

## AGILITY TEAM GB

### 2027 TEAM QUALIFICATION



### Agility Team GB – OPEN TO ALL

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## Introduction

The Agility Team GB Selection Process is designed to incorporate dogs and handlers that have reached a high level of performance in Royal Kennel Club ("RKC") Premier and Championship shows during the previous 12 months. It is designed to be an "Open for All" selection, provided that partnerships have achieved, or are close to reaching, a level that will enable them to be competitive at international events.

### List of Abbreviations.

- AWC – Agility World Championship.
- JAO – Junior Agility Open.
- OSC – Open Show Case.
- TO1 – Try Out Weekend 1.
- FCICM – FCI Championship Measure
- EO – European Open.
- JOT – Junior Agility Open Try Out.
- PSQ – Pre-selection Qualifier.
- TO2 –Try Out Weekend 2.

### Key Dates

| Event                                                                          | Dates                          |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Qualification Period                                                           | 1 April 2026 – 1 November 2026 |
| Open Showcase for EO & AWC (OSC)                                               | 6 February 2027                |
| Junior Pre-Selection Qualifier (PSQ) incorporating Junior Open Showcase (JOSC) | 7 February 2027                |
| Try Out Weekend 1 (TO 1)                                                       | 20 & 21 February 2027          |
| Try Out Weekend 2 (TO 2)                                                       | 13 & 14 March 2027             |
| JAO Try Out (JOT)                                                              | 21 & 22 March 2027             |
| Teams Announced                                                                | Before 7 April 2027            |
| Team Day (EO & AWC)                                                            | 24 April 2027                  |
| Team Day (JAO)                                                                 | 25 April 2027                  |
| EO Team Day                                                                    | 31 May 2027                    |
| JAO Camp                                                                       | 1-3 June 2027                  |
| EO (Netherlands)                                                               | 15 - 18 July 2027              |
| JAO (Germany)                                                                  | 22 - 25 July 2027              |
| AWC Team Day                                                                   | 30 August 2027                 |
| 2026 JAO Team Debrief                                                          | 30 August 2027                 |
| AWC - Italy                                                                    | 5 – 10 October 2027            |
| EO & AWC Debrief                                                               | 24 October 2027 (TBC)          |

## Judges and Course Designers

### Open Show Case (OSC). 6 February 2027.

Event Judge: **Jason Bartram.**

Jumping Course Designer: Patrick Tunders (EO Judge)

Agility Course Designer: Francesco Luigi Bircolotti (AWC Judge)

### Junior Open Show Case (JOSC) and Junior Pre-Selection Qualifier. 7 February 2027.

Event Judge: **Lee Gibson.**

Jumping Course Designer: Jesus Fernandez Crespo (Design request; U15 Individual Jumping)

Agility 1 Course Designer: Alina Hanßen (Design request; U15 Individual Agility)

### Try Out Weekend 1 (TO 1). 20 – 21 February 2027.

Event Judge. **Jason Bartram.**

Day 1 Jumping Course Designer: Tom Mercebach

Day 1 Agility Course Designer: Patrick Tunders

Day 1 Final Course Designer: Jason Bartram (Based on EO Team Relay Finals & Marieke Timmer)

Day 2 Jumping Course Design: Ana Beltran

Day 2 Agility Course Design: Jason Bartram (Based on Roman Lukac )

### Try Out Weekend 2 (TO 2). 13 - 14 March 2027.

Event Judge. **Jason Bartram.**

Day 1 Jumping Course Designer: Philipp Müller Schnick

Day 1 Agility Course Designer: Seppo Savikko

Day 1 Final Course Designer: Jurgen Smit

Day 2 Jumping Course Design: Lorenzo Celic

Day 2 Agility Course Design: Francesco Luigi Bircolotti

### JAO Try Out (JOT). 20 & 21 March 2027

Event Judge. **Lee Gibson.**

Jumping 1 Course Designer: Alina Hanßen (Design request; JAO Team)

Agility 1 Course Designer: Jesus Fernandez Crespo (Design request; JAO Team)

Jumping 2 Course Designer: Lee Gibson (Design request; U15 Individual Jumping, based on Jeremy Manno)

Agility 2 Course Designer: Stefanie Semkat (Design request; U19 Individual Agility)

The above is subject to change and a finalised list of designers will be posted on the official Agility Team GB Facebook pages once confirmed.

## Selection Summary

### Eligibility for Try Out Process 2027

The invitation to compete at an Agility Team GB Try Out event and the invitation to represent The Royal Kennel Club ("RKC") at an International Championship is extended entirely at the RKC's sole discretion. The RKC reserves the absolute right to withdraw, revoke, or terminate any invitation, regardless of any competition results obtained, along with any associated authority to act or speak on behalf of the RKC, at any time, with immediate effect, for any reason or no reason (without cause), and without prior notice. Upon receipt of written notice of withdrawal, the Participant shall immediately cease all representative activities, statements, and use of the RKC's name, branding, team clothing or intellectual property. Regarding the "Win On" spots mentioned throughout this selection document, the win on equates to winning an Invitation with the above conditions in place.

**ALL dogs in Small, Medium and Intermediate** trying out for Agility Team GB must have **obtained an official FCI Championship measure before 25<sup>th</sup> January 2027**.

**EO/AWC** – Achieve at least one of the following between April 1<sup>st</sup> 2026, and November 1<sup>st</sup> 2026

- An IQ Class winner achieved in the dog's FCI height category.
- An IQ Top Two Overall placement achieved in the dog's FCI height category.
- 2026 EO Team member, or was a travelling reserve on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2026.
- 2026 AWC Team member who competed, or was a travelling reserve, at the 2026 AWC.
- 2026 JAO Team member who competed, or was a travelling reserve, at the 2026 JAO who is no longer eligible for JAO 2027 due to age.

To be eligible to attend the Agility Team GB Try Out process in 2027, **ALL partnerships MUST compete** (run both classes) **at a minimum of two (2) International Qualifiers** during the qualification dates.

In addition, the Agility Team GB Management may select dogs who have not met the above criteria to join the process due to extenuating circumstances as determined by the management team or from results obtained at the Open Showcase 2027.

#### **Junior PSQ and Try Out.**

- 2009 or later date of birth.
- Young RKC Member.

Who has achieved at least one of the following:

- Qualified for the Young RKC Agility Dog of the Year Semi-Finalist 2027.
- 2026 Junior or Adult Team member who competed at the 2026 JAO or AWC, or was a travelling reserve.
- 2026 EO Team member, or was a travelling reserve on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2026.
- Junior Open Showcase 2027 Results

**A parent guide with further information about the Junior Agility Open event can be found on the Agility Crew Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2803458159979536>**

In addition, the Agility Team GB Management may select dogs who have not met the above criteria to join the process due to extenuating circumstances as determined by the management team.

The Agility Team GB Management reserve the right to invite additional dogs and handlers to enter the Try Out Process or the Junior PSQ.

## **How to qualify to represent Agility Team GB**

### **EO & AWC Team**

Two, two-day events (TO1 & TO2) with win on spots available for both the individual and team events at the European Open and Agility World Championships.

### **Junior Team**

The PSQ will have two runs used to collect results data for team selections. The JOT is a two-day event with win on spots available for both the individual and team events at the Junior Agility Open.

### **If you do not win your way onto the team....**

After the win on spots detailed throughout this document have been determined, all other places at the events and the makeup of the individual teams will be decided by the management team.

They will consider,

- The results from the selection process.
- The results from International Qualifiers.
- Previous national & international experience and results.
- Requirements of specific selection (selecting a partnership specifically for team, individual or both).
- The Age category of the handler (JAO Team)
- Dynamics within the teams.
- Composition of other teams (EO & AWC).
- Handlers perceived commitment to International Agility Championships.
- Handlers conduct, attitude and behaviour on previous years' teams and/or previous years RKC competitions and/or social media conduct.
- Development of partnerships.

Team Culture and Morale: A handler's ability and willingness to contribute positively to team culture, support fellow team members, build team morale and foster a united, supportive environment will be an essential consideration in the selection process with any previous failure to demonstrate these qualities taken into account.

Handlers entering this process acknowledge they CAN win onto any event. If they do not achieve this, they recognise that all other selections are opinion based and made by the management team & do not need to be justified.

A parent guide with further information about the Junior Open Agility World Championship event can be found on the Agility Crew Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2803458159979536>

The RKC licenses all GB Tryout events and are subject to its rules and regulations. However, FCI Agility rules will be used for agility equipment Specifications, course design and judging.

The remainder of this document concerns the specific events and detailed rules that will be used throughout the 2027 Agility Team GB Selection.

## Win on Spot Criteria 2027

The following criteria will be used throughout the entire process.

### EO & AWC

| Type of Win On  | Fault Criteria      | Time Faults              |
|-----------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Class Win On    | Zero Faults allowed | Zero Time Faults allowed |
| Combined Win On | Zero Faults allowed | Zero Time Faults allowed |

| Height       | Jumping Class | Agility Class | Combined Win on Spot |
|--------------|---------------|---------------|----------------------|
| Small        | 6mps          | 5.85mps       | 5.93mps              |
| Medium       | 6mps          | 5.85mps       | 5.93mps              |
| Intermediate | 6mps          | 5.85mps       | 5.93mps              |
| Large        | 6mps          | 5.85mps       | 5.93mps              |

Note. The MPS used is the average MPS over the four heights from the Individual Bronze dogs at the 2027 AWC.

### JUNIOR

| Type of Win On  | Fault Criteria      | Time Faults              | MPS criteria |
|-----------------|---------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| Class Win On    | Zero Faults allowed | Zero Time Faults allowed | 4.9mps       |
| Combined Win On | Maximum of 5 faults | Zero Time Faults allowed | 4.9mps       |

### Docked Dogs & Other restrictions in 2027

At the time of writing, we believe the following is correct. Please note that in previous years, additional rules have been stated as late as June which may prevent you from competing. Agility Team GB and the RKC have no control over these rules or the timing of their release.

At **EO & AWC 2027** Championships, we believe that any docked dog will only be allowed to run if the docking was for **“medical reasons”** and you have a **veterinary certificate** confirming that.

If your dog is docked and you do not have a veterinary certificate stating it was docked for medical reasons, you should not enter the Try-Out.

At **JAO 2027**, there are two exceptions allowing docked dogs to compete in Germany

1. If the tail is removed for medical reasons, they need a vet's letter explaining why and confirming that the vet removed the tail.
2. If the tail was removed as a puppy. They need,
  1. Vet certificate stating that the vet removed the tail
  2. The owner or junior handler's parent needs a UK shotgun license
  3. The owner needs to put it in writing that the dog is used for hunting.

Additionally, for JAO, Brachycephalic dogs and Dogs with shaved whiskers are forbidden to compete in Germany, therefore, these dogs should not enter the Junior Try-out.

## **EO & AWC Open Show Case**

This event gives young and emerging partnerships a chance to qualify for the 2027 Team GB selection process.

### **Eligibility**

**To be eligible to enter the 2027 Open Showcase, one of the following is required,**

- The dog's date of birth must be after 31<sup>st</sup> July 2023
- Provide evidence that the partnership was unable to compete in Agility from April through September 2026. (i.e. a veterinary letter or a doctor's letter)
- Partnerships must have competed at a minimum of FOUR International Qualifiers (run both classes) in 2026.

(Please note that if partnerships do not meet one of the above criteria, they are ineligible to enter the OSC. If they do enter and are ineligible, they will not be permitted to run and will not be eligible for a refund.)

To help us offer this opportunity, we request that you only enter if you think your dog and handler partnership is **ready to represent Agility Team GB in 2027.**

Dogs that have already accepted an invite to the 2027 selection process are ineligible to enter the OSC. Handlers who enter dogs that are not eligible to compete at this event will not receive a refund and will be unable to compete.

The OSC will include competitors wishing to compete in the EO and AWC international teams.

**ALL dogs in Small, Medium and Intermediate** entering the OSC must have **obtained an official FCI Championship Measure (FCICM) before 25<sup>th</sup> January 2027.** If dogs that are entered have not received an FCICM by this date, will be unable to compete and will not receive a refund.

This event consists of a jumping and an agility round, run under strict FCI rules and regulations unless otherwise stated in this document. Results in the OSC make up one event and are not split into EO and AWC eligibility.

- Least faults win, with time used only as a tiebreaker in all aspects of this event.
- Course time is 115% of the class winner's time in each height.
- Jumping running order is a random draw.
- Running order for the agility round will be in reverse order of the jumping round results.
- Eliminations in the individual classes and a double elimination in the combined results will not be placed.
- In the event there is a tie among the qualifying places, a run-off will be required for the individual class result. For the combined result, the agility round score will determine the winner. If a tie remains, a run-off on the agility course will take place.
- For a tie affecting running orders in the agility rounds, a coin toss will decide the place.
- If entry dictates the event may be reduced to just an agility run.
- 

### **Progression from the OSC to the Selection Process.**

#### **In each height (Total 4 partnerships)**

- Winner in each individual class (2 partnerships)
- Top 2 in combined results (2 partnerships)
- If the event is reduced to one run, the top 3 in each height (3 partnerships).

(Results must meet the above win on spot criteria)

## Selection

The management team reserve the right to invite additional partnerships that compete in this event to progress to the next stages of the Try-Outs.

## OSC General Information

If a dog gains more than 1 win on spot, the progression spot will **not roll down** to the next placed partnership.

Handlers may progress with multiple dogs from the OSC.

The entry fee for the OSC will be £30 per dog.

## EO & AWC Try Out Process.

Entry fee for the Try Out Process will be £90.50 per dog.

**ALL dogs in Small, Medium and Intermediate** entering the Try Out process must have **obtained an official FCI Championship Measure (FCICM) before 25<sup>th</sup> January 2027**. If dogs that are entered have not received an FCICM by this date, will be unable to compete and will not receive a refund.

Partnerships will compete on all 4 days, in all runs, regardless of eligibility for EO or AWC qualification.

Handlers can state on their entry if they only want to compete at either the EO or AWC. A partnership with a pedigree dog doesn't need to seek qualification for both; however, the Management Team will consider the results from all 4 days of the Selection Process regarding all selection decisions. Handlers, therefore, acknowledge that not running in all available runs could have an adverse effect on a partnership's chance of selection for one or both events.

Both Try Out Weekends consist of a "Team Format" day and an "Individual Format" day. Selection decisions will consider these different formats and course designers will be asked to design considering these formats. Both weekends will run under strict FCI rules and regulations unless otherwise stated in this document. Each day is a separate result and each height is a separate event.

## Try Out Weekend 1. (TO1)

### EO Team Format Day, Day 1.

A jumping and an agility round, with the combined results used for qualification to a final. The results from the final earn invitations to join the EO team.

- The results of a jumping and an agility run are combined.
- Course time is 115% of the class winner's time in each height.
- A random draw will be used for the running orders in both classes.
- Any dog that scores 0 faults from the combined results will progress to compete in the Final.
- All dogs that score 0.001 faults or more will run the final course but Not for Competition (NFC). The purpose of the run is to obtain data for use in selection decisions.
- The final will be run on a course designed in the layout of an EO team relay, with finalists all running the same section of the course.

- Least faults win with time used as a tiebreaker in the final.
- The running order in the relay will be based on the reverse order of their combined score.
- A 10-second countdown will be used to start the clock. Time is stopped as the dog crosses the finish line.
- Dogs that begin before the time has started will be eliminated. Handlers may lead out into the course, prior to the time starting if they wish.
- Eliminations in the final will not be placed.
- In the event of a tie for a win on spot, the agility round result will be used, followed by the jumping result (least faults win with time used as a tiebreaker). If there is still a tie, the dogs will run off on the final course.

The 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> placed partnerships from this final, in each height, will be invited to represent Team GB at the EO in both the individual and team events.

The win on spot must meet the criteria set out earlier in this document in all three runs. If a win on place does not meet these minimum criteria, the Team Management will then select the spot.

### **AWC Individual Format Day – Day 2.**

A jumping round and an agility round with the results combined. The results from the combined results earn an invitation to join the AWC squad.

- The results of a jumping and an agility round are combined.
- The least faults win with time as a tie breaker in all aspects of this event.
- Course time is 106% of the class winner's time in each height.
- Jumping running order is a random draw.
- Running order for the agility round will be in reverse order of the jumping round results.
- In the event of a tie for the win on spot, the agility round score will be used. If there is still a tie, a run-off on the agility course will take place.

The winning partnership in each height will qualify to represent Agility Team GB at the AWC. The Team Management will select whether the partnership competes in the Individual, the Team or both events. The win on spot must meet the criteria set out earlier in this document in both runs. If a win on place does not meet these minimum criteria, the Team Management will then select the spot.

### **Try Out Weekend 2. (T02)**

#### **EO Individual Format Day – Day 1.**

A Jumping and an Agility round, with the class results used for qualifying for a final. The class results are NOT combined. The results from the final earn invitations to join the EO team.

- Least faults win, with time used only as a tiebreaker in all aspects on this day.
- Course time is 115% of the class winner's time in each height.
- A random draw will be used for running orders in both classes.
- Any dog that places in the top 25% of a class, with 0 faults, will qualify to compete in the final. Percentages will be calculated from the initial entry.
- Partnerships that qualify in both classes will only qualify once, using their highest place. Qualification will move down in the other class to the next spot. The Agility result will take precedence if they achieve the same placement.
- 50% of the entry is therefore eligible to qualify for the final.

- E.g. If 40 dogs are entered in Large, the top 10 in the Jumping and the top 10 in the Agility are eligible to qualify for the final.
- All dogs that do not qualify for the final will run the final course but Not for Competition (NFC). The purpose of the run is to obtain data for use in selection decisions.
- The final will be run on an Agility course.
- The final running order will be the reverse order of the class placements, with the Agility placement taking precedent on running last. e.g., running last will be the Agility class winner, running 2<sup>nd</sup> last will be the Jumping class winner, running 3<sup>rd</sup> last will be 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the Agility class and so on.
- Eliminations in the final will not be placed.
- In the event of a tie for the progression to the final, both dogs will progress.
- In the event of a tie for a win on spot from the final, the qualifying agility round score will be used followed by the qualifying jumping result. If there is still a tie, a run-off on the final course will take place.

The 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> placed partnerships from this final, in each height, qualify to represent Team GB at the EO in both the individual and team events.

The win on spot must meet the criteria set out earlier in this document in the qualifying run that qualified them for the final and in the final. The result from the qualifying round run that was not used to gain a place in the final does not have to meet the win on spot criteria. If a win on place does not meet these minimum criteria, the Team Management will then select the spot.

#### **AWC Team format day**

A jumping and an agility round with the results combined. The results from the combined results earn an invitation to join the AWC squad.

- The results of a jumping and an agility round are combined.
- The least faults win with time as a tie breaker in all aspects of this event.
- Course time is 115% of the class winner's time in each height.
- Jumping running order is a random draw.
- Running order for the agility round will be in reverse order of the jumping round results.
- In the event of a tie for the win on spot, the agility round score will be used. If there is still a tie, a run-off on the agility course will take place.

The winning partnership in each height will qualify to represent Agility Team GB at the AWC. The Team Management will select whether the partnership competes in the Individual, the Team or both events. The win on spot must meet the criteria set out earlier in this document. If a win on place does not meet these minimum criteria, the Team Management will then select the spot.

#### **EO Team Composition**

Once the Win on Spots are established, the Management Team will then choose additional partnerships to represent Agility Team GB at the EO 2027.

It is the intention to select a Team of 32 (8 per height) as per the EO regulations. Due to the Gold medal won at the 2025 EO, we are eligible to take a 9<sup>th</sup> dog in the small height.

All partnerships will represent Team GB in both the individual and team events at the EO. A 9<sup>th</sup> partnership in Small, will run in the Individual event and the Management Team will decide if the partnership should run in a Rest of the World Team.

If a dog gains both EO win on spots, then the 2<sup>nd</sup> spot will NOT roll down and the Management Team will select this place.

The Management Team will select the specific event teams.

The Management Team will select reserves, travelling and non-travelling.

If a handler gains a win on spot with two or more dogs throughout the heights, the Team Manager reserves the right to take only one dog. The handler will be able to choose which dog gains the guaranteed place. The Management Team will make the decision to take the additional dog(s).

A reminder that all “win-on” places are offered by invitation, regardless of results achieved, and remain subject to the Royal Kennel Club’s invitation rules, as outlined above.

### **AWC Team Composition**

Once the Win on Spots are established, the Team Management will then choose additional partnerships considering the need for:

- 12 partnerships to represent Agility Team GB in the Individual event across the 4 heights.
- 4 partnerships per height to represent Agility Team GB in the Team event.
- Team and Individual reserves (travelling and non-travelling)

(Please note this could be win on spots being selected for the additional event or another partnership being selected for one or both events).

All win on spots will therefore commit to the team knowing they are only guaranteed to run in one event. All further selections for Team and the Individual runs will not take place until just before the AWC entry closing date.

If a dog gains both AWC win on spots, then they will represent GB in both the Team and Individual at AWC.

If a handler gains a win on spot with 2 or more dogs throughout the heights, the Team Manager reserves the right to take only one dog. The handler will be able to choose which dog gains the guaranteed place. The Management Team will make the decision to take the additional dog(s).

A reminder that all “win-on” places are offered by invitation, regardless of results achieved, and remain subject to the Royal Kennel Club’s invitation rules, as outlined above.

## **Junior OSC and PSQ**

There are two main objectives of this event,

1. To offer partnerships the chance to qualify to enter the 2027 Team GB selection process, who have not done so through the YKC Agility Dog of the Year or the 2026 team.
2. Obtain results data from all partnerships on the same courses for the selection process

Junior handlers must be a Young RKC Member to enter the OSC.

**ALL dogs in Small, Medium and Intermediate** entering the Junior OSC and PSQ must have **obtained an official FCI Championship Measure (FCICM) before 25<sup>th</sup> January 2027**. If dogs that are entered have not received an FCICM by this date, will be unable to compete and will not receive a refund.

### **Junior OSC & PSQ Format.**

A jumping and an agility round with the results combined.

- All dogs in the height (OSC & PSQ) will compete against each other in one class.
- Least faults win, with time used only as a tiebreaker in all aspects of this event.
- Course time is 115% of the class winner's time in each height.
- The Jumping running order is a random draw.
- Running order for the Agility class, will be in reverse order of the jumping round results.
- Eliminations in the individual classes and a double elimination in the combined results will not be placed.
- In the event there is a tie among the qualifying places, a run-off will be required for the individual class result. For the combined result, the agility round score will determine the winner. If there is still a tie, a run-off on the agility course will take place.
- For a tie affecting running orders in the agility round, a coin toss will decide the place.

### **Progression from the Junior OSC & PSQ**

#### **In each height**

- All partnerships that had qualified for the Try Out process will automatically progress, provided they compete in all the classes.
- Handlers that have entered through the OSC entry, must achieve the following to progress
  - Winner in each individual class (2 partnerships per height).
  - Top 2 in combined results from the Jumping & Agility (2 partnerships per height)
- The win on spots must meet the criteria set out earlier in this document.
- There is therefore the potential for 4 partnerships from the OSC entry to progress per height,
- The Management Team can select additional partnerships if partnerships have demonstrated they will benefit themselves and the team by progressing.

Entry fee for the partnerships that have qualified for the Try Out process before the OSC, will be £69.55 per dog and the fee will also include entry into the JOT event.

Entry fee for the partnerships entering through the OSC will be £30 per dog, and if they qualify to progress, they will pay an additional £39.55 to enter the JOT event.

### **Junior Open Agility World Championship Try Out. (JOT)**

This event consists of a “Team Format” day and an “Individual Format” day. It will run under strict FCI rules and regulations unless otherwise stated in this document. Each day is a separate result and each height is a separate event.

### **Team Format Day – Day 1.**

A jumping and an agility round with the results combined.

- The results of a jumping and an agility round are combined.
- The least faults win, with time as a tiebreaker in all aspects of this event.
- Course time is 115% of the class winner’s time in each height.
- Jumping running order is a random draw.
- Running order for the agility round will be in reverse order of jumping round results.
- In the event of a tie for the win on spot, the agility round score will be used. If there is still a tie, a run-off on the agility course will take place.

The first and second place partnerships from each height in this combined result will be invited to represent Agility Team GB at the JAO in both the individual and team events. The win on spots must meet the criteria set out earlier in this document.

### **Individual Format Day – Day 2.**

A jumping round and an agility round with the results combined.

- The results of the jumping and agility round are combined.
- The least faults win, with time as a tiebreaker in all aspects of this event.
- Course time is 106% of the class winner’s time in each height.
- Jumping running order is a random draw.
- Running order for the agility round will be in reverse order of the jumping round results.
- In the event of a tie for the win on spot, the agility round score will be used. If there is still a tie, a run-off on the agility course will take place.

The first and second place partnerships from each height in this combined result will be invited to represent Agility Team GB at the JAO in both the individual and team events. The win on spots must meet the criteria set out earlier in this document.

### **JAO Team Composition**

The Win on Spots may account for 50% of Team GB at the JAO.

Team management can choose additional dogs across all heights to form the remainder of the JAO Team GB.

These selection decisions will consider:

- Result data and performance from the Try Out process.
- Data driven evidence from their agility career to demonstrate the partnership will be competitive at the JAO.
- Handlers age and success potential in their age category.
- Previous national & international experience and results.
- Requirements of specific selection (selecting a partnership specifically for team, individual or both).
- Dynamics within the teams and the parents group.
- Development of partnerships and individuals.

- The overall team dynamics and culture of Agility Team GB.

JAO rules allow team GB to submit a maximum of 32 dogs with a maximum total of 8 in each height.

Please note that additional dogs to the Win On Spots, will only be selected if the Management Team believes all partnerships will be competitive and/or benefit from the experience concerning their agility career.

All partnerships selected will represent Team GB in the individual event and will run in the team event at the JAO.

Selection decisions will consider the following:

- The Team event allows 4 dogs per height to constitute a team.
- A dog may be taken to run in the individual and be a reserve for the Team, therefore running in a Rest of the World team if not needed as a reserve.
- If a dog gains a win on spot on both days, then the spot will NOT roll down and the Team Management will select this place.
- The Team Management will select the specific event teams.
- The Team Management will select reserves (travelling and non-travelling)
- If a handler gains a win on spot with 2 or more dogs throughout the heights, the Team Management reserves the right to take only one dog. The handler will be able to choose which dog gains the guaranteed place. The Team Management will decide to take the additional dog(s).

A reminder that all “win-on” places are offered by invitation, regardless of results achieved, and remain subject to the Royal Kennel Club’s invitation rules, as outlined above.

## General Competition Rules

- Requests for clarification on any rule or decision must be sent by email to the Team Manager. Only responses provided by the Team Manager by email may be relied upon. The GB management team and the RKC will not be bound by any information or clarification provided through another form of communication or by any other person.
- Handlers must have a valid United Kingdom passport or have permanent residency in the United Kingdom on the closing date of the entry for the selection process.
- Handlers must not compete at either the European Open and/or the FCI Agility World Championships and/or the Junior Agility Open for another country, in the same year as the qualifying dates for the selection process.
- Handlers who have competed for and/or attended a selection event for another country to compete at the European Open and/or the FCI Agility World Championships and/or the Junior Agility Open will be ineligible to enter the Agility Team GB selection event for a period of two years from the date of the contravening competition. If a handler has experienced a significant change in circumstances, such as recently moving to Great Britain, at the discretion of GB management, this rule may be waived for an individual.
- Handlers who enter the try-out process in breach of any of the eligibility requirements will be removed from the process or will be removed from the Team, if they have won or been selected, once the breach comes to light.
- Handlers have a responsibility to record their achievements regarding eligibility for the selection process to ensure they have met the requirements. All handlers will be officially notified by The RKC of their eligibility by December 1<sup>st</sup> each year. Any handler that believes they should be invited, but has not received an invite, considering the above dates, should contact [agility@thekennelclub.org.uk](mailto:agility@thekennelclub.org.uk)
- Handlers are required to inform the GB manager by the last day of the tryout process if they will not accept a spot on the team or if there are certain conditions they would like to be met to accept a spot on the team. Failure to do this and then rejecting an offered place on Agility Team GB will result in the handler being ineligible to qualify for the Agility Team GB tryout process for the next two calendar years.
- Rejecting an offered place or withdrawing from Agility Team GB, including reserves, without written agreement from the Agility Team GB manager, will result in the handler being ineligible to qualify for the Agility Team GB tryout process for the next two calendar years.
- Each height is a separate event in all aspects of Agility Team GB selection.
- Dogs may only compete in one height throughout the 2027 Agility Team GB selection.
- Dogs may only compete with one handler throughout the 2027 Agility Team GB EO & AWC selection.
- Dogs may only compete with one handler throughout the 2027 Junior Agility Team GB selection.
- Results attained for eligibility to the selection process must be the same dog and handler partnerships that compete in the Try Out events.
- If a dog qualifies for the selection process with multiple handlers, the owner(s) of the dog, as stated on the KC registration certificate, will decide which handler can enter the selection process.
- In all events, classes will run in strict running order. Failure to be ready to enter the ring at the time you are due to run will result in an elimination in that class. This is the stated start time for dogs with a running order of 1. For all other dogs, it is as the previous dog crosses the finish line.
- Handlers enter and compete in these events, acknowledging and understanding that they CAN win their way onto all international teams and the specific events for which they are eligible. By doing so, handlers accept and agree that if they do not achieve the required results, the additional selection decisions, as stated in this document, will be made based on the opinions of the Team Management, and they will be unable to challenge or seek further clarification.
- All classes will run under FCI Agility Rules and Regulations and any additional rules detailed in the Agility Team GB selection document and event schedules.
- Bitches in season may run at all events as per FCI AWC rules.

- If a handler does not compete in any run or on any day of the selection process, they may still compete in later runs. They accept that their chances of selection are dramatically reduced if this occurs and their missing run will be scored as an elimination in the selection data.
- The invitation to compete at an Agility Team GB Try Out event and the invitation to represent The Royal Kennel Club ("RKC") at an International Championship is extended entirely at the RKC's sole discretion. The RKC reserves the absolute right to withdraw, revoke, or terminate any invitation, regardless of any competition results obtained, along with any associated authority to act or speak on behalf of the RKC, at any time, with immediate effect, for any reason or no reason (without cause), and without prior notice. Upon receipt of written notice of withdrawal, the Participant shall immediately cease all representative activities, statements, and use of the RKC's name, branding, team clothing or intellectual property. Regarding the "Win On" spots mentioned throughout this selection document, the win on equates to winning an Invitation with the above conditions in place.
- The Team Management reserve the right to rule at the event on anything not covered in these rules that requires clarification.
- In the event of any extraordinary circumstances not covered by the rules, any matter arising will be considered by the Team Manager, whose decision is final.

### **Multiple dogs running order.**

In the classes where a random draw is specified (non-seeded runs) a random draw will produce the running order. Handlers running more than one dog will have a gap of 10 dogs (9 dogs between their runs, for example, #2 and #12) by moving the first-drawn dog earlier in the running order. If this does not achieve a 10-dog gap, then the second-drawn dog will be moved later in the running order.

If there are not enough dogs in the class to achieve the 10-dog gap, the largest gap possible will be created, with a break of 5 minutes allowed. The 5-minute countdown starts when the handler's first dog crosses the finish line. The handler must enter the ring with their second dog before the countdown is complete.

Handlers with **more than two** dogs will have their dogs split using the 10-dog gap rule unless there are not enough dogs in the class, whereupon the dogs will be split evenly through the running order using the 5-minute rule as described above. If a handler has drawn dogs close together in succeeding heights (e.g., drawn last to run in the large height and first to run in the medium height) the 5-minute rule will apply and will run through while jump heights are being changed.

In the seeded classes, running orders are the reverse of the results from the previous run, e.g., lowest placed dogs will run first; highest placed dogs will run last. Handlers who have multiple dogs will not have their running order altered (unless requested as below) but will be given a 3-minute break between dogs, if there are fewer than three dogs between their dogs. Handlers can request to have their first-drawn dog moved earlier in the running order to achieve the 10-dog gap stated above. If this does not achieve a 10-dog gap, the handler will be given a 5-minute break. Handlers must notify the scoring team of this before the commencement of course walking on day 1 of any event.

**By entering more than one dog in the 2027 Agility Team GB Selection process, handlers indicate their acceptance to comply with these running order rules.**

### **Agility Team GB - FCI Heights.**

**ALL dogs in Small, Medium and Intermediate** entering the OSC or any Try Out process, must have **obtained an official FCI Championship Measure (FCICM) before 25<sup>th</sup> January 2027**. If dogs that are entered have not received an FCICM by this date, they will be unable to compete and will not receive a refund.

#### **FCI Championships height classifications**

- S (Small), for dogs measuring less than 35 cm at the withers.
- M (Medium), for dogs measuring 35 cm or more and less than 43 cm at the withers.
- I (Intermediate), for dogs measuring 43 cm or more and less than 48 cm at the withers.
- L (Large), for dogs measuring 48 cm or more at the withers.

#### **Agility Team GB – Conduct and Removal from Team.**

Once a handler wins on, or is selected to represent Agility Team GB, they will be required to sign a contract outlining the requirements they must fulfil as a member of Agility Team GB. Failure to sign this contract and/or any breach of the contract conditions will risk removal from the Team regardless of achieving a Win on spot or being selected. Any conduct by a handler (or a Junior Handler's parent) that brings Agility Team GB or The RKC into disrepute will risk expulsion from the Team. Any previous conduct that would breach this contract, regardless if a handler or parent has signed the contract, may be considered when selections are being made. Any dog that, in the opinion of the Team Manager, is visibly lame or where there are concerns regarding the dog's welfare, will be required to pass a fitness test from the Team Vet if the handler wishes to compete.

#### **Team Days**

Team days are designed to help handlers prepare for the international championships. Failure to attend the official Team Days without extenuating personal circumstances, as decided by the Team Manager, may result in deselection. The EO team must therefore attend the April and May official training days and the AWC team must attend the August training day. The JAO team must attend the official April training day and the May JAO Camp. If personal circumstances, agreed with the Team manager, mean a dog cannot attend one of the April training days, the handler must arrange to travel to and meet the GB vet to complete a vet check and paperwork check. The handler must pay the GB vet £150 and this must be completed by May 15<sup>th</sup> 2027.

EO teams must train together or meet face-to-face or online at least twice between 1 May and 9 July. AWC teams must train together or meet face-to-face or online once between the EO and the day before travelling to the AWC. Reserves should be invited to join the team meetings. The EO & AWC teams can decide between themselves their dates and location. Failure to agree by 1 May will result in the Team Manager stating a compulsory date and location for them to attend.

JAO Team members are required to attend the Junior Camp in May.