



AKC Canine Partners

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Why did AKC decide to embark on the AKC Canine Partners program?

AKC launched the AKC Canine Partners program as an effort to act more broadly and effectively as the dog's champion. As the dog's champion, AKC is focused on helping all dogs and the people who love them through education about responsible dog ownership, support of canine health research and canine search and rescue efforts. Additionally, by launching this program we hope to encourage more people to participate in the exciting world of AKC dog events.

2. What do enrollees receive with an AKC Canine Partners listing?

The AKC Canine Partners listing entitles mixed-breed owners to the following listing benefits:

- Lifetime enrollment in AKC CAR Lost & Found Recovery Service
- AKC CAR collar tag with AKC Canine Partners Listing Number
- One-year subscription to *AKC Family Dog* magazine
- Customized AKC Canine Partners Certificate of Recognition
- AKC Canine Partners Decal
- Eligibility to participate in AKC Companion events

3. Who is eligible to participate in the AKC Canine Partners Listing Program?

The AKC Canine Partners program is for spayed/neutered dogs (wolf hybrids are not permitted) that are not currently eligible for AKC registration, AKC FSS enrollment or an AKC Purebred Alternative Listing (PAL). If the dog is a breed that is already an AKC-recognized breed or a breed that is an AKC FSS-recognized breed, the owner is not eligible to list the dog in the AKC Canine Partners program.

4. How can I list my mixed-breed dog with AKC Canine Partners?

Owners of eligible mixed-breed dogs may enroll into the AKC Canine Partners program either online at www.akc.org/mixedbreeds/listing/index.cfm or download a paper application at <http://www.akc.org/pdfs/mixedBreed/ADM001.pdf>.

5. When will enrolled dogs be able to compete in AKC events?

The first events offering mixed-breed classes will take place on or after April 1st, 2010.

6. What type of events may I show my listed mixed-breed dog?

Dogs enrolled into the AKC Canine Partners program may participate in stand-alone, sanctioned AKC Agility, Rally, and Obedience trials. A stand-alone AKC Companion Event is an AKC Agility, Obedience or Rally event that is *not* held on the same date AND show site as an AKC All-Breed dog show, Group Show or Independent Specialty (Conformation events). Mixed-breed classes will be held separately from the regular purebred classes.

AKC clubs will have the option to hold mixed-breed classes for eligible stand-alone Agility, Obedience, or Rally events. Those clubs electing to hold mixed-breed classes will offer the same classes for mixed-breed dogs and purebred dogs. Please ensure that mixed-breed classes are offered at your events prior to submitting your entry.

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7. How do I get started in participating in AKC events?

Dog owners interested in participating in AKC events can go to www.akc.org to find an AKC club that offers training classes in their local area. There are many classes to choose from based on you and your dog's experience levels.

The AKC Canine Good Citizen® certificate program is another great way to kick off your training regimen. This program encourages responsible pet ownership and rewards dogs with good manners.

If you are already experienced in Agility, Obedience, and Rally all you will need to do is list your dog with AKC Canine Partners to receive your AKC number and enter events offering mixed-breed classes. Agility competitors will need an AKC Agility Height Card. Please contact your local club for measuring clinic schedules.

8. How can I find AKC events offering mixed-breed classes?

You may look for events offering mixed-breed classes in the AKC Event Search website: <http://www.akc.org/events/search>. Click on the "mixed breed" classes check box to narrow your search of Agility, Obedience and Rally events offering mixed-breed classes.

9. What types of titles will my AKC Canine Partners listed dog be able to earn?

Mixed-breed dogs will earn separate titles equivalent to the standard purebred titles, however, the titles will be designated with a mixed-breed suffix (i.e. MACH-M; Master Agility Champion Mixed Breed, OTCH-M, and RAE-M).

10. Will the AKC Canine Partners program replace the AKC PAL (ILP) program?

The new mixed-breed program will **NOT** take the place of the AKC Purebred Alternative Listing, PAL, previously known as ILP. The AKC PAL program is for a purebred dog that is currently an AKC recognized breed that cannot be registered with the AKC.

The Purebred Alternative Listing Program/Indefinite Listing Privilege (PAL/ILP) is designed to allow dogs to participate in AKC Companion and Performance Events. The AKC Events that a PAL/ILP dog can participate in are:

- Agility Trials (All Breeds)
- Earthdog Trials (Small Terriers and Dachshunds)
- Herding Tests and Trials (Herding Breeds, Rottweilers and Samoyeds)
- Hunt Tests (Most Sporting Breeds and Standard Poodles)
- Junior Showmanship (All Breeds)
- Lure Coursing (Sighthounds)
- Obedience Trials (All Breeds)
- Rally Trials (All Breeds)
- Tracking Tests (All Breeds)

11. Will I have to record the breeds included in my mixed-breed dog?

No. AKC will not record the make-up of your mixed-breed dog. Dogs enrolling into the AKC Canine Partners program will all be designated under the general mixed-breed identifier.

12. What if I own a dog that is recognized as a "purebred" by organizations other than the AKC but is not yet recognized as a purebred by the AKC? Can I participate in AKC mixed-breed classes?

Yes. You would be eligible to enroll in the mixed-breed program. However, your dog would be required to be spayed or neutered and would be designated as a mixed breed.

Before enrolling into the mixed-breed program, please check your breed's AKC registrability status by going to www.akc.org/breeds/index.cfm?nav_area=breeds. A full list of breeds, including Foundation Stock Service (FSS) breeds, is provided.

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If you own a purebred dog that is a breed not yet recognized by the AKC, you should consider participating in the FSS program. AKC permits FSS breeds that meet the criteria listed below to compete in all AKC Companion Events:

Breed must be enrolled in the AKC FSS program:

1. Breed must have a breed standard
2. One dog in the breed must have a three generation pedigree recorded in the FSS®

Individual dog must be enrolled into FSS

Those wishing to pursue recording with FSS® should contact AKC staff at fss@akc.org. For more details on the FSS process please go to: www.akc.org/reg/fss_details.cfm.

13. How will I receive my Agility Height card for event participation?

AKC is encouraging clubs to hold measuring clinics starting October 1, 2009. Please contact your local club to find out upcoming schedules for measuring clinics.