

Hurdle Modification

It is probable that in the very near future, clubs and home trainers will need to address the ramifications of alteration to dog jump heights in New Zealand. It has already been announced that come 1st January 2019 steel cups will not be legal for competition and all new hurdles and wings will need to be manufactured using “soft polymer” cups. The only exception to this is where cups not in use can be removed. We understand that existing jumps that have plastic cups can be modified using the same style. Agility Stuff Ltd manufacture both black Nylon cups and white soft polymer cups.

Cup Design: Most bars in New Zealand use standard 25mm plumber’s high pressure pipe which has an outside diameter of 32mm. Our cups are manufactured to cater for 34mm with an arc that covers a third of the circumference (120°). This style has been available since 2013 and has proven reliable even under extreme weather circumstances.

Installation: Steel cups will need to be ground off using an angle grinder and the scars will need to be covered to prevent rust, either by re-galvanising or painting with “cold galv”. It has been our experience that the bond between raw steel and paint is not always great and we have seen examples where the adhesive on the reverse of our cups has pulled the paint off a repaired upright. If you intend to use Nylon cups we recommend sticking the cups in place and then pop rivet as extra protection. If you wish to use soft polymer cups then they can be fixed using large flange rivets or affixed with self-tapping screws. It is best not to overtighten the screws as that risks distorting the soft back-plate. The self-adhesive backing is very handy to ensure the cups do not rotate out of alignment. Our cups are supplied in strips of 10 and we find it easier to peel off the backing whilst they are still in a strip, as it can be fiddly to do as singles. If anyone has difficulty sourcing any affixing products we can help.

Phoenix Wings: We designed these in the knowledge that jump heights might be altered in the future. The supplied cups on these wings use an industrial self-adhesive and can be removed using a solvent and some elbow grease. We have found that 3m Citrus solvent and Iso-propyl alcohol are ideal and both come as a spray. Allow the solvent to dribble down and around the existing cup and allow extra time for the solvent to wick into the adhesive before prising up an end and pulling off. The upright will need more solvent and elbow grease to remove the adhesive residue. Old cups can be cleaned and reused but this is very time consuming and when clean the old cup may need re-treating with a co-polymer coating to ensure strong adhesion.

Please feel free to contact us direct by any usual method or via our website agilitystuff.co.nz if you have any further questions or need help with sourcing any of the materials needed.

Lyn Sayers
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