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## Introduction

Team trials are held in each Zone in August each year to select a team to represent the Zone in the Zone Teams Event at NZDAC in October.

The running of the Teams' Event itself is covered under the Agility Regulations. However, the way in which the team trials are run is at the choice of each Zone.

This Procedure outlines the way in which Zone 5 chooses to operate the team trials.

## Outline

- The "Zone 5 responsible" Agility Committee member will ensure that someone is happy to organise the trials
- The venue should be as central as possible.
- The Zone team consists of one dog and handler combination from each agility level
- There may also be entrants trialing for the JDT (Juniors) team.
- Different dogs and handlers must be selected for each level.
- Dogs are eligible to trial only at the level they were eligible for as of 1 June.
- Dogs must be 18 months or older on the day of the trials.
- Handlers must reside in Zone 5 to be eligible for the Zone 5 team and must be a current financial member of a DogsNZ Zone 5 Agility or Dual discipline Dog Training Club.
- The Date for team trials is set in the 5 year calendar by the AC and approved by clubs.
- Entry will be either online via the normal system or on paper to the email address advertised for that year.
- The entry fee should be enough to cover the costs of running the trials (2019 cost \$5 per dog per level with a maximum of \$10 per dog)
- Entries will close 1 week prior to the trials.
- Judge(s) must be at Senior level and should be from Zone 5 if possible to reduce costs. Competitors may judge classes they are not trialing in.
- During the trials, the order of running of the classes will be at the discretion of the organisers but one of each set must be completed before moving on to the next set of classes.
- All handlers trialling must be intending to travel to NZDAC.
- All entrants in the Team Trials must agree to assist with the running of the Trials on the day.
- All competitors are expected to be competing seriously and refrain from excessive training in the ring.

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## Scoring

- The dogs will be judged as normal in each class with the exception that a Disqualification will not end the judging for that round. Faults/refusals and further Disqualifications will continue to accumulate. Each Disqualification is scored at 50 faults. Dogs must be taken back to fix a missed obstacle or otherwise correct the cause of the Disqualification to avoid further penalty.
- The dogs will be placed in each class as they would normally and will be given points to match their placing (i.e. 1st - 1 point, 2nd - 2 points etc.)
- A non-completed round (ie. leaving the course prior to completion or not correcting a DQ before leaving the course) will result in an extra 10 points being added to the place the dog would otherwise have for that round. (eg if there were 9 dog who completed the course, the dog who did not would get 20 points – (10th place + 10 points)
- During the running of the trials, the results will be able to be viewed by all competitors either by posting a copy of them or by viewing on a PC.
- Any combination who does not start at least 3 of the 4 rounds will have their scores removed and the results of the trial for that level will be recalculated as if they had not entered

## Team Selection Criteria

Four sets of classes will be run over one weekend. Selection for the team will be made on the following basis:

- The combination at each level with the lowest combined points from it's best 3 of 4 rounds will represent the zone at that level
- In the event of a tie, a count back will be done on the total faults on each dog's best three runs and if still equal, the dog with the lowest combined time of the best three runs will represent the zone
- If a combination wins more than one level, the handler will be given the option as to which level they would prefer to represent the Zone in. It is recommended that this decision be made in conjunction with the team trials organizer and/or team manager (if selected).
- A combination which has more than 1 non-completed round in one level during the trials will not be considered for the team for that level unless there is no alternative available.
- If a handler trials more than one dog and wins a position on the team, that dog may not be withdrawn and replaced with another dog owned by the same handler. The handler must compete with the dog that won the place on the team or forfeit their place.

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- A reserve dog and handler will be named for each level. One handler and/or dog may act as a reserve for more than one class.
- A team manager will be selected by the team members and if an agreement cannot be reached, the trial organiser will nominate a team manager.
- Any handlers nominating to trial for the JDT team (Juniors) must clearly note this on their entry form. The results for Juniors are submitted to the National coordinator just as raw results (eg Course 1 – 5 faults in 23.503 seconds)
- All selected team members will agree to provide a photo and Bio when requested by the team manager.

## Financial

The entry money will be utilised as follows:

- Reasonable travel costs for the judge(s). It is expected that trialists who judge classes they are not entered in do not have their travel costs reimbursed.
- Judge's lunches
- Donation toward hire of venue and equipment when required
- Other costs (eg tea, coffee etc)
- The remainder should be divided amongst those selected for the Zone team up to a maximum of \$100.
- Any excess above this should be forwarded to the Zone 5 account held by the Agility Committee either for use in years where trials entry levels are low to subsidise judge's expenses or for other specific Zone 5 expenses.

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### Team Manager's Responsibilities

A team Manager is the liaison person for the Zone team prior to and at NZDAC. The following is a list of things they are most likely to be involved with.

- Liaison with team members to ensure forms for shirts and travel expenses, if applicable, are filled out.
- "Go to" person at NZDAC to assist with ensuring the team members know where they need to be for photos/parade etc.
- Collect sashes from the organiser and get the team ready.
- Support the members through the teams' competition where required