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**AGILITY REGULATIONS  
OF THE  
Open Junior Agility Championships**

2015  
(October 2014)

OJAC



Open Junior Agility Championships

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## A. Our Aim

To provide a world-class event for young agility handlers from all over the world.

### Introduction

Agility is a dog competition open to all dogs.

The aim of this event is to promote young handlers and their dogs in the world of dog agility; the event has been designed to introduce young handlers to prestigious and top quality events.

### Handler Age categories

Junior – ages from 5 – 11 years on the day of the event

Senior – ages from 12 – 18 years on the day of the event.

### Jump height Categories

Three categories exist:

S (Small) : for dogs measuring less than 35 cm. at the withers.

M (Medium) : for dogs measuring 35 cm or more and less than 43 cm at the withers.

L (Large) : for dogs measuring 43 cm or more at the withers

### Courses

A course is built with several obstacles; the way they are placed determines the degree of difficulty and speed. The dog must complete the course within a predetermined time and the obstacles must be negotiated in the correct order.

#### 1 General

- The surface, in which the event is run on, must be of good quality.
- Spread jumps will have a maximum width: S: 30 cm.; M: 40 cm.; L: 55cm.
- The distance between two consecutive obstacles ranges from 5m to 7m.
- **The handler should be able to pass each obstacle on both sides.**
- **Only dog entered will be able to run at the event.**

#### 2 Course design

The design of the course is left entirely to the judge's imagination.

#### 3 Competition progress

No practise is allowed on the course but competitors will be allowed to walk the course without their dogs before the competition begins.

Before starting the competition the judge will brief the handlers, explaining to them the nature of the competition.

#### c) Test progress

The handler will go into the ring and place the dog (sit, down or stand) behind the start line. **If the dog is still on the lead then the dog's lead is taken off. For safety reasons dogs may run in a quick release flat collar with no tags or loose elements on them.** During the test the handler is not allowed to have anything in his hands.

The handler is allowed to position himself anywhere on the course. The handler will start his dog after the judge's signal. The time will start as soon as the dog crosses the start line.

A variety of commands and signals are allowed during the test.

The handler must ensure that the dog traverses the obstacles in the correct order without touching the dog or the obstacles. The handler must not negotiate; go under or over, the obstacles.

The test is finished and the time stopped when the dog crosses the finish line.  
The handler puts the dog back on the lead and leaves the ring.

### Obstacles

The obstacles approved by the OJAC are:

- |           |                 |               |
|-----------|-----------------|---------------|
| - Hurdles | - See-Saw       | - Flat Tunnel |
| - Wall    | - A-frame       | - Tyre        |
| -Dog Walk | - Weaving Poles | - Long Jump   |
| -Spread   | - Tube Tunnel   |               |

Hurdles:

a) Single

Height: L: 55 to 65 cm. - M: 35 to 45 cm. - S: 25 to 35 cm.

Minimum width: 1,20 m.

**No part (pole holders or cups), removable or permanent, should be protruding from the upright or wing.**

b) Spread

Two single jumps (as in item a), but with poles only) placed together to form a double spread jump. The poles are placed in ascending order with a difference in height of 15 to 25 cm.

The highest pole is placed at the back:

L: 55 to 65 cm. - M: 35 to 45 cm. - S: 25 to 35 cm.

The total depth must not exceed: L: 55 cm. - M: 40 cm. - S: 30 cm.


**No part (pole holders or cups), removable or permanent, should be protruding from the upright or wing.**

Wall:

Height: L: 55 to 65 cm. - M: 35 to 45 cm. - S: 25 to 35 cm.

Minimum width: 1,20 m. and approximately 20 cm. thick.

The panel can have 1 or 2 tunnel shaped openings. The wall should have displaceable units at the top.

The shape of the units: 

Dog Walk:

Each ramp should have anti-slip slats and a good quality rubber surface.

The last 90 cm. from the bottom of each ramp should have a different colour (on the sides as well) to indicate the contact area.

See-saw: .

The Obstacle should have an anti-slip and good quality rubber surface. (No Slats)

Contact areas: same as the dog walk.

The seesaw must be properly balanced (must not tip too fast or too slow) and allow the small dogs to tip it without problems.

A-frame:

Each ramp should have ant-slip rubber surface slats at regular intervals to avoid slipping and making the climb easier.

Weaving poles:

Number of poles: 8, 10 or 12

The poles are rigid and have a diameter of 3 to 5 cm. The height of the poles is 1 to 1,20 m and they are placed **60 cm** apart.

Tube tunnel: Diameter: 60 cm. - Length: 3 to 6 m.

Flexible so that one or more bends can be formed.

Flat tunnel: It must have an entrance of rigid construction.  
**If possible**, the exit should be pegged or weighted down.

Tyre: Aperture diameter: **45 cm.** to 60 cm.  
Aperture centre from the ground: L: 80 cm. – M and S: 55 cm.  
The tyre must be adjustable in height.

Long jump: Two to five units comprise a long jump. The overall length is:  
L : 1,20 to 1,50 m. (4 to 5 units)  
M: 70 to 90 cm. (3 to 4 units)  
S : 40 to 50 cm. (2 units)  
Width of the jump: 1,20 m.  
The units are placed in ascending order.

Start -Finish The start and finish line should have efficient space to start and finish without having to decelerate to avoid an object.

## **Judging**

No competitor shall impugn the decision of the judge whose decisions are final.

### 1 General

The aim is to let the dog negotiate the course correctly, with enough content in it to challenge the dog and handlers ability.

In case of dogs finishing equal, the dog with the least amount of faults on the course should be favoured. The time will be taken into consideration only when the total faults are the same.

If, by chance, the total faults (course + time faults) are exactly the same the judge can run off the equal dogs.

### 2 Faults

Faults applied are:

- Faults incurred for failure to complete the course correctly
- Faults incurred for failure to complete the course within the time.

## Faults

- a) Exceeding the course time.: a single fault per second.
  - b) Course time will be calculated by measuring of the course, and using the OJAC approved meters per second rule.
  - c) There will be a manual back up timer, in the event of timing failure.
- b) General:
- The handler must not pass between the poles that mark the start and/or the finish or he will be faulted (5 faults), also the time will start as the handler crosses the start line.
  - A handler who gains an advantage by touching his dog will be faulted - 5 faults each time it occurs.
  - A handler who deliberately touches an obstacle will be faulted - 5 faults each time it occurs.
  - If a handler destroys an obstacle so the dog cannot complete it correctly this will result in eliminated.
- c) Faults on the course:  
All course faults are in units of five (5 faults)

### Dropped Bars or Bricks:

A fault will be given each time any part of any obstacle is knocked down,

#### Refusals:

Will be faulted with a refusal: a dog that stops in front of an obstacle. A dog that runs out or runs by an obstacle, jumps between the tyre and the frame or walks through the long jump. A dog that puts its head or a paw in a tunnel and comes back out again.

#### Contact area:

On the A-frame, dog walk and seesaw the dog must touch both the up as well as the down contact with at least one part of the dog's body. Failure to do so: 5 faults each time it occurs.

Refusals must be corrected; failure to do so will result in elimination. 3 refusals will also result in elimination.

The same applies to the weaving poles, each mistake must be corrected.

Other faults: knockdowns or missing a contact point: the dog will be penalised but it continues its run without completing it correctly

#### Marking on specific obstacles:

##### See-saw

The dog that jumps off the obstacle before passing the pivot point will be penalised with a refusal (5 faults). The seesaw must touch the ground before the dogs continues from the obstacle, otherwise it will incur 5 faults.

##### Weaving poles

The first pole must be on the left of the dog, the second on the right and so on.

Each incorrect entry will be penalised with a refusal (5 faults). For further errors a dog should only be penalised once, with a fault (5 faults). Back weaving (more than 2 spaces) will result in elimination.

**The obstacle must be completed correctly before negotiating the next obstacle; failure to do so will result in elimination on the next obstacle.**

##### Long jump

The dog must complete the obstacle without knocking any part over; if the dog touches, and the element do not fall it will **NOT be faulted**

**The dog or handler will not be faulted when they touch or knock down one of the marker poles of the long jump.**

##### Spread jump

Judged in the same way as the single hurdles

##### Elimination

- Unseemly behaviour towards the judge
- Harsh handling of the dog
- Three refusals
- Taking or touching obstacles out of sequence
- Forgetting to take an obstacle
- Taking an obstacle in the wrong direction
- **Dog or handler disturbs an obstacle in such a way that it can no longer be completed correctly**
- Handler negotiates an obstacle himself, jumps or passes under the obstacle.

- Handler holds something in his hand
- Dog wearing a collar not approved by OJAC (See rules above)
- Stopping on the course **because the handler retires** (unless instructed by the judge)
- Dog fouls or leaves or is deemed out of control
- Dog leaving the ring at any time while under test.
- A elimination will be occurred if a team members dog runs into the course area during another members run in the “team relay” test

When a dog leaves the ring, the competitor will proceed to the finish of the course and retrieve the dog safely, however neither the handler or dog may re-enter the ring and continue the round.

Elimination must be indicated clearly (whistle, clear arm signal etc.) by the judge.  
The judge will deal with all unexpected circumstances and must be consistent at all times.

### **Unexpected Problems**

Under circumstances beyond the handler’s control - poles blown down, twisted cloth of the flat tunnel – the judge can stop the handler and when the obstacle has been rebuilt, the judge will restart the dog from the beginning.

All faults incurred before the dog was stopped will still apply. Up to that point no other faults will be given, however, the handler still has to negotiate the course to the best of his ability; i.e. must make a good attempt. Additional faults will be incurred only after the point at which the dog was originally stopped.

All breeds including mixed breeds are eligible; dog must be over at least 18 months old to compete

Ineligible to enter:

- Pregnant bitches
- Dogs that are apparently ill or hurt
- **Doped dogs**

Dogs coming from or going to a region infected with rabies must have a valid inoculation certificate against rabies.

Three categories exist:                    S (Small) - M (Medium) - L (Large)

Note: Dogs can only enter one category.

There are two official classes:

- Agility            – including aframe, dog walk, seesaw.
- Jumping            – excluding contact equipment.

### **Open Junior Agility Championships (OJAC)**

#### **Organisation**

The Open Junior Agility Championships are organised annually. The winners will gain the title

Open Junior Agility Champion Over 12  
Or  
Open Junior Agility Champion Under 12

## Tests

Tests will be judged according to the OJAC rules and regulations. They will be held in one ring, with one judge.

**Only dogs that have been entered in the show will be able to run, whether they are in the Individual or Team event.**

The Open Junior Agility Championships will consist of:

### **a) Time Trial**

- 1x Time Trial course, this course will consist of only Jumps and Pipe tunnels, this test will be split into Small, Medium and Large but all age categories will compete against each other. This course will be designed to be fast and open.

### **b) 2 x 'Individual' tests**

- 1 Agility course containing the contact equipment.
- 1 Jumping course without contact equipment.

The course will only contain the approved obstacles.

The two results added together will determine the winner, who will be 'OJAC Champion'. **There will be a champion per age group and per height group** In case of a tie (for first place only), the 'winning' agility score between the two competitors will determine the winner.

### **c) 1 x 'Team relay' tests.**

- A team must consist of 4 dogs
- Open to all heights of dog
- Dogs of any different heights can be mixed within the team. Small and Medium dogs will run over Small height jumps and large dogs will run over large height jumps, meaning the team could consist of all dogs running at small height or all dogs running large height or a variety of dog heights with handlers all from the same age group
- Teams will be competing against each other in one competition with in your own age category
- Handlers may enter more than one team
- Dogs may only compete in one team, handlers may run a MAXIMUM of two dogs in 1 team and would have a running order of 1 & 3 or 2 & 4 or 1 & 4 (to give the handler time to change over dogs).
- Box / changeover additional handler will only be permitted when a handler has 2 dogs to run in one team. There will be no other exceptions.
- The course will consist of two separate sections one set at small and one set at large, the course will consist of either an aframe or seesaw and weaves that both sides (small and large) will have to complete. (See sample Course on page 10)
- All team members will be in the ring at once and there will be a baton change between all handlers (See baton change rules)



- All team members & dogs must remain within the changeover box until the final dog has completed its test and broken the timing beam.

### **Scoring and results**

- Eliminations will result in 100 faults
- Dropping or a missed baton change will result in 25 faults added to the team.
- A dog and handler can only be eliminated on course once, however a reasonable effort to finish the course must be made or a whole team disqualification will be issued.

### **Baton Rules:**

The judge shall designate an area for a baton exchange between handlers. The next dog and handler to run for the team will wait in this area for their turn to run. The baton exchange must happen with both handlers and their dogs within the boundaries of the designated exchange box. The baton must exchange hands without being dropped or thrown before the next handler and dog to run can move out of the exchange area to begin their course. Dogs and handlers must remain in the exchange box once the baton has been passed. The baton must remain within the exchange box at all times and the returning handler must hold the baton for 5 (five) seconds to be considered a successful exchange. The handler waiting in the exchange area can hold or restrain his or her dog in anyway, providing it is not deemed abusive or harsh by the judge. Dogs may be placed on leads before and after their runs while other team members are running. However, a lead must not be on the dog at the time of the baton exchange. A elimination will be incurred if another team members dog runs into the course area during another members run. At the discretion of the judge they may appoint someone to judge the exchange box. If a box judge is appointed they will be deemed as an event judge and therefore must comply with all judging rules. Dropping or a missed baton change will result in 25 faults added to the team.

## **AGILITY OBSTACLES**



Height:  
L: 55 to 65 cm.  
M: 35 to 45 cm.  
S: 25 to 35 cm.



Long Jump  
L : 1,20 to 1,50 m. (4 to 5 units)  
M: 70 to 90 cm. (3 to 4 units)  
S : 40 to 50 cm. (2 units)

All Contact equipment will have a rubber surface.

