handle these issues.

Delay of start: Sometimes the start area can be quite confusing for an exhibitor. Exhibitors are often trying to tune into their dogs and prepare for their run. At times, they may not hear the directive from the timer to go. Some handlers obsess at the start line and delay the trial for no good reason. To make it clear to exhibitors who seem to be having a problem hearing or understanding the timer, the judge should repeat the timer’s directive to go. If the handler continues to delay, then the judge should excuse the handler for failing to comply with the judge’s verbal instructions. The judge vocalizing the instructions to the handler takes away any confusion that can be claimed by the handler.

Exhibitors who start too early: In most cases, an exhibitor or dog that starts before the ring crew and judge are ready probably has done so out of nervousness or they were confused on whether or not to start. The judge or timer should blow a whistle once it has been discovered that the dog has been started without the timer’s direction. If the judge has decided that the handler has acted out of innocence, the dog should be restarted at the beginning of the course once the ring crew and judge are ready. The dog should not be repositioned in
the run order, since the error was the handler’s, and the handler cannot lead out from the dog. Any faults incurred would remain in place so long as the judge was in the proper judging position. Judging would, therefore, begin in the restarted course at the approach to the obstacle after the early start was discovered.

- If no faults were incurred prior to discovery of the early start, judging begins with the approach to obstacle #1.
- In cases where the judge was not in the proper judging position when an early start happened, judging shall begin at the approach to obstacle #1.
- If the handler leads out BEFORE the timer has indicated that they may start their run, the judge shall decide whether the infraction warrants the loss of the lead-out advantage as with a nervous new handler, or an Excusal for training in the ring.

**Lead-out:** Handlers often attempt to gain an advantage by placing their dogs in a stay prior to the start line and leading out on the course. The handler incurs some risk in attempting this maneuver to gain the advantage of a head start on the dog. Some of the risks include dogs that break early, dogs that start the course before the handler is ready, and dogs running out around obstacle #1. The following policies should be adhered to regarding lead-out advantage:

- Once the timer has given the handler the okay to start, handlers may lead out as many obstacles as they wish.
- A handler may touch the dog to position the dog for the start of the course and may return to the dog and reposition it nicely, without restriction, as long as neither the handler nor the dog has crossed the start line/plane.
- Once a handler crosses the plane of the start line with one foot to lead out, he or she may not touch the dog for any reason. If the handler does so, he or she shall be faulted with an “F” or “E”, depending on the circumstances. (i.e. an “E” would be called if the handler returned to the dog and touched it for any reason; an “F” would be called for the handler who returned to the dog, started the course without touching the dog, and unintentional contact occurred which aided the dog’s performance over the first obstacle).
- Once a handler has taken a lead-out, if the dog breaks position (without crossing the start line), the handler may go back to reposition the dog to successfully approach obstacle #1; however, the handler may not lead out again, nor may the handler touch the dog while repositioning it. The judge may tell the exhibitor when they go back that they may not lead out again.
- If a dog breaks before the handler is ready and starts the course either by
completing the first obstacle or by crossing the plane of the start obstacle, the handler may not reposition the dog at the start of the course. This is training in the ring, and the handler shall be excused.

- If the handler leads out and it is noticed before the dog starts that any or all equipment is set at the wrong height, the handler may return to the dog and may touch the dog while the equipment is set correctly. Once the ring is ready and the timer indicates that the team may go, the handler may lead out.

**Stopwatch/e-timer malfunctions:** Sometimes a stopwatch/e-timer or a timer’s thumb will malfunction. The timer should be instructed to make sure the watch/console is running by looking at it each time a dog crosses the start line.

- If the watch/e-timer is not running, the timer shall blow the whistle or press the horn button if the handler has not completed the first 3 obstacles. Any faults incurred by the dog in the first three obstacles remain in place. Judging of the performance on the restarted course would begin on the obstacle beyond those obstacles completed when the malfunction was signaled.
- If the malfunction is discovered after the third obstacle, the timer shall not blow the whistle nor press the horn button and shall allow the dog to compete the run, notifying the judge at the end of the run. If the dog had a qualifying score based on course faults the first time through, the score will stand and the re-run procedure will be followed to determine a time (see below). For a re-run, the handler will have the option of restarting the course immediately, at the end of the jump height, or at the end of the class (if the dog is already at the end of its jump height.) If there is a videotape that shows the start and end clearly and the handler wishes to use it for determination of the dog’s time, the judge may time the dog’s performance on the tape, thus avoiding a rerun.
- If e-timing fails during a jump height, the Timer will use hand timing for the remainder of the height class.

**Re-run for time:**

- See Chapter 6 Section 2 for instructions on FAST re-runs, Chapter 7 Section 3 for instructions on Time 2 Beat re-runs, and Chapter 8 Section 3 for instructions on Premier re-runs.
- The judge must determine ahead of time whether or not the dog clearly completed the course under standard course time.
  - If it was **clear**, beyond a shadow of a doubt, that the dog was under time, the judge shall instruct the handler that the dog’s time will be the **lesser** of the actual re-run time or standard course time. The judge may assign standard course time if the exhibitor does not wish to re-run or if the dog does not complete all obstacles on the course.
If the handler runs their dog in an unsafe manner, the judge will ask the handler and dog to leave the ring. Standard course time and a qualifying score will then be assigned to the dog.

– If it was unclear to the judge as to whether the dog completed the course under standard course time, then the judge shall instruct the handler that the re-run time will be used regardless of whether it was close to the dog’s original time or not. A dog that does not complete all obstacles in this case, or a handler who runs his or her dog in an unsafe manner solely trying to get a better time, shall be given an “E” and excused. A dog shall be eliminated for fouling the ring during a re-run in this case.

Prior to a re-run for time, the handler must be briefed that:

• The dog had a qualifying score and any course faults that may have been incurred remain in place for the dog’s final score.
• In order for the re-run time to count, the dog must perform all obstacles completely (including all weave poles, the entire 5 second table count in the standard class, and ascending and descending each contact obstacle). The 4-paw rule is not in effect on a re-run since the dog must perform all obstacles.
• Dogs shall not be faulted for any course faults while they are on a re-run. The dog’s original score remains in place and the new time is added to the scribe sheet.
• Handlers and dog must perform the re-run in a safe manner.

**Dogs jumping in the wrong height:** It is the exhibitor’s responsibility to know what height division the dog is jumping in at any given trial and for verifying the proper jump height is set prior to running. Dogs must compete in the height division in which they entered unless, prior to their run, a measuring official has moved them to a different height division. If a measuring official has moved them to a different height division, they must then run in the new height division to which they have been moved. If a dog runs or has been started at a wrong height (whether higher or lower) it shall be given an “E”, regardless of whether the dog completed the course or not. The dog cannot be re-run in the proper jump height.

**SECTION 2. Equipment Malfunction/Missing equipment**

The chief course builder is responsible for ensuring that the equipment on the course is safe and is set and operating correctly. The judge shall also inspect all equipment prior to starting the class. Still, equipment will malfunction from time to time. Severe malfunctions will require you to come to a fair solution with the
exhibitor. Equipment that is wobbly or less than perfect is not considered to be severely malfunctioning; however, every attempt should be made to remedy any and all equipment problems as soon as they are discovered.

Examples of severe equipment malfunction include:

- Table and contact obstacles that fall apart when the dog is on them.
- Weave poles that break off or pop off of the base.

When a severe equipment malfunction happens, it may be possible to instruct the handler to continue on the course and deal with the problem once the dog has finished and has a score and time. For example, if a weave pole is broken, and the dog has picked up a refusal and must go back and reattempt the poles, but the pole is now lying on the ground and can’t be weaved, it would be best to go on with the course. After the dog finishes the course, you would then instruct the handler (if the dog had a qualifying score other than at the malfunction) to reattempt the poles, beginning one to three obstacles prior to the poles. Judging commences with the dog’s approach to the poles, and continues until the dog has exited them.

Sometimes the malfunction affects the dog or handler greatly, and the run basically stops at that point. In these cases, the equipment should be fixed, and the dog should be given an opportunity to perform it (one time) immediately, to re-acclimate itself to the obstacle prior to completing the course or the re-run as described below. If the dog had incurred faults that would keep it from qualifying prior to the severe equipment malfunction, then the handler should be allowed to simply complete the course at that time. If the dog was qualifying at the time of the severe malfunction, then the handler would be instructed that a re-run would be necessary. All faults incurred in the first run (up to the point of the malfunction) remain in effect, and judging begins at the point where the severe equipment malfunction occurred.

Exhibitors must be briefed with re-run criteria as stated in stopwatch/e-timer malfunctions.

If you determine during the running of your course that a required obstacle is missing, the ring must be halted and the required obstacle put into place immediately. Conversely, if you determine that a dummy obstacle is missing (hence an option), the ring should not be halted – the missing obstacle should be put into place between jump heights.

SECTION 3. Ring Steward Error

On occasion, a ring steward will set a piece of equipment, such as a bar,
table, or tire, incorrectly and the judge will not discover it until it is too late. The following are some guidelines as to what should be done to rectify the situation. Try never to fault or disadvantage a dog for your ring crew’s error.

- A piece of equipment set too low: If the handler questions the height of an obstacle set too low while running, the judge should instruct the handler to go on and complete the course, finishing all obstacles. If the same type of obstacle, set at the correct height, was taken correctly elsewhere on the course, no further action is necessary (generally the case with bar jumps). If the course only had one of that type of obstacle (for example, a table), and the dog has a qualifying score after finishing the course, the obstacle should be set correctly, and the handler should be instructed to have the dog reattempt the obstacle (with up to a three obstacle sequence leading in to it, if the handler chooses) to demonstrate that the dog can complete the obstacle correctly.

- A piece of equipment set too high: If no error has taken place, no further action is required. If the dog has correctly taken the same type of obstacle elsewhere on course, no faults should be assessed and no reattempt is necessary, as the dog has demonstrated the ability to successfully complete the obstacle elsewhere on the course. If the obstacle that is set too high only appears once on the course and the dog has a fault at that obstacle (including a run-out or refusal), the dog should finish the course (the handler should be instructed by the judge to do so). If the dog has a qualifying score after finishing the course except for the incorrectly set obstacle, the obstacle should be set correctly, and the handler should be instructed to have the dog reattempt the obstacle (with up to a three obstacle sequence leading in to it) to demonstrate that the dog can complete the obstacle correctly. If the handler stops at the incorrectly-set obstacle (becomes lost or disoriented), losing significant time, the judge may offer a re-run if the dog was qualifying to that point. The same criteria as listed under stopwatch/e-timer malfunction would be used. If the dog was not qualifying to the point where the malfunction happened, then the handler may finish the course but no re-run is allowed.

- A-frame: If a dog faults the A-frame set at the wrong height (either too high or too low), the same action is followed as when a dog faults equipment set too high. If the A-frame is set at the wrong height but no fault is incurred, no further action is taken.

SECTION 4. Dealing With Ring Crew Problems

As the judge, you are hired by the club to judge the dogs entered in the trial and to administrate proper ring procedure. You must work with the club to ensure that the ring crew is functioning properly. It may be necessary to replace someone in his or her assigned task to ensure that the trial continues as efficiently as possible. The replacing of ring crew members should not be done without consideration for its effect on the club. Requests to reassign ring
crew personnel should be directed to the Trial Chairman or Chief Ring Steward for action.

SECTION 5. Judge’s Error

Judges are human and will make errors from time to time. If a judge wishes to change a call after it has been signaled, the judge should go to the scribe at the end of the dog’s run and correct the scribe sheet together with the scribe. If a judge has a change of mind or realizes that an error was made in the proper score of a dog that had run previously, the judge may make a change, as long as he or she is certain that the correction is made on the right scribe sheet for the dog whose score needs to be corrected. The judge must initial any and all changes made on a scribe sheet. Handlers may have a fault that they know occurred added to their own score after notifying the judge and the judge must initial the change on the scribe sheet.

SECTION 6. Training/Correction in the Ring

Training in the ring can happen at any time during the run, but generally happens only after the dog has incurred a non-qualifying fault. At that time, the handler knows that the dog will not qualify and makes the decision to no longer compete for the best possible score and time.

Situations after the dog has NQ’d and where the dog is being corrected for a behavior or a result, such as missing a contact or knocking a bar, should be viewed by the judge more critically. Training in the ring takes on many different forms. To explain every possible situation for which a judge should excuse a handler would be impossible; however, a few of the more common instances have been listed below.

The following are some guidelines for properly identifying training/correction in the ring that should result in an excusal:

- A handler who purposely touches their dog (with their hands) to get it to perform an obstacle or pets the dog to reinforce a behavior. If a handler asks if they can touch their dog if they are having a problem at an obstacle, you may answer that the handler may either go on to the next obstacle or ask to be excused from the ring, at which time they may hold the dog’s collar as they leave the ring.
- A handler who corrects a behavior or a result they did not like through some action such as laying the dog down or making the dog sit or stop after a dropped bar or performing a contact that wasn’t up to the handler’s expectations. This is a punitive action, the intent of which is to tell the dog it
was wrong.

- Handlers who pick up their dogs and replace them on a contact, or direct their dogs to get back on the end of the board to reinforce a stay on the bottom. Handlers who leave their dogs on the bottom of a board after the dog has NQ’d and slowly saunter away are no longer competing, they are training in the ring, unless this was the same handling style that was exhibited while they were still qualifying.
- Handlers who purposely send their dog back one or more obstacles after making a mistake so that the dog can reattempt (sequence) the portion of the course where the error occurred again. This action is adding to the course length and time for the sole purpose of training the area where the dog had the problem. To aid in the assessment of this action, judge whether the handler is trying to get to the correct next obstacle in the fastest way possible. If they are sending the dog away from the next obstacle after the error instead of moving toward it, this may give you an idea as to whether they may be trying to reattempt a certain sequence again.
- A handler who replaces a dog on the start line after the dog broke early and started the course by passing the plane of the first obstacle.

The following are actions that may look like training in the ring but do not result in an excusal:

- A handler who checks out his or her dog after it has fallen off something to ensure the dog is not injured. This act should result in an “F”, but not an excusal.
- The simple act of laying a dog down on the course is not training or correcting in the ring. You must judge why the handler is laying the dog down. Situations such as a U-shaped tunnel under a contact can be confusing for a dog that only has eyes for the tunnel, yet the course flow requires the contact to be taken next. In this case, the handler lies the dog down to refocus it and break the tunnel fixation. This is not excusable training in the ring, for the handler is trying to get the dog onto the contact obstacle, which must be performed as the next obstacle prior to going on.
- If a dog has a runout or committed a wrong course, the handler should be getting the dog back to the proper obstacle as quickly as possible. A dog that does an obstacle or two on the way back to the next proper obstacle (including any of the preceding obstacles prior to the mistake), whether directed to or not by the handler, is simply finding the fastest way to continue on, and should not be excused.
- If a dog breaks its position at the start line without crossing the plane of the first obstacle but the handler has already crossed the plane of the first obstacle, the handler may go back to the dog, but must leave with it and start the course expeditiously. If the behavior troubles you, verbalize what you want the handler to be doing. If the handler does not comply, excuse him or her for
failing to comply with your verbal instructions.

If there are instances where you believe the handler is getting close to being called for training/correcting in the ring, you may warn the handler by telling him or her what to do, such as by saying “go on to the next obstacle now”. If the handler fails to comply, excuse the handler for failing to comply with the judge’s verbal instructions based upon the behavior you judge as being corrective or training.

Harsh or angry corrective commands should always result in an excusal, regardless of whether it is training in the ring or not.

Training in the ring is an excusal (“E”). The judge shall blow the whistle, and the dog and handler must be excused from the ring and leave expeditiously. If the situation warrants it, the judge should consider discussing the infraction with the exhibitor in the ring, with the length and tone of the discussion gauged to the seriousness of the infraction. If an exhibitor refuses to leave the ring after the judge has blown the whistle and informed the exhibitor they are excused, the exhibitor may be held to an Event Hearing based upon but not limited to Unsportsmanlike Conduct during an event.

SECTION 7. Correct Run-off Procedure for Tied Scores

Run-offs should be held only if two dogs in the same class and same jump height are tied with exactly the same score and time (to the 100th of a second) for a placement of 1st through 4th. If one of the handlers is unwilling to participate in the run-off, the higher placement will go to the other handler and dog. If neither handler wants to participate in a run-off, the placement can be decided in a mutually agreeable way, such as a coin flip. Run-offs shall comply with the following:

• The run-off should be held preferably on the same course just completed by both dogs, or, alternately, on an easier course (e.g. a tie in Excellent can be run off on an Open or Novice level course). If the tie was in a lower class level and a higher level course is the only one available, a portion of the more difficult course may be used for the run-off.
• The run-off course must be of the same type of course that the two dogs originally tied on (e.g. if they tied on a JWW course, then they must be run off on a JWW course).
• The course shall be measured and a standard course time announced if a previously measured course is not being used.
• The course shall be judged and scored as in the standard rules for that class. All errors shall be signaled and recorded on a new scribe sheet marked “run-off” (so it’s not confused at a later date), and the dog’s running time will be
recorded.

- The dog with the fewest faults wins the runoff. For scoring purposes, all faults are converted to a numerical basis; regardless of class level, refusals, wrong courses, and table faults are five faults each; an “F” or an “E” is a 100-point fault. If both dogs have the same numerical score, the dog with the fastest time wins.

- Regardless of the final score of the run-off, both dogs receive the scores and times from their original runs, with both dogs qualifying and the winner of the run-off placing higher in the class. It must be recorded in the catalog that the higher-placing dog was the winner of the run-off.

SECTION 8. Weather-Related Problems

Trials held outdoors are subject to many different weather-related issues. The judge is often looked on to help the trial committee in making decisions on how to deal with weather-related issues; however, final decisions relating to canceling any trial or classes is ultimately the Trial Committee’s decision. When dealing with weather conditions, you must be aware that classes or portions of a class must not be moved from one day to another, since each day is considered a separate trial. Your decision to delay a class for any reason must take into account those exhibitors who will be driving or flying home and their need to finish in time to get on the road. Additionally, required equipment for the class level may not be removed from the course based on weather conditions.

If you decide to take a break to let the weather clear up, it is wise to break at a jump height change or class change. All dogs within a jump height or class cannot be guaranteed the same weather conditions; therefore, it is possible that some dogs may be affected by adverse weather while others in the same class may not. There is nothing that can be done about this, and no dog shall receive a rerun based on weather. The decision to run or not to run is always the handler’s. In situations where the weather is extremely poor, the exhibitors should be briefed that the decision regarding whether to run or not lies with them. The following are some issues that may arise and the actions the judge should take:

**Rain:** Generally, agility trials proceed when it’s raining. Sometimes, however, the rain is so severe that it may be wise to hold up for a while if you think you can wait it out and the conditions will improve in time for you to finish without excessive delay.

**Lightning:** When thunderstorms are present and lightning has been spotted, runs must be suspended so the judge, crew, and exhibitors can take cover to the maximum extent feasible. Remember to always err on the side of safety. Resume
judging after the lightning has passed.

**Snow and sleet:** It is possible to run in some snow and sleet conditions; however, it can get difficult, and there must be an adequate ring crew to clear the contacts. If the equipment cannot be made safe, the judge should advise the trial committee that the trial should be suspended until conditions improve, or the trial may need to be cancelled.

**High winds:** Areas of the country subject to high winds can cause problems with bars and planks blowing off jumps and dogs having trouble staying on the dog walk. Windy conditions can last all day, so you will likely need to fashion solutions to allow the trial to go on. It is up to exhibitors as to whether they wish to run or not. Bars and planks can have rubber bands added loosely around them at the cup location to keep them from being blown off, as long as the bars and planks are still displaceable. If wind conditions merit, the panel jump may be replaced with a bar jump.

**SECTION 9. Misconduct Hearings**

The judge is not involved with a misconduct hearing unless as a witness or complainant. Judges should advise the club to follow the current “Dealing with Misconduct” booklet published by the AKC (which is sent to every trial secretary prior to the trial). If asked for advice, direct the trial committee to closely follow the Procedural Checklist, which is imperative to correctly hold a misconduct hearing. They may also recommend they contact the Director of Agility or one of the Agility Field Representatives for guidance. The timing of misconduct hearings (involving the judge) should not take the judge away from his or her judging duties causing significant delays. The judge is not to help conduct the hearing, and the judge shall only be present if he or she is testifying in the hearing.

**SECTION 10. Dealing with Exhibitor Discontent**

Exhibitors may wish to discuss their scores or a specific call that was made by the judge. You should discuss any call or score with an exhibitor. You should discontinue any conversation that turns harsh or abusive (see Misconduct Hearings in “Dealing with Misconduct”, Section IV). The discussion of any call or score should not significantly delay the class or trial. Judges should employ good time-management skills when discussing things with exhibitors so as not to delay a trial, while still listening to the exhibitor and investigating any perceived errors in scribing or scoring. If the exhibitor believes that an error was made, it is wise to have the exhibitor bring it to your attention at a jump height change. At this point, you may still remember the run or the call, so that it may be explained or corrected, as the case may be.
Sometimes the error, or what the exhibitor believes to be an error, is discovered much later, and the judge has no recollection of the run or the specific item the exhibitor is questioning. In this case, do your best to account for the call, although this may be impossible. Make sure the correct scribe sheet was used by checking the scribe sheets of the dogs that ran before and after the dog in question to make sure that the scribe was not off by one sheet.

SECTION 11. MACH/PACH Victory Runs and Trial Pictures

Exhibitors completing a MACH/PACH title may stay in the ring and complete a “victory lap” if they wish to do so. The victory lap must be taken immediately after the completion of the successful MACH/PACH run and before the handler and dog leave the ring. Whenever a dog and handler are in the ring, they must abide by all agility regulations and guidelines and thus are subject to the possibility of incurring an Excusal (E) fault such as fouling the ring, leaving off leash, etc.

Exhibitors who wish to pose their dog in front of or on equipment for a commemorative photo may do so between or after classes as long as it does not delay the trial or present a safety issue.
CHAPTER 10
JUDGE’S DUTIES AFTER JUDGING

SECTION 1. Responsibility to the Host Club:

Judges may not leave the trial prior to judging all dogs scheduled, as well as verifying and signing that day’s marked catalog results that will be sent to the AKC. Judges have committed to judging all dogs assigned when hired. They may not let another judge finish out the class in an attempt to catch a flight or for any reason other than an emergency. Any change to the judging schedule must be indicated in the judge’s and host club’s reports of the agility trial to both the AKC and the Director of Agility, including the reason for the emergency that caused the necessary change.

Judges should have the receipts for any reimbursable expenses (previously agreed expenses that the club will pay for) ready to submit to the host club on the last day of judging. Receipts should be organized so that the club can provide reimbursement in a timely manner.

Judges should personally thank the ring crew. This is especially important since ring crew members are volunteers and give of their time freely. It takes many people to complete a trial successfully. A thank-you or handshake from the judge goes a long way towards the goodwill necessary to ensure agility trials will continue to have workers in the future.

SECTION 2. Responsibility to the Exhibitors

Scores should be posted for exhibitors at the trial site with each dog’s actual running time to the 100th of a second (even for “NQ”s). These results should be posted either at the completion of each jump height, or at a minimum, at the immediate conclusion of each class, marked as “Unofficial” until such time that the judge has reviewed the scribe sheets and released the ribbons. Judges are responsible for seeing that awards are correct before any are given out. At a minimum, a judge must review all qualifying scribe sheets, plus quickly look through the NQ/ABS pile in case any Qs have been incorrectly scored, prior to the ribbons being released. It is recommended this process be done between jump height groups if there are split walk-throughs.

Judges should make themselves available to exhibitors who have questions regarding their scores. Judges can provide any details they remember of the run in question, but under no circumstances may they review videotape for scoring purposes or even to see something unofficially. The only circumstances under
which a videotape can be used is to get a time when the timer malfunctions on a qualifying run, or to check the order in which dogs ran if it is suspected that the wrong scribe sheets were used. (Regs, Ch 1, Sec 31)

Judges should make themselves available to the maximum extent possible for pictures so long as it does not delay other classes.

SECTION 3. Responsibility to the AKC:

Scribe sheets must be kept by the judge of record for a period of one year from the date of the trial. This will ensure that exhibitors are credited with their qualifying scores in case there is a discrepancy or the marked AKC catalog is misplaced.

Checking the official AKC catalog
It is the judge’s responsibility to ensure that all scores are accurately recorded in the catalog that will be sent to the AKC. The judge, by his or her signature, is certifying that what is written in the official AKC catalog is correct. All the effort put into the course design, proper judging calls, signals, and everyone doing their job correctly is all for naught if the official catalog is incorrect and exhibitors do not receive the scores they earned. It is important to check scribe sheets against the official catalog after each class judged and, in some cases, between jump heights for large classes with multiple walkthroughs. The following is a list of what must be reviewed:

Scribe Sheets
Reviewing Standard and JWW scribe sheets:
- Verify the correct SCT was used based on the yards and SCT calculations provided by the judge to the score table (Do Not simply hand the table yards; you must calculate the SCTs separately!)
- Verify that the dog’s run time did not exceed SCT – else, verify that the proper number of time fault points were deducted (if allowed for this class and level).
- Review the course faults issued during the run:
  - Are the type and/or number of course faults allowable for this class and level, else NQ
  - If allowable, have the proper number of points been deducted.
- Verify the score, subtracting both time and course faults from 100.
  - Verify the dog earned a high enough score to qualify in this class level.
- Verify the placements for each class, division and jump height

Reviewing Premier STD and JWW scribe sheets:
- Premier courses are not wheeled for time, thus no SCT (SCTs are fixed values) nor time faults
- Verify that the dog’s run time did not equal or exceed MCT for the jump height entered - NQ
- Review the course faults issued during the run – any course faults result in an NQ
- Verify the score (100) is listed on all dogs who qualified
- Verify the placements for each class, division and jump height

**Reviewing FAST** scribe sheets:
- Verify that the dog obtained the Send Bonus
  - If not, STOP! - there is no reason to check further, nor should the scribe sheet be scored!
- Verify that the dog’s run time did not exceed SCT – else, verify that the proper number of time fault points were deducted.
- Add up the **UNCIRCLED** obstacle values and arrive at a total.
- Verify the score, subtracting the uncircled value total from 80 and then subtracting any time faults.
  - Verify the dog earned enough points to qualify in this class level.
- This is the FAST “Subtraction Method” – this scribe sheet format is now mandatory
- Verify the placements for each class, division and jump height

**Reviewing Time 2 Beat** scribe sheets:
- Verify that the dog’s run time did not equal or exceed MCT for the jump height entered - NQ
- Review the course faults issued during the run – any course faults result in an NQ
- No dog should have a score listed in the catalog; just a time, to the 1/100th (if they Q’d)
- T2B points should not be listed in the marked catalog, but may be on the Posted Scores report
- Only one dog should be awarded 1st place – no other placements should be awarded/listed
- If multiple dogs have the same time for 1st place, a run-off will determine 1st place
- SCT recorded for an exhibitor in lieu of a re-run in T2B is MCT minus 1 full second.

**Marked Catalog**
Chapter 1, Section 26 of the *Regulations for Agility Trials* covers the requirements for scorekeeping, including how the marked official catalog should be produced.
In the header for each height division of each class, the following information must appear:

- Number of entries (number of entries at closing less the number of entries withdrawn)
- Number competing in the class
- Number of qualifying scores
- Number of withdrawals
- Course yardage (except FAST and T2B and Premier)
- Standard Course Time (except for Premier)

“Q”, “NQ”, “ABS”, “EXC”, “DQ”, “AIS” or “AJC” should be recorded next to each dog listed in the catalog – no dog should be left blank or “Not Scored”. The words may be spelled out (example: Qualified)

STD/JWW/FAST/PREMIER

___If “Q”, the dog’s score and actual running time (to the 100th of a second) shall also be recorded. Additionally, if the dog places 1st through 4th in its height class the placement shall be recorded.

T2B

___If “Q”, the dog’s actual running time (to the 100th of a second) shall also be recorded. Additionally, if the dog places 1st in its height class the placement shall be recorded.

Score and points should not be in the marked catalog, nor should there be any placements other than 1st.

ALL CLASSES

___If “NQ”, “ABS”, “EXC”, “DQ”, “AIS” or “AJC” is recorded, then NO time or score is recorded in the catalog.

- "AIS/AJC" - Withdrawal (bitch in season/judge change). No other reasons are valid / to be used.
  o AIS stands for Absent-In Season / AJC stands for Absent – Judge Change
- “EXC” The judge should EXCUSE from the ring any dog that displays menacing or threatening behavior.
- “DQ” The judge should DISQUALIFY from the ring any dog that attacks any person in the ring. This means the dog is barred from competition for life unless reinstated by AKC’s Board of Directors.

All catalog pages must be initialed at the bottom right by the judge of record for that page’s class, level, and jump height. All marked catalogs must be generated in one-to-a-page format.

The judge must be provided their copy of the marked catalog prior to
leaving the show site each day. It is permissible for the TS to provide the judge’s copy of the marked catalog electronically, but the judge must verify delivery before leaving the show grounds each day.

PLEASE don’t arbitrarily sign the certification page; have some method in place to keep track of your Q counts throughout the day, so that you can verify the numbers listed in your certification paragraph!

Separate certification paragraphs for each judge of record are required in the catalog.

Other notes regarding the marked catalog:

- If the SCT and yardage needs to be corrected in the catalog, request that the catalog page for the entire class/jump height be regenerated as Qs may be affected by the correction.
- Any dog that has been excused or disqualified must be reported on the proper form (provided by the host club) to the AKC Records Department, and a full report shall be included in the judge’s post-trial report to the Director of Agility.
- Titles, breeder, sire or dam are not required to be listed in the marked catalog.
- Mixed breeds enrolled in the AKC’s Canine Partners program should be listed in the catalog results as “All American.”
- Judges must initial the bottom of pages they are reviewing to ensure that these pages are the actual ones used in the official catalog, since with computer scoring each sheet is loose and needs to be bound at a later time. Judges must NOT initial any page containing results for which they were not responsible or for dogs they did not judge. If there are mixed results on a page, judges must cross out those results for which they were not responsible.
- It is perfectly acceptable to make a correction by pen, but be sure to initial the changes and ensure that the incorrect version is not retained by the scoring table. Simply drawing an X across the incorrect page will make it stand out.
- Judges must have their copy of that day’s marked catalog results before they leave the show site each day. The club must not send it to them later. It is suggested the club prepare three catalogs at the same time, with the AKC catalog being the most important.
- It is permissible for the Trial Secretary to provide your judge’s copy of the marked catalog results by electronic media so long as you are able to verify its delivery prior to leaving the show site each day. For example, if delivery is by PDF file to a USB drive, be sure to access that USB drive to verify the
file exists. If by email attachment, you must access your email account to verify delivery prior to leaving the show site.

• The AKC requires that a separate catalog be submitted for each day.

• If a tie for placements exists, along with double-checking that the winner of the tie received the higher placement, note in the marked catalog results how the tie was resolved (run off, flip of coin, etc.)

• If a handler wishes to refuse a qualifying score, it is acceptable for the judge to change a score to an NQ by recording an “E” (Excusal) on the scribe sheet and noting the reason given by the handler.
CHAPTER 11

FOR EXHIBITION ONLY AND FIX N GO ON

For Exhibition Only (FEO) and Fix n Go On are pilot programs for 2020. The AKC agility staff will evaluate their impact during the year.

SECTION 1. For Exhibition Only (FEO)

FEO will be offered at the option of the host club. Premium lists must state whether FEO will be offered or not. FEO is only allowed in the T2B and FAST classes, and exhibitors must be entered in the class to participate. FEO allows exhibitors to train in the ring with their dogs. It will be of value to new exhibitors and exhibitors who are having difficulty with a specific obstacle and/or the ring environment. Participation in FEO is non-qualifying.

- FEO runs are treated as trial entries. The exhibitor must enter the class (T2B and/or FAST) prior to the closing date, pay class entry fees, and the Trial Secretary must record the entry in the Trial Catalog as part of the results for that class.
- Dogs may be entered at any height for FEO runs. Day of show height changes are not allowed. If not eligible for the entered height, the team is committed to FEO for that run and must declare FEO on the start line.
- Dogs may be entered in any level of FAST for FEO. Day of show level changes are not allowed. If not eligible for the level entered, the team is committed to FEO for that run and must declare FEO on the start line.
- The exhibitor must declare FEO in the ring prior to leading out or starting their run (whichever comes first). It is recommended that exhibitors mark or have the Gate Steward mark FEO on the gate sheet as a courtesy to other exhibitors, but it is not required; the handler has up until they lead out or start the course to opt for FEO.
- The Judge will verbally confirm FEO to the scribe. The scribe will record FEO, NT and E on the scribe sheet.
- Toys are allowed in the ring
  - Toys must be non-audible
  - Toys may not leave the handler’s hand
  - Toys that roll freely cannot be used
- Food/treats are not allowed in the ring.
- The team may move into the body of the course to work any location, but the leash must be left in usual start area.
- Handlers can touch equipment and may touch/pet their dogs during an FEO run.
• Timer will start the time manually when one of the following happens:
  – handler moves away from the dog in any direction
  – dog moves away from the handler
  – handler and dog move into the course area (including handler carrying dog)
• FEO Course Time
  o T2B when horn goes off at MCT the handler must proceed to the out gate
  o FAST when the first horn sounds the handler must proceed to the out gate
• FEO should be utilized for the benefit of the dog and not as a punitive correction. Harsh verbal and /or physical corrections shall not be tolerated. Any determination of harshness by the judge shall be immediately whistled and the handler will be dismissed from the ring.
• A judge must monitor the entire run. Judges can stop a run at any time they deem necessary.
• Judges will be asked to provide entry counts of FAST and T2B FEO runs on their post-trial report during this pilot period.
• AKC Agility Field Reps, Director and their family members may enter their dogs in FAST and T2B as FEO runs.

SECTION 2. Fix N Go On

Fix N Go On allows exhibitors to immediately reattempt an obstacle or short sequence one time on course when the dog’s performance is not to their expectation. They may make one reattempt. This allows the dog a chance to successfully complete the obstacle or sequence and finish the course or leave the ring on a positive note. Using the Fix N Go On option will result in a non-qualifying score. Once the handler initiates Fix N Go On, the judge will signal with crossed arms to the Timer and Scribe. The Scribe will then write a circled X on the scribe sheet, which is the scoring equivalent of E and NT, except that the team does not immediately have to exit the ring. The Timer will watch the timer console and immediately press the horn or blow a whistle when the following times are reached:

  o 60 seconds for STD
  o 45 seconds for JWW
  o T2B MCT (horn will automatically sound)
  o FAST at the first horn (horn will automatically sound)

At the horn/buzzer/whistle, the handler must expeditiously proceed to the finish/exit. If a Fix N Go On has been initiated and the buzzer sounds, the
exhibitor may complete the Fix N Go On before proceeding to the finish/exit.
• After a Fix N Go On, the judge will no longer signal faults but must stay engaged with the team.
• Handlers may opt to reset the dog and repeat an obstacle one time to attempt to fix a behavior that does not meet their expectations. Handlers may include one or more preceding obstacles to establish an approach to the obstacle being fixed.
• Handlers may take a second lead-out as their Fix N Go On.
• Handlers may touch equipment, touch/pet their dogs, and reset any one jump.
• Should a handler attempt a second fix at that point or later in the course, the judge will blow the whistle, and the team must exit the ring.
• Fix N Go On should be utilized for the benefit of the dog to reinforce correct performance and not as a punitive correction. Harsh verbal and/or physical corrections shall not be tolerated. Any determination of harshness by the judge shall be immediately whistled and the handler will be dismissed from the ring.
Minimum spacing to a wrong course obstacle with a 270 degree turn

Diagram 3.2.2
Illustration of typical 90, 135, 180, and 270 degree turns with a straight approach before the turn.

With an angled approach a 90 degree turn may be closer to a 135 degree turn.

Typical 270 degree turn with a different approach, a 270 degree turn may be closer to a 180 degree turn.

Serpentines with different approach angles produce different angles on subsequent obstacles.

Diagram 3.2.3

The approaches shown below are as straight as possible.

Don't do this as an off-course possibility.

Distance allows room for dog to "square up" before approaching.

Approaches to spreads should always be as straight as possible. If a triple is used as an off-course possibility, its off-course approach should also be as straight as possible.

Diagram 3.2.4
A turn from a tunnel under or adjacent to the A-frame to the ascent ramp of the A-frame is not allowed.

Diagram 3.2.5
This JP would NOT be approved for judging the dogwalk contact

Obstacles may not block the judge from stepping in (weave poles shown), and may not obstruct your view of any part of the contact zone (tunnel shown).

Diagram 3.3.2

Minimum distances for placement of jumps in relation to ring barriers and walls

Diagram 3.4.1
Minimum distances for placement of contact obstacles in relation to ring barriers and walls

Diagram 3.4.2

Minimum distances for placement of first and last obstacles in relation to ring barrier

Diagram 3.4.3
Illustration of a potentially dangerous seesaw placement. The course flow forces handlers to pass close to the elevated end of the seesaw.

Diagram 3.4.5

Illustrations of obstacle placement in relation to columns and posts
Diagram 3.4.6
The table must be positioned so that the dog's expected approach is to a flat edge.

Diagram 3.4.7

Timer eyes can interfere with the dog’s path during:

backsides... wraps... serps... slices

Diagram 3.4.8
Minimum distances for placement of weave poles in relation to ring barriers and walls

Diagram 3.5.1

Spacing between two obstacles that are placed near each other must be less than 1 foot or greater than 4 feet. Everyone gets through or no one gets through.

Diagram 3.5.2
Illustration of a side switch
Diagram 3.6.1

Illustration of an option
Diagram 3.6.2
Exception to 21ft max for options

the tunnel is an option from 3

23'

Diagram 3.6.3

Weave poles are counted as an option if the entrance or exit is in range and the dog's path is on the approach side of the run-out plane.

Diagram 3.6.4
Illustration of course design that will result in problems during judging with judge being trapped behind dog and handler since judge should not cross in front of a working dog’s path.

Diagram 5.1.1

Diagram 5.1.2

Illustration of course design that will create problems during judging since dog and handler will be turning sharply back toward where the judge must be to properly judge the contact zone.
Diagram 5.1.3

Illustration of course design that will result in problems during judging due to the handler and judge sharing the same tight space.

Diagram 5.1.4

Illustration of course design that could result in poor position to judge possible wrong course options to tunnel.
Faults = Wrong course only. This illustrates the new R.O.L. due to the wrong course affecting the dog’s approach to the table.

Diagram 5.3.1

Dog runs past run outline (doesn’t matter if he then enters poles or not) - Counts as 1 attempt in Novice
- Counts as 1 attempt and is scored as an "R" in ExcMaster & Open
- Dog must go back to beginning and restart at poles 1 & 2

Dog misses pole in sequence
- Counts as 2 attempts in Novice
- Counts as 2 attempts and is scored as an "R" & "R" in ExcMaster & Open
- Dog must go back to beginning and restart at poles 1 & 2

Dog spins twice before entering poles correctly:
- Counts as 2 attempts in Novice
- Counts as 2 attempts and is scored as an "R" & "R" in ExcMaster & Open

Dog enters correctly then pops out and on the way back he spins twice and then comes back over the R/O line and tries to enter again, dog breaks the run-out line and enters incorrectly:
- Counts as 2 attempts in Novice
- Counts as 2 attempts in ExcMaster & Open and is scored as an "R" for popping out the 1st time & an "R" for going pest the run out line the 2nd time.
- Dog must go back to beginning and restart at poles 1 & 2

Diagram 5.3.2
Diagram 5.4.1

Refusal

Runout

Call 2 R's

Refusal

Refusal

Dog gets on & stops with 3 paws on and 1 off so "Refusal"

Dog does not cease motion so "No Call"

Faults = run-out & wrong course

Diagram 5.4.1-A
Faults = run-out & wrong course

Diagram 5.4.1-B

Faults = run-out & wrong course

Diagram 5.4.1-C
Faults = run-out & wrong course

Diagram 5.4.1-D

Faults = run-out & wrong course

Diagram 5.4.1-E
Faults = run-out & wrong course

Diagram 5.4.1-F

Faults = wrong course only

If the dog incurs a wrong course fault that carries it past the runout plane of the next proper obstacle, only a wrong course penalty is assessed for this action.

Diagram 5.4.2-A
Faults = runout only.
This example illustrates the parallel switch of the R.O.L. of the table once the dog has passed the original R.O.L.

Diagram 5.4.2-B

Faults = wrong course only

Diagram 5.4.2-C
Faults = wrong course only.

Diagram 5.4.2-D

Faults = wrong course only.
Using this example, you must determine if it is possible to turn the dog in the distance from the wrong course obstacle to the R.O.L. If sufficient distance exists, then the call should be both a wrong course and a run-out.

Diagram 5.4.2-E
Faults = run-out only

A dog that passes the run-out plane without committing to the proper obstacle is assessed a run-out.

Diagram 5.4.3-A

Faults = run-out only

Diagram 5.4.3-B
Dog A (path shown solid) commits a run-out on #2 since all 4 paws had been on the proper side of the run-out plane for #2.

Dog B (path shown dashed) does not commit a run-out since all 4 paws were never on the approach side of #2.
A dog that clearly avoids the proper obstacle (after seeing it) then commits with one or more paws to another obstacle, is faulted for both a refusal and a wrong course, since these are two separate actions.

Faults = refusal & wrong course

Diagram 5.4.4-A

Faults = refusal & wrong course

Diagram 5.4.4-B
Faults = refusal & wrong course

Diagram 5.4.4-C

Faults = refusal

A dog that has seen the next proper obstacle and ceases forward motion, clearly avoids the obstacle, or turns back on its path, has committed a refusal. The handler's direction or lack of direction is not considered in the assessment of the refusal penalty.

Diagram 5.4.5-A
Dog makes decision not to get on.

Faults = refusal

Dog approaches table, avoids the side they're approaching, and then gets on another side.

Diagram 5.4.5-B

Dog jumps completely over the table without touching it.

Faults = refusal

Dog jumps over the table; the act causes the dog to cross the run-out line, thus only a refusal is called.

Diagram 5.4.5-B2
Diagram 5.4.5-C

Faults = refusal

See 1/3 - 1/3 - 1/3 guideline under refusal section.

Diagram 5.4.5-D

Faults = refusal

Dog approaches obstacle, then turns back on its path before re-approaching it and getting on.
Faults = run-out

It is not necessary for the dog to actually see the next proper obstacle in order to incur a run-out.

Diagram 5.4.6-A

Faults = 2 run-outs

Diagram 5.4.6-B
Faults = none

A dog that does not see the next proper obstacle cannot commit a refusal until it has seen it.

Diagram 5.4.7-A

Faults = none

In diagrams A & B the dog never sees the proper obstacle until called off the wrong one.

Diagram 5.4.7-B
The dog gets on the first side he approaches without crossing the run-out line.

Faults = none

Diagram 5.4.7-C

No faults if dog is able to mount any contact obstacle from side (touching contact on seesaw) without crossing the run-out plane and without turning back on its path.

Faults = none

Diagram 5.4.7-D
Faults = none

Dog may have averted focus from the obstacle but never stops or avoids it. The dog may look back at its handler and this is not faulted if the dog is still moving toward the next correct obstacle without spinning or fully turning back on its path.

Diagram 5.4.7-E

Faults = refusal and run-out

Dog incurs a refusal immediately followed by a run-out. This is referred to as a double R.

Diagram 5.4.7-F
**Number placement in FAST**

**unidirectional**

1

2

3

4

5

**bidirectional**

1

2

3

4

5

Diagram 6.1.2
Any obstacle in a Combo may be also taken for a separate point value as long as the points can not be awarded when taken in the same direction as the flow of the combo.

Diagram 6.1.3
Numbering a bidirectional obstacle in Premier and T2B

diagram 7.1.1
Examples of Premier Class Challenges updated 04/04/18

Thread. Min 8' clear space. Jumps must be avoided.

Forward. Max. less than 11' between jumps. Running layer. 4' min between jumps.

Distance Challenge. Approximately 20' straight line spacing between two obstacles. Can be used once on course.

270 Turn

Only jumps, tunnels, & weave poles may be used for back side challenges.

360 degree wrap. Back to back 270s

Diagram 8.1.1

More Examples of Premier Class Challenges

Thread x Tunnel.

360 degree wrap. Back to back 270s.

"360 degree wrap in close proximity to dog's path."

"Running layer (not forced, but minimized by course flow)."

"With at least two obstacles in close proximity with each other."

Diagram 8.1.2

*All challenges must be present as shown even if not taken as part of the challenge.
Summary

Armed with this set of guidelines, the AKC Regulations for Agility Trials, common sense, and professionalism, you should feel confident in completing your judging assignments. The AKC has trusted you to fairly implement the regulations of the AKC agility program while maintaining the role of ambassador for the sport of dog agility. As always, your dedication and hard work in this endeavor are greatly appreciated.
AKC Code of Sportsmanship

PREFACE: The sport of purebred dog competitive events dates prior to 1884, the year of AKC’s birth. Shared values of those involved in the sport include principles of sportsmanship. They are practiced in all sectors of our sport: conformation, performance and companion. Many believe that these principles of sportsmanship are the prime reason why our sport has thrived for over one hundred years. With the belief that it is useful to periodically articulate the fundamentals of our sport, this code is presented.

• Sportsmen respect the history, traditions and integrity of the sport of purebred dogs.
• Sportsmen commit themselves to values of fair play, honesty, courtesy, and vigorous competition, as well as winning and losing with grace.
• Sportsmen refuse to compromise their commitment and obligation to the sport of purebred dogs by injecting personal advantage or consideration into their decisions or behavior.
• The sportsman judge judges only on the merits of the dogs and considers no other factors.
• The sportsman judge or exhibitor accepts constructive criticism.
• The sportsman exhibitor declines to enter or exhibit under a judge where it might reasonably appear that the judge’s placements could be based on something other than the merits of the dogs.
• The sportsman exhibitor refuses to compromise the impartiality of a judge.
• The sportsman respects the AKC bylaws, rules, regulations and policies governing the sport of purebred dogs.
• Sportsmen find that vigorous competition and civility are not inconsistent and are able to appreciate the merit of their competition and the effort of competitors.
• Sportsmen welcome, encourage and support newcomers to the sport.
• Sportsmen will deal fairly with all those who trade with them.
• Sportsmen are willing to share honest and open appraisals of both the strengths and weaknesses of their breeding stock.
• Sportsmen spurn any opportunity to take personal advantage of positions offered or bestowed upon them.
• Sportsmen always consider as paramount the welfare of their dog.
• Sportsmen refuse to embarrass the sport, the American Kennel Club, or themselves while taking part in the sport.
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As of September 1, 2019
Time Zones Indicated

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Companion Events Department
PO Box 900068
Raleigh, NC 27675-9068
Fax: (919) 816-4204

Questions regarding Show Applications, &
Trial Results:
Jamie Gregory - Eastern
Office: (919) 816-3666
Jamie.Gregory@akc.org

Other Information

AKC Agility Judges Blog
www.akcaqilityjudges.wordpress.com

Agility Judge's Store:
www.akcaqilityjudgeapparel.com

ACT Mailbox: ACT@akc.org

Height Cards: agilityhtcards@akc.org

AKC Website: www.akc.org
Agility page: www.akc.org/agility

30-day, 200 mile Judging Inquiries
agility@akc.org

AKC Number for
Weekend Show Cancellations
(919) 816-3955
# AKC Agility Trial Manual

## Including “ACT”

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CHAPTER 1 – LICENSING CLUBS

How to Become Licensed for AKC Agility Events

The exciting and rapidly growing sport of Agility needs clubs interested in holding Agility trials. Any club not yet Sanctioned or Licensed by the American Kennel Club must contact Club Relations at clubrelations@akc.org or 212-696-8211. Before any existing AKC club may begin to hold AKC Agility events, they must contact the American Kennel Club to request the packet of necessary information to prepare them to hold licensed agility events. Contact Companion Events at 919-816-3747 to receive this “Add Agility” packet.

All of the below-required information should be mailed to the: American Kennel Club, Companion Events, PO Box 900068 Raleigh, NC 27675-9068 or faxed to 919-816-4204.

The following information will be necessary from the club:

1. **Marked Membership List** containing member names, addresses, telephone, and email if applicable. Please indicate those members who have agility experience by marking the membership list as follows: agility judges (AJ), agility exhibitors (AE), agility instructors (AI), ACT evaluators (ACT) and those who have served in official capacities at agility events such as: trial secretary (ATS), trial chairman (ATC), timer (AT), scribe (AS), gate steward (AGS), ring steward (ARS), course builder (ACB), and scorekeeper (ASK). The club’s membership information must support the addition of adding agility to their license status.

2. If the club has conducted agility seminars, demonstrations, or classes; briefly summarize these activity(ies), including the date and location.

3. **Constitution and By-Laws** - If this document does not include agility please make plans to amend it to show the addition of agility. Submit a letter of intent stating that the club will amend the constitution and by-laws to include agility by a specific date along with the application. If the club chooses to add an all-purpose phrase to the constitution to encompass all AKC events, such as; “To hold all events for which the club is eligible under the rules and regulations of THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB” they may do so.

4. **Letter of Intent** – The letter of intent needs to be signed by a club officer and be written on club letterhead. The letter of intent will suffice for the club to hold a Sanctioned “A” Agility Match. However, the club will need to amend the constitution and bylaws to include agility (or have an all-purpose phrase to cover all events that the club is eligible for) prior to AKC granting licensed status for agility.

5. **Application form** with an entry limit minimum set to 50-60 runs. Clubs must meet the minimum number of runs for the event to be considered eligible toward licensing.

6. A **check** for $15.00.

7. **Disaster and Emergency Plan** form completed and signed by an officer of the club.

8. If the event is being held in another club’s territory, a letter of permission from that club is required.
9. If you are going to use a site that has not previously been approved by AKC, you will need to fill out a Site Evaluation Form located in the Appendix-Forms.

When this information is received by the American Kennel Club, they will process the club’s application for a Sanctioned “A” or “B” Agility event. Depending on the experience of the club and its membership, clubs will be required to hold one or more sanctioned agility matches successfully before being qualified to hold licensed agility trials.

While it is no longer a licensing requirement for a provisional agility judge to judge a Sanctioned “A” match, it would certainly be beneficial to them and your club. We encourage the use of future agility judges for sanctioned matches. For assistance in locating a person that this assignment would benefit, contact the Director of Agility, an AKC Agility Field Representative, or send an email to agility@akc.org.

What is a Sanctioned “A” or “B” Match?

A sanctioned match is an informal event at which neither Championship points nor credits toward titles are awarded. The rules and regulations found in Rules Applying to Dog Shows and Regulations for Agility Trials will apply to sanctioned matches, except those which specifically make reference to licensed and member events and except where otherwise stated in the Match Regulations booklet.

The primary purpose of the Sanctioned “A” Match is to give members of the clubs, judges, and stewards the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge and competence in handling the details of an agility trial and to gain the necessary experience needed for licensed events. Sanctioned “A” Matches must be conducted by club members in order for the club to be considered for licensing.

A club must apply for approval to hold a Sanctioned “A” or “B” Match. If a match site is not within the club’s territory, written permission to use the site must accompany the application. Premium lists must be provided for Plan “A” Sanctioned Matches. More information regarding the premium list can be found in Chapter 9 of this manual or in Regulations for Agility Trials.

Sanctioned matches may not be held within the show precincts during Licensed/Member Dog Shows, Obedience Trial, or Agility Trial hours. Matches held in conjunction with or following Limited, Breed, All-Breed, and/or Specialty Shows must begin no earlier than 30 minutes following the conclusion of Group, Best in Show, or Best of Breed judging, respectively. Matches held in conjunction with or following an Obedience or Agility trial must begin no earlier than 30 minutes following the conclusion of the trial. Trial hours must be stated in the premium list.

A club must hold all levels of Standard classes and Jumpers with Weaves classes (including Preferred classes) at matches to become approved for licensing to hold trials. This will prepare the club for the scoring and course building requirements of a trial.
AKC Mentored Events Program

Under the **AKC Mentored Events Program**, existing AKC clubs will provide the Companion Events department with a current membership and officer list: identifying the experience of the members within the sport of Agility. If the membership and club experience meets the minimum requirements set by AKC, they will approve the club to hold licensed trials on a “Mentored” basis without having to hold a Sanctioned A-match first.

AKC will schedule a Field Rep to attend a mentored event as the staffing schedule allows. Once a club has been observed by the Field Rep and has been released, AKC will release the club from a “Mentored” status. The role of the Field Rep at an event is to be in attendance to mentor the club should there be any questions that arise during the event. After the event, the Field Rep will write a summary report to provide feedback on how the club ran their event, i.e., did the club manage the event well, stay on schedule, have the proper documents on site, etc.

Clubs interested in this program need to submit the following to AKC:

1. Marked Membership List containing member names, addresses, telephone, and email if applicable. – Please indicate those members who have agility experience by marking the membership list as follows: agility judges (AJ), agility exhibitors (AE), agility instructors (AI), ACT evaluators (ACT) and those who have served in official capacities at agility events such as: trial secretary (ATS), trial chairman (ATC), timer (AT), scribe (AS), gate steward (AGS), ring steward (ARS), course builder (ACB), and scorekeeper (ASK). The club’s membership information must support the addition of adding agility to their license status.

2. If the club has conducted agility seminars, demonstrations, or classes; briefly summarize these activity(ies), including the date and location.

3. Constitution and By-Laws - If this document does not include agility please make plans to amend it to show the addition of agility. Submit a letter of intent stating that the club will amend the constitution and by-laws to include agility by a specific date along with the application. If the club chooses to add an all-purpose phrase to the constitution to encompass all AKC events, such as; “To hold all events for which the club is eligible under the rules and regulations of THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB” they may do so.

4. If the club’s Constitution & Bylaws need to be amended then a Letter of Intent can be submitted. The letter of intent needs to be written on club letterhead and signed by a club officer. AKC will hold this letter on file and the club should amend their constitution and bylaws to include Agility (or an all-purpose phrase) at their convenience.
Single-Breed AKC Recognized Specialty Clubs

An AKC-recognized specialty club may offer a single breed specialty agility trial in conjunction with another club’s all-breed trial sharing the same date, show site, equipment and judges. Specialty trial participants shall be excluded from competing in the adjoining all-breed trial. Both agility trials may be run together; however, each club is required to maintain separate event records.

Ex: Scottish Terrier Club of America is putting on a specialty and running it in conjunction with ABC All Breed Club. The Scottish Terrier entries will be slotted in amongst the other breeds in their same jump height; however, their scores will be entered in the Scottish Terrier Club Catalog and NOT the ABC All Breed Club Catalog.

An AKC recognized single breed specialty club may offer two single breed specialties in one day on the same show site for their breed. The combined total entry for the two trials may not exceed the judging limits set for AKC Agility Judges in Chapter 1, Section 18 (of the Agility Regs) if the club is using two judges and two rings. If only one judge is used, the two trials are limited to a maximum of 250 runs between the two trials. Clubs may run the trials concurrently for efficiency. If trials are being run concurrently it must be noted in the premium list. Each trial must maintain separate trial records and be run on original courses.

Ex: The run order may be:

Trial 1 – Novice Standard
Trial 2 – Novice Standard
Trial 1 – Open Standard
Trial 2 – Open Standard
Trial 1 – Excellent/Master Standard
Trial 2 – Excellent/Master Standard

And so forth:

OR maybe like this:

Trial 1 – Novice Standard, Open Standard, Excellent/Master Standard
Trial 2 – Excellent/Master Standard, Open Standard, Novice Standard
Trial 1 – Novice/Open/Excellent/Master FAST
Trial 2 – Novice/Open/Excellent/Master FAST

And so forth.

The running order is dictated by what makes the most sense for the individual clubs taking into consideration the site, the equipment, the judge, and/or other events that might be occurring at the event.
CHAPTER 2 – THE EVENT COMMITTEE

Planning and Organization

The Challenge
Putting on the best event possible is one of the greatest challenges for any club. Structuring the Event Committee correctly enables the club to meet this challenge. The committee should be large enough to give attention to all details but small enough to accomplish tasks without placing too great a workload on too few individuals.

The Team
An agility trial is a team effort. The AKC establishes the rules and guidelines; the event-giving club fulfills these requirements and provides overall management and production through the Event Committee, judges, and superintendent or trial secretary.

A good working relationship between members of the team will result in a better event. A committee must be unified and dedicated to the production of the best event possible.

Members of the Event Committee must be club members and they represent the entire club. The reputation of a club and its event are dependent on the efforts of the committee. Impressions that exhibitors, spectators and judges take home from the event are a direct reflection on the club and the sport in general.

Individuals should be appointed to the committee based on experience, the workload they can handle, and the time they can apportion to each task. Candidates for committee positions must familiarize themselves with the specific duties and responsibilities involved.

Allow for continuity based on experience by appointing committees with both experienced and novice members. Rely on experienced club members to share their experience and knowledge with those who wish to learn.

Event Committee members should be familiar with the AKC’s Rules Applying to Dog Shows, Regulations for Agility Trials, Rules Applying to Registration and Discipline, and Dealing with Misconduct, as well as AKC’s policy concerning emergency procedures at events (JEDTR1) and ADA requirements (see Appendix-Forms).

Committee members have an opportunity to apply their expertise and to train others for the future. Working on or with an event committee is an excellent way to involve new club members. Those with limited experience should be encouraged to participate; not only will they learn “the ropes” while working on a committee, their enthusiasm can serve to boost and bolster everyone’s morale.
Dealing with People

Committee members must be diplomatic and capable of treating each exhibitor courteously. Each problem should be resolved promptly, calmly and rationally.

All club members, particularly club officials, should receive instructions on dealing with the public. All club members should be able to direct them to concessions, restrooms, telephones, and answer general questions about events and dogs.

The AKC Executive Field Representative (if in attendance), trial chair, and members of the Event Committee should be kept abreast of all activities concerning the event.

Dogs Disqualified by Event Committee

In 2006, the AKC Board of Directors adopted the following regulation to the Rules Applying to Dog Shows. This regulation permits Event Committees to disqualify dogs.

Any dog, that in the opinion of the Event Committee, attacks a person or a dog at an AKC event, resulting in an injury, and is believed by that Event Committee to present a hazard to persons or other dogs, shall be disqualified by the Event Committee pursuant to this section. When the dog is disqualified by the Event Committee pursuant to this section, a report shall be filed with the Executive Secretary of the American Kennel Club. The disqualified dog may not again compete at any AKC event nor be on the grounds of an AKC event unless and until, following application for reinstatement by the owner to the American Kennel Club, the owner receives official notification in writing from the AKC that the dog’s eligibility has been reinstated. (Chapter 11, Section 8-A)

Although the disqualification is to be determined by the Event Committee, a hearing to determine the disqualification is not required. Following an incident, the Event Committee is to collect any information and statements from involved exhibitors, owners, and witnesses. The committee shall then determine:

1. Was there an attack?
2. Was there an injury?
3. Does the dog present a hazard to persons or other dogs?

If the committee determines these three items to be true and there were no mitigating circumstances that caused the attack, the dog must be disqualified. Once the dog is disqualified, the dog may not compete in any AKC events. The owner of the dog should be notified immediately of the disqualification. (Refer to “Event Committee Procedural” [RDEOB1] and Dog Aggression – Action by Event Committee [AEDSQ4].)

If the Event Committee, in the course of making its disqualification determination, receives information that alleged acts of conduct prejudicial have occurred during or in connection with the club’s event then the procedures outlined in the Dealing with Misconduct booklet must be followed regarding the discipline of the individual(s) involved.

The Event Committee must submit a written report and any supporting documentation to the AKC Executive Secretary within seven days. They must submit all completed forms to AKC Event Operations within 72 hours of the incident by either mailing the document as an
attachment to EventPlans@AKC.org or sending a FAX to 919-816-4220. They must include this information in their trial report.

Records
Past records are the best assistance a club can have. Complete data of previous events helps the committee plan and present a better event. Provide the committee with as much history and data as possible.

Keep a complete file on all events given by the club. Maintain records that detail each topic (e.g., names and addresses of key people, contracts, financial records, correspondence, breakdown of entries, press contacts, suppliers, concessionaires, etc.).

The committee secretary, if one has been appointed, keeps the minutes of the committee meetings and may assist the trial chair in maintaining event records.

The Event Committee
An Event Committee must consist of a minimum of five club members for AKC approved agility trials or matches and is required for all AKC licensed agility trials. These committee members must be present on the grounds during the trial (Regulations for Agility Trials; Chapter 1, Section 7).

- Committees must have a chair.
- An individual may chair more than one committee.
- Committee responsibilities may be combined or others created.
- Be prepared to serve on committee as outlined in Section III of Dealing with Misconduct.

The Event Committee has the authority to act in the name of the American Kennel Club to enforce AKC rules on the day of the event (Rules Applying to Dog Shows; Chapter 9, Section 10).

Volunteers usually give time and labor with no financial compensation and provide encouragement so members do their best. Typically, the committee positions are: trial chairman, trial secretary, chief ring steward, equipment chairman, and trophy chairman.

Committee Size
Actual committee size depends on the event and number of members willing to work. Committee size should be appropriate to the individual event. If large committees are necessary, assistant chairs may be appointed to act as a backup, keep records, or perform other tasks. Additional positions may include trial site chairman, hospitality chairman, advertising/catalogs chairman, emergency response coordinator, and others as needed.
These members will need to be in place more than six months before the trial. Many tasks must be organized in advance to host a well-run trial. The site and judges must be secured, the premium mailing list compiled, trophies and ribbons procured, agility equipment prepared, and the catalog printed.

**Trial Chair**

**Qualifications**  
The trial chair must be a club member and is responsible to organize the various committee members. The trial chair may enter a trial for which they serve in this capacity; however, they must keep in mind that competing with their dog(s) must not interfere with their duties at the trial. They are also responsible for seeing that all the details of the trial are attended to and will fill in for any missing positions should this happen. This position requires knowledge of the AKC’s *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, *Regulations for Agility Trials*, *Rules Applying to Registration and Discipline*, and *Dealing with Misconduct*, as well as AKC’s policy concerning emergency procedures at events and ADA requirements. The trial chair should have experience in planning events, gained by serving on various committees, and the ability to apply basic business management practices such as:

- Set priorities
- Make decisions
- Delegate authority
- Conduct committee meetings
- Compile record
- Ability to meet deadlines
- Ability to deal with people
- Ability to work within the financial guidelines established by the club and to evaluate contracts and agreements as necessary

In the event an assistant chair is assigned, s/he should also be knowledgeable in all the above areas. Only one person may be designated trial chair; there cannot be a co-chair.

**Responsibilities**

- The trial chair is responsible for proper planning, conducting, and reporting of the results of the trial.
- Work with the Event Committee in selecting and securing agility judges.
- Ensure that the event application, judge’s panel, and disaster and emergency plan are submitted to the AKC by their deadlines.
- Ensure that the premium list material is submitted to the trial secretary / superintendent by the deadline.
- Assign all committee chairs, who are responsible for their own areas.
- Assign a committee secretary.
• Act as the facility/site liaison for the club. Establish and maintain communications with the person responsible for lease of the site.
  
  ➢ Site must be available before and after the actual event hours. Knowledge of facility use before and after the event is an important consideration.
  ➢ Requirements for insurance, contract, advance deposits, limitations to site usage, additional rental space, etc. must be determined.
  ➢ Extent of owner/management involvement in the event should be established prior to leasing, particularly with regard to required usage of the site’s personnel or concessions.
  ➢ Any potential problems that might result from the event should be discussed beforehand, allowing the owner/manager to take adequate steps to alleviate them. Periodic reconfirmation should be made, even after clubs have reached agreement with facility owner/management. Constant communication can help avoid any oversights by the site owner/management.

• Determine legal requirements, such as obtaining permits that may be required. Check with local authorities. Agencies that issue permits include, but are not limited to, the local township, health, fire and police departments.
• Consider federal, state, and local taxes to avoid any possible penalties imposed for failure to follow such requirements.
• Contract trial secretary or superintendent, if not utilizing a club member.
• Appoint individual to work with the judge of record regarding contracts, site maps, and equipment availability and be in general correspondence with the judge.
• Contract official photographer (optional).
• Act as liaison to companion/cluster clubs and specialty clubs.
• Review the AKC procedures detailed in Dealing with Misconduct with all members of the Event Committee before the event. A guideline for handling cases of misconduct is included in the Appendix.
• Work with the chief ring steward in assigning workers to the agility rings.
• Secure, display, and make available the agility ribbons/awards.
• May chair (an)other committee(s).

Day of the Event
• Arrive at least (2) two hours before the start of judging. Walk the grounds to be certain that everything is in order.
• Have a copy, or know how to access a copy, of the Disaster and Emergency Plan that must be available at the event. Copies should also be supplied to all committee chairs.
• Be available in the area of the agility rings throughout the trial hours.
• See that catalogs are available at the published event hours.
• Acquire all the latest editions of the required and recommended following AKC booklets: Rules Applying to Dog Shows, Rules Applying to Registration and Discipline, Dealing with Misconduct, Procedural Checklist, Agility Trial Manual, Regulations for Agility Trials, and AKC Agility Judges Guidelines. See that they are available at the event site.
• Must have available an official measuring device for use by the Judge of Record / VMO and/or Executive Field Representative.
• See to the colors and national anthem before the start of judging (optional).
• Meet with the AKC Executive Field Representative, if present, first thing the morning of the event.
• Check with all committee chairs to ensure that everything has been completed.
• For all committees responsible for money collection (i.e., parking, catalog sales, etc.), arrange for money pickups during the day.
• Check-in workers and assign tasks or assign this responsibility to the chief ring steward.
• Check-in judges.
• Distribute lunch tickets.
• See that the ring schedule is maintained.
• Address any disputes that may arise.
• Designate trophy chairman/presenters.
• If trial secretary is not a club member, resolve club finances with trial secretary.
• Attain club copy of catalog and records from trial secretary.

After the Event
• Check with the AKC Executive Field Representative, trial secretary or Superintendent, and judges for suggestions for future improvement.
• Check event grounds after clean-up to be sure everything is in order.
• Confirm that all hired personnel have been paid.
• Within seven (7) days, the Trial Chair shall complete an “Agility Trial Chair Report” form online http://www.tfaforms.com/144809 (preferred method) and submit it to the AKC Director of Agility electronically. Printable form (JEAGL2) is found in Appendix.

Assistant Trial Chairman (Optional)

Responsibilities
• Assist trial chairman in all areas. Assume responsibility in the trial chairman’s absence.
• Chair (an)other committee(s).

Trial Secretary

Qualifications
• The trial secretary may enter a trial for which they serve in this capacity.
• A trial secretary does not have to be a club member for a licensed event but must be a club member for a Sanctioned “A” Match.
• This position requires knowledge of the AKC’s Rules Applying to Dog Shows, Regulations for Agility Trials, Rules Applying to Registration and Discipline, and Dealing
with Misconduct, as well as AKC’s policy concerning emergency procedures at events and ADA requirements.

- Must have the ability to meet deadlines and deal with the exhibitor in a friendly manner.
- Must be able to maintain complete and accurate records for the event.

Responsibilities

- The trial secretary prepares the premium list including all pertinent data, which is listed in Regulations for Agility Trials (Chapter 1, Section 9). This premium list includes the official entry form (AEAGL2) (see example in Appendix-Forms) for the trial and is sent to all prospective entrants. The trial secretary receives the entry forms from the exhibitors and is responsible for randomly placing each entry into the trial catalog. When entries close, a confirmation of entry including trial schedule should be sent to each exhibitor at least seven (7) days prior to the first day of the event. (See Chapter 9 of this document for more information.)
- If the random draw method of entry is used, the trial secretary shall avoid any method in conducting the draw that raises any questions as to its randomness and impartiality. The trial secretary shall conduct the draw on the date, hour, and at the location specified in the premium list (Regulations for Agility Trials; Chapter 1, Section 16).

On the Day of the Event

- On the day of the event, the trial secretary must be present during registration and check-in of the exhibitors. An additional helper(s) will speed this process along.
- Must have entry forms available for review at the trial site.

Jump Height Cards and Measuring Dogs

For the judge’s planning purposes, the Trial Secretary should provide the judge with a list of dogs that need to be measured. This list is comprised of all entries where “My Dog Needs To Be Measured” was check-marked on the entry form. Jump height cards (including copies) do not have to be submitted to the trial secretary nor are jump height cards required to be shown during check-in. If a measurement is necessary, it is the exhibitor’s responsibility to have their dog(s) measured prior to running. (See Measuring Policy in Chapter 14 of this document.)

Trial Records

The trial secretary must sign the “Agility Trial Secretary’s Certification” page in the marked catalog(s). It is the trial secretary’s responsibility to ensure the entry forms and marked catalog(s) are retained for a period of at least one year. The judge must be provided their copy of the marked catalog prior to leaving the trial site. A club must retain a marked copy of the catalog for a period of one year.

Submission of Trial Records

After each licensed or member club trial, a catalog marked with all awards and absent dogs, certified to by the Judge(s) of Record and the trial secretary or superintendent,
together with a “Report of Agility Trial” (JEAGIL), (see Appendix-forms), must be sent to the American Kennel Club so as to reach its office within seven (7) days after the close of the trial.

Jr. Handler Certification

Any junior handler who will compete in AKC events should fill out an application to obtain a junior showmanship number. An example of the application (AEJRS3) is found in the Appendix. Juniors should fill out the Jr. Handler Certification form (CEJRH1) at each event in which they compete. The Judge of Record, trial secretary, or AKC Agility Executive Field Representative may sign this form after verification of score and placement (if any). The trial secretary shall have additional copies of this form at the event. These forms may be obtained from the American Kennel Club by contacting the Customer Service department at (919) 233-9767.

The trial secretary shall submit to AKC the completed yellow copy(ies) of the Jr. Handler Certification form(s) with the marked AKC official catalog for each event.

Each Committee Chair

Responsibilities

• Report directly to the trial chairman.
• Add/update the event checklist each year so that the club will have a customized list for its event. See the Event Checklist example in the Appendix.
• Prepare a list of specific duties and responsibilities for the day of the event.

Equipment Chairman / Grounds Chairman

Qualifications

• Ability to supervise people.
• Knowledge and understanding of:
  ➢ The AKC’s Disaster and Emergency Plan policy (see Appendix-forms)
  ➢ Agility ring layouts and equipment specifications
  ➢ Traffic flow and crowd control (works closely with parking chairman)
  ➢ Sanitary and comfort requirements

Responsibilities

• Hire or select people to perform various physical tasks. Schedule workers to load and unload equipment at the site.
• Supervise setting up and dismantling of event equipment.
• Arrange transportation and/or storage of club materials or equipment that may be needed for the event, and obtain any additional equipment.
• Prepare and lay out grounds. Check the site for holes, high grass, mat requirements, overall ring conditions, etc.
• Verify that aisles are a minimum of 10’ to meet ADA requirements.
• Verify that all of the equipment is in good repair and complies with the specifications as outlined in *Regulations for Agility Trials*. This should take place well before the trial so that if anything is out of order, it can be corrected.

• Arrange access to the site for committee members, the trial secretary/superintendent, vendors or suppliers before the event hours.

• Check that public address systems are operating and are located so that announcements reach all exhibitors. Speakers placed too close to individual rings may annoy dogs.

• Maintain grounds and equipment and supervise clean up of the site during and after the event, including the parking and restroom areas. Ensure that a sufficient number of trash receptacles are distributed around the grounds. Supervise periodic cleaning of all public exercise pens, as well as trash and recycle receptacles.

• Arrange adequate potable water supply; it may be necessary to have water delivered to the site. Arrange for a supply of ice for emergency situations.

• Plan for a judge’s table, chairs, and for any necessary seating for the ring crew.

• Determine limitations, if any, prohibiting crates, private exercise pens, use of flexi-leads and, if outdoors, private tenting at ringside or in aisles. These club rules, if to be enforced, MUST be stated in the premium list.

• Post directional arrows to trial site the day before the event.

• Post signs for locating camping areas, restrooms, telephones, water, etc. A simple map of the trial layout should be available for club members and workers so they may direct the exhibitors to parking, rings, restrooms, etc.

• Arrange for scoring and trophy tables and chairs.

• Secure sanitation facilities or access to sanitation facilities.

• Be familiar with the American with Disabilities Act Compliance Checklist (located in the Appendix).

**Day of the Event**

• Check-in workers and assign tasks. A crew must maintain cleanliness in rings, aisles, restrooms, exercise areas, parking lots, and all of the areas throughout the day. Allow enough coverage so that workers may take breaks.

• Be sure the unloading area is ready to receive the flow of traffic. Particularly important at indoor sites is that each bay in the loading dock is available, as this is often where the facility parks television/cable trucks, ambulances, cleaning apparatus, etc. Each open bay increases the speed at which exhibitors can unload and move their vehicle out for the next one.

• See that all rings, markers, banners, and signs have been properly placed. See that exercise areas are properly set up with clean-up tools/bags. Check on restrooms or sanitation facilities.

• Be accessible by walkie-talkie or other means throughout the event hours.

• Supervise that all generators/motors are 50’ from the ring.

• Supervise proper clean up of the show site after the event.
Trophy Chairman *(Optional if trophies are offered)*

**Qualifications**

The trophy chairman should be willing to solicit trophy donations and provide for trophies as specified by club. A successful candidate for the position should also be able to successfully meet deadlines.

**Responsibilities**

- Secure and display trophies.
- Ensure that all trophies are listed correctly in the premium list. Be aware of all deadlines for the submission of material to the printer.
- Include accurate descriptions of all trophies in the premium list. If the prize being donated is not properly described in the premium list, it cannot be awarded at the trial. Prior to the printing of the premium list, carefully proofread all trophy listings.
- Bill and collect for trophy donations; this may be coordinated with the club treasurer. If the donor of a trophy published in the premium list fails to furnish the trophy, the club is responsible and must provide a trophy of equal or greater value. If you are depending on others to bring their pledged items the day of the event, it is wise to have a few extra trophies available. If the extras are unused, they can be used at any future events.
- Tally the number of placements available for each of the classes offered at the trial.
- Acquire ribbons and/or rosettes and any trophies for the event. A club shall offer a ribbon or rosette to each dog that receives a qualifying score, (ribbon must contain the date of show either on the front or the back) and to dogs placing first through fourth in each height division of each class. Secure perpetual trophies; ensure that they are cleaned and engraved. Trophies may be donated, or contributions may be made toward a general fund. Decide on the type of trophies to be offered. All trophy offerings and pledges for contributions to the trophy fund should be confirmed in writing *(Regulations for Agility Trials; Chapter 1, Section 9)*.
- An additional trophy can be offered for one or all of the placements or for special awards such as High Scoring Junior Handler. Placement ribbons shall not be awarded to any dog that does not acquire a qualifying score.
- Work within budget supplied by the club.
- Prepare a final report of income and expenditures for trophies.
- After the event, inventory the unclaimed ribbons/rosettes/trophies and submit the inventory report to the trial chairman.

**Day of the Event**

- Check in workers and assign tasks. Allow enough coverage so that workers may take breaks.
- Confirm that all trophies listed in the premium list are on hand, or that a replacement is available.
• Set up the trophy table.
• If trophies are being presented in the ring, they must be distributed to the appropriate rings or put in the judge’s bag.

Hospitality Chairman (Optional)

Qualifications
• Organized, personable, and accessible.
• Previous experience working on hospitality committees.
• Experience in planning and organizing meals or other social functions.
• Experience making travel arrangements.

Responsibilities
• Coordinate refreshments for the judge(s) and ring crew, and possibly the exhibitors if this amenity is extended. Secure vendors and concessions (food, dog supplies, dog food, etc.) for the event. Plan to have food concessions open as early as possible the morning of the event (about two hours before the start of judging) for exhibitors who stay overnight and/or who arrive early.
• Inform trial secretary, if allowed, to list food/drink as available at site in the premium.
• Work with trial chairman and the Event Committee to set vendor rates.
• Require concessions to obtain permit for food if necessary.
• Work closely with Grounds/Equipment Chairman to ensure that concession/vendor space does not encroach upon crating/ring space.
• Prepare proposed layout and assign space for each concession/vendor; coordinate with the Grounds Chairman to ensure vendors/concessions fit in within the overall plan for the event.
• Lay out, measure, and mark individual concession areas. Rope off areas, post signs, or use paint to mark concession space.
• Send contracts and collect fees for concession space. As these are usually private contracts between vendors and clubs, clubs may specify particular terms such as “no sale of pinch collars.” Send concessionaires a confirmation and a map of the area showing their reserved space.
• Include a statement in vendor contract that the event-giving club is neither responsible for loss/theft nor liable for any activity which occurs in the vendor area.
• Plan meals, transportation arrangements, hotel/motel accommodations, etc. for judges.
  ➢ Visit the prospective host hotel/motel to ensure that its quality is up to standard.
  ➢ Send letters to the judges confirming transportation and lodging.
  ➢ Make arrangements for pre-event dinner, if any, and breakfast and lunch the day of the event. Inform all judges of those plans.
• Send the judges a fact sheet with pertinent local information, such as:
- Information about the host hotel and restaurants in the immediate vicinity of the hotel.
- The anticipated weather conditions.
- Detailed travel directions and information on parking.
- Special local attractions (historical sites, scenic parks, factory outlets, etc.).
- A detailed map of the area.

- Provide for judges’ needs on the day of judging, such as drinks, meals, and snacks to insure they can perform their duty in all conditions.
- Coolers for cold drinks and bottled water, and a thermos for hot drinks, may be placed at the rings.
- Hospitality packets may be placed at each ring (i.e., towelettes, paper towels, hard candy, etc.).
- Visit the hotel(s) you will recommend to the exhibitors/spectators to ensure that they are up to standard and that they are willing to accept dogs.
- Set up special rates with the hotel(s).
- Notify the hotel of times needed for airport limo (if available).
- Mail admission and parking passes to judges if needed.

Day of the Event

- Organize breakfast for the judges at the hotel or the event site. Provide coffee and tea at the event in the morning.
- Arrange transportation of judges to the event if necessary.
- Coordinate committee members to visit the rings periodically to check the needs of the judges and stewards.
  - Coolers for cold drinks and bottled water, and a thermos for hot drinks, may be placed at the rings.
  - Hospitality packets may be placed in each ring, e.g., towelettes, paper towels, hard candy, etc.
- Organize lunch for the judges, club members, workers, and other invited guests.
- Arrange transportation of judges back to the hotel or airport if necessary.
- Coordinate with the treasurer.
- Check concession area and vendors.
- Check that vendors’ generators are well away from the rings (at least 50 feet).

Advertising and Catalog Chairman (Optional)

A successful ad campaign can enhance your club’s revenues from your trial catalog.

Qualifications

- Able to motivate others
- Able to sell ads to potential advertisers
- Creative
- Able to meet deadlines
Responsibilities

- Coordinate club members in both acquiring paid advertisements for the trial catalog and assisting with catalog sales. Suggest that ads be solicited from organizations or individuals to which they have given their business throughout the years.
- All advertising arrangements should be in writing. Prepaid advertising only is recommended.
- Canvass potential advertisers, usually via a mailing, who may wish to place an ad in the club’s catalog. Potential advertisers may include:
  - Dog supply companies
  - Dog food companies
  - Boarding/Grooming facilities
  - The bank where the club maintains an account
  - Local merchants
  - Restaurants
  - Motels, hotels, and campgrounds
  - Local humane societies
  - Other dog clubs that may wish to advertise their future events
  - Any other businesses that club members patronize during the year
- Review ad material in order to prohibit offensive ads.
- Act as coordinator between the advertisers and the printer or trial secretary/superintendent.
- Receive the ads and submit them to the printer prior to the deadline. The format of the ad is usually specified, and then the actual setup is prepared by the printer.
- Return all advertising materials such as photos, cuts, etc. to the advertiser. Ensure that all advertisers receive a copy of their catalog ad.
- Send thank you notes to advertisers.
- Manage catalog sales.
- Bill all advertisers and collect all moneys due; may be coordinated with the club treasurer. If billing is done after the event, a copy of the ad should be attached to the invoice.

Day of the Event

- Bring cash boxes or containers for keeping money from sales. Secure cash from the treasurer for making change.
- Confirm that the correct number of catalogs was delivered. Reserve and secure catalogs to be held for club business (i.e. copies for judges, stewards, members, advertisers, etc.).
- Set up areas for catalog sales.
- Check in workers and assign tasks. Allow enough coverage so that workers may take breaks.
Publicity Chairman (Optional)

Qualifications

• Familiar with local media
• Able to meet deadlines
• Advertising and/or public relations experience is helpful

Responsibilities

• Develop a budget.
• Create, secure, and distribute publicity concerning the event.
• Obtain free publicity. Contact local radio and television stations that have a policy of announcing special services.
  ➢ Local cable television stations may be willing to present all or part of the trial and/or pre-trial information.
  ➢ There are “community bulletin board” websites that provide non-profits with free or reduced-cost web pages and internet access. Individual club members or other clubs may also have their own web pages where a notice can be posted.
  ➢ Place flyers in windows of grooming shops, supply companies, veterinarians, and other AKC events.
  ➢ A combination of press announcements, 8x10 photos, follow-up calls, complimentary tickets, and personal letters are effective in obtaining favorable media responses. Be available to greet members of the press when they arrive and to extend your club’s hospitality. See example of the press release for print media in the Appendix.
  ➢ Local free publications and company bulletin boards are another source of publicity.
  ➢ Some facilities have monthly newsletters that can feature your event.
• Obtain paid publicity. The club may want to advertise in catalogs of events held by other clubs in the area and/or in local newspapers. Be aware of newspaper deadlines.
• Contact the town authorities where the event is being held to obtain permission for displaying banners advertising the event. Club members should encourage local merchants to display signs or posters advertising the event. Flyers should be distributed at local events before the club’s event.
• Provide discount coupons for the club’s event to local merchants, veterinarians, groomers, pet food stores, kennels, etc. Display cardboard posters in their places of business.
• Use the *Economic Benefit of Dog Shows* brochure to emphasize the importance of the event to the community. This brochure is available by contacting the AKC Customer Service department.
Emergency Response Coordinator / Safety Chairman (Optional)

Qualifications

- Be familiar with the AKC’s policy concerning emergency procedures at events (*Disaster and Emergency Plan* located in the *Appendix*).
- Knowledge of local area. In case of emergency, coordinate with Trial Chairman, and other Committee Chairs as necessary to help provide local authorities or emergency response personnel and vehicles with clear ingress and egress, crowd control, etc.

Responsibilities

- Be familiar with the AKC’s Emergency Care at Events policy (*Disaster and Emergency Plan*-see *Appendix*-Forms). Ensure that the event complies with local ordinances. Any questions on the current AKC policy should be referred to Event Operations Department.
- Work with the club to develop written procedures covering different emergency situations.
- In case of emergency, coordinate with the trial chairman and other committee chairs as necessary to help provide local authorities and/or emergency response personnel and vehicles with clear ingress and egress, crowd control, etc.

Day of Event

- Have at least one properly completed copy of the *Disaster and Emergency Care* form (see *Appendix*) readily accessible.
- Have multiple copies of emergency telephone numbers, directions to emergency facilities, the hours that the facilities operate, and information on alternate facilities available.
- Make sure there is at least one working cellular telephone available during trial hours.
- Check-in workers and assign tasks. Allow enough coverage so that workers may take breaks.
- Set up a location for emergency vehicles and for the veterinarian, if on site.
- If the event will be held in warm weather, distribute flyers and dashboard notices about the hazards of dogs in unventilated vehicles. (See *Dogs in Unventilated Vehicles* located in the *Appendix*.)

Veterinarian

- Every club that holds a licensed or member event is required to engage one or more veterinarians licensed in the state where the event is held.
- The event’s official veterinarian may exhibit or act as agent or handler for a dog s/he owns or co-owns but must not be the judge of record.
- The club has the option of having the veterinarian “on call.” If the veterinarian is “on call,” it is the club’s responsibility to see that the veterinary service is readily available.
The veterinarian’s office or an emergency clinic should be located within easy driving distance. Handouts giving the name, phone number, and directions to the nearest emergency clinic must be available at the trial secretary’s/superintendent’s table and should be provided to the veterinarian if on site. If there is no emergency clinic in the area, give information for the most convenient vet’s office. Clubs must verify the hours the clinic or office is open and include these hours in the handout.

Executive Field Representatives

Some of the duties and responsibilities of the AKC Agility Executive Field Representative at agility events include:

- Arriving at the event grounds prior to judging.
- Conducting site inspections and recommending changes in event layouts, sites, entry limits, etc.
- Acting as the AKC liaison.
- Providing insight on policy and rule compliance and first-hand information regarding the event operations.
- Acting in an advisory capacity to the Event Committee, exhibitors and judges.
- Supervising provisional and non-provisional judges.
- Measuring dogs for an official jump height card/form.
- Being available to exhibitors.
- Participating in advising role at misconduct hearings if needed.

Photographer – (Optional)

It is the club’s decision whether a photographer will be secured for the agility trial. The photographer should be contacted as far in advance as possible; additional time should be allowed for national specialties.

Obtain a copy of the photographer’s contract. Any changes and/or additions to it should be agreed to in writing by the club and the photographer.

Exhibitors will often request to have a photograph of their dog taken with the judge presenting the ribbon. Judges are usually agreeable to such requests, provided they do not delay judging. In those cases where a judge is behind schedule, judging should not be further delayed by taking photographs. Rather, a mutually acceptable time and place should be arranged between the judge and exhibitor, some time after the judge has completed the assignment.

If possible, a separate area can be set up for photos. This will also help judges stay on schedule. An added amenity to the photo area is to use a backdrop and flowers to enhance the photos. Photographers may not have dogs perform agility obstacles, but obstacles may be used as props.
CHAPTER 3 – THE AGILITY RING STAFF

Chief Ring Steward

The chief ring steward coordinates the various duties that are required in order to host a well-run trial. This job can be broken down into one chief for each ring of a multi-ring trial. The chief ring steward should check each ring for staff present, as well as announcing when each crew is required. This person should be free of working any other positions so that they are available to fill in as necessary for breaks and as back-up. It is helpful to maintain a printed schedule that is posted for the ring crew to review. Some necessary positions for a smoothly run event are:

- Scribe
- Timer (s)
- Course Builders
- Ring Crew
- Gate Steward
- Leash Runner

The Stewards

Training of stewards must take place prior to the trial date as training during the event will negatively impact the progress of the judging and the trial itself.

Stewards must understand that they are present to assist the judge; at no time may a steward appear to be discussing judging of the dogs with the judge. The timer and scribe may not work in a jump height class in which they are directly competing.

An efficient trial committee will provide stewards who are educated as to the correct set up for each agility obstacle (i.e. how the bars are to be placed, the broad jump boards, the table, etc). Jump cups must be numbered or color-coded to assist stewards in placing bars in the correct jump cups quickly. An index card can be taped under the first board of the broad jump outlining the correct number of boards and span the broad jump is set at. A tape measure should be placed under the broad jump for height changes, or the various distances marked along the ground with items such as golf tees. There should be tools, parts, and materials available ringside to solve any equipment problems that may occur; this should include duct tape. Be prepared for inclement weather by having a supply of towels to dry off obstacles and by having sandbags or stakes to prevent obstacles or ring gates from being blown over by wind.

Chief Course Builder (CCB)

The judge is allowed to send a diagram showing the positions of all the obstacles no more than 48 hours prior to the date of the trial to facilitate course building. This diagram may not show obstacle numbers, start and/or finish lines or the Send Line on the course. The judge may send an equipment list more than 48 hours ahead if requested by the club. The
Judge may send a diagram more than 48 hours ahead showing position of the contact obstacles and a list of the other obstacles that may be grouped together (bunched) in different areas of the ring. The judge shall not send a copy of the course for the next day beyond these limits (Regulations for Agility Trials; Chapter 4, Section 6).

The chief course builder obtains the day’s courses from the judge and is prepared to call the crew to the ring to quickly change courses for the next class. The CCB should receive instructions from the judge as to how they want their course built, such as using the baseline method, and then the obstacles should be placed as closely to the positions shown in the drawings. The CCB, or someone they have assigned to the job, has the crew lay bars where the jumps should go. The CCB assigns people to move various pieces of equipment and also to number the course once set. It is not necessary that the CCB move equipment, the CCB’s job is to provide direction and assistance to the crew so it is organized and efficient. Most judges nest their courses so that the major pieces of equipment do not have to be moved from one class to another. Obstacles should not be set or staked until the judge has given approval of the set up. The CCB assigns someone to follow the judge during the final “tweaking” of the course to assist in the final placement of the obstacles. The AKC agility judge needs to measure each course twice so bars should not be set until the judge signals that it is appropriate to do so.

Scorekeepers

A minimum of two scorekeepers are required: one to tabulate the scores on the scribe sheet and another to fill in the catalogs or enter data in the computer. In most cases, a third person is needed to facilitate the work of the first two, particularly at large trials. Someone must be available to answer exhibitor questions or concerns. Results should be posted for exhibitors as quickly as possible and must include course yardage and Standard Course Time (SCT). It is acceptable to post “unofficial” results prior to the judge’s inspection as long as they are clearly marked as such. For additional information see the section on scoring in Chapter 13 of this document.

Gate Steward

The gate steward should organize the exhibitors by checking them in prior to their running. A posted list on a large easel set at the entry gate should list the running order of dogs. This will assist both the gate steward and the exhibitors in knowing when to arrive at the gate. It should include the armband number, breed and call name. Any changes or absences in the running order should be posted also. The judge must approve any changes to the running order. Any handler with two or more dogs in the same jump height division may request additional dogs be placed between their own dogs in the running order. The 1st dog listed can be moved up or the 2nd dog listed moved down. The running order of the 2 dogs may not be reversed. Dogs entered in other AKC events during the agility trial may request to run at a different time and should discuss this with
the judge of record. As long as a course for any one particular class is set, it is permissible
to allow a dog to run out of jump height order, if necessary, as long as the handler has
indicated a conflict and has marked the dog as such on the gate sheet according to the
judge’s instructions.

If it is a two-ring trial, then one ring is typically designated to take precedence, usually
the Standard ring, and they may move in order in the other ring after checking with the
judge.

It is recommended that two to three dogs be on deck ready to enter the ring at any time.
The judge should brief the stewards regarding when it is appropriate to send the next dog
into the ring. It is important for the gate steward to keep everyone moving efficiently in
order to complete the trial at a reasonable hour. It is of utmost importance to keep the
enthusiasm and spirit of agility while performing this job. Firm, but friendly persons excel
in this duty by keeping the trial moving quickly.

Information should be obtained from the registration/check-in table concerning dogs that
have not checked in. The club may wish the gate steward to have dogs and handlers come
to the gate to determine those present from those absent. The gate steward should also
assist the scribe to ensure that the correct armband number is on the scribe sheet for the
person currently approaching the start line. Alert the ring crew when the last dog of each
jump height approaches the start line so everyone can be prepared to make jump height
changes when the run is completed. This also ensures that the first dog of the next jump
height runs at the correct height. Also watch for correct collars on dogs prior to entering
the ring. These points are ultimately the handler’s responsibility, but it is hospitable for
the gate steward to assist nervous handlers as they step up to the ring gate. It is no longer
mandatory for armband stickers to be issued and worn unless required and advertised by
the show giving club. If so required, the Gate Steward should check to make sure the
stickers are being worn by entering exhibitor.

The Scribe

The scribe should have the complete set of scribe sheets on hand for each class at the time
of judging. A clipboard for writing on when recording faults, as well as holding the scribe
sheets together is a necessity. Verify the armband number of each exhibitor as they enter
the ring. This is most easily done by coordinating with the gate steward or if the exhibitor
is briefed to call it out as they step to the line. Keep both eyes on the judge to avoid missing
any signals that may rapidly follow each other. Placing a thumb in the area to write serves
as a guide and helps to avoid looking down at the sheet in order to mark it. At no time
should a scribe appear to be discussing the judging of the dogs with the judge. Avoid
talking to the timer and other distractions.

The dog’s time should be written down exactly as it is read on the timer console or stop
watch. Do not convert seconds into minutes and do not mark the scribe sheet with
anything other than what is signaled by the judge. If any questions arise regarding signals, immediately ask the judge for clarification. Only the judge can alter/change scribe sheets. Once the time is recorded, quickly prepare for the next run. The scribe should hand the scribe sheet to the assistant scribe for the dog’s time to be recorded. Then the completed scribe sheet is given to the scribe sheet runner for them to take it immediately to the Secretary’s table.

The scribe must not work in a jump height class in which they are directly competing.

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**The Timer**

Each ring must have one timer assigned to it. The timer will require a stopwatch/timer console, whistle, and a backup stopwatch in case of malfunctions. The timer watches for a signal from the judge that the ring is ready for the next team to begin. The timer alerts the team to begin by pressing “Go” or saying: “Please begin” or “Start now.” The handler is responsible for being ready as soon as the ring crew is set.

Official time starts when any part of the dog crosses the start line, whether the handler has indicated readiness or not. Official time stops after any part of the dog crosses the finish line. Do not stop the time for anything else unless instructed by the judge.

Once started, the timing device should be monitored for several seconds to ensure that it has begun functioning properly. If the watch/console is not working within the first 3 obstacles negotiated by the team, blow the whistle to alert the judge to the problem. If, however, the watch/console malfunctions later during the run, allow the team to finish the course then alert the judge to the malfunction. The judge determines whether or not a re-run for time only is warranted.

Should electronic timers be used by the club, an extra timer is still required in the ring as stated above. The timer must be prepared to use manual hand timing as a back-up if the electronic timers are not functioning correctly or cease functioning. The timer must also be ready to re-start the time if the dog happens to stop the time by taking a wrong course over/through the last obstacle.

The timer must not work in a jump height class in which they are directly competing.

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**Scribe Assistant (Optional)**

This person assists the primary scribe in facilitating the exchange from the previous dog run to the next dog on line. When hand-timing, this will require at least two stopwatches and two clipboards. The assistant takes the scribe sheet from the scribe and the watch from the timer, then hands each a fresh scribe sheet or stopwatch in turn. The assistant records the time from the watch onto the scribe sheet and hands it off to the scribe sheet runner.
The stopwatch is then cleared and a new scribe sheet is placed onto the clipboard to make the exchange again. When using electronic timing, the assistant takes the scribe sheet from the scribe, records the time from the console onto the scribe sheet, and hands it off to the scribe sheet runner. This assistant is also required to work closely with the gate steward to ensure the proper scribe sheet is in place for the dog being judged.

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**Scribe Sheet Runner**

The scribe sheet runner takes each scribe sheet from the scribe or scribe assistant and takes it to the scorekeeper’s table to be tallied and marked in the catalog. The runner should take care to be as unobtrusive as possible to teams currently running in the ring. The scribe sheet runner should deliver the scribe sheets to the scorekeeper’s table without letting anyone else handle them. They may show the sheet to the exhibitor, but the exhibitor may not take possession of it.

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**Leash Runner**

The leash runner takes the leash/collar from the handler and deposits it in the designated leash holder or container near the ring exit so that the handler can easily locate it upon completion of their run. The leash may NOT be hung on the ring barrier nor placed on the ground. It should not be placed in direct line with the last obstacle as a target. The leash runner is required to remain inside the ring to accomplish this job.
CHAPTER 4 –FINANCIAL AND CONTINGENCY PLANNING

Financial Planning

Annually, the event-giving club should set up, maintain and review the financial limitations placed on an Event Committee.

Budgeting the Event

The best budgeting tool the Event Committee can use in planning future events is a complete set of past events’ financial records, which should be in the club’s permanent file. Base the event budget on past income and expense experience.

In preparing the financial planning sheet for an event, the income and expenses could be divided as shown in the Event Financial Planning Sheet, which is in the Appendix.

Contingencies

The Event Committee must have some flexibility to deal with problems or changes that may require variance from the budget. Both the Event Committee and the club should agree in advance to the methods for taking action to meet any financial emergency.

Consider setting aside an amount of money as a contingency fund. This will:

- Allow payment of up-front event costs without straining the club’s normal operating budget.
- Insure the club against emergencies or unexpected expenses that may affect event income such as towing/parking area damages. A statement in the premium list that exhibitors are responsible for parking emergencies if they are not in the designated parking area may eliminate this type of emergency expenditure.
- Allow the club to purchase necessary equipment, provide special services or activities, and provide trophies at the event.

Contingency Planning

The committee should be prepared for any situation, for example, arranging for tow trucks to remove vehicles from loading areas or muddy parking lots in the event of bad weather at an outdoor event. Alternate sites should be considered in case of last-minute cancellation at the event site.

Inquiries concerning contingency planning should be addressed to the Event Operations Agility Department.
Event Cancellation

Situations may arise when it is advisable to cancel an event – “the show must go on” does not prevail. The safety of both the exhibitors and dogs is paramount in making this decision.

Different weather conditions bring varying concerns to our events, and situations such as, but not limited to, extreme heat, lightning, hail, snowstorms, or hurricanes must be considered for the health and safety of dogs, judges, and handlers. In the event of inclement weather, it is recommended that a club first postpone the event for a period of one or two hours in case conditions improve; however, an agility trial must be completed by midnight of the same day. **Classes may not be carried over to the next day.**

A question has been raised about whether a club may cancel an event due to extreme heat conditions. The AKC believes that the well-being of dogs and participants is of utmost importance and that the club may cancel an event due to extreme conditions when necessary. A notice to this effect should be included in the premium list to inform exhibitors of the possibility of a cancellation for adverse conditions and to address refunds of entry fees. Examples of wording used by many clubs are:

“If because of riots, civil disturbances, or other acts beyond the control of the management it is impossible to open or complete the trial, no refund of entry will be made.”

“The well-being of the dogs, exhibitors, and spectators is of paramount importance, and in the event it is necessary to cancel or stop the event before completion, no refund of entry fee will be made.”

Only an AKC Executive Field Representative, club president, trial chairman, or trial secretary can cancel an event. To report a cancellation or delay:

- Call 919-816-3579 during AKC business hours
- Call AKC Weekend Club Hotline at 919-816-3955 outside of AKC business hours.

Insurance for Dog Events

It is important that clubs have appropriate insurance for their events and activities. Consult with a local agent or find a source for your club’s insurance on the AKC website, [www.akc.org/pdfs/ACINS1.pdf](http://www.akc.org/pdfs/ACINS1.pdf).

This service is provided by Equisure, Inc. in cooperation with the AKC.

This source may also be reached at 1-800-752-2472.
CHAPTER 5 – THE AGILITY TRIAL SITE

Selecting the Site

Agility trials will have a significant positive economic impact on the community where they are held. The AKC’s brochure, Economic Benefit of Dog Shows, is a tool that the club can use when speaking to potential site management. This brochure may be obtained by contacting the AKC Customer Service department.

Evaluating a Prospective Site

Before reserving the facility, imagine it in actual use. Picture crates, tents, and equipment arriving; people and dogs in the aisles; parking; and exhibitors, judges and spectators filling the site as they would on the day of the event. Verify that the site would meet ADA requirements and an emergency plan. See the Site Checklist in the Appendix.

Type of Site

The three types of sites are indoor, outdoor, and a combination. Each site must be able to accommodate the estimated entry. The type of location and surface used must be listed in the club’s premium list.

Host Club Letter

If an agility trial is held on the same site in conjunction with an existing AKC venue, then the Host Club Consent Form (AE0001) granting permission must be submitted with the trial application. See form in Appendix.

Size and Type of Course

The course area should be clear and level. Useable ground space is clear of posts or trees, protrusions, or low over-hangs. The minimum usable course area must be 5,000 square feet for Novice; 6,500 square feet for Open; and 8,000 square feet for Excellent/Master/Premier. In Excellent/Master/Premier, the preference is at least 10,000 square feet or larger. Any ring dimension may not be less than 60 feet in width. The ideal ring size is 100’ x 120’ for agility. Winged jumps will necessitate larger areas than the minimum recommendations. List any ring restrictions to the ring area on the application. Notify the judge of any ring restrictions to the ring area.

Site Preparation

Utilizing the site to its best advantage is not a simple task. Consult the event secretary/superintendent for advice and talk with the local AKC Executive Field Representative.

The main centers of activity are the rings and crating areas. Parking areas, restrooms, food concessions, traffic flow, and unloading must be arranged so they do not impede event activity. Evaluate these areas for possible improvement while the event is in
progress and immediately after the event; discuss this with the AKC Executive Field Representative. Record the recommendations for improvement.

Arrange with the manager of the facility to allow the secretary/superintendent, exhibitors, and vendors onto the event grounds or into the building the day before the event. A club member must be present while individuals are allowed admittance.

It is the club’s responsibility to show early arrivals where to park and set up. If left unsupervised, they might park and set up in areas that the club intended for other uses.

When trials are offered outdoors, the grass should be cut shortly before the trial date to facilitate good footing. The area should be cross-walked and inspected in order to identify and fill in any holes that may be present. Dirt surfaces such as those found in horse arenas should be lightly packed so that the surface is firm. At indoor events, some type of non-slip surface such as carpeting, rubber matting, or artificial turf to fully cover concrete or wooden floors are also satisfactory running surfaces for agility trials. Vehicles and generators must be at least 50’ from all rings.

Outside the ring, there should be sufficient space for the warm-up jump. One warm-up jump is allowed per ring. The warm-up jump should be located so that it is visible to the judge inside the ring if at all possible. There should be enough space around the warm-up jump for the dog and handler to safely use the jump, to accommodate a line of exhibitors waiting their turn, and to keep the warm-up activity from being bothersome to dogs running in the adjacent ring.

There should be ample space for exhibitors and their dogs to gather and enter the ring without conflict with spectators. An easel provided at the start gate, which lists the running order and can be easily read from a distance, will keep exhibitors informed and allow the gate keeper to easily keep track of who is in the ring, who is next, and what dogs may be missing.

A scorekeeper’s table, which will allow two to three scorekeepers to work comfortably, should be placed near the ring so that scribe sheets can easily and quickly be brought to the scorekeepers. A separate table for the judge to work on should be placed near the ring and the scorer’s table. An area should be designated where the results of the classes can be posted; this will keep questions asked of the scorekeepers at a minimum. Any errors must be quickly reported to the judge so that they can be resolved. Duplicate scribe sheets may be used and a copy given to the exhibitor.

The exhibitors will need crating space for their dogs and a place to relax when not running. At outdoor trials, this can include tenting around the ring. It is recommended that there should be a minimum of 15 feet around the ring for exhibitors and spectators to walk freely; 10’ is required.

The agility ring can be marked with roping, fencing, or baby gates. It should be constructed so the openings for the exit and entry gates can be easily changed. Exhibitors and spectators outside the ring should be able to easily identify the boundaries of the ring so that they do not inadvertently walk into the area.
Restrooms or porta-lets should be located near the agility area. (When using porta-lets, set up a table nearby to hold wet wipes, bottles of water, liquid soap or hand disinfectant, and paper towels for use when exiting the porta-let.)

A sufficient number of trash cans conveniently located around the entire site will encourage exhibitors and spectators to maintain a clean site. Emptying them as soon as needed encourages everyone to keep the site clean. In case of windy outdoor conditions, more frequent emptying may be necessary. Dog clean up equipment should be provided to keep the area clean.

Traffic control and parking are dictated by the existing parking areas, local garages, streets, etc. When there are inadequate parking areas within the event site, other parking locations must be found.

Regulations for on-street parking can be determined through the local police department.

If permission is obtained from the local authorities in advance, streets may be closed down or rerouted on the day of the event to provide better traffic flow in unloading and parking areas.

Allow for ease of access for emergency vehicles.

Well in advance of the event, provide for towing or removal of vehicles stuck because of inclement conditions and vehicles blocking traffic lanes, loading/unloading zones, etc.

Use graphics and signs at the event site to indicate traffic direction, unloading areas, event grounds limitations, etc. A site layout in the judging program is helpful.

Layout of gate facilities should allow direct access to and from the event site. To help avoid traffic backups at the entry gate, areas for collecting admissions, parking fees and catalog sales should be set up well inside the gate. This will help prevent a traffic jam on the street(s) leading to the site.

Parking areas should be designated as either “exhibitor” or “spectator,” allowing the exhibitors closer proximity to the ring and crating areas.

Parking areas should be measured and laid out to allow for automobiles, vans, campers, RV’s, trailers, and buses. The last four categories require at least 50% more space than automobiles. Consider the space taken by awnings attached to these vehicles.

Reserve an adequate number of parking spaces near the event site for the handicapped. See the Americans with Disabilities Compliance Checklist found in the Appendix.

Outdoor sites generally provide more flexibility for managing traffic flow and parking. Open fields and close-by streets should be considered in overall planning.

Provide for safe arrival, unloading of dogs, and removal of vehicles from the crating area. After the start of the event, take extra precautions to ensure that no people or dogs are injured when traffic is moving in the immediate event area.
A distance of at least 50 feet from all rings should be maintained for all vehicles and generators.

There should be sufficient parking available close to the agility site for the expected number of exhibitors and spectators to the trial. Learn what parking restrictions may be in effect for the site and prepare signs to alert the participants and provide persons to help direct parking if necessary. Signs placed in highly visible locations will help prevent any misunderstandings from occurring. To protect the club’s liability, signs such as “park at your own risk” may be posted.

Signs placed along the route to and at the entry of the agility trial site alerts exhibitors as well as spectators to the presence and location of the agility trial. The signs should be large enough to be easily seen from a vehicle on the street. Include a map with directions to the show site in the premium list. Some clubs provide one in the confirmation notice also. Please see Chapter 9 for more specific information requirements.

Hotels and motels that accept dogs should be within a reasonable driving distance to the site. List the phone number and address of each in the premium list. Showing where they are on the map can also be helpful.

If food is not going to be readily available at the show site, it is helpful to state this in the premium list and to list the location of nearby restaurants.

Sanitation Requirements

The Event Committee is responsible for clean and orderly conditions on the show grounds.

An adequate number of trash containers should be available for proper disposal of waste and placed where they will be used. Personnel should be available to empty trash containers throughout the day.

Outdoor Toilet Facilities - The National Plumbing Code requires 1 outdoor toilet facility for each 30 persons, when emptied every 5 days (150-person capacity for a one-day activity)

Dog Exercise/Bathroom Area

Be sure to check with the facility to see if any areas of the grounds or buildings are off limits to dogs. Signage directing handlers to the proper area to potty their dogs is essential. Some facilities will dictate a designated area while others will have a plentiful supply of usable space and grass. Strategically placed pooper scoopers, bags, and trash receptacles will help to facilitate keeping the facility clean and sanitary.
CHAPTER 6 - ASSEMBLING A JUDGING PANEL

Selecting the Judges Panel

The judges’ panel is one of the most important factors to consider when planning an event.

- **Who Selects the Panel**

  Each club selects its own judging panel. Some clubs select their judges by a vote of the membership; others delegate the job to the Event Committee, to a judge’s selection committee, or to the trial chairman.

- **Once the Panel has been Selected**

  When the club has decided on the judge(s) they would like to invite, the trial chairman should contact the judge(s) regarding availability. Two copies of a contract should be sent outlining the dates they will judge, what classes, and what fees and expenses will be paid. When the club is in receipt of one signed contract, the trial secretary should send a packet to the judge.

  Details of the show site, including ring dimensions, surface, order of classes, and a specific list of available equipment must be included in the packet that the club sends to the judge(s). Most important are details of useable “floor” space of the intended ring area so that the judge(s) can design around things such as posts, and where the gates will be located for the exhibitors to enter and exit the ring. A copy of the premium list must also be sent to the judge of record at the same time it is sent to AKC. Upon closing, judging schedules should also be sent to the judge.

- **When to Select the Panel**

  Clubs should contact judges well in advance. Some clubs do so as much as two years or more prior to the event.

- **Submitting the Judges Panel**

  Clubs should submit the judging panel with the application for the trial and should have in their possession a signed contract from each judge.

  The judging panel and trial application should be submitted to the AKC no later than the due date required on the application prior to the trial date. No application will be approved without the judging panel being listed.

- **Provisional Judges**

  Provisional judges sometimes find it difficult to obtain assignments. Since these individuals constitute the future of the sport of agility, the AKC encourages clubs to provide opportunities for provisional judges. A provisional judge MUST get approval from the AKC Agility Director prior to accepting an assignment.

  A list of provisional judges is accessible from the AKC’s website at http://www.akc.org. The on-line Judges’ Directory includes provisional judges and is updated monthly. You may also contact the AKC Agility department for the contact information of provisional judges in your area.
• **Judges’ Assignments**
  Judges accepting assignments must be available for the entire advertised hours of an event. Judges may not accept an assignment within 30 days and 200 straight-line miles of another assignment. If you have questions about whether an assignment may or may not exceed the 200 mile limit, contact the Agility Department.

• **Travel**
  A club should not offer assignments to a judge for events on the same weekend if they are a great distance apart (must be 200 miles or more). Judges cannot do their best work if they are tired from travel.

• **Assignment Limitations**
  Individual judging limits shall be 350 runs maximum per day without regard to class level or type (Standard, JWW, FAST, Premier, and T2B). Non-regular or special attraction class runs are not included in this maximum. Individual judging limits may be exceeded only when the club has accepted move-ups, or when accepting wait-listed entries after closing.

  A club holding its first event should examine the entries of other clubs within a 100-mile radius. The day of the week that an event is held should also be considered; weekday events generally draw fewer dogs than weekend events.

• **Finances**
  Finances must be considered when preparing a judging panel. A percentage of the event budget should be designated for the judge(s) and their expenses.

• **Contracts**
  If an arrangement is made between two or more clubs and a judge, each party involved must understand its responsibility to the judge and what assignment shall be performed at each event. All agreements between clubs are the responsibility of each club.

  Get a definite commitment from each judge for the total charges. Contracts should clearly define all expenses and fees. These arrangements must be in writing in the form of a signed contract.

  The club should keep accurate records of any verbal or written contracts with judges. If the club’s leadership changes, these records will help the new leadership to ensure that judges’ contracts are honored.

• **Cost Estimation**
  Total the cost for each judge. Consider lodging while at the event, transportation, out-of-pocket expenses such as meals, and the judge’s fee.

  Divide the total cost of all judges by the estimated number of dogs to get a per-dog cost.
Communications with Judges

When confirming judging assignments, certain procedures should be followed:

Contact the judge to ascertain initial availability, fees, and projected expenses. See the example Judging Availability Inquiry Letter in the Appendix. Telephone or e-mail contact is usually the quickest method.

Write promptly to the judges you have selected, enumerating the following, and request two copies of the judge’s contract, or submit two copies of the club contract to the judge. One copy of the contract should be signed and maintained in the club/judge file.

- Name of the club
- Name, address, and telephone/fax number(s) of the club and the contact person as well as a contact number of a committee member on site the day of the trial in case of an emergency. Emergency contact number should the judge need to contact club the day of the event.
- Date and location of the event, whether the event is indoors/outdoors, limited/open entry, ring size, footing, barriers/ring restrictions (if any), gate locations, etc.
- The airport the judge will be flying into and out of, if applicable.
- List the finalized judging assignments being submitted to the AKC. It is important that assignments be double-checked and listed correctly in the contract. If for any reason the judging assignment needs to be changed, the judge is to be advised and confirm their acceptance of this change in writing to the club. This is due to the fact the judge may not be able to use their own course designs and many judges will not judge other judges’ course designs. In addition, the club must notify the AKC of the judging assignment change and receive approval.
- Fee plus projected expenses. If sharing a judge with another club(s), it is important to state what percentage each club is responsible for. When referring to expenses, be as specific as possible, e.g. number of nights in a hotel, level of airline fare, and ground transportation.
- Notification of accommodations and hospitality arrangements. Include details such as directions to the event site, the name of the hotel/motel, directions to the hotel/motel; the hotel’s dining features, hotel telephone numbers, and hotel emergency number. Brochures provided by hotels or motels include most of the necessary information about the facilities.
  If this information is not available at the time the contract is prepared, or is not yet finalized, this information should be sent to judges at a minimum of 60 days prior to the event. A judge should be informed of any club policy that was stated in the premium list or any site restrictions.
- A date by which the judge must return the club copy of the written contract.

Inform the judges about the hospitality arrangements. See Sample Contract for AKC Agility Judges and Judging Checklist in the Appendix.
Two copies of the hospitality information should be sent to the judge with one copy retained by the judge and the other copy signed by the judge and returned to the club. A copy of the premium list **MUST** also be sent to the judge.

**Club’s Responsibility to the Judge**

All assignments **must** be promptly confirmed in writing. See the example *Judging Confirmation Letter* in the *Appendix*. The written confirmation should include the specific class(es). **No change in a judge’s assignment may be made unless the judge agrees to the change. All changes must be in writing.**

The club must provide the judge(s) with accurate ring and area dimensions along with an accurate equipment list and the ring surface.

If the club is making arrangements for the judge’s lodging, meals, and travel to and from the event site, include the data in the contract. The contract should specify which, if any, arrangements are the responsibility of the judge.

**Judge’s Responsibility to the Club**

- Judges should reply promptly when invited to judge.
- Judges **must** keep accurate records concerning dates and assignments.
- A judge who is uncertain if a conflict exists should check with the AKC’s Agility Department **before** accepting any assignment.
- A judge is responsible for contractual restrictions beyond the 30-day/200-mile limit.
- When accepting an invitation, judges should provide fee and total anticipated expenses, if requested.
- If a judge cannot fulfill an assignment, the club must be notified immediately. The club may contact the Agility Director or the judge’s assigned Agility Field Representative for assistance in replacing the judge of record. The contract with the club should list the expected expenses plus what is expected regarding the judging fee should a cancellation occur.
- A judge delayed in transit should make every effort to contact the trial chairman, trial secretary, or superintendent.
- Should either the cancellation of the judge of record or judge delayed in transit occur, the club is to notify the AKC. If the judge of record is changed, the club must offer the exhibitor the opportunity to request a refund before the trial begins.

**Judge Changes Prior to the Event**

- If the judge notifies the club ten or more days prior to the event, contact by mail (postcard) or email all who received a premium list.
- If the judge notifies the club less than ten days from the event, you must post a notice at the event and provide a refund for any entry affected.

**When a judge signs a contract provided by the club, the judge and the club are responsible for abiding by its condition.**
CHAPTER 7 – SCHEDULING JUDGING

Setting up the Schedule

Following the closing date, the trial secretary must promptly contact all entrants and advise them of their entry status. A confirmation with a judging schedule and the results of the random drawing of running order with assigned running order numbers shall be sent to handlers as soon as possible after entries have closed and at a minimum of seven (7) days prior to the event. See the Sample Judging Schedule in the Appendix.

Trial secretaries must include the following phrase on the confirmation notification: “Preliminary running order contingent on move-up entries not yet received.” A copy of the judging schedule shall also be mailed to the judge(s). Non-required information may be included in the judging schedule as a courtesy to the judges and exhibitors.

Starting Time for Judging

An official starting time must be announced in the premium and the confirmation. The start time of an event may vary depending on circumstances. Events may begin early to accommodate very large entries, or later when the number of entries is smaller. The premium must list the trial hours in general, i.e. trial hours 6:00 AM to 6:00 PM. The judging schedule will list the judge’s briefing, course walkthrough times, and start of judging. It is not recommended that the judging schedule be listed in the premium, as it must be adhered to and the entry numbers could justify a change in judging order. Also, the trial secretary must communicate with the judge regarding the judging schedule for course walkthroughs and conflict policies, if they are to be listed.

The event should end as early as possible because exhibitors and judges like to travel to the next event or to start home at a reasonable hour. Most events should be scheduled to end by 5:00 p.m. Expedite judging by using a separate area for photographs. For outdoor events, ensure that judging will be completed before sunset. Should a Bench Committee Hearing action occur, this also needs to be held during event hours.

Scheduling procedures that can help conclude an event earlier are:

- Schedule an early start time for judging.
- Utilize additional rings and additional judges if possible.
- Stagger the ring starting time by fifteen minutes in the morning to help ring crews and exhibitors.

Scheduling Rings

Assigned rings must be large enough to accommodate the minimum useable course area for the class level competing in the ring. (Novice 5,000 sq. ft.; Open 6,500 sq. ft.; Excellent 8,000 sq. ft. with a minimum 60 ft width for all levels.)

Clubs may find that a trial will move faster if all the Standard classes are offered in one ring to avoid the transfer of contact equipment from one ring to another.
It is highly recommended that the Preferred classes be run concurrently with the Regular classes to minimize exhibitor walkthroughs, judge’s briefings, and jump height changes.

The following times may be used as a guide for setting up the judging schedule:

- Allow 1½ minutes per dog per Standard run, 1 minute per dog per Jumpers with Weaves run, 1 minute per dog per FAST run, 1 minute per dog per T2B run, and 1 minute per dog per Premier run.
- Allow 20 minutes for course changes, which includes adjustments and wheeling by the judge.
- Allow 10 minutes for the judge’s briefing.
- Allow 8-10 minutes per group for walkthroughs; plus 5 minutes to 1st dog.

See the Sample Judging Schedule in the Appendix.

Judging Changes

A club may need to make a change in its judging panel after the premium list has been distributed and entries have closed. If the club knows any time prior to ten days before the first day of its event that an advertised judge will be unable to fulfill their assignment for any reason, a substitute judge must be hired and approved by the AKC. Notification of the change must be included in the confirmation. Exhibitors affected by the judge change may withdraw their entries and receive a refund.

Once the judging panel is approved by AKC Event Operations and is printed in the premium list, that panel is set and cannot be changed. Class assignments cannot be changed. The only exceptions would be those outlined in the various publications—illness, emergency, etc. Rules Applying to Dog Shows, Chapter 7, Sections 8 – 13, lists parameters for how exhibitors are to be notified and describe timelines for these notifications. But, in all cases, the changes must be approved by AKC Event Operations unless the offices are closed.

For overloads, the club must either reassign classes to another judge that is already on the panel ("load balancing") or hire another judge to cover the overload. In either case, the change must affect the smallest number of entries possible and must also be approved by AKC Event Operations before being distributed in the judging schedule/entry confirmations. For example, a club has a trial limit of 700 runs and hires two judges. One judge draws 400 entries and one judge draws 100 entries. The judge with 400 entries is over their daily limit of 350 dogs and must have 50 dogs taken away or as close to 50 dogs as possible (but no less than 50). This may involve splitting judging assignments in the classes into jump heights so that the number can be as close to 50 as possible to get them down to the maximum 350 dog limit. This will result in one judge doing 350 entries and the other doing 150 entries. A club may NOT take away more than 50 (or slightly more than 50, depending on how the class divisions total) in order to have both judges judging the same number of dogs.

With the written permission of the judge, the club may choose to leave an overload of up to 20 runs with the judge they were originally entered under. This does not allow the
Club to go over the total trial entry limits; it is only for load balancing between judges once entries have closed.

When a club contacts AKC Event Operations regarding overloads, the club must be prepared to provide the complete entry numbers for all classes being judged by the affected judges both before any changes are made and after the proposed changes. Overloads can only be handled after entries close and final class totals are calculated, but they must be handled before any judging schedules are mailed. No publication of judge changes is allowed until the new assignments are approved by AKC Event Operations.

Clubs are allowed to remove judge(s) from the judging panel if entries are low and BOTH the club and the judge(s) agree to this action in writing. Remember the judging schedule must clearly state which classes have been changed and must also state that exhibitors are entitled to a full refund for entries affected by the change. The refund request must be in writing and may be submitted to the Trial Secretary anytime up until 30 minutes prior to the start of the event on the first day in which the exhibitor is entered.

**Emergency Judge Change - Judging Schedule Already Mailed**

When the trial secretary or superintendent named in the premium list has received notice of a judging change prior to the opening day of the event but after printing and distributing the confirmation, the club must allow exhibitors to withdraw their entry (with a complete refund), up to one half-hour prior to the scheduled start of any judging at the event. AKC must approve any change to a judge’s assignment after the premium list has been distributed and notification must be redistributed. Should an additional judge be required for an unlimited trial, the AKC must approve this addition and exhibitors must be notified.

While it may not be possible to notify affected exhibitors of an emergency change of judge prior to the event, a notice of the change must be posted at the event. The exhibitor must withdraw any time prior to the start of judging of the affected class if requesting a refund.

In an instance where a judge has to be replaced prior to 24 hours before the trial, the new judge cannot accept the assignment if it is within 200 miles and 30 days of another accepted assignment (except in the case of single-breed specialty events to an all-breed event). This applies whether the conflicting assignment is before or after the emergency situation. Additionally, the replacement judge (or their dog) cannot compete in any AKC competition on the same day they are judging at the same site.

Questions about judging panels or judge changes are handled by Event Operations by contacting the individual representatives or by calling the main number at (919) 816-3725. All change requests must be handled in writing, but by calling the main number a club can get an email address where a change can be sent.
Day of Show – Emergency Judge Change

The procedure for replacing a judge at a trial (or w/in 24 hours of the trial start time) due to illness or weather related travel is as follows:

- Once a judge is no longer able to judge, the trial chairman shall ask those exhibiting (or residing in the near proximity) to be a replacement judge based on the following hierarchy:
  - Any fully approved judge(s)
  - Any provisional judge(s)
  - The most experienced exhibitor present
- At the time the replacement judge starts judging, he/she becomes a judge of record and can no longer exhibit that day, nor can any of their household members, family members, or co-owned dogs. However, all qualifying scores earned prior to their starting judging are retained. Any licensed judge in attendance has a professional obligation to step up and become a judge of record in this instance.
- Any replacement judge remains bound by the AKC Agility Guidelines and the Regulations for Agility Trials. Approved course designs should be transferred from the approved judge to the substitute judge, if possible, for their use. If they cannot be transferred, a Field Rep can assign any courses needed.
- The 30 day, 200 mile conflict rule is NOT in affect during this emergency circumstance.
- Exhibitors are entitled to a full refund of entry fees provided the request for a refund is submitted in writing to the Trial Secretary prior to the start of judging of the affected class in which the dog is entered.

AKC needs to be notified of any judge change:
- Call 919-816-3579 during AKC business hours
- Call AKC Weekend Club Hotline at 919-816-3955 outside of AKC business hours.
- Send an email to jamie.gregory@akc.org advising of this judge change

Event Information

The following information must be included in the confirmation sent to exhibitors:
- Name of club
- Emergency telephone number available during the event hours (Can be a cell phone if necessary)
- Whether the event will be held indoors or outdoors
- Trial hours
- Judging hours
- Check-in hours
- Directions to the trial site
- Details about special attractions approved by the AKC
• The date or dates of the event, its exact location (complete address, including street number/name, city, state, zip code), and the time of the event’s opening and closing - should be the same as listed in the premium
• Quantity of dogs in each of the heights within the classes.

Trial secretaries may also publish a full running order that includes catalog number, the dog’s call name, breed of dog, along with handler and/or owner. This may be done by e-mail.

Ring Assignments

Ring assignment(s) for each judge shall include:

• Ring number or name, i.e. Standard Ring, Jumper Ring
• Time scheduled for check-in, briefing, and judging of the first class of the day in each ring
• Number of entries per class, per jump height

Directions

Not all exhibitors make their entries from the premium list or are from the local area, and it may be their first time to the site, so this information is very important in the judging schedule. Accurate written directions, including mileage from one turn to another and alternate routes, should be clearly stated. A map that identifies roads to the event can supplement the written directions and is recommended. Advise exhibitors of roadwork, unusual traffic conditions, etc. Routes should be checked by the event-giving club for accuracy.

Directions that may be helpful:

• To and from the airport
• To another AKC event immediately following the club’s event
• To and from suggested hotels
• To emergency service locations and to the veterinarian’s office.

Event Site Layout

Include a simple site layout, especially if the site is large or spread out. This can help to direct exhibitors to their correct rings, food, water, restrooms, etc.

Notify exhibitors of the specified time when they can enter the site. Allow at least one to two hours between the time when exhibitors can enter the event site and the time that judging begins. This allows time for exhibitors to arrive, unload, set-up, and prepare their dogs for the ring.

Overnight Parking Information

Include whether or not overnight parking will be permitted, cost, arrival time, parking restrictions, alternate locations, etc.
Material Mailed with the Judging Schedule (Confirmation)

The following information must be included regarding the veterinarian that will be on-site or on-call for the event:

- Name of veterinarian and/or emergency clinic
- Complete address (street number and name, city, state, and zip)
- Phone number
- Directions to location. (map is helpful)
- Hours of operation

Additional items that a club may mail with the judging schedule include:

- Admission tickets/parking passes windshield stickers for special parking or unloading areas limited to exhibitors
- Notices of special attractions approved by the AKC
- Notices of pre-trial or post-trial activities sponsored by the club
- Notice of whether or not an Agility Field Representative or VMO will be available to measure for jump height cards and what time(s) will be offered
- Armbands or stickers indicating the exhibitor’s dog’s running order number for the trial; if provided and required by the club.
CHAPTER 8 - ADDITIONAL CLASSES AND SPECIAL ATTRACTIONS APPROVAL

Policy Procedure for Classes Offered at AKC Agility Trials

A licensed or member agility trial need not include all the regular agility classes defined in the Regulations for Agility Trials, but a club will not be approved to hold the Open Standard/Jumpers with Weaves/FAST classes unless it also holds Novice Standard/Jumpers with Weaves/FAST classes. A club will not be approved to hold Excellent/Master/Premier Standard/Jumpers with Weaves/FAST classes unless it also holds the Open Standard/Jumpers with Weaves/FAST classes. If a club has been approved to hold a Special Event Trial, the above limitation on how classes may be offered does not apply for the approved Special Event.

Standard or Jumpers with Weaves Only Classes

Clubs are eligible to hold an all Standard class trial or an all Jumpers with Weaves class trial. A club may be approved to hold an Excellent/Master/Premier Standard and/or Excellent/Master/Premier Jumpers with Weaves only trial on the day preceding, or the day after a minimum of a two-day trial in which all levels of agility classes are offered. The club may offer the FAST class and the T2B class in conjunction with either of these trials.

Excellent/Master/Premier Only Classes

A club may be approved to hold an Excellent/Master/Premier Standard and Jumpers with Weaves only trial (including FAST, T2B, and/or the non-regular International Sweepstakes (ISC) class) on the day preceding or the day following a minimum of a two-day trial in which all levels of agility classes are offered.

International Sweepstakes Classes

A licensed or member agility club may hold the non-regular class of International Sweepstakes, Standard or Jumpers with Weaves, in conjunction with the regular classes.

Optional Non-Regular Classes

Any licensed or member club that has been approved to hold an agility trial may offer additional optional non-regular classes. The non-regular class must be submitted on a “Non-Regular Agility Class” (AEAGL4) application and approved by the AKC. If a non-regular class is one that is not defined in the Agility Regulations, a clear and complete description of both the eligibility and performance requirements must appear in the premium list.

Special Event Trial

Clubs may apply for two Special Event Trials per year. A Special Event Trial is where the club proposes a unique mix of regular AKC classes and/or non-regular classes or a unique eligibility criterion. A club may not change the other Regulations pertaining to regular
classes including the equipment regulations. Special Event Trials must be open to all breeds including All-American dogs except at specialty events open to one breed. Regular/Preferred classes offered at Special Event Trials count toward titles. A Special Event Trail counts as one of the 12 events per year a club may offer.

The application for a Special Event trial cannot be done online. An Agility trial paper application along with a “Special Event Agility Trial” (AEAGL3) application must be submitted no later than eighteen (18) weeks prior to the trial. The Special Event Agility Trial form must be reviewed and approved by the AKC.

Junior Agility Showcase

A Junior Agility Showcase is one in which the host club proposes a unique mix of regular AKC classes and/or non-regular classes for Juniors only to enter. A club may not change the other Regulations pertaining to regular classes including the equipment regulations. Junior handlers entered in Junior Agility Showcase events will be permitted to have a mentor walk with them during the exhibitor walkthrough times. Junior Agility Showcases must be open to all breeds including All-American dogs except at specialty events open to one breed. Regular/Preferred classes offered at Junior Agility Showcases count toward titles. A Junior Agility Showcase does NOT count as one of the 12 events per year a club may offer.

The application for a Junior Agility Showcase cannot be done online. An Agility trial paper application along with a “Special Event Agility Trial” application must be submitted no later than eighteen (18) weeks prior to the event. The Special Event Trial form must be reviewed and approved by the AKC. There will be NO application fee required for the junior only events.

Sanctioned “A” or “B” Matches

Sanctioned “A” or “B” Matches may be held on a weekend of a licensed or member trial at the same trial site, if the club applies for and AKC approves the event, but will not be approved to be held during the same trial hours. This match may begin one half hour after Best in Show if held in conjunction with a conformation event or one half hour after all paperwork is completed for the trial.

Unsanctioned Events

No unsanctioned events, such as run-throughs, show-n-go’s, or practicing on the equipment at the trial site is allowed from 12AM on the day of an AKC sanctioned event and for at least 2-hours after the end of judging on the last day of the trial.
CHAPTER 9 – EVENT PUBLICATIONS

The Application

The application (see the Event Application and Judging Panel in Appendix) must be filled out in its entirety, including all judges’ names, method of entry, entry opening and closing information, and submittal of payment. Applications will not be approved if received after the specified deadline. While the Disaster and Emergency Plan does not need to accompany the application, one must be available and posted on site. (see the Disaster and Emergency Plan in Appendix)

Sanctioned “A” Agility Match

One way to obtain approval from the AKC to hold a licensed or member agility trial, is for a club to hold a Sanctioned “A” Match. Titles are not awarded, but it is held in the same manner as if they were to be awarded. A premium list and catalog are required for this match. The application for this Sanctioned “A” Match must be sent to the AKC office a minimum of six (6) weeks prior to the closing date of the proposed event. Include with the application a copy of the Constitution and By-laws of the club, the names of the officers and members of the club, marking those members with any agility experience, and enclosing the required fee to hold a Sanctioned “A” Match.

*Alternate approval process is through the “Mentored Club Program.”

Sanctioned “B” Agility Match

The application for a Sanctioned “B” Match must be sent to the AKC office a minimum of six (6) weeks prior to the closing date of the proposed event. Premium lists are not required for Sanctioned “B” Matches, but any flyer or hand bill should contain all of the information that a perspective exhibitor would require to enter the match. Entries may close any time prior to the match or on the day of the match. A catalog and marked results are not required.

Licensed or Member Agility Trials

Member or non-member clubs, which have been licensed by AKC to hold member or licensed agility trials, must complete the application to hold an agility trial and, along with the required fee, return it to the AKC in time to be received at least eighteen (18) weeks prior to the closing date of the trial. A club may be approved to hold up to twelve (12) licensed or member trials in one calendar year, and can be approved to hold separate trials on consecutive days, but will not be approved to hold more than one trial on any single day. (Exception is for a single Breed Specialty Trial) If a group is assisting in the staffing of a trial, they may not list “trial hosted by xx club,” as the host is the licensed club. The wording “staffed by xx club” would be appropriate.
Disaster and Emergency Plan

Be familiar with the AKC’s policy concerning emergency procedures at events. (See the Disaster and Emergency Plan in the Appendix)

Be knowledgeable of the local area and of local ordinances. In case of emergency, coordinate with trial chairman, parking chairman, and other committee chairs as necessary to help provide local authorities or emergency responders with clear entry and exit areas, crowd control, etc. Have at least one properly completed copy of the Disaster and Emergency Plan available and posted at the show site.

Veterinary Requirements

Every club that holds a Sanctioned “A” Match, licensed, or member event is required to engage one or more veterinarians licensed in the state where the event is held. The club has the option of having the veterinarian “on-call.” If the veterinarian is “on-call,” it is the club’s responsibility to see the veterinary service is readily available. Clubs must have available at the superintendent’s or trial secretary’s table, and should provide to the veterinarian if on-site, handouts giving the name, phone number, and directions for the nearest emergency clinic. If there is no emergency clinic in the area, give information for the most convenient veterinarian’s office. Clubs must verify the hours the clinic or office is open and include this in the handout.

The Premium List

The premium list is the official announcement of the club’s event and the document on which most exhibitors base their entries. It is the contract between a club and prospective exhibitors. The AKC has regulations and policies concerning what may and what may not appear in this document. The agility trial premium list must be not less than 5.5” X 8.5” nor more than 8.5” X 11”.

If you would like an electronic template as a guide to producing your premium, send your request to agilitypremiums@akc.org and one will be sent to you. Please state whether you would like “Random Draw” or “First Received” format.

Clubs holding back-to-back events or clustered events may use a combined premium list for all the events being held together, if they use the same superintendent or trial secretary.

The premium list must be made available by paper and/or electronically to prospective entrants a minimum of TWO (2) WEEKS prior to the opening date for acceptance of entries for the event.

Either four (4) paper copies of the premium list must be sent to AKC, Attention: Companion Events or the premium list may be submitted electronically by email attachment in either MS Word or PDF format to agilitypremiums@akc.org. Submittals to AKC must be sent at the same time the premium list becomes available to exhibitors.
Required Information for Premium Lists (Regulations for Agility Trials; Ch1. Sec. 9)

- The AKC's certification that permission has been granted for the club to hold the event, along with the current AKC logo.
- The words “Licensed Trial” when the event-giving club is not a member of the AKC and “held by an AKC member club” when it is. (A match must state: “Sanctioned by the American Kennel Club” and must state: “Scores awarded at Sanctioned Matches do not count as credit toward any agility titles.”
- The complete name of the approved club. (not a cluster’s name)
- Whether the event will be held indoors, outdoors, or outdoors under cover.
- The ring surface and exact ring dimensions.
- Trial hours.
- Event number.
- The date or dates of the event, its exact location (complete address, city, state, zip code), and the time and date of the event’s opening and closing.
- List of the officers of the event-giving club as well as the complete address of the corresponding secretary.
- Names of the Event Committee members (minimum of 5 members of the club, excluding the trial secretary if not a member).
- Name, address, and telephone number of the Agility Trial Chairman.
- Name, complete address, and phone number of the AKC-approved superintendent or trial secretary. (An email address is highly recommended and a fax# is optional.)
- Name, address, and assignment of each judge.
- It is recommended that any known breed specific regulation(s) for the city/county/state in which the trial is being held are listed.
- Notice as follows: “Exhibitors should follow their veterinarian’s recommendation to assure their dogs are free of internal and external parasites, any communicable diseases, and have appropriate vaccinations.” Additionally, clubs should include any specific local or state health requirements; for example, proof of rabies vaccination.
- Notice that the club may cancel the event in extreme weather conditions.
- What classes will be offered, descriptions are optional.
- Entry fees and a statement that the event-giving club will collect the recording fees (amount specified) for the AKC. This statement must appear in the premium as well as on the entry form.
- Whether online entries will be accepted; if so, the club must select only one (1) service provider, and the name and address of the chosen service must be stated in the premium.
- Method of entry
  - Limited trial – First Received or Random Draw
    - Total number of runs allowed per judge and for the entire trial listed on title page;
    - Opening and closing dates and times (The closing date shall not be less than 14 days prior to the trial.)
• If Random Draw, list the date, time, and location of the draw.
• If First Received, this statement must be included: “Paper entries received within the first 24 hours must include postage or be metered. Entries must be delivered by multi-state or multi-national postal or carrier service, including but not limited to USPS, FedEx, UPS, and DHL.” A club may further restrict the delivery options (i.e. no FedEx, no hand-deliveries at any time, etc.) if stated in the premium.
• If online entries are accepted, the club shall designate a percentage of the “total entry limit” to be fulfilled by paper entries and a percentage to be fulfilled by online entries. These limits are valid for the first 48 hours after the opening date, after which time the club may decrease or increase either limit accordingly.
• Unlimited trial
  • Opening date
  • Closing date – shall not be less than 14 days prior to the trial
  • State whether online entries will be accepted
• An official AKC Agility Entry Form, both sides must be submitted (see Appendix).
• Maximum of ten (10) dogs may be submitted per envelope for limited trials statement. This maximum also applies to the number of dogs entered in an online transaction.
• A statement regarding the eligibility of dogs able to enter the event. “All dogs 15-months of age or older that are registered with the AKC, or have a limited registration, or are of a registerable breed that have obtained a PAL, or ILP number from AKC, except bitches in season, aggressive dogs, blind dogs, or dogs suffering from any deformity, injury or illness which may affect the dog’s physical or mental performance are eligible to compete.” Mixed-breed dogs that have been listed with the AKC Canine Partners may participate (if offered) provided their listing number has been recorded on the entry form.”
• Restrictions on the presence of unentered dogs if any; no puppies under the age of 4 months.
• Specify whether ribbons or rosettes will be offered, and whether trophies will be awarded. A list of prizes and trophies with accurate description of prizes, or the amount of monetary prizes must be included. (When a condensed premium list is used, include a notice that a list of prizes and trophies can be obtained from the superintendent or trial secretary.) This includes Sanctioned “A” Matches.
• Refunds for bitches in season must be offered and listed in the premium. Clubs must specify in the premium an exact amount and description of any processing fee that will be deducted from refunds. Clubs must also list all other situations for which they will provide a refund.
• A list of mandatory obstacles may be included. If listed, all mandatory obstacles shall be listed or the statement of: “Obstacles will conform to current requirements of the Regulations for Agility Trials” may be used instead.
• Listing of each agility class, jump heights, and the corresponding dog height range for each.
• Jump height cards are no longer required to be submitted with the entry form. If the dog needs to be measured, it is the handler’s responsibility to ensure that the box on
the entry form is checked indicating that the dog needs to be measured prior to running.

- Statement of day-to-day move-up policy. (See Chapter 1, Section 20, of Regulations for Agility Trials.) A sample move-up form is in the Appendix.
- A list of hotels, motels, and campgrounds, including complete addresses and zip codes, which may be available near the show site.
- General instructions and/or a map to the show site, including the complete street address and zip code.
- If club is offering a wait list, it must be stated in the premium along with how many entries are being accepted on the wait list and the closing date/time of the wait list. A full refund is to be reimbursed to any entrant whose entry is replaced by a wait-listed entry. (See Regulations for Agility Trials, Chapter 1, Section 16.)
- Details of special attractions approved by the AKC, if any. Not allowed at Sanctioned A Matches.
- Any additional rules, regulations, or restrictions made by the club, such as the following statement if the club chooses to opt-out of arbitration “This club does not agree to arbitrate claims as set forth on the official AKC entry form for this event.”

Judging Schedule

The judging schedule (see sample in the Appendix) shall be sent to the exhibitors as soon as possible after entries have closed and at a minimum of SEVEN (7) DAYS prior to the event. Trial secretaries shall include the following phrase on the notification: “This is a preliminary judging schedule which is contingent upon the move-up entries that may not have been received yet.” Included in the judging schedule will be the quantity of dogs in each of the heights within the classes. Trial secretaries may also publish a full running order that includes catalog number, the dog’s call name, breed of dog, along with handler and/or owner. This may be done using email. The judging schedule shall also be sent to the judge(s). The posting of a judging schedule may also appear on the club’s or trial secretaries’ website.

The AKC must approve any changes that are made to the information previously published in the premium. These changes can include changes in judging, show location, number of rings, or classes offered. When these changes are made, every effort to make them more noticeable in the judging schedule is helpful to exhibitors. The judging schedule should state that the AKC approved the change. When changes are made in the judging panel or site location, the exhibitors may receive a refund for the affected class if requested a minimum of one half-hour before the start of the trial.
Below is a sample of the information that should be included in the letter to the exhibitor in addition to the information shown above. The items that are underlined should be decided by the club.

**Date**

**First, Last Name**  
**Address**  
**City, State Zip**

**Dear Exhibitor,**

*This is your confirmation for the (Name of Club) Agility trial on (Event Date). Check-in will begin at (time of day) each day. The running order will be (tall to small dogs on (Day 1)), and (small to tall dogs on (Day 2)). Exhibitors should plan on arriving before the scheduled time for measuring of dogs, if they do not have a valid AKC official jump height card.*

If an AKC Agility Executive Field Representative or a Volunteer Measuring Official will be present at the trial and has provided the club with a schedule of measuring times, please include this in the judging schedule.

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**The Catalog**

An official catalog must be prepared once entries have closed and armband numbers have been randomly assigned.

- The catalog must list the dogs in the order drawn in each class along with the full AKC name, AKC number, breed, date of birth, sex, name of owner (and handler if different) and if the dog is handled by a junior handler include their AKC Junior Handler number.

- The catalog must state the name of the trial-giving club, the date and exact location of the event, and whether the event is “licensed by the American Kennel Club,” or held by an “AKC member club.”

- The catalog shall measure not less than 5.5” x 8.5”, and not exceed 8.5” x 11” and must have the current AKC logo on the front cover along with the statement; “This show is held under American Kennel Club rules.”

- Regardless of the running order, the Agility catalogs must have classes listed in the following order:
  - Standard classes – Novice A/B; Open; Excellent; Master; Premier
  - Standard preferred classes – Novice; Open; Excellent; Master; Premier
  - JWW classes – Novice A/B; Open; Excellent; Master; Premier
  - JWW preferred classes – Novice; Open; Excellent; Master; Premier
  - Time 2 Beat
  - Time 2 Beat preferred
  - Fast classes – Novice A/B; Open; Excellent; Master
  - Fast preferred classes – Novice; Open; Excellent; Master
Within each title track the height divisions must be arranged from low to high.

- If ISC is offered, it is listed
  - ISC Standard - 4", 8", 12", 16", 20", 24"
  - ISC JWW - 4", 8", 12", 16", 20", 24"

- Course yardage and standard course time (SCT) should be recorded for each required class. It is helpful if the SCT/Distance information is listed at each jump height within the class.

- Additionally, the following information is required: placements, armband numbers, score (except T2B). Time (in hundredths of a second) should only be listed if the dog qualified. The word “Qualified” or “Q” should appear beside the dog’s information if appropriate. The placement number, if any, must be indicated in the left-hand margin beside the dog’s information.

- The Judge’s Certification and the Agility Trial Secretary’s Certification must be included in the catalog in its entirety and may not be truncated in any way.

An exhibitor catalog can contain information for each trial of a 2 or more-trial weekend; however, a separate marked catalog results for each trial is required for submission to the American Kennel Club. For a 2-day trial, AKC should receive 2 catalogs, one for each day. The front of each submitted catalog should be labeled as to which day the catalog is marked for, e.g. “Saturday” or “Sunday”.

A minimum of two (2) copies of an unmarked catalog must be printed unless the club has the ability to make copies on-site and/or has redundant computer equipment on-site, then the minimum is reduced to one (1) copy. The printed catalog(s) must be updated daily to account for day-to-day move-ups if the trial weekend encompasses three (3) or more consecutive days. The unmarked catalog(s) must be at the event prior to the start of the trial. A catalog must be made available to any exhibitor that requests one. This can be done electronically or printed (for a fee if the club chooses to charge).

At agility trials, it is beneficial to the gate steward to include the call name and breed of the dog on the gate sheets and running orders.

The classes and heights may be run in a different order from the catalog, but the catalog is to be listed as directed to facilitate data entry. You must run the dogs in the order that is published in your judging schedule. Remember, it is fine to start with any jump height and run dogs in any jump height order as long as you follow the published judging schedule.

The judge must receive a copy of the marked catalog prior to leaving the trial site daily. This can be done electronically or printed. The club shall retain for their records a copy of a marked catalog for a period of at least one (1) year.
THE MARKED CATALOG THAT IS SENT INTO AKC SHOULD BE AS FOLLOWS:

**Q** or QUALIFIED: Written out – Time (to the hundredths of a second) and score (except for T2B).

**N.Q.** or NOT QUALIFIED: No time or score should be written in.

**ABS OR ABSENT**

**AIS** – withdrawn due to bitch in season

**AJC** – withdrawn due to judge change

These are the only five (5) words to be listed in the marked, official catalog (unless a dog is excused or disqualified).

IN ADDITION: The placements can be marked following each class, BUT you must also:

1. Mark 1st through 4th alongside the placement dogs as listed in the catalog. (Except T2B which only lists 1st place)
2. List the Standard Course Time (SCT) and Course Yardage (except Premier and T2B) for each class.
3. Put the number of dogs entered in the class at the top of each height division and circle it (or fill in the appropriate space supplied)

Novice B – Standard Class 20 Height Division

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th># Entered</th>
<th># Competing</th>
<th># Qualified</th>
<th># Withdrawn</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Course Distance: ____141______ yards  Course Time: _____68______ seconds

**2015**
Score:  ___100___       Time:  ___45.45___
BRIGHT EYE DRAGONFIRE, Registration #, Cocker Spaniel, 8/26/96. Dog, Breeder: Deborah Hotze. Owner: Louise Witzel, address. Handler if different from owner.

**1st**

**2016**
Score:  ___100___       Time:  ___50.48___

**2nd**

**2017**
Score:  ___AIS___       Time:  __________

**2018**
Score:  ___NQ___       Time:  __________
BABY BLUE, Registration #, Australian Shepherd, 2/19/99. Dog, Breeder: H. Oliver Owner: Sean Spice, address. Handler if different from owner.

First 2015  Second 2016  Third  Fourth

The First; Second; Third; Fourth listing above is recommended but not required.

*For Sanctioned “B” Agility Matches, no exhibitor catalogs are required. Three complete catalogs must be created and marked according to the previous instructions for a Sanctioned “A” Match. The club should retain a copy. The judge should receive a copy. One copy must be sent to the AKC so the record-keeping and success of the match can be evaluated.*
CHAPTER 10 - REQUIRED ITEMS FOR THE AGILITY DEPARTMENT

Deadlines

All paperwork should be submitted at the earliest possible date so that the event will receive maximum advertising exposure in the AKC’s Events Calendar and website, and so that problems can be resolved well before the event. Checking the AKC website listing for accuracy is recommended.

Mail, email or fax the items to the AKC’s Agility Department.

Before the Event

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Deadline</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not later than 18 weeks prior to the event’s closing date</td>
<td>Submit the Application for Trial. An application may be denied if not received within this minimum time period.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Submit the Disaster and Emergency Plan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Submit the Judges’ Panel. Applications will not be approved without the Judges’ Panel included.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not later than 2 weeks prior to the opening date</td>
<td>Send the Premium List to exhibitors and judges.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Either (4) four paper copies of the premium list must be sent to AKC, Attention: Companion Events or the premium list may be submitted electronically by email attachment in either MS Word or PDF format to <a href="mailto:agilitypremiums@akc.org">agilitypremiums@akc.org</a>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not later than 1 week (7 days) prior to the event date</td>
<td>Mail the Judging Schedule to the exhibitors and judge(s) of record. It is recommended that the judging schedule be mailed to an Agility Rep. or VMO if attending.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Special Attractions form, if any, must accompany the Application for Trial.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>If an agility trial is held on the same site in conjunction with an existing AKC venue, a Host Club Letter must be obtained from the local club where the event is being held. This must be submitted with the Application for Trial.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Submit a current Officers/Membership List (annually for all clubs).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

On-Line Event Management

This system allows clubs to enter Event Applications, Judges Panels and Disaster and Emergency Plans on-line, including last minute edits, if necessary. The Online Event Management Tool can be found on the AKC website by logging in using the club information at https://www.akc.org/eventplans.

The AKC will assign each club a unique account ID and password to access the Online Management System. To obtain an ID and password, a club officer must contact the AKC by e-mail. The e-mail address is:

Agility, Obedience/Rally, Tracking........................................... eventplans@akc.org
Each club will be given only one account ID and password; the information will be
given only to a club officer. The ID and password can then be shared with the various
event chairpersons, allowing them to manage their specific event on-line.

Once logged in, three choices will become available:

1. Manage Event – used to submit the application for the trial date.
2. Submitting a Judging Panel
3. Submit additional information for an event.

The Online Event Management Tool was created to reduce time and paperwork
involved for processing an application. Although this tool allows for the application
and judge’s panel to be done online, clubs must still complete and submit a paper copy
of the Special Attraction Application and Common Site Application (if applicable).

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After the Event

The Marked Catalog, the Trial Secretary’s/Superintendent’s Report, and the
Recording Fee must reach the AKC’s Event Operations department within seven (7)
calendar days of the licensed or member club trial.

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Event Operations Department Approval

Clubs should be aware of the policies and procedures concerning the approval of trial
dates. Direct all inquiries to the Event Operations department.

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Corresponding Dates

The AKC uses a system of corresponding dates based on show weekends of the year.
The AKC considers the first show weekend of the year the first week in which neither
January 1st nor 2nd falls on a Saturday or Sunday. Once the first show weekend for the
year has been established, all other show weekends follow in order.

Once a club holds an event, the club owns an established corresponding date, which
is protected for subsequent years unless the club fails to hold an event in a given year
or changes its event date. Within the club’s specified territory, no other club will be
approved for an event offering the same competition types on that corresponding date
without that club’s express permission. If a club fails to hold an event within its
territory for two consecutive years, it loses its exclusive rights to that territory.

The Corresponding Date Table can be found on the AKC website
http://images.akc.org/pdf/Corres_Date_Table.pdf (in downloadable forms) and is
included in the Appendix of this manual.

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Opening/Closing Dates

All events must have an entry opening and closing date. For all trials, the specified
closing date and time must be determined as outlined in the Regulations for Agility
Trials, Chapter 1, Section 14.
Number of Events

A club may be approved to hold up to twelve (12) licensed or member agility trials in a calendar year. A club can be approved to hold separate trials on consecutive days. Each day is considered a separate trial. A club shall not be approved to hold more than one trial on any single day except in the case of a specialty club offering a single breed specialty trial in conjunction with their all-breed trial or offering two single breed specialties on the same day per Regulations for Agility Trials, Chapter 1, Section 2.

Clubs licensed to hold agility in Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and geographically isolated clubs may hold up to fifteen (15) licensed or member events in a calendar year. Geographically isolated clubs will be determined by the club’s trial site being greater than 150 driving miles from the nearest trial site of another club that has held events within the past 18 months. Google Maps will be used to consider the driving distance from trial site to trial site.

Club Territory

The AKC’s Club Relations department establishes club territories and geographic areas.

A club should try to hold its events within its geographic area. Before a club makes any commitment for a site not previously used, the AKC’s Agility Department must be contacted to verify that the site can be approved.

A club seeking the AKC’s permission to hold an event within the territory of another club that holds the same type of event must obtain written permission from that local club and include it with the event application.

Site Layouts

Before approving a site, the Companion Events department reviews the event layout to determine the suitability and optimum use of the site. The Companion Events department may impose entry limits if the site layout shows that the site has limited space or on the recommendation of the AKC Executive Field Representative.

If the site is new or if the club is making changes from its previous event, a layout must be submitted with the event application.

If a club is using a site not previously approved by AKC, the club must submit a Site Evaluation form (see Appendix), including a diagram of the site. This diagram should include the running surface, obstructions, ring size, and any other elements that could affect course design such as low trees, overhanging furnaces, or drains. Additionally, all items identified on the Site Evaluation form must be drawn on the site diagram.

There are minimum square footage requirements for Novice, Open, and Excellent/Master level classes that must be met. See Regulations for Agility Trials, Chapter 4, Section 1.
Submission of Records

The Event Operations department processes and posts all agility event results and AKC titles. Clubs must submit the following in time to reach the Event Operations department within seven (7) days after the conclusion of the event:

- A marked catalog for each day
- An Agility Trial Report – to be completed by the trial secretary/superintendent
- The recording fee

Additionally, an Agility Trial Report (see Appendix) is to be completed by the trial chairman and submitted to the AKC Agility Director. Any questions concerning previously submitted records should be directed to the Event Operations department (919-816-3725).

Materials Required at the Event

Entry Forms

The original entry forms and any move-up requests attached must be on-site at the event. If online entries were accepted, a hard copy of each entry or a closing report with all entry data must be available on-site.

Scribe Sheets

The AKC does not supply scribe sheets with the other materials mailed to the club at approval. These may be downloaded by the club from the AKC website, www.akc.org, or ordered and received by mail. Clubs may print their own scribe sheets following the AKC format. On the scribe sheets, a dog’s information may be typed or printed, or stickers applied, may be prepared on any type and color of presentable paper stock, and may be in NCR, double, triple or quadruplicate. Examples can also be found in the Appendix.

Ribbons and Badges

All ribbons and rosettes must conform to the AKC’s requirements. Ribbons and badges may be purchased from most local ribbon companies or from superintendents. See the requirements in the Regulations for Agility Trials, Chapter 1, Section 24.

Forms and Other Paper Items

Armbands, if used instead of stickers, blank entry forms, directional arrows and posters may be obtained from many of the large dog food companies or purchased from superintendents. Course Time Worksheets and entry forms may also be downloaded from the AKC website, www.akc.org, or can be found in the Appendix of this manual.
Measuring Device

It is required that all clubs must have an official measuring device at every AKC agility trial. This device will be used by Agility Field Representatives, Volunteer Measuring Officials (VMO’s), or the judge of record at the event. The information on official measuring devices is available on the AKC website, www.akc.org. Only the AKC approved measuring devices listed on the AKC website may be used to measure dogs at AKC agility trials.

Mats

A club that needs mats for its rings should contact other clubs in its area to determine where mats can be rented or obtained. Clubs may contact the superintendent to see if they provide mats.

Tenting

Clubs must provide some type of adequate shade at sites that do not have a reasonable amount of protection from the heat. Remember to check with site management for permission and placement of tents. Local townships may require permits for tenting.

Clubs may secure tenting through the show superintendent or from a rental company.

Ring Enclosures

Material to clearly define rings must be provided. A variety of items may be used, such as ring gates, ropes, plastic fencing, etc.

Publications

Copies of the following publications/forms are required to be on-site at the event:

- Regulations For Agility Trials
- AKC Agility Judges Guidelines
- Rules Applying to Dog Shows
- Rules Applying to Registration and Discipline
- Dealing with Misconduct
- Agility Trial Manual
- Emergency veterinary directions
- Disaster & Emergency Plan
- “Disqualification for Attacking” form
- “Dog on Dog Attack” form
- Exhibitor entry forms
- Jr. Handler Certification forms
- Checklist for Misconduct Hearing
- Judging schedule on confirmations
- Premium
- Catalogs
Publications may be ordered from the Order Desk at (919) 816-7118 or by visiting www.akc.org/store/projects/index.fm. The Agility Trial Checklist is in the Appendix.
CHAPTER 11- AGILITY ENTRIES

Each entry in a licensed or member club trial must be made on an official American Kennel Club Entry Form (See Appendix). Each entry form must be completed in full and must be signed by the owner or his agent duly authorized to make the entry. The information given on the form must be that which applies to the entered dog. The agreement on the reverse side must be included.

A trial-giving club may impose a numerical limit on entries in any or all trial classes. If entry limits are used, it is recommended that a “total entry limit” be used, stating a total number of runs allowed per judge and for the entire trial. Individual judging limits shall be 350 runs maximum per day without regard to class level or type (Standard, JWW, T2B, FAST or Premier classes). If entries are limited, the numerical limitation(s) must be stated on the cover of the premium list.

For all trials, clubs shall set a date and time that entries will first be accepted. Entries received prior to the opening date and time shall be considered invalid entries and shall be returned as soon as possible.

Clubs are required to accept properly completed paper entries but are not required to accept online entries. If a club elects to accept online entries, it must select only one (1) online entries service provider. The name and address of the chosen service must be stated in the premium list.

An Event Committee may decline any entry or may remove any dog from its event for cause, but in each such instance shall file good and sufficient reasons for doing so with the American Kennel Club (Regulations for Agility Trials, Chapter 1, Section 22).

Clubs shall set a date and time that entries will close. Entries must be received prior to the closing date and time published. Entries for an agility trial may be accepted until the official closing date and time, even though the advertised limit has been reached, for the purpose of an alternate (waiting) list. Should an entry/entries be pulled/cancelled prior to the closing date and time, the next entry/entries on the alternate (waiting) list would gain entry to the event for the number of runs available. The club may contact exhibitors to notify them of their entry status prior to the closing date. Following the closing date, the Trial Secretary shall promptly contact all entrants and advise them of their status.

For limited trials, entries for a maximum of ten (10) dogs are allowed in each envelope submitted to the Trial Secretary. This maximum also applies to the number of dogs entered per online transaction. Envelopes/transactions containing entries for more than the ten (10) dog maximum shall be treated as an invalid entry and shall be returned to the sender.

Entry Acceptance Methods

A club may choose either of the following methods for accepting entries to a limited entry agility trial:

First Received – Entries accepted in order of receipt.
• A club accepting online entries shall designate a number of the “total entry limit” to be fulfilled by paper entries and a number to be fulfilled by online entries. These “initial limits” must be stated in the premium list.

• The initial paper and online entry limits are valid for the first 48 hours after the opening date.

• If the online limit has not been reached at the end of the 48-hour time period, the club may decrease the online entry limit and increase the paper limit accordingly. Likewise, if paper entries are not reached at the end of the period, the club may decrease the paper limit and increase the online limit accordingly.

• The club must select only one (1) USPS or Postal Mail Box address for receipt of paper entries.

• The mailing address must be stated in the premium and entries delivered to any other address are invalid and must be returned to sender.

• Paper entries received within 24 hours of the opening date and time must:
 ➢ Include postage or be metered
 ➢ Be delivered by a multi-state or multi-national postal or carrier service; including but not limited to USPS, FedEx, UPS, and DHL (effectively disallows conventional “hand-deliveries” during the first 24 hours the trial is open.)

• If stated in the premium list, a club may further restrict the delivery options (i.e., No FedEx, No “hand-deliveries at any time”). USPS delivery MUST be allowed.

• Paper entries must be accepted in order of receipt until the paper limit has been reached. The Trial Secretaries shall use all information to fairly and equitable determine which entries are received first.

• Online entries will be accepted in order of submission until the online limit has been reached.

• **Wait List** – to fill openings created by entries withdrawn prior to a date and time established by the club.
  ➢ This date may be beyond the closing date; however, it must be a minimum of three (3) days prior to the first trial date of the set of trials.
  ➢ All entries must be received prior to the closing date and time.
  ➢ The club must establish a maximum number of entries that may be placed on the wait list and this information must be published in the trial’s premium list.
  ➢ A full refund must be reimbursed to any entrant whose entry is replaced by a waitlisted entry.
  ➢ Entries exceeding the advertised limits shall be returned within seven (7) days of the closing date.
  ➢ If a wait list is offered and online entries are accepted there will be both a “paper” and “online” waitlist. A paper entry cancellation will be filled from the “paper” waitlist and an online entry cancellation will be filled from the “online” waitlist.

• **Guaranteed Entries for Workers** – The First-Received method does NOT allow clubs to guarantee entry spaces for Trial Workers.
**Random Draw** – Entries treated equally without regard to date/time received.

- **Draw Period**
  - Clubs determine a “Draw Period” during which time entries are accepted for the Random Draw.
  - The start time and date shall be the same as the Opening Date.
  - The Draw Period must be at least seven (7) days in length (14 days recommended) and must have a defined finish date and time.
  - All entries received during the Draw Period shall be accepted for the Draw and shall be treated equally without regard to the date received or any other criteria.

- **Guaranteed Entries for Trial Workers**
  - The club may guarantee entry spots for “Trial Workers” who have agreed to work at the trial.
  - The maximum number of “handlers” who may receive guaranteed entry spots are as follows:
    - 35 handlers for 1st ring
    - 30 handlers for each additional ring if the rings are run simultaneously.
  - There is no limit on the number of dogs a designated “Trial Worker” may run, however, the AKC recommends clubs select workers who will handle three (3) dogs or less.
  - Entry spots filled by “Trial Workers” are part of the “Total Entry Limit” stated in the premium list. If more than the allowed quantity of worker entries are received, draw from the worker entries until the allowed number of slots are filled; then add any remaining “worker entries” that were not drawn to the exhibitor random draw group.

- **Conducting the Random Draw**
  - If the stated entry limits are exceeded during the “Draw Period” the club shall conduct a Random Drawing of all entries received. Otherwise, the Random Drawing is not necessary.
  - The Random Drawing shall be held within 48 hours of the finish date and time of the “Draw Period.”
  - The date, hour, and location of the draw must be stated in the premium list.
  - The drawing shall be held in a place accessible to the public and results made available to the people present at the draw.
  - The draw shall avoid any method that raises any questions as to its randomness and impartiality.
  - One drawing shall be held for consecutive trials.
  - The drawing may be done manually or computerized. (Both must be impartial.)
  - The entries within an envelope (max of 10 allowed) shall not be split up and added to the Random Draw individually. Each envelope, regardless of the contents, shall be placed in the Random Draw. Each dog entered is considered a separate entry regardless of the quantity of classes that dog is entered in.
  - If the last envelope selected contains entries that would exceed the stated entry limit, there shall be a manual or computerized random draw of the individual entries contained in the envelope.
When the advertised limit of entries has been drawn, all remaining entries shall be drawn for a position on the Wait List.

**Accepting Entries After the Draw Period**

- Clubs may continue to accept paper and online entries after the Draw Period, however, all entries must be received prior to the closing date.
- If the trial did not exceed the limit during the Draw Period these entries are accepted on a First-Received basis.
- If the trial did exceed the limit during the Random Draw any additional entries may be added to the end of the wait list in order of receipt.

In either entry method, the club may contact exhibitors to notify them of their entry status prior to the closing date if entry limits have been exceeded. Following the closing date, the trial secretary may promptly contact all entrants and advise them of their status. This may be done using email, if an entrant has supplied an email address, or if no email address supplied by USPS regular mail using the address supplied on the entry form.

### Running Order

Running order within a class shall be determined by a random drawing of entries in each class and height division, following the closing of entries. Multiple entries handled by the same person must be separated as much as possible in the running order.

Dogs may be run in a height order different from the order drawn (within a class) when, in the opinion of the judges or the Event Committee; such will result in a reasonable and desirable saving of time. If this change is made, the judge should accommodate handlers to the maximum extent feasible.

### Judging Schedule

A judging schedule and the results of the random drawing of running order with assigned armband numbers shall be sent to the handlers as soon as possible after entries have closed and at a minimum of seven (7) days prior to the event. Included in the judging schedule will be the quantity of dogs in each of the heights within the classes. Trial secretaries shall include the following phrase on the notification: “Preliminary running order contingent on move-up entries not yet received.”

Trial Secretaries may also publish a full running order that includes catalog number, the dog’s call name, breed of dog, along with handler and/or owner. This may be done using email as described above.

### Move-Ups

**Prior to a Set of Trials** - At the request of the owner, dogs shall be moved up to a higher class as a result of qualifying for an agility title, provided that the request is made to the trial secretary no later than 6:00 p.m. on the Monday preceding the set of trials for the trials starting on a Thursday – Sunday. For trials that start on Monday – Wednesday, move-ups preceding the set of trials shall be accepted if received by the trial secretary no later than seven (7) days prior to the trial (i.e., for a Tuesday trial, move-up requests must be made prior to 6:00 p.m. on the previous Tuesday). All move-up documentation must be on site during the trial.
weekend. It is recommended that catalogs be printed with all dogs listed in the proper class they are actually running in, having accounted for move-ups.

**Day-to-Day Move-ups** - Move-ups from day-to-day at a set of back-to-back agility trials shall be at the discretion of the club. The request for moving up must be made in writing at the trial site to the trial secretary not later than the day preceding the event. The club shall state clearly in its premium list whether move-ups will be allowed “day-to-day.”

All move-up entries are subject to the availability of the class and payment of any difference in entry fee.

When a dog is moved up in the official catalog after the catalog has been printed, it is only necessary to input the following information:

1. In the class where the dog was moved from, indicate which class the dog has moved to (e.g., moved to Open 24”).
2. In the class where the dog has moved to, indicate the dog’s armband number and what class it has moved from (e.g., moved from Novice B 24”).

*Note:* All base information (i.e., registered name, AKC number, etc.) need only be listed in the class the dog was originally entered in. The dog’s score should be recorded in the class that it has moved to.

Individual judging limits may be exceeded only when the club has accepted move-ups, or when accepting wait-listed entries after closing.

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**Change of Entry**

Dogs having attained their first AKC Agility title (Std, JWW, T2B, FAST, or Premier) must be moved to the Novice B class for all trials for which entries have not closed. If entries have already closed on the date the dog obtained its title, the dog shall remain in the class in which it was originally entered or be moved up in level (i.e., Novice to Open) at the request of the owner; subject to the move-up criteria, except as stated in the *Regulations for Agility Trials Chapter 1, Section 21 regarding Novice A entries.*

A dog which has been entered in a Novice “A” class for which it is not eligible to be entered in due to class restrictions on the dog or handler may be moved to the Novice “B” class if:

- The request for the move must be in writing and presented to the superintendent or trial secretary at least 30 minutes prior to the start of each trial.
- The request must state the reason and justification for the move from a Novice “A” class to the Novice “B” class.

After the close of entries, a dog may be moved down in their class level (i.e., Master to Excellent). The request for the move to the class for which the dog is eligible must be in writing and submitted to the superintendent or trial secretary at least 30 minutes prior to the start of the trial.

If a VMO or Field Representative at a trial measures a dog into a height other than what they entered, the entry may be changed from Regular to Preferred or from Preferred to Regular, as long as the dog has not run any classes that day. If the dog has already run, the change
may be made for the next trial day(s). The exhibitor must provide the Trial Secretary the AKC Agility Measurement Form when requesting the class change.

Entering a Mixture of Regular and Preferred Classes Within the Same Trial Weekend

Exhibitors may enter a mixture of both Regular and Preferred classes on the same trial day and/or during a trial weekend. Any mixture of Regular and Preferred classes is allowed. Please note that if a dog qualifies in Regular Master Standard and Preferred Master JWW (or vice versa) on the same trial day, then NO Double Q shall be earned toward either the MACH or PACH title. The Double Q still requires that Standard Agility and Jumpers With Weaves be either both Regular OR both Preferred on the same trial day.

A separate entry form must be submitted when the same dog is being entered in a mixture of Regular and Preferred within the same trial weekend thereby clearly indicating which class(es) belong for each trial day of the weekend.

Multiple Jump Heights Within the Same Trial Day

Within the Regular or Preferred classes, a dog may be entered in multiple jump heights within the same trial day. For example, the same dog may now be entered in 20-inch Master STD/JWW while also entered in 24C-inch Premier STD/JWW on the same trial day.

A separate entry form must be submitted when the same dog is being entered in different jump heights within the same trial weekend thereby clearly indicating which class(es) and jump heights belong together for each trial day of the weekend.

Entering For Exhibition Only (FEO)

As of January 1, 2020, For Exhibition Only may be offered a the option of the host club. FEO will be offered on a one-year pilot basis in order to give AKC time to evaluate its impact. FEO will allow exhibitors to work with their dogs in a trial environment. FEO is only allowed in the Time 2 Beat and FAST classes. FEO will be of value to new exhibitors or exhibitors that are having difficulty with a specific obstacle and/or ring environment. Competitors must enter in T2B and/or FAST. Participation in FEO is non-qualifying.

- FEO runs are treated as trial entries. The exhibitor must enter the class(es) (T2B and/or FAST) prior to the closing date, pay class entry fee(s) and the Trial Secretary must record the entry in the Trial Catalog as part of the results for that class. FEO does NOT need to be noted on the entry form; the handler will declare it day of the show.
- Dogs may be entered in any jump height for FEO runs. If entered in an ineligible jump height, the team is committed to FEO for that run and must declare FEO on the start line. Day of show jump height changes are NOT allowed.
- Dogs may be entered in any level of FAST (Novice, Open, Excellent, Master). If the dog is not eligible for the level entered, the team is committed to FEO for that run and must declare FEO on the start line. Day of show level changes are not allowed.
- The exhibitor must declare FEO in the ring prior to leading out. FEO may be declared earlier (ex. When checking in at the gate board).
- Toys are allowed in the ring.
Toys must be non-audible
Toys may not leave the handler’s hand
Toys that roll freely cannot be used

- Food/treats are NOT allowed in the ring
- FEO should be utilized for the benefit of the dog and not as a punitive correction. Harsh verbal and/or physical corrections shall not be tolerated. Any determination of harshness by the judge shall be immediately whistled and the handler will be dismissed from the ring.
- A judge must monitor the entire run. Judges can stop a run at any time.

**Judge Overloads and Event Load Balancing**

The maximum number of runs assigned to any judge in one day shall not exceed 350, not including runs in non-regular classes, or as described in the Regulations for Agility Trials, Chapter 1, Section 20: “Individual judging limits may be exceeded only when the club has accepted move-ups.”

If a club elects, it may place lower limits on a judge or may place a limit on a class or set of classes in the premium list.

If a limit is placed on a class or set of classes, no entries beyond the established limit can be accepted for the class or set of classes.

If a lower limit is placed on a judge, the club must continue to accept entries for the classes that judge is to judge, with the understanding that the club cannot exceed its overall trial limit (if there is one) and that additional runs beyond the judge's limit will be assigned to another judge (load balancing).

The premium list shall state the overall event limits. If any other limits are established for the judge(s) or classes, the limits must be stated in the premium list. At no time may a Limited or Random Draw trial exceed its overall event limit.

All judges' class assignments must be approved by the American Kennel Club. Once judging class assignments have been approved by the American Kennel Club, any change to assignments for any reason must also be approved by the American Kennel Club prior to publication.

After the distribution of the premium list, if judging assignments change, exhibitors have the right to request a full refund of their entry fee for any classes affected. Exhibitors must submit requests in writing to the trial secretary a minimum of 30 minutes preceding the start of the event on the first day in which the exhibitor is entered.

Once entries close, clubs may elect to change the class assignments to facilitate the most efficient running of the events, including adjustments for overloads or low entries. When such changes are made, the club must receive approval in writing from the affected judges and must receive approval from the American Kennel Club prior to the distribution of the judging schedule. With the written permission of the judge, the club may choose to leave an overload of up to 20 runs with the judge they were originally entered under. This does not allow the club to go over the total trial entry limits, it is only for load balancing between judges once entries have closed. The club should make every effort to affect as few entries as
possible while keeping in mind the most efficient running of the events. Clubs are allowed to remove judge(s) from the judging panel if entries are low and both the club and the judge(s) agree to this action in writing.

The judging schedule must clearly state which classes are subject to any changes and must state that exhibitors are entitled to a full refund for entries affected by the change. The request must be in writing and must be received by the trial secretary anytime up until 30 minutes prior to the start of the event on the first day in which the exhibitor is entered.

In the case of emergency judge changes within 10 days prior to the event or after the distribution of the judging schedule, it may not be possible to notify the exhibitors of the change prior to the date of the event. The change must be posted at the event. Exhibitors are entitled to a full refund of any entry fees for classes affected by the change, provided the request for a refund is submitted in writing to the Trial Secretary prior to the start of judging of the affected class in which the dog is entered.
# CHAPTER 12 - AGILITY CLASSES

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<td>Excellent Standard Agility</td>
<td>Agility Excellent (AX)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Master Standard Agility</td>
<td>Master Agility Excellent (MX)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Premier Standard Agility</td>
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<tr>
<td>Excellent Jumpers with Weaves</td>
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<td>Master Jumpers with Weaves</td>
<td>Master Excellent Jumper (MXJ)</td>
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<td>Premier Jumpers Agility</td>
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<tr>
<td>Master Standard Agility &amp; Master Jumpers with Weaves</td>
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<th>Novice A or B FAST</th>
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<td>Excellent FAST</td>
<td>Excellent FAST (XF)</td>
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<td>Master FAST</td>
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<tr>
<td>Master FAST/Standard/JWW</td>
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| Time 2 Beat | Time 2 Beat (T2B) |

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<td>Novice Standard Agility Preferred</td>
<td>Novice Agility Preferred (NAP)</td>
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<td>Excellent Standard Agility Preferred</td>
<td>Agility Excellent Preferred (AXP)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Master Standard Agility Preferred</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Premier Standard Agility Preferred</td>
<td>Premier Agility Dog Preferred (PADP)</td>
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</table>

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<tr>
<th>Novice Jumpers with Weaves Preferred</th>
<th>Novice Agility Jumpers Preferred (NJP)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Open Jumpers with Weaves Preferred</td>
<td>Open Agility Jumpers Preferred (OJP)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Excellent Jumpers with Weaves Preferred</td>
<td>Agility Excellent Jumpers Preferred (AJP)</td>
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<td>Master Excellent Jumpers Preferred (MJP)</td>
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<td>Premier Jumpers with Weaves Preferred</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master Standard Agility Preferred &amp; Master Jumpers with Weaves Preferred</td>
<td>Preferred Agility Excellent (PAX)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master Standard Agility Preferred &amp; Master Jumpers with Weaves Preferred</td>
<td>Preferred Agility Champion (PACH)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Standard Agility Classes

The Standard Agility class is a course consisting of contacts (dog walk, A-frame and teeter), weave poles, tunnels, a table, and all jumps that are mandatory for a particular class level. It is divided into 4 class levels (Novice, Open, Excellent, Master), which are designed and scored according to the experience of the dog and handler team.

Novice Standard Agility Class (NA)

The Novice Agility class is divided into 2 divisions: Novice A and Novice B. There is no difference in scoring for these two divisions.

Division A:

- For dogs that have never acquired any AKC agility title (ACT titles exempt).
- A dog entered in Novice A must be handled by a person that has never put an AKC agility title (except ACT1 or ACT2) on any dog.
- The handler must be the owner, co-owner, or a member of the owner’s household.
- Handlers that co-own a dog and have never put an AKC agility title on a dog may enter the Novice A class regardless of the other co-owner’s AKC accomplishments.
- Dogs eligible for Novice A may be entered in the Novice B class at the discretion of the owner.
- If a title is earned on another dog or on the same dog in another class, the team may remain in Novice A until the next trial for which the closing date has not yet arrived. (Regulations for Agility Trials Chapter 1, Section 21 regarding Novice A entries)

Division B:

- For dogs that have acquired any AKC agility title (not including ACT titles).
- For persons who have handled a dog to any AKC agility title.
- For dogs being handled by someone other than the owner, co-owner, or household member.
- A dog may continue to be shown in the Novice B class until they have acquired a qualifying score towards their Open title.

See Appendix for full list of Agility Titles

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agility Class - Preferred</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Novice FAST Preferred</td>
<td>Novice FAST Preferred    (NFP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open FAST Preferred</td>
<td>Open FAST Preferred      (OFP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excellent FAST Preferred</td>
<td>Excellent FAST Preferred (XFP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master FAST Preferred</td>
<td>Master Excellent FAST Preferred (MFP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master FAST/Standard/JWW Preferred</td>
<td>Triple Q Excellent Preferred (TQXP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time 2 Beat Preferred</td>
<td>Time 2 Beat Preferred    (T2BP)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Open Standard Agility Class (OA)

This class is for dogs that have earned the Novice Agility title (NA) but have not yet earned a qualifying score towards the Agility Excellent title (AX). If the team earns their third qualifying score, the team may fill out a move-up form and show in Excellent. A team may elect to show in Open for as long as they like until a qualifying score is earned in Excellent.

Excellent Standard Agility Class (AX)

This class is for dogs that have earned the Open Agility title (OA) but have not yet earned a qualifying score towards the Master Agility Excellent title (MX). If the team earns their third qualifying score, the team may fill out a move-up form and show in Master.

Master Standard Agility Class (MX, MACH)

This class is for dogs that have earned the Agility Excellent title (AX) and for dogs that have earned the Master Agility Excellent title (working toward their MACH).

Premier Standard Agility Class (PAD)

This class is open for all dogs eligible to enter agility.

Jumpers with Weaves (JWW) classes

The Jumpers with Weaves class is designed for speed and handling skills. Only the various jumps, weave poles, and tunnels are used in course design, not the contact pieces.

Novice Jumpers with Weaves (NAJ)

The Novice Jumpers with Weaves Agility class is divided into 2 divisions: Novice A and Novice B. There is no difference in scoring for these two divisions.

Division A:

- For dogs that have never acquired any AKC agility title (ACT titles exempt).
- A dog entered in Novice A must be handled by a person that has never put an AKC agility title (except ACT1 or ACT2) on any dog.
- The handler must be the owner, co-owner, or a member of the owner’s household.
- Handlers that co-own a dog and have never put an AKC agility title on a dog may enter the Novice A class regardless of the other co-owner’s AKC accomplishments.
- Dogs eligible for Novice A may be entered in the Novice B class at the discretion of the owner.
- If a title is earned on another dog or on the same dog in another class, the team may remain in Novice A until the next trial for which the closing date has not yet arrived. (Regulations for Agility Trials Chapter 1, Section 21 regarding Novice A entries)
Division B:
- For dogs that have acquired any AKC agility title (not including ACT titles).
- For persons who have handled a dog to any AKC agility title.
- For dogs being handled by someone other than the owner, co-owner, or household member.
- A dog may continue to be shown in the Novice B class until they have acquired a qualifying score towards their Open title.

**Open Jumpers with Weaves (OAJ)**

This class is for dogs that have earned the Novice Agility Jumper title (NAJ) but have not yet earned a qualifying score towards the Excellent Agility Jumper title (AXJ). If the team earns their third qualifying score, the team may fill out a move-up form and show in Excellent JWW. A team may elect to show in Open JWW for as long as they like until a qualifying score is earned in Excellent JWW.

**Excellent Jumpers with Weaves (AXJ)**

This class is for dogs that have earned the Open Agility Jumper title (OAJ) but have not yet earned a qualifying score towards the Master Excellent Jumper title (MXJ). If the team earns their third qualifying score, the team may fill out a move-up form and show in Master JWW.

**Master Jumpers with Weaves (MXJ, MACH)**

This class is for dogs that have earned the Excellent Agility Jumper title (AXJ) and for dogs that have earned the Master Excellent Jumper title (working toward their MACH).

**Premier Jumper with Weaves Class (PJD)**

This class is open for all dogs eligible to enter agility.

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**Fifteen And Send Time (FAST) classes**

The FAST class is designed to be an additional test of strategy, skill, accuracy, speed, timing and distance handling to demonstrate a dog’s athletic ability and willingness to work with its handler in a fast-paced atmosphere over a variety of agility obstacles.

**Novice FAST Class (NF)**

Novice FAST is divided into 2 divisions: Novice A FAST and Novice B FAST, as in Novice Standard Agility. (See above for explanation) Teams may stay in Novice B FAST for as long as they desire until a qualifying score is earned in the Open FAST class.

**Open FAST Class (OF)**

This class is for dogs that have earned the NF title but have not yet earned a qualifying score towards the XF title. Upon receiving 3 qualifying scores in Open FAST, the team may fill out a move-up form and show in Excellent FAST. A team may elect to show in Open FAST for as long as they like until a qualifying score is earned in Excellent FAST.
Excellent FAST Class (XF)
This class is for dogs that have earned the OF title but have not yet earned a qualifying score towards the MF title. Upon receiving 3 qualifying scores in Excellent FAST, the team may fill out a move-up form and show in Master FAST.

Master FAST Class (MXF)
This class is for dogs that have earned the XF and/or MXF titles.

Time 2 Beat Class (T2B)
This is an optional agility titling class that is meant to challenge the handler/dog to set a clean efficient line with an emphasis on speed and accuracy. There is a single class level and all dogs eligible to enter agility trials may compete.

The T2B class is a combination course from the Standard and Jumpers With Weaves Classes. See Regulations for Agility Trials, Chapter 10; section 9 for required/allowed obstacles.

Preferred Agility Titling Classes
These classes afford an opportunity for a greater variety of dogs and their handlers to participate in the sport of agility.

- Dogs jump 4” lower than their measured jump height class.
- Owners may choose to enter the Preferred classes or Regular classes with no day-of-show change between them being allowed except for below:
  - If a VMO or Field Representative at a trial measures a dog into a height other than what they entered, the entry may be changed from Regular to Preferred or from Preferred to Regular, as long as the dog has not run any classes that day. If the dog has already run, the change may be made for the next trial day(s). The exhibitor must provide the Trial Secretary the AKC Agility Measurement Form when requesting the class change.
  - There is a one-time crossover allowed from Regular to Preferred in the dog’s lifetime.
  - If dogs are crossing from Regular to Preferred, they may be entered at the level the dog is eligible to compete at in the Regular classes or may start in Novice.
  - Crossovers from Regular to Preferred may be done in different classes at different times. (Each change from Regular to Preferred is considered separately for Standard, Jumpers, Premier, FAST, and T2B.)
  - Once a qualifying score is earned (in the Preferred class), the dog is no longer eligible to be entered in a lower-class level for future entries.
- There is no grandfathering of titles or points from the Regular classes to the Preferred classes or from the Preferred Classes to the Regular Classes.
- There is no crossover from Preferred to Regular.
- Dogs may be entered in both Regular Classes and Preferred classes at the same set of trials.
Standard Agility Preferred Classes

The Standard Agility Preferred class is a course consisting of contacts (dog walk, A-frame and teeter), weave poles, tunnels, a table, and all jumps that are mandatory for a particular class level. It is divided into 4 class levels (Novice, Open, Excellent, and Master), which are designed and scored according to the experience of the dog and handler team.

**Novice Standard Agility Preferred Class (NAP)**

The Novice Agility Preferred class is not divided into Novice A and Novice B. Once the team receives 3 qualifying scores in Novice Standard Preferred they may fill out a move-up form and show in Open Preferred. Dog and handler teams may remain in the Novice Preferred class for as long as they wish until a qualifying score is earned in the Open Standard Preferred class.

**Open Standard Agility Preferred Class (OAP)**

This class is for dogs that have earned the Novice Agility Preferred title (NAP) but have not yet earned a qualifying score towards the Agility Excellent Preferred title (AXP). If the team earns their third qualifying score, they may fill out a move-up form and show in Excellent Preferred. A team may elect to show in Open Preferred for as long as they like until a qualifying score is earned in Excellent Preferred.

**Excellent Standard Agility Preferred Class (AXP)**

This class is for dogs that have earned the Open Agility Preferred title (OAP) but have not yet earned a qualifying score towards the Master Agility Excellent Preferred title (MXP). If the team earns their third qualifying score, the team may fill out a move-up form and show in Master Preferred.

**Master Standard Agility Preferred Class (MXP, PACH)**

This class is for dogs that have earned the Agility Excellent Preferred title (AXP) and for dogs that have earned the Master Agility Excellent Preferred title (working toward their PACH).

**Premier Standard Agility Preferred Class (PADP)**

This class is open for all dogs eligible to enter AKC agility.

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Jumpers with Weaves (JWW) Preferred Classes

The Jumpers with Weaves Preferred class is designed for speed and handling skills. Only the various jumps, weave poles, and tunnels are used in designing the course.

**Novice Jumpers with Weaves Preferred (NJP)**

Novice Jumpers with Weaves Preferred is not divided into Novice A and Novice B. Once the team receives 3 qualifying scores in Novice JWW Preferred they may fill out a move-up form and show in Open JWW Preferred. Teams may stay in Novice JWW Preferred for as long as they desire until a qualifying score is earned in the Open JWW Preferred class.
Open Jumpers with Weaves Preferred (OJP)
This class is for dogs that have earned the NJP title but have not yet earned a qualifying score toward their AJP title. Once the team receives 3 qualifying scores in Open JWW Preferred they may fill out a move-up form and show in Excellent JWW Preferred. Teams may stay in Open JWW Preferred for as long as they desire until a qualifying score is earned in the Excellent JWW Preferred class.

Excellent Jumpers with Weaves Preferred (AJP)
This class is for dogs that have earned the OJP title but have not yet earned a qualifying score towards the MJP title. If the team earns their third qualifying score, the team may fill out a move-up form and show in Master JWW Preferred.

Master Jumpers with Weaves Preferred (MJP, PACH)
This class is for dogs that have earned the Excellent Agility Jumper Preferred title (AJP) and for dogs that have earned the Master Excellent Jumper Preferred title (working toward their PACH).

Premier Jumper with Weaves Preferred Class (PJDP)
This class is open for all dogs eligible to enter AKC agility.

Fifteen And Send Time Preferred (FAST) classes
The FAST Preferred class is designed to be an additional test of strategy, skill, accuracy, speed, timing, and distance handling to demonstrate a dog’s athletic ability and willingness to work with its handler in a fast-paced atmosphere over a variety of agility obstacles.

Novice FAST Preferred Class (NFP)
Novice FAST Preferred is not divided into Novice A and Novice B. Once the team receives 3 qualifying scores in Novice FAST Preferred they may fill out a move-up form and show in Open FAST Preferred. Dog and handler teams may remain in the Novice FAST Preferred class for as long as they wish until a qualifying score is earned in the Open FAST Preferred class.

Open FAST Preferred Class (OFP)
This class is for dogs that have earned the NFP title but have not yet earned a qualifying score toward the XFP title. Once the team receives 3 qualifying scores in Open FAST Preferred they may fill out a move-up form and show in Excellent FAST Preferred. A team may elect to show in Open FAST Preferred for as long as they like until a qualifying score is earned in Excellent FAST Preferred.

Excellent FAST Preferred Class (XFP)
This class is for dogs that have earned the OFP title but have not yet earned a qualifying score towards the MFP title. Once the team receives 3 qualifying scores in Excellent FAST Preferred they may fill out a move-up form and show in Master FAST Preferred.

Master FAST Preferred Class (MXP)
This class is for dogs that have earned the XFP and/or MXP titles.
Time 2 Beat Preferred Class (T2BP)

This is an optional agility titling class that is meant to challenge the handler/dog to set a clean efficient line with an emphasis on speed and accuracy. There is a single class level and all dogs eligible to enter agility trials may compete.

The T2B Preferred class is a combination course from the Standard and Jumpers With Weaves Classes. See Regulations for Agility Trials, Chapter 10; section 9 for required/allowed obstacles.

Non-Regular Agility Classes

International Sweepstake Class

**Purpose:** The International Sweepstakes class (ISC) is a non-regular class providing the dog and handler an opportunity to demonstrate their advanced training and handling skills on various international-style Standard and Jumpers With Weaves courses. This highly competitive class will aid in the selection process of World Team members; therefore, the rules for this class are generally based on Federation Cynologique International (FCI) rules.

The variety in international agility course designs is very diverse, so handlers should be prepared to meet the “Challenge of the Day” when competing in the ISC classes. The total challenge level may be easier, more difficult, or simply different from what is currently allowed in the AKC Agility Excellent/Master classes. Course designs will vary widely thus testing different skills on different days.

**Eligibility of Dogs:** This class is open only to dogs that are eligible to compete in AKC Agility Trials.

**Eligibility to Hold the ISC Class:** Upon approval from the American Kennel Club, the ISC classes are allowed to be held in conjunction with an AKC approved agility trial.

The ISC class shall follow either the criteria for the Standard ISC class or the Jumpers ISC class at the discretion of the club. It is recommended that if the ISC class is offered on two consecutive days, the club offer Standard ISC one day and Jumpers ISC the other day. However, clubs may offer both ISC classes on consecutive days.

**Recording Fees:** None at this time.

**ISC Records:** The ISC class shall be printed as the last class in the catalog. A completed ISC class record including a complete list of dogs entered, course distances, standard course times, scores, and placements shall be mailed separately to the Agility Director.

**Jump Heights:** The ISC class shall be split into three separate categories: Small Agility for dogs measuring 13-3/4” and less at the withers; Medium Agility for dogs measuring 16-7/8” and less at the withers; and Large Agility for dogs measuring greater than 16-7/8” at the withers. As indicated in the equipment specifications for the ISC class: Dogs entered in Small Agility jump 12” in height; dogs entered in Medium Agility jump 16” in height; and dogs entered in Large Agility jump 24” in
height. Some exceptions in heights and tolerances exist with some jumps. See *Regulations for Agility Trials*, Chapter 14, Section 9.

**Judges:** Only fully approved agility judges (non-provisional) will be allowed to judge ISC classes. All judges shall submit course designs for review and approval 45 days prior to the trial.

**Course and trial requirements:** The recommended course size for the ISC class is 10,000-12,000 square feet. The minimum course size for the ISC class shall be 8,000 square feet with no side shorter than 60’.

**Scoring**

**Score:** Dogs start with a score of zero to which faults are added for infractions.

**Placements, Tied Scores:** All ISC class placements are based on faults then time, whereas the dog with the fewest faults wins. In cases where dogs have the same number of faults, the dog with the lowest (fastest) course time prevails. Placements are given out separately to dogs in each category. A tie with two (2) dogs having the same score and time will require a run-off.

**Example:** (SCT 55 seconds)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dog’s Time</th>
<th>Time Faults</th>
<th>Course Faults</th>
<th>Total Faults</th>
<th>Placement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dog #1</td>
<td>53.25</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dog #2</td>
<td>49.25</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dog #3</td>
<td>56.25</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dog #4</td>
<td>49.75</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dog #5</td>
<td>53.05</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Dogs can place with faults. Dogs that have been eliminated cannot place.)

**Course Time Penalties:** A dog receives (1) time fault for each full second over the Standard Course Time (SCT).

**Maximum Course Time:** The maximum course time shall be equal to the Standard Course Time (SCT) plus 20 seconds.

**Judges’ Signals:** Judges shall use an open hand for standard faults, a closed fist for refusal faults, and two raised open hands for elimination faults. Excusals shall be signaled with a whistle.

For further information regarding the ISC classes, please see Chapter 14 of the *Regulations for Agility Trials*. 
CHAPTER 13- SCORING – THE SCORE KEEPERS TABLE

Location

The score keepers table should be as near the ring(s) as possible for easy transport of scribe sheets by the sheet runner from the scribe to the table. This also allows the judge easy access to a scribe sheet to recheck information if necessary.

Supplies

- A waterproof tent should be used if scoring outside in case of inclement weather, as well as for sun and wind protection.
- Computer with trial software if available
- Pens, pencils, pencil sharpener, white-out, correction tape
- Calculators
- Scratch paper, rubber bands, paper clips, scotch tape, scissors
- Paperweights, clipboards, and bungees if outside
- Portable files or boxes for paperwork
- Trash can next to table
- Cooler with refreshments for table staff
- Stamps for catalog – (if paper scoring) preferably red for “Qualifying,” black for “NQ” & “ABS” or “Absent” - not so large in size that they cover vital information in catalog. If outdoors and raining, be sure the ink does not bleed onto vital information on the page behind the one the score keeper is working on.

Working Environment

To alleviate the exhibitor asking questions of the score keepers, use the following methods:

- Hand out NCR copies of scribe sheets if possible
- Post the faults for each class, time, placements, and score or NQ as soon as possible. This posting must include the Course Yardage and Standard Course Time. Post the dog’s time even on NQ scores. Unofficial postings can be made until the judge has time to review the results, as long as they are clearly marked as “Unofficial.”

Scribe Sheets

Scribe sheets shall be prepared before the trial with the armband number and breed on each sheet. It may be helpful to include the dog’s call name and the handler’s name.
Mark any absences that are known before the trial and pull the scribe sheet to prevent an error during the actual running of the dogs.

Communicate closely with the gate steward as to running order and correct scribe sheet placement for the class.

Give the scribe sheets for an entire height to the scribe or scribe’s assistant before the class starts so that they may organize the conflicts and remove any absent dogs.

An exhibitor/handler may request from the trial secretary, to view their scribe sheet when there may be a perceived inconsistency between the dog’s posted score and the actual run. No other person(s) may do so and the scribe sheet shall be examined under the direct supervision of the trial secretary. Furthermore, the scribe sheet may not leave the possession of the trial secretary/score table at any time.

The judge of record for a particular class will retain the scribe sheets at the end of the trial for one year.

Yardage and Standard Course Times

It is the responsibility of the score table to obtain from the judge the course yardage and standard course time (SCT) for each class and jump height (see appendix - Time Worksheets). This is to be recorded as follows:

- In the catalog at the top of the page for each jump height.
- On the exhibitor posting sheet and on the check-in/gate board.
- Available at the table for the score keeper to check all scribe sheets for time faults.

    Maximum Course Time should be noted at the score keepers table and also available for the timer as they will need it to whistle off an exhibitor should they exceed this time. The scribe sheet would be marked with an “E” and “no time” (written as “NT” on the time line) if an exhibitor exceeds the maximum course time or if they are excused before the finish line.

- There will be 5 different SCT’s for each class due to the different heights, plus 5 SCT’s for Preferred and 3 different yardages.

Faults on Scribe Sheet

Only the scribe or judge may mark faults on the agility scribe sheet. Any questions related to scoring are to be addressed by the judge of record. Each fault signal displayed by the judge is to be recorded onto the scribe sheet by the scribe (see Scribe Cheat Sheet in appendix). The following faults will be marked as a letter on the scribe sheet:

- W = Wrong Course
- R = Refusal/Run Out
- T = Table Fault
• **F** = Failure to Perform
• **E** = Excused

These signals and letters are consistent throughout all the agility classes (except ISC classes). See AKC Scoring Guidelines in the appendix.

### Course Time Faults

The score keepers will record time faults earned by the exhibitor.

- Enter the SCT on the scribe sheet and then record the dog’s time above it, which is recorded to 1/100’s of a second (2 decimal places).
- The dog's time is truncated, (rounded down). This means all digits to the right of the decimal point are dropped by striking through these digits with a single line. For example, time value is 2.57, the value after truncating is 2.
- Subtract the dog’s time from the SCT to determine if there are any time faults.

**Example:**
- SCT Time: 65 seconds  
  Dog’s Time: 63.98 = no time faults
- SCT Time: 65 seconds  
  Dog’s Time: 67.77 = 2 time faults
- If the dog has time faults, it is multiplied by the proper amount depending upon the class.
- Add the total and write it in the course fault blank if there are any time faults.
- The dog’s time is entered on the scribe sheet, posting sheet, and the catalog (of qualifying dogs only) to the 1/100s of a second.

### Scoring ~ Placements

The score keeper should be determining the placement scores of qualifying dogs only for 1st through 4th immediately at the end of each jump height. These placements should be noted on the posting sheets for the exhibitors and in the official catalog. Posting sheets should be displayed in full view after each class for exhibitors to view the class results. While the judge is having the next course set, they often will want to give out the class placements. Therefore, the score keeper should have the qualifying ribbons and placement rosettes prepared quickly for the judge. The front of the ribbon must bear a facsimile of the seal of the American Kennel Club; Agility Trial; Qualifying Score; and the name of the trial-giving club. The score keeper/trial secretary must make sure that the following information is also on the ribbon before given to the handler:

- Date of Trial
- Name of Class
- Jump Height Division
- Location of the Event
Tie Score and Time

In the event of a tie score that would qualify for a placement of 1st through 4th, time would be the deciding factor. If the score and time are identical, a run-off will be held to determine the placement. There can never be two dogs listed for one placement. The score keeper should alert the judge of this possibility immediately at the end of a class. The judge would then not change to the next course and would conduct a run-off on the existing course. If by chance the existing course had been changed to a lower-class level, that would be acceptable to hold the run-off. If the course had been changed to a higher-class level, then only a portion of the course would be used for the run-off. Ties may also be broken by forfeiture or coin toss at the handler’s option.

- **Score** takes precedence over time in the run-off and shall be awarded the higher placement.

High in Trial

The Agility Department does not recommend this award at an all-breed agility trial. Many specialty clubs will choose to offer this award. If to be awarded this must be listed in the premium. The Event Committee and the score table, prior to the start of the trial, should establish the method of determining this award. At no time shall a judge hold a run-off for this award. A general method of determining this award is as follows:

- Score first- must be 100
- Second - consider yards per second. Divide the Standard Course Time for each class (in yards) by the dog’s actual running time (in seconds) to get the speed at which the dog negotiated the course. Look for the dog with the greatest yards per second.

**Highest Scoring Dog in Trial** is usually awarded based on highest score. If there is a tie for the highest score, then the dog with the most yards per second prevails. It is up to the committee to determine which classes will be included when calculating this award. There are numerous ways to do it and all are legal if the rules are spelled out in the Premium List.

Recording in Official Catalog

The official catalog for the AKC, as well as a catalog for the judge of that class and the event-giving club, must be marked as follows:

- Record next to each entry of each dog one of the following:
  - Q – Qualified
  - NQ – Did not qualify
  - ABS – Absent
  - EXC – Excused for aggression
  - DQ – Disqualified for attack
  - AIS – Withdrawn – in season
  - AJC – Withdrawn – judge change
• If “Qualified,” the dog’s score and actual running time (to the 100th of a second) shall also be recorded.

• Placements (1st – 4th) in each height class shall be recorded next to the dog’s information in the left-hand column. The placements may also be noted at the bottom of each class.

• If “NQ,” “ABS,” “AIS,” or “AJC” nothing else is recorded in the catalog. No recording fees are due for dogs that are withdrawn for a bitch in season or due to a judge change.

• If “EXC,” a brief description must also appear in the catalog and should also be described in the Trial Chairman’s report, the judge’s report, and the Trial Secretary’s report. In case of a dog-on-dog attack, the appropriate form must be completed.

• If “DQ,” a brief description must also appear in the catalog and should also be described in the Trial Chairman’s report, the judge’s report, and the Trial Secretary’s report. The appropriate form must be completed and faxed to the AKC.

• Write the total number of entries in the right-hand margin at the top of the class information and circle this number (or fill in the prepared box). This will allow easy addition at the end of the day when that number is required by the trial secretary and aids the record-keeping staff at AKC. The judge is responsible for keeping track of total qualifying runs. They may wish to use the Judge’s Summary Sheet found in the appendix to help facilitate this task.

Certification in Official Catalog

Both the judge and the trial secretary must sign the certification page at the front of the catalog. If there is more than one judge, you must have a separate certification for each judge.

Judges Certification

I certify that ______dogs received Qualifying scores in the Standard Class (including Preferred) and ______dogs received Qualifying scores in JWW Class (including Preferred) and ______dogs received Qualifying scores in T2B Class (including Preferred) and ______dogs received Qualifying scores in FAST Class (including Preferred) in this event and that the above information identifying these dogs was entered prior to my/our signing this page.

___________________________________________________
Judge’s Signature
Agility Trial Secretary’s Certification

I certify that the Judge has verified the above information and signed this page.

Number of dogs entered in the Standard Class_________ (including Preferred), number of dogs entered in JWW Class_________ (including Preferred), number of dogs entered in T2B Class_________ (including Preferred) and number of dogs entered in FAST Class_________ (including Preferred). Number of dogs withdraw from the Standard Class_________ (including Preferred), number of dogs withdrawn from JWW Class_________ (including Preferred), number of dogs withdrawn from T2B Class_________ (including Preferred) and number of dogs withdrawn from FAST Class_________ (including Preferred). Total participating in Standard Class_________ (including Preferred), Total participating in JWW Class_________ (including Preferred), Total participating in T2B Class_________ (including Preferred), Total participating in FAST Class_________ (including Preferred). Total # of Qualifying Scores_________ (including Preferred).

___________________________________________________

Trial Secretary’s Signature

Following the completion of judging, the trial secretary shall have marked the official catalog with the word “Qualifying” next to the names of all dogs that received Qualifying scores. The judge(s) shall at that time certify the accuracy of the marked awards, and both the trial secretary and the judge(s) shall complete their appropriate certifications.

If a computerized, marked catalog is produced, the judge must review the final printed catalog before certification and initial the bottom of each page for all classes they judged.

A minimum of 2 copies of an unmarked catalog must be printed after the closing date/time of pre-trial move-ups unless the club has the ability to make copies on-site and/or has redundant computer equipment on-site, then the minimum is reduced to 1 copy.

Performance Standards

See AKC Scoring Guidelines in the appendix.

See List of AKC Agility Titles in the appendix.

Standard Agility Classes (Regular & Preferred Classes)

**Novice**
- Score of 85, or better, needed to qualify.
- Wrong Course = 1 allowed
- Refusals = 2 allowed
- Table Faults = 2 allowed
- Time Faults = 2 faults deducted for every full second over Standard Course Time

**Open**
- Score of 85, or better, needed to qualify
- Wrong Course = 1 allowed
- Refusals = 1 allowed
- Table Faults = 1 allowed
- Time Faults = 2 faults deducted for every full second over Standard Course Time
Excellent
• Score of 85, or better, needed to qualify
• Wrong Course = 0 allowed
• Refusals = 0 allowed
• Table Faults = 0 allowed
• Time Faults = 3 faults deducted for every full second over Standard Course Time

Master
• Score of 100 needed to qualify
• Wrong Course = 0 allowed
• Refusals = 0 allowed
• Table Faults = 0 allowed
• Time Faults = 0 allowed

Jumpers with Weaves Classes (Regular & Preferred Classes)

Novice JWW
• Score of 85, or better, needed to qualify
• Wrong Course = 0 allowed
• Refusals = 2 allowed
• Time faults = 1 fault deducted for every full second over Standard Course Time

Open JWW
• Score of 85, or better, needed to qualify
• Wrong Course = 0 allowed
• Refusals = 1 allowed
• Time faults = 2 faults deducted for every full second over Standard Course Time

Excellent JWW
• Score of 85, or better, needed to qualify
• Wrong Course = 0 allowed
• Refusals = 0 allowed
• Time Faults = 3 faults deducted for every full second over Standard Course Time

Master JWW
• Score of 100 needed to qualify
• Wrong Course = 0 allowed
• Refusals = 0 allowed
• Time faults = 0 allowed

Master Excellent Title (MX) (MXP) (MXJ) (MJP)
This title is earned by qualifying ten times in the Master/Master Preferred Standard or Master/Master Preferred JWW classes.
Standard class – minimum score of 100
Jumpers with Weaves – minimum score of 100
MASTER AGILITY CHAMPIONSHIP (MACH)

This title is earned by qualifying in BOTH the Master Standard class and Master JWW class on the same day.

Score of 100 required in both the Standard and JWW Master classes for earning championship points and Double Q’s.

See example of “Procedure for Determining MACH Points” and also “The Math” that follows.

To obtain the MASTER AGILITY CHAMPION title (MACH), a dog must exhibit superior performance on the agility course. Speed and consistency are the two major qualities denoting “superior performance” and therefore they are the basis for the MASTER AGILITY CHAMPIONSHIP program.

In order to acquire the MASTER AGILITY CHAMPIONSHIP title, a dog must achieve a minimum of 750 championship points and 20 double qualifying scores obtained from the Master Standard Agility class and the Master Jumpers with Weaves class.

Championship Points

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CP’s</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>750 CP’s required minimum</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- 1 (CP) point is awarded for each full second under standard course time. (No partial points are awarded.)
- Dogs earn points from the Master Agility class and/or the Master Jumpers with Weaves class.

Double Qualify (2Q’s)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>20 (2Q’s) required minimum</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

- Dogs qualifying with scores of 100 in both the Master Agility class and the Master Jumpers with Weaves class on the same day equals 1 (2Q).

Requirements General Scoring. Only scores of 100 (clear rounds) obtained in the Master classes will count towards a dog’s Master Agility Championship requirements.

A dog does not have to obtain the Master Excellent title (MX) or the Master Excellent Jumpers with Weaves title (MXJ) prior to achieving scores that will count towards their Master Agility Championship title (MACH). A dog need not be in both “Master” classes in order to start accruing CP’s; however, points can only be accrued in the “Master” classes. Any score of 100 (clear round) obtained in the Master classes will count towards both the dog’s Championship requirements and the dog’s MX titling requirements.

Titles: The Master Agility Champion title initials will be reduced to MACH and followed by a numeric designation to indicate the quantity of times the dog has met the requirements of the MACH title (as defined above). Example: 1500 CP’s and 40 2Q’s = MACH2; 2250 CP’s and 60 2Q’s = MACH3, etc.
EXAMPLES:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>SCT</th>
<th>Dog’s Time</th>
<th>Placement</th>
<th>MACH Pts</th>
<th>MX/MXJ Leg?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dog #1</td>
<td>Master Std</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>65 sec.</td>
<td>60.00</td>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>MX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dog #2</td>
<td>Master Std</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>65 sec.</td>
<td>49.01</td>
<td>1st</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>MX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dog #3</td>
<td>Master Std</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>65 sec.</td>
<td>66.01</td>
<td>4th</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dog #4</td>
<td>Master Std</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>65 sec.</td>
<td>61.99</td>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>MX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dog #1</td>
<td>Master JWW</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>42 sec.</td>
<td>32.99</td>
<td>1st</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>MXJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dog #2</td>
<td>Master JWW</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>42 sec.</td>
<td>43.01</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dog #3</td>
<td>Master JWW</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>42 sec.</td>
<td>42.99</td>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>MXJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dog #4</td>
<td>Excellent JWW</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>42 sec.</td>
<td>37.60</td>
<td>1st</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>AXJ</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Dog #1 has obtained a double Q towards their MACH title for a clean run in both standard and JWW, and a total of 14 MACH points.
- Dog #2 has time faults in JWW therefore no MACH points or leg since only scores of 100 qualify for an MXJ leg; however, it gains an MX leg and 15 MACH points for its clean standard run.
- Dog #3 has time faults in standard therefore no MACH points or leg since only scores of 100 qualify for an MX leg; however, it gains an MXJ leg for a clean JWW run.
- Dog #4 has not obtained an AXJ title and is competing in Ex. JWW, therefore is not eligible for a double Q; however, the clear round in Standard gives it an MX leg and 3 MACH points.
- Dogs must obtain their AX, AXJ from the Exc. class before competing in the Master class.

THE MATH

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Std Class</th>
<th>JWW Class</th>
<th>Dog #1</th>
<th>Std Class</th>
<th>JWW Class</th>
<th>Dog #2</th>
<th>Std Class</th>
<th>JWW Class</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SCT</td>
<td>65.00</td>
<td>42.00</td>
<td>65.00</td>
<td>42.00</td>
<td>65.00</td>
<td>15.99</td>
<td>42.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dog’s Time</td>
<td>- 60.00</td>
<td>- 32.99</td>
<td>Dog’s Time</td>
<td>- 49.01</td>
<td>Dog’s Time</td>
<td>- 43.01</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5.00</td>
<td>9.01</td>
<td></td>
<td>15.99</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Round</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Round</td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>down</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>to</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>whole #</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>whole #</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MACH pts</td>
<td>14</td>
<td></td>
<td>MACH pts</td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Std Class</th>
<th>JWW Class</th>
<th>Dog #3</th>
<th>Std Class</th>
<th>JWW Class</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SCT</td>
<td>65.00</td>
<td>42.00</td>
<td>65.00</td>
<td>Not eligible for MACH points or Double Q’s from Excellent Class</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dog’s Time</td>
<td>- 66.01</td>
<td>- 42.99</td>
<td>Dog’s Time</td>
<td>- 61.99</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3.01</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
|        | No pts-
|        | Dog’s score is | No pts-
|        | <100      | Not a full second under SCT. |
| MACH pts| 0        | MACH pts | 3      |

No pts-
Dog’s score is less than 100
No pts-
Not a full second under SCT.
Round down to whole #

...
PREFERRED AGILITY CHAMPIONSHIP (PACH)

The requirements for obtaining this award are the same as the MACH requirements but out of the Preferred Master classes. Need 750 points and 20 double Q’s from the Preferred Master Standard/Preferred Master JWW classes. The Math and examples shown above would be the same just using the Preferred class time criteria.

PREFERRED AGILITY EXCELLENT TITLE (PAX)

To obtain the Preferred Agility Excellent title (PAX), a dog must exhibit superior performance on the agility course. Consistency is the main quality denoting “superior performance” and therefore is the basis for the Preferred Agility Excellent program.

In order to acquire the Preferred Agility Excellent title, a dog must achieve 20 double qualifying scores obtained from the Preferred Master Standard Agility class and the Preferred Master Jumpers with Weaves class. Qualifying in both the Preferred Master Standard Agility class and the Preferred Master Jumpers with Weaves class on the same day equals one (1) double qualifying score (2Q).

Requirements / General Scoring.

Scores of 100 (clean rounds) obtained in the Master Preferred classes will count towards a dog’s Preferred Agility Excellent requirements if the scores are earned in both Standard and JWW classes on the same day.

A dog does not have to obtain the Master Agility Excellent Preferred (MXP) or the Master Agility Excellent Preferred JWW (MJP) titles prior to achieving scores that will count towards their Preferred Agility Excellent (PAX) title. Scores of 100 will count toward the dog’s MXP or MJP titles, and double qualifying scores count toward the PAX title even if the MXP or MJP title has not yet been achieved.

The PAX title will follow a dog’s registered name in all official AKC records. The PAX title will supersede all other Preferred agility titles. The title PAX will be followed by a numeric designation indicating the quantity of times the dog has met the requirements of the PAX title as defined above, e.g. 40 2Q’s = PAX2, 60 2Q’s = PAX3, etc.

TIME 2 BEAT (T2B) (Regular & Preferred Classes)

T2B is an optional titling class meant to challenge the handler/dog to set a clean efficient line with an emphasis on speed and accuracy. The dog that sets the quickest time in each jump height will set the time to beat for that jump height.

Performance Standards

• Score of 100 needed to qualify
• Wrong Course = 0 allowed
• Refusals/Run-outs are not called
• Must finish in UNDER MCT
Requirements / General Scoring

A qualifying score is obtained when the dog’s run time is under the MCT and has incurred no course faults.

- The dog within a jump height with the fastest time (before times are truncated) with no course faults shall earn first place and 10 points. In the case of a tie, a run-off will be used to determine the first-place dog. Only ONE dog per jump height shall be awarded 10 points. *(If a dog within any jump height is disallowed by AKC after the trial has ended no scores for any qualifying dogs will be recalculated.)*
- All qualifying dogs with a time below that of the MCT shall earn between 1 point and 9 points (see chart below).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dog’s Run Time Compared to 1st Place Dog</th>
<th># of Points Earned</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Within 10%</td>
<td>9 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Within 20%</td>
<td>8 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Within 30%</td>
<td>7 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Within 40%</td>
<td>6 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Within 50%</td>
<td>5 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Within 60%</td>
<td>4 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Within 70%</td>
<td>3 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Within 80%</td>
<td>2 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Within 90% or greater, but under the MCT</td>
<td>1 point</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The formula for the upper end of the percentage range is: (Fastest time in a jump height multiplied by the percentage) plus the fastest time in the jump height. Both the low and high end of the percentage range are truncated. Each dog’s time gets truncated. A dog’s time falls into a percentage range if it is greater than the low end and less than or equal to the high end of the range.

**Point Calculation Example:** If the Standard Course Time was: 28.73 seconds.

- To calculate the range of dog’s run times that will earn 9 points:
  - Take 28.73 and multiply it by 10% = 2.87
  - Add 28.73 and 2.87 = 31.60 and truncate the result = 31.00
  - Truncate the SCT of 28.73 = 28.00.
  - The range of dog’s run times for 10% is greater than or equal to 28 seconds and less than or equal to 31 seconds (*truncated dog’s time*).
  - All qualifying dogs whose truncated run time is greater than or equal to 28 and less than or equal to 31 seconds earn 9 points *(except for the winning dog which earns 10 points)*.

- To calculate the range of dog’s run times that will earn 8 points:
  - Take 28.73 and multiply it by 20% = 5.75
  - Add 28.73 and 5.75 = 34.48 and truncate the result = 34.00
  - The range of dog’s run times for 20% is greater than 31 seconds and less than or equal to 34 seconds (*truncated dog’s time*).
All qualifying dogs whose truncated run time is greater than 31 and less than or equal to 34 seconds earn 8 points.

To calculate the range of dog’s run times that will earn 7 points:

- Take 28.73 and multiply it by 30% = 8.62
- Add 28.73 and 8.62 = 37.35 and truncate the result = 37.00
- The range of dog’s run times for 30% is greater than 34 seconds and less than or equal to 37 seconds (truncated dog’s time).
- All qualifying dogs whose truncated run time is greater than 34 and less than or equal to 37 seconds earn 7 points.

Note: Not all point values may be awarded for a jump height depending on the SCT for that jump height. If a dog’s time is equal to or greater than the MCT, no points are awarded.

**Maximum Course Times (MCT)**

- 50 seconds for the 20, 24, & 24C-inch jump heights
- 55 seconds for the 16-inch jump height
- 60 seconds for the 4, 8, 12-inch jump heights

_No additional time is added for dogs entered in Preferred._

**Time 2 Beat Title (T2B, T2BP)**

To earn the Time 2 Beat or Time 2 Beat Preferred title, a dog must earn 15 qualifying scores and 100 points. The T2B or T2BP title initials will be followed by a numeric designation indicating the number of times the dog has met the requirements of the title. Each time a dog earns the title the number of qualifying scores and points will be set to zero.

**PREMIER - Standard and JWW (Regular & Preferred Classes)**

These optional titling classes are offered as separate titling tracks and are NOT part of the MACH/PACH program.

They are designed to challenge dogs and handlers at an increased speed and skill level above those set for the Master level classes. Handlers/dogs will need to negotiate courses that require varied approach angles, spacing, and obstacle discriminations to be successful.

To earn the **Premier Agility Dog (PAD), Premier Agility Dog Preferred (PADP), Premier Jumpers Dog (PJD) or Premier Jumpers Dog Preferred (PJDP)** titles, a dog must earn 25 qualifying scores with (5) five qualifying scores earned for placing in the top 25% of the dogs that competed in their jump height.

_Dogs that are absent or withdrawn will not count toward the number of dogs competing in the jump height. The 25% calculation will be rounded to determine the number of 25% placements in each jump height. In the case of a tie both dogs will receive the top 25% placement. If a class has 2 or 3 dogs competing, the 1st place dog will be awarded a top 25% placement qualifying score. If only one dog competes in the jump height, there will be no top 25% placement earned in that jump height._
Requirements / General Scoring
- Minimum allowable score required to qualify = 100
- The course must be completed before the dog reaches the MCT
- Any course fault is a non-qualifying one.

Maximum Course Times (MCT)
**Premier Standard**
**Regular:**
- 55 seconds for the 20- & 24-inch Choice Regular jump heights
- 60 seconds for the 16- & 24-inch Regular jump heights
- 65 seconds for the 8- and 12-inch Regular jump heights
**Preferred**
- 60 seconds for 16-inch Preferred jump height
- 65 seconds for 12- & 20-inch Preferred jump heights
- 70 seconds for 4- & 8-inch Preferred jump heights

**Premier Jumpers with Weaves**
**Regular**
- 46 seconds for the 24-inch Regular jump height
- 42 seconds for the 20-inch and 24-inch Choice Regular jump heights
- 45 seconds for the 16-inch Regular jump height
- 48 seconds for the 12-inch Regular jump height
- 50 seconds for the 8-inch regular jump heights
**Preferred**
- 51 seconds for the 20-inch Preferred jump height
- 47 seconds for the 16-inch Preferred jump height
- 50 seconds for the 12-inch Preferred jump height
- 53 seconds for the 8-inch Preferred jump height
- 55 seconds for the 4-inch Preferred jump height

**FIFTEEN AND SEND TIME (FAST) CLASS**
**Purpose.** This agility titling class is meant to be an additional test of strategy, skill, accuracy, speed, timing and distance handling to demonstrate a dog’s athletic ability and willingness to work with its handler in a fast-paced atmosphere over a variety of agility obstacles. This class is not part of the Master Agility Championship titling program.

The following criteria apply to the Fifteen and Send Time classes:
- Novice A & B FAST / Novice Preferred FAST
- Open FAST / Open Preferred FAST
- Excellent FAST / Excellent Preferred FAST
- Master FAST / Master Preferred FAST

**Definition.** As indicated by the title, the Fifteen and Send Time class uses fourteen (14) to sixteen (16) point valued obstacles and/or obstacle combinations. The course will include a “Send Bonus” or distance element that will award a bonus of twenty (20) points if completed
successfully and is identified as the “Send Bonus”. Five to Seven of the fourteen to sixteen point valued obstacles must be single bar jumps (typically winged) valued at one point each. Winged jumps are assumed to have a value of one point unless otherwise denoted by the judge. Nine (9) additional obstacles on the course will be assigned unique values from 2 through 10 by the judge.

There is a maximum of 80 possible FAST class points awarded at all levels, which is the sum of the fourteen to sixteen-point valued obstacles (60 points), (a maximum of 6 points may be accumulated utilizing the five to seven 1-point valued jumps); plus a “Send Bonus” value of 20 points. Teams must successfully complete the “Send Bonus” to achieve a qualifying score, as well as a minimum number of required points defined at each class level. To earn points, all obstacles must be completed in accordance with the obstacle performance requirements identified in the Regulations for Agility Trials.

Course times are determined by jump height. Standard Course Times (SCT's) are required as outlined in the chart below. Teams will use the following Standard Course Time (SCT) to accumulate points, attempt a “Send Bonus,” and to reach a judge-defined finish obstacle:

**Regular: Novice / Open / Excellent/Master**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jump Height</th>
<th>Standard Course Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8”</td>
<td>38 seconds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12” / 16”</td>
<td>35 seconds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20” / 24” / 26”</td>
<td>32 seconds</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Preferred: Novice / Open / Excellent/Master**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jump Height</th>
<th>Standard Course Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4”</td>
<td>41 seconds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8” / 12”</td>
<td>38 seconds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16” / 20”</td>
<td>35 seconds</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Teams will be assessed one (time) fault for every full second over SCT, which will be subtracted from the total points (obstacle & “Send Bonus” total) accumulated on course to determine the final score. Order of placements will be determined first by points and second by fastest (shortest) time.

In case of a tie in both points and time, a run-off must be offered. If either team chooses not to rerun to break the tie, then they may concede the win and take the lower placement. If a team is not available for a run-off (e.g. have left the trial site), then the team that is available will receive the higher placement. Another acceptable method of breaking a tie would be to flip a coin to determine the winner if both teams agree.

**Performance Standards:**

**Novice A & B FAST and Novice Preferred FAST class.** The focus of the FAST class at the Novice level will be to introduce the skill, timing, and minor distance work involved in a game of strategy and point accumulation.

- Minimum score to qualify is 50 points, which must include 20 points from the “Send Bonus.”
Open FAST and Open Preferred FAST Class. The focus of the FAST class at the Open level will be to test skill, timing, and intermediate distance work involved in a game of strategy and point accumulation.

- Minimum score to qualify is 55 points, which must include 20 points from the “Send Bonus.”

Excellent & Master FAST and Excellent & Master Preferred FAST Class. The focus of the FAST class at the Excellent/Master level will be to test skill, timing, and distance work at the highest level involved in a game of strategy and point accumulation.

The Excellent FAST class will be for dogs who have not earned the XF (Excellent FAST) title. The Excellent Preferred FAST class will be for dogs who have not earned the XFP (Excellent Preferred FAST) title.

- Minimum score to qualify is 60 points, which must include 20 points from the “Send Bonus.”

Triple Q Excellent (TQX)/ Triple Q Excellent Preferred (TQXP) titles

Requires the XF or XFP title. In order to acquire the Triple Q Excellent or Triple Q Excellent Preferred title, a dog must receive 10 triple qualifying scores from the Master Agility Standard class, the Master Jumpers with Weaves class and the Master FAST class (or in the corresponding Preferred classes) on the same day.

AGILITY GRAND CHAMPION (AGCH) TITLE

The Agility Grand Champion (AGCH) recognizes dogs that show consistency and versatility across all classes of the AKC agility program. To earn the AGCH title, the following number of qualifying scores must be earned at the highest level in each of these classes:

- Standard – 100
- Jumper with Weaves – 100
- FAST – 75
- Time 2 Beat – 75
- Premier Standard – 50
- Premier Jumper with Weaves – 50

These qualifying scores may be earned from either the Regular or Preferred classes or a combination of both these classes.
CHAPTER 14 – MEASUREMENT OF DOGS

Permanent jump height cards were developed to speed up exhibitor check-ins, provide for less exhibitor anxiety for those with borderline dogs, and ensure that all dogs meet the minimum performance standard of the AKC Agility program.

All clubs are required to have an AKC approved official measuring device on site at the event. Only the approved measuring device shall be used to determine a dog’s height for their Jump Height Card. To purchase an official measuring device, see the approved device list on the agility page of the AKC website, www.akc.org.

General Policy

- All dogs competing in AKC Agility must have a valid AKC measurement prior to running in any class.
  - A permanent Jump Height Card
  - A valid Temporary Jump Height Form
  - Copies of 2 different measuring forms (placing the dog in the same height class) dated on or after the dog’s 2nd birthday
  - Copies of 3 different measuring forms (2 of which place the dog in the same height class) dated on or after the dog’s 2nd birthday.

- Any dogs that have not been officially measured for a Jump Height Card or whose card has expired on their second birthday may still compete; however, they must be measured by the judge of record prior to running at each trial.
  - The judge’s measurement will be valid for this trial or back-to-back trials only.
  - For the judge’s planning purposes, the trial secretary should provide the judge with a list of dogs that need to be measured. This list is comprised of all entries where “My Dog Needs To Be Measured” was check-marked on the entry form.

- If an AKC Agility Field Rep or a Volunteer Measuring Official (VMO) is present, all dogs that have not been issued a permanent Jump Height Card or temporary jump height (yellow) form must be measured regardless of the jump height entered.

- Jump height cards (including copies) do not have to be submitted to the trial secretary nor are jump height cards required to be shown during check-in.

- If measuring is necessary, it is the exhibitor’s responsibility to have their dog(s) measured prior to running.

- Misrepresentation of a dog, including altering information on a jump height card/form, is grounds for misconduct.

- Exhibitors should carry the original valid official Jump Height Card at each trial to present upon request.

- The initial permanent height card will be sent out free of charge.

- Lost cards may be replaced at a fee of $15.00. Contact Companion Events department at (919) 816-3821, or by e-mail at agilityhtcards@akc.org.
AKC Official Jump Height Card Measuring Procedure

Permanent Cards

At two (2) years of age two measurements are required by two different Volunteer Measuring Officials (VMO’s) or AKC Agility Field Reps. The dog must be measured for a permanent height card at their first opportunity. However, it is only required that a dog be officially measured one time at any trial or cluster of trials. If there is more than one VMO/Representative measuring at a set of trials, it is at the owner’s discretion if they would like to get more than one measurement on that day or any contiguous days. They may not choose to whom they present their dog for that first measurement of the day but must follow the measuring schedule set up by the club and VMO or Representative. Upon receiving two measurements, if these two measurements put the dog in two different jump heights, then a third measurement will be used to determine the dog’s official jump height. The handler will retain all yellow forms until the second (or third) measurement is taken and the permanent jump height card is received from AKC. No permanent height card will be issued until the second (or third) measurement is officially recorded, with the exception of dogs measuring over 22 inches whose owner may request the issuance of a permanent height card with one measurement. *(Note: All official measurements must be from separate individuals for any given dog after the dog turns 2 years of age. Thus, one of the measurements may be done by a VMO/Representative that measured the dog prior to its second birthday.)*

The owner’s request to issue a permanent card for a dog that measures over 22 inches after one measurement will negate the option of any additional measurements for that dog’s permanent jump height card. To receive the card after one measurement, the owner must sign and check the appropriate box on the Agility Measurement Form acknowledging the request to issue a permanent jump height card for dogs over 22 inches. In making this decision, it still allows for the owner to request that the dog be re-measured by using the Challenge Measurement Process in the future.

Temporary Cards (yellow forms only) for dogs 15 months up to 2 years of age

Dogs that are between 15 months and 2 years of age are issued a temporary form that expires on their second birthday. This temporary form is the yellow copy of the height card form which is given to the owner by the VMO/Representative at the time that the measurement is done.

Only one official temporary measurement is required between 15 months and 2 years of age. However, during this time dogs are allowed one “challenge” measurement to this single measurement, which must be done by a VMO/Agility Representative unique to the one that did their original temporary measurement. If a challenge measurement is done, this measurement then becomes the dog’s height until they turn 2 years of age.

If a dog is under 2 years of age but measures over 22”, the owner may request that a permanent card be issued and waive the requirement for additional measurement on or after the dog’s second birthday. This is done by checking the appropriate box on the form or by writing “Issue permanent card” on the height card form and having the owner sign the form.
Challenge Measurement Process
After the age of two (2), the owner of a dog is allowed a one-time request to make use of the challenge measurement process over the dog’s lifetime. This challenge measurement process consists of a minimum of two (2) challenge measurements. If both challenge measurements place the dog into the same jump height class, then AKC will issue a new permanent card. If only one of the two challenge measurements place the dog in a different jump height class, then a third challenge measurement is required to determine the dog’s jump height class. (Please note that if the 1st challenge measurement does NOT place the dog in a different jump height class then no further measurements are given.)

Until such time that the dog has received all required challenge measurements, the dog must continue to compete at the “original” jump height. When the second (or third) measurement is completed in the Challenge Measurement Process and the new shoulder height is different from the Permanent Jump Height Card previously issued, the new shoulder height becomes effective immediately.

All measurements must be from separate individuals for any given dog during this time period.

What Ifs - During the Measuring Process

• If a dog is measured by an AKC Agility Field Rep or VMO and is now eligible to jump in a lower height class, the measurement is effective immediately for any future runs. This does not apply to a challenge measurement for a permanent jump height card for dogs two (2) years of age or older.
• If the judge of record measures a dog and the dog’s height at the withers exceeds the maximum allowed for the jump height which the dog has entered, the dog shall be moved-up into the proper jump height. In no case may a dog entered in a Regular class be moved down in height based on the judge of record’s measurement at a trial. Dogs running in Preferred MUST run in their measured jump height, so they must be moved to their correctly measured height.
• If a VMO or Agility Field Representative at a trial measures a dog into a height other than what they entered, the entry may be changed from Regular to Preferred or from Preferred to Regular, as long as the dog has not run any classes that day. If the dog has already run, the change may be made for the next trial day(s). The exhibitor must provide the Trial Secretary the AKC Agility Measurement Form when requesting the class change.
  o If a dog is entered in Regular and the handler wants to move to Preferred:
    ➢ They can move to Novice Preferred if they have no Preferred Titles
    ➢ They can use their one-time crossover to the level they are at in Regular (Chapter 8, Section 4. Classes)
  o If a dog is entered in Preferred and the handler wants to move to Regular:
    ➢ They MUST move to the level they are eligible to compete at. If they have no legs/titles in the Regular class, they MUST start at the Novice level.
    ➢ If they have any legs or titles in Regular it does not matter what height they were earned at, they may move to the class level that they are eligible to compete in.
    ➢ There are NO lateral moves from Preferred to Regular.
Overview for Temporary Cards – Dogs 15 months to less than 2 years

- Only 1 measurement needed for a temporary card (which is the yellow form)
- This form expires on the dog’s 2nd birthday
- One challenge measurement is allowed for dogs between 15 months and 2 years
- Challenge height will be the one recorded for the dog
- Preferred dogs must run in their measured height and must be moved up or down after a measurement if they are entered in the incorrect jump height
- Owners can request a permanent card for dogs measuring over 22”

Overview for Dogs 2 years of age or older

- In general, all dogs will require a minimum of 2 measurements
- Dogs that are over 22” tall can be issued a permanent jump height card after a single measurement at the owner’s request
- If a dog does not have a permanent height card (white card issued by AKC), it must go on the “needs measuring list”
- If no VMO/Rep is present, dogs with one yellow form do not get measured but jump based on the yellow form shoulder height
- Dogs that get 2 measurements that place them in the same height will be issued a permanent card
- Dogs that get 1 measurement in one height and a second measurement in a different height will need a third measurement to determine the dog’s final jump height. The third measurement will be the one that will be used to determine the dog’s permanently assigned jump height
- Preferred dogs must run in their measured height and must be moved up or down accordingly after measurement or upon presentation of yellow form(s)
- Regular class dogs may not be moved down in height based on the judge of record’s measurement but can be moved down immediately based on VMO/Rep measurement
- The most recent measurement is used to determine the dog’s jump height (unless it is a challenge measurement)

Clubs must directly contact a Volunteer Measuring Official to check their availability to come to a trial to measure dogs. A “Mass Measurement” form must be submitted to AKC 30 days prior to the event date indicating that a Volunteer Measuring Official will be present at the trial. This form can be downloaded from the AKC website, www.akc.org, from the downloadable forms page on the Events tab. (See appendix for copy of Mass Measurement form and a list of Volunteer Measuring Officials.)

If you have any questions regarding the above policy, please direct your inquiries to the Companion Events Manager - Tel: (919) 816-3559; Fax: (919) 816-4204; E-mail: agilityhtcards@akc.org.
CHAPTER 15 – EVENT COMMITTEE HEARINGS

Event Committee hearings are governed by the rules set forth in Dealing with Misconduct, a guide for committee hearings. The following information presents the highlights from this booklet. Questions concerning committee hearings may be directed to the AKC’s Inspections and Investigations Department.

A copy of Dealing with Misconduct must be available to the complainant, the accused, and each member of the hearing committee at the event.

Incidents of misconduct should be managed with impartiality, orderliness in the procedures followed, and fairness in obtaining testimonies from witnesses and the accused.

The Event Committee

It is the duty of the Event Committee, not of the AKC, to deal initially with acts of alleged prejudicial conduct that occur during or in connection with a club’s event. Prior to the trial, it is imperative that all members of the Event Committee thoroughly review the Dealing with Misconduct booklet.

The Event Committee should advise, if available, the AKC Executive Field Representative of the charges and when the Representative is available, he or she should be present for most of the hearing. The Representative will advise all parties about proper procedures.

The Event Committee should plan a location where a hearing could be held. The location should afford the privacy needed – removed from the immediate mainstream of activities, yet easily accessible to all parties involved in the hearing.

An Event Committee itself may prefer charges of prejudicial conduct against anyone. Charges do not have to be made by someone directly involved in the incident.

A preliminary investigation is made by the Event Committee to determine whether the allegation(s), if proven, would constitute conduct prejudicial to the best interests of the sport of purebred dogs or to dog shows. If not, the matter can be dismissed without a hearing.

The Hearing Committee

The committee should consist of at least five individuals listed in the premium list as members of the Event Committee. A minimum of three individuals must be available for a hearing. If three committee members are unavailable due to conflict of interest, other club members may be substituted. All committee members must be members of the event-giving club.
A witness cannot serve as a member of the committee. Committee members must excuse themselves if they feel that they could not be impartial to the proceedings, or if they expect to offer testimony for or against the accused.

Conflicts of interest can include, but are not limited to:

- An immediate family member will appear as a witness in the hearing
- A person or business relationship with the accused or complainant exists
- The inability to be impartial

Conducting the Hearing

The *Dealing with Misconduct* booklet outlines in chronological order the steps to be taken to ensure a speedy and fair hearing. The *Dealing with Misconduct* guidelines help to assure that the committee follows the correct procedure. The committee should fill out the required *Procedural Checklist* form (RDEOB1) (see appendix) during the hearing rather than after the hearing is finished.

**If the outcome of the hearing requires disciplinary action, the committee must carry out its responsibilities according to the Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club.**

There are instances when Event Committees unintentionally infringe upon the rights of an accused, providing them with grounds for an appeal and the AKC’s reversing of the committee’s decision. An Event Committee that acts judiciously should expect that its action will be supported by the AKC. The authority of the Event Committee for a licensed event is they have the right to suspend any person from any or all privileges of AKC for conduct prejudicial to the best interest of purebred dogs. The Event Committee at Sanctioned events does not have this power but has the duty to investigate any alleged prejudicial conduct occurring in connection with or during the progress of its event and must send in a report of all the facts.

Attempts should be made to contact the accused if the committee learns that the accused has left the show grounds before being advised of the charges. The committee must notify the accused via certified mail with a return receipt if his/her whereabouts are unknown, notifying them that charges will be heard, the location and time of the hearing, and of their rights. Notice of such a hearing must include the specifics of the charge to be heard, and the accused must be provided an opportunity to respond to the charge in writing in the event they are unable to attend the hearing.

If the committee succeeds in contacting and notifying the accused, the hearing may be held at the trial, after the close of the trial, or the following day.

If the accused fails to appear after having been advised of the charges preferred, the nature of the charges, and the time and location of the hearing, the committee should hold the hearing, weighing the testimony of all witnesses and reaching its conclusions as if the accused had been present.
If the committee finds the accused guilty, the accused must be notified by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested and first-class mail.

### The Hearing Report

A report of the incident, the completed *Procedural Checklist*, and the committee’s conclusion must be included in the *Trial Secretary’s Report* submitted to the AKC following the event. The accused is entitled to a copy of the report, if requested. The report itself is otherwise considered to be confidential.

The AKC expects the report filed on the record of the hearing to be comprehensive. The report should detail the incident and the charges and provide a summary of the testimony of all witnesses.

The club should keep accurate records of the hearing. The written record of the proceedings should support the decision reached by the Event Committee.

If the accused failed to appear at the hearing, this should be noted in the report and any attempts to contact the accused must be included in the report. The committee is not to discuss the hearing as it is confidential.

### The Accused

The accused must be:

- Advised of their rights in the matter, namely that they have enough time to prepare a defense and gather witnesses, and that they may question witnesses and make a statement at the hearing. Neither the complainant nor the witnesses have the right to remain at the hearing, or to question the accused or other witnesses.

- Advised of the nature of the charges, specifically the offense or conduct alleged to have been prejudicial.

- Advised of where and when the hearing committee meeting will be held, giving the accused reasonable time to prepare for it.

- Given an opportunity to confront their accuser(s), to hear the testimony of all witnesses against them and to cross-examine such witnesses.

- Permitted to testify on their own behalf.

- Allowed to present witnesses in their defense.

- The accused may have an attorney present to advise but not to speak for or officially represent them. The hearing may not be delayed so that the accused may get an attorney.

### Event Committee Hearing Video Presentation

[https://jwp.io/s/7yxfMFbc](https://jwp.io/s/7yxfMFbc)
CHAPTER 16 – HANDLING DOG AGGRESSION

**Event Committee Responsibility**

1. Any dog, that in the opinion of the Event Committee, attacks a person or a dog at an AKC event, resulting in an injury, and is believed by that Event Committee to present a hazard to persons or other dogs, shall be disqualified.
   - A report (**AEDSQ4** – Dog Aggression – Action by Event Committee) shall be filed with the Executive Secretary of the American Kennel Club within 72 hours of the incident
   - The disqualified dog may not again compete at any AKC event nor be on the grounds of an AKC event unless and until, following application for reinstatement by the owner to the American Kennel Club, the owner receives official notification in writing from the AKC that the dog’s eligibility has been reinstated.

2. Dog displays **THREATENING OR MENACING BEHAVIOR**, or **ATTACKS** a Volunteer Measuring Official or an Agility Field Rep while being measured:
   - The behavior must be reported immediately to the Event Committee, asking for an investigation to determine if the dog should be DISQUALIFIED and/or asked to leave the trial grounds.
   - The Judge of Record should also be notified that the dog could not be measured.
   - The VMO or Field Rep **must write up** the incident and submit it to the Agility Director.
   - The Trial Chairman must submit to the AKC a written report of the incident along with the Trial Chairman’s report.
   - The Trial Secretary must submit to the AKC a written report of the incident along with the trial catalog.

3. Menacing and out-of-control dogs outside of the ring are to be handled by the Event Committee. An investigation will ensue to determine if further action is required. A report must be filed with AKC.

**Disqualification by the Event Committee requires three things to be true:**

1. There was an attack
2. There was an injury
3. The Event Committee believes the dog is a hazard to people or dogs

**If the Event Committee becomes aware of any act of dog aggression that takes place in association with their event, the Committee MUST investigate the incident and complete the form AEDSQ4. NO EXHIBITOR COMPLAINT IS REQUIRED.**

*The Event Committee always has the option of asking that any dog be removed from the trial grounds if they feel that the dog is a threat to other dogs or to people.*
Judge’s Responsibility

1. Dog in the ring displays **THREATENING OR MENACING BEHAVIOR** towards a person in the ring, a dog at the start line, a dog or person outside the ring, or leaves the ring and displays these behaviors toward a dog or person outside the ring:
   - The judge must *EXCUSE* the dog from the ring.
   - The judge *must mark* “EXCUSED” in the catalog and state the reason in the catalog.
   - The judge *must write up* the incident and submit it to the Agility Director as part of the judge’s trial report.
   - The Trial Chairman must submit to the AKC a written report of the incident along with the Trial Chairman’s report.
   - The Trial Secretary must submit to the AKC a written report of the incident along with the trial catalog.

   **Note:** This type of report becomes part of the dog’s record and is applied toward the dog being permanently barred from AKC agility events. If two separate incidents are reported to the AKC Agility Director, the dog will be barred from all future AKC events. The dog may not compete at any AKC event unless and until, following application for reinstatement by the owner to the AKC, the owner receives official notification in writing from the AKC that the dog’s eligibility has been reinstated.

2. Dog in the ring **ATTACKS** another dog (usually at the start line), leaves the ring and **ATTACKS** another dog, or runs into the ring and **ATTACKS** another dog:
   - The judge must *EXCUSE* the dog from the ring and seriously consider doing so for the remainder of the day or series of trials.
   - The judge *must mark* “EXCUSED” in the catalog and state the reason in the catalog.
   - The judge must fill out a current **DOG ON DOG ATTACK** form (AEDSQ3) and have the Event Committee/Secretary FAX it to AKC Event Operations within 72 hours of the incident.
   - The Trial Chairman must submit to the AKC a written report of the incident along with the Trial Chairman’s report.
   - The Trial Secretary must submit to the AKC a written report of the incident along with the trial catalog.

   **Note:** This type of report becomes part of the dog’s record and is applied toward the dog being permanently barred from AKC agility events. If two separate incidents are reported to the AKC Agility Director, the dog will be barred from all future AKC events. The dog may not compete at any AKC event unless and until, following application for reinstatement by the owner to the AKC, the owner receives official notification in writing from the AKC that the dog’s eligibility has been reinstated.

3. Dog in the ring **ATTACKS** any person in the ring or **ATTACKS** the judge while being measured:
   - The judge must **DISQUALIFY** the dog.
   - The judge *must mark* “DISQUALIFIED” in the catalog and state the reason in the catalog.
- The judge must fill out a current **DISQUALIFICATION FOR ATTKING** form (AEDSQ1) and have the Event Committee/Secretary FAX it to AKC Event Operations within 72 hours of the incident.
- The Trial Chairman must submit to the AKC a written report of the incident along with the Trial Chairman’s report.
- The Trial Secretary must submit to the AKC a written report of the incident along with the trial catalog.

**Note:** This type of report signifies that the dog may not compete at any AKC event nor be on the grounds of any AKC event unless and until, following application for reinstatement by the owner to the AKC, the owner receives official notification in writing from the AKC that the dog’s eligibility has been reinstated.

If a dog is **DISQUALIFIED** and the Event Committee determines the dog to be a possible danger, the dog must be removed from the trial grounds.

4. **A Dog presented for measurement to the Judge of Record that is unable to be measured due to AGGRESSION:**
   - The judge must **EXCUSE** the dog.
   - The judge must mark “EXCUSED” in the catalog and state the reason in the catalog.
   - The judge must write up the incident and submit it to the Agility Director as part of the judge’s trial report.
   - The Trial Chairman must submit to the AKC a written report of the incident along with the Trial Chairman’s report.
   - The Trial Secretary must submit to the AKC a written report of the incident along with the trial catalog.

**Note:** This type of report becomes part of the dog’s record and is applied toward the dog being permanently barred from AKC agility events. If two separate incidents are reported to the AKC Agility Director, the dog will be barred from all future AKC events. The dog may not compete at any AKC event unless and until, following application for reinstatement by the owner to the AKC, the owner receives official notification in writing from the AKC that the dog’s eligibility has been reinstated.

Remember, a misconduct can only be charged against a person for their actions; a dog cannot be charged with misconduct.

As a judge, you are only involved in a Misconduct Hearing if you are the complainant (filing a written complaint) or as a witness.

---

**Removing Dog from the Show Grounds:**

The Event Committee has the option to remove a dog from the grounds for the remainder of the day or the series of shows if a misconduct hearing has been held and the incident has been found by the committee to be a misconduct offense.

If there is no misconduct charge, but the Event Committee feels after reviewing the incident, that the dog is a possible danger, the Event Committee may ask the handler to remove the dog from the grounds. If this is done, a **letter regarding the incident must be submitted** to the AKC Agility Director with the Trial Chairman’s report.
CHAPTER 17 – ACT – (AGILITY COURSE TEST)

The Agility Course Test (ACT) is an entry level agility event to introduce beginning dogs and handlers to the sport of agility and the AKC agility program.

There are two levels of ACT events:
- ACT1 – is designed for the beginning level dog to show beginning sequencing and performance skills.
- ACT2 – requires an increased skill level shown by the additional obstacles to be performed.

Eligibility of Dogs
- All dogs fifteen (15) months of age or older that have not earned a title in any AKC Agility class may enter a test.
- Dogs must be physically sound.
- In order to acquire the title certificate and have the title added to a dog’s record, the dog must be registered/listed with the AKC.
- Canine Partner applications may be accepted at the test by the judge/evaluator and submitted with test results.
- Dogs that are NOT AKC registered/listed may participate and their performance will be recorded by the AKC under a temporary recording number.
  - The temporary recording number will be e-mailed to the owner.
  - The owner must use the temporary number when entering subsequent ACT events.
  - This temporary number must be used when/if the owner registers/lists the dog with AKC.
  - This temporary recording number may only be used to enter ACT events.

Holding ACT Events
- Any AKC club licensed to hold agility trials may hold an ACT event.
  - In conjunction with an agility trial (ACT event may be noted in the Premium.)
  - As a stand-alone ACT event.
- Any AKC agility judge/ACT evaluator may hold a stand-alone ACT event. (Does not have to be held by an AKC licensed club.)
- No more than two ACT1 and/or two ACT2 events may be held per day.
- No event application to the American Kennel Club is required.
- Entrants must fill out an ACT entry form (see Appendix).
- Entries may be accepted prior to the event or on the day of the event.
- The judge or an ACT evaluator must submit the Test Report in place of Trial Chair and Trial Secretary Reports.
- No event kits will be mailed.
- All forms must be downloaded from the AKC website.
  ([https://www.akc.org/sports/agility/act-program/](https://www.akc.org/sports/agility/act-program/))
General Information

- Dogs may be entered at any of the approved AKC agility jump heights.
- There is no Regular or Preferred distinction in the ACT program.
- A jump height card is NOT required to enter an ACT event.
- Course areas must be a minimum of 3,500 usable square feet with the area being moderately level and clear and a minimum of 40 feet wide.
- Dogs must have two passing ACT1 scores in order to earn the ACT1 title and two passing ACT2 scores in order to earn the ACT2 title.
  - All passing scores may be obtained under the same judge/evaluator.
  - Minimum allowable score required to qualify = 85.
  - Run-outs and Refusals will not be judged.
  - More than 3 attempts at the next correct obstacle (ascent side of contacts) will result in a Mandatory Elimination and will be signaled with an “F” by judge/evaluator.
  - Dogs may continue to compete in ACT1 until one qualifying score is obtained in ACT2.
  - Dogs may continue to compete in ACT2 until the dog obtains any AKC Agility title.
  - Dogs do not have to have an ACT1 title in order to enter ACT2.
- The maximum course time for ACT1 (all jump heights) is 60 seconds and the course must be completed in less than 60 seconds.
- The maximum course time for ACT2 (all jump heights) is 70 seconds and the course must be completed in less than 70 seconds.
INCIDENT REPORT

Use this form to document any injury to a person or dog or damage to property at your Event

This Must Be Completed Within 24 Hours After The Incident Report Being Completed

- If this incident involves conduct prejudicial or if a dog is seriously injured or dies the matter **must also** be handled as provided by *Dealing With Misconduct at American Kennel Club Events.*
- If this incident involves an act of dog aggression the matter **must also** be handled as provided by the AKC Rules, Regulations or Procedures for each event type to determine whether or not in the opinion of the Event Committee the dog attacked a person or dog resulting in an injury and the Event Committee believes the dog to be a hazard to persons or other dogs. Please complete *Dog Disqualified by Event Committee* form to document the incident.
- If you have any questions with respect to AKC Rules, Regulations and policies, please call the AKC at 919-816-3579 and on the weekends at the hotline number 800-252-7894.
- AKC Rules and Regulations are available at www.akc.org/rules/ and Downloadable Forms are available at www.akc.org/downloadable-forms/

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WHO?</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name of injured person:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address:</td>
<td>Phone #</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email Address:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| ☐ Exhibitor ☐ Spectator ☐ Judge ☐ Volunteer ☐ Other (specify) |

| ☐ Minor ☐ Age _____ | Guardian Information ___________________________________________ |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DOG?</th>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Registration Number</td>
<td>Registered Name</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| ☐ Not Registered | Identifying Information if not registered  |

| Vaccination Info Obtained | If No, Why not  |

| ☐ Yes ☐ No |  |

| Name of person in control of dog: |  |
| Address | Phone #  |
| Email Address |  |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WHEN? WHERE?</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Incident date:</td>
<td>Time:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Event #</td>
<td>Event Type:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WHAT HAPPENED? (Try to answer as many of the questions as possible. Get Witness Statements and Attach)</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What was the person doing – Why did he/she get hurt? Or when dog was injured? Or property damaged?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What hurt them? What part of body? What sort of injury? What sort of property damage?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Witnesses? List Name, address, phone number and email address

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
<th>Email</th>
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<tbody>
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</tbody>
</table>

### WHAT RESULTED?

#### Person

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current Disposition</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Body Part Injured</th>
<th>Type of Injury</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sent to Hospital</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>First Aid</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>EMS</td>
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<tr>
<td>EMS Name:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital:</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

#### Dog

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current Disposition</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Body Part Injured</th>
<th>Type of Injury</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sent to Veterinary Hospital</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>First Aid</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Seen by Event Veterinarian</td>
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<tr>
<td>Event Veterinarian name</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Veterinarian Hospital</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### WHO? (will correct)

Any corrections of unsafe condition(s), procedures or acts need addressing? If yes who will address?

Sign: __________________________________________  Completion date: __________

### WHO? (Completed Form)

Sign: __________________________________________  Date: ___________________

Reviewed by: __________________________________  Reviewed and approved by:  ___________________
OFFICIAL AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB AGILITY ENTRY FORM

AGREEMENT

I certify that I am the actual owner of the dog, or that I am the duly authorized agent of the actual owner whose name I have entered. In consideration of the acceptance of this entry, I (we) agree to abide by the rules and regulations of The American Kennel Club in effect at the time of this event, and any additional rules and regulations published for this event and any decision made in accord with them and further agree to be bound by this Agreement. I (we) agree that the club or ACT Evaluator, holding this event has the right to refuse this entry for cause which the club or ACT Evaluator shall deem sufficient. I (we) certify and represent that the dog entered is not a hazard to persons or other dogs. In consideration of the acceptance of this entry and of the opportunity to have the dog judged and to win prizes, ribbons, or trophies, I (we) agree to hold the AKC, the event-giving club, their members, directors, governors, officers, agents, superintendents, event secretary and the owner and/or lessor of the premises and any provider of services that are necessary to hold this event and any employees or volunteers of the aforementioned parties, and any AKC approved judge or ACT Evaluator, judging at this event, harmless from any claim for loss or injury which may be alleged to have been caused directly or indirectly to any person or thing by the act of this dog while in or about the event premises or grounds or near any entrance thereto, and I (we) personally assume all responsibility and liability for any such claim; and I (we) further agree to hold the aforementioned parties harmless from any claim for loss, injury or damage to this dog. Additionally, I (we) hereby assume the sole responsibility for and agree to indemnify, defend and save the aforementioned parties harmless from any and all loss and expense (including legal fees) by reason of the liability imposed by law upon any of the aforementioned parties for damage because of bodily injuries, including death at any time resulting therefrom, sustained by any person or persons, including myself (ourselves), or on account of damage to property, arising out of or in consequence of my (our) participation in this event, however such, injuries, death or property damage may be caused, and whether or not the same may have been caused or may be alleged to have been caused by the negligence of the aforementioned parties or any of their employees, agents, or any other person. I (WE) AGREE THAT ANY CAUSE OF ACTION, CONTROVERSY OR CLAIM ARISING OUT OF OR RELATED TO THE ENTRY, EXHIBITION OR ATTENDANCE AT THE EVENT BETWEEN THE AKC AND THE EVENT-GIVING CLUB (UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED IN THIS PREMIUM LIST) OR ACT EVALUATOR AND MYSELF (MYSELVES) OR AS TO THE CONSTRUCTION, INTERPRETATION AND EFFECT OF THIS AGREEMENT SHALL BE SETTLED BY ARBITRATION PURSUANT TO THE APPLICABLE RULES OF THE AMERICAN ARBITRATION ASSOCIATION, HOWEVER, PRIOR TO ARBITRATION ALL APPLICABLE AKC BYLAWS, RULES, REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES MUST FIRST BE FOLLOWED AS SET FORTH IN THE AKC CHARTER AND BYLAWS, RULES, REGULATIONS, PUBLISHED POLICIES AND GUIDELINES.

INSTRUCTIONS

Dogs may be entered in any jump height. There is no Regular or Preferred distinction at AKC’s ACT events.

In order to acquire the ACT1 or ACT2 title certificate and have the title added to a dog’s record, the dog must be registered/listed with the American Kennel Club. AKC Canine Partners℠ applications may be accepted at the event and submitted to AKC with the event’s results.

Dogs that are not AKC registered/listed may be registered at a later date and receive their ACT title at that time.

Dogs listed in the AKC Canine Partners℠ program should be listed as All American Dog and must include their AKC number on the entry form and check the AKC No. box.

Junior Handlers should enter their Junior Handler Number on the front of this form. Should you not have your Junior Handler number, it may be obtained from the American Kennel Club (919) 233-9767. If the Junior Handler is not the owner of the dog identified on the face of this form, what is the relationship of the Junior Handler to the Owner?

SIGN HERE

X

Telephone Number:

Email Address: New Email

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY - Name: Phone #:

EXHIBITOR / OWNER MUST READ AND SIGN THE REVERSE SIDE OF THIS FORM.
COMPLIANCE CHECKLIST

The following is a checklist to help clubs understand their obligations under the Americans With Disabilities Act as public accommodations.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR PUBLIC ACCOMMODATIONS

1) Do you provide individuals with disabilities an opportunity to receive goods and services that is equivalent to that provided others and is not separate or different?

   Yes____  No____  N/A____

2) Does your lease allocate responsibilities for ADA compliance in common areas and within the place of public accommodation?

   Yes____  No____  N/A____

3) Do you have a system for ensuring that accessibility features such as elevators are maintained in working order?

   Yes____  No____  N/A____

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS FOR PUBLIC ACCOMMODATIONS

Removal of Barriers or Provision of Readily Achievable Alternatives:
(Note: Questions 4 - 12 below are the basic questions you need to ask yourself to determine whether individuals with disabilities have access to your facility and its goods and services. You will need to answer the questions for each of your facilities. The questions are listed below according to the priorities set out in the regulations. Only a few of the most important features of each element are included in each question. You must refer to Americans With Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG) to understand all of the requirement for each element.)

4) Do you have sufficient entrances (one in most buildings; more in larger buildings with more entrances) that are usable by a person using a wheelchair, i.e., among other things, wide, smooth, and level or, if not level, equipped with a ramp, curb ramp, elevator, or platform lift?

   Yes____  No____  N/A____

If not, what corrective actions are needed (e.g., add a ramp; install a platform lift)?

5) Does the accessible entrance(s) have an accessible door that, among other things, is at least 32” wide, is not a revolving door or turnstile, and has door hardware usable by individuals with disabilities?
Yes    No    N/A

If not, what corrective actions are needed (e.g., widen the door; install an offset hinge to widen the doorway; eliminate a turnstile or provide an alternative accessible door; install accessible door hardware)?

6) Do you have an adequate number of accessible parking spaces for cars that, among other things, are at least 96" wide with a 60" access aisle, and for vans are 96" wide with a 96" access aisle and 98" vertical clearance?

Yes    No    N/A

If not, what corrective actions are needed (e.g., add an accessible space; restripe the parking lost to create spaces)?

7) If you provide a passenger loading zone, is it usable by an individual using a wheelchair (i.e., among other things, does it have a wide, firm, and level pedestrian aisle and a parallel level or ramped vehicle pull-up space)?

Yes    No    N/A

If not, what corrective actions are needed (e.g., grade the surface; install a curb cut)?

8) Do you have an accessible route (i.e., a route that, among other things, is 36" wide, with sufficient clear head room, and curb ramp or ramps where necessary) from parking, passenger loading zones, public transportation stops, and streets or sidewalks?

Yes    No    N/A

If not, what corrective actions are needed (e.g., install ramps or curb cuts; remove protruding objects; add detectable warnings; remount signs; add Brailled and raised lettering to signs; eliminate manholes)?

9) Are your halls, aisles, corridors, lobbies, and any doors leading to the area where you provide goods and services usable by individuals using wheelchairs?

Yes    No    N/A

If not, what corrective actions are needed (e.g., remove high pile, low density carpeting; fasten carpet edges to the floor; move equipment out of the hallway; install flashing alarm lights)?

10) Can an individual using a wheelchair get to the area where goods and services are provided?

Yes    No    N/A
If not, what corrective actions are needed (e.g., rearrange displays, provide accessible seating; widen aisles; reposition shelves)?

11) Do you have an adequate number of restrooms usable by individuals using wheelchairs (which have, among other things, wide enough bathroom and toilet stall doors, sufficient maneuvering space, and grab bars)?

   Yes____  No____  N/A____

If not, what corrective actions are needed (i.e., install grab bars in toilet stalls; rearrange toilet partitions to increase maneuvering space; insulate lavatory pipes under sinks to prevent burns; install a raised toilet seat; install a full-length mirror; reposition the paper towel dispenser in the bathroom)?

12) Are there any other measures you should take to provide access to your goods and services (e.g., to make telephones or water fountains accessible, for example)?

   Yes____  No____  N/A____

If yes, what corrective actions are needed (i.e., lower telephones; add Brailled and raised marking on elevator control buttons; install an accessible paper cup dispenser at an existing inaccessible water fountain)?

13) If you provide transportation shuttle services for your customers:

   a) Do the vehicles have barriers that can be easily and inexpensively removed?

   Yes____  No____  N/A____

   b) Have you established a method to ensure that new vehicles comply with Department of Transportation regulations?

   Yes____  No____  N/A____

Auxiliary Aids and Services

14) Have you considered and purchased or otherwise established a method for providing auxiliary aids and services for communicating with individuals with hearing and speech impairments? (You need to consider all activities for which auxiliary aids may be needed; for example, announcements over the public address system; film or video presentations; and complaint and information desks.)

   Yes____  No____  N/A____

15) Have you considered and purchased or otherwise established a method for providing auxiliary aids and services for communicating with individuals with visual impairments? (You need to consider all activities
for which auxiliary aids may be needed; for example, documents and other written materials; signs; labels; and instructions on equipment.)

Yes_____ No_____ N/A____

16) When you will not be providing particular auxiliary aids because they would result in a fundamental alteration or undue burden, have you identified feasible alternative auxiliary aids?

Yes_____ No_____ N/A____

17) Have you established a system for notifying individuals with hearing, speech, and vision impairments of the existence of auxiliary aids?

Yes_____ No_____ N/A____

Eligibility Criteria

18) Do you have any eligibility criteria that screen out or tend to screen out individuals with disabilities?

Yes_____ No_____ N/A____

Modifications in Policies, Practices, and Procedures

19) Do you have any policies, practices, or procedures that deny equal access?

Yes_____ No_____ N/A____

If yes, are they permissible because to modify them would be unreasonable and would fundamentally alter the nature of the goods and services you provide?

Yes_____ No_____ N/A____

ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURES

20) Have you established an informal mechanism for resolution of complaints?

Yes_____ No_____ N/A____

DEVELOPING AN IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

21) Have you developed an implementation plan to take steps needed as indicated in questions 4 - 12 above and to document reasons for not taking other steps?

- 4 -
Yes____  No____  N/A____

22) For steps that you will not be taking because they are not readily achievable, have you identified readily achievable alternatives to provide access to the goods and services?

Yes____  No____  N/A____

23) Have you developed a process for periodic self-assessment of compliance?

Yes____  No____  N/A____

24) Does your implementation plan cover other Title III requirements, particularly auxiliary aids and services?

Yes____  No____  N/A____
### All incidences of aggression should be described in the Judge's Report submitted to the Director of Agility

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Dog Excused by Judge &quot;Excusal&quot;</th>
<th>Judge completes Dog on Dog Attack (form AEDSQ3)</th>
<th>Dog Disqualified by Judge</th>
<th>Judge completes Disqualification for Attacking (form AEDSQ1)</th>
<th>Event Committee must consider Disqualification of the dog**</th>
<th>Event Committee completes Dog Aggression - Action by Event Committee (form AEDSQ4)</th>
<th>Preliminary Investigation for Event Hearing against Person may be held</th>
<th>Preliminary Investigation for Event Hearing against Person must be held</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Incident</td>
<td>Aggressive (threatening/ menacing) behavior in the ring toward a person or dog*</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dog leaves the ring and threatens a dog or person and the judge is able to see incident*</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dog either runs out of the ring and attacks another dog or into the ring and attacks another dog*</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dog attacks any person in the ring or while being measured by the judge</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
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<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dog attacks any person or dog outside of the ring</td>
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<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dog attacks any dog or person anywhere on grounds and there is a serious injury</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Two incidents of aggressive behavior will cause the dog's disqualification.

** Disqualification by the Event Committee requires three things to be true—1) There was an attack.
2) There was an injury and 3) The Event Committee believes the dog is a hazard to people or dogs.

--No member of the Event Committee need witness the attack. If the Event Committee becomes aware of an attack, they must consider disqualification.

### Terminology

- **Excusal** Recorded on scoresheet and in signed event catalog as "EXCUSED". **Judge needs to include dog's AKC registration number, full AKC name & owner info in their Judge's report. Excusals are for lesser infractions and dogs get a second chance.**

- **Disqualification by Judge** Recorded on scoresheet and in signed event catalog as "DISQUALIFIED". These are for significant infractions and dogs do not get a second chance.

- **Aggressive behavior** This would include growling or threatening barking.

- **Attack** Any instance where the dog actually tried to grab someone or did grab them. Skin contact is not required.
## Agility Titles

The # symbol behind the title abbreviation indicated that title can be earned multiple times and will carry a numeric designation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Abbrev.</th>
<th>Title Name</th>
<th>Abbrev.</th>
<th>Title Name (Preferred Track)</th>
<th>Prefix or Suffix</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACT</td>
<td>ACT1</td>
<td>Agility Course Test 1</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Suffix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>PDGP#</td>
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</tr>
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<td>STD</td>
<td>PDC#</td>
<td>Premier Agility Dog Century</td>
<td>PDCP#</td>
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<td>PDB#</td>
<td>Premier Agility Dog Bronze (starts with 2)</td>
<td>PDBP2#</td>
<td>Premier Agility Dog Bronze Preferred (starts with 2)</td>
<td>Suffix</td>
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<td>NAJ</td>
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<td>NJP</td>
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<td>Suffix</td>
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<td>OJP</td>
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<td>Suffix</td>
</tr>
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<td>AJP</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>MJP</td>
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<td>MJPG#</td>
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<td>PJBP#</td>
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<tr>
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<td>NF</td>
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<td>OF</td>
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<td>OFP</td>
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<td>MFPC#</td>
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<td>Time 2 Beat</td>
<td>T2BP#</td>
<td>Time 2 Beat Preferred</td>
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<td>TQXP</td>
<td>Triple Q Excellent Preferred</td>
<td>Suffix</td>
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<tr>
<td>Multi</td>
<td>NAC</td>
<td>National Agility Champion</td>
<td>PNAC</td>
<td>Preferred National Agility Champion</td>
<td>Prefix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>MACH#</td>
<td>Master Agility Champion</td>
<td>PACH#</td>
<td>Preferred Agility Champion</td>
<td>Prefix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Agility Grand Champion</td>
<td>AGCH#</td>
<td>Agility Grand Champion</td>
<td>Prefix</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Agility Trial Checklist

Name of Club: __________________________

Event Date and Location: __________________________

☐ Regulations For Agility Trials
☐ Agility Judges Guidelines
☐ Rules Applying to Dog Shows
☐ Dealing with Misconduct
☐ Rules Applying to Registration & Discipline
☐ Agility Trial Manual
☐ Emergency Veterinary Directions
☐ Disaster & Emergency Plan
☐ First Aid Kit
☐ Disqualification for Attacking Form
☐ Dog on Dog Attack Form
☐ Exhibitor Entry Forms

COMMENTS:

_________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________

Submitted by:

REP NAME           DATE

Companion Events
PO Box 900068   Raleigh, NC 27675-9068   Tel 919-816-3821   Fax 919-816-4204   www.akc.org Page
Application and Judges Panel for
AKC® Licensed or Member Agility Trial
or AKC Sanctioned A or B Match

This application must be received by the American Kennel Club with the appropriate fees at least 18 weeks prior to the closing date of the Trial for the club to be in compliance with Chapter 1, Section 5 of the Regulations for Agility Trials. Applications for a Sanctioned Match must be filed with the American Kennel Club at least six weeks prior to the closing date of the Match. Please complete all three pages of the application.

A separate application is required for each Trial or Match date. Money penalties may be imposed or application may be rejected for noncompliance. Incomplete applications will not be approved. This event application and judges panel may be submitted using the AKC Online System at www.akc.org or send completed application with appropriate fee to:
American Kennel Club, Event Operations, PO Box 900051, Raleigh, NC 27675-9051

SECTION 1. CLUB INFORMATION

EVENT NUMBER (if known) NAME OF CLUB

NAME OF THE EVENT FACILITY

EXACT ADDRESS OF THE EVENT FACILITY

(Include Street Address, City, State and Zip Code)

Is this location in your Club’s Territory? Yes No (If no, attach a consent letter from the club owning the territory.)

Special Attraction: Yes No (If yes, include detailed explanation and a completed form.) Subject to AKC approval.

SECTION 2. TYPE OF EVENT (choose one)

AKC Sanctioned “A” or “B” Match: $15.00 Application Fee. (Please indicate if A or B Match. Sanctioned A Match held to qualify for approval to hold licensed events.) Dogs qualifying at sanctioned events receive no credit toward titles. Recording fees are not required.

AKC Licensed or Member Club Event: $100.00 for each event (hold by a club that is a Member of the AKC or a club Licensed by the AKC to hold agility trials). If this is a corresponding event from the previous year, that had 30 entries or less, the application fee is $25. Dogs qualifying at licensed and member club events receive credits toward titles.
Use separate applications for each event. No refund of fees for cancelled events once application is processed.

SECTION 3. FEE PAYMENT

$ Total Payment Due

Payment Method

Check
Check Number Amount of Check

Credit Card
Credit Card Number
Expiration Date Card Type VISA
Name on Credit Card
Billing Address

Questions? Contact us . . .
American Kennel Club Companion Operations
Agility
PO Box 900051
Raleigh, NC 27675-9051
Tel 919 816-3725
Fax 919 816-4210
www.akc.org

Please Continue on Back and Complete All 3 Pages of Application
SECTION 4. INDICATE THE METHOD OF ENTRY (choose one) An * identifies a required field in this section.

Is the club offering online entries through the AKC’s Online Entry Service? [ ] Yes [ ] No

If so, designate the number of total entry limit to be fulfilled by paper entries # __________ & online entries # __________

[ ] If using the AKC Online Entry Services, the club has read and accepts the terms and conditions [www.akc.org/events] pertaining to this service.

Mark time zone where entries will be received: [ ] Atlantic [ ] Eastern [ ] Central [ ] Mountain [ ] Pacific

A) LIMITED TRIAL

[ ] First Received:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>AM</th>
<th>PM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Opening</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[ ] Random Draw:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>AM</th>
<th>PM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Opening</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Random Draw Location*

(Must provide complete address, city, state, zip code)

B) UNLIMITED TRIAL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>AM</th>
<th>PM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Opening</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SECTION 5. ADDITIONAL EVENT INFORMATION (Complete all questions to avoid a delay in event approval.)

Open to all breeds? [ ] YES [ ] NO

Open to Single Breed or Group? [ ] YES [ ] NO If YES, please indicate the Breed or Group ________________________________

Check here if All American Dogs (Mixed Breeds) are not allowed to enter this event. [ ] NOT ALLOWED

Event will be held: [ ] INDOORS [ ] OUTDOORS (under cover? [ ] YES [ ] NO) [ ] BOTH

Dimensions for course area(s) ________________________________ # of Rings ________________________________

SECTION 6. ENTRY FEES PER DOG (List all that are applicable.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Entry Fee</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>$ ______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>$ ______</td>
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<td>$ ______</td>
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<td>4th</td>
<td>$ ______</td>
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<td>5th</td>
<td>$ ______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6th</td>
<td>$ ______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th</td>
<td>$ ______</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SECTION 7. Club officer authorization to apply to hold this event.

_________________________ ____________________________ ____________
Club Officer Signature   Club Officer Title   Date
Section 8. JUDGE PANEL  List All Classes Offered, Judge’s Name, Judge’s Number, City, State. For any further division of classes (splitting Regular and Preferred, splitting A and B, dividing classes into jump heights, etc.), please contact your AKC Event Operations representative directly or email EventPlans@akc.org.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASS</th>
<th>Judge’s Name &amp; Judge’s Number City, State</th>
<th>CLASS</th>
<th>Judge’s Name &amp; Judge’s Number City, State</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NOVICE A &amp; B (Regular)</td>
<td></td>
<td>NOVICE A &amp; B (Regular)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOVice (Preferred)</td>
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<td>NOVice (Preferred)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OPEN (Regular &amp; Preferred)</td>
<td></td>
<td>OPEN (Regular &amp; Preferred)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXCELLENT &amp; MASTER (Regular &amp; Preferred)</td>
<td></td>
<td>EXCELLENT &amp; MASTER (Regular &amp; Preferred)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PREMIER (Regular &amp; Preferred)</td>
<td></td>
<td>PREMIER (Regular &amp; Preferred)</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CLUBS MAY OFFER THE FOLLOWING OPTIONAL CLASSES

NOTE: If not offering the FAST, Time 2 Beat, and/or ISC classes, please mark the application as “Not Offered” so AKC knows it is not being offered.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FIFTEEN AND SEND TIME (FAST) CLASS (Titling Class)</th>
<th>TIME 2 BEAT CLASS (T2B) (Titling Class)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CLASS</td>
<td>Judge’s Name &amp; Judge’s Number City, State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOVICE A &amp; B (Regular)</td>
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<tr>
<td>NOVice (Preferred)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>OPEN (Regular &amp; Preferred)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXCELLENT &amp; MASTER (Regular &amp; Preferred)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Section 9. Judge Panel Submission

Submitted for AKC approval by (Please Print)  Club Position*  Date
*If not Event Chairman, please indicate Event Chairman’s name, address, telephone number, and email address below.

Event/Trial Chairman’s Name  Address  Telephone/Email Address
CORRESPONDING DATE TABLE

The chart below contains the Corresponding Dates starting with 2015 and ending with 2021. The column to the far left indicates the week of the year. Each succeeding column represents a separate year and gives the Corresponding Date for every Saturday or Sunday of that year.

Corresponding Dates throughout the year are based on the dates of the first Dog Event Weekend. The first Dog Event Weekend and the first calendar weekend do not always coincide. The first Dog Event Weekend is the first weekend to occur in which Saturday’s date is neither January 1 nor January 2.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Week 2015 Sat - Sun</th>
<th>Week 2016 Sat - Sun</th>
<th>Week 2017 Sat - Sun</th>
<th>Week 2018 Sat - Sun</th>
<th>Week 2019 Sat - Sun</th>
<th>Week 2020 Sat - Sun</th>
<th>Week 2021 Sat - Sun</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Jan 2 - Jan 10</td>
<td>Jan 9 - Jan 17</td>
<td>Jan 7 - Jan 14</td>
<td>Jan 6 - Jan 12</td>
<td>Jan 5 - Jan 10</td>
<td>Jan 4 - Jan 9</td>
<td>Jan 5 - Jan 10</td>
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<td>2017</td>
<td>Jan 22 - Jan 29</td>
<td>Feb 2 - Feb 9</td>
<td>Feb 8 - Feb 15</td>
<td>Feb 14 - Feb 21</td>
<td>Feb 20 - Feb 24</td>
<td>Feb 21 - Feb 25</td>
<td>Feb 22 - Feb 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Feb 25 - Mar 1</td>
<td>Mar 28 - Mar 31</td>
<td>Apr 12 - Apr 25</td>
<td>Apr 29 - May 1</td>
<td>May 5 - May 30</td>
<td>May 6 - May 31</td>
<td>May 7 - Jun 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>Aug 29 - Sep 1</td>
<td>Sep 26 - Sep 29</td>
<td>Oct 23 - Oct 27</td>
<td>Oct 30 - Nov 1</td>
<td>Nov 5 - Nov 30</td>
<td>Nov 6 - Nov 30</td>
<td>Nov 7 - Dec 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>Nov 28 - Nov 29</td>
<td>Dec 5 - Dec 29</td>
<td>Dec 26 - Jan 1</td>
<td>Dec 31 - Jan 2</td>
<td>Jan 5 - Jan 30</td>
<td>Jan 6 - Jan 30</td>
<td>Jan 7 - Feb 1</td>
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</table>

Note: The table continues with the next calendar year.
CORRESPONDING DATE TABLE

The chart below contains the Corresponding Dates starting with 2022 and ending with 2028. The column to the far left indicates
the week of the year. Each succeeding column represents a separate year and gives the Corresponding Date for every Saturday
or Sunday of that year.
Corresponding Dates throughout the year are based on the dates of the first Dog Event Weekend. The first Dog Event Weekend
and the first calendar weekend do not always coincide. The first Dog Event Weekend is the first weekend to occur in which
Saturday’s date is neither January 1 nor January 2.

2022

2023

2024

2025

2026

2027

2028

Week

Sat - Sun

Sat - Sun

Sat - Sun

Sat - Sun

Sat - Sun

Sat - Sun

Sat - Sun

1
2
3
4

JAN
8-9
15 - 16
22 - 23
29 - 30

JAN
7-8
14 - 15
21 - 22
28 - 29

JAN
6-7
13 - 14
20 - 21
27 - 28

JAN
4-5
11 - 12
18 - 19
25 - 26

JAN
3-4
10 - 11
17 - 18
24 - 25

JAN
9 - 10
16 - 17
23 - 24
30 - 31

JAN
8-9
15 - 16
22 - 23
29 - 30

5
6
7
8

FEB
5-6
12 - 13
19 - 20
26 - 27

FEB
4-5
11 - 12
18 - 19
25 - 26

FEB
3-4
10 - 11
17 - 18
24 - 25

FEB
1-2
8-9
15 - 16
22- 23

FEB
Jan 31 - Feb 1
7-8
14 - 15
21 - 22

FEB
6-7
13 - 14
20 - 21
27 - 28

FEB
5-6
12 - 13
19 - 20
26 - 27

9
10
11
12

MAR
5-6
12 - 13
19 - 20
26 - 27

MAR
4-5
11 - 12
18 - 19
25 - 26

MAR
2-3
9 - 10
16 - 17
23 - 24

MAR
1-2
8-9
15 - 16
22 - 23

MAR
Feb 28 - Mar 1
7-8
14 - 15
21 - 22

MAR
6-7
13 - 14
20 - 21
27 - 28

MAR
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Memorandum

April 11, 2019

TO: All AKC Clubs
All Superintendents

SUBJECT: Emergency Procedures at Dog Events

At its November 1997 meeting, the Board of Directors considered the report of the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee on the subject of Emergency Care at Events. The Board adopted the following policy, which will apply to events held on or after January 1, 1999:

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES AT DOG EVENTS

1. Each club holding a member or licensed event must develop and detail a Disaster and Emergency Plan for that event. Clubs must have the Plan on file for their event.
2. Clubs must advise local authorities (police, fire department, medical services, etc.) of their event, including the exact location, ingress, egress and duration, within thirty days prior to the event.
3. All clubs are strongly encouraged to have a qualified emergency medical technician (CPR certified) in attendance at each event.
4. At group and all-breed conformation events, clubs are required to have a qualified emergency medical technician (CPR certified) in attendance from one hour prior to the start of judging until completion of all judging.
5. A Red Cross-approved emergency first aid kit must be available at all events.
6. Emergency care at all events must also comply with local community standards.
7. Personnel will be on duty after show hours at show sites where dogs are left overnight.
8. At least one working cellular telephone is required to be on the show grounds during show hours.
9. Clubs holding group and all-breed conformation events in public facilities must identify the location of all onsite automated external defibrillators (AED). When available, the location of the AED device is required to be listed in the judging program and show catalog and maps or directions must be available at the superintendents or show secretaries desk. It is recommended that the club request the EMT in attendance to provide an AED in situations when a site does not have one.

The Disaster and Emergency Plan

The committee feels strongly that the attached Plan contains the necessary information for an event-giving club to react to any emergency or disaster in a timely manner. An Evacuation Plan, (Diagram), for indoor facilities, should be displayed in all prominent, high traffic areas. The Board feels that completion of the Plan form will require an event committee to put the necessary forethought into dealing with an emergency or disaster. The Board does not anticipate that AKC will evaluate the accuracy of the Plan, any more than site plans or site contracts are typically evaluated for accuracy before an event. It is felt that event-giving clubs will put the effort into development of the Plan to ensure its adequacy and accuracy.

The event-giving club would also be responsible for providing multiple copies of the Plan at the event. Additionally, in order to make the Plan available to all participants of an event, clubs may print information in the event catalog and judging program.

Definition – Event

For the purposes of this policy, an event is defined as a show given by a club or association that is a member of, or licensed by, the American Kennel Club, at which championship points are awarded; or a trial or test given by a club or association that is a member of, or licensed by, the American Kennel Club, at which qualifying scores towards titles are awarded.

Effective Date: January 1, 1999
Adequate provisions for individual emergency situations and for sudden mass disasters for both dogs and people must be a part of planning every American Kennel Club event. No AKC event will be approved unless such plans are in place. Written Procedures for the following should be available at your event:

- Emergency Plan for Dogs
- Emergency Plan for People:
  - Evacuation Plan, Diagram Posted in High Traffic Areas, For Indoor Facilities
- Mass Disaster Plan
- Security Personnel

Security Personnel
List Names, Telephone Numbers (and Addresses where requested) for the following

Ambulance Service:
Phone: (______)  
□ Onsite  □ On Call

Veterinarian:
Phone: (______)  
□ Onsite  □ On Call

Fire Department:
Phone: (______)  

Police Department:
Phone: (______)  

Hospital:
Phone: (______)  
Address:  

Event Operations
eventplans@akc.org  PO Box 900051  Raleigh, NC 27675-9051  Tel (919) 816-3579  Fax (919) 816-4220  www.akc.org
Show Chairman (must be a club member):

Daytime Phone: (___) ____________________________________________
Evening Phone: (___) ____________________________________________
Address: _______________________________________________________

Emergency Response Coordinator (must be a club member):

Daytime Phone: (___) ____________________________________________
Evening Phone: (___) ____________________________________________
Address: _______________________________________________________

For group and all-breed shows, does the show location have automated external defibrillators (AED) onsite? □ Yes □ No

If Yes, please record the location of the AED:
_______________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________

Person Completing Form

Signature: ______________________________________________________ Date ________________________________
Printed Name: ________________________________________________

This form no longer needs to be returned to the AKC; however, the club must have this information available at the event. Please make sure the proper people at the event have access to and knowledge of this information.
### Section A: To Be Completed By Judge/Evaluator

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event:</th>
<th>Date:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Breed:</td>
<td>Class:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please write a BRIEF note outlining the circumstances of the attack (or attempt to attack in Obedience/Rally/Tracking):

_____________________________________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________________________________

1. Did you inform the exhibitor of the disqualification?  
   YES □ NO □

2. Did you mark your book “DISQUALIFIED, ATTACKED” (or “Attempting to Attack” in Obedience/Rally/Tracking)?  
   YES □ NO □

3. Did you inform the exhibitor that a dog disqualified for attacking CANNOT compete at any future AKC events until the owner has received official notification from the AKC that the dog’s event eligibility has been reinstated?  
   YES □ NO □

Judge’s/Evaluator’s Printed Name & Number: ____________________________  
Judge’s/Evaluator’s Signature:  ________________________________________  
Date: _________________

### Section B: To Be Read & Signed By Exhibitor

**Notice to Exhibitor**

When a dog is disqualified for attacking, any awards at that event shall be cancelled by the AKC and the dog may not again compete at any AKC event nor be on the grounds of an AKC event unless and until, following application by the owner to the AKC, the owner has received official notification from the AKC that the dog’s event eligibility has been reinstated, in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the AKC.

I certify that I have read the above Notice to Exhibitor.

Exhibitor Printed Name & Signature: ____________________________  
Date: _________________

### Section C: To Be Completed By Event Superintendent/Secretary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Owner’s Name:</th>
<th>Phone #:</th>
<th>Email Address:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dog’s Name:</td>
<td>Breed:</td>
<td>AKC No.:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Printed name of person completing Section C:

Signature of person completing Section C:  
Date: ________________

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**Section A**: to be completed by Judge/Evaluator

- Judge/Evaluator must complete Section A.
- Exhibitor must read and sign Section B.
- Upon completion, judge/evaluator should detach pink copy and hand it to the exhibitor in the ring. If exhibitor is not given a copy of the form, the judge/evaluator must provide an explanation.
- Event Superintendent/Secretary must complete Section C.

*Yellow copy* is for the judge’s/evaluator’s records. *White copy* is to be returned to the Event Superintendent/Secretary with the judge’s/evaluator’s book.

If, for any reason, the judge/evaluator is unable to complete the form before the end of the event, the incident must still be reported in the event report filed by the supt/sec’y along with the white copy of this form. The judge/evaluator must complete this form and forward it to Event Operations at AKC within 72 hours.

**DISQUALIFICATION BY JUDGE/EVALUATOR**

**FOR ATTACKING A PERSON**

In Conformation, Obedience, Agility, Rally, Tracking, or Temperament Test

(Or Attempting to Attack in Obedience, Rally, or Tracking)

This form MUST BE FAXED or EMAILED by the Event Supt. or Secretary WITHIN 72 HRS of the incident to AKC®, Attn: Event Operations

Fax No.: 919-816-4220 • Email: eventplans@akc.org

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AEDSq1 (6/19)
DOG AGGRESSION – ACTION BY EVENT COMMITTEE

If an Event Committee becomes aware of any significant act of dog aggression that takes place in association with their event, three (3) members of the Committee must investigate the incident (except in the case of a dog that is disqualified by the judge) and complete this form. No exhibitor complaint is required. The Event Committee submit this form to AKC® Event Operations within 72 hours of the incident by either emailing the document as an attachment to eventplans@akc.org or sending a fax to 919-816-4220.

At the October 18, 2004, meeting of the Board of Directors of the American Kennel Club, the following policy was adopted and made immediately effective:

Any dog that, in the opinion of the Event Committee, attacks a person or a dog at an AKC event, resulting in an injury, and is believed by that Event Committee to present a hazard to persons or other dogs, shall be disqualified. When the dog is disqualified by the Event Committee pursuant to this section, a report shall be filed with the Executive Secretary of the American Kennel Club®. The disqualified dog may not again compete at any AKC event nor be on the grounds of an AKC event unless and until, following application for reinstatement by the owner to the American Kennel Club, the owner receives official notification in writing from the AKC that the dog’s eligibility has been reinstated.

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS FORM OR ABOUT THE PROCEDURE, CONTACT THE AKC FIELD STAFF or WEEKEND CLUB HOTLINE 919-816-3955. In the case of an Event Committee disqualification, the reinstatement procedure is the same as any other type of disqualification.

Event: _____________________________________________________________  Date: __________________________
Dog’s Name: _______________________________________________________ Reg #: __________________________
Breed: ___________________________________________________  Class (if entered): __________________________

Provide a description of the incident. Attach more detailed information, any witness statements, or other documentation:
____________________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________________

1. Was there an attack by the dog? YES □ NO □
2. Was there an injury to a dog or person? YES □ NO □
3. Do you feel there were mitigating circumstances leading to the attack?. YES □ NO □
   If yes, you must attach a description of these circumstances.
4. Do you feel that this dog presents a hazard to persons or other dogs? YES □ NO □
5. Did you disqualify the dog? YES □ NO □
   The answers to 1, 2, and 4 must be YES in order for the dog to be eligible for disqualification.
   If the dog is eligible for disqualification and the answer to 3 is NO, the dog must be disqualified.
6. Did you inform the exhibitor of the committee’s decision? YES □ NO □
   If this form is not signed by the exhibitor at the time of the disqualification, the club must provide documentation to the AKC of notification to the exhibitor and owner(s).

Dog Owner’s Name: _____________________________________________________________  Phone #: __________________________
Dog Owner’s Address: __________________________________________________________________________________
Email Address of Dog Owner and/or Agent: _________________________________________________________________
Signature of Dog Owner or Agent: ________________________________________________________________________
Form Completed by (Club Member): ______________________________________________________________________
Signature of Club Member: ______________________________________________________________________________
# JUDGE’S FORM

**DOG ON DOG ATTACK**

(Agility, Obedience, Rally, Tracking, or Scent Work)

This form **MUST BE FAXED OR EMAILED WITHIN 72 HOURS** of the incident by the TRIAL SECRETARY or SUPT. to AKC®. Attn: Event Operations – Fax: 919-816-4220, Email: eventplans@akc.org

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Circle One:</th>
<th>AGILITY</th>
<th>OBEEDIENCE</th>
<th>RALLY</th>
<th>TRACKING</th>
<th>SCENT WORK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trial:</td>
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Please write a BRIEF note outlining the circumstances of the attack (attach separate document if needed):

________________________________________________________________________________________

1. Did you inform the exhibitor of the excusal? 
   YES ☐  NO ☐

2. Did you mark your book “EXCUSED, ATTACKED”? 
   YES ☐  NO ☐

3. Were unusual circumstances leading to the attack? *If yes provide written statement.*
   YES ☐  NO ☐

This report will become part of a dog’s permanent record at The American Kennel Club. This dog attack report will be filed as an act of “dog aggression.” Two excusals/reports of dog aggression will result in the dog not being eligible to compete at any AKC event nor be on the grounds of an AKC event unless and until, following application by the owner to the AKC, the owner has received official notification from the AKC that the dog’s event eligibility has been reinstated, in accordance with the OBEEDIENCE REGULATIONS, RALLY REGULATIONS, TRACKING REGULATIONS, REGULATIONS FOR AGILITY TRIALS, or REGULATIONS FOR AKC SCENT WORK.

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE SEE THE AKC FIELD REPRESENTATIVE.**

Judge’s Signature: ___________________________  Print Judge’s name & number: ___________________________

Exhibitor’s Signature: ___________________________  Print Exhibitor’s name: ___________________________

**Guidelines for Completing the DOG on DOG ATTACK form.**

If, for any reason, the judge is unable to complete the form before the end of the trial, the incident is to be reported in the Event close-out report filed by the Trial Secretary/Supt to the AKC. The judge will then complete the form as soon as possible and forward it to Companion Events.

- Judge is to complete the entire form with the exception of: Dog’s Name and Registration #.
- Upon completion, judge should have the exhibitor sign this form, detach pink copy and hand it to the exhibitor. If the exhibitor has left the trial site, the Trial Secretary must send the pink copy to them via certified mail within 72 hours.
- Yellow copy is for judge’s records. White copy is returned to the Trial Secretary/Supt. and submitted with trial results to AKC.

**TO BE COMPLETED BY TRIAL SECRETARY/SUPT.**

**DOG’S NAME:** ___________________________  **REG #:** ___________________________

[www.akc.org](http://www.akc.org)  PO Box 900068, Raleigh, NC 27675-9068

WHITE COPY – AKC  YELLOW COPY – JUDGE  PINK COPY – EXHIBITOR

AEDSQ3 (6/19)
Dogs in Unventilated Vehicles

MEMORANDUM

To: All Clubs
From: Show Events - Linda More and Barbara Schwartz
Date: July 9, 1999

We are all concerned about the dangers posed to dogs confined in vehicles at dog events, especially at this time of year. In May 1997, the Events Committee of AKC’s Board of Directors approved a notice of “Waiver of Rights” which you may include in your premium list to help give your club the ability to rescue dogs from improperly ventilated vehicles. This Waiver has been effectively used by a number of clubs. You may also post the Waiver on your show grounds, and/or place it on flyers to hand out to those entering the show grounds.

Suggested wording is:

All persons attending this dog show/trial hereby waive any claim for damages against (club name) or its members, in the event a motor vehicle must be entered to rescue a dog from overheating or suffocation due to improper ventilation.

We suggest you check relevant state laws regarding the effectiveness of such a waiver. Many states have laws supporting potential action.

Enclosed is a master copy of a poster which you may reproduce for your club’s use. The second enclosure is a copy of a flyer to be given to participants and spectators to place on the dashboard of their cars if dogs are to be left in the vehicles.

We wish to remind you that Section V, page 6 of the Dealing with Misconduct booklet states:

“When a dog is seriously injured or dies in connection with an event, the Event Committee must conduct a Preliminary Investigation to determine if negligence or willful conduct of an individual caused the injury or death.”

This section also requires a written report.

Increased education, publicity, and vigilance can prevent tragedies from occurring at dog events, and we hope the above information and the enclosures will be helpful to your club.
Don’t leave your dog in a hot car!

When it’s only 80 degrees outside, a car can heat up to more than 120 degrees in just minutes. In that kind of heat, a dog could easily die. That’s why the American Kennel Club recommends that dog owners never leave their dog alone in a car during warm weather.

For additional tips on canine summer care, visit our website at www.akc.org/public-education/resources/.

www.akc.org
If I’m in distress...........

Please go to the
Club Officials
And
page my owner

(Owner’s Name….Please Print)

www.akc.org
Event Checklist

The following checklist is a reference for use when planning an event. By referring to all applicable AKC publications and recommendations outlined in the AKC Agility Trial Manual, the entire event process will be simplified. The AKC Staff is available to provide assistance in all areas.

**At Least One Year Prior to the Show**

- Judges should be selected, and invitations extended as far in advance as possible. As soon as the judges reply, the panel should be finalized, and confirmation of each judge’s specific assignment should be sent.
- If a Trial Secretary is to be employed a contract should be requested, reviewed and signed.
- Contact and secure the services of the Show Photographer. *(optional)*
- A final contract should be signed with the management of the facility or grounds where the event is to be held, and any required binder for the site should be paid.
- The date application and event site layout (if applicable) should be submitted to the AKC for approval. Rules require submission 18 weeks prior to closing date for entries.
- The panel of judges should be submitted to the AKC for approval as soon as it is finalized. Rules require submission 18 weeks prior to closing date of entries.

**Judging Conflicts**

200 miles and 30 days

- No conflict for Specialties where only one breed is exhibited
- No conflict for non-regular classes

- All members of the Event Committee should be named and assigned tasks.
- The Trophy and Advertising Committee Chairs should be aware of their duties and should begin soliciting donations and advertising. *(optional)*
- The Chief Ring Steward should be selected.

**At Least Six Months Prior to the Show**

- Review the advertising copy that is to be distributed for the event. *(if any)*
- Close out trophy solicitations and place orders for ribbons and trophies.
- Set prices on admissions, catalogs and concessions. *(if any)*
- Have all premium list copy sent to the Trial Secretary.
☐ Confirm that arrangements for all equipment for the event have been made

☐ Finalize judges’ hotel reservations.

☐ Arrangements should be made with the veterinarian. *(If one on-site)*

☐ Arrange for portable sanitary facilities if necessary.

**At Least Three Months Prior to the Show**

☐ Arrange for a clean-up crew.

☐ Notify the local authorities of your event date, indicating expected peak traffic hours.

☐ Make arrangements for security and traffic control personnel.

**Six Weeks Prior to the Show**

☐ Ensure that premium lists have been published.

☐ Order chairs and/or tables if needed.

☐ Check with the caterer about breakfasts / lunches for all officials and invited guests and give an estimate of the number to be served based upon last year’s event. Arrange for early morning set-up to accommodate exhibitors.

☐ Make arrangements for an adequate sound system.

☐ Notify the local press and media of the event to be held. Stress that spectators must leave their own (unentered) dogs at home.

☐ Ensure there will be electricity available, if possible.

☐ Distribute directional arrows and posters to the Grounds Committee.

☐ Review each committee’s assignment and finalize reporting times.

☐ Arrange for telephone(cell) service at the event site.

☐ Check on arrangements for drinking water.

☐ Arrange for emergency medical service, if required.

☐ Arrange for towing services in case they are needed.

☐ Secure volunteers for various duties as needed.

**Three Weeks Prior to the Show**

☐ Close entries.
☐ Prepare the catalog.

☐ Prepare and review a judging schedule and assign rings. Advise Chief Ring Steward of entry.

**One Week Prior to the Show**

☐ See that judging programs been sent to exhibitors, judges, the chief ring steward.

☐ Ensure that grounds will be ready; grass mowed, water available, etc.

☐ Check with the Hospitality Chair that all last-minute reservations and accommodations have been provided.

☐ Check to see that all necessary equipment will be available for the show.

☐ Check with the Treasurer to see that an ample number of checks will be available and that there will be sufficient change for the gate, catalog and parking committees.

**Two Days Before the Show**

☐ Arrange for the placement of tents and rings.

☐ Arrange for the placement of concessions/vendors.

☐ Oversee the set-up of rings, tents and chairs in their proper locations.

**Day Before the Show**

☐ Set up exercise pens.

☐ Supervise the vendors setting up.

☐ Make one last check of the show site.

☐ Check with all key personnel as to reporting time the next day.

**Day of the Event**

☐ Arrive at least 2 hours before judging.

☐ Check-in workers and provide any last-minute instructions.

☐ Check out arrangements with caterer. Are they properly positioned on the grounds for the convenience of the exhibitors?

☐ Check-in judges, stewards, and veterinarian if on site, volunteer and hired personnel. Gate and parking crews should be on station two hours before the event begins.

☐ Colors and national anthem are ready.
☐ Have Hospitality check the rings and judges’ needs throughout the day.

☐ Check and maintain all rings on schedule. Consult with Chief RingSteward about keeping abreast of judging schedule.

☐ Have available latest copies of Rules Applying to Dog Shows, Dealing with Misconduct, Regulations for Agility Trials, Agility Judge’s Guidelines, and Agility Trial Manual if applicable.

☐ Circulate to obtain objective and knowledgeable reactions to the show from exhibitors.

☐ Settle all misunderstandings, whenever they occur.

☐ Communicate with committees throughout the day and approve payment of the judges.

☐ Confer with trial secretary and the Executive Field Representative(s) about possible improvements for future events.

☐ Before leaving the site, ensure that all equipment is accounted for and that grounds are properly reconditioned.

**After the Event (If the Club is putting on its own)**

☐ The catalog must be properly marked, including corrections of printing errors, absentees and explanations where there have been excusals, disqualification or awards withheld.

☐ The marked catalog must be sent to the AKC’s Event Operations Department to reach that office within seven (7) days of the Show/Trial. The Recording Fee and Service Fee must also be calculated and submitted with the Agility Trial Report to the AKC’s Event Operations Department.

Event Operations Department American Kennel Club  
(919) 816-3538

**Letters can be sent to:**  
PO Box 900051  
Raleigh, NC 27675-9051

**Packages can be sent to:**  
8051 Arco Corporate Drive, Suite 100  
Raleigh, NC 27617-3390

☐ Meet with committee chairs and AKC Executive Field Representative for an evaluation session to discuss possible changes and improvements to be made for future events.
PROCEDURAL CHECKLIST
Event Committee Hearings

Club ____________________________________________________________________________________________
Defendant _______________________________________________________________________________________
Address __________________________________________________________________________________________
Event ___________________________________________________________________________________________
Date ___________________________________________________________________________________________

The AKC requires that each Event Committee review and become familiar with the contents of the booklet titled “Dealing With Misconduct at American Kennel Club Events.” This checklist must be completed by the Event Committee Chair and signed. The accused must also sign this document.

Please be advised, if an Event Committee receives a complaint alleging that a dog has attacked a person or dog resulting in injury, pursuant to Chapter 11, Section 8-A, of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows, or the applicable rule in each sport, the committee must complete a Disqualification by Event Committee form. The form is included in each club’s Event Kit.

This checklist is part of the record of the Event Committee Hearing concerning the alleged conduct of an individual, and must be submitted with the complete report of the proceedings. The report must be received by the Executive Secretary of the AKC within five (5) days of the last date of the event or within five (5) days of the date of the hearing if held subsequent to the date of the event. The complete report must be sent to AKC (Attn: Executive Secretary), 101 Park Ave., New York, NY 10178.

PREHEARING
(pages 9-12)

1. Preliminary Investigation. Investigated complaint and made a preliminary determination that the alleged conduct, if proven true, was prejudicial to the sport and it occurred at or in connection with the event. Interviewed the complainant, accused and known witnesses. If a minor is involved, followed the procedures in Section V of Dealing with Misconduct.

2. Name, address, telephone number, and email address of the individual making the complaint as well as the accused and witnesses obtained.

3. Got the complaint in writing. Wrote “Complaint” on the complaint.

4. It was determined that a hearing should be held. If no hearing held, provide an explanation: _____________________________________________________

5. Notice of Hearing. The accused was advised at _______ a.m./p.m. on ________________(date) of the setting of the hearing.
   a) The accused was provided with a copy of the “Dealing With Misconduct” booklet.
   b) Accused was provided with a copy of the complaint and was told he/she was being charged with the following misconduct:

   __________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________

   c) The accused was advised the hearing will be held ____________________________
      at _________ a.m./p.m. on _______________________(date).
      (The accused must be given reasonable time to secure witnesses and to prepare. It is up to the accused to request additional time if needed.)

CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX

□ YES □ NO
□ YES □ NO
□ YES □ NO
□ YES □ NO
□ YES □ NO
□ YES □ NO
6. The Chair established the committee as follows (include address, telephone number and email address):

Chair ________________________________________________________________________________________

Secretary (person keeping record of proceeding)  _____________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________________

HEARING
(pages 12-14)

7. Introduction. The Chair introduced himself or herself and the members of the Committee and designated one member of the Committee to keep a record of the proceedings. If the hearing was recorded all participants consented and the recording was submitted with the report. □ YES □ NO

8. Advisal of Charges. The Chair again advised the accused of the specific charges (same as #5B). □ YES □ NO

9. Advisal of Rights. The Chair advised the accused of these rights:
   a) To hear, confront and question all witnesses;
   b) To present witnesses on his/her own behalf; and
   c) To testify on his/her own behalf. □ YES □ NO

10. Witness List. The Chair determined the list of witnesses to be called by the Committee and the accused. Witnesses include the accused and the complainant. □ YES □ NO

   Committee’s Witnesses:

   ___________________________________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________________________________

   Accused’s Witnesses:

   ___________________________________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________________________________

11. Unauthorized Persons Excused. The Chair excused all persons except the Committee, the accused and the AKC Representative. The witnesses were excused from the proceedings, except when they were called on individually to testify. □ YES □ NO
12. Witnesses. The Chair called and swore in the witnesses (An appropriate oath is as follows: “Do you swear or promise that you will tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth?”). The order of witnesses typically is: first the Committee witnesses, then the accused witnesses. The Chair ascertained the full name and address of each witness. The Chair questioned the witness and then allowed the accused to question the witness. A summary of each witness’s testimony was made including the questions asked by the accused.

13. Procedural issues raised during the hearing are noted in the hearing summary.

14. Accused Statement. After all the witnesses testified, the Chair permitted the accused to make a final statement in response to the charges. This is in addition to the testimony of the accused.

15. Close Hearing. The Chair then excused all persons except the committee and asked the accused to remain available to receive the committee’s decision. If the hearing is recorded the recording should stop at this point.

POSTHEARING
(pages 15-16)

16. Findings. After deliberation and by majority vote, the committee made these findings:
   a) As to whether the charged conduct has been proven;
   b) Whether such conduct was prejudicial to the best interests of purebred dogs, AKC events or the AKC; and
   c) Whether the charged conduct occurred in connection with, or during the progress of, its event.

17. Decision. Please circle which option(s) apply and indicate the charge(s) with the option(s).
   a) The committee found that all three of the elements in charge(s) number ____ were not proven and it dismissed the charge(s).
   b) The committee found that all three elements in charge(s)____ were proven and it suspended the accused from any or all AKC privileges.
   • If 17 b) is circled, did the committee stay the suspension? Yes ☐ No ☐
     Only if the AKC Disciplinary Guidelines allow for a reprimand as a mitigated penalty AND the committee is recommending a mitigated penalty, may the committee grant a stay.
   c) Committee notified the accused, in writing, by certified mail return receipt requested and first-class mail, of the committee’s decision and of any suspension, if one was ordered.

18. Notice. After the committee made its decision, the Chair:
   a) Immediately notified the accused of the charges that were dismissed and those that were sustained.
   b) If charges were sustained, the accused was so advised of the committee’s decision and notified of his/her immediate suspension of any or all AKC privileges (unless stay issued. See 17b).
   c) Committee notified the accused, in writing, by certified mail return receipt requested and first-class mail, of the committee’s decision and of any suspension, if one was ordered.

19. Submission of report to AKC. Send to the AKC, to be received within five (5) days of hearing or incident, a complete report of the proceedings, which includes the following. PLEASE CHECK EACH ITEM INCLUDED:
   ☐ A copy of the signed written complaint, marked “Complaint”
   ☐ A comprehensive summary of the hearing (see Section X of Dealing with Misconduct)
   ☐ This Procedural Checklist
   ☐ A duplicate copy of the committee’s decision and notice of suspension, if applicable, mailed to the accused.

______________________________________________ ______________________________________________
Signature – Chair Signature – Defendant
Attesting to the fact that all items on this list were completed.
Attesting to the fact that Items 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 17, and 18 were completed.
AKC DISCIPLINE GUIDELINES - EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 8, 2018

Explanatory Notes

- Articles XII and XIV allow for discipline for “conduct alleged to have been prejudicial to the best interests of purebred dogs, purebred dog events, or the AKC.”
- Discipline in excess of the Aggravated term, or less than the Mitigated term, must be approved by the AKC Board of Directors (“Board”). Discipline imposed for cases not covered by the Guidelines must be approved by the Board.
- Circumstances that could, but would not necessarily result in an act of misconduct being Mitigated would include, but not be limited to:
  1. The lack of any prior offense.
  2. The lack of experience as a participant in events.
  3. The minimal nature of the offense.
  4. Recognition of wrongdoing.
  5. The recommendation of the Events Committee.
- Circumstances that could, but that would not necessarily result in an act of misconduct being Aggravated would include, but not be limited to:
  1. A record of prior offense(s).
  2. Extensive experience as a participant in events.
  3. The seriousness of the offense.
  4. Refusal to acknowledge wrongdoing prior to formal issuance of Charges.
  5. The recommendation of the Events Committee.
  6. The action(s) of the individual resulted in the death of dog(s).
  7. The misconduct is directed towards or with a person under 18 years of age.
- An especially egregious offense will result in a more severe length of suspension and/or fine than suggested in the Guidelines.
- Multiple serious offenses may result in a lifetime suspension of all AKC privileges.
- These Guidelines will be reviewed from time to time.
- Event Suspension is a suspension of event privileges for the individual and applies to dogs registered or co-registered at the time of suspension, or subsequently obtained during the term of suspension, which may not be entered or compete in events during the term of suspension unless they are transferred to another individual.
- Registration Suspension is a suspension of registration privileges, which means AKC will not accord registration of any litter, or individual dog or transfer ownership of a dog solely or in part by the suspended individual. In addition, AKC will not register any litter of dogs if the sire of the litter was owned solely or in part by a person who is suspended on the date the mating occurred.
- Suspension of all privileges would include both event suspension and registration suspension.
- At the discretion of the Management Disciplinary Committee (“MDC”) or the Staff Event Committee (“SEC”), a condition of suspension can include the prohibition of a suspended individual from being allowed on the grounds of an AKC approved event. The factors for MDC or SEC to take into consideration in adding this condition of suspension are 1) the possibility of future harm to an individual(s) and/or animal(s); 2) the nature of the conduct that lead to the suspension; and 3) the involvement of the authorities.
- Complaints against a judge at an event which involve deviation from standard judging procedure and responsibilities are to be reported to the Field Representative in attendance or the applicable AKC department and handled internally by the AKC.
- Conduct addressed by SEC involving an individual who is an AKC approved judge, may lead to review by the applicable AKC department to determine if further action is warranted specific to the person’s judging privileges.
- When discipline guidelines become less punitive, the new penalty (suspension period and conditions and fine, if applicable) will be applied to persons currently under suspension for that offense.
- Month is abbreviated as “mo.” A month is defined as thirty (30) days.
- For violations denoted with an asterisk (*), reinstatement is contingent on passing an AKC kennel inspection, which will be scheduled only after the associated fine has been paid.
- The classification of an offense(s) within these Guidelines will be made by either the MDC or the SEC. SEC will base the classification on the wording in the complaint and may determine that multiple offenses apply. The penalties for multiple offenses will run concurrently unless MDC or SEC determine that based on the severity of the offenses or record of prior offenses consecutive penalties are warranted.

**IN THOSE CASES WHERE AN EVENT OR REGISTRATION SUSPENSION IS CALLED FOR, THE AKC MANAGEMENT DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE MAY RECOMMEND THE SUSPENSION OF ALL PRIVILEGES, WHEN WARRANTED BY THE SEVERITY OF THE CASE.**
## SUSPENSION OF ALL AKC PRIVILEGES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OFFENSES</th>
<th>MITIGATED</th>
<th>STANDARD</th>
<th>AGGRAVATED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>I. Inappropriate Treatment of Animals</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Cruelty in connection with an event</td>
<td>5 yr/$1000</td>
<td>10 yr/$2000</td>
<td>Up to life/ up to $10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Physical Abuse at or in connection with an event by individual</td>
<td>6 mo/$500</td>
<td>1 yr/$1000</td>
<td>Up to life/ up to $10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Physical Abuse at or in connection with an event by club</td>
<td>Rep/$300</td>
<td>Loss of event/$500</td>
<td>Loss of event/$1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Neglect at or in connection with an event by individual</td>
<td>3 mo/$500</td>
<td>6 mo/$1000</td>
<td>Up to life/ up to $10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Neglect at or in connection with an event by club</td>
<td>Rep/$100</td>
<td>Loss of next event/$300</td>
<td>Loss of next event/$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Improper Treatment in connection with an event</td>
<td>Rep/$100</td>
<td>3 mo/$300</td>
<td>Up to life/ up to $10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Judicial or administrative determination of inappropriate treatment*</td>
<td>5 yr/$1000</td>
<td>10 yr/$2000</td>
<td>Up to life/ up to $10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h. Unacceptable conditions, dogs and/or facility*</td>
<td>3 mo/$500</td>
<td>1 yr/$1000</td>
<td>Up to life/ up to $10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. Whelping dogs at event site</td>
<td>Rep/$200</td>
<td>3 mo/$500</td>
<td>Up to life/ up to $10,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>II. Registration Violations</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Submission of a false application to register or transfer (not signature forgeries), which affect the Stud Book*</td>
<td>3 yr/$500</td>
<td>5 yr/$1000</td>
<td>Up to life/ up to $5000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Selling or buying AKC registration papers*</td>
<td>5 yr/$500</td>
<td>10 yr/$1000</td>
<td>Up to life/ up to $5000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Refusing to produce dogs or records*</td>
<td>6 mo/$500</td>
<td>5 yr/$1000¹</td>
<td>Up to life/ up to $3000¹</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Non-compliance with AKC’s Rules and Regulations on Record Keeping and Identification</td>
<td>Rep/up to $50</td>
<td>6 mo/up to $500</td>
<td>Up to life/ up to $3000²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Submission of an AKC litter application which the individual should have known contained a false certification as to the sire and/or dam of the litter (DNA exclusion)*</td>
<td>2 Exclusions/5 yrs</td>
<td>3 Exclusions/5 yrs</td>
<td>4 Exclusions/5 yrs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ If reinstated, must start with a new colony, or in lieu thereof, bring back dogs from the old colony for which a DNA profile is recorded with the AKC and is positively identified via microchip or tattoo.  
² The actual fine assessed shall be sufficient to cover all reinstatement costs, but in no instance shall it exceed the maximum amount indicated.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>III. Misconduct Against a Club</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Judicial or administrative determination of, or a signed admission of, unauthorized use of club funds.</td>
<td>1 yr/$1000</td>
<td>5 yr/$2000</td>
<td>Up to 10yr/ up to $5000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OFFENSES</th>
<th>MITIGATED</th>
<th>STANDARD</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>IV. Misconduct Against an Individual</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Harassment, physical</td>
<td>3 mo/$300</td>
<td>2 yr/$1000</td>
<td>Up to life/ up to $40,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Harassment, verbal</td>
<td>3 mo/$100</td>
<td>1 yr/$1000</td>
<td>Up to 2 yr/ up to $2000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### SUSPENSION OF EVENT PRIVILEGES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OFFENSES</th>
<th>MITIGATED</th>
<th>STANDARD</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>V. Misconduct By or Directed Against a Judge</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Physical contact of an insulting or provoking nature</td>
<td>Rep/$100</td>
<td>3 mo/$300</td>
<td>Up to 5 yr/up to $1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Inappropriate, abusive or foul language directed personally to a judge</td>
<td>2 mo/$100</td>
<td>6 mo/$500</td>
<td>Up to 1 yr/up to $1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Inappropriate public criticism of a judge, not disruptive, but demonstrating lack of sportsmanship</td>
<td>Rep/$50</td>
<td>1 mo/$200</td>
<td>Up to 3 mo/up to $300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Public criticism of a judge that causes a disruption at an event</td>
<td>Rep/$100</td>
<td>3 mo/$300</td>
<td>Up to 6 mo/up to $500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Unsportsmanlike conduct during an event including but not limited to:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Refusal or throwing down of ribbon</td>
<td>Rep/$100</td>
<td>3 mo/$300</td>
<td>Up to 6 mo/up to $500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Leaving ring without permission</td>
<td>Rep/$100</td>
<td>3 mo/$300</td>
<td>Up to 6 mo/up to $500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Refusing to continue to compete</td>
<td>Rep</td>
<td>3 mo/$300</td>
<td>Up to 6 mo/up to $500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Failure to follow a judge’s instruction</td>
<td>Rep</td>
<td>45 d/$150</td>
<td>Up to 3 mo/up to $300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Attempting to influence a judge</td>
<td>3 mo/$300</td>
<td>1 yr/$1000</td>
<td>Up to life/up to $5000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Judging improprieties (the judge himself/herself or complicity with a judge)</td>
<td>1 yr/$500</td>
<td>2 yr/$1000</td>
<td>Up to life/up to $5000³</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

³ An aggravated penalty may include a suspension from all AKC privileges.

<table>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>VI. Disorderly Conduct</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Physical contact of an insulting or provoking nature</td>
<td>Rep/$100</td>
<td>3 mo/$300</td>
<td>Up to 10 yrs/up to $10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Inappropriate, abusive or foul language</td>
<td>Rep/$100</td>
<td>1 mo/$500</td>
<td>Up to 1 yr/up to $1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Personal property damage</td>
<td>Rep/$100</td>
<td>1 mo/$500</td>
<td>Up to 1 yr/up to $1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Impairing a club’s ability to retain site</td>
<td>3 mo/$100</td>
<td>3 mo/$500</td>
<td>Up to 1 yr/up to $1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Failure to properly control a dog at an event</td>
<td>Rep/$200</td>
<td>3 mo/$500</td>
<td>Up to 1 yr/up to $1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Disruptive behavior at an event</td>
<td>Rep/$100</td>
<td>3 mo/$300</td>
<td>Up to 1 yr/up to $500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Unauthorized removal of property at or in connection with an event</td>
<td>3 mo/$500</td>
<td>1 yr/$1000</td>
<td>Up to life/up to $10,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### VII. Violation of AKC Rules/Regulation or Club Regulations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Showing the wrong dog without voluntary correction</td>
<td>Rep/$300</td>
<td>1 mo/$500</td>
<td>Up to 3 mo/ up to $1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Substitution</td>
<td>2 yr/$1000</td>
<td>5 yr/ $3000</td>
<td>Up to 10 yr/ up to $5000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Benching violations (per dog)</td>
<td>Rep</td>
<td>Rep/$250</td>
<td>Rep/Double Fine for each Repeated offense</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Disregard of published club regulations (e.g., parking, ex-pens, crates in aisle, unauthorized concessions, selling puppies, etc.)</td>
<td>Rep/$100</td>
<td>1 mo/$500</td>
<td>Up to 3 mo/ up to $1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Entering/exhibiting altered dog (temporary alteration)</td>
<td>Rep/$500</td>
<td>6 mo/$1000</td>
<td>Up to 1 yr/ up to $2500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Entering exhibiting altered dog (permanent alteration)</td>
<td>1 yr/$1000</td>
<td>2 yr/$2000</td>
<td>Up to 5 yr/ up to $5000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Willful refusal to return ribbon or prize after award disallowed</td>
<td>Rep/$100</td>
<td>1 mo/$200</td>
<td>Up to 1 mo/ up to $500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h. Gun safety violation (by gunner)</td>
<td>Rep</td>
<td>1 yr/$500</td>
<td>Up to 2 yr/ up to $1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. Gun safety violation (by club)</td>
<td>Rep/$100</td>
<td>Loss of next event/$300</td>
<td>Loss of next event/$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j. Providing fraudulent information on an entry to show an ineligible dog</td>
<td>3 mo/$500</td>
<td>6 mo/$1000</td>
<td>Up to 1 yr/ up to $2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>k. Misuse of a tracking device in connection with a Field Event</td>
<td>6 mo/$500</td>
<td>1 yr/$1000</td>
<td>Up to 2 yr/ up to $2500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>l. Entering/Exhibiting dog that the entrant knew or should have known is ineligible to compete in the event</td>
<td>Rep/$200</td>
<td>1 yr/$1000</td>
<td>Up to 5 yr/ up to $5000</td>
</tr>
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### SUSPENSION OF REGISTRATION PRIVILEGES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OFFENSES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>VIII. Registration Violations</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Submission of a false application to register or transfer (not signature forgeries), which do not affect the Stud Books online or paper</td>
<td>1 yr/$200</td>
<td>3 yr/$300</td>
<td>Up to 5 yr/ up to $500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Signing AKC applications to register or transfer in blank; failure to properly complete an AKC document to show the name and address of the individual to whom the dog was directly transferred and the date of the transfer</td>
<td>Rep/$300</td>
<td>3 mo/$500</td>
<td>Up to 1 yr/ up to $2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Failure to complete supplemental transfers (i.e., jumping transfers). Failure to complete proper chain of registration on an AKC registered or registerable dog</td>
<td>Rep/$300</td>
<td>3 mo/$500</td>
<td>Up to 1 yr/ up to $2000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
OFFENSES | MITIGATED | STANDARD | AGGRAVATED
--- | --- | --- | ---
d. Submission of application containing a false certification as to the signature of one of the owners (this includes making false complaints) | 1 mo/$300 | 6 mo/$500 | Up to 1 yr/ up to $1000
e. Submission of an online application without written permission from the co-owner or co-litter owner | Rep | 3 mo/$500 | Up to 1 yr/ up to $1000
f. Signing AKC documents on behalf of another without filing a properly completed Power of Attorney Form | Rep | 3 mo/$500 | Up to 1 yr/ up to $1000
g. Attempting to register a litter whelped outside of the U.S. | Rep/$200 | 6 mo/$500 | Up to 1 yr/ up to $1000

If now living within the U.S., six months; if residents are still outside of the U.S., indefinite, with an application for reinstatement upon return of the U.S.

OFFENSES | MITIGATED | STANDARD | AGGRAVATED
--- | --- | --- | ---
IX. Circumvention of Suspension | | | |
a. Circumvention of Suspension* | Rep/Double Original Fine | Double Original Suspension and Fine | Up to life/ up to $5000
b. Aiding and abetting the circumvention of an AKC suspension of registration or all privileges (All Privileges)* | Rep/$500 | 5 yr/$1000 | Up to life/ up to $5000
c. Aiding and abetting the circumvention of an AKC suspension of event privileges (Event Suspension) | Rep/$500 | 6 mo/$1000 | Up to 1 yr/ up to $5000

Definitions of Offenses

**Abuse:** Improper treatment which could cause serious injury to an animal.

**Cruelty:** Conscious action or inaction that may endanger life or cause serious health consequences to animals.

**Harassment:** Inappropriate comments, conduct, and/or contact regarding but not limited to race, color, religion, disability, national origin, age, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, or are sexual in nature.

**Improper Treatment:** Inappropriate treatment or handling of an animal not likely to cause serious injury, e.g. excessive or harsh discipline/training.

**Neglect:** Inadequate care or voluntary inattention to basic needs, ignoring the safety and well-being of animals because of haste or ignorance.
Event Financial Planning Sheet

Revenue

Pre-Event
- Catalog advertising
- Trophy fund
- Concession space fees
- Entry fees

Day-of-Event Income
- Parking fees
- Admission fees
- Catalog sales
- Food sales
- Other

Expenses

Event Site
- Site rental
- Site preparation
- Tenting
- Hired personnel
- Site clean-up
- Portable lavatories
- Other (signs, ring equipment, etc.)

Event Preparation
- Superintendent/Show Secretary
  - Premium list printing and mailing
  - Judging program printing and mailing
  - Acknowledgment mailing
  - Catalog printing
  - Ribbons, rosettes and badges
- Judges
- Trophies
- Club hospitality (pre-show and/or after-show dinner, breakfast, luncheon)
- EMT
- Stewards
- Insurance
- Veterinary expenses
- Advertising
- Contingency plans
- Emergency and Disaster Plan

Event Committee
- Mail
- Telephone
- Clerical
Purpose of the Host Club/Consent Form

When multiple events are held on the same date and site, the club with the rights to the date (the host club) must give permission for other clubs to join them. It is very important that the host club identify the type of competition for each club so that we can verify the application submitted by each specialty club. A host club has the option to grant permission on an event-by-event basis or for an extended time (including indefinite).

This form is also used when a club has the permission rights to a site and wants to grant permission to another club to use the site. The club with the permission rights to the site should be considered the host club when completing this form. Clusters should use the Common Site Application form to grant site usage privileges.

A separate Host Club/Consent form must be submitted for each day of events.

Completing the Host Club/Consent Form

Host Club Information

The “Host Club” line should identify the club that has the permission for the date or site.

The “Location of Event” line should include the name of the site as well as the city and state.

Host Club Permissions

The “Club Being Granted Permission” is each individual club that is joining the host club. The “Type of Competition” documents the event type that the host club has agreed to let the joining club hold. This is very important for use in the verification of the joining club’s event application and for the AKC rules associated with the type of competition. The most common types of competition are Designated Specialty (DS), DS with Sweepstakes, Concurrent Specialty, Concurrent Specialty with Sweepstakes, Evening Specialty, and Sweepstakes. For an explanation of the different types of specialty events and their restrictions, please review the Frequently Asked Conformation Questions page on our website.
Certification of the Host Club/Consent Form

Host Club/Consent for a Single Date
Certification is accepted from a club officer (delegate, president, vice-president, secretary, or treasurer) as per the AKC’s records or the show chair of the host club event.

Host Club/Consent for a Corresponding Date for More than One Day (Including Indefinite)
Certification is accepted from a club officer (delegate, president, vice-president, secretary, or treasurer) as per the AKC’s records.

Submitting the Host Club/Consent Form
To make it easy for clubs, clubs can submit the Host Club/Consent Form multiple ways:

1) A club officer ((delegate, president, vice-president, secretary, or treasurer) as per the AKC’s records) can email a copy of the Host Club/Consent form to the AKC. If the Host Club/Consent is for a single date, we can also accept the form emailed from the show chair of the host club event.

2) The Host Club/Consent Form can be sent by fax or postal mail. If faxed or mailed, the form must be signed by a club officer ((delegate, president, vice-president, secretary, or treasurer) as per the AKC’s records). If the Host Club/Consent is for a single date, we can also accept the signature of the show chair of the host club.
**Host Club/Consent Form**

**Host Club Information**

Host Club: ____________________________

Date of Event - or -
Corresponding Week and Day of Week: ________________________________

Site Name, City, and State: ____________________________

Officer Signature: ____________________________

Officer Printed Name and Position: ____________________________

Please identify each club, type of competition, and the expiration date of the host club permission.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Club Being Granted Permission*</th>
<th>Type of Competition</th>
<th>Host Permission Expiration Date</th>
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</table>

*Specialty clubs may also need to submit permission from the specialty club (of the same breed) which owns the rights to the territory.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Day</th>
<th>Second Day</th>
<th>Third Day</th>
<th>Fourth Day</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Standard</strong></td>
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<td><strong>FAST Total</strong></td>
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<td><strong>FAST Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>FAST Total</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Judging Availability Inquiry Letter

YOUR CLUB’S LETTERHEAD
Return Address

Date of letter

Dear ______________:

On behalf of the Name of Club, I am inquiring as to your availability to judge the following assignment at our trial to be held on day, date, at location (name of facility and address).

List all classes to be assigned.

Please return this letter to me by date to confirm your availability.

Include all specific financial arrangements required (fee or rate per dog plus all anticipated expenses). I look forward to hearing from you by date. A timely reply from our club will follow.

Thank you for your consideration

Fee ______________

Other ______________

Sincerely,

Signature
Name
Title
Phone/E-mail

Letter should include the following:

• Complete name, address and phone number of person corresponding with the judge.
• Name of the club and type of event, date and location (indoor/outdoor), including city and state.
• A complete listing of the proposed assignment.
• A request for financial information the judge requires, fees or rate per dog, travel and all other anticipated expenses.
• Include a date that the judge must respond by.
JUDGING CHECKLIST – AKC

SHOW INFORMATION
Date: __________________________
Date(s) of trial(s): ________________________________ Closing Date: ____________________________
Name of hosting club: _____________________________________________________________________
City/State: ______________________________________________________________________________
Agility Chairperson: __________________________________________ Phone: _____________________
Address: ________________________________________________ City/State/Zip: _________________
Agility Secretary: _____________________________________________ Phone: _____________________
Address: ________________________________________________ City/State/Zip: _________________
Classes judging: Day: ____________________ Class(es): ________________________________________
Day: ____________________ Class(es): ________________________________________
Day: ____________________ Class(es): ________________________________________
Day: ____________________ Class(es): ________________________________________
Limited/Open entry: _______________________ Fellow Judge(s): _______________________________
Contract: Sent by Judge: ________ Date: _________ Sent by Hosting Club: _________ Date: _________
Copy of Premium: Date Rec’d: ____________ Copy of Judge’s schedule: Date Rec’d: _______________
Exhibitor Course Copies: Yes / No

RING INFORMATION
Trial Location: ___________________________________________________________________________
Ring Location: (Indoor/Outdoor): _____________________ Covered outdoor: Yes / No
Ring Size ___________w x ___________h Footing: ______________ Barrier Type: __________________
Ring restriction(s): ________________________________________________________________________
Gate locations: (Entrances/Exits): ___________________________________________________________

EQUIPMENT INFORMATION
List of equipment available to the club
Open tunnels: # & size(s): _________________________________________________________________
Winged Jumps: # ___________________ bar length: __________________
Non-winged Jumps: # ___________________ bar length: __________________
Double: winged / non-winged Ascending Double: Yes / No winged / non-winged
Triple: winged / non-winged Wall Jump: (if offering Premier) Yes / No
Panel Jump: panel length: ______________ winged / non-winged

PERSONAL INFORMATION
Transportation: Judge arranges / Club arranges
Accommodations: Judge arranges / Club arranges Requirement: smoking / non-smoking
Expenses Club is responsible for:
Hotel/Motel: Club pre-pays / Judge pays and is reimbursed
Transportation (airfare or mileage at current IRS rate)
Airport parking
Meals (is there a per diem or max per meal)
Course copies
Rental Car / Club provided Transportation
Judging Fees
Sample Judging Confirmation Letter

YOUR CLUB’S LETTERHEAD
Return Address

Date of letter

NAME
ADDRESS
CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE

Dear ________________:

This is to confirm your availability to judge at our Agility Trial on date/month/year, which is an outdoor (or whatever) event. Please take a moment to review the enclosed contract, sign it, and return one copy to me. The Your Club Name looks forward to your judging at our event.

You will receive a Judge’s Information Sheet from our Hospitality Chairman later. Please contact me if I may be of assistance in making plans for your assignment.

Sincerely,

Your Name
Your Position in Club
Address
City, State, Zip Code
Phone
E-mail
JUNIOR HANDLER CERTIFICATION

Date ________________________________

Club Name ____________________________

Name of Junior _________________________ Junior Number _______________________

Date of Birth _________________________ Phone Number _______________________

Address ______________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

Registered Dog Name ______________________

If Dog Not Owned by Junior, Relationship of Dog Owner to Junior ______________________

Reg. # ___________________________________

Breed ____________________________________

TYPE OF EVENT

☐ Obedience    ☐ Tracking    ☐ Rally    ☐ Hunt Test

☐ Lure Coursing ☐ Field Trial ☐ Agility ☐ Coursing Ability Test

☐ Coonhound    ☐ Herding    ☐ Earthdog ☐ Scentwork

☐ Fast Cat

Class/Stake __________ Score/Placement ___________ Jump Height ___________

I certify that the above named Junior Handler did compete in the above-referenced class/stake and received the score and/or placement indicated.

Printed Name of Judge, Trial Secretary or AKC® Representative __________________________ Date ____________

Signature of Judge, Trial Secretary or AKC Representative __________________________ Date ____________

8051 Arco Corporate Drive • Raleigh, NC 27617-3390
For a Junior Handler number, please call (919) 233-9767 or email juniors@akc.org.

CEIRH1 (5/18)  Top Copy to Junior / Bottom Copy to AKC w/Judge’s Book
American Kennel Club  
Junior Handler Number Request

Please complete, sign, and date this form in order to obtain a Junior Handler number for your child. Please return the completed form as indicated at the bottom of the form and keep a copy for your records.

Junior Information

Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy) ____________________________

First Name ____________________________ Last Name ____________________________

Mailing Address 1 ____________________________ Mailing Address 2 ____________________________

City ________________________ State/Prov ______ Zip Code ____________ Country ____________

Home Phone ____________________________ Email Address ____________________________

Please add my child to the list to receive the Junior’s E-Newsletter:  Yes ☐ No ☐ (Check one)

Is your junior involved in 4-H:  Yes ☐ No ☐ (Check one)

Does the mailing address for the Junior match the mailing address for the Parent/Guardian?  Yes ☐ No ☐ (Check one)

Parent/Guardian Information

First Name ____________________________ Last Name ____________________________

Mailing Address 1 ____________________________ Mailing Address 2 ____________________________

City ________________________ State/Prov ______ Zip Code ____________ Country ____________

Home Phone ____________________________ Email Address ____________________________

By completing and signing this form, I give my consent to the American Kennel Club to issue my child a Junior Handler number. I further give my consent to the American Kennel Club to provide my child’s name and ranking points information to third parties with whom the American Kennel Club has agreements to publish Junior handler ranking statistics.

Parent/Guardian Signature ____________________________ Date ____________________________

Return Application to:  
AKC/Juniors  
PO Box 900059  
Raleigh, NC 27675  
email: juniors@akc.org  
Fax: (919) 816-3770
Mass Measurement Request Form

COMPANION EVENTS

Measurements must be requested at least 30 days in advance of the event date.

Mass Measurements are only acceptable at AKC events.

Requests are subject to approval.

Club Name: ________________________________

Event Number(s): ________________________________

Dates of Measurement: ________________________________

Location of event: ________________________________
(City, State, Zip)

Name of Contact: ________________________________

Address: ________________________________

Phone Number: ________________________________

E-mail: ________________________________

Official Measurers who will be conducting measuring:

Name: ________________________________ State of Residence: ____ Date Attending: ________

Name: ________________________________ State of Residence: ____ Date Attending: ________

Name: ________________________________ State of Residence: ____ Date Attending: ________

Mail or Fax Completed Form to: Agility Department
AKC Companion Events
PO Box 900068
Raleigh, NC 27675-9068
Fax: (919) 816-4204

Scan & Email Completed Form to: agility@akc.org
USE THIS FORM TO MOVE UP TO A HIGHER AGILITY CLASS ONLY

It is the option of the club to allow day-to-day move-ups. Exhibitors should refer to a club’s premium list to verify the club’s policy for moving a dog up. If offered, dogs shall be moved up to a higher class at the request of the owner, as a result of the dog qualifying for an agility title.

The request for moving up must be made to the Trial Secretary according to the club’s published policy. All move-up entries are subject to availability of the class and payment of any difference in entry fee. Dogs so moved-up will be entered at the end of the running order. Refer to Chapter 1, Section 20 of the Regulations for Agility Trials for additional move-up requirements.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Club</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Breed:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sex:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Dog’s AKC Registered Name | Dog’s AKC #

Dog’s Call Name

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Move Entry to Agility Class: (Circle One)</th>
<th>Jump Height Division: (Circle One)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regular Standard</td>
<td>Open</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regular JWW</td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regular FAST</td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preferred Standard</td>
<td>Open</td>
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<tr>
<td>Preferred JWW</td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preferred FAST</td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Owners Name: ____________________________________________

Handlers Name: __________________________________________ (If applicable)

Signature of owner or agent
duly authorized to make this entry: ________________________________

Signature of Trial Secretary
If Approved: __________________________________ Date __________

Time Received: ______________________

(09/12)
Addendum to Trial Application for a Non-Regular Agility Class

This application must be submitted with the Application and Judges Panel for AKC Licensed or Member Agility Trial eighteen (18) weeks prior to the closing. Non-Regular class applications are subject to approval by the AKC Agility Executive Field Staff.

Name of Club: ____________________________________________________________

Event Day/Date: __________________________________________________________

Requested by (Name & Title): _____________________________________________

Address: __________________________________________________________________

City, ST, Zip: __________________________________________________________________

Daytime Tel. and Email: __________________________________________________________________

Name of Trial Secretary: _______________________________________________________

Address: __________________________________________________________________

City, ST, Zip: __________________________________________________________________

Daytime Tel. and Email: __________________________________________________________________

DESCRIPTION OF NON-REGULAR AGILITY CLASS REQUESTED:
Include who is eligible to enter, how it will be scored, any modifications to AKC agility equipment, etc. (Attach separate 8x11 sheet(s) if additional space is needed)

Approval will be sent to the Club Secretary and the Trial Secretary.

Event Operations

PO Box 900051  Raleigh, NC 27675-9051  Tel 919-816-3725  Fax 919-816-4210  www.akc.org
I certify that I am the actual owner of the dog, or that I am the duly authorized agent of the actual owner whose name I have entered. In consideration of the acceptance of this entry, I (we) agree to abide by the rules and regulations of The American Kennel Club in effect at the time of this event, and any additional rules and regulations appearing in the premium list of this event and entry form and any decision made in accord with them, and any provider of services (if any) necessary to host this event, and any employees or volunteers of the aforementioned parties, and any AKC approved judge, judging at this event, harmless from any claim for loss or injury which may be alleged to have been caused directly or indirectly to any person or thing by the act of this dog while in or about the event premises or grounds or near any entrance thereto, and I (we) personally assume all responsibility and liability for any such claim; and I (we) further agree to hold the aforementioned parties harmless from any claim for loss, injury or damage to this dog.

Additionally, I (we) hereby assume the sole responsibility for and agree to indemnify, defend and save the aforementioned parties harmless from any and all loss and expense (including legal fees) by reason of the liability imposed by law upon any of the aforementioned parties for damage because of bodily injuries, including death at any time resulting therefrom, sustained by any person or persons, including myself (ourselves), or on account of damage to property, arising out of or in consequence of my (our) participation in this event, however such, injuries, death or property damage may be caused, and whether or not the same may have been caused or may be alleged to have been caused by the negligence of the aforementioned parties or any of their employees, agents, or any other person. I (WE) AGREE THAT ANY CAUSE OF ACTION, CONTROVERSY OR CLAIM ARISING OUT OF OR RELATED TO THE ENTRY, EXHIBITION OR ATTENDANCE AT THE EVENT BETWEEN THE AKC AND THE EVENT-GIVING CLUB (UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED IN THIS PREMIUM LIST) AND MYSELF (OURSELVES) OR AS TO THE CONSTRUCTION, INTERPRETATION AND EFFECT OF THIS AGREEMENT SHALL BE SETTLED BY ARBITRATION PURSUANT TO THE APPLICABLE RULES OF THE AMERICAN ARBITRATION ASSOCIATION. HOWEVER, PRIOR TO ARBITRATION ALL APPLICABLE AKC BYLAWS, RULES, REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES MUST FIRST BE FOLLOWED AS SET FORTH IN THE AKC CHARTER AND BYLAWS, RULES, REGULATIONS, PUBLISHED POLICIES AND GUIDELINES.

INSTRUCTIONS

Handlers whose dogs measure into the 8” through 20” regular jump height divisions may opt to enter in a higher or 24-choice height division for all Regular titling classes, but not in a division lower than their proper height division. Dogs who measure into the 24” regular jump height division may not enter 24-choice. Dogs entered in the Preferred classes must compete at the required jump height and may not compete in a jump height division higher or lower than their proper height division.

All dogs that have not been officially measured for an Agility Jump Height Card may still compete; however, they must be measured by a Judge of record, an Agility Field Representative, or a Volunteer Measuring Official, prior to running. If measured by the Judge of record, that measurement will be valid for this trial or back-to-back trials only. If a measurement is necessary, it is the exhibitor’s responsibility to have their dog(s) measured prior to running.

Dogs listed in the AKC Canine Partners ProgramSM may be eligible to enter all-breed AKC agility trials at the club’s option. These dogs should be listed as All American Dog and must include their AKC number on the entry form and check the AKC No. box.

Junior Handlers should enter their Junior Handler Number on the front of this form. Should you not have your Junior Handler number, it may be obtained from the American Kennel Club (919) 233-9767. If the Junior Handler is not the owner of the dog identified on the face of this form, what is the relationship of the Junior Handler to the Owner?

Signature of owner or his agent duly authorized to make this entry.

Exhibitor or owner MUST sign on the signature line beneath the instructions.
REPORT OF AGILITY TRIAL

Upon the completion of an agility trial, the Superintendent/Event Secretary shall complete a copy of this form for each event (one event per form) and send it with the marked and signed trial catalog along with the necessary fees so as to reach the AKC® office within seven (7) days after the close of the event. Each question should be answered completely.

Send to: The American Kennel Club, Event Operations – Agility, PO Box 900051, Raleigh, NC 27675-9051.

Name of Club________________________Date of Trial__________Event Number ______________

Total # of Runs in Regular & Preferred Classes (STD/JWW/FAST/T2B) at Closing (*International Classes excluded)

- # Withdrawn runs after closing (*Judge Change or Bitch in Season only)

= # of Runs for which recording fees are due.

# of First Runs X $3.50 per run (this is the # of dogs entered in the trial) $0.00

# of Additional Runs X $3.00 per run (Total # of runs in trial minus # of dogs entered in the trial) $0.00

Total Recording Fees $0.00

*Note: No recording fees are due for withdrawn runs or for Non-Regular classes.

Event secretaries are allowed to secretary up to twelve (12) events without a secretarial fee. After acting as an event secretary for the 12th event in a calendar year a $10 fee per event is required. Secretarial Fee Enclosed $__________________.

Effective January 1, 2013: Any person or entity who serves as secretary for thirteen (13) or more AKC Agility Trials in a calendar year is required to be approved as an AKC Licensed Agility Trial Secretary.

Did all the Judges receive prior approval by the American Kennel Club to judge the class(es) they judged at this event? Yes☐ No ☐ If no, name the judges below, giving the date on which you or the club received notification of their inability to judge, and stating the reason as reported to you.

Name________________________Date Notified_________Reason_____________________

If AKC approval was not obtained for any substitute Judge, give below the name and address of the person(s) selected to judge in place of the scheduled judges(s).

Name________________________Address____________________

Were there any complaints against the judge(s)? Yes☐ No ☐ If yes, please send details to:
The American Kennel Club, Companion Events, Agility Director, PO Box 900068, Raleigh, NC 27675-9068.

Were any written protests filed with the Event Committee? Yes ☐ No ☐ If yes, state the decision reached by the Committee:

Were there any dog aggression issues at this event? Yes ☐ No ☐ If yes, please record the dog’s registered name and registration number here along with a brief description of the situation. Also, file the necessary paperwork with AKC:

Superintendent or Event Secretary – Please Print

Date

Payment Method: ☐ VISA ☐ AMEX ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover ☐ Check or money order made payable to: The American Kennel Club.

Account Number (do not include dashes) _______ Expiration Date _______

Printed Name of Cardholder ___________________________
SAMPLE CONTRACT FOR AKC AGILITY JUDGES

CLUB’S NAME

JUDGE’S NAME: _________________________________________________________________________

LOCATION OF AGILITY TRIAL: __________________________________________________________

DATE OF TRIAL: ____________________ CHAIRMAN: ____________________

PHONE#: ____________________

JUDGING ASSIGNMENT:  FRI __________________________________________________________

SAT: ___________________________________________________________

SUN: ___________________________________________________________

JUDGING FEE: __________________________________________________

ADDITIONAL EXPENSES: Parking _____________ Travel Expenses:_________________________

Airfare: ______________ Mileage: ____________

Airfare purchase will be made: by the Club ______ by the Judge ________

Beverage/Food that I will require while judging: _____________________________________________

Motel Room: Non-Smoking _____ Smoking _______

Food Allergies: None or list allergies: _____________________________________________________

In the event of an emergency, call: __________________________ Phone#: ___________________

Any medical conditions: ________________________________

Flight information: Airline: ______________ Flt# ___________ Departure time/city: ____________

Arrival Time: ______________________

Departure time on final day of judging: _______________________

Rental Car or Club provided transportation

I agree to be the Agility Judge for the ___________________________ AKC Agility Club on
_______________________ under the conditions contained herein.

____________________________________________________________ Date: ______________________

Judge’s Name, AKC Judge number

As Chairman for the ___________________________ AKC Agility Club, I hereby
agree to the above Contract for the agility trial on __________________________.

____________________________________________________________ Date: ______________________

Chairman
SAMPLE JUDGING SCHEDULE

1. Determine the approximate schedule for each clads:
   • Allow 20 minutes for a course change, 10 minutes for judge’s briefing and 8 minutes for course walk-throughs plus 5 minutes to 1st dog.
   • Allow 1 ½ minutes per dog for standard classes, 1 minute per dog for JWW, T2B, FAST and Premier classes.
   • Set the starting time for a class (other than the first one of the day) approximately ½ - 1 hour earlier than you really expect to start. Recommend setting the schedule “to follow” instead of a specific time that you are bound not to start before.

2. The Confirmation Letter sent to exhibitors should include:
   • Name of the Club, trial date(s) and trial hours
   • Directions to show site
   • Confirmation of entry information for each dog (see example below) and information on who to contact if any errors are found.
   • Judging Program – including number of dogs entered in each class/height and class start times (see sample below).
   • Any other notes to exhibitors

3. Sample of confirmation of entry information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Owner’s Name &amp; Address</th>
<th>Dog’s registered name</th>
<th>Dog’s call name</th>
<th>AKC #</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Height Care Received:  Yes/No</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Jump Height</th>
<th>Armband#</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
<th>Sunday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Standard</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>12”</td>
<td>12009</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JWW</td>
<td>Master</td>
<td>12”</td>
<td>12009</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAST</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>12”</td>
<td>12009</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Sample of judging schedule

**Saturday, July 22, 2020**  Ring 1: Judge’s name (total number of dogs)

Check-in: 7:30AM  Judge’s Briefing: 8:00AM  Ring 1 Running: 8:30AM  (all classes to follow running high to low in listed order)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>4”</th>
<th>8”</th>
<th>12”</th>
<th>16”</th>
<th>20”</th>
<th>24”</th>
<th>24C</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Standard</td>
<td>Nov B</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>58</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard</td>
<td>Nov A</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
<td>35</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard</td>
<td>Novice Preferred</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>26</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>32</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard</td>
<td>Open Preferred</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td>14</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAST</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>222</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Agility Judging Schedule
Requirements & Recommendations

**Required Information**
- Owner’s name and address
- Dog’s call name and AKC Registration number, FSS, ILP, or PAL number
- The results of the random drawing of the running order with assigned running order numbers, including which class(es) the dog is entered in
- Statement: “Preliminary running order contingent on move-up entries not yet received.”
- Ring assignments for the judge(s) with ring numbers
- Time schedule for check-in, briefings and judging
- The number of entries per class, per jump height
- Name of Vet and/or Emergency Clinic with telephone number, directions to the clinic & their hours of operation

**Recommended Information**
- Name of the club
- Date(s) of event
- Exact location of event: complete address with street number, city, state and zip code along with directions and map
- Trial hours and when site will be accessible to exhibitors
- Whether the trial is indoors or outdoors
- Emergency telephone number available during the event hours
- Suggested hotels/motels with details and directions
- Details about special attractions approved by the AKC
- Details about social activities for the exhibitors
- A simple site layout giving ring locations, parking, restrooms, etc.
- Directions to Emergency Service locations
- Whether overnight parking will be allowed.
Sample Letter for Media Coverage (Newspaper)

The **(name of club)** will be holding its annual agility trial on **(date)**. We are a non-profit organization donating the proceeds of our show to **(name of organization or cause)**. Would you please print the attached announcement as often as possible between now and **(trial date)**. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

“The **(name of club)** will hold its **xxth** (e.g., 10\textsuperscript{th}) annual agility trial **(day, date at location; include street)**.

There are **xxxx** (e.g. 700) dogs entered representing 75 different breeds. The trial starts **(day, date and time)** and runs throughout the day. This is an American Kennel Club approved event, where handlers and many breeds of dogs demonstrate their agile nature and versatility by racing as fast as they can, leaping over obstacles and climbing a variety of heights in a competitive atmosphere. They will be judged as they race against the clock, but accuracy is the first requirement. The sport of agility is fun and exciting for participants and spectators alike. Admission for adults is **($ )**, and children under 12 is **($ )** (or free). There are plenty of vendors featuring dog foods, all types of supplies, photography, canine antiques, book and magazines. A good time to be had by the entire family. For more information call **(phone number)**, or e-mail **(email address)**.”

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at **(phone number, e-mail address)**.

Sincerely,

Name
Title
Address

INCLUDE AN EYE CATCING BLACK & WHITE 8X10 PHOTO WITH THE PRESS RELEASE
### AKC Scoring Guidelines

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AKC Class</th>
<th>Allowed E’s</th>
<th>Allowed R’s (5 pts each)</th>
<th>Allowed S’s (5 pts each)</th>
<th>Faults per second over SCT</th>
<th>Minimum Score to Qualify</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Standard &amp; Jumpers</td>
<td>ISC</td>
<td>NONE</td>
<td>R R</td>
<td>Unlimited</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AKC Class</th>
<th>Allowed F’s</th>
<th>Allowed R’s (5 pts each)</th>
<th>Allowed W’s (5 pts each)</th>
<th>Allowed T’s (5 pts each)</th>
<th>Faults per second over SCT</th>
<th>Minimum Score to Qualify</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Standard Novice A &amp; B</td>
<td>NONE</td>
<td>R R</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>T T</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard Open</td>
<td>NONE</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard Excellent</td>
<td>NONE</td>
<td>NONE</td>
<td>NONE</td>
<td>NONE</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard Master</td>
<td>NONE</td>
<td>NONE</td>
<td>NONE</td>
<td>NONE</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard Premier</td>
<td>NONE</td>
<td>NONE</td>
<td>NONE</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Must be less than MCT</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jumpers Novice A &amp; B</td>
<td>NONE</td>
<td>R R</td>
<td>NONE</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jumpers Open</td>
<td>NONE</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>NONE</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jumpers Excellent</td>
<td>NONE</td>
<td>NONE</td>
<td>NONE</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jumpers Master</td>
<td>NONE</td>
<td>NONE</td>
<td>NONE</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jumpers Premier</td>
<td>NONE</td>
<td>NONE</td>
<td>NONE</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Must be less than MCT</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T2B</td>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>NONE</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Must be less than MCT</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAST Novice</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>NONE (R’s = FAULT in Send)</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>50 Plus, Successful SEND</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAST Open</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>NONE (R’s = FAULT in Send)</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>55 Plus, Successful SEND</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAST Excellent/Master</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>NONE (R’s = FAULT in Send)</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>60 Plus, Successful SEND</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(R’s = FAULT in Send)
# Scribe Cheat Sheet

This is for the scribe’s clipboard. Signals, symbols and translations used by the Judge, Scrobe and Score Keeper for scoring the performance of a dog during an AKC trial.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Judge Hand Signal</th>
<th>Scribe’s Symbol</th>
<th>Score Keeper’s Translation</th>
<th>Examples of dog’s activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image" alt="Refusal/Runout" /></td>
<td><strong>R</strong></td>
<td>-5 points</td>
<td>Focuses on obstacle and runs towards it, but turns and goes around it</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image" alt="Wrong Course" /></td>
<td><strong>W</strong></td>
<td>-5 points</td>
<td>Performs wrong obstacle or jumps bar of jump from back to frong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image" alt="Table Fault" /></td>
<td><strong>T</strong></td>
<td>-5 points</td>
<td>Jumps off and back on the table before end of count</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image" alt="Failure to Perform" /></td>
<td><strong>F</strong></td>
<td>NQ</td>
<td>Knock bar off jump or misses contact zone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image" alt="Fix and Go" /></td>
<td><strong>FNG</strong></td>
<td>NQ</td>
<td>Goes back and fixes something previously executed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image" alt="Excusal" /></td>
<td><strong>E</strong></td>
<td>NQ</td>
<td>Fouling ring or exceeds maximum course time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breed</td>
<td>Dog's Time</td>
<td>Standard Course Time</td>
<td>Maximum Course Time (SCT + 20 sec.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>_______ : _______ : _______</td>
<td>________</td>
<td>________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elimination - Non-Qualifying (F, E, W, or R)</td>
<td>TOTAL FAULTS</td>
<td>TOTAL FAULTS DEDUCTED FROM 100 = SCORE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>________</td>
<td>________</td>
<td>________</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Score of 100 required to Qualify)
**Dog No.**

### JUMPERS WITH WEAVES

**SCRIBE SHEET**

**JUMP HEIGHT _______**

**OPEN**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Breed</th>
<th>Dog's Time</th>
<th>Standard Course Time</th>
<th>Maximum Course Time (SCT + 20 sec.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em><strong>:</strong></em>:___</td>
<td><em><strong>:</strong></em>:___</td>
<td><em><strong>:</strong></em>:___</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Refusals / Run-outs (R) (5 faults each) Limit = 1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Refusal / Run-out Faults</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Elimination - Non-Qualifying (F, E, or W)**

**TOTAL FAULTS**

(total faults deducted from 100 = **SCORE**

(Score of 85 or higher required to Qualify)

---

### NOVICE A or B

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Breed</th>
<th>Dog's Time</th>
<th>Standard Course Time</th>
<th>Maximum Course Time (SCT + 20 sec.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em><strong>:</strong></em>:___</td>
<td><em><strong>:</strong></em>:___</td>
<td><em><strong>:</strong></em>:___</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Refusals / Run-outs (R) (5 faults each) Limit = 2**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Refusal / Run-out Faults</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Elimination - Non-Qualifying (F, E, or W)**

**TOTAL FAULTS**

(total faults deducted from 100 = **SCORE**

(Score of 85 or higher required to Qualify)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dog No.</th>
<th>Standard Agility Class</th>
<th>Scribe Sheet</th>
<th>Jump Height</th>
<th>Breed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Excellent**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Breed</th>
<th>Dog's Time</th>
<th>Standard Course Time</th>
<th>Maximum Course Time (SCT + 20 sec.)</th>
<th>Time over SCT</th>
<th>Total Time Faults</th>
<th>Non-Qualifying Faults (R, W, T, F, or E)</th>
<th>Total Faults</th>
<th>Total Faults Deducted from 100 = Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**(Score of 85 or higher required to Qualify)**

---

**Master**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Breed</th>
<th>Dog's Time</th>
<th>Standard Course Time</th>
<th>Maximum Course Time (SCT + 20 sec.)</th>
<th>Time over SCT</th>
<th>Total Time Faults</th>
<th>Non-Qualifying Faults (R, W, T, F, or E)</th>
<th>Total Faults</th>
<th>Total Faults Deducted from 100 = Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**(Score of 100 required to Qualify)**
### Standard Agility Class: Open

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dog No.</th>
<th>Breed</th>
<th>Dog's Time</th>
<th>Standard Course Time</th>
<th>Maximum Course Time (SCT + 20 sec.)</th>
<th>Time over SCT (decimal round DOWN)</th>
<th>Total Time Faults</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Refusals / Run-outs (R)** (5 Faults each) Limit = 1
- Total Refusal Faults

**Wrong Course (W)** (5 Faults each) Limit = 1
- Total Wrong Course Faults

**Table Faults (T)** (5 Faults each) Limit = 1
- Total Table Faults

**Non-Qualifying Faults** (R x 2, W x 2, T x 2, F, or E)

**Total Faults**

**Total Faults Deducted from 100 = Score**

(Score of 85 or higher required to Qualify)

---

### Standard Agility Class: Novice A or B

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dog No.</th>
<th>Breed</th>
<th>Dog's Time</th>
<th>Standard Course Time</th>
<th>Maximum Course Time (SCT + 20 sec.)</th>
<th>Time over SCT (decimal round DOWN)</th>
<th>Total Time Faults</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Refusals / Run-outs (R)** (5 Faults each) Limit = 2
- Total Refusal Faults

**Wrong Course (W)** (5 Faults each) Limit = 1
- Total Wrong Course Faults

**Table Faults (T)** (5 Faults each) Limit = 2
- Total Table Faults

**Non-Qualifying Faults** (R x 3, W x 2, T x 3, F, or E)

**Total Faults**

**Total Faults Deducted from 100 = Score**

(Score of 85 or higher required to Qualify)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dog No.</th>
<th>PREFERRED CLASS SCRIBE SHEET</th>
<th>JUMP HEIGHT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>JUMPERS WITH WEAVES</td>
<td>EXCELLENT</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Breed [Blank]

---

### Dog's Time

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Standard Course Time</th>
<th>Maximum Course Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Time over SCT = (decimal round DOWN) X 3 fault/second

Total Time Faults [Blank]

---

**Elimination - Non-Qualifying (F, E, W, or R)**

---

TOTAL FAULTS [Blank]

TOTAL FAULTS DEDUCTED FROM 100 = **SCORE** [Blank]

(Score of 85 or higher required to Qualify)

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dog No.</th>
<th>PREFERRED CLASS SCRIBE SHEET</th>
<th>JUMP HEIGHT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>JUMPERS WITH WEAVES</td>
<td>MASTER</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Breed [Blank]

---

### Dog's Time

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Standard Course Time</th>
<th>Maximum Course Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Time over SCT = (decimal round DOWN) X 3 fault/second

Total Time Faults [Blank]

---

**Elimination - Non-Qualifying (F, E, W, or R)**

---

TOTAL FAULTS [Blank]

TOTAL FAULTS DEDUCTED FROM 100 = **SCORE** [Blank]

(Score of 100 required to Qualify)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dog No.</th>
<th>PREFERRED CLASS Scribe SHEET</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>JUMPERS WITH WEAVES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>OPEN</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**JUMP HEIGHT _______**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Breed</th>
<th>Dog's Time</th>
<th>Standard Course Time</th>
<th>Maximum Course Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Time over SCT**

- **(decimal round DOWN)**
- **X 2 fault/second**

**Refusals / Run-outs (R)**

- **(5 faults each)**
- **Limit = 1**

**Total Refusal / Run-out Faults**

**Elimination - Non-Qualifying (Rx2, W, F or E)**

**TOTAL FAULTS**

**TOTAL FAULTS DEDUCTED FROM 100 = SCORE**

(Score of 85 or higher required to Qualify)

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dog No.</th>
<th>PREFERRED CLASS Scribe SHEET</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>JUMPERS WITH WEAVES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NOVICE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**JUMP HEIGHT _______**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Breed</th>
<th>Dog's Time</th>
<th>Standard Course Time</th>
<th>Maximum Course Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Time over SCT**

- **(decimal round DOWN)**
- **X 1 fault/second**

**Refusals / Run-outs (R)**

- **(5 faults each)**
- **Limit = 2**

**Total Refusal / Run-out Faults**

**Elimination - Non-Qualifying (Rx3, W, F or E)**

**TOTAL FAULTS**

**TOTAL FAULTS DEDUCTED FROM 100 = SCORE**

(Score of 85 or higher required to Qualify)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dog No.</th>
<th>Breed</th>
<th>PREFERRED CLASS SCRIBE SHEET</th>
<th>JUMP HEIGHT</th>
<th>EXCELLENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**STANDARD AGILITY**

**JUMP HEIGHT**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dog’s Time</th>
<th>Breed</th>
<th>Dog’s Time</th>
<th>Breed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>:         :</td>
<td>:</td>
<td>:         :</td>
<td>:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Standard Course Time</th>
<th>Maximum Course Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>:                   :</td>
<td>:                   :</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time over SCT</th>
<th>Total Time Faults</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(decimal round DOWN)</td>
<td>X 3 fault/second</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Non-Qualifying Faults (R, W, T, F, or E)</th>
<th>Total Faults</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>:                                     :</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOTAL FAULTS</th>
<th>TOTAL FAULTS DEDUCTED FROM 100 = SCORE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>:           :</td>
<td>:                                   :</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Score of 85 or higher required to Qualify)

---

**MASTER**

**JUMP HEIGHT**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dog’s Time</th>
<th>Breed</th>
<th>Dog’s Time</th>
<th>Breed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>:         :</td>
<td>:</td>
<td>:         :</td>
<td>:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Standard Course Time</th>
<th>Maximum Course Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>:                   :</td>
<td>:                   :</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time over SCT</th>
<th>Total Time Faults</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(decimal round DOWN)</td>
<td>X 3 fault/second</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Non-Qualifying Faults (R, W, T, F, or E)</th>
<th>Total Faults</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>:</td>
<td>:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOTAL FAULTS</th>
<th>TOTAL FAULTS DEDUCTED FROM 100 = SCORE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>:           :</td>
<td>:                                   :</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Score of 100 required to Qualify)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Breed</th>
<th>Dog's Time</th>
<th>Standard Course Time</th>
<th>Maximum Course Time</th>
<th>Time over SCT</th>
<th>Total Time Faults</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For **Open** class:

- Time over SCT: 
- Total Refusal Faults: 
- Total Wrong Course Faults: 
- Total Table Faults: 
- Total Faults: 

For **Novice** class:

- Time over SCT: 
- Total Refusal Faults: 
- Total Wrong Course Faults: 
- Total Table Faults: 
- Total Faults: 

Non-Qualifying Faults: (Rx3, Wx3, Tx3, F, or E)

TOTAL FAULTS DEDUCTED FROM 100 = **SCORE**

(Score of 85 or higher required to Qualify)
**INTERNATIONAL SWEEPSTAKES CLASS (ISC)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dog No.</th>
<th>Breed</th>
<th>JUMP HEIGHT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dog's Time</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Standard Course Time</th>
<th>Maximum Course Time (SCT + 20 sec.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TIME FAULTS**

Time over SCT = TOTAL TIME FAULTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COURSE FAULTS (R, S)</th>
<th>5 POINT FAULTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Refusals / Run-out</td>
<td>Missed contact zone (Including upside of A-frame)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>See-Saw fly-off</td>
<td>Missed weave pole once entered correctly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Table faults</td>
<td>Displaced jump bar or plank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Visibly moving or stepping on top of the broad jump</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ELIMINATION FAULTS (F)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 Refusals or run-outs on course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wrong course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure to complete all obstacles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Handler / dog contact, handler equipment contact</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outside assistance</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXCUSALS (E) (Whistle)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dog leaves course area &amp; stops working</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exceeding maximum course time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excessive Handling or harsh commands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dog fouls ring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exceeding fault limit if applied</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Circle Points Earned**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**SCTs:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pref 4&quot; = 41</th>
<th>Pref 8/12&quot; = 38</th>
<th>Pref 8&quot; = 38</th>
<th>Pref 16/20&quot; = 38</th>
<th>Pref 20/24/26&quot; = 32</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SB**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Max. Points Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Novice A/B/P - 50 pts**

**Open /P - 55 pts**

**Excellent A/B/P - 60 pts**

**Total points earned**

**Full seconds over SCT (if any)**

**TOTAL SCORE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(circle one)</th>
<th>Q</th>
<th>NQ</th>
<th>E</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Score of 0 is best (Time breaks ties) **TOTAL FAULTS**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Call Name</th>
<th>Breed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Dog's Time**

**Dog's Time (Truncated):**

(Truncated down – i.e. Drop numerals after decimal)

**MCT:**

- 4"/8"/12" = 60 sec
- 16" = 55 sec
- 20"/24"/24C = 50 sec

If Dog's Truncated Time is Equal To / Greater Than MCT, score **NQ**

**Fault Notations:**

* Refusal/Run-outs are not called
* Wrong Course / Failures, score **NQ**

**Q**  **NQ**

(circle one)
Dog Number

Premier Standard
Jump Height

Call Name

Breed

Dog's Time _______ : _______

Dog's Time (Truncated): _______

(Truncated down – i.e. Drop numerals after decimal)

MCT:
8"/12" = 65 sec
16"/24" = 60 sec
20"/24C = 55 sec

If Dog's Truncated Time is Equal To / Greater Than MCT, score **NQ**

Fault Notations:
* Any Fault = score **NQ**

(circle one)

Q  NQ

Dog Number

Premier JWW
Jump Height

Call Name

Breed

Dog's Time _______ : _______

Dog's Time (Truncated): _______

(Truncated down – i.e. Drop numerals after decimal)

MCT:
8" = 50 sec
12" = 48 sec
16" = 45sec
20"/24C = 42 sec
24" = 46 sec

If Dog's Truncated Time is Equal To / Greater Than MCT, score **NQ**

Fault Notations:
* Any Fault = score **NQ**

(circle one)

Q  NQ
Preferred Premier Standard

Dog Number

Call Name

Breed

Dog's Time : 

Dog's Time (Truncated):

(Truncated down – i.e. Drop numerals after decimal)

MCT:

4"/8" = 70 sec
12"/20" = 65 sec
16" = 60 sec

If Dog's Truncated Time is Equal To / Greater Than MCT, score NQ

Fault Notations:

* Any Fault = score NQ

(circle one) Q NQ

Preferred Premier JWW

Dog Number

Call Name

Breed

Dog's Time : 

Dog's Time (Truncated):

(Truncated down – i.e. Drop numerals after decimal)

MCT:

4" = 55 sec
8" = 53 sec
12" = 50 sec

16" = 47 sec
20" = 51 sec

If Dog's Truncated Time is Equal To / Greater Than MCT, score NQ

Fault Notations:

* Any Fault = score NQ

(circle one) Q NQ
Name of Club: ________________________________________________________________

Event Date: __________________________________________________________________

Name & Exact Address of the Event Facility: __________________________________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total # of Rings:</th>
<th>Outdoor</th>
<th>Indoor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Covered</td>
<td>Uncovered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indoor</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ring</th>
<th>Dimensions</th>
<th>Grass</th>
<th>Dirt</th>
<th>Mats over Concrete</th>
<th>Carpet</th>
<th>Turf</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE: Minimum Useable Ring Area (min. width 60'): Novice = 5,000 square feet, Open = 6,500 square feet, Excellent/Master = 8,000 square feet (10,000 preferred).

Please attach a site layout (it may be hand drawn but Clean Run Course Designer is preferred, and show the following on the layout (see the next page):
1. Obstructions or Hazards in the rings – please explain

2. Is Water Available? - please list locations

3. Warm Up Jumps – please list dimensions and locations

4. Score Table – where will it be located?

5. Is electricity available?

6. Crating Space – please list dimensions and locations

7. Shade Tents – please list dimensions and locations

8. Restrooms / Porta-lets – please list number and location

9. Trash Receptacles – please list number and location

10. Parking Spots – please list number and location

11. Dog Exercise Area – please list number and location

Site Information is submitted by:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>E-mail</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
# Site Inspection Checklist

**Site Name and Location:**

---

**Date of Inspection:**

---

**Club/Contact Person:**

---

## Indoor Site

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Acceptable</th>
<th>Unacceptable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proper Lighting</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adequate Ventilation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adequate Heating or Air Conditioning</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rest Rooms</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Outdoor Site

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Acceptable</th>
<th>Unacceptable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adequate Protection from Elements</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adequate Tenting for Expected Entry</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adequate Cover for Judge in Ring</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Condition of Grounds</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portable Toilets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provision for Site Clean-Up</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electricity (optional)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parking (must be at least 50’ from all rings)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## All Sites

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Acceptable</th>
<th>Unacceptable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Planned Ring Sizes Meet or Exceed Minimums</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adequate Provision for Easy Entrance/Exit from Rings</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone (cell phone coverage is acceptable)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food and/or Other Concessions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Feet Minimum Aisle Space between Rings</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adequate Viewing Space Ringside for Spectators</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adequate Loading/Unloading Areas</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adequate Parking for Anticipated Entry</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Handicapped Parking</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provision for Overnight Parking</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provision for Large Vehicles (i.e., motor homes, RV’s)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Parking Areas Clearly Designated

If Applicable:
- Adequate On-Street Parking
- Adequate Off-Street Parking

If Possible:
- Separate Entrances and Exits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sanitation (Human)</th>
<th>Acceptable</th>
<th>Unacceptable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sufficient Toilet Facilities</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Indoors:**
- One Lavatory for Every 100 Persons
- One Urinal for Every 200 Males
- One Toilet for Every 200 Persons

**Outdoors:**
- One Toilet for Every 150 Persons Per Day
- Arrangements for Proper Dumping/Emptying

If Applicable:
- Attendants for Toilet Facilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sanitation (Animal)</th>
<th>Acceptable</th>
<th>Unacceptable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor Public Exercise Pens (2 per 1,000 dogs, min 48 sq ft each and at least 4’ tall)</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indoor Public Exercise Pens (2 per 600 dogs, min 48 sq ft each and at least 4’ tall)</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleaning Supplies (i.e., scoops, sawdust, etc.)</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directional Signs to Exercise Pens</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If Applicable:
- Designated Area for Private Pens

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grooming</th>
<th>Acceptable</th>
<th>Unacceptable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adequate Grooming Space for Expected Entry</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If Reserved Grooming Offered, There Must Be a Reasonable Amount of Free Grooming of Equal Desirability</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
If Outdoors, Adequate Tenting for Designated Grooming Areas

Other (list below):  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acceptable</th>
<th>Unacceptable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Any items indicated as “Unacceptable” will be documented in writing by the AKC Executive Field Representative in attendance at the event.

What is the maximum entry per day recommended for this site? ______

Comments:

___________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________
Addendum to Trial Application for a Special Event Agility Trial

This application must be submitted with the Application and Judges Panel for AKC Licensed or Member Agility Trial eighteen (18) weeks prior to the closing. Special Event applications are subject to approval by the AKC Agility Executive Field Staff.

Name of Club:  

Event Day/Date:  

Requested by (Name & Title):  

Address:  

City, ST, Zip:  

Daytime Tel. and Email:  

Name of Trial Secretary:  

Address:  

City, ST, Zip:  

Daytime Tel. and Email:  

Is it the club’s intent that qualifying scores from this event will count toward AKC Agility titles? Yes □ No □

DESCRIPTION OF AGILITY SPECIAL EVENT TRIAL REQUESTED:
(Attach separate 8x11 sheet(s) if additional space is needed)

Approval will be sent to the Club Secretary and the Trial Secretary.
### Standard ISC

**Calculating Distance**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sm/Med</th>
<th>12/16&quot; Path</th>
<th>Feet</th>
<th>Yards</th>
<th>Distance in Yards</th>
<th>Y.P.S.</th>
<th>(Y.P.S. Range)</th>
<th>SCT in sec.</th>
<th>Table Sec</th>
<th>SCT in sec.</th>
<th>Max Course Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Small</td>
<td>8&quot;,12&quot; (4&quot;,8&quot;)</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Yards</td>
<td>2.75</td>
<td>3.50</td>
<td>plus 5</td>
<td>(Plus 5)</td>
<td>(Plus 5)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>16&quot; (12&quot;)</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Yards</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>3.75</td>
<td>plus 5</td>
<td>(Plus 5)</td>
<td>(Plus 5)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Large</td>
<td>20&quot;,24&quot; (16&quot;,20&quot;)</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Yards</td>
<td>3.50</td>
<td>4.25</td>
<td>plus 5</td>
<td>(Plus 5)</td>
<td>(Plus 5)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

^ - Five (5) seconds shall be added to the Standard Course Time for the Standard ISC class if the table is used.

### JWW ISC

**Calculating Distance**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sm/Med</th>
<th>12/16&quot; Path</th>
<th>Feet</th>
<th>Yards</th>
<th>Distance in Yards</th>
<th>Y.P.S.</th>
<th>(Y.P.S. Range)</th>
<th>SCT in sec.</th>
<th>Add for Preferred</th>
<th>Preferred SCT</th>
<th>Max Course Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Small</td>
<td>8&quot;,12&quot; (4&quot;,8&quot;)</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Yards</td>
<td>3.50</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>(Plus 5)</td>
<td>(Plus 5)</td>
<td>(Plus 5)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>16&quot; (12&quot;)</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Yards</td>
<td>3.75</td>
<td>4.25</td>
<td>(Plus 5)</td>
<td>(Plus 5)</td>
<td>(Plus 5)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Large</td>
<td>20&quot;,24&quot; (16&quot;,20&quot;)</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Yards</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>4.50</td>
<td>(Plus 5)</td>
<td>(Plus 5)</td>
<td>(Plus 5)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* - Standard Course Times are at the sole discretion of the judge, but shall generally follow these guidelines. (Ch 13, Sec 12)

The flexibility in Standard Course Times reflects the degree of difficulty (flow) on the course, equipment to be performed

(i.e.: Two (2) to four (4) contacts allowed, one (1) to two (2) sets of weave poles allowed, etc.) ring surface, and weather conditions.
### Standard Excellent & Master

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Calculating Distance</th>
<th>Max Yds:</th>
<th>Max Course Time = SCT + 20 seconds</th>
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<tr>
<td>12&quot; Path</td>
<td>Feet/3</td>
<td>Yards</td>
</tr>
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<td>16&quot; (12&quot;+20&quot;)/2</td>
<td>Feet/3</td>
<td>Yards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20&quot; Path</td>
<td>Feet/3</td>
<td>Yards</td>
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<th>Max SCT</th>
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<th>Preferred SCT</th>
<th>Max SCT allowed</th>
<th>Max Course Time</th>
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<td>plus 5</td>
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### Standard Open

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<td>Feet/3</td>
<td>Yards</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Yards</td>
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<tr>
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<td>( plus 5 )</td>
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### Standard Novice

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<td>Yards</td>
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<td>plus 5</td>
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**JWW Excellent & Master**

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<th>Max SCT</th>
<th>Add for Preferred</th>
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<tr>
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<td>50 sec.</td>
<td>( Plus 5 )</td>
<td>(55 sec)</td>
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<td>( Plus 5 )</td>
<td>(53 sec)</td>
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<td>3.55</td>
<td>51 sec.</td>
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<td>(56 sec.)</td>
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**JWW Open**

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<td>( Plus 5 )</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>16&quot; (12&quot;)</td>
<td>Yards</td>
<td>3.25</td>
<td>( plus 5 )</td>
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<tr>
<td>20&quot; Path 20&quot; (16&quot;), 24C&quot;</td>
<td>Yards</td>
<td>3.50</td>
<td>( plus 5 )</td>
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<tr>
<td>24&quot; (20&quot;)</td>
<td>Yards</td>
<td>3.30</td>
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**JWW Novice**

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<tr>
<td>12&quot; Path 8&quot; (4&quot;)</td>
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<td>( Plus 5 )</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>16&quot; (12&quot;)</td>
<td>Yards</td>
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<td>20&quot; Path 20&quot; (16&quot;), 24C&quot;</td>
<td>Yards</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>( plus 5 )</td>
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<tr>
<td>24&quot; (20&quot;)</td>
<td>Yards</td>
<td>2.80</td>
<td>( plus 5 )</td>
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After each agility trial, the Agility Trial Chairman should submit an Agility Trial Report electronically (preferred method) from the following link. [http://www.tfaforms.com/144809](http://www.tfaforms.com/144809)

Or, if necessary, the Trial Chairman may submit the form on paper by completely filling out this document and mailing it to:
AKC: Carrie DeYoung - Director of Agility, PO Box 900068, Raleigh, NC 27675-9068

This information should be received by AKC® within 7 days of the conclusion of your agility trial.

**SECTION 1:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of Trial(s):</th>
<th>Day Two</th>
<th>Day Three</th>
<th>Day Four</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Start/Finish Times: Day One</td>
<td>Telephone #:</td>
<td>State:</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Name of Club holding trial:

Trial Chairman:

Email:

Trial Secretary:

Email:

Judge's Names:

List Names of Trial Committee Members present:

**SECTION 2:** Clubs are required to retain a copy of the course maps used at their trials along with their copies of the event records for the period of one year. NOTE: Clubs may continue to have the trial secretary retain the event records on behalf of the club.

1a. Was the Judge knowledgeable?

1b. Was the Judge easy to work with?

2. Was there any reportable Dog Aggression?

3. Was there any reportable Misconduct?

4. Were there any other reportable problems at the show site?

5. Comments:

IF YOU NEED TO EXPLAIN ANY FURTHER DETAILS, PLEASE USE THE BACK OF THIS FORM
AGILITY VOLUNTEER MEASURING OFFICIALS

Dated: August 15, 2019

All dogs competing in agility are required to have a jump height card. The judge of record must measure any dog that has not been officially measured before they are allowed to participate in a trial. Official jump height measurements may be obtained from all Agility Field Reps., as well as a volunteer measuring official listed below. If a club wishes to request one of the official measuring judges, they must first contact the official to make arrangements and then submit a completed Mass Measurement Form to: American Kennel Club, Companion Events, PO Box 900068, Raleigh, NC 27675-9068 or Fax: (919) 816-4204.

The Mass Measurement form must be received 30-days prior to the date of the trial. Forms are not required for an AKC Field Rep. to measure dogs. Mass Measurement forms may be printed from the website or contact Companion Events at agility@akc.org or call 919-816-3575.

Sharon Anderson
5946 W Bald Eagle Blvd
White Bear Lake, MN 55110
(651) 429-5549
skanderson1@gmail.com

Christine Bishop
8528 Matecumbe Rd.
Port Charlotte, FL 33981
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christine.bishop414@gmail.com

Kenneth Boyd
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ken.boyd@cox.net

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astibug@msn.com

Laura English
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judgelaenglish@gmail.com

Carole Lynn Evans
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Franktown, CO 80116
(303) 660-0526
g8dogs@hotmail.com

June 15, 2019

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Donald L. Farage Jr.</td>
<td>2470 Barbaro Dr</td>
<td>(901) 377-5967</td>
<td><a href="mailto:faragehome@gmail.com">faragehome@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michele Fletcher</td>
<td>12080 Old State Highway 28</td>
<td>(850) 582-9111</td>
<td>michelefm <a href="mailto:Fletcher@yahoo.com">Fletcher@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sue Fregien</td>
<td>24902 Apple Road</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sue@tervolk.com">sue@tervolk.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Diane D. Fyfe</td>
<td>101 Retriever Dr</td>
<td>(423) 331-7561</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dianedfyfe@yahoo.com">dianedfyfe@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<td>(901) 377-5967</td>
<td><a href="mailto:faragehome@gmail.com">faragehome@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Gayle George-Sackett</td>
<td>15513 33rd Ave NE</td>
<td>(206) 363-7547</td>
<td>gaylesac@ mindspring.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ben Gibbs</td>
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Revisions to the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*

**Effective July 1, 2020**

This insert is issued as a supplement to the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* amended to December 13, 2020 and approved by the AKC Delegates March 9, 2020

Replace the existing Chapter 9, Section 2 with the following:

Chapter 9

**SECTION 2.** Any qualified person may make application to The American Kennel Club for approval to act as Show Secretary of a dog show.

There is no limit on the number of Specialty Shows for which an individual may be approved Show Secretary. An individual **shall** be approved as Show Secretary for the show or shows of only one group or one all-breed club and any group or all-breed show held on the same day and site of the club in a calendar year. An individual must hold a license from The American Kennel Club as Superintendent in order to be approved as Superintendent for more than one group or one all-breed club and events held the same day and site with the club in a calendar year.

Light Green Insert
Issued March 9, 2020
RREGS3 (01/20)
*Also added to booklet dated RREGS3(7/19)*
Effective January 1, 2021

This insert is issued as a supplement to the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* amended to December 13, 2020 and approved by the AKC Delegates March 9, 2020

Replace the existing Chapter 14, Section 5 with the following:

Chapter 14

SECTION 5. Event Committees shall be responsible for providing suitable equipment meeting all AKC requirements for determining eligibility with respect to height and weight at every show. Event Committees may delegate this responsibility to Superintendents/Show Secretaries. All-breed shows shall be required to have at least one complete set of wickets (two sets for shows with entries of 1,000 or more) and at least one digital scale with a platform of sufficient size to safely accommodate all weighable breeds. A certified and stamped weight is also required.

Specialty Shows and Group Shows where measurable or weighable breeds are entered shall provide the appropriate wicket(s) and/or a digital scale with a platform of sufficient size to safely accommodate all breeds that might be measured or weighed at the event. A certified and stamped weight is also required.
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The American Kennel Club was formed principally for the protection and advancement of pure-bred dogs.

The State of New York by Special Act of its legislature incorporated The American Kennel Club and granted it a charter in Section 2 of which the objects of the corporation are described to be “to adopt and enforce uniform rules regulating and governing dog shows, field trials and companion events, to regulate the conduct of persons interested in exhibiting, running, breeding, registering, purchasing and selling dogs, to detect, prevent, and punish frauds in connection therewith, to protect the interests of its members, to maintain and publish an official stud book and an official kennel gazette, and generally to do everything to advance the study, breeding, exhibiting, running and maintenance of the purity of thoroughbred dogs.”

Section 2 of this charter further states that “for these purposes it,” The American Kennel Club, “shall have power to adopt a constitution, bylaws, rules and regulations, and enforce the same by fines and penalties, which it shall have the right to collect and enforce by suit, or by suspension or expulsion from membership, or by a suspension or denial of any or all of the privileges of said corporation.”

Competition in conformation, performance and companion events can best demonstrate the progress that has been made in breeding for type, quality, and/or for practical use, stamina and obedience. The American Kennel Club has therefore adopted bylaws, rules and regulations by which to govern and administrate these events; the clubs that wish to hold them; and the individuals who exhibit, compete or take part in them. This book contains such bylaws, rules and regulations as affect the above.
CHAPTER 1

DOG SHOWS DEFINED

SECTION 1. A member show is a show at which championship points may be awarded, given by a club or association which is a member of The American Kennel Club.

SECTION 2. A licensed show is a show at which championship points may be awarded, given by a club or association which is not a member of The American Kennel Club but which has been specially licensed by The American Kennel Club to give the specific show designated in the license.

SECTION 3. A member or licensed all-breed club may apply to The American Kennel Club for approval to hold a show at which championship points may be awarded with entries restricted to dogs that are champions on the records of The American Kennel Club and dogs that have been credited with one or more championship points, provided the club submitting such an application has held at least one show annually for at least 15 years immediately prior to the year in which application for a show so restricted is made, and further provided that there shall not have been less than 1,200 dogs entered in its show (or in one of its shows if the club holds more than one show a year) in the year preceding the year in which application is made for its first show with entries so restricted.

When an application for this type of restricted entry show has been approved by The American Kennel Club, the only dogs eligible for entry shall be those dogs that have been recorded as champions and dogs that have been credited with one or more championship points as a result of competition at shows held not less than 60 days prior to the first day of the show at which entries will be so restricted.

However, a club making application to hold a show restricted to entries of dogs as specified above, may further restrict entries by excluding all puppies or all puppies six months and under nine months and/or by excluding dogs that have not been credited with at least one major championship point rating, provided the extent of these further restrictions is specified on the application.

Any club whose application has been approved to hold a show with restricted entries as described in this section shall indicate the extent of the restrictions in its premium list.

SECTION 4. A member or licensed show with a limited entry, at which championship points may be
awarded may be given by a club or association in the event said club or association considers it necessary to LIMIT the NUMBER OF DOGS or TOTAL ENTRY at its show due to the limitations of space. The total number of dogs or entries to be accepted together with the reason therefore, must be indicated on the cover or title page of the PREMIUM LIST. A specified closing date, in accordance with Chapter 6, Section 9, must be indicated in the premium list together with a statement that entries will close on said date or when the limit has been reached, if prior thereto. No entries can be accepted, canceled or substituted after the entry is closed.

SECTION 5. A Group show is one restricted to the breeds and varieties of any one Group as listed in Chapter 3, at which championship points may be awarded. All references to all-breed shows and all-breed clubs shall also be applicable to Group shows and Group clubs, respectively.

SECTION 6. A specialty show is a show given by a club or association formed for the improvement of any one breed of pure-bred dogs, at which championship points may be awarded to said breed.

SECTION 7. A sanctioned match is an informal meeting at which pure-bred dogs may compete but not for championship points, held by a club or association whether or not a member of The American Kennel Club by obtaining the sanction of The American Kennel Club.
CHAPTER 2
MAKING APPLICATION
TO HOLD A DOG SHOW

SECTION 1. Each member club or association is entitled to hold one show and one field trial a year without payment of a fee to The American Kennel Club but must pay a fee of fifteen ($15.00) dollars for each other show and/or field trial which it may hold during the same calendar year.

SECTION 2. Each club or association which has held a show or shows in any one year shall have first right to claim the corresponding dates for its show or shows to be held in the next succeeding year.

SECTION 3. Each club or association which shall hold a show in its territory at least once in every two consecutive calendar years shall have the sole show privilege in the city, town or district of its assigned territory. A club may be approved to hold a show in another club’s territory if the written consent is obtained from the club assigned to that territory.

If the club in whose territory the show is to be held does not respond to the written request or unreasonably withholds such written consent, the other club may appeal to the Board of Directors of The American Kennel Club after one month from the time consent was requested. The parties shall present their contentions, in writing, to a committee appointed by said Board, or appointed by the President of The American Kennel Club if between Board meetings, or in the President’s absence, appointed by the Executive Secretary. Said committee may, in its discretion, issue an approval to the other club to hold such show within the assigned club’s territory.

SECTION 4. A member club or association must apply to The American Kennel Club on a regular official form, which will be supplied on request, over the signature of one of its officers, for permission to hold a show, stating in the application the day or days upon which, and the exact location where it desires to hold such show. This official form must be sent in time to reach The American Kennel Club at least EIGHTEEN weeks before the closing date for entries of the show. This application will be referred to the Board of Directors of The American Kennel Club which will consider the same and notify the member club or association of its approval or disapproval of the dates and place selected.

SECTION 5. The use of a club’s name for show purposes cannot be transferred.
SECTION 6. A non-member club or association must apply to The American Kennel Club on a regular official form, which will be supplied on request, over the signature of one of its officers, for permission to hold a show, stating in the application the day or days upon which, and the exact location where it desires to hold such show. This official form must be sent in time to reach The American Kennel Club at least EIGHTEEN weeks before the closing date for entries of the show. The American Kennel Club is to be supplied with such information with regard to Constitution, Bylaws, names of the officers and members, and the financial responsibility of the applying non-member club or association as The American Kennel Club may request. A non-member club shall pay a license fee for the privilege of holding such show under American Kennel Club® rules, the amount of which fee shall be fixed and determined by the Board of Directors of The American Kennel Club. The application will be referred to the Board of Directors of The American Kennel Club, which will consider the same and notify the non-member club or association of its approval or disapproval of the dates and place selected. If the Board of Directors shall disapprove the application, the license fee will be returned to said non-member club or association.

SECTION 7. A member specialty club may hold a show confined to the breed which it sponsors and such show shall carry a championship rating according to the schedule of points of the breed for which the show is given.

SECTION 8. A non-member specialty club may be licensed to hold a show, if the consent in writing that it may be given first shall be obtained from the member specialty club formed for the improvement of the breed sought to be shown which first was admitted to be a member of The American Kennel Club, which member club is commonly known as the Parent Club. If a Parent Club unreasonably shall withhold its consent in writing to the holding of such show, the nonmember specialty club may appeal to the Board of Directors of The American Kennel Club at any time after one month from the time when said consent was requested. A committee of said Board appointed by said Board or between sittings of said Board appointed by the President of The American Kennel Club, or, in his absence, by the Executive Vice-President of The American Kennel Club shall hear the parties who may present their respective contentions, either orally or in writing, and in its discretion may issue a license to the non-member specialty club to hold such show.
SECTION 9. Where a specialty club wishes to consider as its Specialty Show the breed classes at an all-breed show, written application must be made to The American Kennel Club and a fee of fifteen ($15.00) dollars sent with application. Consent of the parent member specialty club must be secured by the non-member specialty club and forwarded to The American Kennel Club.

SECTION 10. A specialty club that wishes to hold a futurity or sweepstake, either in conjunction with a show or as a separate event, must apply to The American Kennel Club on a form which will be supplied on request, for permission to hold the event, whether or not the futurity or sweepstake will be open to non-members.

SECTION 11. The Board of Directors of The American Kennel Club may, in its discretion grant permission to clubs to hold sanctioned matches, which sanctioned matches shall be governed by such rules and regulations as from time to time shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 12. American Kennel Club sanction must be obtained by any club that holds American Kennel Club events, for any type of match for which it solicits or accepts entries from non-members.

SECTION 13. The Board of Directors of The American Kennel Club will not approve applications for shows where dates conflict, unless it be shown that the granting of such applications will not work to the detriment of either show.

SECTION 14. All clubs holding shows under American Kennel Club rules must have available at each event, a copy of the latest edition of *The Complete Dog Book* or a current set of the applicable breed standards, *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, *Rules Applying to Registration and Discipline*, *the Dealing with Misconduct* booklet, and *Show /Trial Manual*. The *Obedience Regulations and Guidelines for Obedience Judges*, and/or *Regulations, Judging Guidelines and Guidelines for Juniors*, must be available when applicable.

SECTION 15. Any club holding a show for charity if requested must submit to The American Kennel Club within ninety days of date of show, a complete financial statement and receipt from the organization for which the show was held.

SECTION 16. The duration of a dog show will not exceed two days, unless permission be granted by The American Kennel Club for a longer period.
CHAPTER 3
DOG SHOW CLASSIFICATIONS

SECTION 1. The following breeds and/or varieties of breeds, divided by groups, shall be all the breeds and/or varieties of breeds for which regular classes of The American Kennel Club may be provided at any show held under American Kennel Club rules. The Board of Directors may either add to, transfer from one group to another, or delete from said list of breeds and/or varieties of breeds, whenever in its opinion registrations of such breed and/or variety of breed in the Stud Book justify such action.

GROUP 1—SPORTING DOGS

BARBETS
BRITTANY
LAGOTTO ROMAGNOLI
NEDERLANDSE KOKERHONDJE
POINTERS
POINTERS (GERMAN SHORTHAIRED)
POINTERS (GERMAN WIREHAIR)
RETRIEVERS (CHESAPEAKE BAY)
RETRIEVERS (CURLY-COATED)
RETRIEVERS (FLAT-COATED)
RETRIEVERS (GOLDEN)
RETRIEVERS (LABRADOR)
RETRIEVERS (NOVA SCOTIA DUCK TOLLING)
SETTERS (ENGLISH)
SETTERS (GORDON)
SETTERS (IRISH)
SETTERS (IRISH RED & WHITE)
SPANIELS (AMERICAN WATER)
SPANIELS (BOYKIN)
SPANIELS (CLUMBER)
SPANIELS (COCKER)
Three varieties:
Solid Color Black, Including Black and Tan
Any Solid Color Other Than Black
Parti-color
SPANIELS (ENGLISH COCKER)
SPANIELS (ENGLISH SPRINGER)
SPANIELS (FIELD)
SPANIELS (IRISH WATER)
SPANIELS (SUSSEX)
SPANIELS (WELSH SPRINGER)
SPINONE ITALIANO
VIKTORS
WEIMARANERS
WIREHAIR POINTING GRIFFONS
WIREHAIR VIZSLAS
GROUP 2—HOUNDS

AFGHAN HOUNDS
AMERICAN ENGLISH COONHOUNDS
AMERICAN FOXHOUNDS
AZAWAKH
BASENJIS
BASSET HOUNDS
BEAGLES
   Two varieties:
      Not exceeding 13 inches in height
      Over 13 inches but not exceeding
      15 inches in height
BLACK AND TAN COONHOUNDS
BLOODHOUNDS
BLUETICK COONHOUND
BORZOIS
CIRNECO DELL’ETNA
DACHSHUNDS
   Three varieties:
      Longhaired
      Smooth
      Wirehaired
ENGLISH FOXHOUNDS
GRAND BASSET GRIFFON VENDÉENS
GREYHOUND
HARRIERS
IBIZAN HOUNDS
IRISH WOLFHOUNDS
NORWEGIAN ELKHOUNDS
OTTERHOUNDS
PETITS BASSETS GRIFFONS VENDÉENS
PHARAOH HOUNDS
PLOTT HOUNDS
PORTUGUESE PODENGO PEQUENO
REDBONE COONHOUND
RHODESIAN RIDGEBACKS
SALUKIS
SCOTTISH DEERHOUNDS
SLOUGHIS
TREEING WALKER COONHOUND
WHIPPETS

GROUP 3—WORKING DOGS

AKITAS
ALASKAN MALAMUTES
ANATOLIAN SHEPHERDS
BERNESE MOUNTAIN DOGS
BLACK RUSSIAN TERRIER
BOERBOELS
BOXERS
BULLMASTIFFS
CANE CORSO
CHINOOK
DOBERMAN PINSCHERS
DOGO ARGENTINO
DOGUE de BORDEAUX
GERMAN PINSCHERS
GIANT SCHNAUZERS
GREAT DANES
GREAT PYRENEES
GREATER SWISS MOUNTAIN DOGS
KOMONDOROK
KUVASZOK
LEONBERGER
MASTIFFS
NEAPOLITAN MASTIFFS
NEWFOUNDLANDS
PORTUGUESE WATER DOGS
ROTTWEILERS
ST. BERNARDS
SAMOYEDS
SIBERIAN HUSKIES
STANDARD SCHNAUZERS
TIBETAN MASTIFFS

GROUP 4—TERRIERS

AIREDALE TERRIERS
AMERICAN HAIRLESS TERRIERS
AMERICAN STAFFORDSHIRE TERRIERS
AUSTRALIAN TERRIERS
BEDLINGTON TERRIERS
BORDER TERRIERS
BULL TERRIERS
   Two varieties:
      Colored
      White
CAIRN TERRIERS
CESKY TERRIER
DANDIE DINMONT TERRIERS
FOX TERRIERS (SMOOTH)
FOX TERRIERS (WIRE)
GLEN OF IMAAL TERRIER
IRISH TERRIERS
KERRY BLUE TERRIERS
LAKELAND TERRIERS
MANCHESTER TERRIERS
   Two varieties:
      Standard, over 12 pounds and not exceeding 22 pounds
      Toy (in Toy Group)
MINIATURE BULL TERRIERS
MINIATURE SCHNAUZERS
NORFOLK TERRIERS
NORWICH TERRIERS
PARSON RUSSELL TERRIERS
RAT TERRIERS
RUSSELL TERRIERS
SCOTTISH TERRIERS
SEALYHAM TERRIERS
SKYE TERRIERS
SOFT COATED WHEATEN TERRIERS
STAFFORDSHIRE BULL TERRIERS
WELSH TERRIERS
WEST HIGHLAND WHITE TERRIERS

GROUP 5—TOYS

AFFENPINSCHERS
BRUSSELS GRIFFONS
CAVALIER KING CHARLES SPANIELS
CHIHUAHUAS
Two varieties:
Long Coat
Smooth Coat
CHINESE CRESTEDS
ENGLISH TOY SPANIELS
Two varieties:
Blenheim and Prince Charles
King Charles and Ruby
HAVANESE
ITALIAN GREYHOUNDS
JAPANESE CHIN
MALTESE
MANCHESTER TERRIERS
Two varieties:
Standard (in Terrier Group)
Toy, not exceeding 12 pounds
MINIATURE PINSCHERS
PAPILLONS
PEKINGESES
POMERANIANS
POODLES
Three varieties:
Miniature (in Non-Sporting Group)
Standard (in Non-Sporting Group)
Toy, not exceeding 10 inches
PUGS
SHIH TZUS
SILKY TERRIERS
TOY FOX TERRIERS
 YORKSHIRE TERRIERS

GROUP 6—NON-SPORTING DOGS

AMERICAN ESKIMO DOGS
BICHONS FRISÉS
BOSTON TERRIERS
BULLDOGS
CHINESE SHAR-PEI
CHOW CHOWS
COTON de TULEAR
Dalmatians
Finnish Spitz
French Bulldogs
Keeshonden
Lhasa Apso
Löwchen
Norwegian Lundehund
Poodles
Three varieties:
- Miniature, over 10 inches and not exceeding 15 inches
- Standard, over 15 inches
- Toy (in Toy Group)
Schipperkes
Shiba Inu
Tibetan Spaniels
Tibetan Terriers
Xoloitzcuintli

GROUP 7—HERDING DOGS

Australian Cattle Dogs
Australian Shepherds
Bearded Collies
Beauceron
Belgian Malinois
Belgian Sheepdogs
Belgian Tervuren
Bergamasco
Berger Picard
Border Collies
Bouviers des Flandres
Briards
Canaan Dogs
Cardigan Welsh Corgis
Collies
Two varieties:
- Rough
- Smooth
Entlebacher Mountain Dog
Finnish Lapphund
German Shepherd Dogs
Icelandic Sheepdog
Miniature American Shepherd
Norwegian Buhund
Old English Sheepdogs
Pembroke Welsh Corgis
Polish Lowland Sheepdog
Pulik
Pumi
Pyrenean Shepherd
Shetland Sheepdogs
Spanish Water Dogs
Swedish Vallhund
SECTION 2. No class shall be provided for any dog under six months of age except at sanctioned events when approved by The American Kennel Club.

SECTION 3. The regular classes of The American Kennel Club shall be as follows:

Puppy
Twelve-to-Eighteen Month
Novice
Amateur-Owner-Handler
Bred-by-Exhibitor
American-bred
Open
Winners

These classes shall be divided by sex.

SECTION 4. The Puppy Class shall be for dogs that are six months of age and over, but under twelve months, that are not champions. Clubs may further divide the puppy class into two age groups consisting of six months of age and under nine months, and nine months of age but under twelve months. The age of a dog shall be calculated up to and inclusive of the first day of a show. For example, a dog whelped on January 1st is eligible to compete in a puppy class at a show the first day of which is July 1st of the same year and may continue to compete in puppy classes at shows up to and including a show the first day of which is the 31st day of December of the same year, but is not eligible to compete in a puppy class at a show the first day of which is January 1st of the following year.

In a single show with multiple days of judging, the first day of a show is considered to be the first day on which there is regular conformation judging in accordance with Section 3 of this chapter. (Sweepstakes and Futurities are not considered regular conformation classes.)

SECTION 5. The Twelve-to-Eighteen Month Class shall be for dogs that are twelve months of age and over, but under eighteen months, that are not champions. Clubs may further divide the Twelve-to-Eighteen Month Class into two age groups consisting of twelve months of age and under fifteen months, and fifteen months of age but under eighteen months. The age of a dog shall be calculated up to and inclusive of the first day of a show. For example, a dog whelped on January 1st is eligible to compete in the class at a show the first day of which January 1st of the following year and may continue to compete in this class at shows up to and including a show the first day of which is the 30th day of June of that year, but is not eligible to compete in this class at a show the first day of which is July 1st of that year.

In a single show with multiple days of judging, the first day of a show is considered to be the first day on which there is regular conformation judging in accordance with Section 3 of this chapter. (Sweepstakes and Futurities are not considered regular conformation classes.)
SECTION 6. The Novice Class shall be for dogs six months of age and over, which have not, prior to the date of closing of entries, won three first prizes in the Novice Class, a first prize in Amateur-Owner-Handler, Bred-by-Exhibitor, American-bred, or Open Classes, nor one or more points toward their championships.

SECTION 7. The Amateur-Owner-Handler class shall be for dogs that are at least six months of age that are not champions. Dogs must be handled in the class by the registered owner of the dog. This class is restricted to exhibitors who have not, at any point in time, been a professional dog handler, AKC approved conformation judge, or employed as an assistant to a professional handler. Additionally, members of the immediate family or household of a current professional handler are ineligible for this class (as defined in Chapter 11, Section 13).

Professional handlers are defined as any person who belongs or has belonged to a professional handlers’ organization, distributed rate cards, or otherwise advertised or represented themselves as handling dogs for pay.

SECTION 8. The Bred-by-Exhibitor Class shall be for dogs that are:

- Six months of age or older as of the first day of the show;
- Not Champions on the date of closing of entries for the show;
- Individually registered with The American Kennel Club as of the date of the show;
- Owned or co-owned by any of the breeders of record as of the date of the show.

The person handling the dog in this class must be a breeder of record and an owner of record of this dog. In any subsequent classes for which a dog from the Bred-by-Exhibitor class becomes eligible, there are no restrictions as to who may handle.

SECTION 9. The American-bred Class shall be for all dogs (except champions) six months of age and over, whelped in the United States of America, by reason of a mating which took place in the United States of America.

SECTION 10. The Open Class shall be for any dog six months of age or over.

SECTION 11. The Winners Class shall be divided by sex and each division shall be open only to undefeated dogs of the same sex which have won first prizes in either the Puppy, Twelve-to-Fifteen Month, Fifteen-to-Eighteen Month, Twelve-to-Eighteen Month, Novice, Amateur-Owner-Handler, Bred-by-Exhibitor, American-bred or Open Classes. There shall be no entry fee for competition in the Winners Class.
After the Winners prize has been awarded in one of the sex divisions, the second prize winning dog, if undefeated except by the dog awarded Winners, shall compete with the other eligible dogs for Reserve Winners. No eligible dog may be withheld from competition.

Winners Class shall be allowed only at shows where American-bred and Open Classes shall be given. A member club holding a show with restricted entries may include Winners Classes, provided the necessary regular classes are included in the classification.

SECTION 12. Event committees may provide such other classes of recognized breeds or recognized varieties of breeds as they may choose, provided they do not conflict with the conditions of the above mentioned classes and are judged before Best of Breed competition. Such additional classes shall be divided by sex.

No class may be given in which more than one breed or recognized variety of breed may be entered, except as provided in these rules and regulations.

SECTION 13. A Club that provides Winners Classes shall also provide Competition for Best of Breed or for Best of Variety in those breeds for which varieties are provided in this chapter. The awards in this competition shall be Best of Breed or Best of Variety of Breed.

The following categories of dogs may be entered in this competition:

Dogs that are Champions of Record.

Dogs which according to their owners’ records have completed the requirements for a championship but whose championships are unconfirmed. The showing of dogs whose championships are unconfirmed is limited to a period of 90 days from the date of show where a dog completed the requirements for a championship according to the owners’ records.

Grand Championship points may also be awarded to Best of Breed or Best of Variety of Breed, Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed or Best of Variety of Breed, Select Dog and Select Bitch.

In addition, the Winners Dog and Winners Bitch together with any undefeated dogs that have competed at the show only in additional non-regular classes shall compete for Best of Breed or Best of Variety of Breed.

Winners Dog, Winners Bitch, and non-regular class winners that are not conformation Champions, are not eligible for Grand Championship points.

If the Winners Dog or Winners Bitch is awarded Best of Breed or Best of Variety of Breed, it shall be automatically awarded Best of Winners; otherwise, the Winners Dog and Winners Bitch shall be judged together for Best of Winners following the judging
of Best of Breed or Best of Variety of Breed. If the Winners Dog or Winners Bitch was defeated in a non-regular class, it must compete for Best of Winners, but may not be considered for Best of Breed or Best of Opposite Sex. The dog awarded the Best of Winners shall be credited with the number of points calculated for Winners Dog or Winners Bitch, whichever is greater. In the event that Winners is awarded in only one sex, or only one Winners is present in the ring at the time of awards, there shall be no Best of Winners award.

After Best of Breed or Best of Variety of Breed and Best of Winners have been awarded, the judge shall select Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed or Best of Variety of Breed.

Eligible for this award are:

Dogs of opposite sex to Best of Breed or Best of Variety of Breed that have been entered for Best of Breed competition. The dog awarded Winners of the opposite sex to the Best of Breed or Best of Variety of Breed.

Any undefeated dogs of the opposite sex to Best of Breed or Best of Variety of Breed which have competed at the show only in additional non-regular classes.

A dog that has been defeated in any regular class or non-regular class for single dog entries in its breed or variety at the show is ineligible to compete for Best of Breed or Variety.

A dog that has been defeated by a dog of its own sex in any regular or non-regular class for single dog entries in its breed or variety at the show is ineligible to compete for Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed or Variety.

After Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed or Best of Variety of Breed has been awarded, the judge may choose Select Dog and Select Bitch.

SECTION 14. At specialty shows for breeds in which there are varieties as specified in Chapter 3, Section 1, and which are held apart from all-breed shows, Best of Breed shall be judged following the judging of Best of each variety and best of opposite sex to best of each variety. Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed shall also be judged. Dogs eligible for Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed competition will be found among the bests of variety or the bests of opposite sex to bests of variety, according to the sex of the dog placed Best of Breed. Grand Championship points will not be awarded beyond variety competition.

At an all-breed show (even if a specialty club shall designate classes as its specialty show), the judge of a breed in which there are show varieties shall make no placing beyond Best of Variety, Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Variety, Select Dog, and Select Bitch.
SECTION 15. A club or association holding a show may give seven group classes not divided by sex, such groups to be arranged in same order and to comprise the same breeds and recognized varieties of breeds as herein before set forth in Chapter 3, Section 1. All dogs designated by their respective breed judges Best of Breed at the show at which these group classes shall be given shall be eligible to compete in the group classes to which they belong according to this grouping, and all dogs designated Best of Variety in those breeds with more than one recognized variety, shall be eligible to compete in the group classes to which they belong according to this grouping. All entries for these group classes shall be made after judging of the regular classes of The American Kennel Club has been finished and no entry fee shall be charged. In the event that the owner of a dog designated Best of Breed or Best of Variety shall not exhibit the dog in the group class to which it is eligible, no other dog of the same breed or variety of breed shall be allowed to compete.

SECTION 16. A Club giving group classes must also give Best in Show, the winner to be entitled “Best in Show.” No entry fee shall be charged and all the group winners must compete. The club or association giving group classes must also give Reserve Best in Show, the winner to be chosen by the Best in Show judge from among those group winners in the ring, the winner to be entitled “Reserve Best in Show.” No entry fee shall be charged but the remaining group winners must compete.

SECTION 17. A club or association holding a show, if it gives brace classes in the several breeds and recognized varieties of breeds, may also give seven brace group classes, not divided by sex; such groups to be arranged in the same order and to comprise the same breeds and recognized varieties of breeds as herein before set forth in Chapter 3, Section 1. All braces of dogs designated by their respective breed judges as Best of Breed or Best of Variety as the case may be at shows at which these brace group classes shall be given, shall be eligible to compete in the brace group classes to which they belong according to this grouping. All entries for these brace group classes shall be made after the judging of the regular classes of The American Kennel Club has been finished and no entry fee shall be charged. In the event that the owner of a brace of dogs designated Best of Breed or Best of Variety shall not exhibit the brace of dogs in the group class to which it is eligible, no other brace of dogs of the same breed or variety of breed shall be allowed to compete.

A brace is defined as two dogs of the same recognized breed or variety that are similar in appearance,
performing in unison, and presented by a maximum of two handlers. Both dogs competing in brace competition must have at least one common owner.

SECTION 18. If a club or association holding a show shall give these seven group classes, it must also give a “Best Brace in Show” in which the seven braces of dogs winning the first prizes in the seven group classes must compete, but for which no entry fee shall be charged. The winner shall be entitled “The Best Brace in Show.”

SECTION 19. A club or association holding a show, if it gives team classes in the several breeds and recognized varieties of breeds, may also give seven team group classes not divided by sex, such groups to be arranged in the same order and to comprise the same breeds and recognized varieties of breeds as herein before set forth in Chapter 3, Section 1. All teams of dogs designated by their respective breed judges as Best of Breed or Best of Variety as the case may be at shows at which these team group classes shall be given, shall be eligible to compete in the team group classes to which they belong according to this grouping. All entries for these team group classes shall be made after the judging of the regular classes of The American Kennel Club has been finished and no entry fee shall be charged. In the event that the owner of a team of dogs designated Best of Breed or Best of Variety shall not exhibit the team of dogs in the group class to which it is eligible, no other team of dogs of the same breed or variety of breed shall be allowed to compete.

A team is defined as four dogs of the same recognized breed or variety that are similar in appearance, performing in unison, and presented by a maximum of four handlers. All dogs competing in team competition must have at least one common owner.

SECTION 20. If a club or association holding a show shall give these seven group classes, it must also give a “Best Team in Show” in which the seven teams of dogs winning the first prizes in the seven group classes must compete, but for which no entry fee shall be charged. The winner shall be entitled “The Best Team in Show.”

SECTION 21. A club or association holding a show may offer Junior Showmanship competition if it so chooses. The classes and procedure shall conform to The American Kennel Club regulations governing Junior Showmanship as adopted by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 22. The Miscellaneous Class shall be for purebred dogs of such breeds as may be designated by the AKC® Board of Directors. No dog shall be eligible to exhibit in the Miscellaneous Class unless the owner
has been granted an AKC registration number or is individually registered with an acceptable foreign or domestic registration organization in accordance with the AKC FSS Program. Dogs not individually registered with the American Kennel Club may be shown in accordance with Chapter 11, Section 1 of this book.

The regular Miscellaneous Classes for each breed shall be Puppy, Bred-by Exhibitor and Open, with the same eligibility requirements in Sections 4, 8 and 10 of the Chapter respectively. These classes shall be divided by sex. All class winners within a breed shall compete for Best of Breed and Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed.

Each of the Miscellaneous Class Best of Breed winners shall be eligible to compete for Best in Miscellaneous Class. All entries for Best in Miscellaneous Class shall be made after judging of the individual Miscellaneous breed classes and no entry fee shall be charged. In the event that the owner of a dog designated Best of Breed shall not exhibit the dog in the Best of Miscellaneous Class Competition, no other dog of the same breed shall be allowed to compete. There shall be no further competition for dogs entered in the Miscellaneous Class.

Winners of the Best of Breed in each of the individual Miscellaneous breeds will be awarded points towards the Certificate of Merit (CM) title based on the total number of dogs competing. Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed in each of the individual Miscellaneous breeds will be awarded points towards the Certificate of Merit (CM) title based on the total number of dogs of its sex in competition. The winner of the Best in Miscellaneous Class will be awarded points towards a Certificate of Merit based upon the total number of dogs that competed in all of the Miscellaneous Class breeds.

Upon completion of the CM title a dog may continue to compete in the Miscellaneous Class so long as they are of an eligible breed.

The CM suffix title is an introductory title to AKC conformation events and will be superseded by the CH title when earned. The Certificate of Merit requires 15 points awarded in accordance with the following point structure:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dogs Competing</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The CM title initials will be followed by a numeric designation indicating the quantity of times the dog has met the requirements of the CM title as defined above, e.g., 30 CM points = CM2.
The ribbon shall conform to Chapter 5, Section 2 of these rules and shall be the following colors:

- First Prize - Rose
- Second Prize - Brown
- Third Prize - Light Green
- Fourth Prize - Gray
- Best of Breed - Orange
- Best of Opposite - Lavender
- Best in Miscellaneous - Pink and Green

At present, the Miscellaneous Class is open to the following breeds:

Belgian Laekenois (move to Herding Group as of 07/01/2020)
Biewer Terrier
Bracco Italiano
Dutch Shepherd
Lancashire Heeler
Mudi
Norrbottenspets
Peruvian Inca Orchid
Portuguese Podengo
Russian Toy
Teddy Roosevelt Terrier

SECTION 23. A registered dog that is six months of age or over and of a breed for which a classification is offered in the premium list may be entered in a show for Exhibition Only at the regular entry fee provided the dog has been awarded first prize in one of the regular classes at a licensed or member show held prior to the closing of entries of the show in which the Exhibition Only entry is made, and provided further that the premium list has not specified that entries for Exhibition Only will not be accepted. The name and date of the show at which the dog was awarded the first prize must be stated on the entry form.

A dog entered for Exhibition Only shall not be shown in any class or competition at that show.
CHAPTER 4
APPROVAL OF
JUDGES’ PANELS AND
PREMIUM LISTS

SECTION 1. After a club or association has been granted permission by The American Kennel Club to hold a show, it must send for approval by and in time to reach The American Kennel Club at least EIGHTEEN weeks before the closing date for entries of the show, a list of the names and addresses of the judges whom it has selected to judge its show, giving in each instance the particular breed or breeds of dogs and group class if any, which it is desired that each judge shall pass upon, and the name and address of the judge selected to pass upon Best in Show and Reserve Best in Show. No judge’s name shall be submitted to pass upon any assignment unless the judge has agreed in writing to accept that assignment.

The show-giving club must not advertise or publish the name or names of any of the judges which it has selected until the complete list has been approved by The American Kennel Club.

SECTION 2. Premium lists and entry forms must be published and available to prospective exhibitors at least FIVE WEEKS prior to the closing date for entries of the show. Two copies of the premium list must be sent to The American Kennel Club at time of distribution.

SECTION 3. Premium lists and entry forms, in order to ensure uniformity, must conform to The American Kennel Club official size of from 5 1/2 x 8 1/2 inches to 6 x 9 inches and the entry form must conform in every respect with the official form.
CHAPTER 5
RIBBONS, PRIZES
AND TROPHIES

SECTION 1. All clubs or associations holding dog shows under the rules of The American Kennel Club, except sanctioned matches, shall use the following colors for their prize ribbons or rosettes, in the regular classes of The American Kennel Club and the regular group classes:

First prize—Blue.
Second prize—Red.
Third prize—Yellow.
Fourth prize—White.
Winners—Purple.
Reserve Winners—Purple and White.
Best of Winners—Blue and White.
Special prize—Dark Green.
Best of Breed and Best of Variety of Breed—Purple and Gold.
Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed and Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Variety of Breed—Red and White.
Select—Light Blue and White
Best in Show – Red, white, and blue is the traditional color combination but any color or combination of colors is permitted.
Reserve Best in Show – any unassigned color or combination of colors.

and shall use the following colors for their prize ribbons in all additional classes:

First prize—Rose.
Second prize—Brown.
Third prize—Light Green.
Fourth prize—Gray.

SECTION 2. Each ribbon or rosette, except those used at sanctioned matches, shall be at least 2 inches wide, and approximately 8 inches long; and bear on its face a facsimile of the seal of The American Kennel Club, the name of the prize, and the name of the showing club with numerals of year, date of show, and name of city or town where show is given. However, ribbons or rosettes used for regular and non-regular class placements are not required to bear the date of the show and location of the show on the face, at the option of the club.

SECTION 3. If ribbons are offered at sanctioned matches, sweepstakes or futurity, they shall be of the following colors, but may be of any design or size:
First prize—Rose
Second prize—Brown
Third prize—Light Green
Fourth prize—Gray
Special prize—Green with pink edges
Best of Breed—Orange
Best of Variety—Orange & White
Best in Match, Sweepstakes or Futurity —
  Pink and Green
Best of Opposite Sex to Best in Match, Sweepstakes or Futurity—Lavender
Best of Opposite Sex to Best in Variety in
  Sweepstakes or Futurity—Lavender & White

SECTION 4. If money prizes are offered in a premium list of a show, a fixed amount for each prize must be stated. All other prizes offered in a premium list of a show must be accurately described or their monetary value must be stated. Alcoholic beverages will not be acceptable as prizes.

SECTION 5. A show-giving club shall not accept the donation of a prize for a competition not provided for at its show.

SECTION 6. All prizes offered in a premium list of a show must be offered to be awarded in a regular procedure of judging and in accordance with Sections 7 through 12 of this Chapter to the owner and/or breeder of the dog, but any prizes or trophies not listed in the premium list may be awarded with the permission of the Event Committee and the reason for the exception included in the show report.

SECTION 7. Prizes may be offered in accordance with Sections 7 through 12 of this Chapter at a show for the following placing:

First, Second, Third, Fourth in the Puppy, Twelve-to-Eighteen Month, Novice, Amateur-Owner-Handler, Bred-by-Exhibitor, American-bred or Open classes, or in any division of these designated in the Classification.

First, Second, Third, Fourth in any additional class which the show-giving club may offer in accord with the provisions of Chapter 3, Section 12, and in the Miscellaneous class (at all-breed shows only).

Winners, Reserve Winners, Best of Winners, Select, Best of Breed or Variety, Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed or Variety.

At all-breed shows only: First, Second, Third, Fourth in a Group Class and for Best in Show, Reserve Best in Show, Best Brace in Show and Best Team in Show.
SECTION 8. At any specialty show, prizes may also be offered in accordance with Sections 7 through 12 of this Chapter for: Best in Puppy Classes, Best in Twelve-to-Eighteen Month Classes, Best in Novice Classes, Best in Amateur-Owner-Handler, Best in Bred-by-Exhibitor Classes, Best in American-bred Classes, Best in Open Classes, Best in any additional classes which the show-giving club may offer in accord with the provisions of Chapter 3, Section 12, in which the sexes are divided.

(In breeds in which there are varieties, a prize may be offered for Best in any of the above classes within the variety.)

In shows held by breed Specialty clubs, awards for Best in Puppy, Twelve-to-Eighteen Month, Novice, Amateur-Owner-Handler, Bred-by-Exhibitor, American-bred, and Open Classes, Best in any additional classes which the show-giving club may offer in accord with the provisions of Chapter 3, Section 12, in which the sexes are divided, may also be awarded on a three-time win basis provided permanent possession goes to the owner and/or breeder winning the award three times, not necessarily with the same dog, provided such prizes are offered by the show-giving specialty club itself or through it for competition at its shows.

SECTION 9. At all-breed shows, prizes may be offered on a three-time win basis for the following awards, provided permanent possession goes to the owner and/or breeder winning the award three times, not necessarily with the same dog, and further provided such prizes are offered by the show-giving club itself or through it for competition at its shows only: Best in Show, Reserve Best in Show, and Best in any one group class.

SECTION 10. At specialty shows, prizes may be offered on a three-time win basis for the following awards, provided permanent possession goes to the owner and/or breeder winning the award three times, not necessarily with the same dog, and further provided such prizes are offered by the specialty club itself, or through it, for competition at its specialty shows only:

Best of Breed or Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed (where a specialty club considers the classes at an all-breed show as its specialty show, there can be no award for Best of Breed in those breeds in which there are varieties), Best of Variety of Breed or Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Variety, Best of Winners, Winners Dog and Winners Bitch, and First in any regular or non-regular class.

SECTION 11. Perpetual prizes and such three-time win prizes as have been in competition prior to
September 9, 1952, and which would not be allowed under the terms of the sections in this Chapter will continue to be permitted to be offered under the terms of their original provisions until won outright or otherwise retired. Should premium list copy submitted to the AKC for approval contain such non-allowable prizes, a certification by the Club Secretary stating that the prizes have been in competition prior to September 9, 1952, must be included.

**SECTION 12.** Regular Specials are prizes offered by show-giving member or non-member specialty clubs for outright and automatic award at any show where the terms have been published in full in the premium list and catalog of the show. No prize may be offered for an award higher than Best of Breed or Best of Variety of Breed. It shall be the obligation of specialty clubs offering such regular specials to notify superintendents, show secretaries and show-giving clubs that said prizes may be offered provided the terms are set forth in full in the premium list and catalog of the show. The specialty club will be solely responsible for the distribution of such prizes within 60 days after the completion of a show when it has been determined that all the terms of the awards have been met. No show-giving club is obligated to accept an offering of regular specials.
CHAPTER 6
PREMIUM LISTS AND
CLOSING OF ENTRIES

SECTION 1. The awards at a dog show, or the scores made at an obedience trial, will be officially recorded by The American Kennel Club only if the certification of the Secretary of The American Kennel Club is published on the first, second or third page of the premium list stating that permission has been granted by The American Kennel Club for the dog show or obedience trial to be held under American Kennel Club rules and regulations.

If the show shall be given by a club or association not a member of The American Kennel Club the words “Licensed Show” must be plainly printed on the title page of the premium list.

SECTION 2. The premium list shall contain the following: a list of the officers of the show-giving club with the address of the secretary, a list of the members of the Event Committee (there must be at least five) together with the designation of “Chairman” and the Chairman’s address (and “Obedience Trial Chairman” if an obedience trial is being held by a club in connection with its dog show), the names of the veterinarians (or name of local Veterinary Association) and, for an unbenched show, whether the veterinarian will be in attendance throughout the show hours or “on call,” the names and addresses of the judges, together with their assignments, and the name and address of the superintendent or show secretary who has been approved by The American Kennel Club. The premium list shall also specify whether the show is benched or unbenced, and shall give the exact location of the show, the date or dates on which it is to be held, and the times of opening and closing of the show.

Notification must be printed in the Premium List only if the club is not offering the three-point major to the Reserve Winners at the National Specialty.

SECTION 2A. A show-giving club may, at its option, use a condensed form of premium list which shall be identical with the content and format of a regular premium list, and comply with all the pertinent rules except that the listing of breed prizes and trophies offered is omitted as well as the listing of all prizes and trophies offered for an obedience trial if held by the show-giving club with its show. Such prizes and trophies as are offered for Best in Show, Reserve Best in Show, and group placements are to be included in a condensed premium list as well as any schedule of class cash prizes that a club proposes to offer.

The conditions of all prizes and trophies offered must conform to the provisions of Chapter 5 of these
rules and Chapter 1, Sections 19, 20, 21 and 30 of the Obedience Regulations. A club using a condensed form of premium list is obligated to prepare lists of the breed and obedience prizes and trophies for distribution to prospective entrants and exhibitors on request. Such lists can be printed, multilithed, multigraphed, mimeographed or typed (and photostated) on paper of any suitable size with both sides of the paper being used if the club wishes. In each condensed form of premium list there must be the notation: “A list of breed and obedience prizes and trophies offered can be obtained by writing to (name and address of club secretary and/or superintendent and address).”

A club which chooses to use a condensed form of premium list may also prepare for printing a regular premium list for other than mail distribution. The regular premium list can then be used to fill requests for a listing of breed and obedience prizes and trophies offered and no separate list of breed and obedience prizes and trophies need be prepared.

An obedience trial-giving club may, at its option, use a condensed form of premium list which shall be identical with the content and format of a regular premium list, and comply with all the pertinent rules and regulations except that the listing of prizes and trophies offered is omitted. When a condensed form of premium list is used, the same procedure is to be followed with respect to the prize and trophy list as is required of show-giving clubs and as is set forth in this section.

SECTION 3. Except at specialty club shows, the general classification of recognized breeds divided into seven groups and in the same order as set forth in Chapter 2, of the Rules Applying to Registration and Discipline, with the varieties of distinct breeds as described in Chapter 3, Section 1 of this book added thereto, in their proper groups and alphabetical position, shall be published in the premium list.

SECTION 4. If an all-breed club or association permits a specialty club to consider the classes at its show as its specialty show, the winner of Best of Breed of Variety may compete in the group classes of the all-breed show.

SECTION 5. If more than one judge has been approved to judge a specialty show held apart from an all-breed show, the premium list must designate the particular assignments of each judge as approved by The American Kennel Club, except when the specialty club has requested and received approval for the drawing of assignments at the show, in which case a statement to this effect shall appear in the premium list in place of designated assignments.
SECTION 6. A show-giving club shall assume the responsibility of collecting all recording and event service fees for The American Kennel Club, which fact shall be stated in the premium list.

SECTION 7. Event committees may make such regulations or additional rules for the government of their shows as shall be considered necessary, provided such regulations or additional rules do not conflict with any rule of The American Kennel Club, and provided they do not discriminate between breeds or between dogs entered in show classes and those entered in obedience classes in the required hour of arrival and the hour of removal. If permission is granted to a club other than the show-giving club for the holding of an obedience trial in connection with a dog show, the obedience club so authorized must comply with the show-giving club’s rules adopted hereunder.

Such regulations or additional rules shall be printed in the premium list and violations thereof shall be considered the same as violations of the rules and regulations of The American Kennel Club.

SECTION 8. No prizes may be accepted or offered by a show-giving club unless they are published in the premium list of the show or in the separate list of prizes if the condensed form of premium list is used; nor may any be withdrawn or the conditions thereof changed after they have been published in the premium list or in the separate list of prizes.

If the donor of a prize that has been published in the premium list of a show or in the separate list of prizes shall fail to furnish the prize, the show-giving club shall promptly supply a prize of the same description and of no less value.

The show-giving club shall be responsible for all errors made in publishing offers of prizes and shall, in the event of error, award prizes of equal value; except that if an error has been made in the premium list or in the separate list of prizes in publishing the conditions of a specialty club’s Regular Specials (as described in Chapter 5, Section 12) prizes shall be awarded according to the current terms of the specialty club’s Regular Specials. All prizes offered in a premium list of a show must be offered to be awarded in a regular procedure of judging in accordance with Chapter 5, Section 7 through 12 to the owner and/or breeder of the dog, but any prizes or trophies not listed in the premium list may be awarded with the permission of the Event Committee and the reason for the exception included in the show report.

SECTION 9. Every premium list shall specify the date and time at which entries for a show shall close. The
premium list shall also specify the name and address of the Superintendent or Show Secretary who is to receive the entries. For all shows other than specialty shows, the specified closing date and time must be no later than as outlined in the following schedule: For a show which opens on Friday, Saturday, Sunday, or Monday, entries accepted not later than noon on the third Wednesday prior to the show.

For a show which opens on Tuesday, entries accepted not later than noon on the third Thursday prior to the show.

For a show which opens on Wednesday, entries accepted not later than noon the third Friday prior to the show.

For a show which opens on Thursday, entries accepted not later than noon on the third Wednesday prior to the show.

Clubs in a cluster of no more than five consecutive days have the option of closing no later than noon on the third Wednesday prior to the last show in the cluster.

Whenever the closing day noted above falls on a postal holiday, entries received in any form up to 24 hours from the published closing date and time may be accepted.
CHAPTER 7
JUDGES

SECTION 1. Any reputable person who is in good standing with The American Kennel Club may apply for approval to judge any AKC recognized breed or breeds of purebred dogs, which in his or her opinion he or she is qualified by training and experience to pass upon, with the following exceptions:

Persons connected with any publication in the capacity of solicitor for kennel advertisements, persons connected with dog food, dog remedy or kennel supply companies in the capacity of solicitor or salesman, persons who buy, sell and in any way trade in or traffic in dogs as a means of livelihood in whole or in part, professional show superintendents and their employees, and persons who show dogs for others will not be approved if still engaged in such activities.

No Judge may accept an assignment nor officiate at any event where a member of his or her household is involved to the extent that there might exist an actual conflict of interest or the reasonable appearance of a conflict of interest.

Eligibility is expanded upon in the Occupational Eligibility Addendum and in the Rules, Policies and Guidelines for Conformation Dog Show Judges.

SECTION 2. The application for approval to judge must be made on a form which will be supplied by The American Kennel Club upon request and when received by said club will be placed before the Board of Directors of The American Kennel Club who shall determine in each instance whether an approval shall be issued.

SECTION 3. The American Kennel Club will not approve as judge for any given show the superintendent, show secretary, or show veterinarians, or club officials of said show acting in any one of these three capacities, and such persons cannot officiate or judge at such show under any circumstances.

SECTION 4. Only those persons whose names are on The American Kennel Club’s list of eligible judges may, in the discretion of The American Kennel Club, be approved to judge at any member or licensed show, except that if it becomes necessary to replace an advertised judge after the opening of the show and no person on the eligible judges list is available to take his place, the Event Committee may select as a substitute for the advertised judge a person whose name is not on the eligible judges list provided such person is
not currently suspended from the privileges of The American Kennel Club, is not currently suspended as a judge and is not ineligible to judge under the provisions of Sections 1 and 3 of this Chapter.

SECTION 5. The American Kennel Club may in its discretion approve as a judge of any sanctioned match, futurity or sweepstake a person who is not currently suspended from the privileges of The American Kennel Club or whose judging privileges are not currently suspended.

SECTION 6. Event committees or superintendents shall, in every instance, notify appointed judges of the breeds and group classes upon which they are to pass, and such notifications shall be given before the publication of the premium lists.

SECTION 7. Event committees or superintendents shall not add to or subtract from the number of breeds or variety groups which a selected judge has agreed to pass upon without first notifying said judge of and obtaining his consent to the contemplated change in his assigned breeds or variety groups, and the judge when so notified may refuse to judge any breeds or variety groups added to his original assignment.

SECTION 8. An Event committee which shall be informed at any time prior to TEN DAYS before the opening day of its show that an advertised judge will not fulfill his or her engagement to judge shall substitute a judge in his or her place, which substitute judge must be approved by The American Kennel Club, and shall give notice of the name of the substitute judge to all those who have entered dogs in the classes allotted to be judged by the advertised judge. All those who have entered dogs to be shown under the advertised judge shall be permitted to withdraw their entries no later than one half-hour prior to the scheduled start of any regular conformation judging at the show, and the entry fees paid for entering such dogs shall be refunded.

Since an entry can be made only under a breed judge, changes in Group or Best in Show assignments do not entitle an exhibitor to a refund.

SECTION 9. Should an Event committee be informed at any time within ten days before the opening of its show, or after its show has opened, that an advertised judge will not fulfill his or her engagement to judge, it shall substitute a qualified judge in his or her place and shall obtain approval of the change from The American Kennel Club if time allows. No Notice need be sent to those exhibitors who have entered dogs under the advertised judge.
The Event Committee will be responsible for having a notice posted in a prominent place within the show precincts as soon after the show opens as is practical informing exhibitors of the change in judges. An exhibitor who has entered a dog under an advertised judge who is being replaced may withdraw such entry and shall have the entry fee refunded, provided notice of such withdrawal is given to the Superintendent or Show Secretary prior to the start of the judging of the breed which is to be passed upon by a substitute judge.

SECTION 10. In case an advertised judge shall have judged part of the classes of a breed and then finds it impossible to finish, a substitute judge shall be selected by the Event committee, and in that event the awards made by the regular judge shall stand, and his or her substitute shall judge only the remaining entries in the breed. No dogs entered under the regularly selected judge shall be withheld from competition.

SECTION 11. A substitute judge shall finish the judging of the breed class or group he or she is adjudicating upon if he or she has begun to judge before the advertised judge arrives at the show.

SECTION 12. Any club or association that holds a dog show must prepare, after the entries have closed and not before, a judging program showing the time scheduled for the judging of each breed and each variety for which entries have been accepted. If a substitute or additional judge has been approved Chapter 7, Section 8 or Chapter 7, Section 13, as appropriate, will be quoted listing the changes. The judging program shall indicate the number of dogs entered and state the time for the start of group judging, if any. The program shall be based on the judging of about 25 dogs per hour by each judge. Each judge’s breed and variety assignments shall be divided into periods of about one hour, except in those cases where the entry in a breed or variety exceeds 30. The final segment of a ring schedule may be expanded but may not exceed 50 dogs unless the entry is in a single breed or variety. The total number of dogs assigned each judge will be indicated. Forty-five minutes to one hour must be allowed for rest or meals if a judge’s assignment exceeds five hours. A copy of the program and identification slip for each dog entered shall be mailed, published or made available to the owner no later than one week before the date of the event. Two copies of the program shall be sent to the Show Plans Department at the same time they are published or made available to exhibitors.

Printed documents may be utilized at the exhibitor’s request.
The judging program shall be published in the catalog. No judging shall occur at any show prior to the time specified in the judging program.

SECTION 13. The maximum number of conformation entries assigned in the breed judging to any judge, in one day, shall never exceed 175 except that a judge of a specialty show may be assigned a maximum of 200 entries. If the specialty is held as part of an all-breed show, the increased limit will only apply if the judge is not assigned any other breed, a Group or Best in Show and Reserve Best in Show.

If a show-giving club so elects, it may place a limit of its own choosing lower than any of the limits provided for in the rule notifying The American Kennel Club of its intention at the time the judging panel is submitted for approval. This limit will then govern the need for additional judges if, when the entries for the show have closed, any judge on the panel has drawn more dogs than the limit set by the club.

When the entries have closed, if the entry under any judge exceeds the above limits, the Event Committee must select some other judge or judges to whom sufficient breeds can be assigned, to bring the total assignment of every judge within and as close as possible to the limit without removing provisional breeds listed in the judge’s contract without the judge’s agreement. The removal of any breeds is to be discussed with the assigned judge. If a judge is assigned four or fewer breeds, the assignment shall be reduced first by reassigning to other judge sufficient classes from one breed to eliminate the overload, with any non-regular classes in that breed being the first removed. The same procedure shall then be followed for as many breeds as necessary until the overload is eliminated. This will apply whether or not the breed in question involves varieties.

Notice must be sent to the owner of each dog affected by such a change in judges at least five days before the opening of the show, and the owner has the right to withdraw his entry and have his entry fee refunded provided notification of his withdrawal is received no later than one half-hour prior to the start of any regular conformation judging at the show, by the Superintendent or Show Secretary named in the premium list to receive entries.

SECTION 14. A judge shall not exhibit his dogs or take any dog belonging to another person into the ring at any show at which he is officiating, nor shall he pass judgment in his official capacity upon any dog
which he or any member of his immediate household or immediate family (as defined in Chapter 11, Section 13) has handled in the ring more than twice during the preceding twelve months.

**SECTION 15.** A judge’s decision shall be final in all cases affecting the merits of the dogs. Full discretionary power is given to the judge to withhold any, or all, prizes for want of merit. After a class has once been judged in accordance with these rules and regulations, it shall not be rejudged. A class is considered judged when the judge has marked his book which must be done before the following class is examined. If any errors have been made by the judge in marking the awards as made, he may correct the same but must initial any such corrections.

**SECTION 16.** A judge may order any person or dog from the ring, for the purpose of facilitating the judging. Judges are required to exclude from the rings in which they are judging all persons except the steward or stewards and the show attendants assigned to the ring and those actually engaged in exhibiting.

When a judge finds it necessary to excuse a person or dog from the ring under the provisions of this section, that judge shall mark the judge’s book “excused” and briefly describe the reason for this action.

When a judge finds it necessary to order an exhibitor from the ring for cause, that judge shall mark the judge’s book “ordered from the ring” and briefly describe the reason for this action. This exhibitor’s dog is to be considered “excused.”

**SECTION 17.** A judge shall be supplied with a book called the judge’s book in which he shall mark all awards and all absent dogs. The original judges’ books at shows shall be in the custody of the judge, steward, superintendent, or superintendent’s assistant. None other shall be allowed access to them. At the conclusion of the judging, the book must be signed by the judge and any changes which may have been made therein initialed by him.

**SECTION 18.** A judge’s decision, as marked in the judge’s book, cannot be changed by him after filing, but an error appearing in the judge’s book may be corrected by The American Kennel Club after consultation with the judge.

**SECTION 19.** Only one judge shall officiate in each Group Class and only one judge shall select the Best in Show and Reserve Best in Show. A judge will not be approved to judge the breed, the Variety Group of which the breed is a part, and Best in Show and Reserve Best in Show at the same show, except in hardship cases.
SECTION 20. If a judge disqualifies a dog at any show, he shall make a note in the judge’s book giving his reasons for such disqualification. In computing the championship points for a breed, said dog shall not be considered as having been present at the show.
Prior to receiving permission to hold a dog show, obedience trial or tracking test, the club must submit the name, complete address, and daytime telephone number of the Superintendent or Show Secretary and Veterinarian contracted by the club to service the event.
CHAPTER 9
SUPERINTENDENTS AND SHOW SECRETARIES

SECTION 1. The Superintendent of a dog show held under the rules of The American Kennel Club must hold a license from The American Kennel Club.

SECTION 2. Any qualified person may make application to The American Kennel Club for approval to act as Show Secretary of a dog show.

There is no limit on the number of Specialty Shows for which an individual may be approved Show Secretary. An individual will be approved as Show Secretary for the show or shows of only one group or one all-breed club in a calendar year. An individual must hold a license from The American Kennel Club as Superintendent in order to be approved as Superintendent for more than one group or one all-breed club in a calendar year.

SECTION 3. Event Committees will be responsible for making complete arrangements with each one of the veterinarians selected to service the show. In the event that a recognized Veterinary Association is to furnish the veterinarians, the complete arrangements shall be made with Secretary of the Association.

SECTION 4. As part of their duties, the Superintendents and Show Secretaries shall have on hand at every show the various official American Kennel Club forms related to that event.

SECTION 5. Superintendents and Show Secretaries shall be prepared, at any show with a show veterinarian in attendance, to furnish the forms to be used by an exhibitor or handler who seeks a health examination of a dog. Upon the filing of the completed form, it shall be the superintendent’s and show secretary’s duty to see that the owner or agent of the dog takes his dog to the “Veterinarian Headquarters” for the examination.

SECTION 6. At Benched shows and at Unbenched shows if the club elects to have a veterinarian in attendance, Superintendents and Show Secretaries will be responsible for providing a suitable space which will serve as the Headquarters of the Show Veterinarians. At an indoor show the space will be marked off in some adequate way and a sign “Veterinarian Headquarters” must be prominently displayed. At an outdoor show, the Headquarters must be arranged so that the veterinarians are afforded protection from the weather.
At unbenched shows, with a veterinarian “on call,” the Superintendent’s or Show Secretary’s Office shall serve as “Veterinarian Headquarters.”

SECTION 7. At benched shows and unbenched shows if the club elects to have a veterinarian in attendance, Superintendents and Show Secretaries are required, with their report of a show, to list the names of all veterinarians who served at a show and give the hours that each veterinarian was present.

SECTION 8. Superintendents and Show Secretaries shall have the sole authority to enforce the rules having to do with the benching of dogs.

SECTION 9. Superintendents and Show Secretaries shall have the sole authority to excuse a dog from being shown on the recommendation of the veterinarian under Chapter 10, Section 5 (b) and to release dogs from a show prior to the published time for the releasing of dogs, except in the event that a dog has been dismissed from a show by a veterinarian under Chapter 10, Section 5 (b).

SECTION 10. Event committees and superintendents of dog shows shall be held responsible for the enforcement of all rules and regulations relating to shows and must provide themselves with a copy of The American Kennel Club rules and regulations for reference.

SECTION 11. The Event or Obedience Trial Committee will be held accountable for the maintenance of clean and orderly conditions throughout the precincts of the show during all hours when dogs are permitted to be present.

SECTION 12. Any reputable person or superintending organization in good standing with The American Kennel Club may apply for a license to act as Superintendent of a dog show. This application must be made on a form which will be supplied by The American Kennel Club upon request. When the application is received, the Board of Directors shall determine whether the applicant is reasonably qualified by training and experience to act as Superintendent of a dog show and whether a license shall be issued to said applicant.

The fee for being granted a yearly license to be a Superintendent and the fee for renewal of said license each year shall be determined by the Board of Directors of The American Kennel Club. The fee for being granted a license to superintend one show and/or one field trial only shall be determined in like manner.
No yearly license will be issued to any person or superintending organization until having superintended at least three dog shows.

No annual superintendent shall be granted approval to be a judge.

A Superintendent, an individual licensed to superintend events as an employee of the Superintendent, any other employee of the Superintendent, any individual with an ownership interest in a superintending organization, or any person residing in the same household as any of the foregoing, shall not exhibit or act as agent or handler at any show held thirty days before or after a show which the Superintendent has been approved to service by The American Kennel Club.

For the purpose of this section, the employees of a Superintendent would include only those individuals who represent the Superintendent or superintending organization at dog shows.

Dogs owned wholly or in part by a Superintendent, an individual licensed to superintend events as an employee of the Superintendent, any other employee of the superintendent, any individual with an ownership interest in a superintending organization, or any person residing in the same household as any of the foregoing, shall be ineligible to be entered at any show held thirty days before or after a show which the Superintendent has been approved to manage by The American Kennel Club.

Any person acting in the capacity of Superintendent (or Show Secretary where there is no Superintendent) must abide by the eligibility requirements described in Chapter 11, Section 12 of these *Rules*. 
CHAPTER 10
DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF SHOW VETERINARIANS

SECTION 1. Any veterinarian licensed to practice veterinary medicine in the jurisdiction where treatment is provided and who is in good standing with the American Kennel Club may act as veterinarian of a dog show.

SECTION 2. Every club that holds a licensed or member show must provide one or more qualified veterinarians in attendance or contact information for one or more qualified veterinarians “on call.”

“On call” veterinarian must be available to treat any dog that becomes ill or injured at the dog show during show hours. It will be the responsibility of the owner or owner’s agent to transport the dog to the veterinarian and for any cost associated with the dog’s illness or injury. “On call” veterinarians are not required to be present at the event.

SECTION 3. At Benched shows at least one of these veterinarians must be in attendance during the entire show hours.

SECTION 4. Clubs that use “on call” veterinarians are required to:

(a) Assure that services are available during the show hours and discuss the duties of the “on call” veterinarian prior to the event judging schedule;

(b) Provide exhibitors with contact information and detailed directions to the facility in the judging schedule and at the event.

SECTION 5. The duties of the veterinarians shall be to:

(a) Render treatment to dogs in the cases of sickness or injury occurring at the event. The associated expense shall be the responsibility of the owner or agent.

(b) Examine dogs at the request of the Event Committee and require removal from competition and the show premises of any dog deemed to endanger the health of said dog or the health of other dogs at the event. If any expenses are incurred in the examination of the dog it shall by the responsibility of the Event giving club.

(c) Provide written reports of such decisions to the Event Committee and superintendent;

(d) Provide written advisory opinions to an Event Committee when requested.
Show veterinarians are not to be called to treat dogs with non-emergency conditions or with no apparent contagious symptoms. Show veterinarians may request payment from the dog’s owner or agent for services rendered.

SECTION 6. Veterinarians in attendance will be provided a private area to examine and provide emergency care. Clubs will establish a plan for the Event Committee to communicate the need for the veterinarian’s assistance.

SECTION 7. At benched shows, and unbunched shows if the club elects to have a veterinarian in attendance, veterinarians will be expected to make full use of the area provided for them as a Headquarters. Where practical, at least one veterinarian should be in attendance at the Headquarters during the entire time that the show is in progress.

SECTION 8. The official Veterinarian shall abide by the eligibility requirements described in Chapter 11, Section 12 of these Rules.
CHAPTER 11
DOG SHOW ENTRIES,
CONDITIONS OF DOGS
AFFECTING ELIGIBILITY

SECTION 1. No dog shall be exhibited in a licensed or member dog show, unless it is either individually registered with the American Kennel Club, or individually registered with a foreign registry organization whose pedigrees are acceptable for AKC registration. A dog with an AKC limited Registration shall be ineligible to be exhibited in a breed competition in a licensed or member dog show.

An unregistered dog with an acceptable foreign registration that is individually registered with a foreign registry organization whose pedigrees are acceptable for AKC registration may, without special AKC approval, be exhibited in licensed or member dog shows that are held not later than 30 days after the date of the first licensed or member dog show in which the dog was exhibited, but only provided that the individual foreign registration and name of the country of birth, are shown on the entry form; and provided further that the same name (which in the case of a foreign-registered dog must be the name on the foreign registrations) is used for the dog each time.

Foreign dogs not individually registered with The American Kennel Club when first exhibited in a licensed or member dog show shall not be eligible to be exhibited in any licensed or member dog show that is held more than 30 days after the date of the first licensed or member dog show in which it was exhibited, unless the dog’s individual AKC registration number is shown on the entry form, or unless the owner has received from The American Kennel Club an extension notice in writing authorizing further entries of the dog for a specified time with its individual foreign registration number. No such extension will be granted unless the owner can clearly demonstrate, in a letter addressed to the Show Records Department of The American Kennel Club requesting such extension, that the delay in registration is due to circumstances for which he is not responsible.

Such extension notice will be void upon registration of the dog or upon expiration of the period for which the extension has been granted if that occurs earlier, but upon application further extensions may be granted.

Additionally, any unregistered dog with an acceptable foreign registration must be eligible for the individual class in which it is entered as outlined in Chapter 3 of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows.
SECTION 2. At every show held under the rules of The American Kennel Club, a recording fee not to exceed 50 cents may be required for every dog entered. This recording fee is to help defray expenses involved in keeping the show records, and applies to all dogs entered. If a dog is entered in more than one class at a show, the recording fee applies only to first entry. The Board of Directors shall determine, from time to time, whether a recording fee shall be required, and the amount of it.

The American Kennel Club will collect a $3.00 Event Service Fee for the first entry of a dog and a $3.00 service fee for each additional entry of the same dog in the regular and non-regular recordable single entry classes, in all AKC licensed and member club events. (There is no recording fee or event service fee for sweepstakes, futurities, brace/team, multi-dog classes, or special attractions.) The current 50 cent recording will continue to be collected. The event-giving club shall assume the responsibility of collecting all Event Service Fees for the American Kennel Club. That fact shall be stated in the premium list. These event service and recording fees shall be forwarded to the American Kennel Club along with all other required event results within seven (7) days of the close of the event.

SECTION 3. Every dog must be entered in the name of the person who actually owned the dog at the time entries closed. The right to exhibit a dog cannot be transferred. A registered dog which has been acquired by some person other than the owner as recorded with The American Kennel Club must be entered in the name of its new owner at any show for which entries close after the date upon which the dog was acquired, and application for transfer of ownership must be sent to The American Kennel Club by the new owner within seven days after the last day of the show. The new owner should state on the entry form that transfer application has been mailed to The American Kennel Club or will be mailed shortly. If there is any unavoidable delay in obtaining the completed application required to record the transfer, The American Kennel Club may grant a reasonable extension of time, provided the new owner notifies the Show Records Department of The American Kennel Club by mail within seven days after the show, of the reason for the delay. If an entry is made by a duly authorized agent of the owner, the name of the actual owner must be shown on the entry form. If a dog is owned by an association, the name of the association and a list of its officers must be shown on the entry form.
SECTION 4. To be acceptable, an entry must:
• Be submitted with required entry fee
• Be on an Official American Kennel Club entry form
• Be signed by the owner or his duly authorized agent
• Include the name and date of the show giving club
• Include all of the following information on the dog:
  • Breed
  • Variety, if any
  • Sex
  • Name of class or classes entered (Classes must be entered in accordance with Chapter 3)
  • Full/Registered Name of Dog
  • Date of Birth
  • Place of Birth
  • Name of Sire
  • Name of Dam
  • One of the following:
    – AKC registration number
    – Or PAL number
    – Or foreign registration number and country for an unregistered imported dog
    – Or identification number issued by AKC
  • Name of Breeder(s)
  • Name of Owner(s)/co-owner(s)
  • Name of Owner(s) agent, if any
  • Address of Owner

No entry may be accepted unless the Superintendent or Show Secretary, named in the premium list to receive entries, receives such entry:
• prior to the closing date and hour as published in the premium list
• and in the case of a limited entry, prior to the time the limit is reached.

All the requirements of the foregoing paragraph and all other specific requirements printed in the premium list must be met before an entry can be considered acceptable. Failure to meet these requirements may result in the loss of all awards earned at the event.

SECTION 5. No entry shall be made and no entry shall be accepted by a Superintendent or Show Secretary which specifies any condition as to its acceptance.

SECTION 6. No entry may be changed or canceled unless notice of the change or cancellation is received in writing by the Superintendent or Show Secretary named in the premium list to receive entries, prior to the closing date and hour for entries, except that a correction may be made in the sex of a dog, or a dog may be transferred from one division of the Puppy Class to another or between the Puppy and Twelve-to-Eighteen Month Class at a show prior to the judging. A
dog determined to be ineligible, by its owner/agent, for the class in which it has been entered may be transferred to an eligible Open Class at a show prior to the judging of any regular conformation class within the sex of that breed or variety, and that dogs which according to their owners’ records have completed the requirements for a championship after the closing of entries for a show but whose championships are unconfirmed, may be transferred from one of the regular classes to the Best of Breed or Variety competition, provided this transfer is made by the Superintendent or Show Secretary at least one half-hour prior to the scheduled start of any regular conformation judging at the show. No dog may otherwise be transferred to another class. Owners are responsible for errors in the entry forms, regardless of who may make such errors. However, superintendents and show secretaries that validate entries with AKC records may correct the dog information to match the AKC registration data for the dog as specifically authorized by the American Kennel Club.

SECTION 7. No entry shall be made under a kennel name unless that name has been registered with The American Kennel Club. All entries made under a kennel name must be signed with the kennel name followed by the word “registered.” An “exhibitor” or “entrant” is the individual or, if a partnership, all the members of the partnership exhibiting or entering in a dog show. In the case of such an entry by a partnership every member of the partnership shall be in good standing with The American Kennel Club before the entry will be accepted; and in case of any infraction of these rules, all the partners shall be held equally responsible.

SECTION 8. A dog which is blind, deaf, castrated, spayed, or which has been changed in appearance by artificial means except as specified in the standard for its breed, or a male which does not have two normal testicles normally located in the scrotum, may not compete at any show and will be disqualified except that a castrated male may be entered as Stud Dog in the Stud Dog Class and a spayed bitch may be entered as Brood Bitch in the Brood Bitch Class. A dog will not be considered to have been changed by artificial means because of removal of dewclaws or docking of tail if it is of a breed in which such removal or docking is a regularly approved practice which is not contrary to the standard. Neutered dogs and spayed bitches would be allowed to compete in Veterans Classes only at independent specialties and/or those all-breed shows which do not offer any competitive classes beyond Best of Breed.

When a judge finds any of these conditions in any dog he is judging, he shall disqualify the dog marking his
book “Disqualified” and stating the reason. He shall not obtain the opinion of the show veterinarian.

When a dog has been disqualified at a show as being blind, deaf, castrated, spayed or changed in appearance by artificial means except as specified in the standard for its breed, any awards taken by such dog at that show shall be canceled by The American Kennel Club and the dog may not again compete unless and until, following application by the owner to The American Kennel Club, that owner has received official notification from The American Kennel Club that the dog’s show eligibility has been reinstated.

When a dog has been disqualified under the standard for its breed, or when a male has been disqualified as not having two normal testicles normally located in the scrotum on three separate occasions, by three different judges, such dog may not again be shown. When a dog has been so disqualified at a show, any awards taken by the dog at that show shall be canceled by The American Kennel Club.

When the judge of a sweepstakes or futurity finds that a dog is ineligible to compete under this section, the dog should be excused, but not disqualified. A dog may only be disqualified in a sweepstakes or futurity under the provisions of Chapter 11, Section 8-A.

A dog is considered changed in appearance by artificial means if it has been subjected to any type of procedure, substance or drugs that have the effect of obscuring, disguising or eliminating any congenital or hereditary abnormality or any undesirable characteristic, or that does anything to improve a dog’s natural appearance, temperament, bite or gait.

Even procedures, substances and drugs which are absolutely necessary to the health and comfort of a dog shall disqualify that dog from competition if the former had the incidental effect of changing or even improving the dog’s appearance, temperament, bite or gait.

There may be cases in which a veterinarian has prescribed some drug as being necessary for the health of a dog. In such cases, the veterinarian’s advice should be followed, but the dog should be withheld from competition in dog shows until all possible effects of the drug have worn off.

 Procedures that would in and of themselves be considered a change in appearance by artificial means and make a dog ineligible for shows include, but are not limited to:

1. The correction of entropion, ectropion, trichiasis or distichiasis.
2. Trimming, removing or tattooing of the third eyelid (nictitating membrane)
3. The insertion of an eye prosthesis
4. Correction of harelip, cleft palate, stenotic nares, or an elongated soft palate resection
5. Any procedure to change ear set or carriage other than permitted by the breed standard
6. Restorative dental procedures, the use of bands or braces on teeth, or any alteration of the dental arcade
7. The removal of excess skin folds or the removal of skin patches to alter markings
8. Correction of inguinal, scrotal or perineal hernias
10. Alteration of the location of the testes or the insertion of an artificial testicle
11. Altering the set or carriage of the tail

SECTION 8-A. A dog that in the opinion of the judge menaces or threatens or exhibits any sign that it may not be safely approached by the judge or examined by the judge in the normal manner shall be excused from the ring. When the judge excuses the dog, he shall mark the dog “Excused,” stating the reason in the judge’s book. A dog so excused shall not be counted as having competed. A dog recorded as “Excused for threatening or menacing” by a judge on three occasions will be administratively disqualified by the American Kennel Club.

A dog that in the opinion of the judge attacks any person in the ring shall be disqualified. When the judge disqualifies the dog, he shall mark the dog “Disqualified,” stating the reason in the judge’s book.

When a dog has been disqualified under this Section, any awards at that show shall be canceled by The American Kennel Club, and the dog may not again compete unless and until, following application by the owner to The American Kennel Club, the owner has received official notification from The American Kennel Club that the dog’s show eligibility has been reinstated.

Any dog, that in the opinion of the Event Committee attacks a person or dog at an AKC event resulting in an injury and is believed by that Event Committee to present a hazard to persons or other dogs, shall be disqualified by the Event Committee pursuant to this section, a report shall be filed with the Executive Secretary of The American Kennel Club. The disqualified dog may not again compete at any AKC event nor be on the grounds of an AKC event unless and until, following application for reinstatement by the owner to the American Kennel Club, the owner receives official notification in writing from the AKC that the dog’s eligibility has been reinstated.

SECTION 8-B. A dog that is lame in any class may not compete in that class. It is the judge’s responsibility to determine whether a dog is lame. The judge shall not
obtain the opinion of the show veterinarian. In situations where the judge determines a dog to be lame, the judge shall excuse the dog from the ring and withhold from the dog the awards for that class or competition. The judge shall mark his book “Excused—lame.” Dogs so excused will not count as having competed in the class from which it was excused. If the dog has completed previous classes at the event without being excused, it shall count for those classes and keep any awards from those classes.

SECTION 8-C. No dog shall be eligible to compete at any show and no dog shall receive any award at any show in the event the natural color or shade of natural color or the natural markings of the dog have been altered or changed by the use of any substance whether such substance may have been used for cleaning purposes or for any other reason. Such cleaning substances are to be removed before the dog enters the ring.

If in the judge’s opinion any substance has been used to alter or change the natural color or shade of natural color or natural markings of a dog, then in such event the judge shall withhold any and all awards from such dog, and the judge shall make a note in the judge’s book giving his reason for withholding such award. The handler or the owner, or both, of any dog or dogs from which any award has been withheld for violation of this section of the rules, or any judge who shall fail to perform his duties under this section, shall be subject to disciplinary action.

SECTION 8-D. Any dog whose ears have been cropped or cut in any way shall be ineligible to compete at any show in any state where the laws prohibit the same except subject to the provisions of such laws.

SECTION 9. No dog shall be eligible to compete at any show, no dog shall be brought into the grounds or premises of any dog show, and any dog which may have been brought into the grounds or premises of a dog show shall immediately be removed if it:

(a) shows clinical symptoms of distemper, infectious hepatitis, leptospirosis or other communicable disease, or

(b) is known to have been in contact with distemper, infectious hepatitis, leptospirosis or other communicable disease within thirty days prior to the opening of the show, or

(c) has been kenneled within thirty days prior to the opening of the show on premises on which there existed distemper, infectious hepatitis, leptospirosis or other communicable disease.

SECTION 10. A club may engage dogs not entered in its show as a special attraction provided the written approval of The American Kennel Club is first obtained.
SECTION 11. Only dogs that are eligible to be shown under The American Kennel Club rules shall be allowed within the show precincts, except that dogs engaged as a special attraction with American Kennel Club approval may also be present.

There shall be no benching, nor offering for sale or breeding, nor any displaying of unentered dogs. These dogs shall be subject to all rules relating to health and veterinarians. The owners or agents shall be responsible for the care and safety of such dogs.

If, because of space consideration or other reason, a club wishes to restrict the presence of unentered dogs from some part or all of the show precincts, such restriction shall be stated in the premium list.

SECTION 12. Any person acting in the capacity of Superintendent (or Show Secretary where there is no Superintendent), at a show, or any person residing in the same household with the Superintendent or Show Secretary shall not exhibit, act as agent or handler at the show, and dogs owned wholly or in part by him or by any person residing in the same household with him shall be ineligible to be entered at that show. The official veterinarian shall not exhibit, act as agent or handler at the show, and the dogs owned wholly or in part by him shall not be eligible to be entered at that show.

A Superintendent, an individual licensed to superintend events as an employee of the Superintendent, any other employee of the Superintendent, or any person residing in the same household as any of the foregoing, shall not exhibit or act as agent or handler, at any show held thirty days before or after a show which the Superintendent has been approved to service by The American Kennel Club.

Dogs owned wholly or in part by a Superintendent, an individual licensed to superintend events as an employee of the Superintendent, any other employee of the Superintendent, or any person residing in the same household as any of the foregoing, shall be ineligible to be entered at any show held thirty days before or after a show which the Superintendent has been approved to service by The American Kennel Club.

For the purpose of this section, the employees of a Superintendent would include only those individuals who represent the Superintendent or superintending organization at dog shows.

SECTION 13. No judge or any person residing in the same household with a judge shall exhibit or act as agent or handler at a show at which he/she is officiating as judge and dogs owned wholly or in part by such judge or any member of his/her household shall be ineligible
to be entered at such show. Subject to the foregoing, members of a judge’s immediate family as defined in this section who no longer reside in the same household may enter or handle a dog at a show if the judge is not officiating over any competition, including a group class or Best in Show, for which the dog is entered or may become eligible.

No entry shall be made at any show under a judge of any dog which said judge or any member of his/her immediate household or immediate family has been known to have owned, handled in the ring more than twice, sold, held under lease or boarded within one year prior to the date of the show.

For the purposes of this section, the members of an immediate family are one’s spouse, domestic partner, parents, grandparents, children, grandchildren, siblings, mother-in-law, father-in-law, brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, daughters-in-law, and sons-in-law; adopted, half, and step members are also included in immediate family.

The above will apply to judges of sweepstakes or futurities held with licensed or member shows exactly as it does to judges of regular competition at shows.

This provision prohibiting judges or those residing in the same household from exhibiting on the same day does not apply to the judge of the Four-to-Six Month Competition or to Junior Showmanship only judges. Such judges may also exhibit on the day(s) they judge.

SECTION 14. Any show-giving club which accepts an entry fee other than that published in its premium list, or in any way discriminates between exhibitors or entrants, shall be disciplined. No show-giving club shall offer to any one owner or handler any special inducement, such as trophies, reduced entry fees, rebates, additional prize money, or any other concession, for entering more than one dog in the show.

SECTION 15. An Event Committee may decline any entries or may remove any dog from its show for cause, but in each such instance shall file good and sufficient reasons for so doing with The American Kennel Club.
CHAPTER 12
THE CATALOG

SECTION 1. Every Show Committee shall provide a published catalog which shall contain:
- Exact location of the show
- Date/dates on which the show will be held
- Show hours (opening and closing)
- List of all officers and members of the Event Committee
- Names and complete addresses of all judges
- Name and address of Superintendent and/or Show Secretary
- Name of the Veterinarian or Veterinary Clinic, and whether the veterinarian will be in attendance or on call
- Names and addresses of all exhibitors
- Information on all entered dogs as described in Chapter 12, Section 4
- Information on all entered Junior Handlers
- Judging Program

SECTION 2. Every catalog must include the following on its cover or title page:
- Name of show-giving club(s)
- Date of show
- The statement, “This show is held under American Kennel Club rules”
- The American Kennel Club logo

SECTION 3. If the show shall be given by a nonmember club or association, the words “Licensed Show” must be published on the title page of the catalog.

SECTION 4. The catalog shall be published and available. The catalog, if printed, shall be in book form. It shall be from 5 ½ x 8 ½ inches to 8 ½ x 11 inches. It shall contain the following information for all entered dogs, arranged in this order:
- Catalog (armband) number
- Complete registered name of dog
- One of the following for each dog:
  - AKC registration number
  - or PAL number
  - or foreign registration number and country for an unregistered imported dog
  - or identification number issued by AKC
- Date of birth
- Name of breeder(s)
- Name of Sire
• Name of Dam
• Name of owner(s)/co-owner(s)
• Name of owner’s agent (if any)

The address of the owner shall follow the owner’s name, or shall be included in a separate alphabetical list of all exhibitors contained elsewhere in the catalog.

The entries shall be catalogued by Groups, Breeds, Varieties, and regular classes in the order given in Chapter 3.

Information on dogs entered in single entry non-regular classes shall be listed between the information for the regular bitch classes and the information for the Best of Breed class.

Information on dogs entered in classes where a judge’s decision is based on the merits of more than one dog shall be listed after the Best of Breed class. These classes include Brace, Team, Stud Dog and Brood Bitch.

The particulars of those dogs entered for Exhibition Only shall appear following all other entries in the breed or variety.

The Board of Directors of The American Kennel Club may set additional requirements for format and content of the catalog.

SECTION 5. A current schedule of championship points for the appropriate division of the country for each breed shall be published in the catalog. Points are to be determined based on the location of the show site.

SECTION 6. All prizes/trophies offered in a show’s premium list shall be published in the catalog. If the condensed form of a premium list is used, all prizes/trophies offered in a separate list shall be published in the catalog. No change shall be made in the description or conditions of these prizes or trophies.

SECTION 7. The American Kennel Club approved breed standard shall be published in the catalog for every independent national specialty show.
CHAPTER 13  
BENCHING OF DOGS

SECTION 1. At a Benched Show, every dog that is entered and present must be at its assigned location throughout the specified hours for the benching of entered dogs at the show, except for necessary periods when it is actually being prepared for showing, or is being taken to or from these places. The specified hours shall be the hours listed in the premium list when dogs must be at their benches.

SECTION 2. The show-giving club may stipulate, in the premium list, reasonable additional regulations covering benching requirements for their show(s).

SECTION 3. Failure to comply with these rules and regulations may cause cancellation of the dog’s winnings, and subject the owner, handler, and Superintendent or Show Secretary to a fine and suspension of license and privileges.

SECTION 4. Each show-giving club may specify whatever signage and/or decorations will be allowed at the individual benches. No prizes or ribbons shall be displayed on the bench except those won by the dog at that show.
CHAPTER 14
MEASURING, WEIGHING
AND COLOR
DETERMINATIONS WHEN
FACTORS OF
DISQUALIFICATION IN
BREED STANDARDS OR
ELIGIBILITY UNDER THE
CONDITIONS OF A
CLASS OR DIVISION OF
A CLASS
CANCELLATION OF
AWARDS

SECTION 1. Every dog which is present in the ring for a class in which it is properly entered must continue to compete in all competition in its breed or variety for which it is entered or becomes eligible, unless it has been excused, dismissed, disqualified or found to be ineligible under the rules.

SECTION 2. Any club or association giving a dog show must provide arm cards and shall see that every person exhibiting a dog wears, when in the ring, an arm card containing thereon the catalog number of the dog being exhibited; but no badges, coats with kennel names thereon or ribbon prizes shall be worn or displayed, nor other visible means of identification used, by an individual when exhibiting a dog in the ring.

SECTION 3. In those breeds where certain heights are specified in the standard as disqualifications, or in any class the conditions of which include a height specification, the judge shall have the authority to make a determination as to whether any dog measures within the specified limits, provided such a determination has not been made previously during the competition at the show.

If, in the opinion of a competing exhibitor or handler then in the ring, the height of a dog under judgment appears not to be in accord with the breed standard or the conditions of the class, such exhibitor may, before every dog in the class has been individually examined and individually gaited, request that the judge make a
determination as to whether the dog measures within the specified limits, and the judge shall comply with the request, provided such a determination has not been made previously during competition at the show.

In all cases, the judge shall use equipment that meets AKC requirements.

If the judge finds that the dog’s height is in accord with the breed standard or the conditions of the class, he shall mark his judge’s book “Measured in.”

If the judge finds that the dog’s height is not in accord with the breed standard, he shall disqualify the dog, marking his judge’s book “Measured out—disqualified.” A dog that has thus been disqualified by three different judges may not again be shown.

If the judge finds that the dog’s height is not in accordance with the conditions of the class, he shall declare the dog ineligible for the class, marking the judge’s book “Measured out—ineligible.” A dog thus declared ineligible for its class shall be considered to have been wrongly entered and cannot be transferred to any other class at the show. A dog that has thus been found to be ineligible by three different judges may not again be shown in that class. However, the owner of such a dog may enter the dog in subsequent shows in another class, provided that he is satisfied that the dog measures within the height limit of that class.

SECTION 4. In those breeds where certain weights are specified in the standard as disqualifications, or in any class or division of a class the conditions of which include a weight specification, the judge shall have the authority to make a determination as to whether any dog weighs within the specified limits, provided such a determination has not been made previously during competition at the show.

If, in the opinion of a competing exhibitor or handler then in the ring, the weight of a dog under judgment appears not to be in accord with the breed standard or the conditions of the class or division in which it is competing, such exhibitor or handler may, before every dog in the class has been individually examined and individually gaited, request that the judge make a determination as to whether the dog weighs within the specified limits, and the judge shall comply with the request, provided such a determination has not been made previously during competition at the show.

In all cases, the judges shall use scales that meet AKC requirements.

If the judge finds that the dog’s weight is in accord with the breed standard or the conditions of the class or division in which it is competing, he shall mark his judge’s book “Weighed in.”
If the judge finds that the dog’s weight is not in accord with the breed standard, he shall disqualify the dog, marking his judge’s book “Weighed out—disqualified.” A dog that has thus been disqualified by three different judges may not again be shown.

If the judge finds that the dog’s weight is not in accord with the conditions of the class or division in which it is competing, he shall declare the dog ineligible for the class, marking his judge’s book “Weighed out—ineligible.” A dog thus declared ineligible for a class or division of a class shall be considered to have been wrongly entered and cannot be transferred to any other class or division at the show.

SECTION 5. Event Committees shall be responsible for providing suitable equipment for determining eligibility with respect to height and accurate scales at every show.

Event Committees for all-breed shows, or superintendents, if given this responsibility by the Event Committees, shall be required to have two large (17”-30”) wickets and two small (8”-17”) wickets available at every all-breed dog show. Event Committees for specialty shows, or superintendents, if delegated this responsibility by the Event Committees, shall be responsible for having one wicket or the one set of wickets applicable to that breed, available at every show.

Clubs located in Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rico, as well as those clubs in the continental United States that have less than 1,000 entries at their events, shall be required to have one complete set of wickets (1 large, 1 small) available.

SECTION 6. In those breeds where certain colors or markings are specified in the standard as disqualifications, or in any class or division of a class where a certain color, or colors or combinations of colors are required by the conditions of the class or division thereof, it shall be the judge’s responsibility to determine whether a dog is to be disqualified or declared to be ineligible for the class.

If, in the opinion of the judge, the dog’s color or markings are such as to require disqualification, the judge shall disqualify the dog, making note of the fact in the judge’s book.

If, in the opinion of the judge, the dog’s color or markings do not meet the requirements of the class or division of a class in which the dog is competing, the judge shall declare the dog ineligible to compete in that class or division of class, making note of the fact in the judge’s book.

If, in the opinion of any competing exhibitor or handler then in the ring, the color or markings or
combinations of colors of a dog under judgment are such as to disqualify under the standard or are such as not to meet the requirements of the class or division thereof, such exhibitor or handler may, before every dog in the class has been individually examined and individually gaited, request the judge to render an opinion of the dog’s color(s) and markings. Before proceeding with the judging, the judge must write his opinion on an AKC form that will be supplied by the superintendent or show secretary for that purpose, and shall disqualify the dog if its color or markings are such as to require disqualification under the breed standard or shall declare the dog ineligible if the color or markings do not meet the requirements of the class or division thereof in which the dog is competing, in either case making note of the fact in the judge’s book.

Any dog thus disqualified by three different judges under the standard may not again be shown.

Any dog thus declared by the judge to be ineligible for a class or division thereof shall be considered to have been wrongly entered in the class and cannot be transferred to any other class or division at that show.

SECTION 7. If an ineligible dog has been entered in any licensed or member dog show, or if the name of the owner given on the entry form is not that of the person or persons who actually owned the dog at the time entries closed, or if shown in a class for which it has not been entered, or if its entry form is deemed invalid or unacceptable by The American Kennel Club under these rules, all resulting awards shall be canceled by The American Kennel Club. In computing the championship points, such ineligible dogs, whether or not they have received awards, shall be counted as having competed.

SECTION 8. At the request of the owner or handler of an exhibit, any errors in the catalog and/or judge’s book at any show, which are contrary to the information appearing on the entry form of that dog for that show, shall be corrected in the judge’s book by the Show Secretary or the Superintendent prior to the judging and in the marked catalog to be sent to The American Kennel Club. Said dog may compete in all classes and for all prizes for which it was properly entered on the entry form.

SECTION 9. If an award in any class is canceled, including non-regular classes, groups and Best in Show, the dog(s) judged next in order of merit in all placements of that class shall be moved up. The award(s) to the dog(s) moved up shall be counted the same as if it had been the original award. If there is no dog of record to move up, the award shall be void.
SECTION 10. If the win of a dog shall be cancelled by The American Kennel Club, the owner of the dog shall return all prizes other than ribbons to the showing club within ten days of receipt of the notice of the cancellation from The American Kennel Club. The showing club shall in each instance of failure to comply with this rule notify The American Kennel Club of such failure and The American Kennel Club, upon receipt of such notice forthwith shall suspend the exhibitor so in default from all privileges of The American Kennel Club and notify the exhibitor so in default that it has done so, and said suspension shall continue until The American Kennel Club is notified that restitution has been made.
CHAPTER 15 PROTESTS AGAINST DOGS

SECTION 1. Every exhibitor and handler shall have the right to request a veterinary examination of any dog within a show’s premises which is considered to endanger the health of the other dogs in a show. This must be in writing and signed by the person making the request to the event chairman, whose duty it will be to direct the subject dog’s owner or agent to take the dog to the show veterinarian if deemed appropriate. Malicious complaints will be considered conduct prejudicial to the sport.

SECTION 2. Any person who is handling a competing dog in the ring in any conformation competition may then verbally protest to the judge before every dog in the class has been individually examined and individually gaited, alleging that a dog being shown in the competition has a condition which makes it ineligible to compete under Chapter 11, Section 8, or Chapter 11, Section 8-C, of these rules or a condition requiring disqualification under the standard for the breed; except that a verbal protest alleging that the height or weight or natural color and markings of a dog requiring its disqualification under the breed standard or a determination of its ineligibility under the conditions of its class must be made under Chapter 14, Sections 3, 4 or 6.

When such a protest is made, it shall be the judge’s responsibility to examine the dog for the alleged condition. If, following the examination the judge determines that disqualification is required under Chapter 11, Section 8, or under the breed standard, he shall mark the book “disqualified” stating the reason. If the judge finds that the protest is not sustained, he shall note in the judge’s book the condition protested and his findings. He shall not obtain the opinion of the show veterinarian.

If the judge determines that the dog is ineligible to compete because of violation of Chapter 11, Section 8-C, he shall withhold any award to the dog and mark the judge’s book “Ineligible to compete—award withheld,” stating the reason for his decision.

A dog determined by a judge to be ineligible to compete under Chapter 11, Section 8-C, unless such determination is based on the use of a substance only for cleaning purposes, may not again be shown until an official record has been made by The American Kennel Club of its true color or markings. If the color and markings of the dog as recorded are such as not to be a disqualification under the standard of its breed, the dog’s show eligibility will be reinstated.
CHAPTER 16
CHAMPIONSHIPS

SECTION 1. Championship points will be recorded for Winners Dog and Winners Bitch, for each breed or variety listed in Chapter 3, Section 1, at licensed or member dog shows approved by The American Kennel Club, provided the certification of the Secretary as described in Chapter 6, Section 1, has been printed in the premium list for the show.

Championship points will be recorded according to the number of eligible dogs competing in the regular classes of each sex in each breed or variety, and according to the Schedule of Points established by the Board of Directors.

If the dog designated Winners Dog or Winners Bitch is also awarded Best of Breed or Variety, the dogs of both sexes that have been entered for Best of Breed or Variety competition and that have been defeated in such competition, shall be counted in addition to the dogs that competed in the regular classes for its sex in calculating championship points.

If the dog designated Winners Dog or Winners Bitch is also awarded Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed or Variety, the dogs of its own sex that have been entered for Best of Breed or Variety competition and that have been defeated in competition for Best of Opposite Sex shall be counted in addition to the dogs that competed in the regular classes for its sex in calculating championship points.

The dog awarded the Best of Winners shall be credited with the number of points calculated for Winners Dog or Winners Bitch, whichever is greater. If no points are credited to the dog awarded Best of Winners, the regular class dogs of both sexes shall be counted in calculating championship points. A maximum of one championship point can be awarded when combining sexes for the Best of Winners point calculation.

Each AKC Breed Parent Specialty Club shall have one designated Parent Club National Specialty show per year. All others shall be termed a Parent Club Specialty show.

Unless the Parent Club, in its Application to the AKC to hold its National Specialty, chooses to exclude the following award: At the National Specialty the dog designated Reserve Winners Dog and the bitch designated Reserve Winners Bitch will be awarded a three-point major, provided that the number of dogs competing in the regular classes of the Reserve Winner’s sex totals at least twice the number required for a five point major, in the region in which the event is held.
No major for Reserve Winners shall be given based upon an award of Best of Winners. In counting the number of eligible dogs in competition, a dog that is disqualified, or that is dismissed, excused or ordered from the ring by the judge, or from which all awards are withheld, shall not be included.

In counting the number of eligible dogs in competition, a dog that is disqualified, or that is dismissed, excused or ordered from the ring by the judge, or from which all awards are withheld, shall not be included.

**SECTION 2.** A dog which in its breed competition at a show shall have been placed Winners and which also shall have won its group class at the same show shall be awarded championship points figured at the highest point rating of any breed or recognized variety or height of any breed entered in the show and entitled to winners points in its group, or if it also shall have been designated Best in Show, shall be awarded championship points figured at the highest point rating of any breed or recognized variety or height of any breed entered and entitled to winners points in the show. The final points to be awarded under this section shall not be in addition to but inclusive of any points previously awarded the dog in its breed competition or under the provisions of this section.

**SECTION 3.** At All Breed or Group Shows in which the winners’ classes of certain breeds are divided into recognized varieties of those breeds as specified in Chapter 3, Section 1 of these Rules and Regulations, the procedure for computing championship points shall be the same as if each recognized variety were a separate breed.

At independently held specialty shows for breeds divided into recognized varieties, if a dog designated Winners in its variety is also awarded Best of Breed in inter-variety competition, it shall receive championship points figured at the highest point rating of any breed or recognized variety or height of any breed entered and entitled to winners points in the show. If a dog designated Winners in its variety is also awarded the Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed in inter-variety competition, it shall receive championship points figured at the highest point rating of any dog of its sex of any variety entered at that specialty show.

Such points shall not be in addition to, but inclusive of, any points previously awarded the dog in its variety competition.

**SECTION 4.** Any dog which shall have won fifteen points shall become a Champion of Record, if six or more of said points shall have been won at two shows with a rating of three or more championship points.
each and under two different judges, and some one or more of the balance of said points shall have been won under some other judge or judges than the two judges referred to above. A dog becomes a champion when it is so officially recorded by The American Kennel Club and when registered in the Stud Book shall be entitled to a championship certificate.

SECTION 5. Any dog that has been awarded the title of Champion of Record may be designated as a “Dual Champion,” after it has also been awarded the title of Field Champion or Herding Champion. The title of Dual Champion is to recognize those dogs that have shown their superiority in both adhering to the breed standard and their ability to perform the function for which the breed was developed.

Any dog that has been awarded the title of Dual Champion and the title of Obedience Trial Champion or Tracking Champion or Agility Champion may be designated as a “Triple Champion.” This title is to recognize dogs that achieve the title of Dual Champion and continue to excel in non-breed specific American Kennel Club events.

SECTION 6. Champions of Record and dogs which have completed the requirements for a championship but whose championships are unconfirmed that are entered in Best of Breed competition are eligible for Grand Championship competition. Grand Championship points may be recorded for: Best of Breed or Best of Variety of Breed, Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed or Best of Variety of Breed, Select Dog, and Select Bitch.

Grand Championship points will be recorded according to the number of eligible dogs competing in the regular and non-regular (eligible for Best of Breed/Variety) classes of each breed or variety, as well as dogs competing in Best of Breed competition, according to the Schedule of Points established by the Board of Directors.

• Grand Championship Points will not be awarded for competition beyond Best of Breed or Best of Variety of Breed competition.
• Winners Dog, Winners Bitch, and Non-Regular Class winners that are not conformation Champions, are not eligible for Grand Championship points.

Grand Championship points for a dog awarded Best of Breed or Best of Variety of Breed shall count all eligible dogs of both sexes entered in Best of Breed or Best of Variety of Breed competition in addition to the dogs that competed in the regular and non-regular (eligible for Best of Breed/Variety) classes for both sexes in calculating Grand Championship points.

Grand Championship points for a dog awarded Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed or Best of Variety of
Breed shall count all eligible dogs of their sex competing in Best of Breed or Best of Variety of Breed competition in addition to the dogs that competed in the regular and non-regular (eligible for Best of Breed/Variety) classes for their sex in calculating Grand Championship points.

A dog awarded Best of Breed will be credited with the number of Grand Champion points calculated for Best of Breed or for the Best of Opposite Sex, whichever is greater.

Grand Championship points for a dog awarded Select Dog or Select Bitch shall count all eligible dogs of their sex in Best of Breed or Best of Variety of Breed competition less the dog awarded Best of Breed or Variety or Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed or Variety in addition to the dogs that competed in the regular and non-regular (eligible for Best of Breed/Variety) classes for their sex in calculating Grand Championship points.

SECTION 7. Any champion which shall have won twenty-five points shall become a Grand Champion of Record, if nine or more of said points shall have been won at three shows with a rating of three or more Grand Championship points each and under three different judges, and some one or more of the balance of said points shall have been won under some other judge or judges than the three judges referred to above and at least one Champion was defeated at three shows. A dog becomes a Grand Champion when it is so officially recorded by The American Kennel Club and shall be entitled to a Grand Championship certificate.

Any Grand Champion which shall have won 100 Grand Championship points shall become a Grand Champion Bronze (GCHB). Any Grand Champion which shall have won 200 Grand Championship points shall become a Grand Champion Silver (GCHS). Any Grand Champion which shall have won 400 Grand Championship points shall become a Grand Champion Gold (GCHG). Any Grand Champion which shall have won 800 Grand Championship points shall become a Grand Champion Platinum (GCHP). After earning Grand Champion Platinum title, for each additional 800 Grand Championship points earned the Grand Champion Platinum title initials will be followed by a numeric designation indicating the quantity of times the dog has met the requirements of the Grand Champion Platinum title as defined above, e.g., 1,600 Grand Championship points = GCHP2. The AKC will identify dogs qualifying for these titles by the appropriate designations preceding their AKC name in all official AKC records. In each case, the higher title will supersede the preceding title in all official AKC records such that the highest title will be listed.
CHAPTER 17
SUBMISSION OF A SHOW’S RECORDS TO AKC

SECTION 1. A show-giving club shall pay or distribute all prizes offered at its show within thirty (30) days after The American Kennel Club has checked the awards of said show.

SECTION 2. After each licensed or member club dog show, a catalog marked with all awards and absent dogs, certified to by the Superintendent or Show Secretary of the show, together with all judges’ books and a report of the show, must be sent to The American Kennel Club so as to reach its office within seven (7) days after the close of the show. All original entry forms must be maintained by the Superintendent or Show Secretary for a period of 6 months after the show, and these original entry forms must be available to The American Kennel Club upon request during the 6 month period. Penalty for non-compliance twenty-five ($25.00) dollars, and five ($5.00) dollars for each day’s delay beyond the deadline, and other such penalties as may be imposed by the Board of Directors of The American Kennel Club.

All recording and event service fees will be submitted to AKC in accordance with AKC Board Policy.
ADDENDUM A

STEWARDS

The following policy has been adopted by the Board of Directors regarding stewarding at conformation dog shows:

Clubs should appoint a chief steward well in advance of the date of their show whose duty it will be to invite a sufficient number of experienced persons to act as stewards in the judging rings on the day of the show. No person should be asked to serve as a steward whose judging or handling privileges are suspended or whose superintending privileges have been revoked. The chief steward should, as soon as practicable, confirm in writing, to each person who accepts an invitation to steward, the date and location of the show, the time at which they are to report for duty, and their particular ring assignment.

In preparing the schedule of ring assignments, the chief steward and other club officials should keep in mind that no person should serve as steward with a judge under whom he has an entry, or under whom, in the course of the day’s judging, such entry may become eligible to compete. If it becomes necessary during the show to reshuffle stewarding assignments, care should be taken to see that a person is not assigned to serve as steward with a judge if there is any possibility that the judge, later in the show, or show cluster (when possible) will be passing upon an entry of the steward.

Persons should be selected who are familiar with judging procedure, breed classifications and rules. It should be borne in mind that a good steward makes the work of judging easier by relieving the judge of necessary detail; by assembling classes promptly, he will be able to keep the judging program on schedule and eliminate, to a large extent, delays between classes.

The chief steward should use his discretion in the assigning of more than one steward to a ring, but it is advisable that two stewards be asked to serve in those rings where judges have heavy assignments.

Stewards will notify the judge when all the dogs are in the ring for each class and call his attention to known absentees. Under no circumstances should a steward make any notation in the judge’s book or erase or strike out any notation made by the judge.

Stewards will be responsible for returning to the chief steward or superintendent upon the completion of the judging all prize money, trophies and ribbons not awarded.

Stewards should have in mind that they have been selected to help the judge and not to advise him. They
should carefully refrain from discussing or seeming to discuss the dogs or the exhibitors with the judge and should not, under any circumstances, show or give the appearance of showing the catalog to a judge. Stewards should not take or seem to take any part in judging. When they are not actively engaged in their duties, they should place themselves in such part of the rings as will not interfere with the view of those watching the judging, and should not permit persons to crowd about the ring entrance and interfere with access to the ring.

The foregoing policy should be observed by clubs holding member and licensed obedience trials, in addition to the applicable obedience regulations and the practices established for persons stewarding in obedience rings.
ADDENDUM B
TRAINING COLLARS

Special training devices that are used to control and train dogs, including but not limited to, collars with prongs, electronic collars used with transmitters, muzzles and head collars may not be used on dogs at AKC events, except as allowed in the AKC Rules, Regulations, and policies.

The American Kennel Club recognizes that special training collars may be an effective and useful management device, when properly used, for controlling dogs that might be extremely active, difficult to control on a neck collar, or dog aggressive. These collars are also recognized as possibly useful for gaining control at the start of basic obedience training, essential education that dogs deserve and need.

There is a point at which owners should have sufficient control of their dogs to manage them on regular neck collars, without the use of special training collars. This is the point at which dogs are acceptable on the grounds of AKC competitive events and will have the opportunity to participate in those events.

All dogs must be presented on an acceptable collar and lead when competing at conformation dog shows. An acceptable collar and lead is defined as a single lead and collar combination utilized for the presentation of the dog. Examples of acceptable collars and leads include: slip collar plus lead (loop or snap), slide lead (i.e. resco), swivel lead, martingale (one piece), and martingale collar plus lead.

Special training devices and/or devices used to mask deficiencies in training, temperament or conformation are not acceptable and not permitted for use at conformation dog shows; examples include collars with prongs, electronic collars, muzzles, harnesses and head collars. The use of multiple acceptable collars or lead and collar combinations simultaneously is considered use of a special training device and therefore is not permitted.
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AKC CODE OF SPORTSMANSHIP

PREFACE: The sport of purebred dog competitive events dates prior to 1884, the year of AKC’s birth. Shared values of those involved in the sport include principles of sportsmanship. They are practiced in all sectors of our sport: conformation, performance and companion. Many believe that these principles of sportsmanship are the prime reason why our sport has thrived for over one hundred years. With the belief that it is useful to periodically articulate the fundamentals of our sport, this code is presented.

- Sportsmen respect the history, traditions and integrity of the sport of purebred dogs.
- Sportsmen commit themselves to values of fair play, honesty, courtesy, and vigorous competition, as well as winning and losing with grace.
- Sportsmen refuse to compromise their commitment and obligation to the sport of purebred dogs by injecting personal advantage or consideration into their decisions or behavior.
- The sportsman judge judges only on the merits of the dogs and considers no other factors.
- The sportsman judge or exhibitor accepts constructive criticism.
- The sportsman exhibitor declines to enter or exhibit under a judge where it might reasonably appear that the judge’s placements could be based on something other than the merits of the dogs.
- The sportsman exhibitor refuses to compromise the impartiality of a judge.
- The sportsman respects the AKC bylaws, rules, regulations and policies governing the sport of purebred dogs.
- Sportsmen find that vigorous competition and civility are not inconsistent and are able to appreciate the merit of their competition and the effort of competitors.
- Sportsmen welcome, encourage, and support newcomers to the sport.
- Sportsmen will deal fairly with all those who trade with them.
- Sportsmen are willing to share honest and open appraisals of both the strengths and weaknesses of their breeding stock.
- Sportsmen spurn any opportunity to take personal advantage of positions offered or bestowed upon them.
- Sportsmen always consider as paramount the welfare of their dog.
- Sportsmen refuse to embarrass the sport, the American Kennel Club, or themselves while taking part in the sport.
The italicized portions of this book are not rules but are either regulations or explanations.

The *Rules Applying to Registration and Discipline* and forms for the registration of purebred dogs may be obtained by writing to or calling in person at the AKC offices. Complete text of booklet available at: www.akc.org

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RREGS3 (1/20)
Match Regulations

Regulations for
Sanctioned Show Matches,
Sanctioned Obedience Matches,
Sanctioned Tracking Tests and
Sanctioned Agility Matches
Sanctioned Rally Matches

Effective January 1, 2017
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The American Kennel Club® is dedicated to upholding the integrity of its Registry, promoting the sport of purebred dogs and breeding for type and function. Founded in 1884, the AKC and its affiliated organizations advocate for the purebred dog as a family companion, advance canine health and well-being, work to protect the rights of all dog owners and promote responsible dog ownership.

The variety and scope of The American Kennel Club’s programs make it a powerful source of information and guidance devoted to purebred dogs.

Contact Information

**Club Relations**

New Clubs
Match applications/approvals for Sanctioned A & B Clubs
Phone: (212) 696-8211
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Conformation, Obedience, Rally, Agility, Tracking Match, CGC, applications/approvals for Licensed & Member
Phone: (919) 816-3579
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Obedience, Agility, Rally & Tracking
Phone: (919) 816-3575
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E-Mail: Obedience@akc.org

**Foundation Stock Service**
Miscellaneous Class & Rare Breeds
Phone: (919) 816-3613
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**Customer Service, Order Desk & Registration**
Phone: (919) 233-9767
E-Mail: Info@akc.org
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The American Kennel Club was established in 1884 with the objective of forming a club that would consider all matters relating to the advancement, study, breeding, exhibiting, and maintenance of purebred dogs. As such, the AKC is one of the oldest sports governing organizations in the nation.

Today, the AKC is a not-for-profit organization that maintains the largest purebred dog registry in the world. The AKC currently recognizes over 160 breeds; licenses more than 16,000 dog events annually; supports canine health efforts through the Canine Health Foundation; supervises AKC Companion Animal Recovery, the first all-encompassing animal recovery program; and promotes responsible dog ownership through its many public education programs.

The AKC is a “club of clubs,” consisting of more than 600 member clubs and more than 4,400 affiliated clubs. Every AKC member club is eligible to be represented by a Delegate. These Delegates collectively serve as the AKC’s legislative body.

AKC offices are located in New York, New York and Raleigh, North Carolina. The AKC employs more than 400 people in these two offices. The AKC also employs 75 people around the country who serve as executive field staff for dog events and inspections.

Dogs with full AKC registration may have their offspring registered and may also compete in AKC events. Dogs with limited or ILP/PAL registration or FSS or AKC Canine Partners listing numbers are allowed to compete in many designated AKC events, except conformation shows. The AKC’s information and education services are available to all owners of AKC registered or listed dogs and to the general public.

The Foundation Stock Service (FSS) was created in 1995 by The American Kennel Club to answer the needs of today’s rare breed fanciers. The FSS is an optional record-keeping service for all purebred breeds not currently registerable with the American Kennel Club. A list of the eligible breeds currently enrolled with the FSS is located on www.akc.org or may be requested from AKC customer service.

Classes for dogs listed with the AKC Canine Partners may be eligible to compete in Obedience, Rally, or Agility trials or at approved educational events or special attractions.

The AKC’s role in protecting and preserving purebred dogs and promoting the well-being of all dogs by supporting public education, competitive events, assistance in combating anti-dog legislation, enforcement actions against the inappropriate treatment of animals, registry fraud and unsportsmanlike conduct.
CHAPTER 1
GENERAL EXPLANATIONS

Section 1. Sanctioned Matches Defined. A sanctioned match is an informal event at which neither Championship points nor credit toward an Agility, Rally, Obedience, or Tracking title are awarded. They are events at which dog clubs, judges, stewards, and exhibitors and their dogs gain experience needed for licensed events.

Section 2. Rules Applying To Dog Shows And Obedience Regulations. All of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows, and the Agility, Tracking, and Obedience/ Rally Regulations will apply to sanctioned matches, except those which specifically make reference to licensed and member events and except where otherwise stated in these Regulations.

Section 3. Fun Matches. A fun match is an informal dog event that is not approved by The American Kennel Club as a sanctioned match. These events are commonly held by clubs that are not on the records of The American Kennel Club as being eligible to conduct sanctioned matches, dog shows, agility or obedience/ rally trials. Once a club becomes eligible to hold AKC sanctioned matches, it may not conduct fun matches unless entries are restricted to members of the club. Any event for which the club solicits or accepts entries from non-members must be approved by AKC as a sanctioned match.

Section 4. Eligibility Of Clubs To Hold Sanctioned Matches. The Board of Directors of The American Kennel Club may, at its discretion, grant permission to dog clubs to hold sanctioned matches, which shall be governed by these Regulations. Any dog club approved to hold a licensed or member dog show, agility or obedience/ rally trial is eligible to hold sanctioned matches. A club that is not approved to hold a licensed or member dog show, agility or obedience/ rally trial cannot be granted permission to hold a sanctioned match until the club’s eligibility to hold these events has been established by The American Kennel Club. Any inquiries regarding a club’s eligibility should be directed to The American Kennel Club, Attention: Club Relations.

Section 5. Types Of Sanctioned Matches. There are nine basic types of sanctioned matches:
All-Breed Match Shows
Group Match Shows
Specialty Match Shows
All-Breed Obedience Matches
Group All-Breed Obedience Matches
Specialty Obedience Matches
Agility Matches
Rally Matches
Tracking Matches
Each type of match has two plans: A and B (Obedience/Rally clubs may also offer plan C matches).

Clubs that have been sanctioned by the American Kennel Club but are not yet approved to hold licensed shows may hold Sanctioned B and/or Sanctioned OB (obedience matches). After the Club Relations department determines the club has demonstrated the ability to hold successful B or OB matches they will be approved to hold sanctioned A or OA match(s) in order to be approved for licensing.

Obedience clubs that have been sanctioned by the American Kennel Club, but are not yet approved to hold licensed obedience trials, may be approved to hold sanctioned A or OA match(es) in order to be approved for licensing.

Licensed and member clubs may offer Sanctioned B or OB matches to educate exhibitors and judges and provide an experience for handlers, puppies and/or inexperienced dogs. Group and Specialty clubs may give obedience matches with their dog show matches but obedience clubs may not give dog show matches.

Section 6. Making Application. An eligible club may hold a sanctioned match by making application, along with the appropriate application fee, to The American Kennel Club on a form supplied by AKC. Applications for B and/or OB sanctioned matches must be submitted to the AKC at least four weeks prior to the date of the event. The American Kennel Club will not process applications for A and/or OA sanctioned matches earlier than three months prior to the event.

CHAPTER 2
GENERAL INFORMATION

SECTION 1. Entry Requirements. All-Breed clubs for breed, obedience, rally, agility, and tracking may offer classes for all registrable breeds and varieties and for purebred dogs of any breed eligible for entry in the Miscellaneous class and all FSS recordable breeds. While The American Kennel Club does not require that a dog entered in a sanctioned match be registered, the club itself may, at its discretion, add this requirement.

Group and Specialty clubs may offer classes for:
• the breeds they were formed to serve
• the breeds in their group, including breed competition for any appropriate Miscellaneous Class breeds.
• all AKC registerable breeds and all FSS recordable breeds.

Obedience and rally matches may be open to all AKC registerable breeds and all FSS recordable breeds. Dogs that are listed with the AKC Canine Partners may at the club’s option, be permitted to compete in approved Companion events open to all breeds.

Dogs must be of an age that they are eligible to compete to be on the grounds of sanctioned match events. At
sanctioned A matches dogs must be at least 4 months of age on the date of the event. At Sanctioned OA and OB obedience matches, dogs must be at least 6 months of age on the date of the event. At sanctioned B matches, dogs must be at least 3 months of age.

No dog that is a champion of record may be entered in a conformation match (except that champions may be entered in any junior showmanship classes). A champion may be present, as an added attraction, provided special permission has been granted by The American Kennel Club. Entry of major pointed and pointed dogs may be restricted at the club's discretion; however, notice must appear in all advertising.

No dog with the CDX or equivalent title may compete in any regular class at an OA or OB sanctioned match except Utility. Such dogs may be entered and participate in the Open B class, but may not compete for any awards in that class.

No dog with the UD or equivalent title may compete in any regular class at an OA or OB sanctioned match. Dogs with the UD title may be entered and participate in the Open B or Utility classes, but may not compete for any awards in these classes.

Any person acting in the capacity of Match Secretary at a match, or any member of his immediate household or immediate family (as defined in Chapter 11, Section 13 of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows), shall not exhibit, act as agent or handler at the match, and dogs owned wholly or in part by him or by any member of his immediate household or immediate family shall be ineligible to be entered at that match.

No judge or any person residing in the same household with a judge shall exhibit or act as agent or handler at a match at which he is officiating as judge and dogs owned wholly or in part by such judge or any member of his household shall be ineligible to be entered at such match. Subject to the foregoing, members of a judge's immediate family who no longer reside in the same household may enter or handle a dog at a match if the judge is not officiating over any competition, including a group class or best in match, for which the dog is entered or may become eligible.

Competition at B or OB matches held by All-Breed or Obedience clubs may be offered for purebred dogs that are neither AKC registerable nor eligible for the Miscellaneous class. Such competition would be limited to breeds listed with the American Kennel Club Foundation Stock Service (FSS) Competition for such breeds would include both breed and obedience. Obedience, Rally, or Agility classes for dogs listed with the AKC Canine Partners may also be offered.

Conformation competition is for breeds which are registrable, eligible for Miscellaneous Class, or FSS
breeds. Such dogs would be eligible to compete in the respective group competition and eligible for Best in Match level. FSS breeds and dogs with an AKC Canine Partners listing number are permitted to compete, at any level for which they meet the necessary requirements at Obedience, Rally, or Agility trials if such classes are offered.

A club wishing to accept entries for FSS breeds would be required to indicate that at the time that the match application is submitted to The American Kennel Club for approval. The club will be required to have a breed standard for FSS breeds, approved by a foreign registry or a national breed club in the United States, available at the match on paper or viewed digitally.

Section 2. Special Attractions. Special attractions such as canine demonstrations, drill teams, team competitions, etc., may be held at any match provided permission has been granted by The American Kennel Club. A complete description of the attraction must accompany the application to hold the match.

Section 3. Non-Regular Classes. Non-Regular classes may be offered at sanctioned matches, provided permission has been granted by The American Kennel Club. A complete description of the Non-Regular classes as well as the entry requirements of each class must accompany the application to hold the match.

Section 4. Judges’ Eligibility. Anyone in good standing with The American Kennel Club may be approved to judge at a sanctioned match.

The following individuals are ineligible to judge at a sanctioned match:

- Any individual whose AKC privileges have been suspended;
- Any individual whose AKC judging privileges have been rescinded;
- The Match Secretary.

Section 5. Judges’ Responsibility. It is strongly recommended that clubs select individuals with extensive background in breeding or exhibiting. A judge of a sanctioned show or Obedience match shall be totally familiar with all rules, regulations, and procedures pertaining to the type of event being judged. Conformation match judges shall also be thoroughly familiar with the applicable breed standard or standards.

Section 6. Veterinarian. Any club holding an A or OA sanctioned match shall be required to have a veterinarian either in attendance or “on call” during the entire progress of the match. A club holding a B or OB sanctioned match is not required to provide such veterinary service, although it is strongly recommended.
For A or OA sanctioned matches, the name, address and telephone number for the veterinarian on call or on site, and the name, address and telephone number for the closest 24-hour Animal Emergency Clinic, if available, or the most convenient veterinarian’s office must be available to all exhibitors as well as accurate written directions to the veterinarian’s location. The information should also be included in any handouts, flyers or other advertising prepared for the match.

**Section 7. Ribbons.** If ribbons are given at sanctioned matches, they shall be of the following colors:

- First Prize — Rose
- Second Prize — Brown
- Third Prize — Light Green
- Fourth Prize — Gray
- Special Prize — Green with Pink Edges (includes qualifying obedience score)
- Best of Opposite Sex — Lavender
- Best of Breed — Orange
- Best of Match — Pink and Green

If a ribbon is offered at a Plan OA or OB sanctioned match for the Highest Scoring Dog in the regular classes, it shall be Pink and Green.

If a Plan A or Plan OA match, each ribbon or rosette shall be at least two inches wide and approximately eight inches long and bear on its face a facsimile of the seal of The American Kennel Club, the name of the prize and the name of the match-giving club, with numerals of year, date of match, and name of city or town where match is held must be either on the face of the ribbon or on a back tab attached to the ribbon. The words “Sanctioned Match” must also be included.

**Section 8. Prizes.** When prizes are offered, they must be offered for outright award.

**Section 9. Junior Showmanship Competition.** Junior Showmanship classes are permitted at dog show matches and are open only to boys and girls at least 8 years of age and under 18 years of age on the date of the match. While champions may not be entered in the breed classes at a dog show match, they may be handled in the Junior Showmanship classes.

**Section 10. AKC Publications.** All-Breed and Group clubs holding A or B matches must have the latest edition of the *Complete Dog Book* or the most recent set of applicable breed standards electronically or in hard copy at their match. Specialty clubs holding A or B matches are only required to have available a copy of their current breed standard electronically or in hard copy. All clubs holding a sanctioned match are required to have copies of the latest editions of these regulations, the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* and the *Obedience Regulations* if Obedience classes are being offered, and the most recent regulations for any other type of competition offered.
Section 11. Professional Handlers. A club may limit participation of professional handlers in its match by so indicating on its application for the match. The extent of the limitation must be indicated on the application and made clear in any advertising for the match.

Such a restriction shall apply to any persons who distribute rate cards or otherwise advertise themselves as handling dogs in the show ring for pay.

Section 12. Advertising. No club may advertise, in any form, a sanctioned match until after the club has received official notification from The American Kennel Club that the match has been approved.

Section 13. Training. There shall be no drilling nor intensive or abusive training of dogs on the grounds of an OA or OB sanctioned match.

At Plan OB sanctioned matches, while dogs in the ring may receive verbal corrections, such corrections shall be penalized. In addition, the judge of a Plan OB sanctioned match may, at his own discretion, permit a handler and dog to repeat an exercise; however, only the first performance shall be scored, unless the dog is being rejudged on the exercise because in the judge’s opinion the dog’s performance was prejudiced by peculiar and unusual conditions.

Section 14. Disqualification. All of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows and Obedience Regulations applying to the disqualification of dogs shall apply at sanctioned matches, except that a dog with a disqualifying condition or behavior shall not be disqualified, but shall simply be excused for the day.

Section 15. Bandages. No dog is to be judged if it is brought into the ring bandaged, taped, or stitched anywhere (head, legs, body, or tail). In every instance a judge must immediately dismiss the dog from the ring. Under no circumstances should the judge agree to judge the dog if the tape or bandage is removed.

CHAPTER 3
PLAN A SANCTIONED MATCHES

Section 1. Approval. Approval for Plan A sanctioned matches may be issued to All-Breed, Specialty, or Group clubs.

Section 2. Purpose. The primary purpose of this type of event is to give members of the clubs the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge and competence in handling the details of a dog show. A club must hold at least two matches of this type, not less than six months apart, which are considered “qualifying” by The American Kennel Club, before a presentation for licensed status may be submitted.
Section 3. Match Secretary. Any club holding a Plan A sanctioned match must name a Match Secretary, who must be a member of the club. The Match Secretary cannot be a licensed superintendent, or an employee of a licensed superintendent, even if that person is a club member. The duties of the Match Secretary shall be the same as those of a Show Secretary as stated in the Rules Applying to Dog Shows.

Section 4. Premium Lists. A premium list must be provided for Plan A sanctioned matches. It shall be of the same size as the premium list for a licensed dog show (Chapter 4, Section 3 of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows), and shall be printed (any printing or copying process is acceptable). It shall bear the legends “Sanctioned by The American Kennel Club” and “Wins at sanctioned matches carry no American Kennel Club championship points.” The AKC logo must appear with the above indicated legends.

The following information must be included in the premium list for a Plan A sanctioned match:

- Name of club, location and date of the match, and type of match;
- Names of club officers;
- Names and addresses of the Club Secretary and Match Secretary;
- Name, address and daytime phone number for the Match Chairman;
- Opening and closing hours of match, time of judging, entry fees, classes offered, names and addresses of judges together with their assignments, all ribbons, prizes and trophies, date and time of closing of entries, any limitation on the participation of professional handlers, and the official AKC entry form.

Two copies of the premium list must be submitted to the AKC, Attention: Club Relations at the time of distribution to the public.

Section 5. Closing Of Entries. Entries may close at any time prior to the match or on the day of the match. Under no circumstances may entries be accepted after the specified closing date and time.

Section 6. Judges Books. Judges books must be provided and be of the same format as used for licensed dog shows. They may be downloaded from the AKC website, purchased from a dog show Superintendent, or prepared by the club.

Section 7. Catalogs. A catalog must be provided. It shall be of the same size and follow the same format as the catalog for a licensed dog show (Chapter 12 of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows), except that the schedule of points and AKC Certification shall be omitted. The catalog shall bear the legends “Sanctioned by The American Kennel Club” and “Wins at sanctioned
matches carry no American Kennel Club championship points.” The AKC logo must appear with the legends.

Section 8. Classes. All of the regular classes (as defined by Chapter 3, Section 3 of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows) of The American Kennel Club may be given, except Winners, but the Puppy, American Bred, and Open classes must be given. All classes must be divided by sex. Clubs may also offer any non-regular classes, subject to AKC approval. A list of all classes to be offered must be given on the application form, as well as a complete description and the entry requirements of all non-regular classes.

The requirements for eligibility to enter the various classes are the same as those stated in Chapter 3, Sections 4 through 10 of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows.

Best of Breed/Variety and Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed/Variety may be given.

Group classes may be given in an all-breed match. Dogs selected Best of Breed or Best of Variety are eligible. Best of Match may be given.

Section 9. Submission Of Records. The Match Secretary shall, within seven days of the date of the event, forward to The American Kennel Club, Attn: Club Relations all judges books, entry forms, a catalog, marked to show all awards, and the Match Report Form provided by the AKC.

CHAPTER 4
PLAN B SANCTIONED MATCHES

Section 1. Approval. Approval for Plan B sanctioned matches may be issued to an All-Breed, Specialty, or Group club. Such matches may be restricted to members of the club holding the match.

Section 2. Match Secretary. For a Plan B sanctioned match, the club must designate a Match Secretary, who must be a member of the club. The Match Secretary would have the same duties as a Show Secretary.

Section 3. Premium Lists. Premium lists are not required for a Plan B sanctioned match, but any flyer or handbill should contain all of the information that a prospective exhibitor would require to enter the match.

Section 4. Closing Of Entries. Entries may close at any time prior to the match or on the day of the match. Under no circumstances may entries be accepted after the specified closing date and time.

Section 5. Judges Books. Judges books shall be provided and may be of any size but shall be the same general format as used for licensed dog shows. They may be downloaded from the AKC website, purchased from a dog show Superintendent, or prepared by the club.
Section 6. Catalogs. A catalog may be prepared, but is not required.

Section 7. Classes. Any of the regular classes (as defined by Chapter 3, Section 3 of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows) except Winners, may be offered. Clubs may also offer any non-regular classes, subject to AKC approval. A list of all classes to be offered must be given on the application form, as well as a complete description and the entry requirements of all non-regular classes.

Section 8. Submission Of Records. Sanctioned A and B level clubs only must submit a Match Report Form following the match.

CHAPTER 5

PLAN OA SANCTIONED MATCHES

Section 1. Approval. Approval for Plan OA sanctioned matches may be issued to an All-Breed, Specialty, All-Breed Obedience, Specialty Obedience, or Group Club.

Section 2. Purpose. The primary purpose of this type of event is to give members of clubs the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge and competence in handling the details of an Obedience Trial. A club must hold at least one match of this type which is considered “qualifying” by The American Kennel Club, before a presentation for licensed status may be submitted.

Section 3. Match Secretary. Any club holding a Plan OA sanctioned match must name a Match Secretary, who must be a member of the club. The Match Secretary cannot be a licensed superintendent, or any employee of a licensed superintendent, even if that person is a club member. The duties of the Match Secretary shall be the same as those of an Obedience Trial Secretary. If allowed by the host club, the match secretary may enter dogs owned or co-owned by the secretary and may handle dogs in the OA match.

Section 4. Premium Lists. A premium list must be provided by a Plan OA sanctioned match. It shall be of the same size as the premium list for a licensed obedience trial (Chapter 4, Section 3 of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows), and shall be printed (any printing or copying process is acceptable). It shall bear the legends “Sanctioned by The American Kennel Club” and “Scores awarded at sanctioned matches do not count as credit toward any obedience title.” The AKC logo must appear with the above indicated legends.

The following information shall be included in the premium list for a Plan OA sanctioned match:

• Name of club, location and date of the match, and type of match;
• Names of club officers;
• Names and addresses of the Club Secretary and Match Secretary;
• Name, address and daytime phone number for the Match Chairman;
• Opening and closing hours of match, time of judging, entry fees, classes offered, names and addresses of judges together with their assignments, all ribbons, prizes and trophies, date and time of closing of entries, any limitation on the participation of professional handlers, and the official AKC entry form.

The AKC Certification shall not be included in the Premium List.

Premium list copy will not be reviewed by The American Kennel Club prior to the event, but two finished copies shall be submitted at the time of distribution to the public.

Section 5. Closing Of Entries. Entries may close at any time prior to the match or on the day of the match. Under no circumstances may entries be accepted after the specified closing date and time.

Section 6. Judges Books. Judges books must be provided and be of the same format as used for licensed obedience trials. They may be downloaded from the AKC website, purchased from a dog show Superintendent, or prepared by the club.

Section 7. Catalogs. A catalog must be provided. It shall be of the same size and follow the same format as the catalog for a licensed obedience trial (Chapter 12 of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows), except that the catalog need not be printed, but may be typed. It shall be of the same size and follow the same format as the catalog for a licensed obedience trial, except that the AKC Certification shall be omitted. The catalog shall bear the legends “Sanctioned by The American Kennel Club” and “Scores awarded at sanctioned matches do not count as credit towards any obedience titles.” The AKC logo must appear with the legends.

Section 8. Classes. All of the regular obedience classes shall be given.

The requirements for eligibility to enter the various classes are the same as those stated in the Obedience Regulations, with the exception of dogs that have attained the CDX and UD or equivalent titles. The restrictions on the entry of dogs with the CDX and UD or equivalent titles are covered in Chapter 2, Section 1 of these Regulations.

Section 9. Submission Of Records. The Match Secretary shall, within seven days of the date of the event, forward to The American Kennel Club all judges books, entry forms, a catalog marked to show all awards, and the Match Report Form provided by the AKC.
CHAPTER 6
PLAN OB SANCTIONED MATCHES

Section 1. Approval. Approval for Plan OB sanctioned matches may be issued to an All-Breed, Specialty, All-Breed Obedience, Specialty Obedience, or Group Club. Such matches may be restricted to members of the club holding the match.

Section 2. Match Secretary. For a Plan OB sanctioned match, the club should designate a Match Secretary, who must be a member of the club. The Match Secretary would have the same duties as an Obedience Trial Secretary. If allowed by the host club, the match secretary may enter dogs owned or co-owned by the secretary and may handle dogs in the match.

Section 3. Premium Lists. Premium lists are not required for a Plan OB sanctioned match but any flyer or handbill should contain all of the information that a prospective exhibitor would require to enter the match.

Section 4. Closing Of Entries. Entries may close at any time prior to the match or on the day of the match. Under no circumstances may entries be accepted after the specified closing date and time.

Section 5. Judges Books. Judges books shall be provided and may be of any size, but shall be the same general format as used for licensed obedience trials. They may be downloaded from the AKC website, purchased from a dog show Superintendent, or prepared by the club.

Section 6. Catalogs. A catalog may be prepared, but is not required.

Section 7. Classes. Any of the regular classes may be offered. However, if Novice competition is offered, both the Novice A and Novice B classes must be given, and if Open competition is offered, both Open A and Open B classes must be given.

A club will be approved to hold Open classes only if it also holds Novice classes, and a club will be approved to hold a Utility class, only if it also holds Novice and Open classes. Clubs may also offer any alternative, optional or non-regular classes subject to AKC approval. If a club wishes to offer a class not provided for in the “non-regular” chapter of the Obedience Regulations, a complete description and the entry requirements must be submitted with the match application.

Section 8. Submission Of Records. Sanctioned A and B level clubs only must submit a Match Report Form following the match.

CHAPTER 7
OC MATCHES

Section 1. Approval. Approval for Plan OC matches is granted to All-Breed, Specialty Obedience, or
Obedience clubs. Clubs that plan to hold an “OC” match must submit a letter or email of intent to hold the match. This correspondence must be sent to the AKC Event Operations Department and received no later than 15 days prior to the event.

This correspondence must provide the following information:

• The name of the club sponsoring the “OC” match.
• The date the “OC” match will be held.
• The scheduled start time for the “OC” match.
• Contact information (name, address, phone and e-mail) for the club member(s) responsible for the event.
• Contact information (name, address, phone and e-mail) for the club member or other party responsible for collecting entries for the event.
• How the event will be advertised to the fancy.

Note: Upon supplying the AKC with the required information, the club is approved to hold the match.

Email approval will be sent to email address provided.

Section 2. Match Secretary. For a Plan OC match, the sponsoring club should designate a Match Secretary, who must be a member of the club and shall have similar duties to those of a Trial Secretary. If allowed by the host club, the match secretary may enter dogs owned or co-owned by the secretary and may handle dogs in the match.

Section 3. Premium Lists. Premium lists are not required for Plan OC matches, but any flyer or handbill should contain all the information that a prospective exhibitor would require when entering the match.

Section 4. Closing Of Entries. Entries may close at any time prior to the match or on the day of the match. Under no circumstances may entries be accepted after specified closing date and time.

Section 5. Judges Books. Judges books may be provided, but are not required.

Section 6. Catalogs. Due to the informal training class nature of a Plan OC match, a catalog is not required.

Section 7. Classes. Any of the regular, alternative, optional or non-regular classes may be offered. In addition, “run-throughs” may be offered where the exhibitor may do all or part of the total exercises from a given class, or the sponsoring club may allow a specific amount of “ring time” desired by the exhibitor. The sponsoring club may delay second “run-throughs” until all first “run-throughs” in a class have been completed. The maximum number of times to be able to repeat an exercise or to repeat a “run-through” shall be set by the sponsoring club. The fee for participation, whether it is a complete class participation including all of the
exercises, or part of the exercises in a class, or additional “run-throughs” or a specified amount of “ring-time” desired by the exhibitor, shall be set by the sponsoring club. Corrections shall be limited to verbal corrections, or gently guiding the dog. At the option of the sponsoring club, food and/or toys may be allowed in the ring.

**Section 8. Match Report.** A Match Report to The American Kennel Club is only required in cases where there is a need to report unusual circumstances, such as conduct prejudicial to the best interests of the sport by anyone present at the match.

**CHAPTER 8 SANCTIONED TRACKING TESTS**

**Section 1. Approval.** Approval for a sanctioned tracking match may be issued to any type of AKC Club eligible to hold licensed or member trials when such clubs can demonstrate to the AKC a membership associated with tracking and the available resources to hold a Tracking Test or sanctioned tracking match. Clubs devoted specifically to tracking will be reviewed on a case by case basis, with the number of members devoted to tracking and the club’s resources to hold tracking events being evaluated by AKC staff.

**Section 2. Purpose.** The primary purpose of this type of event is to give members of clubs the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge and competence in handling the details of a Tracking Test. A club must hold at least one sanctioned tracking match, which is considered “qualifying” by The American Kennel Club, before an application for a licensed Tracking Test may be considered.

**Section 3. Procedures.** The procedures outlined in Chapter 3 of the Tracking Regulations should be followed with the following exceptions:

A. The Certification described in Chapter 3, Section 2 of the Tracking Regulations would not be required for entry into a sanctioned tracking match.

B. No Tracking Dog Title will be awarded for passing a sanctioned tracking match.

C. Any individual with the exception of those individuals suspended from the privileges of The American Kennel Club or those persons whose approval to judge has been canceled, may be approved to judge a sanctioned tracking match.

D. The records described in Chapter 2, Section 22 of the Tracking Regulations need only be submitted to The American Kennel Club if the club wishes this event to count as “qualifying” toward the holding of a licensed or member Tracking Test.
Section 4. Certifications. If at least one of the judges of a sanctioned tracking match is eligible to officiate at a licensed or member Tracking Test, that judge may issue the certifications such as are required for entry in a licensed or member Tracking Test.

Section 5. Advanced Tracking. Any club eligible to hold a licensed or member Tracking Test may be approved to hold a sanctioned Advanced Tracking match (TDX). Any inquiries concerning the eligibility and performance requirements of these tests should be directed to The American Kennel Club, Attention: Assistant Vice President, Companion Events.

Section 6. Variable Surface Tracking (VST). Any club eligible to hold a licensed or member Tracking Test (TD/TDU or TDX) may be approved to hold a sanctioned Variable Surface Tracking match (VST). Any inquiries concerning the eligibility and performance requirements should be directed to The American Kennel Club, Attention: Assistant Vice President, Companion Events.

CHAPTER 9
MATCH REGULATIONS OTHER SANCTIONED EVENTS

Section 1. Sanctioned Rally Trials are held under the appropriate events regulations at which dogs participate but not for AKC titles.

CHAPTER 10
PLAN A AND PLAN B AGILITY SANCTIONED MATCHES

Section 1. Approval. Approval for Plan A Agility sanctioned matches may be issued to all AKC recognized clubs.

Section 2. Purpose. The primary purpose of this type of event is to give members of the clubs the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge and competence in handling the details of an Agility Trial. A club must hold a minimum of one match of this type, which is considered “qualifying” by The American Kennel Club, before a presentation for licensed status may be submitted.

Section 3. Match Secretary. Any club holding a Plan A sanctioned match must name a Match Secretary, who must be a member of the club. The Match Secretary should not be a licensed superintendent, or an employee of a licensed superintendent, even if that person is a club member. The duties of the Match Secretary shall be the same as those of a Trial Secretary as stated in the Regulations for Agility Trials.

Section 4. Publications. All clubs holding agility events must have the latest editions of the Regulations for Agility Trials, AKC Agility Judges Guidelines, Rules Applying to Dog Shows, and the Dealing with Misconduct.
pamphlet. It is recommended that the club also have a copy of the Agility Trial Manual.

Section 5. Premium Lists. A premium list must be provided for Plan A sanctioned matches. It shall be of the same size as the premium list for a licensed agility trial (Chapter 1, Section 9 of the Regulations for Agility Trials), and shall be printed (any printing or copying process is acceptable). It shall bear the legends “Sanctioned by The American Kennel Club” and “Scores awarded at sanctioned matches do not count as credit toward any agility title.” The AKC logo must appear with the above-indicated legends.

The following information must be included in the premium list for a Plan A sanctioned match:

- Name of club, exact location and date of the match, and type of match;
- Names of club officers;
- Names and addresses of the Club Secretary and Match Secretary;
- Name, address and daytime phone number for the Match Chairman;
- Opening and closing hours of match, entry method, time of judging, entry fees, entry limits, classes offered, names and addresses of judges together with their assignments, all ribbons, prizes and trophies, date and time of closing of entries, and the official AKC entry form. Four copies of the premium list must be submitted to the AKC, Attention: Companion Events at the time of distribution to the public.

Section 6. Eligibility Requirements. All of the eligibility requirements for Plan A or Plan B sanctioned agility matches are the same as those stated in Chapter 1 of the Regulations for Agility Trials.

Section 7. Closing Of Entries. Entries may close at any time prior to the match or on the day of the match. Under no circumstances may entries be accepted after the specified closing date and time.

Section 8. Scribe Sheets. Scribe sheets must be provided and be of the same format as used for licensed agility trials.

Section 9. Catalogs. A catalog must be provided for a Plan A sanctioned agility match. It shall be of the same size and follow the same format as the catalog for a licensed agility trial (Chapter 1, Section 25 of the Regulations for Agility Trials), except that the AKC Certification shall be omitted. The catalog shall bear the legends “Sanctioned by The American Kennel Club” and “Scores awarded at sanctioned matches do not count as credit toward any agility title.” The AKC logo must appear with the legends.

Section 10. Classes. All of the Regular and Preferred Agility classes of The American Kennel Club must be
offered. The requirements for eligibility to enter these classes are the same as those stated in Chapters 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 of the *Regulations for Agility Trials*. Dogs may only compete in the jump heights for which they are eligible.

**Section 11. Courses.** At Plan A sanctioned matches, courses must be submitted and approved by an AKC Agility Field Representative five weeks prior to the event date. Plan B sanctioned matches do not require prior approval but must follow agility course design guidelines. There shall be no nesting of multiple course levels set in the ring at one time for Plan A or B sanctioned agility matches.

**Section 12. Training.** There shall be no drilling nor intensive or abusive training of dogs on the grounds of a Plan A or Plan B sanctioned match.

At Plan B sanctioned matches, while dogs in the ring may receive verbal corrections, such corrections shall be penalized. Toys are allowed in the ring of a Plan B sanctioned agility match, but not food. The judge shall not allow harsh corrections in the ring. In addition, the judge of a Plan B sanctioned match may, at his own discretion, permit a handler and dog to repeat an exercise; however, only the first performance shall be scored, unless the dog is being rejudged on the exercise because in the judge’s opinion the dog’s performance was prejudiced by peculiar and unusual conditions.

Exhibitors must follow the judge’s verbal instructions.

**Section 13. Measuring Device.** All clubs that host agility events are required to have an official measuring device on the grounds. This device will be used by the Judge of record, Volunteer Measuring Officials and AKC Agility Field Representatives at all agility events.

**Section 14. Submission Of Records.** For Plan A sanctioned agility matches, the Match Secretary shall send to The American Kennel Club so as to reach its office within seven (7) days after the close of the event, a catalog, marked to show all awards, and the Match Report Forms provided by the AKC.

A catalog is not required for Plan B sanctioned agility matches. However, a report should be submitted to AKC if there are any unusual circumstances at the Plan B sanctioned agility match.

**FOUNDATION STOCK SERVICE BREEDS**

For an up-to-date listing of the breeds presently in AKC’s Foundation Stock Service please see www.akc.org.
CHECKLIST FOR SANCTIONED MATCHES

There are many small details that go into the conduct of a well-run sanctioned match. In planning such an event, it is easy to overlook some of these details.

Depending on the club’s circumstances, particular details, such as grounds or building rental/use, local ordinances, permits, will vary from club to club and it is not possible to list them all here. There are, however, certain things in common to all AKC events. In an attempt to assist clubs with their preparation, this checklist has been prepared. It lists some of the more common, overlooked items. Reviewing the checklist before the day of the club’s sanctioned match should help prevent overlooking some of the details that are so important for holding a well-organized, well-run event.

PERSONNEL

_____ Traffic directors
_____ Set-up and clean-up personnel
_____ Entry takers to accept entries and to prepare Judges Books
_____ Stewards

RING EQUIPMENT

_____ Obedience Rings (if offered) should be regulation size
_____ Obedience Jumps that meet AKC Regulations
_____ Ring Dividers
_____ Placement Markers
_____ Mats, if necessary
_____ Judging Tables
_____ Chairs
_____ Armbands (Include extra blanks and a felt tip marker.)
_____ Rubber Bands
_____ Poster boards marking ring assignments
_____ Cash box and change
_____ Tape Measure
_____ Placement Ribbons for all event types
_____ Judges Books for all event types
MISCELLANEOUS “SHOULD HAVES”

- Potable Water
- Sanitation Facilities (Animal and Human)
- Designated Exercise Area(s)
- Clean-up Equipment
- Tables and Chairs for entry takers
- Trash Receptacles
- Identification Badges for Event/Club Officials
- Food Concession (if duration is more than a few hours)

PUBLICATIONS

(Part Numbers for ordering are in parentheses)

- Show/Trial Manual (PBSHW1)
- Rules Applying to Dog Shows (RREGS3)
- Complete Dog Book (PBCOMP)
- Obedience Regulations (RO2999)
- Regulations for Agility Trials (REAGIL)
- Dealing with Misconduct (RDMSC4)
- Match Regulations (RESANC)
- Agility Trial Manual (PRAGL1)

All of the above publications may be ordered from the AKC’s Website at www.akc.org or you may contact Customer Service at (919) 233-9767.

EMERGENCY PREPARATION

- Closest available veterinarian or 24-hour veterinary clinic
- Closest hospital and telephone numbers for ambulance service, police and fire departments
- First-Aid Kits for animals and humans
- Nearest working public telephone or cellular telephone
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AKC Code of Sportsmanship

PREFACE: The sport of purebred dog competitive events dates prior to 1884, the year of AKC’s birth. Shared values of those involved in the sport include principles of sportsmanship. They are practiced in all sectors of our sport: conformation, performance and companion. Many believe that these principles of sportsmanship are the prime reason why our sport has thrived for over one hundred years. With the belief that it is useful to periodically articulate the fundamentals of our sport, this code is presented.

• Sportsmen respect the history, traditions and integrity of the sport of purebred dogs.

• Sportsmen commit themselves to values of fair play, honesty, courtesy, and vigorous competition, as well as winning and losing with grace.

• Sportsmen refuse to compromise their commitment and obligation to the sport of purebred dogs by injecting personal advantage or consideration into their decisions or behavior.

• The sportsman judge judges only on the merits of the dogs and considers no other factors.

• The sportsman judge or exhibitor accepts constructive criticism.

• The sportsman exhibitor declines to enter or exhibit under a judge where it might reasonably appear that the judge’s placements could be based on something other than the merits of the dogs.

• The sportsman exhibitor refuses to compromise the impartiality of a judge.

• The sportsman respects the AKC bylaws, rules, regulations and policies governing the sport of purebred dogs.

• Sportsmen find that vigorous competition and civility are not inconsistent and are able to appreciate the merit of their competition and the effort of competitors.

• Sportsmen welcome, encourage and support newcomers to the sport.

• Sportsmen will deal fairly with all those who trade with them.

• Sportsmen are willing to share honest and open appraisals of both the strengths and weaknesses of their breeding stock.

• Sportsmen spurn any opportunity to take personal advantage of positions offered or bestowed upon them.

• Sportsmen always consider as paramount the welfare of their dog.

• Sportsmen refuse to embarrass the sport, the American Kennel Club, or themselves while taking part in the sport.
NOTICE

The Regulations in this pamphlet apply to all Sanctioned Show Matches, Sanctioned Obedience/Rally/Agility Matches, Sanctioned Tracking Matches held on and after January 1, 2006.

Complete text of booklet available at: www.akc.org

The American Kennel Club
8051 Arco Corporate Drive, Suite 100
Raleigh, NC 27617-3390

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(919) 233-9767

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RESANC (8/18)
Dealing with Misconduct at American Kennel Club® Events

Guide for Event Committees

Amended to October 15, 2019
Published by The American Kennel Club
The American Kennel Club is dedicated to upholding the integrity of its Registry, promoting the sport of purebred dogs and breeding for type and function. Founded in 1884, the AKC and its affiliated organizations advocate for the purebred dog as a family companion, advance canine health and well-being, work to protect the rights of all dog owners and promote responsible dog ownership.
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AKC Code of Sportsmanship
SECTION I
AUTHORITY OF EVENT COMMITTEE

At the time of its event, the Event Committee carries the powers of The American Kennel Club ("AKC®" or "the AKC®"), and the corresponding duty to use its authority to deal with any misconduct that may occur in connection with its event. As used herein, the term “Event Committee” is all encompassing and means Bench Show Committee, Obedience Trial Committee, Field Trial Committee, Hunting Test Committee, and so forth.

ARTICLE XIV, SECTION 1, of The Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club, Inc., hereafter referred to as “The Charter and Bylaws,” gives the Event Committee the right to suspend any person from any or all privileges of the AKC for conduct prejudicial to the best interests of purebred dogs, AKC events, or the AKC, alleged to have occurred in connection with or during the progress of its event, after the alleged offender has been given an opportunity to be heard. When dealing with such matters, the committee represents the AKC and every person who enjoys the sport.

It is the responsibility of Event Committees to deal with misconduct in connection with an AKC event. However, it does not negate the AKC’s authority to take action itself for prejudicial conduct in connection with an event, pursuant to Article XII, of the Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club, Inc.

SANCTIONED EVENTS

The AKC interprets Article XIV, Section 1, as giving the power to suspend to an Event Committee only at licensed or member club events. The committee at a sanctioned event does not have this power, but it has the duty to investigate any alleged prejudicial conduct occurring in connection with or during the progress of its event and to send a report of all facts, including the names and addresses of all participants and witnesses, to the AKC (Attn: Executive Secretary), 101 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10178, for its decision as to any action required.
SECTION II
COMMITTEE’S DUTY

It is the duty of the committee, not of the AKC, to deal initially with acts of alleged prejudicial conduct which occur during or in connection with a club’s event. The phrase “in connection with” means any incident where the parties involved are there because of the event; for example, at a dinner connected with the event, in a parking lot adjacent to the event grounds, at a hotel facility, or abuse of a hotel facility. Incidents occurring while traveling to, from and between events are not considered to be in connection with an event. While a club can hope that no problem of this nature will arise, its committee must be prepared to deal with such incidents in a creditable manner should they occur. The AKC will support a committee which properly executes its powers, but when a committee fails to fulfill its obligations in this respect, serious questions arise as to whether the club should be allowed to hold future events under AKC rules. In situations where the club fails to meet its obligations, the Board of Directors of the AKC, after review, may impose a fine or withhold approval of events, or both.

Jurisdiction for the first club in a cluster of events commences upon the arrival of participants in conjunction with the event and continues until 12:00 midnight following its event. When more than one club is using the same location on consecutive days, jurisdiction for dealing with misconduct passes to the club on the following day at 12:01 a.m. on the day of its event. It is the committee’s responsibility to keep on hand copies of the AKC Charter and Bylaws and the Dealing With Misconduct at American Kennel Club Events, hereafter referred to as “Dealing with Misconduct,” booklets.

When multiple events are being conducted concurrently by different clubs at the same location, incidents occurring in any common area will fall within the jurisdiction of the “host” club. Incidents occurring in and immediately adjacent to the ring will fall within the jurisdiction of the club conducting that event.

An incident occurring at an event which is neither part of a cluster or where there is no “host” club, the Event Committee of the club for which the accused is present shall handle the complaint.

If one of the events is a Sanctioned Event, all incidents which occur during the hours of such event should be handled as outlined in Section I, “Sanctioned Events.” Any incident occurring after the Sanctioned Event has ended would fall under the jurisdiction of the next day’s licensed or member club’s Event Committee.
AKC’s Rules and Regulations require that the Premium List contain a listing of members of the Event Committee (of which there must be at least five) along with the name and address of the Chair. It is not necessary that every member of the committee participate in the proceedings, but a majority of the committee must participate. (A “majority” is interpreted to mean at least three committee members.) All member(s) must be from the event-giving club and must be in good standing.

No person should serve on an Event Committee unless he or she is prepared to carry out the duties fairly and impartially. Reasons for a committee member’s recusal or disqualification include the following: (1) the member will appear as a witness at the hearing; (2) an immediate family or household member of the committee will appear as a witness at the hearing; (3) the committee member has a personal or business relationship with the accused or complainant; (4) the member co-owns a dog or dogs with the accused or complainant; (5) the member does not feel that he or she can be impartial; or (6) the member witnessed the event. A recusal occurs when a committee member voluntarily withdraws from the committee; and a disqualification occurs when a majority of the other committee members affirmatively vote to disqualify a member from further participation in the proceedings.

The Event Committee Chair should attempt to have all available committee members present for the hearing. If the members of the committee have been disqualified or recused themselves, and if the exclusion of these members renders the committee’s composition less than three, it is the responsibility of the committee to contact additional club members who are at the event, but did not witness the incident, to fill the vacancy. In the event that this is not possible, the committee should be filled with club members who were not in attendance and the provisions outlined in Section IX should be followed.

In the discretion of the Event Committee Chair, his or her duties as the Chair or solely as the presiding officer at the hearing may be delegated to another Committee member, with the original Chair continuing to serve on the Committee. Specifics as to any such delegation must be set forth in the Committee’s report. In the case of any such delegation and whenever appropriate, a reference in this booklet to Committee Chair shall be deemed to constitute a reference to the Chair’s delegatee.
SECTION IV
CONDUCT PREJUDICIAL TO THE SPORT

Proceedings under Article XIV, Section 1, of The Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club, Inc., may involve different types of conduct. One test in connection with any kind of scene or altercation occurring during an event is whether a family attending an event for the first time would be likely to decide, after witnessing such an incident, that the sport is not for them. While the number of people witnessing the incident should be taken into consideration, conduct that is known to only one or two people at an event can also be prejudicial to the sport. Among the kinds of conduct that may occur are: a demonstration of dissatisfaction with a judge’s decision, including refusal to accept a ribbon or throwing a ribbon on the ground;* altercations with officials or participants; abusive or foul language in public; and mistreatment of a dog. If there is any indication that a purportedly abused dog is physically injured, it is the duty of the committee to have it examined as soon as possible by a veterinarian, and a detailed report made of the physical injuries.

As in any sport, conduct that may, in the opinion of the committee, be prejudicial to the sport, can take other forms that do not fall within these descriptions.

*Judges are advised to report to the Event Committee any abusive language directed to them or any refusal to follow their instructions, as well as any improper suggestions or requests they might receive to favor a particular dog. Such reports are required not so much for the protection of the individual judge, as to protect the integrity of the sport.
SECTION V
MINOR’S PARTICIPATION IN DISCIPLINARY MATTERS

INVESTIGATION

If a person involved in the incident is a minor, a parent or legal guardian of the minor must be notified prior to interviewing the minor. The interview of the minor may proceed only with the consent, in writing or orally, of a parent, legal guardian or an adult authorized in writing by a parent or legal guardian to accompany the minor (“Authorized Adult”). Any such interview must be conducted in a manner consistent with and sensitive to the circumstances of the situation and the age, understanding and intellectual capacity of the minor, and in the presence of the Authorized Adult.

HEARING

A minor may be called to testify and asked to swear or promise to tell the truth only with the consent of an Authorized Adult noted in the record. If a person participating in the hearing is a minor, the Authorized Adult accompanying the minor is allowed to remain with the minor during the minor’s participation in the hearing.

RECORD

If a person participating in the interview and/or hearing is a minor, it must be noted in the Event Committee’s hearing record and report. The record of consent must be submitted to the AKC in the Event Committee Report. Written consent may include an email. Be certain to include the name of the Authorized Adult who accompanied the minor during the hearing and the record of permissions that are required in this Section.

DEFINITION OF MINOR

State law controls who is a minor.
SECTION VI
PROCEDURAL CHECKLIST

The following outlines the material aspects of this guide in handling matters of misconduct arising at or in connection with an AKC Event. The checklist is available on AKC’s Web site. Event Committees are advised to complete it and have the defendant sign the completed checklist. Additional explanation of each step is included in this booklet.

Please be advised, if an Event Committee receives a complaint alleging that a dog has attacked a person or dog resulting in injury, pursuant to Chapter 11, Section 8-A of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows, or the applicable rule in each sport, the committee must complete a Disqualification by Event Committee form. The form is included in each club’s Event Kit.

PRE-HEARING
(Pages 9-12)

1. Preliminary Investigation. Investigate all complaints and make a preliminary determination whether, if the alleged conduct was proven true, it is prejudicial to the sport, and it occurred at or in connection with the event. Interview the complainant, accused and known witnesses. If a minor is involved, follow the procedures in Section V on page 5 of this booklet.

2. Obtain the name, address, telephone number and email addresses of the individual making the complaint as well as the accused and witnesses.

3. Get the complaint in writing. Write “Complaint” on the complaint.

4. It was determined that a hearing should be held. If no hearing, provide an explanation.

5. Notice of Hearing. The accused was advised at ________ a.m/p.m on ______________ (date).
   a) The accused was provided a copy of the Dealing with Misconduct at American Kennel Club Events booklet.
   b) Accused was told he/she was being charged with the following misconduct: ____________________.
      Provide a copy of the complaint.
   c) The hearing will be held at ________ a.m/p.m on ______________ (date). (The accused must be given reasonable time to secure witnesses and to prepare. It is up to the accused to request additional time if needed.)

6. The Chair established the committee as follows (include address, telephone number and email address).
HEARING
(Pages 12-14)

7. Introduction. The Chair introduced himself or herself and the members of the committee and designated one member of the committee to keep a record of the proceedings. If the hearing is recorded all participants must consent and the recording must be submitted with the report.

8. Advisal of Charges. The Chair again advised the accused of the specific charges (same as 5b above).

9. Advisal of Rights. The Chair advised the accused of these rights:
   a) To hear, confront and question all witnesses;
   b) To present witnesses on his or her own behalf; and
   c) To testify on his or her own behalf.

10. Witness List. The Chair determined the list of witnesses to be called by the committee and the accused. Witnesses include the accused and the complainant.

11. Unauthorized Persons Excused. The Chair excused all persons except the committee, the accused and the AKC Representative. The witnesses were excused from the proceeding, except when they were called on individually to testify.

12. Witnesses. The Chair called and swore in the witnesses (An appropriate oath is as follow: “Do you swear or promise that you will tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth?”). The order of witnesses typically is: first the Committee witnesses, then the accused witnesses. The Chair questioned the witness and then allowed the accused to question the witness. A summary of each witness’s testimony was made including the questions asked by the accused.

13. Procedural issues raised during the hearing are noted in the hearing summary.

14. Accused Statement. After all the witnesses testified, the Chair permitted the accused to make a final statement in response to the charges. This is in addition to the testimony of the accused.

15. Close Hearing. The Chair then excused all persons except the committee and asked the accused to remain available to receive the committee’s decision. If the hearing is recorded the recording should stop at this point.
16. Findings. After deliberation and by majority vote, the committee makes these findings:
   a) As to whether the charged conduct has been proven;
   b) Whether such conduct was prejudicial to the best interest of purebred dogs, AKC events, or the AKC; and
   c) Whether the charged conduct occurred in connection with, or during the progress of, its event.

17. Decision. Please circle which option(s) apply and indicate the charge(s) with the option(s).
   a) The committee found that all three of the elements in charge(s) number _____ were not proven and dismissed the charge(s).
   b) The committee found that all three elements in charge(s) _____ were proven and it suspended the accused from any or all AKC privileges.

   • If 17 b) is circled, did the committee stay the suspension?
     ☐ YES or ☐ NO Only if the AKC Disciplinary Guidelines allow for a reprimand as a mitigated penalty AND the committee is recommending a mitigated penalty.

18. Notice. After the committee made its decision, the Chair:
   a) Immediately notified the accused of the charges that were dismissed and those that were sustained.
   b) If charges were sustained, the accused was so advised of the Event Committee’s decision and notified of his or her immediate suspension of any or all AKC privileges (unless stay issued. See 17b).
   c) Committee must notify the accused, in writing, by certified mail return receipt requested and first-class mail, of the committee’s decision and of any suspension, if one was ordered.

19. Submission of report to AKC. Send to AKC, to be received within five (5) days of the hearing or incident, a complete report of the proceedings which includes.

   PLEASE CHECK EACH ITEM INCLUDED:

   ☐ A copy of the signed written complaint
   ☐ A comprehensive summary of the hearing
     (see Section X of Dealing with Misconduct)
   ☐ A completed Procedural Checklist
   ☐ A duplicate copy of the committee’s decision and notice of suspension, if applicable, mailed to the accused

   NOTE: The Event Committee Report, correspondence and inquiries should be addressed to the AKC (Attn: Executive Secretary), 101 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10178.
SECTION VII
PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION

When an incident arises at or in connection with an event, the Event Committee Chair is obligated first to advise the AKC representative, if there is one in attendance, of the incident. Then the Event Committee is obligated to investigate. When in attendance at an event, AKC representatives have been instructed to be available throughout the entire process to advise the committee and the accused of the proper procedures. In this regard, the AKC representative is involved only in an advisory capacity and to ensure that the procedures are properly followed, not in the substance or decision-making involved in the proceeding.

The purpose of a preliminary investigation is to establish whether the nature of the incident, if proven, would constitute prejudicial conduct, not to establish guilt or innocence of the party or parties involved in the incident.

Anyone can file a complaint alleging prejudicial conduct. Any such complaint alleging prejudicial conduct must be in writing. Anyone can write the complaint, provided it is signed by the complainant. No fee is required. When possible, written statements for the record should be obtained from all principals (complainant, accused, witnesses). Ordinarily, complaints must be filed with the Event Committee on the day the alleged prejudicial conduct occurs. Only in cases of extenuating circumstances, where conditions make it impossible or impractical to file complaints on the day of the event, will the Event Committee entertain a complaint received after the day of the occurrence of the alleged, prejudicial conduct. (Examples of such extenuating circumstances include incidents occurring after event hours, incidents at locations away from event sites, knowledge of the incident not being manifest until after the event, when members of the Event Committee cannot be located after or near the conclusion of an event, complainant being injured, family emergencies, or an injured dog needing immediate care.) If the complainant is advised at the event of the procedures to file a complaint and chooses not to file at the event while having the time and ability to do so, there is no extenuating circumstance. The decision to entertain or reject complaints made after an event rests with the Event Committee, but in no case should a complaint be entertained which is not received by the Event Committee.
within five (5) days of its event. Jurisdiction for the first club in a cluster of events commences upon the arrival of participants in conjunction with the event and continues until 12:00 midnight following its event. When more than one club is using the same location on consecutive days, jurisdiction for dealing with misconduct passes to the club on the following day at 12:01 a.m. on the day of its event. When multiple events are being conducted concurrently by different clubs at the same location, incidents occurring in any common area will fall within the jurisdiction of the “host” club. Incidents occurring in and immediately adjacent to the ring will fall within the jurisdiction of the club conducting that event.

When a dog is seriously injured or dies in connection with an event, the Event Committee must conduct a preliminary investigation to determine if charges should be brought against any individual. If the preliminary investigation determines that the conduct was not prejudicial to the best interest of purebred dogs, purebred dog events, or the AKC, then a written report of the findings of the preliminary investigation must be submitted to the AKC (Attn: Executive Secretary), 101 Park Avenue, New York NY 10178 within five (5) days. If the Event Committee determines that the conduct was prejudicial to the best interest of purebred dogs, purebred dog events, or the AKC the Event Committee must hold an Event Hearing.

If, after investigation, the committee concludes that the nature of the incident, if proven, would not constitute prejudicial conduct, the committee need not hold a hearing. A report of the incident and the committee’s conclusion must be submitted by the Event Committee Chair to AKC (Attn: Executive Secretary), 101 Park Avenue, New York NY 10178 within five (5) days. Should the committee’s investigation indicate that the nature of the incident, if proven, would constitute prejudicial conduct, the committee must be prepared to proceed as required under the Rules and as outlined in this booklet.
SECTION VIII
NOTICE OF HEARING

The committee shall determine the location and time for the holding of the hearing. In all instances, the Chair shall then notify the accused in person of the specific charges against him or her, specifying the conduct alleged to be prejudicial to the best interests of purebred dogs, AKC events, or the AKC. It is recommended to provide a copy of the written complaint received by the Committee to the accused or allow the accused to review the written complaint. It is the duty of the Chair to provide the accused with a copy of the Dealing with Misconduct booklet. The accused must be given a reasonable time to secure witnesses and to prepare for the hearing. If the accused does not feel he or she has been given a reasonable time, then he or she is responsible for requesting additional time from the Chair. Every effort should be made to hold the hearing on the day of the event. The accused does not have the right to have the hearing continued to another date in order to secure an attorney.

SECTION IX
IF ACCUSED DOES NOT APPEAR OR IS UNAVAILABLE AT THE EVENT

If, after having been advised of the charges, the time and location of the hearing, the accused fails to appear, the committee should proceed with the hearing, weighing all testimony of witnesses, reaching a conclusion as it would have had the accused been present. The fact that the accused failed to appear at the hearing must be clearly noted in the report filed with the AKC.

It is suggested that the hearing be held on the day of the incident and during the event, while the accused and witnesses are available. If the accused left the grounds prior to being advised of the charges, it may be necessary that the hearing be held after the close of the event. If the whereabouts of the accused are known, attempts should be made to notify him or her of the charges and the time and location of the hearing.

If the whereabouts of the accused are unknown, the committee must write the accused at his or her last known address, via first-class mail and certified mail (return receipt requested) specifying the conduct alleged
to be prejudicial to the best interests of purebred dogs, and that a hearing has been scheduled, giving the accused the specific date, time, location of the hearing, and a copy of the Dealing with Misconduct booklet. Certified mail is considered to be personal notification of the hearing and charges. It is recommended that whenever possible, hearings subsequent to an event be held within fourteen (14) to twenty-eight (28) days of the event. Notice of the hearing must specifically describe the conduct which is alleged to have been prejudicial, and must advise the accused of his or her right to be present, to testify, to present witnesses on his or her behalf, and to cross-examine all witnesses. It is recommended that an actual copy of the written complaint be provided. The notice must also provide the accused an opportunity to respond to the charges in writing if he or she is unable to attend. In such a case, the committee has the burden of bringing in its own witnesses or securing affidavits from them as to the facts of the case. You may contact the Compliance Department to obtain a sample letter.

It is the Chair’s responsibility in those cases where charges were sent to the accused by certified mail (return receipt requested) to be sure that the signed return receipt has been received prior to proceeding with the hearing.

Under Board policy for specific offenses, the AKC will deny registration privileges to any person from or after the date of notification to such person that charges have been preferred against him or her by an Event Committee. Therefore, when notification is sent to the accused that charges have been preferred against him or her, it is the Chair’s responsibility to submit a copy of the charges to the AKC (Attn: Executive Secretary), 101 Park Avenue, New York NY 10178. It is recommended that you also inform the Compliance Department so that the Event Committee and the accused can obtain procedural advice.

SECTION X
RECORD OF HEARING

A verbatim transcript of the testimony is not required. In all events, complete names, addresses, email addresses and telephone numbers of the Chair and members of the Event Committee, of the accused, and of all witnesses, must be recorded, together with the specific charges or alleged prejudicial conduct. Additionally, the report
must contain a comprehensive summary of testimony offered by each witness as specific evidence of the conduct charged, including the accused questions of the witnesses, of the accused’s statements admitting or denying the charges, and of evidence offered in rebuttal to the accused’s presentation. The Chair is to ensure that the witnesses and accused are questioned so that his or her testimony in the record will include statements on all the pertinent matters relating to the charges. The record must include specific information to show where and when the misconduct occurred, and the degree to which the alleged conduct was witnessed by others. Written statements obtained as part of the hearing must be included with the committee’s report. The committee must note if it stayed the suspension. A suspension may be stayed if the AKC Disciplinary Guidelines allows for a reprimand as a mitigated penalty and the committee is recommending a mitigated penalty. If the hearing is recorded all participants must consent and that consent must be recorded in the recording. Additionally a copy of the recording must be submitted with the report to the AKC and provided to the accused.

SECTION XI
THE HEARING

It is not necessary that every member of the committee participate in the proceedings, but three or more members of the committee must attend. Once the committee convenes, the Chair must introduce himself or herself and the members of the committee. The Chair must designate one member to keep a record of the proceedings (Section X).

It is very important that the Chair again advise the accused of the specific prejudicial conduct which is being charged.

The Chair must then advise the accused of his or her rights at the hearing, as follows:

1. That the accused may be present during the testimony of all witnesses and may cross-examine all witnesses. Witnesses may testify via telephone when unable to attend the hearing.
2. That the accused may present witnesses on his or her behalf.
3. That the accused may present his or her own testimony.
Once the accused is advised of the charges and of his or her rights, the Chair should prepare a list of all witnesses to be called and then should excuse all persons, except the committee, the accused and (if present) the AKC Event Representative. The complainant and witnesses are excused from the proceedings except when called individually to testify. If the accused has an attorney present, the attorney may remain in the room. The accused’s attorney may only advise the accused and in no other way may the attorney participate in the proceedings.

It is essential that the hearing be conducted in a fair, orderly, and impartial manner. The witnesses and the accused are to be sworn prior to their testimony. (An appropriate oath is as follows: “Do you swear or promise that you will tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth?”) Again, no person should serve on an Event Committee unless he or she is prepared to carry out the duties fairly and impartially (Section III).

In the interest of orderly procedure, it is best that only the Chair ask questions of witnesses, but the other members of the committee may ask questions if they believe there is some point that needs clarification. However, under no circumstances should the members of the committee engage in argument, debate, or discussion with a witness or the accused. The hearing must not degenerate into statements by various members of the committee on their views of the alleged conduct of the accused. During the hearing, the members of the committee should not in any manner indicate what their decision may be. It is the Chair’s responsibility to ensure that the hearing proceeds in a properly and orderly fashion.

Should an accused person threaten or attempt to coerce the committee, such remarks or behavior should be included in the report, but the committee should not be influenced by them. Depending on the nature and severity of the threats or coercion further charges may need to be filed by the Event Committee and entertained.

After all witnesses have testified, the accused is permitted to make a final statement in response to the charges. The Chair should then request the accused and, if present, the AKC representative to leave the hearing room (both should be advised to remain available to receive the committee’s decision). Once the committee has decided, the accused and the AKC Event Representative should be recalled and informed of the decision.
SECTION XII
FINDINGS AND DECISION

After all testimony has been taken, the Chair should excuse all persons except the committee. The Chair shall ask the accused to remain available to receive the committee’s decision. Based on the evidence presented and by a majority vote, the committee shall determine:

1) Whether the charged conduct has been proven;

2) Whether the conduct was prejudicial to the best interests of purebred dogs, AKC events, or The American Kennel Club; and

3) Whether the charged conduct occurred in connection with, or during, an event.

IMPARTIALITY AND PAST RECORD

In reaching its decision the committee shall not consider the accused’s general reputation or status in the sport, or the extent of his or her investment in dogs. Their sole consideration must be the person’s conduct on this particular occasion.

APOLOGIES

When a person acts in a manner prejudicial to the sport, the damage cannot be undone by an apology, even though an apology may be acceptable to the individuals directly affected. Neither the committee nor an individual who might have been the subject of abuse should accept an apology on behalf of others, whose interest might be prejudiced by the conduct. However, the accused’s attitude at the hearing and any apologies offered should be included in the record of the proceedings.

DISMISSAL

Should the committee conclude that any of the three elements have not been proven, it must dismiss the charges and inform the accused. However, a full report of the proceedings and findings of the committee must be sent to AKC.

SUSPENSION

Should the committee decide that all three elements of the charges have been proven, the accused should be called back (if still available) and informed of the decision; that he or she stands suspended from any or all privileges of AKC; and that he or she may not participate in any events from that time forward. This verbal notice of suspension should be included in the committee’s report,
but written notice of the committee’s decision must be mailed to the accused by certified mail, return receipt requested, and first class mail, as described in Article XIV, Section 1 of *The Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club, Inc.* It is the Chair’s obligation to ensure that the accused received written confirmation of the committee’s decision to suspend.

The committee is obligated to determine if the three elements of the charges have been proven. If so, the accused is suspended. The term or length of the suspension is set by the Guidelines adopted by the Board of Directors of the AKC. The committee shall not set the term of suspension. However, when the penalty for the offense as set forth by the Board of Directors provides for a reprimand in certain instances, the Event Committee shall have the authority to stay the suspension, pending a final determination by the AKC. The Event Committee shall only have the authority to grant a stay if the Event Committee recommends that the mitigated penalty of a reprimand be imposed.

The committee must send to the AKC (Attn: Executive Secretary), 101 Park Avenue, New York NY 10178 so as to reach its office within five (5) days of the last date of the event or within five (5) days of the date of the hearing if held subsequent to the date of the event, a complete report of the proceedings, including a copy of the letter mailed to the accused notifying him or her of the suspension (See Section X-Record of Hearing).

If requested, the accused is entitled to a copy of the completed committee report. The report itself is otherwise considered to be confidential; and, except as provided in this booklet, such report shall not be disseminated to persons other than committee members who participated in the hearing. If the charges are not sustained the report will not be disclosed to the accused.

As noted in Section II (Committee’s Duty) of this booklet, the AKC is prepared to support the decision of the committee provided the rights of the accused were not abridged; that the hearing was conducted fairly; and that the recorded evidence substantiates the findings of the committee.
SECTION XIII
CONDITIONS OF SUSPENSION

If the Event Committee sustains the charges, the conditions of suspension begin immediately. This means that an individual is suspended from the time the Event Committee makes its decision until such time as a Trial Board reverses the suspension.

Article XV, Section 3 of The Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club, Inc. states: “Any or all privileges of the AKC may be withheld from any person suspended. The terms of suspension shall be defined in the most current published list of penalties approved by the Board of Directors.” (See AKC Discipline Guidelines at the back of this booklet.)

A person suspended from event or all AKC privileges may not participate in any event under AKC rules and regulations, except as a spectator. The reference to attending any event held under AKC rules as a spectator is all encompassing. It includes, but is not limited to, prohibiting a suspended person from grooming or in any way preparing a dog for the event; leading a dog anywhere on the event grounds; holding an entered dog on the event grounds; or attempting to influence a dog or a handler in an event. Additionally, a person suspended from event or all AKC privileges may not enter any event held under AKC rules and regulations when the event or the published closing date for the event occurs before the period of suspension ends. What this means is that a person suspended from event or all AKC privileges cannot make an entry into any AKC event until his or her period of suspension is over.

For individuals suspended from registration or all AKC privileges, the registration facilities of the AKC shall not be available to a suspended person. This means that the AKC will not accord registration of any litter or individual dog or transfer ownership of any dog owned solely or in part by the suspended person. Additionally, the AKC will not register any litter of dogs owned by any other party if the sire of the litter was solely or in part owned by a suspended person and if the mating occurred after the date of notification. Also the AKC will not process any application received where a suspended person appears on the application regardless of when the transaction took place. All applications are held in abeyance until the period of suspension ends. Any transaction which occurs during the term of suspension will never be accorded registry services.
SECTION XIV
STAY, STAFF COMMITTEE REVIEW, RECONSIDERATION, APPEAL, REHEARING AND APPLICATION FOR REINSTATEMENT

STAY

When the penalty for the offense as set forth in the AKC Discipline Guidelines provides for a reprimand, the Event Committee shall have the authority to stay the suspension pending the AKC Staff Committee review. The Event Committee shall only have the authority to grant a stay if the Event Committee recommends that the mitigated penalty of a reprimand be imposed.

The President of the AKC, or staff designated to act in the absence of the President, may grant a stay of suspension upon receipt of a written request from the suspended person, specifying the grounds upon which the reconsideration or appeal will be filed.

STAFF COMMITTEE REVIEW

Within two (2) business days of the receipt of the Event Committee report, the AKC Staff Committee, appointed by the President of AKC, will review the report to determine if there are any serious procedural errors and that the recorded evidence substantiates the findings of the Event Committee. The Staff Committee may contact the Event Committee and the defendant to clarify the report. If there are no serious procedural errors and the recorded evidence substantiates the findings of the Event Committee, the Staff Committee will impose a penalty within the guidelines established by the Board of Directors. If the Staff Committee determines that there were serious procedural errors or that the evidence does not support the findings of the Event Committee, it will overturn the findings of the Event Committee and nullify the penalty. The Staff Committee may send the matter back to the Event Committee for a new hearing. Matters may only be sent back to the Event Committee for rehearing if a serious procedural error has occurred. If the matter is sent back for rehearing, the Staff Committee shall identify with particularity the serious procedural errors in the remand order to the Event Committee. A serious procedural error is an error that, if it occurs, could affect the outcome of the hearing or the ability of the accused to adequately defend himself or herself. Having a witness to the event, whether testifying or not, who serves as a member of the Event Committee is an example of a serious procedural error. In either case, both the Event Committee and the accused will be immediately notified, in writing, of the decision.
Within five (5) days after the Event Committee hearing, the accused may submit, in writing to the Staff Committee, evidence which the Committee shall consider in mitigation of the discipline which might be imposed.

**RECONSIDERATION**

An accused or the Event Committee may request reconsideration in writing within thirty (30) days after the Event Committee Hearing. A mere request for reconsideration however, is insufficient. Such request must set forth the bases on which it is made. For example, the accused might claim that he or she did not have an opportunity to appear and testify at the hearing before the Committee, or that the hearing proceeded in an improper or unfair manner, or that he or she was not notified of the purpose or the nature of the charges against him or her so that he or she could properly defend himself or herself, or that the evidence at the hearing did not support a finding of prejudicial conduct.

The AKC Staff Committee will consider the request for reconsideration within two (2) business days. It may grant the request, send the matter back for rehearing or dismiss the request based solely on the Event Committee’s report and documentation filed by the accused or it may require further written documentation from the Event Committee or the accused before rendering its decision. The parties shall be requested to submit such documentation within ten (10) business days and the Staff Committee would reach a decision within two (2) business days after receiving all requested material. The Event Committee and the accused will be notified immediately in writing of this decision.

**APPEALS**

The accused may appeal the decision of the Event Committee and the imposition of a penalty after requesting reconsideration by the Staff Committee. The Event Committee may appeal the reversal of its findings by the Staff Committee after requesting reconsideration by the Staff Committee. In either circumstance, an appeal is not a request to rehear the matter. The appeal, specifying the grounds for appeal, must be in writing, filed within thirty (30) days of the final Staff Committee decision and include a deposit of $200.00. The deposit shall become the property of the AKC if the decision is upheld in whole or in part or shall be returned to the party appealing if the decision is not upheld in whole or in part. The reasons to appeal by the accused may only be that serious procedural errors occurred during the hearing that could have
affected the outcome of the hearing, or the ability of the accused to adequately defend himself or herself, or that the evidence presented does not support the findings of the Event Committee. The reasons to appeal by the Event Committee may only be that serious procedural errors did not occur during the hearing that could have affected the outcome of the hearings or the ability of the accused to adequately defend himself or herself or that the evidence presented did support the findings of the Event Committee.

When the accused or an Event Committee has filed an appeal, the opposing side has fifteen (15) days from the date of receipt of the notice of appeal to submit a written response addressing the issues raised on appeal. Once the written response is received the record will be sent to the members of the Trial Board selected via rotation from the Board approved list or if the matter involves a Performance Event to the Performance Trial Board. The record includes the response of the Event Committee, accused and or the Staff Committee.

The Trial Board should review the record submitted. It should determine if it has sufficient information on which to determine whether the hearing was conducted properly and that the evidence presented supported the findings of the Event Committee. In reviewing the record, the Trial Board may determine that it needs more information. It may then supplement the record by asking questions of the Event Committee Chair, the accused or the Staff Committee. The Trial Board may also consult with the AKC’s Legal Department staff. It may supplement the record with additional testimony as it sees necessary. It should obtain any additional information in the most cost-effective manner. It should not meet in person unless additional testimony needs to be taken, and the parties will not agree to take the testimony via telephone or through affidavits. It should not hold an entirely new evidentiary hearing.

A serious procedural error is an error that, if it occurs, could affect the outcome of the hearing or the ability of the accused to adequately defend himself or herself. Having a witness to the event, whether testifying or not, who also serves as a member of the Event Committee is an example of a serious procedural error.

In determining if the evidence presented was sufficient, the Trial Board should review the evidence in the light most favorable to the Event Committee. The credibility of the witnesses and the determination of who was more credible should be determined by the Event Committee and accepted by the Trial Board unless it is clearly against the weight of the evidence from the record.
If the Trial Board makes the determination that there were no serious procedural errors and that the evidence supports the findings, it should uphold the findings of the Event Committee, and the penalty imposed by the Staff Committee. If the Trial Board determines that there were serious procedural errors or that the evidence does not support the findings of the Event Committee, it should overturn the findings of the Event Committee and nullify the penalty. If the Trial Board determines that there are no serious procedural errors and the evidence supports the findings of the Event Committee but finds that there are mitigating factors it may modify the penalty. In making its final determination, the Trial Board may only uphold the Event Committee’s findings and imposition of the penalty by the Staff Committee, overturn the decision of the Event Committee, modify the penalty imposed by the Staff Committee or may impose a penalty when overturning a Staff Committee’s decision to reverse the Event Committee’s decision, or may send the matter back to the Event Committee for a new hearing. Matters may only be sent back to the Event Committee for rehearing if a serious procedural error has occurred. The Trial Board shall identify with particularity the serious procedural errors in the remand order to the Event Committee.

All imposed penalties must fall within the guidelines established by the AKC’s Board of Directors. A recommendation for penalties outside the guidelines must be referred to the AKC Board of Directors. Such a recommendation should include the reasons for the recommendation.

If a Trial Board reinstates a suspension, and to comply with the Charter & Bylaws of the AKC, Article XIII, Section 3, the suspension shall be effective immediately when the accused is notified in person or five (5) days after the date of the written notice with credit for the days previously suspended, if applicable.

The Trial Board should render its decision not more than thirty (30) days after receipt of the record.

The Trial Board may retain the appeal records for three (3) years beyond the date of commencement of the suspension or reprimand after which the records should be destroyed. The records may be shipped to the AKC’s Legal Department for retention in compliance with this retention policy.
REHEARING

If one of the reasons for sending the matter back to the Event Committee for a rehearing is the fact that a member of the Event Committee should not have participated then that member(s) should not participate as a committee member at the rehearing. Matters may only be sent back to the Event Committee for rehearing if a serious procedural error has occurred. A matter may only be sent back one time for rehearing. If serious procedural errors occur in the rehearing, the matter will be dismissed. The rehearing shall follow the same procedures for the hearing, as outlined in this Dealing with Misconduct handbook. The rehearing should be held within sixty (60) days of the Event Committee Chair receiving the matter for rehearing. The fact that the matter has been sent back for rehearing shall be sent via certified mail (return receipt requested) to the Event Committee Chair and the accused. The Event Committee shall then notify the accused via certified mail (return receipt requested) and regular mail that the matter has been sent back for rehearing on the original charge(s) and that a new hearing on the charge(s) will take place on a certain date, time and location. The rehearing may be conducted via telephone or teleconference. If the hearing is held via telephone or teleconference, care must be taken to identify the speakers so that an accurate record can be made. A recommended procedure would be to have each speaker identify themselves prior to speaking. Unless otherwise agreed by all parties, the location of the hearing should be in the same locale as the location of the event from which the charges originate. The rehearing report shall contain all the information specified in this Dealing with Misconduct booklet and be sent to AKC (Attn: Executive Secretary), 101 Park Avenue, New York NY 10178 so as to reach its offices within five (5) days of the date of the hearing. All procedures that are required to be done at an Event Committee hearing must be done at the rehearing.

APPLICATION FOR REINSTATEMENT

A suspended person or a person from whom privileges of the AKC have been withheld may apply to the Board of Directors for reinstatement or restoration of privileges. The request should be sent to the Executive Secretary of the AKC. The fee necessary for AKC Board action on an application for reinstatement or restoration of privileges is to be paid prior to the Board entertaining any such application and the fee is to be the fine set in connection with the suspension or the withholding of privileges. Payment of the required fee would not guarantee a favorable outcome on the request for reinstatement or restoration of privileges.
• Articles XII and XIV allow for discipline for “conduct alleged to have been prejudicial to the best interests of purebred dogs, purebred dog events, or the AKC.”
• Discipline in excess of the Aggravated term, or less than the Mitigated term, must be approved by the AKC Board of Directors (“Board”). Discipline imposed for cases not covered by the Guidelines must be approved by the Board.
• Circumstances that could, but would not necessarily result in an act of misconduct being Mitigated would include, but not be limited to:
  1. The lack of any prior offense.
  2. The lack of experience as a participant in events.
  3. The minimal nature of the offense.
  4. Recognition of wrongdoing.
  5. The recommendation of the Events Committee.
  6. Payment of restitution and proof thereof prior to AKC reviewing the matter.
• Circumstances that could, but that would not necessarily result in an act of misconduct being Aggravated would include, but not be limited to:
  1. A record of prior offense(s).
  2. Extensive experience as a participant in events.
  3. The seriousness of the offense.
  4. Refusal to acknowledge wrongdoing prior to formal issuance of Charges.
  5. The recommendation of the Events Committee
  6. The action(s) of the individual resulted in the death of dog(s).
  7. The misconduct is directed towards or with a person under 18 years of age.
  8. Failure to pay restitution prior to AKC reviewing the matter.
• An especially egregious offense will result in a more severe length of suspension and/or fine than suggested in the Guidelines.
• Multiple serious offenses may result in a lifetime suspension of all AKC privileges.
• These Guidelines will be reviewed from time to time.
• Event Suspension is a suspension of event privileges for the individual and applies to dogs registered or co-registered at the time of suspension, or subsequently obtained during the term of suspension, which may not be entered or compete in events during the term of suspension unless they are transferred to another individual.
• Registration Suspension is a suspension of registration privileges, which means AKC will not accord registration of any litter, or individual dog
or transfer ownership of a dog solely or in part by the suspended individual. In addition, AKC will not register any litter of dogs if the sire of the litter was owned solely or in part by a person who is suspended on the date the mating occurred.

- Suspension of all privileges would include both event suspension and registration suspension.
- At the discretion of the Management Disciplinary Committee (“MDC”) or the Staff Event Committee (“SEC”), a condition of suspension can include the prohibition of a suspended individual from being allowed on the grounds of an AKC approved event. The factors for MDC or SEC to take into consideration in adding this condition of suspension are 1) the possibility of future harm to an individual(s) and/or animal(s); 2) the nature of the conduct that lead to the suspension; and 3) the involvement of the authorities.
- Payment of restitution for damages shall be paid as a condition of any reinstatement of privileges, in addition to any other applicable conditions.
- Complaints against a judge at an event which involve deviation from standard judging procedure and responsibilities are to be reported to the Field Representative in attendance or the applicable AKC department and handled internally by the AKC.
- Conduct addressed by SEC involving an individual who is an AKC approved judge, may lead to review by the applicable AKC department to determine if further action is warranted specific to the person’s judging privileges.
- When discipline guidelines become less punitive, the new penalty (suspension period and conditions and fine, if applicable) will be applied to persons currently under suspension for that offense.
- Month is abbreviated as “mo”. A month is defined as thirty (30) days.
- For violations denoted with an asterisk (*), reinstatement is contingent on passing an AKC kennel inspection, which will be scheduled only after the associated fine has been paid.
- The classification of an offense(s) within these Guidelines will be made by either the MDC or the SEC. SEC will base the classification on the wording in the complaint and may determine that multiple offenses apply. The penalties for multiple offenses will run concurrently unless MDC or SEC determine that based on the severity of the offenses or record of prior offenses consecutive penalties are warranted.

**IN THOSE CASES WHERE AN EVENT OR REGISTRATION SUSPENSION IS CALLED FOR, THE AKC MANAGEMENT DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE MAY RECOMMEND THE SUSPENSION OF ALL PRIVILEGES, WHEN WARRANTED BY THE SEVERITY OF THE CASE.**
## SUSPENSION OF ALL AKC PRIVILEGES

### I. Inappropriate Treatment of Animals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Offense Description</th>
<th>Mitigated</th>
<th>Standard</th>
<th>Aggravated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Cruelty in connection with an event</td>
<td>5 yr/$1000</td>
<td>10 yr/$2000</td>
<td>Up to life/up to $10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Physical Abuse at or in connection with an event by individual</td>
<td>6 mo/$500</td>
<td>1 yr/$1000</td>
<td>Up to life/up to $10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Physical Abuse at or in connection with an event by club</td>
<td>Rep/$300</td>
<td>Loss of event/$500</td>
<td>Loss of event/$1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Neglect at or in connection with an event by individual</td>
<td>3 mo/$500</td>
<td>6 mo/$1000</td>
<td>Up to life/up to $10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Neglect at or in connection with an event by club</td>
<td>Rep/$100</td>
<td>Loss of next event/$300</td>
<td>Loss of next event/$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Improper Treatment in connection with an event</td>
<td>Rep/$100</td>
<td>3 mo/$300</td>
<td>Up to life/up to $10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Judicial or administrative determination of inappropriate treatment*</td>
<td>5 yr/$1000</td>
<td>10 yr/$2000</td>
<td>Up to life/up to $10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h. Unacceptable conditions, dogs and/or facility*</td>
<td>3 mo/$500</td>
<td>1 yr/$1000</td>
<td>Up to life/up to $10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. Whelping dogs at event site</td>
<td>Rep/$200</td>
<td>3 mo/$500</td>
<td>Up to life/up to $10,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### SUSPENSION OF ALL AKC PRIVILEGES (continued)

#### II. Registration Violations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Offense</th>
<th>Mitigated</th>
<th>Standard</th>
<th>Aggravated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Submission of a false application to register or transfer (not</td>
<td>3 yr/$500</td>
<td>5 yr/$1000</td>
<td>Up to life/up to $5000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>signature forgeries), which affect the Stud Book*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Selling or buying AKC registration papers*</td>
<td>5 yr/$500</td>
<td>10 yr/$1000</td>
<td>Up to life/up to $5000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Refusing to produce dogs or records*</td>
<td>6 mo/$500</td>
<td>5 yr/$1000$^1$</td>
<td>Up to life/up to $3000$^1$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Non-compliance with AKC’s Rules and Regulations on Record Keeping and Identification</td>
<td>Rep/up to $50</td>
<td>6 mo/up to $500</td>
<td>Up to life/up to $3000$^2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Submission of an AKC litter application which the individual</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>should have known contained a false certification as to the sire and/or</td>
<td>2 Exclusions/5 yrs</td>
<td>3 Exclusions/5 yrs</td>
<td>4 Exclusions/5 yrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dam of the litter (DNA exclusion)*</td>
<td>6 mo/$500</td>
<td>1 yr/$1000</td>
<td>Up to 5 yr/up to $2000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$^1$ If reinstated, must start with a new colony, or in lieu thereof, bring back dogs from the old colony for which a DNA profile is recorded with the AKC and is positively identified via microchip or tattoo.

$^2$ The actual fine assessed shall be sufficient to cover all reinstatement costs, but in no instance shall it exceed the maximum amount indicated.
III. Misconduct Against a Club
a. Judicial or administrative determination of, or a signed admission of, unauthorized use of club funds.
   1 yr/$1000  5 yr/$2000  Up to 10 yr/up to $5000

IV. Misconduct Against an Individual
a. Harassment, physical
   6 mo/$500  2 yr/$1000  Up to 10 yr/up to $10,000
b. Harassment, verbal or written
   3 mo/$100  1 yr/$1000  Up to 2 yr/up to $2000

V. Violation in regard to official AKC documentation
a. Creation, falsification or alteration of an official AKC document
   1 yr/$500  3 yr/$1,000  Up to life/Up to $5,000
### SUSPENSION OF EVENT PRIVILEGES

#### VI. Misconduct By or Directed Against a Judge

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Offense</th>
<th>Mitigated</th>
<th>Standard</th>
<th>Aggravated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Physical contact of an insulting or provoking nature</td>
<td>Rep/$100</td>
<td>3 mo/$300</td>
<td>Up to 5 yr/1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Inappropriate, abusive or foul language directed personally to a judge</td>
<td>2 mo/$100</td>
<td>6 mo/$500</td>
<td>Up to 1 yr/1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Inappropriate public criticism of a judge, not disruptive, but demonstrating lack of sportsmanship</td>
<td>Rep/$50</td>
<td>1 mo/$200</td>
<td>Up to 3 mo/300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Public criticism of a judge that causes a disruption at an event</td>
<td>Rep/$100</td>
<td>3 mo/$300</td>
<td>Up to 6 mo/500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Unsportsmanlike conduct during an event including but not limited to:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Refusal or throwing down of ribbon</td>
<td>Rep/$100</td>
<td>3 mo/$300</td>
<td>Up to 6 mo/500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Leaving ring without permission</td>
<td>Rep/$100</td>
<td>3 mo/$300</td>
<td>Up to 6 mo/500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Refusing to continue to compete</td>
<td>Rep</td>
<td>3 mo/$300</td>
<td>Up to 6 mo/500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Failure to follow a judge’s instruction</td>
<td>Rep</td>
<td>45 d/$150</td>
<td>Up to 3 mon/300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violation</td>
<td>Repayment</td>
<td>3 mo/$300</td>
<td>1 yr/$1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Attempting to influence a judge</td>
<td>3 mo/$300</td>
<td>1 yr/$1000</td>
<td>Up to life/up to $5000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Judging improprieties (the judge himself/herself or complicity with a judge)</td>
<td>1 yr/$500</td>
<td>2 yr/$1000</td>
<td>Up to life/up to $5000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3 An aggravated penalty may include a suspension from all AKC privileges.

VII. Disorderly Conduct

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Violation</th>
<th>Repayment</th>
<th>3 mo/$300</th>
<th>1 yr/$1000</th>
<th>Up to life/up to $10,000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Physical contact of an insulting or provoking nature</td>
<td>Rep/$100</td>
<td>3 mo/$300</td>
<td>Up to 10 yr/up to $10,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Inappropriate, abusive or foul language</td>
<td>Rep/$100</td>
<td>1 mo/$500</td>
<td>Up to 1 yr/up to $1000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Personal property damage</td>
<td>Rep/$100</td>
<td>1 mo/$500</td>
<td>Up to 1 yr/up to $1000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Impairing a club’s ability to retain site</td>
<td>3 mo/$100</td>
<td>3 mo/$500</td>
<td>Up to 1 yr/up to $1000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Failure to properly control a dog at an event</td>
<td>Rep/$200</td>
<td>3 mo/$500</td>
<td>Up to 1 yr/up to $1000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Disruptive behavior at an event</td>
<td>Rep/$100</td>
<td>3 mo/$300</td>
<td>Up to 1 yr/up to $500</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Unauthorized removal of property at or in connection with an event</td>
<td>3 mo/$500</td>
<td>1 yr/$1000</td>
<td>Up to life/up to $10,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**SUSPENSION OF EVENT PRIVILEGES (continued)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OFFENSES</th>
<th>MITIGATED</th>
<th>STANDARD</th>
<th>AGGRAVATED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>VIII. Violation of AKC Rules/Regulation or Club Regulations</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Showing the wrong dog without voluntary correction</td>
<td>Rep/$300</td>
<td>1 mo/$500</td>
<td>Up to 3 mo/up to $1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Substitution</td>
<td>2 yr/$1000</td>
<td>5 yr/$3000</td>
<td>Up to 10 yr/up to $5000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Benching violations (per dog)</td>
<td>Rep</td>
<td>Rep/$250</td>
<td>Rep/Double Fine for each Repeated offense</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Disregard of published club regulations (e.g., parking, ex-pens, crates in aisle, unauthorized concessions, selling puppies, etc.)</td>
<td>Rep/$100</td>
<td>1 mo/$500</td>
<td>Up to 3 mo/up to $1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Entering/exhibiting altered dog (temporary alteration)</td>
<td>Rep/$500</td>
<td>6 mo/$1000</td>
<td>Up to 1 yr/up to $2500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Entering exhibiting altered dog (permanent alteration)</td>
<td>1 yr/$1000</td>
<td>2 yr/$2000</td>
<td>Up to 5 yr/up to $5000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Willful refusal to return ribbon or prize after award disallowed</td>
<td>Rep/$100</td>
<td>1 mo/$200</td>
<td>Up to 1 mo/up to $500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h. Gun safety violation (by gunner)</td>
<td>Rep</td>
<td>1 yr/$500</td>
<td>Up to 2 yr/up to $1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. Gun safety violation (by club)</td>
<td>Rep/$100</td>
<td>Loss of next event/$300</td>
<td>Loss of next event/$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j. Providing fraudulent information on an entry to show an ineligible dog</td>
<td>3 mo/$500</td>
<td>6 mo/$1000</td>
<td>Up to 1 yr/up to $2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>k. Misuse of a tracking device in connection with a Field Event</td>
<td>6 mo/$500</td>
<td>1 yr/$1000</td>
<td>Up to 2 yr/up to $2500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>l. Entering/Exhibiting dog that the entrant knew or should have known is ineligible to compete in the event</td>
<td>Rep/$200</td>
<td>1 yr/$1000</td>
<td>Up to 5 yr/up to $5000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## SUSPENSION OF REGISTRATION PRIVILEGES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OFFENSES</th>
<th>MITIGATED</th>
<th>STANDARD</th>
<th>AGGRAVATED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IX. Registration Violations</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Submission of a false application to register or transfer (not signature forgeries), which do not affect the Stud Books online or paper</td>
<td>1 yr/$200</td>
<td>3 yr/$300</td>
<td>Up to 5 yr/up to $500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Signing AKC applications to register or transfer in blank; failure to properly complete an AKC document to show the name and address of the individual to whom the dog was directly transferred and the date of the transfer*</td>
<td>Rep/$300</td>
<td>3 mo/$500</td>
<td>Up to 1 yr/up to $2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Failure to complete supplemental transfers (i.e., jumping transfers). Failure to complete proper chain of registration on an AKC registered or registerable dog*</td>
<td>Rep/$300</td>
<td>3 mo/$500</td>
<td>Up to 1 yr/up to $2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Submission of application containing a false certification as to the signature of one of the owners (this includes making false complaints)</td>
<td>1 mo/$300</td>
<td>6 mo/$500</td>
<td>Up to 1 yr/up to $1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Submission of an online application without written permission from the co-owner or co-litter owner</td>
<td>Rep</td>
<td>3 mo/$500</td>
<td>Up to 1 yr/up to $1000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
f. Signing AKC documents on behalf of another without filing a properly completed Power of Attorney Form  
   Rep  3 mo/$500  Up to 1 yr/up to $1000  

g. Attempting to register a litter whelped outside of the U.S.  
   Rep/$200  6 mo/$500  Up to 1 yr/up to $1000  

*If now living within the U.S., six months; if residents are still outside of the U.S., indefinite, with an application for reinstatement upon return of the U.S.

X. Circumvention of Suspension

a. Circumvention of Suspension*  
   Rep/Double Original Fine  Double Original Suspension and Fine  Up to life/up to $5000  

b. Aiding and abetting the circumvention of an AKC suspension of registration or all privileges (All Privileges)*  
   Rep/$500  5 yr/$1000  Up to life/up to $5000  

c. Aiding and abetting the circumvention of an AKC suspension of event privileges (Event Suspension)  
   Rep/$500  6 mo/$1000  Up to 1 yr/up to $5000
Definitions of Offenses

**Abuse:** Improper treatment which could cause serious injury to an animal.

**Cruelty:** Conscious action or inaction that may endanger life or cause serious health consequences to animals.

**Harassment:** Inappropriate comments, conduct, and/or contact regarding but not limited to race, color, religion, disability, national origin, age, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, or are sexual in nature.

**Improper Treatment:** Inappropriate treatment or handling of an animal not likely to cause serious injury, e.g. excessive or harsh discipline/training.

**Neglect:** Inadequate care or voluntary inattention to basic needs, ignoring the safety and well-being of animals because of haste or ignorance.
AKC CODE OF SPORTSMANSHIP

PREFACE: The sport of purebred dog competitive events dates prior to 1884, the year of AKC’s birth. Shared values of those involved in the sport include principles of sportsmanship. They are practiced in all sectors of our sport: conformation, performance and companion. Many believe that these principles of sportsmanship are the prime reason why our sport has thrived for over one hundred years. With the belief that it is useful to periodically articulate the fundamentals of our sport, this code is presented.

• Sportsmen respect the history, traditions and integrity of the sport of purebred dogs.
• Sportsmen commit themselves to values of fair play, honesty, courtesy, and vigorous competition, as well as winning and losing with grace.
• Sportsmen refuse to compromise their commitment and obligation to the sport of purebred dogs by injecting personal advantage or consideration into their decisions or behavior.
• The sportsman judge judges only on the merits of the dogs and considers no other factors.
• The sportsman judge or exhibitor accepts constructive criticism.
• The sportsman exhibitor declines to enter or exhibit under a judge where it might reasonably appear that the judge’s placements could be based on something other than the merits of the dogs.
• The sportsman exhibitor refuses to compromise the impartiality of a judge.
• The sportsman respects the AKC bylaws, rules, regulations and policies governing the sport of purebred dogs.
• Sportsmen find that vigorous competition and civility are not inconsistent and are able to appreciate the merit of their competition and the effort of competitors.
• Sportsmen welcome, encourage and support newcomers to the sport.
• Sportsmen will deal fairly with all those who trade with them.
• Sportsmen are willing to share honest and open appraisals of both the strengths and weaknesses of their breeding stock.
• Sportsmen spurn any opportunity to take personal advantage of positions offered or bestowed upon them.
• Sportsmen always consider as paramount the welfare of their dog.
• Sportsmen refuse to embarrass the sport, the American Kennel Club, or themselves while taking part in the sport.
AKC DISCIPLINE GUIDELINES - EFFECTIVE October 15, 2019

Explanatory Notes

- Articles XII and XIV allow for discipline for “conduct alleged to have been prejudicial to the best interests of purebred dogs, purebred dog events, or the AKC.”
- Discipline in excess of the Aggravated term, or less than the Mitigated term, must be approved by the AKC Board of Directors (“Board”). Discipline imposed for cases not covered by the Guidelines must be approved by the Board.
- Circumstances that could, but would not necessarily result in an act of misconduct being Mitigated would include, but not be limited to:
  1. The lack of any prior offense.
  2. The lack of experience as a participant in events.
  3. The minimal nature of the offense.
  4. Recognition of wrongdoing.
  5. The recommendation of the Events Committee.
  6. Payment of restitution and proof thereof prior to AKC reviewing the matter.
- Circumstances that could, but that would not necessarily result in an act of misconduct being Aggravated would include, but not be limited to:
  1. A record of prior offense(s).
  2. Extensive experience as a participant in events.
  3. The seriousness of the offense.
  4. Refusal to acknowledge wrongdoing prior to formal issuance of Charges.
  5. The recommendation of the Events Committee.
  6. The action(s) of the individual resulted in the death of dog(s).
  7. The misconduct is directed towards or with a person under 18 years of age.
  8. Failure to pay restitution prior to AKC reviewing the matter.
- An especially egregious offense will result in a more severe length of suspension and/or fine than suggested in the Guidelines.
- Multiple serious offenses may result in a lifetime suspension of all AKC privileges.
- These Guidelines will be reviewed from time to time.
- Event Suspension is a suspension of event privileges for the individual and applies to dogs registered or co-registered at the time of suspension, or subsequently obtained during the term of suspension, which may not be entered or compete in events during the term of suspension unless they are transferred to another individual.
- Registration Suspension is a suspension of registration privileges, which means AKC will not accord registration of any litter, or individual dog or transfer ownership of a dog solely or in part by the suspended individual. In addition, AKC will not register any litter of dogs if the sire of the litter was owned solely or in part by a person who is suspended on the date the mating occurred.
- Suspension of all privileges would include both event suspension and registration suspension.
- At the discretion of the Management Disciplinary Committee (“MDC”) or the Staff Event Committee (“SEC”), a condition of suspension can include the prohibition of a suspended individual from being allowed on the grounds of an AKC approved event. The factors for MDC or SEC to take into consideration in adding this condition of suspension are 1) the possibility of future harm to an individual(s) and/or animal(s); 2) the nature of the conduct that lead to the suspension; and 3) the involvement of the authorities.
- Payment of restitution for damages shall be paid as a condition of any reinstatement of privileges, in addition to any other applicable conditions.
- Complaints against a judge at an event which involve deviation from standard judging procedure and responsibilities are to be reported to the Field Representative in attendance or the applicable AKC department and handled internally by the AKC.
- Conduct addressed by SEC involving an individual who is an AKC approved judge, may lead to review by the applicable AKC department to determine if further action is warranted specific to the person’s judging privileges.
- When discipline guidelines become less punitive, the new penalty (suspension period and conditions and fine, if applicable) will be applied to persons currently under suspension for that offense.
- Month is abbreviated as “mo”. A month suspension is defined as being thirty (30) days.
- For violations denoted with an asterisk (*), reinstatement is contingent on passing an AKC kennel inspection, which will be scheduled only after the associated fine has been paid.
- The classification of an offense(s) within these Guidelines will be made by either the MDC or SEC. SEC will base the classification on the wording in the complaint and may determine that multiple offenses apply. The penalties for multiple offenses will run concurrently unless MDC or SEC determine that based on the severity of the offenses or record of prior offenses consecutive penalties are warranted.
IN THOSE CASES WHERE AN EVENT OR REGISTRATION SUSPENSION IS CALLED FOR, THE AKC MANAGEMENT DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE MAY RECOMMEND THE SUSPENSION OF ALL PRIVILEGES, WHEN WARRANTED BY THE SEVERITY OF THE CASE.

**SUSPENSION OF ALL AKC PRIVILEGES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OFFENSES</th>
<th>MITIGATED</th>
<th>STANDARD</th>
<th>AGGRAVATED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>I. Inappropriate Treatment of Animals</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Cruelty in connection with an event</td>
<td>5 yr/$1000</td>
<td>10 yr/$2000</td>
<td>Up to life/up to $10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Physical Abuse at or in connection with an event by individual</td>
<td>6 mo/$500</td>
<td>1 yr/$1000</td>
<td>Up to life/up to $10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Physical Abuse at or in connection with an event by club</td>
<td>Rep/$300</td>
<td>Loss of event/$500</td>
<td>Loss of event/$1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Neglect at or in connection with an event by individual</td>
<td>3 mo/$500</td>
<td>6 mo/$1000</td>
<td>Up to life/up to $10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Neglect at or in connection with an event by club</td>
<td>Rep/$100</td>
<td>Loss of next event/$300</td>
<td>Loss of next event/$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Improper Treatment in connection with an event</td>
<td>Rep/$100</td>
<td>3 mo/$300</td>
<td>Up to life/up to $10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Judicial or administrative determination of inappropriate treatment*</td>
<td>5 yr/$1000</td>
<td>10 yr/$2000</td>
<td>Up to life/up to $10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h. Unacceptable conditions, dogs and/or facility*</td>
<td>3 mo/$500</td>
<td>1 yr/$1000</td>
<td>Up to life/up to $10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. Whelping dogs at event site</td>
<td>Rep/$200</td>
<td>3 mo/$500</td>
<td>Up to life/up to $10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>II. Registration Violations</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Submission of a false application to register or transfer (not signature forgeries), which affect the Stud Book*</td>
<td>3 yr/$500</td>
<td>5 yr/$1000</td>
<td>Up to life/up to $5000</td>
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<tr>
<td>b. Selling or buying AKC registration papers*</td>
<td>5 yr/$500</td>
<td>10 yr/$1000</td>
<td>Up to life/up to $5000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Refusing to produce dogs or records*</td>
<td>6 mo/$500</td>
<td>5 yr/$10001</td>
<td>Up to life/up to $30001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Non-compliance with AKC’s Rules and Regulations on Record Keeping and Identification</td>
<td>Rep/up to $50</td>
<td>6 mo/up to $500</td>
<td>Up to Life/up to $30002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Submission of an AKC litter application which the individual should have known contained a false certification as to the sire and/or dam of the litter (DNA exclusion)*</td>
<td>2 Exclusions/5yrs</td>
<td>3 Exclusions/5yrs</td>
<td>4 Exclusions/5yrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6 mo/$500</td>
<td>1 yr/$1000</td>
<td>Up to 5 yrs/up to $2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>OFFENSES</strong></td>
<td>MITIGATED</td>
<td>STANDARD</td>
<td>AGGRAVATED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>III. Misconduct Against a Club</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Judicial or administrative determination of, or a signed admission or, unauthorized use of club funds.</td>
<td>1 yr/$1000</td>
<td>5 yr/$2000</td>
<td>Up to 10 yr/up to $5000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>OFFENSES</strong></td>
<td>MITIGATED</td>
<td>STANDARD</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>IV. Misconduct Against an Individual</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Harassment, physical</td>
<td>3 mo/$300</td>
<td>2 yr/$1000</td>
<td>Up to life/up to $40,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Harassment, verbal or written</td>
<td>3 mo/$100</td>
<td>1 yr/$1000</td>
<td>Up to 2 yr/up to $2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harassment: Inappropriate comments, conduct and/or contact regarding but not limited to race, color, religion, disability, national origin, age, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, or are sexual in nature.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>OFFENSES</strong></td>
<td>MITIGATED</td>
<td>STANDARD</td>
<td>AGGRAVATED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>V. Violation in regard to official AKC documentation</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Creation, falsification or alteration of an official AKC document</td>
<td>1 yr/$500</td>
<td>3 yr/$1000</td>
<td>Up to life/up to $5000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## SUSPENSION OF EVENT PRIVILEGES

### OFFENSES

#### VI. Misconduct By or Directed against a Judge

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Violation</th>
<th>Mitigated</th>
<th>Standard</th>
<th>Aggravated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Physical contact of an insulting or provoking nature</td>
<td>Rep/$100</td>
<td>3 mo/$300</td>
<td>Up to 5 yrs/ up to $1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Inappropriate, abusive or foul language directed personally to a judge</td>
<td>2 mo/$100</td>
<td>6 mo/$500</td>
<td>Up to 1 yr/ up to $1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Inappropriate public criticism of a judge, not disruptive, but demonstrating lack of sportsmanship</td>
<td>Rep/$50</td>
<td>1 mo/$200</td>
<td>Up to 3 mo/ up to $300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Public criticism of a judge that causes a disruption at an event</td>
<td>Rep/$100</td>
<td>3 mo/$300</td>
<td>Up to 6 mo/ up to $500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Unsportsmanlike conduct during an event including but not limited to:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Refusal or throwing down of ribbon</td>
<td>Rep/$100</td>
<td>3 mo/$300</td>
<td>Up to 6 mo/ up to $500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Leaving ring without permission</td>
<td>Rep/$100</td>
<td>3 mo/$300</td>
<td>Up to 6 mo/ up to $500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Refusing to continue to compete</td>
<td>Rep</td>
<td>3 mo/$300</td>
<td>Up to 6 mo/ up to $500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Failure to follow a judge’s instruction</td>
<td>Rep</td>
<td>45 d/$150</td>
<td>Up to 3 mo/ up to $300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Attempting to influence a judge</td>
<td>3 mo/$300</td>
<td>1 yr/$1000</td>
<td>Up to life/ up to $5000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Judging improprieties (the judge himself/herself or complicity with a judge)</td>
<td>1 yr/$500</td>
<td>2 yr/$1000</td>
<td>Up to life/ up to $5000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. If reinstated, must start with a new colony, or in lieu thereof, bring back dogs from the old colony for which a DNA profile is recorded with the AKC and is positively identified via microchip or tattoo.

2. The actual fine assessed shall be sufficient to cover all reinstatement costs, but in no instance shall it exceed the maximum amount indicated.

3. An aggravated penalty may include a suspension from all AKC privileges.

### OFFENSES

#### VII. Disorderly Conduct

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Violation</th>
<th>Mitigated</th>
<th>Standard</th>
<th>Aggravated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Physical contact of an insulting or provoking nature</td>
<td>Rep/$100</td>
<td>3 mo/$300</td>
<td>Up to 10 yr/ up to $10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Inappropriate, abusive or foul language</td>
<td>Rep/$100</td>
<td>1 mo/$500</td>
<td>Up to 1 yr/ up to $1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Personal property damage</td>
<td>Rep/$100</td>
<td>1 mo/$500</td>
<td>Up to 1 yr/ up to $1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Impairing a club’s ability to retain site</td>
<td>3 mo/$100</td>
<td>3 mo/$500</td>
<td>Up to 1 yr/ up to $1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Failure to properly control a dog at an event</td>
<td>Rep/$200</td>
<td>3 mo/$500</td>
<td>Up to 1 yr/ up to $1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Disruptive behavior at an event</td>
<td>Rep/$100</td>
<td>3 mo/$300</td>
<td>Up to 1 yr/ up to $500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Unauthorized removal of property at or in connection with an event</td>
<td>3 mo/$500</td>
<td>1 yr/$1000</td>
<td>Up to life/ up to $10,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### OFFENSES

#### VIII. Violation of AKC Rules/Regulation or Club Regulations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Violation</th>
<th>Mitigated</th>
<th>Standard</th>
<th>Aggravated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Showing the wrong dog without voluntary correction</td>
<td>Rep/$300</td>
<td>1 mo/$500</td>
<td>Up to 3 mo/ up to $1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Substitution</td>
<td>2 yr/$1000</td>
<td>5 yr/ $3000</td>
<td>Up to 10 yr/ up to $5000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Benching violations (per dog)</td>
<td>Rep</td>
<td>Rep/$250</td>
<td>Rep/Double Fine for each Repeated offense</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Disregard of published club regulations (e.g. parking, ex-pens, crates in aisle, unauthorized concessions, selling puppies, etc.)</td>
<td>Rep/$100</td>
<td>1 mo/$500</td>
<td>Up to 3 mo/ up to $1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Entering/exhibiting altered dog (temporary alteration)</td>
<td>Rep/$500</td>
<td>6 mo/$1000</td>
<td>Up to 1 yr/ up to $2500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Entering exhibiting altered dog (permanent alteration)</td>
<td>1 yr/$1000</td>
<td>2 yr/$2000</td>
<td>Up to 5 yr/ up to $5000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### IX. Registration Violations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Offense</th>
<th>Mitigated</th>
<th>Standard</th>
<th>Aggravated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Submission of a false application to register or transfer (not signature forgeries), which do not affect the Stud Books online or paper</td>
<td>1 yr/$200</td>
<td>3 yr/$300</td>
<td>Up to 5 yr/up to $500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Signing AKC applications to register or transfer in blank; failure to properly complete an AKC document to show the name and address of the individual to whom the dog was directly transferred and the date of the transfer*</td>
<td>Rep/$300</td>
<td>3 mo/$500</td>
<td>Up to 1 yr/up to $2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Failure to complete supplemental transfers (i.e., jumping transfers). Failure to complete proper chain of registration on an AKC registered or registerable dog*</td>
<td>Rep/$300</td>
<td>3 mo/$500</td>
<td>Up to 1 yr/up to $2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Submission of application containing a false certification as to the signature of one of the owners (this includes making false complaints)</td>
<td>1 mo/$300</td>
<td>6 mo/$500</td>
<td>Up to 1 yr/up to $1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Submission of an online application without written permission from the co-owner or co-litter owner</td>
<td>Rep</td>
<td>3 mo/$500</td>
<td>Up to 1 yr/up to $1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Signing AKC documents on behalf of another without filing a properly completed Power of Attorney Form</td>
<td>Rep</td>
<td>3 mo/$500</td>
<td>Up to 1 yr/up to $1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Attempting to register a litter whelped outside of the U.S.*</td>
<td>Rep/$200</td>
<td>6 mo/$500</td>
<td>Up to 1 yr/up to $1000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### X. Circumvention of Suspension

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Offense</th>
<th>Mitigated</th>
<th>Standard</th>
<th>Aggravated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Circumvention of Suspension*</td>
<td>Rep/Double Original Fine</td>
<td>Double Original Suspension and Fine</td>
<td>Up to life/up to $5000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Aiding and abetting the circumvention of an AKC suspension of registration or all privileges (All Privileges)*</td>
<td>Rep/$500</td>
<td>5 yr/$1000</td>
<td>Up to Life/up to $5000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Aiding and abetting the circumvention of an AKC suspension of event privileges (Event Suspension)</td>
<td>Rep/$500</td>
<td>6 mo/$1000</td>
<td>Up to 1 yr/up to $5000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

4 If now living within the U.S., six months; if residents are still outside of the U.S., indefinite, with an application for reinstatement upon return of the U.S.
Definitions of Offenses

**Abuse:**  Improper treatment which could cause serious injury to an animal.

**Cruelty:**  Conscious action or inaction that may endanger life or cause serious health consequences to animals.

**Harassment:**  Inappropriate comments, conduct and/or contact regarding but not limited to race, color, religion, disability, national origin, age, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, or are sexual in nature.

**Improper Treatment:**  Inappropriate treatment or handling of an animal not likely to cause serious injury, e.g. excessive or harsh discipline/training.

**Neglect:**  Inadequate care or voluntary inattention to basic needs, ignoring the safety and well-being of animals because of haste or ignorance.
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## 2011

1. February  
   - Timer Console Versions/Abilities (with contribution from David Nauer) (2011-02-08 15:38)  

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## 2012

1. April  
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   - Wing Measuring (2012-04-08 14:43)  
   - Menacing Incident Write-Ups (2012-04-08 14:46)  

2. May  
   - Slip ‘n Hook Collars (2012-05-08 14:11)  

3. June  
   - Judge’s Path 20 foot Maximum Changed for Dog Walk; Obstacles between Contacts and Judge’s Path (2012-06-01 10:07)  
   - Time-2-Beat Courses Must Be Unique (2012-06-01 13:40)  

## 2013

1. April  
   - Side Switches at a tunnel (2013-04-26 14:41)  
   - Titles, Breeder, Sire and Dam not required (2013-04-26 14:41)  
   - Off-Course called; on or off-leash (2013-04-26 14:41)  

2. May  
   - 12B - Multiple Courses Ok on Same Day (2013-05-09 16:47)  

3. June  
   - Hair Tie Back Policy - rubber bands (2013-06-20 15:42)  

4. August  
   - Break-Away Tire - Calibration (2013-08-28 14:18)  

## 2014

1. February  
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2. July  
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3. August  
   - Ordering Judge Copies of the Regs and Guidelines (2014-08-05 10:14)  

## 2015
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Links</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>Judging Bi-Directional Obstacles in Premier - updated 10/7/15 (2015-10-06 07:26)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>Premier Update (2016-04-04 13:12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>ACT Course Submittals (2016-05-24 11:05)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>Exhibitors with Disabilities (2016-07-25 13:14)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>Judge Liability Coverage (2016-08-02 15:35)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>Late Summer News and Updates (Premier and What if's) (2016-09-02 10:48)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>Fall Specials: Run Out Lines and Premier Challenges (2016-10-19 12:27)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FAST Just Got Faster! (2016-10-26 14:10)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>Helpul Hints: Accepting a Judging Assignment. (2017-01-23 08:36)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>New Regulation on Change of Entry (measurements) (2017-01-31 12:22)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>Equipment Updates and Changes (2017-03-07 15:35)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>Day of Show Change of Entry Due to Measurement (2017-05-04 17:06)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fast Update's and More! (2017-05-18 14:53)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Equipment: Ascening Double Bar Jump (2017-05-30 14:15)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>New Premier JWW times and Trial Software Updates (2017-06-05 14:17)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>AKC Statement Regarding Dog Flu and Best Practices (2017-06-09 10:10)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>AKC Announces Junior Recognition Program (2017-06-27 13:21)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>Breaking News! The AKC Agility Judge apparel store is Now Open. (2017-07-31 13:16)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>August Judges Re-education Recap (2017-08-15 08:17)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>August Rep Meeting Re-cap: Part 1 (2017-08-28 08:31)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>August Rep Meeting Re-cap: Part 2 Premier (2017-09-05 06:41)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>August Rep Meeting Re-cap: Part 3 Misc. (2017-09-11 04:00)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Updates: 270's &amp; Photo's in the Ring (2017-09-26 14:12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>New AKC Regulation Changes starting 1/2/2018 (2017-11-28 15:45)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>Season Greetings and Best Wishes for the New Year (2017-12-19 15:30)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Premier Eligibility and Measuring updates (2018-01-17 16:00)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A Must Read! Judges Guidelines Change Summary (2018-01-29 04:00)

8.2 February
Updated Regulations effective May 1, 2018 (2018-02-20 16:00)

8.3 April
May 1 Regulation changes and clarifications (2018-04-25 16:00)

8.4 May
Handler Touching Equipment (2018-05-30 16:00)

8.5 June
New judges from 2018 seminar (2018-06-25 01:35)

8.6 July
FAST: Bidirectional Obstacles in the Send (2018-07-03 16:00)

8.7 August
2018 AKC Agility Advisory Committee (2018-08-01 13:00)
Judges Re-education update (2018-08-14 15:00)

8.8 September
Premier Challenge updates (2018-09-05 16:00)
Course Design Requirements template is redesigned! (2018-09-19 15:00)
FAST Design: One Jump Start (2018-09-26 14:00)

8.9 October
Day of Agility Trial Checklist (2018-10-31 13:40)

8.10 November
To Post or Not to Post (2018-11-13 13:30)
Update to Definition of Family for Judging Purposes (2018-11-16 13:46)
Let’s Talk Tunnels! (2018-11-28 16:00)

9.2019

9.1 January
FAST: Start Line vs. One Jump Start (2019-01-21 16:00)

9.2 February
Let’s Talk Dog Walks! (2019-02-20 12:31)

9.3 March
CRCD updated: version 4.31 (2019-03-04 13:44)

9.4 April

9.5 May
Contacts and Judging paths (2019-05-28 09:16)

9.6 June
Approved at May 2019 AKC Board Meeting (2019-06-20 09:23)
NEW judges from 2019 seminar (2019-06-30 19:57)

9.7 July
Dogs with Artificial Coloring (2019-07-18 14:41)
Weave Pole Changes January 1, 2020 (2019-07-29 09:06)

9.8 September
For Exhibition Only (FEO) & Fix and Go On Approved (Part 1) (2019-09-04 13:30)
For Exhibition Only (FEO) & Fix and Go On (Part 2) - Judging Information (2019-09-04 13:45)

9.9 October
Agility Regulations 8-1-2019 added to reference section. (2019-10-08 11:11)
Correction to the Agility Regulations last blog post (2019-10-08 12:55)
AKC Agility Design Criteria Updated (2019-10-17 12:32)
9.10 November

- FAST video review for points (2019-11-04 13:02)
- Premier Design and Judging notes (2019-11-18 05:30)

9.11 December

- Updated Regulations for Agility Trials (2019-12-03 14:51)
- Fix and Go (FNG) and For Exhibition Only (FEO) (2019-12-09 13:21)

10 2020

10.1 January
- Questions Answered on FEO and FNG (2020-01-30 09:13)

10.2 February
- Feedback received, Questions answered! FEO, FNG and tunnels (2020-02-25 17:33)

10.3 March
- Changes to Agility Regs through April 30 (2020-03-13 12:54)
- Update to Trial Closing Dates and Emergency Judge Replacements (2020-03-20 13:18)
1. 2011

1.1 February

Timer Console Versions/Abilities (with contribution from David Nauer) (2011-02-08 15:38)

The Timer Console version may be found by turning on the console, then watching the Status Display screen in the lower left hand corner. The second screen of information (after Initializing ...) will be "POLARIS Rev #. #". The number displayed is that timer's version number.

Many clubs do not update their version until required (like when FAST came). One significant add in V2.9 allows you to leave the time display panel on during FAST. The display will turn to "go" – actually 60 – when the "go" button is pressed, then the entire panel will go blank when the dog's run starts by pressing the black button. Then, when the finish obstacle is taken the display comes back on showing the dog's time. This is great if you can be in a position to see it at the start because you can tell if your timer has pressed the button when the dog starts – if you see something on the display and the dog is running you can stop it because it is a timer malfunction.

The brand new V3.0 has now created a new category for count down. In the advanced menu you can set both a count down time period (usually 8 or 10 minutes) and a "Post-count down" time period – which you should set to 5 minutes. When in use the countdown timing works just as normal but at 0.00 the buzzer sounds twice and the timer starts counting UP. The idea is at the buzzer the exhibitors should clear the ring and that 5 minutes is "first dog on the line". Cool stuff.

V3.0 also changes the setting of the automated table timer count default from continuous to restart in order to match up with our current AKC Regulations.

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1.2 September

Judges' Liability Insurance (2011-09-08 15:01)

The judges' liability insurance covers judges in their capacity as a judge at AKC events, which means while officiating in the ring. This insurance is provided if an exhibitor sues them for excusing or disqualifying a dog for some reason that the exhibitor disagrees with, injuring a dog in some way, and any issue that takes place in their ring. This insurance does not cover any issues of injuries while traveling or for that matter in the ring. It only protects the judge from being sued by exhibitors while performing their function as a judge. A flyer with additional information from the insurance broker may be found here: [1]http://classic.akc.org/pdfs/events/agility/judges _liability _coverage.pdf
Tunnel Measuring and Wheeling (2012-04-08 14:35)

*Correct

[2]
In addition, when reviewing your course in the field, please assure that the tunnels in-use have been stretched out so that your wheeling is accurate and also to prevent movement of the tunnel. A tunnel may not be "squished" to accommodate a smaller size; that creates a dangerous situation for the dogs running through the tunnel.

1. [http://akcagilityjudges.files.wordpress.com/2013/05/untitled-21.jpg](http://akcagilityjudges.files.wordpress.com/2013/05/untitled-21.jpg)
2. [http://akcagilityjudges.files.wordpress.com/2013/05/untitled4.jpg](http://akcagilityjudges.files.wordpress.com/2013/05/untitled4.jpg)

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**Wing Measuring** *(2012-04-08 14:43)*

*Regulations for Agility Trials*, Chapter 3, Section 3.13 further states: Jump Wings. Jump wings must be between 16- and 36-inches wide (24-inches recommended). Wings must be between 26- and 42-inches tall and can be angled. Wings may either be freestanding or attached to the upright of a jump. It is recommended that wings be placed at the rear of the triple bar jump (e.g. even with the highest bar) and at the mid-section of a double bar jump (since the double may be bi-directional). The combined width of a bar jump's upright and wing may be no more than a maximum of 40-inches.

NOTE: A +/- 2-inch variance to the above 16-inch minimum will be added shortly to this section of the Agility Regs, allowing for a 14 to 38 inch wide range.
(Wing measures 20.5 inches)
Measuring of a wing is performed from a bar jump’s upright edge where the cups exist (but the measurement does not include the cup itself) to the outer edge of the wing. Note in the picture how the upright pole of the jump is included when measuring this wing that is attached. The same applies if the wing is free-standing.

1. http://akcagilityjudges.files.wordpress.com/2013/05/untitled5.jpg
Menacing Incident Write-Ups (2012-04-08 14:46)

Please write up your description of who and what occurred in the Comments section of your Judge's Post-Show web form report. This helps us keep the details of the trial and the incident in one document. Please do not send your write-up in a separate email.

2.2 May

Slip 'n Hook Collars (2012-05-08 14:11)

Chapter 4, Section 9 of the Regulations for Agility Trials states:

Collars. At the handler’s option, dogs may run a course with or without a collar. The only collars allowed when running a course are flat buckle or rolled leather collars, but there shall be no attachments hanging or otherwise allowed on the collar.

The collar pictured below is not acceptable as the loose ring is considered an attachment. A dog may be brought to the line wearing this collar so long as it is removed prior to the dog starting its run.

[1]
It is now permissible for your judge's path at the dog walk to start at the juncture where the middle and down-ramp boards meet, thus you must only be within the maximum 20 feet during the down-ramp section of the dog walk. (See diagrams)

Obstacles may not be in-between your judging path and the judged contact zones of any contact obstacle where you may need to be able to get “in” to be in proper position. Although 20 feet is the stated maximum, you must always keep in mind when designing courses that individual runs may require you to move in closer. (See diagrams)
1. http://akcagilityjudges.files.wordpress.com/2012/06/untitled1.jpg
2. http://akcagilityjudges.files.wordpress.com/2012/06/untitled2.jpg
Time-2-Beat Courses Must Be Unique (2012-06-01 13:40)

Chapter 3 – Course Design, Section 1 – Course Design Responsibilities, of the
AKC Agility Judges Guidelines states:
The AKC encourages variety in its course designs, thereby ensuring agility exhibitors a truly unique experience each
time they enter the ring.

Please remember when designing T2B courses, that although the T2B course may be nested to another course, it
has to be different enough that the exhibitor doesn’t feel as though they are running the standard or JWW course all
over again.
Changing a few obstacles but keeping the flow predominately unchanged is not acceptable.

Changing the direction that some obstacles are taken, reversing the course or changing the side from which a
sequence is likely to be handled are easy solutions to this that still allow the T2B course to be nested.
3. 2013

3.1 April

Side Switches at a tunnel (2013-04-26 14:41)

When looking at side switches – if a dog is picked up coming out of a tunnel on the same hand on which the dog was put into the tunnel, no side switch is counted.

Titles, Breeder, Sire and Dam not required (2013-04-26 14:41)

Titles, Breeder, Sire, and Dam are not required to be listed on the exhibitor’s confirmation letter, in the catalog, or in the marked catalog results.

Off-Course called; on or off-leash (2013-04-26 14:41)

A dog that engage (one paw) an off course obstacle prior to the dog starting its run has committed a Wrong Course, regardless if the dog is on leash or off leash. The Regulations for Agility Trials do not specify that dogs have to be off leash for this to be called.
3.2 May

T2B - Multiple Courses Ok on Same Day (2013-05-09 16:47)

Effective immediately, it is ok for a club to ask two judges to design separate T2B courses for use during their trial date. Prior permission from AKC’s Director of Agility is no longer required.

Many clubs have chosen to split the running of T2B into two, separate rings, based on jump height groups. This change will allow the T2B course in each ring to better nest to the classes preceding or following.

3.3 June

Hair Tie Back Policy - rubber bands (2013-06-20 15:42)

This topic was originally published in June 2003. We had requests for the pictures to be put in the blog for reference.

Chapter 4, Section 11 of the Regulations for Agility Trials, states:

Section 11. Hair Tie Back Policy. Any dog whose hair over its eyes interferes with its vision, or whose hair on its ears interferes with the safe performance of the obstacles, may have the hair tied back with rubber bands.

The fabric-coated type of bands are acceptable however the "scrunchie" type of bands are not considered a "rubber band".

Below are examples of acceptable "rubber bands":

[1]
Below are examples of unacceptable "rubber bands":

[2]

A judge may ask the exhibitor to untie the dog’s hair if he/she wishes to verify that the dog does not have any medical attachments (i.e. stitches, bandages, etc).
3.4 August

**Break-Away Tire - Calibration (2013-08-28 14:18)**

Tire Calibration:

In order to properly calibrate the tire, one side of the tire has to be firmly secured to the frame. Replace the bungee or elastic strap with a non-elastic strap (a dog leash would do in a hurry). After one side of the tire has been secured, use the provided fish scale to gently pull the segments apart.

Once you are satisfied that the tire meets the required 16-20 lbs. requirement, secure the tire to the frame with the provided strap or elastic band. Leave them loose enough as to not apply any additional pressure on the tire.

Judging Position:

Judges will still be required to be in the proper position to see that the tire has been broken apart. You must physically see the tire come apart and not rely on any sound to justify a fault. Please refer to the JG diagram 3.3.1 (page 112) for the proper judging position of the tire.
We have received many requests to clarify the regulation regarding a dog exiting the ring off leash as found in Chapter 5, Section 6. Mandatory Excusals #14 of the Regulations for Agility Trials. Please review the following:

If a dog has exited the ring with all 4 paws prior to being on leash they are considered to have left the ring without a leash and an "E" must be called. Once all 4 paws are over the plane of the ring barrier the dog has left the ring. Judges can set up teams for success by placing their last obstacle further back than 20' and managing where the leash holder is set. Many judges will use a set-up as shown in Example A. This design makes it harder for handlers to keep dogs inside of the ring. Placing the leash holder next to the opening for the exit makes it hard for handlers and dogs to leave the ring safely. By moving the leash holder as shown in circle it can help to mitigate the risk. Example B makes it easier for handlers to leash up their dogs and keep them from exiting the ring without a leash. Not all course designs make this setup possible, but when it can be done it increases the likelihood of success.

Remember this regulation was added to increase the safety for both dogs exiting after a run and those walking by the rings. Many trials are in very tight settings and create a stressful environment for dogs. Having dogs on leash prior to leaving the ring was developed to help give the dogs and handlers a safer more comfortable environment.

Clubs may use gates for their entrance and exits. These gates may be self-closing. Gates may be opened or closed by ring crew at the clubs discretion. It is still ultimately the exhibitor’s responsibility to maintain control of
their dog and leave the ring with the dog on leash.

If you have any questions please contact your Agility Field Rep or the Director of Agility.

1. http://akcagilityjudges.files.wordpress.com/2014/02/ring-exits.gif

4.2 July

Setting Bar Jumps for 4" Height (2014-07-15 08:26)

When setting bar jumps with 2 bars for the 4" height if the jump legs prevent the bottom bar from being placed directly under the top bar then remove the bottom bar. To place it either in front of or behind the top bar on the ground creates a spread jump which is not the intent of the bar jump.

4.3 August

Ordering Judge Copies of the Regs and Guidelines (2014-08-05 10:14)

Updated 5-3-2019

AKC licensed judges may order a free copy of the Regulations by contacting AKC’s Customer Service at 919-233-9767. You will need to provide your AKC judge’s number.

When ordering, reference the following booklet names and identifying info:

Regulations for Agility Trials (REAGIL)

You can download the Judges Guidelines from the AKC website or this blog in the reference section.
5.  2015

5.1  October

Remember when judging bi-directional obstacles in Premier you do not judge refusals or run outs. The images below will help illustrate some possible situations you may see in your course design. If you have any questions about a specific bi-directional obstacle on your course design please check with your reviewing Rep.

Thank you for all your help and questions as we introduce this class.

Carrie & Gail, Doug, Mark, Rhonda, Terri, Lisa & Steve

(click on each image to open enlarged)

[1]
Figure 1: #2 Bi tunnel is a bidirectional obstacle. Dog completes jump #1. Dog enters the top of the tunnel. The dog comes out of the tunnel and immediately reenters the completed tunnel and completes jump #3. What is the call? The only fault is a W (Wrong course) because the dog reentered the completed tunnel with one or more paws.

Figure 2: #2Bi jump, is a bidirectional obstacle. Dog completes jump #1. Dog completes near side of #2Bi jump. Dog turns left, completes #2Bi jump again and completes #3 jump. Call is W (Wrong course).

Figure 3: #2Bi jump is a bidirectional obstacle. Dog goes under the #2Bi jump. Dog backjumps and completes #2Bi. Dog completes #3 jump. No call as the dog did not complete #2Bi successfully on the first attempt. R's (runouts/refusals) are not called on a bidirectional obstacle.

Figure 4: #2Bi tunnel is a bidirectional obstacle. Dog completes jump #1. Dog enters the tunnel and immediately comes out of the tunnel without completing the tunnel. Dog then goes past top tunnel entrance and turns right. Dog enters top of tunnel, exits and completes the tunnel and completes jump #3. What is the call? No call because the #2Bi tunnel is not considered complete until the dog enters the tunnel with all 4 paws in one direction and exits the opposite end with all 4 paws.
Figure 5: #2Bi is bidirectional obstacle. Dog completes jump #1. Dog enters top tunnel entrance. Dog completes the tunnel by exiting the opposite end of the tunnel. The dog immediately goes back into the tunnel and exits at top of tunnel. The handler immediately sends the dog back in tunnel and executes jump #3. Call is W and whistle for training in the ring (see explanation in text box).

Figure 6: #2Bi is a bidirectional obstacle. The dog completes jump #1. Dog completes near side of #2Bi. Dog backjumps #2Bi. Handler immediately sends dog back over near side of #2Bi and executes 3. Call is W and whistle for training in the ring (see explanation in text box).

Remember a whistle for training in the ring may be indicated: Handlers who purposely send their dog back one or more obstacles after making a mistake so that the dog can reattempt (sequence) the portion of the course where the error occurred again. This action is adding to the course length and time for the sole purpose of training the area where the dog had the problem. To aid in the assessment of this action, judge whether the handler is trying to get to the correct next obstacle in the fastest way possible. If they are sending the dog away from the next obstacle after the error instead of moving toward it, this may give you an idea as to whether they may be trying to reattempt a certain sequence again.

1. https://akcagilityjudges.files.wordpress.com/2015/10/premier-bidirect11.png
6. 2016

6.1 April

Premier Update (2016-04-04 13:12)

There is a minor change to the Premier Design document. The change is underlined on the document. Included in the PDF is also an updated Challenges document that has this change so you have all in one place.

Thank you to everyone who has designed for and judged Premier. We appreciate the feedback we have received.

Carrie, Gail, Doug, Mark, Rhonda, Arlene, Terri, Lisa, Kitty & Steve

[1] Premier Design 040416 fulldoc


6.2 May

ACT Course Submittals (2016-05-24 11:05)

All courses for ACT should be submitted to act@akc.org please, not your regular reviewing Field Rep. As such, the courses will not only get reviewed, but will also be added to the ACT vault for future use.

6.3 July

Exhibitors with Disabilities (2016-07-25 13:14)

If you receive a request from an exhibitor for an exception to the Regulations for Agility Trials please be aware they can request a permanent exception by following the process outlined at [1]Participants with Disabilities. You can direct them to email us at [2]agility@akc.org and they will be given this information. Please contact an Agility Field Representative if you are at a trial and have any questions. If you are unable to reach us please use your good judgement to accommodate the exhibitor and put the information including the exhibitors name and their dog’s AKC
registration information into your judges report for us to follow up on.

**Exhibitors that receive an exception receive the following instruction:**

“In consideration of the event committee, they need to be made aware of this accommodation. You can include a copy of this letter along with your entry and you should take this letter with you to the event in which you are entered in order to inform the event chair or secretary and the judge prior to the beginning of the class that you will be allowed this accommodation.”

As judges you are not required to see the letter prior to their run. If you have any questions please go ahead and let them run, then ask for the letter. If they say they have one but it is not with them then send in your report the name of the handler and their dog’s AKC information. We will follow up.

Thank you for all you do for the agility program. There are so many pieces to the puzzle.

2. mailto:agility@akc.org

6.4 August

**Judge Liability Coverage (2016-08-02 15:35)**

Two PDF documents have been posted on the Agility Judging Resources web page, They are entitled:

Judges Accidental Injury Coverage

[1] Judges_Group_Accident_Flyer

Judges Liability Coverage


Please review both documents; advise your reviewing Field Rep if you have any questions.

updated 5-3-2019

Late Summer News and Updates (Premier and What if’s) (2016-09-02 10:48)

Premier wheeling no longer required.

Thanks to all of you that helped us collect data on the course times for Premier Standard and JWW. We now have enough data to analyze the course times and make an informed decision. Many thanks for your help!

Required judging distance to table has changed.

We have changed the required distance to 20’, same as the Dog walk, Seesaw and A-frame.

Premier Course Submission requirements:

On all Premier course submissions we are now requiring that the Premier challenges be listed in a copy block on the course map for approval. It helps us better understand what you intended the challenges to be.

See attached example:
What-If's While Judging!

Here are the answers to this months hot topics. Please feel free to contact your rep if you have questions and we will try our best to find the answer.
Judge's back is turned when dog starts the course:

A question has come up regarding the following scenario:

The judge's back is turned while fixing a tunnel between runs. The handler on the start line still has the dog on leash, and the dog jumps up and knocks the first jump down. When the judge turns around, one of the bar setters is setting the jump.

In this case, no call is made. Please remember you cannot call what you don’t see.

For the same scenario but with the judge in position to see the fault, the F is called and the handler cannot lead out because the dog has already started the course (see p.73-74 in the Judges Guidelines).

Dog leaves ring without leash.

We recently had some questions on what call to make when a dog finishes the course and runs out of the ring when the gate is left open before the handler gets the leash on. That’s a mandatory excusal. See Dogs Leaving The Ring Off Leash in the February 20, 2014 Blog entry:

Here is an excerpt from that judge's blog: If a dog has exited the ring with all 4 feet prior to being leashed they are considered to have left the ring without a leash and an “E” must be called. Once all paws are over the plane of the ring barrier the dog has left the ring. Please read the entire rule description. We ask that all judges be consistent in calling this.

6.6 October

Fall Specials: Run Out Lines and Premier Challenges (2016-10-19 12:27)

In this issue of the blog we are going to discuss run out lines as they pertain to both design and judging and we'll be offering some new Premier challenge ideas for you to think about using in your course designs.

Run Out Lines:

With the many creative design approaches we are seeing in Premier classes we want to review run out lines from both a design and a judging perspective. In your design process you need to understand where a run out line occurs and whether it meets the criteria of 15' from the expected direct path of the dog to the ROL. In the judging process you need to make sure you understand where those critical ROL's are so you can be in position to judge them. Being in position to judge means you need to be able to see the ROL and any part of the dog that might cross it.

PDF here: [1]roldefine1-agl
ROL (run out line)-The run-out line is intended to mark the point at which a dog can no longer properly engage the obstacle without turning back on its path. It is defined as a line that passes across the front edge of all obstacles except the pause table, weave poles, and contact obstacles.

On the weave poles, the run-out line is interpreted as passing perpendicular to the weave poles to the left of the first pole and to the right of the second pole.
Examples of Run Out Lines

Run out called once dog crosses ROL with all 4 paws (This design element would not be approved because there is not 15' to the ROL of #2)

Run out not called until dog is on the approach side(4) with all 4 paws.

Jumps set parallel for a threadle, no ROL issue.

Jump #7 set to 15' of the ROL. Correct distance.

PDF Here: [3]rolexamples_wp3-corrected-agl
More Premier Challenge ideas:

We are seeing some great Premier courses from many of you and are getting very positive feedback from the teams running Premier. More and more clubs are adding it. Many thanks for introducing and making Premier a popular class. We are celebrating its one-year birthday!
Many have been asking for some new design ideas to help keep Premier interesting. Here are some additional ideas for you to think about incorporating into your designs. We also welcome new ideas from you. If you have something you would like to try, contact your rep to discuss it and get feedback on whether it would work as a Premier challenge.

Thanks to all of you for your hard work. We appreciate all you do for AKC and the sport of agility.


FAST Just Got Faster! (2016-10-26 14:10)

Beginning January 3, 2017 the FAST Class has been revised allowing clubs to offer one course that Novice, Open and Ex/Masters can walk and compete in. The goal is to reduce the amount of time that it takes to build separate courses and do multiple walk-throughs. It also allows more flexibility in the way the Sends can be designed.
At the club’s discretion any of 3 levels courses may be combined into one course with embedded Sends (which will allow one course build and walk through for all levels); or may be run as separate courses.

Following is a summary of the changes as well as design illustrations. Please note for courses that are in progress or approved the only changes that could affect those courses is the elimination of the tire and the requirement of 9-12 weave poles for Novice. If you have any questions please contact your rep.

OK, I’ll admit, this is a BIG Blog Post with a lot of illustrations. Many thanks to the judges and reps that helped with this project. So pull up chair, get your favorite beverage and get to know the revised FAST design criteria.

New Send Distances in Open & Excellent/Master: We allow more flexibility is the distances from the Send line for these classes.

- **Novice** – 2 obstacles required at a minimum distance of 5’ to a maximum distance of 10’
- **Open** – 2 or 3 obstacles are required at a minimum distance of 5’ to a maximum distance of 20’ depending on the number of obstacles used. If only 2 obstacles are used in the send then one of the obstacles must be between 10’ and 15’. If 3 obstacles are used then at least one obstacle must be between 10’ and 15’. No more than one obstacle may be less than 10’ and no more than one obstacle can be greater than 15’.
- **Excellent/Master** – 3 obstacles are required at a minimum distance of 5’ to a maximum distance of 25’ with a change of direction or obstacle discrimination. No more than one obstacle may be less than 15’ and no more than one obstacle may be greater than 20’.

Additional changes:

- All class levels will be allowed to walk together (club’s option) with Send lines noted for each level
- All obstacle point values will remain the same for the different class levels
- 9 to 12 weaves poles will be required in all levels of FAST
- Running Order – Should be what works best for the club. Separate rings, walks, together, by jump height, by class, etc.
- The Send’s can be embedded all together or there can be multiple Send lines on the course. Two levels could be embedded with the 3rd in another area of the course if so desired. (Only 2 separate Send areas on any one course.) See figures 1-7.
- 3 tunnel passes will be allowed in FAST, however, only 2 tunnel passes in any one Send
- Point value structure for the Send remains the same. Minimum of 5 points and maximum of 15 points.
- Combos can be used and noted with one point value as follows:
  - **Excellent/Master**: 2 to 3 obstacles must be executed properly in a specified order
  - **Open**: 2 to 3 obstacles must be executed properly in a specified order, or any single obstacle within the combo can be taken for points if the combo is not included for Open
  - **Novice**: 2 obstacles must be executed as specified or any single obstacle within the combo can be taken for points if the combo is not included for Novice
- Once any of the obstacles are engaged within the combo, the combo is live. If any faults occur prior to the successful completion of the required number of obstacles the combo is negated. (This no change from previous but an example of using combos and changing by levels in embedded courses.) See Figure 1

- One dual pointed obstacle is allowed on the course. If the dual pointed obstacle is in the body of the course it must be bi-directional (different point values for the two different directions.) If the dual pointed obstacle is used in the Send it may be unidirectional with the first pass getting the higher value and the second pass getting the lower. See Figure 2,5,7.

- A tunnel and only a tunnel in the Send portion of the course may be done a second time without an obstacle in between. This second consecutive pass MUST be in the same entry end of the tunnel. They can NOT come out of tunnel and then turn around and re-enter the same end they just exited. See figure 5.

- The finish obstacle may be POINTED. If the finish obstacle is pointed it MUST be a jump and bi-directional. A tunnel can be used as a finish obstacle but may NOT be pointed. See Figure 1 and 3.

- The Tire is NOT allowed on the course
NOV SEND #5 to #10 OR #10 to #5
OPN SEND #10 (square) to #3
EX SEND #3 to #10 to #2 (NOTE: Higher point value on the first time through)

This is an example of all 3 levels embedded into the same Send

Dual Pointed obstacle in same direction.
Figure 3

Excellent/Master
Send = 3 - 1 - 6 (Dark #)

Open
Send = 3 - 1 - 4 (Dark #)

Example of an Open/EX embedded Send

Pointed finish obstacle

Exit

Figure 4 PDF:[4]fast-course-4-agl
40
Figure 5a
X/M send is 3-5-2
Open send is 3-5
(Notice higher value first)

Figure 5b
X/M send is 6-7-2
Open send is 6-7
Novice send is 4-7 (in flow)

Figure 5c
XM send is 7-5-2 (circles)
Open send is 7-5 (circles)
Novice send is 7-5 OR 5-7 (squares)

Examples of embedded Sends using the tunnel
Figure 6 PDF:[7]fast-course-7-agl

Ideas for embedded Sends

Novice Send is 4-6
Open Send is 4-6-3 (round 3)
X/M Send is 4-7-3 (square 3)
SEND
NOVICE- 6-5 squares (handled behind closest send line)
OPEN- 6-5-2 squares (handled behind closest send line)
MASTER/EXCELLENT- 5-2-1 circles Handler must remain behind the far send line until the dog lands on the ground with all 4 paws completing #6 pointed jump.

Example of an embedded Send and a Dual Pointed obstacle
7. 2017

7.1 January

Helpful Hints: Accepting a Judging Assignment. (2017-01-23 08:36)

Helpful Hints When Accepting Judging Assignments

1. Make sure you have a signed agreement for ALL your judging assignments. Here is a list of some items to include in your agreement.
   (a) Trial dates.
   (b) Names and contact information of committee members you are to communicate with for transportation, lodging, airline, site dimensions, equipment etc.
   (c) Judging fees, cancellation fees
   (d) If at all possible classes to be judged.
   (e) Judge's contact information.
   (f) Your emergency contact information.

2. Clubs are required to submit application into AKC within 18 weeks of the trial start date. By that time you can ask for a Premium (most trial secretaries and Club’s provide links to Premiums on their websites). The trial should also be available on AKC’s event site for review.

3. If pertinent trial information cannot be obtained 45 days prior to the trial let a Rep know and they will be glad to step in and help.

4. If there are any discrepancies between the Premium and AKC’s event page contact the trial Chair and/or Secretary.

5. A trial secretary is required to send a confirmation within 7 days prior to the first day of the event. Secretaries are not always forthright in sending confirmations to their judges. As a judge, be proactive and ask for the confirmation so you can verify classes to judge and the judging schedule.

6. On occasion the classes listed in the confirmation are different than the Premium and AKC’s event site. If this is the case please notify your rep or Carrie ASAP.

7. Sometimes it is tough to schedule times for outgoing flights at the end of the trial. You should always book flights that give you plenty of time to complete your assignment without pushing the Club. The AKC event search can be very helpful in determining the end time of a trial. Search past events for that Club and see what the past entry numbers were. This will help determine an estimated end time.

8. Anytime a course has to be designed on the fly or changed significantly, you MUST contact a Rep. and the course MUST be approved.

9. Periodically check the AKC website's searchable judges index to see past, present and future trials. You might just see yourself assigned a trial that you are not aware of or see another judge’s name where you expected to see yours.
New Regulation on Change of Entry (measurements) (2017-01-31 12:22)

New regulation effective on February 1st, 2017

Chapter 1, Section 21. Change of Entry

“If a VMO or Field Representative at a trial measures a dog into a height other than what they entered, the entry may be changed from Regular to Preferred or from Preferred to Regular, if the dog has not run any classes that day. If the dog has already run, the change may be made for the next trial day(s). The exhibitor must provide the Trial Secretary the AKC Agility Measurement Form when requesting the class change.”

FAQ’s for Changing a Dog’s Jump Height and Class after Closing

Q: If a dog has 3 runs scheduled in a day, can that dog change from Regular to Preferred or Preferred to Regular based on a measurement by a VMO or a Field Rep after they’ve already completed one run?

A: No, but they can move the following day or for any trials that have closed if the trial secretary is notified in writing at least 30 minutes prior to the start of the trial day. Showing the measurement form is required and is considered notifying the trial secretary in writing.

Q: What if a measurement is the first one of a set of challenge measurements, can the dog be moved?

A: No. A dog can however be moved at the point that the dog has 2 challenge measurements in the same jump height as evidenced by providing the yellow form(s). At that point the challenge process is completed and based on that last measurement they can then be moved according to the regulations.

Q: Can a judge of record move a dog from Regular to Preferred or Preferred to Regular based on their measurement for the day or weekend?

A: No, they cannot. There is no paper trail or record filled out and tracked when a measurement is done by a non-VMO judge.
7.2 March

Equipment Updates and Changes (2017-03-07 15:35)

Based on input received by the AKC Agility Advisory Committee changes have been made to the equipment that updates specifications, increases equipment consistency and adds two new optional jumps that may be used on courses. All changes may be made during this year, but are required to be completed by January 2, 2018. Many clubs already have equipment that is in alignment with the regulation updates. The exception to these changes are the new table heights. The new table heights [1]0217 Table Heights Chapter 3 Section 4 insert are effective January 2, 2018 and MUST NOT be used prior to that date.

Notable changes effective Jan 2, 2018 and are currently legal [2]0217 Equipment Changes Chapter 3 insert Corrected (corrected 4/10/2017)

- **Contact Equipment** - all contact zones must be yellow
- **Seesaw** - Change in tolerance for pivot point from 2 inches to 1 inch
- **Table** - Requires table top and edge to be in contrast to the running surface
- **Open Tunnel** - Change in diameter tolerance to 25 inches (+/-) 2 inches to allow for larger tunnels
- **Weave Poles** - ground supports may not be longer than 18 inches
- **Bar Jumps** - Uprights must be displaceable. Jumps that are a single welded metal piece may no longer be used due to this change. Metal uprights that stand alone are still allowed. PVC Jumps may not have jump standards and ground bars glued together as one unit. It is recommended that ground bars not be used at all.
- **Bar Jumps** - Jump bars may not be glued, riveted or screwed together to make a bar. Jump bars may not contain any moving metal parts or have anything inserted into the middle of the bar. If the bar has end caps they must be flush with the bar and not exceed the diameter.
- **Jump cups** - Jump bars must fit into the jump cups so that they follow the contour of the cup. This change disallows the use of the v-shaped metal cups.
- **Panel Jump** - Panels must fit into a rounded jump cup. Flat supports are no longer allowed.
- **Double Jump** - Confirms how to set the 4-inch double
- **Tire Jump** - Allows for use of the flat bottom support on the frame. Confirms how jump must be set if the frame does not have a flat bottom support for the 4” and 8” settings.
- **Broad Jump** - All broad jumps must use 8 inch boards. As of Jan 2, 2018 6 inch board will not be allowed.
- **NEW Ascending Double Bar Jump (optional)** - The jump specifications allow for the use of a current AKC Double jump that the vertical jump cups on the back.
- **NEW Wall Jump (optional)**

If a VMO or Field Representative at a trial measures a dog into a height other than what they entered, the entry may be changed from Regular to Preferred or from Preferred to Regular, as long as the dog has not run any classes that day. If the dog has already run, the change may be made for the next trial day(s). The exhibitor must provide the Trial Secretary the AKC Agility Measurement Form when requesting the class change.

We have received a couple of questions about the above regulation change that allows dogs to change classes the day of the show based on a measurement by a VMO or a Rep. Please review this information and let us know if you have any questions not covered here. Thank you for helping the exhibitors with these changes.

**If a dog is entered in Regular and the handler wants to move to Preferred:**

- They can move to Novice Preferred if they have no Preferred Titles

**OR**

- They can use their one-time crossover to the level they are at in Regular (Chapter 8, Section 4. Classes)

**If a dog is entered in Preferred and the handler wants to move to Regular:**

- They MUST move to the level they are eligible to compete at. If they have no legs/titles in the Regular class, they MUST start at the Novice level.
- If they have any legs or titles in Regular it does not matter what height they were earned at, they may move to the class level that they are eligible to compete in.
- There are NO lateral moves from Preferred to Regular.
The agility season is in full swing and we’ve had a few rules that need clarification: The first clarification listed below addresses muzzled dogs. The second addresses the new combined FAST and FAST in general.

**Collars Not Allowed on Show Grounds**: Remember, head halters, muzzles, and other illegal collars are not allowed anywhere on the show grounds and that includes measuring a dog. You can refer to that in the Regulations for Agility Trials CH 4, Section 9. Although not mentioned specifically muzzles would be considered a training collar.

**FAST**: We want to thank all of you for making the new FAST a successful and smooth transition. Please remember: Obstacles in FAST must be numbered on your course designs unless they are non-pointed obstacles. This includes the 6 one-point jumps. Even though they are not on the course when you are judging they are needed for the course review, competitor and course builder maps.

We have also added clarification to the use of the dual pointed unidirectional obstacle. Please read the following clarification of that rule.

When using a unidirectional dual pointed obstacle in the Send bonus, both points must be accumulated from the unidirectional dual pointed obstacle for all levels in order to complete the send, or for those levels where both points on the unidirectional dual pointed obstacle are not used in the Send, the lesser of the two points must be moved to the opposite side of the obstacle.

Here are some examples of a Dual Pointed obstacles and how to number them:

[1]FAST EXAMPLE 1Clarify
SETUP FOR OPEN AND NOVICE
The lower point value assigned to the dual point unidirectional tunnel must be moved to the opposite end of the tunnel.
FAST EXAMPLE 3

Clarify

XM-SEND - 2-7-3 (Circles)
OPEN SEND - 2-7 (Circles)
NOVICE SEND - 7-2 (Squares)
(Handles behind dotted line)

SETUP FOR OPEN AND NOVICE
The lower point value assigned to the
dual point unidirectional
tunnel must be moved to the
opposite end of the tunnel.
XM Send 2-6-4 CIRCLES (HANDLE BEHIND SOLID LINE)
OS: SEND 6-2-4 SQUARES (HANDLE BEHIND DASHED LINE)
NS-6-4 SQUARES OR CIRCLES (HANDLE BEHIND DOTTED LINE)
UNIDIRECTIONAL DUAL POINTED TUNNEL IS USED IN ALL LEVELS
https://akcagilityjudges.files.wordpress.com/2017/05/fast-example-1clarify.pdf
https://akcagilityjudges.files.wordpress.com/2017/05/fast-example-2clarify.pdf
https://akcagilityjudges.files.wordpress.com/2017/05/fast-example-3clarify.pdf
https://akcagilityjudges.files.wordpress.com/2017/05/fast-example-4clarify.pdf
The Ascending Double Bar Jump has been added as an option to the required spread jumps. We want to clarify how that jump is to be set. It is new and the ring crew will need to be briefed on how to set it.

**Setting the Ascending Double Bar Jump**: The Ascending Double Bar Jump consists of two ascending bars 5 feet in length where the back bar is positioned at the jump heights specified for the Bar Jump. The front bar is set 4" lower than the back bar except for the 26" height where the front bar will be set at 20". The distances between the centers of the top bars as viewed from above will match the specifications of the Double Bar Jump.

One bottom bar, 5’ in length, must be placed under the back bar and angled to the ground. All other specifications are the same as the Bar Jump.

**Preferred Class Requirement**: In the 4" height class only one bar shall be used and it should be set on the back jump cup. No bottom bars will be used. This change for 4" preferred to one bar may be done prior to January 2, 2018, but must be completed by January 2, 2018.

The jump may be built as a special jump or assembled from two Bar Jumps. A Double Bar Jump where both series of cups are on angled lines, forming a “V”, cannot be used as an Ascending Bar Jump.

If you plan to design with the Ascending Double Bar Jump make sure to ask the club what kind of double jump will be available to use.

**Here is a diagram illustrating how the jump is to be set.**

[1]Setting the Ascending Double from a Double Bar jump
Setting the Ascending Double from a Double Bar jump

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lower bar</th>
<th>Jump height</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20”</td>
<td>26”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20”</td>
<td>24”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16”</td>
<td>20”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12”</td>
<td>16”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8”</td>
<td>12”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4”</td>
<td>8”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Example of setting a 20” Jump height for an ascending double using a double bar jump. Note blue circles indicating each bar’s height. Orange circle indicates the back bar that is required to be angled to the ground.
New Premier JWW times and Trial Software Updates (2017-06-05 14:17)

It has been a month since the new times went into effect for Premier Jumpers Regular and Preferred classes. There is a possibility that not all the secretaries’ software has been updated with the changes.

1. Ask the trial secretary if they have received updates, and have those updates been applied.

2. Make sure you check the catalog header of each Premier JWW jump height. It should reflect the following times for each jump height. Remember the dog’s time must be UNDER the MCT listed below for each height.

Premier Regular JWW New Times
Premier Preferred JWW New Times
Why the emphasis?

Example: Under the rules PRIOR to May 1, 2017, to qualify a 20" dog had to run a Premier Regular JWW course under 40 seconds without faults. AS OF MAY 1, 2017, that same 20" dog could qualify, fault free with a time under 42 seconds. If the software were updated in this last scenario, the dog's score of 41 seconds would be qualifying and show as a Q in the catalog. If the software were not updated that dog's score of 41 seconds would be non-qualify and show as an NQ in the catalog, and that is not correct per the May 1, 2017 update.

Thank you for all of your help.

AKC Statement Regarding Dog Flu and Best Practices (2017-06-09 10:10)

Please review the statement by AKC Veterinarian Dr. Jerry Klein. The last page has information on best practices for shows. https://tinyurl.com/AKC-Canine-Flu-info
For judges who are measuring in areas that are experiencing issues with the flu we recommend that you request that the club have anti-bacterial wipes for you to wipe your hands and the wicket between dogs. The table should be bleached or otherwise sprayed down with an anti-bacterial at the end of the day. Due to the non-slip surfaces it is not possible to thoroughly clean the table between each dog. If a club provides wipes/cleaning materials please use them, even if it is not in an area that you have heard about a current issue with the flu.

AKC Announces Junior Recognition Program (2017-06-27 13:21)

Junior Recognition Program

In January 1999 AKC embarked on a journey to recognize Juniors who obtain titles on dogs in the Companion and Performance Events. We are pleased to announce the continued growth of the program. AKC will now be awarding points to Juniors who have competed in Junior Showmanship, Companion and Performance Events. The Juniors number will need to be included on the entry form. Reports on a Junior status will be available on the AKC website.

Juniors will be recognized by sport, by breed and across events. The new recognition program will include points for Participation, Qualifying Legs, Scores, Passes, Class Placements, High in Trial, High in Combined Score, participation in Junior Showmanship, Best in Field, Reserve Best Junior, Best Junior and Title on a Dog.

At the end of the year the AKC will award the Junior Versatile Award. The requirements are:

Compete in three different AKC events. AKC events requiring multiple legs towards title. * Additional points may be earned for applied for titles, i.e. CGC, Barn Hunt, Trick Dog, Dock Diving, Flyball, Working titles, Therapy Dog, Search and Rescue Title, etc, however they do not meet event requirements.
- Qualifying period AKC National Championship dates (see AKC National Championship page for qualification dates)
  *** for 2017 the dates are March 1st through October 13***

Performance Events will still require the use of the completed Junior Handler certification forms. Many juniors who have met the criteria to receive a certificate have not because of lost/misplaced paperwork. The AKC Juniors Department has the ability to update a dog’s record to include the junior handler’s number, and is happy to assist.

If the Junior finds an error with their report please contact juniors@akc.org as soon as possible. We will need the below information:

Junior Name
Junior Number

58
Title certificates for dogs are processed by the AKC's computer system. Junior Recognition certificates are processed manually and around the first of every month, and therefore, will be issued after the dog's certificate has been issued. If you come across a Junior who has not received their certificate, please have them email us at juniors@akc.org; They should provide the dog's registration number, name and the event they participated in. We will be happy to review the Junior's record and the dog's record to determine which forms are missing. Copies of missing or late Junior Handler Certification forms can be mailed to:

AKC
Attn: Juniors
8051 Arco Corporate Drive, Suite 100
Raleigh, NC 27617-3390
phone: (919) 233-9767
e-mail: juniors@akc.org

Supplies of blank Junior Handler Certification forms can also be obtained from the above address or phone number.

[1]New_AKC_Junior_Recognition_System_1


7.5 July

Breaking News! The AKC Agility Judge apparel store is Now Open. (2017-07-31 13:16)

Many of you have asked for an AKC agility judge clothing program and we are happy to announce that we now have a web store where you can buy a variety of products. We have teamed up with one of our trusted apparel merchandise suppliers for the AKC Agility Invitational and National Agility Championship's to provide a store that offers a variety of polo's, button down shirts, jackets, vests, and hats.

This program will help you stand out as a judge of the American Kennel Club. It can also cover you in all conditions, from a more formal judging assignment requiring a button down long sleeve shirt to some of the more weather challenging conditions (wind, rain, sun). Make packing simple as all of the items are easy care.
Each item will come with the AKC logo and Agility Judge on the left chest. You can elect to have your name included for an additional fee. Your name would be added to the right chest. This program is limited to AKC Agility judges.

You can purchase your AKC judging apparel at:


We encourage you to go online and check out the great selection of products. There is a big variety of styles, colors and sizes. Something for everyone wherever you judge.

August Judges' Re-education Recap (2017-08-15 08:17)

Here is a summary of some of the discussions at the recent judges re-education that we’d like to share with all the judges. We welcome all the input judges share with us.

**ACT 1 and ACT 2**
Each ACT 1 and ACT 2 Course Test is considered a separate event, an ACT Judge/Evaluator can enter an eligible dog in any ACT event that they are not judging.

**Triple Jump reminder**
Please remember setting the triple has not, and will not change for 4" dogs. Please reference page 36 (Ch 3, section 3.11 of the regulations).

The Triple Bar Jump for the 4-inch jump height class is to be set with the first bar on the ground approximately 4 inches in front of the back bar, which should be placed at 4 inches high. A third bar may be placed directly under the bar that is set at 4 inches. For 4-inch jumping dogs this jump will be set typically using two bars only.

**FAST Reminder for timer malfunction**
Re-run for Time: If the malfunction of the timing device is discovered after the run is over, the judge must check the scribe sheet to determine the following:
If the Send Bonus was faulted, nothing further needs to be done and the run will be scored as a NQ. If the Send Bonus was awarded and the dog had obtained enough points to qualify, the dog will have to re-run for time, unless a video of the run is available to determine the time by clearly showing the start of the run, point accumulation, and the dog completing the finish obstacle. Page 93 Guidelines

**More on Premier**
Here are examples of some of the common Premier elements and how to correctly judge them.

[1]Premier Course Judging
The Judges apparel program is off to a great start. Check out the big variety of AKC agility judge logo'd clothes ranging from polo’s to raincoats.

www.akcagilityjudgeapparel.com


August Rep Meeting Re-cap: Part 1 (2017-08-28 08:31)

The Agility Field Reps held their annual meeting August 17th-19th in Raleigh, NC. As a result three blogs will be posted over the next few weeks that address requests and/or points of clarification from our judging corp.

As of September 1, 2017: The Tire will be optional in Premier Standard (below is the link to the updated Course Design Requirement list). Please print this and keep it by your computer. It’s a great reference when you are designing your courses

[1]Course Design Template 4-1-2019
As of September 1, 2017: All VMOs are required to print their judge’s number at or below their signature on all measuring forms.
AKC Agility Measurement Form
Please clearly print in blue or black ink only.
Complete all blanks.

Permanent (dog 2 yrs & over) 1 2 3
Challenge 1 2 3
I AM PERFECT
Dog’s AKC Name
PERFECT
Call Name
SM 5449
AKC Number
GOLDEN RETRIEVER 8/15/15
Breed Birth Date
HANDLE WRIGHT
Owner’s Name
hjlw@me.com
E-mail
3460 Agility Way
Address
BEAK CITY 12345
City, State Zip Code
Phone #
NONE
Co-owner’s Name
none
E-mail
Handle Wright
Owner’s Signature

For AKC Purposes Only
8/24/17 9:05 AM
Date of Measurement Time
20
Height at Withers Measurement
Gracious Judgement
AKC Rep / VMO Signature #99999

| Over 22” Request Permanent Jump Height Card |

Owner’s Signature

(Signature above is required in order to request a permanent jump height card be issued for dogs measuring over 22” at the withers.)

7.7 September

August Rep Meeting Re-cap: Part 2 Premier (2017-09-05 06:41)

Quick update on the AKC Agility Judges apparel program. **We have added a short sleeve polo shirt in tall sizes for the men.** You can find it on the website. It’s called the Sport-Tek Side Blocked Micropique Polo (ST655).

[www.akcagilityjudgeapparel.com](http://www.akcagilityjudgeapparel.com)

As the Premier classes evolve we find new ideas for design and areas that need more clarification. Following are some diagrams illustrating some of these.

**NOTE:** Please remember all jumps that are part of a threadle MUST be winged. Also all backside and bi-directional jumps must be winged.

**Threadles:** There is a minimum distance of 8 feet that must be maintained for threadles. No maximum distance is required, but many times a bit more distance helps. You should look at the dogs path going into the threadle. If they are needing to make a fast tight turn greater distance may be desired. There is a point when a distance greater than 8 feet may negate a Premier Challenge and that will be reviewed on a case by case basis.

We have added 2 new Premier challenge suggestions.

[1]Premier Course Design Challenges _08242018
EXAMPLES OF PREMIER CLASS CHALLENGES updated 08/24/18

1. Thread, 39 min. 101 or more clearance space recommended inside barrier

2. Running Layer: 4 ft or greater between jumps

3. Fixed Layer, less than 15 between jumps

4. Distance Challenge: 50 min straight line spacing between two obstacles with handler controlling the dog's line, typically leading the dog. Distance along the line encouraged. Can only be used once per course.

5. Blind tunnel entry - a dog path that is "herringbone" at a minimum of 10° to the OOL of the tunnel

6. Segment 4: Jump and 3 obstacles taken on opposite sides. 4 min between obstacles (viewing jumps). Distance depends on how the dog approaches the 1st obstacle of the wrap. Must maintain distance requirements obstacle to obstacle.


8. Bidirectional jump (single) or tunnel with advantage in choice. Must label as directional.

9. Only jumps, tunnels & weave poles may be used for back side challenges.

10. Must have 16-21 obstacles

11. 1 - Maximum time a distance or bi-directional challenge may be used.

12. 2 - Maximum times a challenge may be counted as Premier Challenge.

13. 3 - Minimum side switch.

14. 4 - Minimum number of Premier challenges.

15. 5 - Minimum number of options.

MORE EXAMPLES OF PREMIER CLASS CHALLENGES

- Thread w/Tunnel

- 360 degree wrap

- Backside followed by wrap (handler on the inside following wrap)

- Back-to-back 270s

- Using a tunnels to restrict handler path

- Off-course obstacle in close proximity to dog's path

- Running layer (not forced, but maintained by course flow)

- Box with at least 5 obstacles in close proximity to each other

- Tight wrap

- 360 degree jumps w/tunnel effect

- 360 degree turn w/two jumps

- Horizontal wrap to vertical offset

- *All challenges must be present as shown even if not taken as part of the challenge.
Here are several examples of Premier distance challenges that may or may not be counted as a Premier Challenge. The distance challenges require that the dog is working away from the handler. If the handler is in a position to shape the path it might not be counted as a challenge.

**Examples 1 - Distance Challenges**

![Diagram of distance challenges](image)

- **Example 1:** No credit for a Premier distance challenge due to the lead out advantage. You would get credit for the backside (though very hard to handle) and the option at the dummy jump.
- **Example 2:** Yes, a Premier Distance Challenge would be counted.
- **Example 3:** No Premier distance challenge due to the lead out advantage. If the sequence was in the body of the course you would get the distance challenge and option for the potential off course.

**Examples 2 - Distance Challenges**
August Rep Meeting Re-cap: Part 3 Misc. (2017-09-11 04:00)

Addressing some of common questions that we get from the judges.
Collars and Leashes

The Regulations for Agility Trials Chapter 4, Section 9 & 10 state: The only collars allowed when running a course are flat buckle or rolled leather collars, but there shall be no attachments hanging or otherwise allowed on the collar. This shall not preclude painted or stitched designs or information on the collar. Dog’s names and/or identifying information may appear on the collar. No title, awards, or advertising may appear on the collar.

A leash may not have excess material dangling from it, nor may it have any attachments including a fleece or leather wrap. The leash may have a single pick-up bag and/or identification tag attached to it.

There are times when a judge notices a collar or leash that is questionable and cannot make an immediate decision as to whether it falls within the rules above. If you find one that you are uncertain about, send your Rep a photo. We are going to create a file on the judge’s blog that contain pictures of collars and leashes that judges question. We will decide as to whether they are legal or not, and why. In most cases it comes down to safety and/or clarification of the current rules.

Judging the Broad Jump

Reference Ch.3, Section 3.12 (p 40) of the Regulations. This has not changed:

Performance: Dogs must jump all sections without visibly moving or stepping on top of or between any broad jump board, entering between the marker poles placed near the front section and exiting between the poles placed near the back section. Touches and ticks of the leading edge of the first board and the trailing edge of the last board that do not visibly move the board shall not be faulted. The lowest section is the front. Touching or knocking over the corner markers is not faulted as long as the dog goes between them.

Key to judging the Broad Jump is being in proper position. (see attached diagram).

[1]Judge BJ
Reminder of the proper calls for the start and completion of the course. Chapter 4, Section 9.14 (p 45) of the regulations.

**Starting:** Judging the performance of the dog shall start as soon as the dog enters the ring. A dog’s time starts whenever any part of the dog crosses the start line, defined as the plane of the first obstacle.

If a handler inadvertently starts the time (ex: throws the leash through the timer eyes) there is no call if the dog successfully crosses the start line and completes the first obstacle. This is because there is no advantage if the time starts prior to the dog starting the time, as long as the dog also crosses the start line and passes between the timer eyes.

**Completion:** A dog’s time stops whenever any part of the dog crosses the finish line in the correct direction when the dog is in the closing sequence. The finish line is defined as the plane of the last obstacle. The closing sequence is defined by the completion of the second to last obstacle on the way to the finish obstacle. The dog shall be on leash when exiting the ring...

If the handler inadvertently stops the time the judge will blow their whistle. The dog MUST cross the finish line and stop the time. An E will be recorded on the scribe sheet and no time given. This is because the dog did not stop the time, the handler did. This is considered an advantage as the time was stopped before the dog completed the last obstacle and past between the timer eyes.

**Copies of Regulations.** Several judges have asked how they can get a copy of the newest regulations. Call AKC Customer Service at 919 233 9767 and provide your judges number and they will send you a copy. If you need a copy when you are at a trial ask the trial secretary, they usually have a spare copy.
**Updates: 270’s & Photo’s in the Ring (2017-09-26 14:12)**

**270's and winged jumps:**
Judges please remember the second jump of the 270 is considered a backside and is required to have wings. See Diagram below

![Diagram of 270's and wings](https://akcagilityjudges.files.wordpress.com/2017/09/blog-270.pdf)

**Commemorative Photo's:**
Exhibitors who wish to pose their dog in front of or on equipment for a commemorative photo may do so between or after classes if it does not delay the trial or present a safety issue.

**Photographers in the ring:**
Photographers are not allowed in the ring while a dog is running, unless there are specific circumstances agreed upon by the judge of record and exhibitor(s).
7.8 November

New AKC Regulation Changes starting 1/2/2018 (2017-11-28 15:45)

At the November AKC Board of Directors meeting two changes to the AKC Regulations for Agility Trials were approved. Both changes are effective January 2, 2018. If you have any questions, please contact Carrie DeYoung at carrie.deyoung@akc.org

Change in Judging Limit

Chapter 1. Regulations for Agility Trials
Section 18. Event Limit Options, Judge Assignment Changes and Load Balancing Entries. The maximum number of runs assigned to any judge in one day shall not exceed 350, not including and runs in non-regular classes, or as described within this section and Chapter 1, Section 20.

The number was chosen based on review of average absentee rates to help reduce waiting lists in areas that have them. This change is not applicable to single breed specialties that choose to hold two specialties in a day. As with all judging limits judges may tell a club if they are not comfortable with the limit the club is proposing.

Geographically Isolated Trials

Chapter 1. Regulations for Agility Trials
Section 5. Making Application. A club or association that meets the requirements of the American Kennel Club that wishes to hold a trial at which qualifying scores toward titles may be earned must make application to the American Kennel Club on the form provided for permission to hold the trial. An application fee must accompany each application.

A club may be approved to hold up to twelve (12) licensed or member events in a calendar year. A club can be approved to hold separate trails on consecutive days. Each day is considered a separate trial. A club shall not be approved to hold more than one trial on any single day except in the case of a specialty club offering a single breed specialty trial in conjunction with their all-breed trial or offering two single breed specialties on the same per Chapter 1, Section 2.

Clubs licensed to hold agility in Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and geographically isolated clubs may hold up to fifteen (15) licensed or member events in a calendar year. Geographically isolated clubs will be determined by the club's show site being greater than 150 driving miles from the nearest show site of another club that has held events within the past 18 months. Google Maps will be used to consider the driving distance from show site to show site.
As we come to the close of 2017 we would like to take this opportunity to thank each of you for everything you have done to make AKC agility the successful and enjoyable program that it has become. Your hard work and dedication is greatly appreciated.

Have a wonderful holiday. We look forward to seeing you at agility trials across the country in the New Year.

The AKC Agility Team:

Mark Sjogren, Terri Campbell, Gail Storm, Doug Hurley, Steve Herwig, Carrie DeYoung, Kitty Bradley, Lisa Dempsey, Arlene Spooner, Rhonda Crane
8. 2018

8.1 January


We are so excited to announce the new the Agility Judges Guidelines are available. Thank you to everyone who has helped us with ideas, diagrams and proof-reading. Also, thank you to all of you for your patience as we waded thru this project. Please take the time to grab a cup of tea (or beverage of choice) and read thru them.

The Guidelines are only being produced in a downloadable PDF format going forward. Steve will place these into the combined pdf document on this blog in the next few days.

Over the next few weeks we will be working on removing old and conflicting information on this blog. Our plan going forward is to update the Guidelines once a year once a year. You will continue to find all clarifications and updates here on this blog.

You can access the new Guidelines from the AKC Website either from the Agility webpage [1]http://www.akc.org/events/agility/resources/ or from the Rules and Regulations page. You may need to re-fresh your browser to pull up the new guidelines.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

1. http://www.akc.org/events/agility/resources/

Premier Eligibility and Measuring updates (2018-01-17 16:00)

Agility - Change in Eligibility for Premier Class
The Board VOTED to approve a recommendation to amend Chapter 11, Section 2, of the Agility Regulations to allow all dogs to be eligible to enter the Agility Premier classes. Prior to this change, Premier classes were limited to dogs eligible to compete at the Master level.
This change to the Agility Regulations will become effective June 1, 2018.

Chapter 11. Premier Class

Section 2. Eligibility. The Premier class has a single class level. Dogs eligible to enter Novice, Open, Excellent or Master level classes may enter the Premier class.

[1]REAGIL _0717 Insert Yellow
Measuring Dogs update:
With the addition of the 24C class all dogs are required to be measured by a Judge of Record prior to running if they do not have a temporary or permanent measurement card. Here is a clarification of the 24 Inch and 24” Choice divisions.

24 Inches: For dogs over 22” at the withers. Dogs may not be entered in this class if they are 22” and under.

24 Inch Choice: Dogs may be entered in this height at the owner’s discretion if their measurement is 22 inches and under at the withers.

[2]Revised REAGIL_0717 Insert Pink


A Must Read! Judges Guidelines Change Summary (2018-01-29 04:00)

Changes and Clarifications to the AKC Agility Judges Guidelines January 2018

Chapter 1: Judges Responsibilities, Protocol, and Procedures

Ethics: (p.5) Judges must be very careful when posting messages to lists or websites. Denigration toward another judge, club, organization or the AKC is prohibited.

Accepting assignments: (p.8) Dropping a judge – ALL judges for the trial must agree to the change, not just the judge being dropped.

Event Committee cancellation of a judge: (p 11-12) Clubs have the option of requesting that a judge cancel from an upcoming assignment with the following conditions:
• The cancellation request must be presented in writing from the club to all parties affected.
• All parties affected must agree on all parts of the cancellation agreement, including how to handle those courses already designed by the judge being cancelled.
• If you are the judge taking on additional classes and you wish to redesign or alter already approved courses, check with your reviewing Field Representative first (prior to accepting the cancellation request) if the cancellation is after the day courses for that trial were due.

**Course Approvals:** (p.16) **Redesigned or RED** - Reviewing Rep has redesigned a course that would otherwise have been an R &R.

**Chapter 3: Course Design**

**Required Obstacles:** (p.26) No More than two dummy obstacles shall be placed on any course and no more than one on Novice courses.

**Side-switches:** (p.36) In evaluating the number of side-switches and options/restrictions, Excellent/Master level handlers are assumed to have a lead-out at the start line to the second obstacle and at the table to the next correct obstacle, and Open handlers are assumed to have a lead-out halfway to the second obstacle and halfway from the table to the next obstacle; thus, many options may be negated at these positions. (Instead of both levels having a full lead-out at the start and a half lead-out at the table)

**Changes to Submitted Courses:** (p.36) (rephrased to stress that an attempt must be made to contact a Rep) If circumstances such as course conditions, hazards, or insufficient equipment necessitate a change to these courses, such that you question yourself and/or the average competitor would say, “This course is different from the map” then attempt to contact an Agility Field Representative to aid you in any change(s) necessary and for field approval of said change(s).

**Chapter 4: Preparing to Judge:**

**UPDATE: ALL DOGS WITHOUT A VALID OFFICIAL MEASUREMENT MUST BE MEASURED REGARDLESS OF JUMP HEIGHT ENTERED.** (Refer to AKC Judges blog Premier Eligibility and Measuring Updates 1-18-2018)

**Measuring of Dogs:** (p.42) If a higher measurement is done by a VMO or Agility Field Representative, at the handler’s discretion the dog may be moved to Preferred. The move can be lateral (at the corresponding level) or, if they don’t have the Novice Preferred title, to the Novice level.

**Chapter 5: Judging**

**Required judging positions for obstacles:** (p.56) Wall/viaduct jump – The judge must be within 30 feet of the wall/viaduct jump to judge whether a dog has visibly displaced or moved any of the "tops." The judge’s path must be to the front or back of the jump to see each "top".

**Contact Obstacles:** (p.58) The dog must ultimately complete the obstacle correctly by touching the descending contact zone before exiting the obstacle from the descent side
**Weave Poles:** (p.61) Crossing through the plane of the weave poles before getting on the approach side when the weave poles are the next correct obstacle is a wrong course.

**Excusals (E):** (p.70) Dogs that are unresponsive and/or out of control, including after the last obstacle. (whistle)

**Excusals (E):** p. 71 if a dog gets "stuck" on a contact obstacle, it is okay for the handler to hold the dog's collar and help him finish the obstacle. It is also okay for the handler to help navigate the obstacle, such as gently pushing the seesaw board to the ground. The team would then be excused (whistle). The dog MUST initially have all four paws on the obstacle before "help" from the handler is allowed; the handler may not "help" the dog get onto the obstacle via holding the collar or touching the obstacle.

**Excusals (E):** (p.72) A dog does not need to be lame to be excused from the ring. Dogs whose actions make them appear physically unable to compete need to be excused for their own well-being. This can be manifested through many different actions on the dog's part including, but not limited to, avoiding obstacles, stopping prior to attempting obstacles, looking like each obstacle takes significant effort to complete and/or just walking off around the course, ignoring the handler.

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**Chapter 6: FAST Class**

**Course Design:** (p.75) The start line must consist of a single straight line or two intersecting straight lines, allowing handlers wide latitude when planning their strategy. A visible marker (such as a stanchion or cone) must be placed at each end of the start line(s) to provide a line of sight for the Timer.

**Course Design:** (p.76) The tire, triple, wall jump, ascending double and table are not allowed in FAST.

**Re-Run for Time:** (p.81) If the dog clearly completed the run under SCT, a re-run is not required and the handler may take SCT.

**Correct number placement in FAST:** (p.139) Diagram 6.1.2
Chapter 7: Time to Beat

Course Design: (p.84) The judge may designate one tunnel or jump on a course as bidirectional if there is a strategic element involved. If a judge opts to use a bidirectional obstacle, it must be marked on the map as such by placing the number at the midpoint of the obstacles entrances (but not on the obstacle, with “bi” next to the number (see p. 140 diagram 7.1.1)
Chapter 10: What-ifs While Judging

**Ring Steward Error: (p.96) A piece of equipment set too low:** If the handler questions the height of an obstacle set too low while running, the judge should instruct the handler to go on and complete the course, finishing all obstacles. If the same type of obstacle, set at the correct height, was taken correctly elsewhere on the course, no further action is necessary (generally the case with bar jumps). If the course only had one of that type of obstacle (for example, a table), and the dog has a qualifying score after finishing the course, the obstacle should be set correctly, and the handler should be instructed to have the dog reattempt the obstacle (with up to a three-obstacle sequence leading in to it, if the handler chooses) to demonstrate that the dog can complete the obstacle correctly.

**Ring Steward Error: (p.96) A piece of equipment set too high:** If no error has taken place, no further action is required. If the dog has correctly taken the same type of obstacle elsewhere on course, no faults should be assessed, and no reattempt is necessary, as the dog has demonstrated the ability to successfully complete the obstacle elsewhere on the course. If the obstacle that is set too high only appears once on the course and the dog has a fault at that obstacle (including a run-out or refusal), the dog should finish the course (the handler should be instructed by the judge to do so). If the dog has a qualifying score after finishing the course except for the incorrectly set obstacle, the obstacle should be set correctly, and the handler should be instructed to have the dog reattempt the obstacle (with up to a three-obstacle sequence leading in to it) to demonstrate that the dog can complete the obstacle correctly. If the handler stops at the incorrectly-set obstacle (becomes lost or disoriented), losing considerable time, the judge may offer a re-run if the dog was qualifying to that point. The same criteria as listed under stopwatch/e-timer malfunction would be used. If the dog was not qualifying to the point where the malfunction happened, then the handler may finish the course, but no re-run is allowed.

**Ring Steward Error: (p.96) A-frame:** If a dog faults the A-frame set at the wrong height (either too high or too low), the same action is followed as when a dog faults equipment set too high. If the A-frame is set at the wrong height but no fault is incurred, no further action is taken.

**Judges Error: (p.97)** Handlers may have a fault that they know occurred added to their own score after notifying the judge and the judge must initial the change on the scribe sheet.

**Weather-Related Problems: (p. 100) Lightning:** When thunderstorms are present, and lightning has been spotted, runs must be suspended so the judge, crew, and exhibitors can take cover to the maximum extent feasible. Remember to always err on the side of safety. Resume judging after the lightning has passed.

**MACH/PACH Victory Runs and Trial Pictures (p.102)** Exhibitors completing a MACH/PACH title may stay in the ring and complete a “victory lap” if they wish to do so. The victory lap must be taken immediately after the completion of the successful MACH/PACH run and before the handler and dog leave the ring. Whenever a dog and handler are in the ring, they must abide by all agility regulations and guidelines and thus are subject to the possibility of incurring an Excusal (E) fault such as fouling the ring, leaving off leash, etc.

Exhibitors who wish to pose their dog in front of or on equipment for a commemorative photo may do so between or after classes if it does not delay the trial or present a safety issue.

Here is a PDF of this blog post that you can download, save or print:

[1] New Guideline Updates V3D

8.2 February

Updated Regulations effective May 1, 2018 (2018-02-20 16:00)

Effective May 1, 2018 the following changes have been approved by the AKC Board of Directors at the February, 2018 meeting. If you have any questions please contact your Rep.

Chapter 4. General Course and Trial Requirements

Section 6. Preparing a Ring for Agility. The judge is allowed to send a diagram showing the positions of all the obstacles no more than 48 hours prior to the date of the trial to facilitate course building. This diagram may not show obstacle numbers, start and/or finish lines or the Send Line on the course. The judge may send an equipment list more than 48 hours ahead if requested by the club. The Judge may send a diagram more than 48 hours ahead showing position of the contact obstacles and a list of the other obstacles that may be grouped together (bunched) in different areas of the ring. Once the obstacles are set no dogs may train or practice on the obstacles.

Chapter 5, Section 5. Mandatory Elimination (removal of #6)
6. Leaving the table and engaging another obstacle prior to completion of the 5 second count.

Changes the judging of the table from a Failure (a non-qualifying fault) to a Wrong Course if the dog engages another obstacle then comes back to finish the table count. This makes the judging consistent with all other obstacles on the course and removes the unique judging for the table. This would also potentially allow Novice and Open teams to qualify since it changes this call from non-qualifying to a wrong course which on its own is not a non-qualifying call.

Chapter 5, Section 5. Mandatory Elimination
9. Handler touching any obstacle prior to completion of the course.

This change clarifies that handlers will receive a non-qualifying score if they touch any piece of equipment during a run. It removes the subjectivity of if the handler touching any obstacle aided the dog’s performance.

Chapter 5, Section 6. Mandatory Excusals (removal of #6)
6. Four Paw Rule. If a dog commits all four feet on any ascent portion of a contact obstacle and fails to negotiate the ascent side of that obstacle, the judge shall instruct the handler to move the dog on to the next obstacle. If the dog re-engages the obstacle with one or more paws, the dog shall be excused.

By removing this line dogs will be allowed to reattempt all contact obstacles if they initially had 4 paws (or less) on the upside of the contact and come off. Once they have started the descent they may not reattempt if they exit the obstacle prior to touching the down contact. Further judging information will be published in the blog and added to the Guidelines prior to May 1, 2018.

Here’s a link to the PDF!
8.3 April

May 1 Regulation changes and clarifications (2018-04-25 16:00)

Here is a reminder of the judging changes as of May 1 and some additional clarification of those changes.

Chapter 5, Section 5, Removal of #6
We removed #6 as an elimination. Now, if the dog leaves the table during the count and engages another obstacle they get a table fault "T" for leaving early and a wrong course "W" for engaging another obstacle. If they do not return to the table they receive a failure "F". As always, anticipating the count (leaving during the "go") is just a table fault "T".

We made this change to be consistent with calls at other obstacles.

Chapter 5, Section 5, Amended #9
Handler touching any obstacle prior to the completion of the course.

This refers to any piece of agility equipment including jump wings. It does not apply to timer eyes, course numbers or broad jump corner markers.

Chapter 5, Section 6, Removal of #6
We have eliminated the Four Paw Rule. Dogs may now reattempt contact obstacles if they come off the ascent side, even if they initially had all four paws on the obstacle. Once they have started the descent they may not reattempt the obstacle.

The correct call is a refusal "R" for each time the dog attempts and comes off early on the ascent side. If they do not complete the obstacle, a wrong course "W" is called at the next obstacle and a failure "F" is called for failure to complete the obstacle. There is no set limit to the number of attempts

As detailed on p.71 of the Judges Guidelines, if the dog is unable or unwilling to perform the obstacle after several attempts, the judge should tell the handler to move on to the next obstacle. If the handler fails to comply, he or she should be excused.

Seesaw: Once the dog has all four paws past the fulcrum of the seesaw they cannot make another attempt and must go on.

A-Frame: The descent of the A-Frame is four paws past the apex.

Dog Walk: Once all 4 paws are past the joint of the descent board the dog cannot reattempt the obstacle.
What If’s:
If the dog gets “stuck” on the contact obstacle, it is OK for the handler to hold the dog’s collar and help him finish the obstacle, such as gently pushing the seesaw board to the ground, as a way to safely get the dog off the obstacle. The team then would be excused (whistle). The dog MUST initially have all four paws on the obstacle before “help” from the handler is allowed; the handler may not “help” the dog get onto the obstacle via holding the collar or touching the obstacle. (Guidelines p.71)

Engaging and then exiting the contact ascent is an R, even if the dog jumps on again from the side without turning back to re-approach it.
8.4 May

**Handler Touching Equipment** *(2018-05-30 16:00)*

There have been some questions about handlers touching equipment. We want to reiterate that handlers who touch equipment during a run receive an elimination fault (F). They may continue to run the course.

As always, an E (whistle) is only called:
- If the action is extreme or dangerous,
- If the action is considered training in the ring, OR
- If the action is deemed unsportsmanlike conduct.

"Equipment" refers to the agility obstacles only and excludes timer eyes, course numbers (cones), broad jump corner markers, support feet of the dog walk, support feet on weave poles, tunnel bags, tunnel plates, or to anything else that is used to secure equipment.

Exhibitors may still touch equipment during walk throughs to check for safety or to set bars prior to the start of the class.

**But what about FAST?**
In FAST, since there are no Fs, if a handler touches equipment during a run or if there is handler-dog contact that aids the performance of the dog, the judge shall call “FAULT” followed by the reason (“FAULT – equipment” or “FAULT – contact”). FAULT and the reason shall be marked on the scribe sheet by the scribe. As always, if the judge is calling “FAULT” for a faulted send bonus, the scribe shall circle the word FAULT on the scribe sheet with no additional explanation. If “FAULT – equipment” or “FAULT- contact” is called, it results in an NQ whether or not the send bonus was completed correctly.

Make sure to brief your scribe on this.

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8.5 June

**New judges from 2018 seminar** *(2018-06-25 01:35)*

A HUGE Thank You to Janet Gaunt and the Oriole Dog Training Club for hosting this year’s seminar weekend at their fabulous facility!

Please join us in CONGRATULATING AKC’s newest agility licensed judges from last weekend’s seminar:

Randy
Capsel
Ogden, IA
trlwnd@netins.net

Leslie
Gregory
Canton, GA
lander1015@aol.com

Inga
Hooper
South River, NJ
ingahooper@comcast.net

Ross
Johnson
Greenwood, IN
rjkj99@comcast.net

Shannon
Jones
Cary, NC
firstdobe@gmail.com

Dr Roger
O'Sullivan
Gahanna, OH
dr.o3785@gmail.com

William
Pinder
North Port, FL
firedupk9bill@gmail.com

Torka
Poet
West Richland, WA
tspoet99@gmail.com

Katrina
Walters
Valrico, FL
katrina.walters@gmail.com

Beth
Willingham
Piedmont, AL
bethwillingham@me.com

Chelsea
Wood
Kaukauna, WI
chelseawood730@gmail.com

Jen
Young
Fort Pierce, FL
jenyoung78@yahoo.com

Loretta
Zich
Kenasha, WI
borderlineds@gmail.com
FAST: Bidirectional Obstacles in the Send (2018-07-03 16:00)

The Premier bidirectional has caused some confusion with judging bidirectionals in the FAST send bonus. We want to remind judges that in FAST, run-outs and refusals are in play once the dog has completed the first obstacle of the send. Bidirectionals are NOT an exception. After completing the first obstacle, crossing the run-out plane of any next correct entrance of an obstacle is a fault (run-out). Approaching and either stopping or turning away from any correct entrance is a fault (refusal). Even though they have faulted the send, the dog can still earn the points for the obstacle.

Premier is the ONLY class where it is specifically noted in the Guidelines that Rs are not called at bidirectional obstacles. In other classes when Rs aren't called at a bidirectional obstacle it’s not because the obstacle is bidirectional – Rs aren't called at the first obstacle of a send bonus (bidirectional or unidirectional) and Rs aren't called at any obstacle in T2B (bidirectional or unidirectional).

The following are some examples of how to judge bidirectional obstacles in the send bonus. If you need further clarification or if you have a question about how to judge a specific send, please contact a Field Rep.

[1]Rs in send bonus PDF
8.7 August

2018 AKC Agility Advisory Committee (2018-08-01 13:00)

Five years have flown by and it’s time once again to bring together the Agility Advisory Committee.

We are happy to introduce the 2018 AKC Agility Advisory Committee.

The Advisory Committee members for 2018 are:
Sherry Jefferson, PA
Linda Kipp, NM
Terry LeClair, CA
Linda Robertson, TN
Lori Sage, OR

These five will be taking an in-depth look at ways to improve and advance the AKC agility program. Representing different areas of the country and a wide variety of breeds (Pembroke Welsh Corgis, Border Collies, Shelties, Doberman Pinschers, Labradors, Cardigan Corgis, Chihuahua, Chinese Crested, and German Shepherd), the committee has a vast array of experiences to draw from when they discuss the future of AKC agility. They will be discussing all suggestions for rule changes to improve our sport.

We need your input!
Please be a part of guiding the direction of AKC agility by preparing your suggestions. Your input is vital to our system.

Suggestions will be taken through August 31, 2018. For the link to submit ideas go to:

https://www.akc.org/sports/agility/news-updates/

You can also download this flyer and pass it on to others in the agility community.

[1]AKC 2018 Advisory Committee Recommendations flyer

Judges Re-education update (2018-08-14 15:00)

Dear AKC Agility judges: Lately you may have noticed a few changes in the Re-Education process. We would like to share these changes:
1. Judges due to attend and complete a Re-Education Seminar will receive a reminder a year to 18 months in advance of the requirement.

2. A schedule of upcoming Re-Education seminars is posted to the judge’s blog https://akcagilityjudges.wordpress.com/continuing-eds/.

3. We have had great success in holding seminars in facilities where we can set up sequences and run dogs that also has classroom space. Judges are encouraged to participate with their dogs. This interactive format has really improved the judge’s insight as to approaches and safety issues in general.

4. We realize it is not possible to conduct this format for all re-education seminars but is a preferred format.

Keep in mind we are dependent on someone (usually judges) within the Agility community to host these seminars. So, if you are interested and want more detail please contact Terri Campbell: terri.campbell@akc.org.

8.8 September

Premier Challenge updates (2018-09-05 16:00)

In reviewing how courses are running we have updated the Examples of Premier Class Challenges diagram and are adding some illustrations on how to visualize the dogs path coming into a serpentine. This can help determine the spacing between obstacles.

The following updated Premier Challenges list has a few clarifications.
- Threadle clarifies 8’min but 10’ or more recommended between jumps.
- Serpentine and running layer drawings have been separated for easier viewing.
- Weave entry Backside: min 10’ to the plane of the 1st pole (note added)
- Distance challenge: Note added..." handler controlling the dog’s line, typically trailing the dog Bypass along the line encouraged.
- Bidirectional obstacle marking shows preferred method of marking.
- Notes at bottom right state that 2 is the number of times a challenge can be counted as a Premier challenge.

[1]Premier Course Design Challenges _08242018
This serpentine drawing shows emphasis on the distance between jumps being directly related to the dog’s path and where they are coming from.

[2]SERPENTINE DISTANCE
THE MINIMUM OF 18' FROM JUMP TO JUMP IN A SERPENTINE IS DETERMINED BY THE DOG'S PATH AS SHOWN BELOW. WHEN DESIGNING ASK YOURSELF: WHERE IS THE DOG COMING FROM?

Course Design Requirements template is redesigned! (2018-09-19 15:00)

The agility Course Design Requirements template has been redesigned!

Included in the new template:
- Now 2 pages for easier reading
- Reorganized information for easier reference

We encourage all of the judges to use this useful tool when designing your courses.

It’s an easy design checklist reference that includes:
- Information about classes, required obstacles, course angles, approaches, and challenges
- FAST, Send requirements, distances and information
- Course safety summary on minimum distances to barriers, obstacles, options

Here’s a link to the PDF:

[1] Course Design Template 4-1-2019

In addition to this template we are keeping many documents and links updated in the reference section of this blog. Go look at all the resources in this section. Included are current Regulations, Guidelines, contact lists, links to key AKC website pages, course timesheets plus more.

[2] Reference Section

Want information about upcoming new judges seminars or continuing education dates and places. You can find them under Continuing Eds and Seminars.

[3] Continuing Eds and Seminars

Want to have all this information at your finger tips? Download the AKC Agility Judges Wordpress blog to your phone or device.


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FAST Design: One Jump Start (2018-09-26 14:00)

In addition to the current design criteria for FAST we are now allowing a single winged jump to be used as a uni-directional or bi-directional start jump. This would simplify the start as all dogs would be starting over the same obstacle and the timer eyes would be used at the Start jump. Using the single “start jump” is optional. The course may still be designed with a start line at the judge's option.

This design criterion may be used on any future courses that have not been submitted to your course reviewer.
Courses that have been submitted or approved cannot be changed.

Here is the criterion for the one jump start:

- The start jump must be indicated with a start line on the maps.
- It can be either uni-directional or bi-directional.
- Only a winged one bar or winged bar jump may be used.
- The start jump may be pointed or non-pointed.
- Dogs must take the start jump to begin their run.
- Time will begin if any part of the dog crosses the plane of the timer eyes.
- It must be indicated whether it is a uni-directional or bi-directional start.
- If a bi-directional jump is used the timer eyes may be set on either side of the start jump.
- The timer must be able to view the start jump in the case of a malfunction of the timers.
- There needs to be 15’ of clear space for dog to be set up.
- The Start and Finish obstacle must be different obstacles.
- The Start jump should not be positioned near the finish obstacle for safety reasons.

Here are some examples of a one jump uni-directional or bi-directional start. Note that these starts do not dictate the path of the team. There must be choices so teams can develop their own unique strategies.

[1] FAST unidirectional start
[2] FAST Bi-Directional Start
Day of Agility Trial Checklist (2018-10-31 13:40)

Days get busy as soon as you arrive at the trial site. Here is a useful day of trial checklist that can help you get organized for the day. There is a link to a PDF at the bottom of this page. It is also available in the Reference Section of this blog. Print copies and add them to your judge's kit.
DAY OF TRIAL CHECKLIST

DATE: __________________________
Trial: ____________________________
Judge: ____________________________

¬ Administrative

- Introduce yourself to the Trial Chair and Secretary
- Trial Committee present and accounted for (Daily)
- Emergency evacuation plan onsite
- Emergency contact list (hospital, vet etc.) onsite
- Manual catalog on site
- Course copies/Posted/Club/Exhibitor/Course Builder (Daily)
- Trial packet w/rules etc.
- List of Dogs to be measured
- Signed catalog, certification (electronic copies daily)
- Course time work sheets
- Turn in/validate course times w/secretary prior to judging each class
- Verify Count of Q’s, NQ’s, ABSENT etc.

¬ Equipment

- Measuring Device/calibration (every time you return to measure)
- Wheel: Calibration (Daily)
- Course: Dimensions: Course area clear of excess equipment/behind gating as specified
- A Frame: Overall specs/Contacts/Contact Sides (taped)/ Measure 5’-5’6”
- Teeter: Overall specs/Contacts/Contact Sides (taped)/Drop (Daily)
- Dog Walk: Overall specs/Contacts/Contact Sides(taped)
- Tire: Calibration(Daily)/jump heights
- Bars-legal? 2 bar, 1 bar
- Wings-legal?, 50%
- Double/Ascending/Triple/Broad Jump/Bar jumps
- Tunnel: Length/Width/Pitch

¬ RING MANAGEMENT

- Course times posted on gate board
- Gate Steward/Leash holder/Leash runner/Timer/Scribe/Bar setters
- Settings times (FAST-T2B)
- Count down set (during walks)

[1]Day of Trial Checklist

To Post or Not to Post (2018-11-13 13:30)

Many things in life can be both a blessing and a curse. Social media is one of those blessings that can also be a minefield.

Terri has been using this document at the Continuing Eds over the past few months to help you decide if what you are posting should be posted.

[1]THINK before you post pdf

As a reminder from page 5 of the AKC Agility Judges Guidelines:

Chapter 1, Section 2. Protocol

Ethics: Judges must possess and project as unwavering air of integrity and ethical behavior that maintains the reputation of the AKC and the impression that agility trials are fairly and properly judge.
The internet can pose challenges for a judge. If a judge corresponds with an exhibitor after a trial regarding a call or situation, that correspondence should remain private between the judge and the exhibitor. Judges must be very careful when posting messages to lists or websites. Denigration toward another judge, club, organization or the AKC is prohibited.

Please be aware that violations of this guideline can result in reprimands, fines and/or suspensions.

If you ever have any questions please never hesitate to ask myself or your Rep for guidance.

Carrie


Update to Definition of Family for Judging Purposes (2018-11-16 13:46)

At the October 2018 AKC Board meeting, the Board of Directors approved a change to the language in the Rules Applying to Dog Shows for the definition of "Immediate Family" which becomes effective on December 1, 2018.

As a result of that change, at the November Board meeting, the AKC Board of Directors approved the same definition of immediate family in the Obedience Regulations, Rally Regulations, Tracking Regulations and Regulations for Agility Trials and Agility Course Test (ACT) to be consistent, as all four sports reference the definition of "Immediate Family" based on what is written in the Rules Applying to Dog Shows. This change to these Regulations becomes effective December 1, 2018.

CHAPTER 1 - REGULATIONS FOR AGILITY TRIALS AND AGILITY COURSE TEST (ACT)

Regulations for Agility Trials

Section 31. Judges’ Responsibilities. (Paragraph 7) No judge may judge a dog at a licensed or member club trial if he or she or any member of his or her family owns or co-owns the dog. The word “family” shall include a spouse, domestic partner, parents, grandparents, children, grandchildren, siblings, mother-in-law, father-in-law, brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, daughters-in-law, and sons-in-law; adopted, half, and step members are also included in family, or a household member of the judge in question, but shall not extend to other blood or legal relationships.

Let’s Talk Tunnels! (2018-11-28 16:00)

As the sport of agility has evolved, training methods have changed and dogs are getting faster. This requires us to make sure that all of the agility equipment is set up to be safe for the dog. So, let’s take a look at how to make sure
the tunnels are set up for safety.

**First, inspect the tunnel:** Make sure it has 4” rib spacing and it is safe (no exposed wires, threads hanging, etc.). When setting tunnels start by fully stretching them out. Since many have been in storage this helps relax the tunnel material. Once you position the tunnel make sure it is fully extended. By fully extending and securing it you make it safer for the dog as it reduces the movement of the tunnel. It also diminishes the deep ridges/recesses that can be difficult to navigate inside the tunnel.

**Next, secure it:** Both ends of the tunnel must be secured. In addition there must be holders that maintain the shape of the tunnel. There need to be enough tunnel holders to assure that the tunnel won’t move. The placement of the holders should not pose a hazard to the dog or handler.

**The tunnel should be secured so that it maintains its original shape.** It is recommended that you mark the entry and exit of tunnels so the ring crew can see if the tunnel moved and can adjust them.

**Stretch it, Inspect it, Secure it**

![Diagram of tunnel setup](image)
The Good

Stretch it, Secure it, Inspect it

Tunnel stretched out, tunnel holders have secured tunnel in place and are in a safe position on the entry and exit
The Bad

Poorly secured, tunnel has shifted against the wall and has not maintained its intended shape, the tunnel bags are out of place and in the path of the dog.
Tunnels must be 2’ from barriers
When designing use a 5’ “stubby” tunnel to measure the correct distance from barriers. It’s 24” wide.

Tunnels must have a minimum of 2 feet between the closest part of the tunnel and the barrier and be secured adequately.

Tunnel must be 2 feet or more from barriers and walls.
Tunnels should not be placed against dog walk legs or poles.

Avoid placing tunnels against the legs of the DW. The dog will be entering the tunnel and hitting the leg of the DW.
Know where the dog walk supports are so you can safely place tunnels.

Don’t place tunnels against dog walk supports, barriers (walls or ring fencing), or poles.

This tunnel is positioned against a dog walk support, the dog entering could hit the support. The tunnel is not secure or stretched out so it will move as the dog goes through.
You should ask the club to let you know the type of dog walk they use and where the legs and supports are. This looks like a reasonable tunnel placement but this dog walk could have leg placements that won’t allow this configuration.

This dog walk has a wide leg placement and a support under the ramp.
Disclaimer: No dogs, handlers, judges, course builders, ring crew, club members, or reps were injured during the creation of this blog. All photos were taken independently of a competition ;)

This dog walk has a vertical leg placement with a diagonal support.
Now that we've had the one jump start in FAST for a few months we have had questions pop up regarding dogs running around that one jump start jump. Here's some information to help clarify those questions.
FAST: Start Line vs. Start Jump

With the advent of a “start” jump being allowed in FAST some clarification of when the run starts is necessary.

1. When a Start Line is utilized the timer sights down the start line and when any part of the dog’s body crosses that line the timer starts the clock and the run begins.
2. When a “Start” jump is utilized, timer eyes are placed on either side of the jump and the dog must cross through the plane of those timer eyes for the run and time to start.

Here is the criterion for the one jump start:

- The start jump must be indicated with a start line on the maps.
- It can be either uni-directional or bi-directional.
- Only a winged one bar or winged bar jump may be used.
- The start jump may be pointed or non-pointed.
- Dogs must take the start jump to begin their run.
- Time will begin if any part of the dog crosses through the plane of the timer eyes.
  - If an obstacle is taken prior to the dog crossing through the plane of the timer eyes the judge will call “Fault” and the timer will manually start the time.
  - If the dog runs by the “Start” jump the handler must bring the dog back across the start jump in the designated direction prior to engaging another obstacle or a fault will be called.
    - Bi-directional – the dog may jump in either direction.
    - Uni-directional – the dog must jump in the direction defined by the judge or a “fault” will be called.
  - Dogs running by the “Start” jump, not engaging obstacles, and not returning to the “Start” jump in a reasonable time will be whistled, (E), for not working.
- The start jump must be indicated whether it is a uni-directional or bi-directional start.
- If a bi-directional jump is used as the start jump the timer eyes may be set on either side of the start jump.
- The timer must be able to view the start jump in the case of a malfunction of the timers.
- There needs to be 15’ of clear space for dog to be set up.
- The Start and Finish obstacle must be different obstacles.
- The Start jump should not be positioned near the finish obstacle for safety reasons.
In the AKC judges continuing re-education classes we have been addressing the subject of designing and setting up safe approaches to dog walks. With the increasing speeds and advances in training methods we are wanting to make sure that we are designing courses that allow the dogs to get on the dog walk in a safe manner.

Below are some illustrations on how to set up safe approaches to dog walks. In general we want to see that the dog has a straight approach. There needs to be enough space to land, square up and get safely on. With the independence that some dogs are performing the handler is not always there to help shape the approach. These examples cover several scenarios. There will certainly be more. We plan on working with all the AKC agility judges to make sure that we provide safe approaches for our dogs.
If a dog has a fast entry to the tunnel they will come out wide. They will need to re-orient and turn to get safely on the DW. Give them some space for the turn and to be able to straighten for a safe approach.
Original DW placement in RED.

By simply moving the DW up and adding a slight angle there is a better approach.

Original Tunnel placement in RED.

By simply moving Tunnel down there is a better approach.
Not a good approach whether dog turns left or right for 8-9.

By moving the jumps it gives the dog a better DW approach.
Make sure the dog has enough distance from the previous obstacle to orient, straighten and get a safe approach.

By sliding the DW down with a slight angle the dog has a better approach.
No matter which way the dog wraps jump #7 there is a poor dogwalk approach.

By pushing the #7 jump up the dog can wrap and make a safe approach onto the dogwalk.
This does not give a good approach. The dog does not have enough distance to get a straight. They will get on from the side.

By moving the jumps it gives the dog a better DW approach. They can now turn and have enough distance to have a straight approach to the dog walk.
9.3 March

CRCD updated: version 4.31 (2019-03-04 13:44)

Clean Run has recently updated Clean Run Course Designer (CRCD) to version 4.31. If you own a Course Designer activation license you can install updates for no additional charge from Clean Run.

Following are the updates included in CRCD 4.31:

3D Camera positioning toolset moved to the left toolbar to increase vertical screen real estate.

Faster access to 2D color changes with fewer clicks, including Create Color button placed on the left toolbar.

New Shortcut keys: Ctrl-L (Command L on Mac's) brings up the color dialog and, once up, hitting the spacebar both applies the color currently selected on the palette and closes the dialog.

Add online menu item for new CRCD Facebook page.

Add toolbar button to view/hide the "hideable text".

Add UKI to supported organizations.

A-Frame symbol adjusted to correct width for the smaller A-Frame 6'8" sides used in UKC and TDAA.

Minor changes to accommodate revised USDAA and AAC jump heights.

When opening a CRCD3 file that was of type "NADAC or ASCA", default to whatever the last open file type was (if it was a NADAC or ASCA file).

Adjust position of path length displayed on a per obstacle basis to reduce chance of it being obscured by another path length or an obstacle number.

KC dog walk height changed (effective Jan 2019).

On April 29, 2019 the AKC Agility Department will welcome Scott Stock as their newest Executive Field Representative.

Scott has been competing in agility since 2000. His first runs were with an experienced 9-year-old Sheltie named Sable. As Sable was already in EX A, he had to learn how to handle rapidly. His first time in the ring, he was on an Ex course and Sable quickly let him know when he was wrong. Sable and Scott went on to achieve an MX and MXJ. Now that he was hooked, he started to train his first puppy, a Sheltie named Storm. They achieved MACH 4, a CD, and an HT. Now wanting a new challenge, he picked a Border Collie who he named R.I.P. Scott and R.I.P. earned a MACH and PACH, as well as making the Challengers round at the AKC National Championships in 2014.

Scott has been an AKC agility judge since 2005 and has judged in 42 states. He has also judged National Specialties for Afghan Hounds, Irish Setters, Gordon Setters, Pembroke Welch Corgis, Shih Tzu, Samoyed, as well as the Dobe Top 20. He has also had the honor of judging the 2010 AKC Agility National Championship in Tulsa, OK and the finals judge for the 2011 AKC Agility National Championship in Lexington, VA. He is also a familiar face at the AKC Agility Nationals and Invitational’s working hard helping with the event set-up and course building.

Scott has spent the past 19 years working in the quality and social compliance industries for one of the largest independent auditing firms in the world. This has afforded him to work in many locations nationally and interact with many people throughout the country.

Scott is excited to join the AKC Agility Department and is contribute back to the sport that has given him so many wonderful memories and friendships.
**Proposed A-Frame Change for 12” Dogs update** (2019-04-19 14:10)

**Agility Advisory Committee Proposed Change to lower A-Frame height to 5’ for 12 inch Dogs:**

The Agility Advisory Committee has pulled this submission to the AKC Board of Directors May 2019 meeting for further review.

Please share any comments on this proposed change to agility@akc.org
9.5  May

Contacts and Judging paths (2019-05-28 09:16)

With the evolving training and handling of dogs we want to remind judges that turns off contacts must allow the team to work without interference. Handlers may be leaving the dog before the dog has completed the contact and turning into your path. Here are some examples that illustrate a design that would hinder the team and how a shift in the design makes a better path for the judge, handler and dog.

On occasions when a judging path dictates that you and the handler must be on the same side of a contact, it is important that the DOG PATH not bring the dog and handler into the space that is required for you to judge the contact for ALL DOGS.
Judges Path doesn't interfere with the team

It's important to design a path that EXITS off the contact so there is space for you to judge. The handler and dog should be able to execute the presumed path without your interference.

A tip to designing for this scenario - the dog's path should lie within the cone of the SAD checker in a path exiting the contact OR you should be on the non-handler side.
Chapter 4, Section 9. Collars. At the handler’s option, dogs may run a course with or without a collar. The only collars allowed when running a course are flat buckle or rolled leather collars, but there shall be no attachments hanging or otherwise allowed on the collar. This shall not preclude painted or stitched designs or information on the collar. Dog’s names and/or identifying information may appear on the collar. No title, awards, or advertising may appear on the collar. Dogs may be brought to the start line on slip leads, choke chains, body harnesses, head halters or other collars that are permitted on the trial grounds. Pinch/prong and electrical collars (dummy or not), and special training collars are not allowed anywhere on the trial grounds.

Effective: January 1, 2020

Chapter 2, Section 4 of the Regulations for Agility Trials and Agility Course Test (ACT) to allow dogs to be entered in different jump heights on same day as follows:

Chapter 2, Section 4. Height Divisions, Measurement, Measuring Devices. Dogs may be entered in any height division they are eligible for but may only enter each class offered once per day. If a dog is entered in different jump heights the owner must submit separate entry forms, one for each height.

The following jump height divisions shall be used in all trial Regular classes:

- 8 Inches: For dogs 11 inches and under at the withers.
- 12 inches: For dogs 14 inches and under at the withers.
- 16 Inches: For dogs 18 inches and under at the withers.
- 20 Inches: For dogs 22 inches and under at the withers.
- 24 Inches: For dogs over 22 inches at the withers
- 24 Inch Choice: Dogs may be entered at this height at their owners discretion if their measurement is 22 inches and under at the withers.
Effective: January 1, 2020

Chapter 8, Section 3 of the *Regulations for Agility Trials and Agility Course Test (ACT)* to allow dogs to be entered in Regular and Preferred classes on the same day as follows:

**Chapter 8 Section 3. Eligibility.** The Preferred classes are open to any dog eligible to enter an agility trial as defined in Chapter 1, Section 3.

The owner may choose to enter their dog in Preferred classes and Regular classes at the same trial. A dog may only be entered once in each class offered. They may not enter a class in both Preferred and Regular.

If a dog is entered in Preferred and Regular classes the owner must submit two separate entry forms, one for Regular classes and one for Preferred classes.

After the close of entry for a trial a dog may not be moved between Regular and Preferred classes except as noted in Chapter 1, Section 21.

Note: This effective date was changed from October 1, 2019

Effective: January 1, 2020

Chapter 3, Section 3 of the *Regulations for Agility Trials and Agility Course Test (ACT)* to require all weave poles be tapeless and allow poles to be of alternating solid colors as follows:

**Chapter 3, Section 3. Obstacles.**

6. **Weave Poles.** The Weave Poles shall have a fixed base with a rigid upright, to support the pole, no greater than 4 inches high as measured from the ground to the top of the rigid support. The base shall be coated with a non-slip
surface and may be no higher than ¾-inch and no wider than 3½-inches. The base should be secured, so that the weave poles do not move from their location on the course. The poles must be nominal pipe size of ¾-inch PVC (1-inch approximate outside diameter) +/- 1/16-inch tolerance and can be made from Schedule 40 pipe or furniture grade PVC, 40 inches in height, and uniformly spaced at 24 inches (measured center to center using two of the rigid upright supports, with a +/- ½-inch tolerance in spacing). The base support must be located within 4 inches of the pole on the opposite side of the dog’s path (e.g. the first support on the left side of the pole number one, second support on the right side of pole number two, etc.). It is required that the base supports be a minimum of six inches long to a maximum of 18 inches long. Base supports shall be located as follows: "Six-pole section" – centered and placed at the off-side of the first and sixth pole and the off-side of the second and fifth pole. "Four-pole section" – centered and placed at the off-side of the first and fourth pole and the off-side of the second and third pole. "Three-pole section" – centered and placed at the off-side of the first and second poles (based upon ¼-inch x 3-inch steel).

The pole shall be made out of Schedule 40 PVC or furniture grade PVC material that provides an equal amount of flex when set in the fixed base. Single color poles must be striped with a contrasting color so as to be visible to the dog. At a minimum, stripes must be placed at approximately 10 inches and 20 inches from the ground. Tape may not be used for stripes. Stripes may only be painted on or extruded in the pvc. Solid color poles may be used if they are of alternating colors. Poles that are of alternating solid colors are not required to have stripes. Poles that flex at the base (spring type designs) are not allowed.

NEW judges from 2019 seminar (2019-06-30 19:57)

A HUGE Thank You to Mike Teh and the Fusion Pet Retreat Training Center for hosting this year’s seminar weekend at their fabulous facility!

Please join us in CONGRATULATING AKC’s newest agility licensed judges from last weekend’s seminar:

Judge’s Name
City, State
Email

Janice Lea (Bowden)
Omaha, NE
britchiq@gmail.com

Jenny Burrows
Boise, ID
kjandrb@msn.com

Christy Chilcott
Prosper, TX
cachilcott@hotmail.com

Megan Esherick
Leesport, PA
clancypbgv@gmail.com

Mark Giles
Derry, NH
mwgiles@gmail.com

Michael Padgett
Pine Ridge, FL
rocketdogsagility@gmail.com

Michelle Persian
Eden Prairie, MN
michelle@thepurplepuppy.com

Jo Powers
Denton, MD
blackdogjo@yahoo.com

Dave Sliger
Port Orchard, WA
davesliger@gmail.com

Shawn Smith
Loxahatchee, FL
fire374@bellsouth.net

126
9.7 July

Dogs with Artificial Coloring (2019-07-18 14:41)

The following as been approved by the AKC Board of Directors effective August 1, 2019

Regulations for Agility Trials and Agility Course Test

Chapter 4, New Section 12. Dogs with Coloring.

Dogs with artificial coloring in their coats may participate in AKC agility trials and ACT tests. The coloring must not cover more than one-third of the dog’s coat. Coloring below the hocks and elbows may not be yellow. Colored markings on a dog must not be in poor taste and cannot contain profanity or conflict with a sponsor of a trial. It is the responsibility of the judge to decide if the coloring is acceptable. This is a pilot program and will be reassessed by the Agility Department after approximately one year.

Weave Pole Changes January 1, 2020 (2019-07-29 09:06)

Please remember weave pole changes do not go into effect until January 1, 2020. Until then solid color poles are not legal and stripes on poles may be still be tape vs. paint or extruded only.
The pole shall be made out of Schedule 40 PVC or furniture grade PVC material that provides an equal amount of flex when set in the fixed base. Single color poles must be striped with a contrasting color so as to be visible to the dog. At a minimum, stripes must be placed at approximately 10 inches and 20 inches from the ground. Tape may not be used for stripes. Stripes may only be painted on or extruded in the pvc. Solid color poles may be used if they are of alternating colors. Poles that are of alternating solid colors are not required to have stripes.

9.8 September

For Exhibition Only (FEO) & Fix and Go On Approved (Part 1) (2019-09-04 13:30)

On August 12, 2019 the AKC Board of Directors approved For Exhibition Only and Fix and Go On. These changes are effective January 1, 2020

For Exhibitation Only

Chapter 1, Section 21. New last paragraph.

For Exhibition Only. (This is a pilot program) At the option of the club, a handler may choose to change their FAST or Time2Beat entry into a For Exhibition Only (FEO) run. The handler must notify the scribe and the judge as they enter the ring prior to the start of the run that they are doing an FEO run. The scribe sheet shall be marked “FEO”, no time “NT”, and “E” for an excused, non-qualifying run. Allowing FEO runs is at the option of the club. It must be stated in the premium and any pre-trial publications.

Chapter 5. This is a new section.

Section 7. For Exhibition Only. (This is a pilot program) For Exhibition Only (FEO) runs are allowed in FAST and Time2Beat classes at the option of the club. It must be stated in the premium and any pre-trial publications. If a team is running FEO, the handler may not use more than the standard course time for the chosen class. Time will be started by the Timer as soon as he handler starts their lead out. If the handler has not told the scribe and the judge prior to the start of the run that it is an FEO run, the judge will judge the run as a scored run and all regulations are in effect. In this case the judge will excuse the team for training in the ring as described in Chapter 4, Section 6.
When running FEO, the handler may use a toy to reward the dog. At no time may the toy leave the handler’s possession or be thrown, or they will be excused from the ring. No food, no toys that make noise and no balls that can roll away may be used. The handler may train any piece of equipment as many times as they would like. Handlers may touch equipment during the FEO run, which includes resetting the bars. The judge shall not judge the dog’s run but will watch the run to ensure that the handler is not using harsh commands or corrections and that the run is being done safely. The judge will immediately whistle to excuse the team from the ring for any of these infractions. During FEO runs, dogs may be excused or disqualified for menacing or aggressive behavior as in Chapter 1, Section 23. The judge and ring crew must remain in the ring during an FEO run.

**Fix and Go On**

**Chapter 5.** This is a new section.

**Section 8. Fix and Go On.** (This is a pilot program) At any time during a run the handler may immediately fix a single obstacle one time. The action shall be judged as an elimination, which shall be marked as an "E" on the scribe sheet, resulting in a non-qualifying score (NQ). The handler may go back a few obstacles prior to the fix. If a jump bar (bar jump or single bar jump) is knocked, the handler may reset it, but the reset is limited to one jump bar. The dog may not be verbally or physically corrected for the error. Weave poles may be immediately re-attempted three times, but if the dog is brought back to obstacles prior to the weave poles, it will be considered the one time Fix and Go On attempt. Once handlers have used the one-time Fix and Go On option, they must immediately finish the course or exit the ring.

The judge shall not judge the dog’s run after the fix but will continue to watch the run to ensure that the handler is going on to complete the course correctly, is not using harsh commands or corrections and that the run is being done safely. The judge will immediately whistle to excuse the team from the ring for any of these infractions.

Here’s a PDF

[1]For Exhibition Only 9-4-2019

Here is some information on how For Exhibition Only and Fix and Go On will be run and judged.

**Fix and Go On**

As of January 1, 2020, Clubs holding agility trials will be required to offer Fix and Go On for all classes. Fix and Go On will be offered on a one-year pilot basis in order to give the staff time to evaluate their impact. The “Fix and Go On” option allows exhibitors to immediately reattempt an obstacle at any time on course when the dog’s performance on an obstacle is not to their expectation. This allows the dog to successfully complete the obstacle and finish the course or leave the ring on a positive note. Using the Fix and Go On option will result in a non-qualifying score.

Once the handler initiates Fix and Go On, the judge will signal with crossed arms and a verbal “Fix and Go On” to the timer and scribe.

- Once the judge has signaled with crossed arms, the scribe will record an “FNG” Fix and Go On which indicates an elimination and a non-qualifying score. The scorekeeper shall enter an “E” and “NT” for an FNG run.
- The judge will not judge the dogs run after the fix but will continue to watch the run to ensure the handler is going on to complete the course.

- Once Fix and Go On is signaled by the judge, the timer will immediately watch the timer console and press the horn and/or blow a whistle when the following times are reached:
  - 60 sec will be allowed for STD
  - 45 secs will be allowed for JWW
    * If the judge signals Fix and Go On after the allocated 60 sec for STD or 45 sec for JWW, the timer will press the horn and/or blow a whistle immediately. The exhibitor may continue to execute their Fix and Go On and then immediately exit the ring.
  - T2B MCT (horn will automatically sound)
  - FAST at the first horn (horn will automatically sound)
- The handler may opt to reset the dog and repeat an obstacle one time to attempt to fix a behavior that is not preformed to their expectation. Handlers may include preceding obstacle(s) to establish a proper approach to the obstacle being fixed.
- Handlers can touch equipment, re-set any jump and touch/pet their dogs.
- Should a handler attempt to fix an additional obstacle and/or behavior later in the course, the whistle will be blown, and the handler must immediately proceed to the exit.
- A handler may choose to fix a start line.
- This is not to be confused with a handler who runs with their dog after their initial return.
- A Fix and Go On will be signaled by the judge when the handler LEADS OUT past the first obstacle for the SECOND TIME.
  * The Timer will manually start the time when the judge signals Fix and Go On. If the electronic timer stops the Timer will press "RESTART".
- If the dog breaks their start line and completes the first obstacle and the handler chooses to repeat the lead out the judge will immediately signal Fix and Go On when the handler directs their dog back to the start.
  * The time will continue to run.
- FIX and GO On should be utilized for the benefit of the dog to reinforce a positive performance and not as a punitive correction. Harsh verbal and /or physical corrections shall not be tolerated. Any determination of harshness by the judge shall be immediately whistled and the handler will be dismissed from the ring. Judges will judge this as they do currently whether it is a qualifying run or not.

For Exhibition Only

As of January 1, 2020, Clubs holding agility trials can offer For Exhibition Only (FEO). FEO will be offered at the option of the host club. FEO will be offered on a one-year pilot basis in order to give the staff time to evaluate their impact. Premium lists must mention whether FEO will be offered or not. It will allow exhibitors to work with their dogs in a trial environment. FEO is only allowed in the Time 2 Beat and FAST classes. FEO will be of value to new exhibitors or exhibitors that are having difficulty with a specific obstacle and or ring environment. Competitors must enter in T2B and/or FAST. Participation in FEO is non-qualifying.

- FEO runs are treated as trial entries. The exhibitor must enter this class(es) (T2B, FAST) prior to the closing date, pay class entry fee(s) and the Trial Secretary must record the entry in Trial Catalog as part of the results for that class.
- Dogs may be entered at any height for FEO runs. Day of show height changes are not allowed. If entered in a lower height than eligible, the team is committed to FEO for that run and must declare FEO on the start line.
- Dogs may be entered in any level of FAST. If the dog is not eligible for the level entered, the team is committed to FEO for that run and must declare FEO on the start line. Day of show level changes are not allowed.
- The exhibitor must declare FEO in the ring prior to leading out.
- It is recommended that exhibitors mark or have the Gate Steward mark FEO on the gate sheet as a courtesy to other exhibitors, but it is not required; the handler has up until they lead out or start the course to opt for FEO.
- The Judge will verbally confirm FEO to the scribe. The scribe will record FEO, NT and E on the scribe sheet.
- Toys are allowed in the ring
  - Toys must be non-audible
  - Toys may not leave the handler’s hand
  - Toys that roll freely cannot be used
• Food/treats are not allowed in the ring
• Handlers can touch equipment and may touch/pet their dogs during an FEO run.
• Timer will start the time manually as the handler steps away from the dog
• FEO Course Time
  - T2B when horn goes off at MCT the handler must proceed to the out gate
  - FAST when the first horn sounds the handler must proceed to the out gate
• FEO should be utilized for the benefit of the dog and not as a punitive correction. Harsh verbal and/or physical corrections shall not be tolerated. Any determination of harshness by the judge shall be immediately whistled and the handler will be dismissed from the ring.
• A judge must monitor the entire run. Judges can stop a run at any time they deem necessary.
• Judges will be asked to provide entry counts of FAST and T2B FEO runs on their post-trial report during this pilot period.
• AKC Agility Field Reps, Director and their family members may enter their dogs in FAST and T2B as FEO runs.

Here is a copy of the PDF:

[1]FNG _FEO-FINAL4.4


9.9 October

Agility Regulations 8-1-2019 added to reference section. (2019-10-08 11:11)

Greetings Judges!

I have added the most recent copy of the Regulations for Agility Trials to the reference resources section. It’s now the blue book dated August 1, 2019. If you want a copy call AKC customer service at 919 233 9767. Give them your judges number and they will send you one.

I have also added that number to the Contact list that is located in the reference section.

The changes have been published in previous blogs. They are underlined in the blue book. See Appendix A at the end for additional changes.

There is an error in Chapter 4 (p.44). They did not remove the head halter words as shown below in red. Please strike that out in your copies.
**Section 9. Collars.** At the handler’s option, dogs may run a course with or without a collar. The only collars allowed when running a course are flat buckle or rolled leather collars, but there shall be no attachments hanging or otherwise allowed on the collar. This shall not preclude painted or stitched designs or information on the collar. Dog’s names and/or identifying information may appear on the collar. No title, awards, or advertising may appear on the collar. Dogs may be brought to the start line on slip leads, choke chains, body harnesses, head halters or other collars that are permitted on the trial grounds. Pinch/prong and electrical collars (dummy or not), head halters and special training collars are not allowed anywhere on the trial grounds. When an agility trial is held on the same showgrounds as other AKC venues (such as obedience and conformation), collar regulations of the other venues if more restrictive than agility shall take precedence.

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**Correction to the Agility Regulations last blog post (2019-10-08 12:55)**

There was an error to the post that was sent earlier today. I corrected that blog post but wanted to send it out again (because the one you previously received in your mailbox isn’t correct). Sorry!

**Section 9. Collars.** At the handler’s option, dogs may run a course with or without a collar. The only collars allowed when running a course are flat buckle or rolled leather collars, but there shall be no attachments hanging or otherwise allowed on the collar. This shall not preclude painted or stitched designs or information on the collar. Dog’s names and/or identifying information may appear on the collar. No title, awards, or advertising may appear on the collar. Dogs may be brought to the start line on slip leads, choke chains, body harnesses, head halters or other collars that are permitted on the trial grounds. Pinch/prong and electrical collars (dummy or not), head halters and special training collars are not allowed anywhere on the trial grounds. When an agility trial is held on the same showgrounds as other AKC venues (such as obedience and conformation), collar regulations of the other venues if more restrictive than agility shall take precedence.

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AKC agility is updating some course design criteria to meet the needs of our changing sport. With the large variety of venues that AKC agility events are held in these changes will give judges more flexibility in designing to spaces
that range from large open arenas to smaller spaces, arenas with poles, and more challenging spaces.

Before starting to design courses make sure that you have correct arena dimensions and use the equipment list supplied by the club. Also, make sure to confirm the size and shape of any poles or obstructions in the building.

Note: Effective now - any courses already reviewed may not be resubmitted.

Below is a summary of the changes:

**Spread Jumps:** Knowing that dogs need more room going into a spread, they also need more room landing and getting set up for the next obstacle. We currently require a minimum of 21’ to a spread. We are adding that we highly recommend a minimum of 21’ to the next obstacle.

**Jump spacing** for other jumps have required a minimum of 18’ but we encourage spacing of 20’ of more.

**Tunnels:** Straight tunnels can add some additional interest to course design. Both 10’ and 15’ tunnels work best, as they are easier for the judge to keep moving and see if the dog entered and exited correctly. The 10’ tunnel is allowed. If the 10’ tunnel is used the angle must be straight to 45 degrees (as illustrated below).

![Diagram of tunnel options](image)

**Options:** We are expanding the way that options are counted. The distances to a potential option have increased and multiple options will count in the same area under certain circumstances due to the challenges they pose.

**Modified Option Checker:** Options in the centered 45 degrees of the dog’s view can be up to 23’ off the pre-
vious obstacle. Here is an example on where that 23' space would be counted.

Here is an example of how the modified option checker would be applied. The square numbers note the number of options. The blue square numbers illustrate where the modified option checker was used.
Multiple discrimination points between two obstacles could count as more than one option. Example below illustrates where two options may or may not be counted.
Proximity Options: Entrance 5 feet off the expected path count as options. If a wrong course is the most obvious obstacle, it can be up to 10' from the expected dog path and count as an option.
Reminder about the securing of tunnels: Please refer to the blog post from November 28, 2018. Entries need to be secured with safety in mind. Make sure the ends are not collapsing in towards the body of the tunnel. Wraps or bags must keep the entry and exits upright and not in the dog's path.
If an exhibitor questions point accumulation and/or qualification in FAST the judge can view a video to confirm.

In order to do this the judge must have a map and be able to hear points called and/or see them signaled and the points must correspond to the points on the course map. In the case of deciding whether the run was faulted or not the judge must listen for “FAULT” or “BONUS”.

It is important that the judge listen to the entire video as “FAULT”, “BONUS” or a “E”/whistle may have been
called toward to end of the run.

It is recommended that the judge look and listen to the video and call points as a scribe or trial secretary re-record what the judge calls as FAST Points.

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**Premier Design and Judging notes (2019-11-18 05:30)**

**Things to think about when designing Premier.**

You want to be careful about asking a dog to take an obstacle where the timer eyes may be in the running path of the dog. Below are some sequences that illustrate things that we want to avoid in design. This is to protect both the dog and the timer eyes.

Consider adding the start/finish lines to your premier designs so you can see where the eyes are placed.

You can print a pdf here:

[1]timer eyes in design
Forced Layers and runout lines

Here is a judging scenario that helps clarify when a runout should be called while judging a forced layer. If they turn right, no call. If they turn left and go over the runout line the call is an "R" runout.

You can print a PDF here:

9.11 December

Updated Regulations for Agility Trials (2019-12-03 14:51)

Following is a summary of rule changes that take effect on January 1, 2020

Please Note: If courses have already been submitted for review you may not resubmit to use the changes in 142...
items #1 & #2. Remember, if a third tunnel is used in Standard classes one of those 3 tunnels **MUST be 10-13’ in length.** Please check the clubs equipment list before designing to make sure they have the shorter tunnels. Currently most do not.

1. **TUNNELS**- 10-13’ tunnel replaces the closed tunnel and **allows for use of an additional tunnel in course design** (Chapter 6 Section 5: STD only if 3 tunnels are used, 1 must be a 10-13’ no greater than 45 degree).

2. **FAST**- A maximum of 6 points may be earned utilizing **five to seven** 1-point jumps on the course. Six actual jumps are no longer required on the course. There may be as little as five or as many as seven jumps in the course design. The same jump may not be taken back-to-back.

3. **WALL JUMP**- Performance- top changed from displaced to **knocking any of the 4 tops to the ground.**

4. **ISC (International Sweepstakes Class) - Section 2. Eligibility of Dogs.** This class is open only to dogs that are eligible to compete in AKC Agility Trials. (Removed-dogs that are eligible to compete in the Excellent/Master Agility Standard class and the Excellent or Masters Jumpers with Weaves class, Regular and Preferred. **All levels of AKC eligible dogs can now compete in ISC.**)

5. **Effective July 1, 2020- WEAVE POLES- Only 6 and 12 poles allowed**. The following sections will reflect this change: Chapter 7, Section 5, Chapter 9, Section 2- 9-12 poles changed to 12 poles.

Want the full copy of the changes?

You can download and print them here:

[1]11-17-2019 BOD Regs Update v2


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**Fix and Go (FNG) and For Exhibition Only (FEO) (2019-12-09 13:21)**

On January 1, 2020 AKC will allow For Exhibition Only (FEO) and Fix and Go On (FNG).

**And people are excited about this!**

Please refer to the Regulations for Agility Trials and Agility Course Test (appendix A, blue book, dated August 1, 2019). Also reference previous information posted to this blog on September 4th, 2019
Following is a summary that you should use for your judges briefing to exhibitors and the timer & scribes. Consider printing a copy that you can post.

Here is a PDF of this summary:

[1] FEOFNG-Briefing for Blog 1219

We have updated that hand signal cheat sheet that the scribe can reference showing all the signals. Print extra copies and give your scribe a copy. Here is a PDF, it’s also in the resource files in this blog:

[2] Scribe Signals Sheet

**FEO: For Exhibition Only (FAST and T2B)**

**Include in Exhibitor Briefing of FEO:**

- Exhibitor MUST state FEO prior to running, and may not use more than Standard Course Time.
- Exhibitor can use a toy- no toys that make noise are allowed and the toy MUST remain in hand- cannot use anything that rolls freely
- Exhibitor can touch/pet dog and /or touch equipment
- Exhibitor may train any piece of equipment as many times as they want

**Include in Timer and Scribe Briefing of FEO for FAST and Time 2 Beat Classes:**

- Judge states FEO to scribe
- Scribe writes FEO-E and NT on the scribe sheet
- Timer instructed to start time when exhibitor starts their first lead out

**Judges Duties in FEO:**

- Judge must keep a count of each dog that runs FEO and include it in their judge's report.
  - There will be a section added to report for trials after January 1, 2020
• Judge MUST monitor the entire run and stop (whistle) the run at any time they deem necessary (ex: harsh treatment of the dog, dog leaves the ring or is unresponsive).

Questions?

• What do I need to do as an exhibitor to enter FEO?
  - Must enter T2B or FAST at a club that is offering FEO
  - Announce FEO at the start of your run

• Can an exhibitor enter their dog at any height?
  - If an exhibitor wants to run their dog at a height that is different than what the dog is eligible to run, the exhibitor must do it at the time of entry. An exhibitor CANNOT change their jump height the day of the trial. If the dog is entered at a height that it is not eligible, they MUST run FEO.

• This is a one-year pilot program

FNG - Fix and Go On

Include in All Exhibitor Briefings

• FNG is signaled with crossed arms.

• A handler may choose to fix a start line.

• A Fix and Go On will be signaled by the judge (with crossed arms) when the handler LEADS OUT past the first obstacle for the SECOND TIME. The time will start at that point.

• Exhibitor can repeat an obstacle, dropped bar or any sequence that did not meet their criteria. This can ONLY be done once during the course.

• Exhibitor can touch/pet dog and /or touch equipment

After FNG is signaled, the judge WILL monitor the rest of the run and stop (whistle) at any time they deem necessary (ex: harsh treatment of the dog, dog leaves the ring or is unresponsive)
• If an exhibitor chooses to correct a contact, dropped bar, missed weave entry etc. and the dog drops the bar, misses the contact, or misses the weave entry again, can they repeat the obstacle until they get it right?
  
  - No **ONLY ONE** repeat is allowed.

• How does FNG work for the weaves?
  
  - The exhibitor is still allowed three tries to complete the weaves.
  
  - If the exhibitor fails the weaves three times and attempts a fourth time, the judge will signal FNG.

• Exhibitors can reset any dropped single bar, spread and/or specialty jump if they want that jump to be their fix and go on.

**Include in Timer and Scribe briefings for ALL classes**

• FNG is signaled with crossed arms.

• **TIMER** - Once judge signals FNG the timer looks at time
  
  - Timer presses horn or blows whistle when the times listed below are reached.
    
      * 60 seconds for all standard classes
      * 45 seconds for all Jumpers classes
      * For T2B and FAST dog is dismissed at the sound of the horn or whistle is blown at the appropriate time.

• FNG at the start line
  
  - A handler may choose to fix a start line. This is not to be confused with a handler who runs with their dog after their initial return.
  
  - A Fix and Go On will be signaled by the judge when the handler LEADS OUT past the first obstacle for the **SECOND TIME**.

• What if the judge signals FNG and the timer notices the time is past the required time for STD (60secs) or JWW (45secs)?
  
  - The timer will blow their whistle or push the horn button.
  
  - The exhibitor will be allowed to “complete their fix”. If they are close to finishing the course (seventy five percent of the way) the judge shall allow the exhibitor to complete the course. If the exhibitor is less than seventy five percent from finishing the course, the judge will whistle and ask the exhibitor to leave the ring.

• **SCRIBE** - writes FNG, then E and NT on scribe sheet
QUESTIONS?

- This is a One-year pilot

- Think of FNG it as ONE free whistle for training in the ring (page 49, allow #8-exception- no harsh correction allowed. It is still a whistle). It is allowed for only ONE incident that would normally be whistled.

- Can the exhibitor gently lead the dog by the collar to re-attempt and obstacle?
  - Yes, if the dog does not look distressed and/or resist.

- If a dog gets stuck on a contact and must be gently guided over the obstacle is that considered a FNG?
  - Yes, the judge will signal FNG and the exhibitor can complete the course if the timer has not signaled that time has expired.

- What if an exhibitor purposely pets their dog on the course, a contact obstacle, or after performing an obstacle correctly to positively reinforce a behavior?
  - The judge will signal FNG. Just remember, the exhibitor can only do this one time during the course.

Let us start by saying thanks to each of you for all you have done over the past few weeks to introduce For Exhibition Only (FEO) and Fix and Go On (FNG) to the clubs and exhibitors. Overall the response from our exhibitors has been very positive!

As with the start of any new program questions come up. We would like to share some of these questions and answers with everyone.

For Exhibition Only (FEO)

When does the time start? The time starts as soon as the handler leaves the dog. Make sure to brief the exhibitors that when the first buzzer sounds in FAST and Time 2 Beat that their time in the ring is up and they need to leave the course.

Can the dog's jump height be changed the day of the trial in FEO? No they cannot. They must indicate what height they intend to jump when they enter the trial. They can enter at a different height than they measure into, but may not change day of show.

What toys are not allowed in FEO? Lasers, flirt poles, chuck-it balls, toys on long ropes that are being tossed/dragged with the handler holding the end are not permitted. Handlers may not run with their leash & use as a toy. Leashes must be left at the start. Please see pictures for what "balls" are allowed in FEO.
What if the handler drops the toy? The judge will blow the whistle and handler needs to leave the course.

At the end of the run can the handler put the toy down to leash up the dog? Or can the dog be holding the toy while the handler leashes them up? Yes they can do both or a combination of these as the dog in being leashed up.

Can the handler pick up the dog in FEO? Yes, the dog may be picked up. The judge needs to make sure the dog is being handled in a calm, nice manner. If not the whistle will be blown and the exhibitor needs to leave the course.
course.

**Fix and Go On (FNG)**

When do the 60 and 45 seconds start in Fix and Go On? Please brief the timer that once you signal the FNG that they are to watch the timer. When it hits 60 seconds in Standard or 45 seconds in Jumpers they are to hit the buzzer/horn and the team must head to the finish. Please adhere to these times so we can get a fair assessment on how they are working. These times are the MAXIMUM times allotted for a Fix and Go On, regardless of the SCT for the height or class.

What if the handler has not finished their FNG when the buzzer goes off? Make sure to brief that if the buzzer goes off as they are doing their FNG they may complete it but then need to head expeditiously to the exit.

If a handler has done a FNG prior to the weave poles what happens when they get to the weave poles? They may still do up to 3 attempts at the weaves but must go on after the third attempt.

What if a handler uses a FNG on the second weave attempt (example: goes back an obstacle or more to re-attempt the weaves) and the dog does not complete the weaves? Can they attempt the weaves again? No, since they used their FNG on their second try they are not allowed another try as only 1 FNG is allowed for any obstacle. They must continue to the next obstacle. Judge can tell them to go on.

After a handler has done a FNG can they still call a dog back to correct a refusal or a wrong course later in the course? Yes they can. They have not lost the ability to keep the dog on the actual course.

Does the handler have to tell the judge that they are doing a FNG? No, they do not but it is helpful. The judge may suggest this in the briefing.

Can a handler take a dog backwards through a sequence to restart it? No, they cannot. For example the sequence is jump, dog walk, tunnel originally. The dog flies off of dog walk into tunnel. The handler may NOT put the dog back in the tunnel, take the dog walk backwards and then do the dog walk again for their fix and go. If they run the dog backwards that is their "fix."

If I want to fix an obstacle, how many obstacles can I go back to repeat that sequence? They must start the fix within no more than 2-3 obstacles prior to the obstacle they want to fix.

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**10.2 February**

**Feedback received, Questions answered! FEO, FNG and tunnels (2020-02-25 17:33)**

We are two months into our new Fix and Go On and For Exhibition Only programs and we’ve gotten lot’s of good feedback and questions. We thank all of you that took the time to ask questions and shared your thoughts.
**Fix and Go On and the Weave Poles**

There seems to be some confusion about the weave poles and Fix and Go On. Please make sure to brief the following information for the next few trials you are judging.

How does Fix and Go On (FNG) work with the weaves?

If a handler uses a Fix and Go On at their second or third weave attempt (for instance goes back an obstacle or two to re-attempt the weaves) and the dog does not complete the weaves, can they attempt the weaves again?

- No, since they used their FNG they are not allowed another try at the weave poles. Only 1 FNG is allowed on any course. They must continue to the next obstacle. Judge can tell them to go on.

Once the handler has done 3 attempts at the weave poles can they do one more for their Fix and Go On?

- Yes they can have one more try as long as they have not done the "Fix" previously on that course. The judge will signal with crossed arms and the scribe will indicate that on the score sheet.

When does the time start in For Exhibition Only?

With two months of exhibitors running agility in For Exhibition Only (FEO), we have learned that we need a clear guideline for when the timer starts the time. Who knew there could be so many possibilities!

Handler must leave the leash in the start area before they begin.

The timer will start the time when one of the following happens:

- The handler leaves the leash at the start and walks with or carries the dog onto the course to start at a specific obstacle. It is apparent that the handler is leaving the start area with the dog and walking into the body of the course to begin.
- Once the leash is removed, the handler leaves the dog and moves away from the dog in any direction.
- Once the leash is removed, the dog leaves the handlers side on their own.

Here a PDF for you to print:
Scribe sheet changes for Fix and Go On (FNG):

After observing the new Fix and Go On program and feedback from judges and scribes, we have decided to simplify the scribe sheet entry for when the judge signals Fix and Go On. From now on, it should be written with an X that is circled.
Tunnel recommendations:

Now that we have both 24” and 26” tunnels in the field, it is recommended that judges (and clubs) use the same diameter in any given course.

1. [https://akcagilityjudges.files.wordpress.com/2020/02/feo-timer-start-1.pdf](https://akcagilityjudges.files.wordpress.com/2020/02/feo-timer-start-1.pdf)

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10.3 March

Changes to Agility Regs through April 30 (2020-03-13 12:54)

Dear Trial Secretaries, Clubs & Judges,

Thank you to everyone who has been so helpful as trials are cancelled, moved and changed.

The agility department is adjusting a couple of items that will be effective for trials scheduled through April 30, 2020. We hope that these changes will be helpful to the clubs and exhibitors as we figure out how to navigate during this national emergency.

1. Clubs may opt to close a trial up to 7 days prior to the 1st day of the start of the trial. (amendment to Chapter 1, Section 14)

2. If a judge needs to be replaced we will waive the 30 day, 200 mile rule and instead treating this time period as an emergency replacement. (amendment to Chapter 1, Section 31)

We will review the need for these two changes at the end of April. Please contact me or any of the agility team if we can be of any help. Carrie DeYoung Director of Agility American Kennel Club
Update to Trial Closing Dates and Emergency Judge Replacements (2020-03-20 13:18)

This information is being sent in an email today to all Trial Chairs and Trial Secretaries that have events through July 31, 2020.

Dear Trial Secretaries, Clubs & Judges,

Due to the ongoing developments regarding the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) the American Kennel Club agility department is extending the use of these two amendments to the Regulations For Agility Trials and Agility Course Test through June 30, 2020.

1. Clubs may opt to close a trial up to 7 days prior to the 1st day of the start of the trial. Entries can be accepted later than is currently allowed, which is 14 days. Clubs can move it to 7 days prior. IF the club extends the trial closing date they also have to allow full refund entry fees if someone pulls from the trial prior to that date too. (amendment to Chapter 1, Section 14)

2. If a judge needs to be replaced we will waive the 30 day, 200 mile rule and instead treating this time period as an emergency replacement. (amendment to Chapter 1, Section 31).

The decision to extend these changes was made due to the uncertainty of the current situation. We continue to encourage everyone to follow the guidelines of the [1]CDC and [2]World Health Organization to prevent illness.

Please contact me or any of the agility team if we can be of any help.

Thank you for everything you are all doing in this quickly changing environment. We are lucky to have all of you working with us and the exhibitors.

Carrie


Agility Judges Guidelines Updated (2020-03-24 12:25)

The AKC Agility Judges Guidelines have been updated! Many thanks to Arlene Spooner! Below is a summary of most of the changes. Great time to sit down a read through them!

Here is a copy of the Guidelines PDF. It is also posted in the reference section. If you want a printed copy you can have the copy shop print it in booklet form and bind it.
Here are the highlights:

**Mirroring must not be done in a predictable fashion** (Section 1, paragraph 2, p. 24)

**New spacing recommendations** (Section 2, Obstacle Spacing, p. 27)

**Consider timer eye locations on course design** (Section 4, Other Safety Issues, p. 32)

**New option requirements** (Section 6, Options, p. 33)

**Multiple challenges updated and moved** to Section 6, Challenges Defined (p. 35)

Missed up contact on seesaw is an F, and once a failure to perform is earned (all 4 paws on, with no part of any touching the up contact), the dog may not repeat that obstacle (including if they then come off before 4 paws pass the fulcrum) (Section 3, Seesaw, p. 59)

Wall jump, tops must fall (not “displace”) for an F (Wall jump, p. 62)

FAST chapter (p.74) updated, including:

- Start jump/Start line (p.74)
- Non-Send Fault calls (section 2, p. 77)
- Designing with 5-7 One-point jumps (still can earn 1 point up to 6 times) (Course Submission Requirements, p.76)

**When the first obstacle in the Send Bonus is the weave poles**: May be re-attempted immediately, just like in the body of the course. Back weaving before completing the weaves means another obstacle must be attempted before re-attempting the weaves in the correct direction. Back weaving is only a fault if the dog has completed the weaves (W’s are not in effect until after the first obstacle of the Send) (p. 80)

FAST video review section added (p. 82-83)

Chapter 11 (new chapter added for FEO and FNG) (p. 109)

Old p. 108, removed diagram 3.2.1

Added diagrams 3.4.8, 3.6.6, 6.2.1
