Agility continues to be a very popular canine sport in the U.S. and is very popular worldwide. It is fun for both the dog and handler and promotes a strong bond between the two of them. Using a combination of voice commands, hand signals, and body language, the handler directs the off-leash



dog to correctly navigate an obstacle course in the time allowed. The number of obstacles and the complexity of the course vary with the level at which the team is competing. For AKC, these levels are Novice, Open, Excellent, Master, and Premier. Dogs of all sizes from Chihuahuas to Irish Wolfhounds can participate as long as they are physically fit. Mixed breeds as well as purebreds can compete at AKC, UKC, NADAC, USDAA, Teacup, and CPE events.



The Standard obstacle courses consist of high and spread jumps, open and closed tunnels, a tire, weave poles, an A-frame, a teeter-totter, a pause table, and a dog walk in AKC. Other organizations sometimes have additional obstacles. Another class in which dogs can compete is called Jumpers with Weaves. This has all the usual obstacles except the dog walk, A-frame, teeter, and pause table. For both Standard and JWW, a dog that successfully completes the course, within the time and fault limits for that course, earns one leg towards those needed for a title.

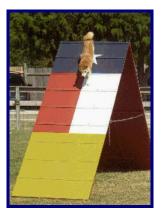
FAST (Fifteen and Send) is an AKC agility titling program that combines strategy planning with distance work.



Time2Beat is a newer AKC agility titling program. This hybrid class is unique, as each dog has the chance to set the "Time to Beat" for each jump height division.



Most agility venues now offer titling programs for senior or long, heavy bodied dogs. In these, the dogs jump lower and have longer times to complete the courses. After proper training, with a naturally athletic dog such as a Shiba, the hardest part of running the course can be for the handler to remember it once he or she has left the starting line. Of course, Shibas always have the potential to be a little creative in how they run the course so a sense of humor is a must for the handler.



For more specific information, check the American Kennel Club website: <u>http://www.akc.org/events/agility/index.cfm</u>. To order the Agility rules and regulations pamphlet, contact the AKC order desk at 919-233-9767, (fax) 919-816-3627 or email orderdesk@akc.org.

To view highlight videos of Shibas in action at Shiba events, please visit: http://www.shibas.org/agility.html . http://sports.shibas.org/video/index.html



## **AKC TITLES**

NA - Novice Agility
NAP - Novice Agility Preferred
NAJ - Novice Agility Jumper
NJP - Novice Agility Jumper Preferred
NF - Agility FAST Novice
NFP - Agility FAST Novice Preferred
OA - Open Agility
OAP - Open Agility Preferred
OAJ - Open Agility Jumper
OJP - Open Agility Jumper Preferred
OF - Agility FAST Open
OFP - Agility FAST Open Preferred
AX - Agility Excellent
AXP - Agility Excellent Preferred
AXJ - Agility Excellent Jumper
AJP - Agility Excellent Jumper Preferred
XF - Agility FAST Excellent
XFP - Agility FAST Excellent Preferred
MX - Master Excellent Agility
MXP - Master Agility Excellent Preferred
PAD - Premier Agility Dog
PADP - Premier Agility Dog Preferred
MXJ - Master Agility Jumper
MJP - Master Excellent Jumper Preferred
PJD - Premier Jumpers Dog
PJDP - Premier Jumpers Dog Preferred
PAX - Preferred Agility Excellent
PACH - Master Agility Champion Preferred
MACH - Master Agility Champion
AGCH - Agility Grand Champion
T2B - Time 2 Beat
TQX - Triple Q Excellent

The MACH or PACH title, which goes before a dog's registered name, requires that the team qualified in both Master standard and jumpers with weaves on the same day twenty times plus have accumulated 750 points.

Shibas with AKC Agility Titles				
(as of 12/31/21)				
Regular		Preferred		
NA	136	NAP	37	
NAJ	116	NJP	46	
NF	42	NFP	18	
OA	78	OAP	24	
OAJ	73	OJP	25	
OF	26	OFP	5	
AX	52	AXP	11	
AXJ	50	AJP	18	
XF	17	XFP	3	
MX	35	MXP	9	
MXB,S,G,C	22	MXPB,S,G,C	4	
		MXP2-27	6	
PAD	5	PADP	1	
MXJ	34	MJP	10	
MJB,S,G,C	25	MJPB,S,G,C	6	
		MJP2-13	7	
PJD	4	PJDP	1	
MXF	6	MFP	2	
T2B	15	T2BP	4	
TQX	4	TQXP	2	
		PAX	4	
		PAX2-10	2	
MACH	16	PACH	3	
MACH2	12	PACH2	2	
MACH3	11	PACH3	2	
MACH4	8			
MACH5	6			
MACH25	1			
AGCH 2				

## AGILITY Shiba-Style



MACH3 Kirinji Kashushibaso CD (5/29/90 – 8/9/05) and Ken Fairchild