

Miniature Australian Shepherd Club of America, Inc.

SHOW RULES AND REGULATIONS



February 2017 Edition

These amended Rules and Regulations are effective February 2017

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CHAPTER 1. GENERAL EXPLANATIONS

SECTION 1.1 The word "dog" wherever used in these Rules and Regulations includes both sexes.

SECTION 1.2 The words "United States of America" wherever used in these Rules and Regulations shall be constructed to include all territories and possessions of the United States of America and all vessels sailing under the American Flag.

SECTION 1.3 The words Miniature Australian Shepherd Club of America, Inc. may appear in these rules in an abbreviated form as MASCA.

SECTION 1.4 THE MEMBERS OF THE IMMEDIATE FAMILY ARE: Husband, Wife, Father, Mother, Son, Daughter, Brother, or Sister, Father In-law, Mother in-law, Son in-law, Daughter in-law, Brother in-law, or Sister In-law.

SECTION 1.5 Immediate household to mean those residing within the residence.

SECTION 1.6 The word Club is defined as MASCA or a MASCA Affiliate in good standing.

SECTION 1.7 All entries must be made on the official MASCA entry form. **All dogs must be registered with MASCA prior to entering. No dog shall be registered as anything other than an Australian Shepherd with any other registry or club.**

SECTION 1.8 Collars; Special training collars (prong collars, shock collars) shall not be used on the grounds or premises. These requirements shall not be interpreted as preventing a handler from moving normally about on the grounds or premises with a dog on leash.

SECTION 1.9 Training on the grounds or premises: There shall be abusive training of dogs on the grounds or premises.

SECTION 1.10 Abuse of Dogs: The show committee shall investigate any reports of abuse of dogs or severe disciplining of dogs on the grounds or premises of a show. Any person who conducts himself in such manner or in any other manner

prejudicial to the best interest of the sport shall be dealt with promptly in accordance with CHAPTER 16.3

SECTION 1.11 Boundaries of Show Grounds. The limits are the boundaries of the grounds. Premises constitute a larger area, its boundaries not well defined. It consists of the land building(s) and all parking areas adjacent to and a continuation of the show grounds where any MASCA event is held whether held separately or in conjunction with each other. Any area inside the limits is on the premises, but an area does not have to be within the limits to be considered within the premises.

CHAPTER 2. DOG SHOW DEFINED

SECTION 2.1 A Specialty Show is a show sanctioned (held) by MASCA or a MASCA Affiliate Club at which Championship points will be given. See CHAPTER 10 SPECIALTY SHOW.

SECTION 2.2 The National Specialty is governed by the MASCA Board of Directors. It may be hosted by an affiliate club.

CHAPTER 3. MAKING APPLICATION TO HOLD A SHOW, SANCTIONING RULES, APPROVAL OF JUDGES LIST

SECTION 3.1 All shows giving championship points must be sanctioned or held by MASCA.

SECTION 3.2 Affiliates shall not seek membership nor seek license or sanction for any event with another registry other than a registry with which MASCA has an agreement.

SECTION 3.3 The Host Affiliate of a MASCA National Specialty shall not invite nor contract with another registry or any of its affiliates other than a registry with which MASCA has an agreement to hold an event at any time during the Nationals or as a pre-show or trial.

SECTION 3.4 MASCA Affiliate Clubs that meet the requirements of MASCA and wish to hold a Conformation Dog Show at which Championship points may be awarded must make application to MASCA for permission to hold such show. The application and approval must occur prior to 90 days of the requested date. The Sanctioning form shall list date, location, Show Secretary/Chairman's' name, address and phone number, all classes offered, judges names, addresses and assignments, unless as otherwise provided in SECTION 4.11, SECTION 10.2.h.

Any MASCA Affiliated Club requesting MASCA sanctioning for any event(s) shall, when making application for said event(s), include any applicable county, state, country or any other bylaws, rules of conduct or associated restrictions regarding dogs, their exhibition and the holding of said event(s) and shall include a list of such rules, bylaws or restrictions in the premium list. Such rules, restrictions, bylaws etc. shall be printed in English and the language of the country where said event(s) will be held, listing all pertinent information. All entries shall close prior to the judging of the first class. All Affiliate clubs must send a Premium (show flyer) to the MASCA Business Office before the date of the scheduled event. This application must be submitted and postmarked no later than forty-five (45) days prior to the event.

SECTION 3.5 A sanctioning fee will be submitted to the MASCA Business Office with the official request for sanctioning form, which will be supplied on request from the MASCA Business Office. The club shall pay a fee, the amount to be fixed and determined by the MASCA Board of Directors, for the privilege of holding such show under MASCA Rules and coverage under club insurance, if so needed. The MASCA Business Office will consider the same and notify the club(s) of its approval or disapproval of the dates and place selected. If the MASCA Business Office disapproves the application the fee will be returned to said club(s).

SECTION 3.6 A show secretary / chairman must be a MASCA member in good standing.

SECTION 3.7 MASCA Judge's Books will include a complete report stating total number of regular class dogs and bitches, names of Winners, Reserve Winners, Best of Winners, Best Opposite Sex and Best of Breed. This report must be signed by the Judge.

SECTION 3.8 In the event it becomes necessary to change the physical location where a show is to be held, after the Sanctioning form has been received by the MASCA Business Office, the show committee or the show coordinator shall obtain approval of the new show location from the MASCA Business Office.

- A. If the location change is made prior to twenty (20) days before the date(s) of the show, notice of the change must be sent to all prospective exhibitors.

- B. The club will be responsible for having a notice posted in a prominent place at the original location informing exhibitors of the change in location. The notice must state specific directions to the new location.

SECTION 3.9 Refer to Chapter 17 for submission of a show's records to the MASCA Business Office.

SECTION 3.10 Only MASCA Affiliate Clubs, in good standing, may sanction MASCA events. A "type of event" is defined as Conformation or Obedience or Stockdog Trial or Tracking or Agility or Dock Diving or Scent & Find or Rally Obedience or Acrobatics or Disc Dog.

SECTION 3.11 Official MASCA programs that require sanctioning and award points or qualifying scores that lead to a MASCA title shall not be conducted by any individual(s), non MASCA Affiliated corporation(s) or business(es).

Affiliate Club(s) in good standing with MASCA will have the exclusive right to schedule, sanction and conduct Official MASCA programs. No individual(s), non MASCA Affiliated corporation(s) or business(es) shall realize any monetary profit, or any other benefit as a result of any connection with a MASCA sanctioned event. Normal event sponsorship or advertisement by any individual(s), corporation(s) or business(es) shall not be considered to be in conflict with this rule. Individuals, corporations or businesses that enter into agreements with Affiliate Clubs to supply materials, services, facility rentals, livestock rentals or any other need required for the conduct of sanctioned events shall not be considered to be in conflict with this rule. The use of a Club's name for event purposes cannot be transferred.

SECTION 3.12 All clubs holding shows under MASCA rules must have available at each show, a copy of the MASCA Breed Standard and the MASCA Show Rules.

SECTION 3.13 Any club giving a dog show must provide armbands and shall see that every person exhibiting a dog wears, when in the ring, an armband with the entry number of the dog being exhibited.

SECTION 3.14 No badges, coats with kennel names, dog's names or any advertisements, shall be worn or displayed, nor any other visible means of identification used, by an individual when exhibiting a dog in the ring.

SECTION 3.15 Each Host Club, which holds a sanctioned event at least once in every 2 consecutive years, shall have first right to claim the corresponding dates or holiday weekend for it's event to be held in the next succeeding two years. If the Club having first right to the dates, does not host a sanctioned event on that date in the following year, another Club may use the preexisting date for an event. The original Club shall still have first right to the date on the second year following their original event. If they do not host a sanctioned event on that date in the second year, they lose the first right to the date. The MASCA Business Office will hold paperwork from any other Club wishing to use a preexisting date until the MASCA Business Office has been notified that the Host Club with the preexisting date will not use the event date that year. If paperwork has to be held pending receipt of the notification from the Host Club with the preexisting date, the MASCA Business Office will notify the second Club within 14 days upon receipt of the Sanctioning Request Form. To facilitate timely receipt of materials, Clubs wishing to use a preexisting date should contact the Host Club and request notification be sent in writing to the MASCA Business Office stating the preexisting date will not be used that year. If the Host Club with the preexisting date does not use that date on the second year following their original event, first claim to that date will pass to a second Host Club, if there is one. If a date has not been previously claimed, the Host Club whose sanctioning is postmarked first shall be awarded the date. When determining when a club that has a grandfathered weekend, the Business Office will make the determination based on the date that the Saturday of the weekend falls on to determine which month that show weekend falls on.

SECTION 3.16 MASCA Affiliate Clubs shall not request sanctioning for any event to be held outside of their state/area that is already served by at least one Affiliate Club. If a state/area is not served by an Affiliate Club then an Affiliate Club from another state/area may sanction events there on a first come basis.

If an Affiliate Club wishes to sanction an event at a site that is outside of their state/area, they must first secure written permission from all of the Affiliates in that state/area. This written permission shall be submitted to the Business Office with the Sanction request before sanctioning can be granted. If an Affiliate Club organizes in a state/area that formerly did not have an Affiliate Club, then the new Club shall have primary sanctioning authority. Out of state/area Affiliate Clubs must then follow the procedure as outlined in the previous two paragraphs.

Affiliate Clubs who sanction pre-national events to be held in the state/area of the National Specialty event are exempt from the provisions of this section.

CHAPTER 4. DOG SHOW CLASSIFICATION

SECTION 4.1 The Mandatory regular classes of MASCA are as follows:

6 mos. to 9 mos.
9 mos. to 12 mos.
Open
Bred by Exhibitor
Winners
Best of Breed
Altered

These classes shall be divided by sex (except Best of Breed).

A-CH OPTIONAL CLASS DIVISION REDUCTION:

Hosting clubs have the option of selecting the reduced class divisions for the Altered Program only:

6-12 mos.
Open

These classes shall be divided by sex. (Mandatory divisions by color at National specialties, see SECTION 4.5)

SECTION 4.2 The 6 mos. to 9 mos. Class shall be for dogs that are six months of age or over, but less than nine months, and that are not champions. The age of the dog shall be calculated up to and inclusive of the first day of a show.

SECTION 4.3 The 9 mos. to 12 mos. Class shall be for dogs that are nine (9) months or over, but less than twelve (12) months, and that are not champions. The age of the dog shall be calculated up to and inclusive of the first day of a show.

SECTION 4.4 The Bred by Exhibitor Class shall be for dogs that are:

- A. Six (6) months of age and over
- B. That are not MASCA Champions
- C. That are owned or co-owned by a breeder of record or a member of the breeder's immediate family

To handle a dog in the Bred By Exhibitor Class, either of the following conditions must be met:

- A. Handler must be an owner or co-owner of record and be a breeder of record or
- B. Handler must be an immediate family member of the breeder who maintains ownership of the dog.

The winner of the Bred By Class may be handled by other than the above named individuals in any subsequent class for which it becomes eligible.

SECTION 4.5 The Open Class shall be for any dog, (except MASCA Champions), six (6) months of age or over. During National specialties, the Open Class must be divided into the four accepted colors as described in the MASCA Breed Standard; Open Blue, Merle Open Red Merle, Open Black and Open Red.

SECTION 4.6 The Winners Class shall be divided by sex and each division shall be open only to undefeated dogs of the same sex which have won first prizes in either the six (6) month to nine (9) months, nine (9) months to twelve (12) months, Bred by Exhibitor or Open Classes. There shall be no entry fee for competition in the Winners Class. After the Winners prize has been awarded in one of the sex divisions, the dog placing second to the winning dog, if undefeated except by the dog awarded Winners, shall compete with the other eligible dogs for Reserve Winners. No eligible dog may be withheld from competition.

SECTION 4.7 The awards in Best of Breed competition shall be Best of Breed, Best Opposite Sex and Best of Winners. The following categories of dogs may be entered and shown in this competition:

- A. Dogs that are MASCA Champions of Record;
- B. Dogs, which according to their owner's records have completed the requirements for a championship, but whose championships are unconfirmed.

- C. The showing of dogs whose championships are unconfirmed (either in classes or in Best of Breed competition) is limited to a period of thirty (30) days from the date of the show where a dog completed the requirements for a championship or until certification of championship is issued. Providing that the proper paperwork was sent in prior to the shows.

SECTION 4.8 Dogs Competing in Winners and/or Best of Breed class must not have been defeated in any Regular class.

SECTION 4.9 A club holding a show must offer Junior Showmanship competition. The classes and procedures shall conform to MASCA regulations governing Junior Showmanship as adopted by the MASCA Board of Directors.

SECTION 4.10 The optional non-regular classes of MASCA are: Two to Four Month Puppy, Four to Six Month Puppy, Stud Dog, Brood Bitch, Brace, Veterans, Altered, Head Type, and Movement. Puppy classes must be divided by sex.

SECTION 4.11 The following rules will apply if these non-regular classes are included:

- A. Two to Four Month Puppy class shall be for dogs that are two months of age and over, but under four months of age. Four to Six Month Puppy class shall be for dogs that are four months of age and over, but under six months of age. The age of a dog shall be calculated up to and inclusive of the first day of the show. These classes may be divided by color. The winners of these classes shall compete for Best of Breed Puppy and Best of Opposite Sex Puppy and compete no further.
- B. Stud Dog class shall consist of the sire and two (2) to four (4) of his progeny, two (2) of which must be at least six months of age or over and entered in a regular class. Entry for this class shall be in the name of the sire and none of his progeny shall be entered as a sire in this class. The Stud Dog may be neutered.
- C. Brood Bitch class shall consist of the dam and two (2) to four (4) of her progeny, two (2) of which must be at least six months of age and over and must be entered in a regular class. Entry shall be in the name of the dam and none of her progeny shall be entered as a dam in this class. The Brood Bitch may be spayed.
- D. In the Stud Dog and Brood Bitch classes, the merits of the Stud Dog and Brood Bitch are not considered in the placement of the entry. It is the quality of the get that forms the basis for the judge's decision. All get must be examined and gaited. The Stud Dog and Brood Bitch must also be examined to determine if there is a condition that would require disqualification or excusal under MASCA Rules or the MASCA breed standard. In addition to the Stud Dog and Brood Bitch, all handlers must wear an armband designating the get being exhibited. This class may be held prior to or after Best of Breed Judging.
- E. Brace class shall consist of entries of two dogs each of similar coloring, markings, size, and type that work as a team. A team may be composed of two dogs of any combination of male, female, intact or altered.
- F. The Veteran's Class or classes is open only to dogs which have reached their seventh (7) birthday. This class is open to spayed and neutered dogs and must be divided by sex.
- G. The Altered class is open to any dog ages six months or older who has been spayed or neutered.
- H. The head type class is open to any dog ages six months or older. This class may be split by male and female.
- I. The movement class is open to any dog ages six months or older.
- J. Non-regular class winners shall not become eligible to move on to any regular conformation class by virtue of their non-regular class award.

CHAPTER 5. CHAMPIONSHIPS

SECTION 5.1 MASCA grants championships to dogs that meet all requirements as set forth in this "Show Rules and Regulations".

SECTION 5.2 A MASCA championship certificate will then be issued to the owner of the dog, and the owner will have the right to use the title on all registration and pedigree certificates.

SECTION 5.3 In order to become a champion, a dog must earn 15 points and be at least six (6) months of age on the day of the show.

SECTION 5.4 At least two of these wins must be “major” wins – shows which are at least three point shows, with at least one of the majors occurring at breed level.

SECTION 5.5 Majors must be under different judges.

SECTION 5.6 Dogs must have at least one more win under a third judge.

SECTION 5.7 Points from other registries are not transferable. Only points on MASCA approved win sheets and MASCA approved registries are acceptable.

SECTION 5.8 Dogs must be registered with MASCA prior to the show. Dogs must not be registered as anything other than an Australian Shepherd with any other club or registry.

SECTION 5.9 If some of the wins are winsheet wins, the exhibitor must hold all winsheets until enough points have been earned for the championships. Copies should be made and kept before mailing winsheets to MASCA.

CHAPTER 6. GRAND CHAMPIONSHIP PROGRAM

SECTION 6.1 Before a dog may earn points towards its Grand Championship, it must be a CONFIRMED MASCA champion.

SECTION 6.2 In order to become a Grand Champion, a dog must earn 50 points, and obtain five (5) major wins at breed level, under different judges. Three (3) of the five (5) majors must be 5-point majors.

SECTION 6.3 Points earned toward the dog’s championship shall not count.

SECTION 6.4 Grand points are only earned at breed level.

SECTION 6.5 Points are awarded as follows:

- A. Best of Breed receives (1) point for each dog defeated at regular class and Best of Breed level.
- B. Best of Opposite Sex receives (1) point for each dog of its sex defeated.
- C. If Best of Winners is the same sex as Best of Opposite Sex, Best of Opposite Sex will also receive points for each regular class dog of its sex defeated.

SECTION 6.6 Once points are completed and confirmed, MASCA will issue a Grand Champion certificate. Grand Champion achievement will also be recognized at the following year’s Nationals specialty.

- A. Dog must have completed the certificate at least two months prior to the Nationals specialty, or it will be recognized at the subsequent year’s National specialty.

CHAPTER 7. MERIT PROGRAM (TOP 10)

SECTION 7.1 MASCA merit program recognizes the top ten conformation dogs of each recording year – January 1 through December 31.

SECTION 7.2 Winsheets must be submitted by January 15 of the following year.

SECTION 7.3 Merit points are only earned at breed level.

SECTION 7.4 Champions, Grand Champions, Class Dogs and Class Bitches are eligible for merit points.

SECTION 7.5 Points are awarded as follows:

- A. Best of Breed receives (1) point for each dog defeated at regular class and Best of Breed level.
- B. Best of Opposite Sex receives (1) point for each dog of its sex defeated.
- C. If Best of Winners is the same sex as Best of Opposite Sex, Best of Opposite Sex will also receive points for each

regular class dog of its sex defeated.

SECTION 7.6 Top Ten merit dogs will be recognized each year with a certificate at the National specialty.

CHAPTER 8. WINSHEET PROGRAM

SECTION 8.1 The Miniature Australian Shepherd Club of America (MASCA) sanctions legitimate shows and matches recognizing all dogs registered with the Miniature Australian Shepherd Club of America for championship titles. Organizations automatically sanctioned are: IABCA, SKC, Canine KC, Rarities, ARBA and YWC shows. Other shows offered by venues not listed may be accepted by board approval if requested a minimum of 30 days prior to the event. Please send in the show flyer and organization rules when seeking approval. In order to confirm wins at all shows, please attach a photocopy of the show Premium (flyer) when submitting the Winsheets. If no Premium (flyer) is available, contact MASCA prior to the show.

IABCA/ICE SHOW INFORMATION These particular show venues offer a schedule of classes that differ from the usual schedule of classes (i.e. No Winners class). An entrant must first request a Winners class to be held prior to the Best of Breed class to be eligible to obtain conformation points. This Winners class should include all eligible dogs or bitches over 6 months of age. IABCA is aware of our policies and is compliant. Speak to the show secretary on the day of the show to request a Winners class to be held prior to the Best of Breed class. MASCA only recognizes wins (BOB, BIS, etc.) in the regular Adult classes for this venue, not the Puppy classes or the non-regular Bred By Best in Show class (refer to IABCA/ICE class schedule for more information <http://www.iabca.com/Classes.htm>) All other MASCA show rules and regulations apply.

SECTION 8.2 Dogs must be registered with MASCA prior to showing.

SECTION 8.3 If some of the wins are winsheet wins, the exhibitor must hold all winsheets until enough points have been earned for the championships. Copies should be made and kept before mailing winsheets to MASCA.

SECTION 8.4 It is the exhibitor's responsibility to have winsheets available for the judges and show chairperson on the day of the show.

CHAPTER 9. CHAMPIONSHIP POINT SCHEDULE

SECTION 9.1 Only dogs taking Winners Dog or Winners Bitch placements are eligible for conformation champion points. One point is earned for each class dog of the same sex defeated for a maximum of five points. The Best of Winners can earn extra points (up to maximum of five) for dogs of the opposite sex defeated. The Best of Breed winner will then compete in Herding group competition where additional points may be earned. In Group competition, the dog earns one point for each dog it defeats. The "First in Group" will compete in Best in Show where additional points may be earned. In Best in Show competition, the dog earns one point for each dog it defeats

Champion Point Schedule (schedule indicates number of dogs defeated not including your dog)

1 Dog	1 Point
2 Dogs	2 Points
3 Dogs	3 Points
4 Dogs	4 Points
5 Dogs	5 Points

SECTION 9.2 If only one dog of each sex is present, Best of Breed and only Best of Breed will be awarded one point at breed level.

SECTION 9.3 The most points any dog can earn toward its championship in one show is five points even in the case of Best in Show, etc. wins.

- A. Championship points will be recorded according to the number of eligible dogs competing in the regular classes of each and according to the MASCA Schedule of Points.
- B. Championship points will be recorded for Winners Dog and Winners Bitch at member dog shows approved by the Miniature Australian Shepherd Club of America. The exhibition of altered dogs for championship points shall be

limited to the Altered Program.

- C. If the dog designated Winners Dog or Winners Bitch is also awarded Best of Breed, the dogs of both sexes that have been entered for Best of Breed competition and that have been defeated in such competition, shall be counted in addition to the dogs that competed in the regular classes for its sex in calculating championship points.
- D. If the dog designated Winners Dog or Winners Bitch is also awarded Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed, the dogs of its own sex that have been entered for Best of Breed and that have been defeated in competition for Best of Opposite Sex shall be counted in addition to the dogs that competed in the regular classes for its sex in calculating championship points.
- E. The dog awarded the Best of Winners shall be credited with the number of points calculated for Winners Dog or Winners Bitch, whichever is greater.
- F. In counting the number of eligible dogs in competition, a dog that is disqualified, or that is dismissed, excused or ordered from the ring by the judge, or from which all awards are withheld, shall not be included.

Section 9.4 MASCA Altered Conformation Program (A-CH)

The Altered Conformation Program shall be a regular, mandatory program held in conjunction with all MASCA Conformation events. All MASCA Conformation Rules and Regulations shall apply to the Altered Program.

ALTERED CLASSES

Regular Classes shall be:

6 months-12 months
Open
Winners
Best of Breed

These classes shall be divided by sex except for Best of Breed. (See SECTION 4.1 for Optional class reduction for Altered Program)

ELIGIBILITY

- A. Eligibility is restricted to regular MASCA registered dogs that have been spayed or neutered. The MASCA Breed Standard shall be used as a measurement of comparison in all other areas regarding Altered Championship competition. Points earned in Non Altered conformation classes can be carried over into the Altered Conformation. MASCA Champions of record will be eligible to compete in Best of Breed in the Altered Program if they have been neutered.
- B. Any dog which shall have won fifteen (15) points shall become an Altered Champion of Record.
- C. A dog becomes an Altered Champion of Record when it is so officially recorded by the MASCA and shall be entitled to an Altered Championship Certificate, A-CH.

SECTION 9.5 (All judges must be MASCA approved for all events)

CHAPTER 10. SPECIALTY SHOWS

SECTION 10.1 SANCTIONING

- A. Prior request for sanctioning must be sent to the MASCA Business Office and must be dated/postmarked (hand canceled/legible) at least ninety (90) days prior to the date or dates of the show. The MASCA Business Office will confirm or deny the requested date within fifteen (15) days of receipt of paperwork. The club is responsible to see that all official show forms are submitted.

SECTION 10.2 PREMIUM LIST

- A. Each club which has been granted permission by MASCA to hold a Specialty must submit in time to reach the MASCA Business Office at least sixty (60) days before its closing date for entries, a sample of its premium list.

The MASCA Business Office will return, not later than forty-five (45) days before the closing date for entries of the show or trial, one copy of the premium list indicating thereon, all necessary corrections, deletions and revisions.

- B. The MASCA Business Office will confirm or deny sanctioning with the return of the sample premium list.
- C. Every premium list shall specify the date at which entries for a show shall close. The premium list shall also specify the name, address and phone number of the Show Secretary and the person who is to receive the entries.
- D. Premium lists and entry forms must be sent to prospective exhibitors at least thirty-five (35) days prior to the closing date for entries of the show if sent by other than FIRST CLASS MAIL and at least thirty (30) days if sent by FIRST CLASS MAIL. Prospective exhibitors include those in attendance at this show in the preceding year.
- E. The awards at a dog show or the scores made at any herding trial or sanctioned performance event, will be officially recorded by MASCA only if the certification of the MASCA Business Office is published on the first page of the premium list stating that permission has been granted by MASCA for the dog show to be held under MASCA rules and regulations, i.e.: "MASCA Sanctioned" and "MASCA Show Rules Apply."
- F. The premium list shall contain the following: a list of the officers of the show-giving club, a list of the members of the Show Committee, together with the designations of "Chairperson" and the Chairperson's address (and "Obedience Trial Chairperson" and/or Course Director), the names of the veterinarians (or name of local Veterinary Association), whether the veterinarian will be in attendance throughout the show hours or "on call", names, city and state of the judges, together with their assignments, and the name, address and phone number of the show secretary. The premium list shall also specify the exact location of the show, the date or dates on which it is to be held, and the times of opening and closing of the show.
- G. If more than one judge has been approved to judge a specialty show, the premium list must designate the particular assignments of each judge as approved by the MASCA Business Office, except when the member club has requested and received approval for the drawing of assignments at the show, in which case a statement to this effect shall appear in the premium list in place of designated assignments.
- H. Show committees may make such regulations or additional rules for the government of their show as shall be considered necessary, provided such regulations or additional rules do not conflict with any rule of MASCA. Such regulations or additional rules shall be printed in the premium list and violations thereof shall be considered the same as violations of the rules and regulations of MASCA.
- I. No prizes may be accepted or offered by a show giving club unless they are published in the premium list of the show or in the separate list of prizes if the condensed form of premium list is used; nor may any be withdrawn or the conditions thereof changed after they have been published in the premium list or in the separate list of prizes. If the donor of a prize that has been published in the premium list of a show or in the separate list of prizes shall fail to furnish the prize, the show giving club shall supply a prize of the same description and of no less value in a reasonable period of time. The show-giving club shall be responsible for all errors made in publishing offers of prizes and shall, in the event of error, award prizes of equal value; except that if an error has been made in the premium list or in the separate list of prizes in publishing the conditions of the club's special awards (as described in SECTION 11.8), prizes shall be awarded according to the current terms of the club's Special Awards.

SECTION 10.3 RIBBONS - See CHAPTER 11.

SECTION 10.4 CATALOGUES

- A. Show Committee must provide a printed/ electronic catalogue for Nationals.
- B. Every catalogue must bear on its cover or title page: "This show is held under MASCA rules".
- C. The catalogue shall be in book form, no smaller than 5 1/2 x 8 1/2 inches. It shall contain the names and particulars of all dogs entered in the show, arranged as follows: Catalogue number; name of dog; name of owner. The catalogue may either give the address of the owner immediately after the owner's name under the identifying information for each dog entered, or may include a separate alphabetical list of exhibitors' names and addresses. The entries shall be catalogued by non-regular puppy classes, regular classes and non-regular classes, in the order given in Chapter 4. The information on dogs entered in any additional classes shall appear following the space provided for recording Winners Bitch and Reserve Winners Bitch followed by the particulars of those dogs entered for Best of Breed except that the entries in Brace, Stud Dog, Brood Bitch, or any other classes in which the judge's decision is based on the merits of more than one dog shall appear following the list of dogs entered for Best of Breed, and the space provided for Best of Breed, Best of Winners, and Best of Opposite Sex awards. The

particulars of those dogs entered For Exhibition Only shall appear following all other entries in the breed. The Board of Directors may prescribe additional requirements for format and contents of the catalogue.

- D. The schedule of points toward Championships in the show shall be published in the catalogue.
- E. All prizes offered in the premium list of a show shall be printed in the catalogue, and no change shall be printed in the catalogue, and no change shall be made in the descriptions or conditions of these prizes, nor shall any prize or trophy be added that was not offered in the premium list or in the separate list of prizes.

CHAPTER 11. RIBBONS, PRIZES AND TROPHIES

SECTION 11.1 All clubs holding a show under the rules of MASCA may use the following colors for their prize ribbons or rosettes, in the regular classes.

- A. First Prize - Blue
- B. Second Prize - Red
- C. Third Prize - Yellow
- D. Fourth Prize - White
- E. Winners - Purple
- F. Reserve Winners - Purple and White
- G. Best of Winners - Blue and White
- H. Special Prize - Optional
- I. Best of Breed - Purple and Gold
- J. Best of Opposite Sex - Red & White

For the non-regular classes the following colors may be used as a guideline. Non-regular colors must be used when holding a Specialty show.

- A. First Prize - Rose
- B. Second Prize - Brown
- C. Third Prize - Light Green
- D. Fourth Prize - Gray
- E. Best of Breed Puppy –Pink
- F. Best of Opposite Sex Puppy –Green

The MASCA logo may be used in awards offered by a MASCA affiliate hosting a sanctioned show, trial, or agility competition.

SECTION 11.2 If money prizes are offered in a premium list of a show, a fixed amount or percent of entry money for each prize must be stated. All other prizes offered in a premium list of a show must be described.

SECTION 11.3 A show-giving club shall not accept the donation of a prize for a competition not provided for at its show.

SECTION 11.4 All prizes offered in a premium list of a show must be offered to be awarded in the regular procedure of judging, with the exception of those prizes provided for in Section 6 of this Chapter.

SECTION 11.5 Prizes, ribbons or certificates may be offered for awards at a show for the following placings: First, Second, Third, Fourth in the Six to Nine Months, Nine to Twelve Months. Bred by Exhibitor or Open Classes, or in any division of these designated in the classification. First, Second, Third, Fourth, in any non-regular class, which the show giving club, may offer. Winners, Reserve Winners, Best of Winners, Best of Breed and Best of Opposite Sex. Best of Breed and Best of Opposite Sex Puppy, Junior Showmanship.

SECTION 11.6 Prizes for award may also be offered for: Best in Bred by Exhibitor Classes, Best in Open Classes and Best in any additional classes, which the show giving club may offer, in which the sexes are divided.

SECTION 11.7 Special revolving or traveling prizes may be awarded at the donor's specifications.

SECTION 11.8 Special Awards are prizes offered by Specialty giving member clubs for outright and automatic award at any show where the terms have been published in full in the premium list of the show. It shall be the obligation of clubs offering such special awards to notify show secretaries and show-giving clubs that said prizes may be offered provided the terms are set forth in full in the premium list of the show. The club will be solely responsible for the distribution of such

prizes within sixty (60) days after the completion of a show when it has been determined that all the terms of the awards have been met. No club is obligated to accept an offering of special awards.

CHAPTER 12. JUDGES

SECTION 12.1 MASCA Breeder Judges and other persons whose qualifications meet the approval of MASCA may be selected for judging. In no case will a judge be approved if suspended from the privileges of MASCA, the ASCA/AKC/CKC/UKC or the sponsoring member club. (Refer to CHAPTER 20)

SECTION 12.2 MASCA will not approve as judge for any given show the following:

- A. Show Secretary
- B. Show Chairperson
- C. Show Veterinarians

SECTION 12.3 A Conformation Judge may not compete with any dog at the same sanctioned Conformation Event he or she is officiating. If multiple Conformation events are held in a single day, the judge may not compete at any of the Conformation events on the same day he or she is officiating. Event is defined in SECTION 3.10

SECTION 12.4 No dog owned or co-owned by an officiating Conformation judge can compete in the same Conformation event that he or she is judging.

SECTION 12.5 A Conformation judge shall not personally exhibit any dogs at a MASCA sanctioned Conformation event, in the same state in which he is to judge, four (4) days prior to the judging assignment.

SECTION 12.6 A Conformation judge shall not pass judgment on any dog, a member of the immediate family or

household owns, co-owns, or has owned, sold, held under lease, boarded, regularly trained, instructed or handled in the Conformation ring in the preceding twelve months. "Trained" or "Instructed" applies equally to judges who train professionally or as amateurs. The judge's immediate family or household includes: spouse, father, mother, son, daughter, brother, sister, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law or any person residing with the judge.

SECTION 12.7 Immediate family or household members may compete under another officiating Conformation Judge at the same Conformation Show as long as any wins under the other Conformation Judge will not make the dog ineligible to compete further.

SECTION 12.8 If it becomes necessary to replace an advertised judge after the opening of the show and no person on the MASCA eligible judge's list is available to take his place, the Show Committee may select as a substitute for the advertised judge, a person who is qualified under SECTION 12.1, SECTION 12..2, and CHAPTER 20.

SECTION 12.9 The Show Committee shall, in every instance, notify appointed judges of their assignments, and such notifications shall be given before the publication of the premium list except in situation as stated in Section 10.2.H

SECTION 12.10 A Show Committee which shall be informed at any time prior to twenty (20) days before the opening day of its show that an advertised judge will not fulfill his or her engagement to judge shall substitute a judge in his or her place. Substitute judges must be approved by the MASCA Business Office, and the club shall give notice of the name of the substitute judge to all those who entered dogs in the classes to be judged by the advertised judge. All those who have entered dogs to be shown under the advertised judge shall be permitted to withdraw their entries at any time prior to the close of entries and the entry fees paid for entering such dogs shall be refunded.

SECTION 12.11 Should a Show Committee be informed at any time less than twenty (20) days before the opening of it's show, or after it's show has opened, that an advertised judge will not fulfill his or her engagement to judge; it shall substitute a qualified judge in his or her place, and must attempt to obtain approval of the change from the MASCA Business Office. No notice need be sent to those exhibitors who have entered dogs under the advertised judge. The Show Committee will be responsible for having a notice posted in a prominent place within the show grounds as soon after the show opens as is practical, informing exhibitors of the change in judges. An exhibitor who has entered a dog under an advertised judge who is being replaced may withdraw such entry and shall have the entry fee refunded, provided notice of such withdrawal is given to the Show Secretary prior to the start of the judging.

SECTION 12.12 In case an advertised judge shall have judged part of the classes and then finds it impossible to finish, a

substitute judge shall be selected by the Show Committee, and in that event the awards made by the regular judge shall stand, and his or her substitute shall judge only the remaining entries. No dogs entered under the regularly selected judge shall be withheld from competition.

SECTION 12.13 A substitute judge shall finish the judging of the class he or she is judging if he or she has begun to judge before the advertised judge arrives at the show.

SECTION 12.14 No judging shall occur at any show prior to the time specified in the judging schedule.

SECTION 12.15 The maximum number of dogs assigned to any judge, in one day, shall never exceed 175. When the entries have closed, if the entry under any judge exceeds the above limits, the Show Committee must select some other judge or judges to whom sufficient classes can be assigned to bring the total assignment of judge within the limits. In the case of a Specialty show, if the limits are exceeded, at least one additional judge shall be assigned to bring each judge's assignment within the limits. Approval must be obtained from the MASCA Business Office for each reassignment. Notice must be sent to the owner of each dog affected by such a change in judges at least five (5) days before the opening of the show, and the owner has the right to withdraw his entry and have his entry fee refunded provided notification of his withdrawal is received before the opening of the show by the person named in the premium list to receive entries.

SECTION 12.16 A Judge's decision shall be final in all cases affecting the merits of the dogs. Full discretionary power is given for want of merit. After a class has been judged in accordance with these rules and regulations, it shall not be rejudged. A class is considered judged when the Judge has marked his book, which must be done before the following class is examined. If any errors have been made by the Judge in marking the awards as made, he may correct the same but must initial any such corrections.

SECTION 12.17 A Judge may order any person or dog from the ring. For the purpose of facilitating the judging, Judges are required to exclude from the rings in which they are judging all persons except the steward or stewards, show attendants assigned to the ring, and those actually engaged in exhibiting.

SECTION 12.18 A Judge must be supplied with the Judge's Book in which he shall mark all awards and all absent dogs. The original Judge's Books shall be in the custody of the Judge, Steward, Show Secretary or Show Chairperson. None other shall be allowed access to it. At the conclusion of the judging, the book must be signed by the Judge and any changes which may have been made therein initialed by him.

SECTION 12.19 A Judge's decision, as marked in the judge's book, cannot be changed by him after filing with the MASCA Business Office but an error appearing in the Judge's book may be corrected by the MASCA Business Office after consultation with the Judge and Show Secretary.

SECTION 12.20 If a Judge disqualifies a dog at any show, he shall make a note in the Judge's book giving his reasons for such disqualification. In computing the championship points for the breed, said dog shall not be considered as having been present at the show. The show secretary will acknowledge to the MASCA Business Office the name of the disqualified dog, the MASCA registration number and owners name and address.

SECTION 12.21 A Judge shall not judge the same assignment more than once in any six (6) month period for the same affiliate.

CHAPTER 13. SHOW COMMITTEES

SECTION 13.1 Show Committees consist of the Show Secretary and club officers present at the show unless otherwise stated in the flyer or premium list.

SECTION 13.2 Show Committees shall be held responsible for the enforcement of all rules and regulations relating to shows and the exhibiting of dogs, and must provide themselves with a copy of the MASCA Show Rules and Regulations.

SECTION 13.3 Conformation ring-size and conditions:

- A. Indoors - rings should be 40 feet by 50 feet and must be a minimum of 35 feet by 40 feet. The floor shall have surface or covering that provides firm footing.
- B. Outdoors - must be a minimum of 40 feet by 50 feet. The ground shall be clean and level and the grass if any, shall be cut short.

SECTION 13.4 The Show Committees will be held responsible for the maintenance of clean and orderly conditions throughout the precincts of the judging area during all hours when dogs are permitted to be present.

SECTION 13.5 Any person acting in the capacity of Show Secretary, Ring Steward or persons responsible for contacting and/or hiring a judge, or judges, shall not exhibit, act as agent or handler at the show. Dogs owned wholly or in part by the above may be exhibited at the show. Any person acting in the capacity of judge at a show shall not exhibit; act as agent or handler at the show.

SECTION 13.6 The Show Committee may decline any entries or may remove any dog(s) or person(s) from its show for cause, but in each such instance shall file good and sufficient reasons for so doing with MASCA Business Office within seven (7) days of the close of the show.

SECTION 13.7 The Show Secretary must be on the show grounds for the entire show.

CHAPTER 14. CONDITIONS OF DOGS AFFECTING ELIGIBILITY

SECTION 14.1 Every dog must be entered on an Official MASCA Entry Form in the name of the person who actually owned the dog at the time entries closed. The right to exhibit a dog cannot be transferred. A registered dog which has been acquired by some person other than the owner as recorded with MASCA must be entered in the name of its new owner at any show for which entries close after the date upon which the dog was acquired, and application for transfer of ownership must be sent to MASCA by the new owner within seven days after the last day of the show. The new owner must state on the entry form that the transfer application has been mailed to MASCA or will be mailed within the specified time. If there is any unavoidable delay in obtaining the completed application required to record the transfer, MASCA may grant a reasonable extension of time, provided the new owner notifies MASCA Business Office by mail within seven days after the show, of the reason for the delay. If an entry is made by a duly authorized agent of the owner, the name of the actual owner must be shown on the entry form. **Dogs must be entered under their MASCA registered names and registered with MASCA prior to showing. No dog shall be registered with any other club or registry as anything other than and Australian Shepherd.**

SECTION 14.2 No entry shall be made and no entry shall be accepted by a Show Secretary, which specifies any condition as to its acceptance.

SECTION 14.3 No entry may be changed or canceled unless notice of the change or cancellation is received in writing or by telegram by the Show Secretary prior to the closing date for entries, except that a dog may be transferred from his regular class to Best of Breed if he has completed his Championship. No dog wrongly entered in a class may otherwise be transferred to another class. Owners are responsible for errors in entry forms, regardless of who may make such errors. Allowances for refunds on cancellations will be left to the discretion of the Host Club.

SECTION 14.4 No entry shall be accepted for any disqualified dog or from any person who is not in good standing with MASCA or the sponsoring club, on the day of the closing of the entries. Before accepting entries, a list of disqualified dogs and persons not in good standing will be provided by the MASCA Business Office as part of the show packet/books. Any dog that has been registered with any other club or registry as anything other than an Australian Shepherd is considered disqualified.

SECTION 14.5 No entry shall be made under a kennel name unless that name has been registered with MASCA. An "exhibitor" or "entrant" is defined as the individual or, if a partnership, all the members of the partnership exhibiting or entering in a dog show. In the case of such an entry by a partnership every member of the partnership shall be in good standing with MASCA before the entry will be accepted. In case of any infraction of these rules, all the partners shall be held equally responsible.

SECTION 14.6 A dog which is blind, deaf, castrated, spayed, or which has been changed in appearance by artificial means except as specified in the breed standard, or a male over 6 months of age which does not have two normal testicles normally located in the scrotum, may not compete at any show and will be disqualified. A dog will not be considered to have been changed by artificial means because of removal of dewclaws and/or docking of tail. A castrated male may be entered as a stud in the Stud Dog and Veterans Class or in the Altered Conformation Program and a spayed bitch may be entered as Brood Bitch in the Brood Bitch and Veterans Class or in the Altered Conformation program. When a judge finds any of these conditions in any dog he is judging, he shall disqualify the dog marking his book "Disqualified" and stating the reason. He shall not obtain the opinion of the show veterinarian. When a dog has been disqualified under this rule or under the Breed Standard, awards earned by that dog at that show shall be canceled by MASCA and the dog may not again be shown unless and until, following application by the owner to MASCA, the owner has received official notification from MASCA that the dog's show eligibility has been reinstated.

SECTION 14.7 A dog that is lame at any show may not compete and shall not receive any award at that show. It shall be the judge's responsibility to determine whether a dog is lame. He shall withhold all awards from such dog and shall excuse it from the ring. A dog so excused shall not be counted as having competed. When a judge excuses a dog from the ring for lameness, he shall mark his book "Excused - Lame".

SECTION 14.8 No dog shall be eligible to compete at any show and no dog shall receive an award at any show in the event the natural color of the natural markings of the dog have been altered or changed by the use of substance whether such substance may have been used for cleaning purposes or for any other reason. Such cleaning substances are to be removed before the dog enters the ring. If in the judge's opinion any substance has been used to alter or change the natural color or shade of natural color or natural markings of a dog, then in such event the judge shall withhold any and all awards from such dog, and the judge shall make a note in the judge's book giving his reason for withholding such award.

SECTION 14.9 No dog shall be eligible to compete at any show, no dog shall be brought into the grounds or premises of any dog show, and any dog which may have been brought into the grounds or premises of a dog show shall immediately be removed, if it:

- A. shows clinical symptoms of distemper, infectious hepatitis, parvovirus, leptospirosis, kennel cough or other communicable disease, or
- B. is known to have been in contact with distemper, infectious hepatitis, leptospirosis, kennel cough or other communicable disease within thirty days prior to the opening of the show, or
- C. has been kenneled within thirty days prior to the opening of the show on premises on which there existed distemper, infectious hepatitis, leptospirosis, kennel cough or other communicable disease.

SECTION 14.10 No entry shall be made at any show under a judge of any dog which said judge or any member of his immediate household or immediate family (as defined in Chapter 1, Section 4 & 5) has owned, handled in the ring more than twice, sold, held under lease or kept for a period of more than 30 days within one year prior to the date of the show.

SECTION 14.11 A club shall not accept an entry fee other than that published in its premium list or flyer, or in any way discriminate between exhibitors of entrants. No club shall offer to any one owner or handler any special inducement, such as trophies, reduced entry fees, rebates, additional prize money or any other concession, for entering more than one dog in the show.

SECTION 14.12 Every dog entered and present at a show must compete in all competition for which it is entered or becomes eligible, unless it has been excused, dismissed, disqualified or found to be ineligible, under the rules. (Or if the owner has scratched that dog's participation expecting no refund)

ALL MINIATURE AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERDS SIX MONTHS AND OLDER AND REGISTERED WITH MASCA, MAY COMPETE FOR BEST OF BREED.

SECTION 14.13 A dog that in the opinion of the judge menaces or threatens or exhibits any sign that it may not be safely approached by the judge or examined by the judge in the normal manner shall be excused from the ring. When the judge excuses the dog, he shall mark the dog "Excused," stating the reason in the judge's book. A dog so excused shall not be counted as having competed.

CHAPTER 15. COLOR DETERMINATIONS WHEN FACTORS OF DISQUALIFICATION IN BREED STANDARD OR ELIGIBILITY UNDER THE CONDITIONS OF A CLASS OR DIVISION OF A CLASS – CANCELLATION OF AWARDS

SECTION 15.1 Where certain colors or markings are specified in the Breed Standard as disqualifications, or in any class or division of a class where a certain color is required by the conditions of the class or division thereof, it shall be the judge's responsibility to determine whether a dog is to be disqualified or declared to be ineligible for the class.

- A. If, in the opinion of the judge, the dog's color or markings are such as to require disqualification, the judge shall disqualify the dog, making note of the fact in the judge's book.
- B. If, in the opinion of the judge, the dog's color or markings do not meet the requirement of the class or division of a class in which the dog is competing, the judge shall declare the dog ineligible to compete in that class or division of class, making note of the fact in the judge's book.
- C. If, in the opinion of any competing exhibitor or handler then in the ring, the color or markings or combinations of colors of a dog under judgment are such as to disqualify under the standard or are such as not to meet the requirements of the class or division thereof, such exhibitor or handler may, before every dog in the class has

been individually examined and individually gaited, request the judge to render an opinion of the dog's color(s) and markings.

- D. Before proceeding with the judging, the judge must write his opinion on the Judge's Book, and shall disqualify the dog if its color or markings are such as to require disqualification under the Breed Standard or shall declare the dog ineligible if the color or markings do not meet the requirements of the class or division thereof in which the dog is competing.
- E. Any dog disqualified under the Breed Standard may not again be shown until, following application by the owner to MASCA, the owner has received official notification from the MASCA Board of Directors that the dog's eligibility has been reinstated.
- F. Any dog thus declared by the judge to be ineligible for a class or division thereof shall be considered to have been wrongly entered in the class and cannot be transferred to any other class or division at that show.

SECTION 15.2 If an ineligible dog has been entered in any show, or if the name of the owner given on the entry form is not that of the person or person who actually owned the dog at the time entries closed, or if shown in a class for which it has not been entered, or if its entry form is deemed invalid or unacceptable by MASCA under these rules, all resulting awards shall be canceled by MASCA.

SECTION 15.3 If the catalogue and/or the judge's book of any show shall, by error or mistake, set forth any information contrary to the information which appears on the entry form of the dog for that show, the Show Committees and/or the Show Secretary of the show, upon request of the owner or handler of said dog prior to the judging, shall correct the entry in the Judge's book and in the marked catalogue to be sent to the MASCA Business Office and said dog may compete in all classes and for all prizes for which its entry form discloses it was entered.

SECTION 15.4 If a placement of a dog in any of the regular classes is canceled, the dog judged next in order of merit shall be moved up and the award shall be counted the same as if it had been the original award. If there is no dog of record to move up, the award shall be void.

SECTION 15.5 If the win of a dog shall be canceled by MASCA, the owner of the dog shall return all ribbons and prizes to the show giving club within ten (10) days of receipt of the notice of the cancellation from MASCA. The show giving club shall in each instance of failure to comply with this rule notify forthwith MASCA of such failure and MASCA upon receipt of such notice shall suspend the exhibitor so in default from all privileges of MASCA and notify the exhibitor so in default that it has done so. Said suspension shall continue until MASCA is notified that restitution has been made.

CHAPTER 16. PROTESTS AGAINST DOGS

SECTION 16.1 Every exhibitor shall have the right to request through the Show Committee, the examination of any dog within a show's premises, which is considered to endanger the health of other dogs in a show.

SECTION 16.2 A protest against a dog, for reasons other than health, may be made by any exhibitor, or any member of MASCA. It shall be in writing, and be lodged with the show secretary within seven (7) days of the last date of the show unless the protest is made by MASCA. A protest calling for a decision as to the physical condition of a dog which can be determined only with the advice of a veterinarian or at the time of showing shall be made before the closing of the show. No protest will be entertained unless accompanied by a deposit of ten dollars (\$10.00), which will be refunded if the protest is sustained. This does not apply to protests by MASCA, or to a protest made in the ring previous to the rendering of a decision by the judge.

SECTION 16.3 If a protest shall be made during the holding of a show, the Show Committee shall hold a meeting as soon as possible and give all parties concerned an opportunity to be heard and shall at once render its decision. If a protest shall be made subsequent to the show it shall be decided by the show giving club within thirty (30) days of its receipt. Ten (10) days notice of the date and place of hearing shall be sent to all parties concerned by certified mail. Written copies of all decisions on protests shall be forwarded immediately to the MASCA Business Office.

SECTION 16.4 An appeal to the MASCA Executive Secretary from a decision of a Show Committee where a dog has been protested may be taken and shall be forwarded to MASCA within seven (7) days of the date on which the decision was rendered together with a deposit of ten dollars (\$10.00). If the decision is sustained, the deposit shall be forfeited, but if reversed, the deposit shall be returned.

SECTION 16.5 Any person who is handling a competing dog in the ring in any competition may then verbally protest to

the judge before the judge has marked any award in his book, alleging that a dog being shown in the competition has a condition which makes it ineligible to compete under Chapter 14 of these rules, or a condition requiring disqualification under the Breed Standard, except that a verbal protest alleging that the natural color and markings of a dog requiring it's disqualification under the Breed Standard or a determination of it's ineligibility under the conditions of it's class must be made under Chapter 15. When such a protest is made, it shall be the judge's responsibility to examine the dog for the alleged condition. If, following the examination, the judge determines that disqualification is required under 14.6, 14.8, or under the Breed Standard, he shall mark the book "Disqualified" stating the reason. If the judge finds that the protest is not sustained, he shall note in the judge's book the condition protested and his findings. If the judge determines that the dog is ineligible to compete because of violation of 14.6, 14.8, he shall withhold any award to the dog and mark the judge's book "ineligible to compete - award withheld": stating the reason for his decision. A dog determined by a judge to be ineligible to compete under 14.6, 14.8, unless such determination is based on the use of a substance only for cleaning purposes, may not again be shown until reinstated by the MASCA Board of Directors.

CHAPTER 17. SUBMISSION OF A SHOW'S RECORDS TO MASCA

SECTION 17.1 After each MASCA sanctioned event, the Judges' Books, certified by the Show Secretary, and MASCA Official Entry Forms are to be copied and mailed to the National Chairman of Shows. All monetary issues, including expenditures and income, shall be sent to the MASCA Treasurer, unless this is an affiliated hosted event. Then, that information should be forwarded to the affiliate Treasurer. Items should be postmarked no later than fifteen (15) days after the close of the show.

CHAPTER 18. STEWARDS

SECTION 18.1 Clubs must appoint stewards in advance of the date of their show. No person shall be asked to serve as a steward whose judging privileges have been revoked. The club will, confirm to each person who accepts an invitation to steward, the date and location of the show, the time at which they are to report for duty, and their particular ring assignment. Persons should be selected who are familiar with ring procedure, and the MASCA Show Rules and Regulations. It should be borne in mind that a good steward makes the work of judging easier by relieving the judge of necessary detail; by assembling classes promptly, he will be able to keep the judging program on schedule and eliminate to a large extent delays between classes. The Club should use its discretion in the assigning of more than one steward to a ring, but it is advisable that two stewards be asked to serve in those rings where judges have heavy assignments. Stewards will notify the judge when all the dogs are in the ring for each class and call his attention to known absentees. Under no circumstances will a steward make any notation in the judge's book or erase or strike out any notation made by the judge. Stewards will be responsible for returning to the Show Secretary upon the completion of the judging all prize money, trophies and ribbons not awarded.

STEWARDS SHOULD HAVE IN MIND THAT THEY HAVE BEEN SELECTED TO HELP THE JUDGE AND NOT TO ADVISE HIM.

SECTION 18.2 STEWARDS SHOULD REFRAIN FROM DISCUSSING OR SEEMING TO DISCUSS THE DOGS OR THE EXHIBITORS WITH THE JUDGE AND SHOULD NOT, UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES, SHOW OR GIVE THE APPEARANCE OF SHOWING THE CATALOGUE TO A JUDGE. STEWARDS MUST NOT TAKE OR SEEM TO TAKE ANY PART IN JUDGING. When they are not actively engaged in their duties, they should place themselves in such part of the rings as will not interfere with the view of those watching the judging, and should not permit persons to crowd about the ring entrance and interfere with access to the ring.

CHAPTER 19. EVENT DISPUTE/DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE

With the exhibitions of dogs being a sport, MASCA event attendees shall be expected to exhibit good sportsmanship in all actives involving the Miniature Australian Shepherd. See the MASCA Mission Statement and Code of Ethics.

EVENT CONDUCT:

- Event attendees will treat exhibitors, trial officials, judges and spectators with respect and good sportsmanship.
- Event attendees shall refrain from unnecessary criticism of another person's dog(s) and or breeding program, while at any show or performance venue or which participating in discussions on the various internet list.

- Event attendees shall refrain from unnecessary criticism of a judge, trial officials, and volunteers while at any show or performance venue or which participating in discussions on the various internet list.
- If there is a dispute with placements/results for any conformation event, performance event, or Special Award (MVA, EAG, HIT/HIL, etc.), the contestant will communicate the issue with the show secretary first. If the issue is not resolved verbally, the contestant must fill out the EVENT DISPUTE/DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE FORM to be considered by the Event Dispute/Disciplinary Committee. The complainant shall not discuss the dispute with the judge or other competitors directly, but must go the show secretary first, and if necessary, to the Event Dispute/Disciplinary Committee.
- No bitch in season shall be competing in a MASCA Performance Event.
- Un-sportsman like conduct shall be reported via the EVENT DISPUTE/DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE FORM.
- Judges decisions are final.

SECTION 19.1

EVENT AUTHORITY OF DISPUTE/DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES:

- The Event Dispute/Disciplinary Committee may be designated as 3 or more individuals prior to the event. If a special committee is not designated, the committee will consist of the Show Chairperson/Show Secretary and hosting Club board members and/or MASCA board members. There must be at least 3 persons to review any issue.
- The Event Dispute/Disciplinary Committee has the right to expel any person from any or all privileges of the MASCA Event for misconduct to the best interests of the Miniature Australian Shepherd dog at MASCA events. The Event Dispute/Disciplinary Committee has the right to remove a competitor from the event grounds without refund of entries, if their conduct is prejudicial to the best interest of the breed.
- The Event Dispute/Disciplinary Committee will conduct a meeting to review the alleged misconduct complaint which occurs during or in connection with a club's event. While the Event Dispute/Disciplinary Committee can hope that no problem of this nature will arise, The Event Dispute/Disciplinary Committee must be prepared to deal with such incidents in a creditable manner should they occur.
- Issues not resolved by the Event Dispute/Disciplinary Committee may be taken to the MASCA Board in accordance with the By-Laws.

PREJUDICIAL TO THE BEST INTEREST OF THE BREED DEFINED

Prejudicial to the best interest of the breed can be tested by the following:

- A. If the incident were to be witnessed by someone new to the sport of showing dogs, would they want to return to a similar event? If the answer is no, this misconduct would be considered prejudicial to the best interest of the breed.
- B. Is the incident were to be witnessed by a Junior Handler, would this be detrimental in nurturing good sportsmanship? If the answer is yes, this misconduct would be considered prejudicial to the best interest of the breed.

SECTION 19.2

UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT/MISCONDUCT REQUIRING DISCIPLINARY ACTION

Examples of Misconduct (not limited to examples below):

- Demonstration of dissatisfaction with a judge's decision, including refusal to accept a ribbon or throwing a ribbon on the ground, calling the judge names.
- Altercations with judges, officials, participants and/or spectators; abusive or foul language in public; physical intimidation such as pointing a finger and posturing, physical abuse, verbal intimidation such as loud and threatening intonation, excessive repetition of a complaint.
- Talking to the judge in an effort to sway decision prior to or during event.
- Contacting judge about the event results after the event.
- Mistreatment of a dog; rough handling, intimidation/abuse of dog.

It is the duty of the Show Committee to write a detailed incident report of the alleged misconduct.

SECTION 19.3

DISPUTE PROCEDURES

1. Exhibitor shall respectfully discuss the issue with the Show Secretary. The exhibitor will not discuss the issue with the judge or other exhibitors directly, but discuss with the Show Secretary instead. Due to the demands on the show secretary, time will be limited to 5 minutes to discuss the issue. Only the exhibitor shall report the dispute. Note: Other exhibitors or the co-owners of a dog shall not file the dispute.
2. If the complainant is not satisfied with the Show Secretary's decision, the exhibitor has the option to fill out this form. Any such dispute/discrepancy must be in writing. A \$10.00 fee is required.
3. Give this form to the Show Secretary, who will distribute this form to the Event Dispute/Disciplinary Committee herein know as "Committee".
4. The issue may be resolved without interviewing the applicant. If additional information is needed, the committee will obtain necessary information to make a decision.
5. Applicant will be notified of decision.

MISCONDUCT ISSUES/UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT/DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE

1. Fill out this form, and give the completed form to the Show Secretary, who will distribute this form to the Event Dispute/Disciplinary Committee herein know as "Committee". Any such complaint alleging misconduct must be in writing. A \$10.00 fee is required.
2. Obtain written statements from witnesses if possible.
3. The committee will meet as soon as is practicable to review the issue. The issue may be resolved without interviewing the applicant. If additional information is needed, the committee will obtain necessary information to make a decision. In reaching its decision Event Dispute/Disciplinary Committee shall not consider the accuser's general reputation or status in the sport, or the extent of his or her investment in dogs. Their sole consideration must be the person's conduct on this particular occasion.
4. For issues of Misconduct, the committee will follow the MASCA bylaws directive to determine if the accused conduct is prejudicial to the best interest of the breed. In layman's terms, if the misconduct makes a person new to the sport not want to return to a MASCA event, than the accused shall be removed from the current event.
5. The committee has the option to:
 - A. Give a Warning
 - B. Remove the exhibitor from the event without refund of entries.
6. Applicant will be notified of decision.



Miniature Australian Shepherd Club of America, Inc.
EVENT DISPUTE/DISCIPLINARY FORM
(Page 1)

Follow the procedure below:

DISPUTE ISSUE

Examples of Dispute Issues (not limited to examples below):

- Dispute with placements/results for any conformation event, performance event, or Special Award (MVA, EAG, HIT/HIL, etc.)
- Dispute with rule interpretation.

DISPUTE ISSUE PROCEDURE

6. Exhibitor shall respectfully discuss the issue with the Show Secretary. The exhibitor will not discuss the issue with the judge or other exhibitors directly, but discuss with the Show Secretary instead. Due to the demands on the show secretary, time will be limited to 5 minutes to discuss the issue. Only the exhibitor shall report the dispute. Note: Other exhibitors, or the co-owners of a dog shall not file the dispute.
7. If the complainant is not satisfied with the Show Secretary's decision, the exhibitor has the option to fill out this form.
8. Give this form to the Show Secretary, who will distribute this form to the Event Dispute/Disciplinary Committee herein know as "Committee".
9. The issue may be resolved without interviewing the applicant. If additional information is needed, the committee will obtain necessary information to make a decision.
10. Applicant will be notified of decision.

MISCONDUCT ISSUES/DISCIPLINARY ISSUE

Examples of Misconduct/Disciplinary Issues (not limited to examples below):

- Demonstration of dissatisfaction with a judge's decision, including refusal to accept a ribbon or throwing a ribbon on the ground, or calling the judge names.
- Altercations with judges, officials, participants and/or spectators; abusive or foul language in public; physical intimidation such as pointing a finger and posturing, physical abuse, verbal intimidation with loud or threatening intonation, excessive repetition of a complaint.
- Talking to the judge in an effort to sway decision prior to or during event.
- Contacting judge about the event results after the event.
- Mistreatment of a dog; rough handling, intimidation of dog, lack of care for dog.

MISCONDUCT ISSUES/DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE

7. Fill out this form, and give the completed form to the Show Secretary, who will distribute this form to the Event Dispute/Disciplinary Committee herein know as "Committee".
8. Obtain written statements from witnesses if possible.
9. The committee will meet as soon as is practicable to review the issue. The issue may be resolved without interviewing the applicant. If additional information is needed, the committee will obtain necessary information to make a decision. In reaching its decision Event Dispute/Disciplinary Committee shall not consider the accuser's general reputation or status in the sport, or the extent of his or her investment in dogs. Their sole consideration must be the person's conduct on this particular occasion.
10. For issues of Misconduct, the committee will follow the MASCA bylaws directive to determine if the accused conduct is prejudicial to the best interest of the breed. In layman's terms, if the misconduct makes a person new to the sport not want to return to a MASCA event, than the accused shall be removed from the current event.
11. The committee has the option to:
 - A. Give a Warning
 - B. Remove the exhibitor from the event without refund of entries.
12. Applicant will be notified of decision.



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EVENT DISPUTE/DISCIPLINARY FORM
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Section A: To be completed by Complainant.

Section B: To be completed by Show Secretary.

Name:		Name:
Address:		Address:
City/ST/ZIP:		City/ST/ZIP:
Phone:		Phone:
E-mail:		E-mail:
Today's Date:		Committee 1
Date of Event:		Committee 2
Facility:		Committee 3
Incident Time:		Committee 4

Type of Dispute/Disciplinary Issue (check one box only):

- Dispute with placements/results for event or Special Award (MVA, EAG, HIT/HIL, etc.)
 Misconduct/Disciplinary Issue/Unsportsmanlike Conduct

Name of Accused: _____

Attach written statements of Witnesses if possible

Name of Judge:
 Name of Witness:
 Name of Witness:
 Name of Witness:

Describe Issue: (attach additional paper if necessary)

Decision of Event Dispute:

Decision of Misconduct:

Was the incident prejudicial to the best interest of the breed? Yes No
Result? Excusal from Event Verbal Warning Complaint Dismissed

I HEREBY MAKE A COMPLAINT OF A DISPUTE OR UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT.

Signature:

Attach \$10.00 for consideration of this complaint. Not refundable. Complaints made by the show secretary/show chair do not require the \$10.00 fee. Return this form to the Show Secretary.

SECTION 19.4

COMPLAINTS SUBMITTED TO MASCA BOARD

If the Event Dispute/Disciplinary Committee is unable to resolve Dispute/Discrepancy or Misconduct issues, a Complaint may be submitted directly to the MASCA Board.

See MASCA Bylaws - Charges. Section 1 Article VI Discipline of *the Bylaws of the Miniature Australian Shepherd Club of America. (Or the "MASCA".)*

If possible, written statements for the record should be obtained from all principals (complainant, accused, witnesses). Ordinarily, complaints should be handled with the Show Committee on the day the alleged prejudicial conduct occurs. Only in cases of extenuating circumstances, where conditions make it impossible or impractical to file complaints on the day of the event, an incident report should be written with the alleged, prejudicial conduct. (Examples of such extenuating circumstances include incidents occurring after event hours, incidents at locations away from event sites, knowledge of the incident not being manifest until after the event, when members of the Show Committee cannot handle the alleged misconduct. An incident report should be filed with the MASCA Board of Directors within five (5) days of its event. The MASCA Board of Directors will determine that negligence or willful conduct has occurred. After investigation, the MASCA Board of Directors concludes that the nature of the incident, if proven, would *not* constitute prejudicial conduct, the committee need not hold a hearing.

SECTION 19.5

NOTICE OF A MASCA BOARD MEETING

ARTICLE VI-DISCIPLINE Section 3. Board Hearing. The MASCA Board of Directors shall have complete authority to decide whether counsel may attend the hearing, but complainant and defendant shall be treated uniformly in that regard. Should the charges be sustained after hearing all the evidence and testimony presented by complainant and defendant, The Board of Directors or committee may be a majority vote of those present suspend the defendant from all privileges of the Club for not more than six months from the date of the hearing, or until the next Annual Meeting if that shall occur after six months. And, if it deems that punishment insufficient, it may also recommend to the membership that penalty be expulsion. In such case, the suspension shall not restrict the defendant's right to appear before is fellow members at the ensuing Club meeting which considers the recommendation of the Board of Directors or the committee. Immediately after the Board of Directors or committee has reached a decision, its finding shall be put in written for and filed with the Secretary. The Secretary, in turn shall notify each of the parties of the decision and penalty, if any. The MASCA Board of Directors shall determine the location and time for holding the meeting. In all instances, the MASCA Board of Directors shall then notify the accused person of the specific charges against him or she, specifying the conduct alleged to be prejudicial to the best interests of the MASCA event.

In reaching its decision the MASCA Board of Directors shall not consider the accuser's general reputation or status in the sport, or the extent of his or her investment in dogs. Their sole consideration must be the person's conduct on this particular occasion.

APOLOGIES

When a person acts in a manner prejudicial to the sport, the damage cannot be undone by an apology, even though an apology may be acceptable to the individuals Neither the MASCA Board of Directors nor an individual who might have been the subject of abuse should accept an apology on behalf of others, whose interest might be prejudiced by the conduct. However, the

accuser's attitude at the meeting and any apologies offered should be included in the record of the proceedings.

DISMISSAL

Should the MASCA Board of Directors conclude that misconduct has not been proven; it must dismiss the charges and inform the accused. .

CONDITIONS SUSPENSION

If the MASCA Board of Directors sustains the charges, the conditions of suspension begin immediately. This means that an individual is suspended from the time the Disciplinary Committee makes its decision.

Any or all privileges of the MASCA may be withheld from any person suspended. A person suspended from event or all MASCA privileges may not participate in any event under MASCA rules and regulations, except as a spectator. The reference to attending any event held under MASCA rules as a spectator is all encompassing. It includes, but is not limited to, prohibiting a suspended person from grooming or in any way preparing a dog for the event; leading a dog anywhere on the event grounds; holding an entered dog on the event grounds; or attempting to influence a dog or a handler in an event. Additionally, a person suspended from event or all MASCA privileges may not enter any event held under MASCA rules and regulations when the event or the published closing date for the event occurs before the period of suspension ends. What this means is that a person suspended from event or all MASCA privileges cannot make an entry into any MASCA event until his or her period of suspension is over. For individuals suspended from registration or all MASCA privileges, the registration facilities of the MASCA shall not be available to a suspended person. This means that the MASCA will not accord registration of any litter or individual dog or transfer ownership of any dog owned solely or in part by the suspended person. Additionally, the MASCA will not register any litter of dogs owned by any other party if the sire of the litter was solely or in part owned by a suspended person and if the mating occurred after the date of notification. Also the MASCA will not process any application received where a suspended person appears on the application regardless of when the transaction took place. All applications are held in abeyance until the period of suspension ends. Any transaction which occurs during the term of suspension will never be accorded registry services.

Filing a Complaint

ARTICLE VI-DISCIPLINE Section 1. *Charges* Any member may prefer charges against a member for alleged misconduct prejudicial to the best interests of the Club of the Miniature Australian Shepherd, Written charges with specifications must be filed in duplicate with the Secretary together with a deposit of \$10.00 which shall be forfeited if such charges are not sustained by the Board of Directors or a committee following a hearing. The Secretary shall promptly send a copy of the charges to each member of the Board of Directors or present them at a meeting of the Board of Directors, and the Board of Directors shall first consider whether the actions alleged in the charges, if proven, might constitute conduct prejudicial to the best interests of the Club of the Miniature Australian Shepherd. If the Board of Directors considers that the charges do not allege conduct which would be prejudicial to the best interests of the Club or Miniature Australian Shepherd, it may refuse to entertain jurisdiction. If the Board of Directors entertains jurisdiction of the charges, it shall fix a date for a hearing by the Board of Directors or a committee of not less than three members of the Board of Directors, not less than three (3) weeks nor more than six (6) weeks thereafter. The Secretary shall promptly send one copy of the charges to the accused member by registered mail together with a notice of the hearing and an assurance that the defendant may personally appear in his own defense and bring witnesses if he or she wishes.

CHAPTER 20. JUDGES GUIDELINES / CODE OF ETHICS

QUALIFICATIONS:

Outside Registry Judges - Judging at a MASCA Sanctioned Conformation show is an honor and a privilege, not a right. Judge applicants must satisfy MASCA's stated minimum eligibility requirements for judges, but satisfying the minimum requirements does not entitle an applicant to become or remain a MASCA judge. In addition to satisfying other stated qualifications to serve, an applicant must consistently display the highest level of ethical conduct, impartial demeanor, professional comportment and dedication to upholding MASCA's codes, rules, decisions and the Statement of Purpose in MASCA's Bylaws. Any documented failure to perform on this level may result in denial or revocation of judging privileges by the MASCA Board of Directors without regard to any other qualification or prior service.

MASCA recognizes judges' license from the following organizations:

Australian Shepherd Club of American (ASCA)
American Kennel Club – Must be certified Herding Judge (AKC)
UKC licensed
For performance judge qualifications refer to Individual program rules

CHAPTER 21. PUPPY SWEEPS

- A. Puppy Sweeps will take place before judging of the Nationals Show (Regular and Non-Regular Classes).
- B. MASCA Registered Puppies Age 2-12 months are eligible. Puppies under 6 months can use litter registration number, instead of individual registration number.
- C. Prizes:
Best of Breed Puppy (60% of entry fees after 50% taken out for MASCA or affiliate plus ribbon)
Best Opposite Sex Puppy (40% of entry fees after 50% taken out for MASCA or affiliate, plus ribbon)

CHAPTER 22. PREMIER

SECTION 22.1 Premier Awards will be chosen from Specials only. There will be a Premier for Dogs and a Premier for Bitches. Best of Breed, Best of Winners, and Best of Opposite Sex are not eligible to receive a "Premier Award".

SECTION 22.2 Number of Premier Awards – If there are 20 or more BOB entries, there will be 5 Premier Dog awards and 5 Premier Bitch awards. If there are less than 20 BOB entries, there will be 3 Premier Dog awards, and 3 Premier Bitch awards. Day of show entries will count towards the number of dogs, and the number of awards will be determined at the start of the Nationals show. Ten certificates/ribbons will be printed in the event that there are over 20 BOB entries.

SECTION 22.3 After all the individual judging is completed (BOB, BOS, BOW – not yet announced), all dogs will exit the ring.

- A. Ring steward will then call back into the ring, dogs and bitches from the final cut. The armband numbers of the Premier Dogs and Premier Bitches, BOB, BOS, BOW will be called in numerical order by steward. Final cut only includes: BOB, BOS, BOW, Premier Bitches and Premier Dogs.
- B. **Judges Note:** *The Winner's Dog or Winners Bitch that does not get BOW is eligible for the Premier Award.*

- C. The judge will then call individual dogs to the center of the ring to receive their Premier awards (certificate and, or ribbon). Premier winners will take a lap around the ring and exit the ring.
- D. The judge will then call individual dogs to the center of the ring to receive their Best of Winners, Best of Opposite Sex and Best of Breed awards. These winners will then take a lap around the ring and exit the ring.

CHAPTER 23. MVA – MOST VERSATILE AUSSIE

SECTION 23.1 The Most Versatile Aussie Award 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 by the combination of skill and expertise required to qualify in at least one of the recognized performance events - specifically agility, obedience and/or 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, and the combined event "Most Versatile Aussie."

SECTION 23.2 The person(s) who will be responsible for versatility record keeping for the entire competition will be identified to the MASCA Board prior to the start of the Nationals.

SECTION 23.3 The MVA Committee and/or the MASCA Board of directors will be responsible for determining the yearly MVA Rules and Requirement.

SECTION 23.4 The hosting affiliate/club shall make the BOD/Committee aware of venues offered at least 45 days in advance of the event, in accordance with SECTION 3.4

SECTION 23.5 GUIDELINES (for specific rules for each year please refer to that year's MVA Rule Addendum)

- A. Until such time that all events are added, the awards will be named according to which events are offered. For example, when the only events offered are conformation and agility and the award would be MVA-a. The "a" designates agility. As other events are added, those initials designating the event will be included until we achieve a true MVA. At that time, award name will revert to MVA.
 1. Only when the minimum requirement in stockdog/herding is a qualifying score in a trial level of Std (started) or equivalent will the award be named MVA with no designations after it.
 2. In the event that a full herding trial is available as an event for MVA competition and the minimum requirement for participant qualification for the award is successful completion of a herding instinct test at the event, the award will be designated with an "-h" (example, MVA-arh for agility, rally and herding)
 3. In the event that only herding instinct testing is available for MVA competition and successful completion of the test is required in order to qualify for the MVA award the award will be designated with "-i" (example, MVA-ai for agility and instinct testing)
- B. To qualify for the MVA award one must earn a score in the conformation evaluation and the appropriate qualifying score(s) in other events required per the current years rules.
- C. Placements will be awarded for 1st – 3rd place. The first place dog will receive the award MVA with the appropriate designations for the events offered.

- D. In the event of a tie for the MVA award, the following procedures shall be used for breaking the tie. First tie breaker: the dog at a higher level in the event specified in that year's rules is declared the winner (if herding is offered, it is automatically the first tiebreaker). Second tie breaker: placements points in all classes for the tied dogs shall be computed with 4 points given for first place, 3 points for second place, 2 points for third place, and 1 point for fourth place; the dog with the most placement points is declared the winner.
- E. Computation of all scores for awarding the Most Versatile Aussie Award by one identified member chosen by the MASCA Board. The Host Club may request assistance in the tabulation and auditing of the MVA scores from the Versatility Committee or the MASCA BOD. 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 one hour prior to the time scheduled for awarding MVA. **Awards for MVA are final once presented.**
- F. All entrants shall be presented with a participant ribbon during the conformation evaluation. The participant ribbons at Nationals are to be given immediately upon completion of the individual conformation evaluation. Immediately thereafter the participant may be allowed to leave the ring.

G. CONFORMATION EVALUATION (See Conformation Worksheet)

1. The MVA evaluator must be an ASCA judge or an AKC herding judge. The MVA Evaluator will be allowed to show prior or subsequent to the day of the MVA evaluation. Further, any dog(s) owned by the evaluator may compete in any and all venues, other than MVA, on the same day that the evaluations are performed, provided the handler is someone other than that evaluator. Members of the evaluator's immediate family may handle the dog. If the evaluator is judging other classes or venues in addition to the MVA evaluation at the cluster, the MASCA rules pertaining to that judging shall take precedence.
2. One hundred points are available. The form and point schedule used will be provided to the evaluator.
3. This class will not be placed and no awards will be given. The score given by the evaluator will be used.
4. Only Miniature 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.

H. OTHER EVENTS (Agility, Rally-O, Herding)

1. Please see each year's MVA Addendum for specific rules concerning the inclusion and scoring of other events offered.

I. SPECIAL AWARDS

The Host Club for the MASCA Nationals shall include in their Premium (flyer) any special awards to be given in the MVA competition.

CHAPTER 24. HIGH IN TRIAL / HIGH IN LEVEL

SECTION 24.1 Awards for high scoring in level (Pre-Novice, Novice, Open, Elite) and/or high in trial (HIT) are not mandatory. However, such awards can be given at MASCA specialties.

SECTION 24.2 Completion of the Yearly HIT/HIL Rules addendum is the responsibility of the MASCA Board of Directors. The BOD will determine which levels/divisions will be used and will be reflected accordingly in the rules

SECTION 24.3 The hosting affiliate/club shall make the BOD/Committee aware of venues offered that they are requesting HIT and HIL awards for at least 45 days in advance of the event, in accordance with SECTION 3.4

SECTION 24.4 Agility

When HIT/HIL awards are given for agility, computation shall be done in the following manner:

- a. For purposes of computing high in level (Pre-Novice [if offered], Novice, Open, Elite) and/or high in trial, the class the dog is in for Regular Agility will be its class; scores in games classes (if offered) in either the same or a higher or lower class can be used in the computation of scores. However, High in Trial Qualifying points (HITQ-points) earned shall be dependent upon the class level in which regular agility qualifying scores are earned (see point "b" below). In most situations scores will be allowed to count from divisions such as "Skilled", "Performance", etc. See any HIT/HIL amendments for that particular competition for further details.
- b. Each faultless qualifying run in Regular Agility and games classes (if offered) shall be given the following HITQ-point value: runs in Elite class shall be given 7 HITQ-points; runs in an Open class shall be given 6 HITQ-points; runs in a Novice class shall be given 5 HITQ-points; runs in Pre-Novice shall be given 4 HITQ-points. Each faulted (.01-5 faults) qualifying run in Regular Agility shall be given one-half the value of the equivalent level HITQ-points (runs in an Elite class shall be given 3.5 HITQ-points, runs in an Open class shall be given 3 HITQ-points; runs in a Novice class shall be given 2.5 HITQ-points; runs in a Pre-Novice class shall be given 2 points). The dog with the most HITQ-points is declared the winner.
- c. In the event of a tie for HITQ-points, the following procedures shall be used for breaking the tie. First tie breaker: the dog at a higher level in Regular Agility is declared the winner. Second tie breaker: placement points in all classes for the tied dogs shall be computed with 4 points given for first place, 3 points for second place, 2 points for third place, and 1 point for fourth place; the dog with the most placement points is declared the winner.
- d. The computation for the high scoring awards shall be posted for the competitors.

SECTION 24.5 Rally-O

See yearly MVA Addendum

SECTION 24.6 Herding

See yearly MVA Addendum