



AMERICAN
KENNEL CLUB

Judging Operations Department
PO Box 900062
Raleigh, NC 27675-9062
919-816-3589 Fax: 919-816-4225
judgingops@akc.org
www.akc.org
May 2026

ADDITIONAL BREED QUESTIONNAIRE

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT (black or blue ink). Designated areas of application should be completed. All attachments should be identified with the judge's name. Please keep copies for your own records. Reminder: a \$35 per-breed fee will be collected through the AKC Canine College upon completion of each Breed Standard Exam. If applying for Junior Showmanship, the processing fee of \$35 is required. **All application fees are non-refundable.** Credit will be applied to future application(s) of any breed(s) not approved. All forms are available here:
https://images.akc.org/pdf/judges/Additional_Breed_Application_Kit.pdf

Name:

Judge #:

Mr./Mrs./Ms./Miss/Dr.

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Email:

Verify Email:

Publish? Yes ☐ No ☐

Cell Phone:

Home Number:

Work Number:

Publish? Yes ☐ No ☐

Publish? Yes ☐ No ☐

Publish? Yes ☐ No ☐

1. Breed(s) for which you are applying:

1) _____	5) _____	9) _____
2) _____	6) _____	10) _____
3) _____	7) _____	11) _____
4) _____	8) _____	12) _____

2. Have you acted as a breed mentor? Yes ☐ No ☐ If yes, please give details (add additional sheets if necessary)

3. Are you or anyone in your household in any way connected with a dog-related occupation or dog registry other than AKC? Yes ☐ No ☐
If yes, please describe in detail your duties and activities:

If your occupation falls under Chapter 7, Section 1, of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows, or you have an interest in any other registry, please describe in detail your/their duties and activities, and provide written assurance that if approved to judge, all parties will completely divorce themselves from this occupation upon being granted permit status (eligible to accept assignments) and will immediately report any resumption to the AKC (see Occupational Eligibility Addendum – **signature required**)

ADDITIONAL BREED QUESTIONNAIRE

4. Have you ever been (1) suspended from the privileges of the American Kennel Club, (2) convicted of cruelty/inappropriate treatment of animals, or a similar offense involving inhumane or cruel treatment (“inappropriate treatment” means any offense involving a dog that alleges cruelty, abuse, neglect, or improper treatment of a dog as defined by AKC), or (3) convicted of any crime involving moral turpitude? Yes ☐ No ☐ If yes, please submit it on a separate sheet and state the date and circumstances.

Please list **four weekends of shows** you can attend for the purpose of the final interview, with **at least 3-4 weeks' advance notice from the date of submission**. Cluster/multi-date events should be listed as a date range (i.e., 5/27-30/11-Mission Circuit – CA). An interview must be arranged through the Judging Operations Department. Please avoid listing shows where you are scheduled to judge a significant number of entries.

Reminder: If you are scheduled for an interview on a day of judging and conflicts arise, the interview will be canceled by the Executive Field Representative and rescheduled. The office may schedule virtual interviews on a basis of need. Please check yes or no if a virtual interview is an option. **Virtual Interview:** Yes ☐ No ☐

DATE (12/11-13/2026 – Example)	SHOW/STATE (American Kennel Club – Orlando, FL – Example)

INTERVIEW PROCESS

Your complete application and Junior Showmanship fee (if applicable) should be sent to the office. The breed-specific final interview will be scheduled through Judging Operations. The interview will include a discussion of the breed's original purpose, disqualifications, strengths and weaknesses, etc. Expect interviews to be approximately 5-10 minutes per breed. Individuals applying for measurable breeds will be required to pass the applicable wicket/scales exam. Applicants tested on the same apparatus in the five years preceding the submission of the application will be exempt from this requirement, except for those who have received a negative observation report on the measuring procedure or failed the applicable wicket/scales test during the five-year period. Applicants may choose to come to the North Carolina office for their interview by appointment only.

SIGNING/CERTIFICATION

I HEREBY submit my application to the Conformation Judging Approval Staff of the AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB for its consideration and make the following certification:

I certify that I am familiar with the American Kennel Club’s Rules, Regulations, Policies, and Guidelines for Conformation Dog Show Judges and agree to abide by them. That I am occupationally eligible to judge under AKC Dog Show Rules and will adhere to the restrictions, if applicable, outlined in the Occupational Eligibility Addendum clarifying Chapter 7, Section 1.

If granted permit judging, or regular status, I fully understand that my judging eligibility is conditional and, therefore, reviewable by the AKC at any time subsequent to the date the status is initially granted. I understand a failure to abide by the American Kennel Club’s Rules, Regulations, Policies, and Guidelines for Conformation Dog Show Judges could result in disciplinary action affecting my judging privileges, and I agree to abide by any decisions made in accordance with them.

I certify that I understand and acknowledge that if I am charged with cruelty, inappropriate treatment of animals, or a similar offense involving inhumane/cruel treatment (“inappropriate treatment” means any offense involving a dog that alleges cruelty, abuse, neglect, or improper treatment of a dog as defined by AKC), or charged with any crime involving moral turpitude, especially as it concerns dog-related activities. The AKC may temporarily place my judging privileges on referral and judging status **Inactive** while the charges are pending. Further, after receiving notification of the referral, I am prevented from judging or from accepting assignments to judge. When the charges are resolved, and AKC’s inquiry into the matter determines that no action will be taken by the AKC to cause a suspension of my judging privileges, the temporary judging referral will be removed.

I attest that the information given in this questionnaire is true and correct.

Signature

Date MM/DD/YYYY



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OCCUPATIONAL ELIGIBILITY ADDENDUM

Chapter 7, Section 1:

ANY reputable person who is in good standing with the American Kennel Club may apply for approval to judge any AKC recognized breed or breeds of purebred dogs, which, in his/her opinion, he/she is qualified by training and experience to pass upon, with the following exceptions: Persons connected with any publication in the capacity of solicitor for kennel advertisements, persons connected with dog food, dog remedy or kennel supply companies in the capacity of solicitor or salesman, persons who buy, sell, and in any way trade in or traffic in dogs as a means of livelihood in whole or in part, professional show superintendents and their employees, and persons who show dogs for others will not be approved if still engaged in such activities.

No judge may accept an assignment nor officiate at an event where a member of his or her household is involved to the extent that there might exist an actual conflict of interest or the reasonable appearance of a conflict of interest.

Eligibility is expanded upon in the Occupational Eligibility Addendum and in the Rules, Policies, and Guidelines for Conformation Dog Show Judges.

An interpretation of the above rule is as follows:

- I. Individuals in the following categories are occupationally ineligible to judge**
 1. Persons who buy or sell dogs not bred by them as a means of livelihood in whole or in part, whether or not they are known as dealers. (This is trafficking in dogs.)
 2. Persons who show dogs for others. (Does not apply to Junior Showmanship Judges.)
 3. Publishers and persons who promote show dogs through the active solicitation or acceptance of advertisements in commercial dog publications.
 4. Persons who are professional superintendents or employees of superintendents.
 5. Persons connected with dog food, dog remedy, or kennel supply companies in the capacity of solicitor or salesman.
 6. Persons who reside in the same household as a professional handler or licensed superintendent.
(A salesman is one whose primary activity or occupation involves the sale or attempted sale of goods or services to specific individuals or entities. A solicitor is one whose primary activity or occupation involves the seeking or facilitating of the direct sale of goods or services to specific individuals/entities.)
- II. Individuals with the following occupations will be eligible to judge, but cannot accept assignments at any show, companion show, circuit/cluster at which they offer their services.**
 1. Concessionaires
 2. Dealers in dog art, antiques, or memorabilia
 3. Dog show photographers
 4. Professional dog artists and photographers
 5. Judges who are household members of persons with ineligible occupations may not accept assignments at any show, companion show, circuit/cluster at which the ineligible person is offering their services
- III. Individuals in the following occupations are eligible to judge. Any entry made under such judges is subject to the same restrictions as Chapter 11, Section 13 of the Rules:**
 1. Grooming show owners or employees
 2. Kennel owners or kennel employees
 3. Veterinarians

Violations of the restrictions on these occupational categories will result in the cancellation of all awards made to the ineligible dog(s). Violation of these restrictions will subject the judge to review of his/her judging approval, with the possible action up to and including loss of judging approval. Any dog-related occupations not covered by the above interpretation will require individual evaluation.

I have read and agree to abide by the above as related to the AKC Conformation Judging Approval.

Signature

Date