

Guidelines for Junior Judging Competitions

As breeders and exhibitors, we are constantly assessing and evaluating the dogs that we are breeding as well as the dogs with whom we compete against in the conformation ring. This program is being outlined to encourage and develop the ability for young people to develop this mind-set and develop the tools and knowledge to systematically place animals in a correct order with understanding of the conformation characteristics in general for all breeds and as one advances to learn nuances of specific breeds.

Clubs would submit a request to hold a Junior Judging Competition as a Special Attraction at an event.

An All-Breed Club offering Junior Judging Competition would publish the breed that would be utilized in the judging competition in the Premium List.

At a National Specialty, the Juniors may be included in the Judges Education and participate in the hands on as their Judging Competition with supervision during the hands-on session. Juniors will participate in the discussion of placing the class, utilizing the Junior Judging Competition Score Sheet.

The Club will determine if there is to be an entry fee for this competition. It will be up to the club to determine if this is to be pre-entered or to allow day of show entries. The Club may establish a limit on the entry. The Club may offer the breeder/handler providing the dogs a stipend.

Recommendations for coordinating a class: have one breeder/handler provide/coordinate four dogs. It is essential that they understand the purpose and that there are clear differences in quality between the dogs. The class of four dogs maybe of both sexes. The class is to consist of four dogs, one of excellent quality, two of average quality and one dog of lesser quality. Dogs should all be within the standard for the breed, size and color. A handler will be needed for each dog. The coordinator will need to provide an armband for each dog and should have clipboards for the participants to use.

Scheduling: It will be up to the club to determine the time and location for conducting the Junior Judging.

Junior Judging Competition may also work well in coordination with breed seminars being offered at All Breed Events.

Judge: The judge for the class maybe an experienced breeder, individual on the panel approved to judge the breed, or a handler with extensive knowledge of the breed. The judge will evaluate the class of dogs prior to the Juniors and may review their scores with the individual supplying the dogs to place the class and assess each dog individually on the score sheet.

Procedure: Judge will assemble the Juniors and briefly discuss the standard for the breed.

Evaluation of the class: The Junior participants will enter the ring and stand in the middle. The Class of four dogs will come in the ring and move around the ring twice allowing side movement to be observed.

The four dogs will be stacked and the participants will visually observe each dog. Approaching from the front, then observe the profile, then look at the rear. Participants will not actually touch the dogs. Participants may be split in half utilizing each end of the ring to have the dogs move down and back. This may be repeated to assure that each participant has been able to observe front and rear movement. Move each dog individually around to allow final observation of side gait.

Complete Score Sheet and Submit for comparison to Judge. The Junior must receive the score sheet back to keep in their records.

Judge will place the class and provide reasons to the class for the placements.

Score sheets will be evaluated to determine who place dogs closest to judge. This will be a pass fail for the Juniors.

Scoring: First place must be the Excellent Dog	30 points
Second and Third – if in the same order as the Judge	40 points
If Second and Third - if reversed from the Judge	20 points
Fourth place must be the lesser quality dog	30 points

Passing is a score of 80

Score Sheets to Be Discussed with Judge following the judging.

Beginner Level:

It is recommended to utilize smooth coated breeds without an extreme structural requirement.

Recommended Breeds but not limited to: Pointer, Vizsla, Weimaraner, Beagle, Doberman, Smooth Fox Terrier, Rat Terrier, Dalmatian

Juniors are required to pass three times with two different breeds to move onto the Advanced Level.

Juniors will be responsible for submitting their passing score sheets to AKC.

Advanced Level

Breeds recommended to utilize for this class: Labrador Retriever, Basset Hounds, Dachshunds, Whippets, Boxers, Great Danes, Rottweilers, Chihuahuas, Manchester Terrier, Boston Terrier, Pembroke Welsh Corgi.

Juniors are required to pass three times in two different breeds to achieve a Judging Competency Certificate. Juniors will be responsible for submitting their passing score sheets to AKC to receive the Judging Competency Certificate.