

JUDGES NEWSLETTER

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DOG EVENT NEWS

BACK AT THE OFFICE

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A couple of situations have been cropping up more than they should the past year, and I think now it is the time to bring them up. I hope everyone reads this, and as always, if anyone has a question about anything or needs something clarified, please contact us and we will get you the answers you need or help you however we can.

The two situations that have been coming up are **how to handle the Disqualified for Attacking form** and also paperwork problems with **breeds being judged as a variety breed when they should not be**. I want to go over these situations and hopefully everyone will have a better idea of what to do when these situations come up.

First will be the Disqualified for Attacking form and how you should handle this situation. Hopefully you'll never need it, but most likely a couple of you are going to have to fill this paperwork out at one point or another in your judging career.

Let's say you are judging a dog and the dog makes an attempt to bite you. The dog comes at you with the intent but does not make contact. What do you do? Does this qualify for a Disqualified for Attacking form to be filled out? The answer is **yes!** You should suspend all judging and have this form filled out right away. If contact was made, please see to all necessary medical attention first. If you are unable to fill out the form yourself, the Event Secretary or the Event Manager may fill the form out for you. All of the information needs to be completed, and the exhibitor must be notified and sign the form. The exhibitor must understand that the dog may no longer participate in any UKC events unless reinstated by UKC. There is a copy for everyone involved – the judge, the exhibitor and the club. Within 72 hours of the event, the club is responsible for submitting the Disqualified for Attacking form by fax, along with the entry form for that dog, to the UKC office.

Another possible situation is if a dog

attacks another dog in your ring. What do you do? Are both dogs disqualified? The answer: **this is the judge's call**. If you saw the situation and can make the decision on who was at fault, then **you** need to make the call as to whether you are going to fill out a form for both dogs or just one.

There are times when the Disqualified for Attacking form is **not** to be used after an incident. Examples of that include any time the situation did not occur **in** your ring but occurred anywhere else on the grounds. In this case, a Misconduct Complaint Form needs to be filled out and a Misconduct Hearing needs to be held on the incident. The club is then responsible for submitting all of the information to UKC.

Contact does not need to be made for you to justify using the Disqualified for Attacking form. If you ever think that you are on the fence about disqualifying the dog, remember that the dog is going to move on to the next show and show again. The next judge might not be as lucky, or you might be that next judge. UKC takes temperament very seriously; when the dog is disqualified for temperament, the dog loses all UKC privileges. We have included a copy of the Disqualified for Attacking form in this newsletter so you can take a look at it and be familiar with the form.

The second situation we have been seeing is that there has been some variety breeds that have been either judged using the incorrect varieties, or breeds that do not have varieties being judged as if they did have varieties. I bring this up because this has happened more than a few times now. Please study your standards and know what breeds are to be judged with varieties and how they are divided.

If you ever come across a judges book that is incorrect because either the breed is not listed using the correct variety or it is a breed that should not be divided into a variety but is, please have the club fix the books. When the books are incorrect, none of the exhibitors are awarded their wins because we cannot process the results when they were not judged by the correct procedure. Yes, the clubs should not be making the errors, but if it gets by the judges as well, it becomes an even bigger problem. So, again, please read up on your breeds and stay current. As breed standards change,

we will update the website and also send mass emails of the new standards.

Speaking of staying current, most of you might already know about the acceptance of the American Bully Breed. On July 15, 2013 the American Bully Breed was recognized as a new breed by UKC. The breed standard is on the website under the Terrier Group. You will not see the breed in the conformation ring right away, as currently the American Bully does not have conformation privileges. The American Bully does have performance privileges, however, so you could be seeing them in our performance events very soon.

If you have any questions, concerns, or just need a clarification on something, please do not hesitate to contact us. Thank you for your services to UKC, our clubs and exhibitors.

ANNOUNCEMENT

UNITED KENNEL CLUB ANNOUNCES THE RECOGNITION OF THE AMERICAN BULLY

Kalamazoo, MI. July 15, 2013. The United Kennel Club, Inc. welcomes a new breed, the American Bully, to its list of recognized breeds, effective July 15, 2013. The American Bully will be in the Terrier Group.

The American Bully breed developed as a natural extension of the American Pit Bull Terrier, a breed that has maintained a characteristic appearance and temperament for over 100 years. As with any long-standing breed, several distinct types have evolved from the parent breed, with one in particular – the American Bully – taking on a specific build and structure unique enough to warrant it becoming a separate breed altogether. The American Bully, whose foundation stock is undeniably the American Pit Bull Terrier, was also developed by blending in stock from other bull breeds.

The recognition of the American Bully will allow the breed to develop, while allowing the American Pit Bull Terrier breed to maintain its classic appearance. The American Bully is recognizable by its characteristic compact, strong, thick-set structure and build, and broad head. It is imperative that the UKC recognized American Bully reflects

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the UKC breed standard, which can be accessed at the UKC website. This is an athletic breed; for example, dogs with front legs that are too short, too crooked, or set too wide are not the type of dog that will be considered for UKC registration. UKC does not condone any conditions or exaggerations that are detrimental to the health, welfare, essence and soundness of the American Bully or any other breed.

Single Registration of the American Bully is open, effective July 15, 2013. Dogs wishing to be considered as an American Bully may use a specific application that can be downloaded from the UKC website at <http://res.ukcdogs.com/pdf/AmerBullyDog.pdf>. It is undeniable that there are UKC registered American Pit Bull Terriers that more closely meet the the American Bully breed standard. APBT owners who would prefer to have their dog(s) registered as American Bullies may request to change their dog's breed designation by using the breed transfer form also located on the UKC website, <http://res.ukcdogs.com/pdf/BreedTransferApplication.pdf>. UKC Conformation privileges will not be issued at this time; however, upon receipt of their UKC registration papers, American Bullies will be eligible to compete in applicable UKC Performance Events.

FROM A JUDGE'S POINT OF VIEW

AGILITY JUDGING BY THE RULES

Kathy Davidson and Rich Benjes,
UKC Agility Judges

Judging Agility, performed correctly, requires an understanding of the UKC Agility Rules, a willingness to follow those rules, and an ability to be consistent in applying those rules.

Each judge needs to strive to apply the rules accurately and fairly so that the standards set by the rules are maintained. To be and remain a qualified, experienced, knowledgeable judge takes time, and a continuing willingness to learn and improve. Deviations in applying the rules from one run to the next, and inconsistency in applying the rules judging from one judge to the next, reflects poorly on UKC, and reflects poorly on the sport. A judge unwilling to know the rules, or a judge who knowingly and selectively applies the rules, is a detriment to the sport.

As a judge, let's make sure that

you are ready to judge.

1. You are not out in the ring to hand out clean runs that are not.

2. You are not out in the ring to hand out qualifying runs that were not.

3. Any qualifying run, and any clean run must be earned by the handler and dog team to be deserved and awarded.

4. You are not out in the ring to NQ runs that were not; your challenges were built into the course, not in your attitude in judging.

5. You must be consistent in your judging. Admittedly, it is better to be consistently wrong, than inconsistently right. Yes, you must be consistent in your scoring; it is required in the rules (page 90).

6. If a fault must be marked under the rules, either as a major fault or a minor fault, failure to call the major fault, and failure to mark both major faults and minor faults that you saw, is inexcusable. No "gimmees", no "kisses", no unearned awards. Mark every score sheet in some way to indicate that you judged that dog's performance.

7. Of course, you will make mistakes. Every (yes, every) judge does. Live with it. Go on, but do your best – always. Be your own worst critic, so that you will improve with each judging assignment.

8. And why are you even in the ring? You became a judge. You are judging an event. The pay for all the preparation for the trial, travel time, unreimbursed expenses and a weekend away from home isn't that great, and shouldn't be the motivation, anyway. You are in the ring because you love the sport, and like the people who are participating. You are in the ring because you are having fun. If you are not having fun, you are in the wrong place, and need to go do something else.

Several general performance issues should be noted.

Refusal, run-by and run off. A refusal is when a dog stops and/or backs away from an obstacle, and includes what is sometimes called a "run-by" – if the dog "intentionally runs past the end of an obstacle" (rules, page 53), although run-bys are also addressed separately in the rules (rules, page 66).

Faults for refusals **must** be assessed. If a refusal is a result of the dog attempting the obstacle by touching it or extending its head into the obstacle, and then withdrawing, a major fault **must** be assessed.

For simplicity, if the dog is running toward the correct obstacle, and goes

past it, a run-by has occurred (rules, page 66), and a minor fault is (must be) assessed. If a dog is running toward a wrong obstacle, or just running to say "hi" to a ring steward, sniff the side of the ring, or has the zoomies, it is a run off and **must** be assessed a minor fault, unless the dog "responds quickly to its handler's commands to return in the proper direction, a minor fault may not be required." If the dog is running off out of control, however, it may result in a major fault being assessed or the dog may be dismissed from the ring.

A technical difference between a run-by and a run off is that the run-by is assessed against the intended obstacle, but a run off is considered an "additional fault" and not assessed against an obstacle.

If the dog runs off course, and the proper penalty is assessed, no additional penalty is assessed if the handler stops the dog to gain control (rules, page 67).

Did the dog run "off-course" sufficiently to be penalized? The rules provide that when a dog that runs off-course toward an obstacle, but responds quickly to the handler's commands to return, such performance may not result in a minor deduction. In the same manner, a dog that pauses while negotiating at the handler's command (rules, page 54), or a dog that stops momentarily on a complex course (rules, page 66) is not assessed a fault. If the "run off" or "off-course" is not a run-by, and the dog is quickly (immediately) turned by the handler's command (voice or body movement) to the correct obstacle, the judge is not required to assess a fault.

Another judging concern is a dog that loses concentration on a course (rules, page 54). An example would be the Sheltie that continues to circle waiting for the handler or the handler's direction. Add continuous barking, and doubts should arise whether the dog is "expressing happiness" (rules, page 28). Such circumstances may reach a point that minor faults would be assessed.

A dog that is slow to respond to commands **must** be assessed a minor deduction (rules, page 67). The rules use examples of a dog slow to return for a repeat after a fault, or a dog that is slow to return when it ran off-course. There are many other instances where this rule is applicable: a dog that does not sit or down on the table, after repeated commands would be subject to this rule.

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Many judges, however, do not enforce this rule, thinking that since the time is running, no infraction need be imposed. The more accurate interpretation, however, since the rule says “**must**”, is for the judge to determine at what point the dog is considered to being “slow to commands” and go ahead and impose a minor fault.

Several concepts are available for the judge’s consideration.

a) The judge is comparing the performance against an ideal performance (rules, page 49).

b) If the dog really is slow to command, failure to assess a fault is a reflection that the judge is picking and choosing which rules to follow; and

c) The judge is not being consistent nor fair when compared to judging of other performances with a dog that is quick to respond.

Obstacle out of sequence. Taking an obstacle out of sequence, including a trap obstacle in AGIII, **must** be assessed a minor fault (unless the dog is out of control; then it is a major fault).

How did the dog get to the wrong obstacle? Normally, the dog had to run off course - that is, off the course intended for correct performance. If a dog runs off course, and takes a wrong obstacle, two separate minor faults have occurred, and two faults **must** be assessed (rules, page 68).

Since handlers should be permitted to view their score sheets, marking the two separate faults will help the handler and the judge decipher from the marks what was scored.

Luring. Former confusion about “breaking the plane” of a hurdle has been eliminated by rule revisions. The mere “breaking the plane” of a hurdle is not a fault. (Of course, the handler **must** keep his/her hands from going over pause obstacles, contact obstacles, etc., or the handler **must** be assessed a **major** handler fault.)

Depending on the circumstances, however, extending the hand or arm over the hurdle as though guiding the

dog (rules, page 66) is assessed a minor or major fault. Luring the dog (rules, page 67), that is, coaxing a dog through the course, **must** be assessed a fault consistent with the infraction. If the dog repeatedly jumps up toward the handler’s hand as though looking for a treat or toy, a fault **must** also be assessed consistent with the infraction.

Nipping. Sometimes it is difficult to tell if the dog is jumping toward the handler’s hand, looking for a treat or toy, or is nipping at the handler. If the dog is jumping toward the handler’s hand, or any part of the handler’s body, or nipping at the handler’s feet or ankles, the judge **must**, at some point, decide that “enough is enough”. Agility is also a spectator sport, and consideration should be given to the “appearance” the situation presents to spectators. A physical correction, or even a harsh verbal correction of a dog by the handler, for a dog nipping or other behavior, gives the spectators a wrong impression of the sport, and the judge **must** determine if excusal from the ring or assessment of handler faults is appropriate. If the dog is actually trying to nip or bite the handler, the dog **must** be disqualified (rules, page 100).

Since there may be uncertainty about the behavior of the dog, or what the dog is or is not doing, some judges will warn the handler on the first occurrence that questionable behavior has been noticed, and that any future occurrence will be scrutinized and judged accordingly. Such warnings are often effective. Such warnings of possible disqualification, should not, however, avoid assessment of appropriate faults. *If you are an approved judge and would like to submit an article for consideration about judging a specific event, please submit the article to conformation@ukcdogs.com or performance@ukcdogs.com with the subject line ‘From a Judge’s Point of View submission’. Submitting an article will not guarantee publication.*

WELCOME!

TO OUR NEWLY-APPROVED AND NEWLY-APPLIED UKC JUDGES.

UKC feels that it is important for all judges to be aware of who has applied to become a UKC judge. Publishing the applicants provides a venue for approved judges to be aware of who is coming into the sport and can foster mentorship opportunities for prospective judges. Approved judges who have met all judging requirements will be published in this section as well. For complete contact information, please go to: <http://www.ukcdogs.com/Web.nsf/WebPages/DogEvents/Judges>.

NEWLY APPROVED (FROM MARCH 25 THROUGH JUNE 28, 2013)

NEWLY LICENSED JUDGES

- 7102, Mary C Murphy-East, Egan MN, CN
- 7104, Mark Dias, Hollister CA, DJ
- 7105, Brian Troyer, Greencastle IN, DJ
- 7106, Katherine Birdsall Shorter, Gloucester VA, CN & JS
- 7107, Nicholas Critelli, Parrish FL, OBED
- 7108, Kim Alexander-Thomson, Snyder NY, RO
- 7109, Lindsey Hinds, Forney TX, DJ
- 7110, Naomi Ceder, Mundelein IL, OB

JUDGES APPROVED FOR ADDITIONAL LICENSES

- Valerie Piltz, TR
- Anna Arndt, RO
- Mary Ellen Meyer, APBT
- Emily Carabello, JS
- Donna Beadle, TFT
- Ronald Horn, TFT
- James Coleman, RO
- Kelley Maldon, JS
- Rebekah Anthony, JS, TFT
- Sue Haas, JS
- Mary Murphy-East, JS
- Annick Keeler, TFT
- Nancy Gallant, AE
- Sheree Sanchez, APBT
- Camille Gagnon, JS

JUDGES STATUS CHANGE

- Tracy Daugherty, Senior AE & APBT Judge
- Kari Jepson, Provisional Conformation Judge
- Lisa Paul, Senior RO Judge
- Pennie Jackson, Senior BSD Judge
- Joanne Hurst, Senior AE Judge
- Nicholas Critelli, Provisional RO Judge

NEW JUDGE APPRENTICES

- Donna Beadle, APBT
- Mary Ellen Meyer, AE
- Kim Alexander-Thomson, RO
- Katie Stoyles, LC
- Rebekah Anthony, APBT
- Annick Keeler, APBT
- Nancy Gallant, AE
- Sheree Sanchez, AE
- Camille Gagnon, AE
- Jackie Craver, AE
- Linda Rusinko, OB (Novice & Open only), RO (all levels)
- Lynn Poston, AE
- Elizabeth McKennon, AE
- Tracey Kallas, AE
- Linda Dannemiller, AE

NEW JUDGE APPLICANTS

- Katherine Birdsall Shorter, Gloucester VA, CN & JS
- Jennifer Anderson, Apple Valley MN, CN
- Kimberly Quallio, Mesa AZ, CN
- Ann Schwartz, River Ridge LA, CN
- Rondi Ross, Boyne City MI, CN
- Gerald Burrus, Carthage IN, LC
- Lila Jean Fast, Knoxville IA, CN
- Georgene Knight, Zion IL, AG

UPCOMING UKC SEMINARS

UKC Judges Education Seminar. Las Vegas, Nevada.

October

24 & 25: UKC Judges Education Seminar. Gray Summit, Missouri
In conjunction with Gateway Nationals.
For applications and details, go to ukcdogs.com.



United Kennel Club, Inc. **DISQUALIFIED FOR ATTACKING**

This form is only to be used when an attack/attempt to bite has occurred in the ring/chute/coursing or racing field/dock; (to be referenced and known as "judging area(s)").

THE JUDGE MUST COMPLETE THE ENTIRE FORM

This form AND the exhibitor's Entry Form MUST BE FAXED within 72 hours of the incident by the Event Secretary to the United Kennel Club Dog Events Department at (269) 349-5590.

When an incident occurs in the judging area, the dog must be disqualified by the judge, and the exhibitor must remain on the premises until the "Disqualified for Attacking" report has been completed.

This form must be completed by the judge as soon as possible after the incident, following any immediate medical attention that may be necessary. If the judge is unable to complete this form, the Event Secretary/Manager is to complete this form. If medical attention is not needed, the Judge will immediately suspend all judging to complete this form. The incident and all pertinent information must be outlined in the space provided below or on an additional piece of paper and is to be submitted to UKC by fax within 72 hours of the event, with the completed form. The Event Secretary/Manager is responsible to follow the procedures in notifying UKC of this incident and to provide the proper copies to the parties as outlined on this form.

Host Club (Do not abbreviate) _____ Club ID _____

Date _____ ☐ SHOW/TRIAL 1 ☐ SHOW/TRIAL 2 EVENT TYPE _____

Breed _____ Class _____ Armband # _____

UKC Registration; LP or Temporary Listing # _____

Judge: Please outline the circumstances regarding the attack/attempt to bite below.

Have you:

Marked your book "Disqualified, Attacked"? ☐ YES ☐ NO

Informed the Exhibitor of the Disqualification? ☐ YES ☐ NO; If NO, Reason: _____

Excerpt from Official UKC Rulebook:

"Disqualifying a dog for temperament or behavior in the ring. A Judge must disqualify a dog that bites or attempts to bite a person, or that bites or attacks another dog. The term 'attack' shall be construed to include unprovoked physical contact between the two dogs." **See individual rulebooks for complete set of rules.**

Any dog that has been disqualified for biting or attempting to bite a person, or that bites or attacks another dog, is IMMEDIATELY ineligible for further competition. A dog that has been disqualified from a conformation show, performance or companion event pursuant to the UKC Dog Temperament and Behavior rules may not participate in any further events unless reinstated by UKC.

Judge's Printed Name: _____ Judge # _____

Judge's Signature: _____

Exhibitor's Printed Name: _____

Exhibitor's Signature: _____

Signing this form indicates that you have been notified of the DQ for attacking and have received a copy of this form.

WHITE copy - UKC; must be attached to Judge's book

YELLOW copy - Judge

PINK copy - Club

GOLD copy - Exhibitor