



Akita Club of America

March 23, 2017

Akita Club of America Versatility Program

Purpose

- To encourage Akita owners to provide opportunities for their dogs to work in the many ways in which Akitas are capable of, thereby enable dogs and owners to know the joy of working together.
- To provide certification for those Akita owners and their dogs who perform these tasks.
- To encourage the breeding of Akitas with the soundness and temperament that enables them to work and interact with people, to become the superb companions they are meant to be.

Scope

- To establish criteria for the versatility/working Akita.
- To establish areas in which these points can be earned.
- To establish rules for certification.

Eligibility

- The Akita shall be registered with the American Kennel Club (AKC)
- A PAL/ILP registration number is also permitted.
- The owner shall be a member in good standing of ACA at the time of application for the certificate.
- Deceased Akitas meeting registration requirements and having fulfilled all the requirements for certification are eligible for the Versatility/Working Dog Certification if the owner was a member of ACA when the dog was alive. All necessary documentation must be completed and submitted to the ACA Versatility Committee for review.

Fields of Certification (AKC)

- Conformation (max 2 pts)

Fields of Certification (AKC, UKC & Canadian Kennel Club recognized performance titles)

- Obedience
- Rally
- Tracking
- Agility
- Flyball
- Coursing
- Carting/Drafting
- Barn Hunt
- K9 Nosework
- Treibball

Fields of Certification (other)

- Sledding
- Therapy
- Temperament (max 3 pts)
- AKC Farm Dog Certification
- Health (max 2 pts)
- Community Service/Public Education (max 2 pts)
- Backpacking
- Dog Scouts Titles (max 1 pt)
- Dock Diving

Qualification

- The Beginner Versatile Akita (BVA) Certificate requires a minimum of 7 points using at least 3 categories including one performance title. Performance titles include: Obedience, Rally, Tracking, Agility, Flyball, Coursing, Carting/Drafting, Barn Hunt, K9 Nose Work and Treibball

- The Versatile Akita (VA) Certificate requires a minimum of 10 points using at least 5 categories including at least one performance title. Performance titles include: Obedience, Rally, Tracking, Agility, Flyball, Coursing, Carting/Drafting, Barn Hunt, K9 Nose Work and Treibball
- The Versatile Akita Excellent (VAX) Certificate requires a minimum of 15 points using at least 6 categories.
- A maximum of 5 points from any area should encourage broad experience.

Documentation

Documentation of the titles earned and the dog's registration **MUST** accompany the application.

- Photocopies of title certificates, health testing reports and AKC registration papers
- * Health-see below
- * Community Service and Public Education – see below

Point Schedule

Certification Area	1 Point	2 Points	3 Points	4 Points	5 Points
Conformation	AKC CH	AKC GCH or Group Winner including Owner Handler Series			
Obedience	BN	CD/PCD or GN	CDX/PCDX or GO	UD/PUTD	UDX/PUDX
Rally	RN	RA	RE	RAE	
Tracking			TD or TDU	TDX	VST
Agility (Points for each title/sanction)	ACT2	Any Novice Title	Any Open or Advanced Title, T2B/T2BP	Any Masters/Excellent Title	MACH, PACH, Any Master Bronze, Silver, Gold or Century Title
Flyball			Member of winning team or FD/MBD		
Coursing	CA or BCAT	CAA or DCAT	CDX/PCDX or GO	CAX2	
Carting/Drafting	CS	NDD/CI	DD/CIS		
Barn Hunt	RATN	RATO	RATS	RATM	
K9 Nosework	ORT	NW1	NW2	NW3	
Treibball	Any Novice Title	Any Intermediate Title	Any Advanced Title	Any Expert Title	
Sledding			Team Win		
Therapy		20 visits	THD		
Temperament	CGC (1 pt) TT (1 pt)	CGCA or CGCU			
AKC Farm Dog Certification	FDC				
Health* (max 2 pts)	Hip, Eye, Thyroid, Elbow, Patella tests				
Community Svc*/ Public Education* (max 2 pts)	1 pt per event (2 pts max) Canine Blood Donation – 1 pt per 5 donations (1 pt max)				
Backpacking	NWPD	WPD	WPDX		
Dog Scouts (max 1 pt)	Any one title				
Dock Diving	Any Novice Title	Any Junior Title	Any Senior Title	Any Master Title	Any Elite Title

* Health: Hip-OFA or Penn Hip, Eye-OFA, OFA evaluation for: Autoimmune Thyroiditis, Elbow Dysplasia and Patellar Luxation. Results must be recorded with the appropriate registry. Non passing test results may be counted so long as the dog is no longer intact.

* Community Service is an act that is performed for the benefit of the community at large. It is voluntary work intended for the common good usually done as a part of an organized scheme. Examples are: Walking in a Pet- Walk-A-Thon to raise money for a charity, working in a concession stand to raise money for a good cause (a "Kissing Booth"), pick up a trail during National Trail Day in June, plan a special awareness event during Be Kind to Animals Week in May, make a display and participate in a township Earth Day event (how to protect dogs from ticks), etc.,

* Public Education is educating the public about the Akita breed at an organized event. This should include handouts which cover the history of the breed, health issues, what it is like to live with an Akita (grooming, exercise requirements, fencing), and contact information for ACA. Be able to talk with interested people individually while they interact with an Akita.

Supporting documentation for Community Service and Public Education includes: flyer from the event or a written description (including date/place), an explanation of how you and your dog participated, and pictures.

Submit the Versatility Program Application form to the ACA Versatility Chair by mailing the application along with supporting documents through the U.S. Postal Service.

Upon earning the VAX title owners can work towards advanced level certificates using any other titles not listed including titles from other venues which may or may not be AKC recognized. Each new title/badge will count for one point regardless of level. For each 20 points the VAX title will increase by 1. Example: VAX2 would be the VAX title plus 20 additional points earned from any organized club. Dog Scout titles/badges each count for 1 point, any titles which are not listed on the criteria grid from a recognized club or organization each count for 1 point, 1 point for each additional 20 hrs.of therapy work, 1 point for each additional health test and 1 point for each Community Service/Public Education event. Each new level of VAX+ will receive a certificate.

Submitting documentation for VAX+ will be the same as for submitting records for the BVA/VA/VAX titles. For this level the dog's full name including all titles will have to be electronically submitted in a format that can be copied to ensure proper listing of titles on the certificate.

Certificates for BVA, VA, VAX, VAX 2+, will be mailed out quarterly.

BVA, VA, VAX, VAX2+ recipients will be posted on the ACA Versatility page – picture and short biography