



AMERICAN  
KENNEL CLUB

## Actions to Help the Sport

To: Presidents, Secretaries and Delegates 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 through 2021, unless specific dates are noted.

1. Event Application Fees - For events cancelled due to COVID, event application processing fees can be applied to a future event of the same type. The club must notify the AKC of the event the club would like the fees applied to.
2. Premium List – Clubs may publish in their premium list that the location of the rings, indoors or outdoors, will be determined on the day of the event. Refunds will not be granted based on the final location. This must be published in a prominent location in the premium list.
3. 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](mailto:clubdevelopment@akc.org)) to seek assistance if you feel your club may qualify. This is a permanent change of policy (no end date).

4. Additional Point Competitions Option – Allowing up to three opportunities for Championship points at the same site on the same day. If a third opportunity for points is offered, at least one of the events must be an Independent (Standalone, Concurrent, or Evening) specialty.

## 5. 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.

Clubs with extenuating circumstances may request an exception to hold their conformation show up to 300 miles outside of their territory. (Contact [clubdevelopment@akc.org](mailto:clubdevelopment@akc.org) with any questions.)

- 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.

6. 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**. This is a permanent change of policy (no end date).

## 7. 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. (Effective through July 31, 2021)
- 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. (Effective through December 31, 2021)

## 8. Junior Qualifications

- Allow Juniors that turned 18 on or after March 1 to compete until their 19th birthday or December 31, 2021, whichever comes first. This will encompass the qualifying period for both the AKC National Championship (ANC) and Westminster.

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

10. 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.

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](mailto:clubdevelopment@akc.org)) or the Event Operations staff ([EventPlans@akc.org](mailto:EventPlans@akc.org)).

Please stay safe and healthy.



AMERICAN  
KENNEL CLUB

[Learn About Dogs](#) | [Register Your Dog](#) | [AKC Events](#) | [AKC Clubs](#)



American Kennel Club, 101 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10178

© 2020 American Kennel Club. All Rights Reserved.

[About AKC](#) | [Mission Statement](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)