



AGILITY DOG ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA LTD

ABN 83 070 415 404

ANNUAL CANINE AWARDS POLICY

Introduction:

ADAA wishes to encourage and facilitate participation by Members across a wide cross-section of competitions, recognising achievement at a local/regional level as well as in national events.

Purpose:

ADAA has several annual awards based competitions for Dogs registered with ADAA. The purpose of this Policy is to provide guidelines for Members for participation in the Medallion Stakes, Medallion Stakes Invitational and the Regional Dog of the Year competitions.

Policy Statement:

This Policy covers the specific requirements for entry and participation in the Medallion Stakes, Medallion Stakes Invitational and Regional Dog of the Year competitions.

Definitions:

Dog – a Dog registered on ADAA's International Programme Register or Regular Programme Register.
Judge – Judge appointed and currently authorised to officiate at ADAA events
Region – geographic areas, as defined in this Policy

Responsibilities:

Board of Directors – responsible for implementing and managing this Policy, including issuing invitations for the Medallion Stakes Invitational and determining the winners of the Regional Dog of the Year competition
Judges – responsible for lodging Judge's Annual Canine Awards Registration Form
Regional Coordinators – responsible for processing Medallion Stakes rounds results and posting them to the ADAA website

Procedure:

1. MEDALLION STAKES - Rules & Summary of Competition

- 1.1 The Medallion Stakes will be held within each of the four height Classes (separate competitions for International and Regular Programme Registered Dogs). It is the Dog that receives award points. The Handler may vary from round to round.
- 1.2 The competition is conducted over a 12 month, with all rounds to be conducted between 1 July of one year and 30 June of the following year. It is an 11 round competition with 10 rounds being conducted within each Region and 1 round being conducted at the National Grand Prix.
- 1.3 Points earned in each Region may only be used for a Dog's tally in that Region, for example points earned in South East Queensland (SEQLD) may only be used for a Dog's SEQLD tally. For rounds conducted at the same location simultaneously, for example National Grand Prix, points will be allocated to the tallies in the region of residence as listed on ADAA records unless otherwise notified to ADAA in writing.
- 1.4 Currently there are 4 Regions conducting Medallion Stakes rounds: NSW (all competitions conducted in New South Wales), WA (all competitions conducted in Western Australia), SEQLD (all competitions conducted in the South East Queensland pocket up to and including Bundaberg), NQLD (all competitions conducted in Queensland north of Bundaberg). A competition conducted outside of the nominated Region may be deemed to be included in a Region's round, but this will be clearly specified (eg National Grand Prix, a Northern NSW round may be tagged to SEQLD).
- 1.5 Each round will be at Open A or Regular-Open A Standard as applicable to the class. Dogs will be awarded points based on a clear round/qualifying run and time/faults/points earned basis.

- 1.6 Each round is to be held under the Rules and Agility Regulations of the Agility Dog Association of Australia Ltd, and these Rules and Summary of Competition. Additionally, all ADAA policies must be adhered to.
- 1.7 Host entities must allow Dogs that have not been awarded their Australian Agility Dog title to enter the Medallion Stakes round hosted by them. Host entities must offer four height classes across both the International Programme Register (IPR) and Regular Programme Register RPR for each Medallion Stakes round. Host entities must conduct at least 3 Open and Regular-Open standard tests or games on the competition day to be eligible to conduct a round.
- 1.8 A maximum of three rounds may be offered within any three day period in each Region.
- 1.9 Judging and specific scoring/benchmark details for all Games will be announced by the Judge prior to the Game. Judges must use benchmark options 4 or 5 when conducting Individual Gamblers rounds.
- 1.10 All Dogs must be registered with ADAA. All Handlers and Owners must be financial members of ADAA in order to be eligible to enter Medallion Stakes rounds. Handlers and Owners must be financial members of ADAA in order to be eligible to receive an invitation to participate in the Medallion Stakes Invitational. Owners must be financial members of ADAA as at the final close of entries for the ADAA National Grand Prix in order to be eligible to receive a Medallion and/or Regional Dog of the Year award.
 - 1.10.1 Dogs under 18 months of age are not eligible for entry.
 - 1.10.2 Dogs that have not been awarded their AAD title are eligible to enter the competition.
 - 1.10.3 Bitches in oestrus may not compete or remain in the precincts of the Competition.
 - 1.10.4 Dogs may only enter Classes as per the eligibility for Classes in the ADAA Regulations and the schedule of events.
- 1.11 There are no additional fees (over and above normal entry fee) for competing in the Medallion Stakes.
- 1.12 Any disputes regarding any aspect of the competition or the prize will be resolved by the Board of Directors of ADAA, in such manner as they may determine, and such decision will be final and no correspondence will be entered into.
- 1.13 It is a condition of entry that the Owner/Handler authorises ADAA to take, or arrange to have taken, any and all photographs/video-taping of Dog and/or Handler and releases copyright of such photos/video-taping to ADAA for its use as it deems fit (including publication in any magazines).
- 1.14 Upon hearing a MCT/Dismissal horn/whistle (if used) the Handler and Dog must immediately leave the ring.
- 1.15 Any attempt to impugn the Judge, or any display considered by the Judge (or ADAA Board of Directors) to be unsportsmanlike or not in the best interests of the sport and/or ADAA may result in the Handler being deemed ineligible to win a prize/medallion, to receive an invitation to participate in the Medallion Stakes Invitational or to be awarded Regional Dog of the Year.
- 1.16 All Dogs entered in Classes, other than Maxi, must have an official height recorded with ADAA to be eligible for a medallion, an offer to participate in the Medallion Stakes Invitational and/or receive a Regional Dog of the year award.
- 1.17 Unless specifically approved by the Board of Directors (due to special circumstances), points earned in a height Class are not transferable to another height Class.
- 1.18 Points earned by a Dog in the International Register Programme competition will be transferred if a Dog transfers to the Regular Programme Register but not vice versa. The transfer between registers must take place on or before 30 June or within 14 days of the last round for the relevant Region, whichever is later, in order for those points to be included in the tally for that year.
- 1.19 It is required that Handlers will assist with course changes, and stewarding, in rings.
- 1.20 The Medallion Stakes will consist of the following eleven rounds (11):
 - 1.20.1 3 x Agility,
 - 1.20.2 3 x Jumping,
 - 1.20.3 2 x Gamblers,
 - 1.20.4 2 x Snooker, and
 - 1.20.5 1 x Steeplechase
- 1.21 Medallion Stakes rounds will be clearly marked on the schedule. Dates will be proclaimed in advance, including nominated reserve dates. A list of Competitions where rounds will be conducted will be published to the ADAA web page (and distributed to mail out members via their monthly mail out) as the dates are confirmed.
- 1.22 ADAA will recognise Judges by allocating fifteen (15) Judging points for Dog(s) nominated by the Judge, when the Judge is required to judge on the same day as a round of the Medallion Stakes, be it at the host entity holding the Medallion Stakes round or any other host entity, in the same Region or not. If a Judge has to travel on the day of a Medallion Stakes round, so that they can get to/from a competition they are judging before/after a Medallion Stakes round, they will also be eligible to nominate a Dog(s) to receive the Judging points. Only Dogs nominated by the Judge, on a Judge's Annual Canine Awards Registration Form on or prior to the competition date, will be awarded points under this Rule however the Board of Directors may issue exemption(s) to this requirement under whatever conditions it deems. A Dog cannot

- be nominated to receive the Judging points if it competed in the Medallion Stakes event for that specific round. Judges are only eligible to nominate a Dog to receive the Judging points for the round conducted at the National Grand Prix, if they judge (and do not compete) for the entire National Grand Prix and/or judge the specific Medallion Stakes event. A Dog may only receive the Judging points a maximum of three rounds (per award year) in their Region of domicile. If a Dog, that does not live in the household of the Judge, is handled by another person in a Medallion Stakes round then, for all subsequent rounds, normal Medallion Stakes points allocation will apply and the Dog will be deemed ineligible for the Judging points.
- 1.23 ADAA will recognise members of Team Australia, competing at the IFCS World Agility Championships (WAC), by allocating fifteen (15) points for Dog(s) nominated by the member for any competition held during the period of compulsory team attendance at the WAC. Only Dogs nominated by the Team Member (via the Team Australia Team Manager) will be awarded points under this Rule, however the Board of Directors may issue exemption(s) to this requirement under whatever conditions it deems. A Dog cannot be nominated to receive the Team Australia points if it competed in the Medallion Stakes event for that specific round. In order to be eligible for a medal, the Dog will need to, separately from any points awarded under this Rule, have achieved a clear round/qualifying certificate in one of the other Medallion Stakes rounds.
- 1.24 At the completion of each round, the Judge will provide the scoresheets to the relevant Regional coordinator for processing, this may be an electronic copy of the scoresheet. If a host entity wishes to obtain a copy of the scoresheets for rounds conducted by them, they should contact the ADAA Treasurer and a copy will be returned to the club.
- 1.25 As progressive results are calculated they will be added to the ADAA web page for viewing. Disputes should be submitted in writing within 14 days of the results for a round being officially posted on the ADAA web page or ADAA mail out for those in receipt of these.
- 1.26 If a competition round is cancelled, the nominated round will be delegated to the reserve date. If the reserve date is no longer suitable, the Board reserves the right to nominate another date.
- 1.27 Steeplechase Rules**
- 1.27.1 Steeplechase is a Game based on a similar event in the equestrian world, with the name dating back to the 1600s, when races between competing horses started at one church steeple and ended at another. The horse was often required to jump fences in a Steeplechase.
- 1.27.2 With links back to the historic Steeplechase race between two or more horses, usually for a purse (money), the Agility version can be a Game in which there is a winner takes all purse for each class. ADAA does not allow titling classes or normal club level competitions to run a Steeplechase Class that involves money (purse) as a prize. The exception being ADAA approved events such as the National Grand Prix and other major ADAA events in which the Board has approved a Steeplechase class to run as a non-titling class and has prize money (purse) for the winner (s). Any ADAA approved Steeplechase Class held at a major ADAA event must clearly state in the Schedule of Events whether that there is prize money (purse) involved and whether or not the Steeplechase Class is non-titling. A Steeplechase class usually involves a winner takes all purse (money prize), however the Board may at their discretion adopt a shared/split purse for the Winner and Runner-up should they choose. Medallion Stakes Steeplechase rounds must have no prize money.
- 1.27.3 Steeplechase is designed to be a fast and flowing course that should showcase the balance between speed and control. Control "handling challenges" that serve to detract from the speed element should be excluded. The speed element is provided by only using Hurdles and Pipe Tunnels and the control element is provided by the use of the two A-Frames and one set of Weave Poles or one A-Frame and two sets of Weave Poles.
- 1.27.4 Only the following obstacles may be used:
- 1.27.4.1 Hurdles (wing and/or non-wing)
- 1.27.4.2 Pipe Tunnel (must be used - at least once)
- 1.27.4.3 A-Frame (must be used – once or twice)
- 1.27.4.4 Weave Poles x 12 (must be used – once or twice)
- 1.27.5 Every Steeplechase course must have one of the following:
- 1.27.5.1 A-Frame x 2 and the Weave Poles x 1, or
- 1.27.5.2 A-Frame x 1 and the Weave Poles x 2
- 1.27.6 The course is to have between 18 and 20 obstacles and should be of a non-technical design to showcase speed. To continue with the theme of speed, the class is to be run with a "time plus faults" scoring method.
- 1.27.7 Faulting
- 1.27.7.1 Non-completion of an obstacle (including Weave Poles) – Eliminated
- 1.27.7.2 Refusals – will not be faulted, but obstacle must be completed correctly
- 1.27.7.3 Weave Poles – will not be faulted, but must be completed correctly
- 1.27.7.4 Wrong Course/Off-course – 20 Faults
- 1.27.7.5 Back Weaving – 20 Faults
- 1.27.7.6 Knocked bar – 5 Faults

- 1.27.7.7 Missed A-frame contact – 5 Faults
- 1.27.8 Steeplechase scoring and benchmark
- 1.27.8.1 A Standard Course Time (SCT) benchmark will be set using a rate of travel as follows:
 International Programme Maxi and Midi Classes – 3.5 metres per second
 International Programme Mini and Toy Classes – 3.25 metres per second
 Regular Programme Maxi and Midi Classes – 3.25 metres per second
 Regular Programme Mini and Toy Classes – 3.0 metres per second
- 1.27.8.2 To qualify the dog must complete the course with a combined “time-plus-faults” score equal to or less than the SCT set by the Judge. The dog with the lowest “time-plus-faults” score will be declared the winner with all competing dogs assigned a placement based on ascending order of their “time-plus-faults” score. In the event of a tie between time-plus-faults scores, the dog with the fewer course faults will be placed ahead of the dog with more faults, otherwise the tie will stand.
- 1.28 The Point score system in each Class will be on the following basis:

Agility/Jumping	Points
Clear Rounds	15
0.01 to 4.99 faults	10
5.00 faults	9
5.01 to 9.99 faults	7
10.00 to 14.99 faults	5
15.00 to 19.99 faults	3
20.00 or more faults	2
Elimination	1

Speed Bonus for Clear Rounds for Agility/Jumping Rounds	
Dog's Time	Bonus Points
T \geq 20% under SCT	5
20% under SCT > t \geq 15% under SCT	4
15% under SCT > t \geq 10% under SCT	3
10% under SCT > t \geq 7.5% under SCT	2
7.5% under SCT > t \geq 5% under SCT	1

Snooker/Gamblers	Points
Qualifying Round	20
40 points or more (non-qualifying)	10
Points earned: 35 to 39	9
Points earned: 30 to 34	7
Points earned: 25 to 29	6
Points earned: 20 to 24	5
Points earned: 15 to 19	4
Points earned: 10 to 14	3
Points earned: 1 to 9	2
Points earned: 0 or Elimination	1

Steeplechase	Points
Qualifying Round	15
0.01 to 4.99 time faults	10
5.00 time faults	9
5.01 to 9.99 time faults	7
10.00 to 14.99 time faults	5
15.00 to 19.99 time faults	3
20.00 or more time faults	2
Elimination	1

Speed Bonus for Clear Rounds for Steeplechase Rounds	
Dog's Time	Bonus Points
T >=20% under SCT	5
20% under SCT > t >=15% under SCT	4
15% under SCT > t >=10% under SCT	3
10% under SCT > t >=7.5% under SCT	2
7.5% under SCT > t >=5% under SCT	1

- 1.29 Calculation of the final points tally is based on the Dog's best 9 rounds. For Dogs that competed in 9 rounds or less, their final points tally will be the sum of all their rounds.
- 1.30 Medallions will be awarded to all Dogs that earn at least one (1) Clear Round or Qualifying Certificate AND total points in line with the following (there is no limit to the number of Dogs that could acquire the set number of points below):
- 1.30.1 65 - 84 points - Bronze Medallion,
- 1.30.2 85 - 114 points - Silver Medallion,
- 1.30.3 115 and above points - Gold Medallion.
- 1.31 Duplicate medallions may be purchased from ADAA (cost available on application).

2. MEDALLION STAKES INVITATIONAL - Rules and Summary of Competition

- 2.1 Points earned in the Medallion Stakes will be used to ascertain eligibility for invitation to the Medallion Stakes Invitational to be held at the National Grand Prix.
- 2.2 Up to ten (10) dogs in each class, in each Region will be invited to compete in the Medallion Stakes Invitational. Dogs that place in the top 10 and who have earned a minimum of forty-one points (41) in the final points tally will be eligible for invitation.
- 2.3 If tenth place is tied, all Dogs on the cut-off total of points will be invited.
- 2.4 If less than ten dogs in a Region earn the benchmark of 41 points, then less than 10 dogs from that Region will be invited.
- 2.5 If an invitation is declined or not responded to within 14 days (or the date specified on the invitation), invitation will be extended to the next placed Dog and so on, until all ten places from each Region are filled or no more Dogs are eligible.
- 2.6 In the event a Dog qualifies in more than one Region it will only receive an invitation from the Region that it earned the highest placing on the points tally.
- 2.7 Dogs that have transferred from the International Programme Register will be placed accordingly within the respective Medallion Stakes tally. The cut-off for this transfer is 30 June or 14 days after the last round is completed, whichever is later. If a dog transfers after this cut-off they will not be eligible to compete in the Medallion Stakes Invitational.
- 2.8 The Medallion Stakes Invitational will be a single Agility Test for each height Class within the respective Programme, scored as per normal ADAA Regulations. Placings will be awarded to first, second and third provided five or more competitors are in the class, otherwise first place only. Details of prizes will be included in the National Grand Prix schedule.
- 2.9 The Medallion Stakes Invitational will be free of entry fees for those invited to compete. Clear Round Certificates will be issued at the Medallion Stakes Invitational.
- 2.10 The Medallion Stakes Invitational will be held under the Rules and Agility Regulations of the Agility Dog Association of Australia Ltd, and this Policy.
- 2.11 This event is only open to Dogs whose invitation was accepted in accordance with this Policy.

3. REGIONAL DOG OF THE YEAR - Rules and Summary of Competition

- 3.1 The Regional Dog of the Year competition recognises the top point scoring dog in each Region over a 12 month period. There shall be a single winner in each of the height classes Maxi, Midi, Mini and Toy in the International and Regular Programmes, provided a minimum of 50 points (under this clause) has been achieved by the highest placed dog.
- 3.1.1 Points earned in the Medallion Stakes rounds will be used to determine the Regional winner for each class.
- 3.1.2 Only rounds that are held within the actual geographic Region will be used to calculate the winner. Medallion Stakes rounds held at a National Grand Prix will not be included in the tally for any Region, even if the venue falls within an actual geographic Region.
- 3.1.3 All rounds conducted within the Region as per 3.1.2 will count towards the final tally. Thus, there will be a maximum of 10 rounds conducted and tallied in each Region.
- 3.1.4 The Regional Dog of the Year winner are determined by points earned, there is no final or invitational. No minor places will be awarded.
- 3.1.5 Rules pertaining to Medallion Stakes Competition 1.1 to 1.28 inclusive, in this policy document, also pertain to the Regional Dog of the Year Competition.

- 3.1.6 Winners will be announced officially on the ADAA website and prize/certificate presented at the next possible ADAA competition held within the Region.

Stakeholders to be consulted prior to policy change:

Board of Directors

Related documents:

ADAA Agility Regulations REF-AR-001

ADAA Annual Canine Awards Rounds REF-MEM-002

ADAA Judge's Annual Canine Awards Registration Form FOR-JDG-041

Date	Action (Created/Reviewed)	Created/Reviewed by	Next review due
7 January 2011	Created	Chair	
25 January 2011	Revised	Chair	
13 February 2011	Approved	Board	
9 August 2011	Revised	Secretary	
23 January 2012	Approved	Board	
1 July 2012	Revised	Treasurer	
30 September 2012	Revised	Treasurer	
15 November 2012	Approved	Board	
25 June 2016	Revised	Chair	