

AKC Trial Secretary Newsletter – January 2008

JUMP HEIGHT CARDS AND ONLINE ENTRY SYSTEMS

Chapter 2, Section 4 of the *Regulations for Agility Trials*, states: “Jump Height Card. All dogs competing in agility must present a valid official Jump Height Card. For dogs two years and older, **owners/handlers** must present a permanent height card at check-in or be measured prior to competing.”

The *Regulations* further explain that a temporary height card form must be presented for dogs under the age of two. Furthermore, the *Agility Trial Manual* allows for the submittal of a height card copy with a dog’s entry form, with the intentions of allowing that dog to be “pre-checked” into that trial’s weekend and thus avoid the check-in process for that weekend.

With the advent of online entry services, there has been discussion regarding the jump height card submittal requirement when the exhibitor has utilized an online entry service. AKC’s online entry service does not require exhibitors to submit a separate jump height card because AKC is the official record keeper of all measurements on a dog’s record, and therefore, has images of those submissions. Since AKC is the official record keeping organization, it is not required for a photo copy of the jump height card to be submitted as AKC has all of the official measurements on record. Other online entry services (nor copies of jump height cards kept “on-file” using other methods) does not guarantee that the Trial Secretary has the latest measurement on-file, hence can not be confident that the trial weekend’s check-in list is up-to-date and accurate.

A Trial Secretary must obtain a copy of a dog’s jump height card at the time an entry form is submitted or at check-in. Otherwise the dog must be measured during the trial weekend as part of the check-in procedures.

Ultimately, it is the exhibitor’s responsibility to present their dog’s jump height card at each event or be subject to measurement. (*Regulations for Agility Trials, Chapter 2, Section 4, Exhibitors should carry the original valid official Jump Height Card at each trial to present upon request.*)

DOUBLE-CHECK YOUR ENTRY FORM INPUT / GATE SHEET CLASS LABELING

Second Request -- Dogs are still losing qualifying scores!!

The Trial Secretary position is one of great responsibility. The exhibitors entering your trial are trusting that you will take great care when processing their entry forms. There have been several, unfortunate instances lately where an exhibitor’s qualifying leg had to be removed because it was discovered the dog ran in an improper class or division, different than what was listed on the exhibitor’s entry form. Please take the time to double-check your data input.

Additionally, another common instance has been dogs being moved up into the wrong class division (e.g. Excellent B instead of Excellent A). To assist the exhibitor in verifying if they have been moved into the correct class division, we would highly recommend that your gate steward's check-in reports be modified so that they print whether a dog is entered in A or B of the class, as well as designating a line between the class divisions, if feasible.

PAL / ILP NUMBERS

The American Kennel Club® has announced the enhancement and renaming of its Indefinite Listing Privilege (ILP) program. The new name – Purebred Alternative Listing (PAL) program – will officially take effect February 1, 2008.

The new name more accurately describes the purpose of the program: allowing dogs that are ineligible for registration but are distinguishable as a member of an AKC registrable breed, to participate in AKC Companion Events, AKC Performance Events and AKC Juniors competition.

The PAL/ILP program is designed to address the various reasons a purebred dog might not be eligible for registration: the dog may be from an unregistered litter or have unregistered parents; papers may have been withheld or lost by its owner; or the dog may have been surrendered, lost or abandoned, then adopted by a new owner.

Dogs which currently have ILP numbers will retain their original numbers and continue to enter events under that number. PAL numbers will be issued beginning February 1, 2008.

Therefore, it is very important for all event catalogs to identify the dogs enrolled in the PAL/ILP program with the letters, “ILP” or “PAL” preceding their assigned number so that all dogs competing in AKC events are recorded correctly with their awards.

http://www.akc.org/events/agility/trial_secretary_newsletter.cfm

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