

American Treibball Association Virtual Titling Rules

A. Compliance with Rules

1. All members submitting video's with the intent to apply the video for Title must follow all applicable American Treibball Rules. Ignorance of Rules that result in a Non-Qualifying submission may not be appealed. A complete version of the current Sanctioned Trial and Competition Rules may be found on the website located at, www.americantreibballassociation.org
2. Please review all Rules to ensure your submission is in compliance with current Rules. Important Rules are reviewed below, but please read entire version as it pertains to Rules of the game to ensure your submission is in compliance.
3. Certain Rules outlined below apply only to Virtual Titling. Please carefully review these to ensure your submission is in compliance. Others highlight important Association Rules.

B. Applying For Membership

1. Membership within the ATA is a privilege. To compete in, or host, sanctioned competitions, the individual must be a current member in good standing.
2. Application for membership may be made by using the contact form on the Association website, www.americantreibballassociation.org
3. The name appearing on the membership shall be the exact same name used for any registration.

Types of Membership

1. **Level I - Adult**- Restricted to one person. This is a requirement to compete with a dog at any ATA sanctioned trial or competition, regardless of other memberships held.
 - a. This membership is carried in the individual's legal name.
 - b. This membership is for one person over the age of 18 years.
 - c. Level I members are full voting members of the ATA, and will receive the Introduction to Treibball curriculum, a copy of the ATA Bylaws, and the Sanctioned Trial and Competition Rules, in addition to training tips and notification of events and competitions. To join at Level I, click here to fill out the contact form on the Association website www.americantreibballassociation.org

2. **Level I - Junior Handler** - This membership is for young dog owners who want to train and compete with a dog. Membership is restricted to one person under the age of 18. This is a requirement to compete with a dog at any ATA sanctioned trial or competition, regardless of other memberships held. This membership is carried in the individual's legal name.

Junior Handler members may compete in all levels of match play in the following divisions:

- Under 10 years of age: 4-5 balls set within the playing field
- 11-15 years of age: 5-6 balls set within the playing field
- 14-17 years of age: 6-8 balls set within the playing field

The age of the Junior Handler on January 1 of the year of registration, determines the age category that handler will compete in, for that calendar year.

C. Registration of Dog

1. All dogs must be registered with ATA in order to compete for Virtual Titles events.
2. Dog registration is a one-time process and the number assigned is permanent for the life of that dog. This number is tracked for both Live Competitions and Virtual submissions.

D. General Operating Rules, ATA Authority Concerning Registration and Rules

1. The rules and registration numbers of the Association take precedence over those of any other Association.
2. The ATA reserves the right to make any changes in these rules, regulations, standards, or requirements as deemed at any time, to be in the best interest of the ATA and the sport of Treibball.

E. General Registration Responsibility

1. The person submitting the registration is responsible for the accuracy of all information submitted.
2. The owner of the dog must have a membership in the exact name as it is to appear on the dog's registry
3. Dogs competing must be registered in the correct class and size appropriate class. Virtual Competition Titles will be awarded in the following classes, and size categories, for Adults, Senior/Honors and Junior Handlers.

- ATA-VIA/B-Intro Divisions A& B
- ATA-VB-Virtual Beginner, Division A & Division B
- ATA-VI- Virtual Intermediate
- ATA-VX-Virtual Excellent
- ATA-VCh.-Virtual Champion
- ATA V Senior or Honors Class for handicapped handler or pets, in Standard or Teacup divisions (competitors over 65, those who have a handicap or compete with a handicapped dog) may choose to compete on a Standard or Teacup field size, with that accompanying field dimensions and ball placement. Senior or Honors competitors who have taught their dog to work on a specific side, because of impairment or mobility issues, may direct their dog from that side.
- ATA -VJ – Virtual Junior Handler
- ATA-VTT/A & B-Virtual Team Treibball, Division A & Division B

The use of a target stick is allowed at all levels of competition.

Verbal praise, handler enthusiasm and excitement are encouraged in all classes of competition.

F. Trial Site

1. Recording a Virtual run requires the following field dimensions:

Standard Field: 50 feet wide by 75 feet long

Teacup Field: 50 feet wide by 40 feet long. The Teacup Field dimensions may also be used in Beginner runs.

The Start Box position should also be clearly marked for the participants' and judges' accuracy.

Standard Competition: 33 feet from the flat back of the goal, and 9 feet in from the left side of the field.

Teacup Competition: 16 feet from the flat back of the goal, and 7 feet in from the left side of the field.

2. Submission of competitors qualifying runs for virtual titles must include a filmed verification of the field dimensions, a marked goal area and the marked Start position. It is recommended the field be marked in 5 foot increments with some form of marker such as cones or flags.

3. Submitted runs may also be recorded and supervised by a Level II Trainer or at a Level III facility. In this event the name and number of the Trainer or Facility must be recorded on the cover sheet. Any cost to record a run is private treaty between the Trainer, Facility and Handler.

G. Handler's Responsibility/Position

It is the handler's responsibility to see that the dog moves the ball forward with his nose, either side of his muzzle, his shoulder, chest and the backs of his front feet. The dog may use an open mouth to direct or guide the ball, but may not bite the ball or use the pads of his feet or claws to move the ball toward the handler at the goal.

The handler is allowed to position himself/herself within the 4-foot goal area, and move left, right and center within that area to direct the dog, but is not allowed to move further into the field.

The handler is allowed, but is not required, to use a staff of no more than 6 feet in length. The staff may be used to bring the ball into the goal once the dog has brought the ball within the 4 foot goal area but may not be used as an extension of the handler's arm, to drive the ball into the goal. A 3-4 foot target stick may be used in lieu of a staff, to give direction to the dog, and to guide balls into the goal as they are brought to the handler in the goal area.

If a ball bounces out of the physical goal after being brought in by the dog, and it is still within the 4 foot goal area, the staff or a target stick may be used to bring it back into the goal. If two balls come to the goal at the same time, the staff or target stick may be used to block an undesired ball and allow a preferred ball to come in first. If the ball rolls/bounces completely outside of the goal area, it must be brought back to the goal by the dog.

In the **ATA-VIA/B, Intro class**, Divisions A & B, the balls may be brought in any order, but the dog must work fully under the control of the handler.

In the **ATA-B, Beginner class**, Divisions A & B, the balls may be brought in any order, but the dog must work fully under the control of the handler. The handler may use a clicker in Division A, but use hand, whistle and verbal signals only, in Division B and higher. Herding whistle signals are allowed in all classes.

In the **ATA-VI, Intermediate class** the order in which the balls must be brought in will be posted. Balls can be marked with visible numbers or colored tape.

In the **ATA-VX, Excellent class** the order in which the balls must be filmed on the entry sheet. Balls can be marked with visible numbers or colored tape.

In **ATA-VTT, Virtual Team Treibball class, Divisions A&B**, the entry being filmed should reflect which dog/handler will bring in which balls. and the order in which the balls must be brought in. will be posted. Balls can be marked with visible numbers or colored tape.

H. Titling/Awards

ATA titles may be awarded in Live or Virtual competition. An American Treibball Association Live or Virtual Competition title consists of a number of qualifying runs within the time frame designated for each division, under the aegis of two different **ATA member** judges. Qualifying runs that are recorded at Sanctioned events may be submitted for Virtual Titling.

A qualifying run is defined as one run with any time score within the allotted time period, plus or minus any bonus or demerit points. Qualifying runs are based on bringing all 8 balls into the goal, within the **designated** time frame for each division.

- **ATA-VIA/B, Intro class,**
Division A - 2 qualifying runs—time period: 5 minutes
Division B - 2 qualifying runs—time period: 5 minutes
- **ATA – V Beginner**
Division A - 2 qualifying runs—time period: 7 minutes
Division B - 2 qualifying runs—time period: 7 minutes
- **ATA V Intermediate** - 3 qualifying runs-time period: 7 minutes
- **ATA V Excellent** - 4 qualifying runs-time period: 7 minutes
- **ATA V Champion** - 4 qualifying runs-time period: 7 minutes
- **Senior or Honors Virtual** competitors - 2 qualifying runs—with a 2 minute allowance in each division. (9 minutes)
- **ATA-VTT, Team Treibball**
Division A - 4 qualifying runs—time period: 10 minutes
Division B - 4 qualifying runs—time period: 10 minutes
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Submissions for Virtual qualifying runs and Virtual Competition titles are to be submitted to the ATA as follows:

Name/Contact information of any Level II Trainer/member or Level III member
Regional/Local Dog Training Club, Breed Club, Training Association or Training facility
acting as judges and supervising the run.
(Judges must be a Level II or III ATA member in good standing to verify a run or runs
for submission.)

Include the video link for submission: Runs should be posted on YouTube, and a link for the submission sent to info@american-treibballassociation.org within 2 weeks of the date of the recorded run. Your run will be judged; you'll be informed of the qualifying or non-qualifying status, and any resulting titles earned. If your runs qualify for a title, your certificate will be mailed to you within two-three weeks of your filing.

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