



How to Count Certificate of Merit Points in FSS Open shows

This document has been created for you by the American Kennel Club to help you understand the point schedule and how Certificate of Merit points are counted.

The American Kennel Club requires a dog to obtain a total of 15 points to earn a certificate of merit.

FSS Open Show Classes:

4-6, 6-9, 9-12, Bred-By and Open

You will see how to figure the points when your dog or bitch wins Best of Breed, Best of Opposite, Best in FSS or Miscellaneous Group and Best in FSS Open Show.

Best of Breed – BOB

Best of Opposite Sex – BOS

Best in Group – BIGroup

Best in Open Show - BIOS

In the show catalog you will see a schedule of points for the Miscellaneous Breeds that will look similar to this:

POINTS	D ¹ B	D ² B	D ³ B	D ⁴ B	D ⁵ B
FSS Breeds	2 2	4 4	8 8	12 12	16 16

How To Figure Points If Your Dog or Bitch Wins Best of Breed

EXAMPLE:

Total of class dogs 

Total of class bitches 

POINTS	D ¹ B	D ² B	D ³ B	D ⁴ B	D ⁵ B
FSS Breeds	2 2	4 4	8 8	12 12	16 16

Winner of BOB (4 class dogs + 4 class bitches = 8 dogs for 3 pts)

How To Figure Points If Your Dog or Bitch Wins Best of Opposite Sex

EXAMPLE:

Total of class dogs 

Total of class bitches 

POINTS	D ¹ B	D ² B	D ³ B	D ⁴ B	D ⁵ B
FSS Breeds	2 2	4 4	8 8	12 12	16 16

Winner of BOS (2 class dogs = 1 pt)

Winner of BOS (4 class bitches = 2 pts)

How To Figure Points If Your Dog or Bitch Wins Best in FSS or Miscellaneous Group

EXAMPLE:

Total of Breed A 

Total of Breed B 

Total of Breed C



Total of Breed D



POINTS	D ¹ B	D ² B	D ³ B	D ⁴ B	D ⁵ B
FSS Breeds	2 2	4 4	8 8	12 12	16 16

BIGroup (2 dogs Breed A + 4 dogs Breed B + 5 dogs Breed C + 1 dog Breed D = 12 dogs for 4 pts)

How To Figure Points If Your Dog or Bitch Wins Best in FSS Open Show

EXAMPLE:

Total FSS 

Total Misc 

POINTS	D ¹ B	D ² B	D ³ B	D ⁴ B	D ⁵ B
FSS Breeds	2 2	4 4	8 8	12 12	16 16

BIOS (8 dogs FSS + 8 dogs Misc = 16 dogs for 5 pts)

Check the posted copies of the judge's book before you leave the show to make certain your dog was marked as the winner.

Mistakes do happen! Also, verify that your dog's FSS number is correct in the catalog. If it is not correct, let the superintendent know before you leave the show. In both cases, it's easier to make the correction on the day of the show rather than later.