

NAME OF ORGANIZATION: Newfoundland Athletic Dog Association, Inc. (NADA)	DATE: January 12, 2019	REV.DATE: May 19, 2020
POLICY SECTION: Equipment Policy		PAGE: Page 1 of 2

POLICY STATEMENT	Newfoundland Athletic Dog Association, Inc. (NADA) equipment needs to be stored, moved and used safely.
MOVING & STORING EQUIPMENT	<p>Most equipment is heavy and not easily or safely movable by oneself. Therefore, be conscientious with attempting to move equipment.</p> <p>Safer choices are available - schedule a group practice session when more helping hands are available, practice smaller pieces of equipment that can be easily setup by one person (ex. jumps, weaves, tire, and tunnel).</p> <p>Please refer to Appendix A for proper handling of all agility equipment.</p> <p>Ensure all equipment is stored in its proper location after use. Please return equipment such that it is stored neatly and in its original location.</p> <p>It is also mandatory that all equipment (i.e., A-Frame, dog walk, teeter, tunnels) is stored properly. The contacts are to be gated at each entrance point. Prior to working in the facility ensure the contact equipment is properly gated off of you do not intend to use it. Also be sure to properly gate off the contact equipment prior to leaving the facility. The tunnels are to be closed off by placing tunnel mouths flat onto the ground.</p>
SET-UP OF EQUIPMENT	Please refer to Appendix A, as this contains very important safety notes on how to set-up the equipment safely for your dog (and you)!
USE OF EQUIPMENT	<p>Do not use equipment that your dog has not learned in a class setting!</p> <p>Dogs need to learn the equipment in a class setting where there are instructors present to help spot and be the extra set of eyes and hands for safety considerations for your dog.</p> <p>It is important to keep the equipment gated if your dog has not yet been taught this skill!</p> <p>If your dog has not been taught the contact equipment and someone else is working on it, please be aware that it is your responsibility to not allow your dog to get on the contact equipment.</p>

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	<p>Do not attempt advanced skills/equipment with your dog without first starting with the basics. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completing full height A-Frame/Teeter without starting with a tippy board or using the equipment at lower height. • Jumping a dog at a higher height versus first starting without poles on jumps and progressing jump height over many practices (weeks to months). • Training dogs outside their comfort level (e.g., if a dog has a fear of the teeter, or any other equipment), training should be progressive, do not pressure it to perform, this can often lead to developing fear, de-motivating your dog, and/or injuries.
USE OF SLIPPERY OR WET EQUIPMENT	<p>Please ensure to inspect equipment for any damage or water before training your dogs on the respective piece. If damage is present then avoid using the piece, put a note on it and notify the equipment manager regarding need for repair.</p> <p><i>Water on agility equipment is fine!</i> The contact equipment is designed to be safe while wet. Agility trials run rain or shine, so your dog (if in agility) does need exposure to wet equipment. However, it does mean that you need to be conscious of your dog's speed on the equipment. Deceleration cues instead of racing your dog to the down contact are important.</p>