

Regulations for Agility Trial

Changes Effective January 1, 2014

Please send questions on changes to agility@akc.org

Chapter 1

Allows Single Breed Specialty Clubs to Hold Two Agility Trials in One Day

Section 2. Agility Trials Defined. Paragraph 8

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.

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 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.

Requires Clubs to Refund Entry Fees for Females in Season & Allows Dogs to Run Twice in a Day if Two Trials are Offered

Section 3. Eligibility of Dogs. Paragraph 7

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 or deaf shall not be eligible. Blind means without useful vision, and deaf means without useful hearing. No dog shall compete if it is taped or bandaged or in any way has anything attached to it for medical purposes.

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 class, Jumpers With Weaves class, T2B class, FAST class, 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.

Recommends Clubs List Breed Specific Legislation and Restates Females in Season Policy

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 5 ½ x 8 ½ inches or more than 8 ½ 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 any 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 in the trial premium list. Clubs must treat all occurrences of a listed refund equally.

Premium lists must also 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*.

Allows Load Balancing of Entries up to 20 Runs

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 330, except 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 runs 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.

Allows Dogs to Be Moved to Lower Class if AKC Notifies Owner of Dog's Ineligibility After Close of Entries

Section 21. Change of Entry.

In addition to Move-ups as described in Chapter 1, Section 20 entries may be 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.

If notification has been received in writing from the American Kennel Club after the close of entries that the dog is not eligible for the class(es) entered, the dog may be moved to the correct class(es). The request for the move to the class for which the dog is eligible must be in writing, accompanied by the letter from the AKC and submitted to the superintendent or trial secretary at least 30 minutes prior to the start of the trial.

Allows Judges to Review Video Tapes to Determine Run Order of Dogs in Case Scribe Sheets were Used Out of Order

Section 31. Judges' Responsibilities, Paragraph 9

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 4

Allows Course to be Built Day Prior

Section 6. Preparing a Ring for Agility.

The judge is allowed to send a diagram showing the positions of the obstacles no more than 24 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 24 hours ahead if requested by the club. The club may build the course the day prior to the trial within the parameters noted above. Once the obstacles are set no dogs may train or practice on the obstacles.

Recommended Walk-Thru Size

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.

Allows Leashes to Have Pick-up Bags & ID Tags Attached

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 show 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.

Defines When Equipment May Be Used on Show Grounds

Section 15. Training on Show Grounds.

No agility obstacle training is allowed on the show grounds except for the use of the warm-up jump. No training is allowed on the trial equipment from 12:00 a.m. the day of the trial. 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).

Defines Clothing Allowed in Agility Ring

Section 16. 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 13

Allows All AKC Heights in ISC Classes at Club's Discretion

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 14 inches in height, dogs entered in Medium Agility jump 18 inches in height, dogs entered in Large Agility jump 26 inches in height. Exceptions and/or ranges exist at some jumps, see "Obstacle Specification."

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. 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 13, Section 7 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.

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, 26 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.