



AMERICAN  
KENNEL CLUB®

Judging Operations Department  
PO Box 900062  
Raleigh, NC 27675-9062  
(919) 816-3570  
[judgingops@akc.org](mailto:judgingops@akc.org)  
[www.akc.org](http://www.akc.org)

## 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 or her opinion he or 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 shall be granted a license to be a licensed superintendent.*

*No person shall be eligible for approval to judge if he or she resides in the same household with a professional handler or licensed superintendent.*

*No judge may accept an assignment nor officiate at any 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.*

### 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 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 or entities.)**

#### **II. Individuals with the following occupations will be eligible to judge, but cannot accept assignments at any show, companion show, circuit or 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 or 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 shop owners or employees.
- 2). Kennel owners and 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 or 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 AKC Conformation Judging Approval.

---

Signature

---

date