

National Agility Organizations

American Kennel Club (AKC)

www.akc.org

The American Kennel Club was established in 1884 to maintain a registry for purebred dogs. The organization is devoted to the integrity and purity of breeds and requires that all dogs participating in AKC events are purebreds registered with AKC or authenticated through AKC with an "Indefinite Listing Privilege." The AKC sanctions dog events that promote interest in and sustain the process of breeding for the type and function of purebred dogs. The organization records the parentage of over 1 million dogs annually and sponsors more than 15,000 dog competitions each year held by licensed and member clubs. GSLAC is licensed to hold AKC-sanctioned trials.

North American Dog Agility Council (NADAC)

www.nadac.com

The North American Dog Agility Council was formed in 1993 to provide North American dogs and their handlers a fast, safe and enjoyable form of the sport of dog agility. NADAC sanctions agility trials sponsored by affiliated clubs, including GSLAC. NADAC sponsors hundreds of trials, seminars and fund-raisers each year throughout the United States and Canada. NADAC welcomes pure and mixed breeds, but requires that all dogs register with the organization for a nominal, one-time fee. Owners are not required to register to compete in a NADAC trial, although trial chairs and secretaries must be members. Owner memberships are renewable annually.

United Kennel Club (UKC)

www.ukcdogs.com

Founded in 1898, the United Kennel Club is the largest all-breed performance dog registry in the world, registering over 250,000 dogs annually from all 50 states and 18 foreign countries. More than 60 percent of its 10,000 annually licensed events are tests of hunting ability, training and instinct. The United Kennel Club prides itself on its family-oriented, friendly, educational events and welcomes mixed breeds in addition to registered purebreds. There are no UKC agility clubs in the St. Louis area at this time, but there is one nearby in Columbia, Missouri. UKC agility trials include sway bridges and crawling obstacles that are not a part of AKC or NADAC trials.

U.S. Dog Agility Association (USDAA)

www.usdaa.com

Like NADAC, USDAA is an organization dedicated to the sport of dog agility that welcomes both pure and mixed breeds. USDAA's primary function is to promote dog agility as an international competitive, athletic sporting activity. This involves development and promotion of dog agility certification tests and tournament events, which USDAA conducts through a network of more than 100 licensed groups across North America and overseas. To compete in USDAA agility events, dogs must be registered with the organization. There are no USDAA clubs currently in the St. Louis area, though there are some in Kansas City, Missouri, and in the Chicago area.

Canine Performance Events (CPE)

www.k9cpe.com

CPE was founded in 1998 with a basic philosophy of dog and handler having fun while competing for agility titles. Membership is open to all purebred and mixed-breed dogs 15 months of age or older. Five levels of titles are offered, from Beginners to Championship in standard classes and a wide variety of games. CPE's motto is that success can be achieved through positive training and teamwork.

Australian Shepherd Club of America (ASCA)

www.asca.org

The Australian Shepherd Club of America (ASCA) was established as the parent club for the breed in 1957 and incorporated as a non-profit corporation. Increasing interest in competition led to the development of merit programs, which today provide certification and titles in Stockdog, Conformation, Obedience, Tracking, and Agility as well as recognition to top Juniors. Internationally ASCA has over 70 Affiliate Clubs providing sanctioned shows and trials. Dogs of any breed or mixed heritage can compete in ASCA agility events.

American Mixed Breed Obedience Registration (AMBOR)

www.amborusa.org

The American Mixed Breed Obedience Registration was established in 1983 in an effort to improve opportunities for mixed-breed dogs and to acknowledge the efforts and achievements of their handlers in obedience competition. AMBOR provides support to these handlers and affirms the accomplishments of mixed-breeds in all avenues of service to mankind. In 1994, AMBOR gained entrance for mixed breeds in United Kennel Club events throughout the country. Today, AMBOR dogs can show at ASCA, UKC, NADAC and local events hosted by training and recreational clubs. Though AMBOR advocates for inclusion of mixed breeds in competitions and events, AMBOR does not advocate the breeding of mixed-breed dogs, cross-breeding of purebred dogs or conformation showing of mixed-breed animals.

Tea Cup Dogs Agility Association (TDAA)

www.medinaswarm.com/teacup.html

The Teacup Dogs Agility Association (TDAA) provides a competitive venue for dogs of small stature without regard to breed or pedigree; and encourages course challenges that are comparable to those faced by large dogs and handlers in other popular venues. The smaller courses with tighter transitional distances between obstacles require a keener sense of timing and much better handling of the small dog than is required in any other venue. Additionally, obstacles such as tunnels, teeter, a-frame, and dog walk are scaled down in size, for smaller dogs. The Teacup Dogs Agility Association is open to all dogs, regardless of breed or pedigree, measuring 17" or less, and who are at least 12 months of age.