AGILITY
NEWSLETTER

ALL-BREED SPORTS

UKC

AGILITY NEWSLETTER

There are several new changes to UKC Agility coming with the March 2021 rule changes. Please take a moment to review the changes and familiarize yourself with the new rules.

UKC now offers two types of Agility: Standard and Dynamic! Standard Agility is our traditional Agility classes. The new Dynamic Agility classes offer new challenges and new titles:

- Dynamic Tunnels: Novice and Expert level courses will consist of between 6 and 12 tunnels to be completed in the shortest possible amount of time.
- Dynamic Hurdles: Novice and Expert level courses will consist of between 10 and 18 hurdle obstacles to be completed in the shortest possible amount of time.
- Dynamic 3 of a Kind: In the 3 of a Kind class, each obstacle will have a numerical point value. The title earned will depend on the point bracket your final scores falls in, so it is up to handlers and their dogs to decide how many points to aim for!

The names of the Standard Agility classes have been changed as follows:

- The former Agility I class is now the Beginner Agility class. The AGI title will be changed to the BA title.
- The former Agility II class is now the Intermediate Agility class. The AGII title will be changed to the IA title.
- The former Agility III class is now the Excellent Agility class.
- The additional Agility titles remain unchanged.
- These changes will not affect titles that dogs have earned before March 1, 2021. Existing AGI and AGII titles will not be changed.

Equipment and Obstacle Updates:

- Equipment specifications have been updated. All existing equipment will need to meet the new specifications by January 1, 2025.
- The swing plank and sway bridge will become optional obstacles. They may be used by clubs that have them until 2025, when they will be phased out of the program. The A-frame, dog walk, or teeter may be used in place of the swing plank and sway bridge.
- At all Agility levels, non-hurdle obstacles may be used twice, with the exception of the weave poles.
- The barrel obstacle has been added to replace the discontinued closed tunnel obstacle.
- The new ring size for Agility is 6,000 square feet. Clubs using a venue with a 4,000 square foot ring may continue to use that ring size until a new venue is found. Clubs using a 4,000 square foot ring will not be able to offer the Dynamic classes until a larger ring is secured.
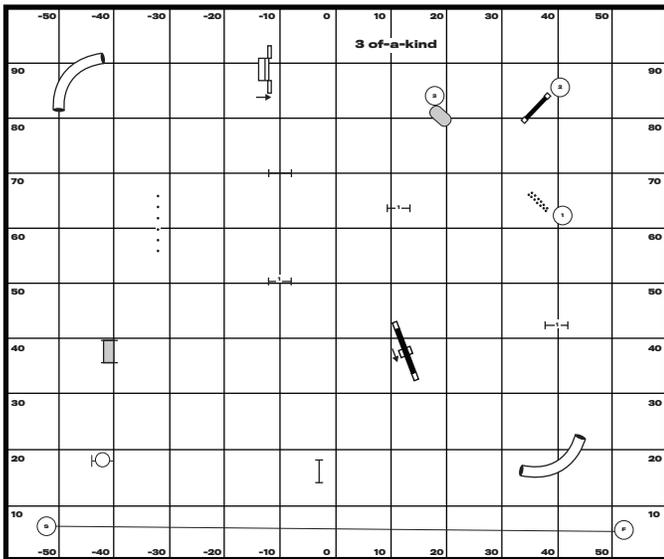
Points and Scoring Updates:

- The Agility Championship and All Stars points scales have been updated and will now include scores of 195 or better.
- Performance faults have been standardized and will earn a 5-point, 3-point, or 1-point deduction.
- Judges may elect to use scribes in all Agility classes. Judges will communicate deductions to the scribe with the following signals:
  Closed fist: 1 point
  Open palm: 3 points
  Two open palms: 5 points
- The judge will call "Fault" when a dog-and-handler team do not successfully perform an obstacle in the Beginner Agility class only.

Other Rule Updates:

- The minimum age of dogs competing in Agility has been raised from 12 months of age to 15 months of the age on the day of the event.
- During course familiarization, the bars for bar hurdles will be placed on the ground. Dogs may take the other hurdles.
- Handlers may use a slip lead to take their dog to the ring for their run. Slip leads remain prohibited during course familiarization.
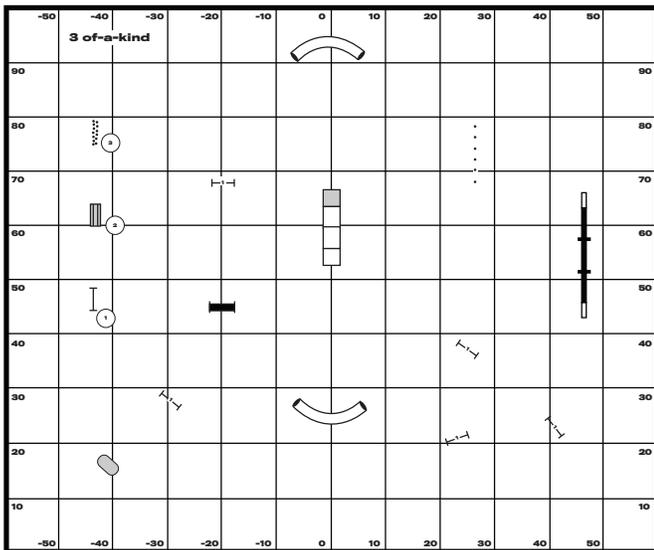
Below are some sample course layouts for the new 3 of a Kind class. Layouts courtesy of active UKC agility participant, Pamela Hawkins. Diagrams designed by UKC.
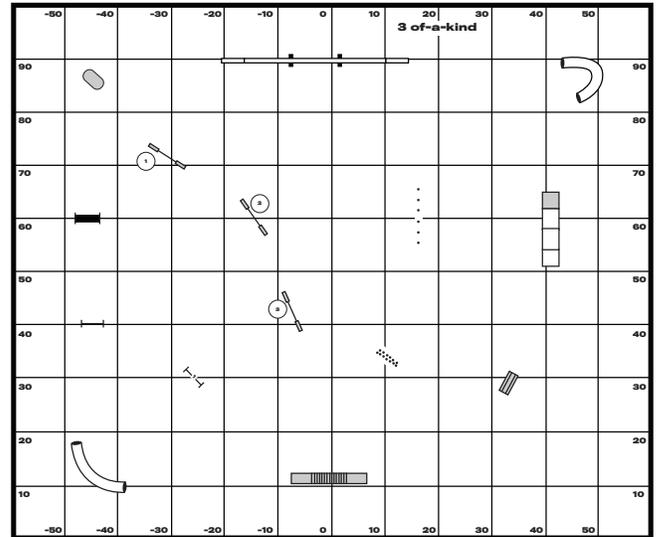
Sample Course 1

Diagrams designed by UKC.

Sample Course 2
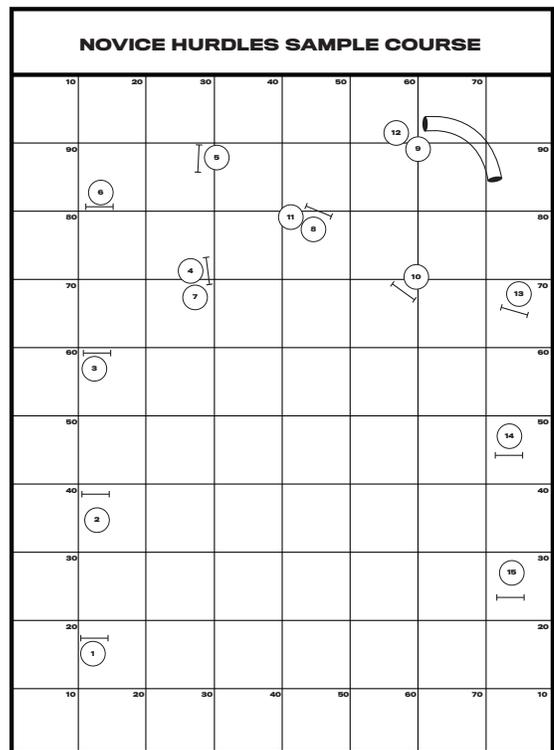

Diagrams designed by UKC.

Sample Course 3

Diagrams designed by UKC.

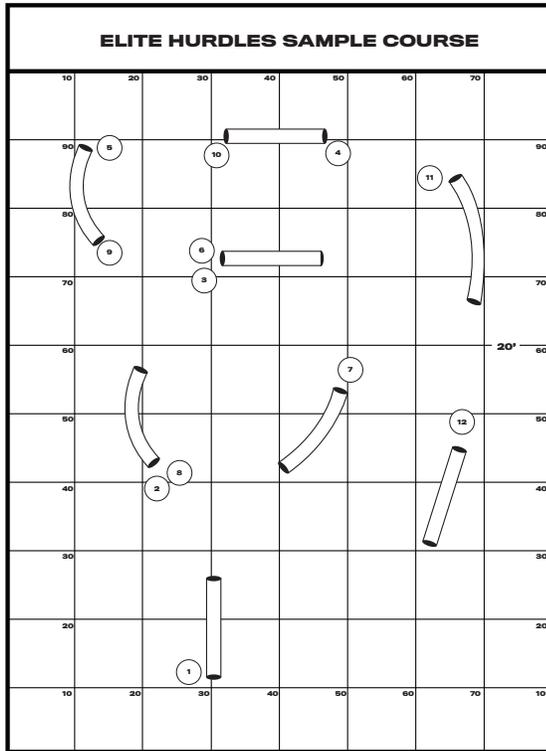Course layout below is courtesy of UKC Judge Linda Lavolette. Diagrams designed by UKC.

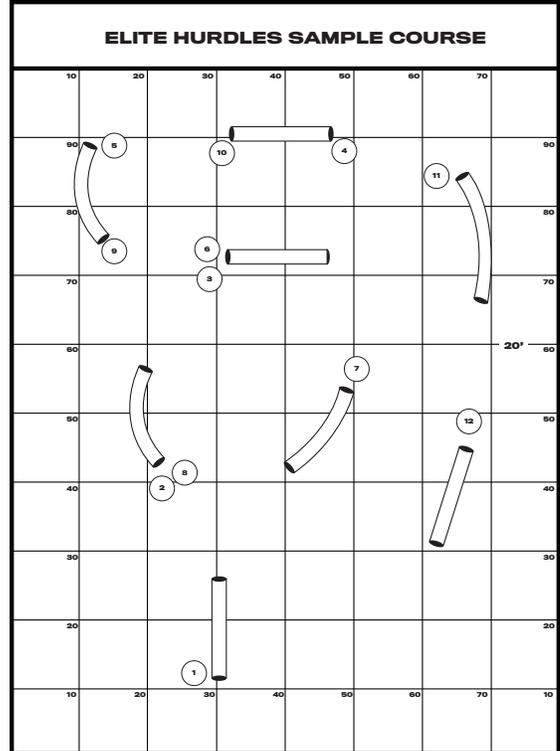## Hurdles - Novice
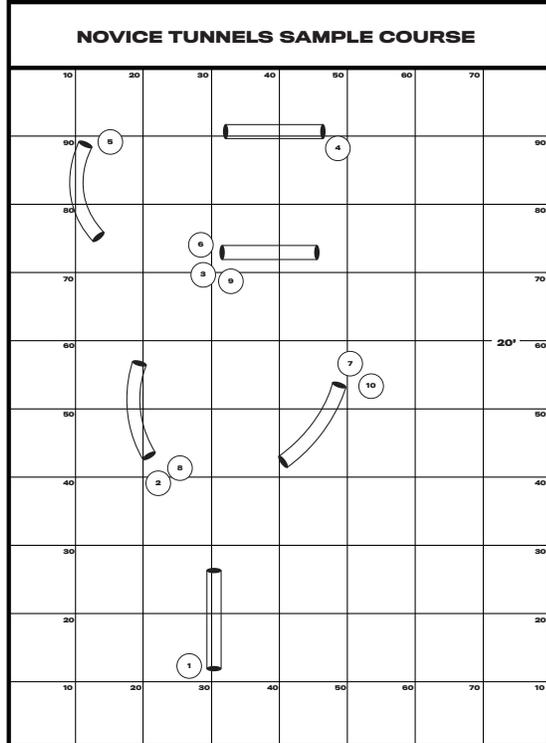

Diagrams designed by UKC.

Hurdles - Elite

ELITE HURDLES SAMPLE COURSE

Diagrams designed by UKC.

Tunnels - Elite

ELITE HURDLES SAMPLE COURSE

Diagrams designed by UKC.

Tunnels - Novice

NOVICE TUNNELS SAMPLE COURSE

Diagrams designed by UKC.