

## **MASTIFF CLUB OF AMERICA TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS COMPETITION**

Dogs entered in the MCOA Tournament of Champions **must** be owned or co-owned by an MCOA member/associate member only. This event is held under the same rules and guidelines as the AKC Sportsmanship and AKC ethics rulings. The tournament is open AKC and/or CKC Champions of Record only by the closing date for entries. Dogs entered in this competition must be eligible to compete in AKC Dog Shows. There shall be no neutered dogs or spayed bitches allowed to compete in this competition. Judging shall be based on overall soundness, quality of movement, and type as defined in the breed standard.

Ideally judges chosen for Tournament shall be a breeder, professional handler and an AKC or Provisional Judge.

In the event of a last minute judge change, entrants that may have a potential conflict of interest may request a refund of the entry fee. The judge also has the right to refuse to examine a dog if they feel there is a conflict of interest.

While the Tournament of Champions is a non-regular event, this function will be held under the AKC Code of Sportsmanship and Code of Ethics as is any AKC sponsored event. Examples include but are not limited to:

1) Judges should advise potential exhibitors not to enter under you when their presence or the presence of their dogs might give the impression of unfair advantage. Examples include but are not limited to:

- ...your employer or an employee.
- ...a relative.
- ...a person with whom you co-own dogs.
- ...a person with whom you co-breed dogs.
- ...a person with whom you travel to dog shows.

2) Exhibitors should not to enter under a judge when their presence or the presence of their dogs might give the impression of unfair advantage. Examples include but are not limited to:

- ...your employer or an employee.
- ...a relative.
- ...a person with whom you co-own dogs.
- ...a person with whom you co-breed dogs.
- ...a person with whom you travel to dog shows.

3) No entry shall be made at any show under a judge of any dog which said judge or any member of his immediate household or immediate family has been known to have owned, handled in the ring more than twice, sold, held under lease or boarded within one year prior to the date of the show. .

Entry Fee shall be \$30.00.

## **PROCEDURE**

### **ROUND ONE**

1. All dogs (males) enter the ring in numerical order and are checked in.
2. The first three dogs are kept in the ring and the rest excused to the holding area.
3. The judges will be in three corners of the ring for the hands on examination. The dogs will move counter-clockwise until all three judges have examined all three dogs. In the first round judging should be limited to three minutes a dog in total. Score the sheet after each individual exam.
4. When the last dog of the set has been examined, the dogs will be moved individually on a diagonal down and back. Finally as a group they will be moved once around the ring and then exit.
5. Final scoring of the group is completed and score sheets are handed in and the second group of THREE dogs enter the ring. This continues until all Dog entries have been examined.
6. Complete the judging of the dogs. The score sheets will be tallied and the top 5 dog scores will be read. The remaining dogs are excused.
7. ALL BITCHES WILL ENTER THE RING, REPEAT STEPS 1 - 6.

### **ROUND TWO**

1. The top 5 scoring Dog entries and top 5 scoring Bitch entries are called back into the ring.
2. Judges will have score sheets returned to them. If there is a tie between animals, those score sheets will be marked with an asterisk and judges will be notified of the tie so that those entrants' scores will be examined more closely. The judges will review all the score sheet review their scores of these ten Mastiffs. At this time judges may make changes in their scoring by crossing out and writing next to the original score.
3. Maximum time allotted for the final scoring portion is 10-15 minutes. Judges will **NOT** individually go over each dog again.
4. Score sheets are then turned in for the last and final time for tabulation.
5. Exhibitors are instructed that the winners will be announced at the Awards Banquet.

## **CONGRATULATIONS!**

You have been selected to judge one of the Special Classes at our MCOA National Specialty. This is an honor not to be taken lightly. You are recognized as a person able to judge a good Mastiff, no matter who is on the other end of the lead.

As you know, these classes can be quite lengthy and sometimes boring for the spectators and exhibitors. With this in mind, we have streamlined the score sheets and set up some new ring procedures. Hopefully this will speed up these classes and hold everyone's interest.

I am sending you a copy of these new guidelines and score sheets so that you can familiarize yourself with the new program, in advance of show time. Please review the Standard to reinforce your knowledge of the correct Mastiff. Be positive, make your decision, and score appropriately. While this event is a non-regular class, MCOA requires that all events be held in accordance with the AKC Code of Sportsmanship and Code of Ethics. You, as a judge of this event, have the right to excuse any handler where there may be a conflict of interest based on those codes.

On behalf of the MCOA National Specialty Committee and the MCOA Board Directors, thank you for accepting this judging assignment. If you have any questions, please call me at \_\_\_\_\_.

MCOA Specialty Show Chair

## GUIDE TO A SUCCESSFUL TOURNAMENT COMPETITION

### PRE-TOURNAMENT

- Addressing the overall problem of lack of communication and confusion over procedure, a few preparatory steps should be taken.
- The Tournament Procedure and scoring sheet should be sent to the Tournament judges ahead of time for their review and preparation. Additionally a copy of the Mastiff standard is helpful for review.
- Plan to meet with the three tournament judges before judging time to answer any questions. Instruct them to determine a “leader” who will assist in keeping ring procedure and judging time reasonable
- Remember this is a boring event for the audience as many do not understand the process. May want to have a handout and score sheet available for anyone with questions.
- The scoring team must be in a private area, away from the judges table, tallying up the sheets as they are turned in. Upon judging completion, the Committee will total the second scores, and the results **KEPT IN THE STRICTEST CONFIDENCE, THERE BEING NO EXCEPTIONS!**
- Score tallying committee members may not be exhibitors in the Tournament Competition and must be MCOA members. Scores and score sheets are not to be left out after judging is complete. There is to be no discussion from the scoring team on who scored what.
- Winners may not be announced until the banquet.

Winner breakdown is:

4th runner-up

3rd runner-up

2nd runner-up

1st runner-up

Tournament of Champions Winner

Judge	A	B	C	Sex: M	F	Entry #								
<b>Overall Impression</b>						<b>Possible: 30</b>								
Balance	1	2	3	4	5									
Proportion	1	2	3	4	5									
Size	1	2	3	4	5									
Substance/Bone	1	2	3	4	5									
Condition	1	2	3	4	5									
Presence	1	2	3	4	5									
<b>Score:</b>														
<b>Head</b>						<b>Possible: 40</b>								
Expression	1	2	3	4	5									
Proportion	1	2	3	4	5									
Skull	1	2	3	4	5									
Muzzle	1	2	3	4	5									
Stop	1	2	3	4	5									
Eyes	1	2	3	4	5									
Ears	1	2	3	4	5									
Bite	1	2	3	4	5									
<b>Score:</b>														
<b>Structure</b>						<b>Possible: 50</b>								
Length of Body	1	2	3	4	5									
Depth of Body	1	2	3	4	5									
Topline	1	2	3	4	5									
Neck/Shoulder	1	2	3	4	5									
Chest/Rib	1	2	3	4	5									
Front Angulation	1	2	3	4	5									
Rear Angulation	1	2	3	4	5									
Feet/Pasterns	1	2	3	4	5									
Croup	1	2	3	4	5									
Tail	1	2	3	4	5									
<b>Score:</b>														
<b>Coat</b>						<b>Possible: 10</b>								
Texture/Length	1	2	3	4	5									
Pigment/Mask (Ears)	1	2	3	4	5									
<b>Score:</b>														
<b>Movement</b>						<b>Possible: 40</b>								
Going	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10				
Coming	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10				
Side gait	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10				
Soundness	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10				
<b>Score:</b>														
<b>Temperament</b>						<b>Possible: 30</b>								
2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26	28	30
<b>Score:</b>														
<b>Total Score:</b>														