



**YKC AGILITY DOG OF THE YEAR
(ADOTY)**



**AGILITY COMPETITIONS
RULES 2026 (CRUFTS 2027)**



YKC AGILITY DOG OF THE YEAR (ADOTY)

A: HANDLERS

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

| Large Dogs | Intermediate Dogs | Medium Dogs | Small Dogs |
|---|---|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Handler 06-11 Years• Handler 12-14 Years• Handler 15-17 Years• Handler 18-24 Years | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Handler 06-11 Years• Handler 12-14 Years• Handler 15-17 Years• Handler 18-24 Years | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Handler 06-11 Years• Handler 12-14 Years• Handler 15-17 Years• Handler 18-24 Years | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Handler 06-11 Years• Handler 12-14 Years• Handler 15-17 Years• Handler 18-24 Years |

2. Only current YKC members may compete in 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 ADOTY 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 regarding 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 an ADOTY qualifier, that dog may only compete with that handler in any future ADOTY qualifiers for the rest of the qualifying season.
4. Dogs of any grade may enter this competition.

C: YKC ADOTY QUALIFIERS & GENERAL REGULATIONS

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 qualification period for **Crufts 2027** is: **01-Nov-2025 till 31-Oct-2026**
3. Unless otherwise specified in this document, YKC ADOTY classes will be subject to all in-force Kennel Club regulations for agility competitions. Including, but not limited to:
 - i. (H) General Regulations for Agility Competitions
 - ii. (O) Regulations for The Young Kennel Club
3. The ADOTY qualification heat will feature two individual rounds:
 - a. 1x Agility
 - b. 1x Jumping
- i. Both Courses will be set to a grade 3-5 standard.
4. Standard Kennel Club marking will apply.
5. At the qualifier, the results from the Agility and Jumping rounds will be combined to give an overall score.
 - i. This will be outlined in section D.
6. Members may enter ADOTY competitions even if they have already qualified.
7. YKC ADOTY qualifiers are listed on the YKC website
 - i. Only qualifiers listed on the YKC website will be eligible for qualification, please ensure that you are entering a valid YKC qualifier.



D: YKC ADOTY SCORING METHOD

1. There will be 3 separate prize-givings for YKC ADOTY qualifiers:
 - i. 1 x prize giving for each of the individual rounds (2 total)
 - a. To determine the results for these rounds, 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.
 - ii. 1 x prize giving for the combined score (1 total)
 - a. The combined score is detailed below:
 2. The combined score is the results from the agility and jumping rounds combined providing that;
 - i. Neither of those rounds feature an elimination or disqualification.
 - a. If a dog is eliminated in either round, they will no longer be able to qualify for the ADOTY semi-final at that show, nor receive a placing in the combined results prize-giving.
 3. Each round will score [course faults] and [time faults] independently.
 4. The agility round and the jumping round shall each have their own independent course time.
 - i. There will be a separate time recorded for each of the dog's rounds.
 5. The combined results will total all of the faults from both rounds:
 - i. The faults for the combined result will be as follows:
 - a. [Agility Course faults] + [Agility time faults] + [Jumping course faults] + [Jumping time faults]
 - ii. The time for the combined result will be as follows:
 - a. [Agility time] + [Jumping time]
 6. To determine the results for combined score, dogs will be ranked first by combined total number of faults, then by combined time. The dog with the fewest faults in the fastest time is the winner.
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E: WHO QUALIFIES FOR THE ADOTY SEMI-FINAL?

1. **ONLY First place in the combined result for each height/age category at any ADOTY qualifier during this season will guarantee a space in the semi-final.**
 - i. There will be no roll down or other qualification method except;
 - a. The overall winner of the YKC Jumping Cup Final competition, held in the main arena, will be invited to compete in the YKC Agility Dog of the Year semi-final.
 2. The YKC will invite all those who have qualified to enter Crufts via email before Christmas.
 3. If a YKC member has managed to qualify for the ADOTY semi-final, that member will also be invited to participate in the first performance weekend for the YKC Team GB squad.
 - i. More information can be found on the YKC Team GB qualification page.
 - ii. 18-24 age category does not count for this qualification.
 - a. There is potential for one 18-24 member to be considered for the Adult Team GB – see further in this document.
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F: HOW MANY DOGS CAN I QUALIFY FOR THE ADOTY SEMI-FINAL?

1. You may qualify as many different dogs across as many heights as you wish for the ADOTY Semi-finals at Crufts HOWEVER:
 - i. **YOU MAY ONLY ENTER A MAXIMUM OF FOUR DOGS ACROSS ALL HEIGHTS THAT YOU HAVE QUALIFIED INTO THE CRUFTS ADOTY SEMI-FINAL COMPETITION**
 - a. If you have entered 4 dogs into the ADOTY Crufts semi-final, and one of them is unable to compete, if you have another dog that has also qualified, but not part of the 4 you have already entered, you may substitute those dogs.
 - (1) This must be reported to the YKC at the earliest opportunity.
 - (2) The cut off for any substitution of entered dogs using this method is 7 days prior to the first day of Crufts.
2. The handler may NEVER be substituted.



YKC AGILITY DOG OF THE YEAR (ADOTY)

G: ADOTY AT CRUFTS – SEMI-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 semi-final for the YKC Agility Dog of the Year competition is held at Crufts in the YKC ring.
3. The semi-final will be held over a single agility course.
 - i. This course will be set at grade 3-5.
4. 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. This may be a different age category to the one the YKC member qualified in.
 - ii. 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.
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.
 - ii. The running order for the semi-final (and final) will be determined in a pseudo-random nature.
 - a. Any handlers with more than one dog in a height will have at least three dogs between their runs where possible.
 - (1) If this is not possible, there will be a 2-minute period between runs.
 - iii. Each of the heights will be grouped together, but the age categories will be jumbled.

I: CLOTHING, SPONSORSHIP & LOGOS @ CRUFTS

1. Agility handlers should wear smart athletic wear, with plain black or navy tracksuit bottoms/leggings paired with a short sleeve t-shirt/polo shirt of their choosing.
2. Agility handlers should wear footwear that will enable them to run without slipping on artificial grass.
3. 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.
4. The YKC & Kennel Club also have several sponsors in both the YKC ring and the main arena at Crufts.
 - i. To comply with our sponsors, YKC members may **NOT** have branding on display from the following companies:
 - a. Dog food or treat supplier
 - b. Car manufacturer
 - c. Insurance company
 - ii. 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.
 - iii. This restriction on branding only applies in the following locations:
 - a. Crufts YKC collecting ring, Crufts YKC ring, Crufts YKC Presentation Area
 - b. Crufts Main arena collecting ring, Crufts Main Arena, Crufts Main Arena Presentation Area

J: ADOTY SEMI-FINAL – PRIZEGIVING

1. The following awards will be presented in the YKC ring for the ADOTY Semi-final

| 06-11 Years | 12-14 Years | 15-17 Years | 18-24 Years |
|--|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st to 5th LRG • 1st to 5th INT • 1st to 5th MED • 1st to 5th SML | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st to 5th LRG • 1st to 5th INT • 1st to 5th MED • 1st to 5th SML | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st to 5th LRG • 1st to 5th INT • 1st to 5th MED • 1st to 5th SML | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st to 5th LRG • 1st to 5th INT • 1st to 5th MED • 1st to 5th SML |

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.



YKC AGILITY DOG OF THE YEAR (ADOTY)



ADOTY AT CRUFTS – QUALIFYING FOR THE GRAND FINAL

1. To qualify for a place in the final you must place in the semi-final as follows:
2. In addition, during your semi-final run, you must have scored fewer than 10 total faults and must not have received time faults to qualify for the final.

| 06-11 Years | 12-14 Years | 15-17 Years | 18-24 Years |
|--|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large Dogs • Intermediate Dogs • Medium Dogs • Small Dogs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large Dogs • Intermediate Dogs • Medium Dogs • Small Dogs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large Dogs • Intermediate Dogs • Medium Dogs • Small Dogs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large Dogs • Intermediate Dogs • Medium Dogs • Small Dogs |
| 1st Or 2nd | 1st Or 2nd | 1st Or 2nd | 1st Or 2nd |
| (8 Spaces) | (8 Spaces) | (8 Spaces) | (8 Spaces) |



ADOTY AT CRUFTS –THE GRAND FINAL

1. The grand final for the YKC Agility Dog of the Year competition is held in the main arena at Crufts.
2. The grand final will be over a single grade 3-5 agility course (different to the semi-final).
3. In the grand final, for the purposes of scoring, dog height categories are removed and all finalists compete for 1st place in their respective age category.
 - i. Dogs will still compete at their appropriate height obstacles.
4. There will be an overall winner for the ADOTY competition.
 - i. The overall fastest dog with the fewest faults will be crowned this year's YKC Agility Dog of the Year.
5. Clothing, Sponsorship & Branding requirement are the same as the above semi-final.
 - i. Any finalists MAY be asked to wear a sponsor's shirt/over-garment that will be provided by the YKC
6. 18-24 Category – the winner of this age category will also be invited to attend the first pre-selection qualification (PSQ) for the Adult Team GB.
 - i. This is limited to one space only
 - ii. Getting to the PSQ is not a guarantee of making the adult team GB team or squad, it just bypasses one hurdle to get to the PSQ
 - iii. If the winner is already invited to the PSQ this space will not roll down.



ADOTY GRAND FINAL PRESENTATIONS

1. The following 5 awards will be presented in the main arena immediately after the competition:

| 06-11 Years | 12-14 Years | 15-17 Years | 18-24 Years |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1st Place | 1st Place | 1st Place | 1st Place |
| All Heights combined | All Heights combined | All Heights combined | All Heights combined |

ADOTY GRAND FINAL

OVERALL WINNER

2. All YKC competitors in the ADOTY Grand Final will receive a YKC ADOTY Finalist Rosette.