

AAC 2019-2020 National Dog Agility Team

Team Selection Criteria

FOR 2019 SELECTION WILL BE BASED ON NATIONAL TEAM TRYOUTS (Three International rounds - Agility/JWW/Snooker) HELD ON THURSDAY AUGUST 15TH, COMBINED WITH NATIONALS ROUND SCORING AS OUTLINED BELOW.

ONLY THOSE WHO FILL OUT AN INTENT FORM AND SUBMIT WITH DEPOSIT CHEQUE BEFORE JULY 15 WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR THE 2019 TEAM!!!

SELECTION TO THE 2019 AAC CANADIAN NATIONAL AGILITY TEAM FOR IFCS

The AAC will select a National team to participate in the 2020 IFCS World Agility Championships. Team members are selected by the AAC National Team Management, following the criteria set forth in this document, and on this website. Selected team members agree to follow all policies and procedures set forth by IFCS, AAC, and the AAC National Team Management.

Potential applicants to the National Team (*All including Draft and Medal positions and those not attending Nationals*) **MUST** fill out the IFCS TEAM SELECTION INTENT FORM and send it, along with 2 cheques (\$30 for a non-refundable fee for the cost of National Team Tryouts and a \$220 cheque only to be cashed if you are named to the team) payable to "AAC NATIONAL AGILITY TEAM", c/o A. Lehmann, 16648 Highway 48, Stouffville, ON, L4A 3M6 **BEFORE** July 15, 2019! **APPLICATIONS RECEIVED AFTER THAT DATE, OR NOT ACCOMPANIED BY PAYMENT ARE NOT VALID, AND WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.** If you are selected to the team, a second deposit will be due no later than September 30th, 2019 to finalize your position on the team. The amount of this deposit will be determined closer to the date.

THESE DEADLINES ARE NOT FLEXIBLE. IF YOUR SECOND DEPOSIT IS NOT RECEIVED, YOU WILL BE DROPPED FROM THE TEAM, AND THE ALTERNATE NAMED. IN THE CASE OF EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES, ARRANGEMENTS MUST BE MADE WITH TEAM MANAGEMENT **BEFORE THE DEADLINE.**

SELECTION

The AAC National Management may choose up to 24 team members for the IFCS competition. These positions may consist of 18 members selected from a combination of National Tryouts and AAC Nationals Individual Round Results (Appendix A); up to 4 previous IFCS Medalists; and up to 2 Draft spots. Target date for the approval of team members will be following the AAC Board meeting on September 19, 2019.

AAC NATIONALS & INTERNATIONAL INDIVIDUAL ROUND RESULTS – WIN ON SPOTS

1. 18 Positions on the AAC National Team for IFCS are determined by points earned at the National Team Tryouts combined with the AAC National Championships, as per the point schedule outlined in Appendix A, as well as the additional criteria listed below.
2. From combined results, dogs and handlers will be selected in each of the 4 height categories as follows: 12"- 3 Dogs, 16"- 5 Dogs, 20"- 5 Dogs, 24"- 5 Dogs.

IFCS MEDALISTS

1. The AAC National Team Management may also select up to four (4) previous IFCS Canadian medal winners (competitor with same dog as won medal) in any height as members of the team.
2. These additions, if any, may include dogs who are not competing at Nationals, or be from the pool of those competing at Nationals, including those who would otherwise be selected by the point system.
3. The medallists selected for the team will be from those who have medalled in the previous two years at any IFCS competition, and selections are made based on a point system for rankings.
4. Medallist rankings for the previous two years is available on the AAC National Team website, and will be posted at the AAC National Championships.

5. Similar to last year, medals won at WAC in team events are recognized on the wall of fame but unfortunately are not counted as a part of win on spots. This is due to the difficulty of determining the success of the individual dogs

DRAFT DOGS

1. Out of the 20 spots available to be selected from non IFCS medalists, to represent the AAC and Canada at the World Championships, the National Team Management Group may draft two (2) dogs, either from dogs who have attended Nationals, or from dogs who have not attended Nationals. Each of these two dogs may be in any height class.
2. In order to be eligible for a draft position, the handler must have put in an Application under the same timeline deadlines as those competing in Nationals, and the /handler team must meet all applicable criteria (ex: submitted application as outlined, attended AAC trials, be an AAC member etc.); if the team did not attend Nationals, they must also submit their reason for not attending.
3. The National Team Management Group may use the following sources for determining draft choices for the current year: National Results (if attended), Regionals results, top dogs in AAC based on Statistics (especially Challenge Classes), training video submitted in the Team Member area of the National Team website, previous results at National or International events.

ELIGIBILITY OF HANDLER

1. The handler must be a member in good standing with the AAC at the time of application. The handler of a dog under consideration for the team must have been the handler of the dog at the AAC National Championships, and be the handler of the dog in the eligible criteria being considered for a draft or medallist position.
2. Anyone who has an outstanding balance owing to the AAC National Dog Agility team is not eligible to apply for a team position until the balance is paid in full.
3. Handlers must have competed in 8 AAC Sanctioned trial weekends in the two years prior to the Nationals. In order for a trial to qualify, the handler must have competed in no less than 50% of class options available in a weekend. *Regionals/Nationals are not to be included in this requirement, although AAC sanctioned events (like Steeplechase) at those Regionals / Nationals can be counted. A weekend can only be counted once, and Saturday runs and Sunday runs may not be considered two trials.*
4. The handler must either be a citizen of Canada or have permanent resident status within Canada. Note that a permanent resident who competes as a representative for their country of residency will be ineligible to compete for their country of citizenship for a period of 5 years following the IFCS competition.
5. The handler must be prepared to satisfy all conditions related to travel and health documentation.
6. The handler must be financially able to provide their personal travel expenses for the event, in case financial sponsorship and/or fundraising is not available, or does not cover all of the expected expenses.
7. Team members should have valid credit card in order to book into hotels, and to provide some security in case of an emergency.
8. After selection, each handler will be required to sign a team contract in order to confirm participation on the team. This contract will outline duties and responsibilities for team members, financial responsibilities, team practices, code of conduct and more.
9. **Submitting an application and deposit is considered the handler's acceptance for a spot on the team, if they qualify for one. Therefore, when the team members are selected, the deposit cheques of the successful applicants will be cashed, and a contract sent to them to fill out and return.**
10. **The contract sent out to the team members must be signed and returned to the National Team Management by September 30, 2019, and must be accompanied by an additional non-refundable deposit yet to be determined.**
11. If the team member does not return the contract and deposits by the deadline, they will be deemed to have turned down the spot on the team, and an alternate will be chosen. The deposit is non-refundable except in the case of a verified injury to or handler.
12. If a handler is under 18 years of age, the consent form and final agreement must be filled out by the Junior handler's parent or guardian. The Junior handler must also be accompanied to and at the IFCS event by their parent or legal guardian, at their own expense.

13. A competitor shall be expected to serve as a representative and goodwill ambassador representing Canada, the AAC, and of the sport of agility.
14. The National Team Management must be notified as soon as possible if a handler becomes ill or incapacitated, and will be unable to compete in the event, so that an alternate can be notified.
15. Team members will be responsible for fund raising under the direction of the AAC National Team Management. This fundraising may include (but will not be limited to) merchandise sales, submitting articles for a fundraising publication, organizing events; giving instruction at a fundraising seminar, submitting training videos for the training page etc.
16. The AAC's Code of Conduct applies to the AAC National Team members, support staff, Coach, Team Manager and Assistant Team Manager. As representatives of the AAC, the expectation is that AAC National Team representatives will act in a manner respectful of the AAC and the National Team Management Group regardless of their connection to the AAC. Those who contravene the AAC's Code of Conduct may face sanctions, including removal from the team.
17. Any team member who does not fulfill fundraising and other obligations, as set out by the Team Management Committee, may be subject to sanctions. These sanctions may include, but are not limited to; fines, restriction of team runs, and removal from the team.
18. If a team member is removed from the team, or resigns from the team, they will not have their deposit, or any monies raised on behalf of the team, refunded.
19. Alternates will not automatically travel with the team, unless they replace a competing team member prior to March 15. After March 15, if Alternates have not replaced a competing team member, they will receive their full deposit back. Alternates may choose to travel with the team at their own expense.

ELIGIBILITY OF DOG

1. All teams (except those applying for Maxi), who have filled out the IFCS section of the AAC National Championship entry form will have their dogs measured at the AAC National Championships to ensure they are competing in the correct height. This measurement will be done by a judge approved by the AAC National Team Management. (See below for clarification regarding measurements).
2. Official IFCS height breakdowns are as shown in Appendix B. **Dogs MUST be competing in the correct IFCS height division at the AAC NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS to be eligible for IFCS competition consideration.** This requirement ensures that dogs who are competing against each other for spots, will also be competing against each other at Nationals.
3. In IFCS competition, all dogs in the Toy, Mini, and Midi divisions will be measured by IFCS judges or officials prior to the start of the IFCS competition. Any dog that is measured over the height limit must compete in the higher height. If a dog is close to a height cut-off they should be prepared to jump up, in case they get a high measure at the IFCS competition.
4. Dogs may not be taking any performing enhancing medications. Any medications that the dog is receiving must be noted on the team contract.
5. The AAC National Team Management must be notified as soon as possible if a dog becomes ill or incapacitated, and will be unable to compete in the event, so that an alternate can be notified. Dogs in heat ARE allowed in IFCS competition, but pregnant dogs are not.
6. A dog shall be expected to serve as a representative of the AAC and of the sport of agility. Any written complaints filed against a dog which are upheld by the AAC Disciplinary Committee will be reviewed by the AAC National Team Committee, who can declare such a dog ineligible for the team.

IFCS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

1. At the IFCS World Championships ALL dogs selected for the Canadian National Team will run all four of the Individual rounds (consisting of Individual Standard Agility, Individual Jumpers, Individual Gamblers and Individual Snooker)
2. At the IFCS World Championships ALL dogs selected for the Canadian National Team will run both of the Biathlon rounds (consisting of two rounds including Biathlon Standard Agility and Biathlon Jumpers).
3. At the IFCS World Championships SOME of the dogs will be selected for three additional IFCS "TEAM" rounds

(consisting of Agility-TEAM, Jumpers-TEAM, and TEAM Relay). These selections will be made by the Team Management at the IFCS competition.

APPENDIX A – SCORING and POINT PROCESS

In the event of ties in the number of overall points, the National Team Management Group (excluding National Team Manager and Assistant Manager) will make the decision based on Best Result in the International Rounds.

NATIONAL TEAM TRYOUTS SCORING (International rounds)

Only dogs competing for team selection will be included in the placements/points for team selection.

Placement Points for the following international rounds will be added to determine the highest pointed candidate dog/handler teams. 1 International Agility Round, 1 International Jumping w Weaves Round and 1 International Snooker Round.

All results in Standard and Jumpers will be based on a time PLUS fault calculation, as used in IFCS competition.

Placements in Snooker will be based on the total points earned in the opening and closing, plus any applicable time bonus points.

Points earned will be combined with points earned at the AAC National Championships. *Note that there are different point tables for EACH JUMP HEIGHT!*

TRYOUTS SCORING SYSTEM

To ensure reliable scoring, the officiating Judge will use the IFCS Agility Rules. The scoring will be time plus faults. Some of the common faults/refusals are given below. Refer to the IFCS rules for full details. If IFCS agility rules are not applied, the tryouts will not be included in the placements/points for team selection.

For every “Fault” or “Refusal” a competitor will be penalised 5 penalty points (5 seconds). For every “Elimination” or “Disqualification” a competitor will be penalised 20 penalty points (20 seconds).

All violations which are not qualified as a refusal are considered a fault. After every fault the competitor has to return the dog to the place of mistake or to the beginning of weave poles (competitor’s choice) and correct the error. In the case of a fault in the weave poles, ensure the weave poles have been completed correctly. Repeating an obstacle is a fault with weave poles being the exception: (1.4.4.5 and 1.4.4.8).

Overview of Common Faults

- Touching of dog or obstacle. (1.4.4.1 and 1.4.4.1.2).
- Fall of obstacle/element of an obstacle. (1.4.4.2).
- Broad/Long Jump – knocks down or steps between parts of obstacle, touches last board. (1.4.4.3.1 - 1.4.4.3.5).
- Contact Area – dog does not step into the contact zone, on the descent or ascent ramp of contact obstacles. (1.4.4.4).
- Repeating obstacle – If the dog commits a fault, it cannot perform the obstacle again (except weave poles: (1.4.4.5 and 1.4.4.8).
- Seesaw - Dog that jumps off the obstacle before passing the pivot point will be penalized with a refusal. The seesaw must touch the ground before the dog alights from the obstacle, otherwise it will incur a fault. (1.4.4.5).

- Weave poles – missing gap in weave pole (once the dog has entered correctly). (1.4.4.6).

Overview of Common Refusals

- Dog stops in front of obstacle. (1.4.6.1)
- Turning away from performance of the obstacle and when dog crosses the imaginary front line of an obstacle. (1.4.6.2)
- Dog running under the bar of a jump. (1.4.6.3)
- Dog passes between the tire and its frame. (1.4.6.4)
- Broad jump: dog walks through the broad jump with not attempt to jump, runs out between the panels, or jumps the obstacle crossways, or enters correctly but exits incorrectly. (1.4.6.5.1 – 1.4.6.5.2)
- Tunnel Entrance – dog places head or paws back out of tunnel entrance or exits out tunnel entrance completely. (1.4.6.6)
- Dogwalk/Aframe – dog jumps from ground to up plank and back to ground before touching the descent ramp. (1.4.6.7)
- Dogwalk – dog jumps off horizontal top plank of walk before touching down plank. (1.4.6.8)
- Aframe – Dog jumps off before the dog touches the descent ramp. (1.4.6.9)
- Seesaw – Dog jumps off the seesaw before it starts to incline or jumping on the seesaw descent ramp without touching the ascent ramp first. (1.4.6.10)

Weaves scoring:

- Max penalty points after correct entry is achieved – 5 points maximum (1.4.8.1)
- All violations that aren't a refusal are a fault. After every fault, the competitor has to return the dog to the place of mistake at the beginning of the weave poles (competitor's choice) and correct the error and ensure the weave poles have been completed correctly. (1.4.8.2)
- Once a dog has entered the weave poles correctly, if it has to come back to the start to fix an error (competitor choice), it cannot receive a refusal (as already entered correctly the first time), but before continuing to the next obstacle, must ensure correct entry and complete all poles/gaps correctly or receive a disqualification penalty. (1.4.8.4)
- If the dog has not performed the weave poles correctly (including correct entry) and then crosses the line or plane of the next obstacle or performs the next obstacle, it is to be disqualified. (1.4.8.5)

Overview of Common Disqualifications

- Exceeding maximum course time (MCT).
- Non-completions, each off course and 3 refusals in a run will be identified as an "E" and scored as 20 faults.
- Performing or attempt of performing an obstacle in the wrong sequence or taking an obstacle in the wrong direction.
- Performing or attempting to perform the next obstacle, if there was a refusal or fault that the dog had to correct on the previous obstacle and the correction was not completed.
- Back weaving
- Dog leaving the ring out of control

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS SCORING

Only dogs competing for team selection will be included in the placements/points for team selection. Placement Points for the following National Championship Rounds will be added to determine the highest pointed

candidate dog/handler teams. 2 Nationals Standard Rounds, 2 Nationals Jumpers Rounds and 1 Nationals Gamble Round.

All results in Standard and Jumpers in National events will be based on a time PLUS fault calculation based on AAC rules and regulations.

The 10% slower than the fastest dog penalty time faults will be based on the dogs competing for the national team and not the fastest dog competing at the National Championships.

Placements in Gamblers will be based on the total points earned in the opening and closing, plus any applicable time bonus points. Because there are two Gamble rounds, the dog's best result from the two rounds will be used in the calculation.

Points earned will be combined with points earned in the International rounds at the National Team tryouts.
Note that there are different point tables for EACH JUMP HEIGHT!

12 INCH JUMP HEIGHT						16 INCH JUMP HEIGHT					
STANDARD		JUMPERS		GAMBLERS/SNOOKER		STANDARD		JUMPERS		GAMBLERS/SNOOKER	
Place	Pts	Place	Pts	Place	Pts	Place	Pts	Place	Pts	Place	Pts
1 st	20	1 st	20	1 st	10	1 st	30	1 st	30	1 st	15
2 nd	18	2 nd	18	2 nd	9	2 nd	28	2 nd	28	2 nd	14
3 rd	16	3 rd	16	3 rd	8	3 rd	26	3 rd	26	3 rd	13
4 th	14	4 th	14	4 th	7	4 th	24	4 th	24	4 th	12
5 th	12	5 th	12	5 th	6	5 th	22	5 th	22	5 th	11
6 th	10	6 th	10	6 th	5	6 th	20	6 th	20	6 th	10
7 th	8	7 th	8	7 th	4	7 th	18	7 th	18	7 th	9
8 th	6	8 th	6	8 th	3	8 th	16	8 th	16	8 th	8
9 th	4	9 th	4	9 th	2	9 th	14	9 th	14	9 th	7
10 th	2	10 th	2	10 th	1	10 th	12	10 th	12	10 th	6
.	.	.	.	.	.	11 th	10	11 th	10	11 th	5
.	.	.	.	.	.	12 th	8	12 th	8	12 th	4
.	.	.	.	.	.	13 th	6	13 th	6	13 th	3
.	.	.	.	.	.	14 th	4	14 th	4	14 th	2
.	.	.	.	.	.	15 th	2	15 th	2	15 th	1

20 INCH JUMP HEIGHT						24 INCH JUMP HEIGHT					
STANDARD		JUMPERS		GAMBLERS/SNOOKER		STANDARD		JUMPERS		GAMBLERS/SNOOKER	
Place	Pts	Place	Pts	Place	Pts	Place	Pts	Place	Pts	Place	Pts
1 st	50	1 st	50	1 st	25	1 st	40	1 st	40	1 st	20
2 nd	48	2 nd	48	2 nd	24	2 nd	38	2 nd	38	2 nd	19
3 rd	46	3 rd	46	3 rd	23	3 rd	36	3 rd	36	3 rd	18
4 th	44	4 th	44	4 th	22	4 th	34	4 th	34	4 th	17
5 th	42	5 th	42	5 th	21	5 th	32	5 th	32	5 th	16
6 th	40	6 th	40	6 th	20	6 th	30	6 th	30	6 th	15
7 th	38	7 th	38	7 th	19	7 th	28	7 th	28	7 th	14
8 th	36	8 th	36	8 th	18	8 th	26	8 th	26	8 th	13
9 th	34	9 th	34	9 th	17	9 th	24	9 th	24	9 th	12
10 th	32	10 th	32	10 th	16	10 th	22	10 th	22	10 th	11
11 th	30	11 th	30	11 th	15	11 th	20	11 th	20	11 th	10
12 th	28	12 th	28	12 th	14	12 th	18	12 th	18	12 th	9
13 th	26	13 th	26	13 th	13	13 th	16	13 th	16	13 th	8
14 th	24	14 th	24	14 th	12	14 th	14	14 th	14	14 th	7
15 th	22	15 th	22	15 th	11	15 th	12	15 th	12	15 th	6
16 th	20	16 th	20	16 th	10	16 th	10	16 th	10	16 th	5
17 th	18	17 th	18	17 th	9	17 th	8	17 th	8	17 th	4
18 th	16	18 th	16	18 th	8	18 th	6	18 th	6	18 th	3
19 th	14	19 th	14	19 th	7	19 th	4	19 th	4	19 th	2
20 th	12	20 th	12	20 th	6	20 th	2	20 th	2	20 th	1
21 st	10	21 st	10	21 st	5						
22 nd	8	22 nd	8	22 nd	4						
23 rd	6	23 rd	6	23 rd	3						
24 th	4	24 th	4	24 th	2						
25 th	2	25 th	2	25 th	1						

APPENDIX B – IFCS MEASUREMENT TABLE

IFCS Category	AAC Division	Dog Measuring
TOY	12" Regular	30 cm (11.81") and under
MINI	16" Regular	40 cm (15.75") and under
MIDI	20" Regular	50 cm (19.69") and under
MAXI	24" Regular	No restriction