



APPLYING FOR THE BELGIAN SHEPHERD DOG (BSD)

GRANDFATHERING OF SENIOR CONFORMATION JUDGES THAT DO NOT CURRENTLY HOLD THE CONFORMATION LICENSE FOR THE BSD.

Current Senior UKC Conformation Judges (as of December 1, 2015) who wish to apply to judge the BSD, may submit their written request directly to the UKC Dog Events Department. The Senior Conformation judges request will be reviewed by the UKC Judge's Committee. Applicants that are accepted will be required to take and pass the written BSD test. Upon passing the written test, they will be granted the Provisional Judge Status. Judge's wishing to be approved for Senior Judging status must complete the Provisional judging requirements otherwise after the provisional period has expired, the judge must move to the Regular status (and may not accept any apprentices). Judges who wish to move from Regular status to Senior Status must have completed the judging requirements outlined for a Provisional Judge.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS TO APPLY FOR THE BELGIAN SHEPHERD DOG (BSD)

- All Applicants interested in obtaining a license to judge the Belgian Shepherd Dog (BSD), must be approved for the UKC General Conformation license.
- Applicants must submit their resume' outlining their experience with the breed to a regional BSD club of which they are a member.
- Applicants must be recommended by their regional BSD club, otherwise if not a member of any BSD Club, any regional BSD club. UKC or UBSDA may also recommend/sponsor the applicant.
- The letter of recommendation by a member club must be signed by an officer of the sponsoring regional club and sent / emailed to the United Kennel Club (UKC) Dog Events Department. A copy of the regional clubs letter is also to be forwarded / emailed to the United Belgian Shepherd Dog Association's (UBSDA) Club Secretary.
- Though it is up to each individual club to designate which judging procedure will be used at their event(s), the applicant must be able and willing to judge using the Assisted Animation with Critiques whenever possible.

RECOMMENDED QUALIFICATIONS TO APPLY FOR THE BELGIAN SHEPHERD DOG (BSD)

- **Judging experience.** Applicants with judging experience (AKC/Canadian Kennel Club/UKC) specific to BSD's at licensed shows or matches.
- **BSD Ownership.** Applicants who own and exhibit BSD's at events (AKC/Canadian Kennel Club/UKC).
- **BSD Titles.** Applicants who have titled BSD's at events (AKC/Canadian Kennel Club/UKC), with documentation of titles.
- **Club memberships.** Applicants who are members of club's (AKC/UKC) specific to BSD's.
- **Involvement with the BSD.** The applicant should be involved with the BSD in some facet of UKC competition such as conformation, or any performance event for at least 2 years,
- **Seminars.** The applicant should have attended a BSD Breed Seminars and/or hands-on demonstrations at an approved UKC BSD Breed Seminar or at the United Belgian Shepherd Dog Association (UBSDA) National Event.
- **National Events.** The applicant should have attended at least one UBSDA National Event within the past 3 years.
- **Scribing.** The applicant should have scribing experience with written critiques for BSD under BSD judges.

- **References.** The applicant should provide letters of recommendation from Belgian Shepherd Dog Breeders and/or judges.

Once the applicant's recommendation and resume', has been received, UKC will send an email notice to the USBDA Officers regarding the receipt of the applicants sponsorship. USBDA will have up to 30 days to review the applicants' credentials and submit to UKC any reason why the applicant should be denied the BSD license.

UKC will consider USBDA's recommendation, however the final decision regarding the applicants request for the BSD license will be that of UKC. Should UKC not receive any notice from USBDA regarding the applicant, then UKC will continue forward with the licensing procedures.

All approved BSD applicants will be required to successfully complete a written test on the UKC Belgian Shepherd Dog breed standard, administered by UKC. Applicants who pass the BSD breed standard test will then be accepted into the apprenticeship program.

APPRENTICE JUDGE.

Applicants who pass the written test on the breed standard test will be notified by UKC within 45 days of receipt of the completed examination. The apprentice judge may then schedule their apprenticeship assignments following these guidelines.

1. No one may serve as an Apprentice Judge for a breed which they have not been approved to judge.
2. Only Senior BSD Judges may accept requests from an Apprentice Judge. A Senior Judge may not evaluate more than one Apprentice Judge at a time for the breed at a single event.
3. An apprentice judge must apply in writing to a Senior BSD Judge for permission to apprentice at a specific show and receive their approval in writing for the assignment. A copy of the request to apprentice must be sent to the Event Chairperson of the hosting club by the apprentice.
4. Any apprentice who has not applied in writing to an officiating judge and received that judge's written consent must not be allowed to apprentice.
5. Any apprentice who walks in on the day of the event and requests to apprentice must be denied.
6. No Apprentice Judge may apply for an assignment under a Senior Judge that is a member of the Apprentice Judge's immediate family, a person who resides in the same household or who co-owns a dog with the Senior Judge.
7. The apprentice Judge may not be an employer, employee or business partner of the Senior Judge they are requesting to apprentice under.

APPROVAL OR DENIAL OF A REQUEST FOR AN APPRENTICE JUDGING ASSIGNMENT.

1. The officiating Judge must respond promptly to a request for an Apprentice Judging assignment. If the request is denied, the officiating Judge must give reasons for the denial and send a copy of the request and his/her letter of denial to the Dog Events Department at UKC.
2. If the host club objects to allowing an Apprentice Judge at its show, the club must promptly notify the officiating Judge of any objections. UKC encourages Judges to work these problems out with the clubs, but the decision of the officiating Judge is final.

DUTIES OF AN APPRENTICE JUDGE. The Apprentice Judge must examine all the dogs entered and exhibited in each licensed class. While the Senior Judge is making his/her placements, the Apprentice Judge should mentally place the dogs so that he/she can later discuss the dogs and placements with the Senior Judge. Apprentice Judges are encouraged to judge non-licensed conformation classes when time permits while being observed by the Senior Judge.

PROHIBITIONS. An Apprentice Judge is bound by the same rules as outlined for all officiating conformation Judges on the day of their apprenticeship assignment. In addition, the apprentice judge may NOT do any of the following:

1. **Awards.** The Apprentice Judge has no deciding factor on placements and may not hand out awards or ribbons.
2. **Judges Book.** The Apprentice Judge may not mark placements or write on the Judges Book.

3. **Event Committee.** No Apprentice Judge may work as an Event Chairperson, Event Secretary or Event Manager on the weekend of their apprenticeship assignment regardless if there is more than one club hosting events on that weekend.
4. **Conversation.** The Apprentice Judge may not engage in conversation with exhibitors or spectators while in the ring.
5. **Exhibiting dogs.** No Apprentice Judge may exhibit (handle) a dog in any show in which he/she is apprenticing.
6. **Dogs owned by the Apprentice Judge.** Dogs that are owned / co-owned by the apprentice judge may not be entered into the same type of activity, in the same event (show), regardless of breed, where that apprentice is apprenticing.
7. **Stewarding.** No Apprentice Judge may ring steward for any breed at the same event (show) in which he/she is apprenticing.
8. **Exhibiting.** An Apprentice Conformation Judge is prohibited from entering and exhibiting any dog in conformation events whether owned by them or not, on the day of their apprenticeship. They may however exhibit in conformation events prior to and on the day after their apprenticeship assignment or in any performance event on any day over the weekend.
9. **Apprenticing for more than one type of event.** An Apprentice Judge may not apprentice for a conformation event and a performance event on the same day regardless if the event is hosted by the same club or clubs holding events in conjunction with one another. However, the Apprentice Judge may apprentice for two separate breeds or in two like performance events (for example: two obedience trials) on the same day, provided there are no conflicts, or a breed apprenticeship on one day and a performance apprenticeship on another. The Apprentice Judge is limited to a total of two apprenticeship assignment in a single weekend for the same type of assignment (whether this is completed on one day or over a period of days over the same weekend).
10. **Apprentice Judge Evaluation Form.** The Apprentice Judge is responsible for providing the Senior Judge their apprenticeship form (the apprentice must complete the section under apprentice judge which includes the apprentices' name and mailing address in the appropriate area on the form) and a stamped envelope addressed to UKC, Dog Events Department, 100 E. Kilgore Road, Kalamazoo MI 49002-5584 to each licensed Senior Judge under which he/she apprentices.

DUTIES OF SENIOR JUDGES WITH APPRENTICES. The Senior Judge must evaluate the Apprentice Judge's knowledge of the specific breed on the Apprentice's examination of the dogs and on the discussion thereafter. The discussions may be done after each class or at the end of breed judging as time permits. The Senior Judge should compare his/her placements with those of the Apprentice Judge. The officiating Judge must evaluate the Apprentice Judge's knowledge of the UKC rules and the specific UKC breed standard of the breed being assessed, based on their discussion. The Senior Judge must complete the Apprentice Judge Evaluation form and send it directly to UKC. The completed forms are confidential and not to be shared with the Apprentice Judge.

COMPLETING AN APPRENTICESHIP. Upon satisfactory completion of the requirements below, an Apprentice Judge will be notified by UKC that he/she can accept assignments as a licensed Provisional Judge for that breed. The Apprentice judge may not accept any judging assignments for the specific breed unless notified by UKC that they may do so.

1. Serve as an Apprentice Judge for the BSD using the customary judging procedure or assisted animated critique procedure at a minimum of four (4) different UKC licensed Conformation shows and received favorable recommendations from a minimum of three (3) separate Senior Judges.
 - a. When the Customary Judging Procedure is used, there must be a minimum of three (3) licensed class entries per apprenticeship for the evaluation to be credited as an apprenticeship.
 - b. When the Assisted Animated Critique Judging Procedure (AA/CP) is used, there must be a minimum of five (5) licensed class entries for the evaluation to be credited as an apprenticeship. (Note: it is highly recommended that an Apprentice Judge complete at least one assignment under a Senior Judge using the AA/CP.)
2. Scribing at a Regional or National BSD event may be used for one customary apprenticeship credit.

3. A UKC BSD Breed Education Seminar where a verbal and hands on examination is offered for the BSD may be used for one AA/CP apprenticeship credit. (only one seminar apprenticeship credit is allowed for the breed and is only valid for three years after the seminar). The three additional apprenticeships must be obtained using the apprenticeship assignments at UKC licensed events.

PROVISIONAL JUDGE STATUS. Once the apprentice judge fulfills the apprenticeship requirements they will be approved as a Provisional Judge for the BSD. During the provisional period, no Provisional Judge may authorize an Apprentice Judge to serve under them. In addition, the Provisional Judge must:

1. Serve as a Provisional Judge for a minimum of two years after licensing and judge the breed in at least four shows with a minimum entry of three (3) dogs entered in the licensed classes.
2. In addition, a Provisional Judge must judge the breed in at least one additional licensed event (with entries of at least five (5) dogs) using the Assisted Animation Critique Procedure.
3. UKC will evaluate the performance of the Provisional Judge. A Judge who successfully completes the provisional period must move to the Regular status. Regular status removes the judge from the Provisional status but does not allow them to accept apprenticeship assignments.
4. Judges who fulfill all of the Provisional Judge requirements may request to be moved to the Senior status. Senior status allows the judge to accept and/or mentor BSD Apprentice judges.

A request for Regular / Senior Status form is found on the UKC website, under the Dog Events Department forms download.