



2021 Australian Nationals Eligibility Criteria and Information Sheet

The Qualifying period for Nationals is January 1, 2020 through to August 1 2021.

All points earned at NADAC sanctioned trials and via the Australian Video Tape program count towards eligibility criteria.

Eligibility criteria only applies towards entry to Challenge Stakes, Challenge Elite and Challenge Pre-Elite (i.e. all Regular Agility classes)

Eligibility criteria does not apply to general entry classes (i.e. Chances, Jumpers, Gamblers, Touch N Go, Tunnelers, Weavers, Hoopers and Barrelers classes). Offering General entry classes ensures that all NADAC exhibitors across all levels can experience the Nationals. General entry courses will be as you would see on a normal weekend trial and scored just as they are normally scored at a normal weekend trial.

Challenge Stakes Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for entry into Challenge Stakes the dog must meet all of the Challenge Elite eligibility criteria and have earned at least five bonus sequences. Please see attached course map demonstrating a course with multiple bonus sequences. Successful bonus sequences may be earned on one given run or across many runs and many courses.

Scoring will be similar to Challenge Elite but will include bonus points.

Challenge Elite Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for entry into Challenge Elite the dog must meet the following criteria:

1. The dog must be eligible for the Elite Regular Class (i.e. they must have their Open level Regular agility Title – OAC or OAS)
2. The dog must have earned at least 70 points in the current qualifying year from the Regular Agility class
3. At least 30 of the 70 points must come from either the Elite or Open level of the Regular agility class. The remaining 40 of the 70 points can come from any level of the Regular agility class.
4. If the dog is age 7 they may enter the Veteran Division.
5. If the dog is 9 or older on the first day of the Nationals, they **MUST** enter Veterans.

Special Note: If your dog has their Open Title (OAC or OAS) and has earned the 30 points in either the Open/Elite level Regular agility Class but despite your best efforts has not quite made the total of 70 points, please consider your options via second chance entry.

What to expect in Challenge Elite

- Longer courses. The average length of courses will be in the 22-24 obstacle range, with some rounds going up to 28 obstacles.
- Consistently challenging design. While all NADAC courses have some element of difficulty, some may be easier (for certain dogs and handlers) than others. At Nationals, the courses will all lean more towards the more difficult.
- Full set of obstacle challenges in each round. While some rounds may have a theme, such as the Jumpers round or Touch n Go round, each and every round will generally have the full set of equipment tests on course.

- Distance tests. These tests are NOT bonus lines. But they will typically be a sequence of 2-5 obstacles where you are can stay behind the line, similar to Chances. This line will be anywhere between 10-20 feet away from the farthest obstacle in the test.
- If the handler successfully completes the distance challenge, they will be awarded 10 bonus points

Challenge Pre-Elite Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for entry into Challenge Pre-Elite the dog must meet the following criteria:

1. The dog must be eligible for the Open Regular Class (i.e. they must have their Novice level Regular agility Title – NAC or NAS)
2. The dog must have earned at least 70 points in the current qualifying year from the Regular Agility class. At least 30 of the 70 points must come from either the Open or Novice level of the Regular agility class. The remaining 40 of the 70 points can come from any level of the Regular agility class
3. If the dog is age 7 they may enter the Veteran Division.
4. If the dog is 9 or older on the first day of the Nationals, they MUST enter Veterans.
5. If the dog has earned their Elite Agility Title certificate (EAC or EAS) they will be moved from Pre-Elite Challenge to Elite Challenge as they have demonstrated that they have Elite level skills and we wish to ensure that Pre-Elite is preserved for dogs who are clearly Pre-Elite.

Special Note: If your dog has their Novice Title (NAC or NAS) and has earned the 30 points in either the Open/Novice level Regular agility Class but despite your best efforts has not quite made the total of 70 points, please consider your options via second chance entry.

What to expect in Challenge Pre-Elite

- Courses similar to an Elite level challenge. Dogs should be comfortable doing a full set of 12 weave poles, multiple or more contact performances and challenges than one may expect to see at a normal weekend trial Elite level course. There will not be ever more than 12 weave poles at one time.
- Shorter courses than the Elite Division.
- Distance tests. These tests are NOT bonus lines. But they will typically be a sequence of 2-5 obstacles where you are can stay behind the line, similar to Chances. This line will be anywhere between 10-20 feet away from the farthest obstacle in the test.
- If the handler successfully completes the distance challenge, they will be awarded 10 bonus points

Scoring for both Challenge Elite and Challenge Pre-Elite

Scoring is done on a time plus faults system.

For each round the dog is given a base number which is determined by dog's height at shoulder and may be adjusted in relation to course difficulty.

Scoring is then a two-step process.

Step 1 is to determine the dogs Base point score:

$$BN - (DT + CF - BP) = BPS$$

Step 2 is to determine the dogs score for the run:

$$(BPS/BN) \times 100 = RS$$

Key: BN=Dogs base number, DT=Dogs Time, CF=Course Faults, BP=Bonus points, BPS=Base point Score, RS=Score for the run

For example:

Based on the dogs height at shoulder they are given 145 as their Base number (BN)

They run the course in 45.65 seconds (DT) and have no course faults (CF) and they successfully complete the distance test and earn the 10 bonus points.

$$145 - (45.65 + 0 - 10) = 109.35$$

$$(109.35/145) \times 100 = 75.41$$

Therefore, the dog earns 75.41 for the run.

This number is used to determine the dogs placing for that run. The number is also added to the dogs overall cumulative score to determine the overall Challenge Champion.

The scoring formulae facilitate an even "playing field" so that dogs across all heights can fairly compete against one another.

NB: Challenge Stakes will use the same scoring formulae but there will be a minimum number of points that must be earned in order to earn excellent rounds and Challenge Stakes Champion Cup. This will be determined based on the entries into Challenge Stakes.

Second Chance Entry

If the event does not reach capacity then second chance entry will be offered for Challenge Elite or Challenge Pre-Elite.

Second chance entry is recommended for those who have almost met the eligibility criteria. If you are close to meeting the criteria and you wish to be considered for second chance entry you should submit your entry. These entries will be processed in order of receipt until such time as we reach our entry limit.

Finals

- Challenge Stakes – all entered dogs will compete in the finals round
- Challenge Elite – all entered dogs who finish in the top 40% will compete in the finals round.
- Challenge Pre-Elite – all entered dogs who finish in the top 40% will compete in the finals round.

Misc. Info

- The dogs scoring height is based upon the dogs height at shoulder
- Base number points is determined by dogs scoring height and any course difficulty adjustments
- The dogs jump height is based upon normal trial weekend determinations. (i.e. Category and Division adjustments to lower jump heights).
- There are 3 scoring heights based on shoulder height (X-large = over 22 inches, Large = Over 18 inches and up to an including 22 inches, Medium = Over 14 and up to an including 18 inches, Small = Over 11 inches and up to and including 14 inches, Mini= Under 11 inches)

Team Event

All dogs who enter all rounds of Jumpers, Hoopers and Tunnelers are eligible to enter a special Team event. Each team comprises 3 dogs and can be entered into any level.

Scoring is a time plus faults system based on a similar formulae used in Challenge scoring.

The team with the highest cumulative score once all rounds of Jumpers, Hoopers and Tunnelers are completed will be the winning team.

