

AUGUST 2021 EDITION

CLUB

NEWSLETTER



UKC CLUB NEWSLETTER

FROM THE UKC ALL-BREED SPORTS DEPARTMENT.

We have had a lot of changes in our performance programs over the last year and limited opportunities for Judges and exhibitors to put the new changes into practice due to the pandemic. We are looking forward to our programs offering the opportunity for our exhibitors to enjoy spending time once again with their dogs and friends. To be proactive with our clubs, we would like to touch base again on the changes within the programs. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or need any clarification with any of the rules. We are always available for you.

Please contact your club coordinator, Leslie Kroger lkroger@ukcdogs.com, or Anne Sahli asahli@ukcdogs.com if you need assistance with your club.

For specific events, you may also contact the program managers:

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HOT WEATHER SHOWS

Heat Kills. While it is great to be back showing, most of the country (USA), has been experiencing a hotter than normal summer. As a reminder, it is very important to keep the dogs, as well as exhibitors, in mind while they are showing in this extreme heat. It does not take much exertion before a dog or handler is overheated. If judging is outside, be sure to use shade wisely, and to remind everyone to keep themselves and their dogs hydrated.

CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

Check your club's scheduled dates. The year 2020 found nearly all clubs having to cancel and reschedule their events, only having to cancel them again. With all the rescheduling, there may be some clubs whose event date is no longer on their normal scheduled weekend. To be sure your club is scheduled correctly, please contact your club coordinator and have them review your scheduled weekend to be sure your club is set for the upcoming 2021 and 2022 calendar year.

New Junior Entry Form. Junior members are a huge part of UKC events, and we want to encourage our juniors to participate. Our juniors not only deserve to receive their ranking points for participating in UKC events, but they also need to feel they are part of our dog showing community. When preparing for your club's event, be sure the club has plenty of the new junior entry forms available for junior participants. The Junior Entry Form is found on the UKC website, along with the other necessary forms for club events.

<https://www.ukcdogs.com/docs/showforms/junior-entry-form.pdf>

Entry Forms. Please be sure to include armband numbers on each entry form submitted to UKC in the space provided in the upper right-hand portion of the entry form. Dogs entered in different types of events may have the same or different armband numbers depending on how the club sets that up. When processing paperwork, it is very important that we know which dog is entered in which classes. Without the armband information on the entry form it can be very difficult to determine that information. For performance events, please make sure that any additional information that is required is also on the entry form.

Performance Entry Form Requirements: (in addition to armband number)

Height at Withers: Located after the breed of dog on the entry for the following Performance Events:

Obedience: Class, Jump Height Division and Height at Withers for entries in Beginner Novice (Minimum Height only), Novice, Advanced Novice, Open, Utility, and Elite.

Agility: Height at Withers, Class and Division

Precision Coursing: Class and Division

Lure Coursing: Class

Drag Racing: Height at Withers, Class

Dock Jumping: Number of Splashes

Nosework: Entry Form must have the following: Class Division, Element, Element level

TOTAL DOG EVENTS

Dogs showing in multiple events. UKC events have always been about the dog and many exhibitors can boast that "Our Dogs Do More," because their dogs not only have conformation titles, but have performance titles as well. One way they earn their titles is by competing in Total Dog events, which require the dog to be entered in both conformation as well as a performance event on the same day.

The problem many Judges and exhibitors find when showing a dog in multiple events is that this usually leads to conflicts. While we encourage exhibitors to talk with the stewards (and Judges) working the rings and sort out their conflict by arranging to exhibit their dog to avoid the conflict, keep in mind it is not always the performance event that needs to accommodate the change in judging order. The conformation ring may also adjust the breed order to help accommodate the exhibitor by:

- Moving the breed up or down in judging order, provided the following steps are taken:



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- The exhibitors entered in the breed that is being moved are notified of the move,
 - The judging of the breed is not judged prior to any posted starting time
 - Should the exhibitor requesting the move not be present when it is time for the breed to be judged, the judging shall commence, and the dog will be marked absent.
- Dogs that do not have a title in that element and level.
 - Dogs can be working in different elements and in different levels at the same trial and can therefore be in both “A” and “B” classes at the same trial.
 - Example: Dog can be entered in Novice “B” Containers working on Championship points in Novice and Advanced “A” Interiors working on Advanced Interior title.

NOSEWORK

The main premise of Nosework is that dogs are finding a hidden odor that the handler has trained the dog to find and alert on. To do this, there needs to be areas to search. While it would be great to have a facility that could offer perfect areas for all the elements, that is not normally available. This is the reason for the allowance of “staged” areas. Of course, if natural areas are available, they can certainly be used, however, once a Judge places a hide on an area that cannot be removed from the specific search area, once that class is over, that area can no longer be used. For instance, if there is a brick wall that has locations a hide can be placed, once that class is over, that area can no longer be used since the brick wall cannot be removed. **We do not allow the area to be “cleaned” with any substance and then place an “X” on the location of the hide to be avoided in the next search.** This includes vehicles in a vehicle trial. Once a vehicle is used, the hide cannot be removed and an “X” placed on the spot where the hide was, and a new hide placed somewhere else on the vehicle to be used again.

Prohibited items: In the search areas, exhibitors are not allowed to have active cell phones, video devices, or Go Pros on themselves or their dogs. The Nosework rules has an allowance for an additional person to come into the search area with the exhibitor to take pictures or video their dog during their performance. Neither a Judge nor a club can prohibit an exhibitor from recording their performance if it adheres to these rules. The only exception is if the club hired an official photographer or videographer to perform this function. Exhibitors or spectators are not allowed to smoke or vape within, or around any of the search areas. Judges may ask exhibitors or spectators to leave the area if they are smoking or vaping.

Spectators: Nosework is a fun sport to watch and UKC would like spectators and people interested in the sport to be able to watch. It is understood that some areas are just not set up to allow spectators and that is perfectly fine. When possible, accommodations for spectators should be made available.

Class Divisions. Clubs and Judges need to understand the nature of the “A” and “B” class divisions in case they are asked by an exhibitor where they need to be entered. If the dog does not have a title in that class and element, the dog qualifies to be in the “A” class unless it is owned by a Judge or professional in detection. To avoid any confusion, please review the summary below.

The “A” class is for:

The “B” class is for:

- Dogs that have a title in the element they are working in,
- Dogs that have an equivalent title in another organization in the level they are working in,
- Dogs that are owned by a Nosework Judge (any organization) or a professional in the detection field,
- Dogs that are not being handled by the owner.
 - Example: Second dogs entered in the same class by the same owner must be run by a different handler that is also not entered in the class. This dog must be in the “B” class.

Class Championships. Class Champion titles can now be earned in any order, just like the class Grand Champion titles. *The dog must have the full level title before any legs will be applied to the class Champion or Grand Champion title.* For instance, the dog must have a full Novice Nosework title to work on the Novice Championship and a Novice Championship title to work on the Grand Champion title. If the dog has not completed those titles, legs will not count toward the next level title.

Alerts. Beginning in the Master level, the alert behavior **must** be stated on the entry form and the Judge must know what that alert behavior is. Please be sure when the secretary of the trial is preparing the paperwork for the trial that the Alert behavior is stated on the entry form and on the scoresheet for the Judge.

Reference:

Novice classes: Alert not required on entry form.

Advanced classes: Alert not required on entry form.

Superior classes: Alert not required on entry form.

Master classes: Must be stated on the entry form and score sheet. Up to three possible and specific behaviors may be listed.

Elite classes: Must be stated on the entry form and score sheet. No more than two behaviors may be listed.

Handler Discrimination Classes:

Novice, Advanced, or Excellent: Alert not required on entry form.

Master: Must be stated on the entry form and can



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only be a sit or a down.

Vehicles. We understand how difficult it can be to secure vehicles for trials. It is up to the club to decide if they want to make restrictions or give incentives to exhibitors for allowing the club to use a personal vehicle for the trial.

Distractions. The rule states that the club is responsible for providing items such as food or toys for distractions. Judges are allowed to bring their own distractions and use them if they wish instead of what the club has provided if they meet the allowable criteria for distractions per the rules. Food distractions do not have to fit inside of the normal small scent tins.

Warm-Ups. Clubs are not required to provide a warm-up area for exhibitors. If space permits the warm-up area must be kept simple and must not interfere with any of the search areas.

Handler Discrimination.

Master. The club must provide pre-numbered boxes with either the flaps removed or folded down inside the box. If boxes are too small to have the flaps folded down inside the box so that the personal item can be easily seen by showing over the top of the box, then the flaps must be removed. All personal items must fit inside the box without any parts of the item coming over the top of the box.

Nosework Classes.

Elite Class. This class is a difficult and challenging class. It is very common for failure rates to be higher than pass rates. Under no circumstances are handlers in this class told or given clues as to how many hides are being used. This class is a class with an unknown number of hides. Please be mindful when you set up search areas and crating areas. If the crating area is close enough to the search area for exhibitors to hear the hides being called out, Judges have been instructed that it is acceptable to use a silent method of communication to the Judge when locating hides.

It is the responsibility of the club to make sure the alert behavior is stated on the entry form at this class level and to make the Judge aware of a dog that has listed "barking" as their alert behavior. Please make accommodations to run this dog last in the class and give the handler the reason for doing so.

OBEDIENCE

Please note that as of July 2, 2021, all Obedience classes except the Elite and Non-Licensed classes must be offered at Obedience trials.

Regular licensed classes (required): Novice, Open and Utility

Additional licensed classes (required): Pre-Novice, Beginner Novice, Advanced Novice, Advanced Open, and Master.

Additional Licensed class (optional): Elite

Non-Licensed classes (optional): Veteran, Brace, Versatility,

Precision Heeling, Pairs, and Teams.

Video Series. UKC has done a video series titled Obedience Trial Series – UKC All Breed Sports, on all the Obedience classes from Pre-Novice through Elite and the Non-Licensed Precision Heeling class. These videos would be an asset to view for club education for members or at the beginning or end of a teaching unit for students. Videos can be accessed on the UKC YouTube channel. If you have not subscribed to the channel, you may also want to do that. Here is the direct link to the playlist: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLb_krZ1jPbRgS3fJRcZmNMvUsEQT-lfc-

Same Judge Rally/Obedience trial. Clubs may petition for approval to use the same Judge to officiate for both Rally and Obedience on the same day if that Judge holds both licenses. In this case, entries will automatically be limited to 30 Obedience and 60 Rally entries per trial unless the club designates specific entry limits with no more than 8 hours of judging. All required Obedience classes must be offered in the Obedience trial.

Judging Order. Licensed classes (both regular and additional) may be judged in any order determined by the club. Non-licensed classes may be judged in any order but may not interfere with the judging of any licensed classes. Dogs may be judged in numerical order or by jump height when applicable.

Jump Heights. Handlers must select either Standard or Minimum jump height and distance on their entry form when entering an Obedience class where jump heights are applicable. Any dog is eligible to jump the minimum jump height regardless of their age or breed.

Ring sizes. Rings for all required Rally and Obedience classes must be at least 40 x 50 feet. The Elite and non-licensed Teams class must have a minimum ring size of 40 x 70 feet.

Equipment. There are new equipment requirements with the new classes, please access the rulebook for their specifics.

New equipment requirements are as follows:

- Send Away Box
- Pylons, poles, or cones
- Scent cloths
- Position cards
- Scent boxes
- Stopwatches
- Food Distraction (for the Elite class)

High In Trial Scoresheet. The new High in Trial Scoresheet is available on the website. This scoresheet is meant to help clubs keep track of dogs eligible for High in Trial. Club secretaries should have this sheet ready for each trial and at the appropriate ring at the end of the trial. The steward or secretary should fill in the information requested on



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the form to have ready for the Judge. This sheet is required to be included in the final club paperwork for each trial. It can be found here: https://www.ukcdogs.com/docs/showforms/high_in_trial_scoresheet.pdf. The Judge or steward is responsible for filling in the deductions for both the heeling and recall exercises and the total deductions. The High in Trial armband number and class must then be written in at the bottom of the form.

If your club is currently licensed for Obedience or Rally, please consider applying to be licensed for UKC Nosework. New event incentives are available when adding this event license. For more information, contact your club's event coordinator, or the program manager.

RALLY

The new Rally program has been out for just over a year now and it is going strong. In addition to new signs and new classes, one of the major changes was the size of the ring. Both Obedience and Rally now have the same ring size to make it easier for clubs and be more consistent. All rings must be at least 40 by 50 feet and can be larger if the club has the space. There is additional stipulation for Obedience for certain classes. The newest class in Rally is the Master class. It is a fun class that has some unique challenges and offers the chance at a few more combination titles within the scope of Rally.

Video Series. UKC has done a video series titled *Rally Obedience Exercise Demonstrations – United Kennel Club* on the Rally classes from R01, R02, R03 and Master. Clubs may want to copy this information and make it available to their club members or even have a video night with popcorn and refreshments! Videos can be accessed on the UKC YouTube channel. If you have not subscribed to the channel, you may also want to do that. Here is the direct link to the playlist: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLb_krZ1jPbRjCp6tnKgWH95QH83vOBWeG

When the YouTube channel is accessed, there is a Q&A that talks about the new changes and updates and then a list of the videos. The main videos are called, *Learn the Beginner Rally Obedience Exercises, Learn the Rally 2 Exercises, Learn the Rally 3 Exercises, and Learn Rally Master exercises*. Within these videos the format will be a general explanation of the class, signs, and a demonstration of a full class. After the demonstration of a dog performing the class, each sign will be performed individually twice, the first time as an overall picture and the second time focused on the dog. Within the main channel list are also individual signs that were performed when the Rally program was first released. If you want to view just one sign, they can be accessed this way too. This is just the performance of the sign with no explanation.

Class Eligibility. Any dog that has achieved the UKC R01 title and enters in a Rally 1 class must enter in R01C. There are no exceptions. If a dog has earned an equivalent title in another organization but has not earned the UKC R01 title, that dog must enter in the R01B class. Any dog and handler can enter the "B" division at any time

for any other class. The "A" classes have other restrictions that club secretaries should be familiar with.

Order of Judging. Classes can be judged in any order determined by the club. Dogs can be judged by numerical order or by jump height within each class. Judges may allow a dog to be judged out of sequence if requested by the handler. There is no longer a class division Judge's book by jump height.

New Signs. Rally signs were updated, and new color formats were added to them for additional clarity. Although clubs are welcome to use black and white signs, it helps exhibitors determine what to perform much easier to see the colors. All background colors must be white to accentuate the color-coding. Signs can be ordered through our online store here: <https://shop.ukcdogs.com/rally-obedience-signs/>

The signs are printed on cardstock and laminated.

Jumps. The broad jump is now allowable in the Master class. Please be sure the appropriate jumps are available for judging all the classes when applicable.

DRAG RACING

We are excited to announce the latest revisions to the UKC Drag Racing program. Significant changes are outlined in the Official Highlight Document (PDF) and will be identified in bold and italic text throughout the rulebook. **All changes will be effective on January 1, 2022.**

1. There are more Drag Racing Titles available.
2. Dogs with drag racing experience or drag racing titles in other venues, may automatically start at the Advanced or Regular class level.
3. There are grandfather clauses for Advanced and Regular racers.

The link to the Drag Racing announcement of the changes and to the Drag Racing rulebook can be found on the UKC website here:

https://www.ukcdogs.com/article/new-drag-racing-rulebook?news_id=3&view=recent

Any questions or comments regarding these proposed rules can be sent to us at performance@ukcdogs.com.

Is your club currently licensed for Precision Coursing, or Lure Coursing? Why not consider applying for the UKC Drag Racing license? The new event incentive is available when adding this event license. For more information, contact your club's event coordinator, or the program manager.

JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP POLL

Agas and understanding. We are interested in your opinion regarding the current classes and age break-down for Junior Showmanship. As we all know, children have



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for Junior Showmanship. As we all know, children have different learning curves and excel at different ages. What we are looking at specifically is the diversity of the age-range of the Junior and Senior showmanship classes. When it comes to the younger children competing against the older children in their class, we feel the younger competitors are at an enormous disadvantage. The current classes and age ranges for the licensed classes are as follows:

- In the Junior class, the age range is 8 years of age and under 13 years of age.
- In the Senior class, the age range is 13 years of and up to (and including) 18 years of age.

The concept and knowledge each group is expected to know in the Junior and Senior classes are not that different. However, is an 8-year-old to really expected to know as much or to be able to express themselves as well as a 12-year-old? What about a 13-year-old against the 18-year-old?

There is a huge learning curve between the ages of 8 years to the age of 18 years. Our proposal is to shorten the gap between the ages so that the children have a better learning experience with other children of the approximate same age range.

The following changes are being proposed for the Junior

Showmanship Classes.

- **PeeWee:** 2 years of age and under 4 years of age (no change)
- **Sub Junior:** 4 years of age and under 6 years of age (no change)
- **Pre-Junior:** 6 years of age and under 8 years of age (no change)
- **Junior:** 8 years of age and under 11 years of age (new age-range)
- **Intermediate:** 11 years of age and under 15 years of age (new age-range)
- **Senior:** 15 years of age and up to and including 18* years of age (new age-range)

The Junior, Intermediate and Senior classes shall have two levels, Novice and Open. The 1st place class winners from the Junior Novice, Junior Open, Intermediate Novice, Intermediate Open, Senior Novice and Senior Open will compete for the Best Junior Handler.

If you would like to comment on the above proposal, please email dvavla@ukcdogs.com

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions regarding any of our events. We are always here to support our clubs, Judges, and exhibitors.

