



**AMERICAN
KENNEL CLUB®**



Judges and Judging Panels

AKC Rules & Policies associated with the construct and assigning of conformation judging panels

October 30, 2019 webinar

Presented by Tim Thomas, VP of Dog Show Judges



Reference Documents:

The Rules Applying to Dog Shows

The AKC Show Manual

The Board Policy Manual

National Owner-Handled Series Regulations

The Rules Polices and Guidelines for Conformation Dog Show Judges



Constructing your panel



Constructing your panel:



Chapter 7 Section 4 of The Rules



Only those on the list of eligible judges may be approved to judge at any member or licensed show



AKC's online Judges Directory



Provides list of ALL active and eligible AKC approved judges



Judges not yet approved cannot be hired



May only be hired for breeds/groups approved to judge



Constructing your panel:

May use Visiting Judges from an AKC recognized registry

Online directory includes Visiting Judges who have recently judged an AKC event but DOES NOT provide all eligible Visiting Judges

Check applicable foreign registry website

All VJ's status must be confirmed by Judging Ops before they may be approved on a panel



Visiting Judges:

May judge breeds/groups licensed to judge by their registry at AKC shows

8 days of all-breed shows per year

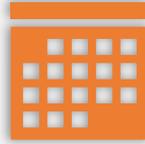
Unlimited independent specialties

May not judge Junior Showmanship

Visiting Judges must speak and read English or a translator must be provided



Constructing your panel:



Judges cannot be assigned same breed, group, BIS within 30 days and 200 miles (straight-line)¹



Judge cannot be assigned to all three levels for any breed (breed, its group & BIS)²



Judge cannot be assigned to judge breed at a conformation based event prior to judging the regular classes the same weekend (Sweepstakes, breeder's stakes, Top 20, match, etc.)¹

¹ - Rules, Policies and Guidelines for Conformation Dog Show Judges

² - Rules Applying to Dog Shows



Clubs offering



Judges assigned to NOHS group must be approved for at least 1 breed in that group OR any one complete group



Anyone eligible to judge an NOHS group may judge NOHS BIS



A judge may not be assigned to the breed, NOHS group for that breed, and NOHS BIS at the same event



A judge may not be assigned to all NOHS groups at the same event



Judges may not be assigned to the regular and NOHS group/BIS at the same event



Judges may not be assigned to the same NOHS group at multiple events held the same weekend/cluster



Panel Construction

All other special attraction groups (veteran, puppy, BBE, etc.)



Any individual in good standing may judge¹



No exhibiting restrictions, may utilize exhibitors at event¹



Judge assigned regular group may not be assigned special attraction group at same event (Excluding NOHS)²

¹ - Rules, Policies and Guidelines for Conformation Dog Show Judges

² - AKC National Owner-Handled Series Regulations



Assigning your panel:

Chapter 7 Section 13 of *The Rules*

- Judges may be assigned up to 175 dogs/day
 - Includes junior show, sweeps, 4-6 puppy, futurity entries
 - Groups, bis do not count against
- Up to 200 if ONLY assigned a single breed specialty
 - No additional breed, group, BIS the same day



Assigning your panel:

The 175 daily limit is cumulative when judge is assigned to multiple events in one day

- Two in one day AB or LB, concurrent or evening specialties, etc.
- Clubs sharing judges on same day should agree who will reduce in the case of an overdraw
- Multi-day specialties - the limit is per day not per event
- Club or judge with a lower limit should be published in the premium list



Panel Submission

Chapter 4 Section 1 of *the Rules*

- Judging Panel must be sent to the AKC at least EIGHTEEN weeks before the closing date for approval
- Name, address and specific assignment for each judge (breeds, classes, groups and/or Best in Show)

AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB
ALL-BREED JUDGES PANEL
www.akc.org
Event Operations Department
PO Box 30000
Baltimore, MD 21285-0000

Event Number: _____ Club Name: _____ Closing Date: _____ (Day of Week) (Month/Day/Year)
Show Date: _____ (Day of Week) (Month/Day/Year)

At: (Event Location) _____ Business Phone: _____ (Including Area Code)
Show Set/Plot: _____ Fax: _____ (Including Area Code)
Address: _____ E-Mail: _____
Entry Fee: _____ See for 2nd Entry of Same Dog

MUST BE INITIALED BY INDIVIDUAL SUBMITTING PANEL
This affirms that I have in my possession letters contracts signed and dated prior to submitting this panel, by each judge, stating they are approved for and accept the assignment as listed and indicating specifically each breed, class, group, as well as their in Show, In-Show Showmanship, Miscellaneous or Challenge Trial Contract and AKC National Order Number Group and Best in Show (if applicable). Such records shall be made available to AKC upon request and I will have them available at the show on each day of the event.

If requesting approval of a visiting judge, see page 3.

Submitted for AKC approval (Please Print): _____ Club Position: _____
By: _____
Mailing Address: _____
Business Phone #: _____ E-mail: _____
Business Fax #: _____
*If not Show Chairman, please indicate Show Chairman's name, address, telephone number and e-mail address.

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ E-Mail: _____
Phone: (____) _____ - _____
Fax: (____) _____ - _____

Copy to AKC: _____
Your Club File: _____

AKC01 (01/18) EVENT OPERATIONS

akc.org/accvcomp/panels/submit

AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB
CELEBRATING 135 YEARS

EVENT MANAGEMENT [Help | Support |](#)

[Home](#) [Manage Competitions](#) [Manage Event Documents](#) [Quote/Submit](#) [Request Additional Changes](#) [See Insights Drop](#)

LOGIN TO EVENT MANAGEMENT

Account Login:
Account: _____
Password: _____
Your Name: _____
Your Email: _____

If your computer enabled to use the Event Management System? [Check Here!](#)



Club must have agreement in writing of the specific assignment for each judge before submitting to the AKC for approval – INCLUDING NOHS and any other special attraction assignments

Chapter 4 Section 1 of *The Rules*

AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB®
Event Operations
PO Box 9100
Raleigh, NC 27675

Event Number: _____ (Club Name) _____
Show Date: _____ (Day of Week) (Month/Day/Year) Closing Date: _____ (Day of Week) (Month/Day/Year)

At: _____
(Exact Location)

Show Secy/Supt: _____ Business Phone: _____
(Including Area Code)

Address: _____ Fax: _____
(Including Area Code)

E-Mail: _____

Entry Fee: _____ Fee for 2nd Entry of Same Dog: _____

MUST BE INITIALED BY INDIVIDUAL SUBMITTING PANEL
This affirms that I have in my possession letters/contracts signed and dated prior to submitting this panel, by each judge, stating they are approved for and accept the assignment as listed and indicating specifically each breed, or Group(s), as well as Best in Show, Junior Showmanship, Miscellaneous or Obedience Trial Class(es) and AKC National Owner-Handled Groups and Best in Show (if applicable). Such records shall be made available to AKC® upon request and I will have them available at the show site on each day of the event.

If requesting approval of a visiting judge, see page 3.

Submitted for AKC approval (Please Print):
By: _____ Club Position*: _____
Mailing Address: _____
Business Phone #: _____ E-mail: _____
Business Fax #: _____
If not Show Chairman, please indicate Show Chairman's name: _____
Mailing address: _____



AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB

Judge Eligibility Report

Judging Operations Department
PO Box 900662 Raleigh, NC 27675-9062
www.akc.org; judgingops@akc.org

- Best In Show
- Sporting Group (32)
 - Birdies (1/2020)
 - Brittany
 - Lagotto Romagnolo
 - Nether Loocher
 - Pointers
 - Pointers (Ger. Sh.)
 - Pointers (Ger. Wk.)
 - Retrievers (Chapk.)
 - Retrievers (Curly)
 - Retrievers (Flat)
 - Retrievers (Golden)
 - Retrievers (Lab.)
 - Nova Scotia Duck Toll Retrievers
 - Setters (English)
 - Setters (Gordon)
 - Setters (Irish)
 - Setters (Irish R. & W.)
 - Spaniels (Am. Wr.)
 - Spaniels (Boykin)
 - Spaniels (Chamber)
 - Spaniels (Cocker)
 - Spaniels (Eng. Clk.)
 - Spaniels (Eng. Spr.)
 - Spaniels Field
 - Spaniels (Ir. Wr.)
 - Spaniels (Smooth)
 - Spaniels (W. Sp.)
 - Spizoni Ital.
 - Vizlas
 - Weimaraners
 - Wirehaired Ptg. Griffons
 - Wirehaired Vizlas
- Hound Group (32)
 - Afghan Hounds
 - American Foxhounds
 - American English Coochounds
 - Azawaks
 - Basenjis
 - Bassett Hounds
 - Beagles
 - Bl. & Tan Coochounds
 - Bloodhounds
 - Black & Tan Coonhounds
 - Borzoi
 - Cane Corso dell'Eta
 - Dachshunds
 - English Foxhounds
 - Greyhounds
 - Grandis Bassett Grif. Vandeen
 - Harriers
 - Razaan Hounds
 - Irish Wolfhounds
 - Nor. Elkounds
 - Otterhounds
 - Pests Bassets
 - Griffon Vendens
 - Pharaoh Hounds
 - Plots
 - Portuguese Podengo Pequeno
 - Redbone Coonhounds
 - R. Ridgebacks
 - Sakaki
 - Sloughi
 - Scottish Deerhounds
 - Tree Walker Coonhounds
 - Whippets
 - Working Group (31)
 - Akita
 - Anatolian Shephard
 - Atakaa Malamutes
 - Bernese Mtn. Dogs
 - Black Russian Terrier
 - Boerboel
 - Boxers
 - Bullmastiffs
 - Cane Corsos
 - Chinook
 - Dob. Pinschers
 - Dogo Argentinos (1/2020)
 - Dogus Da Bordeaux
 - German Pinscher
 - Giant Schnauzers
 - Great Danes
 - Great Pyrenees
 - Greater Swiss Mtn. Dogs
 - Komondok
 - Kuvasok
 - Leonbergers
 - Mastiffs
 - Neapolitan Mastiff
 - Newfoundland
 - Portuguese Water Dogs
 - Rottweilers
 - Saint Bernards
 - Samoyeds
 - Siberian Huskies
 - Standard Schnauzers
 - Tibetan Mastiff
 - Terrier Group (31)
 - Airedale Terriers
 - Amer. Hairless Ter
 - Amer. Staff. Ter.
 - Australian Ter.
 - Bedlington Ter.
 - Border Terriers
 - Bull Terriers
 - Cairn Terriers
 - Cesky Terriers -
 - Dandie Dinmonts
 - Glen of Imaal Terriers
 - Smooth Fox Terriers
 - Wire Fox Terriers
 - Irish Terriers
 - Kerry Blue Terriers
 - Lakeland Terriers
 - Manchester Terr. (Sid.)
 - Miniature Schnauzers
 - Mini Bull Terriers
 - Norfolk Terriers
 - Norwich Terriers
 - Parson Russell Terriers
 - Rar Terrier
 - Russell Terrier
 - Scottish Terriers
 - Sealyham Terriers
 - Skye Terriers
 - Soft Coated Wheaten T. Ter.
 - Staffordshire Bull Ter.
 - Toy Group (21)
 - Affenpinschers
 - Brussels Griffons
 - Cavalier King Ch Span
 - Chihuahua
 - Chinese Cresteds
 - Eng. Toy Spaniels
 - Hali. Greyhounds
 - Havanesse
 - Japanese Chin
 - Maltese
 - Manchester Terr. (Toy)
 - Miniature Pinschers
 - Papillons
 - Pekingese
 - Pomeranians
 - Poodles (Toy)
 - Pugs
 - Shih Tzu
 - Silky Terriers
 - Toy Fox Terrier
 - Yorkshire Ter.
 - Non-Sporting Group (20)
 - American Eskimo Dogs
 - Bichons Frises
 - Boston Terriers
 - Bulldogs
 - Chinese Shar-Pei
 - Chow Chows
 - Coton de Tulear
 - Dalmatians
 - Finnish Spitz
 - French Bulldogs
 - Keeshonden
 - Lhasa Apso
 - Lowchons
 - Newgjetan Lundehunds
 - Poodles
 - Schipperkes
 - Shiba Inu
 - Tibetan Spaniels
 - Tibetan Terriers
 - Xoloitcuintli
 - Herding Group (20)
 - Australian Cattle Dogs
 - Australian Shepherds
 - Barred Collies
 - Beaucerons
 - Belgian Malinois
 - Belgian Sheepdogs
 - Belgian Tervuren
 - Bergamasco
 - Berger Picard
 - Border Collies
 - Bouvier des Fl. Bruds
 - Canaan Dogs
 - Cardigan Welsh Corgis
 - Collies
 - Entlebucher Mountain Dogs
 - Finnish Lapphounds
 - German Shepherd Dogs
 - Icelandic Sheepdogs
 - Mini. American Shep
 - Norwegian Buhunds
 - Old Eng. Sheepdogs
 - Pembroke Welsh Corgis
 - Polish Lowland Sheepdog
 - Polish
 - Pumi
 - Pyrenean Shepherds
 - Shetland Sheepdogs
 - Spanish Water Dogs
 - Swedish Vallhund
 - JS JS - Limited
 - Miscellaneous Class

Updated 3/12/2019

Judges can require to be removed from any assignment they had not agreed to in writing:

- Breeds
- Groups
- Best in Show
- NOHS Groups/BIS
- All other special attraction Groups/BIS
- 4-6 Month Beginner Puppy



Post Premium Publication





Post Premium Publication

Once premium published and before close of entries changes may only be made:



Judge cancellation



Judge indicates they cannot complete a specific portion of their assignment



Changes made prior to closing require club to send notification



After Closing

In case of overdraw:

- ✓ Must be reduced to 175 or as close to as possible
- ✓ Must be assigned to judge approved for breed
- ✓ Cannot be in conflict (30 days before and after)
- ✓ If adding to judge already on the panel – judge should agree to addition
- ✓ Changes must be listed in the judging schedule
- ✓ Exhibitors can pull and receive a refund



After Closing

4 breeds or less

- Removal of classes from a breed to get as close to limit as possible
- Non-regular classes must be first
- Also applies to varieties

More than 4 breeds

- Small entry breeds
- As close to 175 as possible
- Cannot remove permit w/o consent



Within 10 days of event:



No notice required to be sent



Any changes **MUST** be posted at the event (superintendent's table & at the ring)



If change impacts judging time - the breed cannot be judged earlier than originally scheduled



All effort should be made to find replacement approved for the breed



In emergency situations only may assign to:

Judge with conflict in the rear
Judge not approved for the breed
Anyone in good standing



At the Event



Judge who is delayed en route

Judging may be delayed

- Posted and announced

Or

Replacement Judge may start assignment

- Change must be posted
- As soon as original judge arrives s/he resumes at **the very next class**



Judge replaced during assignment

Due to illness, injury or any other reason that prevents them physically from judging

Emergency protocol should be followed for replacement

All results from completed classes stand

Replacement with very next class or class in progress when replacement became necessary

Replaced judge is finished for the day

May judge following days



Emergency Use Of Ramps

Judges may request to judge non-ramp breeds on ramp in an emergency

Emergency = something that just happened

Healing from past procedure, surgery, etc. not considered an emergency

Ultimately the show chair's decision – may approve or deny request



Emergency Use Of Ramps

If approved:

Notice must be posted

Exhibitors can withdraw and receive a refund

If denied:

Breed(s) must be judged where approved

Or judge replaced on applicable breeds



Entry Refunds



Change to assigned breed judge after closing & 10 days prior to event

- Withdraw of entry must be made ½ hour prior to start of judging at event

Change to assigned breed judge less than 10 days prior to event

- Withdraw of entry must be made before judging of the breed

Judge using ramp in emergency situation

- Withdraw of entry must be made before judging of the breed

NO refund for

- Changes to group or Best in Show Judge
- Change to sweepstakes judge
- Entrants in a breed for change made during that breed



Questions?

Public Education

Wednesday, November 20th at 8:00pm ET

Meredith Saraceno

Public Education Manager

WEBINAR





Judges and Judging Panels Webinar: Questions and Answers

1. Any wisdom on assigning breeds to judges?

There is no one-size-fits-all answer to how to assign a panel. There are many contributing factors such as if there are specialties/supported entries, are there designated rings for specific breeds, is all judging indoors or outdoors or is in a combination of both.

A couple key points to remember for having a smooth-running event is to be conscious of your loads and distribution of breeds on the judges assigned to the groups. For example, if you assign Judge A breeds in the sporting, hound and working groups AND the Terrier group competition, that one judge impacts when four groups can be scheduled.

I always kept a running log of entries per breed in the previous years and assigned my panel based on the average over time, not just what the entry was the prior year. These are just a few tidbits - I would suggest speaking with other show chairs who you feel run good events on their strategies.

2. Is there a way to get information about an AKC approved judge to help show chairs make hiring decisions, for example, they have backed out of assignments recently? Are there negative JBC reports on file?

Unfortunately, the items you reference could not be furnished. Information in a judge's file such as observation reports and correspondence received is confidential between the AKC and that judge. According to AKC's disclosure of information policy, it could only be shared upon the agreement of all parties.

3. Are there exhibitor or club complaints on file?

Correspondence received by Judging Operations concerning a judge (positive or negative) is placed in their file. As for complaints received by the AKC concerning a club or event, that would have to be answered by Club Relations or the Events Department.

4. Does the AKC have any tools to help put together a well-balanced panel to best utilize judges to fill the day appropriately and to help with cost efficiency?

Not to be premature, but we are working on a panel planning tool intended to help club in assigning their panels. More information will follow when completed.

5. Can one judge do all the 4-6 puppy groups as well as best 4-6 puppy?

Yes – one judge may be assigned to do the entire 4-6-month puppy competitio

- 6. If a judge is replaced only for a certain breed or breeds that they need to judge on a ramp or table not typically used, are they done for the entire day or just for those breeds?**

Great question. Here it would fall under the judge cannot complete that specific assignment, and it only impacts those breeds. They can do the rest of their assignment.

- 7. What is the procedure for someone judging a National Specialty who is not an AKC licensed judge, but a breeder of longevity?**

This can be found on page 11 of the *Judging Approval Process*. To summarize, a parent club may request a non-approved individual to judge a specialty show in its breed. That request may be for a parent club national or on behalf of a local breed club for its specialty. The person must have success in that breed as an exhibitor and/or breeder. The parent club submits a form to Judging Operations (http://cdn.akc.org/Conformation_Judges/Specialty-Club-Request.pdf).

Judging Operations reviews and if the request is approved, the individual must pass a procedure exam, anatomy exam and pay a \$35 fee. If applicable, they will also be required to meet with a Field Rep for a wicket and/or scales test. Once all have been satisfactorily completed, they receive final approval and can be submitted for the panel. This is a one-time one event approval.

For additional questions or further explanation please contact the Judging Operations Department at judgingops@akc.org or 919-816-3593

- 8. Is it possible to add an icon or something beside, or near, a Judge's name after being searched that indicates that person has a spouse, partner, etc. that also judges?**

At this point that functionality is not possible, however that information can be gleaned with a little effort by searching by state and comparing addresses.

- 9. If a judge cancels, I have been told that a replacement judge does not have to be approved by AKC in an emergency situation. What amount of time is "an emergency"? I've been told 24/48 hrs.**

Traditionally an emergency is classified as after the office has closed and there is no additional time to pursue a replacement. (i.e. informed Friday night for a Saturday event) or all options have been exhausted. In all cases the emergency replacement is the last recourse. All effort should be made to secure a judge approved for that breed first.

- 10. What happens if you have a judge that can't judge at your show for the current year, can you roll them to the next year without a new contract?**

Yes, the club can choose to hire them for the following year's panel BUT they should confirm with a written agreement/acknowledgement.

11. Are Morris & Essex judges restricted?

AKC policy restrict all judges from being assigned the same breed/group/BIS at events held within 30 days and 200 miles. Any restriction beyond is a contractual agreement between the club and the judge, it is not imposed by the AKC.

12. What is the procedure for nominating a person who has been a breeder for XX years to judge National Specialty?

This can be found on page 11 of the Judging Approval Process. To summarize, a parent club may request a non-approved individual to judge a specialty show in its breed. That request may be for a parent club national or on behalf of a local breed club for its specialty. The person must have success in that breed as an exhibitor and/or breeder. The parent club submits a form to Judging Operations (http://cdn.akc.org/Conformation_Judges/Specialty-Club-Request.pdf).

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