



THE 26th AKC NATIONAL OBEDIENCE CHAMPIONSHIP & 7th AKC RALLY NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP: FAST FACTS

- ❖ The National Obedience Championship is an invitation-only two-day event. National Obedience participants will be competing against the top obedience dogs in the country, who were invited based on the number of Obedience Trial Champion (OTCH) points earned throughout the year or placements at AKC Obedience regional qualifying events. The goal of each competitor is to become the next National Obedience Champion at this prestigious American Kennel Club® event.
- ❖ AKC will present the “Soaring Eagle Award.” At the end of the first day’s competition, the top 50-ranked dogs move on to the second day of competition. The “Soaring Eagle Award” will be bestowed upon the 51st-ranked dog at the end of the day-one competition, to recognize their efforts and to remind them to never give up; and to always KEEP SOARING.
- ❖ **124** dogs from **32** states representing **40** breeds will compete for the title of National Obedience Champion over the course of two days.
- ❖ Obedience trials demonstrate a dog’s ability to follow specified routines in heeling, jumping and retrieving as directed by the handler. All contestants in a class are required to perform the same exercises in essentially the same way, so that the relative quality of the various performances may be scored.
- ❖ The Rally National Championship is a one-day event with dogs meeting entry eligibility requirements at more than 1,000 events over the past year. Rally competitors will strive to be named the top dog in their class at the 7th annual AKC Rally® National Championship. The goal of each competitor in the Championship class is to be crowned the new National Rally Champion.
- ❖ AKC Rally® combines elements of Obedience and Agility. The dog and handler move through a course of numbered signs, all while the handler is communicating with and praising the dog. It demonstrates a sense of teamwork and provides an excellent introduction to AKC Companion Events for new dogs and handlers. AKC Rally® promotes a fun and enjoyable atmosphere for dogs at all levels of competition.
- ❖ **411** dogs from **36** states representing **87** breeds will compete for the title of Rally National Champion. This year, six juniors will be competing.
- ❖ At the Rally National Championship, dogs compete in one of six classes: **Novice** (83 entries), **Intermediate** (75 entries), **Advanced** (57 entries), **Excellent** (61 entries), **Master** (22 entries), and **Championship** (113 entries).
- ❖ All class levels at the Rally National Championship progress in difficulty; Rally Novice and Rally Intermediate teams will perform on-leash and all other teams will perform off-leash.
- ❖ Click to learn more about the [AKC National Obedience Championship](#) and the [AKC Rally National Championship](#).