

North America Challenge Event – Championship Qualifiers

The North America Challenge Event will be the standard for qualification into future championships. This is a special agility run that is scored under the same rules and SCT as Standard Agility with the exception that off courses will be judged as elimination. North America Challenge Events will be more technically challenging courses. Each course will include 1 set of 10-12 weaves and may include an additional set of 5-6 weaves for all levels. In addition, courses may include the performance of 4 contact obstacles, multiple side changes, and additional discriminations.

Performance resulting in Elimination

- Deliberately Skipping an obstacle North America Challenge (contacts/weaves – major object or section)
- **Off Course in North America Challenge**

***An obstacle may be attempted; but not completed and the handler would receive a fault as per this example (Handler attempts weave poles and goes on (fault 10 for failure to perform obstacle)**

Divisions and Levels

Each division will have its own Challenge event, Competition North America Challenge, Select North America Challenge, Veteran North America Challenge, Grand Veteran North America Challenge and Junior Handler North America Challenge.

Each Division will have two levels for the Challenge event - Intern and Specialist. There will be no Beginner level in the North America Challenge, although beginner dogs are invited to enter either level.

Trial Entry

Competitors may enter the North America Challenge event in whatever division(s) they are eligible to enter. Competitors are required to enter the Challenge during the calendar year at least the highest level in which they have qualified in Standard Agility.

For anyone entering the North American Challenge. Dogs that are competing in Standard Agility at the Elite Level in Nadac, Masters in USDAA, Excellent in AKC, etc, must enter the North American Challenge at the Specialist Level in the Division they are choosing to run in Competition, Select, Veteran, Jr. Handler or Grand Veteran.

2010 Championships Qualification Criteria

The 2010 Championships will be held Sept 24, 25 and 26th, 2010. The West would be held in Grand Junction, CO and Sugarbush Farm, Stephentown, NY will be the location of the East Championships. Current and future championship information and updates will be posted to <http://www.docna.com/Championships.aspx>.

In order to qualify for the 2010 DOCNA National Championships event, competitors will be required to earn one (1) North America Challenge qualifying round with a maximum of 12 faults (or less) between June 1, 2009 and August 4, 2010, and in addition they must have competed in a DOCNA Sanctioned Trial between Aug 1, 2009 and Aug 4, 2010.

- Off Courses will be judged as elimination, the handler may finish the course.
- The cutoff date for qualifying for the 2010 championships is August 4, 2010.

Qualification criteria for future years will be reviewed and revised as needed by DOCNA.

2011 Championships Qualification Criteria

The 2011 Championships are planned for a location in the Eastern and Western United States in October of 2011. Current and future championship information and updates will be posted to <http://www.docna.com/Championships.aspx>.

In order to qualify for the 2011 DOCNA National Championships event, competitors will be required to earn one (1) North America Challenge qualifying round with a maximum of 12 faults (or less) between June 1st, 2010 and August 2, 2011, and in addition they must have competed in a DOCNA Sanctioned Trial between Aug 1, 2010 and Aug 2, 2011.

- Off Courses will be judged as elimination, the handler may finish the course.
- The cutoff date for qualifying for the 2011 championships is August 2, 2011.

Qualification criteria for future years will be reviewed and revised as needed by DOCNA.

Championship Entry

North America Challenge Event

Handlers must enter the highest level (Specialist or Intern) and division (Competition, Select, Veteran, Jr. Handlers, or Grand Veterans) that they qualified for prior to August 4, 2010 in the NORTH AMERICA CHALLENGE. If the team has moved from one division to another division permanently – i.e. Competition to Select or to Veterans, they may use the higher qualification to enter the current division they are running in. This change must be made prior to the August 4, 2010 cutoff. It is also understood that handlers requesting this move feel that their dog may require additional time and that a lower jump height would be in the best interested of their dog and are not using this assistance just to obtain a competitive advantage for the championships. Any move to a different division becomes a permanent move.

- Competitors may not enter a higher level of North America Challenge than they have qualified at.
- It is acceptable to enter at a higher level if so desired.

Adjustments to Course Time for Select, Veteran, Grand Veteran and Junior Handlers

- Select Division now receives 15% more time than Competition.
- Junior Handler Division now receives 20% more time than Competition Division.
- Veterans Division receives now 20% more time than Competition Division.
- Grand Veterans receive now 25% more time than Competition Division

Disabled/handicapped handlers will receive additional time for the purpose of qualifying as follows:

In all divisions Handicap handlers will receive 20% more time than non-handicap handlers in the same division.

Dogs On Course in North America, LLC North America Challenge Championships

This section has been moved to Appendix B: DOCNA National Championships Information. Please look for it there.