



**NORTH AMERICAN MINIATURE AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD  
CLUB of AMERICA**

**CONFORMATION SHOW  
RULES and REGULATIONS  
Effective June 1st, 2009**

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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 North American Miniature Australian Shepherd Club of the U.S.A. Inc. may appear in these rules in an abbreviated form as NAMASCUSA.

**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 means those residing within the residence.

**SECTION 1.6** The word "Club" is defined as NAMASCUSA or a NAMASCUSA Affiliate in good standing.

**SECTION 1.7** All entries must be made on the official NAMASCUSA entry form.

**SECTION 1.8** Collars: Special training collars, including but not limited to prong type, 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 no intensive or 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 NAMASCUSA's Dispute Rules and Discipline Guidelines.

**SECTION 1.11** Exhibitor Conduct: NAMASCUSA has the right to reprimand or suspend any person or persons from any or all privileges of NAMASCUSA for conduct prejudicial to the best interests of the Miniature Australian Shepherd, events hosted by NAMASCUSA or NAMASCUSA as a club.. Exhibitors are to maintain the highest level of sportsmanship and are to conduct themselves accordingly. Foul or abusive language, yelling at exhibitors or judges, disorderly conduct, and/or poor sportsmanship will not be allowed and shall be disciplined in accordance with NAMASCUSA's Dispute Rules and Discipline Guidelines.

**SECTION 1.12** 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 NAMASCUSA event are 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 "stand alone" miniature Specialty is a show at which Championship points will be given. It may be hosted by an Affiliate club and/or a member in good standing. Application for sanctioning of this type of show must be submitted to NAMASCUSA by a NAMASCUSA Affiliate Club or a NAMASCUSA member in good standing, Winsheets are not required, but track wins on the Champion/Merit Application. The show chair will be required to track wins for the show.

**SECTION 2.2** A Co-Sanctioned miniature Specialty is a specialty held in conjunction with another show venue. ARBA, IABCA, NAKC, or any venue approved by NAMASCUSA. Winsheets are required. Show rules for the venue holding the co-sanctioned show will be used and supersede NAMASCUSA show rules.

**SECTION 2.3** Regional Specialty shall be defined as NAMASCUSA defines each region.

**SECTION 2.4** The Miniature Australian Shepherd National Specialty is governed by the NAMASCUSA Board of Directors. The National Specialty must be hosted by an affiliate club. See CHAPTER 8- NATIONAL SPECIALTY SHOW for additional rules that apply to the National Specialty

## **CHAPTER 3 SANCTIONING RULES AND MAKING APPLICATION TO HOLD AN AFFILIATE AND/OR MEMBER STAND ALONE SPECIALTY SHOW OR CO-SANCTIONED SPECIALTY.**

**SECTION 3.1** All shows giving championship points must be sanctioned by NAMASCUSA or be show venues that NAMASCUSA has an agreement with. SEE WINSHEET FOR CURRENT APPROVED VENUES

**SECTION 3.2** Affiliates and/or member in good standings shall not seek membership nor seek license or sanction for any event with another registry other than a registry which NAMASCUSA has an agreement.

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

**SECTION 3.4** A NAMASCUSA Affiliate Clubs and/or a NAMASCUSA member in good standing, that meet the requirements of NAMASCUSA and wish to hold a Conformation Dog Show, at which Championship points may be awarded, must make application to NAMASCUSA for permission to hold such a show on the sanctioning form. The Sanctioning form shall list date, location, Show Secretary/Chairman's name, address and phone number, all classes offered, judges names and addresses and assignments. The application and approval must occur within 45 days of the requested date. The Board may impose a \$10.00 fee for each day outside the 45 day request date. Example: The request for sanctioning is made at 30 days before the show; a fine of \$150 may be imposed.

All Affiliate clubs/member in good standing hosting a show must send a show flyer and/or premium to the NAMASCUSA Business Office before the date of the scheduled event. This flyer and/or premium must be submitted and postmarked no later than twenty-five (25) days prior to the event.

***All entries shall close prior to the judging of the first class.***

**SECTION 3.5** A show chairperson/secretary must be a NAMASCUSA member in good standing unless the Board of Directors has approved a person who is a non-member. See chapter 11 for duties of the Show Committee

**SECTION 3.6** NAMASCUSA's 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.

**SEE CHAPTER 15-SUBMISSION OF A SHOW'S RECORD TO NAMASCUSA**

**SECTION 3.7** 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 NAMASCUSA Business Office, the show committee or the show chairperson shall obtain approval of the new show location from the NAMASCUSA 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 host club/member in good standing 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 3.8** Only NAMASCUSA Affiliate Clubs/ members in good standing may host NAMASCUSA events. A "type of event" is defined as Conformation, Rally Obedience, Agility or Herding Trials. Contact NAMASCUSA for a current list of "events" created by or approved by NAMASCUSA.

**SECTION 3.9** Official NAMASCUSA programs that require sanctioning and award points or qualifying scores that lead to a NAMASCUSA title shall not be conducted by any non-NAMASCUSA Affiliated corporation(s) or business(es) or individuals. Affiliate Club(s)/members in good standing with NAMASCUSA will have the exclusive right to schedule, sanction and conduct Official NAMASCUSA programs. No individual(s), non NAMASCUSA Affiliated corporation(s) or business(es) shall realize any monetary profit, or any other benefit as a result of any connection with an NAMASCUSA 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 3.10** All affiliate clubs/members in good standing hosting shows under NAMASCUSA rules must have available at each show, a copy of the NAMASCUSA Breed Standard and the NAMASCUSA Show Rules.

**SECTION 3.11** Any affiliate club/member in good standing hosting 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 3.12** No badges, coats with kennel names, dogs' 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.

***These sections will be implemented as Regions are defined. Section 3.13 AND 3.14***

**SECTION 3.13.** Each host affiliate club/member in good standing, 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 its 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 NAMASCUSA Business Office will hold paperwork from any other Club wishing to use a preexisting date until the NAMASCUSA 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 NAMASCUSA 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 NAMASCUSA 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 3.14**

NAMASCUSA Affiliate Clubs/members in good standing 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/member in good standing that 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/members in good standing 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**

The mandatory regular classes of NAMASCUSA are as follows:

6 months to 9 months

9 months to 12 months

12 months to 18 months

Herding Bred (**Mandatory at the National Specialty, optional at all other shows**)

Bred by Exhibitor

American Bred (**Mandatory at the National Specialty, optional at all other shows**)

Foreign Bred (**Mandatory at the National Specialty, optional at all other shows**)

Open (**Open by color is mandatory at the National Specialty, optional at all other shows**)

Winners Class

Best of Breed

Jr. Handler (**Mandatory at the National Specialty, optional at all other shows**)

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

**SECTION 4.1** 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 4.2** 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 4.3** The 12 month to 18 month class shall be for dogs that are 12 months or over, but less than eighteen (18) months and 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 Herding Bred Class shall be for dogs that have achieved at least the following herding or working certificates or titles: HCC through the NAMASCUSA Herding Program, JHD through the American Herding Breed Association, STD through the ASCA Stockdog Program, or a PT through the AKC Herding Program.

**SECTION 4.5** The Bred by Exhibitor Class shall be for dogs that are:

- Six (6) months of age and over
- That are not NAMASCUSA Champions
- 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:

- Handler must be an owner or co-owner of record and be a breeder of record or
- 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 4.6** American Bred Class shall be for all dogs (except NAMASCUSA champions) that are six months of age and over and whelped in the United States of America.

**SECTION 4.7** Foreign Bred Class shall be for all dogs (except NAMASCUSA champions) that are six months of age and over and whelped outside of the United States of America. Foreign bred dogs may have their tails and dew claws intact and will not be penalized.

**SECTION 4.8** The Open Class shall be for any dog, (except NAMASCUSA 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 NAMASCUSA Breed Standard; Open Blue Merle, Open Red Merle, Open Black and Open Red.

**SECTION 4.9** 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, twelve (12) months to eighteen (18) months, Herding Bred, American Bred, Foreign Bred, Bred by Exhibitor or Open Classes.

There shall be no entry fee for competition in the Winners Class.

The dog placing second to the Winners 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 4.10** 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:

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

- The showing of dogs whose championships are unconfirmed (either in classes or in Best of Breed competition) is limited to a period of ninety (90) days from the date of the show where a dog completed the requirements for a championship or until certification of championship is issued.
- The winner's dog and winner's bitch chosen from the show shall advance into the Best of Breed competition.

Best of Winners shall be chosen from the Winners Dog and the Winners Bitch

**SECTION 4.11** Dogs Competing in Winners and/or Best of Breed class must not have been defeated in any regular class.

**SECTION 4.12** Junior Showmanship: An affiliate club/member in good standing hosting a show must offer Junior Showmanship competition. The classes and procedures shall conform to NAMASCUSA regulations governing Junior Showmanship as adopted by the NAMASCUSA Board of Directors.

Juniors should always demonstrate good sportsmanship when exhibiting in any and all NAMASCUSA events. (Conformation, Agility, Obedience, Stock dog, etc) Win or lose, good sportsmanship is always expected.

Good Sportsmanship includes:

- Congratulating the winner.
- Responsibility for your dog(s). (This includes grooming, training, feeding, and clean-up)
- Showing respect for fellow competitors and their dogs.
- Respecting the judge's decision.

Bad Sportsmanship shall be considered as, but not limited to:

- Any negative remarks heard at ringside or anywhere on the show grounds including your set-up, the parking lot about the judge or other competitors.
- Mistreatment of a dog may be defined by (but not limited to) treating a dog harshly or with a heavy hand, or an over harsh correction or being cruel to the dog because you lost the class.
- Throwing ribbons or gifts on the table as they leave the ring, NOT to be mistaken as gently donating back the ribbon to the club.
- Improper handling/ring procedures such as "up staging", crowding the handler in front of you, stepping on a dog or handler behind you or baiting dogs other than your own. This is not to be held against someone if age or skill is in question.

#### **Age to Participate in NAMASCUSA Junior Program**

To compete in the NAMASCUSA Junior Program, a junior must be at least five (5) years of age, and no older than eighteen (18) years old. The age divisions are 5-8 years, 9-13 years, and 14 - 17 Years. The NAMASCUSA Junior Program year runs from January 1st of each calendar year to December 31st of the same calendar year. For the purposes of the NAMASCUSA Junior Program, the age of the junior as of January 1st will be used until the following December 31st.

**SECTION 4.13** The optional non-regular classes of NAMASCUSA are:

Two to Four Month Puppy

Four to Six Month Puppy

Stud Dog

Brood Bitch

Brace

Head Type

Movement

Generations **(Mandatory at the National Specialty)**

Breeders Showcase **(Mandatory at the National Specialty)**

## Veterans (**Mandatory at the National Specialty**)

Puppy classes, head type, and veterans must be divided by sex.

**SECTION 4.14** The following rules will apply if these non-regular classes are included:

- 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.
- 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. These puppies may be altered.
- 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 and only one (1) being under six months of age. 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.
- 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 or over and entered in a regular class and only one (1) being under six months of age. 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.
- 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 judges' 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 NAMASCUSA Rules or the NAMASCUSA 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.
- 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.
- The head type class is open to any dog ages six months or older. This class may be split by male and female.
- The movement class is open to any dog six months of age or older. Movement is judged as correct according to the NAMASCUSA breed standard. At the judge's discretion, the class may be split. Placing will be 1st – 4th.
- Generations: Minimum of 3, maximum of 5 consecutive generations to be judged against the Breed Standard with consistency within the group with an eye for each generation being closer to the Breed Standard . Rereward if you need to.
- Breeder's Showcase: Combination of 3, but no more than 5 dogs entered as one entry to showcase a breeders program. Breeder must be exhibiting or ringside, in the case of a disability, to showcase the entry. The group shall not be judged as identical dogs, but as a

group of dogs that best represents the NAMASCUSA breed standard. All must be judged against the Breed Standard for uniformity

- The Veteran's Class or classes are open only to dogs which have reached their seventh (7) birthdate on or before the day of the class. This class is open to spayed and neutered dogs and must be divided by sex.

Non-regular class winners shall not become eligible to move on to any regular conformation class by virtue of their non-regular class award.

**Section 4.15** NAMASCUSA Altered Conformation Program (A-CH).  
These are non-regular classes.

The Altered Conformation Program shall be an optional program held in conjunction with all stand alone NAMASCUSA Conformation events and a mandatory program for the National Specialty. All NAMASCUSA Conformation Rules and Regulations shall apply to the Altered Program. Eligibility is restricted to NAMASCUSA registered dogs that have been spayed or neutered. The NAMASCUSA 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. NAMASCUSA Champions of record will be eligible to compete in Best of Breed in the Altered Program if they have been neutered.

#### **CLASSES**

Regular classes shall be:

6 months-12 months

12 months -18 months

Herding bred

Bred By Exhibitor

American Bred

Foreign Bred

Open (**Mandatory division by color at the National Specialty**)

Winners

Best of Breed

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

The Affiliate club/member in good standing have the option of selecting the reduced class schedule for the Altered Program which consists of:

6 months to 12 months

Open

NAMASCUSA approved Conformation Judges must be used.

#### **CHAPTER 5 WINSHEET PROGRAM**

NAMASCUSA grants championships to dogs that meet all requirements as set forth in this "Show Rules and Regulations". A NAMASCUSA Championship/Altered (A-CH) Certificate will be issued to the owner of the dog when all the requirements have been met and the winsheets/show records confirming points are received by the Show Secretary. The owner of the dog will have the right to use the title on all registration and pedigree certificates.

**SECTION 5.1** NAMASCUSA sanctions (recognizes) all legitimate shows using licensed judges and that recognize the Miniature Australian Shepherd for championship titles. Shows nationally advertised in magazines, newsletters, etc. are automatically recognized.

**SECTION 5.2** Any dog that is 6 months or older and is eligible for Championship/Merit points must be registered with NAMASCUSA. If the dog is not registered with NAMASCUSA prior to the show, it must have registration pending with NAMASCUSA to receive points towards championships and merit points. A dog that is not registered with NAMASCUSA may be entered in no more than one sanctioned shows without being registered with NAMASCUSA.

**SECTION 5.3** The exhibitor must send to the NAMASCUSA Registrar all winsheets with in forty-five (45) days of the show in which they receive points. Copies should be made and kept before mailing winsheets to NAMASCUSA. There is a \$5.00 processing fee for each title that you apply for

**SECTION 5.4** It is the exhibitor's responsibility to have winsheets available for the judges and show chairperson on the day of the show.

## **CHAPTER 6 CHAMPIONSHIP PROGRAM**

**SECTION 6.1** Requirements to become a champion:

- A dog must earn 15 points tabulated from the point schedule and be at least six (6) months of age on the day of the show.
- Two of these wins must be "major" wins (shows that are at least three-point shows).
- One of the two majors must be at the breed level (Points earned by defeating Miniature Australian Shepherds)
- Majors must be under different judges.
- Dogs must have at least one more win under a third judge.
- Points from other registries are not transferable.
- Championship points will be recorded according to the number of eligible dogs competing.

### **Section 6.2 POINT TABULATION FOR CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Only dogs taking Winners Dog, Winners Bitch, Best of Winners, Best Opposite Sex, Best of Breed, Group 1 and Best in Show placements are eligible for conformation champion points.

- **Winners Dog and Winners Bitch**, one (1) pt. is earned for each dog it defeats of it's same sex at class level for a max of five (5) pts.
- Best of Winners is awarded to either the Winners Dog or Winners Bitch.
- **Best of Winners** - Receives the greater number of points of either sex (up to the max of 5 points).
- **Best of Opposite Sex** receives one (1) point for each dog of its sex defeated (includes all regular class and specials dogs).
- **The Best of Breed** receives (1) point for each dog of both sexes defeated (includes all regular class and specials dogs).

***If only one dog of each sex is present, Best of Breed, and only Best of Breed, will be awarded one (1) point.***

If you take Best of Breed at a show that offers Group competition, you will then compete in the Herding Group.

- **Herding Group:** If you receive a Group 1 you earn 1 point for each dog that you defeat in the Herding Group. Example: if you take 1st in Group and there were 5 dogs in the Group you would receive 4 points (up to the max of 5 pts per show).

In Group competition, the "First in Group" will compete in Best in Show where additional points may be earned.

- **Best in Show competition,** you must place Best in Show to receive points. The dog earns one point for each dog it defeats in the Best in Show competition. (up to the max of 5 pts per show)

**SECTION 6.3** 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.

## **CHAPTER 7 GRAND CHAMPIONSHIP PROGRAM – Breed level only**

5 Point limit does not apply to Grand Championship points.

**SECTION 7.1** Before a dog may earn points towards its Grand Championship, it must be a CONFIRMED NAMASCUSA champion. In order to become a Grand Champion, a dog must earn 50 points and obtain one 5-point major and three 3-point majors at breed level under different judges. Points earned toward the dog's championship shall not count.

Grand points are only earned for Best of Breed and Best of Opposite Sex.

**SECTION 7.2** Points are awarded as follows:

- Best of Breed receives (1) point for each dog (including all regular class and Specials dogs) defeated.
- Best of Opposite Sex receives (1) point for each dog of its sex defeated (including regular class and Specials).

**ALTERED CHAMPION: See rules and point schedule above.**

The exhibition of altered dogs for championship points shall be limited to the Altered Program.

## **CHAPTER 7A MERIT PROGRAM (TOP 10) – Breed level only**

***5 Point limit does not apply to the Merit Program.***

**SECTION 7.1A** NAMASCUSA's merit program recognizes the top ten conformation dogs of each recording year-January 1 through December 31.

**SECTION 7.2A** Winsheets must be submitted by January 30 of the following year.

**SECTION 7.3A** Merit points are only earned at breed level.

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

**SECTION 7.5A** Points are awarded as follows:

- Best of Breed receives (1) point for each dog (including all regular class and Specials dogs) defeated.
- Best of Opposite Sex receives (1) point for each dog of its sex defeated (including regular class and Specials).

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

USE SEPARATE WINSHEET FOR EACH DOG

**CHAPTER 8 NATIONAL SPECIALTY SHOW**

**SECTION 8.1 SANCTIONING**

Applications for request to host the National Specialty must be received by the NAMASCUSA Board of Directors no less than six (6) months (180 days) prior to the date that the show will be held. The sanctioning form must be submitted by a NAMASCUSA Affiliate in good standing and must be dated/postmarked (hand canceled/legible) at least six months prior to the date or dates of the show. The NAMASCUSA Board of Directors will confirm or deny the requested date within thirty (30) days of receipt of paperwork. The Affiliate club is responsible to see that all official show forms are submitted.

The National Specialty must have a printed catalogue and premium list.

**SECTION 8.2 PREMIUM LIST**

1. The Affiliate club which has been granted permission by NAMASCUSA to hold a National Specialty must submit in time to reach the NAMASCUSA Board of Directors, a draft of the premium, at least three (3) months before its closing date for entries. The NAMASCUSA Board of Directors will return, not later than sixty (60) days before the closing date for entries of the show, one copy of the premium list indicating thereon, all necessary corrections, deletions and revisions.
2. 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. Premiums will be posted on the NAMASCUSA website, in the Mini Connection and will also be available, via email or the postal service if a self addressed, stamped envelop is sent to the host club.
3. The premium list shall contain the following: a list of the officers of the show-hosting club, a list of the members of the Show Committee, together with the designations of "Chairperson of each event" and the Chairperson's addresses, 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.
4. 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 NAMASCUSA Business Office
5. 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 NAMASCUSA. 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 NAMASCUSA.

### **SECTION 8.3 CATALOGUES**

- A. Show Committee must provide a printed catalogue.
- B. Every catalogue must bear on its cover or title page: "NAMASCUSA sanctioned and NAMASCUSA show rules apply".
- 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; date of birth; sire and dam, name of breeder; name of owner. The entries shall be catalogued by non-regular puppy classes, regular classes and non-regular classes, in the order given in Chapter 4. A Breeders directory may be offered at the end of the catalogue. The Board of Directors may prescribe additional requirements for format and contents of the catalogue.

## **CHAPTER 9 RIBBONS, PRIZES AND TROPHIES**

**SECTION 9.1** All affiliate clubs hosting a National Specialty show under the rules of NAMASCUSA 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 must be used:

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

The NAMASCUSA logo may be used in awards offered by a NAMASCUSA affiliate/member in good standing hosting a sanctioned show or any other approved event.

**SECTION 9.2** 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.

**SECTION 9.3** Ribbons must be offered for outright award at the National Specialty show, by the Affiliate club, for the class placements of First, Second, Third, Fourth in the Six to Nine Months, Nine to Twelve Months, Twelve to Eighteen, Herding Bred, Bred by Exhibitor, American Bred, Foreign Bred and Open Classes, or in any division of these designated in the classification. Ribbons must be offered for outright award for First, Second, Third and Fourth place, in any non-

regular class, which the Affiliate club, may offer. Winners Dog, Reserve Winners Dog, Winners Bitch, Reserve Winners Bitch, Best of Winners, Best of Breed, Best of Opposite Sex and Premiers, Best of Breed Puppy and Best of Opposite Sex Puppy, Junior Showmanship.

**SECTION 9.4** Special revolving or traveling prizes may be awarded at the donor's specifications.

## **CHAPTER 10 JUDGES**

**SECTION 10.1** Judges must be chosen from the list of qualified judges in the following organizations: ASCA (Australian Shepherd Association) AKC (American Kennel Club), UKC (United Kennel Club), CKC (Canadian Kennel Club). They must be qualified to judge herding breeds. The National Specialty judges must be experienced in judging Australian Shepherds and/or Miniature Australian Shepherds.

**SECTION 10.2** NAMASCUSA will not approve as a judge or exhibitor for any given show the following:

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

**SECTION 10.3** 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 or any day preceding their assignment that he or she is officiating.

**SECTION 10.4** 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 10.5** 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 10.6** 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 10.7** If it becomes necessary to replace an advertised judge after the opening of the show and no person on the NAMASCUSA 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 to judge Miniature Australian Shepherds/Australian Shepherds under SECTION 10.1.

**SECTION 10.8** 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.

**SECTION 10.9** A Show Committee, which shall be informed at any time, prior to twenty (30) 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 NAMASCUSA Board of Directors, and the club shall give notice of the name of the substitute

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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 10.10** Should a Show Committee be informed at any time less than twenty (20) days before the opening of its show, or after its 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 NAMASCUSA Board of Directors. 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 10.11** 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 10.12** 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 10.13** No judging shall occur at any show prior to the time specified in the judging schedule.

**SECTION 10.14** 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 NAMASCUSA Board of Directors 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 10.15** 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 re-judged. 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 10.16** 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 10.17** 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. No one else 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 10.18** A Judge's decision, as marked in the judge's book, cannot be changed by him after filing with the NAMASCUSA Board of Directors, but an error appearing in the Judge's book may be corrected by the NAMASCUSA Board of Directors after consultation with the Judge and Show Secretary.

**SECTION 10.19** 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 NAMASCUSA Business Office the name of the disqualified dog, the NAMASCUSA registration number and owners name and address.

**SECTION 10.20** A Judge shall not judge the same assignment more than once in any six (6) month period for the same affiliate.

## **CHAPTER 11 SHOW COMMITTEES**

### **General Job Descriptions**

**Show Chairperson:** Job may be combined with that of Show Secretary. Delegates tasks including location of and providing any necessary equipment and materials, drafts workers, oversees the purchasing of awards, food, prizes, judges gifts and ribbons.

**Show Secretary:** Usually generates and distributes the premium lists, receives the entries, handles record keeping for the duration of the event, contacts or delegates someone to contact and hire judges, and fills out sanctioning forms.

**Show Committee:** Group of members, including the Show Secretary and Chair who may decide the dates, location, judging panel and events to be hosted at a show.

**Ring Stewart:** A judge's assistant who is tasked with coordinating the logistics of getting the exhibitors and their dogs into and out of the rings efficiently. Stewarts check in the exhibitors, answer questions about ring procedures, call in the classes, prepare the ribbons and trophies for distribution. Stewarts are responsible for the smooth operation of their rings, including clean ups, and are responsible for the comfort of the judges.

**SECTION 11.1** The Show Committee consist of the Show Secretary and clubs officers present at the show unless otherwise stated in the flyer or premium list.

**SECTION 11.2** 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 a copy of the NAMASCUSA Show Rules and Regulations and the Breed Standard to each member of the committee.

**SECTION 11.3** 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 11.4** The Show Committees will be held responsible for the maintenance of clean and

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orderly conditions throughout the precincts of the judging area during all hours when dogs are permitted to be present.

**SECTION 11.5** 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 11.6** 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 the NAMASCUSA Board of Directors within seven (7) days of the close of the show.

**SECTION 11.7** The Show Secretary must be on the show grounds through check in until the completion of all conformation classes.

## **CHAPTER 12 CONDITIONS OF DOGS AFFECTING ELIGIBILITY**

**SECTION 12.1** Every dog must be entered on an Official NAMASCUSA 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 NAMASCUSA must be entered in the name of it's 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 NAMASCUSA 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 NAMASCUSA or will be mailed within the specified time. If there is any unavoidable delay in obtaining the completed application required to record the transfer, NAMASCUSA may grant a reasonable extension of time, provided the new owner notifies NAMASCUSA 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 NAMASCUSA registered names.

**SECTION 12.2** No entry shall be made and no entry shall be accepted by a Show Secretary, which specifies any condition as to its acceptance.

**SECTION 12.3** No entry may be changed or canceled unless notice of the change or cancellation is received in writing 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 12.4** No entry shall be accepted for any disqualified dog or from any person who is not in good standing with NAMASCUSA or the sponsoring club.

**SECTION 12.5** No entry shall be made under a kennel name unless that name has been registered with NAMASCUSA. 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 NAMASCUSA before the entry will be accepted. In case of any infraction of these rules, all the partners shall be held equally responsible.

**SECTION 12.6** A dog which is blind, deaf, castrated, spayed, had a vasectomy, 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 in the Intact Conformation Program 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. 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 NAMASCUSA and the dog may not again be shown unless and until, following application by the owner to NAMASCUSA, the owner has received official notification from NAMASCUSA, that the dog's show eligibility has been reinstated. A castrated male or one that has had a vasectomy may be entered as the Stud Dog in the Stud Dog Class, or other Non-Regular classes, or in the Altered Conformation Program. A spayed bitch may be entered as Brood Bitch in the Brood Bitch Class, or other Non-Regular classes, or in the Altered Conformation program.

**SECTION 12.7** 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 12.8** 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 12.9** 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 which there exhibited signs of distemper, infectious hepatitis, leptospirosis, kennel cough or other communicable disease.

**SECTION 12.10** 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 12.11** 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.

**SECTION 12.12** 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 13 COLOR DETERMINATIONS, DISQUALIFICATIONS IN BREED STANDARD OR ELIGIBILITY UNDER THE CONDITIONS OF A CLASS OR DIVISION OF A CLASS.**

**SECTION 13.1** 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 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 13.2** 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 NAMASCUSA under these rules, all resulting awards shall be canceled by NAMASCUSA.

**SECTION 13.3** 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 NAMASCUSA Board of Directors and said dog may compete in all classes and for all prizes for which its entry form discloses it was entered.

**SECTION 13.4** 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 13.5** If the win of a dog shall be canceled by NAMASCUSA, 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 NAMASCUSA. The show giving club shall in each instance of failure to comply with this rule notify forthwith NAMASCUSA of such failure and NAMASCUSA upon receipt of such notice shall suspend the exhibitor so in default from all privileges of NAMASCUSA and notify the exhibitor so in default that it has done so. Said suspension shall continue until NAMASCUSA is notified that restitution has been made.

## **CHAPTER 14 PROTESTS AGAINST DOGS**

**SECTION 14.1** 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 14.2** A protest against a dog, for reasons other than health, may be made by any exhibitor, or any member of NAMASCUSA. 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 NAMASCUSA. 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 NAMASCUSA, or to a protest made in the ring previous to the rendering of a decision by the judge.

**SECTION 14.3** 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 NAMASCUSA Business Office.

**SECTION 14.4** An appeal to the NAMASCUSA Board from a decision of a Show Committee where a dog has been protested may be taken and shall be forwarded to the NAMASCUSA Board of Directors 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 14.5** Any person who is handling or competing with a dog in the ring in any competition may 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 12.8 or 12.9 or 13.1 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 12.8 or 12.9 or 13.1 . 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 12.8 or 12.9 or 13.1, 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 chapter 12.8 or 12.9 or 13.1, 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 chapter 12.8 or 12.9 or 13.1 unless such determination is based on the use of a substance only for cleaning purposes, may not again be shown until reinstated by the NAMASCUSA Board of Directors.

## **CHAPTER 15 SUBMISSION OF A SHOW'S RECORDS TO NAMASCUSA**

**SECTION 15.1** After each NAMASCUSA sanctioned event, the Judges Books, certified by the Show Secretary, and NAMASCUSA Official Entry Forms are to be copied and mailed to the NAMASCUSA Board of Directors business office. All monetary issues, including expenditures and income, shall be sent to the NAMASCUSA Treasurer, unless this is an affiliate hosted event. Then, that information should be forwarded to the affiliate Treasurer. Items should be postmarked no later than FORTY-FIVE (45) days after the close of the show.

**There shall be a penalty incurred against any affiliate/member which hosts a show who does not submit the shows' records according to the above time frame. The board of directors shall determine the amount of the penalty.**

## **CHAPTER 16 STEWARDS**

**SECTION 16.1** 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 NAMASCUSA 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 16.2** 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 17 DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS**

Refer to NAMASCUSA's Disciplinary Rules that are located on the website.  
[www.namascusa.com](http://www.namascusa.com)

## **CHAPTER 18 JUDGES GUIDELINES / CODE OF ETHICS/QUALIFICATIONS**

**Outside Registry Judges** -Judging at an NAMASCUSA Sanctioned Conformation show is an honor and a privilege, not a right. Judge applicants must satisfy NAMASCUSA's stated minimum eligibility requirements for judges, but satisfying the minimum requirements does not entitle an applicant to become or remain a NAMASCUSA 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 NAMASCUSA's codes, rules, decisions and the Statement of Purpose in NAMASCUSA's Bylaws. Any documented failure to perform on this level may result in denial or revocation of judging privileges by the NAMASCUSA Board of Directors without regard to any other qualification or prior service.

**All contractual obligations, including but not limited to photos must be met before payment shall be rendered.**

## **CHAPTER 19 PUPPY SWEEPS**

1. Puppy Sweeps will take place before judging of the Nationals Show (Regular and Non-Regular Classes).
2. NAMASCUSA Registered Puppies ages 2-18 months are eligible. Puppies under 6 months can use litter registration number, instead of individual registration number.
3. Pay Out Distribution:  
25% of total entries shall be withheld for NAMASCUSA or host club to cover expenses. The remaining 75% of total entries will be divided as follows:
  - A. Best of Breed Puppy: 60% of monies after distribution to NAMASCUSA or affiliate club.
  - B. Best Opposite Sex Puppy: 40% % of monies after distribution to NAMASCUSA or affiliate club.

## **CHAPTER 20 PREMIER Awards**

NAMASCUSA offers Premier awards in addition to Best of Breed, Best of Opposite, and Best of Winners at the National Specialty.

### **Number of Premier Awards**

Number of awards presented will be based on entries, to be determined after entries close. No separate entry form is required. The number of awards will be determined for both Male and Female specials entered individually.

- 1 Premier Male (or Female) if less than 5 Specials dogs/bitches entered
- 2 Premier Male (or Female) if 5-7 Specials dogs/bitches entered
- 3 Premier Male (or Female) if 8-10 Specials dog/bitches entered
- 4 Premier Male (or Female) if 11-14 Specials dogs/bitches entered
- 5 Premier Male (or Female) if 15 or more Specials dogs/bitches entered

**Premier awards may be reduced at the discretion of the judge.**

**JUDGES NOTE: THE Winner's Dog or Winners Bitch that does not get BOW is eligible for the Premier Award.**

- A. Final cut only includes: BOB, BOS, BOW, Premier Bitches and Premier Dogs.
- B. Premiers are selected before BOB, BOS, BOW

- C. The judge will then call individual dogs to the center of the ring to receive their Premier awards (certificate and 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 21 MVA**

The Most Versatile Aussie award is offered to recognize the dog which best combines willingness to please, trainability and the desire to work livestock, as well as demonstrate a high level of skill in select performance events. The winning MVA dog is also a true and honest representation of the breed when evaluated against the breed standard. Entrant dogs shall qualify in at least one of the recognized performance events, specifically Agility, Rally, Herding, Obedience and/or Tracking and also obtain a qualifying score in the Conformation Evaluation event. Working ability, performance skill and breed standard (conformation) evaluation are based on rules established by NAMASCUSA. The measure of a dog's performance and evaluation is recorded on scorecards established by NAMASCUSA for the individual events and shall serve to recognize and award the winning "Most Versatile Aussie." **The MVA rules and guidelines shall be updated annually and shall be published in the premium..**