



# 2024 Ultimate Performance Miniature American Shepherd Rules

## **Ultimate Performance Miniature American Shepherd**

The Ultimate Performance MAS competition is offered to showcase the amazing abilities of the Miniature American Shepherd. Unlike the traditional MVMAS program, Ultimate Performance Miniature American Shepherd changes from year to year, depending on which events are offered. A Miniature American Shepherd is attentive and animated, showing strength and stamina combined with unusual agility, which allows for working over a variety of terrain. This highly versatile, energetic dog makes an excellent athlete with superior intelligence and a willingness to please those to whom he is devoted. Dogs must be AKC registered Miniature American Shepherds to participate.

New dog sports may be added in the future to further demonstrate the amazing abilities of the Miniature American Shepherd. Hosting clubs must offer at least 3 events.

## **ULTIMATE PERFORMANCE Miniature American Shepherd SCORING**

To qualify for the Ultimate Performance MAS (UPMAS) the dog/handler team must qualify in at least 3 of the following categories at Nationals: AKC Herding (Instinct, Test or Trial), AKC Agility, AKC Obedience, AKC Rally, AKC Scent Work, NADD Dock Diving, UpDog, and AKC Fast Cat. If your dog has previously earned a Herding Instinct certificate you may not repeat Herding Instinct for the purposes of this competition.

Placements will be awarded for 1st – 4<sup>th</sup>, and all UPMAS qualifiers will receive a special award. The 1st Place winner will earn the title “Ultimate Performance Miniature American Shepherd”. If the 1st place Ultimate Performance MAS is also the 1st place dog for MVMAS, they will be given the Iron Dog award. Iron Dog prize to be sent after Nationals, as there may or may not be a winner each year.

Point Calculation: Points are totaled from all event categories offered.

If there is a tie, the 1st tiebreaker is to take the most categories with a Q, 2nd tiebreaker is to take the highest Herding score, 3rd tiebreaker is to take the fastest Herding time and 4th tie breaker is the number of classes entered.

A scorekeeper/chairperson will be assigned by MASCUSA or the Hosting Club. Scores will be available for exhibitors to double check as soon as practicable after each eligible competition is completed. It is the owner/handler's responsibility to check the scores as posted, and report to the UPMAS chairperson any discrepancy no later than Saturday June 16, 2024 at 12:00 PM. Discrepancies may only be filed by the handler for the event where there is a discrepancy. The UPMAS awards will be presented at the Award Ceremony. Judges placements/decisions for all events are final. Awards for UPMAS are final once presented. The UPMAS Chairperson will keep records for at least 1 year after the event.

## **ULTIMATE PERFORMANCE Miniature American Shepherd ENTRANTS**

Ultimate Performance MAS entrants must be AKC registered, and 6 months of age as of the 1st day of the competition. Individual events may have additional age criteria. There will be a fee to enter this competition, see premium for details.

Event Categories – only the highest score for each category will be used. Dogs must compete at their most recent competitive levels, in each event. Dogs may not repeat herding instinct, for a herding score to count.

## **SPECIAL ULTIMATE PERFORMANCE MAS RECOGNITION**

Participating in the Ultimate Performance MAS is an adventure in itself. A certificate will be awarded to recognize and encourage the following participants/dogs in addition to regular awards listed above:

Junior Handler Awards - The handler must show the dog in all events in order to be eligible for Junior Handler awards. Multiple handlers may handle the dog for Veteran.

Best Junior UPMAS

Best Veteran Dog UPMAS – Highest Score (Veteran - Dog Age 7+)