

NATIONAL JUDGES GUIDELINES

ELIGIBILITY FOR JUDGES OF NATIONAL EVENTS AND PROCEDURES FOR HIRING

PURPOSE:

The National Judges Guidelines outlines the eligibility requirements for judging at the BHCA Nationals as well as the selection process and the honoraria.

ELIGIBILITY

Any judge who is judging an event at the BHCA Nationals is bound by AKC Rules for which they are licensed to judge. (This would include all companion and performance events) For companion and performance event judges, this means the judge would be eligible to participate in any other event that is held at Nationals that does not have the same AKC event number as the event that they are judging. It is recommended that the Nationals Field Trial judge, judge all classes for the event and not compete in that Trial only. For conformation judges, the AKC has a different set of regulations prohibiting them from participating in any events where they are judging. All Conformation judges will be asked to write critiques of their assignments.

1. Conformation Regular and Non-regular Classes
 - A. Must be a member in good standing of BHCA
 - B. Must be a regularly approved judge of Basset Hounds
 - C. May not have judged the regular or non-regular classes (Dog, Bitch or Best of Breed) at the National for three (3) years
2. Sweepstakes Classes
 - A. Must be a member in good standing of BHCA
 - B. Must not have judged the Sweepstakes Classes at the National for three (3) years
 - C. May be a permit status judge
3. Obedience
 - A. Must be a regularly approved AKC judge of all obedience classes
4. Rally
 - A. Must be a regularly approved AKC judge of all rally classes
5. Futurity/Maturity Stakes
 - A. Any member in good standing of BHCA. See Futurity & Maturity Stake Rules.
6. Tracking Classes
 - A. It is recommended that at least one (1) member of the Tracking judge panel be a BHCA member.
 - B. Must be AKC approved for tracking tests to be offered
7. Field Trial
 - A. It is recommended that at least one (1) member of the Field Trial judge panel be a BHCA member.
8. Agility
 - A. Must be an AKC approved judge for agility classes to be offered

9. Scent Work

- A. Must be an AKC approved judge for scent work classes to be offered

PROCEDURE FOR HIRING

1. Conformation and Sweepstakes

- A. The process by which judges are selected for the BHCA National shall be the responsibility of the Board of Directors per the Standing Rules.
- B. The current procedure calls for the publishing of a list of eligible judges who have agreed to the nomination. This list is to be published in the March-April issue of *Tally-Ho* along with a ballot to nominate a slate. The ballot return deadline is May 20th postmark.
- C. After the ballots are counted, the top six (6) nominees are notified for all regular/ non regular classes and the top three (3) for Sweepstakes by the Recording Secretary
- D. Those nominees make up the slate for the judges panel and a ballot is sent out in late August according to the voting procedure outlined in the club By-laws.
- E. The three persons receiving the most votes become the panel for judging either the Best of Breed competition, the Bitch regular and non-regular classes, or the Dog regular and non-regular classes. The nominee with the highest number of votes shall choose their assignment first. The second top vote getter chooses their assignment from the two remaining categories, and the third place vote getter is assigned to the remaining assignment. Junior Showmanship classes are assigned to one of the judges approved to do Junior Showmanship. If none of these judges is approved for Junior Showmanship, the Board will hire a BHCA member judge who is approved for juniors to fulfill this assignment.
- F. Should a judge of either the Specialty/ Sweepstakes or regular classes be unable to fulfill his/her obligation to judge, for any reason, the remaining candidates for the judging positions will be invited to fill the vacancy in descending order of votes received.
- G. Any judge selected to judge at the BHCA National Specialty must agree not to judge Basset Hounds 6 months prior to that nationals, regardless of the location.

2. Obedience/Rally, Scent Work and Tracking

- A. The hiring of judges for these events is left to the discretion of the Nationals Coordinator and the National Obedience/Rally, Scent Work and Tracking Chairs. Consideration should be given to hire judges who are basset friendly and within the local area of the current year's Nationals.

3. Futurity Stakes

- A. Judge is elected by the Futurity participants as stated in the Futurity Stakes rules.

4. Field Trial

- A. FTAC is responsible for coordinating the hiring of the judges for Nationals.

5. Agility

- A. The hiring of judges for this event is left to the discretion of the Nationals Coordinator and the National Agility Chair. Consideration should be given to hire judges who are basset friendly and within the local area of the current year's Nationals.

HONORARIA

1. Conformation and Sweepstakes

- A. Conformation judges receive a maximum of \$400 towards expenses.
- B. Sweepstakes judge receives \$400 towards expenses

2. Agility, Obedience/Rally, Scent Work and Field Trials

- A. Judges who are members of BHCA receive \$400 towards expenses.
- B. Non-member judges are paid the agreed-upon fee.

3. Tracking

- A. Judges who are members of BHCA receive a maximum of \$400 towards expenses.
- B. Non-member judges are paid the agreed upon fee.

It is traditional to present a medallion to each judge at the annual dinner.

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