

## DKK's updated guidelines for arranging dog shows and open shows

*Drafted on 11 June 2020 – latest update on 26 October 2020 (text in red types)*

Below is the Danish Kennel Club's guidelines for arranging dog shows and open shows. DKK's guidelines are, of course, based on the Danish ministry of cultural affairs' "Retningslinjer for genåbning af idræts- og foreningsliv udendørs og indendørs" ("Guidelines for the reopening of athletics and organizational life outdoors and indoors")

Generally:

- The current recommendations and restrictions about distance, contagion defenses and risk groups from the Danish authorities for the date of the show must be respected at all times. The organiser is obligated to stay thoroughly updated on the announcements/guidelines from the authorities.
- It is for the participant themselves (including the judge, ring personnel, exhibitor or others) to determine, whether they want to participate. It is also individual, if you wear a mask or any other kind of contagion defenses.
- **In the period from 29 October 2020 until 2 January 2021 (or maybe longer), it is compulsory to wear a mask or another kind of facial protective equipment (visor) indoors in leisure/sport facilities and club houses. The demand for use of masks or visors does not apply to participants/exhibitors during their performance of the leisure- or dog sports activity. But it applies both before and after the performance/activity.**
- Judges and ring personnel can at any time say no to an invitation to a show without consequences from DKK or the breed club.
- It is recommended that the entire show is thought through thoroughly beforehand. This can be done by asking questions such as "What could go wrong", "What could create complications?", "How do we tackle the arrival of the exhibitors best?", "Are there any recommendations that work better for us than others?" and other questions in that manner. Try to be 3-4 people thinking through the show with a critical view, so all aspects should be thought of.

The responsibility of the organiser:

- A show manager should be chosen, potentially with one or two assisting show managers that has the main responsibility that the recommendations and restrictions of the authorities are followed during the show. These people have the right to warn and perhaps ban people that clearly violates the rules from the show ground. At expulsion from the show ground, the person loses the right exhibit their dog and to get a refund of the entry fee at the current show.  
The show manager and any assisting show managers must carry visible nametags, so no exhibitors are in doubt of the person's services.  
A show manager cannot show in the ring.
- The organiser must - if necessary – limit the number of exhibitors, so the collective limitation restrictions set by the authorities is not exceeded. The show could perhaps be split into several intervals or on several areas. If limitations of entry/participation is used, the organiser must use a

system that secures a fair treatment of the exhibitors at entry. This could e.g. be done by setting a maximum of entries for the show and entry after a first-come first serve policy.

- It is the responsibility of the show manager and any assisting show managers to manage the number of people and to secure that the limit restriction is kept during the entire show.
- There must be signs around the ring and on the area that reminds people to keep a safe distance of at least 1 meter and to respect the authority restrictions. There should be a mark in the ring for where the dog should stand and where the handler should be when the judge is examining the dog.
- The conditions of the show must be publicised in the invitation and be evident.

Invitation:

- Exhibitor information must include a thorough account of the current rules for distance, contagion defenses, attendance, putting up tents and any modifications of the show rules/finals. It must be clear that people breaking the rules will be banned from the show by the show manager or any assisting show manager.
- There must be an appropriate time margin between the classes and/or the breeds. The exhibitors must not enter the ring before they are called in. At shows with several breeds, the exhibitors must get a guarantee that their breed will not begin before an hour after the given meeting time. This way, the exhibitors are safe to come in, brush their dog, etc., without meeting the exhibitors from the previous breed. This can deviate on smaller shows, where the limit restrictions can be respected with a safe distance and without the organiser losing track.
- The show cannot be open to the crowd and it is highly recommended that the exhibitors do not bring any more people than necessary. It is recommended that 1-2 people per entered dog participate.

On the show ground and putting up tents:

- Exhibitors – except BOB-winners or other finalists – must leave the show ground, when the breed is finished. People cannot stay as spectators, unless it is a small show that allows for the limit restrictions to be respected with a safe distance. Furthermore, it is encouraged that exhibitors leave the show ground as soon as possible, if the dog does not qualify to another further classes.
- Tents and tables/show tables/puppy pens are allowed in marked areas. There must be at least 1 meter between each tent, allowing for plenty of room and space for passage between the tents. The marked areas are decided by the show manager, but it is recommended to have plenty of space around the ring, allowing for a safe distance to the ringside and more space between the tents. It is not possible to put up tents in advance. There must be space for the exhibitors that participate in the current interval/breed and the marked area can, thus, not be filled up with exhibitors arriving later in the day. Should the organiser want it, an area could be reserved for putting up tents that are not connected to the ring. Tents put up more than an hour before show start, can justifiably be taken down by the organiser and the owner will be refused participation at the current show.
- The organiser can decide on banning tents.

Show office, prizes, food and drinks and toilets:

- It is possible to have a show office, but the exhibitors are encouraged to take contact over the phone or via e-mail in advance, if they have any questions, requests or unfinished business. Catalogues must – as much as possible – be publicised online no earlier than 2 hours before show start. The show office must have a clear reminder to keep a safe distance.

- If the club hands out prizes/prize cards at the show, then these must lie about so the exhibitor can take them themselves They must not touch anything else, than the one they chooses. The same is current for rosettes, which must not be handed out in the ring.
- The toilet must be inspected once an hour and sprayed with detergent. A cleanser must be available with a request that the users wash the toilet seat and water tap after use.

In the ring:

- The ring must be as large as possible, depending on the size of the breed and the number of entries.
- The judge/ring personnel determines how many dogs are allowed in the ring at the same time in a way that allows for a safe distance to be kept, both standing and moving.
- If there are many dogs qualified for the competitive classes, then the judge can choose to do a semifinal with some of the dogs.

Potential omission of classes/competitions – non-obligatory. Decided by the organiser:

- Omitting progeny groups and/or breeders groups
- Omitting of child and dog and/or juniorhandling

Judges and carrying out judgement:

- Judges students are allowed if the judge has agreed to it.
- The organiser must plan in accordance with the time consumption between the breeds/classes.
- The judge will determine whether or not he/she wants to control the teeth and bite of the dog or if the exhibitor should show the dog's bite and teeth.
- The exhibitor must keep as much space as possible between themselves and the judge during examination.
- The judge must use wet wipes/hand disinfectant between the examination of each dog.

Finals:

- It is up to each organiser to determine whether there will be finals. This is stated in the exhibitor info.
- Judges, exhibitors and organisers must respect that the finals will be been carried out with as little contact between dogs and judge as possible.
- The organiser is encouraged to minimise the number of finals and e.g. only do Best in Show, BIS puppy, BIS veteran. Finals with many participants, e.g. BIS veteran and BIS puppy on shows with many breeds, must be carried out through semi-finals or group-finals.
- Prizes and/or rosettes must be put out by the placing signs/podiums, so there are no close contact at the handover.
- Any photos from the finals must be done outside the ring at shows with many breeds.