



Australian Nationals Qualification and Info Sheet

October 6-9 2022

The Australian Nationals consists of two trials running concurrently. The main event is Challenge entry to determine Champions in Stakes, Elite and Pre-Elite in Australia. Challenge is based on the Regular agility class. The General entry event is in effect like a regular weekend NADAC trial with the main difference being it is run during the Nationals and so exhibitors and their dogs get to be part of the Nationals and enjoy all its atmosphere. At the Australian NADAC Nationals there is something for everyone and every dog!

The Qualifying period for Nationals is 1 August 2021 – 31 July 2022

Challenge Stakes has 3 levels Starters, Silver and Super and there is Qualification criteria to meet to gain entry into Stakes (details outlined later in this document)

Elite Challenge is an open invite to any dog with an Open Agility Title (ie 30 lifetime points in Open Agility).

Pre-Elite Challenge is an open invite to any dog who has a Novice Agility Title (ie 30 lifetime points in Novice Agility).

Entry numbers are limited to 500 runs per day. Entries will be processed in the order in which they are submitted. Priority will be given to Challenge Stakes, Elite Challenge and Pre-Elite Challenge as the main event followed by General entries.

I am excited to announce that in 2022 in Elite Challenge and Pre-Elite Challenge instead of just one winner in each we will be endeavouring to introduce height group winners. In Elite Challenge we will aiming for 5 height groupings (X-Large, Large, Medium, Small and Miniature). In Pre-Elite Challenge we will be aiming for 4 height groupings (Large, Medium, Small and Miniature).

Height Groupings will be based on height at withers.

X-Large = 22+ inches at withers.

Large = Over 18 and up to and including 22 inches at withers.

Medium = Over 14 and up to and including 18 inches at withers.

Small = Over 11 and up to and including 14 inches at withers.

Miniature = Under 11 inches at withers.

There must be at least 3 dogs entered into a height group for that group to be viable at Nationals for Elite and Pre-Elite Challenge. For example if in Elite Challenge there are 2 dogs entered into the Small dog division and 1 dog entered into the Miniature Dog division then the 2 divisions will be merged in one and called Small Dog Division.

So potentially in Elite and Pre-Elite Challenge the Awards could be:

- Elite Challenge Champion X-Large division
- Elite Challenge Champion Large division
- Elite Challenge Champion Medium division
- Elite Challenge Champion Small division
- Elite Challenge Champion Miniature division

- Pre-Elite Challenge Champion Large division
- Pre-Elite Challenge Champion Medium division
- Pre-Elite Challenge Champion Small division
- Pre-Elite Challenge Champion Miniature division

If there are enough entries in Elite Challenge to consider further subdivisions within these height groupings, then NADAC Australia will consider doing so. Possible further subdivisions could be Standard Dogs, Veteran Dogs and Double Digit Dogs, Veteran Handler and Junior Handler. These further sub-divisions can only be considered if entries received are such that a competitive field can be established.

What To Expect in the Elite Challenge:

- 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 Championships, the courses will all lean more towards the more difficult.
- Full set of obstacle challenges in each round. While some rounds do 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 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

What to expect in the Pre-Elite Division:

- Courses similar to an Elite level challenge. Dogs should be comfortable doing a full set of 12 weave poles, multiple contacts and challenges comparable to an Elite level course on a normal weekend. In the themed runs, such as the Jumpers round or the

Touch n Go round, there may be more repetitions of certain obstacles than on a regular weekend, though never more than 12 poles at one time.

- Shorter courses than the Elite Division. The Pre-Elite course typically has changes from the Elite course. These changes can be either a reduced number of obstacles, or reduced challenge, or both. There will be distance test at the Pre-Elite level.
- Larger groupings. Because Pre-Elite is not the main event we do not split up the groups like we do for the Elite division. There are only 4 divisions: Large, Medium, Small and Mini. The only other added division may be if we have enough Junior Handlers in Pre-Elite to make a group. Pre-Elite should be viewed as an opportunity for dogs that aren't quite ready for the main event to still get a chance to experience the environment and camaraderie of the event.
- Distance tests. These tests are NOT bonus lines. But they will typically be a sequence of 2-5 obstacles where you 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 Elite and Pre-Elite:

- Scoring is done on a time plus faults system. Each round will have a base number of points that everyone starts with. For this example we will use 150 as our base number. Keep in mind for the actual event this number can and will fluctuate depending on the course. When your dog runs their time and any faults incurred will be subtracted from this number. So a dog that ran in 25.00 seconds with 10 course faults would have a score of 115.00. This score is what determines your placement in your division.
- The base number changes depending on the length of the course and the challenges involved. A more challenging course that takes a longer time to run gets a higher base number, while a simpler course that runs very quickly gets a lower base number.
- If the Pre-Elite course is shorter than Elite, they will start with a lower base number to reflect the shorter course
- The winner of each division is whomever has the highest score over all 7 rounds combined.

Placements

- Placements will go out to 8th regardless of entry size for Elite Challenge and Pre-Elite Challenge
- There must be at least 3 dogs in a group for that group to avoid being merged with their next closest competitive group.

NB: General class placings will be to 4th place as per our usual placing at trials.

STAKES ENTRIES:

StarterStakes: Dogs must have 150 points in their lifetime in Elite Chances, and a bonus or distance challenge of any value from the Regular Agility Class

For entry into the **SilverStakes** division the dog must have earned 5, three sequence Bonuses

For entry into the **SuperStakes** division the dog must have earned either four, 30-point runs Or two 30-point runs, and four 25-point runs

Stakes dogs must enter Champs at the level they are qualified for. Stakes Scoring:

Scoring will be the same as the other divisions. With bonus points being added on.

The stakes cups and sash's are still going to be given out for exemplary performance in each round and overall performance throughout the event.

Walkthroughs and briefings:

- The morning briefing takes place at 7.30 AM each day of the event following the national anthems. Any change to briefing times will be communicated via show instructions or special announcement
- Briefing will be finished at some time between 7.45am and 8.00am depending on the number of questions on each morning
- Walkthroughs will directly follow the morning briefing.
- Order of walkthrough groups will follow the running order for the day, which will be available on the Australian Nationals page of the NADAC Australia website.

Team Info:

Team event is open to all dogs.

The team event for this year will consist of cumulative scores from the following General entry classes - Thursday Grounders rounds, Fridays Tunnelers rounds and Sundays Tunnelers rounds. Team event classes **do not** contain jumps, weaves or contacts. Teams are encouraged to be creative with their team names and costumes!

Misc. info:

- Number of dogs eligible for progression to finals: The number of dogs progressing into the finals is decided by allowing all dogs who are within 30 points, of the third place dog. So if the dog in third place has 650 points, any dog who has more than 620 points will progress into finals. Dogs who do not make the finals will still get to run a 7th round in what is called "challengers"
- Each Divisions group is based on your dog's wither height.

- There are five main height groups for Championships: X-Large, Large, Medium, Small and Mini (cut off heights have already been outlined earlier in this document)

As mentioned earlier Pre-Elite only gets split up by height group, but the Elite divisions get a much wider subset of divisions. The possible options and criteria are as follows and are based on entry numbers received as to what extra subsets can be provided:

Standard: This is for dog under 7 years of age.

Veteran Dog: Dogs taking the Veterans Height break and entering Champs as such. If your dog is 9 years or older on the start of the event date you must enter this division.

Veteran Handler: Teams that are taking the Veteran Handler height break and entering Champs as such.

Double Digit: Dogs that are 10 years of age or older. If your dog is 10 years or older on the start of the event date, you must enter this division.

Junior Handler: Open to any handler entering the event as a Junior Handler. (Junior Handlers are those who are 17 years or younger on the start date of the event).

- If a dog who has entered Pre-Elite Challenge has earned more than 100 points in Elite Regular, Elite Jumpers, Elite Chances combined in their lifetime up to August 30 2022 then they will be moved into Elite Challenge.

The schedule of events on each day of the Nationals will be as follows:

Thursday

- Challenge Stakes Round 1 (If there are no dogs qualified to enter Stakes at the Nationals this round will not be run)
- Challenge Elite Round 1
- Challenge Pre-elite Round 1
- Challenge Stakes Round 2 (If there are no dogs qualified to enter Stakes at the Nationals this round will not be run)
- Challenge Elite Round 2
- Challenge Pre-Elite Round 2
- Touch N Go (General entry class) – Double run format Round 1 and 2
- Grounders (General entry and Team event class) – Double run format Round 1 and 2

Friday

- Challenge Stakes Round 3 (If there are no dogs qualified to enter Stakes at the Nationals this round will not be run)
- Challenge Elite Round 3
- Challenge Pre-elite Round 3
- Challenge Stakes Round 4 (If there are no dogs qualified to enter Stakes at the Nationals this round will not be run)

- Challenge Elite Round 4
- Challenge Pre-Elite Round 4
- Jumpers (General entry class) – Double run format Round 1 and 2
- Tunnelers (General entry and Team event class) – Double run format Round 1 and 2

Saturday

- Challenge Stakes Round 5 (If there are no dogs qualified to enter Stakes at the Nationals this round will not be run)
- Challenge Elite Round 5
- Challenge Pre-elite Round 5
- Challenge Stakes Round 6 (If there are no dogs qualified to enter Stakes at the Nationals this round will not be run)
- Challenge Elite Round 6
- Challenge Pre-Elite Round 6
- Chances (General entry class) – Double run format Round 1 and 2
- Weavers (General entry event class) – Double run format Round 1 and 2

Sunday

- Tunnelers (General entry and Teams event class) – Double run format Round 1 and 2
- Challenge Pre-Elite “Challengers” Round 7 (Pre-elite teams who don’t make the finals get to run)
- Challenge Elite “Challengers” Round 7 (Elite teams who don’t make the finals get to run)
- Challenge Pre-Elite Finals Round 7 (Pre-elite teams who make the finals)
- Challenge Elite Finals Round 7 (Elite teams who make the finals)
- Challenge Stakes Final Round 7 (All Stakes teams get to run in the Final round) (If there are no dogs qualified to enter Stakes at the Nationals this round will not be run)
- Presentations will occur as soon as possible after the finals have concluded and scores finalised.

All Australian Nationals information will be posted on the Nationals page of the NADAC Australia Website. There will also be a specific subscriber mail out group just for Nationals mail outs. An option to subscribe to this mail out group will be provided on the Nationals page of the NADAC Australia website.

If you have any specific question you can also contact me directly via the “How can we help” button on the NADAC Australia website.

I hope to see you and your dogs at the Nationals in 2022 as we launch this exciting new format which keeps us in line with the NADAC Championships in the USA.

Shirlene Clark

NADAC Australia [Australian NADAC Dog agility Nationals in Australia \(nadacaustralia.com\)](http://nadacaustralia.com)