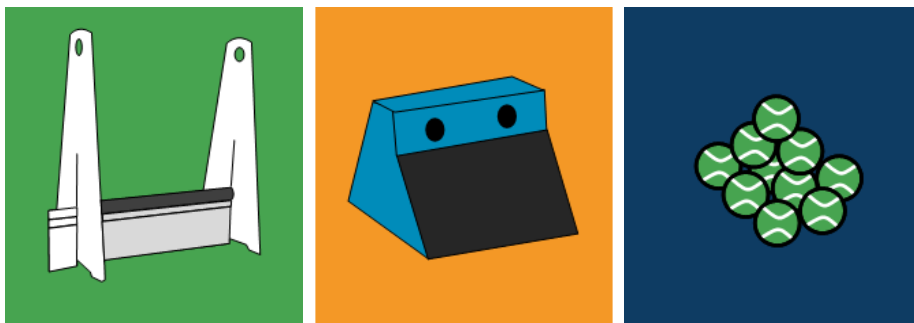


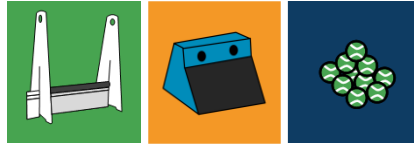
YKC Young Kennel Club

FLYBALL REGULATIONS



YKC Young Kennel Club

YKC FLYBALL QUALIFIER REGULATIONS



DEFINITION

- The YKC hosts one Flyball competition final at Crufts. To qualify for this final, teams must compete in YKC Flyball classes held at appointed licensed shows throughout the year, these classes can be found at www.ykc.org.uk
- Flyball qualifiers run from the 1st January to the 31st December for the following year's Crufts.

TEAMS

- Each team **MUST** consist of:

- 4 no. Handlers



- 4 no. Dogs



- 1 no. Box loader

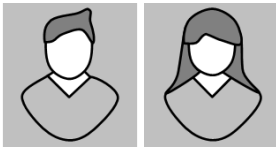


- 1 no. Team Captain

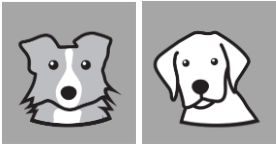


- Each team **MAY** additionally have:

- 2 no. Reserve Handlers



- 2 no. Reserve Dogs



- Each team **MUST** bring:

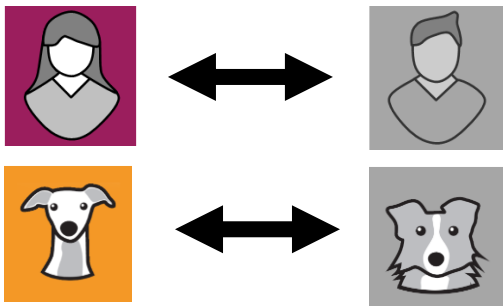
- At least one Flyball Box (a spare box is advised)



- Un-punctured, standard size tennis balls



- Teams may switch the named handlers/dogs for named reserve handlers/dogs between races.



- Teams that have previously qualified for the upcoming Crufts final cannot enter further YKC Flyball competitions this calendar year. This is due to the nature of the competition, which is run on a knockout basis, and it would be unfair for unqualified teams to be knocked out by a qualified team.

HANDLERS



- Members must be aged 6 years and up to, but not including, 18th birthday and one handler can be aged 18 years and up to but not including 25th birthday.
- All handlers must be a fully paid up member of the YKC before entering a Flyball competition.
- Please bear in mind that handler's ages are calculated on the first day of Crufts not on the day of the qualifier
- Handlers who are 25 years and above by the first day of Crufts are no longer eligible to be a YKC member and can therefore not compete.
- Handlers may not compete for, or captain, any other YKC Flyball Team.

BOX LOADERS



- Box loaders must be aged 6 years and up to, but not including, 25th birthday. If a box loader is over 18, this will **NOT** count towards the total number of 18-24 year olds.
- The box loader must be a fully paid up member of the YKC before entering a Flyball competition.
- Box Loaders may not compete for, or captain, any other YKC Flyball Team.

RESERVE HANDLERS



- Members must be aged 6 years and up to, but not including, 18th birthday and one handler can be aged 18 years and up to but not including 25th birthday.
 - If the main team already has a member who is aged 18 years and up to but not including 25th birthday then that team must only use members who are aged 6 years and up to, but not including, 18th birthday as reserves.
- Reserve handlers must be a fully paid up member of the YKC before entering a Flyball competition.
- Reserve handlers may not compete for, or captain, any other Flyball team.

TEAM CAPTAIN



- The Team captain does **NOT** have to be a YKC member, the team captain should be a responsible adult (18+)
- The team must appoint a team captain to become the point of contact for the team. The team captain may assist the team in the ring.
 - Assistance should be in the form of: attending judges briefing, organising the team, transferring used tennis balls back to the box loader between races, helping small or young YKC members to restrain large dogs while not competing.
 - Assistance should **NOT** include releasing the dog to perform a run whilst a race is in progress.
- The team captain may not compete for, or captain, any other YKC Flyball Team.

DOGS



- Only dogs of eighteen (18) calendar months of age and over on the day of competition are eligible for entry.
- A dog may not be named in more than one (1) YKC Flyball Team. (even as a reserve)
- A YKC handler is permitted to run a dog in the YKC Flyball final which is also being run in an adult competition.
- Unlike standard Kennel Club Flyball, there are no restrictions on breed of dog in the YKC Flyball competition.
 - *i.e. all dogs may be Collies if desired.*
- Dogs will all compete at the same height (The height of the hurdles must be 25.4cm (10inches))
- Dogs entered must be registered at the Kennel Club to enter Kennel Club licenced shows.

ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

- The Qualifiers and the final at Crufts will be run as a 'Single Elimination Tournament'. This means that if a team loses once, they are knocked out.
 - The exception to this rule is when three (3) teams have entered into a qualifier. If three (3) teams enter a qualifier, the competition should be run as a 'Double Elimination Tournament'. This is to prevent 1 team qualifying automatically on a bye. Double elimination tournaments require a team to lose twice before being knocked out of the competition (even in the final).
- The initial draw at qualifiers for the teams should be done at the judges briefing by drawing names from a hat.
 - The draw for the final at Crufts will be conducted by the YKC management team once entries have closed. This will be adjudicated and witnessed by another member of kennel club staff unaffiliated with the YKC.
- The team that wins the best of three (3) races will move forward to the next round. It is up to the judge whether all three (3) races will occur if a team wins in the first two.

PRIZES AND AWARDS

- The first and second placed team at each qualifying show listed on the YKC website will be invited to take part in the Final at Crufts.
- Should only one (1) team enter a qualifier they must demonstrate that they can complete a race without any individual dog exceeding more than 1 re-run.
 - Should only two (2) teams enter a qualifier they must demonstrate that they can complete a race without any dog exceeding more than 1 re-run.
 - The judge of the qualifier must be content that any team that qualifies for Crufts is capable of competing and is safe to do so.
- If a team is disqualified, the qualification does not roll down to the next placing
- The YKC will only accept wins from classes at approved qualifying events as listed on the YKC website. Any award from a show which has not been approved by the YKC Management Team will not qualify for Crufts. It is important that you check that the wording in show schedules corresponds with the wording printed in these regulations; if in doubt please contact the Young Kennel Club Team before entering.

COMPETITION REGULATIONS – FOR COMPETITORS

- No persons shall carry out punitive correction or harsh handling of a dog at any time.
- Food shall not be carried in the hand or given to a dog in the ring.
- A dog must attempt to clear every hurdle. However if a hurdle is knocked down, the dog must not be penalised, provided it clears the hurdle as if it were standing.
- A dog must re-run at the end of the line if:
 - An early start is indicated.
 - It does not attempt every jump.
 - It does not trigger the box.
 - It does not return with the ball.
 - Its handler's feet cross the start line during its run (with the exception of resetting a jump or retrieving a lost ball).
 - In the judge's opinion it started its run before the preceding dog had reached the start/finish line.
 - The box loader is faulted for assisting the dog.
 - If a dog or any team member obstructs the opposing team during a race, the offending team will forfeit the race. A dog chasing a loose ball is not necessarily causing an obstruction.
- The first team to have its fourth dog, (or the last to be re-run) across the finish line, with any part of the dog's body, wins the race.
- Only dogs & handlers who are members of the original team, or named as reserves on the entry form, will be permitted to compete in the final. (In exceptional circumstances, replacement dogs or handlers will be considered but must have signed written approval by the YKC Office before the final).

COMPETITION REGULATIONS – SHOW ORGANISERS

- The Flyball final at Crufts will be held using the traffic light system.
 - The qualifying classes may use either an electronic traffic light system or the flip-board system
- The judge has overall responsibility for the competition and will control both the start and finish.
- There must be a steward positioned at the end of the start/finish line.
- Two stewards must be appointed to ensure that the box and hurdle rules are not infringed. Re-runs must be clearly indicated.
- If, in the opinion of the judge, a box malfunctions during a race, the race must be stopped, a spare box must be substituted and the race re-run. If the spare box also breaks down the team forfeits the race.