



## **2019 Championships Qualification and Info Sheet**

**The Qualifying period for Championships is August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 through July 31<sup>st</sup> 2019**

### **Elite Level Qualifications**

1. At least 100 points must have been earned in the current qualifying year from the Regular Agility class at the Open or Elite level.
2. At least 40 points must have been earned in the current qualifying year, at the Open or Elite level, in each of the Jumpers and Chances classes.
3. If a dog is 9 or older on the first day of Championships they **MUST** enter the Veterans division. If a dog is 10 or older on the first day of the Championships, then they **MUST** enter into the Double Digit division.
4. Dogs **MAY** enter the Veterans division at age 7 if they wish.

### **What To Expect in the Elite Divisions:**

- Longer courses. The average length of courses will be in the 22-24 obstacle range, with some rounds going up to 28 obstacles.
- Consistently challenging design. While all NADAC courses have some element of difficulty, some may be easier (for certain dogs and handlers) than others. At Championships, the courses will all lean more towards the more difficult.
- Full set of obstacle challenges in each round. While some rounds do have a theme, such as the Jumpers round or Touch n Go round, each and every round will generally have the full set of equipment tests on course.
- Distance tests. These tests are **NOT** bonus lines. But they will typically be a sequence of 2-5 obstacles where you are required to stay behind the line, similar to Chances. This line will be anywhere between 10-20 feet away from the farthest obstacle in the test.
- If the handler successfully completes the distance challenge, they will be awarded 10 bonus points

## **Pre-Elite Qualifications**

- 1.** At least 100 points must have been earned in the current qualifying year from the Regular Agility class in Novice, Open or Elite, with the exception that a dog entered in Pre-Elite cannot have earned more than 100 points in Elite Regular in their lifetime up to September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018. If a dog earns more than 100 points in Elite Regular, then their entry will be switched to the Elite level.

### **What to expect in the Pre-Elite Divisions:**

- Courses similar to an Elite level challenge. Dogs should be comfortable doing a full set of 12 weave poles, multiple contacts and challenges comparable to an Elite level course on a normal weekend. In the themed runs, such as the Jumpers round or the Touch n Go round, there may be more repetitions of certain obstacles than on a regular weekend, though never more than 12 poles at one time.
- Shorter courses than the Elite Division. The Pre-Elite course typically has changes from the Elite course. These changes can be either a reduced number of obstacles, or reduced challenge, or both. There will be no distance test at the Pre-Elite level.
- Larger groupings. Because Pre-Elite is not the main event we do not split up the groups like we do for the Elite division. There are only 4 divisions: Large, Medium, Small and Mini. The only other added division may be if we have enough Junior Handlers in Pre-Elite to make a group. Pre-Elite should be viewed as an opportunity for dogs that aren't quite ready for the main event to still get a chance to experience the environment and camaraderie of the event.
- Pre-Elite ribbons and overall awards are smaller than the Elite Divisions (but still pretty darned nice!).

### **Scoring for both Elite and Pre-Elite:**

- Scoring is done on a time plus faults system. Each round will have a base number of points that everyone starts with. For this example we will use 150 as our base number, keep in mind for the actual event this number can and will fluctuate depending on the course. When your dog runs their time and any faults incurred will be subtracted from this number. So a dog that ran in 25.00 seconds with 10 course faults would have a score of 115.00. This score is what determines your placement in your division.

- The base number changes depending on the length of the course and the challenges involved. A more challenging course that takes a longer time to run gets a higher base number, while a simpler course that runs very quickly gets a lower base number.
- If the Pre-Elite course is shorter than Elite, they will start with a lower base number to reflect the shorter course
- **Only** the top 33% of each division goes to the finals round, based on the cumulative scores of the first 6 rounds.
- The winner of each division is whomever has the highest score over all 7 rounds combined.

### **Placements**

- Placements will go out to 8<sup>th</sup> regardless of entry size.
- There must be at least 3 dogs in a group for that group to avoid being merged with their next closest competitive group.

### **Stakes Entries:**

- For entry into the StarterStakes division the dog must have earned at least two 15+ point distance challenge qualifiers (Regular class), or one Regular bonus in the current year.
- For entry into the SilverStakes division the dog must have earned a minimum of 40 bonus points with at least one 20+ point bonus/distance challenge in Regular OR two 15+ point bonuses/distance challenges in Regular in the current year.
- For entry into the SuperStakes division the dog must have earned a minimum of 60 bonus points with a minimum of two 25+ point bonuses in Regular in the current year with both of those being with a run index of over 100.
- Stakes dogs must enter Champs at the level they are qualified for.

### **Stakes Scoring:**

- Scoring will be the same as the other divisions. With bonus points being added on.
- The stakes cups and sash's are still going to be given out for exemplary performance in each round and overall performance throughout the event.

### **Walkthroughs and briefings:**

- The morning briefing takes place at 7 AM each day of the event following the national anthems.
- Thursdays briefing will end at 7:45 AM or earlier if there aren't many questions.
- Friday, Saturday and Sunday briefing will end at 7:20 or earlier if there aren't many questions.
- Walkthroughs for all groups will directly follow the morning briefing.
- Order of walkthrough groups will follow the running order for the day, which will be available on the Championships page of the NADAC website.
- Groups will be combined in walkthrough so that there are between 30 and 50 handlers in each walkthrough group.
- Run order and walkthrough orders will vary each day, so if you are in the first group on the first day, you won't likely be in the first group on the following days. This ensures that nobody has all early runs or all late runs, and makes it fair for everyone.

### **Misc:**

#### **Round changes for 2019!**

**Instead of the normal 7 rounds and finals on Sunday like in past years we are going to be doing 6 rounds, with the 7<sup>th</sup> being the finals round.**

- This means that Rounds 1 and 2 will be Thursday, 3 and 4 will be Friday, 5 and 6 will be Saturday. Then on Sunday morning we will announce who is going to Finals, run the team event, and then run finals.
- We're doing this to try and make Sunday a shorter day and get everyone out at a decent time.
- There will be two rings in 2019. Because of the smaller arena than what was used in 2018 we will be setting up a solid 8 or 10 foot wall between the rings to ensure dogs aren't distracted by the opposing ring.

### **Team Info:**

The team event for this year will consist of cumulative scores from rounds 1 through 5, with a relay round occurring On Sunday Morning which will count for 50% of the teams score for the week.

Teams are encouraged to be creative with their team names and costumes!

### **Second Chance Entries:**

If the event does not fill entirely then we offer what is called a second chance entry. This may be offered to both Elite and Pre-Elite divisions.

If you are close to meeting the requirements for either division but are short by 30 points or less in Regular, then we will continue to take your entry until we reach our limit.

### **Misc info:**

Each Divisions group is based on your dog's wither height.

There are four main height groups for Championships: Large, Medium, Small and Mini

The height cutoffs for each group are:

18+ Inches at the withers = Large

Over 14 up to and including 18 inches = Medium

Over 11 up to and including 14 inches = Small

Under 11 inches = Mini

For 2019 we are adding in a Extra Large category. This will be a division for dogs who are OVER 22" tall. If you believe you qualify for this category you will need to be measured by a NADAC judge, or send us a height card from another venue verifying your dog is over 22" in height at the withers.

For each main division there will likely be a sub-division for your dogs height. Examples would be:

Medium Veteran Dogs

Large Veteran Dogs

Large Standard Dogs

## Medium Standard Dogs

We do this to keep the competition comparable to the dogs competing. Since there are a wide variety of options in NADAC for your dog to reduce their jump height, it isn't fair to place the competitions by jump height, as you could very well have a Proficient Standard Terrier jumping 12 inches, and a Skilled Veteran Border Collie jumping 12 inches. And having those dogs compete against each other is not a fair representation for the dog at the event.

### **Possible Divisions at Championships**

There is a wide variety of entry options when coming to Championships.

As mentioned earlier Pre-Elite only gets split up by height group, but the Elite divisions get a much wider subset of divisions. The possible options and criteria are as follows:

Standard: This is for dog under 7 years of age.

Veteran Dog: Dogs taking the Veterans Height break and entering Champs as such. If your dog is 9 years or older on the start of the event date you **must** enter this division.

Veteran Handler: Teams that are taking the Veteran Handler height break and entering Champs as such.

Double Digit: Dogs that are 10 years of age or older. If your dog is 10 years or older on the start of the event date, you must enter this division.

Junior Handler: Open to any handler entering the event as a Junior Handler. (Junior Handlers are those who are 17 years or younger on the start date of the event)

It is suggested that anyone heading or even thinking about heading to Championships join the NADAC Forum (available at [www.nadac.com/forum](http://www.nadac.com/forum)). There will be a Champs-specific group discussion in which many other questions will be answered, regarding such things as crating, RV parking, set up times, etc.