



# Agility Association of Canada

Rulebook Update v. 8.7  
July 1, 2022

Please save or print this update and include it with your AAC Rulebook, v8.0, effective January 2020. Any rule changes related to Regional and/or National competition, or to the National Team, can be found elsewhere (see [www.aac.ca](http://www.aac.ca) for links).

## **Bitches in Season - Pilot begins July 1, 2022**

Bitches in season (BIS) will be allowed to compete, at the discretion of the trial host, for a trial period starting July 1, 2022 and ending July 1, 2023. This does not include Regional and National Events.

### **Local Trials:**

Allowing BIS to compete will be at the sole discretion of the host club. The club premium must state clearly whether BIS are allowed, and if they are allowed, the specific rules and regulations pertaining to BIS and any additional requirements deemed reasonable by the host. Participation by Clubs in the pilot is voluntary.

Clubs will be required to fill in a short questionnaire as part of the post-trial report.

**Hosts are required to refund entries for a bitch in season, if requested by the owner, regardless of whether bitches in season are allowed at the trial or not.**

### **Requirements for BIS at AAC Trials:**

At any AAC event where BIS are allowed to compete, the following conditions will apply and must be clearly stated in the club premium:

1. Handlers are required to notify the trial secretary that they will be running a BIS at the event as soon as it is known.
2. It must be stated in the club premium that handlers should minimize exposure of their BIS to other dogs and limit their movements about the grounds.
3. If the club does not allow BIS entries, they must state if they will allow BIS on site and provide benching and walking area. If BIS are not allowed on site, and a dog comes into season during the trial, the competitor will be allowed to withdraw all their dogs entered at that event and offered a refund or credit.
4. Regardless of whether BIS are allowed at a particular trial, or not, competitors with dogs that come into season will be allowed to withdraw and will be offered a refund or (optional) credit if they choose not to compete.
5. Competitors will be notified there is a BIS on site.
6. A protective mat shall be used at the start line. The club premium must state whether the mat will be provided by the host or the competitor.
7. The club premium will state whether BIS will be required to run in protective panties.

8. BIS will run as a group at the end of each class.
9. "BIS" will be noted next to the dog's name on the gate sheet so that other competitors, ring crew and the Judge(s) are aware.
10. BIS must use a designated relief area.
11. BIS must wear protective panties when not running or not within the designated relief area.

**Additional Recommendations for Host Clubs that Allow BIS:**

Host clubs that allow BIS should consider additional requirements. Any additional requirements must be clearly stated in the trial premium. Some examples could be – BIS will wear a specifically coloured bandana for easy identification, or BIS could be required to run in panties on course to protect flooring or equipment. The club should also clearly state their refund policy for competitors wishing to withdraw due to BIS being on the premises