

APPENDIX D—DOG & HANDLER REGISTRATIONS

A handler and dog must be registered to compete in USDAA® events. The responsibility to provide a registration number for entry to an event rests solely with the competitor. Registrations may be made by one of three means:

- Create a competitor account and complete a dog registration form online through usdaa.com
- Complete a manual registration form and submit with payment to a USDAA affiliated group (Groups may register dogs through the Group Services portal on usdaa.com), or
- Complete a manual registration form and submit with payment to the USDAA office.

Registration information may not be changed without specific evidence indicating information provided was in error. Notwithstanding, USDAA reserves the right to request proof of a dog's age, with such proof being represented by an official record of breed or litter registration from a recognized registry, or if a dog is not so registered, a photograph and a veterinarian's letter of opinion, stipulating that the age represented on the registration application is a reasonable estimate, absent evidence to the contrary.

Section D.1 – Dog Registration

The manual registration form can be downloaded from usdaa.com and is also available with entry forms for individual events.

A competitor must enter a dog in classes based upon one of the defined dog height divisions as listed in Chapter 1 of USDAA Rules & Regulations. A competitor must be of legal age or have the authorization of a parent or legal guardian. A dog is eligible to compete in competition at fifteen (15) months of age, or fourteen (14) months for entry into the Intro Program. *The dog's age of competition and performance standards in the Intro and regular programs have been established so as not to encourage rigorous training prior to full physiological development of the dog.*

A dog's height must be certified by one or more USDAA judges, or others that may from time-to-time be approved by USDAA. The following procedures for certification of a dog's height have been established for the determination of a dog's minimum jumping height:

- Where a dog is not recognized by a major breed registry and cannot be definitively identified as to breed or birth date, the dog shall be classified as an "All Breed" or other approved designation and an estimate of the dog's birth date shall be made and entered on the form.
- USDAA issues a temporary registration form that can be downloaded from the Competitor Services portal on usdaa.com, or the form may be requested by mail for a fee by contacting the USDAA office.
- Any errors on dog registrations must be reported to USDAA within 72 hours of registration to make corrections without additional documentation. The registrant should take care to assure initial information (including but not limited to the dog and handler names to be printed on awards) is correct before completing registration.

To complete the height certification process, a dog must measure over 22" (55cm), or must meet specific age and measurement requirements as set forth below.

All measurements must be made on a flat surface utilizing a USDAA-approved measuring device. Final determination of suitability of the surface and calibration of the device (provided by the club) shall be made by the judge. Should a surface be found not level enough to provide for an accurate measurement and/or an approved device is rendered not functional, the judge shall evaluate each dog's height for that event only, notify the event secretary of any discrepancy between height class entered and the dog's measured height and no measurement shall be recorded on the temporary card.

The following height certification policies and procedures apply:

- No more than one measurement per day or two measurements within a six (6) day period.
- For multiple-day events or clustered contiguous events, only the first measurement shall be effective for determining the proper height class for the event or event cluster.
- Dogs must be at least eighteen months of age for measurements to be officially recorded on the certification form (i.e., Temporary Registration Form).
- A measuring judge must be fully approved at the Advanced or Masters level and must be a judge of record for the event, except as otherwise provided below.



- At least one of the judges must be a Certified Measuring Judge (or “CMJ”), and all three judges must agree to the height classification, or additional measurements are required, unless the two concurring measurements are by CMJs.
- Any measurement that is made resulting in a dog being required to jump at a higher height than indicated on the temporary registration card or event entry form (when a temporary registration card is not available) must be reported by the judge to USDAA via the Event Judging Report. The dog must be placed in the proper height class for the event based upon the measurement.
- If the dog is less than three years of age and any of the measurements are less than one inch beneath the cutoff height (for example, >17 and ≤ 18” for the medium dog height division),
- the dog must be re-measured by a CMJ after age three to establish its permanent height.
- Where a CMJ differs in opinion from other judges rendering height measurements after age three, a second CMJ must make an independent measurement. If the two CMJs disagree, then a third CMJ shall make an independent measurement. The two CMJs that are in agreement shall determine the dog’s official jump height class designation as set forth in Chapter 1 of USDAA Rules and Regulations.

Section D.2 - Permanent Height Cards

In cases where a competitor wishes to avoid controversy when official measurements are in disagreement, the competitor may request an official CMJ committee evaluation which must be requested from USDAA in writing. Upon receipt of a request, USDAA shall appoint a CMJ committee to make an evaluation and render a decision. USDAA reserves the right at any time to call for an evaluation upon review of a dog’s measurement record.

A permanent registration card may be issued upon satisfactory completion of the foregoing procedures to certify the dog’s height and –

- no measurement between fifteen (15) months of age and three (3) years of age is within one inch beneath the cutoff height for their official height class, or
- the dog has three measurements as described above and is at least three years of age when the CMJ measurement consistent with other measurements is obtained, or
- the CMJ measurement obtained after age three is consistent with other judge signatures obtained prior to age three
- the two CMJ measurements obtained after age three (3) are in agreement

A temporary form meeting the foregoing criteria may be used as a permanent card until the original, signed, temporary registration card or form is sent to USDAA for certification; however, any temporary card that is not processed for a permanent card within three (3) years of issuance, may be assessed a renewal fee or marked as expired. If expired, a reinstatement fee will need to be paid to reinstate the registration and a dog may have to be remeasured pursuant to these regulations. A dog may not be entered into competition with an expired registration.

A competitor may download, store, and/or print a permanent height certification card from their dog’s profile in Competitor Services on usdaa.com.

A competitor must present their registration card at check-in to confirm that the dog’s registration number has been properly recorded on event records and that the dog is entered in the proper height class. The responsibility for confirmation of the registration number rests with the competitor.

Effective January 1, 2022, a dog that has been permanently measured after age 3 by a recognized kennel club or similar breed registry may apply for reciprocity for permanent height registration. This measurement may be challenged by any judge, subject to challenge rules in Section D.3 below.

Section D.3 - Challenging a Permanent Height Card

Any judge may challenge a dog’s temporary or permanent registered height at an event for which they are judge of record. The judge must file a written notification and request for evaluation with USDAA if the dog is determined to be improperly registered. USDAA shall then appoint a panel of CMJs to evaluate the dog’s height. A dog may not be challenged more than once in a twelve-month period under this provision.