

International Challenge Class

Purpose: to provide a dog and handler an opportunity to demonstrate their advanced training and handling skills on various international style Standard and Jumpers With Weaves courses. The rules for this class are generally based on international rules.

Jump Heights

The Class shall be split into three (3) separate categories; Mini Agility for dogs measuring 13 ³/₄ inches and/or less at the withers, Midi Agility for dogs measuring 16 ⁷/₈" at the withers or less, and Maxi Agility for dogs measuring greater than 16 ⁷/₈ inches at the withers. Dogs entered in Mini Agility jump 14 inches in height, dogs entered in Midi Agility jump 18 inches in height, dogs entered in Maxi Agility jump 26 inches in height.

Contacts The apex of the A-Frame shall be set at 5'-6" (contact zones 42") The dog walk and Seesaw contact zones on the upside and downside shall be 36" in length. **Performance:** The dog must touch the upside contact zone as well as the downside with any part of one foot.

An Ascending Spread Jump is two bar jumps placed together to form a spread. The bars are placed in ascending order with the back bar set at 12"-14" for Mini dogs, 16"-18" for Midi dogs and 24"-26" for Maxi dogs. The front bar shall be set at approximately 4" lower for Mini and Midi dogs and 6" lower for Maxi dogs. The distance between the two bars of the spread shall be approximately 10"-12" for Mini dogs, 12"-16" for Midi dogs and 16"-22" for Maxi dogs.

The standard tire jump shall be used with the height set at 12" for Mini dogs, 16" for Midi dogs and 24" for Maxi dogs as measured from the ground to the bottom of the tire opening.

Standard Class: 18 - 20 Total Obstacles Required

Jumpers Class: 18-20 Total Obstacles Required

Required Obstacles	Quantity and Restrictions
Dogwalk, A-frame, Seesaw	Minimum of 2, Max that can be taken on course is 4
Spread Jump (Broad, Double, Ascending Double or Triple Jumps)	A minimum of one (1) and Max of three (3)
Open tunnel	Max. # of entries (3) three
Closed Tunnel	Performed once
Tire Jump	Performed once
Set of 12 weave poles	Performed once or twice
One Bar Jumps(all bar jumps have one bar only)	No limit
Optional Obstacles	Quantity and Restrictions
Pause Table	One time max.
Panel and/or	Two times max.
Viaduct jump	Two times max.

SCT (the judge will set the SCT based on the following guidelines)

Mini Std 2.75 to 3.5 y/s

Midi Std 3.0 to 3.75 y/s

Maxi Std 3.5 to 4.25 y/s

Mini JWW 3.5 to 4.0 y/s

Midi JWW 3.75 to 4.25 y/s

Maxi JWW 4.0 to 4.5 y/s

Scoring. Dogs start with a score of zero to which faults are added for infractions.

All class placements are based on faults then time. The dog with the fewest faults wins. In cases where dogs have the same number of faults, the dog with the lowest (fastest) course time prevails.

Placements are given out separately to dogs in the Mini, Midi and Maxi categories. (Dogs with faults can place. Eliminated dogs cannot place.)

Maximum Course Time Shall be equal to 1 ½ times the standard course time (SCT).

Standard Faults. (a five (5) point penalty) include:

- A displaced bar, plank or displaceable surface that the dog was to jump over.
- Missed contact zones (including the upside zone of the A-Frame)
- Seesaw fly-off.

- Leaving the table prior to completion of the five (5) second count. (This penalty can be assessed one time only.) Dog must complete the table before going on.
- Anticipation of the table count. (A dog leaving between the word "One" and the word "Go".) Dog proceeds with remainder of course.
- Missed weave pole once entered correctly. (This penalty can be assessed one time only per set of weave poles.) However, missed poles must be re-attempted and completed.
- Visibly moving or stepping on top of the Broad Jump.

Refusal Faults. (incurring a five (5) point penalty) include:

- Refusals at any obstacle.
- Run-outs at any obstacle.
- Dog exiting a contact obstacle prior to starting its descent on that obstacle. If dog exits obstacle before descent, dog must re-attempt and complete obstacle. Starting descent is defined as crossing the apex of the A-Frame; placing one (1) paw on the downside board of the dog walk; seesaw board has pivoted past the horizontal plane. (The "four paw rule" is not applicable in this class.)
- Failure to enter the weave poles properly.

Elimination Faults.

- Three (3) refusals and/or run-outs on a course
- Dog running the wrong course, including touching the wrong obstacle with one (1) paw.
- Dog/handler contact that aids the performance of the dog.
- Handler contact with equipment if it aids or was intended to aid the performance of the dog.
- ~~Outside assistance to the handler/dog in the ring that aided the performance.~~
- Failure to complete all obstacles on the course

Completing an obstacle is defined as:

- Jumping over jumps and through tires, in the proper direction.
- Starting descent on a contact obstacle
- Going through the tunnels in the proper direction.
- Pausing as directed at the Pause Table for five (5) seconds, (in the position directed by the judge).
- Weaving all weave poles after proper entry.