

"Measuring 101

WHEN ENTERING A TRIAL:

You must declare what level and jump-height you want to enter on your entry-form. If you need to make any changes to the entry including changing height or program (Regular v/s Preferred), you must do so BEFORE the trial closes (**No Exceptions**). You must also provide your dogs ESTIMATED height at withers on the entry form, even if your dog needs to be measured.

AT THE TRIAL::

NON-VMO MEASURING

You MUST have your dog measured before your first run at any trial. This is either done by the officiating judge, or a **VMO: Volunteer Measuring Official**. At each trial your dog is measured before its first run by the judge of record (he/she not being a VMO), that measurement will be good for the entire trial. (If the judge is also a VMO, see next.)

VMO MEASURING

To obtain a formal jump-height and height card from AKC you need measurements done by a VMO: who may be attending the trial, or an AKC Field Representative who are also VMO's.

NOTE: You must be a judge to be a VMO, but not all judges are VMO's.

If your dog is at least 2 years old your dog will need a total of 2 measurements by a VMO. (IF the two measurements place your dog in different jump heights, you will need a third measurement). When you arrive, locate the measuring table, (a pause-table like we use in the ring), The VMO will keep the measuring forms there (generally). You will need to fill out the form (including your dog's AKC registration number) **before** the judge will measure your dog. You will keep the yellow copy of the measurement and the VMO will give the trial secretary the other copy. This will be sent to AKC by the secretary after the trial. When you have had 2 measurements done by VMOs, AKC will send you a jump-height card. If you attend a trial and get a VMO measurement and you then attend another trial but there is no VMO there, your measurement form you received at the previous trial counts as your measurement and you do not need to be measured by the judge of record at that trial. Once you attend another trial where a VMO is present you must have your dog measured before running by the VMO.

If your dog is not yet 2 years old, the VMO measurements will be sent to AKC and you will receive a temporary height card. After your dog turns 2, you will need to get a final measurement and AKC will then send you a Permanent height card. Until you have all 3 measurements you will check "dog needs to be measured" on your entry forms. (Except for the time-period between 2-3 years old, if you have obtained your two temporary measurements)

Please know that the VMO's are Volunteers, they do not receive any compensation for their services, they do this for the benefit of the sport. The VMO's also run dogs at the trial and need to walk courses, and take care of their dogs, so make sure you arrive in plenty of time to have your dog measured before your first run. (I usually suggest you arrive 1-2 hours before your first run). (And don't forget to thank your VMO!)

IF YOUR DOG MEASURES TO JUMP A DIFFERENT HEIGHT THAN THE ONE YOU ENTERED

IF a dog is measured by a VMO or an AKC Field Rep at the trial, you can choose to switch to program (Regular to Preferred or vice versa)". If your dog is measured by the judge (No VMO or AKC Field Rep available at the trial), you MUST jump your dog in the height the judge measured it to, and you are NOT allowed to switch to program for that trial.

Here's a link to AKCs regulations for agility trials, Chapter 2 has the info on measuring.

<http://images.akc.org/pdf/rulebooks/REAGIL.pdf>