



YL-E - 4-H DOG AGILITY TRIAL RULES

Show: Thursday, August 11th – 2:30 P.M.

Superintendent: Stacie Stolba

Horse Show Ring – Grass Area

4-H Special Awards sponsored by: Howard County EAC, Jennifer Brigane, Lisa Hirrlinger, Marbet Farm, Ross Manges, The Feaga Family and The Willie Family

Premiums: 10.00 9.00 8.00 7.00 6.00 5.00 – rest of class

Ribbons: Junior, Intermediate, Senior, Division Champions, Grand and Reserve Champion

1. Decisions of the judge is final. Exhibitors, parents, volunteers, and other individuals are not permitted to talk with the judge during the show. This does not include questions during the agility briefing or course walk-throughs. Confrontations with the judge are not permitted.
2. All exhibitors must bring a crate for their dog.
3. The 4-H Dog Agility Trial will be run as a NADAC Skilled Junior Handler Division following NADAC rules.
4. Dress Code: Cool and comfortable clothing with running shoes.
5. Membership in 4-H Dog Project and vaccination records must be on file at Howard County 4-H Office by June 1st.
6. Online registration closes July 1st.
7. All healthy, trained dogs over eighteen (18) months of age are eligible to compete in the agility trials. Handlers and dogs must have successfully completed an appropriate Happy Hounds sponsored agility class or a private agility class with an experienced trainer prior to entry in the county fair agility competition.
8. No food allowed in the ring.
9. Flat buckle collars only, no choke or electronic collars will be allowed.
10. All agility trials shall be open to purebred and mixed breed dogs.
11. Females in heat, lame, or blind dogs are ineligible for entry, as is any dog with a deformity that may cause a judge to not be able to reasonably assess the dog's ability to function and perform agility obstacles safely, and in a manner that is in the best interest, health and welfare of the dog.

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12. Any dog that demonstrates aggression towards any person or any dog, whether inside or outside the ring, must be excused from the agility trial.
13. Any dog that the judge feels is not in enough control to perform all obstacles in a safe manner will be excused from the agility trial.
14. 1st year and Pre-Novice classes are not eligible for the Grand Champion award.
15. Exhibitors must compete in all 3 classes (jumps, regular agility and tunnels), to be eligible for their division championship.
16. Exhibitors may show up to two dogs whether they be in the same class or different classes provided the exhibitor and dogs meet the eligibility requirements of each class.
17. The judge will refer to the NADAC rules to determine the Standard Course Time (SCT).
18. The dog/handler team with the least number of course faults is the winner of the class. If there is a tie, the team with the fastest time is the winner.
19. **Agility Levels: (*On lead classes do not qualify for Grand Champion.)**
 - *1st Year - ON LEAD (OFF LEAD optional) for regular agility and jumpers.** For beginner handler and beginning dog in their first year of showing.
 - *PRE-NOVICE - ON LEAD (OFF LEAD optional) for regular agility and jumpers.** For experienced handler with a 1st or 2nd year dog or beginning handler with experienced dog (2nd or more year of showing). Exhibitors can compete in Pre-Novice for a maximum of 2 years. Once a dog/handler team has been shown off-lead, they cannot go back to showing on-lead.
 - NOVICE - OFF LEAD** - For handler with a dog who is ready to be shown off lead. Dogs that have earned (1) qualifying score towards their title in a Sanctioned Agility Trial may NOT compete in this class. Dogs may run on leash, but will be FOR EXHIBITION ONLY (FE0).
 - ADVANCED - OFF LEAD** - For experienced handler with experienced dog who is ready to be shown off lead, is showing in AKC, UKC or other venues. Dogs that have earned one (1) or two (2) qualifying scores in a Sanctioned Agility Trial may compete in this class.
 - ELITE** - Dogs that have earned a title in a Sanctioned Agility Trial may compete in this class.
20. When to move up to the next level of competition:

Dog/handler combinations that have won their Division Championship with 10 faults or less (the total added up from all 3 runs, i.e., jumps, tunnels and regular agility), must move up to the next level the following year. The exception to this is the Pre-Novice winner who does not need to move up if they win their Division Championship with 10 faults or less.
21. Pre-Novice dog/handler combinations can compete in the Pre-Novice class for a maximum of 2 years.

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22. Any dog committing to any contact obstacle (A-frame, dog walk) with all four paws and then bailing off during a competition will be told by the judge to omit that contact obstacle and continue on the course (20 point fault).
23. Any dog refusing an obstacle, including the weave poles, for the third time will be asked by the judge to go on to the next obstacle (20 point fault).
24. Failure of the dog to touch the contact zone on the descent of any contact obstacle is a 10 point fault.
25. Any dog unable to complete the course for any reason (including leaving the ring, ceasing to work for a reasonable time as defined by the judge, being out of control, etc.) will be excused from the class.
26. Any handler not obeying the judge may be told to leave the class.
27. Handlers may use voice commands, signals or both. Handlers are encouraged to talk to their dogs and encourage them as they go through the course.
28. Agility Obstacles: Dog Walk, Weave Poles, non-winged jumps, A-frame, Open Tunnel.
1st Year: jumps, tunnels, dog walk, A-frame
Pre-Novice: jumps, tunnels, dog walk, A-frame
Novice: jumps, tunnels, dog walk, A-frame
Advanced: jumps, tunnels, dog walk, A-frame, weave poles may be used
Elite: jumps, tunnels, dog walk, A-frame, weave poles
29. Classes offered:
Regular Agility - This is a standard agility course with the option of all of the equipment listed above. It is a timed course with course and time faults.
Tunnelers - The goal of the Tunnelers class is to demonstrate the dog's ability to respond quickly to directional commands from the handler while negotiating a course comprised of tunnels, with an option of jumps. Class will be substituted with another agility course if equipment is not available.
Jumpers - The goal of the Jumpers class is to demonstrate the ability of the handler and dog to work as a fast moving, smooth functioning team. This class highlights the natural jumping ability of the dog and tests the handler for effective handling styles, while moving at a rapid pace. The jumpers course may include 1-3 tunnels as defined in the NADAC rules.
30. Obstacle Faults:
Displaced jump pole, bar or tire - 5 points
Running the wrong course - 10 points
Failure to Complete - 20 points
Missing Contact Zone - 10 points
Elimination in the ring – 20 points
The following may be given faults at the discretion of the judge: handler contact, dragging/correcting with the leash, elimination in the ring, out of control in the ring.

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31. Time Faults: The dog shall be assessed time faults for each second or fraction of a second that the dog exceeds the Standard Course Time (SCT).
32. Handlers will compete with other Handlers in their same level and age group regardless of the height of their dog. The taller dogs will have less time to complete the course than the shorter dogs. Ties will be broken with the best course time under the SCT.
- 33.

	Dog Height withers 11" & under	Dog Height withers 14" & under and over 11"	Dog Height withers 18" & under and over 14"	Dog Height withers over 18"
Proficient Veteran dog, Veteran Handler, or Junior Handler	4"	8"	12"	16"

Dogs in the following list of breeds may jump 4" lower than they would normally jump as determined by their measurement. The "breed exemption" jump height becomes their accepted Standard division jump height. For example, if a Corgi were to measure into the 12" jump height group, they are allowed to enter the 8" Standard division jump height group. However, the breed exemption may NOT be used to enter a dog at the 4" height unless they are entered in the Veterans or JH divisions or the skilled category. Am. Staffordshire Terrier, Australian Terrier, Basset Hound, Bulldog, Bull Terrier, Cairn Terrier, Cardigan Welsh Corgi, Cavalier King Charles Spaniel, Clumber Spaniel, Dachshund, French Bulldog, Glen of Imaal Terrier, Miniature Bull Terrier, Pembroke Welsh Corgi, Petite Basset Griffon Vendeen, Pug, Scottish Terrier, Staffordshire Bull Terrier, Swedish Valhund, and West Highland White Terrier.