

Miniature Australian Shepherd Club of America, Inc.

National's Most Versatile Aussie



Most Versatile Aussie

The Most Versatile Aussie Award (MVA) is offered to recognize the dog that best combines the attributes of trainability, desire and ability to work livestock, and faithfully represents the breed standard. The dog demonstrates trainability and willingness to please with the combination of skill and expertise required to qualify in at least one of the recognized performance events: agility, rally obedience, obedience and tracking. The dog is a true and honest representative of the breed when evaluated against the breed standard. Working ability, performance measurement, and breed evaluation are based on the rules and scorecards established by MASCA for the individual events.

Hosting clubs must offer conformation, herding, and at least two performance events: agility, obedience, rally obedience, or tracking.

MVA SCORING

To qualify for the MVA award, one must:

1. Earn a score in the conformation evaluation.

2. Qualify in Herding (see schedule below): Year 2011 – Must pass HIC, or qualify in Arena Herding Dog Level 1 or higher, or Farm & Ranch Level 1 or higher. Winning Title is MVA-AROH. Years 2012 & 2013 – Qualify in Arena Herding Dog Level 1 or higher or Farm & Ranch Level 1 or higher (Pending Board Approval.) Winning Title is MVA-AROH. Years 2014 & 2015 - Qualify in Arena Herding Dog Level 2 or higher or Farm & Ranch Level 1 or higher (Pending Board Approval.) Winning Title is MVA-AROH. For the years 2016 & beyond, the dog must compete in Arena Herding Dog Level 3 or higher or Farm & Ranch Level 1 or higher (Pending Board Approval.) Winning Title is MVA.

3. Qualify in at least one Performance event (agility, rally obedience, obedience and/or tracking) – must be “Novice” level or higher. CPE Level 1 and MASCA Obedience Pre-Novice are not considered “Novice” level. (Note: when tracking is established, Rally Obedience may be eliminated from the MVA program.)

MVA Qualifying certificates will be awarded for all qualifying dogs. 1st - 4th places for MVA will receive medallions or ribbons. In the event of a tie for the MVA award or for placements, the tie will be decided by the highest score earned in the herding arena trial. In the event a tie still exists, the dog with the highest conformation evaluation score will be the winner. If the tie is still not broken the dogs with the highest overall performance venue score with bonuses will be the winner.

Point Calculation:

Up to 105 points will be awarded for Herding.

Up to 100 points will be awarded for Conformation.

Up to 100 points will be awarded for “Performance Score”. The highest number of points earned in agility, rally obedience, obedience and/or tracking will be used for the “Performance Score”.

Bonus points will be added for each additional qualifying performance event category. 5 points for Novice, 10 points for Open, 15 points for Advanced.

For example, if your highest “Performance score” is in agility, 100 points for agility. Bonus points are available for Rally Obedience, Obedience and Tracking, only. A Qualification in Rally Obedience Level 2 = 10 points bonus. A qualification in Novice Obedience = 5 points. No qualification in Tracking = 0 points. Total Performance score with bonuses in this example = 115 points.

ULTIMATE VERSATILITY AUSSIE (UAV) AWARD If the 1st Place MVA winner is also the Extreme Aussie Games winner at the same event, the title of UVA (Ultimate Versatility Aussie) will be awarded. A certificate will be awarded at the Awards Ceremony, prize to follow.

MVA CHAIRPERSON

An MVA Chairperson will be chosen by the MASCA Board and will handle computation of all scores for awarding the MVA awards. The MVA Chair cannot be entered in MVA. The MVA Chair will also head a complaint committee. Two additional complaint committee members will be chosen by the MASCA Board prior to the event. The Host Club will provide a location where all scores will be posted as soon as practicable after each eligible competition is completed. It is the owner/handler's responsibility to check the scores as posted, and report to the MVA chairperson any discrepancy no later than two hours prior to the time scheduled for awarding MVA. **Complaints may only be filed by the handler** for the event where there is a discrepancy. The complaint committee has full power and rights to make decisions on location at the event for any complaints filed. The MVA awards will be presented at the Award Ceremony. Judges placements/decisions for all events are final. **Awards for MVA are final once presented. Complaints will not be accepted after the event.** The MVA Chairperson will keep records for a minimum of one year after the event. The MVA Chairperson and complaint committee may also be the Extreme Aussie Games chairperson and complaint committee leader.

MVA SPORTSMANSHIP

Complaints must be filed in writing to the MVA Chairperson. Contestants will not complain about results/postings to other contestants, but maintain good sportsmanship. Unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated. The MVA Chairperson and complaint committee has the right and responsibility to remove contestants/spectators that are disrupting the event without refunding entry fees. Those removed will not be eligible to participate or attend any other events at that Nationals.

MVA ENTRANTS

All MVA participants must be a minimum of 12 months of age as of the first day of the competition. Individual events may have additional age criteria. MVA entrants must be registered with MASCA prior to the 1st day of the event. Copy of MASCA registration papers must be attached to the MVA Entry Form.

MVA CONFORMATION EVALUATION (See Conformation Worksheet) (MANDATORY FOR MVA)

- A. The MVA evaluation judge must be an ASCA judge or an AKC herding judge. The MVA Evaluation judge will not be allowed to enter MVA.
- B. One hundred points are available. The form and point schedule used will be provided to the evaluator.
- C. This class will not be placed and no awards will be given. The score given by the evaluation judge will be used for MVA.
- D. Only Australian Shepherds registered with MASCA are eligible for the MVA competition. Both full and limited registrations qualify. This class is open to spayed and neutered animals as well as intact animals.
- E. Dog must obtain a score greater than 0 to be eligible for MVA qualification.

MVA HERDING (MANDATORY)

- A. MVA Herding runs will be scored using the MASCA Arena Herding Dog and Farm & Ranch Trial Nationals scores.
- B. The highest score earned from Arena and Farm & Ranch will be used to compute MVA.
- C. Year 2011 – Must pass HIC, or qualify in Arena Herding Dog Level 1 or higher, or Farm & Ranch Level 1 or higher. Winning Title is MVA-AROH. Years 2012 & 2013 – Qualify in Arena Herding Dog Level 1 or higher or Farm & Ranch Level 1 or higher (Pending Board Approval.) Winning Title is MVA-AROH. Years 2014 & 2015 - Qualify in Arena Herding Dog Level 2 or higher or Farm & Ranch Level 1 or higher (Pending Board Approval.) Winning Title is MVA-AROH. Years 2016 & beyond –Qualify in Arena Herding Dog Level 3 or higher or Farm & Ranch Level 1 or higher(Pending Board Approval.) Winning Title is MVA.

D. Points will be awarded as follows:

Farm & Ranch Level 3 (F&R-L3) clean = 105, faulted = 100 (15 Point Bonus)
Arena Herding Dog Level 5(HD-L5) clean = 100, faulted = 95(15 Point Bonus)
Farm & Ranch Level 2(F&R-L2) clean = 95, faulted = 90 (10 point Bonus)
Arena Herding Dog Level 4(HD-L4) clean = 90, faulted = 85(10 Point Bonus)
Farm & Ranch Level 1(F&R-L1) clean = 85, faulted = 80 (5 Point Bonus)
Arena Herding Dog Level 3(HD-L3) clean = 75, faulted = 70(5 Point Bonus)
Arena Herding Dog Level 2(HD-L2) clean = 70, faulted = 65 (Only accepted for years 2014 & 2015 – pending board approval)
Arena Herding Dog Level 1(HD-L1) clean = 60, faulted = 55 (Only accepted for years 2012 & 2013 – pending board approval) Passing Herding Instinct Certification = 10 (Only accepted for year 2011)

AGILITY (Optional for MVA)

- A. MASCA MVA Agility runs will follow venue rules when such items are not addressed in this document.
- B. The jump heights for MVA agility will be in accordance with venue's rules.
- C. Veteran runs are accepted for MVA .
- D. Agility Point schedule:
CPE Standard Level 4/5/C clean = 100(15 Point Bonus) CPE Standard Level 5 faulted = 95 (15 Point Bonus) CPE Standard Level 4 faulted = 85(15 Point Bonus) CPE Standard Level 3 clean = 80, faulted = 75(10 Point Bonus) CPE Standard Level 2 clean = 70, faulted = 65(5 Point Bonus)
*CPE Standard Level 1 is not acceptable for MVA points. NADAC Elite clean = 100, faulted L5/C = 95(15 Point Bonus)
NADAC Open clean = 80, faulted = 75(10 Point Bonus)
NADAC Novice clean = 70, faulted = 65(5 Point Bonus)
USDAA Masters/PIII clean = 100, faulted L5/C = 95(15 Point Bonus)
USDAA Advanced/PII clean = 80, faulted = 75(10 Point Bonus)
USDAA Started clean/PI = 70, faulted = 65(5 Point Bonus)
- E. Bitches in heat will not be allowed to run at the Nationals Specialty Agility Trial. Failure to comply with this rule will result in dismissal from all agility trials held in conjunction with the MASCA Agility National Specialty.

RALLY OBEDIENCE (Optional for MVA)

- A. MASCA MVA Rally Obedience runs will be scored using venue rules and regulations and criteria for entering levels
- B. The score will be determined from the results of the trial held at the Nationals Specialty Rally Obedience Trial. Participants who enter multiple rounds of the MASCA Nationals Rally Obedience competition may count the best score earned towards MVA.
- C. Only the highest qualifying scores earned in the trial will count towards MVA points.
- D. Please see APDT Rally Obedience Rules for additional information.
- E. Points will be awarded as follows:
APDT Level 3 clean (200+ Points) = 100, faulted = 95 (15 Point Bonus)
APDT Level 2 clean (200+ Points) = 80, faulted = 75(10 Point Bonus)
APDT Level 1 clean (200+ Points) = 60, faulted = 55(5 Point Bonus)
- F. Bitches in heat will not be allowed to run at the Nationals Specialty Rally Obedience Trial. Failure to comply with this rule will result in dismissal from all performance trials held in conjunction with the Rally Obedience National Specialty .

OBEDIENCE (Optional for MVA)

- A. MASCA MVA Obedience runs will be scored using MASCA rules and regulations and criteria for entering levels.
B. The score will be determined from the results of the trial held at the Nationals Specialty Obedience Trial. Participants who enter multiple rounds of the MASCA Nationals Obedience competition may count the best score earned towards MVA.
C. Only qualifying scores earned in the trial will count towards MVA points. Pre-Novice does not count towards MVA.
D. Please see MASCA Obedience Rules for additional information
E. Points will be awarded as follows:
MASCA/C-Wags/St. Hubert's Utility clean = 100, faulted = 95(15 Point Bonus)
MASCA/C-Wags/St. Hubert's Open clean = 90, faulted = 85(10 Point Bonus)
MASCA/C-Wags/St. Hubert's Novice clean = 80 faulted = 75(5 Point Bonus)
*MASCA Pre-Novice is not acceptable for MVA points) Approved
F. Bitches in heat may be allowed to run at the Nationals Specialty Obedience Trial, please check with the Obedience trial secretary.

SPECIAL AWARDS

The Host Club for the MASCA Nationals shall include in their flyer any special awards to be given in the MVA competition. For questions regarding the MVA rules please contact the MASCA board.

Sample of MVA scoring in case of a tie:

	Dog A	Dog B:
Conformation score:	95	95
Herding score:	95	85
Performance score:	100	100
Performance Bonus (bonus not awarded for event used in "Performance" Score).		
Agility	N.A.	10
Obedience	10	10
Rally Obedience	10	N.A.
Tracking	0	10
MVA Total:	310	310

Dog A wins MVA award, because it has a higher score for herding.