



## Take a Sneak Peek at the NEW Drag Racing Rulebook!

August 9, 2021- *Updated August 20, 2021*

We are excited to announce the latest revisions to the UKC Drag Racing program. Significant changes are outlined below and will be identified in bold and italic text throughout the rulebook. All changes will be effective on January 1, 2022. The rulebook has been reformatted and updated for easier use.

Any questions or comments regarding these proposed rules can be sent to us at [performance@ukcdogs.com](mailto:performance@ukcdogs.com).

**Please be sure to share your thoughts with us by October 1, 2021. All feedback will be considered, and a final version of the rules will be available by November 2, 2021. The rules will take effect on January 1, 2022.**

UKC would like to extend a huge thank you to Karyn and Ryan Pingel. Your insight, expertise, and time is greatly appreciated.

### Highlights.

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

### Learn more about the Novice Class

**Question.** *My dog loves to chase things and is very good at it, but he is not able to wear a muzzle because it will not stay on. Does this mean that my dog may never compete in Drag Racing?*

**Answer.** *No, not anymore. There are many new options available in the novice class. For example, any handler may choose whether their dog is muzzled when running. This will allow dogs that are brachycephalic to run without a muzzle. Another highlight is that canine amputees, missing all or part of a limb may also run in the novice class. And the best aspect of the novice class, especially for dogs that are ineligible or unable to run in the advanced classes is that a dog can continue running at the novice level and earn numerical Novice Racer titles.*

- **Novice Class.** The Novice class is for dogs who are new to the sport of Drag Racing. Dogs with no experience will run alone and must earn the Novice Racer title before being eligible to enter the Advanced class. Dogs are not required to wear a muzzle in this class but may do so if the handler chooses. Dogs who have not earned the Advanced Racer title may continue to race in the Novice class indefinitely and earn numerical Novice Racer titles. The title requirements for the Novice Racer title are just below:
- **Novice Racer (UNFR / UNSR).** This class is for dogs who have not earned a Drag Racing title. To earn the United Novice Flat Racer or the United Novice Steeplechase Racer Title, a dog must earn 3 passing legs by running alone on the track for each type of race. There are no placements given for competing in this class.
  - The handler has the option to run the dog with or without a muzzle.
  - Once the handler is behind the end barrier, they may encourage the dog to come to them, as well as encourage the dog to come through the hole and cross the finish line.
  - To be eligible to enter the Advanced class, a novice dog must have at least two passing runs wearing a muzzle for each race type (flat, steeplechase).

- Dogs who have not earned the Advanced Racer title may continue to run in the Novice class and earn numerical Novice Racer titles (e.g. UNFR2, UNFR3, or UNSR2, UNSR3, and so forth).

### ***Learn more about the Grandfather Clause for the Novice Class:***

**Question.** *What happens to the points my dog earned toward the UFR or USR titles, if I decide I no longer wish to pursue the Champion title? Do the points count for anything in the Novice level?*

**Answer.** *Dogs that have earned points towards toward the UKC United Flat Racer or the United Steeplechase Racer titles but have not completed the title will be grandfathered legs toward the numerical Novice Racer title. The numerical Novice Racer title will be based upon the earned points toward the UFR or USR title as follows:*

**Grandfather clause for the Novice Racer title.** *Dogs that have earned points toward the UKC United Flat Racer or the United Steeplechase Racer titles but have not completed the title requirements, will be grandfathered legs toward the numerical Novice Racer title based upon the following:*

- One Novice Racer leg will be grandfathered for each cumulative total of 45 points. For example, a dog that has earned 15 points will be granted 1 Novice Racer leg; 30 points will be granted 2 Novice Racer legs; a dog with 45 points will receive 3 Novice Racer legs and will be granted the numerical Novice Racer title.
- Competition is not required for this title.

### ***Learn more about the Advanced Class***

**Question.** *My dog has no chance competing against the experienced dogs going for their championship title, so why is there not another option for inexperienced dogs to run against other dogs that are at the same level?*

**Answer.** *That is an excellent question and with the update of the Drag Racing rules, the newer racers will no longer compete with dogs running for their champion title. There is a new class that allows a dog to gain more racing experience before moving on to earn championship points.*

- **Advanced Class.** The Advanced class is for dogs who have earned the UKC Novice Drag Racing title or the former UKC UFA, or USA titles. Dogs who have not earned the former UKC UFR, or USR title, or who have Drag Racing experience in other venues may enter this class. This class requires dogs to wear a muzzle and run with other dogs. The Advanced Racer title must be earned before being eligible to enter the Regular Racing classes and start earning points toward the Drag Racing Champion title, beginning at the next racing event following the completion of the lower title. The title requirements for the Advanced Racer title are just below:
- **Advanced Racer (UAFR / UASR).** To be eligible to enter the Advanced class, dogs coming from the Novice Racer class must have at least two passing runs wearing a muzzle for each race type (flat, steeplechase). This class is for dogs who have earned the United Novice Racer title or the former UFA or USA titles. Dogs that have Drag Racing experience from other venues (such as racing titles from JRTCA), are eligible to enter this class but must show viable proof they can run with a muzzle. Dogs that have points toward the UKC UFR or USR titles are eligible for this class and will be granted passing legs based upon the grandfather clause found below. To earn the United Advanced Flat Racer or the United Advanced Steeplechase Racer title, a dog must earn 3 passing legs for each type of race, with a minimum of one passing leg with competition. There are no placement awards given for competing in this class.
  - Competition is defined as beating one dog in a semi-final or final race.
  - Dogs are required to wear a muzzle in this class.

### ***Learn more about the Grandfather Clause for the Advanced Class:***

**Question.** *What happens to the points my dog earned toward the UFR or USR titles? What about dog's that already have championship points, are these lost?*

**Answer.** *No. The points dogs have earned while racing shall be counted toward the Advanced Racer title for those dogs that have not yet earned their UFR or USR titles. Dogs that have points toward their Champion title will also be*

*grandfathered wins as noted below.*

**Grandfather clause for the Advanced Racer title toward the entry into the Regular class:** *Dogs that have earned points toward the UKC United Flat Racer or the United Steeplechase Racer titles will be grandfathered legs toward the Advanced Racer title based upon the following:*

Points Earned	Grandfathered Legs	What is Needed for Advanced Title
0 Points and Under 25 Points	No Legs	3 Advanced Legs and 1 Competition Win
25 Points and Under 50 Points	1 Leg	2 Advanced Legs and 1 Competition Win
50 Points and Under 75 Points	2 Legs	1 Advanced Leg and 1 Competition Win
75 Points and Above	3 Legs	1 Competition Win

- **Competition wins.** Dogs who have earned a competition win on record when running for the former UFR or USR title, will have that competition win grandfathered. Dogs will only need to fulfill the remaining title requirements under the new Advanced class requirements. For example, a dog that has 60 points and a competition win will be grandfathered 2 legs and the competition win and will need to only earn 1 leg by running and qualify in an Advanced race. A dog that has 75 points, but no competition would have to earn a competition win before being granted the Advanced title and eligible to move up to the Regular class.

### ***Learn more about the Regular Class.***

*There are now more ways to earn championship points and competition wins. Dog's that have earned an equivalent drag racing champion title in another venue may enter the regular class.*

- **Regular Class.** The Regular class is for dogs who have earned the UKC Advanced Drag Racing title, and for dog's that have earned the former UKC UFR or USR title, or its equivalent titles in other venues. These dogs are experienced dogs working toward their Drag Racing Champion title. There is no title associated with dogs entered in the Regular class.
  - Muzzles are required to be worn.
  - Dogs with equivalent Drag Racing titles from other venues may enter directly into the Regular class and are not required to earn the lower-class titles.
    - However, once a dog has entered and earned a passing leg in this class, they are ineligible to move down to a lower class without UKC approval.
- **Regular Racer.** This class is only for dogs that have earned the UKC Advanced Racer title, United Flat Racer title, United Steeplechase Racer title, or its equivalent title or champion title in another venue. Dogs entered in this class are earning points toward the UKC Drag Racing Champion titles. Dogs that meet the regular class requirements listed below shall be deemed a United Drag Racing Champion in the specific race type the requirements are met. There are no placement awards given for competing in this class.
  - To earn the Champion Racer title a dog must earn 100 points and a minimum of 3 competition wins as defined in the champion point and competition schedule.
  - Points may be earned by placing 1st through 5th place in a semi-final, and a final race, and
  - Competition wins may be earned by placing 1st or 2nd, or 3rd place in the semi-final or 1st, or 2nd place in a final race over another dog

### ***Learn more about the Grandfather Clause for the Regular Class***

**Grandfather clause for the Regular Racer with Championship points from the Regular Classes:**

- Dogs that have earned Champion points and competition wins will have those points and competition wins grandfathered toward the Champion title.

### ***Learn more about the Champion Class***

- **Champion Racer (UFCH / USCH).** The Champion class is only for dogs that have met the title requirements for the UKC Champion Racer title by running in the Regular class. This class is for dogs who have earned the United Flat Champion Racer title (UFCH), or United Steeplechase Racer title (USCH). Dogs who have earned the former United Flat Champion Racer title (UFCH), or United Steeplechase Racer title (USCH) are eligible to enter this class.
  - Dogs that have earned the UKC Champion Racer title and are correctly entered in this class, are eligible to start earning points toward the UKC Grand Champion racer title beginning at the next racing event following the completion of the UKC Champion title requirements.
  - Placement ribbons are optional but are not required to be given in this class.
  - ***Dogs that have a champion Drag Racing title in another venue are not eligible to enter this class but must enter the regular class and meet the title requirements.***
  - To earn the Grand Champion Racer title a dog must earn 300 Championship points, and 5 competition wins as defined in the champion point and competition schedule.
    - Points may be earned by placing 1st through 5th place in a semi-final, and a final race, and,
    - Competition wins may be earned by placing 1st, 2nd or 3rd place in the semi-final or 1st, or 2nd place in a final race over another dog.

### ***Learn more about the Grandfather Clause for the Champion Class***

#### **Grandfather clause for the Champion Racer with Grand Championship points from the Champion class:**

- Dogs that have earned Grand Champion points and competition wins will have those points and competition wins grandfathered toward the Grand Champion title.

### ***Learn more about the Grand Champion Class***

- **Grand Champion Racer (UFGR / USGR).** This class is for dogs who have earned the United Grand Champion Racer title. Eligible dogs may enter this class and begin earning points toward their Grand Champion Excellent Racer title, beginning at the next event after earning the Grand Champion Racer title. Placement ribbons are optional and are not required to be given in this class.
- **Grand Champion Excellent Racer Class.** The Grand Champion class is only for dogs that have earned the UKC Grand Champion Racer title. Dogs that have earned the UKC Grand Champion Racer title may continue to run in the Grand Champion class and start earning points toward the Grand Champion Excellent numerical titles beginning at the next racing event following the completion of the Grand Champion Racer title
  - To earn the Grand the dog must earn 300 championship points in the specific race type by running in the Grand Champion class and 5 competition wins. ○ For each additional 300 championship points and 5 competition wins the dog earns by running in the Grand Champion class.

### ***Learn more about the Grand Champion Excellent Title***

- **Grand Excellent Racer (UFXR / USXR).** This is a new and numerical title and only dogs that have earned the United Grand Champion Racer title are eligible to earn this numerical title.
  - There is no grandfathering of any prior wins or points for this new title.
  - To earn each numerical title for the UFXR / USXR title, the dog must earn 300 championship points in the specific race type by running in the Grand Champion class and 5 competition wins.
  - For each additional 300 championship points and 5 competition wins the dog earns by running in the Grand Champion class, a numerical value will be added to the UFXR / USXR title (for example UFXR2, UFXR3 or USXR2, USXE3).