Overview and FAQ Guide for the ACT

How do I register?

A registration link will be posted to the ARF Events Page (https://arfagility.org/events.html).

How many teams can register and what if it fills?

There will be 5 teams per course level for the virtual ACT for a maximum of 20 dogs running for the ACT1, ACT1J, ACT2, and ACT2J. If your level fills, we will have a waitlist. You may request to be added to the waitlist by emailing Lisa Coffman at las102276@yahoo.com. Depending on entries, there may be an adjustment to the number of teams who run at a given course level.

What should I know before I show up for the ACT?

To find out more about the ACT program, here are some key links to look at:
- AKC ACT Program: https://www.akc.org/sports/agility/act-program/
- Virtual AKC ACT Program: https://www.akc.org/sports/agility/act-program/act-virtual-program/

Review the Course Maps for the ACT. Please note the courses are nested between rounds 1 and 2, but will have some minor tweaks, so while we will have ACT1 round 1 set when you arrive, we will need everyone entered to stay and help with course setting for the rest of the day. This will help to set the course quick and move the day quickly:

- AKC ACT Course Obstacle Guide: https://www.akc.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/ACT-Course-Obstacle-Guide.pdf
    - Note: the A-frame will be set to 5 feet for all jump heights.
- ACT1
    - ACT1 – Max time to complete the course is 60 seconds
        - Round 1: https://www.akc.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/ACT1-RD-A-55-x-75.pdf
        - Round 2: https://www.akc.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/ACT1-RD-B-55-x-75.pdf
    - ACT1J – Max time to complete the course is 50 seconds
        - Round 1: https://www.akc.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/ACT-1J-Rd-A-45-x-80.pdf
        - Round 2: https://www.akc.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/ACT-1J-Rd-B-45-x-80.pdf
- ACT2
    - ACT2 – Max time to complete the course is 70 seconds
        - Round 1: https://www.akc.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/ACT-2-RD-J-55-x-75.pdf

- Round 2: https://www.akc.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/ACT-2-RD-K-55-x-75.pdf
  - ACT2J – Max time to complete the course is 60 seconds
    - Round 1: https://www.akc.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/ACT-2J-Rd-E-60-x-70.pdf
    - Round 2: https://www.akc.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/ACT-2J-Rd-F-60-x-70.pdf

It is recommended and a great practice for anyone participating in a sport to become familiar with the rules and updates to understand how the events run and are scored. Here are the links to the rules: https://images.akc.org/pdf/rulebooks/REAGIL.pdf.

Do I need to register with AKC before running and are there any age requirements?

No, you do not need to have your dog registered at the time of running, but your dog must be registered with AKC in order to submit your ACT runs for review. To find out more about registration with AKC, you can go here: https://www.akc.org/register/dog/.

Note: Your dog must be 15 months of age at the time of the virtual ACT to participate.

Is there a minimum jump height requirement?

No, you may run your dog at any jump height. There will be no measurements of the dogs ahead of their runs. The dogs will be grouped by jump height to minimize time between runs.

How many times can I run in my time slot?

The choice is yours and you can run as many times as you can in your given time slot. Please keep in mind for recording you MUST include a buffer of approximately 10 seconds before and after each run. In order to title you must get 2 qualifying scores in 2 different courses.

Can I run the ACT1, ACT1J, ACT2, and ACT2J?

Yes, however please note submission order. Per AKC rules, once you get a qualifying leg in an ACT2/ACT2J you cannot go for an ACT1/ACT1J title. So if you're doing both, make sure you submit your ACT1 and/or ACT1J runs BEFORE you submit your ACT2 and/or ACT2J runs! You may keep running ACT2/ACT2J runs at any ACT event until your dog has obtained a title in any AKC Agility class (T2B, Premier, Standard, Jumpers, or Fast).

Can you use treats or toys in the ring?

Treats and toys are not permitted in the ring for the ACT and you will attest to that before submitting to AKC.

How is my run going to be recorded?

A volunteer will be on hand to do the recording and the 5 count for the standard courses, we will make sure that you and your dog are viewable the whole time while running including the contacts, which is in accordance with the virtual ACT policies. The volunteer will be positioned inside the ring unless the course is able to be recorded outside in accordance to recording requirements.

How many teams will be running at a time?

Only one handler/dog team will be running at a time so you can ensure a successful and uninterrupted time with your dog. We will be managing the entry to and from the turf side.

Will indoor crating be permitted?

Yes, indoor crating will be permitted in the mat room, please bring something to put underneath your crates to protect the flooring. There are metal chairs available to sit on but feel free to bring your own chair. You are also permitted to crate from your car.

How is the virtual ACT judged?

The ACT is judged by a panel of approved AKC ACT evaluators. Unlike regular agility trials, run-outs and refusals will not be judged, you have 3 attempts to complete an obstacle, and the 4-paw rule is not in effect.

How do I submit to AKC for judging?

1. Submit your video to AKC. Note: each run is a separate submission so you will have to make 2 submissions for each level… make sure to submit all ACT1 runs BEFORE any ACT2 runs. You can only submit 1 video for each submission, so you will need to do this twice for each level and course type.
    a. Go to AKC Virtual ACT Entry Form (under Quick Links) here: https://www.akc.org/sports/agility/act-program/act-virtual-program/
    b. Fill out all details:
        i. Dog's Information
        ii. Owner's Information
        iii. If Applicable: Junior Handler Information
        iv. ACT Class, Course, and Jump Height
        v. ACT Video Course Submittal – You can either upload directly to the form or provide a video link of your video upload (YouTube, Vimeo, Google Drive, etc.). Be sure if you provide a video link your video's privacy settings set so that your videos are viewable to anyone with a link!
        vi. Payment and Entry Submittal – Payment fees are per run, and you can pay via Debit/Credit Card or PayPal

2. Confirmation from AKC
    a. You will get emails from AKC and PayPal verifying your submission

Once I submit what are the next steps?
- In about 4-6 weeks you will get an email from AKC regarding your score so you will know if you passed or failed
- If you passed, your results will be updated in AKC's records. AKC has experienced significant delays in event processing so anticipate a minimum of 1 month from when your run was judged to when it will reflect in your records
- If you did not pass, you may re-run the course again at a later time to re-submit
- If you earned either the ACT1, ACT1J, ACT2 and/or ACT2J titles you will get your title certificates to the mailing address on file with AKC after they are officially recorded in your dog's records (go to https://www.akc.org/ and sign in to see MyAKC to access your dog's records

Will I get any ribbons or rosettes?

No, because this is a virtual event there will be no Q ribbons, placement ribbons, or title rosettes given. However there are custom rosette makers you can find online via Facebook or ribbon making companies that can make one for you to commemorate this event and title.