



DKK's REGULATIONS FOR EDUCATION OF SHOW JUDGES

2024



1. Nomination of students	2
2. Interviews	2
3. Student course	3
4. Student duties	3
5. Aspirant test	3
6. Aspirant duties	4
7. Regulations for first-time judges	5
8. Education on additional breeds	5
9. Further education of experienced judges	6
10. Becoming a group judge	6
11. Becoming an all-round judge	6
12. Mentorship	7
13. General regulations	7
14. Recommended reading	8



1. NOMINATION OF STUDENTS

Boards of the breed clubs nominate people for the education as a show judge, finding them among interested and suitable dog people, who are members of DKK and the breed club.

The nomination must be meticulously founded and contain information about the concerned person's level of experience within breeding, dog shows, ring personnel work, possible volunteer work within the dog world, relevant courses and education, as well as contact information and year of birth.

The board of the breed club must be able to recommend the person in question to the show judges committee on basis of this person's personal abilities, cynological knowledge and abilities to express themselves in writing and verbally in Danish, as well as one of the official languages of FCI (English, German, French, Spanish).

Nomination for judges education must be sent after the person in question has turned 18 years of age.

The show judges committee will determine if the person is qualified to start the education, which then needs approval from the board of DKK.

If the breed club does not wish to support the nomination of a person for the show judge education, the rejection must be thorough and factually. The rejection must be sent to the show judge committee along with the person's application.

The breed club must answer the application within three weeks of receiving the application. Copy of the answer is sent in an email to the show judges committee.

2. INTERVIEWS

Nominated people are invited to an obligatory interview lasting about an hour with members of the show judges committee.

The purpose of the interview is to get a more personal impression of the person and to clarify any possible matters of disputes that the written application has not explained thoroughly. Furthermore, the purpose is to size up the person's bearing and personal characteristics in relation to what is needed to start the show judge education.

The interview is held to evaluate, if the person is ready to start the show judge education and take part in the student course. After the interview, the person will be informed whether or not they are esteemed suitable to take part in the student course and will receive the reasons for this.

3. STUDENT COURSE

The student course is held in accordance with demand and includes:

- Anatomy, judging technique, movements and health
- Standards
- A judge's handling of a dog
- Show regulations
- Writing of critiques
- Ethics and morale
- Practical aspects of the duties as a judge

During the course, the student will continuously be evaluated on professional as well as personal skills, which ultimately leads to a verdict on whether or not the student has passed the course and can continue their education.

4. STUDENT DUTIES

After passing the student course, the student can start the student duties at dog shows, where a show judge assesses the student's knowledge on anatomy in general and specifically on the breeds the student is nominated for, as well as personal characteristics.

The student must start their student duties within a year of passing the student course.

During the student duties, the student can gain further knowledge about the breed and ask the judge questions about the judgement and the prizings. Likewise, the judge can ask the student clarifying questions to evaluate the student better.

A student with one selected breed must do two student duties under two different judges. In the case of breeds with different coats, colours and sizes, it is required to do two student duties on each of the varieties.

A student with several selected breed must start out by doing two student duties on their own breed and then do the aspirant test. Hereafter, the student can do one student duty on the additional breeds.

If there are too few dogs to do a student duty, the student must expect another student duty.

The show judge committee decides if a student duty is approved or not.

5. ASPIRANT TEST

At the aspirant test, the aspirant must write critiques on at least two shown dogs within the breed(s) that the aspirant is nominated for. The aspirant is given 10 minutes to compose each critique, followed by a verbal examination of around 20 minutes.

If the aspirant test is handled satisfactorily, then the aspirant can continue their education.

6. ASPIRANT DUTIES

The aspirant must start their aspirant duties within a year of passing their aspirant test.

During their aspirant duties, the aspirant will write critiques and prize the shown dogs in the breeds that the aspirant is nominated for.

The aspirant critiques must be written without any contact with the judge in the same language as the judge (except in the case of Nordic judges, dictating in Norwegian/Swedish, in which case the aspirant can write in Danish). The aspirant must use a secretary that is not an authorized judge on the breeds in question.

The aspirant work is finished in the aspirant system and the prize note is handed in to the ring secretary before the judge announces their prize to the exhibitors by handing out a ribbon or displaying a colour card. The judge can request that the aspirant do a written placement of the classes in order to discuss these with the aspirant and, likewise, the judge can ask the aspirant questions to test the aspirant's cynological knowledge and specifically on the breeds the aspirant is nominated for, as well as personal characteristics.

Aspirants **on their first aspirant duty** with just one breed must do two aspirant duties under two different judges. In the case of breeds with different coats, colours and sizes, it is required to do two aspirant duties on each of the varieties.

Aspirants **on their first aspirant duty** with several selected breed must start out by doing two aspirant duties on their own breed before they can be authorized on their own breed. Hereafter, the aspirant can do one aspirant duty on the additional breeds.

Aspirant work must be done on a settled number of dogs – excluding minor puppies and puppies. In case, there are too few dogs for an aspirant duty, an additional aspirant duty must be expected. It is at all times the responsibility of the show judges committee to adapt the number of dogs for the individual aspirant, taking into consideration the aspirant's abilities and previous duties.

Entered dogs in the breed under 20 (**excl. minor puppies/puppies**): Written critiques for all
 Entered dogs in the breed between 20-40 (**excl. minor puppies/puppies**): Written critiques for 10 males and 10 bitches – chosen by the judge
 Entered dogs in the breed over 40 (**excl. minor puppies/puppies**): Written critiques for 15 males and 10 bitches – chosen by the judge

In breeds with different coats, colours and size that are judged each on its own – such as Poodles, Miniature Schnauzers and Great Danes – an agreement must be made with the mentor of the specific group on whether or not to write critiques on all varieties.

The show judge committee – **including also the mentor of the group** – assesses the aspirant's work and the judge's remarks and puts forward approved work for a judge authorization to the board of DKK.

7. REGULATIONS FOR FIRST-TIME JUDGES

A first-time judge can judge certificate shows in all countries and CACIB-shows in the Nordic countries but must have judged at at least two shows before accepting invitations to judge at international CACIB-shows outside the Nordics.

A first-time judge must have judged the breed at at least three certificate shows before they can take on a student or aspirant on this breed.

It is the judge's duty to make notice if these requirements are not fulfilled.

A first-time judge with only one breed can along with the committee select four more breeds within the same group and announce to the breed clubs that the person is nominated to start the judges' education for the club's breed.

8. EDUCATION ON ADDITIONAL BREEDS

After nomination for a new breed, a judge must start the student duties within a year of approval. Otherwise, they must reapply at the breed club.

Education on additional breeds include one student duty and one aspirant duty under two different judges.

Aspirant work must be done on a settled number of dogs – excluding minor puppies and puppies. In case, there are too few dogs for an aspirant duty, an additional aspirant duty must be expected. It is at all times the responsibility of the show judges committee to adapt the number of dogs for the individual aspirant, taking into consideration the aspirant's abilities and previous duties.

Entered dogs in the breed under 20 (excl. minor puppies/puppies): Written critiques for all Entered dogs in the breed between 20-40 (excl. minor puppies/puppies): Written critiques for 10 males and 10 bitches – chosen by the judge

Entered dogs in the breed over 40 (excl. minor puppies/puppies): Written critiques for 15 males and 10 bitches – chosen by the judge

In breeds with different coats, colours and size that are judged each on its own – such as Poodles, Miniature Schnauzers and Great Danes – an agreement must be made with the mentor of the specific group on whether or not to write critiques on all varieties.

The show judge committee – including also the mentor of the group – assesses the aspirant's work and the judge's remarks and puts forward approved work for a judge authorization to the board of DKK.

9. FURTHER EDUCATION OF EXPERIENCED JUDGES

According to these regulations, an experienced judge is defined from these criteria:

- Has a lengthy experience as a show judge
- The show judge committee determines when the individual judge counts as experienced enough and has proven their qualifications
- Is authorized for at least one FCI-group, not counting group 4

After nomination for a new breed, a judge must start the aspirant duties within a year of approval. Otherwise, they must reapply at the breed club.

Education on additional breeds for experienced judges include one aspirant duty. In breeds with different coats, colours and sizes, there must be an aspirant duty on each of the varieties, **unless a different agreement has been made with the mentor of the group.**

In breeds with more than 10 shown dogs, there must be written critiques on at least 10 dogs selected by the judge from different sexes and classes.

In the case of 10 or less dogs, the show judge committee will determine whether or not additional aspirant duty is required.

The show judge committee – in this case, the mentor of the group – assesses the aspirant's work and the judge's remarks and puts forward approved work for a judge authorization to the board of DKK.

10. BECOMING A GROUP JUDGE

It is in the hands of the show judge committee to assess when a judge can be put forward to the board of the Danish Kennel Club for the authorization of a group judge. Furthermore, the show judge committee follows the group judge authorization requirements of FCI.

11. BECOMING AN ALL-ROUND JUDGE

For suitable judges who are authorized for at least five FCI-groups (excl. group 4) and who are authorized for a number of breeds in the remaining groups, the show judge committee can – along with the approval of the board of DKK – form a personal educational plan with the purpose of the judge becoming an all-round judge. Furthermore, the show judge committee follows the all-round judge authorization requirements of FCI.

12. MENTORSHIP

Each group has its own mentor who is a member of the show judge committee. The mentor can help with advice and guidance in relation to student and aspirant duties as well as on the general judges education. If you are in doubt about anything regarding the judges education, you can always contact the mentor of the group you are educating yourself in.

The mentor of the group is most often the one that reads through the aspirant work and assesses it.

The mentor is also the one to ask about how many dogs you should write critiques on in breeds with different coats, sizes and colours. When you are sufficiently ahead in a group, you can make out a plan with your mentor on which breeds to take on next, if you want to become a group judge.

The list of mentors can be found on DKK's website under "Eksteriørdommeruddannelse".

13. GENERAL REGULATIONS

Application for student and aspirant duties must be sent directly to the organizing club no later than 5 weeks before the show with a copy to the secretary of the show judge committee. The student and aspirant cannot contact the judge themselves to get the approval for any student or aspirant duties.

Students and aspirants can bring breed standards into the ring during their duties.

All expenses in relation to the judge education are at your own expense.

People who wants to become a show judge and who have participated in a student course after September 1st 2024, must have passed the DKK "basiskursus" ** before finalizing their judges authorization.

A judge can have a maximum of two students or one student and one aspirant in the ring at one time.

Like judges, students and aspirants are also subject to the ethical regulations for show judges and shall at any time behave in accordance with these.

The show judge committee can at any time stop a student or aspirant's further education if the committee finds it unsatisfactory.

The board of DKK can at any time based on nomination from the show judge committee authorize judges for further breeds/groups.

Maintenance of the judges authorization requires a continuous membership of DKK. The show judge committee can put forward to the board of DKK that a judge's authorization should be revoked, if the judge is deemed unfit to handle the duties satisfactorily.

14. RECOMMENDED READING

- Udstillingsreglement (DKK)
- Anvisninger for eksteriørdommere (DKK)
- Hundens anatomi - af Alex Krasilnikoff (DKK)
- Anatomiboken - Winqvist, Indrebö, Hübenthal, Linna & Ulstad (SKK)
- Hundedommeren (NKK)
- Anatomi og bevegelser (NKK)
- Bedømmelse og kritikskrivning (NKK)
- Genetikk, pels og farger (NKK)