

**AMERICAN ESKIMO DOG CLUB OF AMERICA
NATIONAL SPECIALTY SHOW POLICY**

As of December 2023



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The National Specialty Show ("National") shall be held each year as referenced in the AEDCA Constitution and Bylaws. For more details and information regarding timelines and how to put on a show, please see the AEDCA National & Regional Specialty Show Manual.

II. Overview

1. Policies - the AEDCA shall abide with the following policies in regards to the National:
 - A. The AEDCA shall be financially responsible for any costs incurred for the National. Expenses may include leasing the show site, renting equipment, show secretary or superintendent fees, judge(s) expenses, judge(s) fees, all awards not sponsored by individuals, and any other show-related expenses. AEDCA shall also be entitled to the income obtained from the National and all AEDCA sponsored activities. If AEDCA holds a Regional Specialty in conjunction with the National, AEDCA shall be financially responsible for costs incurred and income received from that show, as listed above.
 - B. The Board of Directors shall not approve any date for an AEDCA Specialty that is scheduled within the 4 weeks prior to the date of the AEDCA National Specialty, unless a local specialty club is holding the shows based upon assigned corresponding date(s). The AEDCA Board of Directors shall review any exception to this requirement on a case-by-case basis.

III. **The National Specialty Committee (NSC)** is the group of AEDCA members, in good standing, who will be responsible for all aspects of organizing the National Specialty show, and any other events held on the same weekend.

1. National Specialty Committee (NSC) – shall be comprised of a Chair and 4-7 members. A minimum of five (5) members must be part of the NSC (one (1) Chair and four (4) members). The Chair must be approved by the AEDCA Board as part of the bid approval. The Chair will nominate committee members who must be submitted and approved by the AEDCA board. All members of the NSC must be present at the National Specialty show.
2. Committee members - The additional 4-7 members will be invited by the Show Chair. Committee roles may be combined, or a member may be responsible for multiple roles. Specific roles may include:
 - A. Show Chair – typically responsible for:
 - i. Overseeing all members and roles of the NSC
 - ii. Status updates to board
 - iii. Completion of AKC applications (or this may be delegated to the board)
 - iv. Contacting and hiring all judges. This may be delegated to another member of the NSC.
 - v. Providing information to Superintendent/Secretary for Premium List and Catalog.

- vi. Coordinating with host club or event facility, for rooms, ring rentals, tables, parking, grooming, etc.
 - vii. Obtaining permission and contracts with host club (if applicable)
 - viii. Securing rooms and equipment for Judge's Education, Awards Banquet, Annual Meeting or other planned events.
 - ix. Working with the Judges' Education Committee to set a date, time, and location for the training – seminar and hands-on.
- B. Trophy Chair – Brings trophy ideas to NSC to decide what to offer
Responsible for ordering, receiving and distributing trophies at the show.
 - C. Hospitality Chair – Responsible for social events, welcome items/instructions, ice breakers, etc.
 - D. Awards Banquet Chair – Plans the awards banquet, decides on theme and/or decorations, determines number of tables needed, room size, date & time, and menu. This role may be combined with Hospitality.
 - E. Fund Raising Chair – Organizes activities such as live or silent auction, raffle or other activities. Fund raising efforts may also be needed for ads in the catalog or premium list.
 - F. Performance/Companion Event Chair – Organizes other competition activities which may include: Obedience, Rally, CGC, FastCat or Agility. This may be split into multiple event roles, if needed.
 - G. Special Events Chair – Organizes events such as Top 20, Stud Dog gallery, or Parade of Titleholders. Parade of Titleholders could be a sub-committee under Show Chair or Trophy.
 - H. Education Chair – Coordinates health clinics or member education opportunities during the National weekend.
 - I. Other – if the National Specialty is being held as a stand-alone (no other shows), other roles such as Grounds, Parking, or Event Venue roles may be needed.
3. Committee member requirements – all NSC members must be AEDCA members in good standing. It is recommended that at least 2 members have experience in putting on dogs shows or trials and have some event planning experience.
4. National Show Specialty Committee (NSC) Duties
- A. Submit a Bid (Show Chair): The Show Chair shall be responsible for the overall planning of the National and report directly to the AEDCA Board of Directors.
 - i. The Show Chair shall submit a bid a minimum of 2 years in advance. The National Bid Form may be found on the AEDCA website under "Forms" in the Member Only section and is included as Addendum A in this policy.

- ii. The Bid should include City, State, Venue Name, Date(s), Host Club (if pairing with an all-breed club), Type of Specialty, Secretary or Superintendent, at least 4 prospective committee members, and a general idea of other events or activities planned.
 - iii. The AEDCA Board will accept bids until December two years in advance of the show year. All bids received by that time will be reviewed and voted on by the Board to determine which submitter will receive the bid. If no bids are submitted by this date, the AEDCA board will begin soliciting the membership for bids and will set a new deadline to receive bids.
- B. Update AEDCA board with Progress Reports (Show Chair) – The AEDCA Board will set the schedule of when the Show Chair will need to submit progress reports. As the show date gets closer, more reports may be requested.
- C. Complete AKC Applications (Show Chair) - Complete and Submit AKC applications for National show and any other show such as Regional Specialty, Designated Specialty, Obedience, Rally, 4-6 Month Puppy, etc. The Board may assist with this, if requested.
- D. Hire judge(s) (Show Chair) - Secure contract and make arrangements (hotel, airfare, transportation, etc). See Hiring the National Judge, Section IV.
- E. Trophies:
 - i. Determine Trophies/Awards and Ribbons.
 - ii. Solicit and collect trophy donations.
 - iii. Secure ringside tables for displaying the trophies and ribbons.
 - iv. Assign a person to assist the ring steward with handing out trophies/ribbons during the show.
- F. Annual Awards Banquet: Secure a location, date and time for the banquet. Determine the menu and cost per person. Create a reservation form, distribute to membership and collect reservations.
- G. Annual Meeting: Secure a location, date, and time for the annual meeting. Obtain AV equipment, if needed.
- H. Premium List / Catalog (Show Chair) - Supply needed information to Superintendent for Premium List (PL) and Catalog. Provide Board a proof copy of the PL for approval. Solicit the membership for advertising in the Catalog.
- I. Host Club (Show Chair) - Obtain contracts with host club (as needed) which may include:
 - i. Ring fees
 - ii. Table/Chair rental fees
 - iii. Conference rooms
 - iv. Free upgrades of rosettes for supported entries or designated specialties.
- J. Accommodations: As needed, obtain the following items for American Eskimo Dog exhibitors and friends.

- i. Contracts for Host Hotels
 - ii. Group RV parking
 - iii. Group Grooming
- K. Performance/Companion Event Coordinator: If needed, coordinate other events which may include Obedience, Rally, Agility, FastCat, Trick Dog, or other competition events, health clinics or social events.

IV. Events held during the National

1. Awards Banquet – The Awards Banquet is typically a catered or restaurant dinner where the Board will announce and give awards earned by Member’s AEDs in the previous year. A member of the NSC shall oversee all aspects of this event. Participants will need to contact this member and send payment for the banquet. The NSC is responsible for securing a venue, meal, and any tables or AV equipment needed. Typically, fundraising efforts are conducted as part of the banquet. Fund raising efforts may include auction, silent auction, raffle or 50/50 raffle. It is up to the NSC what fund raising to have during the National weekend.
2. Annual Meeting – If the Annual Meeting coincides with the National, the NSC is responsible for securing a room and location to hold the meeting. The NSC shall work with the AEDCA President on dates and times to hold the annual meeting. If AV equipment is needed, NSC shall work with the facility to secure the equipment needed. The Annual Meeting and Awards Banquet may be held at the same location.
3. Judges’ Education – The NSC shall work with the Judges’ Education Committee to secure a room and location to hold Judges’ Education. Judges’ Education consists of 2 parts – lecture and hands-on. The location must allow dogs to be present so that the judges can complete the hands-on portion of the workshop.
4. Conformation – These additional classes can only be offered during a National event. If the NSC wants to hold these, information on them will need to be included in the premium list and schedule. There will also need to be trophies/ribbons provided and a judge assigned. Additional classes may include:
 - A. Stud Dog & Brood Bitch
 - B. Brace
 - C. Puppy Sweepstakes
 - D. Veteran Sweepstakes
 - E. 4-6 Month Beginner Puppy – which requires a separate AKC application.
 - F. Veterans class – which is a non-regular class where the winner is eligible for BOB class.
 - G. Best Bred-By Exhibitor – Best dog chosen from the winners of each class - Dog Bred-By Adult, Dog Bred-By Puppy, Bitch Bred-By Adult and Bitch Bred-By Puppy.
 - H. Best Puppy – Chosen from the winners of the puppy classes.
 - I. Best Veteran – Chosen from the Non-Regular Veterans classes.

- J. Generations – Entry may be comprised of four or more generations. See Sweepstakes Policy for more information.
- K. Any non-regular classes for altered dogs and bitches where the winner is eligible to compete in Best Of Breed (AED specialties only)
- L. Best Bred-By-Exhibitor in Show – Available to All breeders handling a bred-by dogs in the Best of Breed competition. See Addendum B at the end of this policy.
- M. Junior Showmanship including Best Junior & Reserve Best Junior in Show
- 5. Other events in conjunction with the Conformation National which are nice to have, but not required:
 - A. Companion Events – Agility, Rally, Obedience, etc
 - B. Performance Events – FastCat, Coursing, Farm Dog, Scent Work
 - C. Other – Barn Hunt, Trick Dog
 - D. Health Clinics
 - E. Educational seminars
- 6. Other events (Board requested) – may be requested for a different date and location when that event cannot be accommodated during the National weekend. For example, the AEDCA may designate one of their Agility trials to be the AEDCA National Agility competition if/when Agility is not offered during the National weekend.

V. Hiring the National Judge.

The AEDCA shall choose judge(s) for the Regular, Junior Showmanship and Non-Regular Classes for the National Specialty Show through the following manner. If the judge being hired for the National Specialty is not approved for all-breed Junior Showmanship or specifically for American Eskimo Dog Junior Showmanship, then the Show Chair may assign Juniors to any other judge on the panel who is approved for Juniors.

- A. Approximately two years prior to the date of the National, the AEDCA Recording Secretary shall issue notice requesting that all members submit their suggestions for five judges who are approved by The American Kennel Club (AKC) to judge American Eskimo Dogs. Such notice shall list all judges so approved and note the judges who are not eligible because of the five-year rule. Notices and correspondence may be managed using electronic methods (email, social media, website, etc.).
- B. Each member shall have 30 days to submit their preferences and return them to the Recording Secretary. The Recording Secretary shall then tabulate all of the nominations and calculate, using a weighted measurement, the top ten judges selected by the membership.
- C. The Recording Secretary shall then prepare a ballot for the membership to vote again for their top three choices from among the ten finalists. This ballot will be sent via electronic voting means or paper ballots for those who are unable to vote electronically or when electronic methods are not available. Ballots will be due to the AEDCA Recording Secretary on or before 30 days from the date the ballot was mailed.

- D. Selecting the National judge.
- i. Judging Assignments
 - a. The National judge shall be the Regular, Non-Regular, and Junior Showmanship judge, unless the judge is not approved to judge Junior Showmanship.
 - b. Additional judge(s) may need to be hired based on additional classes offered including Puppy Sweepstakes, Veteran Sweepstakes, 4-6 Month Puppy, Futurity. In the case when all of the listed classes are offered, two judges will need to be hired.
 - One judge will be hired for Puppy Sweepstakes
 - One judge will be hired for Veteran Sweepstakes and Futurity.
 - Either of the judges above may be assigned 4-6 Month Puppy
 - ii. The NSC shall have the final decision regarding the hiring of the judge(s) for the National.
 - iii. The AEDCA Recording Secretary shall provide the NSC Show Chair the list of the top 5 judges calculated by the membership vote.
 - iv. The NSC shall take the results of the membership vote into account, along with the estimated cost of judge's expenses and any other factors that the NCS may deem relevant and select judge(s) who may or may not have been included in the members' vote. It is preferred, but not required, to select a judge who does not already have an assignment to judge American Eskimo Dogs 6 months prior to the date of the National at a show that is within 500 miles of the National location.
 - v. The Show Chair or designated member of the NSC shall then begin the process to hire judge(s)
 - a. Once a judge gives a verbal or email agreement, a contract should be sent and signed by the judge and NSC representative.
 - b. If a judge is not found from the list of finalists, the NSC Chair should inform the AEDCA Board of the issue. The NSC can work with the host club to use their panel of judges or hire another judge.
- E. No judge shall be eligible to judge the National more than once every five (5) years, except in the case of an emergency assignment.

2. If offered, Judges for Sweepstakes, Veteran Sweepstakes, Futurity, and 4-6 Month Puppy will be selected by the NSC. Please see the AEDCA policies for more information.
 - A. The National is the only event that can hold Futurity.
 - B. It is preferred to select a judge who is working towards obtaining their license to judge American Eskimo Dogs.

- C. It is also preferred to select a judge who has recently attended AEDCA judges' education seminar.
 - D. It is strongly suggested to select a judge who is able/willing to judge free of charge and will not charge AEDCA expenses. For judges looking to obtain a license in American Eskimo Dogs, they are typically willing to waive fees and expenses for this opportunity.
 - E. The NSC should also consider a judge already on the judging panel for the host club.
 - F. If an AEDCA member in good standing indicates a desire to judge one of the events, they may be hired. However, if an AEDCA member judges **any** of these events, they cannot personally exhibit a dog during the National Specialty and no dog that they own/co-own may be exhibited in the National Specialty.
3. The method for choosing other event judges will be at the discretion of the NSC. Other events may include Obedience, Rally, Agility, Barn Hunt, Fast Cat, etc.

VI. Show Secretary or Superintendent

1. Show Secretary or Superintendent:
 - A. Shall handle all show paperwork which may include taking of entries, distributing Sweepstakes money, submitting show reports, etc.
 - B. Assemble, print, and distribute the Premium List.
 - C. Assemble, print, and distribute the Judging Program.
 - D. Assemble and print the show catalog.
 - E. Neither the Show Secretary nor any member of his/her household may exhibit dogs owned or co-owned by them at any show they are the designated Secretary for, including the National or any Regional specialties.

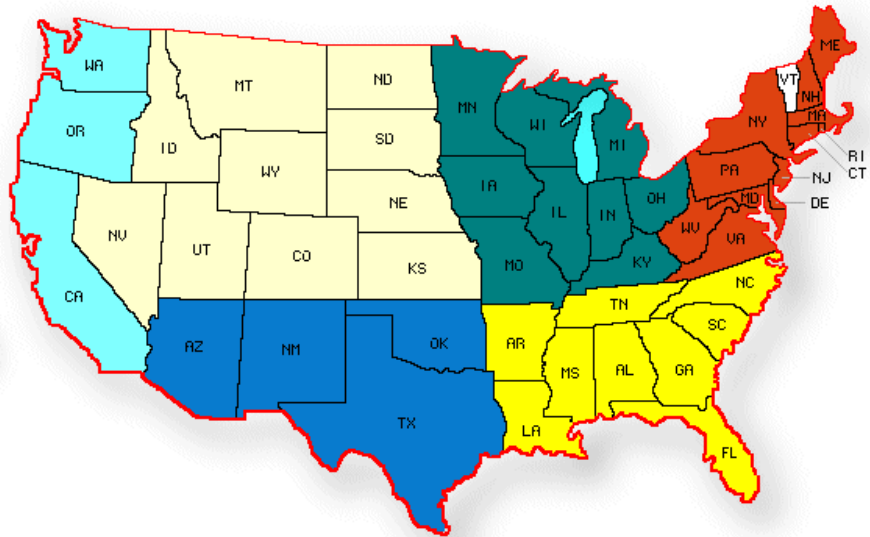
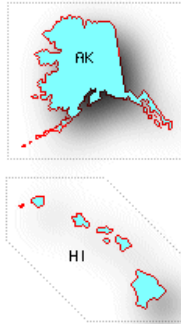
VII. National Bid Process

1. AEDCA Board responsibility:
 - A. In the third quarter issue (July-Sept) of the AEDCA Newsletter, a call shall be made for bids for the National to be held two years from the date of the upcoming National.
 - B. Bids to hold a National must be received by December 1st, 2 years prior to the upcoming National dates. (Example – the National scheduled for March 1, 2024; bids to hold the 2026 National must be received by December 1, 2023)
 - i. If no bids have been received by December 1st, the AEDCA Board will start soliciting requests and reminders to the membership to submit bids on a bi-monthly basis until a bid is received.

- ii. If a member is considering submitting a bid, they should let the AEDCA Board know as soon as possible so their bid can be considered if other bids are expected or received.
 - C. The Board may request additional information from the Bid submitter to ensure that all are treated equally.
 - D. The Board will inform all Bid submitters of the final decision prior to making an announcement to the general membership.
 - E. The Board of Directors' decision for the host and location of the next National shall be announced to the membership via email, social media, and/or newsletter.
- 2. The AEDCA Board will take the following under advisement when selecting who to award a bid to.
 - A. Location of the event.
 - i. It is preferable to rotate the National shows around the country to give different members an opportunity to attend an AEDCA National show.
 - ii. The country shall be divided into six (6) Regions when considering location.

AEDCA Members

- - Region I
- - Region II
- - Region III
- - Region IV
- - Region V
- - Region VI



NOTES:
Count of Members

Source: diymaps.net (c)

- a. Region 1 – Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, New York, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, West Virginia, Virginia
 - b. Region 2 – Arkansas, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Florida
 - c. Region 3 – Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Missouri, Kentucky
 - d. Region 4 – Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma
 - e. Region 5 – Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Idaho, Wyoming, Nebraska, Nevada, Utah, Colorado, Kansas
 - f. Region 6 – Washington, Oregon, California, Alaska, Hawaii
- iii. The past five (5) National locations will be factored into determining where to grant the next National from the list of bids.

B. Events Offered

- i. The AEDCA National weekend is not required to offer events other than Confirmation. If the facility or NCS is unable to accommodate Performance or Companion events, a National for those events may be offered at another date and/or location.

- ii. Other events may be offered during the National weekend. Events may include Obedience, Rally, Agility, FastCat, Barn Hunt, Scentwork, Canine Good Citizen (CGC), Trick Dog or other Performance or Companion activities available to American Eskimo Dogs.
 - iii. Event location – same as Conformation venue or offsite.
 - C. Number of American Eskimo Dog specialty opportunities
 - i. Regional Specialty
 - ii. Designated Specialty
 - iii. Supported Entry days
 - D. Other
 - i. Indoors verses outdoors
 - ii. RV Parking or Grooming space
 - iii. Rooms for meetings, banquet or other – on or off site
3. Any AEDCA member in good standing may submit a bid to hold the National. Official Bid form can be found in Addendum A of this policy and on the website under Forms. All items marked as “required”, must be completed for the bid to be considered.

VIII. **Revisions** - this policy may be revised at any time by the AEDCA Board of Directors or as required by The American Kennel Club.

- This Policy was adopted by the AEDCA Board of Directors in 1992 and published in the AEDCA Newsletter.
- Amended by a vote of the membership March 5, 1998.
- Amended by a vote of the Board of Directors in June 1999.
- Amended by Motion 09-00 March 3, 2000.
- Amended by Motion #29-01 June 12, 2001.
- Amended by a vote of the membership in February 2005 by Board vote on Motion #81-04 May 17, 2005.
- Amended September 5, 2023.

IX. Addendum A

AEDCA National Specialty Bid

For Year _____

Thank you for volunteering to chair an AEDCA National Specialty. The Show Chair should complete this form and submit to AEDCA Board for acceptance and approval. Please gather as much information as possible. * Indicates Required fields.

Type of Specialty:

___ Independent Specialty: An independent specialty would be held on a designated day with or without a host club. Many host clubs offer a day or two before a weekend all-breed show to allow for Independent Specialties. For example, the host club all-breed days may be Friday, Saturday and Sunday, but they offer Thursday at the same location to breed or group clubs wanting to hold an independent specialty on that day.

___ Concurrent Specialty: A concurrent specialty happens on the same day as an all-breed show. In this type of specialty, American Eskimo Dogs will have two (2) opportunities to show this day – once for the National Specialty and once for the all-breed show. Entries for a concurrent specialty show will be limited. Please consult the AKC rules and regulations as this number may change.

___ Designated Specialty: A designated specialty means to select (designate) one of the all-breed shows as the National specialty. The all-breed club will be responsible for all components of the show including budget, income, expenses, fees, hiring of judges, venue, etc. While it is not suggested to offer a Designated Specialty as the National, it can be selected if needed.

*Will this be a stand-alone National or be included within an all-breed show weekend? If included with an all-breed show, please include the host club information.

___ Stand-Alone

___ Included with Host Club.

Name of Host Club: _____

Name of Host Club Contact: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Date of Show or Host Club weekend: _____

Name of Show Venue: _____ City & State: _____

*Show Secretary or Superintendent Information:

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Website: _____

Show Committee Members: _____

List the AEDCA members selected to be on the show committee. There must be a minimum of four (4) members, in addition to the Chair, but can have up to seven (7) members as needed.

The following committees may need to be included within the show committee: National Specialty operations, Trophies, Awards Banquet, Other Events (if offered), Fund Raising, Marketing and Advertising, Grounds and Facility, Parking, Hospitality, Merchandise, etc.

*Show Chair:		Role (if known)	Show Chair
*Member 1:		Role (if known)	
*Member 2:		Role (if known)	
*Member 3:		Role (if known)	
*Member 4:		Role (if known)	
Member 5:		Role (if known)	
Member 6:		Role (if known)	
Member 7:		Role (if known)	

Events offered:

Event	Yes	No	TBD	Event	Yes	No	TBD
Sweepstakes				Regional Specialty(ies)			
Veteran Sweepstakes				Designated Specialty(ies)			
Parade of Rescue				Supported Entry(ies)			
Parade of Titleholders				Obedience			
Futurity				Rally			
4-6 Month Puppy				Agility			
Auction/Raffle				Scent Work			

Health Clinic(s)				Barn Hunt			
Annual Meeting				Fast Cat/Lure Coursing			
Other (List):				Other (List):			

Please include any additional information you would like the board to consider. Things may include upgraded rosettes/ribbons provided by host club, free ring space from host club, free grooming or ability to group Eskies together, RV parking, host hotel, special attractions or events at this location, etc.

By signing below, the Show Chair agrees to provide regular updates to the Board regarding progress and/or problems in any phase of show preparation. It is also understood that any major changes would negate this bid and a new bid would need to be submitted (i.e. change in date, location or show chair). The Committee is offered the freedom to “customize” the shows to reflect the area and committee members tastes. The Board is available should there be need for assistance.

____ I have read and understand the AEDCA’s current National Specialty Show Policy

Show Chair Name (Printed): _____ Date: _____

Show Chair Name (Signature): _____

Phone number: _____ Email: _____

----For Club Use Only ----

Date Submitted		Date Approved	
Date Host Club Approved AEDCA		Host Club Contact Name	

X. Addendum B

Below is an example of the information that needs to be included in the premium list in regards to Best Bred-By Exhibitor in Specialty Show Competition for the National. Discuss this with the superintendent or secretary hired for the show.

BEST BRED-BY EXHIBITOR IN SPECIALTY SHOW COMPETITION – NATIONAL ONLY

Every dog entered in the event may compete for the Best Bred-By-Exhibitor Competition, if shown by the breeder-owner of record, (including, but not limited to dog and bitch Bred-By Exhibitor class winners, specials or winners of the non-regular classes). This special event IS open to professional handlers who are recognized by AKC or foreign registry as the breeder of the dog they are showing. There will be no additional fee for this non-regular class.

To be eligible for Best Bred-By Exhibitor in Specialty Show, one must check the appropriate box on the entry form indicating their participation.

All dogs entered in the Bred-By Exhibitor class are automatically eligible for the Bred-By-Exhibitor competition.

All eligible entries will be indicated by a hashtag (#) in the catalog.

All dogs in competition for Best Bred-by-Exhibitor, except International entries, must be individually registered with the American Kennel Club.

Dogs in competition for Best Bred-by-Exhibitor must be handled throughout the entire breed competition by a breeder/owner of record.

No handler change will be permitted for the purpose of becoming eligible for the Best Bred-by-Exhibitor competition.

If the Best of Breed winner is Best Bred-By Exhibitor competition eligible, it will automatically be Best Bred By Exhibitor in Show.

If the Best of Breed winner is not eligible for Bred-By Exhibitor competition and the Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed is eligible, the Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed

will compete against the eligible exhibits of the other sex to determine Best Bred-By Exhibitor in Specialty Show.

If neither the Best of Breed nor the Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed are eligible and Select Dog & Select Bitch are both eligible, the judge is to choose Best Bred-By Exhibitor in Specialty Show from the Selects and eligible Winners Dog, Winners Bitch, Reserve Winners Dog, Reserve Winners Bitch, or class winners.

If one of the Selects is eligible, excuse all Champions and non-regular class winners of the same sex and then choose the Best Bred-By Exhibitor in Specialty Show winner from the remaining dogs of the opposite sex including the eligible Winners, Reserve Winners, or class winners.

If Best of Breed, Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed, Select Dog & Select Bitch are not eligible, the judge may choose any eligible dog including eligible Winners, Reserve Winners, or class winner as Best Bred-By Exhibitor in Specialty Show.

If the Best of Winners is eligible, the other Winner is ineligible since it was defeated.

If Winners Dog or Winners Bitch is eligible, the same-sex Reserve Winners are ineligible since they were defeated.

If Reserve Winners Dog or Reserve Winners Bitch is eligible, the same-sex regular class winners are ineligible since they were defeated.

If Winners Dog or Winners Bitch are not eligible, then Reserve Winners Dog or Reserve Winners Bitch that were eligible would compete.

If Reserve Winners Dog or Reserve Winners Bitch are not eligible, then all class dogs that were eligible would compete.

“DON’T FORGET TO CHECK THE BRED-BY EXHIBITOR BOX ON THE ENTRY FORM IF ENTERING THIS COMPETITION.”