AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB
27TH NATIONAL
OBEDIENCE CHAMPIONSHIP

Sponsored by Eukanuba

Saturday and Sunday, July 10-11, 2021

1st Round Entries Open – Monday, March 22, 2021
1st Round Entries Close – Monday, April 19, 2021

This event is by Invitation Only.

ROBERTS CENTRE / EUKANUBA HALL
123 GANO ROAD
WILMINGTON, OH 45177

Event Hours: Saturday & Sunday – 7:00am to 7:00pm

CERTIFICATION
Permission is granted by the American Kennel Club for the holding of this event under American Kennel Club rules and regulations.

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8051 Arco Corporate Drive, Suite 100, Raleigh, NC 27617

Lisa Liggins
Companion Events Manager &
Event Secretary

8051 Arco Corporate Drive, Suite 100, Raleigh, NC 27617
AKC-NOC@akc.org ~ 919-816-3816

EVENT SUPPORT TEAM

Steve Herwig
Event Systems Specialist

Janice Sondys
Sr. Companion Events
Representative Tabulator

Paula Spector
Hospitality

John Cox
AKC Obedience Representative
Independent Contractor

AKC.TV
Livestreaming

Ken & Aimee Kincaid
Livestreaming – Camera Operators

NATIONAL OBEDIENCE CHAMPIONSHIP JUDGES

Ms. Karen Anderson, #7011
North Branch, MN

Mrs. Louise Botko, #6033
Minneapolis, MN

Mr. James Comunale, #27184
Ballwin, MO

Mrs. Bonnie Hornfisher, #81331
Knoxville, TN

Mr. Russell Hornfisher, #65706
Knoxville, TN

Ms. Deborah Neufeld, #19916
Kissimmee, FL

Ms. Stephanie, Podejko, #82518
Central Square, NY

Mrs. Mary Jane Shervais, #6096
Cheney, WA
**PUBLICATION RIGHTS – PHOTOGRAPHS AND VIDEOS**

By entering this show, all owners, handlers, breeders and kennels agree that all rights to televise, videotape, photograph, advertise, promote and publicize or otherwise exploit this show, or the persons or animals participating in it or the results of the competition before, during or after the event, shall belong solely to The American Kennel Club and their respective assigns, including the use of the names, likenesses or biographical matter of all dogs, owners, handlers, breeders and kennels participating in the show and no such owner, handler, breeder or kennel shall allow any other party to make commercial use of any videotape or photograph of any person or animal participating in this competition.

**NOTE:** By entering this show all owners, handlers, breeders and kennels agree to make themselves available for interview if requested.

Exhibitors may video tape or photograph individual runs only for personal use. Only the Official Photographer may take ring photos for sale for these events. Any other photographers taking multi-dog ring photographs will be subject to an Event Committee Hearing for failure to comply with the event regulations published in the official premium list.

Win pictures will take place at the Official Photo set up immediately after the Awards Ceremony. All winners are **ASKED TO STAY FOR THEIR OFFICIAL WIN photos!!**

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**EMERGENCY SERVICES**

Fire/Ambulance/Police

Dial ~ 911

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**VETERINARY SERVICES**

Additional information to be provided at a later date.

Exhibitors should follow their veterinarian’s recommendations to assure their dogs are free of internal and external parasites, any communicable diseases, and have appropriate vaccinations.

A copy of a dog’s vaccination record, including a current rabies certificate, must be present for all dogs at the event.
Due to the unprecedented circumstances of 2020, and to make the qualifying as fair as possible, the Qualifying Periods for the event are:

December 1, 2018 – November 30, 2019; and December 1, 2019 – November 30, 2020

This event is by invitation only. To be invited to participate, each dog must be ranked in the top 25 dogs by OTCH points or ranked in the top 3 of its breed by OTCH points. If there are more than thirty (30) dogs that qualify in a specific breed, then we will take a ratio of the total and invite that amount. In addition, the top 4 dogs from each of the Obedience Regional Events will be invited based on the qualification criteria as written in the AKC Obedience Regulations, Chapter 9, Section 2, AKC Regional Competitions. Dogs must meet the minimum entry requirements to participate at this event and must also meet the eligibility requirements specified in the AKC Obedience Regulations.

In addition to the above the following will be invited in the first round:

- 2019 Top 25 dogs by OTCH Points
- 2019 Top three in OTCH Points in each breed
- 2019 Top four dogs in each Regional Qualifier
- 2020 Top 25 dogs by OTCH Points
- 2020 Top three in OTCH Points in each breed
- 2020 Top four dogs in each Regional Qualifier

1st Round Invitations will be sent via email by Friday, March 19th, 2021. If it is necessary to send out a 2nd Round of Invitations, they will be emailed by April 23rd. Please be sure that your email address is up to date by emailing your dog’s registration number and the email address to AKC-NOC@akc.org.

The 2021 National Obedience Champion will receive an automatic “bye” into the 2022 AKC National Obedience Championship event.

1st Round Closing Date for entries will be Monday, April 19, 2021
2nd Round Closing Date, if needed, for entries will be Monday, May 17, 2021

National Obedience Championship Entry Fee $ 150.00

ENTRIES NOT ON THE OFFICIAL AKC NATIONAL OBEDIENCE CHAMPIONSHIP ENTRY FORM OR PHOTOCOPIES OF THE ENTRY FORM without the Agreement and rules on the reverse side are NOT ACCEPTABLE. No entry shall be made or accepted, which specifies any conditions as to its acceptance.

**NOTE: The National Obedience Championship Entry Form will be sent to you via email with your Invitation.

Mail entry form and fees to: American Kennel Club, Attn: Companion Events – NOC Entry Form, 8051 Arco Corporate Dr., Ste 100, Raleigh, NC 27617. Please make checks or money orders payable to AKC NOC. Inquiries may be directed to Lisa Liggins at AKC-NOC@akc.org.

An envelope containing entries for more than ten (10) dogs maximum will be treated as an invalid entry and must be returned to the sender.

No entries will be accepted by hand delivery, email, fax or by phone. Express mail & overnight entries must include the signature waiver allowing them to deliver the package.

Illegible entries will not be processed and will be returned to the exhibitor. Returned checks do not constitute a valid entry. A twenty-five ($25.00) dollar collection fee will be added to the amount of each returned check.

Errors on Entry Forms Owners are responsible for errors on entry forms and no entry fee will be refunded in the event of such errors or cancellation of entries after the trial has closed.

Dog’s Call Name: Please be sure to include your dog’s call name on the entry form. This will be used for award announcements.
ENTRY ELIGIBILITY & INFORMATION, CONT’D

Confirmation of Entry: You will receive a confirmation email that your entry has been received and accepted. **If you do not receive an email within two weeks of sending in an entry, and/or prior to the closing date, please contact us at AKC-NOC@akc.org before entries close for each round!**

Cancellation of Entry: The last day to cancel a 1st Round entry is **Monday, April 19**th. If you enter via a 2nd Round invite, the last day to cancel a 2nd Round entry is Monday, May 17**th. You may cancel your entry via an email sent to AKC-NOC@akc.org and refunds for cancellations will be made within 45 days after the final closing date.

Bitches in Season: Are not permitted to compete in Obedience events. Refunds will be processed if the Trial Secretary is notified no later than one half hour prior to the start of judging. Veterinarian statements must be provided to the Trial Secretary in writing. They may be hand delivered at the event, emailed to AKC-NOC@akc.org or faxed to (919) 816-4204.

Entry Fees: Are required with each entry. NO ENTRY FEE will be refunded if the trial cannot open or be completed by reason of riots, civil disturbances, fire, an act of God, public emergency, act of public enemy, or any other cause beyond the control of the organizing committee. No entry fee will be refunded in the event a dog is absent, disqualified, excused by a judge or veterinarian, or barred from competition by the action of the Event Committee.

There will be no refund for duplicate entries.

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**NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP FORMAT**

**SATURDAY’S COMPETITION:**
- There will be eight rings and the teams will perform two to three exercises in each of the eight rings. The exercises will be a mix of the regular class open and utility exercises according to the Obedience Regulations amended to January 1, 2019.
- Approximately 20 teams will be assigned to start in each ring. Your starting ring and armband numbers will be sent to you approximately three weeks prior to the event.
- Teams starting in Ring 1 will proceed to Ring 2 in catalog order. Teams starting in Ring 2 will proceed to Ring 3; Teams starting in Ring 3 will proceed to Ring 4 and so on.
- At the end of Saturday’s competition, if necessary, runoffs will be conducted to determine the 50th team, and the top four Group Placements.
- Once the runoff results are tabulated, the “Top 50” teams will be announced. These are the teams that will move on to compete on Sunday morning.
- An Awards Ceremony will take place at the end of Saturday’s event to award the top four Group Placement winners of the 2021 National Obedience Championship and to announce the top 50 teams moving on for Sunday’s competition.

**SUNDAY’S COMPETITION:**
- Sunday morning the “Top 50” handler/dog teams will perform two exercises in each of the eight rings like the Saturday format.
- At the end of the “Top 50” competition, the “Top 20” handler/dog teams will be determined.
- The “Top 20” teams will then perform a series of exercises to determine the “Top 10” handler/dog teams.
- The “Top 10” handler/dog teams will be ranked by scores earned in that portion of the competition.
- An Awards Ceremony will be held at the end of Sunday’s event where the “Top 10” teams of the 2021 National Obedience Championship will be announced!

The Scent Discrimination Exercise may be performed up to four various times over the course of the competition. Please be certain to bring a sufficient number of articles with you.
HOST HOTEL

Holiday Inn at the Roberts Center is the host hotel for the event. In order to make a reservation please call, 1-800-654-7036 and be sure to use the Special Room Rate code “AKN” when making your reservation. The room block will be held until June 15, 2021 or whenever the block is sold out, whichever comes first. There is a $35.00 Pet Deposit for each room in which a dog is housed per stay.

The facility has provided us with some special instructions that everyone must follow:
- All dogs left unattended in rooms, must be crated.
- Up to four dogs are allowed per room.
- Housekeeping will not service rooms in which dogs are loose and unattended. They will report the rule violation to hotel management. Room occupants will be assessed for any damage or destruction to their room.
- Plastic will be provided and must be placed under all crates.
- No grooming of dogs in hotel rooms.
- No dogs will be permitted in any of the hotel recreation areas, including the swimming pools, and any other areas to be stipulated as “non-dog” locations.
- No dogs will be permitted in food and beverage outlets, with the exception of those assisting the disabled.
- It is your responsibility to clean-up your dog’s waste. Scoops, bags and trash receptacles will be provided in the designated exercise areas.

RV Reservations

The Roberts Centre has RV Parking available in the gravel lot beside the Royal Canin Ring. They have 26 electric hookups available at a rate of $40.00 per night for the electric sites and $25.00 per night without hookups. In order to make a reservation please call 1-800-654-7036.

OFFICIALLY RECORDED TITLES

Titles recorded on a dog’s AKC official record on/about Thursday, May 27, 2021, will automatically be updated and listed in the exhibitor’s catalog.

Exhibitors do not need to provide title updates as we’ll be using the titles that are on their dog’s official record.

SOUVENIRS

The Souvenir Store is scheduled to open, Monday, April 19th. The link will be posted at, https://www.akc.org/sports/obedience/events/national-championship/ and will also be shared on the event Facebook page, https://www.facebook.com/AKC-National-Obedience-Championship-1663025047149795. The last day to order souvenirs is Monday, May 24th.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

If you, your family and/or friends would like to assist at this year’s AKC Rally® National Championship and/or AKC National Obedience Championship, please complete the form found online at the link below by clicking on the red VOLUNTEER! Button. The deadline to submit your request to volunteer is Tuesday, June 1, 2021.

Volunteer and enjoy the best seat in the house!
BE “IN-THE-KNOW”

Be “In-The-Know” – Opt-in to receive occasional, informational text messages from AKC regarding this event. Know when new items are posted to the Nationals website, reminders when deadlines are coming due, and last-minute information during the event weekend.
Text @akcno to 919-261-3556 to opt-in.

EXHIBITOR BIOS

There will be livestreaming for the 2021 AKC National Obedience Championship so we will need Exhibitor Bios!! When your entry is accepted into the event you will receive a confirmation email that will include a link for you to follow, in order to complete your bio. Deadline to complete your bio is June 9th.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- **Monday, March 22nd**
  - 1st Round Entries Open

- **Monday, April 19th**
  - 1st Round Entries Close
  - Souvenir Store Opens – more details to follow

- **Monday, April 26th**
  - 2nd Round Opens, if needed

- **Monday, May 17th**
  - 2nd Round Closes, if needed

- **Monday, May 24th**
  - Last day to order Souvenirs

- **Friday, May 28th**
  - Catalog/Well Wisher Ads close

- **Wednesday, June 9th**
  - Deadline for Exhibitor Bios

- **Tuesday, June 15th**
  - Hotel Room Block closes

- **Friday, July 9th**
  - Exhibitor Check-In
    - Time/Location to be announced
AKC NATIONAL OBEDIENCE CHAMPIONSHIP
AWARDS, PRIZES & RIBBONS

Saturday Awards

- **Top in Group Awards** The top 4 Dogs from each Group will be awarded the following at the end of Saturday’s competition. (Sporting, Hound, Working, Terrier, Toy, Non-Sporting, Herding, Misc./FSS/All American.)
  - NOC 2-Qt Water Bucket & AKC Rosette
  - Eukanuba sponsored – Avery Dry Bag

- **“Top 50”**
  - Commemorative Top 50 Lapel Pin

- **Patricia R. Krause “Soaring Eagle” Perpetual Memorial Trophy**
  Presented to the 51st place dog and handler by the AKC Companion Events Obedience & Rally Team
  - Commemorative Plaque
  - Eukanuba sponsored – Pink Dry Bag

Sunday Awards

- **“Top 20”**
  - AKC Rosette

2021 AKC National Obedience Champion

- $1,000 Cash Award*
- Soaring Eagle Crystal Trophy
- NOC 2-Qt Water Bucket
- AKC Rosette
- AKC Placement Medallion/Neck Ribbon
- Eukanuba sponsored – Dog Cot

1st Runner-Up

- $500 Cash Award*
- NOC 2-Qt Water Bucket
- AKC Rosette
- AKC Placement Medallion/Neck Ribbon
- Eukanuba sponsored – Avery Dry Bag

2nd Runner-Up

- $200 Cash Award*
- NOC 2-Qt Water Bucket
- AKC Rosette
- AKC Placement Medallion/Neck Ribbon
- Eukanuba sponsored - Colton Water Bottle

3rd Runner-Up

- $100 Cash Award*
- NOC 2-Qt Water Bucket
- AKC Rosette
- AKC Placement Medallion/Neck Ribbon
- Eukanuba sponsored – Crate Blanket

5th – 10th Place

- AKC Rosette

2021 National Obedience Champion will be automatically eligible to compete at the 2022 AKC National Obedience Championship. The 2022 qualifying requirements are waived for the 2021 Champion as stated above.

*All monetary awards will be mailed approximately 30 days after the competition. Winners of these awards must complete the award form and provide their Social Security Number to the AKC to receive the awards. Forms will be available at the event.

“ROYAL CANIN RESERVES THE RIGHT TO MAKE PRIZE SUBSTITUTIONS OF EQUAL OR GREATER VALUE IN THE EVENT A SPECIFIC LISTED PRIZE IS NOT AVAILABLE.”
IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL EXHIBITORS
PLEASE READ THIS ENTIRE SECTION CAREFULLY

EXHIBITOR CHECK-IN: Exhibitors will be allowed to check-in on Friday, July 9th. Once times and location for check-in have been determined all exhibitors will be notified by email. If you cannot check-in until Saturday morning you must do so at least 30 minutes prior to the start of judging.

Exhibitors MUST check-in at EACH ring, EACH day.

CRATING: NOC crating will not begin until after the completion of the RNC Awards on Friday. Each dog entered in the event will be allotted one 6’ x 5’ space. Un-entered dogs will only be allowed in the facility if they can share the crate space with an entered dog, or if their crate can be stacked on top of an entered dog’s crate within the 6’ x 5’ space allotted.

A “crate” is defined as having a top, bottom and 4 walls, all interconnecting, thus preventing the dog from escaping.

Each exhibitor will be required to display an information card on the outside of each crate; card(s) will be supplied at check-in. The information card must have your name and on-site emergency contact information (cell phone # or other). This is for the safety of your dog!

NO EX-PENS: will be allowed in the facility or around the front of Royal Canin Ring/Holiday Inn
No dogs are permitted to be crated or groomed on any carpeted area.

ALL DOGS MUST BE ON LEASH: Dogs must be on leash, held by the handler at all times while on the trial grounds except when in the designated warm-up area or competing in the ring. Dogs may NOT be on retractable leads or long-lines while inside the building. Failure to maintain control of a dog may result in an Event Committee hearing.

SPECIAL TRAINING COLLARS ARE PROHIBITED.

CATALOGS: will not be distributed to exhibitors with their check-in packet. Catalogs will only be available for purchase through the Souvenir Store.

COVID: All Exhibitors agree to adhere to all COVID policies and procedures that the AKC may impose for these events.

RINGS: The competition rings will have OD Pro Artificial Turf with a 5mm foam pad; and the warm-up ring will have blue carpet, with a foam base.

WARM-UP RING: If entries allow enough space, a warm-up ring will be provided for dogs entered in the AKC National Obedience Championship in accordance with the AKC Obedience Regulations, Chapter 1, Section 33. No exhibitor may use the ring without AKC Staff in the building. Exhibitors are asked to share the ring. Individual ring time will not exceed 5 minutes. The ring will be monitored and if there are any problems, the ring will be closed. Exhibitors please practice good sportsmanship.

FOOD/BEVERAGE OUTLETS: Dogs will not be permitted in food and beverage outlets, with the exception of service dogs.

No dogs can be left/crated in Royal Canin Ring overnight.

No dogs will be permitted in any of the hotel recreation areas, including the swimming pools, and any other areas to be stipulated as “non-dog” locations.

ALL Exhibitors are responsible for cleaning up after themselves and their dogs. This includes properly disposing of waste and using designated relief areas and the public x-pen area on the south side of the property, clearly marked with signage.
IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL EXHIBITORS
PLEASE READ THIS ENTIRE SECTION CAREFULLY, CONT’D

SAFETY, BEHAVIOR and LIABILITY: The safety of the dog is our primary concern. By entering this trial, exhibitors acknowledge that they are familiar with the rules and regulations of the AKC. It is expressly understood that exhibitors alone are responsible for the behavior of their dogs and/or children. Any exhibitor whose dogs and/or children create an unnecessary disturbance or repeatedly engage in unsafe or disruptive behavior, may, at the discretion of the Event Committee, be asked to leave the show site. In such cases, no refund of any fees paid will be made. The American Kennel Club and its agents, employees, etc., will assume no responsibilities for any loss, damage or injury sustained by exhibitors or handlers, or to any of their dogs or property and further assumes no responsibility for injury to children. The American Kennel Club reserves the right to decline entries for cause and may remove any dog because of aggression. No one shall have any recourse or claim against the American Kennel Club or any official thereof.

Exhibitors should follow their veterinarian’s recommendations to assure their dogs are free of internal and external parasites, any communicable diseases, and have appropriate vaccinations. A copy of a dog’s vaccination record, including a current rabies certificate, must be present for all dogs at the event.

This club agrees to arbitrate claims as set forth on the Official AKC National Obedience Championship Entry Form for this event.

CATALOG & WELL WISHERS ADS

CATALOG ADVERTISEMENTS
Advertisements in the 2021 AKC National Obedience Championship/AKC Rally® National Championship catalog are WELCOMED! This year's exhibitor's catalog will be 8.5 X 5.5 inches, allowing a full-page ad area approximately 4.5 X 7.5 inches to post your message and/or picture. Camera ready ads are accepted in high-resolution press quality PDF’s (preferred). JPEG or TIFF files are also acceptable (minimum 300 pixels/inch). If you are sending photos separately, the photos should be scanned to a finished size and at a minimum of 300 pixels/inch. Do not forget to include the correct orientation. Full and half-page ads will receive a complimentary hardcopy of the catalog.

Full page ads MUST be in a portrait orientation, and half page ads MUST be in a landscape orientation. If mailing, please send only high-quality photos for scanning purposes.

Photos will be in black and white.
Full page ad up to 4.5” X 7.5” ……. $ 80.00
1/2-page ad up to 4.5” X 3.5” …… $ 55.00

WELL WISHERS
Send brief good luck wishes from you and/or your club. For $25.00 you can advertise to wish whoever “Good Luck” at the event. The catalog width will be 4.5 inches. The statement must be 25 words or less.

PAYMENT
You may pay by check, money order or credit card. By submitting a photo and payment for a space, you ensure that you are the author and copyright holder of the photograph. Please mail your check or money order to the address below, if you are paying by credit card please call 919-816-3575. Do not send credit card information via email.

Make checks payable to: AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB
Memo line: NOC/RNC Catalog Ad

If mailing send to:
AKC Companion Events
Attn: NOC/RNC Catalog
PO Box 900050
Raleigh, NC 27675-9050
919-816-3816
AKC-NOC@akc.org

Deadline for submission is Friday, May 28, 2021