### AKC Conformation Judging Eligibility

*Approved includes both permit and full status judges. **“Exhibit” refers to any dog personally handled by the individual OR any dog owned or co-owned by the individual. Restrictions apply to all members of the same household.

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<th>COMPETITION</th>
<th>CAN I JUDGE?</th>
<th>CAN I SHOW?</th>
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| **AKC Conformation events (all-breed, limited breed and independent specialty shows)** | - Must be included on AKC’s list of eligible judges and approved to judge the applicable breeds, groups and/or Best in Show.  
- Current list may be accessed via [AKC’s online judges directory](https://www.akc.org).  
- Approved judges must be assigned to competitions such as stud dog and brood bitch.  
- Foreign Judges may be assigned breeds/groups they are approved by their home registry. | - May not exhibit the day he/she judges, three days prior and three days following at any AKC Conformation event within 200 miles of the assignment(s).  
- May not exhibit in any competition (agility, obedience, rally, etc.) the same day he/she judges. |
| **AKC 4-6 month puppy competitions.** | - Must be approved by the AKC to judge at least one breed or has applied and been approved as an [Open Show Judge](https://www.akc.org).  
- Eligible individuals may be assigned any breed/competition at the event.  
- Judges approved for Junior Showmanship ONLY may not judge the 4-6 competition.  
- Entries count toward the daily 175 limit. | - May exhibit the same day he/she judges.  
- Judge and members of the same household should refrain from competing in the 4-6 month puppy competition. |
| **AKC National Owner Handled Series (NOHS)** | - Must be AKC approved Conformation breed judge or eligible Foreign Judge.  
- To be assigned NOHS group - Must be approved for at least one breed within that group or any one complete group.  
- To be assigned NOHS BIS - Must be eligible to judge any NOHS group.  
- MAY NOT be assigned the same regular and NOHS group/BIS at same event. | - Judge only assigned NOHS group and/or BIS may exhibit in the regular competition on the day(s) they judge but may not compete in NOHS at the same show, circuit, cluster, or weekend of shows they judge.  
- May exhibit the same day he/she judges.  
- Judge and members of the same household should refrain from competing in the special attraction which he/she is judging. |
| **Special attractions (excluding NOHS)** | - Must be in good standing with the AKC to judge special attraction group/BIS competitions (i.e., Best Puppy, Best Bred By Exhibitor, Best Veteran) at AKC Conformation events.  
- Judge may not be assigned regular group/BIS and special attraction groups/BIS (excluding NOHS) at same event. | - May exhibit the same day he/she judges.  
- Judge and members of the same household should refrain from competing in the special attraction which he/she is judging. |
| **Sweepstakes/Futurities** | - Must be in good standing with the AKC to judge sweepstakes and/or futurities.  
- May not judge a sweepstakes/futurity prior to assignment in regular classes of same breed on same weekend/cluster.  
- Entries count toward the daily 175 limit. | - May not exhibit in any competition the same day he/she judges.  
- May exhibit on the days before and after they judge.  
- When part of a multi-day specialty, the restriction runs the entire length of the event. |
| **AKC FSS Open Shows** | - Must be approved by the AKC to judge at least one breed or has applied and been approved as an [Open Show Judge](https://www.akc.org).  
- Eligible individuals may be assigned any breed/competition at the event.  
- Judges approved for Junior Showmanship ONLY may not judge Open Shows.  
- Entries count toward the daily 175 limit. | - May not exhibit on the day he/she judges at any event within 200 miles. |

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