



2024

NADD Sanctioned Event

Official Rules and Regulations

COMPETITOR EDITION

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North America Diving Dogs® LLC.

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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.

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

I. PURPOSE:

- A. 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.
- B. 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.
- C. 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 whose titles are recognized by the American Kennel Club (AKC) and the Canadian Kennel Club (CKC).
- D. NADD was formed for the sole purpose of promoting the growth of Diving Dog competitions which include at this time, Distance, Air Retrieve, and Hydro Dash disciplines at approved trials as performance events.
- E. Dogs compete for titles based on the distance they jump from a dock into a pool of water (Distance), distance at height (Air Retrieve), or for speed times (Hydro Dash).
- F. Safety and education of the handler and dogs is the Number One priority.

II. JURISDICTION:

- A. All approved NADD facilities and mobile events shall be governed by the rules herein.
- B. NADD reserves the right to grant, withhold, or revoke an approved event at its own discretion.
- C. NADD reserves the right to change rules, policies, and fees at any time without notice, provided such changes are based on a major safety or competition ruling.
- D. **The last day of the 2024 season will be September 8th, 2024.**
- E. The NADD, AKC, CKC, and any sponsors own all rights to their name, logos, and other trademarks. All of which may not be used without authorization from the owner.

III. RULES OF CONDUCT/SPORTSMANSHIP:

- A. NADD and each independent sanctioned facility reserve the right to refuse service to anyone.
- B. NADD and the sanctioned facility trials are open to all persons and dogs without discrimination (based on race, religion, natural origin, etc.)
- C. A sanctioned facility's decision to refuse service is subject to review by NADD. It will be overturned only where there is compelling evidence that the facility's decision is based on prohibited categories of discrimination (race, religion, natural origin, etc.)
- D. Exhibitors, spectators, and hosting facilities are expected to display good behavior and sportsmanship on and off the dock.
- E. NADD has set forth the following 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.
 - 1. **North America Diving Dogs Standards of Sportsmanship**
 - a) NADD members shall respect the history, traditions, and integrity of the sport of diving dogs.
 - b) NADD members, shall commit themselves to values of fair play, honesty, courtesy, and vigorous competition, as well as winning and losing with grace.
 - c) NADD members shall refuse to compromise their commitment and obligation to the sport of diving dogs by injecting personal advantage or consideration into their decisions or behavior.
 - d) NADD certified judges will only judge based on the results of the dogs and will consider no other factors.
 - e) NADD members shall be willing to accept constructive criticism.
 - f) NADD members should refuse to compromise or question the impartiality of a judge.
 - g) NADD members shall always respect the NADD rules, regulations, and policies governing the sport of diving dogs.

- h) NADD members should find that vigorous competition and mutual civility are consistent attributes and are able to appreciate the merit of their competition and the effort of fellow competitors.
 - i) NADD members should welcome, encourage, and support newcomers to the sport.
 - j) NADD members will deal fairly with all those who interact with them.
 - k) NADD members are willing to share honest and open appraisals of both the strengths and weaknesses of their dogs.
 - l) NADD members spurn any opportunity to take personal advantage of positions offered or bestowed upon them.
 - m) NADD members always consider the welfare of their dog.
 - n) NADD members refuse to embarrass the sport, the hosting facility, NADD, the American Kennel Club, the Canadian Kennel Club, or themselves while taking part in the sport.
2. Any violations of this standard could result in any action from a polite verbal warning, dismissal from an event, up to a suspension from NADD depending on the severity of the occurrence.
 3. Any participant showing abusive behavior towards their dog on or off the dock will be treated as violating our Standards of Sportsmanship. The decision of the sanctioned facility and judge will be final.
 4. 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.
 5. Sportsmanship includes competitors' actions 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 Standards of Sportsmanship mentioned above.
 6. **The NADD Standards of Sportsmanship policy applies to behavior on any social media.** 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 tolerate "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:

- A. **Each competitor may enter events through the NADD portal or onsite.** Event registration will open 10 weeks prior to the events start date. **(may be different for Regionals and Nationals)**
 1. **A dog MAY NOT be preregistered for more than ONE event on the same day but may enter different events on the same weekend.**
 2. **Dogs may compete in ALL splashes offered at an event.**
 3. **Online preregistration will close at 12am on the 14th day before an event begins. You may make changes to your pre-registered splashes up to 11:59PM on the 15th day before the event starts. You may not remove splashes or withdraw once the events preregistration has closed.**
 4. **ALL pre-registered splashes must be paid for at check in.**
 5. **Each pre-registered dog that is not withdrawn prior to the deadline will be counted as a no-show.**
 6. **There is no penalty until a handler earns 3 NO-SHOWS. Upon 3 no-shows, they will lose the privilege of pre-registration.**

- a) If a competitor drops splashes after the closing date or at check-in, they will incur a no-show for that dog.
- b) Splashes can be exchanged for a different splash (i.e., exchanging splash #1 for splash #2) without incurring a no-show or to a different dog within their own household only.
- c) **To avoid a no show, a competitor may pay for all the splashes for which they preregistered without incurring a no-show.** Payment must be received before the close of the event.
 - (1) **Paid for splashes that are not completed must be recorded as a NJ**
- d) For injured or in season dogs, to request a no-show be removed, the owner must submit a veterinarian's note to the event organizer no later than 7 days after the event. The veterinarian's note applies only to the dog referenced, not for all dogs entered by a competitor. **A vet note must be on business letterhead & include dates the dog is unable to compete, veterinary license number and signature.**
- e) For an ill or injured competitor requesting to remove a no-show a doctor's note is required. The doctor's note must be submitted to the event organizer no later than 7 days after the event. **A Dr note must be on business letterhead & include dates handler is unable to compete, Physician license number and signature.**
- f) A competitor may request to have 1 no-show (per year) removed after 1 calendar year has passed. This is done by emailing ops@northamericadivingdogs.com. **Please include dogs name, NADD number, name, and dates of event to be removed.**
- g) Preregistration is a privilege and abuse could result in the suspension of your privileges.

V. TRIALS:

- A. There are 2 standard types of NADD trials.
 - 1. Facility Trials: The sanctioned facility shall charge \$25 (\$28 CAD) per splash for pre- entries. Day of Show entry shall be \$30 (\$32 CAD) per splash. Entry fees are subject to change. Facilities will be notified by NADD if a price change is made. Facilities are responsible for providing refunds under the guidelines of the NADD cancelation policy.
 - 2. Mobile Dock Trials: All mobile dock events will offer pre-registration and day of show entries. Day of Show entries may be a limited number but must be advertised before the event. The mobile dock event shall charge \$30 per splash for both pre-entries and day of show entries. Entry fees are subject to change and may vary for Regional and National Championships events. The mobile dock events shall follow the NADD refund and/or cancellation policy.
- B. ALL Facility & Mobile Trials:
 - a) FACILITY EVENT:
 - (1) **A NADD facility can host up to 2 disciplines each day of their event. Disciplines include Distance, Air Retrieve and Hydrodash. (Distance can be up to 4 distance splashes in a single day). Competitors are not limited to the number of splashes they can do in a weekend at the same event.**
 - (2) Try-its and practice turns will be offered at the discretion of the facility as time and space allow. This information will be posted on the event page.
 - b) MOBILE EVENT:
 - (1) Distance: Any NADD mobile dock event can have up to 4 distance splashes per day and either AR or HD. **Competitors are not limited to the number of splashes they can do in a weekend at the same event.**
 - (2) Try-its and practice turns will be offered at the discretion of the mobile dock as time and space allow. This information will be posted on the event page.
 - (3) Try-its will cost \$10.

VI. GENERAL RULES:

- A. 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.

1. All NADD and sanctioned facility rules must always be obeyed at all times.
 2. Sanctioned facilities may have more facility-specific rules in place. Participants must also abide by those rules during NADD trials.
 3. Every person must sign the waiver(s) before stepping onto the dock, NO exceptions.
- B. The dog MUST jump entirely of its own will without being forced, dropped, or tilted. It must have freedom to move to either jump or not jump. A handler may not crowd, shove, nudge, push and 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. If the judge, facility, or mobile dock operator feels a handler has taken away a dog's choice to jump or not, the following guidelines will be followed.
1. 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.
 2. On the first occurrence, violators will be given one warning immediately.
 3. The second occurrence will result in the handler being disqualified and marked as a non-qualifying jump for the entire Splash, or, if in a practice, asked to leave the dock immediately.
 4. The third occurrence will result in handler being removed from the event, without refund and a letter being sent to NADD administration.
- C. Dogs must be kept on 6 feet or shorter leash. Flexi leashes & long lines are NOT allowed in the NADD competition area.
1. No dogs shall be allowed off-leash in any part of the competition area, except for on the dock or in the water.
 2. Dogs should be kept under close handler control. A safe distance (approx. 8 ft.) must be maintained between all dogs.
- D. If a dog urinates or defecates on any part of the dock, platform, ramps, steps or in the pool, that entire splash will be recorded as a zero (0) and the dog will be asked to leave the dock immediately. If the dog eliminates during a try-it the dog will be asked to leave the dock and the remainder of their time will be forfeit.
- E. Dogs are permitted to wear ONLY the following items on the dock:
1. Flat, and limited slip collars with or without handles.
 2. Dog swim-type suits or life vests that are fitted properly.
 3. Rex specs or Doggles that are fitted properly.
- F. Failure to remove the following items before your dog enters the water will result in a zero (0) for that attempt.
1. Muzzle, choke chain, prong/pinch collar, electronic collars, head collars, or any other types of special training collars.
 2. Harnesses, specialty vests (like a go-pro vest), or any medical type bandages or brace.
 - a) You may place a harness, slip lead, prong, or pinch back on the dog between jumps to assist with set up but must be removed before the dog is allowed to jump.
 - b) 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.

- G. The use of 'training' items is not allowed during NADD 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 only to be used for training and not for competition. Any items placed on the surface of the dock that are used for the dog to mark or target are not allowed during NADD events.
- H. **Humans are not allowed in the pool except to offer physical support to their dog if necessary. If a handler needs to offer support to get their dog out of the pool, it may be via the ramp only.** NADD is not liable for any injury caused by a handler entering the pool at any time.
- I. Females in season will not be permitted at a NADD competition or in the competition area.
- J. Owners are responsible for picking up after their dog(s). Failure to comply could result in dismissing a handler/dog team from the remainder of the trial. No refunds will be issued.
- K. Dogs that show signs of aggressive behavior towards humans and/or other dogs will be considered aggressive, whether provoked or unprovoked. Acts of aggression can result in any action from a verbal warning, dismissal from an event, up to banning the handler and/or dog permanently from any future NADD trials. Any dog or handler that is removed from the event will not be given a refund.
 - 1. NADD defines an aggressive dog as 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.
 - 2. If an act of aggression is reported or witnessed, NADD will investigate and decide based on all the evidence of the incident. A review will be conducted and could result in suspension from all NADD future events. All NADD decisions are final.
 - 3. In the event of an aggressive dog incident, it is the responsibility of the facility or mobile dock to report it directly and immediately to NADD, regardless of the outcome or result.
 - 4. 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 forfeit.
- L. NADD offers two basic types of event formats: **(check event details for event format)**
 - 1. OPEN SPLASH EVENT FORMAT (Jump Card): Are run as follows:
 - a) 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 and choose an available time to compete. A competitor can only compete in the number of splashes offered for each day.
 - b) 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.
 - 2. CLOSED SPLASH EVENT FORMAT: (Judges sheets) Are run as follows:
 - a) Set splash times and pre-registration splash limits.
 - b) All participants must check in with admin at least 30 minutes before their splash. Failure to check in at least 30 minutes prior may result in a change or forfeiture of the splash assigned.
 - c) A handlers meeting may be held 15 minutes before each splash or at the beginning of the day at the discretion of the event organizer. It shall include the final running order, the competition rules, and any other announcements.
 - d) It is the competitor's responsibility to be present at the time of check-in for each splash. Missing a splash time may be a forfeiture of that splash.
- M. At all STANDARD NADD events, each competitor will be given 3 minutes per splash to take 1 OPTIONAL practice (must be first jump), 2 Competition jumps.

N. REFUND POLICY:

1. 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 event venue.
2. Entry fees will NOT be refunded if a dog refuses to jump or misses all available competition times.
3. For injured or in season dogs, the owner must submit a veterinarian's note (on letterhead) to the event organizer no later than 7 days after the event. The veterinarian's note applies only to the dog referenced, not for all dogs entered or shown by a competitor.
4. For an ill or injured competitor, a doctor's note is required. The doctor's note must be submitted to the event organizer no later than 7 days after the event.
5. If other circumstances, such as family emergencies, refund may be awarded for missed splashes by the issuing event host, at the host's discretion only.

O. INCLEMENT WEATHER:

1. 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.
2. Outdoor trials must stop for any lightning within 10 miles. Trial can resume once lightning has subsided for 30 min.
3. If the event can be rescheduled, all paid entries will be honored. No refunds will be given.

VII. DOGS:

- A. To enter a trial, a dog must be registered and have a registration number with NADD. A NADD registration number can be applied for from our website, at a facility or mobile event. NADD registration 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.)
1. Any dog of any breed, size, or mix may participate in a NADD trial.
 2. As an organization, NADD is not a breed registry. We do not classify or determine dog's breeds. All breeds are welcome to play. NADD offers a Best of Breed award for the top ranked dog of each breed (must be verified as that breed.) in Distance discipline only. Breed verification is solely determined by the handler submitting an approved breed registry number (AKC, AKC PAL, CKC, UKC, etc.).
 3. 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.
- B. Dogs must be visibly in good health and condition to compete. Dogs that appear to be lame, injured, and ill or dogs with sutures, bandages, braces, 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. If a dog has been under medical care, they must show a release to compete from the veterinarian.
- C. 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 January 15th, 2021, could start competing on July 15th). Dogs less than 6 months old may practice and do try-its.
- D. Competing dogs must be current on vaccinations and the owner shall carry written proof of current rabies vaccinations.
- E. Dogs that are deformed, amputee, deaf, or blind may participate in the competition but must be able to safely perform jumps and exit the pool. Any dog with 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 needs dog

VIII. JUDGES:

- A. By entering a NADD event, the owner and handler of any dog agree to accept the decision of the judge as final.
- B. No person may interfere with the judge in any way while he/she is judging a splash.
- C. All judges must be certified and approved by NADD.
- D. The Manual Judging System will be used. The judge will eyeball the distance where 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.
- E. NADD will not allow "instant replay" type reviews of jumps. **Once a judge records a score it is final.**
- F. To keep all NADD 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.
- G. 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. If 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.
- H. The judge should 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 judge every dog in an entire splash. There will be certified judges sharing the judging responsibilities at these trials.) Each judge's dog will compete during the set splash time for the splash it is entered in.
- I. The judge will sign or initial each splash sheet or jump card that they judged.
- J. At any time, and at its own discretion, NADD may disqualify a judge from judging at an event.

IX. HANDLER:

- A. 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.
- B. 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 may not turn 17 years old on or before **the end of the season** for the given year.
- C. 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 may be allowed to throw the toy from beside the pool.)
- D. NADD allows verbal support in the form of cheering, calling the dog's name, waving arms, etc, as long as they are at least 10ft away from the pool. Throwing a toy or splashing water from outside the pool to get the dog to jump during a competitive splash is not allowed. This is considering double-handling and will result in the same violation status as "sandbagging" listed below.
- E. For HD, it is acceptable for a second person to be standing still on the ground at the far end of the pool only, cheering for the dog. This person is considered the second handler. They may not wave a toy, lure the dog with any object or splash the water. Due to safety issues, they **MAY NOT** run or walk down the side of the pool encouraging the dog to swim faster and they must stay at the end of the pool until the splash is finished.

- F. A dog has 3 minutes to complete the optional practice and 2 competition jumps. The 3-minute time period begins once the handler and dog are both on the dock. Time will stop when either the dog completes its 2 judged jumps, or 3 minutes has elapsed. If time ends before the dogs last foot leaves the dock, the jump will not count. The dog must attempt both judged jumps and may not pass on the 2nd attempt unless an injury has occurred. If the handler has exhaustively attempted to get their dog to jump and the dog has refused, the judge, at their discretion, may allow the dog to exit the dock prior to the end of 3 minutes.
- G. An 'attempt' is defined as any time the dog entering the water regardless of being sent by the handler or success of the attempt. In AR/HD, if the rig or timer are not ready it will be recorded as a Miss in AR or 0.000 in HD. Distance will be scored by distance rules.
- H. Both dog and handler must stay on the dock/pool during their turn. If both handlers and/or dog leave the dock/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 will be recorded as a Zero (0) for that Splash. A 'turn' is considered from the time both dog and handler enter the dock via the gate until they have completed their final attempt for that splash or time expires. (At a pond this will be different) If two handlers are on the dock, one of the handlers may leave the dock without ending the turn, but one handler MUST remain on the dock for the entire turn.
1. For HD, a second handler at the end of the pool must stay in place until the dog stops time on their final run.
- I. The handler throwing the toy is considered the handler of record.
- J. Handlers may compete with multiple dogs in a splash. An individual dog may be entered in each splash only once.
- K. A throwing object (toy) may be used to entice the dog to jump, but it is not required. It is not required that the dog retrieve the object to receive a qualifying score. Any object that is thrown must meet the following requirements:
1. The object must float.
 2. The object cannot be food based and it cannot dissolve.
 3. It cannot be a living or dead animal or animal parts.
 4. Non-thrown objects such as squirt guns, water in buckets, remote controlled toys, etc. are prohibited.
- L. No food or treats are allowed on the dock at any time.
- M. A handler may have no more than 2 toys on the dock during a competition splash.
- N. If a toy is thrown, and the dog does not jump in to retrieve it, the toy will be returned ONE time per jump attempt to the handler for a reset. If the handler needs the toy returned a second time during the first jump attempt, it will result in a zero (0) score for the first jump attempt, and they will move immediately into their second jump attempt.
- O. If a toy is thrown out of the pool and the dog does not jump in to retrieve it, the toy will be returned ONE time per jump attempt for a reset. If the handler needs the toy returned a second time during the first jump attempt, it will result in a zero (0) score for the first jump attempt, and they will move immediately into their second jump attempt.
- P. It is the handler's responsibility in both Distance jumps and Air Retrieve to have a helper to retrieve the toy. The NADD judges or AR rig operators will not throw or retrieve the toy for them.
- X. FACILITIES:**
- A. Only approved facilities may hold NADD trials.
1. Each NADD facility is an independently owned and operated entity. They will each have their own rules and policies for dealing with complaints and issues. As long as those policies are not in direct contrast to NADD events rules, NADD is not able to have any influence over those rule.

XI. EQUIPMENT:

- A. All equipment must be approved by NADD prior to the trial.
1. Pool: The walls of the pool should be 4 feet tall with a minimum water level of 38" in depth. New pools should be at least 21' x 45' 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.
 2. Dock: The dock used must be of sturdy construction. **The dock must be minimum of 40 feet long by 7.5 feet wide.** The dock must have a barrier around it to prevent dogs from jumping off the dock to the ground. The surface must have AstroTurf, 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 surface of the dock must sit 2 feet above the surface of the water.
 - a. 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.
 - b. 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 facility@northamericadivingdogs.com. NADD will immediately investigate and make determinations to any reported unsafe issues.

XII. CLASS & DIVISIONS:

- A. NADD has developed the following classes of competition:
1. Open Class: This class is open to all dogs 16" and over at the withers.
 2. Lap Class: This class is for all dogs under 16" at the withers.
 - a. If a dog is under the 16" measurement, they must compete as a Lap Dog.
 - b. If a dog is not obviously under 16", it will be placed in the Open division until it has been officially measured by a **NADD Certified Measurement Judge (CMJ)** or presents an AKC or CKC agility height card as height verification.
 - c. **Only NADD CMJs may record a dog's verified height.**
 - d. All unverified lap dogs must be measured by the judge prior to jumping at each event, with an approved wicket. The measurement is from the top point of the shoulder (withers) down to the ground while standing in its "natural stance." Owner may not hold or bait the dog during measurement.
 - e. **Dogs 2 years and older must be measured for a final height by a NADD CMJ. Any final measurement of 15 1/2" and above will require 2 different measurements by 2 different NADD CMJs.**
 - f. **If your dog is under 2 year and breed standard is 16" or above, you must enter your dog in open. If your dog measures under 16" at 2yrs by a CMJ, you will be moved to lap.**
 - g. **For any dog requesting a change to LAP status, dog must be 2 yrs old and have their height verified by 2 different NADD CMJ.**
 3. Veteran Class: This class is for dogs 8 and over. Veteran classes are only offered at Regionals, and National Championship.
 - a. **An owner may request to move a veteran class dog back to the open class. You may request 1 change per dog per season. Class will be reset at the beginning of the season.**
- B. 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. Dogs with a permanent AKC agility height card may not be challenged.
1. The procedure to file a challenge will be:
 - a. 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.
 - (1) 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.
 - b. Once the challenge is received, NADD will set an opportunity to have the dog

measured.

- (2) This challenge measurement must be overseen by a NADD Senior Official, a NADD Certified Measuring Judge and fully video recorded.
 - (3) The dog will be measured twice to verify the height.
 - (4) The measurements and the video will be submitted to NADD and a FINAL height will be recorded.
- c. Once a dog has had one challenge completed, it will be marked on their record, and they are NOT eligible to be challenged again.

XIII. DISTANCE JUMPING:

- A. A splash consists of 1 optional practice and 2 judged jumps.
- B. The judge will **record** a scored distance for each qualifying jump. A qualifying jump is when the dog enters the water from the dock, regardless of the toy being thrown. 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 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.
- C. In an event such as a Facility Finals, a tie for final placement will be determined by the next highest splash of the event.
- D. 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.
- E. If the dog enters the water from the ramp or stairs during their competition jumps, it will be scored as a **zero (0)**. If one jump is completed by entering from the ramp or stairs and the other jump in the splash is completed by entering the water from the dock, the score from the dock will be the official score of record.
- F. 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, and has not already taken a voluntary practice jump, the non-cued/released jump will be considered a practice jump and the handler will continue with competition jumps. If a dog has already taken a practice jump and/or repeats this behavior, it will count as an official jump and be scored accordingly.
- G. 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".
 1. Upon the 1st violation, the handler will be warned verbally in a private and positive manner.
 2. The 2nd occurrence will result in the handler being disqualified from that Splash and the dog will receive a **zero (0)** for that Splash.
 3. The 3rd occurrence will result in the handler being removed from the trial and a letter being sent to NADD administration.

- H. Awards:
1. After the completion of a splash, the sanctioned facility or mobile dock will award each handler/dog team a qualifying ribbon for a qualifying jump.
 2. Each ribbon will have the required NADD logo.
 3. For all title rosettes, the NADD logo will be in the center (button) of the rosette.
 4. Facilities may choose to offer placement ribbons per splash or for finals.
 5. 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.
- I. A dog's Season Average is determined by averaging the highest 15 scores in the season. A dog's **RECENT average is determined by averaging the most recent 15 jumps. (this is a rolling season average)**

| 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. – 27 ft. 11 in | Elite | 18 ft. and above |
| Premier DP | 28 ft. and above | | |

- J. Division Titles:
1. 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 accumulating 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
 - f. DP – Dock Premier (Open Only)
- K. Advanced Division Titles:
1. 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
 - f. DPA – Dock Premier Advanced (Open Only)
- L. Excellent Division Titles
1. An Excellent (X) can be earned once you have earned an Advanced (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
 - f. DPX – Dock Premier Excellent (Open only)
- M. 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.

- N. Qualifying jumps will accumulate within a division. You must earn the Division title before earning a higher title of Advanced (A) or Excellent (X).
- O. The higher-level titles will supersede lower titles on a dog's record.
 - 1. A dog can earn 2 Advanced Titles such as a DNA and a DJA, but the higher title will supersede the lower title.
 - 2. A dog can earn an Advanced Title and an Excellent Title, but the higher title will supersede the lower title.
 - 3. A dog can earn two Excellent Titles such as a DNX and a DJX, the higher title will be the title of record.
 - 4. A dog that earns his second Excellent within a division, the DJX will be replaced with a DJX2 for the title of record.

XIV. 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 and must use the NADD approved clips.
- B. The bumper for the Air Retrieve must be the approved NADD bumper and have both ends to attach it to the Air Retrieve clips.
- C. Competitor toys are not allowed to be used during any competition in place of the approved NADD bumper provided by the facility.
- D. The dog can start at any distance on the dock.
- E. Two handlers are allowed on the dock in Air Retrieve.
- F. Handlers are allowed two (2) toys on the dock that can be used to lure a dog back. **NADD's AR toys may not be dropped from the rig or tossed from the side of the pool.**
- G. 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 in 1-foot increments. All AR jumps will move in 1-foot increments; this includes attempts at World Records.
- H. A dog can pass as often and as many times as the handler wishes during a regular competition. A dog cannot pass on an attempt during a Finals, Qualifier, Regional, or the National Championship.
- I. The dog will be scored with a grab (G) or a miss (M). A "grab" is achieved when the dog completely removes the bumper from the clips during their jump from the dock only. If the bumper comes completely free from the clips during the jump, the dog moves on to the next distance. An attempt is considered a "miss" when the bumper is still attached to one or both of the clips at the conclusion of the jump attempt.
- J. If the bumper falls directly as a result of the dog's jump, it will be considered a "grab" as long as the bumper falls before the dog establishes itself going back up the ramp out the pool. If a touched bumper falls after the turn is over, it will count as a "miss". After entering the water for their jump attempt, a dog in the pool grabbing the bumper from the clips will count as a miss.
- K. Each dog gets 2 chances at each distance until they have 2 misses at one distance or 3 overall misses, whichever occurs first. The handler/dog team will get 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 on their third overall miss, regardless of position at the time of occurrence.
- L. Each handler may choose their starting attempt at a distance NO LOWER than 2 feet below their dogs Recent Average. **This is a rolling average which will begin with the first earned score and continue to include the last 3 most recent scores. Starting distance 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, at or above the minimum required distance.**
- M. At standard events (not including special events, Regionals or the National Championship), each dog will be allowed 1 practice jump immediately before their start in an AR round. This practice jump can be at any distance above their minimum for their height division, on the foot marker, and either a grab or miss will count as the practice attempt.

- N. 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.
- O. Each dog has 45 seconds to make an attempt. That time starts when the **judge or rig operator gives a verbal acknowledgement**.
1. If a dog does not jump and times out, 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.
 2. If a dog misses and won't come out of the pool around under the bumper, the handler can request that the rig operator move the bumper out away from over the pool. The handler must either call the dog back or use a toy to lure the dog back. **Once the dog has established itself on the ramp (4 feet on the ramp), the bumper will be reset. Once the bumper is reset, regardless of the dogs' position, the judge or rig operator will give a verbal acknowledge that the rig is ready, and time will begin for the next attempt.**
- P. The handler may choose to take ONE 30 second break during their AR turn. During this break, they will stay on the dock. The handler must call for the break before the dog reaches the dock. Breaks called after this point has will not be granted.
- Q. The qualifying score will be the last **successful attempt** the dog had at a given distance.
- R. The handler may choose to withdraw their dog during an AR competition except when the next jump attempt would qualify the dog in a higher division. This will be marked as a Voluntary Withdrawal in the system. If the Voluntary Withdrawal happens at a Qualifier, Regional or the National Championship, that round of competing will NOT count in calculating final placements or invites. During each competition season, a dog will only be permitted 3 Voluntary Withdrawals. After the dog reaches 3, any further Voluntary Withdrawals will result in a **zero (0)** for that Splash.
- S. If there is a tie in the placements at special events, Qualifiers, Regionals, the National Championship, or Facility Finals, tie breaker procedures will be followed in order as listed below.
1. For special events, Qualifiers and Regional events, tie breakers are run as follows:
 - a. The dog with the least number of overall misses will be the higher placement.
 - b. If both dogs have the same number of overall misses, the higher placement will be given to the dog with the greater distance of their first miss.
 - c. If after (a) and (b) above still result in a tie, the dog with the higher recent average at the time of the attempt that created the tie will win the placement.
 - d. If after (a), (b) and (c) above still result in a tie, the dog with the higher season average will win the placement.
 - e. There are no jump-offs at qualifier events. If, after the above are exhausted and the dogs are still tied, each dog involved in the tie will receive the same placement and/or qualifying invitation.
 - f. For special events and Regionals, if, after the above are exhausted and the dogs are still tied, a jump-off may occur.
 - g. Facility Finals may run jump-offs at their discretion.
 2. For the National Championship, tiebreakers will be run as follows:

- a. The dog with the least number of overall misses will be the higher placement.
 - b. If both dogs have the same number of overall misses, the higher placement will be given to the dog with the greater distance of their first miss.
 - c. If after (a) and (b) above still result in a tie the dog with the higher Season Average on from the season that just ended.
 - d. If (a), (b), and (c) above have been exhausted and dogs are still tied, then a jump-off may occur.
3. AR jump-off procedure:
- a. The jump-off procedure will only take place after the appropriate tie breaker procedures listed above have been exhausted and there is still a tie. Any jumps completed during the AR jump-off procedure are for the sole purpose of breaking a tie and WILL NOT COUNT towards any NADD official scores. The AR jump-off procedure should only be used as referenced in the above paragraphs.
 - b. Any dogs still tied after the tie breaker procedures have been exhausted will meet with the judge. The judge will request each handler privately submit a jump-off attempt distance for their dog to make a single jump attempt.
 - a. The requirements for the jump-off attempt distances are as follows:
 - (a) The handler cannot pick a distance greater than the farthest distance the dog attempted at that event.
 - (b) The jump-off attempt 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.
 - (c) Jump-off attempt distances may be made at any 3-inch increments.
 - (d) Once all handlers have privately submitted distances, the judge will announce the jump-off attempt distances. The dog with the farthest jump-off attempt distance will go first and all other tied dogs will each get to make an attempt at their selected jump-off attempt distance in descending order.
 - (e) Placements will be determined first by the furthest distance grabs and followed by the furthest attempt misses.
 - (f) In the event two tied dogs have picked the same jump-off attempt distance and both make successful grabs, they will repeat the jump-off procedure from the beginning until a winner is determined.

XV. AIR RETRIEVE CLASS, DIVISIONS & TITLES:

- A. A handler/dog team can earn one qualifying grab towards a division title based on their longest grab in an Air Retrieve competition.
 1. A Division title is earned by accumulating five (5) qualifying grabs within one division. AN - Air Retrieve Novice
 2. AJ - Air Retrieve Junior
 3. AS - Air Retrieve Senior
 4. AM - Air Retrieve Master
 5. AE - Air Retrieve Elite
- B. 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.
 1. ANA - Air Retrieve Novice Advanced
 2. AJA - Air Retrieve Junior Advanced
 3. ASA - Air Retrieve Senior Advanced
 4. AMA - Air Retrieve Master Advanced
 5. AEA - Air Retrieve Elite Advanced
- C. Excellent (X) - can be earned once you have earned an Advanced (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.

1. ANX - Air Retrieve Novice Excellent
 2. AJX - Air Retrieve Junior Excellent
 3. ASX - Air Retrieve Senior Excellent
 4. AMX - Air Retrieve Master Excellent
 5. AEX - Air Retrieve Elite Excellent
- D. Once an Excellent title is achieved an additional 10 qualifying scores within a division will earn a numerical number after the X. For example: Air Retrieve Novice Excellent - ANX2, ANX3, etc.
 - E. Qualifying grabs will accumulate within a division. You must earn the Division title before earning a higher title of Advanced (A) or Excellent (X).
 - F. A dog can earn two Advanced Titles such as ANA and AJA, but the higher title of AJA will prevail. It will be the title of record.
 - G. A dog can earn an Advanced 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.
 - H. A dog can earn two Excellent Titles such as ANX and AJX. The higher title will be the title of record.
 - I. A dog that earns his second Excellent within a division, the AJX will be replaced with AJX2 for the title of record.
 - J. This system of recording was developed so that every qualifying grab that a handler/dog team does counts towards one of the above titles.

| 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 |

XVI. HYDRO DASH:

The Hydro Dash rig must be approved by NADD prior to use and must use the NADD approved clips.

- A. The bumper for the Hydro Dash must be the approved NADD bumper and have both ends to attach it to the Hydro Dash clips. The bumper will be hung at the 37ft mark of the pool. The bumper will hang 1 inch above the surface of the water.
- B. Competitor toys are not allowed to be used during any competition in place of the approved NADD bumper provided by the facility.
- C. During each Splash, a dog gets 2 turns back-to-back. Once the bumper is in position and ready, the judge or rig operator will give a verbal acknowledgement that the rig is ready, and the 30 sec time will begin for the next attempt. Failing to enter the water before the 30 seconds will be scored as an zero (0) and time for next attempt (if any remain) will start immediately.
- D. The Dog's back feet must be entirely in front of the 10ft line for Open dogs and 7ft for Lap dogs. If any of the dog's feet cross behind the 10/7-foot line (depending on dog's height class) the dog

must come to a full halt on the correct side of the 10/7-foot line before entering the pool. Failing to do so will be scored as a **zero (0)** for that attempt.

- E. At any time **before the dog enters the water**, the handler on the dock can request that the rig operator splash the water (3 quick splashes). Handler is allowed 1 splash request per attempt.
- F. The judge/timer should be positioned at the 10ft line on the measurement banners and will start the timer when the dog's last foot leaves the surface of the dock and end when their nose crosses the 10ft line. They have 39.999 seconds for open dogs and 49.999 seconds for Lap dogs to complete their HD attempt before timing out.
- G. A toy may be used on the dock to entice the dog to swim faster toward the 10-foot line on return. A toy may only be thrown in the water once the HD attempt is complete (stopped time by passing the 10-foot line on return or timed out) to lure the dog back to the ramp.
- H. **Once time has stopped and the dog has established themselves on the ramp (4 feet touching the ramp), the bumper will be replaced**, and the dog will be reset to repeat the entire process. If the bumper was not displaced, time for the next attempt (if any remain) will start when the dog establishes themselves on the ramp.
- I. The official time should be written as XX.xxx seconds and judged with a stopwatch. The stopwatch must give 3 digits of seconds or 1/1000 of a second.
- J. Dog must release the bumper completely from both clips. The dog is not required to retrieve the bumper.
- K. Each HD turn is considered ended once the dog passes the 10ft line on the return, touches the ramp during the splash or times out.
- L. If a dog does not make an attempt within the allotted time, that turn will be scored as a 0.000 and the 30 sec attempt time will reset for the next attempt, or it will end their turn if this was the second attempt.
- M. A second handler can be standing still on the ground at the far end of the pool. They may not wave a toy or lure the dog with any object. The second handler **MAY NOT** touch the water or pool. They **MAY NOT** run or walk down the side of the pool encouraging the dog to swim faster.
 - a. Photographers and spectators should not be in motion within ten feet of the pool during a HD run.

XVII. HYDRO DASH CLASS, DIVISIONS & TITLES:

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

| Hydro Dash Jump Divisions | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------|-----------|---------------|
| Open Class | | Lap Class | |
| Novice | 21.000-39.999 | Novice | 27.000-49.999 |
| Junior | 18.000-20.999 | Junior | 23.000-26.999 |
| Senior | 16.000-17.999 | Senior | 20.000-22.999 |
| Master | 14.000-15.999 | Master | 18.000-19.999 |
| Elite | 0.001-13.999 | Elite | 0.001-17.999 |

- B. A Division title is earned by accumulating five (5) qualifying grabs within one division.
 - 1. HDN – Hydro Dash Novice
 - 2. HDJ – Hydro Dash Junior
 - 3. HDS – Hydro Dash Senior
 - 4. HDM – Hydro Dash Master
 - 5. HDE – Hydro Dash Elite

- C. 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.
 1. HDNA – Hydro Dash Novice Advanced
 2. HDJA – Hydro Dash Junior Advanced
 3. HDSA – Hydro Dash Senior Advanced
 4. HDMA – Hydro Dash Master Advanced
 5. HDEA – Hydro Dash Elite Advanced
- D. Excellent (X) - can be earned once you have earned an Advanced (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.
 1. HDNX – Hydro Dash Novice Excellent
 2. HDJX – Hydro Dash Junior Excellent
 3. HDSX – Hydro Dash Senior Excellent
 4. HDMX – Hydro Dash Master Excellent
 5. HDEX – Hydro Dash Elite Excellent
- E. 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.
- F. Qualifying grabs will accumulate within a division. You must earn the Division title before earning a higher title of Advanced (A) or Excellent (X).
- G. A dog can earn two Advanced Titles such as HDNA and HDJA but the higher title of HDJA will prevail. It will be the title of record.
- H. A dog can earn an Advanced 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.
- I. A dog can earn two Excellent Titles such as HDNX and HDJX. The higher will be a title of record.
- J. A dog that earns his second Excellent within a division, the HDJX will be replaced with HDJX2 for the title of record.
- K. This system of recording was developed so that every qualifying grab that a handler/dog team does counts towards one of the above titles.

XVII. PLACEMENTS:

- A. 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 given at these trials.
- B. 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 trial.
- C. 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).

XVIII. NADD QUALIFIER EVENTS:

- A. At any of the NADD Regionals Qualifying Events (Mobile or Facility) throughout the season, a dog must have a minimum of 3 distance jumps at that event to qualify to earn an invite.
 1. Invites will be given to the TOP 3 scoring dogs in each Open, Veteran or Lap division.
 2. Invites will roll down if the higher finishing dog entered the event with an invite prior to the event opening.
 3. For distance, the average is calculated by the TOP 3 jumps from that event.
 4. For AR, it is the best round of AR at that event.
 5. For HD, it is the fastest round of HD at that event.

XIX. NADD RIBBON STANDARDS:

- A. Standard Qualifying Ribbons must be a 2" by 8" blue strip ribbon with the NADD logo on it.
- B. All rosettes for title/advanced/excellent must have the NADD logo in the button of the rosette. All rosettes are limited to 3 streamers.
- C. Division (first) title (5 jumps title) is a 4" rosette with (3) 9" streamers. Streamer colors will be blue (left), green (middle) and red (right).

- D. Advanced – A minimum of a 4” rosette and no larger than a 5½” rosette with a minimum of 9” and maximum of 18” on the (3) streamers. Must have the words ‘Advanced Title’ on it. Colors of streamers may be set by facility.
- E. Excellent – A minimum of a 4” rosette and no larger than a 6½” rosette with a minimum of 9” and maximum of 28” on the (3) streamers. Must have the words ‘Excellent Title’ on it. Colors of streamers may be set by facility.

XX. JR. HANDLER PROGRAM:

- A. Jr. Handler must be listed as a Jr Handler on the dogs NADD registration.
- B. Only applies to Regionals and National Championships
- C. Youth must be no older than 17 on the last day of the current season.
- D. Must enter at least 1 Jr. Handler Regional Event to qualify to enter the Jr. Handler National Championship event.
 - 6. Must have 10 recorded splashes as handler of record with the dog they are competing with at Regionals to enter that regional event.
 - 7. Jr.Handler is responsible for keeping a record of their splashes with a signature verification by a facility or judge where the splashes took place. See attached form.

XXI. NADD H.AR.D. CHARGER AWARD:

- A. H.AR.D, Charger is an acronym for the three disciplines NADD offers its competitors. Hydro Dash, Air Retrieve and Distance. The H.AR.D. Charger Award is for dogs that are competing in all three disciplines and will be a recognition award for Nationals in 2023 as a pilot program.
- B. When a competitor competes in all 3 disciplines at one event, they will accumulate a set number of points for the highest qualifying score in each discipline: Hydro Dash, Air Retrieve and Distance. Those points will then be combined to place your dog in a division, based on the total points accumulated. Like an Iron Man event. The divisions will be lowest to highest: Topaz, Ruby, Emerald, Sapphire & Diamond
- C. Since this is a new award program, award divisions are subject to adjustment as we roll out the H.AR.D Charge award program.
- D. Dogs will receive an award for their placement at Nationals this year (2023) for the Top 3 in each H.AR.D. Division, including lap dogs. More info to follow as this recognition award rolls out for the 2024 season.
- E. Dogs must earn a qualifying score in all three disciplines to be eligible for the H.AR.D. Charger at the event they are participating in.

XXII. 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 or mobile dock 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), CKC, Antinol, 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 officially property of NADD 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) am solely responsible for reading, understanding, and following all NADD rules.

I hereby grant to NADD, AKC (AKC.tv), CKC, Antinol, 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) CKC, or Antinol chooses. I also hereby grant to NADD, AKC (AKC.tv), Antinol 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.

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