



**THE KENNEL CLUB**  
*Making a difference for dogs*



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# **TEAM GB**

## **2016 QUALIFICATION PROCESS FOR INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS**



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## Introduction

This document sets out the method to be used to select dogs & handlers who will attend international agility events in 2016 as part of Agility Team GB. There is a strong emphasis on encouraging handlers to gain credits by winning classes at prestigious Kennel Club competitions and to demonstrate consistency over a prolonged period, a wide variety of courses, judges, environments and pressurised competitions.

### Time Table for the 2016 programme

| Activity                 | Start Date           | End / Latest Date |
|--------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Qualification Period     | 28/03/2015           | 06/09/2015        |
| Squad Preparation Period | 01/11/2015           | April 2016        |
| Squad days               | 06/12/15 & 28/02/16  |                   |
| Performance Weekend      | April 2016           |                   |
| Teams Announced (latest) | 03/05/2016           |                   |
| Team Day 1 & 2           | 30/05/16 & 26/06/16  |                   |
| EO - France              | July 2016 (TBC)      |                   |
| AWC - Spain              | September 2016 (TBC) |                   |

### Terminology Used.

- AWC – All World Championships – also known as FCI World Championships, to be held in Spain in 2016. Open to pedigree dogs only.
- Credits – measure of achievement at KC prestigious competitions.
- Dog & Handler – applies to small, medium and large grade 6 & 7 dogs. The dog & handler partnership may not change throughout the qualifying year. Exceptional circumstances apply.
- EO – European Open, to be held in France in 2016. Open to all dogs.
- PW - Performance Weekend.
- Team – The final team of dogs & handlers selected from the squad to attend the EO and/or AWC, or other event selected by the International Agility Working Party. The term ‘team’ does not necessarily mean dogs & handlers that will be running in a team event at the competition.
- Squad – handlers & dogs selected following the qualification period from which teams will be selected.
- TM – International Team Manager.

## Qualification Period

28 March 2015 to 6 September 2015

### Gaining Credits

During the qualification period handlers can gain credits for their achievements in the following classes. Credit values shown in brackets:

- Championship Classes – winner of jumping round (5), winner of agility round (5), 3<sup>rd</sup> place in Final Round (10), Reserve Agility Certificate (15), Agility Certificate winner (20).
- Kennel Club Olympia Large Agility Stakes (Grades 6/7) – winner of each heat\* (10)
- Kennel Club Olympia Medium Agility Stakes – winner of each heat (10)
- Kennel Club Olympia Small Agility Stakes – winner of each heat (10)
- Kennel Club British Open (KC Festival) – winner of jumping round\* (5), winner of agility round\* (5), semi final runner up (10) semi final winner (20).
- Crufts Singles – winner of each heat\* (10).

\* Where classes are split due to high numbers, winners of all parts score credits.

NOTE - Only clear rounds can be counted when claiming points.

### Performance at 2015 International Events

- 2015 EO or AWC (including team competitions) - Clear round (10), podium place (30).
- Performance at other notable international events i.e. Dania Cup will be taken into consideration when studying final team selection from the 2016 squad.

### Recording Achievements

Handlers have a responsibility to record their achievements, which qualify for credits, and to submit them within one month of the achievement. Late / missing submission of achievements will not be counted.

Achievements should be submitted via email to [agility@thekennelclub.org.uk](mailto:agility@thekennelclub.org.uk) and must contain the following information:

- Dog's Kennel Club registered name,
- Dog's height category,
- Handler's name,
- Competition name, date and location,
- Class name,
- Class result, including place (places with faults cannot be claimed)
- Judge's name.

Credits awarded will be published monthly on the Kennel Club website.

Dogs with the highest recorded credits from the qualification period will be invited to join the 2016 Squad. Exact numbers invited will be announced at the end of the qualification period.

Dogs & handlers attending International Competitions sponsored by the Kennel Club, including reserves, will be selected from this squad.

## **Squad Preparation Period**

**01 October 2015 to April 2016**

The Squad Preparation Period is designed to help the squad prepare for international competitions.

Not all members of the squad will be selected for the final teams. However, gaining a position on the squad will be seen as a big achievement and an opportunity to gain experience and further development for future international teams.

### **Squad Preparation Days**

Squad preparation days will be 06 December and 28 February. These will be held at Nottingham Trent University (Brackenhurst Campus).

The opportunity to represent Team GB internationally is one that handlers should take very seriously. It will involve 100% commitment to the overall team, support for the development of the squad and total dedication to their preparation.

Failure to attend squad days or the Performance Weekend or demonstrate commitment to the above will jeopardise a handler's position on the squad.

### **Exceptional Circumstances**

The TM reserves the right to invite additional dogs & handlers on to the squad if required. This decision will be based upon exceptional circumstances and assessed on an individual basis. The following criteria (not exhaustive) will be taken into consideration:

- Unforeseen personal circumstances during the qualifying period i.e. bereavement,
- Dog / handler illness for a sustained period resulting in an inability to gain credits,
- A low number of dogs gaining credits in a height category.

Handlers on the Agility1st Development Scheme may also be invited to attend the squad training days.

## **Performance Weekend**

**April 2016**

The Performance Weekend (PW) is designed to test dogs & handlers on the squad over a variety of situations typically associated with international competitions i.e. team events, international style courses, performing under pressure, and accumulated individual runs.

The PW is also an opportunity for the TM to make a final assessment of the squad before selecting the final teams. Exact details of the PW, including format, dates and location, will be announced no later than 18 December 2015.

Teams attending the international competitions will be selected after the PW.

## **Team Training**

A number of team training days will be held for the final teams attending the international competitions. Dates and locations will be announced during 2016.