



Most Versatile Miniature American Shepherd 2023 MVMAS Rules

PURPOSE: The Most Versatile Miniature American Shepherd (MVMAS) Competition offered at a MASCUSA National Specialty recognizes those dogs that exemplify the true meaning of the word versatility by successfully competing in herding and companion competitions while meeting the AKC Miniature American Shepherd Breed Standard in the Versatility Conformation class.

ELIGIBILITY: Open to all AKC registered Miniature American Shepherds, including altered dogs and bitches. AKC PAL/ILP dogs are ineligible. Bitches in season will be allowed to compete as dictated by AKC Rules and Regulations. Bitches in Season are not eligible to compete in Agility, Obedience or Rally according to AKC Rules and Regulations. They are eligible to compete in Herding and Versatility Conformation. Refer to the premiums for additional information.

REQUIREMENTS: To qualify in the Most Versatile Miniature American Shepherd Competition, a dog must:

- Earn a qualifying score in the Versatility Conformation class of 50 or greater.
- Earn a score in one of the Herding Test or Trial classes as set forth below.
- Earn a qualifying score in at least one of the Companion classes (obedience, rally or agility). Although one qualifying companion score is required to qualify, a dog may receive up to 3 scores, one qualifying score from each of the 3 companion categories.

Only scores from events designated as MVMAS qualifying events in the Nationals Premium will count.

SCORING: Only qualifying scores in Conformation, Herding, Obedience, Rally and Agility will be counted (with the exception of Herding Test/Trial classes as noted in the rules).

All dogs must compete at their most recent competitive level.

There will be an entry fee of \$25.00 for the Most Versatile MAS Conformation Evaluation. This entry fee for the MVMAS Class will be paid with any other conformation entries that you may have. In addition, the MVMAS Entry Form must be filled out and submitted by the deadline to ensure being listed as entered in MVMAS in the catalog. The Form is used to gather information for the catalog and to prepare scoring sheets. All other entries will be processed according to the event premiums.

CONFORMATION: This class will be held at a time and place designated by the National Specialty Show Committee. All dogs competing for the versatility awards will be judged against the AKC Miniature American Shepherd Breed Standard. One judge, who is eligible to judge or who has judged conformation, will judge the class. Details on ring procedure will be included in the premium each year.

MVMAS Score will be computed as follows for a qualifying score:

- The conformation raw score given by the judge – maximum 110 points
- Minimum score of 50 to qualify

MVMAS Conformation Ring Procedure

At the beginning of the MVMAS conformation evaluation, all entrants will enter the ring together in catalog order. (at judge's discretion) The judge will ask them to go around the ring and then each dog will be evaluated individually. There may be more than one handler allowed for each dog if needed. Each entrant will receive a Conformation Class Score Sheet signed by the Judge. You will be instructed as to the final ring procedures by the judge at the briefing.

HERDING TESTS & TRIALS: (Instinct, Herding and Pre-Trial Tested, and/or Herding Trials, including Started/Intermediate/Advanced, Stock Sheep/Cattle/Duck, and Course A/B/C/D). If a dog is entered in both Trial and Tested classes, only the highest of either tested points or regular trial score (including bonus) will be used. If a dog qualifies on more than one type of stock, only the highest score (including bonus) will apply.

MVMAS Tested Scores will be computed as follows for dogs PASSING the test:

- Instinct Test: 30 points
- Herding Test: 40 points
- Pre-Trial Test: 50 points

MVMAS Trial Scores will be computed as follows:

- Started raw score
- Intermediate raw score + 5 points
- Advanced raw score + 10 points

Non-Qualifying scores from the "Trial" classes will be used for a dog not retired or removed. If a dog is retired or removed from a class and has proof of an existing AKC Herding title or certificate from the class immediately below that in which it is participating, on the same type of stock, the dog will be given credit for its herding capability by receiving points as outlined below.

MVMAS who are existing AKC Herding Title/Certificate holders, who are retired or removed, will be computed as follow: Please submit proof of prior herding titles/certificates with your MVMAS entry.

- Herding Test Participant with Instinct Certificate: 35 points
- Pre-Trial Test Participant with Herding Tested Title: 45 points
- Started Participant with Herding Pre-Trial Title: 55 points
- Intermediate Participant with Started Title: 55 points
- Advanced Participant with Intermediate Title: 55 points

When there are separate trials or courses for the different types of stock, (sheep, duck and cattle) these will be treated as 1 trial for MVMAS purposes. If a dog qualifies on more than one type of stock, the highest score will apply, with additional points awarded for the additional qualifying score(s). Only the highest score from the combined trials will count for MVMAS with the additional bonus points for qualifying on a second (2nd) type of stock.

Additional qualifying score points will be computed as follows:

- Started 5 Bonus points
- Intermediate: 7.5 bonus points
- Advanced: 10 bonus points

Dogs may not repeat the instinct test just to qualify for MVMAS.

Note: If there is an injury to stock, it will result in a 0 score regardless of title, unless the stock handler and the facility, Do NOT deem it to be the dog's fault.

OBEDIENCE: 50% of highest qualifying score, including bonus, from a Regular or Preferred class. (Beginner Novice, Novice A/B & Preferred Novice, Open A/B & Preferred Open, Utility A/B & Preferred Utility).

MVMAS Scores will be computed as follows (only qualifying scores will be used):

- Beginner Novice: 50% of raw score
- Novice and Preferred Novice: 50% of raw score + 4 points
- Graduate Novice: 50% of raw score + 6 points
- Open and Preferred Open: 50% of raw score + 8 points
- Graduate Open: 50% of raw score + 10 points
- Utility and Preferred Utility: 50% of raw score + 12 points

RALLY: Highest Qualifying score, including bonus, from a regular class (Novice A/B, Intermediate, Advanced A/B, Excellent A/B or Master).

MVMAS Scores will be computed as follows (only qualifying scores will be used):

- Novice: Raw score
- Intermediate: Raw score + 3 points
- Advanced: Raw score + 6 points
- Excellent: Raw score + 9 points
- Master: Raw score + 12 points

AGILITY: Highest qualifying score, including bonus, from a Standard (STD) or Jumpers with Weaves (JWW) class, Regular or Preferred.

MVMAS Scores will be computed as follows (only qualifying scores will be used):

- Novice: raw score
- Open: raw score + 4 points
- Excellent: raw score + 8 points
- Master: raw score + 12 points

TIES: If there is a tie, the highest herding score will be used. If there is still a tie, the highest movement score from the conformation evaluation will be used. If a third tie breaker is required, the highest number of classes qualified in shall be used.