

Class Descriptions

Non regular classes being held on June 20, 2013

Non-regular classes

- **Puppy Sweeps**, split by sex. 3-6, 6-9, 9-12, 12-18

1. Puppy Sweeps will take place before judging of the Nationals Show (Regular and Non-Regular Classes).

2. MASCUSA/AKC Registered Puppies ages 3-18 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 MASCUSA 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 MASCUSA or affiliate club.

- B. Best Opposite Sex Puppy: 40% % of monies after distribution to MASCUSA or affiliate club.

- **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.

- **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 MASCUSA Rules or the MASCUSA 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 is to 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 MASCUSA 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 .
- **Breeder's Showcase:** Combination of 3, but no more than 5 dogs entered as one entry to showcase a breeder's 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 MASCUSA breed standard. All must be judged against the Breed Standard for uniformity

MV- MAS Conformation Evaluation

The Most Versatile Miniature American Shepherd 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 MV-MAS 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 MASCUSA. The measure of a dog's performance and evaluation is recorded on scorecards established by MASCUSA for the individual events and shall serve to recognize and award the winning "Most Versatile Miniature American Shepherd." The MV-MAS rules and guidelines shall be updated annually and shall be published in the premium.

Non-regular classes

- Three to Six Month Puppy Class shall be for dogs that are three 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 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.

• **Junior Handler Competition**

Age to Participate in MASCUSA Junior Program

To compete in the MASCUSA 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 MASCUSA Junior Program year runs from January 1st of each calendar year to December 31st of the same calendar year. For the purposes of the MASCUSA Junior Program, the age of the junior as of January 1st will be used until the following December 31st.

Regular Classes

- 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.
 - 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.
 - 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.
 - The Bred by Exhibitor Class shall be for dogs that are:
 - * Six (6) months of age and over
 - * That are not MASCUSA 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.
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- 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.

- American Bred Class shall be for all dogs (except MASCUSA champions) that are six months of age and over and whelped in the United States of America.

- The Open Class shall be for any dog, (except MASCUSA 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.

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, American 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.

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 MASCUSA 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

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

PREMIER Awards

MASCUSA 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.