

Trio Agility Dog

The Trio Agility Dog was born in January 2015 from a project by Alessio Pernazza. It is a totally new cynophilist sport, inspired by Agility Dog, but with some really important changes that make it a true cynophilist sport. It involves three subjects and is not about the time to finish a lap of the race, but about the precision of the exercise execution and empathy between the dog and their conductors.

Noteworthy, Trio Agility Dog involves conductors, not just a single conductor. Three subjects are required in this sport, two people and a dog: namely an able-bodied, a disabled person and a dog.

Regulations:

Minimum and maximum field dimensions:

the minimum size of the field is 30x40 meters;

the maximum size is 40x50 meters.

Equipment needed and allowed for the Trio Agility Dog:

list of the equipment, slalom, palisade, teeter, long jump, tunnel (hard and soft), table, catwalk, obstacles, wall.

Differently from Agility Dog, the wheel is not included in the Trio Agility.

Equipment types and dimensions:

The types and dimensions of the equipment have to be the same as established by F.C.I ([Fédération Cynologique Internationale](#))

Judges:

Trio Agility Dog requires two judges on the field at the same time. Each judge rates one trinomial at the time. When one trinomial finishes the performance, the next trinomial is allowed by the judge to enter the field, till all trinomials have performed.

One trinomial can "surpass" another trinomial under the judge's direction and authorization and pass to the next exercise; the judge shall let the "surpassing" trinomial pass to the next exercise without it disturbing or hindering the work of the trinomial which is being "taken over"

Competition categories of conductors based on the trinomial skills:

There are two classes for conductors (handlers): BASIC AND ADVANCED.

BASIC CATEGORY

For Trio Agility Dog basic category, the use of the following equipment is foreseen:

palisade, long jump, hard tunnel, table, catwalk, obstacles, wall. The number of exercises to complete is 12 with a minimum of 6 obstacles.

ADVANCED CATEGORY

For Trio Agility Dog advanced category, the use of the following equipment is foreseen:

slalom, palisade, teeter, long jump, hard tunnel, soft tunnel, table, catwalk, obstacles, wall. The number of exercises to complete is 16 with a minimum of

ten obstacles.

Competition categories based on the dog's size:

Little Dogs category for dogs measuring till 35 cm at the withers

Medium and Large Dogs category for dogs measuring over 35 cm at the withers.

Rules and Penalties:

During the course execution, whenever the dog makes a mistake while doing the exercise, penalties will be applied as described further on.

Exercises must be done in the established order as in Agility Dog. Exercises therefore will have a number at the right or left base (the number shall not hinder the exercise execution). The course is agreed upon and realized by the judges; there must be a 5 meter distance between an exercise and the next.

The Trio Agility Dog course always starts with an obstacle exercise and finishes with the table exercise

Penalties are the same as in FCI rules for Agility Dog (refusals and mistakes). The judge will signal the penalty to the competition board by waving his/her arm with hand open (both for refusals and mistakes). However, the judge must have a form in which he/she writes down all penalties of a trinomial.

Also conduction penalties are foreseen- see exercise execution

Trio Agility Dog does not foresee elimination, all trinomial must complete the course, unless trinomial members express a clear will to withdraw. In case of withdrawal, the trinomial is not ranked.

Trinomial	Penalty scores (faults) for faults in execution or in handling	Penalty scores for refusal	Judge' judgement E-C based on empathy in the rapport and in conduction	Total of penalty scores
	1	2	From - 1 to - 5 penalty scores	
Example with two trinomial competing				
Trinomial A (looser)	One mistakes one fault	Two refusals 4 faults	Judgement on empathy 4	Total in the rank 1 score
Trinomial B winner	Two mistakes Two faults	One refusal one fault	Judgement on empathy 5	Total in the rank -1

Trinomial	Penalty points for an execution or conduction error.	Penalty points for a refusal.	Judge's judgement E-C based on the empathic relationship and the conduction relationship.	Total penalty points-
	1	2	From 1 to 5 penalty points.	
Example with two trinomials competing.				
Trinomial A	One error, 1 penalty point	Two refusals 4 penalty points	Empathic evaluation 4	
Trinomial B				

If two trinomials are tie, in order to get a final ranking order, the following rules will be applied:

- 1) E-C judgement
- 2) if trinomials are still in parity, the lowest number of refusals will be considered.
- 3) if trinomials are still in parity, the lowest number of errors will be considered

In case of further parity, ex-quo (parity) will be awarded for all the three ranks 1°, 2° and 3° in ranking order.

Exercise execution:

Each exercise must be performed as illustrated and described in the following paragraphs.

Dog's position at the start of an exercise:

Once the judge allows the trinomial to start the exercise, the performance will proceed as illustrated:

The A conductor gives the dog the command in order for it to start the exercise. Once the dog has executed the exercise, the B conductor will

have to give it the stop command, and then reach the dog; see illustration:

Once this step has been performed, conductor A reaches conductor B going back to position as illustrated:

This sequence will be followed until the end of the course, bearing in mind that it is B conductor who tells the dog to execute the exercise while A conductor gives the dog the stop command. Both conductors will be alternating their roles, switching from giving the starting command to giving the stop command and vice versa until the end of the course. The conductor that does not give the stop command to the dog receives a penalty point for conduction. To start an exercise, the dog needs to receive the command from one of the conductors. If it starts without any of the conductors telling it to, the trinomial will receive another penalty point for conduction.