

# A Proposal for a New Agility Title for the Preferred Classes.

By John Cox  
[dog-talk@comcast.net](mailto:dog-talk@comcast.net)

No, not a MACH from the Preferred classes, but instead a title aimed at rewarding and recognizing Double Qs (combined qualifying scores) in the Preferred Excellent classes. As you know, part of the MACH title rewards double Qs in the regular classes of agility. There is now a need to have a title (similar to the UDX in obedience) for the Preferred classes, which would reward the *Preferred combined qualifying scores* (double Qs) from the Excellent Preferred Standard and Jumpers classes.

As a suggestion, the new title could be given the name **Preferred Agility Excellent (PAX)**. This would be a suffix title for **ten (10) combined scores from the Preferred Excellent classes**. Also, one could continue on to earn a **PAX2, etc.** The new title would reward the dogs in the Preferred classes for combined scores (something now missing) like the MACH does in the Regular classes and the UDX does in obedience.

With my obedience background, and my new love for Agility, I do see a spot for this new title, which would benefit the handlers, dogs, clubs and the AKC. The PAX title would be consistent with other AKC combined score titles and create new and interesting goals for all in agility.

Like the UDX in obedience, it would be a difficult title to obtain, but not out of reach for most breeds or handlers. With the PAX title in effect, entries should increase in both classes (Preferred Standard and Jumpers), thus benefiting clubs and the AKC with their bottom lines while adding new interest to the sport.

The PAX title would not interfere or take anything away from the MACH title just as the UDX title does not interfere or take anything away from the OTCH title.

To be fair and consistent, if the PAX title were introduced, I would support having the PAX legs earned in the past grandfathered in like the NOI (National Obedience Champion) title and the numbered UDX legs. This data is now computerized so, like the UDX, it should not be an issue. Since this is a title for the Preferred classes, the grandfathering would only go back to September 1, 2002 (the date the Preferred classes went in to effect), a much shorter time frame than the NOI or numbered UDX legs. So, now would be a good time to start offering the title and not delay.

Recording the PAX results would be no different than what is now being done with the UDX legs or the combined scores from the Regular classes for the MACH.

I hope you folks will give it some thought for the upcoming review of Agility. If you feel it has merit, please forward your support to:

Curt Curtis (Director of Companion Events) [cac@akc.org](mailto:cac@akc.org)  
Sharon Anderson (Director of Agility) [sxa@akc.org](mailto:sxa@akc.org)

Thanks and have a clean run and a DOUBLE Q!

John Cox  
(206) 524 2468  
[dog-talk@comcast.net](mailto:dog-talk@comcast.net)