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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Houston World Series of Dog Shows Spotlights  
Canine Athleticism with World-Class Agility Competitions**

HOUSTON, TX – June 21, 2016 – The Houston World Series of Dog Shows will be hosting four canine agility competitions from July 21-24 at NRG Center, with some of the country's top agility dogs in the running. Known as one of the most difficult AKC timed-performance events, agility requires dogs to navigate an obstacle course of see-saws, collapsed tunnels and jumps, each one a challenge to the dog's conditioning and the handler's skill and patience.

Since the dogs are judged on both time and accuracy, competitions begin with a walk-through of each obstacle course, allowing handlers to plan their fastest and most efficient routes. Once the handlers develop a plan, the dogs are unleashed to follow their handler's voice, body signals and movement to direct them through the course.

Penny Winegartner, a 25-year agility veteran has the following advice for those looking to get in to the sport: "Have fun learning how to communicate with your dog. Don't rush into competition. Titles and ribbons are just the icing on the cake. Learning how to be the best partner you can be for your dog is really for me what the sport of agility is all about."

For those smitten with it, agility is a great form of exercise and a fun way to bond with your pet! Come to the Show and cheer on your favorites. Further details are available online at [www.houstondogshows.com](http://www.houstondogshows.com) or at 281-536-0528. Be sure to "like" the Houston World Series of Dog Shows on Facebook and follow it on Twitter (@houstondogshows) for breaking news.

The Houston World Series of Dog Shows is held entirely indoors in the fully air-conditioned NRG Center, which is the exhibit hall in NRG Park. General show hours are as follows. Wednesday's partial show, July 20, runs from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. with FREE ADMISSION AND PARKING. This is a perfect day to shop the McScotty Market and enjoy conformation competitions, as performance events do not begin until Thursday. General hours for Thursday-Sunday, July 21-24, are 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Tickets are available at the door, and priced at adults \$15, seniors 55+ \$10 and active/retired military personnel and family with ID \$10. Children 12 and younger are admitted FREE with adult. Parking is \$12 per day (cash only). NRG Center is located within NRG Park at 8400 Kirby Drive, Houston, Texas 77054.

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*Formerly known as the Reliant Park World Series of Dog Shows, the **Houston World Series of Dog Shows** is sanctioned by the American Kennel Club and supervised by Onofrio Dog Shows. During five days, the shows typically attract more than 40,000 spectators and participants and 14,000 entries. Wednesday's specialty breed show is sponsored by Bluebonnet Boxer Club, Inc., Houston All-Terrier Club, Houston Combined Specialty Association and Houston Working Dog Club. The Houston Kennel Club sponsors Thursday and Friday shows with Beaumont Kennel Club sponsoring Saturday and Galveston Kennel Club sponsoring Sunday. The show's diamond sponsor is **Purina® Dog Food**, makers of **Purina® Pro Plan®** dog food. Other sponsors include Dr Kruger Pet Supplements, <sup>TM</sup>VERGI Houston 24 Hour Emergency and Critical Care Hospital and The Greensheet.*



