

WCOTC COVID-19 GUIDELINES FOR THE 2020 LABOR DAY WEEKEND TRIALS

WCOTC is delighted to hold its 20th annual Labor Day Weekend agility trials at B&D Creekside Activity Center in Latrobe PA. Unlike previous years, we have “New Normal” protocols that are incorporated into WCOTC COVID-19 Guidelines that all of us have to follow. We hope to have a safe and fun agility weekend and know that we can count on you to make sure the guidelines are followed to safeguard the safety of everyone attending our trials.

The following guidelines are based on AKC Best Practices for the Well-Being of Dog Sport Participants, and the PA and CDC guidelines. If you have not read the AKC guidelines, please go to <https://www.akc.org/press-center/covid-19-updates-from-the-american-kennel-club/> and read the four pages that AKC has put out for agility events.

1. **MASKS:** Bring your own face mask. A face mask **MUST** always be worn in the building with one exception, while running the course with your dog. While it is highly recommended that handlers keep the mask on even when running, if you think it is necessary for your well-being, you may run with the mask pulled off of your nose, with it pulled down, or with it placed in your pocket. The mask **MUST** be on when entering the ring and must be put back on as soon as the handler completes their run before leaving the gate chute.
2. **GLOVES:** Bring disposable gloves or some type of glove if you want gloves.
3. **CHAIRS:** Bring your own chairs. B & D chairs will not be available for general use. The normal bleachers are folded and put away. They will not be in use.
4. **FOOD:** No restaurant will be available on site to purchase food or drinks. There are Fast Food places and restaurants in close proximity to B&D. This year you are permitted to bring in your own food and nonalcoholic beverages. ***Per the AKC guidelines for Covid-19 you may NOT bring in shared food, potlucks, and NO MACH CAKES. ***
5. **WASH HANDS:** Practice personal hygiene frequently and thoroughly. Use hand sanitizers positioned throughout the building and try to bring your own. Avoid touching dogs that are not your responsibility. We will clean commonly touched surfaces regularly throughout the trial and again at the end of the day.
6. **SANITIZATION:** All equipment and surfaces have been thoroughly cleaned and sanitized. Please bring your own cleaning and sanitizing supplies. There will be a limited amount available at the trial. **REMOVE ALL DISHES AND WATER BOWLS BEFORE LEAVING EACH DAY!!**
7. **ONE-WAY DOORS-TRAFFIC FLOW:** Doors will be **CLEARLY** marked “IN or OUT” with large signs. Please respect social distancing when entering and exiting the building and navigating through the building.
8. **COURSE BUILDERS/RING CREW WORKERS:** Anyone setting up rings and changing bar heights **can** wear gloves, use sanitizing wipes, and/or hand sanitizer before and after setting up and while working in the ring. (Gloves, wipes, and hand sanitizer provided on scribe table).
9. **TIMER/SCRIBE/SCORE RUNNER:** The Scribe will be the only person handling the scribe sheets. The Scribe will pick up a basket of sheets with a pen from the Secretary. Sheets will be checked by the scribe against the running order prior to the class. All completed scribe sheets will be placed in the basket for the score runner, who will dump them in a basket on the secretary scoring table. Social distancing will apply between scribe and timer. At end of the class, the timer will wipe down the timer box and score runner will return the last sheets in the basket with the pen to the secretary score table.
10. **CHECK IN BOARDS/GATE STEWARD:** Verbally check in with the Worker with the run order boards at the table. This person will check your name off. The gate steward will move the check in board to the ring and continue to check in individuals who haven't already checked in. You may **NOT** touch the board or the pen used by the Worker or the Gate Steward. Please remember to maintain a 6 ft. distance from these workers.
11. **LEASHES/LEASH RUNNER:** We encourage exhibitors to tuck their leash into a pocket or wear it securely on their person (i.e. clip it like a belt around your waist so no part is hanging) when running the

- course. If you opt to drop your leash, the leash runner may wear gloves and pick the leash up with a paper towel to transport it to the exit location.
12. **ENTERING AND EXITING RING:** A sanitized towel will be on each gate and you may enter and exit by touching the towel. The towel will be continually sanitized throughout the trial.
 13. **COURSE MAPS, BRIEFINGS, RUN ORDERS, AND RESULTS:** Items will be posted in several areas to help with social distancing. You may snap camera/phone pictures of the maps and results as paper handouts will NOT be available. ONLINE MAPS, BRIEFINGS, and RUN ORDERS, will be posted by the Trial Secretary each evening for the next day, hopefully between 7 and 9 PM. The URL will be provided on the Judging Program.
 14. **WALK THROUGHS/BRIEFINGS:** Per AKC guidelines, walkthroughs will be limited to 25 people at most. Additional walk throughs will be added as needed to keep numbers and crowding down. We encourage everyone to be mindful of others, take turns, and maintain personal distance. There will be NO obsessive walk throughs and NO Mas/Ex briefings.
 15. **RIBBONS, TOYS, AND AWARDS:** There will be no self-serve ribbons. Exhibitors must line up six feet apart to pick up ribbons and stickers. There will be a volunteer in this area to place your sticker on the Q ribbon (or give the sticker to you to put in your book if you prefer) and give you any ribbons you are to be awarded. *(So sorry, but you cannot take a ribbon for pictures and then return it.)* **TOYS:** Every dog entered in the trial will receive one complimentary gift for the weekend as stated in the premium. Using a safe distance, the handler may pick up the gift you want and touch that one gift only, no exchanges. The only ribbons/bars on display will be the MACH/PACH ribbons/bars, which you may view, but please do not touch.
 16. **CRATING** in your vehicle or outdoor tents is strongly encouraged. Indoor crating in the building **may be limited** based on government distancing guidelines in effect. Due to the current limits, you may not always be able to sit with your dog if it is crated in the building. The limits are under consideration and if changed by Governor Wolf, will be updated accordingly. Six-foot social distancing will apply inside and outside for the entire weekend (including 6' spacing between "household crating groups"). ***** Please be aware that every night the equipment in the ring area will be misted with a disinfectant of water and bleach. This will be done with a handheld misting machine that will be kept pointed away from the crating area. It is your responsibility to decide whether to leave your crates in the building overnight! PLEASE REMOVE ALL DISHES AND WATER BOWLS BEFORE LEAVING EACH DAY!*****
 17. **RESERVED PARKING for CAR CRATING** – a limited number of spaces close to doors will be reserved ONLY for people willing to crate from their cars for the weekend & are available on a first-reserved basis. Please contact Sandy Crighton no later than Tuesday evening September 1st at crighton673@comcat.net! Include cell #, color and make of car, and license plate number in your email. Please be sure to take proper safety precautions due to possible heat issues in a vehicle. **YOUR DOGS' SAFETY COMES FIRST!!**
 18. **TENT/EZ-Up OUTDOOR CRATING:** "Tent crating" will be allowed **anywhere** on the grass, but not in the immediate potty area at the end of the building and not in the parking lots or concrete pad next to the equipment garage door! (Please not too close to the garage doors!) They may be left overnight at your own risk – neither B&D nor WCOTC will be responsible for theft or damage due to weather.
 19. **BUILDING OCCUPANCY CONTROL:** Only workers or exhibitors entered in the trial are allowed in the building. We encourage your family members to stay home. We need to keep building numbers at a minimum to stay within state guidelines.
 20. **COMPLETED RUNS:** Once your runs are over for the day, and if you are not scheduled to work, please take your dog/dogs and exit the building. This practice will help keep our numbers in a manageable range.
 21. **VOLUNTEERS:** We are all in this together. We look forward to returning to this agility sport, and hope you will continue to "work together" and help our trial run smoothly. We **NEED** and **WELCOME** your help and thank everyone who will volunteer to assist us!