

**AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB**  
**RULES GOVERNING DOG SHOWS**  
(Copyrighted)

*To Take Effect 1 January 1910*  
*Amended 19 February 1912*  
*Amended 18 February 1913*  
*Amended 16 September 1913*

The following rules must be published in every Premium List.

**RULE I.**

The word “dog” where used in these rules, includes both sexes.

**RULE II.**

A Show is not recognized without the official endorsement of the Premium List, signed by the Secretary of the American Kennel Club, published at Head of the Classification.

**RULE III.**

SECTION A. Every Show is guaranteed one point toward a Championship, except as hereinafter stated. All Shows are to be rated on actual number of dogs benched (dogs “for exhibition only” not to be considered benched); 1,000 dogs and over, 5 points; 750 dogs and over, 4 points; 500 dogs and over, 3 points; 250 dogs and over, 2 points; under 250 dogs, 1 point. Such Show as so not offer money prizes in every breed mentioned in their Premium List shall not have a rating unless they have 250 dogs benched, when they shall have the regular rating as specified in this rule.

Such Shows as do not offer money prizes of at least one dollar each (except where percentage prizes are offered), in at least three classes in every breed mentioned in their Premium List shall not have a rating unless they have 250 dogs benched, when they shall have the regular rating as specified in this rule.

SECTION B. All authorized shows in States west of the easterly boundary of Montana, Wyoming, Colorado and New Mexico to be rates as follows : 400 dogs and over, 5 points; 300 dogs and over, 4 points; 200 dogs and over, 3 points; 100 dogs and over, 2 points; under 100 dogs, 1 point.

SECTION C: All authorized shows held in States east of the Mississippi River and south of the northerly boundary of Kentucky, West Virginia and Virginia, to be rated as follows: 400 dogs or over, 5 points; 300 dogs or over, 4 points; 200 dogs and over, 3 points; 100 dogs and over, 2 points; under 100 dogs, 1 point.

**Deleted:** The Pacific Advisory Committee shall have jurisdiction in all States

**Deleted:** o. All application for membership and dates, and all communications, should be addressed to the Secretary of said Pacific Advisory Committee. ¶  
All shows authorized by them to be rated as follows

**Deleted:** :

SECTION D: All authorized shows held in States between the easterly boundary of Montana, Wyoming, Colorado and New Mexico and the easterly boundary of Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Arkansas and Louisiana to be rated as follows: 500 dogs and over, 5 points; 400 dogs and over, 4 points; 300 dogs and over, 3 points; 200 dogs and over, 2 points; under 200, 1 point.

SECTION E. Specialty Club Shows confined to the breed represented by their club shall be rated at 4 points.

Deleted: C

Specialty Clubs not active members may be licensed with the written consent of the parent club, and will be rated at two or four points, as the parent club shall decide. If the consent of the parent club be not given within one month, or if a four point rating be refused, the applying club may appeal to the License Committee, which may issue a license for a two or a four point show.

## **CLASSES.**

### **RULE IV.**

Classification shall be confined to the recognized breeds hereinafter named, which may be divided or limited by variety, weight, color, height, or sex, and otherwise, as provided for in these rules. All classifications must be arranged as follows: Puppy, Novice, American bred, Limit, Open and Winners, after which additional classes can be included in any breed.

SECTION A. The Puppy Class shall be for all dogs over six months and not exceeding 12 months of age; and no entry can be made of one under six months, or whose date of birth, breeder, sire or dam is unknown.

Puppies may be permanently removed from a show after their classes have been judged, but only after the close of a show in any evening.

Puppy classes must be judged not later than the second day of the show.

SECTION B. The Novice Class shall be for dogs only (bred in the United States), never having won a first prize at any recognized show, wins in the Puppy Class excepted, but only dogs bred in the United States, Canada, Mexico, or Cuba shall be eligible. The entry blank must state the name of the breeder and the words, "bred in the United States."

SECTION C. The Limit Class shall be for all dogs that have never won six first prizes in this class, and no Champions shall be eligible.

SECTION D. The American Bred Class shall be for all dogs bred in the United States of American and no Champions shall be eligible.

SECTION E. The Open Class is for all dogs over six months.

SECTION F. The Winners' Class, for which there shall be no entry fee, must be opened only to undefeated winners of first prizes in either the Puppy, Novice, Limit, American Bred, or Open Classes, all of which shall constitute the regular classes, at a show giving at least three of the above mentioned classes, one of which must be the Open. The Winners' Class may be divided by sex, provided the required three classes are also divided.

After awarding the Winners' prize, the dog or dogs having been placed second to the winner in any of these classes must compete with the remaining dogs in said class for "Reserve". No eligible dog can be withheld from competition.

SECTION G. Winners of 15 points in this class, under three different judges (at least 3 points of which shall have been won at one show), shall thereby become a Champion of Record, and if registered in the Stud Book shall be entitled to a Championship Certificate and on payment of \$3.00 will receive a Championship Medal.

SECTION H. The Miscellaneous Class shall be open to all dogs of recognized breeds which have not otherwise been provided for in the Premium List, and to such other breeds of foreign dogs as are published in Count Henry de Bylandt's Book, "Dogs of All Nations." Entries in this class must specify the breed of the exhibit. Failure to comply with this condition shall cancel the award.

SECTION I. The term, "Field Trial Record", as used at all Dog Shows, applies only to Public Trials where competition is open to all.

SECTION J. Field Trial Classes at Bench Shows shall be confined to dogs that have been placed at a recognized Field Trial.

Hunting Classes shall be confined to dogs that received a Certificate of Merit as a hunting dog from judges at a recognized Field Trial, or that have been placed at such a trial.

SECTION K. In estimating the number of prizes a dog has won, no award received by it on or after the day of closing of the entries of the Show at which the dog is to be shown will be counted.

SECTION L. In any case where there is a limit of weight or height, the person in charge of a dog entered in such class may claim of the Show Committee the right at any time after the opening of the show, and before the judging of its class, to have the dog weighed or measured, and the records of the dog shall be registered and hold good at the time of judging.

Any competing exhibitor or handler shall have the right to demand the weighing or measuring of any dog during the judging of the class, other than those whose records had been officially registered. Any subsequent protest must be made in the formal

manner provided for in these rules. The Club must appoint official weighers and measurers and provide scales and standards for use of the exhibitors or judges.

#### **RULE VI.**

Dog Show Committee may provide such classes for dogs of recognized breeds as they may choose, provided they do not conflict with the conditions of the above mentioned classes.

#### **RULE VII.**

The breeder of a dog is a person owning or leasing the dam at the time of the service.

Dogs bred and whelped in the United States, and dogs whelped in the United States by a bitch purchased by a citizen of the United States in any foreign country, and subsequently bred by him to a foreign dog, shall be considered American bred.

#### **RULE VIII.**

Every dog entered under these rules must either be Registered or Listed previous to being exhibited. The fee for registration is \$1.00, and for listing \$0.25 cents. The registration of a dog gives the privilege of competition for life. The listing of a dog gives the privilege of competition only for the show for which it is listed.

#### **RULE IX.**

Every dog must be the bona fide property of the person making its entry on the day of closing of the entries, and the right to exhibit a dog cannot be transferred. If an entry is made in the name of an agent, and the name of the owner is not given, the win of the dog shall be cancelled. If a dog is entered in the name of an association, the name of the association, proof of its incorporation, and a list of its officers, shall be filed with the Secretary of the American Kennel Club prior to the making of any such entry. The entry must clearly state the name of the dog, and if known, its date of birth, name of sire and dam, and the name of its breeder. Should any of these particulars be unknown to the exhibitor, it must be so stated on the entry blank. If the dog is registered in the American Kennel Club Stud Book, the Stud Book number of the dog must be given with the entry. The penalty for violation of this rule is \$1.00 for each offense.

#### **RULE X.**

If the name of the dog which has won a prize at any show has been changed, the old name also must be given on the entry blank and published in the catalog until such a time as it wins a prize under its new name. Cancellations of wins must follow in all cases of violation of rules, except for technical errors, the penalty for which is prescribed.

#### **RULE XI.**

If a dog has been entered without being identified as directed in these rules, a fine of \$1.00 shall be imposed for each error, unless fraud shall be shown, in which case the wins shall be cancelled.

#### **RULE XII.**

No entry can be made in a Kennel Name unless the name has been registered. The partners in a kennel will be deemed equally culpable in the case of fraud perpetrated in their name. The term, "exhibitor" shall mean an individual, or a co-partnership exhibiting as an individual, firm or kennels. Penalty for infraction of this rule, cancellation of wins.

#### **RULE XIII.**

The Dog Show Committee may decline any entries, or may remove any dog from the show for cause.

#### **RULE XIV.**

Dogs may be entered for exhibition or for specials only, or for certain specials which must be specified on the entry blank; but any dog entered for competition and received at the Show must compete in all the classes for which it is entered, and failing to do so shall be fined an amount equal to the entrance fee for each class. Dogs competing for specials only must be entered in one of the regular classes in which they need not compete.

All classified specials, offered in any breed, must be adjudicated upon by the judge of the regular classes appointed for that breed. An unclassified special is one not confined to the breed or breeds adjudicated upon by any judge or judges. A dog shall be deemed ineligible to compete for a special against any dog or dogs that have previously beaten it in competition at the show then being held.

#### **RULE XV.**

The age of a dog shall be calculated up to and inclusive of the date preceding the show.

#### **RULE XVI.**

Exhibitors are responsible for their own errors in making out their entry forms. If a win is cancelled subsequent to the closing of the Show, the exhibitor must return to the Club holding the Show, within thirty days after receipt of notice to that effect, all prizes won by the dog. Penalty for non-compliance with this rule shall be suspension of the exhibitor until restitution is made and receipt for same filed with the American Kennel Club.

## **RULE XVII.**

The regularly appointed veterinarian of his representative shall determine the physical condition of dogs during the Show. When appealed to by the judge, or when giving an opinion on a protest to the Show Committee, he shall immediately render his decision in writing.

A dog that is blind, deaf, lame, castrated, spayed, dyed or faked shall be ineligible to compete at any show, except in the case of lameness, when the veterinarian is satisfied that it is only temporary.

## **RULE XVIII.**

The appointment of judges shall rest with the Club giving the Show. A judge must be a person in good standing with the American Kennel Club. The names of all judges, including those for unclassified specials, also the name of the Superintendent, Secretary of Show and Veterinarian must be published in every Premium List and Catalogue. Failure to publish such names shall be punishable by a fine of twenty-five (\$25.00) dollars. After the list of judges has been published in the Premium List is cannot be changed, unless an appointed judge is unable to fill his engagement. The Committee shall then have the right to fill the vacancy.

All the classes of any one breed of dogs must be adjudicated upon the same judge, or judges acting in conjunction. In the event of any appointed judge not officiating, it shall be optional with the exhibitor before the commencement of judging the breed to withdraw his dog or dogs from competition and from the show, in which event his entry fee will be returned.

A judge may order any person from the ring. Upon the complaint of anyone actually engaged in the handling or showing of a dog during the judging of a class, he may, if in his opinion the complaint is warranted, order from the ring any person guilty of intentional or deliberate interference with any dog therein competing.

The Judge's decision shall be final in all cases affecting the merits of the dogs. Full discretionary power is given to the judge to withhold any or all prizes for want of merit.

Should the win of a dog be cancelled the next dog in order of merit shall be moved up, and the win shall be counted in every respect the same as if it has been the original award. For this purpose the Judge shall place one dog "reserve" after the regular prizes are awarded if a dog of sufficient merit is available.

The judges must mark in their own books all award made by them, and must also mark all absentees in their classes.

A professional handler shall not be eligible to act as a judge (a professional handler is a person who handles, boards, conditions or show dogs for money as a means of livelihood). This rule shall not apply to shows held by clubs in the location formerly under the jurisdiction of the Pacific Advisory Committee.

#### **RULE XIX.**

No exhibitor is permitted to affix any award, sign, or notice on the bench, or any prizes not won at that show, unless it is specially stated on such notice the name of the show where such prizes were awarded and the year in which that show was held. For violation of this rule the exhibitor shall forfeit any prize won at that show.

#### **RULE XX.**

The superintendent, the secretary of the show, veterinarian or club official, acting in any of these capacities cannot exhibit or officiate as judge, at the show.

Anyone acting as Judge at a show shall not exhibit for competition, not act as agent or handler at such show. Penalty for violation of the above rule twenty-five (\$25.00) dollars. Dogs belonging to a kennel in which any of the above officials are in any way connected shall be deemed ineligible for competition.

A judge cannot handle, show, or take any dog into the ring under another judge at any show at which he is officiating under any circumstances. This will apply to specials as well as regular, or additional classes.

The show-giving club will be held liable for the penalty if it accepts an entry from one of its judges.

The judge will be held liable for the penalty if he or she handles, shows, or acts as agent for any dog at a show in which he or she officiates.

#### **RULE XXI.**

A protest against a dog may be made by any exhibitor, or any member of a club of the American Kennel Club, but must be in writing, and lodged with the Secretary of the Show Club within seven days of the last day of the show, except the same is lodged by the Secretary of the American Kennel Club, provided, however, that a protest calling for a decision as to the physical condition of a dog and determined only by the veterinarian must be made before the closing of the show, and in the case of a show. A protest made in the ring and previous to the judge rendering his decision does not require a deposit.

No protest shall be entertained unless accompanied by a deposit of \$5.00 (to be returned in case the protest is sustained.) This does not apply to the American Kennel Club.

Deleted: .

## **RULE XXII.**

An appeal may be taken to the American Kennel Club, but such appeal must be forwarded to its Secretary within seven days of the decision being rendered, together with a deposit of \$10.00. If the decision is sustained, the deposit shall be forfeited to the American Kennel Club, but if the decision is reversed, then all deposits must be returned to the appellant.

In the jurisdiction of the Pacific Advisory Committee, appeals to be made to that committee.

## **RULE XXIII.**

A person or club guilty of misconduct of any kind in connection with dogs, Dog Shows or Field Trials, may be suspended by the President of the American Kennel Club, or in his absence by one of the Vice-Presidents or by the Committee of the Show or Trials where the offense was committed; but such decision must be acted on by the Board of Directors at their next meeting.

## **RULE XXIV.**

The suspension or disqualification of an owner shall date from the day of the perpetration of the fraudulent act, and shall apply to all dogs owned by him or connected with the perpetration of a fraudulent act, and no dog so disqualified is eligible for entry at any show under any ownership.

No person under suspension or disqualification can make an entry, exhibit, or take a prize, act as agent for an exhibitor, or take a dog in the judging ring at any show.

The privileges of the Stud Book are withheld from all persons under suspension or disqualification, for registration of dogs owned or bred by them.

## **RULE XXV.**

A person shall not be disqualified without an opportunity of being heard in his own defense and due notice with formal charges be given him.

## **RULE XXXVI.**

Recognized breeds shall be such breeds as are eligible to registration in the Stud Book, and such breeds as may hereafter be made eligible for such registration.

A list of breeds recognized by the American Kennel Club must be published in every Premium List, excepting those of Specialty Clubs confined to their own breed.



The following list comprises all breeds of dogs for which separate classes may be provided.

Airedale Terrier	Japanese Spaniels
Basset Hounds (Smooth)	Maltese Terriers
Basset Hounds (Rough)	Mastiffs
Beagles	Newfoundlands
Bedlington Terriers	Old English Sheepdogs
Black and Tan (Manchester) Terriers	<u>Shetland Sheepdogs</u>
Bloodhounds	Otter Hounds
Boston Terriers	Pekingese Spaniels
Bull Terriers	Pointers
Chesapeake Bay Dogs	Pomeranians
Chihuahuas	Poodles (Corded)
Chow Chow	Poodles (Curly)
Collies	Pugs
Dachshund	Retrievers (Curly-coated)
Dalmatians	Retrievers (Wavy-coated)
Deerhounds (Scottish)	Schipperkes
Dandie Dinmont Terriers	Scottish Terriers
English Toy Spaniels (Orange and White)	Setters (English)
English Toy Spaniels (Red)	Setters (Irish)
English Toy Spaniels (Black and Tan)	Setters (Gordon)
English Toy Spaniels (Tri-color)	Skye Terriers
Foxhounds (American)	Spaniels (Clumber)
Foxhounds (English)	Spaniels (Cocker)
Fox Terriers (English)	Spaniels (Field)
Fox Terriers (Wire)	Spaniels (Irish Water)
French Bulldogs	Spaniels (Sussex)
Greyhounds	St. Bernards (Smooth)
Great Danes	St. Bernards (Rough)
Griffons	Toy Poodles
Harriers	Toy Terriers
Irish Terriers	West Highland White Terriers
Welsh Terriers	White English Terriers (Toy)
Irish Wolfhounds	Whippets
Italian Greyhounds	Wolfhounds (Russian)
	Yorkshire Terriers

## FOREIGN DOGS

Boxers  
Chinese Crested  
Eskimo (Husky)  
Eskimo (Mallimuth)  
German or Belgium Sheepdogs  
Griffon (Bruxellois)  
Labrador

Mexican Hairless  
Owtchar, or Russian Sheepdogs  
Papillons  
Pinschers (Doberman)  
Samoyeds  
Sheepdogs of the Maremmes  
Norwegian Elkhounds

Deleted: ¶

## RULE XXVII.

Special prizes can be classified and judged under the following division of breeds.

### SPORTING DIVISION

Airedale Terrier  
Basset Hounds  
Beagles  
Bedlington Terriers  
Black and Tan (Manchester) Terriers  
Bloodhounds  
Bull Terriers  
Chesapeake Bay Dogs  
Dachshund  
Dandie Dinmont Terriers  
Foxhounds  
Fox Terriers (Smooth)  
Fox Terriers (Wire)  
Greyhounds  
Harriers  
Irish Terriers  
Otter Hounds  
Pointers  
Scottish Deerhounds  
Scottish Terriers  
Setters  
Spaniels (Clumber)  
Spaniels (Cocker)  
Spaniels (Field)  
Spaniels (Irish Water)  
Spaniels (Sussex)  
Spaniels (Water, other than Irish)  
Whippets  
Welsh Terriers  
West Highland White Terriers

White English Terriers (Toy)  
Wolfhounds (Irish)  
Wolfhounds (Russian)

### NON-SPORTING

Boston Terriers  
Bulldogs  
Chow Chows  
Collies  
Dalmatians  
English Toy Spaniels  
French Bulldogs  
Foreign Dogs  
Great Danes  
Griffons (Bruxellois)  
Italian Greyhounds  
Japanese Spaniels  
Maltese Terriers  
Mastiffs  
Newfoundlands  
Old English Sheepdogs  
Pekingese Spaniels  
Pomeranians  
Poodles  
Pugs  
Schipperkes  
Sky Terriers  
St. Bernards  
Toy Terriers  
Yorkshire Terriers

## **FIELD TRIAL RULES AND FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Every dog must be bona fide property of the person making the entry. The right to run a dog cannot be transferred.

### **(1) BEAGLES:**

All classes may be divided by sex. Classes when divided by height must be divided as follows:

Over thirteen inches and not exceeding fifteen inches.

Thirteen inches and under

Twelve inches and under. (this class is optional with the Club holding the trials, but when added the preceding class shall read, "Over twelve inches and not exceeding thirteen").

The total number of points required to entitle any Beagle to a Field Championship is ten (10). One win must be at a Field Trial that is rated at 3 points or over.

All Field Trials to be rated on the actual number of bona fide starters in the open classes. Wins in the open classes only to count. Derby stakes and Pack stakes are not open classes.

Beagle Trials to be rated as follows:

Fifty starters and over, 5 points.

Forty starters and under fifty, 4 points

Thirty starters and under forty, 3 points

Twenty starters and under thirty, 2 points

Under twenty starters, 1 point.

### **(2) FOXHOUNDS:**

The Foxhounds winning the All-Age Class at the Trials of the Brunswick Foxhounds Club will thereby become a Field Champion.

### **(3) POINTERS AND SETTERS:**

The winner of the National Field Trial Championship Association's Trial will thereby become a Field Champion.

### **(4) OTHER BREEDS THEN THOSE SPECIFIED:**

Two wins in open classes will constitute a Field Champion.