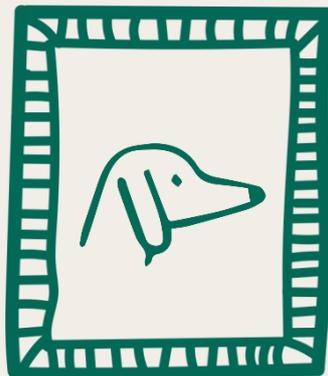




**YKC GRADUATE AGILITY
(GRAD)**



**AGILITY COMPETITIONS
RULES 2025 (CRUFTS 2026)**



A: HANDLERS

1. The following four subcategories will be open for members to compete in:

| Large Dogs | Intermediate Dogs | Medium Dogs | Small Dogs |
|---|---|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Handler 06-24 Years |

2. Only current YKC members may compete YKC Classes.
3. Handlers may not be swapped after the closing date of the show.
 - i. This means no on-the-day swapping of YKC handlers at any Grad qualifier.
 - ii. If the entered handler is not running the dog, that entered dog must withdraw from the class.
4. Use the YKC member's age on the first day of the show to work out which age category a YKC member should enter.

B: DOGS

1. Standard Kennel Club rules surrounding which dogs may enter this agility class apply.
2. Bitches in season will not be allowed to compete in any YKC agility competition.
3. Once a dog has competed with a given YKC handler in a GRAD qualifier, that dog may only compete with that handler in any future GRAD qualifiers for the rest of the qualifying season.
4. Dogs are only eligible to enter YKC Graduate competitions if they are eligible to enter one of the following classes;
 - i. Grade 1, Grade 2 or Grade 3
5. Dogs do NOT have to be grade 3 or lower when competing at Crufts the following year.
 - i. The dog may win out of Grade 3 and still compete in this class at Crufts so long as the dog was grade 3 or below when it qualified.

C: GRADUATE AGILITY QUALIFIERS

1. **By entering a YKC qualifier, the YKC member and anyone representing them (parent/guardian etc) agree to abide by the YKC's Code of Conduct**
2. The GRAD qualification class will feature a single agility round.
 - i. The course will be set at approximately G2-3 standard.
3. Standard Kennel Club marking will apply.
 - i. To work out the places for this class, dogs will be ranked first by total number of faults, then by time. The dog with the fewest faults in the fastest time is the winner.
 - a. The rankings of the 4 subcategories are separate.
4. There will be a prize giving ceremony.
5. Members may enter GRAD competitions even if they have already qualified.

D: GRADUATE AGILITY - WHO QUALIFIES FOR THE FINAL?

1. **First place at any GRAD qualifier during this season will guarantee a space in the final**
2. To fill any remaining spaces the waterfall roll-down method will be used.
 - a. The full details of this can be found in the "YKC Waterfall Method" Document
3. There are a total of 60 spaces in the Grad final.
 - i. These spaces will be allocated as follows:
 - a. 15 per height category
 - b. Any unused spaces in a height category will not be lost, and offered to the other height categories.
 - (1) Full details of how this is done can be found in the "YKC Waterfall Method" document.
4. Once qualified, the handler and dog combination is locked in for this year's qualifying season.
 - i. The qualified dog may only be handled at Crufts by the same handler that it qualified with.
5. The YKC will invite all those who have qualified to enter Crufts via email before Christmas.



E: HOW MANY DOGS CAN I QUALIFY FOR GRAD?

1. You may qualify as many different dogs across as many heights as you wish for the GRAD final at Crufts **HOWEVER:**
 - i. YOU MAY ONLY ENTER A MAXIMUM OF **ONE** QUALIFIED DOG ACROSS ALL HEIGHTS **E.G.:**
 - a. **CORRECT** - 1 x dog in large OR intermediate OR medium OR small
 - b. **INCORRECT** - 1 x dog in each height category
2. A handler is only allowed to swap dogs if they have managed to qualify another dog in the GRAD competition, in this case, they may swap to the other qualified dog.
 - i. This must be reported to the YKC at the earliest opportunity.
 - ii. The cut off for any substitution of entered dogs using this method is 7 days prior to the first day of Crufts.

F: GRADUATE AGILITY AT CRUFTS – FINAL

1. **By entering a YKC class, the YKC member and anyone representing them (parent/guardian etc) agree to abide by the YKC's Code of Conduct.**
2. The final for the YKC Graduate Agility competition is held at Crufts in the YKC ring.
3. At Crufts, the YKC will calculate the which age category each competitor shall be in based on the YKC members age on the first day of Crufts.
 - i. Handlers who turn 25 before the first day of Crufts are not eligible to compete at Crufts in the YKC ring – any qualifications gained for the YKC will be forfeit.
4. The final will be held over a single agility Course.
 - i. This course will be set at grade 2-3.
5. At Crufts, dogs **MUST** run in strict running order;
 - i. if you are not on the line when your run is due, you will have missed your run
 - a. The running order for the final will be determined randomly
6. **Sponsorship and logos**
 - i. Some YKC members have managed to arrange personal sponsorship and branding deals. YKC members who wish to have branding on their clothing at Crufts must follow the below rules.
 - ii. The YKC & Kennel Club also have several sponsors in both the YKC ring and the main arena at Crufts.
 - a. To comply with our sponsors, YKC members may **NOT** have branding on display from the following companies:
 - (1) Dog food or treat supplier
 - (2) Car manufacturer
 - (3) Insurance company
 - b. If a YKC member wishes to have branding from a company not on the above list on an item of clothing, that company's branding must be where a breast pocket would be and must be approximately breast pocket size.
 - c. This restriction on branding from 5.ii.a & 5.ii.b only applies in the following locations:
 - (1) Crufts YKC collecting ring, Crufts YKC ring, Crufts YKC Presentation Area.
 - (2) Crufts Main arena collecting ring, Crufts Main Arena, Crufts Main Arena Presentation Area.

G: GRADUATE AGILITY FINAL - PRIZEGIVING

1. The following awards will be presented in the YKC ring for the Graduate Agility final

| Large | Intermediate | Medium | Small |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| • 1 st to 5 th |

2. All non-placed competitors will receive a semi-finalist rosette when exiting the prize-giving
 - i. To receive this award, members must be present for the prize-giving.