

Rules and Regulations for the 2026 Event Season.

AGILITY REGULATIONS

British Agility Events



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Our Aim

To provide a world-class event for dog agility handlers. To help improve and develop the understanding and skill set to compete at a high-level event. All rules and regulations within this document are subject to change in the best interest of the event if by any means a decision needs to be made the organisers hold the right to do so.

Size	Dogs Measurement	Jump Height
Micro (250)	Dogs Measuring 320mm & under	25cm
Small (300)	Dogs measuring under 321mm - 380mm	30cm
Medium (400)	Dogs measuring between 381mm - 440mm	40cm
Intermediate (500)	Dogs measuring between 441mm - 500mm	50cm
Large (600)	Over 500mm	60cm

Jump Height Categories

Dogs can only enter one height category (The height class they measure into - Height measures)

Courses

A course is built with a variety of obstacles; the way they are placed determines the degree of difficulty and speed. The dog must complete the course within a pre-determined time and the obstacles must be negotiated in the correct order.

Equipment requirements for each class

Equipment List	BAC / Novice / ABC Agility	BAC / Novice / ABC Jumping	Grand Prix	Steeplechase
A frame	✓	✗	✗	✗
Dog Walk	✓	✗	✗	✗
Seesaw	✓	✗	✗	✗
12 weaves	✓	✓	✗	✗
Tyre	✓	✓	✗	✗
Pipe Tunnel	✓	✓	✓	✓
Long Jump	✓	✓	✗	✓
Jumps	✓	✓	✓	✓
Wall	✓	✓	✗	✓

Collecting Ring & Entry to the Completion Ring

Stage 1	Check in table/board	Present yourself to the table so we know you are running.
Stage 2	Warm up	This will allow you time to warm your dog up.
Stage 3	Drop off table	You must leave any toys/ foot / bags /etc.
Stage 4	Tunnel entry	You are next to run.
Stage 5	Good Luck	You're on the start line

Obstacle Information

<u>Jump Height</u>	<u>Long Jump</u>	<u>Spread Jump Depth</u>	<u>Tyre at centre.</u>
250	500mm 2 boards	215-235mm	400mm
300	600mm (2 boards)	260-280mm	450mm
400	800mm (3 boards)	350-370mm	550mm
500	1000mm (4 boards)	440-460mm	650mm
600	1200mm (5 boards)	530-570mm	750mm

Course Design

The design of the course is left entirely to the Judge's inventiveness.
Each course must start and finish with a single jump
The distance between two consecutive obstacles must range between a minimum of 6m and a maximum of 10m.
The handler should be able to pass each obstacle on both sides successfully
There should be sufficient space at the start and finish obstacle.

Class Running Orders

British Agility Championships	Strict Running Order
British Novice Stakes	Not Strict running order
British Grand Prix	Not Strict running order
British Junior	Strict Running Order
ABC Challenge	Strict Running Order

Failure to run in strict running order in stated classes will result in an Elimination from that class.

Judging

5 Faults should be issued when

Knocking a bar down.	5 Faults
Missing a down contact.	5 Faults
Incorrect Weave process during the obstacle.	5 Faults
Knocking a brick out the wall.	5 Faults
Knocking over one or multiple elements of the long jump.	5 Faults
Leaving the seesaw before it has contacted the ground.	5 Faults
Dislodging the tyre from the original shape.	5 faults

5 faults for a refusal should be issued when

Runs past the contact line of the up contact on the contact equipment.	5R Faults
Does not pass the tipping point on the seesaw.	5R Faults
Does not pass the apex of the A-frame.	5R Faults
Does not pass the apex on the “upward” plank of the dog walk.	5R Faults
Each time the Weave entry is missed. (maximum of three times)	5R Faults
Runs past the active refusal line of a piece of equipment.	5R Faults
Runs past or under the first jump.	5R Faults
Runs past or under the last jump.	5R Faults
Runs past any obstacle on course.	5R Faults
Spins, deviates or stops in the final third of the distance between two obstacles	5R Faults
Enters a tunnel and exits the same side.	5R Faults

Unexpected problems with equipment or while under test.

Under circumstances beyond the handler's control – the Judge can stop the handler and when the issue is resolved the Judge will restart the dog from the beginning of the course.

All faults incurred before the dog was stopped will still apply. Up to that point no other faults will be given. However, the handler must still negotiate the course to the best of his/her ability, i.e. must make a good attempt of each piece of equipment.

Additional faults will be incurred only after the point at which the dog was originally stopped.

Timing Failure

- All faults incurred will remain.
- If a dog and handler ran the course with no faults – the rerun will be for time only - However, the handler must still negotiate the course to the best of his/her ability, i.e., must make a good attempt of each piece of equipment.

<u>Elimination</u>
Unseemly behaviour towards the Judge.
Harsh handling of the dog.
Three refusals.
The dog taking or touching obstacles out of sequence.
Forgetting to take an obstacle.
Taking an obstacle in the wrong direction.
Handler negotiates an obstacle himself, jumps or passes under the obstacle.
A handler who starts past the refusal plane of the first jump and sends the dog around the jump to begin.
A handler who gains an advantage by touching his dog.
A handler who gains an advantage touching an obstacle.
If a handler destroys an obstacle so the dog cannot complete it correctly.
Handler holds something in his hand while under test.
Stopping on the course because the handler retires (unless instructed by the Judge).
Dog fouls in the ring after stage 4 of entry procedure.
Dog deemed out of control for more than 5 seconds. (Judge's discretion)
Dog leaving the ring at any time while under the test.
A handler that has a toy in their hand past stage 3 of the entry procedure.
If a dog leaves the ring, the competitor will proceed to the finish of the course and retrieve the dog safely, however neither the handler nor the dog may re-enter the ring and continue the round.

British Agility Championships VAR.

VAR will review all *main arena (Ring1)* contact performances during the competition.

- Every dog's performance will be reviewed by the designated VAR judge.
- VAR will make judgment calls on only the A-frame, Dog walk and See-Saw.
- VAR will review the contact performance independently of the original judge's decision.
- The VAR judge will communicate the final decision as Contact or No Contact via the interactive screen.
- The VAR judge's decision will determine the final contact-area result.
- The VAR judge's decision will be taken as the final result, the "in ring judge" will not have to mark contact decisions at all, if the "in ring judge" does indicate a contact fault the VAR judge's decision will override the "in ring judge's" decision,
- The VAR decision is final and is not subject to further review.
- No appeal or challenge to the VAR decision will be permitted.

All breeds including mixed breeds are eligible; a dog must be over at least 18 months old to compete

(ABC Challenge ONLY) - All breeds excluding Border Collies, Working Sheep dogs & their first crosses are eligible.

<u>Dogs Ineligible to Enter:</u>
Pregnant bitches
Dogs that are apparently ill or hurt
Doped dogs
A dog that has received an official ban from British Agility.

Dogs in season may run at British Agility Events listed in this document – Handlers must provide their own matt or towel for the dog to sit on at the start of the course. This is the handler's responsibility.

Classes and Competitions

British Agility Championships for dogs (Grade 5/6/7 UK)

- This class consists of 2 jumping & 2 agility rounds.
- 5 height classes.
- Each competitor will be guaranteed 4 qualification runs.
- All faults are converted to time.
- The Winner of Each class will automatically qualify for the Final.
- For each round, points will be awarded to the top 25 non-eliminated dogs, with the winner getting 25 points, second 24, etc.
- The top 15 dogs with the highest points total after all 4 rounds will qualify for the Finals. In the event of a tie, points from the agility rounds take precedence
- If a class winner is within the overall combined results the placings DO NOT move down.
- The winner of final will be the fastest dog with the least number of faults
- A dog with 2 or more eliminations within the combined results cannot progress to the final **Unless they have a class win that automatically qualifies them for the final. **

British Novice Stakes for dogs (Grade 1-4 UK)

- This class consists of 2 jumping & 2 agility rounds.
- 5 height classes.
- Each competitor will be guaranteed 4 qualification runs.
- All faults are converted to time.
- The Winner of Each class will automatically qualify for the Final.
- For each round, points will be awarded to the top 25 non-eliminated dogs, with the winner getting 25 points, second 24, etc.
- The top 15 dogs with the highest points total after all 4 rounds will qualify for the Finals. In the event of a tie, points from the agility rounds take precedence
- If a class winner is within the overall combined results the placings DO NOT move down.
- The winner of final will be the fastest dog with the least number of faults.
- A dog with 2 or more eliminations within the combined results cannot progress to the final **Unless they have a class win that automatically qualifies them for the final. **

British Grand Prix (Open to all levels of dogs)

- This class is open to all competitors regardless of level.
- 5 height classes.
- All faults are converted to time.
- The top 8 combined dogs and handlers from each heights after the qualification rounds will qualify for the Grand Prix Final.
- The Overall combined LEADER of each height class after Grand Prix 1 & Grand Prix 2 will automatically qualify for their respective final.
- If a dog graded 1, 2, 3 or 4 is the current Grand Prix Leader – They will qualify for the British Novice Stake final.

- If a dog graded 5, 6 or 7 is the current Grand Prix Leader - They will qualify for the British Championships final.
- If the winner of this class has already qualified, the space will move down one space only.

World Agility Open Juniors Qualification

- This class will consist of 1 jumping and 1 agility rounds
- There will be 5 height categories, 250, 300, 400, 500 and 600.
- All faults are converted to time with 5 faults equalling 5 seconds.



• The British Agility Championships Junior Pentathlon (this will take place on Sunday only so no school days will need to be missed). At these events the Juniors will be ranked using the scoring system used in the Junior Championship at WAO. The overall place from the Pentathlon, Biathlon and Games will be given points in the following way. First place will equal 1 point, second place will equal 2 points, third place will equal 3 points, scoring down to last place. If the Junior ends up in a joint place then they will get that number of points. For example if places go down to 14th in the pentathlon and all handlers below this have 5 eliminations, then any Junior Handler in that group would receive 15 points. The points from the overall Pentathlon, the Overall Biathlon and the Overall Games will then be combined and the Junior with the lowest points will be in first place and be offered the win on spot. If there is a tie on points the Overall Biathlon result will be used, followed by the Overall Pentathlon result. If there is still a tie the individual class results will be used to determine the winner in the following order; Biathlon Agility, followed by Pentathlon Speedstakes, followed by Pentathlon Agility 2, followed by Pentathlon Jumping 2, followed by Gamblers, followed by Biathlon Jumping, followed by Pentathlon Agility 1, followed by Pentathlon Jumping 1, followed by Snooker. Points to note. • The dog & handler with the lowest number of points in each height will be invited to represent Team England at the WAO Championships. • Handlers must be born on or after 1st May 2008. • Results from the three events must be the same dog and handler combination. • For Junior handlers to be considered for a WAO place they must have entered the England Selection weekend. If they do not enter the England Selection weekend they will not be selected for the team, regardless of the points they have accrued unless there were no dogs in their height at the event as detailed above. • All Junior Handlers selected must have a parent/guardian available to accompany them to the WAO Event. Dogs must compete in the equivalent jump height to WAO at both events.

World Agility Open Championships Team England Qualification?

Pentathlon Win on The Pentathlon win on spot will be awarded based on the following criteria:

- To be eligible for the Pentathlon Win on spot you must enter the British Agility Championship classes for grade 5/6/7.
 - This class will consist of 2 jumping and 2 agility.
 - There will be 5 height categories, 250, 300, 400, 500 and 600.
 - All faults are converted to time with 5 faults equalling 5 seconds.
 - The top 15 dogs after the first 4 rounds will qualify for the Final. In the event of a tie, the agility round will take precedence. The winner of each class will also qualify for the final.
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- The win on spot will be awarded to the handler and dog who have the lowest total score after the 5 rounds. NB This may be different to the winner of the British Agility Championship as that class will be scored in a different way i.e. the BAC final is a standalone class, whereas the win on spot will be awarded on combined results from the 5 runs under WAO Pentathlon scoring rules. The winner of the Pentathlon in each jump height will be invited to represent Team England at the WAO Championships in the Individual Pentathlon.



ABC British Agility Challenge – Open to all levels and grade of dog

This tournament consists of;

1 x Jumping Heat

1 x Agility Heat

1 x Steeplechase Heat.

- Faults will be turned into time, (e.g. – 5 Faults = 5 seconds.)
- Time faults will be added on a 1:1 ratio for all classes in this event.
- Eliminations = 200 faults
- Time and Faults from the 3 qualification heats (Agility, Jumping and Steeplechase) will be added together to determine the overall placings.
- The Overall winner will be the dog and handler with the least combined time and faults after all 3 runs..
- Dogs must be 18 months of age to compete.
- Each competitor will be guaranteed 3 qualification runs. (Agility, Jumping, Steeplechase)
- All Competition runs will take place on one day.

Separate competition for each of the 4 height categories.

(Small, Medium, Intermediate and Large)

All rules, regulations, conditions and requirements contained within this document are subject to amendment, variation or withdrawal at any time, where such changes are considered necessary or appropriate in the best interests of the event, its participants, officials, spectators or the sport of agility.

Where any matter arises which is not expressly provided for within these rules, or where unforeseen circumstances, safety concerns or operational requirements necessitate a decision, the event organisers shall have full authority and discretion to determine the appropriate course of action.

Any decision made by the organisers in the exercise of this authority shall be final, binding and not subject to appeal.

Prizes Giving & Awards.

A prize giving timetable will be announced each day during the event with estimated times for each. Placements will be awarded to the top 3 in each class.

Finals

All finals will operate a rolling podium – Meaning that as a handler finishes the run, they will immediately take a seat on the podium (if their result positions them in the top 3 of that class). They will remain on the podium until they are either knocked out of the top 3 or need to run another dog in that same class.

The top 3 dogs in the British Agility Championships Final and the British Novice Stakes final will receive prize money for the placing they achieve.

The full prize money amount will be awarded for winners with Clear rounds. If a handler finishes on the podium with faults, 25% of the prize money will be awarded to the individual with faults.

Social Media & Conduct Clause – British Agility

Participants, officials, volunteers, competitors and spectators are expected to conduct themselves in a respectful and professional manner at all times, including on social media and other online platforms.

The use of the name British Agility, or any associated event, official, organiser or volunteer, in a derogatory, defamatory, abusive, misleading or disrespectful manner is strictly prohibited.

This includes, but is not limited to:

- Posting comments, images, videos or messages that bring British Agility into disrepute
- Sharing private, confidential or sensitive information relating to British Agility, its officials,

organisers, volunteers or participants

- Publishing allegations, complaints or disputes publicly rather than following British Agility's official procedures (via the official email address only.)
- Encouraging harassment, abuse or negative campaigns against British Agility or any individual connected with it

Any concerns, complaints or disputes must be raised directly and privately with British Agility through the appropriate official channels. Individuals are responsible for managing their own actions and conduct online.

Failure to comply with this clause may result in disciplinary action, which may include, but is not limited to:

- Being asked to leave the event immediately
- Revocation of current or future entries
- Refusal or decline of future entries to British Agility events

British Agility reserves the right to take such action at its sole discretion where conduct is deemed to breach this clause or damage the reputation, integrity or operation of British Agility.

Photography, Videography, Media & GDPR Clause – British Agility

British Agility events may be photographed, filmed or otherwise recorded for promotional, marketing, educational, media and archival purposes.

By entering and attending a British Agility event, competitors acknowledge that photography, videography and audio recording may take place, including within the competition ring while competition is in progress.

It is the sole responsibility of the competitor to inform British Agility in writing and in advance of the event if they do not wish to be photographed, filmed or recorded. British Agility cannot be held responsible where notification has not been received prior to the event.

British Agility grants permission for its official media team, appointed photographers, videographers and accredited media personnel to be present in and around the competition ring during competition for the purpose of capturing event coverage.

GDPR & Data Protection

For the purposes of the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018, British Agility acts as the Data Controller for personal data captured at its events.

Images, video and audio recordings may constitute personal data and will be processed by British Agility on the lawful basis of:

- Legitimate interests, for the promotion, reporting and administration of the sport and events, and/or
- Consent, where required or where an opt-out request has been received

Captured media may be used by British Agility across, but not limited to:

- Official websites and social media platforms
- Printed and digital promotional materials
- Press, media and sponsor communications
- Educational and archival records

British Agility will take reasonable steps to respect opt-out requests where notified in advance; however, it cannot guarantee exclusion from incidental or background capture.

Personal data will be stored securely, retained only for as long as necessary, and will not be shared with third parties outside of British Agility's appointed media team except where legally required.

Individuals have the right to request access to, correction of, or restriction of processing of their personal data in accordance with UK GDPR.