



2020

NADD Sanctioned Event  
Official Rules and Regulations

REV 09.05.2020

North American Diving Dogs® LLC.

[www.northamericadivingdogs.com](http://www.northamericadivingdogs.com)

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## North America Diving Dogs

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**NADD reserves the right to amend or revise any of these rules as needed at any time with or without notice.**

**All updated rules for the current year will be highlighted in Green.**

## **I. PURPOSE:**

North America Diving Dogs (hereby known as NADD) is an independent governing body located in North America that hosts canine diving dog trials. NADD promotes the active relationship between people and their dogs by hosting and sanctioning the fun and exciting sport of diving dogs. NADD has established rules and standards to support all trials to assure that all handlers and dogs are able to compete equally and safely in the canine sport of diving dogs. NADD will track the results, records and titles of all the dogs and handlers that enter a sanctioned trial. NADD is the exclusive dock diving organization that titles are recognized by the American Kennel Club (AKC) & Canadian Kennel Club (CKC). It was formed for the sole purpose to promote the growth of Diving Dog competitions which includes at this time, jumping for distance and Air Retrieve at approved trials as a performance event. Dogs compete for titles based on the distance they jump from a dock into a pool of water. Safety and education of the handler and dogs are the #1 priority.

## **II. JURISDICTION:**

All approved NADD facilities and mobile events shall be governed by the rules herein. NADD reserves the right to grant, withhold, or revoke an approved event at its own discretion. NADD reserves the right to change rules, policies and fees at any time without notice, given, these rules are based on a major safety or competition ruling. The jump season for NADD is Oct 16 - Oct 15, of the given year.

All NADD sanctioned facilities and mobile docks will operate as independent contractors in regard to their relationships with NADD. Sanctioned events (facility or mobile dock) hosting a NADD Trials shall accept that NADD shall not be liable for direct or consequential damages resulting from lack of performance due to inclement weather, fire, earthquake, flood, acts of God, strikes, work stoppages, or other labor disturbances, riots or civil commotions, litigation, war or other act of any foreign nation, power of government, or governmental agency or authority, or other emergencies including the closing of the venue, which make it inadvisable or impossible to hold the Trial. The laws of the state of Texas shall govern the validity, construction and effect of all NADD Agreements. All lawsuits arising, wherever derived, shall be resolved in Ellis County in the state of Texas. Hereto, all mobile docks are to be considered as NADD and vice versa.

The NADD, AKC, CKC and any sponsors logos are trademarked. NADD must approve all the use of these logos. Only current NADD approved facilities are authorized to use the logos.

## **III. RULES OF CONDUCT/SPORTSMANSHIP:**

NADD and each independent sanctioned facility reserve the right to refuse service to anyone. NADD and the sanctioned facility trials are open to any and all persons and dogs without discrimination (based on race, religion, natural origin, etc.)

A sanctioned facility's decision is subject to review by the NADD, it will not be overturned except where there is strong evidence that the facility's decision is based on prohibited categories of discrimination (race, religion, natural origin, etc.).

Exhibitors, spectators, and hosting facilities are expected to display good behavior and good sportsmanship on and off the dock.

NADD has a posted Standards of Sportsmanship that will always be followed by all NADD members. Violations of this standard can result in any action from a polite verbal warning, to dismissal from an event, up to a suspension from NADD depending on the severity of the offense. (See NADD Webpage under Rules & Regulations).

Any participant showing abusive behavior towards their dog on or off the dock will be treated as a violation of our Standards of Sportsmanship. The decision of the sanctioned facility and judge will be final.

NADD reserves the right to make discretionary decisions regarding rules and procedures at events including the right to modify or alter the equipment, at any time, for safety purposes.

Sportsmanship is also how competitors act towards one another. Any rude, offensive or derogatory behavior will be dealt with quickly. Anyone showing un-sportsmanship like behavior towards workers, or other competitors is in violation of the Standard of Sportsmanship mentioned above.

We are adding to our sportsmanship's policy, behavior on the NADD run social media pages. NADD reserves the right to request removal, delete or block any posts (or person) that is being severely negative, harassing to others or to the topic of the post. While we always welcome constructive feedback and ideas, even when they vary from our own, we do not want our social media pages to become an unwelcoming place for all members. NADD will not stand for 'trolling', 'bullying', solicitation, or posters that are not part of the NADD community "stirring the pot" with our members. The NADD social media pages should be a fun, informative and welcoming place for everyone.

#### IV. ENTRY PROCEDURES:

Each competitor will enter events through the NADD portal. Trials will be posted no later than 60 days prior to each event.

Online preregistration will close 3 days before each event begins.

If a competitor preregistered for an event and does not pull their dog out prior to the withdrawal deadline, they will receive a No-Show.

- As NADD does not charge at the point of pre-registration, competitors are responsible for removing their dog from events if they are unable to attend.
- **This must be done 7 days PRIOR to the start of the event.** This can be done easily within the portal.
- There is no penalty until a handler earns 3 NO-SHOWS. Then at that point, they will lose the privilege of pre-registration.
- A competitor may request to have a No-Show removed after 1 calendar year. This is done by emailing NADD at ops@northamericadivingdogs.com
- If it is before the year passes, to request a No-Show to be removed, the owner must submit a Vet note to the facility running the event.

Barring major weather or conflicts, no changes will be made to events within 30 days. Splashes, Times, Schedule and specific details related to each Trial are listed on the website.

There are 2 standard types of NADD trails.

**Facility Trials:** The sanctioned facility shall charge \$23 (\$28 CAD) per splash for pre-entries. Day of Show shall be \$28 (\$33 CAD) per splash. It is in the best interest to everyone that participation in NADD remains affordable. The prices above can be changed at any time. Facilities will be notified by NADD if a price change is made. The sanctioned facility shall be responsible for their refund and/or cancellation policy.

**Mobile Dock Trials:** All mobile dock events will offer pre-registration and day of show entries (DOS entries may be a limited number but must be advertised before the event). The mobile dock event shall charge \$28 per splash for both pre-entries and Day of Show. It is in the best interest to everyone that participation in NADD remains affordable. The prices above can be changed at any time. The mobile dock event shall follow the NADD refund and/or cancellation policy.

#### ALL Facility & Mobile Trials:

- Splashes: Any NADD event can hold up to 4 distance Splashes (3 for mobile docks) per day. In order to make an exception to this rule, the event must submit a written request to NADD when the event is created. NADD will review the request and decide as to allow the exception or not.
- Air Retrieve: There may be only 1 AR splash per day. In order to make an exception to this rule, the event must submit a written request to NADD when the event is created. NADD will review the request and decide as to allow the exception or not.
- **Hydro Dash: There may be only 1 HD splash per day. In order to make an exception to this rule, the event must submit a written request to NADD when the event is created. NADD will review the request and decide as to allow the exception or not.**

- Try-its (practice turns): Try-It/ Practice procedures.
  - Mobile: **AS TIME ALLOWS:** Try-it will cost \$10 and the dog handler will receive 2 tickets. These tickets may be used through the duration of the event. Dogs will get 3 minutes per turn.
  - Facilities: It is still up to facilities as to whether to allow try-its or not. But this must be posted on the event page, so competitors know ahead of time.

## V. TRIALS:

All rules of the NADD and the sanctioned facility must always be obeyed. Sanctioned facilities may have more facility-specific rules in place. Participants must also abide by those rules during a NADD trial. **Every person must sign the waiver before stepping onto the dock, NO exceptions.**

NADD offers two basic types of events.

- OPEN SPLASH EVENTS: (events are usually held at mobile dock events and are run as follows)
  - No set Splash times, all splashes for that day are run simultaneously. This allows the competitor to determine their jump time. Each competitor will be given a NADD Jump Card at registration. They will turn in their card when ready to compete. A competitor can only compete in the number of splashes offered for each day. It is the competitor's responsibility to allow enough time to jump their dogs during the offered times each day.
  - It is the responsibility of the competitor to complete all daily jumps on the assigned day of the splashes. **Cards must be submitted no later than 2 hours prior to the end of Open Splash time.**
- CLOSED SPLASH (events are held at facility dock events and are run as follows)
  - Set Splash times and the number of competitor limitations.
  - All participants **must check in with admin at least 30 minutes before their splash.**
  - When you check in a running order will be created. Any conflicts should be resolved during your check-in time.
  - A judges meeting shall be held 15 minutes before each splash. It shall include the final running order, the competition rules and any other announcements.
  - It is the competitor's responsibility to be present at the time of check-in for each splash. Missing a splash time will be a forfeiture of that splash.
- At ALL NADD events, each competitor will be given 4 minutes per jump to take
  - 1 OPTIONAL practice jump first
  - 2 Competition jumps
  - **Effective July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020, for ALL NADD events, a competitor may not compete in more than 12 distance splashes per event.**

At any of the NADD Championship Qualifying Events (Mobile or Facility) throughout the season, a dog must have a minimum of 3 distance jumps at that event to qualify for an invite. At the completion of the event, each dog that has a minimum of 3 distance jumps at the event will have all their scores averaged together. Only the Top scoring dog in each Open or Lap division will be awarded the invites.

- For distance, the average is calculated by the TOP 3 jumps from that event.
- For AR, it is the best round of AR at that event.
- **For HD, it is the best round of HD at that event.**
- If a dog that has already earned before an event starts and is the Top dog at a qualifier, then that dog will be skipped over.
- Any dog earning an invite during the set season, must have a minimum of 15 distance jumps / 5 Air Retrieve or Hydro Dash by Oct 15<sup>th</sup> each year in order to keep the invite.

➤ REFUND POLICY:

- Entry fees will NOT be refunded if a dog is absent, disqualified, excused, or barred from competition by the sanctioned facility, mobile dock or the venue of the event.
- Entry fees will NOT be refunded if a dog refused to jump or misses all available competition times.
- Entry fees will only be refunded for females in heat or an injured dog only with a veterinary letter to the sanctioned facility or to NADD. This request must be made within 7 days of the completion of the event. If other circumstances, such as family emergencies, are present, refund may be awarded for missed splashes by the issuing host only.

➤ INCLEMENT WEATHER

- If by the decision of the trial host, the pool must be closed at any time for inclement weather, all activities will immediately stop. Competition will resume once it is deemed safe.
- Once competition resumes, if time to complete the event is restricted, try-its and open practice will stop so that competitive jumps can be completed.
- If the event is unable to be completed due to weather, refunds will be offered by the host. If the event can be rescheduled, all paid entries will be honored.

## VI. GENERAL RULES:

- i. As there is no way to create a rule book that can cover every possible issue, NADD states that if something is not covered in the written rules, it should be assumed to be **prohibited** until approved or discussed with Senior NADD officials.
- ii. All dogs must jump off the dock or ramp COMPLETELY on their own accord. You cannot physically assist your dog in a forward motion in any manner. All dogs must jump freely and without being forced, dropped or tilted. The handler must have their hands, legs and feet completely off the dog as the dog jumps. A dog should make at least one step forward or be fully independent with their forward motion; a handler setting the dog down at the very end of the dock, so the dog has no choice to jump will be warned. This includes the practice of “blocking”. “Blocking” is where the handler places or puts the dog in front of their feet and the dog has NO CHOICE but to jump. **The dog MUST jump entirely of its own will. It must have freedom to move to either jump or not jump.**
  - a. Violators will be given one warning immediately in a polite and respectful way.
  - b. The 2<sup>nd</sup> occurrence will result in the handler being NQ'd from the entire Splash,
  - c. The 3<sup>rd</sup> occurrence will result in handler being removed from the event and a letter being sent to NADD administration.
- iii. Dogs must be kept on 6 feet or shorter leash. Flexi leashes & long lines are NOT allowed in the NADD competition area.
- iv. No dogs shall be allowed off-leash in any part of the competition area, except for on the dock or in the water.
- v. Dogs should be kept under close handler control. A safe distance (approx. 8 ft.) must be kept between all dogs.
- vi. If a dog eliminates in any way (to include, urinating, defecated or vomiting) in such a way it must be cleaned up on any part of the dock, platform, ramp or in the pool at any time during a the time allotted for a competition jump, that entire jump will be recorded as a NQ and the dog will be asked to leave the dock immediately so the area can be cleaned.
- vii. Dogs are **ONLY** permitted to wear the following items:
  - a. Collars, these must be the non-training type collars mentioned below.
  - b. Dog swim-type suits or life vests that are fitted properly.

- viii. Dogs are NOT permitted to wear the following items and they must be removed once the dog is on the dock.:
  - a. Chain & choke, pinch, prong, electronic collars, head collars, or any other types of special training collar (NOTE: prong collars and e-collars are not allowed at AKC & CKC event show grounds. While they are allowed in our area next to the dock, please know they are not allowed at AKC & CKC events, walking to the restrooms, vendors or other events, etc.)
  - b. Goggles, harnesses, specialty vests (like a go-pro vest), capes or any medical type bandages.
- ix. The use of any 'training' items are not allowed during Sanctioned events. These are items such as: stride regulators, leashes laid across the end of the dock, or any type of hurdle, etc. These items are to only be used for training and not for competition. These items can also be a safety hazard. The basic standard is in relation to any items placed on the surface of the dock that are used for the dog to mark or target.
- x. Humans may enter the pool during Try-It sessions for training purposes to assist dogs by offering physical support, encouragement and to build the dogs confidence. Humans are not allowed in the pool during competitive jumps, except in an emergency. (Personal Best, New titles, etc.: jumps are allowed after the dog has completed all required jumps in that Splash) **NADD is not liable for any injury or issue caused from a human voluntarily entering the pool.**
- xi. Females in season will not be permitted in the competition area.
- xii. Everyone is responsible for picking up after your dog. Failure to comply could result in dismissing a handler/dog team from the remainder of the trial. No refunds will be issued.
- xiii. Dogs that show signs of provoked or unprovoked aggressive behavior towards humans and/or other will be considered aggressive. Acts of aggression can result in any action from a polite verbal warning, to dismissal from an event, up to a suspension from NADD. NADD may ban the handler and/or dog permanently from any future trials. Any dog or handler that is removed from the event will not be given a refund.
  - a. The NADD definition of an aggressive dog is any dog that shows aggressive behavior anywhere in the competition area toward humans or dogs. Please note, no matter what the situation, each handler is fully responsible for their dog's actions.
  - b. If an act of aggressiveness is reported or witnessed, NADD will investigate and make a determination based on all the evidence of the incident. A review will be conducted and could result in suspension from all NADD future events.
  - c. In the result of an aggressive dog incident, it is the responsibility of the facility or mobile dock to report it directly to NADD. Regardless, of the outcome or result, the incident must be reported to NADD immediately. This includes actual incidents or even close calls.
  - d. In the event of any physical contact between the aggressive dog and either another dog or a human, the **event host has the right** to ask that the offending dog be removed from the event immediately. Any paid splashes will be forfeited at that point.

## VII. DOGS:

- i. To enter a trial a dog must be registered and have a registration number with the NADD. A NADD registration number can be applied for from our website or at a facility/mobile event. The cost of a NADD Reg. number is a one-time fee of \$35. (Dogs participating in "Try-Its" do not need to be registered with NADD, but they must sign up and sign the waiver.)



- ii. Any dog of any breed, size, or mix may participate in a NADD trial.
  - a. As to breed, as NADD is an organization that is not a breed registry, we do not classify or determine dog's breeds. All breeds are welcome to play. We do offer a special award at the end of the year; we offer a Best of Breed award for the Top Ranked dog of each breed that has been verified as that breed. These breeds are solely determined by the handler submitting an approved Breed registry number (AKC, AKC PAL, CKC, UKC, etc.). **NADD is not responsible to verify anything other than a current approved Registry number has been submitted. Any issue with breed verification would be the responsibility of the issuing organization.**
- iii. Dogs must be visibly in good health and condition in order to compete. Dogs that appear to be lame, injured, and ill or dogs with sutures, bandages, adhesive or any other material that is indicative of or related to any surgical or medical procedure may not compete. During the trial if the dog shows any signs of the above, they will be dismissed from the trial. Refunds will be at the sole discretion of the sanctioned facility or NADD event coordinator. If a dog has been under medical care, they must show a release to compete from the Vet
- iv. Dogs must be 6 months of age or older at the time of the event to compete. Age is calculated by month (For example, a dog born Jan 1<sup>st</sup> 2019 could start competing on July 1<sup>st</sup>). Dogs less than 6 months old may practice and do try-its.
- v. Competing dogs must be current on vaccinations and the owner shall carry written proof of current rabies vaccinations.
- vi. Dogs that are deformed, amputee, deaf or blind may participate in the competition but must be able to safely perform jumps & exit the pool. Any dog with a special needs or attention must inform the judge prior to jumping. It is the judge's discretion if any special allowances will be made to special need dogs.

#### VIII. JUDGES:

- i. By entering any NADD event, the owner and handler of any dog agree to accept the decision of the Judge as final.
- ii. No person may interfere with the Judge in any way while he/she is judging a splash.
- iii. All judges must be certified and approved by NADD.
- iv. The Manual Judging System will be used. The judge will eyeball the distance that the base of the tail breaks the water's surface. The distance of the jump scored by the judge is final. Judges must complete apprenticeship training and testing before being certified as a NADD judge.
  - a. **NADD will not allow "instant replay" type reviews of jumps. Once a judge's call is made, it is final.**
  - b. **In order to keep all NADDs judges current and accurate, if in a competitor's opinion the judge is inaccurate, they may file a formal complaint by email, with photo and video evidence to NADD. NADD will investigate and the judge may be required to attend remedial training.**
- v. A dog that is owned or co-owned by the judge may jump as long as their dog is judged by a separate, certified NADD judge. In the event that there is no other certified judge present, the judge may judge their own dog with a different handler but MUST have a witness present to verify the score.
- vi. The judge must judge the entire splash, unless they have a dog entered in that splash. The back-up judge will judge that dog/dogs. (Note: At mobile dock events, due to the set-up of the Open Splashes, it may not be possible for a judge to jump every dog in an entire splash. There will be certified judges sharing the judging responsibilities at these trials.) **Each judges dog will compete during the set splash time for the splash it is entered in.**
- vii. The judge will sign or initial each splash sheet or jump card that they judged.



## IX. HANDLER:

- i. During a Splash or judged jump, the lead handler of the dog may bring up an additional handler to restrain the dog. Maximum 2 handlers on the dock, staff may not be on the dock during a competition jump unless they are assisting as a handler.
- ii. The minimum age of competitors is 5 years old. To compete alone on the dock, the handler must be 7 years old. It must be obvious that the Youth Handler is always in full and continued control of the dog. The parent or legal guardian must always be present while the youth is on the dock. The parent or legal guardian always accepts full responsibility of the youth. For a Youth Handler to be eligible for any the awards or accolades created especially for Youth, they must not turn 17 years old on or before Oct 16<sup>th</sup> of the given year.
- iii. NADD will always do everything it can to make reasonable accommodations in the interest of safety to all individuals with disabilities. If structural accommodations for access to the dock cannot be made, then reasonable modifications to the rules will be made. (I.E. If a dock is not accessible for individuals with mobility impairments or who use wheelchairs, they will be allowed to throw the toy from beside the pool.)
- iv. As NADD is fully supportive in getting new dogs to jump and compete, we do allow verbal support from outside the pool. However, any support can ONLY be in the form of cheering, and calling the dog's name, waving arms, etc. This person would also be considered the 2nd handler. It cannot involve throwing a toy from outside the pool or splashing the water. This is considering double-handling and will result in the same violation status as 'sandbagging' as listed below. (NOTE: For HD, while it is fully acceptable for a 2<sup>nd</sup> person to be standing still on the ground outside the pool, cheering for the dog, due to safety issues, they MAY NOT run down the side of the pool encouraging the dog to swim faster.)
- v. A dog has (4) four minutes to complete the optional practice and the 2 competition jumps. The (4) minute time period begins once the handler and dog are both on the dock. Time will stop when either the dog completes its 2 jumps, or the judge announces TIME. If time ends before the dog is in a forward jumping movement, the jump will not count. At any NADD event, the dog must complete both of its jumps. They may not pass on the 2nd attempt unless an injury has occurred.
- vi. Both dog and handler should stay on the dock (or in pool, for dog) during their turn. If either leaves the dock or pool before their turn is over (this includes a dog jumping out of the pool either over the side or off the side by the ramp), that constitutes the end of their turn and a NQ for that Splash. A 'turn' is considered from the time both enter the dock via the steps until both leave via the steps. (At a pond this will be different)
- vii. The handler throwing the toy is considered the handler of record.
- viii. Handlers may compete with multiple dogs in a splash. An individual dog may be entered in the splash only once.
- ix. A throwing object (toy) may be used to entice the dog to jump. It is not required. Any object that is thrown must meet the following requirements:
  - a. The object must float.
  - b. The object cannot be food based: it cannot dissolve.
  - c. It cannot be living or dead animal or animal parts.
  - d. Non-thrown Objects such as squirt guns, water in buckets, remote controlled toys, etc are prohibited.
  - e. It is not required that the dog retrieve the object to receive a qualifying jump.
- x. No food or treats are allowed on the dock at any time.
- xi. A Handler may have no more than 2 toys on the dock during the competition jump.
- xii. If a toy is thrown, and the dog does not jump in to retrieve it, it will be returned ONE time to the handler for a reset.
  - a. For a handler using either the chase method or the place & send method, if the dog is released and makes an obvious attempt to jump and stops on its own accord (this does not include the handler calling the dog off the jump) and dog does not retrieve immediately, the toy may be returned to the handler for one (1) throw only. They have until the dog jumps or time expires, whichever comes first.

- xiii. If a toy is thrown out of the pool and the dog does NOT jump, it will be returned to the handler, once.
- xiv. It is the handler's responsibility in both Open (Lap and Veteran included) jumps and in Air Retrieve to have a volunteer or helper to retrieve the toy. The NADD judges or AR rig operators will not throw or retrieve the toy for them.

#### X: FACILITIES:

- i. Only approved facilities are allowed to hold NADD trials.
- ii. NADD may allow a portable dock & pool at special trials. Prior approval is required for the trial.
- iii. All facilities shall have a designated crating & staging area.
- iv. Only one facility will be approved to hold a trial within approximately 150-mile radius on the same day.
- v. A sanctioned facility or mobile dock may choose to cancel or adjust the North America Diving Dogs schedule due to environmental or trial schedule issues.
- vi. All facilities & mobile docks must have two – minimum 3' x 3' NADD logo banner, two – minimum 3' x 3' AKC logo banner or minimum 3' x 3' CKC logo banner. These banners must be displayed on the dock railings. Also, the banner below the dock must have the NADD logo and the AKC or CKC logo displayed on it.

#### XI. EQUIPMENT:

- i. All equipment must be approved by NADD prior to the trial.
  - a. Pool: The walls of the pool should be 4 feet water level (with a +/- 2" tolerance due to water levels changing throughout the day). The pool should be at least 21' x 40' in dimensions. The water must be clean, free of debris, and clear of algae. The pool must have a safe exit ramp or steps for the dog to exit the water.
  - b. Dock: The dock used for dock jumping competitions must be of sturdy construction. The dock must be 40 feet long by 7.5 feet wide. The dock must have a barrier around it to prevent dogs from jumping off the ground sides of the dock. The surface must have Astro-turf, outdoor, stiff carpeting, rubber-like or an approved surface that is non-slip when wet to prevent slipping and better traction for the dog. The dock must sit 2 feet above the surface of the water. This is measured from where the blue & white pool vinyl meet on the pool.
  - c. All pools must have a measuring banner on both sides of the pool. It shall have the numerical number for feet and slashes every 3" increments.
  - d. Any reports of an unsafe pool or dock may result in cancellation of a trial in progress or future trials until repairs are made. Any report of unsafe issues must be reported directly to ops@northamericadivingdogs.com. NADD will immediately investigate and make determinations to any reported unsafe issues.

#### XII. DISTANCE JUMPING:

- ii. A splash consists of 2 jumps. Once the handler/dog enters the dock, they will have two opportunities to jump in that splash. The jumps will be back to back. A dog may not jump more than 1 splash at a time. There must be at least one other dog (or 1 minute) in between jumps and the dog must come off the dock during this time.
- iii. The judge will give a scored distance jumped for each qualifying jump. A qualifying jump is when the dog enters the water from the dock. The greater of the two scores becomes the dog's qualifying score for that splash. The OFFICIAL score is the score written on the card or scoresheet by the judges. All other scores announced or written on ribbons on any other document are unofficial. ***It is the responsibility of the handler to make sure their score is recorded correctly before leaving the event.***

- iv. In an event such as Nationals, or a Facility Finals, a tie for final placement will be determined by the higher score of the second jump in the same splash. In determining a tie on the Bubble report, it will be the next highest jump of the event that breaks a tie.
- v. The dog's distance is measured from the end of the dock to the point of contact where the base of the tail breaks the water's surface. The base of the tail is the point where the dog's tail meets the body.
- vi. If the dog enters the water from the ramp or stairs during their competition jumps, it will be scored as a non-qualifying jump "NQ".
- vii. The handler may not obviously try to lower their dogs score at any time to achieve a title, a placement or a ranking in a division lower than their dog's ability. This is considered 'sandbagging'.
  - a. Upon the 1 violation, the handler will be warned verbally in a private and positive manner.
  - b. The 2nd occurrence will result in the handler being NQ'd from the entire Splash.
  - c. The 3rd occurrence will result in the handler being removed from the trial and a letter being sent to NADD administration.
- viii. Jumps are considered official once the handler cues/releases the dog to proceed with the jump. If the dog jumps prior to obviously being cued/released or the toy being thrown, this will be considered a "practice or Non-Jump" and the handler may continue with competition jumps. If a dog repeats this behavior it will count as an official jump and be scored accordingly.
- ix. A sanctioned facility or mobile trial will award each handler/dog team with a qualifying ribbon for each qualifying jump after each splash.
  - a. Each ribbon will have the required NADD and AKC/CKC logos. For all rosette ribbons, the NADD logo will be in the Center of the rosette.
- x. Additional Placement ribbons may also be offered per Splash or for Finals. It is the responsibility of the handler to pick up all ribbons at the event they are earned. Neither NADD nor the facility is not responsible for mailing ribbons.

### XIII. DISTANCE CLASS, DIVISIONS & TITLES:

NADD has developed two classes of competition. Open and Lap classes. (Veteran & Junior Handler classes are only offered at NADD Championship.)

- i. Open Class: This class is open to all dogs regardless of breed, age or sex to compete in all open division's levels.
- ii. Lap Class: Lap Class is for all dogs under 16" or less at the withers to compete in class to achieve the recognition the same as the Open Class. If a dog is under the 16" mark they must compete as a Lap Dog. If a dog is not clearly visibly under 16", it will be placed in the Open division until it has been officially measured at Nationals, at a portable dock, or has their AKC & CKC agility height card. All dogs must be measured by the judge prior to jumping with an approved wicket to enter this class. The measurement is from the top point of the shoulder (withers) down to the ground while standing in its "natural stance". **At the age of 2 years or older all dogs must be measured for a final height. If your puppy's breed standard is well above 16" at maturity, you may not list your dog as Lap.** They must be listed at minimum 16 inches so that they do not compete in the Lap class throughout their puppyhood. The final measurement must be on file with the NADD. Qualifying jumps in the Lap Class will only transfer to the Open Class if the dog is found to be over the required height. If you have a puppy that is 14" at 1 year and jumps in the Lap Class, the qualifying jumps will transfer to the Open Class if the dog grows over 16" at 2 years of age.
  - a. **NADD Lap Height Challenge policy: Each dog 2 years old or older that has been measured as a Lap dog according to NADDs policy, may be challenged ONCE.**
    - i. **The procedure to file a challenge will be:**
      1. **Complainant (can be any person with a dog with a NADD number) will email NADD and pay a \$25 challenge fee. This fee is non-refundable, regardless of the outcome.**

- a. The complainant may be the current dog's owner if their dog was measured originally as Open and they wish to challenge for a re-measured to Lap.
2. Once the challenge is received, NADD will set an opportunity to have the dog measured.
  - a. This challenge measurement must be overseen by a NADD Senior Judge and fully video recorded.
  - b. The dog will be measured twice to verify the height.
  - c. The measurements and the video will be submitted to NADD and a FINAL height will be recorded.
3. Once a dog has had one challenge completed, it will be marked on their record and they are NOT eligible to be challenged again.

Distance Jump Divisions			
Open Class		Lap Class	
Novice DN	1 in - 9 ft. 11 in	Novice	1 in- 4 ft. 11 in
Junior DJ	10 ft. - 14 ft. 11 in	Junior	5 ft. - 8 ft. 11 in
Senior DS	15 ft. - 19 ft. 11 in	Senior	9 ft. -12 ft. 11 in
Master DM	20 ft. - 23 ft. 11 in	Master	13 ft. - 17 ft. 11 in
Elite DM	24 ft. and above	Elite	18 ft. and above

- iii. A handler/dog team will earn one qualifying score towards a Division title based on their longest jump in a splash. A Division title is earned by accumulative five (5) qualifying jumps within one division.
  - a. DN – Dock Novice
  - b. DJ – Dock Junior
  - c. DS – Dock Senior
  - d. DM – Dock Master
  - e. DE – Dock Elite
- iv. After the Division title is achieved additional titling levels can be earned. Advanced (A) - can be earned with an additional 25 qualifying jumps within a division. This is a total of 30 jumps within a division. An (A) will be placed behind the Division Title.
  - a. DNA –Dock Novice Advanced
  - b. DJA –Dock Junior Advanced
  - c. DSA –Dock Senior Advanced
  - d. DMA –Dock Master Advanced
  - e. DEA –Dock Elite Advanced
- v. An Excellent (X) - can be earned once you have earned an Advance (A) with an additional 25 qualifying jumps within a division. This is a total of 55 jumps within division. A (X) will be placed behind the Division Title.
  - a. DNX – Dock Novice Excellent
  - b. DJX - Dock Junior Excellent
  - c. DSX - Dock Senior Excellent
  - d. DMX – Dock Master Excellent
  - e. DEX – Dock Elite Excellent
- vi. Once an Excellent title is achieved an additional 25 qualifying jumps within a division will earn a numerical number after the X. Example – Dock Novice Excellent - DNX2, DNX3, etc.
- vii. Qualifying jumps will accumulate within a division. You must earn the Division title before earning a higher title of Advanced (A) or Excellent (X).
- viii. The higher-level titles will supersede lower titles on a dog's record.

- ix. A dog can earn 2 Advanced Titles such as a DNA and a DJA, but the higher title will supersede the lower title.
- x. A dog can earn an Advanced Title and an Excellent Title, but the higher title will supersede the lower title.
- xi. A dog can earn two Excellent Titles such as a DNX and a DJX, the higher title will be the title of record.
- xii. A dog that earns his second Excellent within a division, the DJX will be replaced with a DJX2 for the title of record.
- xiii. This system of recording was developed so that every qualifying jump that a handler/dog team does counts towards one of the above titles.

#### **XIV. AIR RETRIEVE:**

##### **i. AIR RETRIEVE:**

- a. The Air Retrieve rig is an apparatus that can be moved along the side of the pool. It must be adjustable, so the bumper is hanging 2ft. over the surface of the dock and centered with the width of the dock. All Air Retrieves rigs must be approved by NADD prior to use.
- b. The object for the Air Retrieve must be the approved NADD bumper and have both ends to attach it to the Air Retrieve extender.
- c. The dog can start at any distance on the dock. The handler/dog can use all 40 ft. if they choose.
- d. The Air Retrieve minimum distance will start at 6 feet for Open and 4 feet for Lap. For competition jumps, the toy will move out from the front of the dock at ONLY 1-foot increments. All AR jumps will move in 1-foot increments; this includes attempts at World Records.
- e. A dog can pass as often and as many times as the handler wishes. (Except at Nationals, a Qualifier event or in a Finals).
- f. The handler/dog team will be scored with a Grab (G) or a Miss (M). A "Grab" is achieved when the dog grabs or completely removes the bumper from the Air Retrieve extender. The dog is not required to bring the bumper down with their mouth. They can grab the bumper or knock it lose from the extender. So long as the bumper comes completely free from the extender the dog moves on to the next distance. A "Miss" is when the bumper is still attached to the Air Retrieve extender throughout the turn.
- g. On a missed attempt, a dogs AR turn is considered ended once the dog established itself going back up the ramp. If a touched toy falls after the turn is over, it will NOT count.
- h. Each dog gets 2 chances at each distance until they have two misses at one distance or 3 overall misses, whichever occurs first. The handler/dog team will get two (2) attempts back to back to grab the bumper. The team will be eliminated if they are unsuccessful at the (2) back to back attempts or one their 3-overall miss, regardless of position at the time of occurrence.
- i. Each handler may choose their starting attempt at a distance NO LOWER than 2 feet below their dogs Recent Average. The AR Recent Average will be determined by the average of a dogs last 3 AR jumps. This is a rolling average that will begin with the 1<sup>st</sup> earned score. (For the starting distance, it will be rounded down if not on an even foot measurement). If a dog does not have a recent average, they may start at any distance they wish above the minimum required distance. This average will reset each season.
- j. At standard events (other than Nationals or specialty events) each dog will be allowed 1 practice jump immediately before their start in an AR round. This attempt can be at any distance, on the foot marker, and is an attempt. So, either a grab or miss, counts as the attempt.

- k. The event will be run with a set running order determined by the event coordinator. The dog and handler will compete and will stay on the dock throughout the competition until the dog has completed its Splash. Once the dog has the specified misses, the dog is finished.
- l. The handler may choose to take ONE 30 second break during their AR turn. This break may only be made after a successful grab. During this break, they will stay on the dock.
- m. Each AR attempt will be given 45 seconds.
  - i. If a dog does not jump and times out, the end of the turn will be announced and the next attempt will begin immediately and will run until either the dog jumps, or time expires. If a dog times out or does not jump, this will be counted as a miss.
  - ii. If a dog misses and begins to swim around under the bumper, the NADD AR crew will immediately move the rig out away from over the pool. The handler must either call the dog back or throw a toy to lure the dog back. Once the dog has started back to the dock, the rig will be reset. Once the rig is reset, regardless of the dogs' position, time will begin for the next attempt.
- n. The qualifying score will be the last clean grab or knock down that the handler/dog team had at a given distance.
- o. The handler may choose to withdraw their dog at any point during an AR competition. This will be marked as a Voluntary Withdrawal in the system. If the Voluntary Withdrawal happens at a Nationals or at a Qualifier, that round of competing will NOT count in calculating Final Placements or Invites. During each calendar season, a dog will only be permitted 3 Voluntary Withdrawals. After the dogs reaches 3, any further VW's will result in a NQ for that jump.
- p. If there is a tie in the placements, the following tie breakers will determine final placements.
  - i. Tie breakers are run in order as follows:
    1. The handler/dog with the least number of overall misses will be the next highest placement.
    2. If both handler/dog teams have the same number of overall misses:
      - a. If both have only 2 overall misses, go to step 3.
      - b. If both have 3 overall misses, then the tie will be broken by the team with a successful grab at a lowest distance where the other dog misses at that distance on the 1<sup>st</sup> attempt.
    3. The dog with the higher Recent average (not rounded down) at the time of the attempt that created the tie will win the placement. At the National Championships the Recent average will be based on the dogs Season Average on Oct 15<sup>th</sup> of the season that just ended.
  - ii. For Championships, Finals and other special events, if all 3 Tie Breakers have been run and dogs are still tied, then a Jump-Off may occur.
    1. The jump-off procedure will only take place after the first 3 levels of the tie breaker have been evaluated and there is still a tie. Any jumps done during the AR Jump-Off procedure WILL NOT COUNT towards any NADD official scores. They are for the sole purpose of breaking a tie. The AR Jump-Off procedure should only be used during Championships events. If a facility wishes to use at a facility Finals event, that is at their discretion.
    2. AR Jump-Off Procedure:
      - a. Any dogs still tied after the tie break calculations have been run will meet with the judge. The judge will request each Handler secretly submit a distance that their dog will make 1 attempt at the jump-off.
      - b. The requirements for the jump-off distances are as follows:

- i. The Handler cannot pick a distance greater than the farthest distance the dog attempted at that event.
- ii. The jump-off distance will be made privately and given to the judge. These distances will not be shared until all are turned in to the judge. Once they are submitted, they CAN NOT be changed for any reason.
- iii. Jump-Off distance may be made at any 3-inch increments.
- iv. Once all the dog's attempts have been privately submitted, the judge will announce the attempt distances. The dog with the farthest attempt distance will go first. If this dog hits that distance, then it cleanly secures the highest of the tied positions. The next dog will each get to make an attempt at its selected distance.
- v. Now, in the event that the 1st dog misses, they would then have to wait until after the other 2 dogs make their attempts. If both dogs hit, then Dog B would be in the lowest tied position as it did not make a grab.
- vi. If after any hits or misses by dogs, they are still tied, then the tie will be broken by the dog with the highest **Season** Average. This rewards the dog that has shown the higher level of jumping throughout the season.

**XV. AIR RETRIEVE CLASS, DIVISIONS & TITLES:**

- i. A handler/dog team can earn one qualifying grab towards a Division title based on their longest grab in an Air Retrieve competition.

Air Retrieve Jump Divisions			
Open Class		Lap Class	
Novice	6 ft. – 9 ft.	Novice	4 ft. – 6 ft.
Junior	10 ft. – 13 ft.	Junior	7 ft. – 9 ft.
Senior	14 ft. – 17 ft.	Senior	10 ft. – 12 ft.
Master	18 ft. – 21 ft.	Master	13 ft. – 15 ft.
Elite	22 ft. and up	Elite	16 ft. and up

- ii. A Division title is earned by accumulative five (5) qualifying grabs within one division.
  - a. AN - Air Retrieve Novice
  - b. AJ - Air Retrieve Junior
  - c. AS - Air Retrieve Senior
  - d. AM - Air Retrieve Master
  - e. AE - Air Retrieve Elite
- iii. After the Division title is achieved additional titling levels can be earned. Advanced (A) - can be earned with an additional 10 qualifying grabs within a division. This is a total of 15 grabs within a division. An (A) will be placed behind the Division.
  - a. ANA - Air Retrieve Novice Advanced
  - b. AJA - Air Retrieve Junior Advanced
  - c. ASA - Air Retrieve Senior Advance
  - d. AMA - Air Retrieve Master Advanced
  - e. AEA - Air Retrieve Elite Advanced
- iv. Excellent (X) - can be earned once you have earned an Advance (A) with an additional 10 qualifying grabs within a division. This is a total of 25 grabs within a division. A (X) will be placed behind the Division Title.
  - a. ANX - Air Retrieve Novice Excellent
  - b. AJX - Air Retrieve Junior Excellent
  - c. ASX - Air Retrieve Senior Excellent



- d. AMX - Air Retrieve Master Excellent
- e. AEX - Air Retrieve Elite Excellent
- v. Once an Excellent title is achieved an additional 10 qualifying grabs within a division will earn a numerical number after the X. For example: Air Retrieve Novice Excellent - ANX2, ANX3, etc.
- vi. Qualifying grabs will accumulate within a division. You must earn the Division title before earning a higher title of Advance (A) or Excellent (X).
- vii. A dog can earn two Advance Titles such as ANA and AJA but the higher title of AJA will prevail. It will be the title of record.
- viii. A dog can earn an Advance Title and an Excellent Title such as ANA and AJX but the higher title of AJX will prevail. It will be the title of record.
- ix. A dog can earn two Excellent Titles such as ANX and AJX. The higher title will be the title of record.
- x. A dog that earns his second Excellent within a division, the AJX will be replaced with AJX2 for the title of record.
- xi. This system of recording was developed so that every qualifying grab that a handler/dog team does counts towards one of the above titles.

## **XVI. HYDRO DASH:**

- i. Hydro Dash:
  - a. The Hydro Dash rig must be approved by NADD prior to use.
  - b. The object for the Hydro Dash must be the approved NADD bumper and have both ends to attach it to the Hydro Dash extender. The toy will be hung at the 37ft mark of the pool. The toy will hang 1 inch above the surface of the water.
  - c. A dogs HD turn is considered ended once the dog passes the 10ft line on the return or touches the ramp during the splash. If a touched toy falls after the turn is over, it will NOT count.
  - d. During each run, a dog gets 2 turns back to back.
  - e. The handler will set the dog up and the dog's back feet must be in front of the 10ft line (7ft for Lap).
  - f. Once the toy is position and ready, the judge will say, "On your release". This will start the 30 second clock for the handler to get their dog set and released. If a dog does not make an attempt within the allotted time, that run will be a TIME OUT. And they will be immediately reset for the next attempt (or it will end their turn if this was the 2nd attempt).
  - g. The handler will then release their dog when ready.
  - h. The judge will start the timer at the exact moment, by their judgement, that the dogs last foot leaves the surface of the dock.
  - i. The dog will then swim to the toy. The dog must make the toy release completely. A dog is not required to bring the toy back.
  - j. Once they have released the toy, the dog will swim back to the ramp. The judge should be standing at the 10ft jump line on the measurement banners. They will stop the time at the exact time the dogs nose crosses the plane of the 10ft line.
  - k. The official time should be written as XX.xxx seconds and judges with a stopwatch. The stopwatch must give 3 digits of seconds or 1/1000 of a second.
  - l. After the 1st run, the toy gets replaced and the dog gets reset and repeats the entire process.

## **HYDRO DASH CLASS, DIVISIONS & TITLES:**

- ii. A handler/dog team can earn one qualifying grab towards a Division title based on their fastest run in a Hydro Dash competition.

<b>Hydro Dash Jump Divisions</b>
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Open Class		Lap Class	
Novice	32.000-39.999	Novice	45.000-59.999
Junior	24.000-31.999	Junior	35.000-44.999
Senior	19.000-23.999	Senior	25.000-34.999
Master	15.000-18.999	Master	20.000-24.999
Elite	0.000-14.999	Elite	0.000-19.999

- iii. A Division title is earned by accumulative five (5) qualifying grabs within one division.
  - a. HDN – Hydro Dash Novice
  - b. HDJ – Hydro Dash Junior
  - c. HDS – Hydro Dash Senior
  - d. HDM – Hydro Dash Master
  - e. HDE – Hydro Dash Elite
  
- iv. After the Division title is achieved additional titling levels can be earned. Advanced (A) - can be earned with an additional 10 qualifying grabs within a division. This is a total of 15 grabs within a division. An (A) will be placed behind the Division.
  - a. HDNA – Hydro Dash Novice Advanced
  - b. HDJA – Hydro Dash Junior Advanced
  - c. HDSA – Hydro Dash Senior Advanced
  - d. HDMA – Hydro Dash Master Advanced
  - e. HDEA – Hydro Dash Elite Advanced
- v. Excellent (X) - can be earned once you have earned an Advance (A) with an additional 10 qualifying grabs within a division. This is a total of 25 grabs within a division. A (X) will be placed behind the Division Title.
  - a. HDNX – Hydro Dash Novice Excellent
  - b. HDJX – Hydro Dash Junior Excellent
  - c. HDSX – Hydro Dash Senior Excellent
  - d. HDMX – Hydro Dash Master Excellent
  - e. HDEX – Hydro Dash Elite Excellent
- vi. Once an Excellent title is achieved an additional 10 qualifying grabs within a division will earn a numerical number after the X. Example: Hydro Dash Novice Excellent - HDNX2, HDNX3, etc.
- vii. Qualifying grabs will accumulate within a division. You must earn the Division title before earning a higher title of Advance (A) or Excellent (X).
- viii. A dog can earn two Advance Titles such as HDNA and HDJA but the higher title of HDJA will prevail. It will be the title of record.
- ix. A dog can earn an Advance Title and an Excellent Title such as HDNA and HDJX but the higher title of HDJX will prevail. It will be the title of record.
- x. A dog can earn two Excellent Titles such as HDNX and HDJX. The higher will be a title of record.
- xi. A dog that earns his second Excellent within a division, the HDJX will be replaced with HDJX2 for the title of record.
- xii. This system of recording was developed so that every qualifying grab that a handler/dog team does counts towards one of the above titles.

#### **XVI. PLACEMENTS:**

- i. Mobile Dock trials: At most mobile dock trials, due to the nature of the trial itself, each jump will receive a Q ribbon or a Title ribbon (if earned). Placements are not usually given at these trials.

- ii. Facility Trials: Each facility is responsible for its own awarding of placements and awards. They may, but are not required to, award placements for each Splash and /or for a Finals splash at the end of the trail.
- iii. At any trial, information on placements and the type of event will be defined in the event listing on the website. ([www.northamericadivingdogs.com/events](http://www.northamericadivingdogs.com/events)).

## **XVII: NADD Agreement, Liability Waiver, Media Release**

### Release and Waiver

This Release and Waiver is intended to shift the risk of participating in an event to the Participant/Owner/Guardian of the dog in the event. Do not sign it unless you are willing to accept assumption of the risk of participation and the risk of bodily injury, death or property damage while at a NADD, event while upon the hosting facility's property, in your own home or public space.

I (we) agree that the facility holding this event has the right to refuse this entry for cause which the facility shall deem sufficient. In consideration of the acceptance of this entry and of the holding of this event and of the opportunity to have the dog judged and to win prizes, ribbons, or trophies, I (we) agree to hold the NADD and/or AKC (AKC.tv), Eukanuba, any sponsors, the event-giving facility, their members, directors, governors, officers, agents, superintendents or event secretary and the owner and/or lessor of the premises and any provider of services that are necessary to hold this event and any employees or volunteers of the aforementioned parties, and any NADD, approved judge, judging at this event, harmless from any claim for loss or injury which may be alleged to have been caused directly or indirectly to any person or thing by the act of this dog while in or about the event premises or grounds or near any entrance thereto, and I (we) personally assume all responsibility and liability for any such claim; and I (we) further agree to hold the aforementioned parties harmless from any claim for loss, injury or damage to this dog. Additionally, I (we) hereby assume the sole responsibility for and agree to indemnify, defend and save the aforementioned parties harmless from any and all loss and expense (including legal fees) by reason of the liability imposed by law upon any of the aforementioned parties for damage because of bodily injuries, including death at any time resulting therefrom, sustained by any person or persons, including myself (ourselves) or on account of damage to property, arising out of or in consequence of my (our) participation in this event, however such injuries, death or property damage may be caused, and whether or not the same may have been caused or may be alleged to have been caused by the negligence of the aforementioned parties or any of their employees, agents, or any other persons. Scores are official property of NADD and the AKC and cannot legally be used for monetary gain by any other organizations. If you share your scores with any other organization that uses them for their own financial gain and benefit, this may cause your scores, titles, rankings and other future benefits to be forfeited by NADD.

I (we) are solely responsible for reading, understanding and following all NADD rules.

I hereby grant to NADD, AKC (AKC.tv), Eukanuba, hosting facility and its affiliated companies, representatives, agents, sponsors, and assigns, a non-exclusive, unlimited, worldwide, license to use, reproduce, distribute, display and transmit the photographs, portraits, pictures, electronic or digital images, tape, film, video footage, television, and all reproductions thereof in any form whatsoever ("materials") of any and all NADD events in any and all materials the AKC (AKC.tv) or Eukanuba chooses. I also hereby grant to NADD, AKC (AKC.tv), Eukanuba and hosting facility all rights and permission to use or appropriate his/her and their dog's name, your name, biography, likeness, photograph, video, voice, performing persona, or other indicia of identity for broadcast, telecast, cablecast, transmission or distribution in any format or media known now or in the future.

NADD is not responsible for any errors on the entry form nor are we responsible for any errors made by the exhibitor using this entry form when entering events/classes and such errors could have their wins/points/scores invalidated if the dog competes in the wrong class.