

## **Press Release**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB LAUNCHES ITS INAUGURAL AKC TRICK DOG VIRTUAL COMPETITION

**New York, NY**-The American Kennel Club is excited to announce that the 1<sup>st</sup> AKC Trick Dog Virtual Competition has begun! AKC Elite Performer Trick Dogs from around the country will be able to participate in the inaugural virtual event.

Dogs participating in the competition must have earned the Elite Performer Trick Dog Title by September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019. To qualify, owners must submit a video. The routine should have a theme and last no longer than six minutes. A minimum of 10 tricks are required, and although props are not necessary, they are strongly encouraged. The more creative, entertaining, and well-orchestrated the tricks are, the greater the chances to earn a high score.

This is a great opportunity for dog owners to use their imagination and come up with a theme for their routine that is sure to impress the judges. The AKC is thrilled to add this new addition to the already popular Trick Dog title. The winner of the 2019 AKC Trick Dog Competition will receive a cash prize of \$500 and two semi-finalists will each receive \$250. The winner will be featured in AKC media, their videos will be on the AKC Trick Dog web page, and they will receive a commemorative plaque.

Submissions must be entered by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, November 1, 2019. The winner will be announced December 2, 2019. For more details on video requirements and an application to submit a video, go to: https://www.akc.org/sports/trick-dog/

The American Kennel Club (AKC), proudly celebrates its 125th Anniversary in 2009. Since 1884 the not-for-profit organization has maintained the largest registry of purebred dogs in the world, and today its rules govern more than 20,000 canine competitions each year. The AKC is dedicated to upholding the integrity of its registry, promoting the sport of purebred dogs and breeding for type and function. Along with its nearly 5,000 licensed and member clubs and its affiliated organizations, the AKC advocates for the purebred dog as a family companion, advances canine health and well-being, works to protect the rights of all dog owners and promotes responsible dog ownership. Affiliate AKC organizations include the AKC Humane Fund, AKC Canine Health Foundation, AKC Companion Animal Recovery and the AKC Museum of the Dog. For more information, visit <a href="https://www.akc.org">www.akc.org</a>.

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