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Special classes

Additional needs policy

The UK defines a disabled person as someone with a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day- to-day activities.

We, as an inclusive organisation wish to do everything, we can to encourage people with additional needs take part in hoopers, in a way that is achievable for them. We aim to give a supportive and inclusive event where those who have disabilities in which, running against an able-bodied handler for example does not place them at a disadvantage.

The aim of our special classes is to provide a more level playing field than a typical hoopers show where there is no division. To enable those who have additional needs as level a playing field as possible Hoopers Inc(lusive) are using three category systems to enable competitors to compete against those who face similar challenges.

By creating three categories A, B and C we hope to consider and encompass such factors as mobility, cognitive impairments and neurodevelopment disorders.

We at Hoopers Inc(lusive) ask that handlers read the rules, category descriptions and select the category they feel best reflects their need.



Category A

Mobility impairment - a physical disability affecting movement ranging from gross motor skills or fine motor skills.

- Neuromuscular conditions
- Orthopaedic issues
- Congenital conditions.
- Mobility may include but is not limited to issues with or requiring:
- Walking aids to support movement
- Balance
- Strength and stamina
- Coordination
- Unable to walk comfortably around a course
- Unable to change gait or direction comfortably

Category B

cognitive impairments - problems with thinking, memory, reasoning or language.

cognitive impairments may include but is not limited to:

- Memory
- Language
- Problem solving
- Attention/focus
- Judgement
- Anxiety



Category C

neurodevelopment disorders - a group of conditions affecting brain development causing challenges in learning, social skills, behaviour or physical functioning.

- Neurodevelopment disorders may include but is not limited to:
- Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder
- Autism spectrum disorder
- Learning disabilities
- Development coordination disorder
- Dyspraxia
- Intellectual disability
- Communication disorder
- Tic disorders

General rules

- Handlers are asked to self identify which category they feel best suits them,
- At no time will any confidential information or evidence be requested, all we ask is for these new categories to not be abused.
- All handlers must be registered with Hoopers Inc(lusive) either with their own account or registered as a handler under another competitors account.
- Anyone falling under the scope of this policy may run a dog in competition who is registered under another handler, they may not run a dog who has already completed the course with another registered handler.
- Anyone falling under the scope of this policy will run the same courses as those set in general competition.
- Anyone falling under the scope of this policy is eligible to enter open, games and qualifier classes and, is eligible for a wild card award to the finals.
- Those who fall under the scope of this policy will run as per the running orders or, if preferred once all other dogs have run.
- Those who fall under the scope of this policy are eligible for additional support in the ring - requirements of which must be made known to the show organisers. All reasonable requests will be facilitated as far as it practicable.
- League tables will not be separated on height, only on category.
- There will be no progression into higher levels.



- Those who fall under these categories and wish to run in general competition may do so, those running in general competition are not permitted to utilise any of the dispensations listed within this policy.
- Those with additional needs must self-elect and register whichever category best supports their ability to participate in hoopers competitions.
- Classes will be run under Hoopers Inc(lusive) specific class rules.
- Awards are as per the rosette and trophy rules in Hoopers Inc(lusive) rules