



# Tyee Kennel Club Dog Shows and Trials COVID – 19 Safety Plan

## 1. Risk Assessment

These events involve judges, Tyee Kennel Club Members, exhibitors/handlers, show secretaries, the Canadian Kennel Club, and dog breeders.

This plan will be circulated to:

- Canadian Dog Judges Association
- Canadian Professional Handlers Association
- Show Secretaries
- Tyee Kennel Club Members
- British Columbia Kennel Clubs

### Person to Person Risks

- The dog's examination is the where the judge and exhibitor will come in closest contact.
- Exhibitors will gather in the parking / grooming areas and in the show ring area.
- The show officials, show secretary, security, show grounds staff; will also be allowed in the parking and show ring areas.

### Surface Transmission Risks

- Tables
- Chairs
- Ribbons
- Judges book & pens
- Ramp
- Wicket
- Tents
- Leashes & other dog equipment
- Washrooms

## 2. Protocols to Reduce Risk

The Club reviewed several industry protocols on [worksafebc.com](https://worksafebc.com) for relevant protocols. There is no dog show specific protocols for BC / Canada. Therefore, the club also reviewed the American Kennel Club's COVID-19 Best Practices for [Conformation](#) and for [Obedience and Rally](#).



The club also considered comments and feedback provided by participants at recent US and Korean Dog Shows.

### **First level Protection**

- The size of the show site provides sufficient space for physical distancing at levels that exceed provincial per person m<sup>2</sup> guidance.
- The shows and trials will be divided into separate events. Each event will have 50 or fewer exhibitors.
- Rings will be large and allow at least 2m between exhibitors, except during individual examinations.
- Scheduling to more precise times, will be used to reduce numbers in the ring area at any one time.
- Occupancy limits will be posted and monitored in the washrooms.
- There will be no spectators. The premium list will inform exhibitors that spectators will not be allowed.
- Signage will be used to inform the public and others.
- Security staff and club members will ensure no spectators are allowed on the show site.
- Registration will include sufficient personal information to allow contact tracing notification.

This is a CLOSED EVENT. Everyone on the show site will be registered with security.

### **Second level Protection**

- Barriers will be used to control the movement of the exhibitors. Exhibitors will move from their designated parking / grooming area following signs to their appropriate staging area and ring.
- Exhibitors not going forward will be directed to leave the show site. Those who will continue to compete will return to staging area or to their designated parking area.
- The Show Site Plan will show the direction of movement through show site. Attendants will direct vehicles to their designated spot. One-way traffic flow will be marked from entrance and exits.

### **Third level Protection**

- The rules policies and guidelines for the shows and trials are listed below.
- The General Safety Practices and Site Safety Plan will be communicated to members at regular meetings, through the club's social media sites and the Premium List.
- Email will be used to update participants.



### 3. Policies to Manage the Show Site

These rules, policies and procedures will apply to the Tyee Kennel Club Shows and Trials being held at Cowichan Exhibition on July 16 – 19, 2020.

#### General Safety Practices

1. The Tyee Kennel Club and all show participants will follow provincial, local and Cowichan Exhibition guidelines that apply to the area and site where the event is held.
2. Practice social distancing consistent with guidelines. Do not congregate in groups larger than five; or within your own family circle only.
3. The premium list will state that when an exhibitor is done for the day, they must leave the show site in order to minimize congregating.
4. Wear masks in rings and bathrooms and when in close proximity to others. Tyee Kennel Club has a limited supply available.
5. Wearing disposable or washable gloves is optional.
6. Wash hands as frequently as possible. .
7. Avoid shaking hands, hugging, or other physical contact.
8. Avoid touching dogs that are not your responsibility.
9. Avoid common use pens/pencils – bring your own.
10. Disinfect surfaces in common use areas as often as possible (tables, chairs, doorknobs, etc.) Seating will not be provided.
11. No Food Vendors. All exhibitors will bring their own meals.
12. Parking will only be in designated areas.





## Show Site Safety Plan

### **Control Measures by Location**

The Show Site is the Cowichan Exhibition grounds. The Tyee Kennel Club will follow the Cowichan Exhibition Safety protocols.

The conformation show rings and the obedience/rally trial ring will be physically separated into two events areas.

**Each event will have a maximum of 50 exhibitors.**

### All Breed Conformation Show

#### Parking & Grooming

- Exhibitors will be assigned parking/grooming areas and must not leave the areas unless showing or departing from the show site.
- Exhibitors will bring their own chairs and other equipment. All grooming next to vehicles in parking area. Limit the use of forced air dryers.
- Unless they are breed or group winners, exhibitors will be asked to leave the parking area immediately following completion of judging.

#### Staging Areas

- Only Exhibitors with dogs will be allowed in staging areas.
- Each ring will have a staging area.
- Maintain 2m physical distancing, particularly under tents and when entering ring.
- On the ground demarcation will be used to indicate 2m distance and correct direction of movement.

#### Show Rings

- Only judges, ring stewards and exhibitors are allowed in show rings.
- Except for individual examinations, a physical distance of 2m will be maintained at all times.
- On the ground demarcation will be used to indicate 2m distance and correct direction of movement.
- There will be an entrance into the ring and a separate exit from the ring.

#### Washrooms

- Washroom facility will be provided by CowEx.
- The club will maintain the cleanliness of the washrooms.
- Washrooms will be cleaned every 30 minutes and logged.
- Sanitizers will be outside the washrooms and used prior to entering.



- There will be a limit on the number of people allowed into the washrooms at one time.

## Control Measures by Participants

### Judges

- Judges will: wear masks at all times while in the show ring, bring their own materials and equipment for their own use only (e.g. CKC Standards, pens), limit interactions to ring procedure instructions.
- Judges will not touch ribbons.
- Only the judge (and Show secretary) will touch the judge's book.
- The use of eye protection is recommended.
- Gloves are optional and must be removed and discarded after each use.

### Exhibitors

- Exhibitors will remain in parking / grooming area until their designated show times,
- Exhibitors will wear masks and maintain 2m physical distance from other exhibitors while in the staging area and show rings.
- Avoid touching other dogs
- If exhibitors do not want a ribbon or rosette, please leave it on the table and do not touch it.
- Leave show grounds when no longer competing.

### Ring Stewards

- Ring stewards will remain in the ring areas.
- Wear a mask.
- Maintain 2m from others.
- Clean tables and ramps after examinations whenever practical
- Place ribbons on the table to be picked up by the exhibitor.
- The ring steward will not touch judge's pens, materials and equipment.

### Show Secretary

- The show secretary will maintain the cleanliness of the ribbons and judges' books.
- Only the Show Secretary (and he judge) will handle the judge's book.
- Scheduling will be an important measure used to reduce numbers in the rings at one time.
- The secretary will develop scheduling that will keep the number of people in the ring areas within posted limits.

### Security

- The club will hire local security.



- Security staff will follow directions of their employer; while on show site, they must control entrance to the show site by verifying exhibitors show entry and time.

#### Club Members

- Club members performing official functions will be allowed on site; no other club members will be allowed on site.
- If unable to maintain 2m distance, club members, set up, and clean-up crews will wear masks.

#### Other Control Measures

- All exhibitors, judges, ring stewards and club members that are attending the show must register their vehicle and include **all** attendees that will be in your vehicle with their cell number.
- Exhibitors that are sending dogs with Professional Handlers and are **NOT** attending **DO NOT** need to register.
- Before entering the show grounds, each participant will confirm their health (no coughing, fever, symptoms), recent activity (no out of country travel) and recent contacts (no contact with other showing symptoms or recently from out of country)



## Control Measures for Obedience and Rally Trials

Specific rules for trials are:

### 1. Scheduling

- The Club will schedule participants in specific time blocks within a class. and publish in the judging program. For example: Dogs 101-120: 9:00a.m.-10:00a.m.
- Smaller walk through groups to allow for social distancing.
- Participants can provide cell phone numbers for the event secretary to call or text to determine if someone is absent. Likewise, the Trial Secretary could provide a cell phone number for participants to report they will be absent. This prevents waiting and may streamline the event.

### 2. Event Set-up

- Have a separate club table for questions located at least two meters from the Trial Secretary table.

### 3. Crating

- Crating will be outside.
- The club is planning to have participants crate from their vehicles.
- Crating should be at least two meters apart, except for “family” circles of exhibitors.

### 4. Event Practices

#### Social Distancing Requirements

- A minimum of 3m distances around the ring(s), crating, volunteer, and Judges’ and Trial Secretary areas should be established.
- Mark spacing to identify safe distancing requirements.
- Judge’s Table – Judges may have the table at one end of the ring and the gate openings at the other end.
- The judge and the stewards should maintain required distancing.
- Timer – Set up an area where only the person timing is allowed. The timer should handle the stopwatches with gloves.
- Check-in – A separate table should be set up to allow exhibitors, one at a time, to check themselves in on the board with their own pen and pick up their armbands. This eliminates the interaction between trial workers and participants.

#### Surface Transmission Requirements

- Judges will not touch articles; stewards will handle articles with gloves and change gloves between dogs
- Results will be placed and remain on tables for photo taking



### Ring Procedure Modifications

- Judges, stewards and exhibitors should maintain 2m distancing throughout the event.
- A chair (or two, one for the in-ring exhibitor and one for the next exhibitor) will be placed inside the ring for all classes. The exhibitor will be responsible for placing the leash on the chair when entering the ring and prior to starting the course. Exhibitor will place leash on chair prior to stand for exam.
- Once the course is complete, the exhibitor will be responsible for getting the leash. A second chair, for the next exhibitor, will allow for more efficient ring management.
- Ribbons/Awards may be placed on a pick-up table versus handed out. The judge will announce the awards and exhibitors will pick up the awards that were laid out on a table for the class.
- Judges should sanitize their ruler after measuring any dogs.
- Stewards should wear gloves or sanitize their hands between handling paperwork and other equipment.

### Trial Modifications

- Rather than use stewards for the Figure 8 exercise, use upright posts, tall pylons, or chairs as posts. The same object will be used for all exhibitors.
- To minimize stewards handling jumps, Jump heights will be reduced. There will be four jump heights – 6, 8, 12 and 16 inches.
- Judges may wear gloves or use hand sanitizer between examination exercises. If a judge chooses to use gloves, a new pair of gloves will be used for each dog.
- Examinations – Ensure social distancing requirements are met during examination exercises. For the Utility Moving Stand for Examination, the judge should approach the dog at a slight angle to ensure distancing requirements from handler to judge are maintained.
- Group Exercise – Maintain a distance requirement of 3m between dogs to ensure social distancing guidelines are met. Dogs that did not pass individual exams will not take part in group exercises.
- Scent Discrimination Exercise – The steward is responsible for placing the articles.

### Policies that Have Been Temporarily Suspended/Modified

- Obedience Figure 8 Exercise – Upright posts, tall pylons or chairs may be used in place of people in the figure 8 exercise.
- Open / Utility pattern will be Pattern A
- Dogs that failed individual exercises will not be eligible for the group exercises





### Communication Plan

- The Club will use social media, the Premium List and other industry websites to communicate the new rules, policies and procedures.
- The Club will post signage for direction of flow, social distancing and occupancy limits.

### Monitoring Plan

- The Club will monitor the effectiveness of the show rules and procedures and make changes where necessary.
- The Show Superintendent will be responsible for receiving all concerns regarding safety. A Safety Committee (Show Superintendent, Show Secretary, one other club member) will meet to determine the changes necessary to address the concern and ensure changes are implemented immediately.

### Compliance Plan

- The Club will hire local, private security and use club members to ensure compliance. Anyone not complying with safety rules, will be asked to leave the site.

### Risks from Resuming Dog Shows

- There have been no Dog Shows or Trials in BC since March 1, 2020 and Feb 23, 2020 respectively.
- The Tyee Kennel Club will meet with its members prior to the show to review the new procedures and ensure everyone understands the changes and their responsibilities.
- The Show Secretary and the Club will ensure the Premium List and Judging Schedule include the changes that will be implemented to address the risks of COVID-19.
- Each entry will include a waiver that the Club has taken all reasonable and practicable precautions against COVID-19 and that exhibitors will participate in the show at their own risk.

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