

Premium List

The 4th AKC AGILITY LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP



Friday, Saturday & Sunday, November 6 – 8, 2026

James B. Hunt Horse Complex

4601 Trinity Road
Raleigh, NC 27607

Two rings, indoors on dirt, 105' X 110' Rings
This event will be livestreamed by AKC-TV

Entries open Tuesday, September 8, 2026, at 8 a.m. ET
Entries close Thursday, October 15, 2026, at Midnight ET

Online Entry Only

Entry fee: \$100 per dog – all Levels, Junior handlers pay \$50.

Entries will open at 8 am ET September 8 at which time the entry form link will be live on:

[2026 AKC Agility League Championships: Enroll Handler & Dog](#)

By entering this event, exhibitors agree to adhere to all guest rules set forth by the James B. Hunt Horse Complex. You may read them at:

<https://www.ncagr.gov/divisions/ncstatefair/hunthorsecomplex/regulations>

Officers of the American Kennel Club:

101 Park Avenue 7th Floor., New York, NY 10178

President & CEO, Gina M. DiNardo

Exec. Secretary, Sheila Goffe

Chief Financial Officer, Theodore (Ted) E. Phillips

Trial Committee:

Event Chairperson Penny Leigh

Event Secretary Angela Ogle

Contact agilityleague@akc.org with any questions

Committee Members: Cassandra Pickel, Dana Shulman, Dave Hirsch, Jennifer Young

Judges:

- Greg Beck of North Carolina: Sophomore & Freshman
- Ronda Bermke of Wisconsin: Senior & Elementary
- Greg Fontaine of North Carolina: PhD

Equipment Sponsor: Max 200

is the sponsor of three rings of the equipment for this event, and it is available for sale to be taken home at the conclusion of the event. If you are interested in any item, it is advisable that you order it in advance to ensure that it is reserved for you. Credit cards will not be charged until the week before the event. You can order on-line indicating "Pick-up at Trial" as your delivery option - www.max200.com. Or you can call (315) 776-9588 to place your order. If you want anything other than agility equipment, you can order that and Max 200 will bring it to the event to save shipping costs.

Photographer: Beau & Arrow Images

is the official event photographer for the AKC Agility League Championship: <https://beauandarrowimages.shootproof.com/>

Accommodations:

Hotels that accept dogs are quickly becoming a rarity. Please behave responsibly! Clean up after your dog, bring sheets to cover the furniture, do not groom or bathe your dog inside, do not leave your dog(s) unattended in the room, and please be respectful of other guests who do not have to be up at 6 a.m.

Pet Friendly Hotels:

Note: The AKC does not have any agreements with these hotels, they are listed as a courtesy based on information that they allow pets. *Policies can change. Please verify that dogs are still being accepted when making reservations and CHECK PET FEES!*

- [Homewood Suites by Hilton Raleigh Crabtree Valley](#)
5400 Homewood Banks Drive
Raleigh, NC 27612
(919)785-1131
In room kitchens, \$75 pet fee per stay, 3.9 miles from Fairgrounds
- [Residence Inn Crabtree](#)
2200 Summit Park Lane
Raleigh, NC 27612
(919)279-3000
Recently renovated, \$100 pet fee per stay, 5 miles from Fairgrounds
- [La Quinta](#)
2211 Summit Park Lane
Raleigh, NC 27612
(919)785-0071
5 miles from Fairgrounds
- [Embassy Suites by Hilton Raleigh Durham Research Triangle](#)
201 Harrison Oaks Blvd
Cary, NC 27513
(919)679-7438
Max 25 lb dog weight, 2 dogs per room, full cooked to order breakfast
- [Hyatt Place Raleigh/Cary](#)
710 Corporate Center Drive
Raleigh, NC
(919)521-8054
2.3 miles to Fairgrounds
- [Red Roof Inn](#)
3921 Arrow Drive
Raleigh, NC 27612
(919)277-8485

Raleigh Area Campgrounds and RV Parks:

Note: The available RV sites at the Horse Complex are full. This is a list of RV Parks located in the greater Raleigh area. We have not contacted these parks and make no recommendations. Please check with them directly on current rates and pet policies.

Matthews Campground

7625 Lake Wheeler Road
Raleigh, NC
Thematthewscampground.com
919-868-7132

Coopers RV Park

13528 Clayton Blvd.
Clayton, NC
Coopersrvparknc.com
919-359-8060

Raleigh Oaks RV Resort & Cottages

527 US-701 Hwy
Four Oaks, NC
Raleighoaksvresort.com
919-934-3181

Spring Hill RV Park

110 Coachman Road
Chapel Hill, NC
Springhillpark.com
919-967-4268

Triangle RV Park

5909 Wilkins Drive
Garner, NC
Rvraleigh.com
919-655-3337

Falls Lake State Recreation Area

13304 Creedmoor Road
Wake Forest, NC
984-867-8000

Emergency Veterinary Clinics

NC State University College of Veterinary Medicine – Emergency Services & Critical Care

Open 24/7

1052 William Moore Drive, Raleigh, NC

919-513-6911

Animal Emergency Hospital & Urgent Care

Open 24/7

409 Vick Avenue, Raleigh, NC

919-781-5145

Blue Pearl Pet Hospital

24/7

4640 Paragon Park Road, Raleigh, NC

919-861-0109

Emergency Services

Fire/Ambulance/Police, City of Raleigh, NC

911

The NC State Fairgrounds provides 24-hour security. Ground Patrol may be reached at 919-612-6767.

Site Information:

- There is plenty of parking at no charge.
- We will be running in two rings on the ground level; the rings will be side by side with a narrow aisle between, and the facing side of the rings will be covered with a dark barrier material.
- Crating will be on the upper-level Concourse.
- The arena is not air conditioned but is heated. Early November weather in Central North Carolina is typically very nice. There are large ceiling fans that keep the rings cool, plus roll-up doors will be opened if necessary. Please plan to pack fans for your dogs in the event of warmer weather.

- As always, everyone must pick up after their dogs and have them on leash while on the show premises.
- **ALL DOGS MUST BE ON LEASH AT ALL TIMES EXCEPT WHEN IN THE RING OR IN THE DESIGNATED WARM UP/PRACTICE AREAS.**
- Outside food and beverages and food deliveries are allowed. The horse complex does not have an in-house food vendor, but two food trucks will be on site throughout the event. There also are numerous restaurants within easy driving distance. In addition, the State Fairgrounds hosts The Raleigh Market every Saturday and Sunday, featuring many craftsmen and vendors, including food vendors.
- Agility Gate will be used at this event. Code to be issued after entries close.

Divisions & Classes:

Note: there is not a Limited field size division.

- Ph.D (ISC)
- Senior (Masters/Excellent)
- Sophomore (Open)
- Freshman (Novice)
- Elementary (Pre-Novice)

Dogs may compete in the division for which they originally qualified, even if they have moved up in skill level. For instance, a dog that qualified on a Freshman team may compete at that level for the Championship, even if they have earned a Novice title. Dogs may compete up in skill level but cannot compete down. One exception is Elementary. Dogs competing in Elementary may only double up in Freshman – they cannot compete at a higher level than Freshman.

Individual Dog Classes:

- Regular – 8, 12, 16, 20, 24 & 24C
- Preferred – 4, 8, 12, 16 & 20
- Veteran (dogs 10 & older may jump up to 2 heights lower than regular jump height; jumps will not be set lower than 4-inches) – 4, 8, 12, 16

Eligibility & Entry Requirements:

- Any team that has successfully completed a League season between Fall 2025-Spring 2026 (9/25-8/26), is eligible to enter. Successful completion means the team completed all six rounds with a minimum of three dogs per round.
- Any dog that has successfully completed a League season between Fall 2025-Spring 2026 (9/25-8/26), is eligible to enter. Successful completion means the dog completed at least four of six rounds, meaning a score was submitted for that dog.
- All dogs must be on a team in order to enter the event.
- Teams may be comprised of 3 to 8 dogs and must be sponsored by the same group, club or school. The team requirement minimum is 3 dogs/2 handlers.
- Sponsoring facilities may change their team rosters and/or merge teams for the National Championship, as long as all dogs on the teams have completed the eligibility requirements.
- Teams may enter more than one division. Dogs may compete on more than one team. Dogs cannot enter twice in the same division.
- Dogs may enter multiple divisions for which they qualified or higher levels. For instance, a dog qualified in Sophomore is eligible to participate in Senior or PhD in addition to Sophomore.
- Dogs that qualify in Elementary and choose Elementary at the Championship, may also enter Freshman but not higher levels.
- Handlers may not form “cross-country” new teams to compete in the Championship. In the case of individual handlers whose teams cannot attend, but they would like to compete: they should contact the AKC Agility League at AgilityLeague@akc.org.

Notice to Exhibitors:

- Exhibitors alone are responsible for the behavior of their dogs and/or children. Any dogs and/or children that create unnecessary disturbances or repeatedly engage in unsafe or disruptive behavior may be asked to leave.
- Scores from the Championship will not count towards AKC titles or MACH/PACH points because these scores will not be recorded by the AKC Records Dept.
- All rights to video tape, televise, advertise, photograph, promote and otherwise exploit this event are vested in the American Kennel Club. All persons and the owners of the animals in attendance who appear in any resultant effort grant the use of their likeness and voice without further consent. Exhibitors may video tape their own individual runs for personal use.
- Dogs cannot be left overnight at the trial site.

Crating Area Guidelines:

- All crating will be by reservation only. Team captains will be sent crating preference form after team entry. We will do our best to accommodate requests.
- Each exhibitor will be required to display an information card on the outside of each crate. The information card must have your name and emergency contact information (cell phone# or other). The card will be given to you at check-in.
- All dogs in the crating sections must be housed in a crate, which must have sides, a top, and a bottom, all parts being inter-connected, thus preventing the dog from being able to escape the enclosure even if knocked over.
- The top and/or bottom of the “crate” may not be secured only by Velcro or a Velcro-like product. There must be additional fasteners that will prevent both the top and bottom from coming off and will not allow the dog to escape the enclosure.
- Un-entered dogs will only be allowed in the facility if they can fit in the crating area of an entered dog; either in the same crate or stacked on top of an entered dog. No Ex-Pens will be allowed in crating area.

Practice Ring:

- Practice time will be provided by paid pre-registration (\$10) that will open at the same time as entries. Practice time will be organized on a schedule and by jump height. One practice per dog for the event.
- You will be able to select your preferred time upon entry. We recommend practicing the day before your skill level runs, if possible.
- Exhibitors are responsible for being at the practice ring for their turn. The practice ring will include all contacts, weave poles, jumps and tunnels. The practice ring is only for entered dogs. Location will be the outdoor covered dirt arena directly beside the Hunt main arena.
- Exhibitors may use food and “quiet” toys, as well as practice aids, such as stride regulators, in the practice ring. No food directly on ground or the equipment. Please use target plates to place food treats or a remote food dispenser. Any such aids must be removed quickly and immediately before exit of the practice ring. More Practice Ring rules and guidelines will be announced to competitors before the event.



2026 AKC Agility League Nationals Draft Schedule

All times are Eastern Standard Times. Schedule subject to change based on final entry numbers.

Thursday November 5, 2026 (12pm-5pm)

12pm	Vendor set-up
12pm-5pm	Competitor check-in, crating open
12pm-5pm	(Optional) Practice Ring Open (must pre-enter)

Friday November 6, 2026 (7am-6pm)

7am	Building/Crating Open
7am-4pm	Competitor check-in
7am	Practice Ring Opens
7:50am	Briefing
8am	Walk-thru Ph D & Elementary (Round 1)
8:45am	First dogs on the line
To follow	Ph D & Elementary (Round 2)
	Ph D & Elementary (Round 3)
	Sophomore (Round 1)
	Elementary Finals (Note—competition will break in the Ph D ring during the Elementary finals)
	PhD Individual Dog & Elementary Team & Individual Dog Awards

Saturday November 7, 2026 (7am-6pm)

7am-9am	Final Competitor check-in, crating open
7 am	Practice ring opens
7:20am	Briefing
	Team Shirt Winners Announced
7:30am	Walk-thru Ph D Finals
8:15am	First dog on the line – Ph D Finals
To Follow	PhD team awards
	Walk-thru Sophomore (Round 2) & Senior (Round 1)
	Sophomore (Round 3) & Senior (Round 2)
	Freshman (Round 1)
	Sophomore Finals (Note—competition will break in the Senior ring during the Sophomore finals)
	Sophomore Awards

Sunday November 8, 2026 (7am-4pm)

7:20am	Briefing & Crating Area Decoration Winners Announced
7:30am	Walk-thru Freshman (Round 2) & Senior (Round 3)
8:15am	First dogs on the line
To Follow	Freshman (Round 3)
	Freshman Finals/Awards
	Senior Finals/Awards

Agility League Championship Scoring:

- Dogs will be scored under the same scoring guidelines as the regular League seasons, based on their division/class, with the exception that dogs that do not complete a round will be scored a Zero for that round. Scoring is based on Time plus Faults.
- There will be 3 rounds for each division: 1 Standard round, 1 Jumpers with Weaves round, and 1 Hybrid round. The pause table will not be used at the League Championship.
- Team scores will be the average of all team dogs' scores.
- The individual dog winners will be determined based on the cumulative score of the three rounds.
- The Junior Handler winners will be determined based on the cumulative score of the three rounds.
- The team champions will be based on a Finals round, to be a Hybrid course, and to be scheduled at the conclusion of the 3 rounds. The top placing teams, number to be determined based on the entry, will advance to the Finals round. **Teams in the finals are asked to wear matching shirts – team shirts, club/school shirts or the same color shirt.**
- The top 3 teams will be honored in each division: Ph.D., Senior, Sophomore, Freshman and Elementary; and the top three individual dogs will be honored in each jump height for each division.

Volunteers:

We need volunteers to help make this event possible. Please consider volunteering when you are not competing or if you have friends and family attending with you, please encourage them to volunteer. All volunteers, who work at least one complete class, will receive a shirt and lunch & snacks, plus tickets for the Workers Raffle. Volunteer needs include course builders, practice ring, and ring crew (including scribes, timers, gate stewards, leash runners and score runners). Please sign up here:

[2026 AKC Agility League Championships: Volunteers](#)

Awards:

Individual dogs: Rosettes & Trophies will be given for 1st-3rd places in each jump height for each division, based on the cumulative results of the three preliminary rounds. Flat ribbons will be given for placements and clean runs in each round (Standard, JWW, Hybrid).

Teams: One trophy will be given to each of the three top placing teams in each division, plus medals for each team member of the top three teams.

Junior Handlers: Rosettes & Trophies will be given to the top three placing Juniors in each division.

Clean Sweep Award: A special Rosette will go to each dog that goes clean for all three preliminary rounds.

REFUND POLICY

A full refund will be issued for any dog canceled before the closing date of midnight ET Thursday, October 15.

Bitches in season will not be admitted to the trial. Any exhibitor with a bitch entered, which is in season on the trial date, will be refunded the entry fee, less \$10, upon written certification from a veterinarian. Notification must be in the hands of the trial secretary no later than 30 minutes before the start time on the first day of the trials. (Friday, November 6)

Injury/Illness – As a courtesy to our exhibitors, AKC Agility League offers a partial refund if a request for refund with required documentation is presented to trial secretary as defined here: Dogs that cannot compete prior to the set of trials due to an injury/illness will be given a partial refund minus \$10 processing fees. A written vet letter (on office letterhead) must be given to the Trial Secretary no later than 30 minutes before the start time on the first day of the trials (Friday, November 6). (Letters from chiropractors and massage therapists are not valid) **Injuries/illness to handlers are excluded from this policy.**

Team Events:

The AKC Agility League is all about teamwork and here are some fun ways to show your team spirit! Watch for information on how to get involved in these cool activities! Questions:

Team Shirt Contest – We will pick the best team shirt, based on creativity and reflection of the team theme. Teams must wear the shirts at least one day of the event and will be asked to email the shirt design prior to the competition. Teams should send photos of their shirts to the Agility League by 6 pm ET October 12. Winners will be announced at the event on Saturday morning.

Team Crating Area Decoration Contest – We will select the best decorated team crating area, based on creativity and reflection of the team theme. Judging will take place throughout the event Friday and Saturday, with winners announced Sunday morning.

Team Spirit Award – This is a new award that will be bestowed on the teams showing the most sportsmanship and spirit – via volunteering, helping and cheering for others and their own teams, and displaying positive attitudes. This will be announced on Sunday.

For rules on all contests: <https://www.akc.org/akc-agility-league/akc-agility-league-championship/>

Vendor Information:

Approved vendors are welcome at our event. You can find the vendor application here:

[2026 AKC Agility League Championship - Vendor Application and Contract](#)