Agility Guidelines

Mission Statement:

Agility is to be a fun, safe opportunity to train and develop a trusting relationship between 4H youth and their dog

GUIDELINES:

I. General
A. Training is more important than competition
B. Safety of the dog and handler is paramount
C. Agility is a privilege not a right
D. Use AKC and or NADAC junior handler equipment guidelines
E. Scoring will be time plus faults
F. Dogs must be 1 (one) year old by time of Pima County Fair
G. Youth may show one dog per level

II. Training
A. Saguaro Scramblers’ Starter’s Level Training Manual is a recommended source for leader’s preparing/training 4H youth
B. IT is NOT safe for the 4H’er to do more than they should, especially under conditions of competition
C. Dogs must have a reliable off leash recall in order to train/participate in agility
D. Youth are expected to potty their dogs before training/showing
E. Youth are not permitted to drag or jerk their dogs while leashed
F. Pregnant dogs will not be allowed to participate. Female dogs in season will run last

III. FAIR COMPETITION/TRIAL

A. All youth and dogs enter at their own risk

B. JUDGES
   1. Judges are to be shown respect. No parent or youth may approach the Judge
   2. The Judge’s ruling is final
   3. Judge may alter course for safety concerns
   4. Judge may excuse a dog they feel is unfit or unable to participate
   5. Judge will dismiss a dog that is out of control
   6. Judge will excuse any youth who willfully abuses their dog
   7. Judge will excuse any youth that shows unsportsmanlike conduct

C. PARTICIPANTS
   1. All youth must agree to abide by all rules and regulations
   2. All youth entered into agility must have the leader’s permission. Leader must submit
      Certificate of Readiness

D. COURSE
   1. Course descriptions will be posted outside the ring
   2. Obstacles will be numbered
   3. Food and/or toys are not allowed on the course
   4. No devices or instruments are allowed on course
   5. Encouragement is permitted
   6. Level 1 (Hoops and Tunnels) no pulling your dog through or over an obstacle
E. COMPETITION/TRIAL CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

1. Level I  Hoops and Tunnels
   a. Open to any dogs not competing in Level 2 a/b or 3a/b
   b. One entry per youth
   c. Participation only. There will be no placings or scores
   d. May use buckle collar (with no attachments ie license) and leash without loop
   E. May include 4 weaves with cages

2. Level II  A or B both classes off leash *
   a. Open to any dog that has not received a qualifying score at this level (85 points)
      1. Level II A open to dogs entered for the first year at this level
      2. Level II B open to dogs not receiving a qualifying score at this level
   b. A Frame 42” AT APEX
   c. Teeter at its lowest height
   d. 6 weaves with cages
   e. sit on pause table

3. Level III A or B both classes off leash*
   A. Open to all dogs receiving a qualifying score at Level II A or B
      1. Level IIIA open to all dogs participating at this level for the first time
      2. Level IIIB open at all dogs participating after Level IIIA
      3. A Frame 66” at apex
      4. Teeter at full height
      5. 6 weaves without cages. Option in Level IIIB to upgrade to 12 weaves without cages after 2008/2009 with leaders agreement
      6. Down on pause table

* Certificate of Readiness MUST be submitted by Leader
F. Jump Heights
  1. 4”, 8” or 12”
  2. All dogs will be measured at the withers by a leader
  3. Veteran dogs (7 years old or over) will jump 4” lower than their normal height

G. Course Familiarization & Warm-Ups
  1. Youth are allowed and encouraged to walk the course prior to the class (without dogs)
     a. Youth are encouraged to ask question during the walk-through
  2. Walk through is for handlers only
  3. Warm-up jumps may be provided in designated area

H. Collars/Leashes
  1. Flat buckle collar without hanging tags are permitted
  2. No choke collars or training devices
  3. Leashes without loop allowed in Level I only

I. Handlers Position
  1. Handlers are permitted to be on any side of the dog

J. Obstacle
  1. 5 to 18 feet between obstacles/jumps
  2. Obstacles should stand alone

K. Time
  1. Time restrictions will be placed on all classes (except Level I)
     A. Level II A or B will be designated with a longer running time
     B. Level III A or B will have a shorter running time than Level II A or B
     C. Level I will have no limit on running time
  2. Faults will be added for going over running time
  3. Time will be scored to the nearest 100th of a second
  4. Time will start and end when dogs crosses the Start and Finish
In the event of a tie, tie will be broken by a predetermined tie breaker to be posted before classes commence.

L. SCORING

1. Scoring will be as follows
   - Blue Ribbon 85-100
   - Red Ribbon 70-84
   - White Ribbon 69 and below

2. Blue ribbon qualifies team to move up

3. Faults
   A. 5 faults
      - Knocked bar/pole
      - Missed contact
      - Touching equipment or dog to aid dog
   B. 20 faults
      - Missed obstacle
      - Off course
   C. D/Q
      - Harsh treatment of the dog
      - Unsportsmanlike conduct
      - Dog leaving the ring
   D. Automatic White ribbon
      - Urinating, Defecating or vomiting in the ring
      - Dogs should finish the course

IV EQUIPMENT

A. Inventory
   1. Dog Walk
   2. A-Frame
3. Teeter
4. Pause Table
5. Open Tunnel (2)
6. Chute (closed tunnel)
7. Tire Jump
8. (3) Set of 6 weaves (3 with cages)
9. (1) Set of 4 weaves (with cages)
10. Equipment Trailer/Vehicle registration

B EQUIPMENT USE (policy)

1. Equipment may NOT leave CAC
2. (2) 6 weaves are available for check out
3. Reserve use of CAC (626-5161) to use equipment
4. Equipment MUST be replaced neatly back on trailer and trailer put back into storage building
5. Equipment is used at your own risk
6. Dog Project Coordinator must be notified, in writing, within 7 days, of any needed equipment repairs

Agility Revisions 7/06, 11/06, 09/08*

* these guidelines will remain in effect for 2 (two) years and then become eligible for review