

Grand Champion Explanation for Exhibitors & Judges

Effective - May 12, 2010

Who is Eligible for Grand Champion competition?

The following categories of dogs are entered in this competition:

1. Dogs that are Champions of Record competing in Best of Breed or Best of Variety class. There are no additional entry fees or cost to exhibitors for participation in this competition at AKC events.
2. Dogs transferred to Best of Breed/Variety which according to their owners' records have completed the requirements for a championship but whose championships are unconfirmed. (The showing of dogs whose championships are unconfirmed is limited to a period of 90 days from the date of show where a dog completed the requirements for a championship according to the owners' records.)
3. Champions that win Non-Regular Classes and become eligible for Best of Breed competition. (Altered or spayed CH veteran class winners at independent specialties are eligible.)
4. Winners Dog and Winners Bitch are not eligible for Grand Champion (GCh) competition regardless of the circumstances. However, their winning BOB/BOV or BOS will not prohibit awarding Select Dog/Bitch to deserving dogs in the ring.
5. Judges and stewards are reminded not to ask questions about eligibility as any points awarded to a class winner that is not eligible will have these points disallowed administratively by AKC.

At the judge's discretion, Grand Championship points may be awarded to:

1. Best of Breed or Variety
2. Best of Opposite
3. Select Dog*
4. Select Bitch*

*By definition, the awarding of Select Dog or Select Bitch is an automatic indicator that the entry is deserving of GCH points.

Grand Champion competition will not continue beyond Best of Breed competition and in breeds that are divided into varieties, Grand Champion Competition will not continue beyond Best of Variety competition.

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What are the requirements to earn the Grand Champion Title?

1. 25 Grand Champion points.
2. A minimum of 9 points won at 3 shows with ratings of 3 or more points (Major wins) under three different judges, and one or more of the balance of points won under a 4th judge.
3. At least one Champion of Record was defeated at three of these shows.

How are Grand Champion points computed?

1. Grand Champion points are only to be awarded to dogs the judge considers deserving.
2. Grand Champions points awarded to the Best of Breed/Variety shall count all dogs of both sexes competing in the regular classes, non-regular (eligible for Best of Breed/Variety) and in Best of Breed/Variety competition.
3. Grand Champion points awarded to Best of Opposite Sex shall count all dogs of their sex competing in the regular classes, non-regular (eligible for Best of Breed/Variety) and in Best of Breed/Variety competition.
4. Grand Champion points awarded to Select Dog/Bitch shall count all dogs of their sex, except the dog awarded Best of Breed/Variety or Best of Opposite Sex, in the Best of Breed/Variety competition as well as the dogs of their sex in the regular and non-regular (eligible for Best of Breed/Variety) classes.
5. The entry of non-regular class entries are counted for computation of Grand Champion points to be awarded.

Judging Procedure

1. Choose BOB, BOW and BOS
2. If quality warrants, choose a Select Dog (SD) and Select Bitch (SB) from the remaining Champions in the BOB ring (do not consider WD or WB).
3. Annotate the judge's book certification as to the awarding (armband #) or withholding (N/A) of the Grand Champion points.
4. Award BOB, BOS, SD and SB ribbons if determined to be deserving of the Grand Champion title. See: http://www.akc.org/pdfs/judges_sheet_conformation.pdf for example of the revised judge's book form.

Best of Breed _____ **Best of Winners** _____ **Best of Opposite Sex** _____
Select Dog _____ **Select Bitch** _____

If withholding Grand Championship points from Best of Breed or Best of Opposite Sex please note GCH points withheld by the appropriate number.

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Administration

1. Starting May 12, 2010, Grand Champion competition will be included in all shows offering BOB or BOV competition.
2. Premium lists - Other than prize listings, there is no requirement to address Grand Champion competition in the premium list since it is included in all shows that offer BOB or BOV. However, there is no restriction should superintendents and secretaries want to bring attention to the new competition.
3. Judging Schedule - No additional information is required.
4. Ribbons - BOB and BOS do not require an additional ribbon. Light blue & white ribbons are required for SD & SB. Flat ribbons or rosettes are equally acceptable. "Select" is acceptable wording however "Grand Champion Select" is acceptable and more descriptive.
5. Ring Markers - Just as with BOB, BOW and BOS, there is no AKC requirement to have SD and SB placement markers. These markers are provided as a service by the club or superintendent.

The Select awards have no relationship or correlation to Awards of Merit. Awards of Merit are club awards rather than AKC awards. As per page 8-76 of the current Show/Trial Manual, "The club may determine its own criteria for and the number of trophies or rosettes to be awarded." Some clubs have criteria that restrict dogs that have received BOW and BOS from receiving AOMs. Others have no restrictions. Clubs should review their current policies and determine their preference concerning GCh award winners.