**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>
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<th>CAN I SHOW?</th>
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| AKC Conformation events (all-breed, limited breed and independent specialty shows) | • Must be approved by the AKC to judge the applicable breeds, groups and/or Best in Show.  
• Must be included on AKC’s list of eligible judges.  
• Current list may be accessed via [AKC’s online judges directory](#).  
• Approved judges must be assigned to competitions such as stud dog and brood bitch. | • 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 have an AKC Conformation number.  
• Includes any individuals currently approved by the AKC to judge at least one breed or has applied and been approved as an [Open Show Judge](#).  
• Eligible individuals may be assigned any breed/competition at the event.  
• Judges approved for Junior Showmanship ONLY may not judge the 4-6 competition. | • 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 Visiting 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. | • 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. |
| 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. | • 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 be assigned sweepstakes and/or futurities.  
• Must be submitted to AKC Event Plans for approval. | • 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 have an AKC Conformation number.  
• Includes any individuals currently approved to judge at least one breed and/or has applied and been approved as an [Open Show Judge](#).  
• Eligible individuals may be assigned any breed/competition at the event.  
• Judges approved for Junior Showmanship ONLY may not judge Open Shows. | • May not exhibit on the day he/she judges at any event within 200 miles. |