



AMERICAN
KENNEL CLUBSM

Andy Hartman
Director of Agility

November, 2009

Dear AKC Agility Judges,

The following information regarding AKC's New Simplified Jump Height Card Process and Mixed Breed Program was recently sent out to all Trial Secretaries signed up to receive their newsletter. All judges should become familiar with the new jump height measuring process which effects how the Dogs To Be Measured list is generated, plus explains the new Jump Height Card Challenge Process.

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Effective January 1, 2010, exhibitors are no longer required to provide proof to Trial Secretaries that their dog has a valid jump height card as part of the check-in process. Furthermore, this change eliminates the need for a copy of the jump height card to be submitted with an entry form.

If a dog is measured by an AKC Field Representative or Volunteer Measuring Official (VMO) and is now eligible to jump in a lower height class, the measurement is effective immediately for any future runs, including any runs (regular or preferred class) which have not yet occurred on the same day that the measurement is recorded. This immediate action does not apply to measurements taken as part of completing the challenge measurement process.

A new entry form template in Word, effective for all trials on/after January 1, 2010, may be obtained by sending an email request to agility@akc.org. If your trial weekend includes 1/1/2010 or later, then your club may start following the new jump height card process. A new section has been added at the top right of the entry form whereas the exhibitor shall designate whether their dog needs to be on the Club's *Dogs To Be Measured List* by simply checking one of the three available options:

- MY DOG NEEDS TO BE MEASURED
- MY DOG HAS A **TEMPORARY** JUMP HEIGHT FORM
- MY DOG HAS A **PERMANENT** JUMP HEIGHT CARD

Premium List Changes:

Please be sure to remove from your premium list any reference(s) pertaining to the submittal of a jump height card.

In its place, we recommend publishing the following *Simplified Jump Height Card Process* write-up (i.e. premium list, Club/Trial Secretary's web site, etc):

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NEW Simplified Jump Height Card Process

When filling out the entry form, there is a new section at the top of the form for exhibitors to designate whether your dog has a valid jump height card or if your dog needs to be measured. Please check the appropriate box so that the Trial Secretary knows whether to include your dog on the *Dogs To Be Measured List*. It is no longer required that you submit a copy of your dog's jump height card with your entry form or show it during day of show check-in.

How do I know if I have a valid jump height card?

If your dog is under the age of two years as of the trial's date: One (1) temporary measurement is required. Once measured, be sure to retain the Agility Measurement Form yellow copy and check "MY DOG HAS A **TEMPORARY** JUMP HEIGHT FORM" box, otherwise your dog needs to be measured. If your dog turns two years of age or is older as of the trial's date, your temporary measurement expires on their 2nd birthday and your dog needs to be measured.

If your dog is the age of two years or older as of the trial's date: A minimum of two (2) permanent measurements are required. If both permanent measurements place your dog into the same jump height class, the AKC office will issue you a permanent card. If not, then a third measurement is required to determine the dog's jump height class. Until such time that you have received all required measurements for a permanent jump height card, check the "My dog needs to be measured" box. Upon arrival at the trial, you must check to see if there is a Volunteer Measuring Official and/or an Agility Field Rep. present to perform official measurements. If not, and you possess a yellow copy of the Agility Measurement Form from a previous measurement, then your armband may be picked up during Check-In in lieu of being measured by the judge of record. Once you have received your permanent card from the AKC office, check the "MY DOG HAS A **PERMANENT JUMP HEIGHT CARD**" box on all future entry forms.

Exception to the 2 permanent measurement requirement: If your dog measures over 22 inches at the withers, you have the option of selecting the "Over 22" Reqst Perm" box at the top left corner of the Agility Measurement Form to receive a permanent jump height card from AKC after a single measurement. If you do so, please also sign below the checkbox. By doing so, you are giving up your right to have a 2nd measurement performed on your dog in the future; however, you are not giving up your right to have the challenge measurement process performed in the future. Once you have received your permanent card from the AKC office, check the "MY DOG HAS A **PERMANENT JUMP HEIGHT CARD**" box on all future entry forms.

What if my dog measures into a different jump height then what he is entered?

If your dog has been measured by an AKC Field Representative or Volunteer Measuring Official (VMO) and is now eligible to jump in a lower height class, the measurement is effective immediately including any runs (regular or preferred class) which have not yet occurred on the same day that the measurement is recorded. This immediate action does not apply to measurements taken as part of completing the challenge measurement process. Dogs who measure into a higher jump height have always been required to be moved immediately.

May I challenge my dog's jump height card measurement?

Yes, each dog may go through the challenge process once after the age of two (2) years, if requested by the owner. (Any dogs under the age of two (2) years are also eligible for a challenge measurement.)

What is the jump height card challenge process?

The jump height card challenge process replicates the original measurement steps. A minimum of two (2) challenge measurements are required. If both challenge measurements place your dog into the same jump height class, then you will be issued a new permanent card from the AKC office. If the two challenge measurements place the dog in different jump height classes, then a third challenge measurement is required to determine the dog's jump height class.

Until such time that you have received all required challenge measurements, you must continue to compete at the original jump height stated on the permanent jump height card that is in your possession.

It is the sole responsibility of the exhibitor to have their original, official jump height card or temporary jump height form at each trial to present upon request. Additionally, if a measurement is necessary, it is the exhibitor's responsibility to have their dog measured prior to running. *Regulations for Agility Trials, Chapter 2, Section 4.*

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www.AKCCaninePartners.com

MIXED BREED OPTIONAL CLASSES

Effective April 1, 2010 optional mixed breed classes may be offered at standalone all-breed AKC agility trials. A standalone agility event is defined as an agility trial that is not held on the same date and show site as an AKC All-Breed Dog Show or Independent Specialty for conformation. Clubs are not required to offer these optional classes.

Mixed breed dogs shall compete in separate (but equivalent) classes from purebreds. (Novice A Mixed Breed, Novice B Mixed Breed, etc.) All dogs competing in a jump height run at the same time, under the same judge, however placements and titles are scored and awarded separately.

All owners of mixed breed dogs must first obtain an AKC Canine Partners listing number before they may enter an AKC Agility event. Dogs entered in the mixed breed classes must list the breed name as "mixed breed" and not as a breed hybrid.

Premium List Changes:

COVER PAGE

AKC All-Breed Licensed (or member) Agility Trials
If offered, ADD: Including Optional Mixed Breed Classes

DOGS ELIGIBLE TO ENTER

This trial is open to all dogs over the age of 15 months that are registered with the American Kennel Club, or are registerable breeds that have obtained an AKC, ILP or PAL number. Bitches in season, aggressive, blind or deaf dogs or dogs suffering from any deformity, injury or illness which may affect the dog's physical or mental performance are ineligible to participate.

ADD: Mixed breed dogs that have been listed with AKC Canine Partners may participate provided their listing number has been recorded on the entry form and the trial-giving club is offering the optional mixed breed classes.

CLASSES OFFERED

ADD (Those classes which apply to your event): Standard, Jumpers With Weaves, FAST --Novice A & B Mixed Breed, Open Mixed Breed, Excellent A & B Mixed Breed, Novice Preferred Mixed Breed, Open Preferred Mixed Breed, Excellent A & B Preferred Mixed Breed

ENTRY FORM

There are no changes to the format of the entry form.

Exhibitors should be instructed to list "Mixed Breed", for "Breed" on the entry form. No other breed description may be used to identify a mixed breed entry. Additionally, the exhibitor must provide their AKC Canine Partners listing number on the entry form and check-mark "AKC No." on the form.

Questions regarding either the Simplified Jump Height Card Process or Mixed Breed Optional Classes should be sent to agility@akc.org.

Thank You for your hard work and dedication toward our sport. It is very much appreciated!

Sincerely,

Andy Hartman, Director of Agility

And the Field Reps ... Gail Storm, Carrie DeYoung, Doug Hurley, Diane Craig, Barb Budnar,
Mark Sjogren, Richard Mackintosh and Steve Herwig

Upcoming AKC Agility Judges Continuing Education Seminars:

January 30-31, 2010

Seattle, Washington

Jo Ann Mathers

windgold@verizon.net

April 10-11, 2010

Chicago, Illinois

Sharon Woolman

keedogs@sbcglobal.net

April 24-25, 2010

Albany, New York

Dee VanHousen

Vankeiden@nycap.rr.com

July 17-18, 2010

Baltimore, Maryland

Blair Kelly

blair.kelly@att.net