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COVID-19 Coronavirus: Updates from the American Kennel Club

[📍 covid-19](#)

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municipalities that are open and permit gatherings. In an ongoing effort to assist event chairs and organizers, the Sports and Events Department has been working on suggested guidelines for best health practices to be used when the resumption of our sports is possible, as well as assisting events with date checks, Judges assignments, conflicts, etc. The guidelines will be made available in the coming weeks.

For accurate and timely information, please visit:

- <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

We will continue to monitor the situation and any developments.

Clubs that decide to cancel their event or delay their event should email the AKC at EventPlans@akc.org.

COVID-19 Suggested Best Practices by Sport

The Sports and Events Department has developed “Suggested Best Practices for the Well-Being of Dog Sport Participants” for the sports that AKC sanctions/recognizes. Links to each document are available below.

Conformation	Fast CAT and CAT	Beagles – Dachshunds – Basset Hounds	Farm Dog Certified
Agility	Retriever Field Trials	Spaniel Field Trials	Earthdog

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AKC Event Cancellation Status

For information on any AKC event cancellations, please [click here](#) .

Frequently Asked Questions

To read a list of frequently asked questions about AKC Events and COVID-19, please [click here](#) .

AKC Resource Hub for Dog Owners Coping With the Crisis

To find resources, ideas, advice, and fun to support dog owners and dog lovers as we all adapt to living through the novel coronavirus pandemic with our pets, please [click here](#)

AKC Office Closures and Contact Information

To read more about AKC office closures and how to contact departments during this time, please [click here](#) .

AKC Government Relations Alerts

The American Kennel Club joined with the Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council (PIJAC) and other animal care leaders to urge government officials to help ensure the well-being of animals by allowing businesses that provide products and services for the care of pets to continue to operate during the COVID-19 response. [Learn more.](#)

AKC asks concerned pet owners to join us in communicating this important request.

- **TAKE ACTION:** [Ask Your Elected Officials to Declare Pet Services 'Essential Businesses' During](#)

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Individuals can practice everyday prevention measures like frequent hand washing, social distancing, wearing a face covering, covering coughs and sneezes and cleaning and disinfecting often.

Everyone Should:

Clean your hands often

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

Avoid close contact

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Stay home as much as possible
- Put distance between yourself and other people.
 - Remember that some people without symptoms may be able to spread virus.
 - Keeping distance from others is especially important for people who are at higher risk of getting very sick.

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- Continue to keep about 6 feet between yourself and others. The cloth face cover is not a substitute for social distancing.

Cover coughs and sneezes

- If you are in a private setting and do not have on your cloth face covering, remember to always cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow.
- Throw used tissues in the trash.
- Immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available, clean your hands with a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

Clean and disinfect

- Clean AND disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily. This includes tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, and sinks.
- If surfaces are dirty, clean them. Use detergent or soap and water prior to disinfection.
- Then, use a household disinfectant. Most common EPA-registered household disinfectant will work.

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Socialization

Training

Health

Grooming

***AKC PUPDATE* newsletter!**

Covering day 1 to 18 months; get essential info about puppy health, training, socialization and more.

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Founded in 1884, the not-for-profit AKC is the recognized and trusted expert in breed, health, and training information for all dogs. AKC actively advocates for responsible dog ownership and is dedicated to advancing dog sports.

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