

JUDGES NEWSLETTER

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HIGHLIGHTS

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL GATEWAY NATIONALS!

Sydney Suwannarat

The Fourth Annual UKC Gateway Nationals was a huge success! We would like to give our deep appreciation to our outstanding judges panel, sponsors and most of all our fantastic exhibitors. You all truly made this event spectacular.

The four days of festivities dawned bright and chilly and included a day for independent UKC clubs to offer their own events. The Thursday before the Gateway Nationals is reserved for any UKC breed club who would like to take advantage of the fabulous Purina Event Center at no charge to the club! Licensing fees are also waived for any club who wants to participate! The only charge to the club is the regular record-

ing fee per entry that is normally paid to UKC.

This year we had eight independent clubs offer conformation events for their breed, and some offered competition at the Group level. In addition to the eight conformation specialty events, there was also a regional Agility club, Agility Ability of Greater Kansas City who offered two independent Agility trials on Thursday. This club definitely plans to be back next year, so agility folks, save the date!

This is a wonderful opportunity for UKC breed clubs to come and take advantage of such a spectacular site and educate the public about their breed. We have room for plenty more and we plan to continue to offer Thursday to any breed clubs who are interested in hopping on to our weekend of events!

The annual costume contest continues to grow with only a few participants the first year to filling up two full rings worth of contestants! The compe-

tition is fantastic and UKC awards prizes for each designated category. The winners are posted right to the UKC website every year! Check out this year's best! Keep an eye out for the Gateway Nationals Premium List for the costume category announcements. They will be slightly different for 2014.

The weekend crowned an Akita, UROI Okami's Chiseled In Stone, as the 2013 UKC Gateway Nationals Total Dog Best in Show, and a German Shorthaired Pointer, GSJCH GRCH Vomhart's First In Command Cooper, went Reserve Total Dog Best in Show. These dogs were truly shining examples of their versatility as Total Dogs; qualifying in both performance events and conformation on the same day. These dogs remain the heart and soul of the UKC and its mission to purebred dogs.

Thank you all again for making it out to the Fourth Annual UKC Gateway Nationals. We look forward to seeing you again next year!

BREED STANDARD REVISION UPDATES

The following UKC breed standards have been revised

Revised March 1, 2012 - Barbet

Revised May 1, 2012 - Pekingese, Basset Hound, Alaskan Klee Kai, Chinese Shar-Pei, German Shepherd Dog (*nose color updated October, 2013*)

Revised June 1, 2012 - English Bulldog, Neapolitan Mastiff, American Water Spaniel, Hamiltonstovare

Revised October 1, 2012 - Berger Picard, Chihuahua, Pug

Revised December 1, 2012 - American Pit Bull Terrier,

Revised January 1, 2013 - Beagle

Revised June 1, 2013 - Kromfohrlander

Revised July 1, 2013 - Belgian Shepherd Dog, Boykin Spaniel, Brittany, Russkiy Toy, Bolognese, Bracco Italiano, Spanish Water Dog

The following breed was recognized July 15, 2013 - American Bully. Please note: Conformation effective **January 1, 2014**.

Revised October 1, 2013 - American Eskimo, Miniature Schnauzer, Australian Cattle Dog, French Bulldog, Weimaraner

The following breed will be recognized January 1, 2014 - Olde English Bulldogge

Revised, January 1, 2014 - Multi-Colored Poodle, Poodle, Multi-Colored Standard Poodle, Standard Poodle, German Shorthaired Pointer, American Leopard Hound

UKC BREED STANDARD CD - \$19.95

WWW.UKCDOGS.COM

2013 FOURTH QUARTER UKC JUDGES NEWSLETTER



Dog Event News

UKC Dogs Events Department
conformation@ukcdogs.com or
performance@ukcdogs.com

Every few years a debate crops up regarding the age old question of whether or not a performance dog whose coat has been artificially colored or dyed, is allowed to compete in that condition. In an effort to maintain consistency in judging, we are addressing this issue.

It is not actually disallowed in any of the performance rules, in the actual "rules" section for eligibility. The confusion may stem from the current format of most of the performance event rulebooks. There is a large section of "Definitions" that are somewhat tailored to the specific event, however a good portion of them are the same definitions which have been taken from other events and added to all of the different rulebooks regardless of the type of event. These definitions provide meaning to many event related words and clarity for how certain terms should be interpreted. They do not however provide the rules for eligibility for each of the event types. The rules for eligibility for entry can be found in the appropriate section in each of the perform-

ance event rulebooks.

The definition in each of the performance event rules for "Disqualified" is as follows: **Disqualified.** Dog is deemed ineligible for competition. This can be the result of a condition prohibited in the rules, such as an alteration to the dog's natural state, an undesirable trait as listed in a breed standard, or a condition of or action by a dog that is prohibited under the rules of the United Kennel Club. A dog that has been disqualified from a conformation show, companion event or performance event pursuant to the Dog Temperament and Behavior (insert appropriate section) may not participate in any further events unless reinstated by UKC.

The actual definition is "deemed ineligible for competition." The rest of the wording lists examples of possible conditions for disqualification prohibited in the rules. There is a specific prohibition in the Conformation rules regarding altering the dog's natural state, but there are no such prohibitions in any of the performance rulebooks.

Another general definition that is provided is "Performance Event". This definition is as follows: **Performance event.** Events where a dog is judged on the basis of performance rather than conformation. Agility, obedience, rally obedience, terrier racing,

weight pull, are typical performance events.

This definition must be updated to include Lure Coursing and Dock Jumping, however the foundation of this definition is that these events are judged on a dog's performance rather than its conformation. Using this definition a pink Poodle can be judged on its performance in any performance event as well as a white Poodle can. Just as a Golden Retriever with its coat shaved down can be judged on its performance as well as a properly coated Golden Retriever.

The state of the dog's coat, natural or unnatural does not impede the dog's performance and should not affect its ability to obtain a qualifying score/run/jump as long as its physical condition adheres to all other requirements listed in the event specific performance rulebook. Whether or not you agree personally with dogs entering competition in a cosmetically altered or unnatural state is immaterial. These dogs are not prohibited from entering a UKC performance event and should be judged according to the quality of their performance and not the condition of their "natural state". These dogs should not be excused or disqualified from competition in a performance event for this condition alone.

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RULEBOOKS: All rulebooks are \$5 unless specified.

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Effective January 1, 2011

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Effective January 1, 2011

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Effective January 1, 2011

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Effective January 1, 2013

Weight Pull

Effective August 1, 2011

Pointing Dog

Effective January 1, 2009

Terrier Race

Effective January 1, 2011

Rally Obedience

Effective January 1, 2011

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Effective September 6, 2011

Dock Jumping

Effective January 1, 2011

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Effective January 1, 2013

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Rev. 12/13

2013 FOURTH QUARTER UKC JUDGES NEWSLETTER

FROM A JUDGE'S POINT OF VIEW

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.

TIPS FOR JUDGING TABLE BREEDS

Lew Olson

I hadn't thought much about judging dogs on a table, except that it made it convenient for me as a judge as I didn't have to bend over to examine them. I had owned large breeds all of my life until a year ago. I obtained my first toy, or companion breed in the fall of 2012 and it has truly changed my entire concept about judging dogs.

Smaller dogs not only have to contend with moving and free-stacking in the show ring, but also being stacked and presented on a grooming table. While at first glance that seems very simple, it may be intimidating for a small dog. They are not on the ground, and could be injured if they fell from that height. They are placed face to face with a new person (the judge) and must be able to allow that person to touch and examine them.

As a judge, we expect the exhibits to be trained and ring ready. However, we must also be patient and accommodating to each breed as expected for their individual size, breed temperament and perspective!

Dogs are shown on a table due to their size (and convenience for the judge) but with that in mind; let's examine the proper procedure, care and use of the table as a judge.

First, size itself is what determines which dogs are shown on a table. Size of dogs that use a table can vary, but for many of these dogs, our size and manner can be very intimidating. It is a good idea to allow these dogs to enter the ring, and gait around the

ring to the table, rather than immediately putting them on a table. This allows them to get a 'feel' for the ring and to see the judge at their normal level. The UKC has a list of table breeds that can be printed out to help remember which breeds need to be examined on a table. Always remember to have the table in the ring before the dog enters the ring.

Once the dog is placed on the table, it is a good idea to approach the dog from the front. Using soft hands on the dog is important and to have the exhibitor to show the bite. ALWAYS know the standard for each breed so you understand what you need to look for on dentition in each breed. Some breeds are pretty straightforward in checking the bite (scissors, level, missing teeth) but be aware some of the brachycephalic breeds need special handling. Due to the short muzzles and undershot bites, a different approach is needed. Usually just lifting each side of the lip to check for the bite, or in some cases simply running a finger under the lip to feel the teeth will suffice.

Second, watch your body language when handling a table breed. Use a light touch, and try not to bend over the dog, which can be very scary for smaller exhibits. Don't stare them in the eyes (intimidating!) or put your head close to their head. While many may be fine with this, I try and keep the examination comfortable for the dog and a win-win situation for the dog, handler and judge. I don't demand the dog stand still as a statue, and this examination can be done with a wagging tail or even a slightly unconfident dog.

Third, use this time to check for breed specific characteristics (eye and nose placement, ear set, proper coat and texture, feeling structure on coated breeds, bite and dentition, foot shape, etc, and testicles on males). Check and feel for attributes that you might miss once they are off the table.

This examination should be brief. We examine dogs while on the table, but we JUDGE the dogs when they are on the ground, and please don't forget this. It is when the dogs are on the mats, moving and free baiting that we can see the breed attributes in character, movement and in their comfort zone. Most dogs will tolerate a table for the purpose of an examination, but their true character and temperament will be on the ground. Remember, examine on the table, but judge the dogs on the ground!

Once the dogs are off the table, please do not touch them on the ground, stand right over them, bend over them or come in close to stare at them. If you need to check something again, ask the exhibitor to put the dog back on the table. It is very threatening for a small dog to have someone reach down to them, or stare at them, or even bend over to take a closer look on the ground. It is fine to ask an exhibitor to place a dog back on the table if a closer look is needed. The more comfortable the exhibit and the handler, the better the dog will show and radiate confidence.

Remember, use the table to examine the dog, and judge the dog on the ground. Use light hands during the examination and keep the exam brief. Give a table dog space on the ground, as our large size (compared to them!) can be threatening. And last, never touch a table breed once they off the table. If needed, ask the owner to put the dog back on the table.

It is useful to speak directly to owners of different breeds for further breed specific information on table examination. I hope that you have found these tips on judging dogs on the table helpful. A confident manner of examining dogs on the table helps to make the showing experience as positive as possible for the dogs and owners, and gives the exhibitors confidence in us as judges.

UKC DOG EVENTS DEPARTMENT

Tony Vacha, Senior Director of Conformation Events, tvacha@ukcdogs.com • **Sydney Suwannarat**, Senior Director of Performance Events, sydneys@ukcdogs.com
Maude Tank, Director of Event Advocates, mtank@ukcdogs.com • **Denise Vavla**, dvavla@ukcdogs.com
Beth Anglemeyer, banglemyer@ukcdogs.com • **Drew Forsyth**, dforsyth@ukcdogs.com
conformation@ukcdogs.com • **performance@ukcdogs.com** • **judges@ukcdogs.com**
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WELCOME! TO OUR NEWLY-APPROVED AND NEWLY-APPLIED UKC JUDGES. FROM SEPTEMBER 13 TO NOVEMBER 22, 2013

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>.

NEW JUDGE APPLICANTS

- Anthony Flynn, Randolph MA, WP
- Bruce McLean, Littleton CO, CNF
- Christin Keinanen, Sundsgerb Finland, TR
- Debbie Addicoat, Carnation WA, RO
- Debbie L Melgreen, Yates City IL, CNF

NEW JUDGE APPRENTICES

- Anthony Flynn, WP
- Jeannine De Palma, APBT
- Kari Jepson, APBT & TFT
- Linn Klingel Brown, APBT
- Mary C Murphy-East, APBT
- Pat Crawford, OBED

- Pennie Jackson, TFT
- Rita Rice, LC

NEWLY LICENSED

- 7117, Marguerite Plank, Gettysburg PA, RO
- 7118, Cheryl Tice, Flanders NJ, CNF & JS
- 7119, Patti McNight, Rockford IL, RO
- 7120, Debbie Melgreen, Yates City IL, CNF
- 7121, Bruce McClean, Littleton CO, CNF

APPROVED FOR ADDITIONAL LICENSES

- Lila Fast, JS

STATUS CHANGE

(i.e.: from AP to PV or PV to SN)

- Barbara Trammell, Senior APBT and TFT Judge

- Holly Lowery-Richmond, Regular WP Judge
- Jackie Craver, Provisional AE Judge
- John Rogers, Provisional APBT Judge
- Joy Leiskau, Provisional APBT Judge
- Lew Olson, Senior APBT Judge
- Lila Fast, Provisional TFT Judge
- Linda Dannemiller, Provisional AE Judge
- Linn Klingel Brown, Provisional TFT Judge
- Lori Sargent, Provisional APBT Judge
- Mary C Murphy-East, Provisional TFT Judge
- Tami Hayden, Senior AE Judge