

## **JUDGE MENTOR POLICY AND GUIDELINES**

**PURPOSE:** This policy establishes the guidelines for selecting Mentors for aspiring judges.

### **GENERAL:**

The BHCA Judges Education Committee coordinates the club's mentoring program and is responsible for approving mentors. BHCA mentors are willing to assist BHCA in its judges' education efforts at their own expense. Mentors will make themselves available to assist aspiring AKC judges of our breed in understanding more fully all facets of Basset Hound conformation, according to the AKC standard, at various AKC all-breed, regional and national shows. BHCA Mentors will mentor ringside, one-on-one or to a manageable group. They may assist at hands-on workshops at judges' institutes sponsored by AKC, judges' organizations or BHCA Regional and Nationals workshops.

Mentors should:

1. be a member in good standing of the BHCA for at least 12 years;
2. be able and willing to travel and attend functions for the purpose of mentoring without financial reimbursement as a service to the club and the breed;
3. be willing to follow guidelines set up by the JEC and approved by the BHCA Board
4. be familiar with the BHCA approved Judges' Education Seminar on the Basset Hound PowerPoint Presentation (CD) and have attended the Judges' Education Seminar/Workshop at the National Specialty or virtually with a member of the JE committee;
5. be able to demonstrate a working knowledge of the breed standard, anatomy, form and function of the Basset Hound, and the procedure for measuring, either through completion of anatomy and breed tests published by the AKC, or in an interview with a member of the JE committee.
6. have the ability to evaluate Basset Hounds using positive terminology without bias;
7. have confidence and poise to be able to mentor an individual or small group of individuals or stand in front of a group of judges in a positive manner and without intimidation or prejudice;
8. be a recognized breeder having bred (not just owned or shown) at least three (3) litters on your premises with eight (8) Basset Hound AKC champions; or who have demonstrated significant success in evaluating and presenting Basset Hounds through handling or other activities;
9. have attended at least one Nationals in the past 3 years and/or have regularly attended Regionals and local specialties
10. be familiar with judging resource documents available on BHCA websites, and with the Additional Breed Verification forms and guidelines for ringside observations,

mentoring/tutoring, as well as the study guide and procedural videos on measuring dogs, available on the AKC website. Additional resources will be maintained by the JEC chair and distributed as requested.

11. complete a new mentor orientation session at the National Specialty (or through a virtual session) and co-mentoring experience with an experienced mentor at the National Specialty or a Regional Specialty.

Qualified individuals interested in being a mentor should contact any member of the JE Committee.

Revised November 2014 by JEC

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