

# K9WAVE Rules

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## Season

The season runs September 1 to August 31 each year. The Regionals will be the last full weekend in August.

## Toy/Bumper

Required and official bumper for the HighTide & LowTide disciplines.  
*Sizes: 2.5"x12" for the Regular class and 1"x12" for the Mini class.*



Any toy/bumper can be used for the TidalWave discipline, with the following exceptions.

- Cannot be alive, or previously alive.
- Cannot be food/treats.

# Sportsmanship

We take sportmanship **very** seriously, our ultimate goal is for our participants and spectators to have fun. K9Wave is a community. Verbal encouragement, cheering, and calling the dog from poolside is **always** welcome.

Sportsmanship is defined as, "Exceptional and fair sportsmanship while building a relationship with your dog(s). Be thoughtful, helpful, fair, and share encouragement to fellow participants and their dogs. Conduct (such as fairness, respect for one's opponent, and graciousness in winning or losing) becoming to one participating in a sport"  
~merriam-webster.com

We have a zero-tolerance policy for bad-sportsmanship. We have the right to refuse service to anyone. Unsportsman-like conduct can result in removal from the facility grounds and suspension or bans from future events.

## Reminder

1. *These are DOGS*
2. *This is just a GAME*
3. *The staff are VOLUNTEERS*
4. *The judges are HUMAN*
5. *Your dog is not competing in the Olympics!*

# Competition Team

The Handler is the person that is responsible for the dog at the K9Wave event.

- A team consists of a Handler and a Dog with an optional Holder or Guest-Thrower.
- Junior Handler = more than 6 years old and less than 16 years
  - Junior Handlers under the age of 8 must be accompanied by an adult on the dock.

# Canine Welfare

Handler's are responsible for the safety and welfare of their dogs. Participating dogs must be supervised and under the care and control of their Handlers at all times. Dogs must be leashed or crated at all times, except when on the dock. Only the competing team (Handler/Holder/Dog) are allowed on the dock during the K9Wave event. All participants on the dock will sign a Risk of Release of Liability for K9Wave and the facility.

Dogs must be healthy, over the age of 6 months, and in good condition to participate. All dogs that can safely jump off the dock may participate. It is the Handler's responsibility to ensure that their dogs do not compete in more events than would be advisable given prevailing weather conditions, and specific consideration given to the fitness and general health of the participating dog. The Judge will have final authority on the issue if a dog is unfit to compete.

Abusive/Harsh treatment of any dog, or any conduct of a Handler/Holder/Owner which might be perceived as such, will not be tolerated and will be excused from the K9Wave event.

Training aids such as Flat Fabric/Biothane Buckle/Clip Collars, Flat Fabric/Biothane Martingales, Gentle Leaders/Halti's, Harnesses, Slip, and Prong collars are allowed to get the dog to and from the dock safely. Only Flat Fabric/Biothane Buckle/Clip Collars and Snug Fitted Flat Fabric/Biothane Martingales are allowed when the dog is jumping/swimming in the water. Slip Martingales, Slip Leashes, and Leashes can be used to get the dog out of the water back onto the dock. Each K9Wave Facility will decide if the use of electronic training aids will be permitted at their location.

Leashes should be 6 feet, or less, for best control at the K9Wave event. For safety reasons, retractable leashes and long lines are not allowed at a K9Wave event.

Dogs are allowed to wear fitted float coats and wet suits. Bitches in season are not allowed to participate or be on competition grounds.

If there is a dog believed to pose a danger to people or other dogs, they will not be permitted to compete and will be asked to leave the K9Wave event grounds.

## Vaccinations

All dogs at a K9Wave event must have proof of Rabies vaccine or current Rabies Titer (within the last 3 years) and may be required to show proof upon request.

## Registration Information

- All teams need to be [members](#) of K9Wave to participate in a K9Wave event. This is a one time fee of \$30.00 per team CAD/USD.
- Generally, K9Wave events will open for online registration 8 weeks prior to the first day of the K9Wave event.
- Entry Fees: Each discipline (TidalWave, HighTide, and LowTide) are \$25 CAD/USD.
- **Refund Policy:**
  - The entry fee is non-refundable, even if the dog refuses to jump into the water or the team fails to arrive for their scheduled jump slot.
  - Refunds will be issued if Handler and/or dog has illness/injury with a Doctor/Veterinarian note.

## Event Format

- Tides run hourly, with a maximum of 25 teams per Tide
- Running orders will be Friday A-Z, Saturday Z-A, and Sunday A-Z by dogs call-name. Subsequent or additional days will be offset.
- The Mistress (or Master) of Ceremonies will announce who is "next up the dock", "on deck" and "in the hole" before each team begins.
- Handlers must check in 30 minutes prior to their first discipline of the K9Wave event.

- If the Handler cannot be there prior to 30 minutes, Handlers must send an email to [info@k9wave.com](mailto:info@k9wave.com) to notify of tardiness.
- If Handlers do not make it to facility by end of their scheduled discipline, there will NOT be make ups.
- Conflicts in running order must be addressed during check-in so they can be resolved quickly.
- Final running orders will be posted before the start of each wave.
- Scores will be announced after every jump, including the celebrations of Titles earned and Personal Bests achieved.

## Classes

- **Regular Class** - Dogs that measure 16" and over at the withers.
- **Mini Class** - Dogs that measure under 16" at the withers.
  - Preliminary measurements will be completed at first day of competition for dogs under 16".
  - All Mini Dogs under 24 months will be measured at the beginning of each season.
  - Official Measurements for Mini Dogs by two judges after the dog turns 2 years.
  - All Mini Dogs will be measured prior to competing in Regionals by two judges. If the dog measures 16" or over at Regionals, they will compete with the Regular Class.

## Standard Event Schedule (Suggested)

<i>Friday (Alpha Order A-Z)</i>	<i>Saturday (Alpha Order Z-A)</i>	<i>Sunday (Alpha Order A-Z)</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9am LowTide</li> <li>• 10am TidalWave</li> <li>• 11am TidalWave</li> <li>• Noon TidalWave</li> <li>• 1pm TidalWave</li> <li>• 2pm TidalWave</li> <li>• 3pm TidalWave</li> <li>• 4pm HighTide</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9am LowTide</li> <li>• 10am TidalWave</li> <li>• 11am TidalWave</li> <li>• Noon TidalWave</li> <li>• 1pm TidalWave</li> <li>• 2pm TidalWave</li> <li>• 3pm TidalWave</li> <li>• 4pm HighTide</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9am LowTide</li> <li>• 10am TidalWave</li> <li>• 11am TidalWave</li> <li>• Noon TidalWave</li> <li>• 1pm TidalWave</li> <li>• 2pm TidalWave</li> <li>• 3pm TidalWave</li> <li>• 4pm HighTide</li> </ul>

## K9Wave Games/Disciplines

### TidalWave

Also known as the "long distance jump". Measures the dog's distance jumping from the end of the dock to where the dog's base of the tail enters the water. Each jump will be judged by manual eye (not camera).

- Dogs must jump of their own free will. No blocking or pushing allowed.
- Handler may bring multiple Floatable bumpers/toys onto the dock.
- No Food allowed on the dock.
- Teams will have 1 optional practice jump and 2 scored jumps within a period of 3 minutes, once on the dock, for each Tide. Judge will score first 2 jumps unless Handler tells Judge **prior** to jumping that they want a practice jump for their first jump.
- If a bumper/toy has been thrown but the dog does not jump, the bumper/toy can be retrieved and re-thrown only once per jump. The judge can NOT assist in retrieval.
- If a dog jumps from the dock, but the bumper/toy has NOT been thrown, the dog can be recalled to the dock to try the attempt within their allotted time.
- If a dog jumps from the dock, and the bumper/toy does get thrown in after the dog jumps, that does constitute a scored jump.
- The best of the 2 scored jumps will be the final score.

## Tiebreakers (Regular Events, Regionals & Nationals)

1. Higher score of the other attempt within said tide
2. Season Average
3. Most scores recorded throughout the season

## Titles - TidalWave

K9Wave will be celebrating each teams successful jump off the dock in two ways. They will be awarded qualifying legs towards both Divisional **and** Non-Divisional Titles.

### Divisional Titles

*TidalWave divisional title legs will be awarded for each successful jump classed by Division. Handlers will be presented with a rosette ribbon during the event.*

Divisional Title	Jumps	Abbreviation
TidalWave Starter	5	TWS
TidalWave Advanced	25	TWA
TidalWave Master	50	TWM
TidalWave Professional	75	TWP
TidalWave Expert *	100	TWX
* each additional 25 Jumps		TWX2, TWX3, etc

### Non-Divisional Titles

*TidalWave Non-divisional title legs will be earned with each successful jump (regardless of Division). Handlers will be sent Certificates of Achievement via snail-mail.*

Non-Divisional Title	Jumps	Abbreviation
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<b>TidalWave Bronze</b>	5	TB
<b>TidalWave Silver</b>	20	TS
<b>TidalWave Gold</b>	40	TG
<b>TidalWave Onyx</b>	60	TO
<b>TidalWave Platinum</b>	80	TP
<b>TidalWave Diamond</b>	each additional 20	TD1, TD2, TD3, etc
<b>Diamond Jubilee</b>	100, 200, 300, etc	

## TidalWave Division Tiers

<b>Tier</b>	<b>Mini Class</b>	<b>Regular Class</b>
<b>Chinook</b>	1" - 3'11"	1" - 4'11"
<b>Whirlwind</b>	4' - 7'11"	5' - 9'11"
<b>Storm</b>	8' - 11'11"	10' - 14'11"
<b>Monsoon</b>	12' - 15'11"	15' - 19'11"
<b>Cyclone</b>	16' - 19'11"	20' - 24'11"
<b>Typhoon</b>	20' - 23'11"	25' - 29'11"
<b>Hurricane</b>	24' - 27'11"	30' - 34'11"
<b>Tsunami</b>	28' +	35' +

## HighTide

HighTide (HT) is defined as a long distance jump with a suspended-bumper grab. Measures the dog's jump distance from the end of the dock to where the dog will Grab a suspended "K9Wave Bumper" from 2 clips above the water.

- **Regular Class** will have a "K9Wave Bumper" suspended 2' above the dock (4' above the water).
  - Minimum HighTide score is 5 feet.
- **Mini Class** will have a "Mini K9Wave Bumper" suspended 1' above the dock (3' above the water).
  - Minimum HighTide score is 3 feet.
- An "Eligible Grab" is when the dog physically grabs or knocks the "K9Wave Bumper" from the rig into the water. The dog does not have to retrieve the bumper.
- Distance increases by 6" or 1' increments (Handlers choice).
- Distance can be increased or decreased to **any** distance
- Handler can elect for one practice jump, at the beginning of their turn, at any distance.
- Maximum of 5 attempts, regardless of misses.  
*For example, a team can miss their first 4 attempts and achieve a grab on their final attempt to earn a score.*
- Handlers have 45 seconds to send their dogs once the "K9Wave Bumper" is declared "Ready" by a judge.
- "Rest" can be requested only once during a dog's HighTide turn. It can be up to 30 seconds after a Grab or miss.
- If a dog refuses 1x, at any distance, the Handler can withdraw at that time, remaining attempts will be counted as misses.
- A toy may be thrown into the water after the dog attempts and misses the suspended K9Wave Bumper.

## Tiebreakers (Regular Events, Regionals & Nationals)

Listed in order of priority:

1. Lowest number of misses
2. Lowest start distance
3. Season average HT score/rank
4. Last HT score
5. HT Jump Off



## Titles - HighTide

K9Wave will be celebrating each teams successful grab in two ways. They will be awarded qualifying legs towards both Divisional ***and*** Non-Divisional Titles.

### Divisional Titles

*HighTide divisional title legs will be earned for EACH eligible Grab, classed into the appropriate HighTide Division. Handlers will be presented with a rosette ribbon during the event.*

Divisional Title	Jumps	Abbreviation
HighTide Starters	4	HTS
HighTide Advanced	10	HTA
HighTide Masters	20	HTM
HighTide Professional	30	HTP
HighTide Expert*	40	HTX
<i>*Each additional 10 Grabs</i>	50, 60, 70, ETC	HTX2, HTX3, etc

### Non-Divisional Titles

*HighTide Non-divisional title legs will be earned for EACH eligible Grab. Handlers will be sent Certificates of Achievement via snail-mail.*

Title	Jumps	Abbreviation
HighTide Bronze	4	HB
HighTide Silver	10	HS
HighTide Gold	20	HG
HighTide Onyx	30	HO
HighTide Platinum	40	HP
HighTide Diamond *	50	HD
<i>* Each additional 10 Grabs</i>		HD2, HD3, etc

### HighTide Division Tiers

*Mini & Regular Class:*

Tiers	Mini Class Distance	Regular Class Distance
Chinook	3' - 5'6"	5' - 8'6"
Whirlwind	6' - 8'6"	9' - 12'6"
Storm	9' - 10'6"	13' - 15'6"
Monsoon	11' - 12'6"	16' - 18'6"
Cyclone	13' - 14'6"	19' - 21'6"
Typhoon	15' - 16'6"	22' - 24'6"
Hurricane	17' - 18'6"	25' - 27'6"
Tsunami	19' +	28' +

## LowTide

- Measures the sprint time, in seconds, from when the dog's back feet leave the dock to when the dog's teeth grab the suspended "K9Wave Bumper". The bumper is placed at the 39' mark, at 1" above water level.
- Timer stops when the dogs teeth grab the bumper. NOTE: This is before the clips are released from the bumper strings.
- Dogs will start in front of the 15ft mark on the dock and end at the "K9Wave Bumper".
- Handlers have 30 seconds to send their dogs once the K9Wave Bumper is declared "Ready"
- The dog will get 2 attempts, and the best time of the 2 attempts will be the final score.

## Tiebreakers (Regular Events, Regionals & Nationals)

1. Lower seconds of the other attempt within said tide
2. Season Average
3. Most scores recorded throughout the season

## Titles - LowTide

K9Wave will be celebrating each teams successful LowTide sprint in two ways. They will be awarded qualifying legs towards both Divisional and Non-Divisional Titles.

## Divisional Titles

*LowTide divisional title legs will be earned for EACH eligible Grab. Handlers will be presented with a rosette ribbon during the event.*

Title	Jumps	Abbreviation
LowTide Starters	4	LTS
LowTide Advanced	10	LTA
LowTide Masters	20	LTM
LowTide Professional	30	LTP
LowTide Expert	40 50, 60, etc	LTX LTX2, LTX3, etc

## Non-Divisional Titles

*LowTide Non-divisional title legs will be earned for EACH eligible Grab. Handlers will be sent Certificates of Achievement via snail-mail.*

Title	Jumps	Abbreviation
LowTide Bronze	4	LB
LowTide Silver	10	LS
LowTide Gold	20	LG
LowTide Onyx	30	LO
LowTide Platinum	40	LP
LowTide Diamond *	50	LD
* Each additional 10 Grabs	60, 70, etc...	LD2, LD3, etc

## LowTide Division Tiers

### Mini & Regular Class

Title	Mini Class	Regular Class
Chinook	12.000 - 17.999	10.000 - 14.999
Whirlwind	11.000 - 11.999	9.000 - 9.999
Storm	10.000 - 10.999	8.000 - 8.999
Monsoon	9.000 - 9.999	7.000 - 7.999
Cyclone	8.000 - 8.999	6.000 - 6.999
Typhoon	7.000 - 7.999	5.000 - 5.999
Hurricane	6.000 - 6.999	4.000 - 4.999
Tsunami	0.001 - 5.999	0.001 - 3.999

# Ribbons

## Qualifying Jumps



## Personal Best (flag)

## Divisional Titles



## Top Dogs



## Rankings

Rankings restart from zero with each new season.

### Requirements:

- **TidalWave** - The team must have at least 3 recorded scores. Team's season rank is the average of their Top-5 scores. *(or top 3 if only 3 recorded - or top 4 if only 4 recorded)*
- **HighTide** - The team must have at least 2 recorded scores. Team's season rank is the average of their Top-3 scores *(or top 2 if only 2 recorded)*
- **LowTide** - The team must have at least 2 recorded scores. Team's season rank is the average of their Top-3 scores *(or top 2 if only 2 recorded)*

# Regionals

Regionals will either be the last weekend in August or the 3rd weekend in September at each facility throughout Canada and US that has hosted a minimum of 2 times each season.

Dogs can earn their regional invites each season by:

- Achieving 5 scores in TidalWave
- Achieving 2 scores in HighTide
- Achieving 2 scores in LowTide

Divisional placement will be based on end-of-season rankings.

The Tri-TIDE Versatility Award will be given at Regionals for the dogs that qualify in all 3 disciplines.

## Regional Format

### TidalWave

- All dogs will get 3 turns consisting of 2 scored jumps totaling 6 scored jumps. There will only be 1 practice jump allowed on the first turn. The best score of all jumps will be the final score for Regional placement.
- The best score of each turn will count towards the dogs Titles.
- If a dog jumps more than 2' out of their Division, then they will be moved into the next Division. If a dog jumps less than its Division, they will not be moved to a lower Division for Regional placement.
- Top 10 dogs in each Division will jump off with 2 scored jumps. The best of the dogs scored jump will be the final placement.
- Jump off scores will not count towards the dogs Titles.
- Regional Winners will be recognized to the Top 5 for each discipline of each Division and Class.
- National Winners will be the Top 3 highest scores from all Regionals w/ Season Average as the tie-breaker.

### HighTide

- Dogs will start at season average distance.
- Dogs must continue to jump until they refuse or have completed 5 attempts.
- K9Wave bumper can be tipped into the water or knocked down by the rig operator at the end of the turn.
- The best score of each turn will count towards the dogs Titles.
- Regional Winners will be recognized to the Top 5 for each discipline of each Division and Class.

- National Winners will be the Top 3 highest scores from all Regionals w/ Season Average as the tie-breaker.

## LowTide

- Dogs will have 2 timed sprints. The best time will be the final time for LT Regional Placement.
- The best time will count towards the dogs Titles.
- Regional Winners will be recognized to the Top 5 of each Game of each Division and Class.
- National Winners will be the Top 3 highest scores from all Regionals w/ Season Average as the tiebreaker.

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## Nationals

National Winners will be calculated based on the Team's Top 3 highest scores from all Regionals for each discipline/division.

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## End-of-Season Awards

In addition to regional and national awards... Awards will be presented to:

- Each best in Division/class (Determined by end of regular-season rankings)
- People's Choice Awards:
  - Best Sportsmanship
  - Most Entertaining
  - Most Inspirational
  - Most Improved