Conformation Judging Guidelines for Non-Resident (Foreign) Judges at AKC Events

Amended to January 2024Published by The American Kennel Club



JUDGING OPERATIONS

judgingops@akc.org	(919)	816-3593
Tim Thomas	(919)	816-3639
Ines Maldonado	(919)	816-3570

SHOW EVENTS

Weekday	(919) 816-3579
Weekends	(919) 816-3955

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduc	ction
Chapter	1 – Eligibility to Judge AKC Events \dots 2
Chapter	2 - Breed Standards
Chapter	3 - Judging at AKC Shows 4
3.1	Essential Ingredients of
	Competent Judging 4
3.2	Conflicts of Interest 4
3.3	Exhibiting
3.4	Appearance
3.5	Observing Judging 4
3.6	Catalogs
3.7	Behavior
3.8	Medical Insurance 5
3.9	Number of Dogs That May Be
	Judged In a Day 5
	Judging Schedule 5
3.11	Fitness to Judge 5
3.12	Safety
3.13	Unsportsmanlike Behavior 6
3.14	Ring Stewards
3.15	Cell Phones
3.16	Change of Handler 6
3.17	Late Arrivals
	Judging a Large Class
3.19	Re-judging
3.19	T-11 1 D 7
	Tables and Ramps
3.21	Withholding of Awards
	Aggressive Exhibits
3.23	Lame Exhibits
3.24	Disqualifying Faults
3.25	Monorchid/Cryptorchid 8
	Altered Dogs
3.27	Change in Appearance 8
3.28	Alteration of Color, etc
3.29	Height/Weight9
3.30	Protests
3.31	Ribbon Colors
3.32	Classes at Shows
3.33	Non-Regular Classes 10
3.34	Indicating Awards 10
3.35	Judges Books/Sheets
3.36	Judges Books/Sheets
	4 * 44 .4 %
4.2 DI	reed Judging Order
	ariety Groups
	est in Show
	5 - Metric Conversion Tables 15
Height	
	t
Tempe	erature

INTRODUCTION

The American Kennel Club's Mission Statement

The American Kennel Club® is dedicated to upholding the integrity of its Registry, promoting the sport of purebred dogs and breeding for type and function. Founded in 1884, the AKC and its affiliated organizations advocate for the purebred dog as a family companion, advance canine health and wellbeing, work to protect the rights of all dog owners and promote responsible dog ownership.

Judging at AKC® shows should be enjoyable for the judge and beneficial to the sport of purebred dogs. Foreign Judges working at any American Kennel Club (AKC) event are expected to be knowledgeable about and judge in accordance with the AKC rules, regulations, and policies.

This publication is to be considered a supplement to AKC's Rules Applying to Dog Shows and the Rules, Policies and Guidelines for Conformation Dog Show Judges; and should be read in conjunction with the American Kennel Club (AKC) approved Breed Standards and the AKC Glossary of Terms, both of which are available on the AKC web site: http://www.akc.org/.

Please be sure to familiarize yourself with this information prior to any AKC Conformation event you are employed to judge in the United States. The following information has been compiled to assist the non-resident (foreign) judge when adjudicating at AKC shows:

- 1. What is expected of a judge at AKC shows
- Provide tools and procedures for judging AKC events
- 3. Provide an overview of AKC Rules and Regulations

Chapter 1 ELIGIBILITY TO JUDGE AKC EVENTS

Judges approved by an AKC recognized registry may judge all breeds and groups for which they are approved by their home kennel club to award championship points and recognized by the American Kennel Club. Foreign Judges are not eligible to judge Junior Showmanship at AKC events.

Foreign Judges invited to judge AKC events must abide by all Bylaws, Rules, Policies and Guidelines governing the sport of purebred dogs put forth by The American Kennel Club including the requirement to judge in accordance to AKC approved breed standards.

In judging in the United States, Foreign Judges must comply with applicable U.S. laws (federal, state and local).

Foreign Judges may be approved to judge up to sixteen (16) days at All-Breed and/or Limited Breed events in one calendar year. A multi-day event or multiple events on the same day are counted as one day judged. An assignment to judge the AKC National Championship is exempted from this limit.

Foreign Judges may be approved to judge an unlimited number of single-breed independent specialties.

Foreign Judges approved to judge AKC events must speak and read English or a translator must be provided by the hiring club if the Foreign Judge does not provide an interpreter themselves.

Additional information on eligibility to judge at AKC events can be found on the AKC website under the Foreign Judge section of AKC's Judging Approval Process (http://images.akc.org/pdf/events/conformation/Judging-Approval-Process_2018.pdf).

All Foreign Judges are subject to observation by AKC Executive Field Representatives and are required to check in with the Executive Field Representative in attendance at least 30 minutes prior to the start of their assignment. The Executive Field Representative will review the following:

- 1. Speed of Judging judges are expected to judge 25 dogs per hour
- 2. It is your responsibility to check ALL armband numbers
- 3. Excusals, Disqualifications, Withholding
- 4. Class, Non-Regular, Special Attraction, Group, and BIS and Reserve BIS procedures
- 5. Dividing of large classes, ring control
- 6. Grand Champion, Awarding Select Dog and Select Bitch
- 7. National Owner Handler Series procedures

Chapter 2 BREED STANDARDS

The AKC approves all breed standards for each AKC recognized breed. The individual breed standard is written by its parent club and approved and held by The American Kennel Club.

Copies of the current AKC approved breed standards are available on the AKC website. Individual standards have also been compiled by Group and may be downloaded to any electronic device and are published on the AKC website at: https://www.akc.org/sports/conformation/judging-information/judges-studyguides/.

The AKC has seven groups of fully recognized breeds that may compete for Best in Show:

- Group 1 Sporting
- Group 2 Hound
- Group 3 Working
- Group 4 Terrier
- Group 5 Toy
- Group 6 Non-Sporting
- Group 7 Herding

And in addition, the Miscellaneous Group which is comprised of breeds working toward full recognition.

Be advised, the group an individual breed is located in may differ between countries. It is important that a non-resident (foreign) judge be familiar with the AKC Groups and the breeds within prior to judging.

AKC breed standards **may differ from the standard in your own country**. It is imperative that non-resident (foreign) judges ensure they are fully conversant in the AKC standard for each breed they may be assigned to judge at an AKC event.

Please compare your own National Standards with the AKC Breed Standards in order to ascertain the variations should they occur.

Failure to judge in accordance to AKC breed standards could result in future denial to judge AKC events.

Chapter 3 JUDGING AT AKC SHOWS

3.1. The Essential Ingredients of Competent Judging

- Breed Knowledge: The most important single aspect of judging is knowledge of the breed to be judged and its AKC approved standard. Judges must know the standard of the breed, fully understanding its implications and be able to apply this knowledge. They should also be able to recognize breed type.
- **Procedure:** Judges must demonstrate sound judging procedure, ring control, and a thorough knowledge of AKC Rules and Policies to inspire the confidence of exhibitors and spectators.
- Impartiality: Judges must be honest and impartial, judging dogs solely on their merit. Decisions must be based solely on the merits of the dogs being judged.

3.2. Conflicts of Interest

Judge must excuse from the ring any individual or dog whose presence creates the impression of unfair advantage or an air of impropriety.

3.3. Exhibiting

Judges and members of their household may not exhibit at any event held within 200 miles of their assignment from three days before through three days after the day(s) they judge.

Exhibit is defined as personally showing a dog or any dog owned or co-owned regardless of where it resides and who handles it.

Judges may only handle dogs owned by them or a member of their immediate family. This applies to judges from recognized registries attending AKC events as an exhibitor.

3.4. Appearance

Judges should maintain a proper and professional appearance. Avoid outlandish dress and noisy, dangling jewelry, hats, and any articles that may hang in the dog's line of vision.

3.5. Observing Judging

No judge may observe the breed judging of any breed that they are scheduled to adjudicate on over the weekend prior to their assignment, that includes Sweepstakes if judging the regular classes.

3.6. Catalogues

Under no circumstances may a judge view a catalog prior to completing their judging assignment for the entire cluster. The Club must provide a catalog and a copy of the marked judges book to the judge at the conclusion of judging.

3.7. Behavior

Judges must not smoke or vape while judging nor hold up judging to smoke/vape.

Judges are advised not to consume alcohol before completing their judging assignment on any day.

Judges are at liberty to accept invitations to attend social functions before the show but should avoid contact with potential exhibitors. Judges may not accept invitations to attend private functions with exhibitors who may or have exhibited to them on the same weekend circuit or cluster.

Judges must behave in a courteous manner in and out of the ring, and be consistent, treating all exhibitors in a similar fashion.

3.8. Medical Insurance

Judges should ensure that they have arranged their own medical insurance, including coverage for any pre-existing ailment or condition before leaving their country of residence to judge an AKC event. The medical health system in United States is of a very high standard, however the cost of treatment incurred by a judge visiting the United States is not the responsibility of the AKC or clubs contracting the judge.

3.9. Number of Dogs that may be Judged in a Day

No more than 175 entries may be judged in a single day at AKC All-Breed events. The expected rate of judging is 25 entries per hour. No more the 200 entries may be judged at a single breed independent specialty in a single day.

3.10 Judging Schedule

The superintendent/show secretary will publish a judging schedule that will dictate the number of entries and breeds that have been entered, and their respective time to be judged prior to the show. No judging may begin prior to the published starting time. It is the judge's responsibly to be aware of and follow the published schedule.

3.11. Fitness to Judge

Judges must be capable to judge in the normal accepted manner and up to 175 entries in a day's

judging. Judges are not permitted to sit or lean while judging, and should be able to physically examine breeds on the surface the breed is typically presented on with ease. Judges must have excellent vision (either normal or with corrective lenses/glasses).

3.12. Safety

You are in charge of the ring. It is the judge's obligation to keep the safety of the animals and exhibitors in mind always. When judging outside, take advantage of shade and shelter to keep yourself, dogs and exhibitors as comfortable as possible. It is imperative that you do not leave the animals standing out in the elements any longer than necessary.

3.13. Unsportsmanlike Behavior

If any exhibitor is rude, displays unsportsmanlike behavior such as refusing a ribbon, or attempts to influence the judge with details of their dog's wins, or any information that could be taken as an attempt to influence the judge, the matter should be reported immediately to the show Event Committee.

3.14. Ring Stewards

At AKC events ring stewards remain in the ring at the judges table. The Ring Steward is responsible for handing out armbands, assembling the classes of dogs in the ring, and deal with any questions from exhibitors. Ring Stewards may not handle or mark the judge's book.

The Ring Steward cannot give any information about a dog to the judge. The only exception being the date of birth of the exhibit.

Depending on the show, each ring will be provided at least one Ring Steward.

Only the judge, the exhibitors in the class being judged, and the Ring Stewards are permitted to be in the ring while judging is in progress.

3.15. Cell Phones

Judges may use electronic devices including cell phones to review written breed standards while at their judge's table. Such electronic devices when not in use must remain on the judge's table or in its vicinity in a bag or briefcase. Neither the judge, ring steward, nor an exhibitor may initiate or receive any phone calls and/or text messages while in the ring and judging is in progress.

3.16. Change of Handler

A single change of handler on a dog is permitted at the judge's discretion up until all dogs in the class have been individually examined and gaited.

3.17. Late Arrivals

A judge may allow a late exhibit into a class, at their discretion up until the judge has marked the placements in the judge's book.

3.18. Judging a Large Class

In extreme weather conditions or when the ring is not large enough to retain the entire class safely in the ring, a class may be divided into manageable sections. When doing so, the judge must check the entire class in first then divide into sections. It is the judge's responsibility to keep track of the armband numbers of each section. The judge may select exhibits from each section for further competition, dismissing the rest. If making cuts after judging each subset, a minimum of five dogs must be kept from the 1st group with remaining cuts at the judge's discretion.

3.19. Re-judging

Once the judge has marked the judge's book a class cannot be re-judged. If any entries from a class that was absent in its entirety appear late, the judge may at their discretion judge the entries. In no case may the late entries be accepted once the Winners Class in that sex has been called into the ring.

3.20. Tables and Ramps

Judging tables and ramps will be provided for the judging of those breeds examined on the table or ramp. Dogs may only be examined on the surface that the parent club designates. Some dogs may be examined on multiple surfaces at the judge's discretion. The judge must exam all exhibits within the breed on the same surface. If it is necessary to re-examine a table only breed, then that re-examination must take place on the table.

The list of breeds that may be examined on a table or ramp is published on the AKC website at: http://images.akc.org/pdf/judges/Table-Ramp_Breeds.pdf. Any breed not indicated on this list must be examined on the ground.

3.21. Withholding of Awards

When no award is made, the judge must indicate this to the exhibitors and mark the judges book accordingly. It is the responsibility of the judge not the Steward to advise the exhibitor(s). The judge may withhold awards for lack of merit at any time in the judging process.

3.22. Aggressive Exhibits

Judge is to disqualify any dog that in the judge's opinion attacks any person in the ring, including its own handler

without valid extenuating circumstances. "Attack" is defined as a bite or an attempt to bite.

If an attack occurs: stop judging and immediately call for the show superintendent/secretary. The judge must mark the book "Disqualified-attack" and complete the *Disqualification for Attacking* form with the exhibitor. After the exhibitor signs the form, the exhibitor must leave the show grounds with the dog.

Judge may only disqualify **if they personally witness the attack**. Incidents not witnessed by the judge where an injury may have resulted due to dog aggression are to be reported to the Event Committee. Dog on dog aggression that results in an injury are also reported to the Event Committee.

Judge is to *excuse* any dog that menaces, threatens, or cannot be examined. Mark the judge's book "Excused-Menacing" and then dismiss the exhibit from the ring.

3.23. Lame Exhibits

If an exhibit is limping, inform the exhibitor, then excuse the dog from the ring marking the judge's book "Excused-lame."

3.24. Disqualifying Faults

Some standards indicate disqualifying faults, and you must be thoroughly familiar with the current breed standards. If the judge finds a disqualifying fault, the judge must inform the exhibitor of the Disqualifying fault, marking their judge's book indicating disqualified and the reason. The exhibit must leave the ring.

3.25. Monorchid/Cryptorchid

A male dog which does not have two normal testicles normally located in the scrotum may not compete at any show and must be disqualified, except in the stud dog or veteran class at independent specialties.

3.26. Altered Dogs

AKC Rules prohibit neutered or spayed dogs from competing at conformation dog shows. The only exceptions are that spay/neutered dogs may compete in Stud Dog/Brood bitch; and if specified in the premium list, altered dogs may be permitted to compete in single entry non-regular classes at a single breed specialty show. In all other cases an altered dog must be disqualified from competition per AKC Rules.

3.27. Change in Appearance

Judges must disqualify a dog which had been changed in appearance by artificial means, except as specified by the standard for its breed. A dog is considered changed in appearance by artificial means if it has been subjected to any procedure that has the effect

of obscuring, disguising or eliminating any congenital or hereditary abnormality or any undesirable characteristic, or anything that improves a dog's natural appearance, temperament, bite or gait. The insertion of any type of apparatus in the mouth of a dog disqualifies that dog from competition.

3.28. Alteration of Color, etc.

You have the clear authority to withhold awards from any dog which, in your opinion, has had its natural color or markings changed. Inform the exhibitor, mark your book "Excused", indicating the reason, and have the exhibitor leave the ring.

3.29. Height/Weight

An entry may only be measured or weighed if there is an applicable breed standard disqualification or a condition of eligibility of the class. If you wish to measure or weigh, ask your steward to request the wicket or scale. If the dog does not conform to the breed standard the dog must "Disqualified." If the dog is outside the allowable range for the class the dog must be "Excused-ineligible." In all cases you must mark your book if the exhibit was in or out. At AKC events a dog may only be measured or weighed once at that event. Please see the Rules, Policies and Guidelines for Conformation Dog Show Judges (https://images.akc.org/pdf/rulebooks/REJ999.pdf) or AKC's instructional video (https://www.voutube. com/watch?v=UcxSl5Nh0eE) for more information on measuring and/or weighing procedures.

3.30. Protests

Any person that is competing may protest a dog being shown as long as they are competing in the class with the dog they are protesting. They may protest for a condition that would disqualify the dog under the breed standard or otherwise make it ineligible to compete in the class. Lameness is not subject to protest. A protest may not be lodged for a condition of class once the dog advances beyond the class in which the conditions were defined.

3.31. Ribbon Colors

Regular Classes:

- First Blue
- Second Red
- Third Yellow
- Fourth White

Winners Dog/Winners Bitch: Purple (Championship points awarded)

Reserve Winners Dog/Reserve Winners Bitch: Purple and White

Best of Breed – Purple and Gold: Dog proceeds on to Group level judging.

Best of Winners: Blue and White (Preferred exhibit between Winners dog and Winners bitch)

Best Opposite Sex: Red and White

Select Dog & Select Bitch: Light Blue and White

Group Placements:

- First Blue Rosette
- Second Red Rosette
- Third Yellow Rosette
- Fourth White Rosette

Best-in-Show: Red/White/Blue Rosette (may vary according to Kennel Club tradition)

Reserve Best-in-Show: any unassigned color or combination of colors

3.32. Classes at Shows

The following classes may be offered at AKC Championship Shows for each sex of each recognized breed, all exhibits must be a minimum of six months old to compete:

- Puppy for exhibits six months of age and over, but under 12 months, that are not champions.
 - May be further divided to 6-9-month Puppy and 9-12-month Puppy.
- 12-18 Months for exhibits twelve months and under eighteen months of age.
 - May be further divided to 12-15-Months and 15-18-Months classes.
- Novice Dog dog entered has not received three first place ribbons
- Amateur Owner Handled handler of dog is owner and NOT a professional or judge
- Bred-by-Exhibitor handler of dog is owner and breeder of record.
 - May be furtheer divided by age; Puppy six months of age and over, but under 12 months, Adult - 12 months of age and over.
- Open open to all
- Best of Breed dogs that have attained a Championship title

3.33. Non-Regular Classes

Some events may offer classes that compete for Best of Breed. Examples would include Veterans, Field dog, Sled dog, etc. These may be scheduled either after the Winners competition for each sex or all after winners bitch.

Non-regular class ribbon colors:

- First Pink
- · Second Brown
- Third Light Green
- Fourth Grey

Additional Non-Regular classes (Special Attractions) are judged at the conclusion of the Best of Breed classes, such as National Owner-Handled series, Best Puppy, Best Bred By, etc.

3.34. Indicating Awards

It is the responsibility of the judge, not the Steward to indicate awards (i.e. placings, Winners etc.). You must mark the placements in your book before handing out ribbons.

3.35. Judges' Books/Sheets

The judge is responsible for their judge's book at all times. This responsibility may not be delegated to the Ring Steward. It is the judge's responsibility to personally mark the book and ensure that the judges' book/sheets are correctly marked.

Always be thorough, neat and careful in marking your book.

- You must mark all absentees: "Ab", or "Abs" are acceptable abbreviations.
- In all regular classes, mark your placements as "1" (first), "2" (second), "3" (third), and "4" (fourth).
- For Winners and Reserve Winners, Best of Breed, Best of Winners, Best of Opposite Sex, Select Dog and Select Bitch and any special attraction awards; you must record the actual armband number of the winning dog on the appropriate line.
- Any corrections to markings or notes *must be initialed by the judge*.

When you finish your assignment:

- Ensure you have marked every class including all absentees.
- Sign your book(s).
- Answer the questions on the cover.
- Ensure all changes and notations have been initialed.
- Personally return the completed judge's book to the Superintendent.
- Before leaving for the day, check with the Superintendent to ensure there are no questions with your book.

3.36. Critiquing/Grading/Pictures

Judges ARE NOT permitted to provide written critiques to exhibitors in the ring. Some specialty clubs may

request the judge compose a "critique article" of their assignment for publication by the parent club which is permitted.

Any notes or audio recording of comments to aid in the completion of the article should be limited to after the judging of each sex and the Best of Breed/Variety competition. If the club requires commentary on all placements, not just the major awards, notes or audio comments may be taken after each class but must be done so that it does not cause significant delay to the judging. Any taking of pictures for this purpose between classes is limited to the judge or someone may assist from outside the ring. Only the official show photographer is permitted to take win photos in the ring.

Personal photographs may not be taken until after all judging has been completed for the weekend.

Chapter 4

JUDGING THE DOGS

4.1. Procedures

At the beginning of each class, the judge **must check** for the presence of each exhibit entered and eligible to compete in that class. The judge must mark their book indicating any absentees. This duty cannot be assigned to the ring steward.

After a class has entered the ring, the judge normally moves the class around the ring together. If there is only one (1) exhibit in the class, the foregoing may be dispensed with and the exhibit proceed straight for individual examination, either on the ground, the table, or the ramp, as permissible for that breed.

Each entry must be individually examined and individually gaited. Judges are expected to examine and gait every dog in the same objective, breed-specific manner even if a poor specimen may clearly be out of the ribbons. This includes breeds that according to their breed standard traditionally have been cropped and/or docked and dogs entered which may have deviations from the breed standard.

It is **essential** that all judges manually conduct a breed specific examination of all exhibits, regardless of the breed. All males must be checked for two normally descended testicles. The exhibit **must** be moved individually, in a pattern preferred by the judge. (Straight away and back, Triangle, or a combination of both). The judge should then proceed to the next exhibit repeating the above procedure.

It is not normal accepted procedure at AKC events to manually examine a whole class of dogs, and then return to the first exhibit and start to move each exhibit individually.

At AKC events, if the age of the exhibit is **required**, for example to determine a disqualifying fault, then you must ask the ring steward the exhibit's *date of birth*.

The judge may move the whole class again or merely select one or two exhibits to be moved. The judge then makes their awards, and the exhibits move to their allocated place marker.

Equal awards are not permitted at AKC events.

4.2. Breed Judging Order/Procedure

• Regular Class Judging:

Exhibits are individually judged in their breed classes in the order as detailed above. Dogs and bitches are judged separately with dogs usually first at All-Breed Shows; not always at Breed Specialty Shows. The

judge is to place the exhibits, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th. Judge may withhold placements at any time for lack of merit.

Winners:

Following the judging of the last class in a sex (usually Open Class), all un-defeated class winners return for the judging of Winners.

The judge, at their discretion, may award Winners to the best of the undefeated class winners. The entry awarded Winners receives championship points.

Once the Winners is awarded, the exhibit which placed second in the class from which the winners competed (provided it is otherwise an unbeaten exhibit) is brought into the ring for the judging of Reserve Winners. If the judge withholds Winners, then Reserve Winners may not be awarded.

The above procedure is then repeated for the bitch classes.

• Best of Breed:

The Best of Breed competition includes All Champions (dogs and bitches) entered, Winners Dog, Winners Bitch and any eligible N on-Regular Class winners. All of the dogs in the ring are eligible to be awarded Best of Breed including the Winners Dog and Winners Bitch.

All entries not previously judged must be individually examined and gaited.

The judge shall select Best of Breed, Best of Winners, Best of Opposite, Select Dog and Select Bitch from this group of dogs. The order of awards is as follows:

- **1. Best of Breed** the **overall best example** from all entries judged in that breed.
- 2. Best of Winners the superior exhibit between the Winners Dog and Winners Bitch. It may only be awarded when both are present. If Winners Dog or Winners Bitch is awarded Best of Breed, it is automatically Best of Winners.
- 3. Best of Opposite Sex the overall best example of the breed from the sex NOT awarded Best of Breed. All entries that competed for Best of Breed are eligible including Winners (Dog or Bitch) and the 1st place non-regular class winners.
- Select Dog the 2nd best male that competed for Best of Breed. Winners Dog is NOT eligible for this award.
- Select Bitch the 2nd best female that competed for Best of Breed. Winners Bitch is NOT eligible for this award.

4.3. AKC National Owner-Handled Series (NOHS)

Most AKC all-breed shows offer the AKC NOHS competition. The determination of NOHS Best of Breed is done immediately following the conclusion of the Best of Breed competition. For further information please see: https://www.akc.org/sports/conformation/national-owner-handled-series/judging/.

Some clubs may offer special attraction competitions such as Best Puppy, Best Veteran, or Best Bred By Exhibitor. These are also managed as a designation immediately following the completion of Best of Breed.

4.4. Variety Groups

At the completion of judging all the breeds in a group, Group Judging will take place. All Best of Breed winners in the Group return to the ring for the judging.

All Breed winners in a Group are to be individually judged choosing first through fourth. The Group 1 winner advances on to Best in Show judging. All exhibits must be individually examined and gaited, however a cursory exam is permissible for breeds previously judged the same day.

The cursory exam includes checking for all breed disqualifications, testicles and proper oral exam.

The judge selects 1st through 4th place in the group, afterwards the judge must mark the judge's book and verify the exhibitor's armband number with the judge's book.

4.5. Best in Show

At the completion of all Group judging, judging of Best in Show takes place. All seven Group winners return to the ring. The judge selects Best in Show and Reserve Best in Show from the seven Group winners.

The Best-in-Show Judge *shall first announce Reserve Best-in-Show followed by Best-in-Show* and must mark the judges book.

Best in Show is the only competition in which the judge may mark their book before indicating their awards.

Chapter 5 METRIC CONVERSION TABLES HEIGHT

Inches	Centimeters	Inches	Centimeters
1/2	1.27	26	64.77
1	2.54	26 ½	66.04
1 ½	3.81	27	67.31
2	5.08	27 ½	68.58
2 ½	6.35	28	69.85
3	7.62	28 ½	71.12
3 ½	8.89	29	72.39
4	10.16	29 ½	73.66
4 1/2	11.43	30	74.93
5	12.70	30 ½	76.20
5 ½	13.97	31	77.47
6	15.24	31 ½	78.74
6 ½	16.51	32	80.01
7	17.78	32 ½	81.28
7 ½	19.05	33	82.55
8	20.32	33 ½	83.82
8 ½	21.59	34	85.09
9	22.86	34 ½	86.36
9 ½	24.13	35	87.63
10	25.40	35 ½	88.90
10 ½	26.67	36	90.17
11	27.94	36 ½	91.44
11 ½	29.21	37	92.71
12	30.48	37 ½	93.98
12 ½	31.75	38	95.25
13	33.02	38 ½	96.52
13 ½	34.29	39	97.79
14	35.56	39 ½	99.06
14 ½	36.83	40	100.33
15	38.10	40 ½	101.60
15 ½	39.37	41	102.87
16	40.64	41 ½	104.14
16 ½	41.91	42	105.41
17	43.18	42 ½	106.68
17 ½	44.45	43	107.95
18	45.72	43 ½	109.22
18 ½	46.99	44	110.49
19	48.26	44 ½	111.76
19 ½	49.53	45	113.03
20	50.80	45 ½	114.30
20 ½	52.07	46	115.57
21	53.34	46 ½	116.84
22	54.61	47	118.11
22 ½	55.88	47 ½	119.38
23	57.15	48	120.65
23 ½	58.42	48 ½	121.92
24	59.69	49	123.19
24 ½	60.96	49 ½	124.46
25	62.23	50	125.73

WEIGHT

Lbs.	Kilograms	Lbs.	Kilograms
1	.45	51	23.13
2	.91	52	23.59
3	1.36	53	24.04
4	1.81	54	24.49
5	2.27	55	24.95
6	2.72	56	54.40
7	3.18	57	25.85
8	3.63	58	26.31
9	4.08	59	26.67
10	4.54	60	27.21
11	4.99	61	27.67
12	5.44	62	28.12
13	5.90	63	28.58
14	6.35	64	29.03
15	6.80	65	29.48
16	7.26	66	29.94
17	7.71	67	30.39
18	8.16	68	30.84
19	8.62	69	31.30
20	9.07	70	31.75
21	9.53	71	32.21
22	9.98	72	32.66
23	10.43	73	33.11
24	10.89	74	33.57
25	11.34	75	34.02
26	11.79	80	36.29
27	12.25	85	38.56
28	12.70	90	40.82
29	13.15	95	43.09
30	16.61	100	45.36
31	14.06	105	47.36
32	14.51	110	49.90
33	14.97	115	52.16
34	15.42	120	54.43
35	15.88	125	56.70
36	16.33	130	58.97
37	16.78	135	61.23
38	170.24	140	63.50
39	17.69	145	65.77
40	18.14	150	68.04
41	18.60	155	70.31
42	19.05	160	72.57
43	19.50	165	74.84
44	19.96	170	77.11
45	20.41	175	79.38
46	20.87	180	81.65
47	21.32	185	83.91
48	21.77	190	86.18
49	22.23	195	88.45
50	22.68	200	90.72

TEMPERATURE

Fahrenheit	Celsius	Fahrenheit	Celsius
-10	-23.33	51	10.56
-5	-20.56	52	11.11
0	-17.78	53	11.67
1	-17.22	54	12.22
2	-16.67	55	12.78
3	-16.11	56	13.33
4	-15.56	57	13.89
5	-15.00	58	14.44
6	-14.44	59	15.00
7	-13.89	60	15.56
8	-13.33	61	16.11
9	-12.78	62	16.67
10	-12.22	63	17.22
11	-11.67	64	17.78
12	-11.11	65	18.33
13	-10.56	66	18.89
14	-10.00	67	19.44
15	-9.44	68	20.00
16	-8.89	69	20.56
17	-8.33	70	21.11
18	-7.78	71	21.67
19	-7.22	72	22.22
20	-6.67	73	22.78
21	-6.11	74	23.33
22	-5.56	75	23.89
23 24	-5.00 -4.44	76 77	24.44 25.00
25	-3.89	78	25.56
26	-3.33	79	26.11
27	-3.33 -2.78	80	26.67
28	-2.76	81	27.22
29	-2.22 -1.67	82	27.78
30	-1.11	83	28.33
31		84	
32	-0.56 0.00	85	28.89 29.44
33	0.56	86	30.00
35	1.11 1.67	87 88	30.56 31.11
	2.22	89	31.11
36 37			
	2.78	90	32.22
38	3.33	91	32.78
39	3.89	92	33.33
40	4.44	93	33.89
41	5.00	94	34.44
42	5.56	95	35.00
43	6.11	96	35.56
44	6.67	97	36.11
45	7.22	98	36.67
46	7.78	99	37.22
47	8.33	100	37.78
48	8.89	105	40.56
49	9.44	110	43.33
50	10.00	115	46.11

AKC Code of Sportsmanship

PREFACE: The sport of purebred dog competitive events dates prior to 1884, the year of AKC's birth. Shared values of those involved in the sport include principles of sportsmanship. They are practiced in all sectors of our sport: conformation, performance and companion. Many believe that these principles of sportsmanship are the prime reason why our sport has thrived for over one hundred years. With the belief that it is useful to periodically articulate the fundamentals of our sport, this code is presented.

- Sportsmen respect the history, traditions and integrity of the sport of purebred dogs.
- Sportsmen commit themselves to values of fair play, honesty, courtesy, and vigorous competition, as well as winning and losing with grace.
- Sportsmen refuse to compromise their commitment and obligation to the sport of purebred dogs by injecting personal advantage or consideration into their decisions or behavior.
- The sportsman judge judges only on the merits of the dogs and considers no other factors.
- The sportsman judge or exhibitor accepts constructive criticism.
- The sportsman exhibitor declines to enter or exhibit under a judge where it might reasonably appear that the judge's placements could be based on something other than the merits of the dogs.
- The sportsman exhibitor refuses to compromise the impartiality of a judge.
- The sportsman respects the AKC bylaws, rules, regulations and policies governing the sport of purebred dogs.
- Sportsmen find that vigorous competition and civility are not inconsistent and are able to appreciate the merit of their competition and the effort of competitors.
- Sportsmen welcome, encourage and support newcomers to the sport.
- Sportsmen will deal fairly with all those who trade with them.
- Sportsmen are willing to share honest and open appraisals of both the strengths and weaknesses of their breeding stock.
- Sportsmen spurn any opportunity to take personal advantage of positions offered or bestowed upon them.
- Sportsmen always consider as paramount the welfare of their dog.
- Sportsmen refuse to embarrass the sport, the American Kennel Club, or themselves while taking part in the sport.

Complete text of booklet available at: www.akc.org

To order booklet(s), contact AKC at: The American Kennel Club Order Desk Email: orderdesk@akc.org Tel: (919) 233-9767

The American Kennel Club 8051 Arco Corporate Drive, Suite 100 Raleigh, NC 27617-3390

> Telephone: 919-816-3570 Fax: 919-816-4225 Email: judgingops@akc.org Website: www.akc.org

© Copyright 2024 The American Kennel Club