

List of the Major Changes to CKC Agility for 2017

New Titling Classes:

1. Jumps & Tunnels

This is an entry level class, open to all levels. It has no weave poles or contact obstacles. It is a time-plus-faults event and refusals or wrong courses are not faulted. This is expected to showcase the skill of handling at speed on wide open courses with no discrimination challenges.

2. International Challenge Class

This official class offers world class challenges in Standard and Jumpers With Weaves in the style of FCI type courses. These two classes are open to all levels and provide the opportunity to try out some European handling on courses that are slightly more challenging than the Master Excellent classes.

Category Changes:

The owner may choose to enter the Selected Category in lieu of entering the Regular Category at any trial. The dog must be entered only in Selected Category or in Regular Classes and may not move back and forth between the Selected Classes and the Regular Classes in the same trial, or associated group of trials. Once a dog is entered in the Selected Classes, the dog **may** go back to compete in the Regular Classes in a different trial

Dogs moving into the Selected class **move laterally**, and **may choose to** take any legs they have earned in the Regular classes with them.

New Division:

For the International Challenge Classes **ONLY**, there is an International Division. Handlers may optionally choose to enter their dogs in this division instead of the Regular division at a trial. The International division follows the three FCI jump heights, Small (12), Medium (16) and Large (24) and has different shoulder-height cutoffs.

Obstacle and Judging Changes:

SCT :

Yards per second used to calculate the Standard Course Times (SCT) have been changed for some heights and classes.

Veterans now have 20% extra time added in all classes. Selected have 10% in all classes except Steeplechase, where they are allotted 20% extra time.

Weave Poles:

Missed poles must be corrected by restarting the weave poles over from the beginning.

A dog may make three attempts at the weave poles but must carry on to the next obstacle without completing the weave poles if the dog was not successful in

three attempts. The judge will instruct the handler to move to the next obstacle and the dog will be faulted with a Failure to Perform "F". An attempt is defined as dog entering the poles and doing at least 2 poles. The three attempts is applicable to all levels including Novice. Although refusals are not faulted at the Novice level, the dog is still only allowed 3 attempts to successfully complete the weaves.

Tire:

Breaking open of the tire will incur the same as a knocked bar. "F" in Standard and JWW classes and 5 faults in Steeplechase and J&T

The tire must displace in response to 16-20 pounds of horizontal force with 18 pounds preferred. The setting will be confirmed by using a calibrated scale (in foot pounds) attached to a tire side mounting point. With one side secured to the frame, the opposite side is pulled using the scale until the segments pull apart. The breaking strength must be checked by the judge at the beginning of the trial.

Tunnels:

Maximum number of times that an open tunnel is to be performed is limited to three (3) in Standard classes. (Previously just JWW and Steeplechase)

Closed Tunnel has been suspended from use in all classes.

Numerous changes had been approved for this piece of equipment prior to its suspension. These changes have been left in the Rulebook until such time as the decision is made to remove the obstacle entirely or to re-instate its use.

Panel Jump:

A regular bar jump may be substituted for the panel jump in high winds.

Course Walkthrough times:

Judging must not begin sooner than 5 minutes after the end of the walkthrough. This is so that handlers with the first dogs on the line have an equal opportunity to walk the course and then prepare their dog for the ring.

Start and Finish Lines:

For both manual timing AND electronic timing, the start line shall be designated as the front plane of the first obstacle and the finish line defined as the front plane of the last jump, or back plane of the tunnel (if it is the last obstacle). Since the start line is the first obstacle, handlers may set their dogs when starting, at any distance from the approach side of the first jump, but the dog must remain inside the ring.

Contact Equipment:

Dogwalk

The up-contact will not be faulted.

A-Frame:

The following section was removed from the rulebook as 8' A-frames are no longer an allowed piece of CKC agility equipment.

The height of an A-frame with 8' panels is set at 4'11" for dogs that jump 24", 20" and 16" and at 4.5 feet for dogs that jump 12" 8" or 4".

Changes to Course Design (for the judges):

PAD

Obstacle and point requirements in the Distance Bonus Sequence have changed. Also allows bi-directional designation of tunnel if first obstacle in the Bonus Sequence in Novice only.

Courses should be designed so that it is possible for a dog to be successful (collect the minimum number of points within 35 sec) based on an average of SCT for Standard and JWW for its jump height.

The 8" path following the above criteria to be shown on course when submitting the courses for approval.

Steeplechase:

As refusals are not called in Steeplechase, it is permissible to designate tunnel entrances as "either end" or "handler's choice" in order to maintain the flow of the course, provided that the approach to the next obstacle from either tunnel exit conforms to the safety guidelines

Obstacle Distances:

Extra distance is required for all jumps following an open tunnel. (20ft minimum for spread jumps and 18ft minimum for other jumps)

Angles:

A 180 turn *immediately* before the weaves is now allowed in Novice Standard (previously only allowed in Novice JWW)

Angle of approach to spread jumps in Excellent classes limited to a maximum of 45 degrees, but only for distances of >21 feet from the previous obstacle.