

UKA Rules & Regulations 2021 Summary of Amendments and Clarifications

The UKA Rules & Regulations for 2021 will shortly be released and available on the UK Agility Web Page. They will apply from 1st April and the 2020 rule book will be in force until this date.

Due to the lack of shows in 2020, this document summarises the main changes from the 2019 Rules and Regulations.

General Regulations – Once an account has been expired for over 2 years, it will be deleted and all data held on it will be removed.

Smoking and Vaping are not allowed within 5 metres of a ring (entrance or exit has been removed).

2.3 Jump Height divisions –

There will now be 5 Regular jump heights:

250mm for dogs 320mm & under

300mm for dogs 380mm & under

400mm for dogs 440mm & under

500mm for dogs 500mm & under

600mm for dogs Over 500mm

A change in the cut off height for some jump heights as detailed above.

The introduction of a select height for all dogs. This offers competitors the choice to jump their dogs one height lower than their measured height in the Select jump heights. The Select jump height follows identical rules to the Regular jump height with the exception of the tyre and spread being replaced by a single jump in 200 Select.

3.2a Gamblers – Clarification that if the dog is unsuccessful on the first attempt at a contact or weave when there is a consecutive rule in place, then they may attempt it again immediately.

Clarification that if another obstacle is taken on the way to the gamble this is not faulted **unless** the obstacle is in the gamble in which case the gamble is no longer available and the game is over.

Clarification that the maximum number of obstacles is 24.

The requirement for numbers to be placed in sequential order in the gamble has been removed. This will give judges the ability to be more creative with their gambles.

3.2b Snooker – The refusal criteria has been changed so that no refusals are judged in the opening in Snooker, including for coloured obstacles. The obstacle can be reattempted to gain points.

Clarification that taking the start jump during the course, including between opening and closing is an off course and the game is over.

3.2c Power and Speed – clarification that standard marking applies to this class unless specified elsewhere in the Power and Speed section.

Clarification that the change of side requirements apply in this class. However they apply to the Power and Speed sections separately i.e. in Beginners up to 2 changes of side are permitted in the Power section and up to two in the Speed section.

3.2d Time, Fault and Out – clarification that the change of side requirements apply in this class but only to the numbered section and not the start or finish jump.

3.4a – Nursery – Clarification that this class will contain a dog walk and Aframe, weather conditions permitting.

3.4b – Casual - Obstacles in this class will be set at 300 and 200 height only, with dogs entered at either height.

Clear round rosettes will be awarded but no places.

4.5 Measuring dogs – all dogs must be measured by a UKA approved measurer. Judges can no longer do this, unless they are also an approved measurer.

Clarification that an owner/handler may ask for a dispute measurement.

The introduction of the ability for a third party to challenge a dog's measure on one occasion only.

4.6 Judges – Only a judge may give permission for a competitor to start.

4.7 Show committee and Stewards – Clarification of the role of the scime.

4.9 Course Design, Difficulties and Approval – Information about the course approval guidelines on the changes of side criteria.

The addition of the Spread jump to the list of obstacles that can only be taken once in a course.

Clarification on maximum distances in Gamblers, Snooker and TFO

4.11 Obstacle Standards – clarification that if a dog gets onto the contact the wrong way this should be deemed a refusal, not an elimination.

Weaves – clarification on the standard required for correct completion of this obstacle.

4.12 Scoring – clarification that the dog touching the wrong side of an obstacle on an “around the back sequence” is an elimination.

Clarification of handlers touching equipment.

4.14 Prizes and Awards – details of run-offs provided in the event of a tie

4.15 Timing, Equipment Failure and Interference on course procedures

Additional information about the procedure in the event of these issues.

4.17 Start and Finish Line Scenarios

Clarification of what constitutes a training aid.

The addition of moving the dog backwards from the first jump, to times when a refusal may be called.

4.18 Rules of Conduct and 4.18a Social Media Conduct

Rules which all UKA registered handlers must abide by.

A-1 Equipment Specifications

Equipment specifications updated to include provision for new heights.

Equipment specifications have had some minimums and maximum measurements slightly altered to conform more to metric measurements. We believe this has no effect to any British manufacturer.

The height of the Long Jump has reduced by 10cm.

There are new rules in relation to the number of tunnel holders each tunnel must have. In summary it is one set per metre, plus one.

If the tyre available at a show cannot be lowered to the required height and still open safely, the tyre will remain at the 300 height for the 250 dogs, providing that the lowest part of the inner diameter measures less than 250mm.

A-2 Measuring the course

Tunnels are not measured during the wheeling of the course. Instead the length of them is added to the course length once the judge has finished measuring and before the course time is calculated.

New heights added to calculation of course times.

A-3 Disciplinary Procedure

New procedures and a new incident form introduced.

A-6 Refusal Guidelines

Changes to refusal guidelines including new diagrams.

A-7 Quick and Easy Reference tables

Updated for new heights.