



AMERICAN
KENNEL CLUB™

Performance Events Department

Date March 2016

To: All Clubs Licensed for Lure Coursing Clubs or Coursing Ability Test

Subject: **Fast CAT – A New AKC Event**

The AKC is pleased to announce the launch of a new event called Fast CAT_{SM}. The Fast CAT test is a timed 100 yard dash for dogs. It is a fun and healthy activity for dogs and their owners which will answer the intriguing question – How fast can my dog run? The event is open to all dogs that are at least twelve months of age and are individually registered or listed with the AKC (registered purebred, FSS, PAL or AKC Canine Partner).

How Does Fast CAT Work?

1. Fast CAT is a timed straight race of 100 yards.
2. Dogs run singularly.
3. The dog's time to complete the 100 yard dash is converted into MPHs.
4. A handicap system is applied to a dog's MPH to determine the number of points earned. The handicap system is based on the height of the dog at its withers:
 - 18" or greater = handicap is 1.0
 - 12" up to less than 18" = handicap is 1.5
 - Below 12" = handicap is 2.0
5. Points = MPH multiplied by the dog's handicap
6. Fast CAT suffix titles are earned at designated milestones:
 - BCAT = 150 points
 - DCAT = 500 points
 - FCAT = 1,000 points
 - FCAT# = every additional 500 points
7. Top 20 by Breed by Year: The AKC Fast CAT website will feature the Top 20 Fastest Dogs by Breed by Year national standings. The standings will be updated as event results are processed.

Eligibility to Participate

8. Open to all dogs at least 12 months of age that are individually registered/listed with the AKC. This includes dogs recorded in the FSS program, dogs with PAL numbers or dogs enrolled in the AKC Canine Partners program. Females in season may not enter. A dog may enter only once per event. (An event is defined by an event number.)
9. An inspection committee shall inspect each entry for lameness, fitness to compete and females in season. If necessary, the inspection committee is responsible for measuring dogs to determine their height at the withers.

The Cudahy Kennel Club in Wisconsin held a pilot in 2015 to test the event. They reported the following:

“Fast CAT’s can be run at small fairs, dog days or about any type of pet event. As a club advocating for having a strong relationship between people and dogs, we really like the demographics of this activity. Fast CAT provides an opportunity to extend the reach of organized dog clubs.”



All AKC clubs currently licensed to hold lure coursing trials or coursing ability tests are automatically licensed to hold Fast CAT. Fast CAT may be held as either a stand-alone event or in conjunction with other AKC events. In all cases the Fast CAT test must be applied for as a separate event with its own event number. Many clubs are talking about the appeal of holding their coursing ability test and Fast CAT test together if the space is available. If clubs can quickly post a dog’s speed in MPH, Fast CAT could draw many spectators if held at county fairs, community dog events, or in conjunction with all-breed shows.

Additional information is posted on the AKC’s Fast CAT website - www.akc.org/events/fast-cat. Interested clubs should see the complete Regulations which are posted on this website. Clubs that desire to hold Fast CAT events may start applying immediately by submitting a paper [Fast CAT Application](#) or by calling the Performance Events Department at 919-816-3908 for assistance and instructions for Online Plans Management.