

# Dog Scouts of America

## Certification Criteria

### **Agility 1**

The goal of this badge is to show that the dog and handler are ready for competition. All obstacles should be set to full competition height. Equipment used should be suitable for an Agility competition in at least one venue (DSA, AKC, CPE, UKC, etc.)

The dog should willingly perform the obstacles safely and in the designated order with only verbal and/or hand/body signals from the handler. The dog should not need much encouragement and no coaxing, targeting or “simulated treats” (pretending to have a reward in your hand).

For safety, contact obstacles should be entered and exited in line with the obstacle (not jumping on/off from the side) with contact made in the required zone (both on and off). The dog should be taught to find that straight entry point, even if the approach line to get to the obstacle is a sharp angle. The dog should also be taught to get at least his front feet straight off the obstacle before starting to turn.

Dog/handler can earn this badge without having earned the previous levels of the agility badges. Performing this badge as required also qualifies the dog for each of the lower agility level badges as long as all the equipment and requirements for those badges are included in the testing for this badge. If only performing this level, please be sure to review the check off sheets for each of the lower levels to be sure all equipment and criteria are met