



AAKA, INC. JULY 2021 COVID-19 GUIDELINES – Revised in June

AAKA, Inc. is excited to hold its July 2021 agility trials at B&D Creekside Activity Center in Latrobe PA. We hope to have a fun agility weekend and know that we can count on you to make sure these guidelines, **as recently relaxed by the PA Governor**, are followed to ensure the continued safety and health of everyone attending our trials.

Please do NOT attend this trial: (a) if you were exposed to Covid-19 within 10 days preceding the trial and do not have a confirmed negative result from testing done 5+ days after the exposure. (b) if you have COVID-19 or its symptoms at the time of the trial. If any of these conditions apply to you or if you feel ill in any way during the trials, please contact the Trial Secretary if you wish to request a full refund for any runs not yet completed.

We have revised the following guidelines, which are based on updates to the AKC Best Practices for the Well-Being of Dog Sport Participants, and the latest PA and CDC guidelines. Any changes will be communicated as soon as possible before the trial weekend. If you can't comply with any of the changes, please contact the Trial Secretary prior to the trial to withdraw and request a refund.

These guidelines also apply to anyone attending with you or assisting at the trials, and they may be asked to leave if unwilling to comply.

1. **MASKS:** Masks are **NOT** required in the building, outside the building, or while running; however, masks **MAY** be worn as desired. If you desire to wear a mask, please bring your own face mask.
2. **GLOVES:** If you want gloves, please bring your own gloves.
3. **CHAIRS:** Bring your own chairs. B & D chairs will not be available for general use. The normal bleachers are folded and put away. They will not be in use.
4. **FOOD:** The on-site restaurant will be open on a limited basis with a simplified lunch menu. *** Please do NOT bring in shared food or MACH/PACH cakes unless they are individually portioned and/or will be served by a single server who will take appropriate sanitary and PPE measures. ***
5. **WASH HANDS:** Practice personal hygiene frequently and thoroughly. Use hand sanitizers positioned throughout the building and try to bring your own. Avoid touching dogs that are not your responsibility.
6. **SANITIZATION:** All equipment and surfaces have been thoroughly cleaned and sanitized. Please bring your own cleaning and sanitizing supplies. There will be a limited amount available at the trial. We will clean commonly touched surfaces regularly throughout the trial and again at the end of the day.
7. **TRAFFIC FLOW:** Please respect social distancing when entering and exiting the building.
8. **COURSE BUILDERS/RING CREW WORKERS:** Anyone setting up rings and changing bar heights **may** sanitize their hands frequently before and after setting up and while working in the ring, and may also choose to wear their own gloves if desired for additional self-protection. (Wipes and hand sanitizer provided on scribe table). At end of the class, the timer will wipe down the timer box.
9. **CHECK IN BOARDS:** Please check in on the gate boards at the early check-in location or at ringside in advance of the class starting, using your own pen or by sanitizing and using a “public” pen. Once a class has started, if you need to check in on a board in use at ringside, please only ask the Gate Steward to check you in and/or move any of your dogs if needed to avoid conflicts. The Gate Steward **may request** you to social distance while checking in.
10. **LEASHES/LEASH RUNNER:** We encourage exhibitors to tuck their leash into a pocket or wear it securely on their person (i.e., clip it like a belt around your waist so no part is hanging) when running the course. If you opt to drop your leash, the leash runner **may** wear gloves or pick the leash up with a paper towel or hand grabber to transport it to the exit location.
11. **ENTERING AND EXITING RING:** We encourage you to use your hip to push the gates to enter/exit the ring. The gate tops will be wiped off after each class. Hand sanitizer will be available after your run.
12. **COURSE MAPS, BRIEFINGS, RUN ORDERS, AND RESULTS:** Documents will be posted in several areas to help with social distancing. Please snap camera/phone pictures of the maps and results as paper handouts will NOT be available. ONLINE MAPS, BRIEFINGS, and RUN ORDERS, barring any “technical problems” or time constraints (NOT “guaranteed”), will be posted by the Trial Secretary each evening for the next day, no earlier than 6 PM. They can be downloaded from: www.aakaagilitytrial.com.

13. **WALK THROUGHS/BRIEFINGS:** Walkthroughs **MAY** be limited to 25 people. Additional walk throughs will be added as needed to keep numbers and crowding down. We encourage everyone to be mindful of others, take turns, and **respect** personal distance. There will be NO obsessive walk throughs and NO Mas/Ex briefings, which may be posted on www.aakaagilitytrial.com.
14. **RIBBONS/BARS AND GIFT:** There will be no self-serve ribbons. Stickered ribbons may be placed on a table for you to pick up or there may be a volunteer in this area to place your sticker on the Q ribbon (or give the sticker to you to put in your book if you prefer) and give you any ribbons you are to be awarded. (*Please do not return any ribbons once you have taken them.*) **GIFT:** Every dog entered in the trial will receive one complimentary gift for the weekend as stated in the premium. Choose the item you touch and please do not exchange it afterward. Please do not touch any ribbons or bars you are not taking. Please maintain social distancing while picking up items.
15. **CRATING:** Indoor crating has not been a problem during the last few trials. But crating in the building or the ability to sit with your crated dogs **may be limited** if the trial were to fill. Please respect those exhibitors that request social distancing while crating. Please be aware that every night the equipment in the ring area may be misted with a disinfectant of water and bleach. This will be done with a handheld misting machine that will be kept pointed away from the crating area. It is your responsibility to decide whether or not to leave your crates and water bowls in the building overnight!
16. **TENT/EZ-UP OUTDOOR CRATING:** If weather permits, “tent crating” will be allowed **anywhere** on the grass, but not in the immediate potty area at the end of the building and not in the parking lots or concrete pad next to the equipment garage door! (Please not too close to the garage doors!) They may be left overnight at your own risk – neither B&D nor AAKA will be responsible for theft or damage due to weather.
17. **BUILDING OCCUPANCY CONTROL:** As PA Guidelines have been relaxed, we encourage you to respect those exhibitors who prefer to maintain social distancing for their safety. To help with space to allow anyone who wants to maintain social distancing the opportunity to do so, we encourage you to leave non-essential family and friends at home unless necessary to help you during the trials.
18. **AFTER COMPLETING YOUR RUNS:** Once your runs are over for the day, if extra space is needed and you are not scheduled to work, you may want to take your dog/dogs and exit the building.
19. **VOLUNTEERS:** We hope you will continue to “work together” and help our trial run smoothly. We **NEED** and **WELCOME** your help and thank everyone who will volunteer to assist us!