

**REGULATIONS FOR  
THE NEW ZEALAND  
KENNEL CLUB**



**NATIONAL  
JUNIOR DOG HANDLER  
COMPETITION**

(Reprinted with Additions and Amendments, to 5th October 2007)



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# **SECTION 1**

## **Consists of the Basic Regulations**

<b>APPENDIX I</b>	Contains a Draft Marking Sheet.
<b>APPENDIX II</b>	Shows approved ring manoeuvres.
<b>APPENDIX III</b>	Judges
<b>APPENDIX IV</b>	Guidelines for Judges.

## **SECTION 1**

1. **Age**

The competition is open for all NZKC or NZYKC members 12 and under 18 years of age on the date designated for the Annual National Final. (This complies with the requirements set down by the international junior handler competition.)
2. **Regional Heats**
  - 2.1 The competition is run with a series of regional heats.
  - 2.2 The date and venue of these heats will be decided by the Executive Council. All Breeds Clubs may apply to hold a regional heat at an All Breeds Championship Show. Heats are allocated according to applications and to ensure an equitable geographic distribution.
  - 2.3 The winner of a heat will be eligible to compete in the National Final, the date and venue of which will be decided by the Executive Council.
3. **Regional Heat Entry Conditions**
  - 3.1 The winner of any regional heat is NOT eligible to compete in any further regional heat for that year.
  - 3.3 Entrants in a regional heat must be prepared to produce proof as to their date of birth prior to competing.
  - 3.5 Entries for a regional heat will be accepted prior to and on the day of the heat.
  - 3.6 It is the responsibility of the entrant to confirm their entry and uplift his/her number from the Show Secretary.
  - 3.7 Only dogs registered on the NZKC Number 1 Register may be used in either the regional heats. The supplying of a dog for a heat by an entrant will imply that the dog is available and suitable for use by another entrant in the second part of the heat. De-sexed dogs may be used. No bitches in season are permitted to be handled. Dogs must be a minimum of 12 months of age and of suitable temperament for juniors to handle.
4. **Conduct of Regional Heats**
  - 4.1 The Executive Council shall set the number of and host clubs for the regional heats.
  - 4.2 The Executive Council may lay down such conditions concerning venue, time, judge, entry fee and prizes as it may see fit.
  - 4.3 An interview may be held at a regional heat. Only the judges, a chaperone (who shall remain in the room at all times) and the candidate shall be present, under NO circumstances will any other party be allowed to take part in anyway.
    - 4.3.1 The interview room should be private.
    - 4.3.2 The same format must be followed with each candidate, but not necessarily the same questions.
    - 4.3.3 The questions should cover such topics as information about the selected breed, why the breed was selected, involvement in the breed, dog shows, current dog events, outside interests, and general New Zealand knowledge. In general, items which the candidate should be able to talk about easily.
    - 4.3.4 A time limit of not more than 5 minutes per candidate must be adhered to.

- 4.4** The format for the contest may vary but will contain the following:  
An examination using the set manoeuvres as well as a stationary exam. Both with the dog of their choice and a second time with a dog selected for them by the judge. or steward.
- 4.5** The judge will ensure that the ring is of sufficient size to allow the handlers to move without being cramped. The judge may if he/she so wishes ask to have only one handler in the ring at any one time.
- 4.6** The host club will work within the parameters as set out by the Executive Council and may not vary the date of the regional heat without the consent of the Executive Council. However where no set guidelines have been supplied the host club will be governed by these Regulations.
- 4.6.1** It will be the responsibility of the host club to supply a fully equipped ring and steward/s.
- 4.6.2** The host club will ensure that a reasonable time lapse is allowed when calling the handlers to the ring so as to permit them to prepare their dogs and themselves.
- 4.6.3** Care must be taken to allow an equal time span for each handler to familiarise themselves with their 2nd dog.

## **5. National Final**

- 5.1** All competitors will be members of the NZKC either as Full Members or NZYKC members.
- 5.2** The Executive Council shall set the venue, date, time and judge of the national final.
- 5.3** It is the responsibility of the entrant to supply a dog for the national final, the NZKC is under no obligation to supply or locate dogs to be used in the national final.
- 5.4** Only dogs registered on the NZKC Number 1 Register may be used in the national final.
- 5.5** The supplying of a dog for the final by an entrant will imply that the dog is available and suitable for use by another entrant in the second part of the final. De-sexed dogs may be used. No bitches in season are permitted to be handled. Dogs must be a minimum of 12 months of age and of suitable temperament for juniors to handle.
- 5.6** The coordinator will have a small selection of dogs available for the second round which can replace any first round dog which proves to be unsuitable for the second round candidate. The coordinator will determine if the first round dog is unsuitable but the decisions to change dog to one provided by the coordinator is at the discretion of the handler.
- 5.7** The interview shall be conducted in a separate and private area. Only the judges, a chaperone (who shall remain in the room at all times) and the candidate shall be present, under NO circumstances will any other party be allowed to take part in anyway.
- 5.7.1** The same format must be followed with each candidate, but not necessarily the same questions.
- 5.7.2** The questions should cover such topics as information about the selected breed, why the breed was selected, involvement in the breed, dog shows, current dog events, outside interests, and general New Zealand knowledge. In general, items which the candidate should be able to talk about easily.
- 5.7.3** A time limit of not more than 5 minutes per candidate must be adhered to..

## **6. Judging**

The judge's awards shall be based on;

- 6.1** The points scored each section as laid out in the specimen judging form listed as Appendix I.
- 6.2** The judge shall require the dog to be paraded and moved around the ring in the same manner of pattern as that required in ordinary show competition. The normal show ring courses of movement are to be followed, unorthodox movements or attempts to confuse or trick the handler are not permitted.
- 6.2.1** The stationary examination will be conducted on the table in the case of tabled breeds and on the ground in the case of all others. This will be done in the normal show ring manner.
- 6.2.2** The straight across and back will involve just a simple sending of the candidate across the ring and returning to stand in front of the judge.
- 6.2.3** The Triangle will involve the judge in allowing the candidate sufficient room to permit him/her to complete the manoeuvre as set out in Appendix II.
- 6.2.4** The circle will require the judge to stand in the centre of the ring giving the candidate sufficient room to complete the manoeuvre.
- 6.3** At the completion of the first round all competitors will be asked to change dogs, the judge should

attempt to ensure that competitors receive a breed that they are not familiar with.

**7. Handling**

- 7.1 Entrants will be required to parade their dog on the left hand side.
- 7.2 Bring the dog to the judge and stand it to the best advantage.
- 7.3 Move the dog from and back to the judge as requested.
- 7.4 To control and exhibit the dog to the best advantage during the judging.

**8. Awards**

- 8.1 The judges of the Regional Heats shall award 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes. If for any reason the 1st prize winner is unable to compete in the National Final, then that competitor's place shall be taken in the National Final by the next graded place winner.
  - 8.1.1 In the event of a 2nd place winner being promoted to 1st for any reason this will rule him/her ineligible to compete in any further heats that year. If he/she has also won a heat then no further promotions will take place but the promotion and the win will stand.
- 8.2 The judge of the National Final shall select 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners. If the 1st place winner is unable to accept the first prize then the next graded winner shall take his/her place.

**9. General**

- 9.1 The winner of a national final who attends the International Final will be eligible to compete in the contest in ensuing years.

**APPENDIX I**

**MARKING SHEET**

**Contestant** \_\_\_\_\_

**Dress (5)**

**Handling in Class Group (10)**

- Use of ring
- Pace and coordination
- Observing Ring courtesies

**Handling with Dog of Choice (40)**

- Coordination when moving
- Ability to stack the dog
- Ability to use the ring
- Attitude towards dog

**Handling with 2nd Dog (40)**

- Coordination when moving
- Ability to stack the dog
- Ability to use the ring
- Attitude towards dog

**Interview (5)**

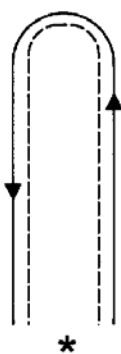
- General Manner
- General Knowledge
- Articulation

**APPENDIX II**

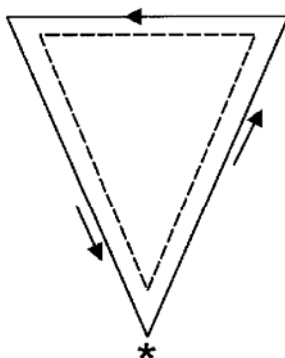
**MANOEUVRES**

\* **Judge** / \_\_\_\_\_ **Handler** / \_\_\_\_\_ **Dog**

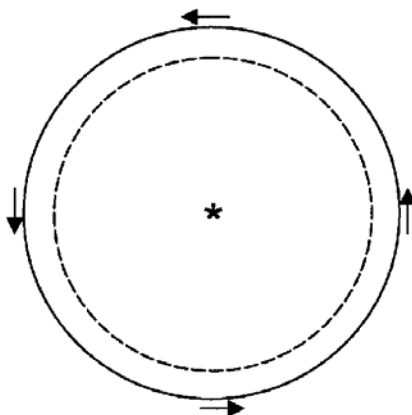
**STRAIGHT AWAY**



**TRIANGLE**



**CIRCLE**



Regulations for the New Zealand Kennel Club  
National Junior Dog Handler Competition

**APPENDIX III**

**JUDGES**

Until such time as a Panel is established the Judge can be:-

- Any person approved by the New Zealand Kennel Club Junior Handler Sub-committee. That person does not need to be on the NZKC Show Judges List.
  
- ❖ It is recommended that only one judge be used per heat.
  
- ❖ All judges must be supplied with a copy of the Junior Handler regulations and Appendices at least 1 week prior to judging the heat.

## **APPENDIX IV**

# **JUDGES GUIDELINES**

These guidelines are to assist judges and identify the judging process. The aim is to arrive at a uniform judging system and create a 'level playing field' for all candidates.

### **1. Uniformity of Judging**

- 1.1 All candidates must be treated in the same manner.
- 1.2 There should be no change in the method of judging other than, that which is dictated by the need to accommodate different breeds.
- 1.3 Care should be taken with the time span of the 2nd dog being allocated to the candidate. No handler should be given the advantage of having a considerably longer time to familiarise themselves with their 2nd dog.
- 1.4 It is advisable to always stand on the same spot when asking the candidates to make their moves. This will of course mean a shift for the circle, what should be aimed at is total equality for each candidate.

### **2. Allocation of Breeds**

- 2.1 When breeds are being allocated to candidates for their second part of the handling section, care should be taken to try and give them a breed that they are not regularly handling.
- 2.2 Attention should be paid to try and see that the candidates 2nd dog is very different from their first choice.
- 2.3 Great attention should be paid to how the candidate handles their 2nd dog. It is in this area where the real capabilities of a handler should be tested.

### **3. Dress of Handler**

- 3.1 The dress should be tidy and suitable, it should compliment the handler and the dog. This applies to the 1st choice dog only.
- 3.2 NO points should be deducted or any attention taken if the dress does not compliment the 2nd dog, after all the handler had no way of knowing what dog he/she was going to be allocated.

### **4. Marking**

- 4.1 It is advisable to mark the first candidates quite hard, this allows you to continue in the same vein throughout. To commence marking lightly may mean that a judge finds an outstanding candidate at the end and has no room to manoeuvre.
- 4.2 It must be remembered that the final mark has no bearing on future heats or the final.

### **5. Interview**

- 5.1 It should be remembered that there is no interview at the International Final.
- 5.2 The purpose of holding one in the heats and National Final are to ensure that our representative can speak articulately to reporters and the media in England.
- 5.3 While the interview is a guide also to the candidates' depth of knowledge it is not the be all and end all.

### **6. General**

- 6.1 Do not enter into any discussion with a candidate during judging.
- 6.2 Do not allow any other person (except the chaperone who shall take no part in the proceedings, but must remain present at all times) to be present during the interview. The only exception could be in the case of a candidate being either a mute or deaf mute, here obviously assistance would be required.
- 6.3 Other than having the candidates 1st choice of dog judged first there is no set timetable. If you wish to hold the interviews first, last or between the sets of dogs then the choice is yours, this give

you the chance to fit in with conditions on the day.

- 6.4** Remember that the ultimate goal is to find the best overall handler, excellence in one aspect is not enough. Handling ability must be paramount but tempered with the other facets.
- 6.5** To penalise or disadvantage a candidate for their physical appearance is not acceptable.