DOG SHOW RULES
AND
REGULATIONS
September 1, 1887

1. The word “dog” where used in these rules includes both sexes.
2. All dogs entered for competition or exhibition only shall be entered in the name of the bona fide owner. The entry must be identify the Dog to be exhibited, by name, and of dog, its date of birth, and if known, the name of its sire, dam and the name of the breeder, should any of these particulars be unknown to the exhibitor it must be so stated on the entry blank and inserted in the Catalogue.
3. If the name of a Dog which has won a prize has been changed, the old name must be given on the entry blanks and inserted in the Catalogue, until such time as it wins a prize under its new name.
4. If a Dog has been entered without being clearly identified, as directed in Rules 2 and 3, it may be disqualified and forfeit any prize which may have been awarded to it.
5. The breeder of a Dog is the person owning the bitch at the time of her being bred.
6. A Puppy is eligible for competition in the Open Class, as well as the Puppy Class, but a separate entry must be made for each Class.
7. The authorities of any Show may reserve to themselves the right of declining any entries they may see fit, or of removing any Dog on account of disease, vice or other cause.
8. A castrated Dog or spayed Bitch shall be disqualified, and forfeit any prize which may have been awarded it.
9. Total blindness, deafness or lameness shall absolutely disqualify. If the judge or veterinary surgeon is satisfied that the deafness or lameness is temporary, the dog shall be allowed to compete.
10. A Dog suffering from mange or any contagious disease shall be disqualified, and forfeit any prize which may have been awarded to it, and shall be removed at once from the show room. The regularly appointed veterinary surgeon shall alone decide as to mange or contagious disease, and his decision must be given in writing.
11. A judge may disqualify a Dog which in his opinion has been improperly tampered with, subject to the decision of the veterinary surgeon, should the judge’s disqualification not be sustained, the class must be immediately rejudged.
12. Full discretionary power is given to the judge of each class to withhold any or all prizes for want of merit. The judge’s decision will be final in all cases affecting the merits of the Dog, and appeals can only be entertained where misrepresentation or breach of the rules is discovered.
13. Should an appointed judge be unable to fulfill his engagements the Committee shall have the right to fill the vacancy in such manner as they see fit.
14. In any class where there is a limit of weight, the person in charge of a Dog entered in such a class may claim the right, at any time before the judging, to have his Dog weighed and the weight of the dog shall be registered.
15. A Dog to compete in a Champion Class must have won three first prizes, exclusive of Puppy Classes and Miscellaneous Classes, at Shows recognized by the American Kennel Club, a list of which must be published in the Premium List of each Show.

16. In estimating the number of prizes a Dog has won with reference to whether it should compete in a Champion Class or not, the number of prizes won shall be calculated up to 12 noon of the day preceding the closing of the entries of the Show. If a Dog wins a first prize that will make it eligible to the Champion Class, between the date of closing of entries and the day previous to the opening of the Show, the Dog shall be transferred to the said Champion Class.

17. In entering a Dog in a Champion Class it is necessary to specify on the entry blank a sufficient number of first prize winnings to entitle him to compete in such classes, and this record must be given in the Catalogue.

18. Dogs to be eligible for special prizes must in all cases be entered in their regular classes, and no Dog eligible for special prizes can be withdrawn from competition, unless it has been stated on entry blanks, “Will not compete for special prizes.” Stud dogs and brood bitches, with their progeny, may compete for such special prizes as may be offered, but the progeny must be entered in regular classes, and may be entered, not for competition.

19. No special prizes can be accepted or offered by a Show Committee after the regular judging has commenced.

20. The age of a Dog shall be calculated up to and inclusive of the day preceding the Show. A dog whelped April 30th shall not be eligible on May 1st of the following year to compete in a Class for Dogs under 12 months of age.

21. An objection to a Dog may be made by any exhibitor, or any member of a club, a member of this Association, but must be in writing, and be lodged with the Secretary within seven days of the last day of the Show. The Committee shall at once meet and decide upon any objection lodged during the Show, and from their decision an appeal may at once be taken to the local delegate, if present, otherwise to any member of the Executive Committee of the American Kennel Club who may be available, provided any such member is not on the Show Committee. If the objection is lodged subsequent to the show, it must be decided by the Committee within twenty days from its receipt. From the decision of the Show Committee, appeal may be taken to the Executive Committee of the American Kennel Club, in the manner already provided for.

22. Any person who has been guilty of misconduct of any kind in connection with Dogs, Dog Shows or Field Trials, may be disqualified by the Committee of any Show where the fault is committed. Notice of such disqualification must be forwarded within twenty-four hours to the Secretary of the American Kennel Club. The Secretary of the American Kennel Club shall at once notify the President, or in his absence the Vice-President, who shall investigate the case, and, if he sees fit, suspend the penalty until the next meeting of the Executive Committee, when the Committee must either remove the penalty, or impose a penalty of disqualification for such a period as they may decide upon. The disqualification of an owner shall apply to all Dogs connected with the perpetration of a fraudulent act.

23. Entries made in the name of a Kennel must be accompanied by the name of the actual proprietor or proprietors, but not necessarily for publication.
24. The Secretary of each Show must forward to the Secretary of the American Kennel Club a copy of the Premium List of the proposed Show, which must contain a list of officials under whose management the Show is to be held.

25. All Club members of this Association shall be required in future to pay all regular prizes strictly in accordance with the description given of them in the published Premium List. Where medals are awarded, if they are described as gold or silver, their purity shall be that of United States coin. If manufactured of any other material, no description shall be given of its material; it shall be merely called the Club Medal.

26. (21) Show Committee may adopt such regulations to govern their Show as they deem fit, provided they do not conflict with any of the foregoing rules.

Awards at the following Shows will be recognized by the American Kennel Club:

- Chicago, 1876
- Washington, 1883 and 1884
- St. Louis Kennel Club, prior to 1885
- Massachusetts Kennel Club, prior to 1885
- Baltimore Kennel Club, prior to 1885
- Meriden Shows, prior to 1885
- Former members of the American Kennel Club, whose wins are recognized, prior to their withdrawal from same:
  - N.B. Kennel Club, St. Johns, N.B.; withdrew March 24, 1886
  - London Kennel Club, London, Canada; withdrew March 24, 1886
  - Eastern Field Trials Club; withdrew March 24, 1886
  - Baltimore Bench Shows Assn., Baltimore, Md.; withdrew March 24, 1886
  - Montreal Kennel Club, Montreal, Canada; withdrew March 24, 1886
  - St. Louis Gun Club, St. Louis, Mo.; withdrew March 24, 1886
  - National Field Trials Club; withdrew May, 1887
  - Illinois Kennel Club, Chicago, Ills.; withdrew March 24, 1887
  - Kentucky Kennel Club, Louisville, Ky.; withdrew December 16, 1885
  - Manitoba Pet Stock Assn., Winnipeg, Canada; withdrew March 24, 1886