



# AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB

Judging Operations Department  
PO Box 900062  
Raleigh, NC 27675-9062  
(919) 816-3570  
[judgingops@akc.org](mailto:judgingops@akc.org)  
[www.akc.org](http://www.akc.org)  
September 1, 2015

## Ringside Observation Criterion

A mentor is an individual with whom a prospective judge has established a long term, ongoing relationship. He or she may or may not mentor ringside.

A ringside observation may be experienced with individuals whom are a parent club approved mentor, have judged the National Specialty, have 12 years' experience exhibiting or 12 years as an approved judge in that breed. The ringside mentor may become a long term mentor or not.

A ringside observation may be completed at specialties where formal ringside mentoring is offered or at any AKC conformation event where a major in at least one sex has been entered.

CEU credit for individuals applying for additional breeds will be assigned as defined within the Judging Approval Process:

- 1 CEU credit when completed at a Parent Club National Specialty (additional 2 CEU for attending National); 1 additional CEU for additional observation with unique mentor.
- 3 CEU when completed at any other AKC conformation event where a major in the sex has been entered.
- 1 CEU for each additional ringside observation at major entry show. (5 CEU maximum).

Ringside Observations must meet the following criteria:

- ❖ **Observer may observe with parent club approved mentor or individual with a minimum of 12 years' experience exhibiting or judging the breed in conformation. Observations with mentors not meeting the criteria will not be accepted.**  
(Mentors will be permitted to participate on days they are exhibiting, but should not mentor for classes which they are competing. Mentor should be available for discussion during major entry. Mentors will be asked to document their own experience on the Observation Form when they sign it.)
- ❖ **There must be adequate entries for the breeds observed. Smaller entries may require more observations.**  
(Observations must be at Parent Club National or any show where a major in one sex has been entered.)
- ❖ **Observer and mentor must properly complete a Ringside Observation Form which must be submitted with the application for that breed.**
- ❖ **Judges may observe at shows where they are judging.**
- ❖ **Judges may mentor at shows where they are judging.**





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PO Box 90062  
Raleigh, NC 27625-9062  
919-816-3589 fax 919-816-4225  
[judgingops@akc.org](mailto:judgingops@akc.org)  
[www.akc.org](http://www.akc.org)  
September 1, 2015

## APPRENTICE TRAINING FORM

For In-Ring Apprentice Training to receive CEU credit or use on an additional breed application, this form must be completed, signed by apprentice and mentor judge. Consent of show chair and mentor judge session must be arranged prior to the opening of the show.

Breed exam passed and fee paid to AKC: Yes  No  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please print in black or blue ink.

Apprentice-Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Show Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Breed Observed: \_\_\_\_\_ Entry: \_\_\_\_\_

Apprentice Notes: Overall quality of entry  excellent  good  average  poor  
Breed Specific comments on entry (Mandatory)

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Mentor Notes: Overall quality of entry  excellent  good  average  poor  
Breed Specific comments on entry (Mandatory)

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To be completed by Mentor/Judge (mandatory):

Number of years exhibiting this breed \_\_\_\_\_ Number of years judging this breed \_\_\_\_\_ Visiting Judge Yes  No   
(regular status)

I, \_\_\_\_\_ verify that the above judge was prepared and conversant in the breed's characteristics and  
( please print name)  
has completed an AKC apprentice training. My signature on this form does not necessarily indicate my endorsement or recommendation of the apprentice judge to be approved for this breed.

Mentor Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



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## Mentoring/Tutoring Form

This form should be utilized to document a Long-term Mentor, Tutoring Experience or Kennel Visit (see definitions below). The form must be signed by both the Mentor and Mentee verifying that the experience occurred. Mentor must be approved by the parent club or meet AKC's criteria to be accepted.

- Type of Experience:
- Mentor Defined as a long term relationship having numerous experiences in ongoing education in the applicable breed.
  - Tutor Defined as a casual in depth discussion with a breeder/judge or knowledgeable experienced handler in the applicable breed.
  - Kennel Visit Defined as visit to breeder's kennel discussing breed and examining several exhibits.
- Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Length of Session: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tutoring/Kennel Visit Experiences only

### To be completed by Mentor (Mandatory):

- Parent Club Approved Mentor  yes  no If NO, number of years exhibiting this breed \_\_\_\_\_
- AKC Approved Breed Judge  yes  no If YES, number of years judging this breed \_\_\_\_\_
- Breeder/Exhibitor in breed  yes  no If YES, number of years in breed \_\_\_\_\_

Briefly describe mentoring experience: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Mentor/Tutor: \_\_\_\_\_ Breed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Please print full name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Mentor /Tutor Date

Name of Mentee: \_\_\_\_\_ Judges#: \_\_\_\_\_  
Please print full name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Mentee Date

This form must be completed and signed by Mentor and Mentee and submitted with the applicable additional breed application to verify experience. Description of experience may be completed by the Mentor or the Mentee prior to signing. A separate form should be completed and submitted for each Mentor/Tutor experience.