



2018

# NADD Sanctioned Event Official Rules and Regulations

Revised 1/17/2018

North American Diving Dogs® LLC.

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

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## North America Diving Dogs

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NADD reserves to 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:

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

## II. JURISDICTION:

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

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

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

### III. RULES OF CONDUCT/SPORTSMANSHIP:

NADD and each independent sanctioned facility reserve the right to refuse service to anyone. NADD and the sanctioned facility trials are open to any and all persons and dogs without discrimination.

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

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

Any participant showing abusive behavior towards their dog on or off the dock will be immediately dismissed from the entire trial. The decision of the sanctioned facility and judge will be final.

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

Sportsmanship is also how competitors act towards one another. Any rude, offensive or derogatory behavior will be dealt with quickly. Anyone showing un-sportsmanship like behavior towards workers, or other competitors will be asked to leave immediately.

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

## IV. ENTRY PROCEDURES:

Each facility will submit their request for an event at the beginning of each calendar year. NADD will approve events based on priority and seniority. Trials will be posted no later than **60 days prior** to each event and preregistration will close **72 hours** before the events begin. **Barring major weather or conflicts, no changes will be made to events within 30 days.** Splashes, Times, Schedule and specific details related to each Trial are listed on the website. Each facility is responsible to check the details on the Trial page online within 10 days of being notified the event is posted to assure all info is correct.

Facility Trials: The sanctioned facility shall charge \$20 per splash for pre-entries. Day of Show shall be \$25 per splash. It is in the best interest to everyone that participation in NADD remains affordable. The prices above can be changed at any time. Facilities will be notified by NADD if a price change is made. The sanctioned facility shall be responsible for their refund and/or cancellation policy.

Mobile Dock Trials: All mobile dock events will offer pre-registration and day of show entries (DOS entries may be a limited number, but must be advertised before the event). The mobile dock event shall charge \$25 per splash for both pre-entries and Day of Show. It is in the best interest to everyone that participation in NADD remains affordable. The prices above can be changed at any time. The mobile dock event shall follow the NADD refund and/or cancellation policy.

### ALL Facility & Mobile Trials:

- Splashes: **Any NADD event can hold up to 4 Splashes per day.** In order to make an exception to this rule, the event must submit a written request to NADD when the event is created. NADD will review the request and make a determination as to allow the exception or not.
- Air Retrieve: **There may be only 1 AR splash per day.** In order to make an exception to this rule, the event must submit a written request to NADD when the event is created. NADD will review the request and make a determination as to allow the exception or not.
- Vertical: **Starting with the 2018 NADD will no longer recognize or**

sanction Vertical as a NADD discipline. Facilities may still offer Vertical, but it will not be posted on the NADD page, on the registration form etc. If a facility offers Vertical, they are responsible for all registration and scoring.

- Try-its (practice turns): Starting with the 2018 season, NADD is changing the Try-It/ Practice procedures.
  - Mobile: Try-it will cost \$10 and the dog handler will receive 2 tickets. These tickets may be used through the duration of the event. Dogs will still get 3 minutes per turn.
    - Practice turns: Each dog (handler) will receive 1 ticket per day of entry to be used as a practice turn.
    - Competitors may purchase more tickets as space allows.
  - Facilities: It is still up to facilities as to whether to allow try-its or not. But, this must be posted on the event page so competitors know ahead of time.

## V. TRIAL:

All rules of the NADD and the sanctioned facility must be obeyed at all times. Sanctioned facilities may have more facility specific rules in place. Participates must also abide by those rules during a NADD trial. They must sign the waiver before stepping onto the dock, NO exceptions.

NADD offers two basic types of events.

OPEN SPLASH EVENTS: events are held at mobile dock events and are run as follows:

- No set Splash times, all splashes for that day are run simultaneously. This allows the competitor to determine their jump time. Each competitor will be given a NADD Jump Card at registration. They will turn in their card when ready to compete. A competitor can only compete in the number of splashes offered for each day. It is the competitor's responsibility to allow enough time to jump their dogs during the offered times each day.
- It is the responsibility of the competitor to complete all daily jumps on the assigned day of the splashes.
- Cards must be submitted 1 hour prior to the end of Open Splash time.

CLOSED SPLASH events are held at facility dock events and are run as follows:

- Set Splash times and number of competitor limitations.
- All participants must check in with the Secretary at least 30 minutes before their splash.

- When you check in a running order will be created. Any conflicts should be resolved during your check-in time.
- A judges meeting shall be held 15 minutes before the trial. It shall include the final running order, the competition rules and any other announcements.
- It is the competitor's responsibility to be present at the time of check-in for each splash. Missing a splash time will be a forfeiture of that splash.

At ALL NADD events, each competitor will be given 4 minutes per jump to take

- 1 OPTIONAL practice jump
- 2 Competition jumps

At any of the NADD Qualifying Events (Mobile or Facility) throughout the season, a dog must have a minimum of 3 distance jumps at that event to qualify for an invite. At the completion of the event, each dog that has a minimum of 3 distance jumps at the event will have all of their scores averaged together. The Top 2 dogs in each Open or Lap division will be awarded the invites. If a dog that has already earned an invite is in the Top 2, then that dog will be skipped over.

In Air Retrieve: The TOP Open & Lap dog in each of the Novice, Junior, Senior, Master and Elite Division will earn invites. Note: This is the Top in each division for the entire event (this includes multiple days of AR).

Any dog earning an invite during the set season, must have a minimum of 15 distance jumps / 5 Air Retrieve by Oct 15<sup>th</sup> each year in order to keep the invite.

#### REFUND POLICY:

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

## INCLEMENT WEATHER

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

## VI. GENERAL RULES:

- i. All dogs must jump off the dock or ramp **COMPLETELY** on their own accord. **You cannot physically assist your dog in a forward motion in any manner. All dogs must jump freely and without being forced, dropped or tilted. The handler must have their hands, legs and feet completely off the dog as the dog jumps. A dog must make at least one step of forward motion; a handler setting the dog down at the very end of the dock so the dog has no choice to jump will be warned. This includes the practice of "blocking". "Blocking" is where the handler places or puts the dog in front of their feet and the dog has NO CHOICE but to jump. The dog MUST jump entirely of its own will. It must have freedom to move to either jump or not jump. Violators will be given one warning if it is seen before the dog jumps. If the dog jumps after being assisted, THAT jump will be scored as a NQ and the handler will be informed immediately in a polite and respectful way. The 2<sup>nd</sup> occurrence will result in the handler being NQ'd from the entire Splash, the 3<sup>rd</sup> occurrence will result in handler being removed from the event and a letter being sent to NADD administration.**
- ii. Dogs must be kept on 6 feet or shorter leash. Flexi leashes & long lines are NOT allowed in the NADD competition area.
- iii. No dogs shall be allowed off-leash in any part of the competition area, except for on the dock or in the water.
- iv. Dogs should be kept under close handler control. A safe distance (approx. 8 ft.) must be kept between all dogs.
- v. Chain & choke, pinch, prong, electronic collar, head collar, harnesses or any type of special training collar must be removed **once the dog is on the dock.** (NOTE: prong collars and e-collars are **not allowed** at AKC & CKC event show grounds. While they are allowed in our area next to the dock, please know they are not allowed at AKC & CKC events, walking to the



- restrooms, vendors or other events, etc.) Dogs are allowed to wear a dog suit, dog vest & life vest that are fitted properly. If the dog has a collar, vest, or any other apparel that the judge deems as dangerous, it may be asked to be removed.
- vi. Humans may enter the pool during Try-It sessions for training purposes to assist dogs by offering physical support, encouragement and to build the dogs confidence. Humans are not allowed in the pool during competitive jumps, except in an emergency. (Personal Best, New titles, etc.: jumps are allowed after the dog has completed all required jumps in that Splash) NADD is not liable for any injury or issue caused from a human voluntarily entering the pool.
  - vii. Females in season will not be permitted in the competition area.
  - viii. Everyone is responsible for picking up after your dog. Failure to comply could result in dismissing a handler/dog team from the remainder of the trial. No refunds will be issued.
  - ix. Dogs that show signs of provoked or unprovoked aggressive behavior towards humans and/or other dogs will be asked to leave immediately by the sanctioned event. NADD may ban the handler and/or dog permanently from any future trials. Any dog or handler that is removed from the event will not be given a refund.
    - a. The NADD definition of an aggressive dog is any dog that shows aggressive behavior anywhere in the competition area toward humans or dogs. Please note, no matter what the situation, each handler is fully responsible for their dog's actions.
    - b. If an act of aggressive is reported or witnessed, NADD will make the determination to remove the dog from the event. A review will be conducted and could result in suspension from all NADD future events.
    - c. In the result of an aggressive dog incident, it is the responsibility of the facility or mobile dock to report it directly to NADD. Regardless, of the outcome or result, the incident must be reported to NADD immediately. This includes actual incidents or even close calls.
  - x. Anyone on the dock must have signed the NADD Release Form when checking in. This includes both the handler & thrower.

## VII. DOGS:

- i. To enter a trial a dog must be registered and have a registration number

- with the NADD. A NADD registration number can be applied for from our website or at a facility/mobile event. The cost of a NADD Reg. number is a one-time fee of \$35. (Dogs participating in “Try-Its” do not need to be registered with NADD, but they must sign up and sign the waiver.)
- ii. Any dog of any breed, size, or mix may participate in a NADD trial.
  - iii. Dogs must be in good health and condition in order to compete.
  - iv. Dogs must be 6 months of age or older **at the time of the event** to compete. Dogs less than 6 months old may practice and do try-its.
  - v. Competing dogs must be current on vaccinations and the owner shall carry written proof of current rabies vaccinations.
  - vi. Dogs that appear to be lame, injured, and ill or dogs with sutures, bandages, adhesive or any other material that is indicative of or related to any surgical or medical procedure may not compete. During the trial if the dog shows any signs of the above, they will be dismissed from the trial. Refunds will be at the sole discretion of the sanctioned facility or NADD event coordinator. If a dog has been under medical care, they must show a release to compete from the Vet.
  - vii. Dogs that are deformed, amputee, deaf or blind may participate in the competition but must be able to safely perform jumps & exit the pool. Any dog with a special needs or attention must inform the judge prior to jumping. It is the judge’s discretion if any special allowances will be made to special need dogs.

## VIII. JUDGES:

- i. By entering any NADD event, the owner and handler of any dog agree to accept the decision of the Judge as final.
- ii. No person may interfere with the Judge in any way while he/she is judging a splash.
- iii. All judges must be certified and approved by NADD.
- iv. The Manual Judging System will be used. The judge will eyeball the distance that the base of the tail breaks the water’s surface. The distance of the jump scored by the judge is final. Judges must complete apprenticeship training before being certified as a NADD judge.
- v. A dog that is owned or co-owned by the judge may jump as long as their dog is judged by a separate, certified NADD judge. **In the event that there is no other certified judge present, the judge may judge their own dog with a different handler, but MUST have a witness present to verify the score.**

- vi. The judge must judge the entire splash, unless they have a dog entered in that splash. The back-up judge will judge that dog/dogs. (Note: At mobile dock events, due to the set-up of the Open Splashes, it may not be possible for a judge to jump every dog in an entire splash. There will be certified judges sharing the judging responsibilities at these trials.)
- vii. The judge will sign or initial each splash sheet or jump card that they judged.

## IX. HANDLER:

- i. During a Splash or judged jump, the lead handler of the dog may bring up an additional handler to restrain the dog. Maximum 2 handlers on the dock, staff may not be on the dock during a competition jump unless they are assisting as a handler. 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 in full and continued control of the dog at all times. The parent or legal guardian must be present at all times while the youth is on the dock. The parent or legal guardian accepts full responsibility of the youth at all times.** In order for a Youth Handler to be eligible for any the awards or accolades created especially for Youth, they must not turn 17 years old on or before Oct 16<sup>th</sup> of the given year.
- ii. As NADD is fully supportive in getting new dogs to jump and compete, we do allow verbal support from outside the pool. However, any support can **ONLY** be in the form of cheering, and calling the dog's name, waving arms, etc. **This person would also be considered the 2<sup>nd</sup> handler.** It cannot involve throwing a toy from outside the pool or splashing the water. This is considering double-handling and will result in the same violation status as 'sandbagging' as listed below.
- iii. A dog has (4) four minutes to complete the optional practice and the 2 competition jumps. The (4) minute time period begins once the handler and dog are both on the dock. Time will stop when either the dog completes its 2<sup>nd</sup> jump or the judge announces TIME. If time ends before the dog is in a forward jumping movement, the jump will not count. **At any NADD event, the dog must complete both of its jumps. They may not pass on the 2<sup>nd</sup> attempt unless an injury has occurred.**
- iv. The handler throwing the toy is considered the handler of record.
- v. Handlers may compete with multiple dogs in a splash. An individual dog may be entered in the splash only once.

- vi. A throwing object (toy) may be used to entice the dog to jump. It is not required. The object must be throw-able & floatable. The object cannot sink, cannot dissolve, cannot be living or dead animal and cannot be an edible commodity for dogs (**no food**). **No food or treats are allowed on the dock at any time.** It is not required that the dog retrieve the object to receive a qualifying jump. **A Handler may only take 2 toys on the dock during the competition jump. If the dog is released and makes an attempt to jump and stops on its own accord (this does not include the handler calling the dog off the jump) and dog does not retrieve immediately, the toy may be returned to the handler for one (1) throw only. They have until the dog jumps or time expires, whichever comes first. If the toy is thrown out of the pool, it will be tossed back in the middle of the pool or given to the handler. It is the handler's responsibility in both Open (Lap and Veteran included) jumps and in Air Retrieve to have a volunteer or helper to retrieve the toy. The NADD judges or AR rig operators will not throw or retrieve the toy for them.**

## **X: FACILITIES:**

- i. Only approved facilities are allowed to hold NADD trials.
- ii. NADD may allow a portable dock & pool at special trials. Prior approval is required for the trial.
- iii. All facilities shall have a designated crating & staging area.
- iv. Only one facility will be approved to hold a trial within approximately 100-mile radius on the same day.
- v. The sanctioned facility may choose to cancel or adjust the North America Diving Dogs schedule due to environmental or trial schedule issues.
- vi. **All facilities & mobile docks must have two – minimum 3' x 3' NADD logo banner, two – minimum 3' x 3' AKC logo banner or minimum 3' x 3' CKC logo banner. These banners must be displayed on the dock railings. Also, the banner below the dock must have the NADD logo and the AKC or CKC logo displayed on it.**

## **XI. EQUIPMENT:**

- i. All equipment must be approved by NADD prior to the trial.

- ii. Pool: The walls of the pool should be 4 feet deep and the water must be at least 3.5 feet deep. The top surface of the dock should be 24" above the water level (with a +/- 2" tolerance due to water levels changing throughout the day). The pool must be at least 21' x 41' 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.
- iii. Dock: The dock used for dock jumping competitions must be of sturdy construction. The dock must be 40 feet long by 7.5 feet wide. The dock must have a barrier around it to prevent dogs from jumping off the ground sides of the dock. The surface must have Astro-turf, outdoor, stiff carpeting, rubber-like or an approved surface that is non-slip when wet to prevent slipping and better traction for the dog. The dock must sit 2 feet above the surface of the water. **This is measured from where the blue & white pool vinyl meet on the pool.**
- iv. 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.
- v. 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 [info@northamericadivingdogs.com](mailto:info@northamericadivingdogs.com). NADD will immediately investigate and make determinations to any reported unsafe issues.

## **XII. DISTANCE JUMPING:**

- i. A splash consists of 2 jumps. Once the handler/dog enters the dock, they will have two opportunities to jump in that splash. The jumps will be back to back. A dog may not jump more than 1 splash at a time. There must be at least one other dog (or 1 minute) in between jumps and the dog must come off the dock during this time.
- ii. The judge will give a scored distance jumped for each qualifying jump. A qualifying jump is when the dog enters the water from the dock. The greater of the two scores becomes the dog's qualifying score for that splash. **The OFFICIAL score is the score written on the card or scoresheet by the judges. All other scores announced or written on ribbons on any other document are unofficial. It is the responsibility of the handler to make sure their score is recorded correctly before leaving the event.**
- iii. The dogs 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.
- iv. If the dog enters the water from the ramp or stairs it will be scored as a non-qualifying jump "NQ".
  - v. 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'. Upon the 1<sup>st</sup> violation, the handler will be warned privately and in a positive manner. The 2<sup>nd</sup> occurrence will result in the handler being NQ'd from the entire Splash, the 3<sup>rd</sup> occurrence will result in the handler being removed from the trial and a letter being sent to NADD administration.
  - vi. Jumps are considered official once the handler cues/releases the dog to proceed with the jump. If the dog jumps prior to obviously being cued/released or the toy being thrown, this will be considered a "practice or Non-Jump" and the handler may continue with competition jumps. If a dog repeats this behavior it will count as an official jump and be scored accordingly.
  - vii. A sanctioned facility or mobile trial will award each handler/dog team with a qualifying ribbon for each qualifying jump after each splash. Additional Placement ribbons may also be offered per Splash or for Finals. **It is the responsibility of the handler to pick up all ribbons at the event they are earned. Neither NADD nor the facility is not responsible for mailing ribbons.**

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

NADD has developed two classes of competition. Open and Lap classes. **Veteran (over 8yrs before Oct. 15 & Junior Handler classes are only offered at NADD Championship.**

1. Open Class: This class is open to all dogs regardless of breed, age or sex to compete in all open divisions levels.
2. Lap Class: Lap Class is for all dogs under 16" or less at the withers to compete in class to achieve the recognition the same as the Open Class. If a dog is under the 16" mark they must compete as a Lap Dog. **If a dog is not clearly visibly under 16", it will be placed in the Open division until it has been officially measured at Nationals, at a portable dock, or has their AKC & CKC**

**agility height card.** All dogs must be measured by the judge prior to jumping with an approved wicket to enter this class. The measurement is from the top point of the shoulder (withers) down to the ground while standing in its “natural stance”. At the age of 2 years or older all dogs must be measured for a final height. **If your puppy’s breed standard is well above 16” at maturity, you may not list your dog as Lap. They must be listed at minimum 16 inches so that they do not compete in the Lap class throughout their puppyhood.** The final measurement must be on file with the NADD. Qualifying jumps in the Lap Class will only transfer to the Open Class if the dog is found to be over the required height. If you have a puppy that is 14” at 1 year and jumps in the Lap Class, the qualifying jumps will transfer to the Open Class if the dog grows over 16” at 2 years of age.

### Distance Jumps Divisions

#### Open Class:

Novice Division – 0’1” to 9’11”  
 Junior Division - 10’0” to 14’11”  
 Senior Division – 15’0” to 19’11”  
 Master Division – 20’0” to 23’11”  
 Elite Division - 24’0” and above

#### Lap Class:

Novice Division – 0’1” to 4’11”  
 Junior Division - 5’0” to 8’11”  
 Senior Division – 9’0” to 12’11”  
 Master Division – 13’0” to 17’11”  
 Elite Division - 18’0” and above

- i. A handler/dog team will earn one qualifying score towards a Division title based on their longest jump in a splash.
- ii. A Division title is earned by accumulative five (5) qualifying jumps within one division.

DN – Dock Novice  
 DJ – Dock Junior  
 DS – Dock Senior  
 DM – Dock Master  
 DE – Dock Elite

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.

DNA – Dock Novice Advanced  
 DJA – Dock Junior Advanced

- DSA –Dock Senior Advanced  
 DMA –Dock Master Advanced  
 DEA –Dock Elite Advanced
- iii. Excellent (X) - can be earned once you have earned an Advance (A) with an additional 25 qualifying jumps within a division. This is a total of 55 jumps within division. A (X) will be placed behind the Division Title.  
 DNX – Dock Novice Excellent  
 DJX - Dock Junior Excellent  
 DSX - Dock Senior Excellent  
 DMX – Dock Master Excellent  
 DEX – Dock Elite Excellent
  - iv. 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.
  - v. Qualifying jumps will accumulate within a division. You must earn the Division title before earning a higher title of Advanced (A) or Excellent (X).
  - vi. The higher-level titles will supersede lower titles on a dog’s record.
  - vii. A dog can earn 2 Advanced Titles such as a DNA and a DJA but the higher title will supersede the lower title.
  - viii. A dog can earn an Advanced Title and an Excellent Title but the higher title will supersede the lower title.
  - ix. A dog can earn two Excellent Titles such as a DNX and a DJX but the higher title will supersede the lower title.
  - x. A dog that earns his second Excellent within a division, the DJX will be replaced with a DJX2 for the title of record.
  - xi. This system of recording was developed so that every qualifying jump that a handler/dog team does counts towards one of the above titles.

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

- i. AIR RETRIEVE:
  - a. The Air Retrieve rig is an apparatus that can be moved along the side of the pool. It must be adjustable so the bumper is hanging 2ft. over the surface of the dock and centered with the width of the dock. **All Air Retrieves rigs must be approved by NADD prior to use.**
  - b. The object for the Air Retrieve must be the approved NADD bumper and have both ends to attach it to the Air Retrieve extender.



- c. The dog can start at any distance on the dock. The handler/dog can use all 40 ft. if they choose.
- d. The Air Retrieve distance will start at 6 feet for Open and 4 feet for Lap. The toy will move out from the front of the dock at ONLY 1-foot increments. All AR jumps will move in 1-foot increments; this includes attempts at World Records.
- e. The handle/dog team will be scored with a Grab (X) or a Miss (0). A “Grab” is achieved when the dog grabs or completely removes the bumper from the Air Retrieve extender. The dog is not required to actually bring the bumper down with their mouth. They can grab the bumper or knock it lose from the extender. So long as the bumper comes completely free from the extender the dog moves on to the next distance. A “Miss” is when the bumper is still attached to the Air Retrieve extender.
- f. Each dog gets 2 chances at each distance until they have two misses at one distance or 3 overall misses, whichever occurs first. The handler/dog team will get two (2) attempts back to back to grab the bumper. The team will be eliminated if they are unsuccessful at the (2) back to back attempts or one their 3<sup>rd</sup> overall miss, regardless of position at the time of occurrence.
- g. The event will be run with a set running order (determined by lowest starting distance first, unless otherwise set by 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. The handler may choose to take a 45 second break in between each successful grab.
- h. Each attempt will be given 90 seconds.
  - i. 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.
  - ii. If a dog misses and begins to swim around under the bumper, the NADD AR crew will immediately move the rig out away from over the pool. The handler must either call the dog back or throw a toy to lure the dog back. Once the dog has started back to the dock, the rig will be reset. Once the rig is reset, regardless of the dogs positon, time will begin for the next

attempt.

- i. The qualifying score will be the last clean grab or knock down that the handler/dog team had at a given distance.
- j. A dog can pass as often and as many times as the handler wishes. (Except in a qualifying event or in a Finals)
- k. If there is a tie in the placements, the following tie breakers will determine placements:
  - i. The handler/dog with the less misses will be the next highest placement.
  - ii. If both handler/dog teams have the same number of overall misses, then the tie will be broken by the team with the first miss at the longer distance.
  - iii. If both teams had misses at the same spot, then the team with the most successful grabs will be the winner.
- l. The sanctioned facility may limit the entries to this trial, as it does take considerable amount of time to complete this competition. It is not required that the sanctioned facility include this discipline in their trial.

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

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

### **Air Retrieve - Open Class**

Novice Division – 6’- 9’

Junior Division – 10’- 13’

Senior Division – 14’- 17’

Master Division – 18’- 21’

Elite Division – 22’ and up

### **Air Retrieve - Lap Class**

Novice Division – 4’- 6’

Junior Division – 7’- 9’

Senior Division – 10’- 12’

Master Division – 13’- 15’

Elite Division – 16’ and up

- a. A Division title is earned by accumulative five (5) qualifying grabs within one division.
  - AN - Air Retrieve Novice
  - AJ - Air Retrieve Junior
  - AS - Air Retrieve Senior
  - AM - Air Retrieve Master
  - 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.

ANA - Air Retrieve Novice Advanced

AJA - Air Retrieve Junior Advanced

ASA - Air Retrieve Senior Advance

AMA - Air Retrieve Master Advanced

AEA - Air Retrieve Elite Advanced

- c. **Excellent (X)** - can be earned once you have earned an Advance (A) with an additional 10 qualifying grabs within a division. This is a total of 25 grabs within a division. A (X) will be placed behind the Division Title.

ANX - Air Retrieve Novice Excellent

AJX - Air Retrieve Junior Excellent

ASX - Air Retrieve Senior Excellent

AMX - Air Retrieve Master Excellent

AEX - Air Retrieve Elite Excellent

- d. Once an Excellent title is achieved an **additional 10 qualifying grabs** within a division will earn a numerical number after the X. For example: Air Retrieve Novice Excellent - ANX2, ANX3, etc.
- e. Qualifying grabs will accumulate within a division. You must earn the Division title before earning a higher title of Advance (A) or Excellent (X).
- f. A dog can earn two Advance Titles such as ANA and AJA but the higher title of AJA will prevail. It will be the title of record.
- g. A dog can earn an Advance Title and an Excellent Title such as ANA and AJX but the higher title of AJX will prevail. It will be the title of record.
- h. A dog can earn two Excellent Titles such as ANX and AJX. Both titles will be a 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.

## **XVI. PLACEMENTS:**

- i. Mobile Dock trials: At most mobile dock trials, due to the nature of the trial itself, each jump will receive a Q ribbon or a Title ribbon (if earned). Placements are not usually given at these trials.
- ii. Facility Trials: Each facility is responsible for its own awarding of placements and awards. They may, but are not required to, award placements for each Splash and /or for a Finals splash at the end of the trail.
- iii. At any trial, information on placements and the type of event will be defined in the event listing on the website.  
([www.northamericadivingdogs.com/events](http://www.northamericadivingdogs.com/events)).

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

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

I (we) agree that the facility holding this event has the right to refuse this entry for cause which the facility shall deem sufficient. In consideration of the acceptance of this entry and of the holding of this event and of the opportunity to have the dog judged and to win prizes, ribbons, or trophies, I (we) agree to hold the NADD and/or AKC, CKC, Eukanuba, any sponsors, the event-giving facility, their members, directors, governors, officers, agents, superintendents or event secretary and the owner and/or lessor of the premises and any provider of services that are necessary to hold this event and any employees or volunteers of the aforementioned parties, and any NADD, approved judge, judging at this event, harmless from any claim for loss or injury which may be alleged to have been caused directly or indirectly to any person or thing by the act of this dog while in or about the event premises or grounds or near any entrance thereto, and I (we) personally assume all responsibility and liability for any such claim; and I (we) further agree to hold the aforementioned parties harmless from any claim for loss, injury or damage to this dog. Additionally, I (we) hereby assume the sole responsibility for and agree to indemnify, defend and save the aforementioned parties harmless from any and all loss and expense (including legal fees) by reason of the liability imposed by law upon any of the aforementioned parties for damage because of bodily injuries,

including death at any time resulting therefrom, sustained by any person or persons, including myself (ourselves) or on account of damage to property, arising out of or in consequence of my (our) participation in this event, however such injuries, death or property damage may be caused, and whether or not the same may have been caused or may be alleged to have been caused by the negligence of the aforementioned parties or any of their employees, agents, or any other persons. Scores are officially property of NADD and the AKC, CKC 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 hereby grant to NADD, AKC, CKC, Eukanuba, hosting facility and its affiliated companies, representatives, agents, sponsors, and assigns, a non-exclusive, unlimited, worldwide, license to use, reproduce, distribute, display and transmit the photographs, portraits, pictures, electronic or digital images, tape, film, video footage, television, and all reproductions thereof in any form whatsoever ("materials") of any and all NADD events in any and all materials the AKC, CKC or Eukanuba chooses. I also hereby grant to NADD, AKC, CKC, Eukanuba and hosting facility all rights and permission to use or appropriate his/her and their dog's name, your name, biography, likeness, photograph, video, voice, performing persona, or other indicia of identity for broadcast, telecast, cablecast, transmission or distribution in any format or media known now or in the future. I understand that my contact information may be shared with sponsors of North America Diving Dogs at the sole discretion of North America Diving Dogs.

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

*Signature page: Please remove this page, sign, scan and email back.*

By signing this document, you are confirming that you and you alone are responsible for the understanding and implementation of these rules as they are written and intended.

If at any point, you have a question in regards to these rules, you must contact NADD PRIOR to making a ruling.

Please either call or text 706-351-2980 with any questions or concerns.

Name:

Facility or Mobile dock affiliation (If more than one, list all):

Date:

Signature: