



# MASCA Acrobatics Rules and Regulations

MASCA Acrobatics is a freeform, choreographed routine scored by judges with an emphasis on tricks, teamwork, success, variety, innovation, entertainment factor and the athletic skills of the dog and handler. Routines should be well planned/practiced, entertaining, and pull from any or all of the following: Dog Tricks, Rally Obedience, Obedience, Obedience Drill Team, Disc Dog Freestyle, and Dog Dancing.

## **Titles:**

Single Novice (AS-N)	Group Novice (AG-N)
Single Open (AS-O)	Group Open (AG-O)
Single Advanced (AS-A)	Group Advanced (AG-A)

**Ring Size:** The ring shall not be less than 30' x 40'. Outdoor rings are to be 40' x 50'.

## **Holding a trial:**

A trial may be a stand alone event or may be held with a conformation, Rally, obedience, or herding event. Clubs or groups wishing to hold a trial must submit a request to the MASCA board 30 days in advance of the trial.

**Eligible dogs:** All dogs at least 6 months old at the date of the trial are eligible to compete.

Any dog registered with MASCA may compete. Clubs may elect to open trials to dogs not registered with MASCA. Any dog not registered with MASCA may compete in a MASCA Acrobatics trial and receive points and titles through MASCA, if the handler completes the form to request a tracking number and submits it with a \$5 fee to MASCA. (see form)

## **Classes:**

Single: one handler and one dog  
Group: two or more dogs each with a handler  
multiple dogs with one handler  
multiple dogs with multiple handlers

## **Levels:**

Novice: 1 minute, on or off leash (unlimited treats allowed)  
Open: 2 minutes, off leash (up to 10 treats allowed)  
Advanced: 3 minutes, off leash (up to 5 treats allowed)

Timing begins after the music starts and motion of handler or dog begins.  
Countdown of time remaining will be uniform for all competitors: 60 seconds (Open and Advanced), 30 seconds, 10 seconds and time.

Contestants who bring their own music should present it to DJ prior to the start of the contest. Music should be on a CD marked with the competitor's name and desired track number. Contestants must choose music that is suitable for a family audience.

Costumes and props are encouraged, but toys such as balls/canine discs are not allowed.

**HIL/HIT** For HIL the single highest score will be used to determine HIL. For HIT the single highest score from both Single/Group will be used to determine HIT.

### **Acrobatics Scoring System:**

Competing teams will receive scores ranging from 1-5, in half-point increments, for each of the following eight categories:

**Teamwork:** The team should work together, and show co-ordination, co-operation and synchronization.

**Routine:** The presentation should be an entertaining and crowd-pleasing routine with choreography, continuous flow, and smooth transitions.

**Athleticism:** Intensity and athleticism of tricks or maneuvers together with a dog's speed, quickness, leaping ability and co-ordination.

**Wow! Factor:** The ability to successfully complete challenging tricks or moves.

**Execution:** The team's ability to successfully execute a precise routine.

**Stage Use:** Efficiently use entire stage and work the crowd

**Entertainment Value:** Enjoyment of judges and spectators

**Attitude/Enthusiasm:** Dog and handler should enjoy the routine and have a tight bond

\*\*\* The presentation of completely new moves should result in higher scores.

\*\*\* More difficult routines that are successful should score higher than less difficult, successful routines.

**Tie-breaker:** If there is a tie for placements, the tie will be broken by the following criteria:

- 1) The team with the highest **Wow!** score.
- 2) Team with the highest **Accuracy** score.

**Titles:** AS-N (Acrobatic Single Novice) - 3 Qualifying scores of 24+  
AS-O (Acrobatic Single Open) - 3 Qualifying scores of 28+  
AS-A (Acrobatic Single Advanced) - 3 Qualifying scores of 30+  
AG-N (Acrobatic Group Novice) - 3 Qualifying scores of 24+  
AG-O (Acrobatic Group Open) - 3 Qualifying scores of 28+  
AG-A (Acrobatic Group Advanced) - 3 Qualifying scores of 30+

**Ring Size:** No smaller than 30' x 40'.

**Judge:** any judge used for obedience, rally obedience, plus experienced disc dog freestyle judge or dog dancing judge may be used. 1-4 judges may be used.

**Judges Notes:** Each category is scored from 0-5 points.

Scale: 5 points - professional performer  
4 points - semi professional performer  
3 points - Solid performance - the team has trained hard to practice for their routine.  
2 points - Good, but needs more polishing  
1 point - Needs more work

Please give consideration to whether the dog should earn a leg or not for their level when scoring. For example, to qualify in Novice you would need an average of 3 points or higher for the categories, a "Solid Performance".

**Video Competitions:** Video Competitions may be hosted by MASCA members. Contestants should be given 3 months notice to submit their entries. Video must be un-edited and have a view of the entire 30' x 40' or larger ring (no zooming). The field should be measured and marked with a visible object on each corner. Judging for contest will be complete within 30 days of due date. Competitors will be notified via e-mail of score/placement/qualification.

**Disclaimer:** Please note that MASCA Acrobatics is a new type of event. Changes/improvements to the program in the future are anticipated. Also, Judges scores are subjective by nature of the event, and final once placements are made



## Miniature Australian Shepherd Club of America Application for Tracking Number

If your dog is already registered or has applied for a registration with MASCA, you do not need to fill out this form. If, however, your dog is NOT registered with MASCA, you will need to apply for a tracking number so that your obedience qualifying scores, placements and titles are recorded with MASCA.

There is a one time fee of \$5 to apply for a tracking number with MASCA. You will need to complete one form and remit \$5 for each dog you are registering. Send your application fee and this form to the address at the bottom of the form. If you are pre registering for an obedience trial, your tracking number application and a separate check for the fee may be included with your obedience trial application and sent to the trial secretary.

Registration conformation will be emailed to you. Please allow 2 to 4 weeks for processing.

### **Please print clearly.**

Dog's registered name \_\_\_\_\_

Breed \_\_\_\_\_ Variety \_\_\_\_\_

Sex \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_

Owner \_\_\_\_\_

Co-owner \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to : to be inserted once an obedience coordinator is named