

NADAC Overview and Information Sheet

Below is a brief overview of NADAC's trial information and key things to remember!

For more information and specifications, visit the official [NADAC rule book](#)!

NADAC trials are organized to provide a fun and safe environment for you and your dog.

Important things to remember.

Wait for the "Good Luck"

Before beginning your run, keep your leash on your dog until you hear the judge say "good luck." This means the judge is ready and it is safe for your dog to begin their run and multiple dogs are not off leash at the same time in the same ring.

Dogs Run Naked

All dogs **cannot** run with collars, harnesses or other items attached to them. Ponytails/hair clips are allowed to keep hair out of your dog's eyes. Support wraps are allowed with judge's approval and proper application.

What to do with your leash

Per the NADAC exhibitor's handbook:

"Handler will drop the leash on the ground and the leash runner will hand the leash to the handler after dog crosses the last obstacle."

Handlers are allowed to carry their leash during their run. Leashes must be secured. "The leash must be secured in a pocket or fanny pack, in a way that it will not dangle or fall out of the pocket. Or the leash can be looped around the shoulder or waist but not hanging from the neck. The handler cannot carry the leash in their hand during the run. The leash must be secured or on the ground before the dog or handler passes the plane of the first obstacle." "Handlers may use a Leash Buddy instead of handing their leash to the leash runner. The Leash Buddy can be anyone other than the assigned leash runner. The Leash Buddy may leash up the dog, but the handler must leave with the dog."

Can your dog tug on the leash at the end of your run?

Your dog may tug on the leash after you finish your run. Dogs may run and grab their leashes at the end of their run with no faults if you have asked to leave your leash on the ground.

Tugging must be respectful and appropriate. No lifting your dog off the ground by the leash.

Toys can be attached to your leash but **cannot** come loose and detach from the leash easily. Toys must be smaller in size, preferably the size of your hand or smaller.

Toys/Training in the Ring

In all levels, Handlers may bring toys into the rings. Toys brought into the ring must be declared before beginning your run. Toys attached to leashes are an exception.

Toys cannot squeak, hold treats, or have anything that may fall off and be left in the ring.

Toys brought in off leash will be declared training runs. Training runs are automatic eliminations.

NADAC encourages teams to train in a safe and positive manner. Training runs are allotted 60 seconds ring time. At max time, the judge will ask you to leave. IF the judge feels your dog or you are demonstrating an unsafe practice in the ring, the judge will say “thank you.” Then you will stop training and leave the ring immediately.

Start line training begins once the handler has re-passed the plane of the first obstacle. Faults are not given if you have not passed the plane of the first obstacle.

Cookies in the Ring

Cookies must be contained in a sealed container such as a small bag, pill box etc. and easily fit in your pocket. You may treat your dog once you are 10ft from the ring. **NO** treats are allowed to be free in the ring.

When do I enter the Ring?

The gate steward will inform you of when you should enter the ring. The judge will let the gate steward know what obstacle the next handler should be entering in at. Entering before and setting your dog up while the last dog is on the home stretch helps the trials run smoothly and efficiently.

Closing the Gates to the Ring

Faults will not apply for dogs and handlers who request the gates be closed for their run. Faults may be given for a delay of start, unsafe performance, or other regulation faults. Ex: dogs who avoid being

leashed up at the end of their run.

Volunteers/Workers

These trials take a bunch of volunteers. First time competitors are always welcome to help too! If its your first time volunteering don't hesitate to ask! We would love to help you learn! We appreciate every single one of our volunteers as we cannot do it without any of them!

Putting on an agility trial takes a lot of work! Make sure to thank your club and judges for their work to make it happen!

NADAC's mission is to include a safe, fun, positive time with your dog! We all should strive to enjoy our dogs, support our fellow competitors, and have a fun time along with a safe trial.

Good luck to everyone and run fun and clean!

NADAC Overview and Rule Update 04/15/25

For more information on specific topics please visit the [Exhibitors Handbook](#).