



TDAA Petit Prix
2018 Tournament Rules

Four Seasons K9 Athlete Center
Washingtonville, Ohio

October 5-7, 2018

RULES FOR THE 2018

TDAA PETIT PRIX TOURNAMENT

TDAA's 2018 Petit Prix championship tournament is designed to showcase top competitors among dogs of small stature in the sport of dog agility and to name a tournament champion in each jump height.

The Qualifying Period for the 2018 Tournament Season is October 1, 2017 through September 30, 2018.

Each tournament is structured on two levels:

1. Regional qualifying events held during the Qualifying Period
2. A championship event consisting of Semi-Finals and the Championship Round, to be held at Four Seasons K9 Athlete Center, Washingtonville, Ohio; October 5-7, 2018.

General Rules

This tournament is designed to provide a test in head-to-head competition with challenges that generally conform to the Course Design Guidelines of the Superior Standard class. Emphasis will be on challenges at speed, appropriate for dogs competing at an advanced level.

Competitors are eligible to compete in the tournament series with any dog that is registered with TDAA without regard to previous accomplishments in the sport. These general rules apply:

- Any competitor may enter any of the Regional qualifying trials without regard to geographic location.
- Qualifications earned in regional qualifying events and each round of the Petit Prix are recorded for titling at the level for which the dog is eligible.

Qualification, Eligibility & Advancement

TDAA Rules & Regulations currently in effect at the date of competition shall apply. Standard scoring rules for the Superior standard class as set forth in the TDAA Rules and Regulations shall apply. A qualifying score shall be awarded for a zero-fault round.

- A Regional qualifying class shall consist of a single round on a standard course. A qualifying score in the class is required to qualify for the Petit Prix.
- Any dog entered in the Petit Prix tournament that does not have a completed official measurement (two measurements that agree) placing the dog in a specific measured height, must be measured prior to competing in the Petit Prix.
- Body type and veterans height exemptions shall be scored with their measured height without benefit of handicapping. Exemptions for “Self-declared” heights will not be recognized for play in the Petit Prix tournament.

Semi-Finals Placement, Scoring Format, and Tie-breaking

A dog shall earn tournament points in two ways:

1. *Placement within the field.* Performance points shall be accorded to the dog against the over-all field. Scoring shall use a point table (placement inverse to count) to ensure that top performing dogs are equitably recognized.
2. *Top scoring dogs*¹. Exceptional performance points shall be earned for the top five placements against the field, for each class, to be awarded on this basis:
 - a. 1st Place 25 points
 - b. 2nd Place 20 points
 - c. 3rd Place 15 points
 - d. 4th Place 10 points
 - e. 5th Place 5 points

Dogs running with a jump height exemption shall be scored against dogs of the measured height and not the exemption height; and will compete using the scoring times set for the measured height.

Scoring will be weighted, with the dog’s final score adjusted by jump height. The weight factor might be applied to playing time, total combined score, or points earned. The basic weighting will be based on these values:

Dogs scored at 16" = 1.0
Dogs scored at 12" = .95
Dogs scored at 8" = .89
Dogs scored at 4" = .82

The definitive reference for agility games is *The Book of Agility Games* which can be purchased at nominal cost at www.dogagility.org/newstore.

¹ The top scoring dog in each jump height shall be guaranteed 10 exceptional performance points if those points are not earned in placement against the field.

Competition, Placement and Qualification Notes

The Petit Prix Semi-Finals will consist of four standard courses and six games.

The top *five* placements in each jump height will be recognized in the award ceremony. The winner of each game and standard round through the tournament, measured against the entire field of dogs, shall be recognized and awarded a winner's prize.

All dogs, without regard to competition level, or titles earned, shall compete on the same courses. All games and courses are eligible for dogs to earn qualifying legs towards TDAA titles. All courses will be judged under the TDAA Superior rules for performance. However, the dog shall earn a qualifying score only at the level for which he is eligible.

Course Time differentials for Beginner/GI, Intermediate/GII, Vet Dog, or Disabled Handler will not be used for Tournament Scoring. These differentials *may* be used by the score table to determine if a team earns a qualifying score at the level for which they are eligible and for any Special Awards for the event. Any maximum course times used will accommodate this. Some games have scoring criteria where these additional time allowances will not apply.

Games

In addition to four standard classes, the Petit Prix competition shall consist of these six games:

1. *Just In Time* is a dog's-choice point accumulation game in which the dog earns special bonuses for ending in a timely manner. *Just in Time* is scored Points, Then Time. ER2
2. The *Steeplechase* is a numbered sequence typically featuring the A-frame and the weave poles (once of which must be taken twice). A *Steeplechase* is scored Time, Plus Faults. ER5
3. *Pole Jacks* is a game of strategy and skill, played like the children's game of jacks. The performance of a short set of weave poles is the bounce of the ball! *Pole Jacks* is scored Points, Then Time. ER2
4. *The Weakest Link* is a dog's choice point accumulation game that requires a handler to "bank" points to keep them; or lose points that are not banked. In this game points earned must be worth as much as or more than the last points earned; and are safe only when banked. Often there will be a distance challenge accorded an extraordinary bonus value. *The Weakest Link* is scored Points, Then Time. ER2
5. *Jumplers* is a combined class of *Jumpers* and *Gamblers*. The dog will run a numbered course consisting of jumps and tunnels that will feature elements on which the dog will earn bonuses for working at a distance from the handler. *Jumplers* is scored Time, Plus Faults, Less Bonus. ER7
6. *Quidditch* is a simple game of handling skill. The handler must direct the dog to perform three sequences of escalating value, and attempting the simple performance of a tire after each. The game is full of interesting bonuses and colorful phraseology. *Quidditch* is scored Points, Then Time. ER2

The Championship Round

The Championship round shall be a standard course. And placement within this round solely shall determine placement in each jump height for the Petit Prix Tournament².

Dogs that will compete in the Championship round shall include:

- The top twenty-five dogs by placement in the field;
- The winner of each individual event;
- The top scoring dog in each jump height.

The order shall be jump height and then reverse seed. Dogs running with a jump height exemption shall be run at the end of that jump height.

TDAANationalAgilityChampionshipTitle

The Teacup Dogs Agility Association will award TDAANationalAgilityChampionship Title (TNAC) upon the dog that: 1) achieves the highest overall score in each jump height at the TDAAPetitPrix, and 2) scores among the top 25 dogs in the tournament.

This is a unique title in our agility culture as it is a championship earned by excellence in competition; specifically, by an unambiguous win in the national tournament.

² Performance points earned in the Semi-Finals shall serve as tertiary tie-breaker in the Championship Round.