



American Whippet Club

VERSATILITY COMPETITION

RULES

January 18, 2018

The AWC has held the Versatility Competition in conjunction with its National Specialty since 2007. Versatility combines four performance events (lure coursing, conformation, rally, and agility) to showcase the versatility of Whippets and the bond they share with their owners. The Versatility Competition's scoring system ranks the success of their teamwork in comparison to other teams. In the spirit of that teamwork, owners should handle their Whippets in all four venues but it is not required.

To win the Versatility Competition, your Whippet must compete in all four events (lure coursing, conformation, rally, and agility) and earn as many points as possible in each event (your score). After each event is completed, every participating Whippet's score is assigned a rank from first to last, based on the score received (your rank). Upon completion of all four events, your Whippet's four individual rankings are averaged to produce its total final rank. The ranks of all participating teams are then placed from first to last. The Whippet with the final lowest rank (numerical ranking average) is the AWC Versatility Champion, and awarded the TJ Challenge Trophy and Calvin Trophy, and may then participate in future AWC Parades of Honor at National Specialties. Whippets ranked first through tenth receive special awards and rosettes.

Even if your Whippet does not win the Versatility Competition, it will receive a final Versatility ranking if it competed in all four of the required events. That is why it is important to score as many points as possible in each of the four performance events. Versatility is not an AKC titling event but an AWC scoring/ranking event. Qualifying scores are not required. A non-qualifying score in agility, rally, or lure coursing does not eliminate your Whippet from the Versatility Competition; however, Whippets with qualifying scores are ranked above non-qualifying Whippets in these event rankings. If your Whippet does not receive a qualifying score, that score will still be counted as a Versatility score but it will be ranked below all qualifying scores.

NOTE: Whippets may participate in both the Triathlon and Versatility competitions.

HOW TO ENTER THE VERSATILITY COMPETITION

Submit **four** separate entries - one for coursing, one for agility, one for rally, and one for the Versatility Competition - by the required closing dates. Premium lists and the Versatility entry form are on the AWC website at:

<http://www.americanwhippetclub.net/national/versatility>.

1. **Lure Coursing.** Your Whippet must participate in the AKC Lure Coursing trial held in conjunction with the AWC National Specialty. Fill out the standard entry in the AKC Lure Coursing Premium and submit it by the closing date. On your Versatility Entry form, indicate the stake in which your Whippet is entered.
2. **Rally.** Your Whippet must participate in the AKC rally trial held as part of the AWC National Specialty. Fill out the standard AKC rally entry in the AWC National Specialty Premium. You may enter multiple rally classes (e.g., Rally Advanced, Rally Excellent) in the trial but you must declare only one of these classes for purposes of a Versatility score on your Versatility Competition entry form. If your Whippet has a title, or legs toward a title, in a rally class in AKC, you are not permitted to enter a lower-level class for purposes of a Versatility score. To do so will result in disqualification from the Versatility Competition. For example, if your Whippet has a RA, or leg towards an RA, you may not enter Rally Novice and use that score for the Versatility Competition. If you are working on an RAE, you must use your Excellent class score for your Versatility Competition. If you are working on Rally Champion, you must use your Master class score for your Versatility Competition.
3. **Agility.** Your Whippet must participate in the agility trial that is held in conjunction with the AWC National Specialty and identified as part of the Versatility competition. Submit the standard agility entry in the identified premium. You must enter your Whippet in both the Standard (STD) and Jumpers with Weaves (JWW) classes to qualify for the Versatility Competition. If your Whippet has a title, or legs toward a title, in the STD or JWW Class in AKC, regardless of whether it is in the Regular or Preferred division, you may not enter a lower-level class for the Versatility Competition. For example, if your Whippet has an AKC Regular Excellent STD title, or leg towards the title, you may not enter the AKC Preferred Novice STD class and use that score for the Versatility competition. Likewise, a Whippet with a Preferred Excellent JWW title may not enter the Regular Novice JWW class and use that score for the Versatility competition. However, if your Whippet has an AKC Regular Novice STD title or leg towards the title, you may enter the AKC Preferred Novice STD class and use that score for the Versatility competition.
4. **Versatility Competition Conformation**
 - a. Submit your Versatility entry, along with the \$10 entry fee, to the AWC Versatility Chair by the closing date using one of the following methods:
 - i. (Preferred Method) Online Entry and payment via PayPal
<http://www.americanwhippetclub.net/national/versatility>.
 - ii. Mail entries and checks made payable to the AWC, in US funds drawn from a US bank which must be received (not just postmarked) by the closing date in order for your Whippet to compete in the Versatility Competition. **Do NOT Mail Entries Requiring A Return Signature.**

- b. Your Whippet is automatically entered in the Versatility Competition Conformation upon receipt of your Versatility entry and entry fee. Versatility and Triathlon conformation judging takes place concurrently. All Whippets enter the ring for group examination until the judge directs the group to exit the ring. Then each Whippet enters the ring, one at a time, for individual judging and scoring by the judge. After individual judging is completed, the entire group re-enters the ring for additional judging when the judge may make several cuts before the final scoring of all Whippets is completed. The four top-scoring Versatility Whippets are determined by their scores and receive first through fourth placement rosettes.
- c. Versatility judging is separate from other conformation judging at the National Specialty. Please see the Premium for other conformation classes, e.g., Futurity, Sweepstakes, regular classes).

SCORING AND RANKING

LURE COURSING

1. **Scoring.** Your Whippet's scores from the AKC lure coursing trial are used to compute this portion of the Versatility Competition. The base score for lure coursing is the total score from preliminary and final runs, regardless of the stake entered or additional scores earned in run-offs for best of breed.
2. **Ranking.** Whippets entered in Versatility are then ranked according to their numeric scores. The Whippet receiving the highest score is ranked 1, the second highest score is ranked 2, and so on until all Versatility competitors are ranked. (Note: A high score = a low rank)

CONFORMATION

1. **Scoring.** Your Whippet's score from the Versatility Conformation judging is used in this portion of the Versatility Competition. Using the Whippet Breed Standard as a baseline for a score of 100, the judge gives each Whippet a separate numeric score.
2. **Ranking.** Whippets in Versatility are then ranked according to their numeric score. The highest numeric score is ranked 1, the second highest numeric score is ranked 2 and so on until all Versatility Whippets are ranked. (Note: A high score = a low rank)

RALLY

1. Scoring.

a. Your Whippet's score from the AKC Rally Trial is used in this portion of the Versatility Competition. All points earned are applied whether qualifying or non-qualifying. However, qualifying scores are always ranked higher than non-qualifying scores. While qualifying in rally is encouraged, it is not a requirement. The Versatility Competition is not an AKC titling event but an AWC scoring/ranking event.

b. For non-qualifying scores, the Versatility Chair will calculate scores based on the numerical scores written on each exhibitor's score sheet and use these scores to rank the non-qualifying scores. If a Whippet is excused from the ring, it will receive a Versatility score of zero.

2. Ranking. All qualifying Whippets in Rally are ranked before non-qualifying Whippets. (Note: A high score = a low rank)

- a. First, all qualifying Whippets are ranked from the highest to the lowest score then prioritized by class in the following order: Master, Excellent, Advanced, Intermediate, and Novice.
- b. Second, all non-qualifying Whippets will be ranked by class in the following order: Master, Excellent, Advanced, Intermediate, and Novice. Non-qualifying Whippets shall always be ranked after qualifying Whippets.
- c. Prior to the Rally trial, the Versatility Chair will inform the Rally judge that some Whippets entered in the trial may also be participating in the Versatility Competition and request that all exercises be scored to the extent possible.
- d. An example of the scoring and Final Rally Ranking for Whippets by class follows:

| Entry # | Class | Score | Qualifying Score | Ranking |
|---------|-------------|-------|------------------|---------|
| 7 | Master | 80 | Yes | #1 |
| 2 | Excellent B | 75 | Yes | #2 |
| 5 | Advanced A | 80 | Yes | #3 |
| 8 | Novice A | 85 | Yes | #4 |
| 1 | Novice B | 85 | Yes | #4 |
| 9 | Excellent A | 65 | No | #6 |
| 3 | Advanced B | 69 | No | #7 |
| 10 | Advanced A | 60 | No | #8 |
| 4 | Novice B | 60 | No | #9 |
| 6 | Novice A | 55 | No | #10 |

AGILITY

1. **Scoring.** Your Whippet's STD (Regular or Preferred) and JWW (Regular or Preferred) scores from the Agility Trial are used in this portion of the Versatility Competition. All points earned by every Whippet in each of these classes are applied whether qualifying or non-qualifying. While qualifying in agility is encouraged, it is not a requirement. The Versatility Competition is not a titling event but an AWC scoring/ranking event.

2. **Ranking.** (Note: A high score = low rank)
 - a. First, all qualifying Whippets are ranked separately in the STD Class (Regular or Preferred) and JWW Class (Regular or Preferred) from the highest to lowest score based by the following level of participation: Master, Excellent, Open and Novice. Qualifying Whippets are always ranked before non-qualifying Whippets.

 - b. Second, all non-qualifying Whippets are ranked separately in the STD Class (Regular or Preferred) and JWW Class (Regular or Preferred) from the highest to lowest score based by the following level of participation: Master, Excellent, Open and Novice. Non-qualifying Whippets are always ranked after qualifying Whippets.

 - c. Third, each Whippet's two class rankings (STD and JWW) are added together then divided by two, and the resulting averaged rank is used to determine each Whippet's final agility ranking (see examples below).

 - d. The Versatility Chair will ensure the agility judge is made aware that some Whippets entered in the trial may also be participating in the Versatility Competition and will request that a copy of the individual score sheets (whether qualifying or non-qualifying) be made available to the Versatility Chair or authorized representative at the end of the trial.

 - e. An example of the scoring and Agility Class Ranking for Whippets follows:

| STANDARD | | | | | | JWW | | | | | |
|----------|-----------|-----|-------|------|------|---------|-----------|-----|-------|------|------|
| Entry # | Level | R/P | Score | Q/NQ | Rank | Entry # | Level | R/P | Score | Q/NQ | Rank |
| 5 | Master | R | 100 | Q | #1 | 7 | Excellent | P | 100 | Q | #1 |
| 1 | Excellent | R | 100 | Q | #2 | 9 | Open | R | 100 | Q | #2 |
| 7 | Excellent | P | 100 | Q | #2 | 10 | Open | R | 95 | Q | #3 |
| 10 | Open | R | 97 | Q | #4 | 2 | Novice A | R | 100 | Q | #4 |
| 3 | Open | R | 95 | Q | #5 | 5 | Master | R | 85 | NQ | #5 |
| 2 | Novice A | R | 100 | Q | #6 | 1 | Master | R | 80 | NQ | #6 |
| 6 | Master | R | 85 | NQ | #7 | 6 | Excellent | R | 75 | NQ | #7 |
| 4 | Open | P | 70 | NQ | #8 | 3 | Open | R | 60 | NQ | #8 |
| 9 | Open | R | 60 | NQ | #9 | 8 | Novice B | R | 60 | NQ | #9 |
| 8 | Novice B | R | 65 | NQ | #10 | 4 | Novice B | P | 55 | NQ | #10 |

f. A matching calculation of the Final Agility Ranking for Whippets follows:

| Entry # | Standard Ranking | JWW Ranking | Total Ranking Divided By 2 | Combined Averaged Ranking | Final Ranking |
|---------|------------------|-------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|
| 1 | #2 | #6 | 8 / 2 | 4 | 4 |
| 2 | #6 | #4 | 10 / 2 | 5 | 5 |
| 3 | #5 | #8 | 13 / 2 | 6.5 | 7 |
| 4 | #8 | #10 | 18 / 2 | 9 | 9 |
| 5 | #1 | #5 | 6 / 2 | 3 | 2 |
| 6 | #7 | #7 | 14 / 2 | 7 | 8 |
| 7 | #2 | #1 | 3 / 2 | 1.5 | 1 |
| 8 | #10 | #9 | 19 / 2 | 9.5 | 10 |
| 9 | #9 | #2 | 11 / 2 | 5.5 | 6 |
| 10 | #4 | #3 | 7 / 2 | 3.5 | 3 |

TIES

For lure coursing, conformation, rally, and agility, Whippets receiving the same score will receive the same rank, with the next highest scoring Whippet receiving the rank following the tied Whippets. For example, if Whippet A and Whippet B both receive a score of 285 and Whippet C receives a score of 283, Whippets A and B are ranked 1 and Whippet C is ranked 3.

FINAL RANKINGS

A Whippet's rank (not scores) from lure coursing, conformation, rally and agility will be added together and then divided by 4 to calculate the Whippet's average and overall final rank and placement in the Versatility Competition. For ties in final rankings, lure coursing scores (not rankings) will determine final rankings and placements. If the tie continues because the Whippets earned equal scores in coursing, then scores (not rankings) in conformation will determine final rankings. If the tie continues, agility scores (not rankings) will be the tiebreaker. The last determination if the tie continues will be made based on rally scores (not rankings).

POINT OF CONTACT:

Lauri Austin
 AWC Triathlon/Versatility Chair
 592 Pulis Avenue, Mahwah, NJ 07430
 lauri.austin@gmail.com
 201-960-8877



American Whippet Club
VERSATILITY COMPETITION
ENTRY FORM

ENTRY CLOSING DATE: Wednesday, 21 MARCH 2018

Entry must be received (not just postmarked) by the closing date for your Whippet to compete.

Whippet's Call Name: _____

AKC #: _____

Whippet's Registered Name (list all titles including non-AKC titles):

Owner's name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

AKC Lure Coursing Stake entered: _____

Rally Class Entered/Selected for Purposes of a Versatility Score: _____

Agility Classes Entered for Purposes of Versatility Scores: _____

Conformation: This entry automatically enters your Whippet in the Versatility Conformation Class.

Note: Entries in any other conformation class, obedience class, and lure coursing stake are solely the owner's responsibility.

Online Entry and payment via PayPal are available at:

<http://www.americanwhippetclub.net/national/versatility>

You may also send this entry form and your \$10 entry fee (checks made **payable to AWC**, in US funds drawn from a US bank) to the following address:

Lauri Austin, AWC Triathlon/Versatility Chair
592 Pulis Ave., Mahwah, NJ 07430

Do Not Mail Your Entries Requiring A Return Signature.