



Actions to Help the Sport

To: President, Secretary and Delegate for all Clubs Licensed for Conformation

In order to provide the sport greater flexibility during this time of uncertainty, the AKC Board approved staff recommendations to modify the following standard procedures/policies. These modifications will be in effect for 2020, unless specific dates are noted.

1. Event Application Fees - For events cancelled in 2020, Event Application fees will be applied to the club's next event of the same type provided the club has notified the AKC of the cancellation.
2. Modification to Limited Events Policy – Clubs previously not eligible may hold a third show in connection with their show/cluster if they meet the following provisions:
 - Must hold all of their shows within 50 miles of the club's territory, and
 - No other shows are held within 500 miles of the show site on the day of the show or any day of the cluster.

Please contact the Club Development Department (clubdevelopment@akc.org) to seek assistance if you feel your club may qualify. This is a permanent change of policy (not limited to 2020 only).

3. Distance Restrictions for Conformation

- Extend the distance conformation clubs may hold a show outside their territory from 125 miles to **200 miles**. This applies to all types of conformation clubs –

Specialty clubs, Group clubs and All-breed clubs.

- Extend the distance specialty clubs may join another specialty club of the same breed outside their territory from 200 miles to **300 miles**.
- There is no change to the conflict policy – 200 miles between shows.

4. Breed Specialties – Increase the number of specialties a local specialty club may hold from two specialties or two days of specialties per year to **two independent or concurrent specialties or two days of independent or concurrent specialties, plus up to four designated specialties**.

5. Assignment Conflicts for Conformation Judges

- Waive the policy restricting judges from being assigned the same breed, Group or Best in Show at events held within 30 days and 200 miles. This applies to conflicting weekends and does not apply to events on the same weekend, circuit or cluster.
- Waive the same day exhibiting restriction for judges assigned only NOHS Groups and/or NOHS BIS. This will provide clubs greater flexibility and options in panel assignments. Judge assigned NOHS group or NOHS BIS show only may exhibit the same day, but **MAY NOT** compete in NOHS the same day they judge.

6. Junior Qualifications

- Allow Juniors that turned 18 on or after March 1 to compete until Oct 31. This will encompass the qualifying period for both the AKC National Championship (ANC) and Westminster.
- 2020 ANC Junior criteria revised to 3 wins in Open with Competition (usually 5 wins).

7. Clubs - Information regarding the [Government Stimulus Package](#) has been posted on the Club Development Facebook page and the Government Relations website.

8. Event Applications – Waive all fines for the late submittal of event applications and judges panels through the end of October. This provides clubs more time to

reschedule and plan their events.

9. Conformation Judges Education - Free online breed education webinars presented by Parent Club Judges Education Coordinators/Presenters provide additional educational resources which may be submitted on future application for the breed.

10. Conformation Judges Education - All Canine College breed courses are being offered at half price thru May 31.

11. Clubs – Waive the Public Education requirements. Clubs are encouraged to do their best to increase their social media presence and educate their local communities.

Those clubs exploring alternatives for rescheduling their events are encouraged to seek the assistance of the Club Development Department (clubdevelopment@akc.org) or the Event Operations staff (EventPlans@akc.org).

Please stay safe and healthy



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