

A Newcomer's Quick Guide to CKC Chase Sports

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Last updated June 15, 2022



🐾 Before You Enter Your First Event

Introduction to CKC Chase Sports

The three CKC chase sports are Sprinter, Chase Ability, and Lure Coursing. All breeds and mixes are eligible to participate in Sprinter and Chase Ability whereas only CKC recognized sighthound breeds are eligible to compete in Lure Coursing. We generally recommend starting your chase sport journey with Sprinter (100 m timed dash) to gauge your dog's interest in the lure and build chase drive in a fun, highly rewarding way. The CKC rule books are an excellent resource and should be read before participating in any CKC sport. They can be found online (specific links below) at <https://www.ckc.ca/en> or through a Google search.

CKC Sprinter Rules & Regulations:

<https://www.ckc.ca/en/Files/Forms/Shows-Trials/Event-Rules-Regulations/Sprinter-Rules-and-Regulations-Effective-January-1.aspx>

CKC Chase Ability Program Rules & Regulations:

<https://www.ckc.ca/CanadianKennelClub/media/Breed-Images/Chase-Ability-Rules-and-Regulations.pdf>

CKC Lure Coursing Field Trials Rules & Regulations: <https://www.ckc.ca/en/Files/Forms/Shows-Trials/Event-Rules-Regulations/Lure-Coursing-Field-Trial-Rules-and-Regulations.aspx>

CKC Registration

To participate in CKC chase events, your dog must be at least 1 year old and registered with the CKC (Canadian Kennel Club). If your dog is a purebred, they may already have regular CKC registration. If they are a mixed breed, you can apply for a CCN (Canine Companion Number). If they are unregistered but appear to be a purebred, you may apply for either a CCN (easier to obtain, but they will compete as a mixed breed) or a PEN (Performance Event Number; more involved to apply for, but they will compete as a specific, recognized breed). Border Collies (which we are asked about often) are a special case and you can find more information about registering them here:

http://www.ckcagilityteam.ca/documents/Registering_a_Border_Collie_With_CKC-Rev2.pdf

For more information and how to register your dog, visit the link to the CKC website listed below. If you need help, there is a Live Chat function on the website. **Registration takes time and we recommend getting your dog registered well ahead of any events you would like to enter.** As mentioned earlier, only CKC registered and purebred sighthounds (at least 1 year old) can participate in Lure Coursing.

<https://www.ckc.ca/en/News/2017/January/How-to-Register-Your-Dog-to-Enter-CKC-Events>

Premium Lists – *IMPORTANT*

A couple months prior to an event, we will release a Premium List (PL). This document contains everything you need to know about the event including when entries open and close, where/how to enter, directions to the trial site, nearby amenities, what to bring, and more. You can check out older PLs to get an idea of what to expect in upcoming ones. ****Please read the entire PL.**** Almost every question we are asked before an event can be answered by reading the PL or rule book. Follow the East Coast Sighthound Association on Facebook to stay up to date with our current events. Our PLs (and those for other dog tests, trials, shows, and events) are available on the following websites:

Dogshow.ca: <https://dogshow.ca/en/>

Canuck Dogs: <https://www.canuckdogs.com/>

East Coast Sighthound Association Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/eastcoastsighthoundassociation>

East Coast Sighthound Association website (*in the process of being updated*):
<https://eastcoastsighthound.wixsite.com/ecsa>

Entering an Event

Event Registration

We take event entries online via DogShow.ca. Once you have your dog's CKC number, we recommend setting up a DogShow.ca account for them immediately. This way you'll be ready to enter when events open! The PL will state the exact opening date and time. It's a good idea to set an alarm and prepare to enter as soon as entries open.

For Sprinter and Chase Ability, there are 2 tests each day for a total of 4 tests in a weekend. In Sprinter, the day is split into 6 × 1 hr time slots and a dog runs both their tests in a single 1 hr time slot. It generally makes sense to enter **both** tests, especially since most new dogs take a run or two to "get it". Almost everyone who enters one test wishes they had entered both. Most dogs receive their first Sprinter title in 3-4 tests (i.e. one weekend). In Chase Ability, the day is split into 2 × ~3 hr time slots (am, pm) and your dog will run twice in ~3 hours if you have entered both tests. A dog requires 3 Qs (qualifying runs) under **2 different judges** to get their first Chase Ability title, which is also achievable in one weekend.

More information on the various titles and requirements for chase events are given in their respective rule books. Our events generally fill quickly but we do take a small wait list. If you don't get in, message the ECSA Facebook page (not private accounts) with your dog's name and the tests for which you would like to be waitlisted.

Before and During the Event

Introducing Your Dog to the Lure

The lure is simply a white garbage bag and you can introduce it to your dog before your first chase event! Check out this instructional Facebook post and accompanying video we made about introducing your puppy or dog to the lure: <https://fb.watch/ax75Ohh0ca/>

The Week Before the Event

A few days before the event, you will receive an email with the running schedule for the weekend, a club waiver to sign, and a briefing to read. We suggest saving the running order to your phone or printing it. Remember, the running orders for Sprinter and Chase Ability are cycled through **twice** so don't panic when you see your dog's name only once on the schedule! If a dog is running only once in a time slot that will be the exception, and it will be marked with a number in brackets behind their name indicating in which test they are entered.

Attending Your First Event

Your best resource for understanding the flow of the day/weekend is the PL! As mentioned previously, we recommend reading the PL for every event you enter. Make sure to pack everything necessary for you and your pup(s) and be prepared to crate out of or by your vehicle. When you arrive, make sure to double

check the posted running order and note any changes (we suggest taking a picture). There are often entry withdrawals leading up to the event, so the running order may have been shuffled. Do your best to be ready for your runs and have your dog warmed up and ready to go. If you have any questions, there will be lots of ECSA volunteers around to help you.

🐾 After the Event

Titles and CKC Membership

You did it! You survived your first ECSA event weekend, had a blast, and your dog even earned a title and ribbons! What now? In order to receive the title certificate and have the title officially recorded by the CKC, you have two choices. You may pay a non-member title processing fee ***or*** an annual CKC membership fee. The latter is usually easier and less expensive (especially if your dog is earning more than one title per year). Find more info about becoming a CKC member here: <https://www.ckc.ca/en/Join-CKC>

Enjoy the Ride!

Welcome to the exciting world of dog sports!! There's nothing more satisfying than watching your dog have the time of their life and seeing your relationship grow in the process. Earning ribbons and titles is just the icing on the journey. We hope this is the start of an exciting sport career for you and your best friend. Tally-ho!! 🐾