

Pre-Flight Checklist

This form is based on the "Rock Solid Pre-Run Routine" Use this as a reminder of the steps to take for your most consistent performance in the ring.

| Mindset: | |
|---|---|
| What state of mind helps you perform most consistently? _ | (Remind yourself of this word EVERY time you enter the ring.) |
| Refore the Walk-Through | |

Walk-Through:

- 1. As you enter the ring, set your intention ... assume your mindset from above.
- 2. See what your dog will see
- 3. Plan your Handler Path
- 4. Visualize your run in "real time"
- 5. If time allows, actually run the course with visualization AND emotion!

Post Walk-Through:

- Visualize the run again on your way back to the crate.
- During stretches and potty walk, "talk" your dog through the course.
- While waiting to enter the ring, make time to intentionally connect with your dog (3 x 3 tricks with energy and rewarding treats!)

Review the course map, do a "Perimeter Prowl" to see if anything about the course may be different from what you were expecting.

Entering the Ring and "Setting Up" for the run:

- 1. As you enter the ring, set your intention ... assume your mindset from above.
- 2. Set your dog up approximately 15 feet from the start line. (Ensure they see what they need to see for the second piece of equipment.)
- 3. Kisses, Prayers, Go through your pre-run "focus routine" to let your dog know that it's truly "Show Time"
- 4. Reinforce your own confidence as you take your lead-out
- 5. Before releasing your dog from the start, recall the first three things you will be doing on this course.
- 6. Release your dog from the start line and have a fun run!

During the Run:

There is no time for evaluation or critique. If your dog is doing their job at their best capacity, they are probably running at 4 – 8 yards per second. Everything you say and do requires your complete attention and focus. Save the mental "chatter" for after the leash is back on the dog!

After the Run:

- Have a positive, self-reinforcing and team-reinforcing <u>Headline</u> that will answer the question "How did it go?"
- While returning to the crate, tell your dog all the things that went well!