

### **The Equipment Panel**

Jackie Gardner (Midlands), Mike Hallam (North West), Simon Chandler (South East & East Anglia)

Kevin Smith (North East), Chris Huckle (South & South West)

The Equipment panel have had lots of discussion with Equipment Manufacturers regarding the Breakaway Tyre, and we have been looking at 4 different tyres, some of which are still in the prototype stage.

### **Submitted by Wes Lo**



This is a Saloon door style tyre, which he has purchased from a manufacturer in Europe. Its secured together with velcro not a magnet at the breaking point. It weighs less than 8kg. I'm still waiting for further specific on this product.

On the video of this tyre it appears that each side opens just less than 90 degrees, but there did not appear to be any bounce back into the dog.

### **Submitted by Longfield Agility Solutions**



Another a saloon door style tyre. This one opens 360 degrees and is secured by a magnet.

The interior is a thick foam cushion wrapped around a thin metal hoop, with an outer water proof covering that zips into place.

If a dog hits this it will spin all the way around.

\* Attached is the full Specifications

**Submitted by First Contact**



This is the first contact Multi Break Tyre. As the dogs hit the tyre the parts that break can fall down or forward depending on how they have been hit.

**Outside diameter**      750mm  
**Internal diameter**      550mm  
**Depth**                      70mm

**First Contact use 4 magnets two at the top and two at bottom. This can be altered to any spec that the Kennel Club come back with in the future**

**It is constructed of a ply wood insert, with a high impact foam covering all areas.**



This is another Saloon Door Style Tyre, secured with Magnets.

When hit the tyre opens 90 degrees, but currently does bounce back. But this is the prototype stage, so changes can be made. In the picture it does not

have an outer cover, the white part is the foam covering.

**Outside diameter**      750mm  
**Internal diameter**      550mm  
**Depth**                      70mm

**First Contact use 4 magnets two at the top and two at bottom. This can be altered to any spec that the Kennel Club come back with in the future**

**It is constructed of a ply wood insert, with a high impact foam covering all areas.**

**David from First Contact prefers the saloon door style, and thinks it would be more practical.**

### **Breakaway Hoop (Tyre)**

The current regulation could be amended to add:

If a Saloon door style tyre is used, both opening side must have the ability to swing open through 90 degrees from the closed (hoop) position. They should not swing back towards the closed position.

If the breakaway tyre is used, the element should fall cleanly without impeding the path of the dog.

Marking of this obstacle is already included in the rules, and is 5f for breaking the tyre.

But we should also add: If a dog runs under the tyre and breaks it open, then it must be Elimination, as the dog will be unable to go back and do the tyre correctly.

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We have been asked to look at the potential impact of the LHO and the use of spread, long jump and tyre for the LHO dogs.

Manufacturers have been adapting their equipment to allow a LHO spread to be used. This has not yet been completed by all manufacturers so we would suggest to shows running LHO classes that they check this is an option when hiring the equipment.

It is recommended that judges who use a long jump should not set to the maximum length for their class if LHO is included. Long jump has a minimum and maximum length to allow for this kind of scenario, but once set on a course the long jump should not change length between FH and LHO.

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### **Currently ongoing**

We would welcome the opportunity to get all the Equipment manufacturers together to discuss ideas and solutions to help Agility progress as a sport ensuring safety and consistency with the equipment produced.

- We are currently looking for a suitable time and venue to meet with Equipment Manufacturers.