



# OFFICIAL PRECISION COURSING® RULEBOOK

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EFFECTIVE MAY 1, 2020

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## Official UKC Rules and Regulations GOVERNING UKC LICENSED PRECISION COURSING® TRIALS EFFECTIVE MAY 1, 2020

### UKC LOGO, TRADEMARKS & MAILING INFORMATION

UKC is the trademark of the United Kennel Club located in Kalamazoo, Michigan. The use of the initials UKC in association with any other registry would be in violation of the registered trademark. Notify the United Kennel Club, 100 E Kilgore Rd, Kalamazoo MI 49002-5584, should you become aware of such a violation. Precision Coursing® is a trademark of UKC.

**Precision Coursing® Competition and Philosophy.** The purpose of Precision Coursing® is to elicit the dog's natural prey drive and chasing instincts. Precision Coursing® will give dogs an opportunity to learn patterned courses that become increasingly complex. Courses will test a dog's speed, agility, and foresight.

**Exhibitor Guidelines.** Every exhibitor who enters a licensed UKC event is expected to know the rules before competing and be ready to abide by them. Additional guidelines are as follows:

- Exhibitors' dogs should be clean and, where necessary, brushed or trimmed to present a neat appearance.
- Experienced exhibitors should try to help new exhibitors; the future of the sport is in the hands of the novice. All exhibitors must display good sportsmanship and respect for others.
- When discussing a score with the judge, exhibitors should accept the decision of the judge gracefully. Remember, it was the judge's evaluation of that performance on that day.
- Exhibitors should always keep their area clean, dispose of all dog waste appropriately, and leave an event site in the condition they found it.

**Conduct Applicable to Exhibitors and Spectators.** UKC exhibitors and spectators are expected to display good behavior and good sportsmanship in and out of the ring. Judges may excuse exhibitors from their ring for violations of these rules or conduct that interferes with the event and event participants. Event Committee members and host club officers may excuse exhibitors or spectators from the show grounds for violations of these rules or conduct that interferes with the event and event participants.

**Eligibility to Judge a UKC Licensed Precision Coursing® Trial.** No person may judge a UKC licensed Precision Coursing® trial unless they hold a current UKC judge's license for Precision Coursing® and are in good standing with UKC.

**Finality of Judges' Decisions.** By entering a Precision Coursing® trial, the owner and/or handler of any dog agrees to accept the decision of the judge as final. The decision of a judge is the opinion of the judge and not that of the United Kennel Club.

# CHAPTER 1 - GENERAL RULES

**Section 1. Governing Rules.** UKC licensed events are governed by UKC rules and point systems. The entry form signed by the exhibitor specifically states that the exhibitor is familiar with the UKC rules and regulations. Every exhibitor is expected to know the rules before competing and to be ready and able to abide by them.

**Section 2. Jurisdiction.** All UKC licensed Precision Coursing® trials shall be governed by the Official UKC Precision Coursing® Rulebook and the UKC Rules for All-Breed Events and Misconduct & Discipline Guidelines. The awarding of UKC Championship points and titles issued by the United Kennel Club are uniform and not given on a local or geographical basis.

**Section 3. Who May Offer Precision Coursing® Trials.** Any club that is approved by UKC and meets the program's requirements may be granted a license to offer Precision Coursing® trials.

**Section 4. Conduct.** UKC exhibitors and spectators are expected to display good behavior and good sportsmanship on and off the grounds. Judges, Event Committee members, and host club officers may excuse or bar exhibitors or spectators from the event grounds for violations of these rules or conduct that interferes with the event and event participants.

**Section 5. Eligibility of Dogs.** To be eligible to compete in licensed Precision Coursing® classes, dogs must be at least one (1) year of age on the day of the event and be permanently registered with UKC, have a Performance Listing (PL) number, have a valid Temporary Listing (TL) on the day of the event, or plan to pay the \$5 non-UKC registered dog fee.

All breeds are eligible to compete, including mix-bred dogs or dogs with eliminating faults. Dogs that cannot safely navigate the course must not compete. It is imperative that owners and handlers be mindful of the physical limitations of their dogs. It is highly recommended that owners and handlers of sighthound breeds, especially those with prior coursing experience, watch competitions or participate in a Fun Run prior to choosing whether to enter their dog.

While dogs missing all or part of a limb are eligible to compete, they must be able to compete safely. The judge may excuse any dog unfit for competition at their discretion. The judge's decision will be final.

**Section 6. Non-UKC Registered Dog Fee.** An additional \$5 fee will be assessed to dogs not Temporarily Listed, Performance Listed, or Permanently Registered with UKC on the day of the event. This fee is to be forwarded to UKC with the event results. Participants whose dogs earn passing scores will have 60 days to complete their dog's registration with UKC. Failure to complete the registration process within the 60-day time period will result in the application of penalty fees to retain points and passes earned. Applications should include documentation of any points and passes earned when applying for registration papers. Passes and points will not be credited for denied registration applications.

**Section 7. Ineligibility of Dogs.** Dogs with these conditions are ineligible to compete in a Precision Coursing® trial:

- Dogs less than 1 year of age on the day of the trial
- Blind dogs
- Lameness
- Dogs that appear to be ill
- Pregnant or lactating females
- Females in season
- Dogs that have sutures, bandages, adhesive or any other material that is indicative of or related to any surgical or medical procedure
- Dogs that have anything attached to them for protection or adornment (elastic ties or small plain barrettes used to keep the hair from a dog's eyes are acceptable)

Should a handler attempt to compete in a Precision Coursing® trial with a dog in any condition listed above, the judge shall excuse the dog from competition and mark the reason in the judges' book. The judge's decision in the matter is final and they need not seek the opinion of a veterinarian.

**Section 8. Females in Season.** The host club has the option of refunding the entire entry fee or retaining up to 50% of the fee as a processing fee of any competitor who provides a veterinarian's certificate verifying that the female came into season after the closing date for entries. The certificate may be mailed, provided the post-mark is no later than the date prior to the day of the trial, or delivered by hand to the Event Secretary before the published start time of the trial.

**Section 9. Inoculations.** Please refer to the Official Rules for All-breed Events for rules regarding inoculations.

**Section 10. Disqualified Dog.** Dogs that have been disqualified by a judge at a UKC Licensed event in accordance with the Dog Temperament section found in the UKC Rules for All-Breed Events are ineligible to enter a UKC license event unless or until reinstated by UKC.

- When an attack or attempt to bite a person happens inside of a ring, the judge is to follow the official procedures outlined in the Official Rules for All-Breed Events, Chapter 1, Section 13. When it happens outside of the ring or anywhere on the event grounds, the Event Committee is to follow the same procedures outlined in the Official Rules for All-Breed Events, Chapter 1, Section 13.
- Dogs disqualified for attacking are immediately rendered ineligible to compete at any UKC events and the exhibitor shall forfeit all entry fees for any event where the dog has yet to compete. The exhibitor must secure the dog(s) and remain on the premises until the "Disqualified for Attacking" form has been completed in accordance with The Official Rules for All-Breed Events, Chapter 1, Section 13.

**Section 11. Duplicate Title Certificates.** Duplicate title certificates are available for a nominal fee. Contact the All-Breed Sports Department for current fees.

# CHAPTER 2 - RING AND EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS

**Section 1. Precision Coursing® Ring Requirements.** All Precision Coursing® rings must be free of hazardous obstacles and provide unrestricted visibility for judging and for exhibitor safety.

**Section 2. Ring Size.** The required minimum Precision Coursing® ring sizes are as follows:

- Precision Coursing®: Novice/Advanced or Superior/Master level rings may be 100 x 75 feet. Elite level rings must be at least 100 x 100 feet.
- Dash: All courses must be 100 x 300 feet.
- Steeplechase: All courses must be 100 x 300 feet.

**Section 3. Surface.** The surface of a Precision Coursing® ring must be adequate to provide a firm and safe footing for dog and handler.

**Section 4. Lure Operator.** The lure operator must be an approved UKC lure operator. The duties and responsibilities of the lure operator shall include the following:

- The lure operator will ensure all equipment is in place and functional
- For each Sprint, the lure operator will make at least one pilot run of the lure before the start of the course
- The lure operator will start the lure at the signal from the judge and will always keep the lure at an appropriate distance ahead of the dog
- The lure operator will stop the lure on a signal from the judge or at the end of the run but shall automatically stop the lure any time a dog might encounter a potentially dangerous situation
- If there is a false start the lure must immediately be stopped, provided it is still in the first half of straight portion of the start
- One lure operator will operate the lure throughout an entire class
- Lure operators may operate the lure for dogs owned by themselves or members of their immediate family

**Section 6. Equipment Requirements Provided by the Host Club.** A club hosting a UKC Precision Coursing® trial must provide the following equipment:

- **Ring Barriers.** All courses must be completely fenced in and closed off from all other areas. Course fencing must be at least 3 feet high. Fencing may be of a portable or permanent nature. The front line of the course perimeter and all internal fencing must not be solid; it must be able to be seen through such as snow fencing, barrier mesh, screen, or chain link. Interior ring barriers for turns at the edge of interior fencing may be made of a PVC frame with material, banners, or tarps attached to them.
- **Gates.** Each ring must have an in gate and an out gate in order to close the course. Gates may be a regular type gate or may be made of PVC with material, banners, or tarps attached to them.
- **Outdoor rings.** The ring area must be relatively flat and free of hazards. Courses with a slope in the ground surface must be set so the slope runs from front to the back of course, allowing the dog to experience the same changes in elevation when running in both directions. Grass surfaces should be mowed so the grass is short. The surface is required to have adequate footing, allowing traction at all points of the course. Prepared arena footing, sand, or dirt surfaces are acceptable and must have the approval of the judge and Event Chairperson.
- **Indoor rings.** Indoor rings must provide a firm and safe footing. Prepared indoor arena footing such as sand, dirt, or artificial turf are acceptable but must have the approval of the judge and Event Chairperson.
- **Ring Supplies.** Items such as pens, pencils, notepads, calculators, stopwatches, dry erase boards, dry erase markers, communication devices, and clipboards must be available for use in the ring by the judge and stewards.
- **Scissors.** A pair of blunt scissors should be kept ready at the lure machine.
- **Staging area.** Area provided for dogs and handlers waiting to run. This is also referred to as the On-Deck area.
- **Start Box.** The start box is an area outlined or marked on the ground. Marking paint should be used to mark the area of the box. All dogs must have both front feet inside the marked area of the start box and the leash, collar, and other equipment must be clear of the start box. The start box will be 3 feet wide and 2 feet deep and will be at least 4 feet behind the start line. Handlers and dogs must be clear of the lure line when in the start box.
- **Timers.** There are two acceptable methods of timing a performance. One is using a manual stopwatch, and the other is using an electronic timer. When the club uses stopwatches, there must be at least two stopwatches that record time to 1/100th of a second must be available. In the event of failure of the electronic timers, the club must have a back-up system in place such as manual stopwatches and a person to act as a timing steward. The officiating judge may, however, require a back-up timing steward in addition to the electronic time.
- **Lure.** The lure consists of one to three white plastic bags. Scenting of lures is prohibited.
- **Lure Line.** Braided string that is used to move the lure. Commonly made from nylon or polyester.
- **Lure Machine.** Lure machines must be approved by UKC. Lure machines must be continuous loop, reversable, and be variable speed.
- **Pulleys.** Pulleys must not be brightly colored or reflective. They must be low-profile and should be enclosed and anchored with tethers in order to give or move if a dog comes into contact with them.
- **Wicket.** Any measuring device that is used to accurately determine a dog's height.

**Section 7. Equipment That Must Be Provided by The Exhibitor.** An exhibitor must provide a collar and leash for each entered dog that complies with the rules herein. The use of e-collars is strictly prohibited on the grounds of a UKC event. Equipment deemed unsafe by the judge may not be used.

- **Collars.** The dog may wear a flat collar that buckles or snaps closed. Collars must properly fit the dog and be approved by the judge. Collar tags that are not attached or riveted directly to the collar, or any items hanging from the collar are prohibited. Fancy, studded, pinch or prong collars, harnesses (head and body), or any type of special training collars are prohibited in the Precision Coursing® ring.
- **Leashes.** Leashes may be of either fabric or leather and must be of enough length to allow adequate slack for any exercises that are done on leash. Exhibitors may not use any type of longline or flexi leashes. Slip leads are allowable but must be completely out of the way when releasing the dog.

**Section 8. Exhibitors' Ring Attire.** It is recommended that handlers wear rubber-soled closed-toe shoes. Clothes should be neat and comfortable with safety in mind. Handlers can wear articles of clothing and equipment such as vests and hats that display a logo, club, or kennel name.

**Section 9. Prohibited Items.** Mobile phones and video recording devices are prohibited on the exhibitor and dog during their judged performance. Exhibitors may not take any toys, food, bait bags, fanny packs, or other items that a dog may associate with bait into the ring. Dogs may not have anything attached to them for protection or adornment. The judge must require an exhibitor to remove any such item that they believe may violate this rule before allowing the exhibitor to enter the ring. Exhibitors who enter the ring and are found in violation of any part of this rule must be excused from the ring by the judge. The judge shall mark the judge's book as "Excused" and identify the exhibitor by writing the armband number and the reason for the excusal at the bottom of the judge's book. The judge's decision on this matter is final.

## CHAPTER 3 - EXHIBITOR AND SPECTATOR CONDUCT AT UKC EVENTS

**Section 1. Age.** Precision Coursing® handlers may be any age provided the handler is able to control the dog. A judge may excuse a handler at any time if they believe the handler is unable to control the dog. The judge's decision is final.

**Section 2. Handlers with Disabilities.** Only one person may handle a dog in the ring or competition area, with the exception of blind handlers. Handlers may use a wheelchair, crutches, cane, or any other means of mechanical assistance at the ring. The judge may also make reasonable modifications to the extent that it assists the handler. No modification may be made that gives any advantage to the handler's dog or that changes the dog's part of the required performance in any way.

**Section 3. Poor Sportsmanship.** Poor sportsmanship that rises to the level of misconduct must be dealt with in accordance with the rules set forth in the Official UKC Rules for All-Breed Events and Misconduct & Discipline Guidelines, category 1. If the person has any dogs entered in the event, they shall not be permitted to exhibit until the hearing has been held and the exhibitor cleared of misconduct. An exhibitor who is not cleared of the misconduct charges may be requested to leave the event grounds by the Event Committee. In such cases, the club is not required to refund entry fees for said dog or any additional dogs the exhibitor has entered on that day regardless if the dogs were shown or not.

**Section 4. Double Handling.** Persons outside the ring are prohibited from any intentional actions designed to affect the performance of a dog being judged in the ring. This prohibition shall apply equally to persons attempting to improve or to impair a performance. The Event Committee may expel from the event grounds any person they reasonably believe is double handling. Judges may excuse exhibitors from the ring whose dogs they reasonably believe are benefiting from double handling. Only one person may handle each dog in the ring.

**Section 5. Dogs That May Not Be Entered Under a Judge in a Performance Event.**

- No judge may pass judgment on a dog of which they are listed as owner or co-owner.
- No dog can be entered under a judge that has been owned or trained by the judge, or that has lived in the judge's household regardless of ownership, within three months of the date of the event.
- Dogs owned or co-owned by an officiating conformation judge may not be entered into any conformation event on the same weekend, regardless of which days the judge officiates.

**Section 6. Eligibility of Judges' Immediate Family and Household Members to Exhibit.**

- Exhibitors who own or co-own a dog with any member of the judge's immediate family or member of the judge's household, regardless of ownership, may not enter under the officiating judge.
- A judges' immediate family and household members may exhibit any dog not owned or co-owned by the judge in any event any day of a scheduled weekend for which the judge has been hired. They may not enter or exhibit the dog in the same event type the judge is officiating on that day unless the back-up judge system is used.
- A judges' immediate family and household members may enter any event without restriction on any other day the judge is not scheduled to judge.

**Section 7. Eligibility of Dogs Owned by Judges.** Precision Coursing® judges may exhibit a dog or have a dog they own or co-own exhibited by someone else in any event preceding the day of their judging assignment, the day of their judging assignment, or the day after their judging assignment at an event for which they have hired.

- Dogs owned by a judge may be entered in and exhibited by the judge at the same trials in which they are scheduled to officiate under the back-up judge system for performance events.

- No judge may interrupt, disrupt, delay, or reschedule an event in which they have entered a dog in order to complete their judging assignment.
- No judge may interrupt, disrupt, delay, or reschedule an event they are officiating in order to facilitate exhibiting their dog.
- Judges or clubs reported and proven to have interrupted, disrupted, delayed, or rescheduled an event to allow a judge to exhibit a dog will face disciplinary action.
- The judge must fulfill the assignment they were hired for and willingly and knowingly withdraw any entries in any event that presents a conflict.
- Judges exhibiting in any event on the same day other than the event they officiate will be eligible for awards, placements, and Championship points where applicable.

**Section 8. Back-Up Judge System.** The judge must notify the club in advance that they wish to enter a dog in an event they are assigned to judge. The host club must designate a chief judge and a back-up judge on the event application.

- The chief judge will be the overall authority for judging the event for which they are assigned.
- Dogs owned by the chief judge may compete only under the assigned back-up judge.
- The back-up judge may only officiate for the chief judge.
- Chief judges' dogs are not eligible for any placements or awards in the classes in which they are competing.
- Chief judges' dogs will be eligible for qualifying scores and titles.
- Back-up judges' dogs will be eligible for qualifying scores and titles.
- There will be no emergency replacements for back-up judges unless there is another fully licensed judge at the event to officiate in place of the back-up judge.

**Section 9. Ring and Event Grounds Cleanup.** Exhibitors are required to clean up after their dogs if they foul the ring or anywhere on the event grounds. If in the ring, the handler must either clean up after their own dog or assist the ring crew in cleaning the ring. Exhibitors who fail to clean up after their dogs may be directed by the Event Committee to leave the event grounds.

**Section 10. Interfering with the Judge.** No person may interfere with the judge in any way while they are judging a run.

**Section 11. Complaints about the Judge's Scoring.** By entering a UKC event, the exhibitor is inviting the opinion of the judge and must accept the judge's decision as final. Exhibitors are encouraged to discuss performances with judges but must not argue about the judge's scoring or class placements. Complaints about the judge may only be lodged with the host club if the exhibitor believes the judge has violated a specific UKC rule. Complaints about a judge's knowledge or application of UKC Precision Coursing® rules may be filed with UKC but must address specific deficiencies. Complaints must provide the name of the judge, the name of the host club, and the date of the event.

## **CHAPTER 4 - RULES APPLYING TO LICENSED CLASSES**

**Section 1. Order of Class Judging.** Classes may be offered as follows:

1. Clubs may limit classes offered at their discretion. Clubs may not offer higher-level classes without also offering lower-level classes.
2. Clubs may offer one Sprint per level per trial.
3. Classes must be run in order from Novice to Elite or from Elite to Novice in any given ring.
4. Clubs may run multiple rings with various levels running simultaneously between rings.

**Section 2. Limiting Entries.** Clubs that wish to limit the number of entries must submit their request in writing to UKC and receive approval. Once the entry limit has been reached, no additional entries may be accepted unless the club has established a wait list.

**Section 3. Exceeding Entry Limits.** A judge is limited to judging no more than 8 hours per day in addition to the defined entry limits in Chapter 5, section 4.

**Section 4. Start Time.** The start of a Precision Coursing® trial shall adhere as closely as possible to the advertised start time. The start of a Precision Coursing® trial includes the handler's briefing, which shall occur after the advertised start time. Officiating judges who are entered into the Precision Coursing® trial under the back-up judge system may be judged any time prior to or after the trial.

**Section 5. Measuring Dogs.** Exhibitors are responsible for entering dogs into the correct height division. Judges may measure dogs at their discretion. A dog's height is measured at the highest point of the withers.

1. Dogs found to be competing in the incorrect height division must move into the correct height division in Dash and Steeplechase. An Entry Correction form should be completed to reflect the change. If the class the dog should be competing in has already been judged, the exhibitor may request a refund of their entry fee for the missed class, to be granted at the discretion of the club.

# CHAPTER 5 - RING PROCEDURES

**Section 1. Checking In.** The exhibitor is expected to know the scheduled trial start time and to be present and ready to go when they are called. Upon arrival, the exhibitor should check in to determine the dog's armband number and the judging order.

**Section 2. Leash Requirements.** Exhibitors are always expected to keep their dogs under control. When not exhibiting, dogs must be on a leash held by a handler or may be in a crate. When exhibiting, every dog must enter and leave the ring on a leash. Exhibitors who fail to leave the ring with the dog on leash shall be penalized with a major handler fault. The Event Committee may expel from the event grounds any person whose failure to control a dog interferes with judging or with the ability of other exhibitors to present their dogs.

**Section 3. Ring Conflicts.** A club offering an event that has more than one activity or a trial with more than one ring should anticipate the likelihood of conflicts and be prepared to handle them. If the exhibitor believes they may have ring conflicts, they must notify the stewards of possible conflicts before the classes start. The judge may allow the exhibitor to show out of order, but it is the exhibitors responsibility to be flexible enough to deal with the requirements likely to result from multiple entries. Should the class be completed prior to the exhibitor's run and the next class has begun, the exhibitor will be marked absent. Exhibitors are responsible for being ringside when it is their turn to exhibit. Judges have the final say and are not required to wait for dogs.

**Section 4. Barking and Whining.** Dogs are not to be penalized for barking or whining.

**Section 5. Fouling the Ring.** A dog that eliminates, spits up, or vomits in the ring must be excused and may not compete in the remainder of the Sprint. The excusal must be recorded on the judges' book.

**Section 6. Leaving the Ring.** A dog that leaves the ring and does not return to the handler must not receive a qualifying score. The judge must excuse the handler, and the excusal must be recorded on the judges' book.

**Section 7. Asking to be Excused.** A handler may ask to be excused from any class at any time and for any reason. Should this happen the judge will grant the excusal and record it on the judges' book.

**Section 8. Excusing a Handler.** The judge must excuse a handler who exhibits poor sportsmanship. The dog of the excused handler may not participate in the trial with a different handler. The judge's decision in these matters is final.

**Section 9. Excusing a Dog.** A dog that shows fear or extreme hesitancy inside or outside the ring or a dog whose behavior is not responsive or under the handlers control to the handler's commands must be excused, and the excusal must be recorded on the judges' book. Dogs may also be excused at the discretion of the judge during competition for coming in contact with the lure line while it is in motion, but may be allowed to run again at the handler's discretion.

**Section 10. Dog Temperament and Behavior.** A dog that demonstrates aggression to any person or dog while in the ring, during the scored performance, or during familiarization must be excused.

**Section 11. Dog Abuse.** Any person who observes dog abuse on the event grounds must report it to a member of the event committee or an officer of the host club.

- A member of the event committee or officer of the host club who becomes aware dog abuse on the event grounds must consider it misconduct and treat the incident in accordance with the UKC Misconduct and Discipline Guidelines, Category 1.
- A judge who is made aware that dog abuse on the event grounds must not allow the handler to compete and must report the matter in accordance with the UKC Misconduct and Discipline Guidelines, Category 1.

**Section 12. Food and Treats.** Food and treats are prohibited in the ring.

**Section 13. Toys.** Toys are allowed in the ring under the following conditions:

- Toys may be used while catching a dog
- Toys must not be visible or held in the release area or in the start box during the release
- Toys must be concealed until the dog passes the last turn prior to the end line

**Section 14. Handlers On-Course.**

- Handlers are only allowed to go on-course at the Novice level.
- Handlers in all levels higher than Novice may not go on-course but may move within the catch/release areas.
  - Should a handler at these levels go on-course during the dog's run, the dog will receive an NQ.

# CHAPTER 6 - JUDGING STANDARDS

**Section 1. Judging Standards.** The method of judging each Precision Coursing® performance is intended to reflect the handler's sportsmanship and ability of the dog to efficiently and accurately perform the course. Before beginning their assignment, each judge will walk the course to verify that the course is properly set up and free of hazards.

## Section 2. Commands, Signals, Orders.

- **Commands.** A command is a spoken instruction given by the handler to the dog and may be used by the handler to convey instructions to the dog.
- **Signals.** A signal is a hand or hand and arm movement that may be used by the handler at any time to convey instructions to the dog. The dog's name may be used at any time and in any combination with commands and signals. A judge may use signals to convey instructions to the handler.
- **Orders.** An order is the instruction given by the judge or lure operator to the handler.
  - o **Ready, Set, Tallyho.** The order given by the lure operator to signal the start of a run. Handlers may not release their dog before the Tallyho is given.
  - o Judges may use Ready, Set, Go terminology at their discretion.

**Section 3. Starting a Performance.** The timing of the dog's performance does not start until any part of the dog crosses the start line.

**Section 4. Completing a Performance.** The performance is considered completed and the timer stopped when the dog crosses the end line.

**Section 5. Unsportsmanlike Behavior.** A judge who observes unsportsmanlike behavior that rises to the level of abuse must excuse the handler and the excusal must be recorded on the judges' book. The judge may file a misconduct complaint with the Event Secretary.

# CHAPTER 7 - JUDGING PROCEDURES

**Section 1. Judges' Authority in the Ring.** The judge may use whatever reasonable procedures necessary to evaluate each dog's performance in an effective and efficient manner. The same procedures will be used to judge each dog in a class. The judge should always consider the safety of both the dog and the handler. The judge may make modifications as necessary, including but not limited to, substitution or omission of obstacles otherwise required, if weather or other conditions indicate the performance of the dog cannot be evaluated without risk.

**Section 2. Judges' Decisions.** The judge's decision on the day of the trial is final. All questions or disputes occurring at a Precision Coursing® trial shall be resolved by the judge. Judges are encouraged to speak to exhibitors about their dog's performance. Judges are not required to maintain conversation with angry or upset exhibitors. Judges may not ask an exhibitor any unnecessary questions regarding the dog while in the ring.

**Section 3. Judges' Inspection.** The judge will inspect each entry for fitness to compete. Judges will look for lameness or any condition that would deem them unfit to compete. Dogs must not have any type of wrapping applied during the inspection. Dogs found unfit to compete will be excused from the competition and entry fees will be refunded.

- After passing the inspection, dogs may have wrapping applied for the sole purpose of protecting their dewclaws.

**Section 4. Judges' Briefing.** The judges' briefing must be held at the beginning of each class or section if the class must be split due to the number of entries. The judge will inform the handlers of any specific performance variances and any details which may not be obvious concerning the course. The exhibitors will have an opportunity to ask questions at this time.

**Section 5. Order of Go.** The Order of Go is the running order for each Sprint determined by the Event Secretary. Dogs must enter the ring exactly in the Order of Go. Any deviation from this order must be acknowledged and approved by the judge. The judge has final say in allowing changes to the Order of Go.

**Section 6. Staging.** Dogs and handlers are required to follow appropriate staging guidelines.

- Handlers must be aware of three positions:
  - o On-course refers to the dog and handler team currently in the ring
  - o On-deck refers to the dog and handler team next in line to run the course
  - o Stand-by refers to the dog and handler team to come next after the on-deck team
- Handlers are responsible to move into the correct position as the Order of Go progresses.
  - o Any team that fails to move into the on-course position within a reasonable amount of time will forfeit their place. They may be judged at the end of the Sprint at the discretion of the judge.
- The on-deck team may not move on-course until the previous team has exited the ring.

**Section 7. Entering the Ring.** Dogs must be on-leash when entering the ring. Handlers may remove leashes and collars once the gate has been securely closed. Requirements regarding collars and leads can be found in Chapter 2, Section 6.

- Only one dog is allowed on-course at a time.
- Dogs may be carried into the ring if they can be comfortably carried.
- Equipment may be removed any time after the dog has entered the course and the gate has been secured.
- Any equipment removed from the dog must be entirely clear of the start box prior to the release.
  - o The judge may ask the handler to clear any loose equipment from the start box if they fail to do so on their own.
- Equipment and toys may be tucked completely into a pocket.



- Handlers should not hold any equipment during the release, except a slip lead may be used to release the dog. Excess lengths of the slip lead should be held to avoid interference.

**Section 8. Start Box Set-Up and Releasing the Dog.** Courses will have two start boxes, Start Box 1 (left) and Start Box 2 (right). All dogs will start their first run from Start Box 1 and will run clockwise. Their second run of the Sprint will be run from Start Box 2 and will go counterclockwise.

- The start box will be the release point for all dogs, regardless of level or class.
- The dog's two front feet must be within the boundaries of the start box for the release. The rear feet are not required to be within the boundaries. All four of the dog's feet should be touching the ground prior to the release.
- Handlers must not block the path of the dog in any way during the release.
- It is permissible for dogs to be restrained in a safe manner by the handler prior to the release – for example, a handler may hold the collar or leash or may straddle the dog and place their hand on the dog's chest.

**Procedure.**

- The lure operator will give the "Ready" command once the dog is in the start position and the judge will either reply with "Ready," or raise their hand to indicate that they are ready.
- The judge will then give the "Set" and "Tallyho" commands.
- Dogs must be released as quickly as possible following the Tallyho command but may not be released before the command.
  - o Handlers may not delay releasing the dog after the command, nor can they shove, push, or tug the dog forward. Any handler found to participate in these behaviors may receive a warning or excusal from the judge.
  - o **False Starts.** Dogs accidentally released before the Tallyho command will receive a warning from the judge and must set up again. A second false start on the same run will result a non-qualifying score.
    - Should any part of the handler or dog break the start line before the release, a false start will be called. If necessary, timers must be reset. The judge or lure operator will start the command sequence from the beginning.
  - o **Hold Command.** The command to "Hold Your Dog" may be given by the judge or the lure operator any time before the Tallyho command. They may say, "Ready, Set, Hold Your Dog." This is for safety purposes and may be done at the discretion of the judge or the lure operator.
    - Upon hearing the "Hold" command, handlers must wait for further instruction while holding their dog.
    - If the "Hold" command is given, the judge or lure operator will subsequently start the command sequence from the beginning.

**Section 9. Catching the Dog.** Once the dog has started the run, the handler may move to the other end of the catch/release area and prepare to catch their dog. Handlers may go anywhere in the designated ring area to catch their dog. Handlers may have a toy with them for catching dogs (see Chapter 7, Section 13).

- Only one handler is allowed per dog.
- Dogs should be caught within a reasonable time frame. Any unnecessary delay may result in a warning at the judges' discretion.
- Helpers may enter the ring with the dog and handler but must wait at the gate during the release sequence. Helpers may walk inside the catch/release area after the dog has been released, and must go back to the gate after the dog is caught and begins the second release.
  - o Helpers should be silent during the release.
  - o Helpers are prohibited from otherwise handling the dog or providing additional assistance.
- Once the dog has completed the first run, the handler may choose to set the dog up to run a second time in the counterclockwise direction. The second run is not required.
- All dogs must be on-leash when exiting the ring, regardless of whether they are carried.
  - o Handlers are responsible for removing all their equipment upon exiting the ring.

**Section 9. Allowing an Excused Dog to Repeat Run.** Should a dog be excused during their run for coming in contact with the active lure line, a sandbag or other weight, a pulley, or other piece of equipment, the dog may be allowed to repeat their run at the end of the Order of Go, provided no injuries have been sustained. The handler may decide to run the dog again after all other dogs have run, or the handler may pull the dog from competition. The judge must inspect the dog again for fitness to compete. Dogs excused for eliminating in the ring, failing to follow the lure, leaving the ring, or for showing aggression will not have an opportunity to repeat their run.

# CHAPTER 8 - SCORING

**Section 1. Qualifying Score (Leg).** A qualifying score, or leg, is received when the dog successfully completes a run within the maximum time allowed. A dog is allowed two opportunities to run during a Sprint, each resulting in either a qualifying score or a non-qualifying score. A dog is allowed one opportunity to run during a Dash or Steeplechase. In order to earn a qualifying score, the dog must navigate the course successfully within the given time limit.

- Only one qualifying score will be recorded per Sprint.
- All qualifying scores are given on a pass/fail basis.

**Section 2. Non-Qualifying Score.** A non-qualifying score (NQ) occurs when a dog does not successfully complete a run for any reason. A dog may receive an NQ for the following reasons:

- The dog fails to start chasing the lure
- The dog becomes uninterested while on course and does not continue to follow the lure
- The dog fails to follow the intended lure path by cutting corners, traveling through barriers, or otherwise shortening the path
- The dog exits the ring at any time once the run has started
- The handler touches their dog while on-course
- The handler leaves the catch/release area while the dog is on-course
  - Note: Handlers may accompany their dog on-course at the Novice level only.
- The start or end timer is broken by the handler before the dog has finished the course
- The handler touches any part of the lure or lure machine
- The dog jumps over a gate or barrier
- The dog exceeds the Maximum Course Time
- The lure operator must move the lure as a final attempt to catch the dog

**Section 3. Continuing Competition After an NQ.** If a dog earns a non-qualifying score on the first run of their Sprint, they may take their second run. The NQ will not affect a qualifying leg earned on the second run.

- Judges will have the final say when determining whether a dog that has exited the ring during their run will be allowed to do their second run. Any dog that poses a risk of running off will be excused at the judge's discretion.

**Section 4. Excusals.** The judge may excuse a dog for coming in contact with the active lure line, a sandbag or other weight, a pulley, or other piece of equipment during their run. Dogs excused for this reason may be allowed to repeat their run at the end of the Order of Go at the discretion of the handler. Please see Chapter 7, Section 10.

## CHAPTER 9. Precision Coursing® CLASSES

**Section 1. Purpose of Precision Coursing®.** The purpose of Precision Coursing® is to stimulate prey drive by chasing an artificial lure while following a pattern with changes of direction to simulate live coursing.

**Section 2. Sprints.** A Sprint consists of two back-to-back runs on the same course (ex. Novice and Advanced). Dog and handler teams will run clockwise out of Start Box 1 first and then counterclockwise out of Start Box 2.

- Competitors will take their runs back-to-back, running once in each direction. They will run clockwise out of Start Box 1 first and then counterclockwise out of Start Box 2.
- If a dog earns a qualifying score on the first run, they are not required to complete the second run in the counterclockwise direction.
- Different levels that share a course design may be run concurrently during one Sprint. For example, since Novice and Advanced share the same course, dogs competing at Novice may run in the same Sprint as dogs competing in Advanced. It is not required that all Novice dogs run before all Advanced dogs.
- Dogs may be entered only one time per Sprint.
- Only one Sprint for each course may be offered per trial.

**Section 3. Classes.** Regular classes are Novice, Advanced, Superior, Master and Elite. Each class has a unique maximum course time.

- The Novice and Advanced classes will be offered in the same Sprint and share a course layout.
- The Superior and Master classes will be offered in the same Sprint and share a course layout.
- The Elite class will be offered in a Sprint with no other classes.
- **Eligibility** All dogs are eligible for the Novice class. Dogs must meet the needed title requirements before entering the next level of competition. After a dog has earned a title, they may continue to run at that level.

**Move-ups.** If a dog becomes eligible to move up to the next class after running, they may move up beginning in the next trial.

- All move-ups must be completed using the Class Change/Entry Correction for. The Class Change/Entry Correction form may be filled out and turned in to the Event Secretary any time prior to the start of the next trial.
- If a club is taking Day of Show entries and entry limits have not yet been met, a dog may enter the next Sprint if they become eligible.

#### Section 4. Precision Coursing® Levels and Times

Level	Maximum Time Allowed	Handler Position
Novice	30 seconds	Handlers are allowed on-course
Advanced	25 seconds	Catch/Release Area
Superior	20 Seconds	Catch/Release Area
Master	15 Seconds	Catch/Release Area
Elite	15 Seconds	Catch/Release Area

**Section 5. Precision Coursing® Legs.** Qualifying legs earned at licensed Precision Coursing® events will be counted towards Precision Coursing® titles. Legs may only be earned from the licensed classes. A leg is defined as a qualifying run in a Sprint. Only one leg may be earned per Sprint. Dogs will have two opportunities per Sprint to earn a qualifying leg.

**Section 6. Precision Coursing® Titles.** Precision Coursing® titles must be earned consecutively. Equivalent titles from another venue may not be substituted for Precision Coursing® titles. Legs towards the next title will begin counting at the next trial following the completion of the previous title.

- Precision Coursing® Novice (RACEN)
  - o A dog must earn 3 qualifying legs at the Novice level to earn the RACEN title.
  - o There is no limit to the number of legs that may be earned under the same judge.
- Precision Coursing® Advanced (RACEA)
  - o A dog must earn 3 qualifying legs at the Advanced level to earn the RACEA title.
  - o There is no limit to the number of legs that may be earned under the same judge.
- Precision Coursing® Superior (RACES)
  - o A dog must earn 5 qualifying legs at the Superior level to earn the RACES title.
  - o There is no limit to the number of legs that may be earned under the same judge.
- Precision Coursing® Master (RACEM)
  - o A dog must earn 5 qualifying legs at the Master level to earn the RACEM title.
  - o There is no limit to the number of legs that may be earned under the same judge.
- Precision Coursing® Elite (RACEE)
  - o A dog must earn 10 qualifying legs at the Elite level to earn the RACEE title.
  - o There is no limit to the number of legs that may be earned under the same judge.
- Precision Coursing® Champion (SPRINT)
  - o A dog must earn 10 qualifying legs at the Elite level to earn the SPRINT title.
  - o A dog will begin earning legs towards the SPRINT title at the first trial following the completion of their SPRINT title.
  - o For each 10 legs completed after the initial SPRINT title is earned, a dog will be issued a numerical designation on their SPRINT title.
    - For example, a dog that completes 10 more legs after finishing the SPRINT title will be issued the SPRINT2 title, and an additional 10 will earn the SPRINT3, and so on.
  - o There is no limit to the number of legs that may be earned under the same judge.

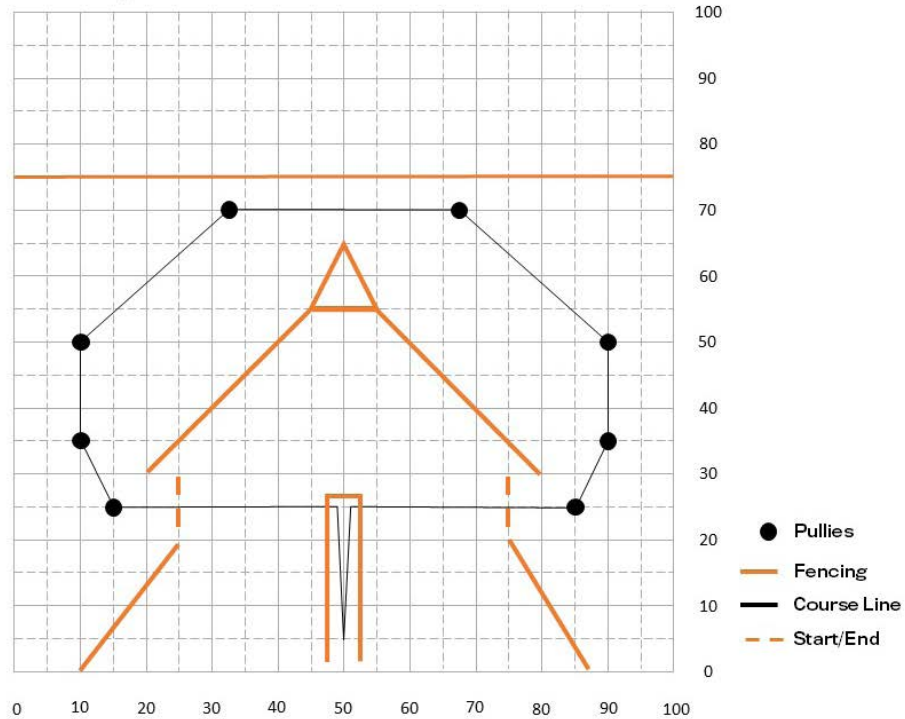
Level	Legs (earned at each level)	Title Earned
Novice	3	RACEN
Advanced	3	RACEA
Superior	5	RACES
Master	5	RACEM
Elite	10	RACEE
	10 (Each Additional 10 Legs)	SPRINT (SPRINT2, SPRINT3, SPRINT4 Etc.)

# CHAPTER 10. Precision Coursing® COURSE DESIGN

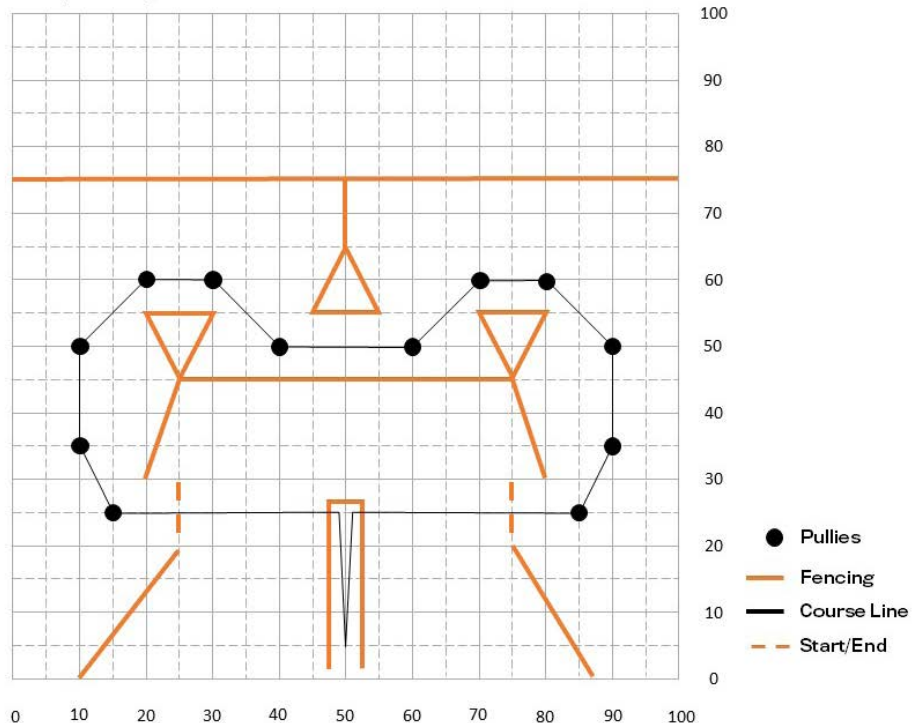
**Section 1. Course Dimensions.** All courses must be completely fenced in. Course perimeter must be at least 100' x 75' for the Novice/Advanced and the Superior/Master classes. Elite courses must be at least 100' x 100'. Courses may not exceed a size in which it would be difficult to catch a run-away dog.

**Section 2. Course Designs.** The following courses are available for Precision Coursing®. These are the set course designs which must be used for the corresponding levels.

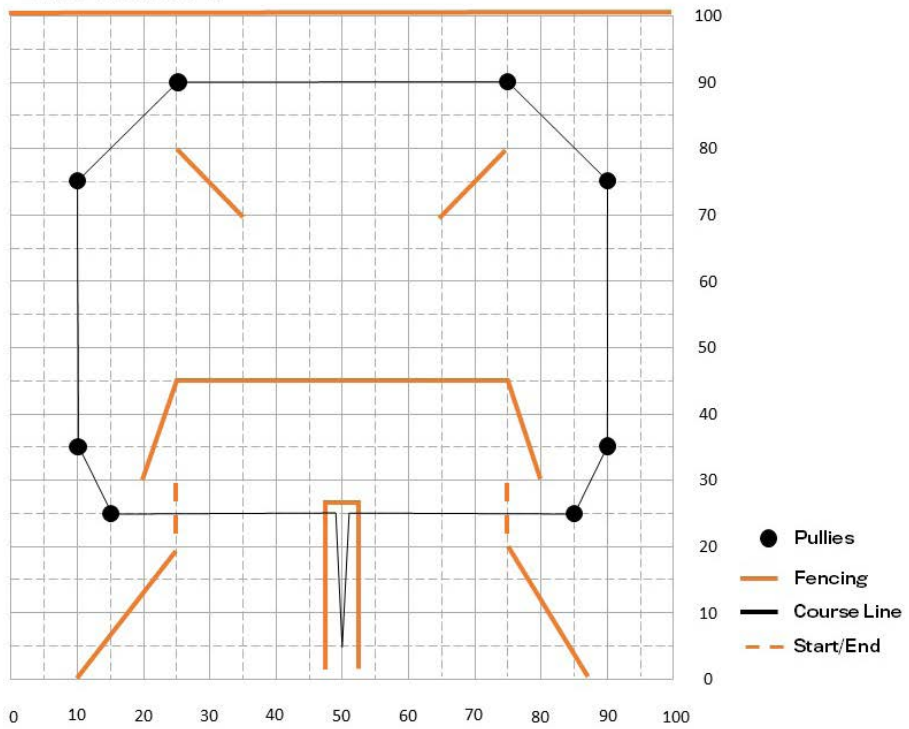
Novice/Advanced



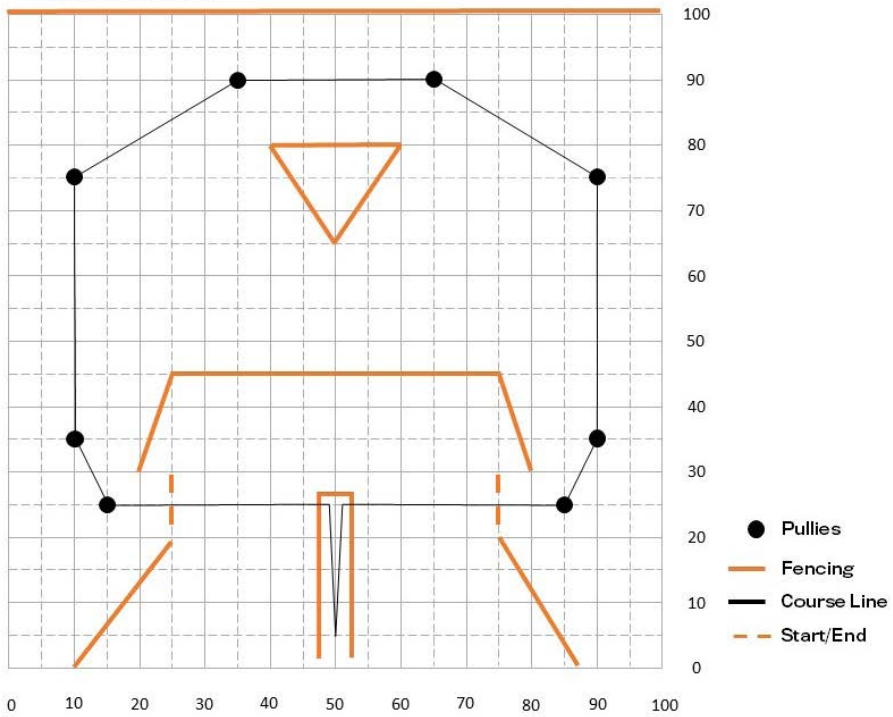
Superior/Master



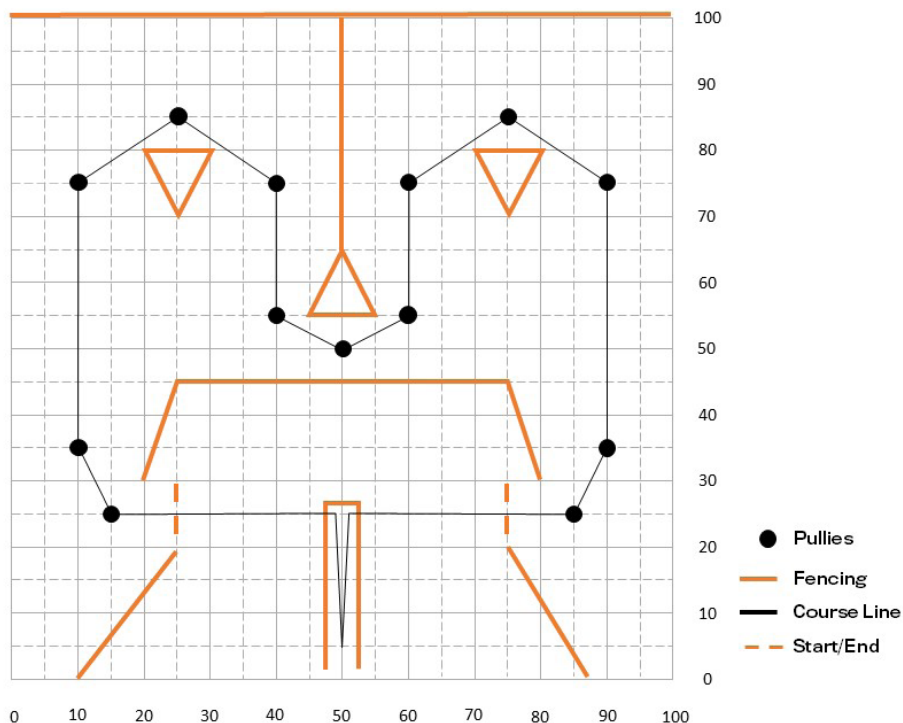
### Elite Course 1



### Elite Course 2



## Elite Course 3



# CHAPTER 11. DASH

**Section 1. Purpose of Precision Coursing® Dash.** The purpose of Dash is to stimulate prey drive by chasing an artificial lure through a straight-away for speed.

**Section 2. Dash.** A licensed Precision Coursing® class in which dogs run a modified Precision Course that provides a straight section of 150 feet where the dog can safely gain speed to stimulate prey drive while chasing an artificial lure. Dogs are timed only for the 150-foot section of the course. The timed portion of the course will consist of a chute made by fencing within the course that will be approximately 170 feet long by 10 feet wide.

- Dogs earn qualifying scores and titles independently from regular Precision Coursing® titles.
- There is no prerequisite for dog's competing in the Dash.
- Competitors will run the course once in one direction.
- A dog may not be entered more than once per Dash.

**Section 3. Running the Dash.** Handlers will follow the same procedures as with the Precision Coursing® classes except that the course will only be run in one direction, and handlers will move to the catch area once they release their dog or have a second designated catch person.

**Section 3. Dash Legs.** Qualifying legs earned at licensed Dash event will be counted towards Dash titles. Legs may only be earned from the licensed classes. A leg is defined as a qualifying run in a Dash.

**Section 3. Scoring.** A dog will qualify based on the time allowed within their height division. Height divisions and times are as follows:

Division	Dog Height (inches)	Time Allowed (seconds)
Toy	10" and under	15
Division 1	10.1" to 14"	10
Division 2	14.1" to 20"	10
Division 3	20.1" to 26"	10
Giant	Over 26"	15

**Section 5. Dash Titles.** Dash titles must be earned consecutively. Equivalent titles from another venue may not be substituted for UKC Dash titles.

- Dash Title (DASH)

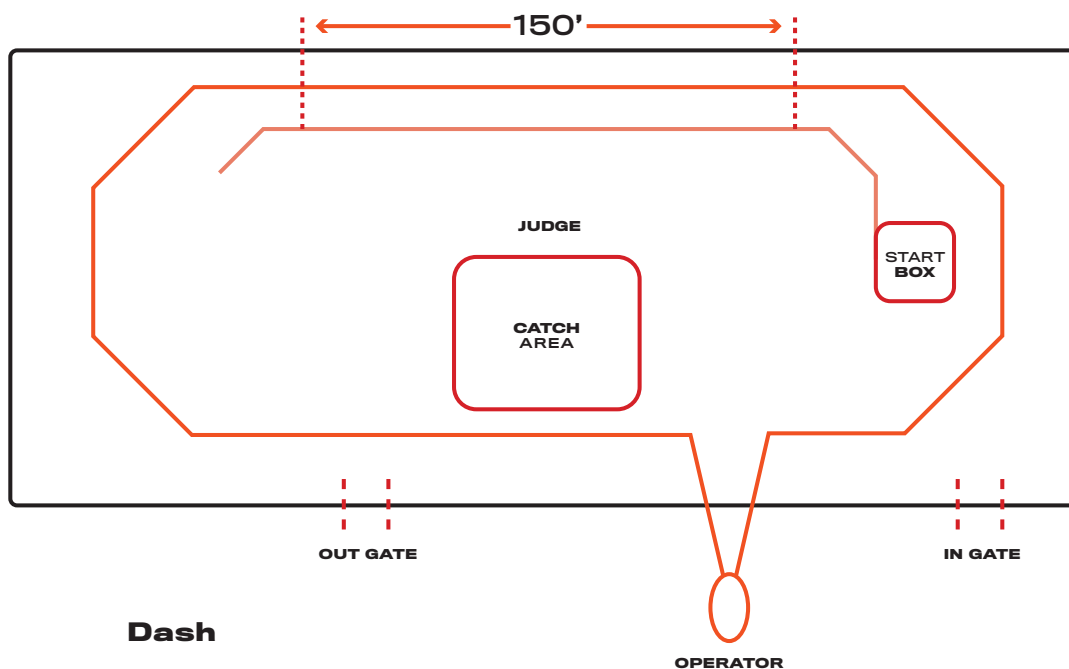
- o A dog must earn 3 qualifying legs to earn the DASH title.
- o There is no limit to the number of legs that may be earned under the same judge.
- Rush Title (RUSH)
  - o A dog must earn 5 qualifying legs to earn the RUSH title.
  - o Legs towards the RUSH title will begin counting at the next trial following the completion of the DASH title.
  - o There is no limit to the number of legs that may be earned under the same judge.
- Fly Title (FLY)
  - o A dog must earn 10 qualifying legs to earn the FLY title.
  - o Legs towards the FLY title will begin counting at the next trial following the completion of the RUSH title.
  - o There is no limit to the number of legs that may be earned under the same judge.
  - o For each 5 legs completed after the initial FLY title is earned, a dog will be issued a numerical designation on their FLY title.
    - For example, a dog that completes 5 more legs after finishing the FLY title will be issued the FLY2 title, and an additional 5 legs will earn the FLY3, and so on.
  - o There is no limit to the number of legs that may be earned under the same judge.

Legs	Title Earned
3	DASH
5	RUSH
10	FLY
Each additional 5 legs	FLY2, FLY3, FLY4, etc.

## CHAPTER 12. DASH COURSE DESIGN

**Section 1. Course Dimensions.** All courses must be completely fenced in. Course perimeter must be at least 100 x 300. The timed portion of the course will consist of a chute made by fencing within the course that will be approximately 170 feet long by 10 feet wide.

**Section 2. Course Designs.** The following course is used for Dash.



# CHAPTER 13. STEEPLECHASE

**Section 1. Purpose of Precision Coursing® Steeplechase.** The purpose of Precision Coursing® Steeplechase is to stimulate prey drive by chasing an artificial lure through a straight away with hurdles.

**Section 2. Steeplechase.** A licensed Precision Coursing® class in which dogs run a modified Precision Course that provides a straight section of 150 feet with 4 hurdles that stimulates prey drive while having the dog negotiate obstacles while chasing an artificial lure. Dogs are timed only for the 150-foot section of the course.

- Dogs earn qualifying scores and titles independently from regular Precision Coursing® titles.
- There is no prerequisite for dogs competing in the Steeplechase.
- Competitors will run the course once in one direction.
- A dog may not be entered more than once per Steeplechase.

**Section 3. Running the Steeplechase.** Handlers will follow the same procedures as with the Precision Coursing® classes except that the course will only be run in one direction, and handlers will move to the catch area once they release their dog or may have a second designated catch person.

**Section 4. Steeplechase Legs.** Qualifying legs earned at licensed Precision Coursing® Steeplechase events will be counted towards Precision Coursing® Steeplechase titles. Legs may only be earned from the licensed classes. A leg is defined as a qualifying run in a Steeplechase.

**Section 5. Scoring.** A dog will qualify based on the time allowed within their height division. Dogs must jump each hurdle to qualify. Height divisions and times are as follows:

Division	Dog Height (inches)	Hurdle Height	Time Allowed
Toy	10" and under	4 inches	20 seconds
Division 1	10.1" to 14"	6 inches	15 seconds
Division 2	14.1" to 20"	8 inches	15 seconds
Division 3	20.1" to 26"	10 inches	15 seconds
Giant	Over 26"	12 inches	20 Seconds

**Section 6. Precision Coursing® Steeplechase Titles.** Precision Coursing® Steeplechase titles must be earned consecutively. Equivalent titles from another venue may not be substituted for Precision Coursing® Steeplechase titles.

- Hop Title (HOP)
  - o A dog must earn 3 qualifying legs to earn the HOP title.
  - o There is no limit to the number of legs that may be earned under the same judge.
- Leap Title (LEAP)
  - o A dog must earn 5 qualifying legs to earn the LEAP title.
  - o Legs towards the LEAP title will begin counting at the next trial following the completion of the HOP title.
  - o There is no limit to the number of legs that may be earned under the same judge.
- Jump Title (JUMP)
  - o A dog must earn 10 total qualifying legs to earn the JUMP title.
  - o Legs towards the JUMP title will begin counting at the next trial following the completion of the Leap title.
  - o There is no limit to the number of legs that may be earned under the same judge.
  - o For each 5 legs completed after the initial JUMP title is earned, a dog will be issued a numerical designation on their JUMP title.
    - For example, a dog that completes 5 more legs after finishing the JUMP title will be issued the JUMP2 title, and an additional 5 will earn the JUMP3, and so on.
  - o There is no limit to the number of legs that may be earned under the same judge.

Legs	Title Earned
3	HOP
5	LEAP
10	JUMP
Each additional 5 legs	JUMP2, JUMP3, JUMP4, Etc.

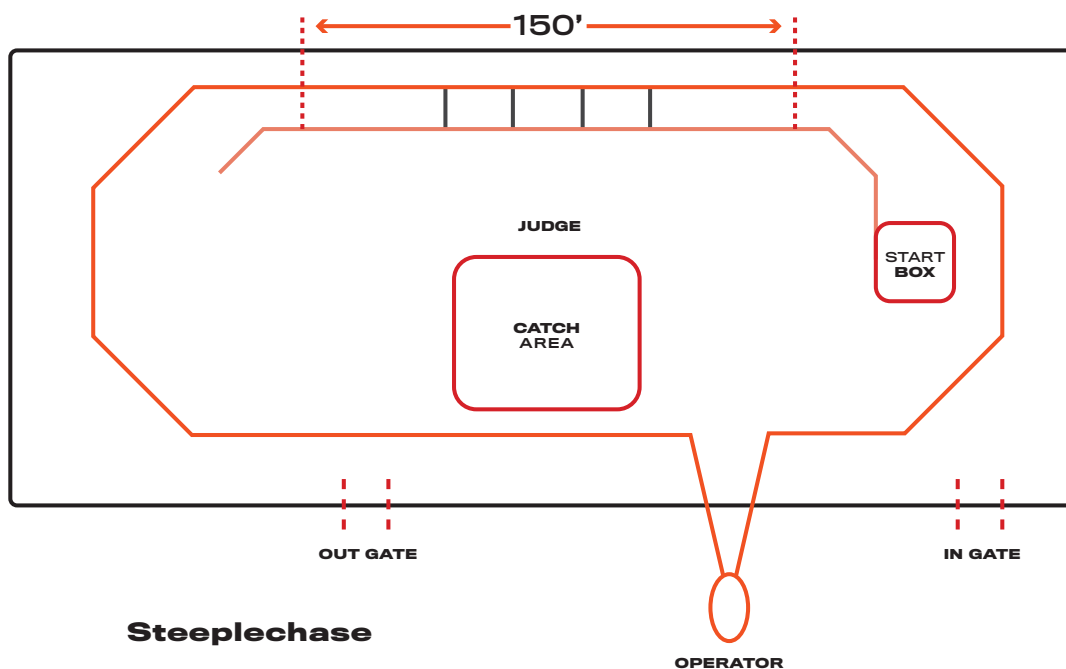


# CHAPTER 14. STEEPLECHASE COURSE DESIGN

**Section 1. Course Dimensions.** All courses must be completely fenced in. Course perimeter must be at least 100 x 300. The timed portion of the course will consist of a chute made by fencing within the course that will be approximately 170 feet long by 10 feet wide with hurdles spaced 20 feet apart within the start and end lines. Hurdles will be 35 feet from the start line and 35 feet from the end line.

**Section 2. Hurdles.** Hurdles must be made of a lightweight material and be flush with the fencing. Hurdles will be no shorter than 4" and no taller than 12". Lures must be able either go over or pass under each hurdle without being caught anywhere on the hurdle.

**Section 3. Course Designs.** The following course is used for Precision Coursing® Steeplechase.



# CHAPTER 15. NON-LICENSED CLASSES

**Section 1. Non-Licensed Classes.** Non-licensed classes may be offered at the discretion of the host club. They may be offered in conjunction with a licensed event or as a stand-alone event. Non-licensed classes must not interfere with the competition, schedule, or judging order of a licensed event.

- Dogs do not have to be UKC-registered to enter non-licensed classes.
- No qualifying legs will be earned from non-licensed classes.
- No recording fees will be due to UKC for non-licensed classes.
- Clubs must retain records of non-licensed classes for at least one year following the event, but do not need to send copies to UKC with the event results.
- A licensed judge is not required for non-licensed classes. If there is no presiding judge, the lure operator will have final authority over non-licensed classes.
- All other UKC rules apply to non-licensed classes.

**Section 2. Fun Run.** A Fun Run is an official practice sprint. Fun Runs can be held as an opportunity for practice and introduction to the sport.

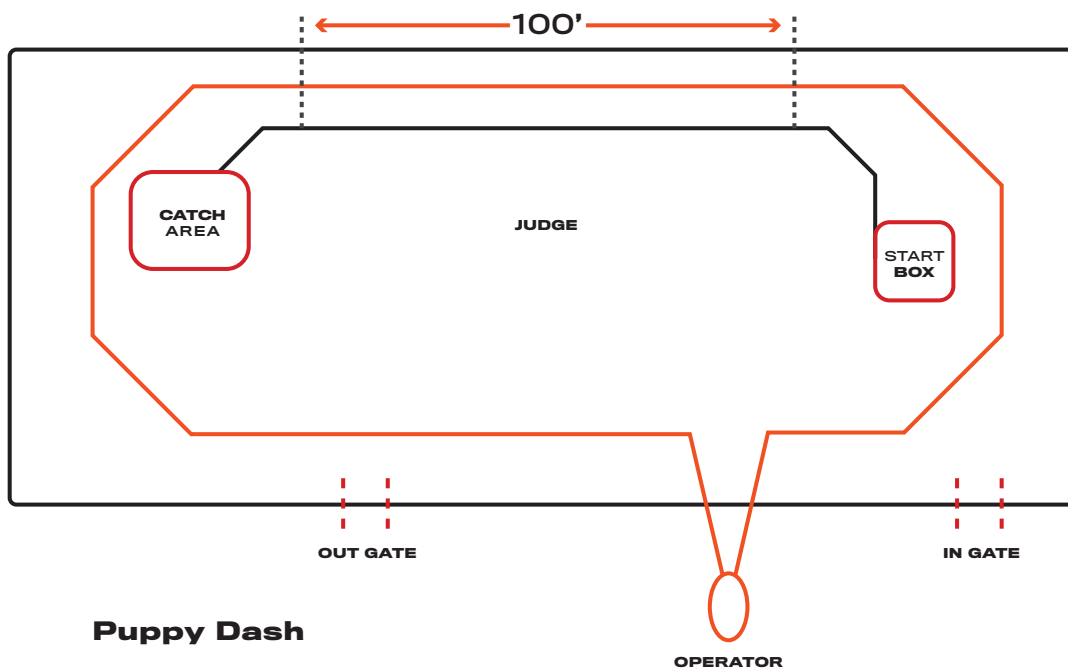
- Fun Runs are only available for the Novice/Advanced and Superior/Master courses.
- Handlers may train or assist their dog during Fun Runs, including keeping the dog on-leash and touching the dog.

**Section 3. Puppy Dash** A Puppy Dash is a non-licensed class for dogs 6 months old to 1 year old.

- Handlers may train or assist their puppies during Puppy Dashes, including touching the puppy.
- Puppy Dashes are only available using a Dash course with a straight run of 100 feet.
- Puppies may only enter 1 Puppy Dash per day

- The start box will be moved to the straight section of the Dash course and will be positioned 15 feet in from the beginning of the straight section.
  - The start box must be at least 4 feet before the start line.
- The Catch area will be moved to the end of the straight run
  - The Catch area will be approximately 25 feet from the end line of the course.
- There are no speed requirements for this class.
- Handlers may be on-course with their dog.
- There must be two people on-course: one releaser and one catcher. It is recommended that the catcher be the person the dog is most comfortable with.
  - Both handlers may walk with the dog to the start box with the catcher walking down the course to the catch area so the dog can see and hear them as they get into position.
  - The lure operator may wiggle the lure in front of the dog to generate interest, and the dog may be released when it shows interest.
  - If the dog is not showing interest, the releaser can play with the lure like a toy and otherwise try to engage them with the lure.
  - The catcher may move back toward the catch area once the dog is released.
  - If a dog shows hesitation or turns back, the catcher may come toward and call the dog.
  - Releasers must not move down the course once the dog is released.
  - The releaser may encourage the dog but must not move away from the start box once the run has started.

The following course will be used for Puppy Dash.



## CHAPTER 16. AWARDS, TROPHIES, AND RIBBONS

**Section 1. Ribbons.** Qualifying ribbons may be given at the discretion of the host club.

**Section 2. Cash prizes.** UKC clubs may offer cash prizes at performance events without prior written authorization from UKC. Cash prizes include, but are not limited to, cash awards, gift cards, and gift certificates.

**Section 3. Awards and trophies.** Clubs may give such awards and trophies as they choose. Clubs may accept trophies donated by individuals or other organizations and these trophies may be designated for specific breeds or specific accomplishments.

# Definitions

**Age of Dog.** A dog's age, for entry purposes, is determined by the date of the event. A dog born on January 1 shall turn one year old on July 1 of the following year. Dogs must be the in the correct age group for the class being entered on or before the date of the event.

**Altered.** A dog made sterile by castration or spaying.

**Blind.** A dog is blind if it has no useful sight.

**Catch Area.** Area after the end line of every course where handlers catch their dogs coming in from a run.

**Check In.** All entered dogs must report to the Secretary by the published Check In time. Dogs not checked in will be marked absent and will not be eligible to compete.

**Corresponding Date.** UKC does not schedule events by which weekend an event falls within a month, but rather by a corresponding numerical weekend date of the year. This is based upon a 52-week calendar. If a club offers an event on the 4th weekend of this year, that club's corresponding numerical date in all subsequent years is also the 4th weekend. Approximately every 5 years, the actual date of the event may be up to 5 days different

**Course.** A course consists of a specific pattern chosen dependent on a level with a lure that is pulled through the course for a dog to chase. The course begins after the handler indicates they are ready and ends when the dog is under the handlers' control.

**Day-of-meet Entry.** Most UKC clubs allow entries to be taken on the day of a show or trial. The start and finish time for taking these entries is posted on the UKC website. Shows that do not offer day of show entries are designated as PE (Pre-Entry) ONLY.

**Dismissal.** A dog that has been dismissed by a judge may not continue to participate in coursing classes. However, the dog may participate in any other events the same day if eligible.

**Disqualified. Dog.** Deemed ineligible for competition. This can be the result of a condition prohibited in the rules, such as an alteration to the dog's natural state or a condition of or action by a dog that is prohibited under the rules of the United Kennel Club. A dog that has been disqualified from a conformation show, companion or performance event pursuant to Dog Temperament and Behavior must not participate in any further events unless reinstated by UKC.

**Dog.** The word "dog" used in these rules refers to both sexes.

**Entry Form.** An official UKC document required for entry into a UKC licensed event. The entry form provides all the necessary information regarding the dog being entered into the event as well as the owner information for the dog.

**Excused.** A dog that has been excused by a judge in any event may not participate in any other events of the same type in the same show or trial, except that in all applicable performance events, an excused dog may compete in another class at the same trial. A dog excused from a conformation class in show 1 may be shown again on the same day in show 2, and it is also eligible for any performance events on the same day. Dogs excused for coming in contact with Precision Coursing equipment may be allowed to continue competition at the discretion of the handler.

**Guideline.** An indication or outline of recommended policy or conduct.

**Handlers meeting.** Running procedures and rules are explained to exhibitors at this time

**Immediate Family.** The spouse, parent, stepparent, child, stepchild, brother or sister, grandchild, or in-law of a person is considered an immediate family member.

**Intact.** Dogs (males/females) that have full reproductive organs present, including for males, two normal descended testicles.

**Lame.** Impaired locomotion causing a dog to limp or move with difficulty.

**Leg.** A qualifying score toward an Agility, Nosework, Obedience or Rally title, a qualifying pull in a Weight Pull, or a qualifying win toward a Grand Champion conformation title.

**Licensed Classes.** Classes that are required to be offered at a UKC conformation show or performance event from which dogs can earn points and/or awards.

**Lure.** Object that is used to attract the dog for a chase inside a course. Lures must be made of white plastic strips or bags.

**Non-Qualifying Score.** Also referred to as an NQ. A dog that has received a non-qualifying score in one class may compete in a different class in the same trial.

**Pre-Slip.** When a dog is released before the Tallyho or Go is given.

**Performance Event.** An event where a dog is judged based on their performance rather than their conformation. Agility, Nosework, Obedience, Rally, Drag Racing, Lure Coursing, and Weight Pull are typical performance events.

**Performance Listing (PL).** A listing number that allows a dog to participate in UKC Junior Showmanship and performance events. Dogs may be mixed-breed, purebred dogs of unknown pedigree, have disqualifying faults as described in the UKC Breed Standard, or breeds not recognized by UKC. PL listed dogs are not eligible for Altered Conformation.

**Pre-Entry and Pre-Entry Only.** Some UKC clubs offer pre-entry in addition to day-of-trial entry. Pre-entries must be submitted by a specified closing date and are normally lower in price than day-of-trial entries. Trials that do not accept day-of-trial entries are designated as Pre-Entry Only.

**Running Time.** The accumulated time on the stopwatch or electric timer from the time when the dog crossed the start line to when the dog crossed the end line is referred to as the running time. To qualify, running times must be within the required time limits.

**Sportsmanship.** Conduct that demonstrates proper consideration for fairness, ethics, respect, and a sense of fellowship with one's competitors while exhibiting, responsibility, self-control, and respect for both authority and opponents.

**Qualifying Score.** A pass/fail (non-scored) run in which the dog meets the requirements set for each course.

**Release Area.** Designated area prior to the start line where dogs are released to run which includes a Start Box.

**Tally Ho or Go.** The command from the Course Operator to the handlers to release the dogs at the start of each course. Dogs may not be released before the 'T' in Tally Ho.

**Take.** The catch of the lure by a dog while running.

**Temporary Listing (TL) number.** A Temporary Listing is a number issued to an eligible dog that is not permanently registered with UKC, prior to the start of any licensed events. A TL number allows that dog to be entered and shown as a valid entry, receive wins, and have those wins converted onto its record once permanently registered.

**Veteran.** A veteran dog is a male or female dog 7 years or older on the date of the event. The dog's age shall be determined by the dog's actual date of birth.

**Wait List.** A sequential list of all entries that are received after the numerical limit of allowable entries per judge has been met is called a wait list.

**Wicket.** A measuring device used to determine a dog's height.

## INHERENT RIGHTS and POWERS OF UKC

\*(Revised December 18, 2009)

United Kennel Club holds and has reserved to itself certain inherent rights and powers in connection with conducting its business, registering litters, transferring registrations of dogs, licensing events, and awarding titles. These inherent rights and powers include but are not limited to the following:

United Kennel Club has the right to inspect all reports, scorecards and documents related to UKC events. Some, but not all, of the items subject to inspection are:

- a) scores;
- b) disqualifications of dogs for fighting or other reasons;
- c) errors by the recording person; and
- d) documentation excluded for any reason.

UKC reserves the right to correct any mistakes found during such inspection whether or not the document has the signature of a Judge or Club Officer. UKC reserves the right to itself and in its sole judgement and discretion, to take such actions and impose such sanctions as would:

- a) Bar an individual from entering or participating in any way in any UKC licensed event.
- b) Bar an individual from transferring or registering any pups or dogs in that person's name (joint or full registration) or to any member of that person's family.
- c) Bar an individual from receiving Championship points for any dog registered in that person's name (joint or full registration)

By way of illustration, the following constitute some, but not all, of the situations calling for the above sanctions:

- a) Falsification or alteration of a UKC Registration Certificate, Pedigree, UKC Easy Entry™ Card or any other UKC document.
- b) Falsification or alteration of any reports of wins issued to UKC
- c) Falsification or alteration of receipts issued by UKC Judges.
- d) Switching, wrongfully using or attempting to use a UKC Registration Certificate, Pedigree, UKC Easy Entry™ Card or any other UKC document.
- e) Selling or attempting to sell a dog with false or incorrect UKC Registration Certificate or Pedigree.
- f) Intimidating, threatening, or injuring a Judge, Club/Association member or official, event participant or spectator, or UKC representative.

The six illustrations given above are only by way of example and UKC reserves to itself its inherent right and power to impose such sanctions in any other circumstances deemed appropriate by UKC.

Any individual who is found guilty by a court of law of a crime involving dogs will be barred from United Kennel Club for an indefinite period. A person shall be considered guilty in a criminal proceeding if they are convicted by a judge, jury, or if they enter a plea bargain or other arrangement to plea to a lesser offense, or if their case is disposed of by any form of deferred adjudication; a person shall be considered guilty in a civil proceeding if they are held responsible or liable by a judge, jury, or if a compromised settlement is reached between the parties.

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Tel: (269) 343-9020 [www.ukcdogs.com](http://www.ukcdogs.com)**