



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AKC NATIONAL OWNER-HANDLED SERIES FINALS JUDGING PANEL RELEASED

NEW YORK, NY (July 25, 2016) – The American Kennel Club® (AKC®) is delighted to announce the judging panel for the **2016 AKC National Owner-Handled Series Finals (NOHS)**. The Finals will be held in December in Orlando, Florida as part of the **AKC National Championship, hosted in partnership with Royal Canin**. Breed and group judging will be held Friday, December 16th, with *Best in Show* to be selected in the main ring on Saturday evening, December 17th.

Mrs. Paula Nykiel of Washington, Missouri heads the panel as *Best in Show* judge for the 2016 AKC NOHS Finals.

Judges for each of the seven variety groups are:

SPORTING: Dr. Gareth Morgan-Jones – Auburn, Alabama

HOUND: Col. Joe Purkhiser – San Antonio, Texas

WORKING: Ms. Pamela Bruce – Etobicoke, Ontario

TERRIER: Mrs. Rosalind Kramer – Leesburg, Virginia

TOY: Mrs. Jacqueline Rayner – Hamilton, New Jersey

NON-SPORTING: Mr. Robert Hutton – Louisville, Kentucky

HERDING: Mr. Paul Willhauck – Mansfield, Massachusetts

Sporting Group:

Dr. Gareth Morgan-Jones – *Brittanys, Pointers, Retrievers (Chesapeake Bay), Retrievers (Curly-Coat), Retrievers (Flat-Coated), Retrievers (Golden), Retrievers (Labrador), Retrievers (Nova Scotia Duck Tolling), Spaniels (American Water), Spaniels (Boykin), Spaniels (Clumber), Spaniels (Cocker – Black), Spaniels (Cocker – ASCOB), Spaniels (Cocker – Parti), Spaniels (English Cocker), Spaniels (English Springer), Spaniels (Field), Spaniels (Irish Water), Spaniels (Sussex), Spaniels (Welsh Springer), Weimaraners, Wirehaired Pointing Griffons*

Mrs. Wendy Willhauck – *Lagotto Romagnolos, Pointers (German Shorthaired), Pointers (German Wirehaired), Setters (English), Setters (Gordon), Setters (Irish), Setters (Irish Red & White), Spinone Italianos, Vizslas, Wirehaired Vizslas*

Hound Group:

Col. Joe Purkhiser – *All Breeds in Group*

Working Group:

Ms. Pamela Bruce – *All Breeds in Group*

Terrier Group:

Mrs. Rosalind Kramer – *All Breeds in Group*

Toy Group:

Mrs. Jacqueline Rayner – *All Breeds in Group*

Non-Sporting Group:

Mr. Robert Hutton – *All Breeds in Group*

Herding Group:

Mr. Paul Willhauck – *Australian Cattle Dogs, Australian Shepherds, Bearded Collies, Beaucerons, Bergamascos, Berger Picards, Border Collies, Bouvier des Flandres, Briards, Canaan Dogs, Entlebucher Mountain Dogs, Finnish Lapphunds, German Shepherd Dogs, Icelandic Sheepdogs, Miniature American Shepherds, Norwegian Buhunds, Old English Sheepdogs, Polish Lowland Sheepdogs, Pulis, Pumis, Pyrenean Shepherds, Spanish Water Dogs*

Mrs. Wendy Willhauck – *Belgian Malinois, Belgian Sheepdogs, Belgian Tervurens, Cardigan Welsh Corgis, Collies (Rough), Collies (Smooth), Pembroke Welsh Corgis, Shetland Sheepdogs, Swedish Vallhunds*

Best of Breed and *Best of Opposite Sex* will be awarded in each breed.

Dogs [ranked in the top ten \(plus ties\) of their breed](#) at the end of the 2016 qualifying period (October 8, 2015 – October 12, 2016) will be invited to compete in the AKC NOHS Finals. The Finals premium list will be available in September when the overall AKC National Championship information is published and Finals qualifiers will be sent full details about the event and notified about how to enter in early November.

The AKC National Owner-Handled Series will also be offered at the Space Coast Kennel Club, Brevard Kennel Club and Central Florida Kennel Club shows December 13th-15th as well as several specialty shows on Friday, December 16th.

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The American Kennel Club (AKC), founded in 1884, maintains the largest registry of purebred dogs in the world. Its rules and regulations govern more than 22,000 canine competitions each year. For more information, visit www.akc.org.

ABOUT Royal Canin USA

Royal Canin USA is a leader in science-based cat and dog health nutrition. Founded by a veterinarian in 1968, Royal Canin has more than 40 years of experience in delivering individualized nutritional solutions. In collaboration with an expert team of nutritionists, breeders and veterinarians from around the world, Royal Canin places cats and dogs at the central point of the innovation process. The Royal Canin product line offers a range of diets based on size, age, breed, lifestyle and therapeutic requirements. Royal Canin diets are available at veterinary hospitals and pet specialty stores nationwide. Royal Canin is a subsidiary of Mars, Incorporated. To learn more about Royal Canin, visit www.royalcanin.com and visit the company on Facebook at www.facebook.com/royalcanin.us.

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