

JRTCC

Jack Russell Terrier Club of Canada

Youth Division Handbook

For Youth, Chair, Judges and Volunteers

2021

UPDATED
AUGUST 2021

Table of Contents

PAGE

2	Judging
3	Youth Division Rules
4	Agility
4	Go To Ground
5	Super Earth
5	Conformation
7	Anatomy



Our youth are the future of the breed which we are all struggling so fiercely to protect. They need to know they will be ultimately responsible for the well-being of this great working dog and they can help its preservation. And it's our job to teach them! Always remember the following:

- Have Fun
- Learn to be responsible dog handlers
- Always show Good Sportsmanship
- Preserve, Protect and Work the Jack Russell Terrier

Judging

First and foremost, the terrier is NEVER judged. The quality and performance of a youth's dog is not considered when placing in a class. Various questions are asked about the Jack Russell. The youths are scored based on their ability to handle their terrier and how they answer the judge's questions.

Attitude is also important. Exhibitors should understand that their terrier is working for them and deserves praise and encouragement. They need to have a good working knowledge of rules and requirements for each class. Considerations need to be given to those exhibitors who have difficult or uncooperative terriers and for the age of each child.

Familiarity with certain types of equipment which are required in the different divisions are necessary, i.e., buckle collar and leash for Agility. In some classes, they must be responsible for a score sheet and checking in with a steward. They must know about retrieving their terriers after running GTG and Super Earth.

Competitors are expected to be on time, neat and workman-like, listen to and follow directions and show a genuine effort to communicate and work with their terrier. Highest scores are for those who try the hardest for their age and skill level. In the event of a tie, answers given for bonus questions will determine the winner.

Above all, these classes should be fun learning experiences for the youth, combining competitive friendship, achievement, pride in a job well done and encouraging a respectful communicating bond with their working terrier.

Youth Division Rules

1. The Youth Division is open to JRTCC child and/or youth members in the following age brackets: Child Handler (9 years or younger) Under 5, may be accompanied by an adult in the ring and Youth Handler (ages 10 thru 18). **A child/youth exhibitor's age is determined as of January 1st of the current calendar year.**
2. All exhibitors in the Youth Division must be current JRTCC members, either under a Family Membership or under a Youth Membership.
3. Except in the case of an injured or ill terrier, Youth Handlers must handle the **SAME** terrier, which must be an **ADULT** terrier, in all Youth Handler classes. All terriers participating in these classes must be registered or recorded with the JRTCC, JRTCA or JRTCCGB.
4. Spayed or neutered terriers may be exhibited in the Youth Division.
5. Terriers competing in Youth GTG/Super Earth, if entered in regular GTG/Super Earth class, must compete in the regular GTG/Super Earth class prior to competing in the Youth GTG/Super Earth class. Terriers competing in Youth Agility, as well as regular Agility, must compete in the class order upon which the judge decides. It is important to inform the judge that the terrier is competing in Youth Handler as well as regular classes.
6. Placement will be made on an accumulation of points based on the following:
 - Ability to follow directions. Brief instructions should be provided prior to the competition.
 - Control and handling of the terrier. Considerations will be given.
 - Encouragement of the terrier while working.
 - Knowledge of the rules and requirements of each class.
 - Awareness of class schedule and arriving on time.
 - Prompt retrieval of the terrier after competition.
 - Having terrier ready to compete (collar off for GTG and Super Earth, proper collar and leash for conformation, agility, etc.)
 - Knowledge of the terrier, structure, purpose, origin, etc.
 - Checking in with the Steward and being responsible for individual score sheet.

Points for placement in each individual class are as follows: 8 points = 1st place, 6 points = 2nd place, 5 points = 3rd place, 4 points = 4th place, 3 points = 5th place, 2 points = 6th place, 1 point = participation

The overall point score for this trial for each participant will be determined by calculating the total point scores of any/all of the following events: Agility, Conformation, Go To Ground and Super Earth.

Ribbons will be awarded 1st to 6th place and the two Child Handlers and two Junior Handlers accumulating the most points from the combined scores at this trial will receive ribbons for JRTCC National Trial Best & Reserve Child Handler and Best & Reserve Junior Handler.

Child/Junior Handler Year-End High Point Trophies and ribbons will be awarded at the National Trial to the Child Handler and Junior Handler accumulating the most points of the combined overall scores from all JRTCC sanctioned trials/events within the calendar year.

AGILITY

In the Youth Agility Class, your terrier will run an obstacle course following your commands. Depending on you and your terrier's skill level, you may choose to enter the On-Lead or Off-Lead class. It is important to remember that the Youth Division Agility classes are not timed. So, it is better to slow down and take each piece of equipment carefully rather than try to rush through the course. Again, the judge will be paying attention to how well you and your terrier interact with each other. How well you can give your terrier the command for an obstacle and how well the terrier responds to you, as the handler, is most important. Also, you want to encourage your terrier and let it know that it did a good job going over a jump or running through a tunnel. The judge will be watching you to see how safely you and your terrier navigate the course and the obstacles. The judge will look to see if you accept any suggestions or comments in a positive way. Once again, the judge will ask you some questions about agility.

The course shall consist of 10 to 14 obstacles consisting of jumps, open tunnels, the table, a low (2 feet or lower) dog walk and a low (3 feet or lower) A-Frame. The jumps will be set at 8 inches for all terriers.

GO TO GROUND

In the GTG class, you and your terrier will be working together in a 'simulated' hunting environment. The terrier will "go-to-ground" through a 10 foot above ground tunnel. The tunnel will have one turn in it and the terrier will find a cage with rats in it once it reaches the end. The terriers cannot actually get to the rats, but they have a good time trying! You will be shown the starting line which is two feet from the tunnel opening. All four of your terrier's feet must be behind the starting line. The judge will tell you when you can release your dog. Most of the time, the terrier will go right into the tunnel and finish, but sometimes the terrier has other things in mind and will not enter the tunnel. If this happens, don't get upset. Calmly get your terrier and show him the entrance again. If the terrier still does not cooperate, ask the judge what he or she would like you to do. Don't worry if your terrier will not do the GTG or has a slow time. The judge is not 'keeping time.' Remember, it is about working with your dog and how well the dog responds to you. The judge will then ask you some questions about GTG.

Any Terrier that will be used for Child and/or Junior Handler GTG classes must first complete any GTG class into which it may be entered at a trial, including any Novice to Open move-up.

Terriers will be run through the Novice Tunnel. To be judged on Child or Junior handling of the terrier and knowledge of the event.

SUPER EARTH

In the Super Earth class, you and your terrier will be working together in a 'simulated' hunting environment. The terrier will enter Super Earth through approx. 80 feet of tunnel. The tunnel will have multiple turns/obstacles and the terrier will find a cage with rats in it once it reaches the end. The terriers cannot actually get to the rats, but they have a good time trying! You will be shown the starting line which is two feet from the tunnel opening. All four of your terrier's feet must be behind the starting line. The judge will tell you when you can release your dog. Most of the time, the terrier will go right into the tunnel and finish, but sometimes the terrier has other things in mind and will not enter the tunnel. If this happens, don't get upset. Calmly get your terrier and show him the entrance again. If the terrier still does not cooperate, ask the judge what he or she would like you to do. Don't worry if your terrier will not do the Super Earth or has a slow time. The judge is not 'keeping time.' Remember, it is about working with your dog and how well the dog responds to you. The judge will then ask you some questions about Super Earth.

Any Terrier that will be used for Child and/or Junior Handler Super Earth classes must first complete any Open/Champion Super Earth class into which it may be entered at a trial.

To be judged on Child or Junior handling of the terrier and knowledge of the event.

CONFORMATION

The Child and Youth Handler Classes are, in some ways similar to the Conformation classes. You will walk your terrier on lead around the show ring, leading the terrier on your left side. You will also need to be able to get your terrier to stand still so that the judge can get a good look at how well you present your terrier. In this class, you may offer your terrier small treats or toys to help capture its attention. The judge will be watching you in the ring to see how well you handle yourself and your terrier. Unlike the Conformation class, however, the judge is not looking at the terrier's qualifications, but rather looking at you and how well the terrier is responding to you. When it is your turn to present your terrier to the judge, you will be asked several questions (questions that only the judge knows!) to see how much you know about the breed. You will want to be familiar with the breed standard as set by the JRTCC and some of the history that goes along with the Jack Russell Terrier.

CHILD HANDLER – Judged on the child's ability to present the terrier and answer questions put forth by the judge. Conformation of the terrier will not be considered.

JUNIOR HANDLER – Judged on the youth’s ability to present the terrier and answer question put forth by the judge. Conformation of the terrier will not be considered.

About The Judges’ Questions

It is important to know that **THERE IS NOT A PREPARED LIST OF QUESTIONS** which the judges must use. Judges can and will ask any number of questions related to the class they are judging. Some judges put more emphasis or importance on how well you handle your terrier, others place the emphasis on how well you respond to their questions, and some judges, you will find, feel the importance should be placed on a combination of handling and answers to questions. Some judges ask few questions; others ask more. Judges may ask any numbers of questions which they think are important and to which they feel you should know the answer(s).

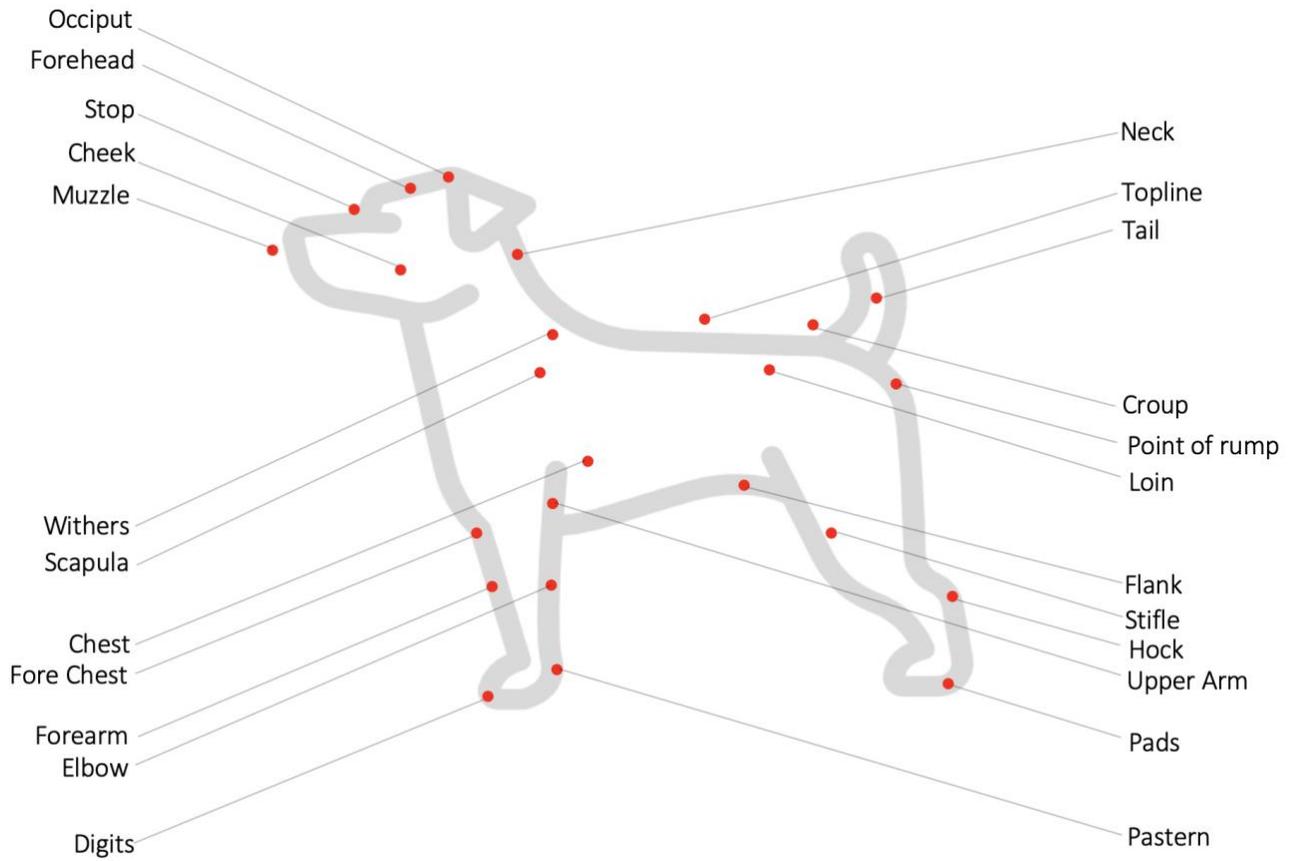
About Your Questions

If and when you have any questions about the Youth Division or about any of the Youth Division classes, you should know that any of the JRTCC judges will be happy to talk with you, help you and answer any of your questions. That is what we are here for to help you and to answer your questions. If we do not know the answer to your question, we will find it!

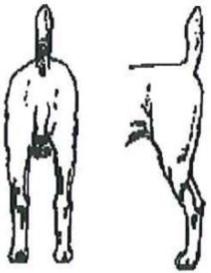
A FEW GOOD TIPS...

- Exhibit good sportsmanship
- Listen to and follow directions
- Be knowledgeable
- Enjoy yourself and your terrier
- SMILE!

Jack Russell Terrier Anatomy



CHARACTERISTICS	The terrier must present a lively, active and alert appearance. It should impress with its fearless and happy disposition. It should be remembered that the Jack Russell is a working terrier and should retain these instincts. Nervousness, cowardice or over-aggressiveness should be discouraged and it should always appear confident.	
GENERAL APPEARANCE	A sturdy, tough terrier, very much on its toes all the time, measuring between 10" and 15" at the withers. The body length must be in proportion to the height, and it should present a compact, balanced image, always being in solid, hard condition.	
HEAD	Should be well balanced and in proportion to the body. The skull should be flat, of moderate width at the ears, narrowing to the eyes. There should be a defined stop but not overpronounced. The length of the muzzle from the nose to the stop should be slightly shorter than the distance from the stop to the occiput. The nose should be black. The jaw should be powerful and well boned with strongly muscled cheeks.	
EYES	Should be almond shaped, dark in color and full of life and intelligence.	
EARS	Small "V" shaped drop ears carried forward close to the head and of moderate thickness.	
MOUTH	<p>Strong teeth with the top slightly overlapping the lower.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Scissor Bite Upper incisor teeth fit closely over lower ones, with lower canines in front of the upper.</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Level Teeth meet edge-to-edge.</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Overshot Top jaw protruding over lower jaw leaving a gap. Position of canines is also reversed.</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Undershot Lower incisors protrude beyond upper incisors leaving a gap between upper and lower canines.</p> </div> </div> <p>The left two bites are acceptable; the far left bite is preferred.</p>	
NECK	Clean and muscular, of good length, gradually widening at the shoulders.	
FOREQUARTERS	The shoulders should be sloping and well laid back, fine at points and clearly cut at the withers. Forelegs should be strong and straight boned with joints in correct alignment. Elbows hanging perpendicular to the body and working free of the sides.	
BODY	The chest should be shallow, narrow and the front legs not too widely apart, giving an athletic, rather than heavily chested appearance. As a guide only, the chest should be small enough to be easily spanned behind the shoulders, by average sized hands, when the terrier is in a fit, working condition. The back should be strong, straight and, in	

	comparison to the height of the terrier, give a balanced image. The loin should be slightly arched.	
HINDQUARTERS	Should be strong and muscular, well put together with good angulation and bend of stifle, giving plenty of drive and propulsion. Looking from behind, the hocks must be straight.	
FEET	Round, hard padded, wide, of cat-like appearance, neither turning in nor out.	
TAIL	Should be set rather high, carried gaily and in proportion to body length, usually about four inches long, providing a good hand-hold.	
COAT	Smooth, without being so sparse as not to provide a certain amount of protection from the elements and undergrowth. Rough or broken coated, without being woolly.	
COLOR	White should predominate (i.e., must be more than 51% white) with tan, black, or brown markings. Brindle markings are unacceptable.	
GAIT	Movement should be free, lively, well coordinated with straight action in front and behind.	
SPECIAL NOTES	<p>Old scars or injuries, the result of work or accident, should not be allowed to prejudice a terrier's chance in the show ring unless they interfere with its movement or with its utility for work or stud.</p> <p>A Jack Russell Terrier should not show any strong characteristics of another breed.</p>	
FAULTS	<p>Shyness, Disinterest, Overly aggressive, Defects in bite, Weak jaws, Fleshy ears, Down at the shoulder, Barrel ribs, Out at elbow, Narrow hips, Straight stifles, Weak feet, Sluggish or unsound movement, Dishing, Plaiting, Toeing, Silky or woolly coats, Too much color (less than 51% white), Shrill or weak voice, Lack of muscle or skin tone, Lack of stamina or lung reserve, Evidence of foreign blood</p>	



www.JRTCC.ca