

The Barking Tricksters

Charity Open Hoopers Competition

Run under Hoopers Inc(lusive) Rules

On Sunday 26th April 2026



Closing Date: Friday 23rd April 2026 **(RECEIVED BY/PAID)**

Venue: The Barking Tricksters, Buckfastleigh Sports Club, Oaklands Road, Buckfastleigh, Devon, TQ11 0BL

Show opens at 8.30am. Course walking from 9.00am Judging will commence at 9.30 am.

Entry Fee: £3.50 per class late entries £4.50 per run

Show Manager: Julia Connett
Show Secretary: Allison Slipszenko

Judges: Jeni Aston
Allison Slipszenko
Briony Phillips
Liz Spain

First Aider: Jeni Aston
Allison Slipszenko

Dog First Aider: Jeni Aston
Liz Spain

Fire Marshal: Julia Connett

We reserve the right to change class Judges.

All registration and entries via www.hoopersinclusive.org

Please direct any and all enquiries to thebarkingtricksters@gmail.com

This show is run outside on grass and uses electronic timers.

Hoopers Inc(lusive) is run by a committee of 12 members who bring a plethora of training, competing, employment and life experiences. Committee members can be identified by their caps and name badges; they are there to assist and/or signpost you to someone who can support you. Whether you are a first time or seasoned competitor they are there to support and guide you through Hoopers Inc(lusive) shows. There are no silly questions so ask away.

Refreshments

Teas, coffees, alcoholic and no alcoholic drinks will be available, please bring cash and card, card payments only at the bar.

Exercising dogs

All dogs are to be kept on lead, dogs are permitted to off lead exercise around the very edges of the sports field, you must not allow your dog to go on any sports pitches at any time. You must clean up after your dog, it is a privilege to be able to use such an extensive exercise area of the sports club, not a right!

Emergency Vet

The closest local vet with Sunday emergency opening is Milestone Veterinary Practice, Swift Industrial Estate, Kingsteignton, Newton Abbot, TQ12 3SH

Class Schedule – you will automatically be placed into your level upon entry

1. Hoops fledgeling and veteran
Hoops Rookie
2. Hoops Open
3. Hoops Nursery – you cannot enter any progression classes if running in Nursery
4. Barrellers fledgeling and veteran
Barrellers Rookie
5. Barrellers Nursery 2 – you cannot enter any progression classes if running in Nursery
6. Barrellers Open Qualifier
7. Games – Time fault and out

Class Descriptions

Please refer to Hoopers Inc(lusive) for full class descriptions and progression

Qualifier Classes

The highest placed winners in small, medium and large category in qualifier classes will be invited to attend The Hoopers Inc(lusive) Finals 2026. Award/progression points will be awarded for the finals. Any dog can run in the final's classes with a special award stream for the finalists separated from non-finalists. To embrace the sense of fun and teamwork hoopers brings, a wild card entry to the finals may be awarded to one dog from each qualifier class, small or large. This will be awarded on the basis of the team which has had the most fun or demonstrated teamwork and respect during their run. Normal Hoopers Inc(lusive) rules will apply for any qualifier. Each winner will only be allowed to qualify once. In the event of a person winning a subsequent qualifying class, the Finals place will be offered to the 2nd place or the next person/dog not yet qualified.

Registration

All competitors at Hoopers Inc(lusive) shows need to register with Hoopers Inc(lusive).
www.hoopersinclusive.org

Course Types

Hoops - This is a numbered course made entirely of Hoops.

Barrellers – A numbered course which contains only hoops and barrels

Mixed - A numbered course, which may use barrels, tunnels and Hoops. A Gate may be used in place of a barrel to ensure the dogs smooth line of travel. The start and finish must be a hoop obstacle.

Games classes – please refer to the rules and regulations for the different game’s types – time fault and out has specific restart rules, please speak to the ring party if you miss the judges briefing.

Box or Line

Handling from the box for either the entire course or part course as specified by the judge will gain an additional 6 points. Handling from behind the line for either the entire course or part course as specified by the judge will gain an additional 6 points. There may be more than one opportunity within a course to gain line points however only 6 points will be awarded.

Toys and Food.

A toy may be carried in the pocket and used as a reward after the final hoop; the toy must not be visible until the dog has fully passed through the final hoop. You may play with your dog as you exit the ring. A toy may be carried in the hand in NFC (not for competition rounds) Toys must not be placed where it could act as a lure.

Food is permitted into the ring in the form of squeeze toothpaste tube types only. You must inform the judge you are carrying food, this must be carried in a sealed pocket only and may only be presented to the dog when the dog and handler are clear of the last obstacle and no longer under test.

Dog Height/s

Small – 30cm and below

Medium – 30.01 - 42cm

Large – 42.01 and above

We are happy to take A4A measured height results – this must be shown to the measurer or show manager.

Dogs who wish to compete in small or medium must be measured, this may be carried out by any show official or judge, should the dog be of a disposition whereby it is showing any sign of distress during the process a height category will be awarded at the measurer’s discretion.

Obviously small or large dogs do not require measuring, all dogs who wish to compete in Large will not require a formal measure.

All dogs who wish to compete in medium must be measured.

Dogs are measured at the shoulder to the floor.

Any judge or show organiser may question a height and seek a remeasure should it appear that a dog is running in the wrong class.

NFC runs

A handler may choose to run NFC in any class in which they are eligible to compete. The handler must inform the scribe upon entering the ring before commencing their run. The handler then has the standard course time to train in the ring. Training Treats/small individual treats may NOT be taken into the ring.

Awards

Placement rosettes will be awarded to the following:

1st to 3rd in all classes for those with qualifying runs. It is at the discretion of the show organiser if non-qualifying run rosettes are awarded.

Clear round rosettes for all qualifying runs.

A **Qualifying Round** is a clear round, with or without a bonus.

Trophies/Prizes will be awarded as follows:

5 – 10 dogs in class – 1st

10+ dogs in class – 1st- 2nd

A handler of the day award may be given at the judges discretion, this award represents the care, mutual respect and bond between handler and dog, the team that leave the ring with the same fun attitude they entered the ring with, regardless of the outcome of the run.

As this show raises money for charity, please note that repurposed rosettes and trophies may be used to keep outlay down.

It is the owner/handler's responsibility to ensure both their dog and themselves are fit and able to compete, the show organisers will accept no responsibility for injury to dogs or their handlers whilst at the show. Children are the responsibility of their parents and must be under parental supervision at all times.

Games classes

There will be a games class at every show. These classes are points classes. Please refer to the Hoopers Inc(lusive) rules and regulations for class descriptions. Those entering nursery classes are not eligible to enter.

Running orders

Classes will run in the order of the schedule with small starting followed by large height. To remove pressures of having to run in a set order there will be no formal running order, competitors are to attend the ring and run in the order which best supports them, their multi dog status or their reactive or nervous dog status.

Results

The results will be available once prize giving has taken place.

Special class

There may be a pay on the day a fun clear round only hoopers course which is open to all to competitors. Times of operation and judge to be advised on the day. £3.00 per entry clear rounds receive a clear rosette or £5.00 for 4 minutes of training time.

Please advise a member of the committee if you wish to take part on the day.

Special class Rules:

- Open to all dogs
- Dogs must run off lead
- Dogs of any height can take part
- Course to be set at Beginners level.
- You may enter as many times as you wish, however, if the judge feels your dog is not having fun or is not running in a manner which indicates they have had enough you will not be permitted to run any more.
- If opting to run the course for a clear round this must not be turned into a training run, the course is to be run as it would in any formal competition.
- Training in the ring is only available to those who take this option.
- Clear round rosettes to be collected from the judge as you leave the ring

- No dog under 15 months of age may take part
- The ring will run at the same time as the hoopers competition.
- The course will be judged under Hoopers Inc(lusive) rules

Directions to venue:

Your SATNAV may or may not take you to the venue so please follow the directions below:

From the A38 take the Buckfastleigh off ramp signed Buckfastleigh, Totnes, A384, follow the signs to Buckfast Abbey, Keeping the Abbey on your right continue up the hill. At the brow of the hill turn right, Follow the road for around 0.3 of a mile and take the first left turn, continue to the end of the road, just as you reach the road markings on your right you will see a metal gate, turn into the gate and park either on the hard standing or, bonnet facing out to the hardstanding under the trees. (for those with mobility or disability parking requirements please let us know in advance and we will park you)

SHOW RULES

Eligibility

Dogs of all breeds* (pedigree, mixed etc) are eligible to compete provided that they are:

- Suitably trained; and
- Are of an appropriate level of physical fitness enabling them to participate without undue risk, strain or emotional distress.

*Some breed exclusions may apply, and this will be dependent upon the insurance limitations of the individual show organisers, for example with regard to XL bullies/XL bully types.

Disabled dogs, including those on wheels, are welcomed and will run in veteran classes.

The following categories of dogs will be deemed ineligible to compete at Hoopers Inc(lusive) events:

- Dogs not registered with Hoopers Inc(lusive) after this first show.
- Dogs under 15 months of age (those between 15-18 months can participate in nursery classes only).
- Dogs displaying aggression that puts dogs and/or people at risk.
- Dogs suffering from any communicable illness (e.g. kennel cough).
- Dogs carrying an injury and/or disability which would make it unethical and a risk to the welfare of the dog to ask it to take part.

All Hoopers Inc(lusive) events are open to anyone who is registered with Hoopers Inc(lusive). By registering with the organisation and entering events, you are agreeing to adhere to all rules and regulations laid out by Hoopers Inc(lusive). Hoopers Inc(lusive) retains the right to refuse or revoke membership, and refuse licencing, show entries or registration at its discretion.

Age

Dogs must be 18 months old to enter competitive classes. Nursery classes will be open to dogs 15 months old and above.

Should a dog reach 18 months of age during a show they can be entered into competitive classes from that day onwards.

Supervision of dogs

Dogs must not be left unattended at any time on the show ground (unless inside a vehicle). This includes being tied to a ring whilst a competitor walks a course.

We understand that some competitors may have puppies at home and may wish to use the opportunity for early desensitisation to such things as travel and noise. Puppies over the age of 6 weeks old are permitted on site but must remain in a suitable enclosure within a vehicle, with their mother.

We welcome the bringing of puppies aged 6 weeks and over (with the mother) for socialisation purposes, however, this is undertaken at the competitor's own risk and must not at any time compromise the emotional or physical wellbeing of the puppies on site. Unless explicitly stated by an individual show organiser, buying and selling of puppies on show ground premises is not permitted.

Family dogs which do not train or compete in the sport are welcome to attend the show ground and spectate so long as this does not cause a disruption or disturbance to any competitor.

Females in season may compete at Hoopers Inc(lusive) shows, however the competitor must declare this and provide a suitably sized waterproof backed pad or mat to commence their run on. The dog must be kept away from ringside when not competing. Hoopers Inc(lusive) will not take nor hold any responsibility for any incidents relating to their attendance at shows. The handler is solely responsible for their dog at all times. No organised mating is to take place in any area of any showground.

Conduct of competitors and spectators

By attending a Hoopers Inc(lusive) event (either as a competitor or a spectator), you are agreeing to behave in a sportsmanlike manner towards other people, and in a caring and ethical manner towards dogs on site. No harsh handling will be tolerated anywhere on the showground and such behaviour may result in disciplinary procedures, including a person being asked to leave a showground, and/or that person's membership of Hoopers Inc(lusive) being revoked.

At no point will any form of discrimination or bullying be tolerated. Anyone found to be engaging in bullying, judge or show bashing, in person or on social media, or found to be engaging in any form of discriminatory behaviour in person or on social media will be removed from the organisation. The practice of Judge and show bashing (sadly becoming a common sight on social media) will not be tolerated. If any competitor or member is found to be doing so, including under the guise of "not naming names", they will be removed from the organisation.

No person, be that handler or spectator, or any dog are to enter any competition ring which is not in use. Should anyone be found to be in a ring they may be warned or excluded from the remainder of the event without refund. Children are at all times the responsibility of the parents and/or guardians, who are responsible for their behaviour and actions at all events.

Smoking and vaping

Smoking and vaping are not allowed within 10 metres of a ring. Vaping and smoking must not take place at any show which is run indoors unless there is a designated smoking area. Some show organisers may request that smoking takes place only in designated areas or within the confines of your vehicle / camp area for safety reasons – for example at shows held on farms or at livery yards. Should designated smoking areas be stipulated, any person found to be smoking outside of those designated areas will be asked to leave the show ground with no refund, and disciplinary action may be taken.

Entry rules

When you enter a Hoopers Inc(lusive) event, you are agreeing with the statement included on the entry form that you:

- Will not bring to the venue any dog that has contracted or been knowingly exposed to any infectious or contagious diseases within 21 days prior to the show date.
- Agree to abide by the rules and regulations of the event and accept that you enter the show and run your dogs at your own risk.

- You agree that if you run your dogs in any special additional classes, you do so at your own risk.
- You agree that you will not at any point use harsh handling with any dog on site and acknowledge that should you be seen to do so, you will be asked to leave the venue immediately and no refund for lost runs will be given.

Harsh handling includes the below, but is not limited to:

- Hitting.
- Pinching.
- Lead popping.
- Any form of physical punishment.
- The use of choke or grot leads.
- Shouting and intimidation of which a dog is seen to be demonstrating fear or distress.

In addition you agree that all dogs entered or brought onto the show ground are done so at their owners risk, and, whilst Hoopers Inc(lusive) or any club running shows under Hoopers Inc(lusive) rules and regulations will take every care to safeguard you from loss, damage or incident, Hoopers Inc(lusive) or clubs running shows under Hoopers Inc(lusive) rules, will not accept responsibility for any loss, damage or injury howsoever caused to dogs, persons or property whilst at Hoopers Inc(lusive) events.

Class conduct

- Courses may not be walked until you are invited to do so by the judge.
- Any judges may run in any classes they are not judging, as long as this does not interfere with their appointment.
- No food is to be taken into the ring at any point – be that in the hand, the pocket or a toy.
- Leads may be left at the start hoop and collected at the end of the run or carried in a pocket/wrapped around the waist.
- Toys may be carried in the hand until the dog is on the start line, it may then be carried in the pocket. The toy must remain in the pocket and not visible or dropped until the dog is significantly clear of the last obstacle.
- Toy rewards can be given in the ring; however, they must not be thrown for the dog to chase unless the dog is a significant distance clear from the final obstacle and the direction does not drive the dog towards the exit of fence where people and dogs are queuing or spectating.
- NO squeaky toys are permitted within hearing distance of any ring.
- Any dog which is spectating or queueing must at no point be allowed to lunge at any dog or person running or within a ring.
- Any member of the show organisation, e.g. the Show Manager, Secretary, Judge, Judges Aide or show organising club management has the explicit authority to dismiss a dog or handler from the ring or from the show ground. This decision is final.

Reactive dogs

Reactive dogs are able to and actively encouraged to compete. Reactive dogs do not need to queue and may wait at a distance at which they feel comfortable. We understand the difficulty of working with reactive dogs and wish to make theirs and your experience as stress free as possible.

This may include running last in a class, asking spectators to move, and not having a queue around the ring whilst running. Should a dog behave reactively towards any person or dog you may be asked to leave the venue – this will depend upon the circumstances and will be at the discretion of show management.

Dog apparel

- Dogs are only permitted to wear flat, close-fitting collars of any fabric or leather (with the exception of metal or spiked). The wearing of head collars, harnesses, coats, half choke chains or collars is not permitted in the ring. Collars, with the exception of those worn by dogs whose handlers require a sound for location on the course such as bells, must not have any item dangling from them such as ID tags, charms etc.

- Dogs may wear a second collar, if the purpose of the second collar is for veterinary treatment such as seresto type collars or magnetic collars.
- Dogs may run courses without a collar. In this case, the collar must be removed at the start line and placed back on as soon as the last obstacle is taken.
- Dogs must enter and exit the ring on a lead. For handlers with mobility or other issues where the holding of a lead may cause difficulty, the handler may release their dog to free run to the start line once the ring has been entered. Should a dog foul or knock equipment enroute to the start line, this will incur faults as per the rules and regulations.
- Grot leads, choke chains, electronic spray, shock or vibration collars, pet correctors, shake or squirt bottles or any other form of device for control or training which is deemed aversive are not permitted onto any show which is run under Hoopers Inc(lusive).

Complaints

Please refer to Hoopers Inc(lusive) rules or speak to a member of the committee who will signpost you to the complaints manager who will supply you with the complaints policy and procedure

Cancellation of a show

Refunds will be issued once all expenses incurred have been covered, refunds must be applied for within 14 days of the show date, any monies not requested to be refunded must be donated to charity, the show organisers must provide a detailed breakdown of expenses, refund amounts and amounts donated to charity along with a donation receipt.