

## **Dogs On Course in North America, LLC Agility Equipment Specifications**

### **Agility Equipment at the Show Site**

The trial club/group will provide required agility equipment in the warm up area

- Practicing or training on non-designated club equipment or personal equipment is not permitted on show grounds at any time.

### **DOCNA Agility Equipment Obstacles**

All trial clubs or group's club equipment that has been previously approved for use in other organizations including USDAA, AKC, CPE, AAC, and NADAC (the NADAC 12 foot ramps and 6 foot middle may be considered on a case by case basis) are eligible for use in a Dogs On Course in North America, LLC Trial. As long as competitors are notified of the available equipment, it is Dogs On Course in North America, LLC belief that the use of slatted or non slatted contact equipment (A-Frame and Dog Walk) is a trial club/groups choice. If slatted equipment is used, it may not be mixed with non slatted equipment in the same ring (exception: a non-slatted teeter may be used in a slatted ring). However, it will be permissible to use slatted equipment in one ring and non-slatted in another ring. Rubber surfaced equipment may not have slats.

It is required that Agility Premiums identify the type of equipment and the contact zone length that will be used and which ring(s) it will be used in. This information must be on the front page of the premium and in **bold printing** so competitors may have the choice to enter or not enter based on their beliefs about equipment. At all times the show judge has the authority to substitute or exclude any obstacle due to safety or weather conditions.

- A-Frame , (can have slats acceptable by other pre-approved agility associations)
- Dog Walk - 36' (all 12' planks, 4' high) (can have slats acceptable by other pre-approved agility associations) (the Nadac 12 foot ramps and 6 foot middle may be considered on a case by case basis).
- Dog Walk - 24' (all 8' planks, 3' high)
- Teeter Totter
- Open Tunnel (minimum of 10 tunnels required for Snakes 'N Ladders event)
- Closed Tunnel (Chute)
- Tire Jump ( Dogs On Course is currently looking at a design that may be safer for dogs, a announcement is forthcoming on regulations for this obstacle)
- Bar jumps (winged/wingless)
- Double Jump (Competition – Specialist and Intern Level only)
- Ascending Double Jump ( Select Division Specialist and Intern Level)
- Triple Spread Jump (Competition –Specialist Level only)
- Weave Poles

**The following information in the Premium must be identified must be identified in bold.** Size of Dog Walks, Slat or Non Slat Equipment, a statement informing competitors there may be 36 and/or 42 inch contact zones if club/group has different types of equipment, tire Diameter, length of Chute Fabric, and if the club has only USDAA double jumps.

### **Obstacle Specifications**

New agility equipment must be constructed with the dog's safety in mind taking into consideration all the sizes and breeds/mix-breeds that run agility. Equipment should be safe and be for all dogs regardless of size. At all times the dog's safety in performing obstacles without injury is DOCNA's goal. Equipment must be checked on a regular basis, including a pre-trial check and all equipment corrected for dog's safety.

### **Open Tunnel**

Open tunnel specifications are as follows: the diameter of the open area should be no less than 24". Lengths can be 10', 12', 15', 16', 18', 20', and 24'. Any color is allowed, including clear. Rubber, vinyl or canvas is allowed if they meet the listed safety standards. Damaged tunnels are a safety issue. The

use of tunnels with rips and tears, damaged tunnels with wires extending, loose coils, or fabric that can injure a dogs paw/nails are not permitted.

### **Tunnel Holders**

The trial club/group may use all pre-approved tunnel holders from agility associations including USDAA, AKC, CPE, NADAC, AAC etc. It is the responsibility of the Host club to provide safe tunnel holders. It is recommended that bungee cords / metal chains and cradle type tunnel holders that had metal extensions that stick up from the ground not be used. Because Snakes 'N Ladders is a speed game, it is also recommended that sand or water filled tunnel bags be used. Tunnel "snugglers" and Tunnel "Stays" are approved for use, but clubs should be aware that additional time may be required for course changes due to the potential difficulty of setting exact tunnel entrance angles required by the judge. The judge's decision on tunnel holder's safety will be final.

### **Closed Tunnel (Chute): 2 Part Unit**

1. Specifications for the Rigid Plastic/Fiberglass/Rubber Tube
  - Diameter approximately 24 inches. No base tube will be accepted less than 22 inches for safety of dogs.
  - Tubes may be up to 36 inches long with a minimum of 24 inches.
  - Inside running surface should have a Non – Slide material safe for all sizes of dogs.
  - The base should have a no-sway construction; this may include side secure plates for adhering base to ground surface.
  - The front of the Rigid Opening must have a padded attachment around the whole circle which may include a maintained foam ring/ rubber tubing/plumbing foam tube/etc. Safety at all times must be considered.
2. Specifications for the Chute/Closed Tunnel Fabric
  - For purposes of safety, the use of torn fabric chutes, material with rips, with wires extending, or fabric that can catch dogs claws are not permitted.
  - All approved Chutes/Closed Tunnels from existing agility organizations are acceptable, 8 foot to 15 foot maximum (Judge must be informed of size in equipment list).
  - Fabric Tube should be water resistant (check boat fabric/Denier 420), non static material.

DOCNA will welcome any of the new Tunnel/Fabric chute tunnels, the tunnel section must be secured with tunnel holders that are functional and safe for all dogs.

### **Weave Poles**

The weave pole base should be no more than 4 inches wide and 1 inch high. The base must be safe for all dogs. Consideration should be given to any devices used to anchor the base to the surface such that they should not protrude or have sharp edges that could injure any size of dog or be able to come loose during a run.

Weave poles should be made of PVC or other like material that has flexibility, yet is rigid enough to withstand all sizes of dogs. For purposes of visibility, it is recommended, but not required, that the poles be painted or striped with colored tape for contrast. Specifications for the pole height and width are described in the table below.

Existing Weave Poles	All Approved Weave poles from USDAA, AKC*, NADAC, CPE, AAC * including AKC weaves approved for use prior to Sep 2006
Pole Height	36" to 48" Maximum
Pole Width	1" PVC or Flexible/Rigid Material
Between Poles on Base	20" to 24" from Center to Center

## **Contact Obstacles**

It is DOCNA's belief that the use of slats or non slats on A-Frame and Dog Walks or Teeter is a trial club/group choice. If slat equipment is used it, it may not be mixed with non slat equipment in the same ring (the exception being the use of a slatless teeter in a slat ring).

The trial club/group may use slatted equipment in one ring and non-slatted equipment in another ring.

**Agility Premiums must identify the use of slat equipment and Contact Zone lengths on the front page of the premium in bold printing so all competitors may have the choice to enter or not enter based on their beliefs on equipment.**

At all times the judge has the authority and authorization of Dogs On Course in North America, LLC to deny/substitute **any piece of equipment due to safety or weather conditions or any agility obstacle that they deem unsafe.**

- A-Frame - can have slats that are pre-approved by other agility associations.
  - DOCNA Slat A-Frame height will be 5' 6" for all divisions and jump heights.
  - DOCNA Non - Slat A-Frame height will be 5' 0" for all divisions and jump heights.
- Dog Walk - 36' (all 12' planks, 4' high) (can have slats acceptable by other pre-approved agility associations) (the NADAC 12 foot ramps and 6 foot middle may be considered on a case by case basis).
- Dog Walk - 24' (all 8' planks, 3' high)
- Teeter Totter (slat or non slat) - Teeters without slats may be used in rings where the other equipment has slats.

Judges may, at their discretion and with valid reason, lower the height of the apex incrementally as conditions warrant. In all cases, the decision of the judge is final.

## **SLAT Equipment**

- Recommended slat size is 3/8" to 1/2" in height, and 3/4" to 1.5" in width
- Placed across the width of the board, spaced at 12" to 15" intervals.
- Slats may not be within 4" of the top of the contact zone.
- DOCNA recognizes pre-approved slatted contact equipment from other agility venues (i.e. USDAA, CPE, AKC, and AAC)

## **NON- SLAT/ SLAT CONTACT EQUIPMENT SURFACE**

The contact obstacle surfaces may be made from wood or rubber, the surface must always provide good traction for all sizes of dogs.

### Suggested surface preparation:

- Brand name paints for which a texture additive is available work best. Behr makes an additive for non-skid floor/deck finish additive used in Behr Premium plus Accent Base Exterior Base Paint. Also acceptable is to add coarse sand into the paint for texture.
- Please ensure the thickness you choose will ensure dog safety. Other paint/boat suppliers may offer a variety of No Skid, Skid Free, or Non-Slip Deck surfaces.
- All surfaces must be safe, non slip as well as safe from injury to dog pads, so an evenly applied texture is also important. Maintenance of these surfaces on regular basis, especially before a trial, is important.
- Rubber Surfaced equipment may not have slats.
- Contact Zones must be painted yellow. A contrasting color is painted from contact zone to contact zone on all contact equipment.

- DOCNA recognizes pre-approved contact equipment from other agility venues (i.e., USDAA, AKC, CPE, AAC, and NADAC (the NADAC 12 foot ramps and 6 foot middle may be considered on a case by case basis).

### **Teeter**

The extension base should protrude on each side of the board so that the pivot point can be recognized by the dog. The teeter base must be able to support dogs of all sizes and weights. (See attached table below). Where slats are used, they should be placed across the width of the board, they are to be spaced at 12" to 15" intervals. Recommended slat size is 3/8" to 1/2" in height, and 3/4" to 1.5" in width. No slat may be within 4" of the top of the contact zone.

### **A-Frame**

In the construction, frames and supporting brackets must ensure there is no sway and very little (none if possible) movement when the dog is ascending or descending. This includes all sizes of dogs. In addition, any attachment providing stability should not hinder tunnels placed under upright planks. (See attached table below). Where slats are used the slats should be placed across the width of the board, they are to be spaced at 12" to 15" intervals. Recommended slat size is 3/8" to 1/2" in height, and 3/4" to 1.5" in width. No slat may be within 4" of the top of the contact zone.

- DOCNA Slat A-Frame height will be 5' 6" for all divisions and jump heights.
- DOCNA Non - Slat A-Frame height will be 5' 0" for all divisions and jump heights.

Judges may, at their discretion and with valid reason, lower the height of the apex incrementally as conditions warrant. In all cases, the decision of the judge is final.

### **Dog Walk**

In the construction, frames and supporting brackets must ensure there is no sway and very little (none if possible) movement when the dog is ascending or descending. This includes all sizes of dogs. In addition, any attachment providing stability should not hinder tunnels placed under ascending planks. Base uprights should not protrude and should be able to accommodate a tunnel placed under dog walk planks (see attached table below). Where slats are used the slats should be placed across the width of the board, they are to be spaced at 12" to 15" intervals. Recommended slat size is 3/8" to 1/2" in height, and 3/4" to 1.5" in width. No slat may be within 4" of the top of the contact zone.

### **CONTACT TABLE**

	Contact Zone	Ramp Width	Height	Ramp Length
<b>Teeter-Totter</b>	36 to 42 inches	9 ¼ inches – 12 inches (Recommend 12 inch ramp)	24 inches	144 inches (12 feet)
<b>Dog Walk</b>	36 to 42 inches	9 ¼ inches – 12 inches (12 inch ramp is Recommended)	48 – 50 inches Or 3 feet (24 foot)	12 feet X 3 planks for a total of 36 feet or 8 feet X 3 planks For a total of 24 feet
<b>A-Frame</b>	36 to 42 inches	36 to 48 inches (48 inch /or tapered to 48" ramp is Recommended)	66 inches (5'6"- slat) (5'0"- slatless)	108 inches (9 feet panels)
<b>A-Frame</b> **(special request)	36 to 42 inches	36 to 48 inches (48 inch /or tapered to 48" ramp is Recommended)	56 inches (4'8" – slat or slatless)	96 inches (8 foot panels)

## **SLAT Equipment**

- Recommended slat size is 3/8" to 1 / 2" in height, and 3/4" to 1.5" in width
- Placed across the width of the board, spaced at 12" to 15" intervals.
- Slats may not be within 4" of the top of the contact zone.
- DOCNA recognizes pre-approved slatted contact equipment from other agility venues (i.e. USDAA, CPE, AKC, and AAC)
- A-Frame - can have slats that are pre-approved by other agility associations
- Dog Walk - 36' (all 12' planks, 4' high) (can have slats acceptable by other pre-approved agility associations)
- Dog Walk - 24' (all 8' planks, 3' high)
- Teeter Totter (slat or non slat) - Teeters without slats may be used in rings where the other equipment has slats.

## **Winged Jumps & Non-Winged Jumps**

**Wings:** Any pre-approved wings from (USDAA, AKC, NADAC, CPE, AAC equipment lists)

Wings should be safe yet strong enough to withstand minor wind and rain.

At no time should a wing have protruding unsafe edges. For the safety of all dogs, wings should be a minimum of 30" high and a maximum of 36 inches high.

At all times the Judge has the authority and authorization of Dogs On Course in North America, LLC to deny/substitute any piece of equipment due to safety or weather conditions or any agility obstacle that they deem unsafe.

**Jump Bars:** Must be a minimum of 1" diameter PVC or plastic material. At no time should the diameter of the jump bar cause the jump height to be extended past the set height. Each bar should be colored (painted) or /striped with colored tape, giving the bar a contrasting color(s) for visibility. Jump bars will have a minimum of 48 inches and a maximum of 60 inches for length.

Pre- Approved jump bars made of lightweight wood - 1" to 2" square from (AKC/CPE/USDAA/AAC approved equipment lists) will be accepted if safe for dogs.

The judge may deem one bar or two bars per jump based on the level and challenge required.

**Cups/Jump bar Holders/other attachments:** Must be made from PVC, metal, or wood, must allow the bars to sit safely and be easily displaceable. It is recommended that heights be marked at each cup/holder.

## **Double Jump Configuration**

Specialist and Intern Level - Competition Level will use double jumps. No doubles will be used in the Beginner Level or any other divisions (Select, Veterans, Grand Veterans, Junior Handlers).

Double Jumps must be set as follows:

Parallel for 24" ( 2 top bars at 24" and 2 bars crossed below (16" inch) to give the dog depth perception)

Parallel for 20" ( 2 top bars at 20" and 2 bars crossed below (16" inch) to give the dog depth perception)

Ascending for 16 (back bar at 16" front bar at 12") – see ascending below

Ascending for 12 (back bar at 12" front bar at 8") – see ascending below

Competition 8 inch will have no spread jumps

\*\* If the club/group has only USDAA style double jumps (with appropriate DOCNA jump height cups), it must be noted on the first page of the premium.

## **Double Jump Parallel:**

Parallel will be used in the Competition Division at the Intern and Specialist Level only for 20 and 24 inch Double Jump will have 2 sets of bars (4 in total), a top and a lower set, the top set being set at the jump height.

The second set of bars should form an X ascending to the ground. These 2 bars should start at a lower height than the upper bars and form X.

Jump Height	Top Bars Actual Jump Height		Double – Bottom Bars Forming a X - Ascending to Ground		Bar Spacing
	Top First Bar	Top Second Bar	Lower First Bar	Lower Second Bar	
8"	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
12"	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
16"	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
20"	20"	20"	12"	12"	10" to 12"
24"	24"	24"	12" or 16"	12" or 16"	12" to 15"

**Ascending Double Jump:**

The Double Jump will be ascending for 16" and 12" inch competition level and used for Intern and Specialist Level only. The Ascending Double Jump will have 2 bars, the front bar set at 4 inches lower than the back bar. The back bar is set at the jump height.

Jump Height	Top Bars Actual Jump Height		Bottom Second		Bar Spacing
	TOP Bar approaching JUMP	Top bar Second Bar	First Bar	Second Bar	
4"	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
8"	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
12"	8"	12"	N/A	N/A	6"
16"	12"	16"	N/A	N/A	8"
20"	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	10"
24"	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	12"

**Double Jumps are not used for Select, Veteran, Grand Veteran and Junior Handler Divisions.**

**Triple Spread Jump:** Competition Division - will be used at the Specialist Level only

The Triple Spread Jump has three ascending bars set at the heights described in the table below.

Jump Height	Bar Heights Triple Spread Jump			Bar Spacing
	First Bar	Second Bar	Third Bar	
8"	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
12"	6"	9"	12"	6"
16"	8"	12"	16"	8"
20"	10"	15"	20"	10"
24"	12"	18"	24"	12"

## **Tire**

Trial clubs or groups may use all approved Tires from the following agility venues (USDAA, NADAC, AKC, CPE, and AAC)

### **Displaceable Tires will not be faulted unless they are unsafely executed.**

Dogs On Course in North America, LLC is currently testing a new tire design for its safety and fairness to all sizes of dogs. The design includes a separator mechanism that allows movement, yet impacts would allow the dog to safely go through the separator area.

Please Note: Prior to any decision regarding this particular equipment being **required**, Dogs On Course in North America, LLC will do a thorough evaluation of the equipment, present pictures and data and collect feedback from clubs/groups on its use. All such changes will go through a process of communicating the proposed change, soliciting feedback, and explaining the final decision.

The Tire Jump must consist of a tire or "tire-like" round object that is suspended inside a stable rectangular frame.

The actual tire should be a soft material that will be unlikely to cause injury if it is hit. It should be wrapped in several contrasting colors to make it very visible to the dog and should not have any holes or openings on the actual tire that a dog could get caught on. The inner tire diameter can range from 17" (not recommended) to 24". Its sidewall depth and width can be from 2"- 4" thick.

The tire frame must be made of sturdy, durable material and constructed and weighted such that it will not tip over when hit at a high speed. The frame can allow for the tire to either be suspended from the frame corners or the centers of each side (top, bottom, middle left, middle right). There must be a least 8" between the tire and the frame on all sides and it must accommodate all Dogs on Course regulation jump heights. The tire height will be measured from the ground to the bottom of the tire opening. For the 4" jump height, the tire will likely have to rest on the ground.