

# The Agility Association of Canada

## APPENDIX F - OBSTACLE CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS, 2018 JUMP HEIGHTS

### F 2 – Obstacle Specifications

#### F 2.5 – Jumps: General Construction Notes

##### Notes:

- Jump height is measured from the ground to the top of the pole
- Spread jump widths are measured from centre to centre of the poles

**Jump Standards** shall be free of sharp or other hazardous edges and be a minimum of six (6) inches (at least 10 inches recommended) higher than the jump height at the point where the standard joins with the plank, rail or pole, so that a clear indication of the jumping path is visible to the dog.

The jump standards and/or wings holding the poles shall be sturdily constructed so as not to topple if bumped *lightly* by a dog while running, but should not be so heavy as to fail to give way should the dog hit the standard with greater force. If needed, jump standards may be stabilized with a small sandbag or other soft displaceable weight, positioned so as not to affect the dog's path. Staking of jumps standards is NOT permitted.

A **Jump Wing** is defined as a horizontal extension of the side standard, which serves to make the jumping path more readily visible to the dog, while at the same time, requiring the dog to work at a greater distance from the handler than non-winged jumps.

**Wings** may be either integral to the standard, or removable; either is acceptable. Removable wings must be capable of being securely fastened to the jump standard. Wings should be 16-30" wide, at least 32" tall at their highest point, and of sturdy construction, with no hazardous edges or protrusions. Within these limits, many designs and materials may be used to construct jump wings, for example, lattice panel, PVC pipe, fabric, and/or wood. The wing design **MUST** create a visual barrier for the dog- i.e. it cannot be an open frame.

**Jump Poles** shall be 4 to 5 feet in length, and no less than one and one quarter inches (1 ¼ in.) and no more than two inches (2 in.) outside diameter. All poles shall be marked with contrasting colours in an alternating or repeating pattern along the full length of the bar (such as, but not limited to, striping or banding) to increase the visibility of the poles and the 'jump as a whole'. All poles must be displaceable.

**Jump Cups/Pole Supports** may not exceed the width of the poles and should be constructed such that the pole does not rest deeper than one quarter inch (1/4 in.) inside the cup. All jump cups must have a closed bottom. No dowel or bolt supports are allowed.

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## F 2.5.1 Single Jumps

All Single Jumps shall be of sturdy construction, with a jumping area between 4 and 5 feet wide. Single Jump heights are 4", 8", 12", 16", 20" and 24" measured from the ground to the top of the jump bar. Jump bars must be poles of between one and one-quarter inches (1 1/4") and two inches (2") outside diameter and 4' to 5' long.

Jump standards may be winged or wingless. Clubs are required to provide at least four (4) winged single jumps per ring that comply with the wing specifications listed above. Narrower wings are also allowed, but they do not count towards the minimum requirement. There is no requirement to provide wingless jumps.

Jumps standards may be joined with a ground bar (known as one-piece jumps), but no new one-piece metal jumps will be approved for use. All one-piece metal jumps will be removed from the list of approved equipment from January 1, 2020.

The top pole of the jump shall be positioned parallel to the ground at the proper jump height. At the judge's discretion, single jumps may be set with one or two bars in all classes and levels: Consideration should be given to safety and visibility of obstacles. A pole may be used to indicate the ground line by positioning it at an angle to the ground.

## F 2.5.2 Spread Jumps

This category of jumps known as Spread Jumps includes Double, Ascending, Triple and Broad Jump. Spread Jumps are used in the Regular Category only. They are to be replaced by Single Jumps in all other categories. Construction of jump standards and wings follow the guidelines laid out in "General Construction Notes" unless otherwise stated. Spread jumps with an integral ground bar (one piece), made in any material, are not allowed.

### F 2.5.2.1 Double Jump

The double jump consists of two pairs of parallel poles, **4-5 feet in length**, with one pair placed at the appropriate jump height (parallel to the ground) and the other pair placed one or two heights below. The lower pair of poles must be crossed (left side in jump cup, right side on ground; vice versa for the other pole creating an "X."), to indicate depth and/or the ground line, and must be parallel when viewed from above. ***The distance between the centers of the bars is one-half the jump height (within a 5% tolerance) for both purpose-built and single jump construction.*** The jumping heights and parallel distance shall be as shown in **Table F1**. It is recommended that a purpose-built double jump be winged, with wings placed in the middle of the spread, as this jump is bi-directional.

As an alternative to a purpose-built double jump, two single jumps may be used to construct a double jump. In this case, the wings should be placed at the back of the double jump, with a single non-winged jump placed in front. If a constructed double may be taken from both directions (e.g. in Snooker, or Gambler openings, or if course design specified approach from both sides, two wingless jumps should be used. If a constructed double jump is used, the poles shall be placed in the same parallel configuration as a purpose-built double jump. The club must supply a method for ensuring that the width of the jump is set correctly for each height.

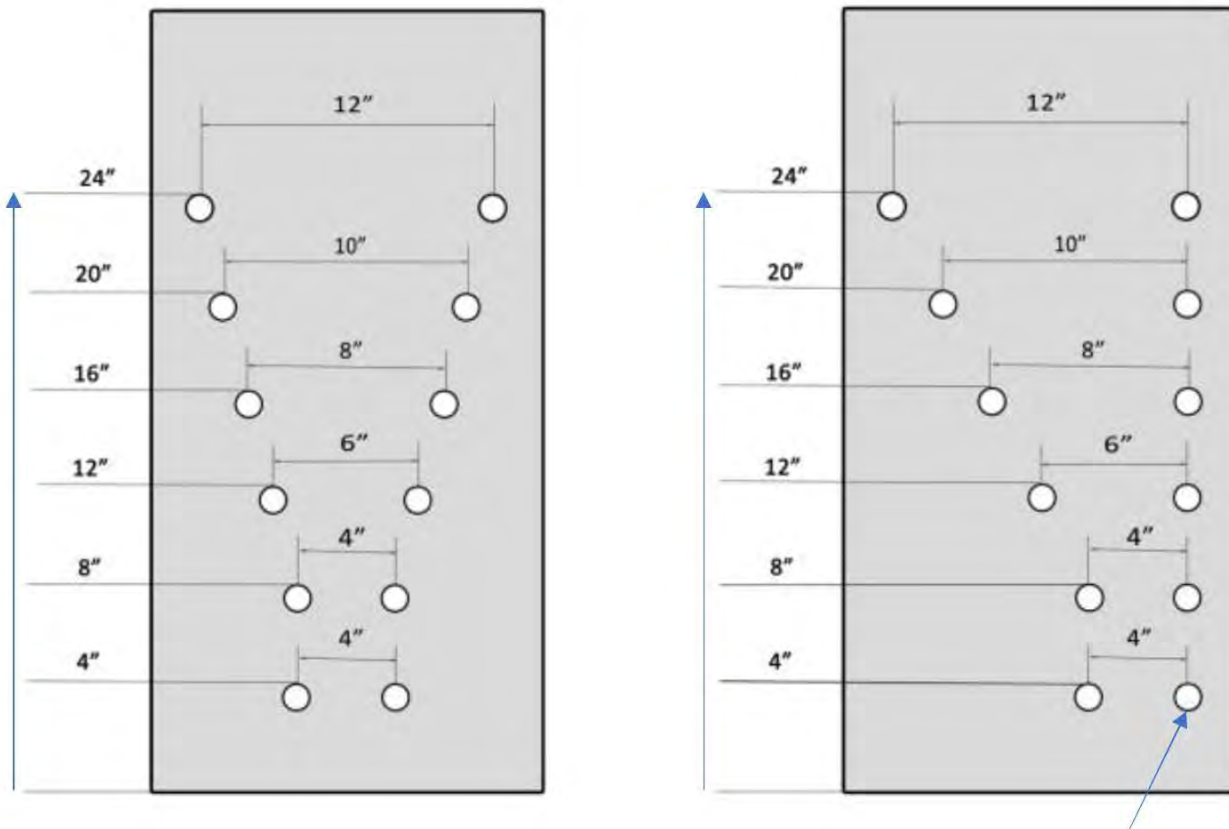
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**Table F1**

Jump Height	Jump Cups at Height	Width (Span) measured <b>centre to centre</b> of jump bar
8"	4" and 8" *	4"
12"	12"	6"
16"	16"	8"
20"	20"	10"
24"	24"	12"

*\*For the 8" jump height, cups are also placed at 4" to accommodate the lower set of bars.*

## Example cup placements



**Wing in centre OR at back of jump in line with vertical cups**

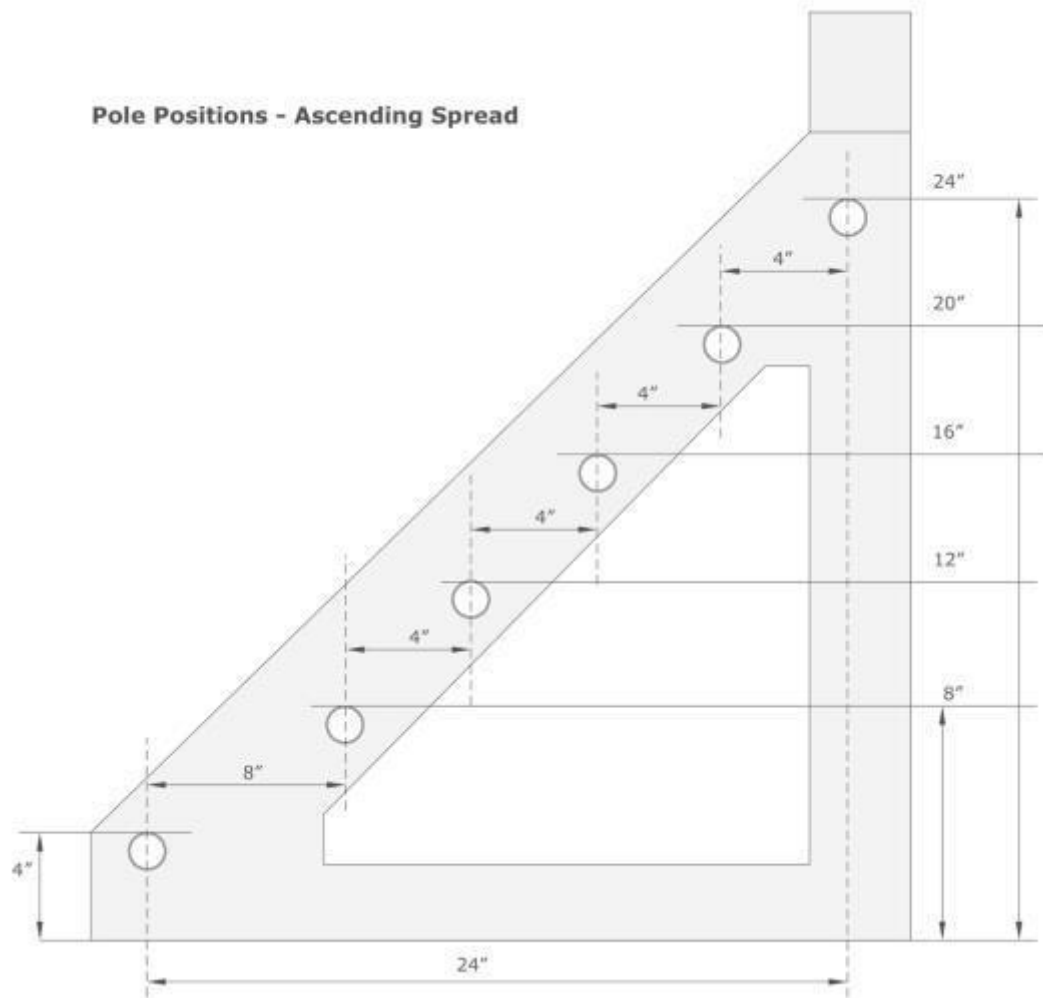
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## F 2.5.2.2 Ascending Spread Jump

The ascending spread jump consists of two (2) to **six (6)** poles positioned parallel to each other. As the jump height increases, poles are added to the jump. The height of the first pole shall be **four inches (4 in.) from the ground, measured to the top of the pole. The second; eight inches (8 in.), the third; twelve inches (12 in.), the fourth; sixteen inches (16 in.), the fifth; twenty inches (20 in.) and the sixth; twenty-four inches (24 in.)**. The width of the spread is equal to the jump height. The dog jumps in the direction from lowest to highest pole. Spread distances and number of poles are shown below in **Table F2**. It is recommended that the ascending spread jump is winged, with wing placement at the back of the jump to indicate depth.

**Table F2**

Jump Height	Jump Cups at Height	Width (Total Span) measured centre to centre of front jump bar to back jump bar	Number of Bars
8"	4" and 8"	8"	2
12"	4", 8" and 12"	12"	3
16"	4", 8", 12" and 16"	16"	4
20"	4", 8", 12", 16" and 20"	20"	5
24"	4", 8", 12", 16", 20" and 24"	24"	6



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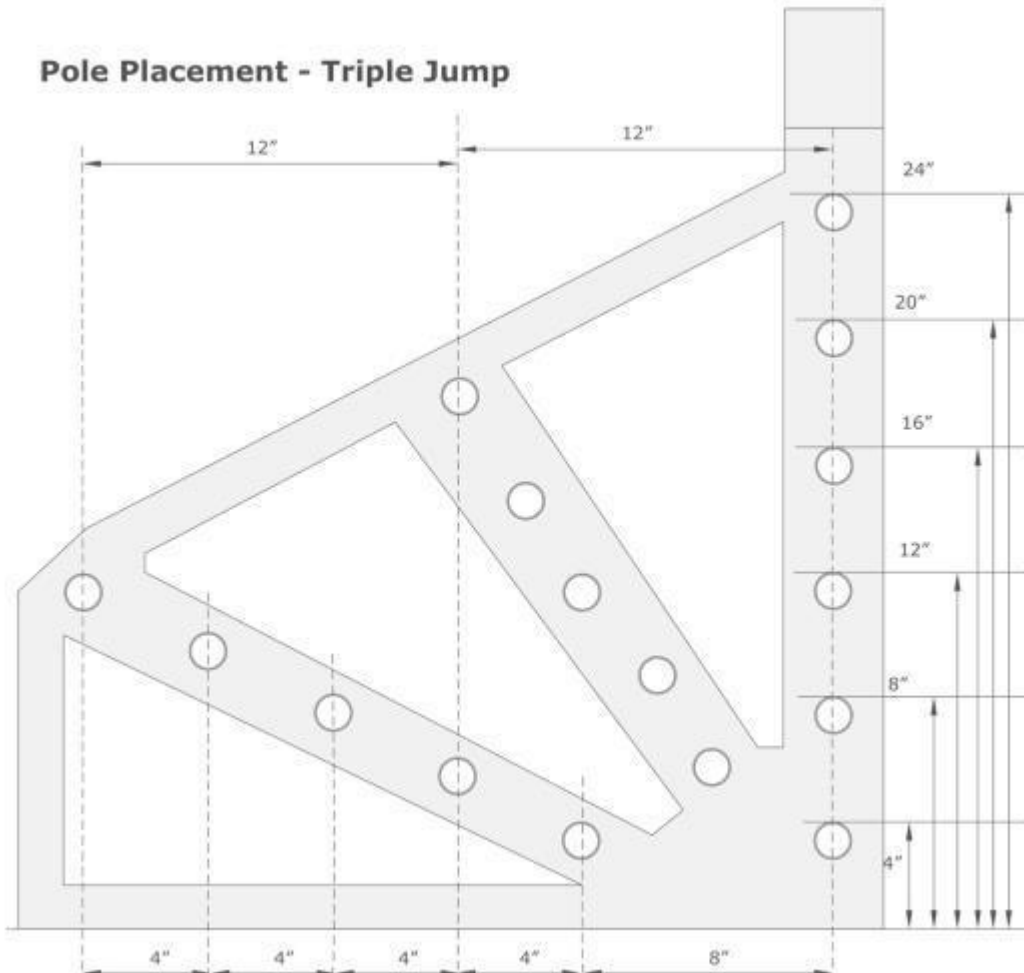
## F 2.5.2.3 Triple Jump

This is an optional jump that can be used in place of the Ascending Spread Jump. A club may have either an Ascending Spread Jump OR a Triple Jump. They are not required to have both.

The Triple Bar Jump consists of a series of three ascending poles 4-5 feet in length. Solid sides that do not allow viewing of all bars from both sides of the obstacle are not permitted. The horizontal distance between adjacent bars is one-half the jump height, while the vertical distance is one-quarter the jump height. **Table F3** below lists the heights of the tops of the bars and the horizontal distance between the centers of the bars. It is recommended that the triple jump is winged, with wing placement at the back of the jump to indicate depth.

**Table F3**

Jump Height	Jump Cups at Height	Horizontal Distance between <b>centre to centre</b> of jump bar	Total width (span) jumped
8"	4", 6", 8"	4"	8"
12"	6", 9", 12"	6"	12"
16"	8", 12", 16"	8"	16"
20"	10", 15", 20"	10"	20"
24"	12", 18", 24"	12"	24"



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## F 2.5.2.4 Broad Jump

The Broad Jump shall consist of two (2) to five (5) planks, each between four feet and five feet (4ft and 5ft) long and between six (6) inches and eight (8) inches wide. The boards may be of different lengths and will have side braces to elevate each board, i.e. the board will not be solid- Marker poles between three-quarter inches (3/4 in.) and one and one quarter inches (1 1/4 in.) outside diameter, and four feet (4ft) tall, shall be placed at each corner of the jump, and shall be freestanding. These marker poles shall be marked with a contrasting colour by striping or banding.

The broad jump may be seen in two different versions- the Oxer (**Hogback**) and the Ascending. Both are acceptable, but the Ascending is the preferred configuration in all classes, especially Challenge class, as it represents the style seen in International competition. In the ascending configuration, the broad jump is a unidirectional obstacle. In the oxer configuration, the broad jump is bidirectional, but may be designated as unidirectional.

a. **Oxer (Hogback): Consists of 5 boards at its longest span.** Two (2) boards shall be four inches (4 in) high, two (2) shall be six inches (6 in) high and one board shall be eight inches (8 in) high. The tallest boards are placed in the middle to form an increase in elevation when moving from either end to the center.

b. **Ascending: Consists of either 4 or 5 boards at its longest span.** Each board shall ascend at least one (1) inch to two (2) inches from the front to the back of the board. No board will be lower than two (2) inches at the front and no higher than eight (8) inches at the rear. The lowest boards are placed on the take-off side of the ascending broad jump, and the highest boards are placed on the landing side.

**Table F4** below shows the number of boards required for each of the jump heights. The tallest boards shall be the ones removed when the span is decreased for smaller dogs. **Note: there shall be a minimum of one (1) inch gap between boards**

**Table F4**

Jump Height	Length (span)	Hogback		Ascending	
		No. of sections	Maximum height	No. of sections	Maximum height*
8 inch	16 inch	2	4"	2	4"
12 inch	24 inch	3	6"	3	6"
16 inch	32 inch	3	6"	3	6"
20 inch	40 inch	4	6"	4	8"
24 inch	48 inch	5	8"	4 or 5	8"

\*Maximum height measured at back edge of tallest board

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## F 2.5.3 Wall Jump

The wall jump consists of two pillars and a solid central jumping area. The wall jump should give an appearance of substance and solidity. Construction materials are optional, but all components must be easily displaceable by contact with the dog, and no sharp edges are permitted. Staking of any element of the wall jump is not permitted. Decorative components are also optional, as long as they do not interfere with the jump path, and are not so unusual as to create an unintended challenge. The wall jump is a bidirectional obstacle, and it is not removed/replaced for the Specials/Veteran/JH categories.

Obstacle Specifications:

- Width of jumping area: 4-5 feet (48-60") **with 5 Feet recommended.**
- Height of columns: 3-4 feet (36-48") with the higher height recommended.
- Width of columns: 8-16 inches.
- All current AAC jump heights must be buildable within the allowed variance (+/- 5%).
- Must have displaceable top blocks with rounded edges, or in a half circle shape, **no more than 2" high X 4" wide, easily displaceable by contact from the dog but heavy enough to stay on in wind or by being brushed by dog. These displaceable blocks are included in the overall jump height.**  
**There should be a maximum of 8 and minimum of 4 blocks.**
- Viaduct holes: Optional, 1-3, at least 4 inches below jumping height.
- Width of jumping area at jump height: 4 inches or less.
- Width of base of jumping area, front to back (varies by jump height):

**Table F5**

Jump Height	Wall Height	Width at Base	Preferred range for Base width
4"	4"	4" or less	4"
8"	8"	6" or less	4"-6"
12"	12"	10" or less	6"-10"
16"	16"	10" or less	6"-10"
20"	20"	12" or less	8"-12"
24"	24"	12" or less	8"-12"

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## F 2.5.4 Tire Jump

The tire jump shall consist of a tire-like circular hoop suspended within a sturdy frame. The inside diameter of the tire shall be no less than nineteen inches (19 in.) and no greater than twenty-four inches (24 in.). The sidewall width of the tire wall shall be no less than four inches (4 in.) and no more than six inches (6 in.). The tire shall be banded or striped with contrasting colours to improve visibility.

There are two styles of tire accepted for use at AAC sanctioned events: The breakaway tire, and the self-healing tire:

- a. Breakaway Tire: The breakaway tire is a tire composed of two separate pieces of material, joined either horizontally or vertically by a magnet. If a dog hits the tire with sufficient force, the tire “breaks apart” as a safety measure. The breakaway style of tire must be reset by the ring crew before it can be used again.
- b. Self-healing Tire: The self-healing tire is very similar to the breakaway style of tire, except that the tire segments are always joined at the top of the tire, and if “broken apart”, the self-healing tire will automatically reset itself.

The breakaway style of tire may only be used once per sequentially numbered course (including the closing of Gamblers and Snooker), while the self-healing tire may be used more than once, where permitted.

The tire support frame shall be of rigid construction to help prevent it from being knocked over when hit by a large dog. The frame should permit the tire to be firmly suspended at each of the **six (6) jump heights: 4", 8", 12", 16", 20" and 24"**. The height is measured from the bottom of the tire's centre opening to the ground. **For the 4" jump height, the tire shall be set with the bottom edge on the ground or as close as possible to 4 inches, given the construction of the tire. If the tire frame has a ground bar, it is recommended that the tire be placed on the ground behind the bar.** The gap between the outside of the tire and the frame should be no less than eight inches (8 in.) and no more than sixteen inches (16 in.).

The support frame must be staked to the ground at all four (4) corners in such a way that it cannot be knocked over if hit by a large dog. Where the surface or the frame does not permit staking, it must be weighted securely at all four (4) corners. Tire frames with heavy bases may not require weighting or staking.

## F 2.5.5 Other Jumps

Any number of jumps of varying design may be used provided they meet the basic standards described in “General Construction Notes” and can accommodate all current jump heights.

All jumps shall have displaceable poles, planks, or rails of some sort. The top planks, rails or poles of a jump shall be positioned parallel to the ground at the proper jump height. Jumps may have more than 2 poles or planks. No unnecessary hazards shall be permitted; however, this shall not prevent decoration of wings with trees, shrubs, and other materials. Water jumps are not acceptable and in no circumstances shall fire or similar hazards be allowed.



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## F 2.5.5.1 Panel Jump

The panel jump uses up to 6 horizontal panels to give the illusion of a solid wall. Specifications for the panel supports (jump cups) and uprights are the same as for the Single Jumps. Jump standards may be winged or wingless.

The horizontal panels are of sufficient length so that the distance between the uprights is 4 to 5 feet long. The panels should be 3" to 4" tall, and no thicker than 1" (2.5cm). The panels may be constructed from any material, including, but not limited to, pvc, plywood or corrugated plastic, and be any colour as long as they do not provide an undue distraction for the dog. They are supported in such fashion so as to be easily displaceable on contact from the dog. It is preferred that the support ends for the panels should be rounded so that they can fit like a jump bar into a regular jump cup. Flat ends on flat supports are allowed, but are discouraged. Panel support ends should be between 1" and 1 ¾" high. The top panel for all jump height classes shall be a maximum of 4" high.

The panel jump is a bidirectional obstacle. This jump is not replaced for Specials, Veterans or JH categories and therefore should accommodate all heights from 24" to 4" in four (4) inch increments.

## F 2.6 Table

The table shall be a sturdy surface three (3) feet square with a non-slip surface. Paint and grit or rubberized coating is acceptable. **All tables must have a rubberized surface after January 1 2020.** The surface of the table may be any colour or combination of colours except solid black. The colours may be arranged in any design, as long as the pattern does not cause a distraction. The side view of the table top edge shall be at least three inches (3 in.) deep for good visibility. The top and sides of the table shall meet at a right angle and shall have no protruding edges. **The table top shall be supported on a stable base. The base may be weighted if necessary for extra stability.**

**Two table heights may be used: a ten inch (10 in.) or eight inch (8") table for the 4", 8, 12" and 16" jump heights, and a twenty-two inch (22 in.) or twenty inch (20") table for the 20" and 24" jump heights. Optionally, a sixteen inch (16") table may be used for the 16" jump height.**

## F 2.7 Measuring Device

Club must supply an accurate measuring device or accurate measuring wickets at the twelve inch, fifteen inch, eighteen inch and twenty-two inch (12", 15", 18" and 22") heights. An optional 23" wicket may be provided. Each dog must be measured on a level surface no higher than twelve inches (12").

There is **ZERO VARIANCE ALLOWED** on the measuring device readings or the wicket dimensions.

A measuring device must have a scale marked in inches and the vertical scale must be perpendicular to the ground. The measuring arm must be level and parallel to the ground. It must be long enough to reach over a large dog in order to make contact with the withers.

Wickets may be constructed of wood, metal, PVC or other rigid material. Each wicket should be wide enough to comfortably span the dog. The following heights, as measured from the ground to the bottom of the horizontal bar, are required: 12", 15", 18" and 22".