



American Whippet Club

TRIATHLON

January 18, 2018



The AWC has held the Triathlon in conjunction with its National Specialty since 1995. The Triathlon combines three performance events (lure coursing, conformation, and obedience) to showcase the versatility of Whippets and the bond they share with their owners. The Triathlon'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 three venues but it is not required.

To win the Triathlon, your Whippet must compete in all three events (lure coursing, conformation, and obedience) 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 three events, your Whippet's three 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 Triathlon Champion and is awarded the Cora Miller Perpetual Trophy and Jack McManus Perpetual 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 Triathlon, it will receive a final Triathlon ranking if it competed in all three of the required events. That is why it is important to score as many points as possible in each of the three performance events. The Triathlon is not an AKC titling event, but an AWC scoring/ranking event. Qualifying scores in obedience and coursing are not required. A non-qualifying score in obedience or lure coursing does not eliminate your Whippet from the Triathlon; 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 Triathlon 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 TRIATHLON

Submit **three** separate entries - one for coursing, one for obedience, and one for the Triathlon - by the required closing dates. Premium lists and the Triathlon entry form are on the AWC website at: <http://www.americanwhippetclub.net/national/triathlon>.

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 Triathlon Entry form, indicate the stake in which your Whippet is entered.
2. **Obedience.** Your Whippet must participate in the AKC Obedience trial held as part of the AWC National Specialty. Fill out the standard AKC obedience entry in AWC National Specialty Premium. You may enter multiple obedience classes (e.g., Veterans, Novice B) in the trial, but you must declare only one of these classes for purposes of a Triathlon score on your Triathlon entry form. If your Whippet has a title, or legs toward a title, in an obedience class in AKC, you are not permitted to enter a lower-level class for purposes of a Triathlon score. To do so will result in disqualification from the Triathlon. For example, if your Whippet has a CD or leg towards a CD you may not enter Beginner Novice and use that score for the Triathlon.
3. **Triathlon Competition Conformation**
 - a. Submit your Triathlon entry, along with the \$10 entry fee, to the AWC Triathlon 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/triathlon>
 - 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 Triathlon Competition. **Do NOT Mail Entries Requiring A Return Signature.**
 - b. Your Whippet is automatically entered in the Triathlon Conformation upon receipt of your Triathlon entry and entry fee. Triathlon and Versatility conformation judging is conducted simultaneously by one judge. 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 Triathlon Whippets are determined by their scores and receive first through fourth placement rosettes.
 - c. Triathlon 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 Triathlon. 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 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 Triathlon competitors are ranked. (Note: A high score = low rank)

CONFORMATION

1. **Scoring.** Your Whippet's score from the Triathlon Conformation judging is used in this portion of the Triathlon. Using the Whippet Breed Standard as a baseline for a score of 100, the judge gives each Whippet its individual conformation numeric score.
2. **Ranking.** Whippets 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 Triathlon Whippets are ranked. (Note: A high score = low rank)

OBEDIENCE

1. **Scoring.**
 - a. Your Whippet's score from the AKC Obedience Trial is used in this portion of the Triathlon. All points earned are applied whether your Whippet earns a qualifying score or non-qualifies. Qualifying scores are always ranked higher than non-qualifying scores. While qualifying in obedience is encouraged, it is not a requirement. The Triathlon is not an AKC titling event but an AWC scoring/ranking event.
 - b. For non-qualifying scores, the Triathlon 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 dog is excused from the ring, it will receive a Triathlon score of zero.
2. **Ranking.** All qualifying Whippets shall be ranked before non-qualifying Whippets. (Note: A high score = low rank)

- a. First, all qualifying Whippets are ranked from the highest score to lowest score then prioritized by class in the following order: Utility, Versatility, Graduate Open, Open, Graduate Novice, Veterans/Novice, and Beginner Novice. Qualifying Whippets are always ranked above non-qualifying Whippets.
- b. Second, all non-qualifying Whippets are ranked from the highest score to lowest score then prioritized by class in the following order: Utility, Versatility, Graduate Open, Open, Graduate Novice, Veterans/Novice, and Beginner Novice. Non-Qualifying Whippets are always ranked below all qualifying Whippets, regardless of class entered.
- c. Prior to the obedience trial, the Triathlon Chair will inform the obedience judge that some Whippets entered in the Obedience Trial may also be participating in the Triathlon and request that all exercises be scored to the extent possible.

An example of the scoring and ranking of qualifying and non-qualifying by class appears below:

First, Qualifying Scores are ranked by Class: (a score of at least 170 with at least 50% of available points for each exercise performed):

Entry #	Class	Score	Q or NQ	Ranking
3	Open A	170	Q	#1
2	Veterans	180	Q	#2
1	Novice B	180	Q	#2
5	Novice A	175	Q	#4
4	Beginner Novice B	185	Q	#5

Second, Non-Qualifying Scores are ranked by Class (a score below 170 and/or fewer than 50% of available points for each exercise performed):

Entry #	Class	Score	Q or NQ	Ranking
7	Utility A	170	NQ	#6
9	Open A	75	NQ	#7
10	Novice B	80	NQ	#8
8	Beginner Novice B	85	NQ	#9
6	Beginner Novice A	80	NQ	#10

TIES

For lure coursing, conformation, and obedience, 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, and obedience will be added together and then divided by 3 to calculate the Whippet's average and overall final rank and placement in the Triathlon 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. The last determination if the tie continues will be made based on obedience scores (not rankings).

POINT OF CONTACT:

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American Whippet Club

**TRIATHLON
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: _____

Obedience Class Entered/Selected for Purposes of a Triathlon Score: _____

Conformation: This entry automatically enters your Whippet in the Triathlon 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/triathlon>

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.