

PREMIUM LIST

32nd AKC National Obedience Championship



Thursday & Friday, July 16 & 17, 2026

Entries Open – Thursday, April 23, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. ET

Entries Close – Thursday, May 7, 2026 at 4:00 p.m. ET

This event is by Invitation Only.

Roberts Centre

123 Gano Road

Wilmington, Ohio 45177

Event Hours: Thursday & Friday – 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

CERTIFICATION



Permission is granted by the American Kennel Club for the holding of this event under American Kennel Club rules and regulations.

Shelia Goffe, Executive Secretary

Event Committee

Lisa Liggins . Event Co-Chair, Administrative Director Obedience, Rally & Tracking
 Mary Higdem Event Co-Chair, Field Director Obedience, Rally & Tracking
 Linda Morris Sr. Obedience/Rally Field Rep.
 Jeffrey Kern Obedience/Rally Field Rep.
 Samantha Williams Obedience/Rally Field Rep.
 Doug Ljungren Executive Vice President, Sports & Events
 Lisa Liggins Event Secretary

8051 Arco Corporate Drive, Ste 100, Raleigh, NC 27617

AKC-NOC@akc.org / (919) 816-3816

Janice Sondys Sr. Companion Events Rep.

Steve Herwig Sr. Companion Events Analyst/Event Systems Specialist

Any AKC Employees on site.

Event Support Staff

Paula Spector Vice President Corporate Services

Anita Leveska-Kelley.....Hospitality/Sr. Event Manager

Nancy Watson Event Tabulator

Linda MacDonald Chief Ring Steward

Marcie Shanker Co-Ring Steward

Diane Schultz Commentator

Barbara Wedekind Selton Commentator

National Obedience Championship Judges

Ms. Deborah Addicoat, #93559 Carnation, WA

Ms. Ronnie Bizer, #17778.....Maple Park, IL

Mr. David Brobst, #95025.....Glen Allen, VA

Mr. Joseph Caputa, #69729..... Ellendale, DE

Mr. Frank Cardillino, #91806 Easton, MD

Ms. Elizabeth Chase, #5330 Belchertown, MA

Mr. Thomas B. Igiel, #18999.....Grand Island, NY

Mrs. Carol Mett-Trumbly, #7536 Savannah, GA

Dog Eligibility

The qualifying period for the event is: December 1, 2024 – November 30, 2025

This event is by invitation only. To be invited to enter the National Obedience Championship, a dog must meet one of the following criteria:

- Be ranked in the top 25 dogs across all breeds by OTCH points.
- Be ranked in the top six of its breed by OTCH points; dogs listed with the AKC Canine Partners will be considered one breed.
- If a breed has more than 30 dogs who have earned an OTCH point during the qualifying period, invitations will be sent to 10% of the total number of eligible dogs in that breed in addition to the top six.
- Be ranked as one of the top four dogs in one of the regional qualifying competitions.

To be eligible to be included in the final rankings in a regional qualifying event, a dog must:

- Have a UD title prior to competing at the regional competition.
- Enter and compete in both Open B and Utility B in all three of the trials held at the regional competition. Each dog's cumulative totals will determine the ranking in each region.

Should a dog qualify based on ranking in a regional event but also earn an invitation by being in the top 25 dogs or top six of its breed, the next highest scoring dog in that region will be invited.

National Obedience Championship Format

THURSDAY'S COMPETITION:

- 🐾 There will be eight rings & the teams will perform approximately three exercises in each of the eight rings. The National Obedience Championship event will include a variety of obedience exercises performed as described in these regulations.
- 🐾 Approximately 20 teams will be assigned to start in each ring. Your starting ring & armband numbers will be sent to you approximately three weeks prior to the event
- 🐾 Teams starting in Ring 1 will proceed to Ring 2 in catalog order. Teams starting in Ring 2 will proceed to Ring 3; Teams starting in Ring 3 will proceed to Ring 4 and so on

National Obedience Championship Format, continued

- 🐾 At the end of Thursday's competition, if necessary, runoffs will be conducted to determine the Top 50 teams and the top four Group Placements
- 🐾 Once the runoff results are tabulated, the Top 50 teams qualifying for Friday's competition will be finalized.
- 🐾 The Awards Ceremony at the end of Thursday's competition, the top four Group Placement winners and the Top 50 moving to compete on Friday will be announced

FRIDAY'S COMPETITION:

- 🐾 Friday morning the Top 50 handler/dog teams will perform approximately two to three exercises in each of the eight rings like the Thursday format
- 🐾 At the end of the Top 50 competition, the Top 20 handler/dog teams will be determined
- 🐾 The Top 20 teams will then perform a series of exercises to determine the Top 10 handler/dog teams
- 🐾 The Top 10 handler/dog teams will be ranked by scores earned in that portion of the competition
- 🐾 An Awards Ceremony will be held at the end of Friday's event where the Top 10 teams of the 2026 AKC National Obedience Championship will be announced, and the 2026 AKC National Obedience Champion will be named.

The Scent Discrimination Exercise will be performed twice over the course of the competition. Please be certain to bring a sufficient number of articles with you.

Event Invitations

Invitations will be sent via email the week of April 6th. Please be sure that your email address is up to date by emailing your dog's registration number and the email address to AKC-NOC@akc.org.

Entry Fee

National Obedience Championship Entry Fee \$ 200.00

Closing Date for entries is Thursday, May 7th, at 4:00 p.m. ET

Official Entry Form

The 2025 AKC National Obedience Champion received an automatic “bye” into the 2026 AKC National Obedience Championship event. They do not need to meet the qualifying criteria; however, an entry form with payment must be submitted.

Online Entry Preferred! Enter and pay the entry fee via an online entry form. The entry form will be available Thursday, April 23rd at 10:00 a.m. ET – Thursday, May 7th at 4:00 p.m. ET. The link to the entry form will be sent via email with your official invitation.

It is the sole responsibility of the exhibitor to ensure their entry is delivered by the closing date and time.

NOTE: entries sent via USPS can sometimes take 3-6 weeks to deliver and confirmation of entries may take as long as 4 weeks from the date you mailed your entry.

No entries will be accepted by hand delivery, email, fax, or by phone. Express mail & overnight entries must include the signature waiver allowing them to deliver the package.

In lieu of using the online entry system, you may instead mail the official entry form and fees to American Kennel Club, Attn: Companion Events – NOC Entry, 8051 Arco Corporate Drive, Ste. 100, Raleigh, NC 27617-3390. Please make checks or money orders payable to AKC NOC. One week prior to entries opening the printable entry form will be available at , [NOC Mail Only Entry Form](#).

Official Entry Form, continued

ENTRIES NOT ON THE OFFICIAL AKC NATIONAL OBEDIENCE CHAMPIONSHIP ENTRY FORM, OR PHOTOCOPIES OF THE ENTRY FORM without the Agreement and rules on the reverse side, are NOT ACCEPTABLE. No entry shall be made or accepted that specifies any conditions as to its acceptance.

Illegible entries will not be processed and will be returned to the exhibitor. Returned checks do not constitute a valid entry. A twenty-five (\$25.00) dollar collection fee will be added to the amount of each returned check.

Errors on Entry Forms: Owners are responsible for errors on entry forms, and no entry fee will be refunded in the event of such errors or cancellation of entries after the trial has closed.

Dog's Call Name: Please include your dog's call name on the entry form. This will be used for award announcements.

Entries

Confirmation of Entry: When you enter the event online you will receive 2 emails confirming your entry. The first will be an automatic confirmation that your entry was received, this email only confirms that the entry has been received, not that your entry has been accepted into the event. The second will be sent directly by AKC confirming that your entry has been entered in the event and will contain additional event information. If you do not receive either of these emails within two weeks of sending in an entry, and/or before the closing date, you must contact us before entries close at AKC-NOC@akc.org.

Cancellation of Entry: The last day to cancel an entry is Thursday, May 7th, 2026 at 4:00 p.m. ET. To cancel your entry, send an email to AKC-NOC@akc.org and refunds for cancellations will be made approximately 45 days after the final closing date.

NO ENTRY FEE will be refunded if the trial cannot open or be completed by reason of riots, civil disturbances, fire, an act of God, public emergency, act of public enemy, or any other cause beyond the control of the organizing committee. No entry fee will be refunded in the event a dog is absent, disqualified, excused by a judge or veterinarian, or barred from competition by the action of the Event Committee.

Entries, continued

Bitches in Season are not permitted to compete in Obedience events. Refunds will be processed if the Trial Secretary is notified no later than one-half hour prior to the start of judging. Notification can be sent to AKC-NOC@akc.org. After judging starts on Thursday, July 16th, entry fees will not be refunded.

Refunds: Please note that tournament events differ from regular trials. The Premium List provides a slate of judges but does not assign specific judges to individual classes. As such, refunds will not be issued due to judge changes or additions.

Staying in the Loop

The official source for all National Obedience Championship (NOC) information, event documents, schedules, and updates is the event page listed below. Exhibitors are responsible for reviewing all posted information, as updates and changes will be communicated through this site.

Official NOC Event Page:

<https://akccompanionevents.com/index.php?eventSelected=National%20Obedience%20Championship>

Exhibitors may also follow the Facebook page for general information, reminders, and announcements. Information posted on social media is intended to be helpful; however, the official event page remains the controlling source for all event-related information.

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100069865807944>

Volunteers Needed

The link to volunteer will be available until Friday May 1st, and can be found at, [NOC/RNC Volunteer Form](#).

Souvenirs

Please check back for more details on the opening of the Souvenir Store.

Catalogs: If you want a hard copy, please order it from the Souvenir Store. A limited number of catalogs will be available for sale on-site. A copy of the catalog will be available for viewing online.

Officially Recorded Titles

Titles recorded on a dog's AKC official record on/about June 1, 2026, will be automatically updated and listed in the event catalog.

Exhibitors do not need to provide title updates as we will be using the titles that are on the dog's official record.

Important Dates to Remember

- 🐾 Week of April 6, 2026
 - Email Invitations will be sent
- 🐾 April 23, 2026
 - Entries Open @10:00 a.m. ET
- 🐾 May 1, 2026
 - Volunteer Form Deadline
- 🐾 May 4, 2026
 - Hotel Block Opens
- 🐾 May 7, 2026
 - Entries Close
- 🐾 June 1, 2026
 - Catalog/Well Wisher Ads due

Host Hotel & RV Reservations

Hotel:

The Holiday Inn at the Roberts Centre is the host hotel for the event. The hotel will begin accepting reservations for the AKC RNC-NOC block on **Monday, May 4th**.

To make a reservation, call **937-283-3200**, **press option 3** and ask for the **AKC Obedience and Rally National Championship** block.

RV: UPDATED INFORMATION

Due to renovations, Roberts Centre won't offer full hookups from June to August.

Dry will be complimentary during June - August. Campspot is closed entirely to bookings for that time period.

For those with have self-contained campers, parking will be complimentary

Important Notice to All Exhibitors
Please read the entire section carefully

Exhibitor Check-In: Exhibitors will be allowed to check-in and set up beginning Wednesday, July 15th, details on time and exact location will be provided in your final confirmation letter sent via email closer to the date of the event.

If you cannot check in until Thursday morning, you must do so at least 30 minutes prior to the start of judging.

Crating: Each dog entered in the event will be allotted one 3' x 5' space. Un-entered dogs will only be allowed in the facility if they can share the crate space with an entered dog.

Crate spaces are NOT pre-assigned and will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

A "crate" is defined as having a top, bottom and 4 walls, all interconnecting, thus preventing the dog from escaping.

Each exhibitor will be required to display an information card on the outside of each crate; card(s) will be supplied at check-in. The information card must have your name and on-site emergency contact information (cell phone # or other). This is for the safety of your dog!! Do not leave barking dogs unattended.

NO EX-PENS will be allowed in the facility. No dogs are permitted to be crated or groomed on any carpeted area.

ALL DOGS MUST BE ON LEASH: Dogs must be on leash, held by a person at all times while on the trial grounds. The ONLY exception is when the dog is in the designated warm-up area or competing in the ring. Dogs may NOT be on retractable leads or long lines while inside the building. Failure to maintain control of a dog may result in an Event Committee hearing.

SPECIAL TRAINING COLLARS ARE PROHIBITED.

Exhibitors are responsible for cleaning up after themselves and their dogs. Failure to pick up after your dog may result in an Event Committee hearing. Cleaning supplies and disposal areas will be available.

Important Notice to All Exhibitors
Please read the entire section carefully, continued

The American Kennel Club and the Roberts Centre will not be responsible for any loss of damaged items left at the show site.

SAFETY, BEHAVIOR and LIABILITY: The safety of the dog is our primary concern. By entering this trial, exhibitors acknowledge that they are familiar with the rules and regulations of the AKC. **It is expressly understood** that exhibitors alone are responsible for the behavior of their dogs and/or children.

Any exhibitor whose dogs and/or children create an unnecessary disturbance or repeatedly engage in unsafe or disruptive behavior, may, at the discretion of the Event Committee, be asked to leave the show site. In such cases, no refund of any fees paid will be made. The American Kennel Club and its agents, employees, etc., will assume no responsibilities for any loss, damage or injury sustained by exhibitors or handlers, or to any of their dogs or property and further assumes no responsibility for injury to children. The American Kennel Club reserves the right to decline entries for cause and may remove any dog because of aggression. No one shall have any recourse or claim against the American Kennel Club or any official thereof.

Exhibitors should follow their veterinarian's recommendations to ensure their dogs are free of internal and external parasites, and any communicable diseases, and have appropriate vaccinations.

A copy of a dog's vaccination record, including a current rabies certificate, must be available if requested.

This club agrees to arbitrate claims as set forth on the Official AKC National Obedience Championship Entry Form for this event.

All exhibitors should obtain a copy of the *AKC Obedience Regulations* by downloading them from the American Kennel Club website at <https://www.akc.org/rules/>.

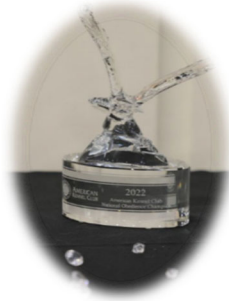
VETERINARY/HUMAN SERVICES

Details will be published at, [Event Documents](#), closer to the event.

Awards

A list of awards will be published separately at,

[Awards List.](#)



CATALOG AND WELL-WISHER ADS

Catalog Advertisements

Advertisements in the 2026 AKC National Obedience Championship catalog are WELCOMED!! Don't miss the opportunity to recognize that special Team competing this year!!

Camera-ready ads are accepted in high-resolution press-quality PDFs (preferred). JPEG or TIFF files are also acceptable (minimum 300 pixels/inch). If you are sending photos separately, the photos should be scanned to a finished size and at a minimum of 300 pixels/inch. Do not forget to include the correct orientation. Full- and half-page ads will receive a complimentary hardcopy of the catalog.

Full-page ads MUST be in a portrait orientation, and half-page ads MUST be in a landscape orientation. If you mail, please send only high-quality photos for scanning purposes.

Photos will be in black and white.

Full page ad up 8" x 10.5" \$ 100.00

1/2-page ad up to 7.5" x 4.75" \$ 65.00

Well-Wishers

Send brief good luck wishes from you and/or your club. For \$35.00 you can advertise to wish whoever "Good Luck" at the event. The catalog width will be 8.5" inches. The statement must be 25 words or less.

Deadline for catalog ad submission & payment is **Monday, June 1, 2026.**

Electronic ad submissions or questions should be sent directly to: [AKC-NOC@akc.org](mailto:NOC@akc.org). Please reference "Catalog Ad" in the subject line of your email.

PUBLICATION RIGHTS – PHOTOGRAPHS AND VIDEOS

By entering this show, all owners, handlers, breeders and kennels agree that all rights to televise, videotape, photograph, advertise, promote and publicize or otherwise exploit this show, or the persons or animals participating in it or the results of the competition before, during or after the event, shall belong solely to The American Kennel Club and their respective assigns, including the use of the names, likenesses or biographical matter of all dogs, owners, handlers, breeders and kennels participating in the show and no such owner, handler, breeder or kennel shall allow any other party to make commercial use of any videotape or photograph of any person or animal participating in this competition.

NOTE: By entering this show all owners, handlers, breeders, and kennels agree to make themselves available for interview if requested.

Exhibitors may videotape or photograph **individual runs only** for personal use. **Only the Official Photographer may take ring photos for sale for these events. Any other photographers taking multi-dog ring photographs will be subject to an Event Committee Hearing for failure to comply with the event regulations published in the official premium list.**

Win pictures will take place at the Official Photo setup immediately after the Awards Ceremony.

All winners are ASKED TO STAY FOR THEIR OFFICIAL WIN PHOTOS!!



The AKC is committed to creating a safe and respectful sport environment for all. If you need to talk to someone *or need help, please call 800. 656.HOPE (National Sexual Assault Hotline) or text HOME to 741-741 for free, 24/7, confidential services from trained crisis counselors.*