



**American
Kennel Club®**

Judging Operations Department
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www.akc.org
January 2018

Ringside Observation Criterion

A mentor is an individual with whom a prospective judge has established a long term, ongoing relationship. He or she may or may not mentor ringside.

A ringside observation may be completed with individuals whom are a parent club approved mentor, have 12 years' experience exhibiting that breed, or 12 years as an approved judge in that breed. The ringside mentor may become a long term mentor or not. Requirement considerations given for breeds recognized less than 12 years.

A ringside observation may be completed at specialties where formal ringside mentoring is offered or at any AKC conformation event where a major in at least one sex is present and a qualified mentor is available.

CEU credit for individuals applying for additional breeds will be assigned as defined within the Judging Approval Process:

- 1 CEU credit when completed at a Parent Club National Specialty (Up to three observations from one National may be accepted if completed on different sexes/classes and with a unique mentor).
- 1 CEU when completed at any other AKC conformation event where a major in the sex has been entered. (5 CEU maximum).

Ringside Observations must meet the following criteria:

- ❖ **Observer may observe with parent club approved mentor or individual with a minimum of 12 years' experience exhibiting or judging the breed in conformation. Observations with mentors not meeting the criteria will not be accepted.**
(Mentors will be permitted to participate on days they are exhibiting, but should not mentor for classes which they are competing. Mentor should be available for discussion during major entry. Mentors will be asked to document their own experience on the Observation Form when they sign it.)
- ❖ **There must be adequate entries for the breeds observed. Totality of entry may be considered if/when major is not present.**
- ❖ **Observer and mentor must properly complete a Ringside Observation Form which must be submitted with the application for that breed.**
- ❖ **Judges may observe at shows where they are judging.**
- ❖ **Judges may mentor ringside at shows where they are judging, but may not in a breed scheduled to judge that day or the following days.**

All additional breed forms available at: <https://www.akc.org/events/judges/conformation/additional-breed-application/>



AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB

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 January 1, 2018

JUDGE'S RINGSIDE OBSERVATION FORM

For Ringside observations to receive CEU credit or use on an additional breed application, this form must be completed by observer, mentor and submitted with application. Complete a separate form for each observation. Keep a copy for your records. All additional breed forms available at: <http://www.akc.org/events/judges/conformation/additional-breed-application/> Please type or print in black or blue ink.

Observer/Judge: _____ Judge # (if applicable): _____

Show Name: _____ Show Date: _____

Breed & Classes Observed: _____ Observed #: _____

Observer Notes: Overall quality of entry excellent good average poor
 Breed Specific comments on entry (Mandatory)

To be completed by Mentor (mandatory):

Parent Club Approved Mentor	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no	Number of years exhibiting this breed	_____
Breeder Judge	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no	Number of years judging this breed (reg. status)	_____
Judged Parent Club National	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no		
Exhibit at this show	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no	Mentor email or cell#	_____

I, _____ verify that the above judge, has completed an AKC approved Ringside observation as indicated above. My signature on this form does not necessarily indicate my endorsement or recommendation of the observing judge, but certifies I observed the judging of this breed with this judge, discussing the entries and the breed specific characteristics present through the progression of the classes.

Mentor Signature: _____ Date: _____