Mastiff Club of America

Member Handbook and Procedures Manual

Updated October 2014
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The MCOA Handbook has been compiled with information, criteria and forms for your use in hopes of answering questions on the various opportunities that are available to every MCOA member and associate member. We sincerely hope that you take the time to read it and find its contents useful.

Please visit www.mastiff.org for current officers, chairpersons and directors.

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What the Lion is to the Cat,
the Mastiff is to the Dog,
the noblest of the family;
he stands alone,
and all others sink before him.

Cynographia Britannica 1800
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AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

CONFORMATION - COLLAR AWARDS

The following is the conformation criteria for Collar Awards, which are presented at the annual MCOA National Specialty Awards Banquet. The Awards are presented the year after the awards are actually won (example awards won in 2012 will be presented at the 2013 Awards Banquet).

MCOA members who co-own Mastiffs with non-members will be eligible to compete in Futurity and Maturity Classes at our National Specialties and may receive an MCOA Award.

- In order for a Mastiff to be honored with an MCOA Award, it must have at least one owner who has been an Active MCOA member for a minimum of 9 months during the year in which the award was earned, and one owner who is a current MCOA member. Additionally, owner(s) must have abided by the MCOA Code of Ethics regardless of whether said Mastiff lives with (or is under the control of) the non-member or the MCOA Member.
- One award will be awarded to the MCOA member to recognize the Mastiff for its accomplishments. The award will list only the MCOA members' names; duplicate awards may be purchased at the owners' expense to include shipping and handling, but only by MCOA members.
- This is to include but not limited to, MCOA Collar Awards, Hall of Fame, Longevity Certificates, Health Awards and MCOA Obedience Awards.
- This motion supersedes all previous criteria for awards.

**Top Group Placing and Best In Show Dog**
Presented to the male Mastiff who earns the most Group and/or Best In Show points for males defeated in the previous calendar year.

**Top Group Placing and Best In Show Bitch**
Presented to the female Mastiff who earns the most Group and/or Best In Show points for females defeated in the previous calendar year.

**Top Best of Breed Dog**
Presented to the male Mastiff that earns the most Best of Breed points for males defeated in the previous calendar year.

**Top Best of Breed Bitch**
Presented to the female Mastiff that earns the most Best of Breed points for females defeated in the previous calendar year.

**Top Best of Opposite Sex Dog**
Presented to the male Mastiff that earns the most Best of Opposite Sex points for male Mastiffs defeated in the previous calendar year.
**Top Best of Opposite Sex Bitch**  
Presented to the female Mastiff that earns the most Best of Opposite Sex points for female Mastiffs defeated in the *previous* calendar year.

**Top Producing Stud Dog**  
Presented to the stud dog that provides the most champion get in the previous *calendar* year.

**Top Producing Brood Bitch**  
Presented to the brood bitch that produces the most champion get in the previous *calendar* year.

For further information contact:

Laura Hagey  
Collar Awards Chairperson  
P.O. Box 572, Springfield, OR 97477  
Phone: (541) 954.6506  
Email: foxglove@epud.net
OBEDIENCE COLLAR AWARDS

CRITERIA

MCOA offers the following awards for Obedience based on the calendar year:

Highest Average Scoring Dog or Bitch in Novice A

Highest Average Scoring Dog or Bitch in Novice B

Highest Average Scoring Dog or Bitch in Open/Utility A

Highest Average Scoring Dog or Bitch in Open /Utility B

The above year end awards are given to the top MCOA member dogs/ bitches who have had at least three (3) qualifying scores in Novice or Open and/or Utility during the calendar year. If more than three (3) scores are attained during the year, the three (3) highest scores are calculated in the average. Only AKC scores are used in determining the average.

The highest average scoring dog and bitch in each category will have their names engraved on the club’s permanent trophy and will receive an additional engraved trophy at the yearly National banquet. For further information on the Obedience Collar Awards, please contact either of the following:

Becky Campbell
Obedience Collar Award Chairpersons
4937 Thornhill Lane
Dublin, OH 43017
Phone: 614.561.1500
Email: bjccle@aol.com
MEDALLIONS AND CERTIFICATES

The following guidelines are used in selecting recipient of MCOA Medallions and Certificates:

1. The Mastiff must earn an AKC recognized title on or after 01/01/1995.

2. The Mastiff must be owned or co-owned by a MCOA member or Associate member who is in good standing at the time the title is earned.

3. If an eligible Mastiff is co-owned by a member not in good standing, a co-owning member in good standing may still receive the award.

4. If an eligible Mastiff has multiple Member co-owners, the Award will be presented to the first name listed in the AKC Show Awards in which the title was published.

5. Co-owners may purchase additional medallions and certificates by writing to the Trophy/Awards chairperson at prevailing costs plus shipping and handling.

For further information contact:

Karen Parks
Medallions and Certificates Chairperson
559 W. 425 South
Layton, UT 84041
Phone: 801-546-5271
Email: manoahmastiffs@gmail.com
JOHN BRILL MEMORIAL TROPHY

The John Brill Memorial Trophy is presented each year by the MCOA President to the member or members who have shown outstanding dedication to our Breed and through their time and energy have helped the Mastiff Club of America realize its stated goals.

This honor was first given in 1976 and was conceived and made possible by John and Patty Brill. The MCOA President will review all nominees and select the winner of this award.

A “Greystone Wall Plaque” is presented to the recipient(s) at the National Specialty Banquet and their name(s) are engraved on the permanent John Brill Trophy.

MCOA MEMBER’S SERVICE AWARDS

Service Awards are Annual Awards presented to MCOA members who have been nominated by one (1) or more of their fellow member(s) for their efforts on behalf of the Mastiff and/or MCOA.

How to Nominate: Send a brief statement covering the nominee's contributions to the breed and/or club.

The "deadline date for submission" will be set by the Service Awards Chairman. This date will be published in the January bulletin and on the MCOA yahoo group.

These Service Awards will be presented at the MCOA National Specialty or mailed to the recipient by the Service Awards Chairman if the nominee is not in attendance at the MCOA National Specialty Banquet.

Send your nominee's statement to:

Chuck Cuthbert
Service Awards Chairperson
6360 Conley Road
Concord OH 44077
Phone: 440-639-0316
Email: rydalmtmastiffs@aol.com
**HALL OF FAME AWARDS**

In order for your dog to qualify for the Hall of Fame (HOF) award, the following criteria must be met:

**Dogs:**
Sire of ten (10) AKC Champion offspring.

**Bitches:**
Dam of five (5) AKC Champion offspring.

If you have an eligible Mastiff, submit the following form with the required information listed below to the MCOA Statistician (Conformation) Chairperson:

- Registered name of Mastiff to receive the HOF award
- AKC number of Mastiff to receive the HOF award
- Owner’s Name and address
- Registered name and AKC number of each titled offspring, title and date AKC championship was completed.

Please send the information on your special Mastiff to the MCOA Conformation Statistician as soon as you believe your Mastiff qualifies for this honorable HOF award. Do not assume that the MCOA Conformation Statistician has all of the information needed to qualify your dog for the HOF award, we do not want to miss honoring your dog. It is important to submit as much information as you can, but if you don't have all the requested information, please submit what you have. The MCOA Statistician will contact you for clarification or if additional information is needed.

In order to have the correct roster compiled and certificates ready for the upcoming MCOA National Specialty, please send your information to the MCOA Statistician (Conformation) **NO LATER THAN January 31** of the national Specialty year.

Send Hall of Fame Information to:

**Bonnie Blink**  
MCOA Conformation Statistician  
31445 Lazy Ridge Drive  
Waller, TX 77484  
Phone: 832-277-8700  
Email: bonnieblink@sbcglobal.net
**HALL OF FAME AWARD FORM**

Registered Name of Recipient: __________________________________________

AKC Number: _______________  Dog _____  Bitch _____

**Owners Names:** (Notate if MCOA Member, Associate Member or Non-Member)

____________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

Mailing Address of Primary Owners:
Street: ________________________________________________________________
State: ________________  Zip Code: ____________________

Phone: ______________________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Enter Registered Names below:</th>
<th>AKC Number</th>
<th>Date of Championship</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
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<td>11.</td>
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<td>12.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Send Hall of Fame Information to:
Bonnie Blink
MCOA Conformation Statistician
31445 Lazy Ridge Drive
Waller, TX 77484
Phone: 832-277-8700
Email: bonnieblink@sbcglobal.net
**OBEDIENCE HALL OF FAME NOMINATION FORM - INDIVIDUAL DOG**

Name of Dog: __________________________________________________________

Owner(s): ____________________________________________________________

Points must total 100 to be eligible. Dogs must be MCOA member owned. (Check all that apply)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Point Value</th>
<th>Number of Dogs</th>
<th>Names</th>
<th>Total Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CD</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>_______________</td>
<td>_______</td>
<td>____________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDX</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>_______________</td>
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<td>UD</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>_______________</td>
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<tr>
<td>UDX</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>_______________</td>
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<td>U-C'D</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>_______________</td>
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<tr>
<td>U-C'DX</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>_______________</td>
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<td>____________</td>
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<td>U-U'D</td>
<td>30</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HIT</th>
<th>Point Value</th>
<th>Number of Wins</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Total Points</th>
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<tr>
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<td>20</td>
<td>_______________</td>
<td>_______</td>
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<tr>
<td>Specialty</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>_______________</td>
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**Regular AKC Class Scores**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Point Value</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th># Scores</th>
<th>Total Points</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>190-195</td>
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<tr>
<td>195+</td>
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Please attach documentation: AKC individual dog record (available from AKC - lists all scores, placements, HIT) and copies of AKC/UKC Title Certificates.

Send completed form to:
Misty Ermeling
Working Dog Committee
276 Huntsdale Drive
Wentzville, MO 63385
Phone: 636.699.2076 Email: misty.ermeling@gmail.com

Recognition will be given each year at the MCOA National Specialty Awards Banquet.
OBEDIENCE HALL OF FAME NOMINATION FORM - MEMBER

Name of Member: _____________________________________________________________

Year of MCOA Membership: ________________________________

Points must total 100 to be eligible. Nominee must be an MCOA Member or Associate.
(Check all that apply)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Point Value</th>
<th>Number of Dogs</th>
<th>Names</th>
<th>Total Points</th>
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<tr>
<td>CD</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td>_______</td>
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<th>Dates</th>
<th>Total Points</th>
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<tr>
<td>Specialty</td>
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Regular AKC Class Scores (Point Value: Dates # Scores Total Points)

<table>
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<th>Class Scores</th>
<th>Point Value</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th># Scores</th>
<th>Total Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>190-195</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>_________</td>
<td>____________</td>
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<tr>
<td>195+</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>_________</td>
<td>____________</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Please attach documentation:
- Date of scores and show name where scores were attained
- Date and name of shows where HIT were won and
- copies of AKC/UKC Title Certificates

Send completed form to:
Misty Ermeling
Working Dog Committee
276 Huntsdale Drive
Wentzville, MO 63385
Phone: 636.699.2076 Email: misty.ermeling@gmail.com

Recognition will be given each year at the MCOA National Specialty Awards Banquet.
WORKING DOG TITLES

This program was developed to encourage members to show the world that the Mastiff is still truly a working breed. The idea behind the titles is to demonstrate the attributes of the breed, which make it a truly noble working beast. Trainability, tractability, and obedience are important characteristics of a working animal, as are good, sound, and appropriate temperaments. Most certainly, the dog should look like a Mastiff; it should have correct conformation. And, within the breed, there should be evidence of versatility – tracking, drafting/carting, search and rescue, agility, therapy work, and canine ambassadorship are all examples of activities befitting a noble breed.

With these basic tenets in mind, the MCOA Working Dog Committee set out to develop the criteria for establishing the Working Dog (WD), Working Dog Excellent (WDX), and Working Dog Supreme (WDS) titles. The process of developing and refining the title is dynamic as the Committee continues to search for new and better ways to showcase our breed.

Activities have been classified into four categories, and dogs must earn a certain number of points from a certain number of categories to qualify for a title.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Points Required</th>
<th>Number of Categories</th>
<th>Points per Category</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WD</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>100 max</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WDX</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>100 max</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WDS</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>150 max</td>
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**CATEGORY 1 – OBEDIENCE**

This category includes obedience and versatility titles. A Novice Obedience (CD) title is required to qualify for a WD title. Points are cumulative for advanced titles (i.e. a Utility dog would receive points for the Novice, Open, and Utility titles). Titles may be from any registry (i.e. AKC, CKC, UKC), but only one registry’s title may be counted for the WD title. Additional registry titles may be counted towards WDX and WDS.

**CATEGORY 2 – TEMPERAMENT**

This category includes the Canine Good Citizen (CGC) program, therapy work, and temperament testing (TT). For the WD title, points for either the CGC or TT may be used, but not both. Points for both CGC and TT may be counted for WDX and WDS. For therapy work, the dog must be a registered Therapy Dog and must have documented a minimum of ten witnessed visitations to a nursing home, hospital, home shut-in, etc.
**CATEGORY 3 – PERFORMANCE**
This category includes tracking, agility, and drafting/carting activities. As with obedience titles, points for advanced titles in the performance category are cumulative (i.e. an Open Draft dog would receive points for both the Novice Draft and Open Draft titles). Agility points include all titles earned while jumping at Preferred jump heights. Titles may be from any registry (i.e. AKC, CKC, UKC), but only one registry’s title may be counted for the WD title. Additional registry titles may be counted towards WDX and WDS.

**CATEGORY 4 – SPECIAL AREAS**
This is the most diverse category with a number of activities that can earn your Working Dog points, including conformation titles, rally obedience, freestyle obedience, and Canine Ambassadorship. Ten outings must be documented for Canine Ambassador points. These outings can include public outreach activities such as parades, school programs, library demonstrations, pet week programs, breed fairs, Meet the Breed, etc. Additional activities may be eligible for points in this category, pending approval by the Working Dog Committee when documentation is submitted.

**APPLICATION AND DOCUMENTATION**
To earn your Working Dog a title, mail a completed copy of the Working Dog Application Form and all of the supporting documentation to the MCOA Mail this form with application to:

Send completed form to:
Misty Ermeling
**Working Dog Committee**
276 Huntsdale Drive
Wentzville, MO 63385

Phone: 636.699.2076   Email: misty.ermeling@gmail.com
This form was revised September 8, 2010

Photocopies or scans of title certificates may serve as documentation. To document Therapy visits or Canine Ambassador outings, a Verification Form should be submitted. Documentation for all points being used for a title must be included with an application (i.e. certificates previously submitted for a WD title must also be submitted when applying for WDX title if points are being counted towards the WDX title).

We will acknowledge receipt of your application and notify you of any missing items.

**Note:** This is **NOT** an AKC title – it has been developed by the MCOA to award versatile dogs of the Mastiff breed.
WORKING DOG POINTS OF CONTACT

If there are any questions at all concerning this title, please feel free to contact the MCOA Working Dog Committee Chairperson or any of the other committee members:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>- Chairperson</th>
<th><a href="mailto:DanieBrown@aol.com">DanieBrown@aol.com</a></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer Lambden</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sunnydalemastiffs@yahoo.com">sunnydalemastiffs@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Becky Campbell</td>
<td><a href="mailto:BJCCLE@aol.com">BJCCLE@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judith Gendron</td>
<td><a href="mailto:RandJGendron@att.net">RandJGendron@att.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jana Inwood</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jlimastiff@yahoo.com">jlimastiff@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kirsten Ludwig</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nittany@redwing.net">nittany@redwing.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kay Routten</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Kayroutten@aol.com">Kayroutten@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misty Ermeling</td>
<td><a href="mailto:misty.ermeling@gmail.com">misty.ermeling@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
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</table>
MASTIFF CLUB OF AMERICA – WORKING DOG TITLES - APPLICATION FORM

☐ WORKING DOG  ☐ WORKING DOG EXCELLENT  ☐ WORKING DOG SUPREME

Dog’s registered name and titles that are to appear on certificate:

AKC/CKC #: ____________________________  Date of Birth: ____________________________

Owner(s) Name: ___________________________________________________________________

Address: _________________________________________________________________________

City: ________________________________  State:    ____  Zip: _______  Phone: ____________

Email Address: _____________________________________________________________  
Date of MCOA membership: ____________________________________________________

Check those activities in which your dog qualifies for a Working Dog, Working Dog Excellent, or Working Dog Supreme Certificate and enter the appropriate number of points. Attach copies of supporting documentation to this form.

All dogs applying for Working Dog certificates MUST have a Companion Dog Title. Working Dog - 100 points, 3 categories; Working Dog Excellent - 200 points, 3 categories, no more than 100 points may be earned from any 1 category*; Working Dog Supreme - 300 points, 4 categories, no more than 150 points may be earned from any 1 category*.

Category 1. Obedience:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>AKC Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beginner Novice (25 points AKC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Companion Dog (35 points first title, 20 points additional titles)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Graduate Novice (40 points AKC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Companion Dog Excellent (50 points first title, 30 points additional titles)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Graduate Open (55 points AKC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Utility Dog (75 points)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Utility Dog Excellent (85 points)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Versatility (75 points)</td>
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CATEGORY 1 POINTS (maximum 100 points for WD, WDX; 150 points WDS)
### Category 2. Temperament:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Canine Good Citizen</strong> (15 points) *for WD title dog may only qualify with TT or CGC. May not use both.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Temperament Test</strong> (30 points)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Therapy Dog</strong> (25 points - with 10 documented visits)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CATEGORY 2 POINTS (maximum 100 points for WD, WDX; 150 points WDS)**

### Category 3. Performance:

| **Tracking Dog** (50 points) |
| **Tracking Dog Excellent** (65 points) |
| **Agility**: Novice Standard (35 points first AKC title, 20 points second AKC/other registry title) |
| **Agility**: Novice Jumpers (35 points first AKC title, 20 points second AKC/other registry title) |
| **Agility**: Open Standard (50 points first AKC title, 30 points second AKC/other registry title) |
| **Agility**: Open Jumpers (50 points first AKC title, 30 points second AKC/other registry title) |
| **Agility**: Excellent Standard (75 points first AKC title, 50 points second AKC/other registry title) |
| **Agility**: Excellent Jumpers (75 points first AKC title, 50 points second AKC/other registry title) |
| **Agility**: Fast Classes (Novice 20 points, Open 30 points, Excellent 40 points) |
| **Carting - Novice Draft** (45 points first title, 25 points additional titles) |
| **Carting - Open Draft** (60 points first title, 25 points additional titles) |
| **Carting - Brace Draft** (25 points first title, 10 points additional titles) |

**CATEGORY 3 POINTS (maximum 100 points for WD, WDX; 150 points WDS)**

* Agility points include all titles earned while jumping at Preferred jump heights.

### Category 4. Special Areas:

| **Canine Ambassador** (25 points - with 10 documented outings) |
| **Conformation Championship** (25 points AKC, 15 points CKC or other CH) |
| **Freestyle Obedience** (25 points) |
| **Rally Novice Obedience** (20 points AKC, 15 points other registry) |
| **Rally Advanced Obedience** (25 points AKC, 20 points other registry) |
| **Rally Excellent** (30 points AKC, 25 points other registry) |
| **Rally Advanced Excellent Title – RAE** (5 points for each RAE) |
| **Other** (25 points - member must submit documentation for approval by the WD committee) |

**CATEGORY 4 POINTS (maximum 100 points for WD, WDX; 150 points WDS)**

**TOTAL POINTS EARNED**

---

* Mail this form with supporting documentation to:
  Send completed form to:
  Misty Ermeling
  **Working Dog Committee**
  276 Huntsdale Drive
  Wentzville, MO 63385
  **Phone:** 636.699.2076 **Email:** misty.ermeling@gmail.com
MASTIFF CLUB OF AMERICA – WORKING DOG APPLICATION

VERIFICATION FORM

☐ Therapy Dog  ☐ Canine Ambassador

Dog’s registered name and titles that are to appear on certificate:

AKC/CKC #: ____________________________ Date of Birth: ____________________________

Owner(s) Name: __________________________________________________________________

Address: ______________________________________________________________________

City: ____________________________ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____________

Email Address: __________________________________________ Date of MCOA membership:

____________________________________________________________________________

FOR THERAPY DOGS ONLY:

Date of Dog’s TDI Acceptance: _____________ TDI Membership #: _________________

Activity Log:

NOTE: In the Description field, for Therapy Work, include name, address, and phone number of institution and number of patients visited. For Canine Ambassador, include description of event and dog’s activities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity 1</th>
<th>Date:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Description:</td>
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<td>Description</td>
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**Contact Person:**

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Mail this form with application to:
Send completed form to:
Misty Ermeling
**Working Dog Committee**
276 Huntsdale Drive
Wentzville, MO 63385
**Phone:** 636.699.2076  **Email:** misty.ermeling@gmail.com
This form was revised September 8, 2010
NATIONAL SPECIALTY SHOW TROPHIES

Best of Breed

The MCOA offers at its National Specialty Show, a silver cup for Best of Breed. This trophy was presented to the Mastiff Club of America by the Old English Mastiff Club in 1932 and is not offered outright, but will be presented in the ring to the person handling the dog. The name of the dog awarded BOB and the year will be engraved on the trophy as a permanent record. The trophy will remain in the possession of the MCOA Trophy Chairperson.

Best of Opposite Sex

The MCOA offers at its National Specialty Show a silver-plated Champagne Bucket. For permanent possession of this trophy it must be won three (3) times by the same owner, not necessarily with the same dog or at consecutive shows. The name of the dog awarded BOS and the year will be engraved on the trophy as a permanent record. The trophy will remain in the possession of the MCOA Trophy Chairperson.

Winners Bitch - Winners Dog

The MCOA offers at its National Specialty Show a silver cup for the Winners Bitch and Winners Dog with the year engraved on the trophy as a permanent record. This trophy will remain in the possession of the MCOA Trophy Chairperson.

Best Bred-By Exhibitor – removed. Per chuck

Bred By Exhibitor - First Place - Dog and Bitch

The MCOA offers at its National Specialty Show the Marie A Moore Memorial Trophy, a bronze head study in a wooden box. The winners of these classes will retain possession of these trophies.

Best Veteran

The MCOA offers at its National Specialty Show the Jay Winston Memorial Trophy donated by Mrs. Ruth Winston, retired and rededicated by Southport Mastiffs. For permanent possession of this trophy it must be won three (3) times by the same owner, not necessarily with the same dog or at consecutive shows.
Best In Stud Dog Class

The MCOA offers at its National Specialty Show a walnut-based plaque in loving memory of Ch. Stonebrook Southports Byron donated by Carla and Joe Sanchez. For permanent possession of this trophy it must be won three (3) times by the same owner, not necessarily with the same dog or at consecutive shows. This trophy will remain in the possession of the MCOA Trophy Chairperson.

Best In Brood Bitch Class

The MCOA offers at its National Specialty Show a Challenge Trophy in honor of Joan Chambart. Each year's winner will receive a small trophy that must be won three (3) times by the same owner, not necessarily with the same bitch or at consecutive shows. This trophy will remain in the possession of the MCOA Trophy Chairperson.

Obedience High In Trial

The MCOA offers at its National Specialty Show its National Specialty Obedience Trial a heart-shaped plaque donated by Mary Louise Owens in loving memory of Ch. Acorn Hills Hoof Lake Echo, CDX. The winner of this award will also have the name of their dog and year engraved on a permanent plaque that does remain in the possession of the MCOA Trophy Chairperson.

Best In Futurity

The MCOA offers at its National Specialty Show a six-inch brass medallion mounted on a walnut base. This trophy was donated by Gladys Tangen in memory of Ch. Gulph Mills Flintlock T. For permanent possession of this trophy it must be won three (3) times by the same owner and not necessarily at consecutive shows. Until retired, this trophy will remain in the possession of the MCOA Trophy Chairperson.
HALL OF FAME BOARDS - TROPHIES

Two (2) 24” X 36” walnut boards each containing 120 plates for the names of the Hall of Fame inductees. One board donated by Dee and Mike Gensburger in honor of Ch. Gulph Mills Mulcher and Ch. Gulph Mills Dawn. The second board donated by John and Paula Lange and Charles and Gloria Cuthbert in honor of Ch. Sillar’s High Country Ruffian and Ch. Greiner Hall Jedadiah.

************************

All of the awards are to be displayed during the days of the National Specialty Show. The first 12 trophies are to be displayed at ringside at the appropriate times.

************************

Note: You can view these awards on the internet at:
http://www.mastiff.org/NATIONALSPECIALTYTROPHIES.htm
HEALTH AWARDS

HEALTH AWARD CERTIFICATES

MCOA Health Awards are designed to recognize Mastiffs that have passed recommended health screening tests and to acknowledge the owners for health testing their dogs.

Certificates to be reflective of the level achieved, bordered in bronze, silver, or gold, with a matching embossed seal. A small seal bearing the current year will be attached to the original certificate and sent to each recipient of the Award when the CERF certification is verified.

The certificate is valid only for the time period that the CERF certificate is in effect and will expire on the CERF expiration date. Owners must send in a current CERF certificate to renew the Health Award in order to keep it current and will receive a new seal bearing the current expiration date.

The level of achievement awarded will be based on the test results submitted with the Application. All information will be verified before a certificate is awarded.

The owner sending in the data will receive the Health Award Certificate and the breeder will receive a copy. It is up to the owner to send copies to other co-owners or to supply all co-owners’ names and addresses if the copies are to be sent by the committee.

A new Award will be issued to the owner when additional test results are received such that the Mastiff is eligible to move up to the next level of achievement, until they achieve the Gold Permanent Level Award. Additional original duplicates of a certificate may be purchased by the owner for $5.00 each.

HEALTH AWARD REQUIREMENTS

The MCOA will present a Health Award Certificate to the owner of a Mastiff who has passed health testing to include OFA, OVC, or GDC hips, OFA, OVC or GDC elbows, and CERF certified eyes. The Awards will be in three levels, Bronze, Silver, and Gold, with Bronze being the minimum and Gold being the maximum award achieved at this time.

In order for a Mastiff to be honored with an MCOA Award, they must have at least one owner that has been an Active MCOA member for a minimum of 9 months during the year in which the award was earned, and currently a MCOA member to receive the award. As long as the Mastiff, who has qualified for said award, has abided by the MCOA Code of Ethics regardless of whether said Mastiff lives with (or is under the control of) the non-member or the MCOA Member.
Bronze Level - Passing OFA, OVC, or GDC hips, OFA, OVC, or GDC elbows, and CERF certified.

Silver Level - Passing OFA, OVC, or GDC hips, OFA, OVC, or GDC elbows, CERF certified, OFA Heart and passing MSU or other lab's equivalent full thyroid panel and/or OFA Thyroid Certification.

Gold Level - Passing OFA, OVC, or GDC hips, OFA, OVC, or GDC elbows, CERF certified, OFA Heart and passing MSU or other lab's equivalent full thyroid panel and/or OFA Thyroid Certification, OFA Patella, vWF normal, UPenn Cystinuria normal.

Permanent Level –
CERF at 6 years of age or older on Bronze
CERF and Thyroid at 6 years of age or older on Silver and Gold

**ADDITIONAL HEALTH AWARD REQUIREMENT DETAILS**

1. OFA, OVC, GDC hips and elbows to be based on x-rays taken at or after, twenty-four (24) months of age.
2. OFA Heart and Patellas to be at twelve (12) months of age or older.
3. CERF certification and thyroid exam to be within one year of submitting all testing data, and must be performed at or after twenty-four (24) months of age.
4. UPenn Cystinuria test and vWD test to be performed at any age and only once is required.
5. CERF certification must be sent to the Awards Committee annually to keep the Award current.
6. Grandfather: We accept CERF certificates and OFA or passing full MSU Premium Canine Thyroid panels prior to 1999 if the Mastiff was six (6) years old or older at the time that the CERF eye exam or passing Thyroid panel was performed in order to issue Health Awards posthumously.

To apply for an MCOA Health Award, fill out the Health Award Application Form. Submit the form, copies (not originals) of all test results and certificates, AKC registration, and the breeder’s name and address. Microchip number or tattoo, and DNA numbers are optional and will be included on the Award if submitted.
HEALTH AWARD APPLICATION

Type or Print the following information and include copies of documentation:

Name including titles:

Sire: __________________________________________

Dam: __________________________________________

Microchip/tattoo #: ___________________________  AKC DNA #: ___________________________

Birth Date: _____/_____/_____(month/day/year)  AKC #: ___________________________

Health Certificate information:

OFA Hips: MF-______________________________  OVC Hips: ___________________________

OFA Elbow: MF-EL___________________________  CERF: MF-__________________________

OFA Heart: MF-CA___________________________  OFA Thyroid: MF-____________________

OFA Patella: MF-PA___________________________  Cystinuria: UPenn ________________

vWD Factor: _______________%  OFA Shoulder: MF-__________________________

PRA DNA (OptiGen #): _________________  CMR DNA (OptiGen #): _________________

Degenerative Myelopathy DNA: ___________  CHIC DNA Repository: MF-DNA ________

Other: ____________________________________  Other: _____________________________

Owner: ____________________________________  Breeder: ____________________________

Co-Owner: ________________________________  Co-Breeder: __________________________

Address: __________________________________

City: _____________________________________

State: _______  Zip: _____________  State: _______  Zip: _____________

Phone: _____-_______-_____________  Phone: _____-_______-_____________

E-mail: __________________________________

Attach copies (not originals) of all test results, certificates and AKC registration.

Send the completed application and copies of documentation to:

Anna May
Health Committee Chairperson
24257 Douglas Ave
Murrieta, CA 92562

Phone: (951) 704.6022  E-Mail: mastiff@iinet.com

THANK YOU FOR HEALTH TESTING YOUR MASTIFFS!
MASTIFF HEALTH INFORMATION SHEET

In keeping with the spirit of the MCOA Code of Ethics, Mastiff breeders are encouraged to inform puppy buyers of developmental conditions that may or may not be hereditary or genetic, that are known to exist in Mastiffs, as well as methods to test and/or monitor some of these conditions.

It is hoped this Health Information Sheet will guide buyers to ask pertinent questions, encourage their review of testing certifications and enable them to make educated decisions before purchasing a Mastiff.

Preferably buyers should be asked to read this before committing to a purchase and be encouraged to ask questions. It is important that the buyer understand the potential for these conditions or problems to develop in any Mastiff, regardless of the line, pedigree, breeder, or testing of ancestors and thus the need for testing and reporting the results of those tests to the breeder and participating in ongoing research efforts. Please keep in mind that all purebred and mixed breed dogs can have health concerns including show dogs, working dogs, family pets, and service companion animals.

EYE PROBLEMS IN THE BREED

**Canine Multi-focal Retinopathy (CMR), also known as Retinal Dysplasia/Retinopathy** - Abnormal development of the retina present at birth and recognized to have three forms: folds, geographic, and detachment. A Mastiff with folds will currently pass CERF and the folds may disappear over time while the geographic and detached forms may cause loss of vision or blindness. There is a DNA test available through [OptiGen](http://www.optigen.com) for CMR in Mastiffs.

**Cataract** - Lens opacity that may affect one or both eyes and some forms may cause blindness.

**Distichiasis** - Eyelashes abnormally located in the eyelid margin which may cause ocular irritation.

**Ectropion** - Conformational eyelid defect, which may cause ocular irritation due to exposure.

**Entropion** - Conformational defect where eyelid margins invert or roll inward, toward the eye causing eyelashes and hair to rub against the cornea which may result in ocular irritation and in severe cases may cause pain and loss of vision.

**Macrobelepharon** - Abnormally large eyelid opening; may lead to secondary conditions associated with corneal exposure.

**Persistent Pupillary Membranes (PPM)** - Persistent blood vessel remnants in the anterior chamber of the eye which fail to regress normally in the neonatal period.

**Progressive Retinal Atrophy (PRA)** - Degenerative disease of the retinal visual cells which leads to blindness. In Mastiffs the age at which PRA can be detected varies from as young as 6 months to as late as 42 months. Typically Mastiffs with PRA go blind gradually, first losing their night vision and then their day vision. Many do not go completely blind until they are 8 years old or older. There is a DNA test available through OptiGen [www.optigen.com](http://www.optigen.com) for PRA in Mastiffs.
ORTHOPEDIC, NEUROLOGICAL, STRUCTURAL, AND JOINT PROBLEMS 
IN THE BREED

**Anterior Cruciate Ligament (ACL) Rupture** - The knee along with the external support (i.e., collateral leg) has two ligaments inside the joint that help prevent forward movement (i.e., cruciate). Insult/injury can cause this ligament to rupture and result in acute lameness (not want to bear weight) on the limb. ACL tear can normally be diagnosed with a simple patella exam.

**Degenerative Myelopathy (DM)** – This is a progressive, degenerative, late onset disease of the spinal cord seen in older dogs. The symptoms usually begin with hind end weakness, lack of coordination and shuffling or dragging of the rear feet. There is a DNA test for DM through the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA) [www.offa.org](http://www.offa.org)

**Elbow Dysplasia** - Elbow dysplasia encompasses several different conditions, all of which are indicative of abnormally formed or fused elbow joints and all can cause lameness and pain:
- **Fragmented Coronoid Process (FCP)** - This form of elbow dysplasia is generally the most difficult to treat if the fragments are actually loose in the joint.
- **Osteochondritis Dissecaens (OCD)** - A defect in the joint cartilage overlaying or attaching to the bone. OCD most commonly occurs in the elbows, shoulders, hocks and stifles.
- **Ununited Anconeal Process (UAP)** - In giant breeds such as Mastiff's the Anconeal Process can close later than in smaller breeds, often as late as one year of age or older.

**Hip Dysplasia** - Hip dysplasia is a painful condition caused by abnormally formed hips. The animal may become lame in the hind quarters due to the pain associated with the degeneration of the hips.

**Hypertrophic Osteodystrophy (HOD)** - A developmental disorder that manifests with toes turning in or out, roached toplines, pinched rears, and in advanced stages fever, lethargy, pain in joints, inability to stand or function. This is a problem of intake in calories versus output of energy - too many calories consumed and/or unbalanced diet disrupted by supplementing.

**Panosteitis (Pano or Wandering Lameness)** – A developmental problem that affects the long bones during rapid growth periods typically between 6-16 months of age. The exact cause is unknown although genetics, diet, stress, infection, and metabolic or autoimmune problems have been suspected. Lameness can occur in one limb or over time in all limbs. It often is intermittent affecting one leg then another and back again… Panosteitis is self-limiting and spontaneously disappears.

**Spondylosis** – is a degenerative disease that causes excessive bone production of osteophytes along the spinal vertebrae which can cause lameness. In advanced cases the vertebrae can fuse together. In many cases there are no clinical symptoms, but the acute expression of the disease such as lameness, severe pain and disabilities are often seen in adults and older Mastiffs.
**Wobblers Syndrome** – Cervical Vertebral Instability (CVI) is caused by pressure and pinching of the cervical spinal cord and the nerves in the neck due to ligament problems and/or vertebrae malformation. The compression on the spinal cord in the neck may cause the Mastiff to stand and move abnormally. This is believed to be an inherited genetic disorder with environmental influence. Rapid growth and nutrition may influence the expression of the disease.

### OTHER MISCELLANEOUS PROBLEMS IN THE BREED

**Allergies** – Some Mastiffs have allergies to certain foods, pollens, etc. Allergies are due to autoimmune problems and since they often run in certain lines they are believed to be inherited.

**Cancer** - Most forms of cancer have been diagnosed in some members of the breed. Cancer can be hereditary while others occur spontaneously or even due to environmental toxins. Although there are several forms of cancer found in Mastiffs, the most common types are: Osteosarcoma (Bone Cancer), Lymphoma, Hemangiosarcoma, Mast Cell Tumors, Squamous Cell Tumors, & Breast Cancer. Today there are advanced medical treatment options such as radiation, chemotherapy and medications to reduce the size of the tumors and offer pain management to help maintain a good quality of life.

**Cystinuria** - An inherited metabolic disease caused by a defective kidney transporter for cystine and some other amino acids. Because cystine readily precipitates in acid urine, crystals and later calculi (stones) can form in the kidney and bladder. Cystinuria in Mastiffs primarily affects males and can result in serious illness and may be life threatening.

**Epilepsy** – A seizure disorder which can have multiple causes. The age of onset of the inherited form is normally around 6 months to 5 years of age. Epilepsy is often difficult to treat successfully in Mastiffs and other large breeds.

**Gastric Dilation, Torsion, Volvulus (Bloat)** - Bloat is a hideous killer of giant breed animals, and Mastiffs are no exception. Without warning, the stomach fills with air (dilation), can twist 180 degrees (torsion) on its long axis, or more than 180 degrees (volvulus) thereby cutting off blood and oxygen to vital organs. Bloat can be primary or secondary, caused by emotional or physical stress, improper nutrition or feeding habits, guzzling water, inappropriate exercise, as well as other causes that we do not understand. Every Mastiff owner needs to familiarize themselves with bloat symptoms and have a plan of action to get the animal to an emergency medical facility at the onset of the first symptom. A dog that is bloating often has approximately 3 hours to live without medical intervention.

**Heart Disease** - The most common heart problems in Mastiffs are Aortic Stenosis, Mitral Valve Dysplasia and Cardiomyopathy. Early detection and treatment are essential for a good prognosis. Some mastiffs have heart murmurs that are mild and not a cause for concern. If a heart murmur is detected it is essential to have it checked to see if it is an "innocent" murmur or a serious problem.
**Hypothyroidism** - Hypothyroidism is the result of an abnormally functioning thyroid gland resulting in a lower than normal level of thyroid hormone. This lack of thyroid hormone can have serious health consequences including coat and skin problems, intolerance to cold, weight gain or loss, infertility, sudden aggression, and immune system malfunctions. The inherited form is Autoimmune Thyroiditis where the body's own immune system attacks and destroys the thyroid gland or reduces its function. Autoimmune Thyroiditis is diagnosed by measuring the FT4D, cTSH & TgAA. Acquired Hypothyroidism can be caused by various problems such as stress for long periods of time, poor nutrition, prolonged infections, and chemical agents.

**Reproductive Issues** – There are several reproductive problems that can affect Mastiffs and it is encouraged that you research this area if you plan to breed. Some of the most common are Pyometria (uterine infection), Cryptorchidism (undescended testicles), failure to conceive, and Vaginal Hyperplasia.

**von Willebrand's Disease (vWD)** - An abnormal bleeding disorder due to a lack of normal clotting. An animal's life can be threatened by bleeding due to an injury, or during spaying/neutering or any other condition resulting in bleeding. Although vWD is not considered a problem in Mastiffs, vWF screening can be performed before breeding to help prevent it from becoming a problem.
TESTING AND RESEARCH INFORMATION - ORGANIZATIONS, CONTACTS, AND REGISTRIES

Canine Health Information Center (CHIC) DNA Repository - Please donate DNA (blood or semen) to the CHIC DNA Repository to be used for genetic research and possible future DNA health tests as they become available. The CHIC DNA Repository is offered by the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA) and the AKC Canine Health Foundation. Phone: (800) 442-0418 E-mail: chic@offa.org Website: http://www.caninehealthinfo.org/

Cancer
Broad Institute of Harvard and MIT, Dog Genome Project
Fax: (617) 324-2722, E-mail: dog-info@broad.mit.edu Website: http://www.dogDNA.org

Modiano Lab, University of Minnesota
Phone: 612-626-6890 E-Mail: lab@modianolab.org Website: http://www.modianolab.org/studyInfo/studyInfo_index.shtml

Cardiac
Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA), Phone: (573) 442-0418 E-mail: ofa@offa.org

Cystinuria
University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine, Metabolic Lab & Medical Genetics
Dr. Giger – Cystinuria Nitroprusside Urine Testing, Metabolic Lab Phone: 215-898-3375 http://www.mastiff.org/images/Mastiff%20Cystinuria%20Urine%20Test%20Form%2012-4-09.pdf

Dr. Paula Henthorn – Cystinuria DNA Research, Section of Medical Genetics Phone: 245-898-8894 http://www.mastiff.org/images/2Cystinuria%20Research%20Consent%20Form%2010-2010.pdf

Please ship the urine and blood samples CHILLED with frozen cold packs in an insulated container through an overnight delivery service such as FedEx or UPS! Do NOT use the United States Postal Service when shipping samples to UPenn. Also notify the lab or researchers before shipping the sample and verify that you have the correct address. Then track the package through the carrier service and verify the receipt of the package and that it arrived in good condition!
Epilepsy DNA Research
Canine Genetic Analysis Project (CGAP), Anita Oberbaurer, PhD., Professor and Vice Chair
University of California, Davis Department of Animal Science, Phone: (530) 752-4997
E-mail: amoherbauer@ucdavis.edu  Website: http://cgap.ucdavis.edu/

Canine Epilepsy Network
Liz Hansen, Coordinator of Veterinary Information and Dr. Gary Johnson's Lab - Department of Veterinary Pathology
College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Missouri, Phone: (573) 884-3712  E-mail: hansenl@missouri.edu
Website: http://www.canine-epilepsy.net/

Eyes
Canine Eye Registration Foundation (CERF)
Phone: (217) 693-4800  E-mail: CERF@vmdb.org  Website: http://www.vmdb.org/cerf.html

OptiGen (DNA Tests):  Progressive Retinal Atrophy (PRA) & Canine Multi-focal Retinopathy (CMR)
Phone: (607) 257-0301  E-mail: genetest@optigen.com  Website: www.optigen.com
Online application submission form: http://www.optigen.com/opt11_form.taf

Hip and Elbow Dysplasia
Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA), Phone: (573) 442-0418  E-mail: ofa@offa.org

PennHIP - University of Pennsylvania's Hip Improvement Program
Website: http://cal.vet.upenn.edu/projects/pennhip/index.htm
Phone: (215) 573-3176  E-mail: pennhipinfo@pennhip.org

Hip Dysplasia and Osteoarthritis Research – Dr. Rory Todhunter, Cornell University
Identifying and verifying genetic markers of canine hip dysplasia.  Phone: (607) 253-3041,
E-Mail: rjt2@cornell.edu  Website:
http://www.vet.cornell.edu/Faculty/Todhunter/research.htm
Research Information:
https://www.vet.cornell.edu/research/awards/08September/Todhunter.htm

Patellas
Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA), Phone: (573) 442-0418  E-mail: ofa@offa.org
http://www.offa.org/pl_overview.html  OFA Patella Application:
Thyroid
Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA), Phone: (573) 442-0418  E-mail: ofa@offa.org
Recommended Lab for OFA Thyroid Testing – MSU Diagnostic Center for Population and Animal Health,
Michigan State University – Please request the **OFA Thyroid Registry Test**  Phone (517) 353-0621
OFA Thyroid Registry Information:  [http://www.offa.org/thy_info.html](http://www.offa.org/thy_info.html)

Important: The use of soloxine and other medications used to treat hypothyroidism makes the results of thyroid testing invalid. For a thyroid test to be valid the Mastiff being tested must **NOT** have had soloxine or other thyroid medications for **at least 3 months prior to testing**. Please ship the **SERUM** sample **CHILLED** with frozen cold packs in an insulated container via overnight delivery to the OFA approved Lab with the OFA Thyroid Registry Application Form! **Do NOT send the samples to OFA!**

**von Willebrand's Disease – von Willebrand Factor Assays (vWF)**
AHDC, Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine, Phone: 1-607-275-0622 Website:  
[http://diaglab.vet.cornell.edu/coag/](http://diaglab.vet.cornell.edu/coag/)
For Von Willebrand factor assay tests: please ship the **PLASMA** sample **CHILLED** with frozen cold packs in an insulated container via overnight delivery! Also verify the receipt of the package and that it arrived in good condition!
MASTIFF CLUB OF AMERICA – HEALTH INFORMATION CONTACTS:

**Health Committee Chairperson**
Anna May  
Phone: 951.704.6022  
Email: mastiff@iinet.com  
http://mastiff.org/MASTIFFHEALTH.htm

**Health Committee Members**
Jan McNamee  
Phone: 623.215.2575  
Email: mastiffs10@yahoo.com

Dr. William Newman  
Phone: 814-623-9377  
Email: dansdad616@gmail.com

**Health Sub- Committee Chairpersons**

**Cancer**  
Tricia Dalman  
Phone: 816.453.0700  
Email: Chamois06082000@yahoo.com  
http://mastiff.org/CANCER.htm

**Cystinuria**  
Anna May  
Phone: 951.704.6022  
Email: mastiff@iinet.com  
http://mastiff.org/CYSTINURIA.htm

**DNA**  
Mary De Lisa  
Phone: 720.529.1954  
Email: DivineMastiffs@gmail.com  
http://mastiff.org/DNA.htm

**Hip & Elbow Dysplasia**  
Anna May  
Phone: 951.704.6022  
Email: mastiff@iinet.com  
http://mastiff.org/HIPSANDELBOWS.htm

**Progressive Retinal Atrophy (PRA)**  
Carla Sanchez  
Phone: 951.696.4169  
Email: Carlachez@aol.com  
http://mastiff.org/PROGRESSIVERETINALATROPHY.htm

**Seizure Disorders - Epilepsy**  
Doreen Dysert  
Phone: 503.348.9347  
Email: ddysert@hughes.net  
http://mastiff.org/SEIZEDISORDERSINMASTIFFS.htm
DRAFT TEST REGULATIONS

INTRODUCTION
The MCOA Draft Test is a series of exercises designed to demonstrate the abilities of purebred mastiffs in a land work capacity. The performance of these skills is intended to demonstrate teamwork between dog and handler resulting from both natural ability, and training that is applicable to realistic work situations.

Dogs must be willing to work with their handlers, and the exercises must be accomplished efficiently. The goal of each handler is to maintain control while encouraging the dog’s natural independence. Each handler must also demonstrate a working knowledge of drafting and be familiar with training and equipment.

These rules are a set of standards by which dogs and handlers are judged at an MCOA Draft Test. These rules are not a training guide for draft work.

CHAPTER 1 - GENERAL RULES

APPLICATION FOR DRAFT TESTS

A Draft/Carting Test will be held each year in conjunction with the MCOA National Specialty. Timing of the test must be coordinated with the National Specialty Chairperson at least 8 months prior to the Specialty. A Carting Test may also be held at any MCOA supported entry show or any Regional Mastiff Club show. Carting Tests may also be held in conjunction with other breeds draft tests as long as MCOA rules are followed and the Judge is MCOA Approved. All tests must have prior written approval of the MCOA Working Dog Committee.

DRAFT TEST CHAIRMAN

The Draft Test Chairman will coordinate the actual test, and must enforce the regulations. The Draft Test Chairman will provide to the show secretary the following information:

- Date and location of test
- Judge’s name
- Entry limit
- If only one type of freight haul will be offered and which type
- A statement regarding entrant’s responsibility for obtaining a copy of these regulations.
- The name/address of Working Dog Committee Secretary from whom entrants can obtain a copy of the rules.
- An entry form that includes a signature and date line and a statement that reads: “I enter my dog in this draft test at my own risk. I agree to abide by the MCOA Draft Test Regulations. I have read and understand the draft test regulations.” Entry forms must also include the standard AKC required information.
The MCOA National appointed Secretary or Regional Club representative will acknowledge entries and inform of start time, and location. If entries exceed the entry limit, alternates must be notified of their place on the alternate list. A copy of the rules must be available at the show site and to the judge. A written report must be submitted to the Working Dog Chairperson by the Draft Test Chair that includes judge’s sheets, test description, exhibitor feedback, and problems.

**JUDGES**

The judge will be selected from the list provided by the Mastiff Working Dog Committee. Individuals that are approved to judge Draft tests in the following breeds may also judge MCOA Draft tests: Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs, Bernese Mountain Dogs, St. Bernard, Rottweiler, and Newfoundland. A judge will be selected based on locale. A copy of MCOA rules must be provided to the judge 60 days prior to the test. MCOA members may apply to the Working Dog Committee to become a Draft Dog Judge after placing at least one Draft Dog Title and one Obedience title on a dog.

**DOGS ELIGIBLE TO COMPETE**

MCOA Draft Tests are open to all purebred mastiffs at least 18 month of age. Dog refers to either sex. ALL entered dogs must have an AKC #, ILP#, or foreign registration number. Dogs must have useable vision and hearing to compete.

**DOGS THAT MAY NOT COMPETE**

No dog belonging to in part or in whole, or bred by the Draft Test Judge for this event or member of his/her family may compete. The Draft Test Chairperson may exhibit a dog in this event.

**HANDLER**

The dog must be handled by the same person for all exercises, with the exception of the long down and the freight haul. If a handler has more than one dog entered, an additional handler must be available for the group exercises (long down and freight haul).

**INELIGIBILITY**

The judge for the following reasons must immediately disqualify dogs:

A. The dog attacks a person or dog on the show grounds, or shows aggression towards the judge or handler.
B. The handler interferes with another handler or dog, or shows unsportsmanlike behavior in or outside the ring. (i.e. abusive language, mistreating dog, etc.)
C. The dog shows any sign of lameness.
D. The dog appears to be in undue distress.

The judge will mark the dog disqualified and state the reason on the judge’s report.
BITCHES IN SEASON

Bitches in season may not compete. A refund will be given upon receipt of a veterinarian letter stating date of season. Letters should be submitted to test chairperson prior to start of test.

JUDGES DECISIONS

At the draft test, the judges’ decision is final in all matters affecting scoring of the dogs, and any matters that might cause disqualification of the dog.

ENTRY LIMIT

Entries must be received prior to the closing date of the test. Test Chairperson may set the number of entries accepted. An announcement of test limits must be prominently displayed in the premium list. Priority will be given to dogs that have not yet earned a draft title. An Alternate list will be maintained with all entries received beyond the limit. If absentees occur prior to the start of the test, alternates will be allowed to compete based on their position on the list.

PASSING SCORE

For a dog to receive a qualifying score, the judge must mark the dog passed in each exercise. A dog receiving a qualifying score in the Novice division may use the initials DD: Draft Dog. A dog receiving a qualifying score in the OPEN division may use the initials DDX after its name, and any dogs receiving a qualifying score in the Brace division may use the DDB after their name in any MCOA activity. The DD and DDX certificate will also satisfy the Draft portion of the Working Dog titles.

STEWARDS

At least two stewards will be provided to assist the judge for each exercise.

SAFETY OFFICER:

A safety officer will be appointed and is responsible for insuring that all non-participating dogs are kept on lead or crated and outside and away from the main test area.

TEST AREA

The ring for basic control will be at least 40’ x 50’. Test areas for maneuvering should be at least 80’ x 100’. Only the currently competing team may enter the ring.
EQUIPMENT NEEDED FOR THE TEST WILL BE AS FOLLOWS

1. Ropes and Stakes or ring gates necessary to define the ring for the basic control and maneuvering course.
2. Minimum of 4 markers to define the serpentine portion of the maneuvering course.
3. A removable obstacle, ideally an object which might be found in everyday carting situations (i.e. gates, saw horses, logs, branches, highway construction cones)
4. A minimum of 4 markers to define narrow passes.
5. A tape measure of at least 6 ft. in length
6. One distraction, either visual or auditory
7. A stop watch, or watch to time down stay
8. Exhibitor numbers
9. Material suitable for the freight haul. Bags of dog food with weight marked on the bag are acceptable.
10. Clipboard and pen for the judge.

CLASSES

There shall be three classes: NOVICE DRAFT, OPEN DRAFT, AND BRACE DRAFT.

A. NOVICE DRAFT: the Novice draft class shall be open to all dogs who have not earned a title and for those dogs with a Novice DD title who wish to compete at the same level. All obedience exercises are performed off leash. All drafting exercises are performed on leash. The leash must be visibly slack and is not to be used to guide the dog during the exercises. Guiding, jerking, and/or using a tight leash will result in a failing performance.

B. OPEN DRAFT: The OPEN Draft class shall be open to any dog that has earned a Novice DD Title. All exercises shall be performed off leash.

C. BRACE DRAFT: The BRACE Draft Class shall be for two or more dogs working together. Both dogs must have a Novice DD title. All obedience exercises are performed off leash. All drafting exercises will be performed on leash.

Because drafting events are not held very often, handlers may enter a dog without a DD title in both the NOVICE and OPEN divisions for an event. If the dog successfully completes the NOVICE level, they may go on to the OPEN class at the same event. If the dog does not successfully complete the NOVICE level, the entry fee for the OPEN class will not be refunded. In the same manner, handlers may enter dogs without DD titles in the NOVICE and BRACE divisions for an event. If either dog does not successfully complete the NOVICE level, the entry fee for the BRACE class will not be refunded.
CHAPTER 2 - REGULATIONS FOR PERFORMANCE AND JUDGING

STANDARDIZED JUDGING

Each dog will be judged in a fair and impartial manner. Judges may make minimal adaptations to fit the available site, but no exercise should be substantially changed.

JUDGES SHEETS

The judge will record pass/fail information for each dog on the Judges Record Sheets following the conclusion of the test. These sheets may be posted for entrants to view.

CATALOG ORDER

Catalog order will be determined by the order in which entries are received. Handlers and Dogs must exhibit in catalog order unless the judge is notified of a potential conflict. The judge is not required to wait for a team that is not ready for judging, and may mark them absent. Handlers with one or more dogs entered in a class are encouraged to speak to the judge prior to the commencement of the class about possible timing conflicts.

FAILED EXERCISES

During the test, the judge may allow the handler to assist the dog in completing an exercise once failed. Only gentle guidance by the collar is allowed as discipline. If a dog fails an exercise, it will not be re-judged, unless in the judges’ opinion, an unusual circumstance affected the dogs’ performance. Any display of fear or nervousness by the dog, or any uncontrolled behavior of the dog such as snapping, barking, or running away from the handler, whether it occurs before, during, or between exercises, must be penalized according to the seriousness of the misbehavior, and the judge may expel or excuse the dog from further competition in the class.

EXCUSING A DOG:

Judges must immediately excuse any dog for the following reasons:

1. The dog attacks, or attempts to attack any person or dog on the test grounds.
2. The handler behaves in an unsportsmanlike manner in or outside the testing area, which includes but is not limited to: directing angry, abusive language at a person or a dog, showing discourtesies to judges, stewards or others.
3. The dog is lame, wears corrective bandages or other attachments.
4. The dog fouls the ring.

EVALUATIONS:

Dogs shall be judged for willingness, ability, enthusiasm, naturalness as a team and smoothness of performance. Each exercise shall be judged on a pass/fail basis.
**DOG IN DISTRESS**

If at any time during the test, it becomes apparent to the judge or handler that the dog is in distress, the exercise will be terminated and the dog marked as failed. Distress will include both mental and physical distress. A dog may repeat the exercise if in the opinion of the judge, there was an unusual circumstance that contributed to the dogs’ distress.

**REQUIRED EQUIPMENT**

The handler must provide collar, lead, harness, traces, and cart.

- **COLLARS:** All dogs must wear a well-fitted buckle, slip or snap around slip collar. No special collars are permitted.
- **LEASHES:** Any suitable leather, nylon or cloth leash is acceptable ranging in length from 2 ft. to 6 ft. Couplers may be used in the Brace Draft.
- **HARNESS:** The harness must fit the dog. The Harness must be of a type and construction to allow the dog to pull comfortably in the maneuvering and freight haul portions of the test. Traces should be of proper length to allow the dog proper distance from the cart.
- **DRAFT RIG:** Rig may be any cart capable of hauling the required weight and terrain of the freight haul. Carts may be either 2 or 4 wheel vehicles. Handler must supply any appropriate tie downs to secure the load in the rig for the freight haul. The handler must secure the load so that it does not shift when the rig moves. Judges may excuse any team from competition if the harness or draft rig is deemed inadequate or faulty. No person or animal may serve as freight load. Cart should be designed to prevent rig from running up on the dog when hauling downhill. Shaft brakes are sufficient for this purpose. No more than two dogs entered in the same class (i.e. NOVICE or OPEN) may share a cart.

**USE OF LEASH:**

These exercises involve a combination of on and off leash exercises. Dogs must be brought to the ring on leash.

**PRAISE**

Physical praise and petting are allowed between and after exercises. Verbal praise is allowed during the exercises. No food may be offered or carried into the ring.

**COMMANDS / SIGNALS/ ENCOURAGEMENT:**

During the testing a handler may give commands, signals and encouragement to the dog by voice, and or arm/hand signal. Multiple commands and/or signals are allowed. The handler may not physically guide the dog. While a handler may encourage his/her dog in a pleasant upbeat manner, constant yelling or reprimands are undesirable and may cause an exercise to be failed.
HANDLING BETWEEN EXERCISES:

A dog may be gently guided by the collar between exercises in the NOVICE class only. No other physical guidance is permitted.

CHECK IN

Handlers must check in 60 minutes prior to the start of the test. Thirty minutes prior to the start, handlers and stewards must meet with the judge for instructions. Questions will be answered at this time.

PASSING PERFORMANCE

A dog’s ability to perform assigned tasks with its handler is the primary quality emphasized in a draft test. In addition, a judge must consider the dog’s willingness and smoothness of performance. A dog that willingly completes each exercise without physical assistance from the handler should be marked as passes. To earn a title, all exercises must be marked passed. Each entrant will be informed if they have passed or failed at the completion of each series of exercises.
CHAPTER 3 – INDIVIDUAL EXERCISES

Obedience portion of the test will pertain to NOVICE & BRACE Draft only. Obedience exercises will not be performed by OPEN.

BASIC CONTROL

Each dog and handler completes the basic control section first in catalog order, and then return for the group exercise. When this series is complete, dogs perform maneuvering in catalog order. The handler and dog are tested to verify handler’s control over dog. Handlers are permitted to talk to and encourage their dogs during the exercises. This series takes place in a 40’x50’ ring. Four exercises make up this series: a heel off lead, a recall, and a three-minute group down, and a stand stay for harnessing.

HEEL OFF LEAD

The dog will heel within arm's length of the handler. The handler may not touch the dog, but may encourage the dog to remain within arm's reach at all times. The following commands will be called: forward, slow, normal, fast, right and left turn, about turn, and halt. The same pattern will be called for each dog.

Principle Parts of the Heel Off Lead:

1. The dog performs the heeling pattern on the left side of the handler and remains within arm's reach.
2. It is preferable for the dog to perform and automatic sit after each halt but is not necessary for a passing score. Handler may verbally ask the dog to sit after each halt.

Failing Performance:

a. Handler adapts pace to dog.
b. Dog frequently heels out of handlers reach.
c. No change of pace when called for
d. Handler physically guides or touches the dog
e. Dog leaves ring.

RECALL

The dog performs the recall across the full length of the ring. The dog will stay in place until called by the handler. The dog must respond to the first command to come. Hand and voice may both be used. Extra commands or encouragement are allowed after the dog is up and moving. The dog must come to the handler close enough to be touched, and may sit facing the handler. The following commands are called: sit your dog, leave your dog, call your dog, finish (not required to pass) and exercise finished.
**Principal parts of the Recall:**
1. The recall uses the entire length of the ring.
2. The dog remains in place until the judge instructs the handler to call. Both hand and voice may be used, and encouragement after the dog is moving.

**Failing Performance:**
- a. Handler gives more than one stay command.
- b. Dog does not stay when told.
- c. Dog does not respond to the first come command.
- d. Dog does not go to handler, or remains out of reach.
- e. Dog must be physically guided.
- f. Dog leaves the ring

**STAND FOR HARNESSING**
Judge instructs handler to harness dog. The handler tells dog to stay (either sit, down, or stand), and gets harness from steward. Handler commands dog to stand and stay, and proceeds to harness the dog. It is important that the handler demonstrate a working knowledge of the harness and equipment. The handler may touch the dog only as required to harness, but not to discipline. Once harnessed with traces secured up and off the ground, the handler will again command stay and leave the dog to a distance of 6 feet. The judge will approach and touch the dog. The judge will then command return to your dog. The dog may move feet on the stand stay; however, he may not move from the area where commanded to stay. The judge will then command exercise finished.

**Principal Parts of the Stand for harnessing:**
1. The handler leaves the dog in any position and gets harness from steward. Upon return, commands the dog to stand/stay and harnesses. The dog may be guided into a stand.
2. The dog remains in stand stay for the judge to examine dog, and remains on stay until the handler returns.

**Failing Performance:**
- a. Dog does not remain in place while handler gets harness.
- b. Dog resists harnessing, or leaves the place where stand/stay command was given.
- c. Dog shows resistance to judge’s examination.
- d. Handler does not properly harness the dog with well-fitting harness.

**THREE MINUTE DOWN**
The three-minute down is a group exercise and will be held after all entrants have completed the basic control section of the test. The down will be done with the dogs in harness, but not hitched. This exercise will be performed off lead with the handlers across the ring. Each group will be a maximum of ten dogs. Leads will be placed behind the dogs. Dogs may be manually placed in a down position upon the judges’ command. The commands are: down your dogs, leave your dogs, return, exercise finished. In NOVICE and BRACE Draft handlers will, upon
the judge's command of “leave your dogs” walk to the opposite side of the ring and turn and face their dog until told to return.

**Principal Parts of the Group Down:**
1. The exercise is performed with the handlers across the length of the ring, and the dogs in harness.
2. The dog may be manually positioned into a down.
3. The dogs remain down until the judge instructs handlers to return, and gives the exercise finished statement.

**Failing Performance:**
- Handler gives more than one stay command
- Dog sits or stands before handler returns, or moves a substantial distance from original position even though staying down.

**HITCHING**

This test section begins immediately following the long down. Each dog is called in catalog order, and will individually complete the following exercises. A draft test demonstrates cooperation between the handler and the dog. Since a handler’s draft work knowledge and abilities are essential to draft work, the judges must evaluate a handler’s ability to select the appropriate type and size of equipment for their dog, and the handler’s knowledge about using the equipment properly. Any equipment used must remain in safe working condition throughout the draft test. Judges may fail improper or unsafe equipment during the scheduled equipment check or any time during the remainder of the course.

**Pre-test Rig placement:**

Prior to the start of this exercise, the handler brings the draft apparatus to the steward who places it in the test area as instructed by the judge. Rig is empty with no weights.

**HITCHING**

Upon judge’s instruction the dog and handler enter the ring on lead. Dogs are still in harness. The judge will start the exercise at least 6 feet from the apparatus. Handlers will begin hitching their dogs when instructed by the judge. In NOVICE, the handler will hitch the dog by either backing the dog into the shafts, or placing the dog on a stand stay while bringing the apparatus to the dog. In OPEN the dog MUST back towards the shafts, and stand to be hitched to the cart. In BRACE, teams may be hitched by placing one dog at a time next to the tongue, or by having the dogs standing together with a coupler and bringing the tongue up between them.
**Equipment check**

When the dog is hitched, the judge will indicate that the handler and dog move to a predetermined location at least 20 feet ahead and stop for a mandatory equipment check. During this time the judge observes the equipment to verify it is on safe operating order. When the dog and handler have stopped at the designated location, the judge may allow the handler to make needed adjustments; however, if the adjustments are needed it is the handler’s responsibility to recognize this need and to make any adjustment themselves. If in the judge’s opinion, a serious problem exists with any of the equipment and it goes unrecognized by the handler, the judge may fail the dog in this exercise. If the handler does not recognize a need for a MINOR adjustment that the judge feels should be made, the judge may bring this need to the handler’s attention and the handler must make the adjustment without further assistance.

**Principal Parts of Hitching:**

1. The apparatus is placed in ring by steward, according to judges’ instructions.
2. The dog willingly backs for hitching (required in OPEN), or does a stand stay while hitched.
3. The handler must properly hitch dog in a safe manner. The handler may touch dog only as required to hitch, but may not touch to discipline.
4. The handler uses equipment correctly and appropriately.
5. The dog and handler move 20 ft to indicate readiness for next portion of test, and pass judges inspection of equipment.

**Failing Performance:**

a. Dog refuses to back up within 30 seconds (OPEN only) or moves away when cart is brought up behind him.

b. Dog is uncooperative and/or resists hitching.

c. The hitch is unsafe or the apparatus balance is unsafe or poorly designed.

d. Dog does not proceed forward on a loose lead, or must be forced to halt.

**MANEUVERING**

**Novice Draft and Brace Draft Maneuvering Course**

The maneuvering course for NOVICE and BRACE shall be the same pattern. The only exception being, that allowances in the widths of obstacles may be made to accommodate the larger size of some BRACE carts. The maneuvering course will include the following:

- Serpentines (there must be at least 9 feet between pylons in the serpentine exercise.)
- Ninety-degree turns to the left and right,
- Two narrow areas at least six feet long, one low to the ground (i.e. logs), and one a solid narrow area at least two feet high (i.e. bales of hay),
- A removable obstacle (may be a gate to pass thru and then secure).
- There will also be a back of 3 feet required.

During BRACE Draft, two stewards in addition to the Judge will remain on the course and at a distance so as not to interfere with the performance of the team, but to be available in case of a problem arising.
Open Draft Maneuvering Course

OPEN draft dogs may use any obstacles found on the novice draft course and may use circular patterns to the right and left, figure eight patterns, and dogs must demonstrate a slow and fast at some point on the course. The slow and fast are only required in OPEN. The command for slow pace will be “Haul Slowly” at which time the handler will decrease their speed to a very slow walk. The command for fast shall be “Haul Fast” at which time the handler will increase their speed to a brisk trot. OPEN Draft will be required to back 4 feet.

**Principle Parts of Maneuvering:**

1. The course may be worked on or off lead for NOVICE and BRACE Dogs, and OFF lead for OPEN. When on lead, the lead must remain loose.
2. The handler may work next to, in front of, or behind the dog. The handler may not impede the dog’s forward movement at any time. This includes stepping in front of the dog to enforce a halt command, or stepping in front of a dog that tries to change directions against the handler’s command.
3. The dog will haul at a normal forward speed unless instructed otherwise by the judge.
4. At the beginning of the maneuvering course, the judge will tell the handler to take the course. There are no time constraints as long as the dog continues to work. At appropriate locations along the course, the judge will command in any order the dog and handler to slow, halt, back up at least three feet in NOVICE and BRACE, and four feet in OPEN. The Dog should back in a willing manner and in an approximate straight line. A maximum of 3 attempts may be made to accomplish a three-foot back up. The Judge will instruct handlers using the following commands: haul forward, haul slowly, stop, and back your dog. The sequence for the commands will be the same time and location for all dogs. BRACE dogs will be required to back one foot.
5. At the removable obstacle, the dog waits (handler instructions allowed) for the handler to remove the obstacle, and proceeds only on command. The judge will instruct the handler to leave the dog, and return the obstacle to its former position.
6. The dog shows definite pace changes when asked to haul slowly and haul fast in OPEN.
7. The handler may not touch the draft apparatus unless special permission is received from the judge.

**Failing Performance:**

a. Handler impedes dog’s forward movement
b. Handler touches dog or apparatus without judges’ permission.
c. Dog refuses to obey commands or does not accompany handler.
d. Dog is worked on a tight lead.
e. Dog refuses to back the required distance.
f. Dog tries to pass moveable obstacle without waiting for handler to move it, does not wait for handlers command to move forward, or does not stay when handler while handlers returns obstacle to original position.
g. Dog upsets draft apparatus.
h. Dog or handler knocks over course markers. Light bumps are acceptable
i. No change in pace when called for in OPEN.
**FREIGHT HAUL**

This part of the test is a group exercise that begins after all class entries have completed the maneuvering course. Because the exercise is designed to be completed as a group, no more than two dogs entered in the same class (i.e. NOVICE or OPEN) may share a cart. The dogs will be inside the arena when freight is loaded.

The Freight Haul may consist of an either a Short Haul (shorter distance/heavier weight) or a Long Haul (longer distance/lighter weight). Depending on the test grounds, number of entrants, weather conditions, and other relevant factors, the judge will determine which freight hauls will be offered. If the judge offers both options, the handlers may choose which one they wish to participate in. If only one type of freight haul will be offered, the information will be included in the premium list.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Freight Haul</th>
<th>Distance</th>
<th>Freight Weight</th>
<th>NOVICE</th>
<th>OPEN/BRACE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Short Haul</td>
<td>¼ mile</td>
<td>50 lbs</td>
<td>100 lbs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long Haul</td>
<td>½ mile</td>
<td>25 lbs</td>
<td>50 lbs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Freight Haul will be conducted outside if the test grounds and conditions permit. Freight hauls will be held in a group, off lead (OPEN only), and may encounter various terrains. Enough stewards will be provided for each dog for reasons of safety. Stewards will follow at a safe distance and shall do nothing to impede the haul of the dog or interfere with the handler unless a dangerous situation occurs.

**Freight**

The handler may provide their own freight material; otherwise sealed bags of pet food may be used. Animals or people may not be used as freight. It is the handler’s responsibility to see that the freight load is secured and balanced properly.

**Freight Haul**

The judge will issue the following commands: retrieve and load freight, haul forward, and stop. The dog is instructed to stay while the handler retrieves and loads the freight. The handler must secure the load without additional assistance. The freight load must be properly balanced. The judge will command haul forward, at which time the dog and handler will proceed around the full perimeter of the ring, returning to the initial starting point, or stopping at the judge’s command. The dog must remain on a loose lead. The judge will command the handler to unload and unhitch, at which time the handler will command the dog to stay, and proceed to unload freight, and unhitch the apparatus.
Intriguing Distraction
An intriguing distraction will occur during this portion of the test, near the dog and handler while working the perimeter of the ring. The dog may stop and notice the distraction, but may not pursue the distraction. The handler may redirect the dog to continue working. The distraction will remain the same for all dogs tested. Distractions are not limited to, but may consist of any of the following: ringing bell; crinkly food bag; squeaky toys; radio; camera flash; person on a bike; children playing; toy being thrown.

Principal Parts of Freight Haul and Intriguing Distraction:
1. The dog stays while freight is retrieved and loaded.
2. The dog willingly moves forward with load.
3. The dog proceeded around the perimeter of the ring loose lead.
4. The dog willingly negotiates the longer haul over any type of terrain.
5. The dog works through distraction on course.
6. The dog stands for unloading/unhitching.

Failing Performance:
a. Handler touches the dog or apparatus during the freight haul.
b. Dog does not cooperate while loading or unloading.
c. Dog refuses to move loaded apparatus.
d. Dog becomes distressed while hauling freight.
e. Load is too heavy for the dog.
f. Load becomes unbalanced during the haul.
g. Handler works dog on tight lead.
h. Dog pursues or flees from distraction.
i. Dog repeatedly barks at distraction.
j. Dog refuses to move after distraction.

COMPLETION
After all dogs have completed all sections of the test, all passing teams will be called back into the ring and awards will be given. These events are pass/fail.
MCOA DRAFT TEST JUDGES FORM SHEET

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location:</th>
<th>Date:</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>NOVICE</th>
<th>BRACE</th>
<th>OPEN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Obedience (NOVICE/BRACE Only)
- Heel Off Leash
- Recall
- Stand For Harnessing
- Long Down (Group)

Hitching/Maneuvering
- Hitching
- Left Turn
- Right Turn
- Serpentine
- High Narrow
- Low Narrow
- Gate
- Back – 3 foot (NOVICE/BRACE)
- Back – 4 foot (OPEN)
- Figure 8 (OPEN)
- Slow Haul (OPEN)
- Fast Haul (OPEN)

Freight Haul

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Freight Haul</th>
<th>Distance</th>
<th>Freight Weight</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>Long Haul</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Freight Haul
- Intriguing Distraction

Armband: | PASS | FAIL | EXC |
MCOA EVENT RULES AND GUIDELINES

ETHICS: HONESTY AND COMMON SENSE

AKC judges and exhibitors possess and project a commitment to integrity and ethical behavior that insures the reputation of AKC dog shows as fair and well judged. With common sense, judges and exhibitors can easily avoid situations which might raise ethical questions. Judges and exhibitors are honest, competent and dedicated. Nevertheless, it is possible to find yourself in an uncomfortable or inappropriate situation. These guidelines cannot address every situation; however it can help you avoid improprieties perceived or otherwise.

Obviously, some rules, policies and guidelines are clear. For example:

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 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 bred, owned, handled in the ring more than twice, sold, held under lease or boarded within one year prior to the date of the show. These are only examples. The key is to avoid all situations that are likely to give the impression of impropriety. You must do everything possible to keep your reputation above reproach.

A HANDY RULE OF THUMB

There will always be “gray areas” that perplex judges and exhibitors. When faced with such a dilemma, ask yourself whether the situation, however innocent, projects an outward appearance of impropriety. A good rule of thumb is:

If you have concerns about whether something is inappropriate,

You probably should avoid the situation!
**NATIONAL FUTURITY AND MATURITY STAKES RULES**

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of the MCOA Futurity and Maturity is to encourage the breeding of the best possible Mastiffs, reward diligent MCOA breeders for their efforts, recognize the owners for selecting the best quality puppies from responsible breeders, and reward the owners and breeders for raising and developing the inherited qualities of the puppy.

In nominating a litter for the Futurity, MCOA members are casting their vote of confidence in their breeding decisions and indicating their commitment to improving the quality of our mastiffs.

In addition, the Maturity Stakes not only provide Futurity-nominated puppies with an additional opportunity to compete but also gives those unable to participate in a futurity the chance to compete during the next National Specialty in the Maturity stakes.

**GENERAL**

Correct and timely nominations of both the litter and the individual puppy are required for stakes eligibility. Prize moneys can only be won through competition at the MCOA National Futurity or Maturity stakes held in conjunction with the MCOA National Specialty.

Nomination forms may be secured from the Futurity/Maturity Director or on the MCOA Website http://www.mcoamastiff.com/FUTURITYMATURITY.htm. The Nomination entry must also be mailed directly to the Futurity/Maturity Director.

Nomination and entry fees should be paid online via MCOA PayPal, but checks may be sent to the Treasurer identified by FUTURITY ENTRY FEE in comments section of check.

Effective 2007 Futurity the Futurity/Maturity Director is eligible to participate in Futurity/Maturity Competition.
ETHICS FOR FUTURITY AND MATURITY

While the Futurity/Maturity Stakes 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:

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

Exhibitors should not 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.

FUTURITY NOMINATION OF LITTER

Nomination must be made by breeder or co-breeder. The person making the nomination MUST be an MCOA member.

Nomination must be made after the breeding, but before puppies are whelped. The postmark on the entry envelope is the official date of nomination.

The fee to nominate the litter is $25.00.

Of the nomination fee $20.00 will go to Futurity nomination and $5.00 will go to the Maturity Nomination.

Nomination fees cannot be transferred from one litter to another nor from one bitch to another. There will be no refunds.

The nomination of a litter makes all puppies in the litter eligible for individual nomination in both Futurity and Maturity.
FUTURITY NOMINATION OF PUPPY

Nomination must be made by the legal owner or co-owner of the puppy as of the date of nomination.

Nomination must be made before the puppy reaches four (4) months of age. The postmark on the entry envelope is the official date of nomination.

The fee is $25.00 for each puppy nominated and the entry should include a copy of the current AKC registration.

Of the puppy nomination fee $15.00 will go to Futurity Nomination and $10.00 will go to the Maturity Nomination. There will be no refunds.

An entire litter may be individually nominated by the breeder for Futurity and Maturity before puppies are sold by paying fee for each puppy and supplying (for each puppy):

- Litter Registration Number
- Whelping Date
- Name
- Sex
- Color

Once the individual registration papers have been received by the new owner/co-owner, a copy of the puppy’s new AKC registration must be sent directly to the Futurity/Maturity Director no later than eight (8) weeks PRIOR to judging the Futurity.
FUTURITY STAKES - REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER FUTURITY JUDGING

The puppy must be entered in one of the regular classes, either in conformation or obedience at the MCOA National Specialty Show. All entries must be paid in full.

The Futurity entry must include:

- Futurity entry must be indicated as an additional class.
- Futurity entry must include Additional Class age division (e.g., Futurity 6-9, etc.)
- Futurity Classes range in age from six months through the eighteenth month (until the dog is nineteen months old). The classes will be divided as such:
  - 6 to 9 months
  - 9 to 12 months
  - 12 to 15 months
  - 15 to 18 months

Puppies are eligible only for the first Futurity Stake Show that is held in conjunction with the first MCOA Specialty Show held on or after the date the puppy reaches six (6) months of age.

Individuals handling the dogs in Futurity Competition must be:

- An Owner or Co-owner or
- A Breeder or Co-Breeder or
- An MCOA Member or Associate MCOA Member in good standing* with MCOA and AKC. This includes professional handlers.

*In Good Standing – members and associate MCOA members that are not in a suspended status with AKC or MCOA.

CLASS DIVISIONS
The Stake is divided into four age divisions:

- Puppy – 6-9 Months
- Puppy – 9-12 Months
- Junior – 12 to 15 months
- Junior – 15 to 18 months

Each age group is then divided by sex.

Four placements are made in the judging of each class.
SEQUENCE OF JUDGING

Judging sequence for each age division will be Dogs, Bitches, Winners and Best of Opposite. After the age division winner is selected, the judge will select a best of opposite winner.

Best Puppy and Best of Opposite Puppy are selected from the 6-9 and 9-12 winners.

Best Junior and Best of Opposite Junior are selected from the 12-15 and 15-18 winners.

The Best Futurity Puppy and the Best Junior compete for Best in Futurity Winner.

NOTE:
1. If the Best of Opposite Puppy and Best of Opposite Junior are of the same sex, they shall compete for the Best of Opposite Sex to the Best in Futurity Winner.

2. If they are different sexes, the dog or bitch that was awarded Best of Opposite to the Division Winner (who is now the Best in Futurity Winner) shall re-enter the ring to compete with the remaining Division Winner (of his or her own sex) for Best of Opposite Sex to the Best in Futurity Winner.

DIVISION OF FUTURITY STAKE MONEYS

GENERAL

30% to operating expense fund.
70% to be divided equally between the puppy and junior stakes.

DIVISION OF INDIVIDUAL STAKE MONEYS (PUPPY AND JUNIOR)

80% to placements in the eight classes, pro-rated by the number of dogs entered in each class, with 40% going to first place, 30% to second, 20% to third place, and 10% to fourth place.

7% to be divided equally between the two age divisions winners (puppy & junior) with 3 1/2% going to each.

3% to be divided equally between the two age divisions best of opposite winners with 1 1/2% going to each.

10% to Best in Futurity Stakes.

DIVISION OF PRIZE MONEY FOR FUTURITY

40% to Breeder. 60% to Owner.
TROPHIES AND RIBBONS
A trophy and rosette will be provided for:

- Best In Futurity Puppy
- Best of Opposite Sex to Futurity Puppy
- Best in Futurity Junior
- Best of Opposite Sex to Futurity Junior
- Best in Futurity Winner
- Best of Opposite Sex to Futurity Winner

The Best In Futurity Winner and the Best of Opposite Sex to Futurity Winner ribbons and trophies will be purchased from the Futurity operating funds. Other trophies and rosettes may be awarded at the discretion of the National Specialty Show Committee.

Ribbons will be awarded for each 1st – 4th placement. Duplicate copies of ribbons for the owners/co-owners or breeders/co-breeders may be purchased by requesting them from the National Ribbon Chairperson within 30 days after the national.
MATURITY STAKES - REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER MATURITY JUDGING

The Maturity Stakes will be held in conjunction with the MCOA National Specialty. A puppy nominated for a Futurity is automatically nominated for the next year’s Maturity Stakes.

The Futurity Director will maintain the records of eligible Futurity/Maturity puppies.

Maturity entries are eligible to compete only in the first Maturity Stake held following the Futurity stake for which they were nominated.

While the nomination must have been made for Futurity, entry or participation in the Futurity Stakes is not required for Maturity judging. Thus if a puppy is not able to attend their futurity year, they may still enter in maturity the following year.

The dog entering a Maturity class must be entered in one of the regular classes, either in conformation or obedience at the MCOA National Specialty Show. All entries must be paid in full.

The Maturity entry must include:

- Maturity entry must be indicated as an additional class on the official AKC entry form.

- Maturity entry must include Additional Class age division (e.g., Maturity Under 24 Months or Maturity Over 24 Months)

- Maturity classes will be divided as such:
  - Maturity – Under 24 Months
  - Maturity – Over 24 Months

Individuals handling the dogs in Futurity Competition must be:

- An Owner or Co-owner or
- A Breeder or Co-Breeder or
- An MCOA Member or Associate Member in good standing with MCOA and AKC. This includes professional handlers.

*In Good Standing – members or Associate Members that are not in a suspended status with AKC or MCOA.

CLASS DIVISIONS

Maturity Stakes are divided by sex into two age divisions:

- under 24 months
- over 24 months
SEQUENCE OF JUDGING

The dog classes will be judged first, followed by the bitch classes. The judge will make four placements for each class.

The judge will select Best Maturity junior first, followed by Best of Opposite Maturity Junior, from the winners of the under 24 month classes.

The judge will select Best Maturity Senior first, followed by Best of Opposite Maturity senior, from the winners of the over 24 month classes.

Best Maturity Junior and Best Maturity senior will compete for Best in Maturity Winner, followed by Best of Opposite Maturity Winner using the following guidelines:

Note:
If the Best of Opposite Maturity Junior and Best of Opposite Maturity Senior are of the same sex, they shall compete for the Best of Opposite Sex to the Best in Maturity Winner.

However, if they are different sexes, the dog or bitch that was awarded Best of Opposite to the Division Winner (who is now the Best in Maturity Winner) shall re-enter the ring to compete with the remaining Division Winner (of his or her own sex) for Best of Opposite Sex to the Best in Maturity Winner.
DIVISION OF MATURITY STAKE MONEYS

GENERAL
30% to operating expense fund.
70% to be divided equally between the junior and senior stakes.

DIVISION OF INDIVIDUAL MATURITY STAKE MONEYS

- 75% to placements in the four classes, pro-rated by the number of dogs entered in each class, with 30% going to first place, 20% to second, 15% to third place, and 10% to fourth place.
- 7% to be divided equally between the two age divisions winners (puppy & junior) with 3 1/2% going to each.
- 3% to be divided equally between the two age divisions best of opposite winners with 1 1/2% going to each.
- 10% to Best in Maturity Stakes and 5% to Best of Opposite in Maturity Stakes

DIVISION OF PRIZE MONEY
40% to Breeder
60% to Owner

TROPHIES AND RIBBONS

A trophy and rosette will be provided for:
- Best In Maturity Junior
- Best of Opposite Sex to Maturity Junior
- Best in Maturity Senior
- Best of Opposite Sex to Maturity Senior
- Best in Futurity Winner
- Best of Opposite Sex to Maturity Winner

The Best in Maturity Winner and the Best of Opposite Sex to Maturity Winner ribbons and trophies will be purchased from the Maturity operating funds. Other trophies and rosettes may be awarded at the discretion of the National Specialty Show Committee.

Ribbons will be awarded for each 1st – 4th placement. Duplicate copies of ribbons for the owners/co-owners or breeders/co-breeders may be purchased by requesting them from the National Ribbon Chairperson within 30 days after the national.

RECORDS

The Futurity Director will maintain the records of Futurity/Maturity eligible puppies. However it is recommended that those who have made entries in the Futurity/Maturity Stakes have copies of all pertinent information regarding acceptance of nominations, name changes, etc., available at time of judging.
SUMMARY OF MAJOR RULES FOR FUTURITY/MATURITY STAKES

- Litter must be nominated before litter is whelped
- Puppy must be nominated before puppy reaches four (4) months of age
- Futurity is an **additional class** at the National Specialty, and the entry must so indicate on the official AKC entry
- Maturity is an **additional class** at the National Specialty, and the entry must so indicate on the official AKC entry
- Puppies are eligible to compete **only** in the first Maturity Stake held following the Futurity stake for which they were nominated
- All information on entry form **must** be consistent with what was supplied to the Futurity Director eight (8) week before judging Futurity/Maturity
- Entry is open to all legally eligible dogs

For Additional Information, Contact:

**Julia Kriebs,**  
National Futurity Director  
Mastiff Club of America, Inc.  
135 Valley Road  
West Branch, IA 52358-8530  
phone: (319) 643-5315  
Email: email: **nyalmast@Lcom.net**
SPECIAL FUTURITY AWARD CURRENTLY OFFERED

Gladys Tangen had generously donated $500 to the Futurity as a Futurity Challenge Award. This money shall be awarded to the first person who owns the Best in Futurity Winner in three Futurities. The Futurities need not be consecutive.

Additionally, a Best of Opposite Sex to the Grand Prize Futurity Winner will be awarded. (effective 1997).

Until the $500 Challenge Award is awarded, the money shall remain in the MCOA bank account. Effective May, 2004 a set amount of $50.00 shall be awarded annually to the winner of the Futurity Best of Opposite Sex to Best in Futurity Winner with the amount to be $30.00 to the Owner and $20.00 to the Breeder.

SPECIAL MATURITY AWARD EFFECTIVE WITH FIRST MATURITY 2010

A $500 Maturity Challenge Award has been offered by the Midwest Mastiff Fanciers in memory of Fred Simon and Betts Kieffer. This money shall be awarded to the first person who owns the Best in Maturity Winner in three Maturities. The Maturities need not be consecutive. Until the $500 Challenge Award is awarded, the money shall remain in the MCOA bank account. MASTIFF CLUB OF AMERICA, INC.
**FUTURITY-MATURITY BITCH NOMINATION FORM**

**Fee:** $25.00

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Futurity Year:</th>
<th>Date of Entry:</th>
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<tr>
<th>Name of Bitch:</th>
<th>AKC#:</th>
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<th>Owner/Lessee</th>
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<th>Date of Breeding:</th>
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<th>Signature:</th>
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To complete your nomination, send form and check (payable to the MCOA) to:
Diane Lyons
20 Milmohr Ct.
Northport, NY 11768
Phone: 631-757-7587
Email: mastiff2011@yahoo.com

Questions? Contact:
Julie Kriebs
National Futurity Director Mastiff Club of America, Inc.
135 Valley Road
West Branch, IA 52358-8530
Phone: (319) 643-5315
Email: nyalmast@Lcom.net

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**BITCH NOMINATION CONFIRMATION**

If you would like to receive confirmation of receipt of your nomination, please complete the following:

FUTURITY YEAR ___________________________________________________

NAME OF BITCH ___________________________________________________

AKC # ___________________________________________________________

OWNER OR LESSEE ___________________________ PHONE ______________

Be sure to enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope with your entry. Entries without STAMPED return envelope cannot be confirmed.
FUTURITY-MATURITY PUPPY NOMINATION FORM

Puppy Nomination Form

National Futurity/Maturity Puppy Nomination Form: Fee: $25.00
Futurity Year: _______________ Date of Entry:______________________

AKC Name or name applied for: ____________________________________________

Sex: __________________ Color: __________
AKC# or Litter# _______________ Whelp Date: _______________________
Sire: __________________________ Dam: __________________________

Name of Breeder: _______________________________________________________
Name of Owner(s): ___________________________ Phone: ______________
Address of owner: - __________________________

Signature of owner: __________________________

Payment can be made through the MCOA Website and is preferred. If you are paying via this method, please send your completed Nomination Form to:

Julie Kriebs,
National Futurity Director Mastiff Club of America, Inc.
135 Valley Road
West Branch, IA 52358-8530
Phone: 319. 643.5315
Email: nyalmast@Lcom.net

If you are paying by check, please send your completed form and check, payable to the MCOA, to:

Diane Lyons
20 Milmohr Ct.
Northport, NY 11768
Phone: 631-757-7587
Email: mastiff2011@yahoo.

Questions? Contact: Julie Kriebs at the number and email above.

- Once the individual registration papers have been received by the new owner/co-owner, a copy of the puppy’s new AKC registration must be sent directly to the Futurity/Maturity Director no later than eight (8) weeks PRIOR to judging the Futurity.

- All information on entry form must be consistent with what was supplied to the Futurity Director eight (8) week before judging Futurity/Maturity.
PUPPY NOMINATION CONFIRMATION FORM

PUPPY NOMINATION CONFIRMATION

If you would like to receive confirmation of receipt of your nomination, please complete the following:

FUTURITY YEAR ____________________ MATURITY YEAR________________

A.K.C. REG. NAME OR NAME APPLIED FOR ____________________________

AKC Reg # or Litter #_______________________________________________

Be sure to enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope with your entry. Entries without STAMPED return envelope cannot be confirmed.

Nomination of Puppy for Futurity automatically qualifies the puppy for the next year Maturity Entry.
EXAMPLE OF FUTURITY/MATURITY LETTER

Mastiff Club Of America
Julia Kriebs
National Futurity/Maturity Coordinator
135 Valley Rd
West Branch, IA 52358
Phone: 319 430 9515
nyalmast@lcom.net

Congratulations on your new puppy! I have received the puppy nomination form for

______________________________________________________________, Sex _____
Whelp date______________, AKC # ______________________
Breeder(s) ________________________

__________________________

____________________________

Owner(s)________________________________________________________________

Effective September 1, 2012 the futurity/Maturity entry rules have been changed. As below here are additional documentation requirements to complete the entry process.

Rules:
1. Nomination must be made by breeder or co-breeder. The person making the nomination MUST be an MCOA member.
2. Nomination must be made before the puppy reaches four (4) months of age. The postmark on the envelope is the official date of nomination.
3. The fee is $25.00 for each puppy nominated and the entry should include a copy of the current AKC registration.
4. Of the puppy nomination fee $15.00 will go to Futurity Nomination and $10.00 will go to the Maturity Nomination. There will be no refunds.
5. An entire litter may be individually nominated by the breeder for Futurity and Maturity before puppies are sold by paying fee for each puppy and supplying (for each puppy):
   - Litter Registration Number
   - Whelping Date,
   - Name
   - Sex
   - Color
6. Once the individual registration papers have been received by the new owner/co-owner, a copy of the puppy’s new AKC registration must be sent directly to the Futurity/Maturity Director no later than eight (8) weeks PRIOR to judging the Futurity. If the AKC registration is not received before this timeframe, the dogs may not participate in this event.

7. An additional reminder regarding Futurity or Maturity judging.
   a. The puppy must be entered in one of the regular classes, either in conformation or obedience at the MCOA National Specialty Show. All entries must be paid in full.
   b. The Futurity entry must include:
      - Futurity/Maturity entry must be indicated as an additional class.
      - Futurity/Maturity entry must include Additional Class age division (e.g., Futurity 6-9, etc.)
   c. Puppies are eligible only for the first Futurity Stake Show that is held in conjunction with the first MCOA Specialty Show held on or after the date the puppy reaches six (6) months of age.

8. Rule Change effective November, 2012 regarding individuals handling the dogs in Futurity/Maturity Competition must be:
   - An Owner or Co-owner or
   - A Breeder or Co-Breeder or
   - An MCOA Member or Associate Member in good standing with MCOA and AKC*

*In Good Standing – members and associate MCOA members that are not in a suspended status with AKC or MCOA

Please send any additional paperwork to the address listed above, by the date stated.

**Maturity Entries:**

I will send a reminder out to the breeder for the Maturity Entries approximately 4 months prior to the National Specialty.

As a reminder: Should ownership of the puppy change between Futurity and Maturity, I must receive a new copy of the AKC registration no later than 8 weeks prior to the specialty. If the AKC registration is not received before this timeframe, the dogs may not participate in this event.

Thank you for taking the extra steps to streamline the entry process and make this an enjoyable event for all. Should you have questions or concerns, please contact me.

Thank you

Julia Kriebs
SWEEPSTAKES – RULES AND REGULATIONS

ELIGIBILITY

The Mastiff Club of America Sweepstakes is open to all dogs who on the first day of the show, will be 6 months of age and under 18 months of age. There are no restrictions on who may handle entries in the sweepstakes.

Dogs shown in Sweepstakes must also be entered in one of the regular classes. Entry fee is $20.00 per entry. Show Sweepstakes and age division as an “Additional Class” on the entry form.

ETHICS

While the Sweepstakes 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 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.
SWEEPSTAKES CLASSIFICATION

Junior Dogs, 6 months and under 9 months  Junior Dogs, 9 months and under 12 months
Senior Dogs, 12 months and under 15 months  Senior Dogs, 15 months and under 18 months
(Same Classes for Bitches)

Best In Sweepstakes (Junior)
Best of Opposite Sweepstakes (Junior)

Best In Sweepstakes (Senior)
Best of Opposite Sweepstakes (Senior)

Grand Sweepstakes Winner

First Place winners in each class of Juniors will compete for Best In Junior Sweepstakes and Best of Opposite Sex in Junior Sweepstakes.

First Place winners in each class of Seniors will compete for Best In Senior Sweepstakes and Best of Opposite Sex in Senior Sweepstakes.

Best In Junior Sweepstakes and Best In Senior Sweepstakes will then compete for Grand Winner of Sweepstakes.

Mastiff Sweepstakes Division of Prize Money

After 20% is retained by the club to defray expenses, the remaining balance will be divided as follows:

Best in Junior Sweepstakes 5%  Best In Senior Sweepstakes 5%

The remaining money will be divided by class as follows:
First Place in each class 40%  Second Place in each class 25%
Third Place in each class 15%  Fourth Place in each class 10%
MASTIFF CLUB OF AMERICA BREEDER’S CUP

RESULTS WILL BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL UNTIL THE AWARDS BANQUET.

**Purpose:** In the Breeder’s Cup Competition, the breeder or co-bredrer is making a statement about his/her breeding program based on a group of three dogs.

- How consistent is the trio in the areas of overall impression, head, structure, movement, presence and consistency in breed type.
- How closely does the trio adhere to the Mastiff Standard?

The Breeder’s Cup will be held before the actual judging of the Specialty classes. In this competition, each entry consists of a trio of dogs bred by the same breeder or co-bredrer. Each trio is to be judged by a three-judge panel of experts on the breed, using a point system.

Entry in the MCOA Breeder’s Cup Competition is open to MCOA members and Associate members in good standing only.*

*In Good Standing – members and associate members that are not in a suspended status with AKC or MCOA.

**ETHICS** –

While the Breeder’s Cup 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.
**BREEDER’S CUP PROCEDURE**

1. The total Breeder’s Cup entry will not be brought into the ring together.

2. In numerical order, the first three trios of mastiffs will enter the ring. (Nine dogs at a time).

3. Each judge will take a trio for the hands on exam.

4. The scoring is based on the presentation of the trio as a whole.

5. The judges will work through the first three sets until each judge has completed the hands on examination of each dog.

6. Each dog in the trio will be gaited and restacked. Then each trio will move to the end of the line. Judges will complete the scoring (using one score sheet for each trio) and turn in those score sheets.

7. Judging will continue in this manner until all groups are judged.

8. Score sheets will be tallied and the top five (5) groups (15 dogs total) will re-enter the ring for final judging.

9. Score sheets will be returned to the judges and the judges will review their scores, making any changes in their scoring by drawing a line through previous score(s) and writing new score to the right of the old score.

10. The time allotted for final review will be kept to a maximum of 15 minutes. Judges will **NOT** re-examine any dog at this point.

11. Score sheets are then turned over to the designated Statistician for final tabulation.

12. The Statistician will provide the results in a sealed envelope directly to the MCOA President who will announce the winners and deliver awards to those winners at the Awards Banquet.

13. The Top Five award winners grand Totals of the three judging sheet results will be posted in the MCOA Journal National edition. Copies of the individual results for all entrants will be available in a sealed envelope for each Breeder/Co-Breeder at the conclusion of the National, after which time, if not retrieved, they will be destroyed.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Overall Impression</th>
<th>Size, Color, Balance</th>
<th>1 – 20</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Head</td>
<td>Size, Bite, Mask, Expression</td>
<td>1 – 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Structure</td>
<td>Chest, Topline, Rear, Feet</td>
<td>1 – 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Movement</td>
<td>Down &amp; Back, Side Gait</td>
<td>1 – 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presence &amp; Temperament</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 – 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consistency in Type</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 – 30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL POINTS** = ____________________

---

The BREEDER’S CUP JUDGING FORM is used to evaluate the entries based on various criteria such as Overall Impression, Head, Structure, Movement, Presence & Temperament, and Consistency in Type. Each category is scored on a scale of 1 – 20, and the points are summed up to determine the Entry’s Score.
EXAMPLE OF BREEDERS CUP JUDGES SELECTION LETTER

MASTIFF CLUB OF AMERICA
NATIONAL SPECIALTY

CONGRATULATIONS!

You have been selected to judge one of the special classes at the MCOA National Specialty, the Breeder’s Cup event. 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. 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.

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 new ring procedures. Hopefully, this will speed up these classes and hold everyone’s interest.

I am sending you a copy of these guidelines and score sheets so that you can familiarize yourself with the procedure, 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. The Top Five award winners grand totals of the three judging sheet results will be posted in the MCOA Journal National edition. Copies of the individual results for all entrants will be available in a sealed envelope for each Breeder/Co-Breeder at the conclusion of the National, after which time, if not retrieved, they will be destroyed.

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 319-643-5315 or you may email me at nyalmast@Lcom.net

Julia Kriebs
MCOA Breeder’s Cup Chairman
GUIDE TO A SUCCESSFUL BREEDER’S CUP COMPETITION

PRE-BREEDER’S CUP
Addressing the overall problem of lack of communication and confusion over procedure, a few preparatory steps should be taken:

- The Breeder’s Cup Procedure and Scoring Sheet will be sent to the appointed judges ahead of time for their review and preparation. Additionally, a copy of the Mastiff standard should be available for review.

- Plan to meet with the three Breeder’s Cup judges before judging time to answer any questions. Instruct them to work as a team to keep ring procedure and judging time reasonable. Pick a LEAD person within the judges to keep the pace.

- Remember this can be a boring event for the audience, as many do not understand the judging process. May want to have a handout and example score sheets available for anyone with questions.

- Pay attention to where the photographer/videographer is placed in relation to the dogs. Consider the video and plan appropriately.

- The selected Statisticians will:
  - Not be allowed to be exhibitors in the Breeder’s Cup competition
  - Must be an MCOA member
  - Be at ringside in a private area.
  - Tally up the score sheets as they are turned in.
  - Upon completion of judging, the Statistician will total the second set of scores.
  - Enclose the final results in a sealed envelope, and deliver the envelope directly to the MCOA President.
  - Ensure that all scores and score sheets are not left out after judging is complete.

- **The results will be held in the strictest confidence until the Awards Banquet.**

- The **MCOA President** will announce with winners and deliver awards to those winners at the Awards Banquet.

- The results of the score sheets will be posted after the Awards Banquet and a copy of the score sheets will be provided to each Breeder/Co-Breeder.

- Winner Breakdown is:
  - 3rd runner-up
  - 2nd runner-up
  - 1st runner-up
  - Breeder’s Cup Winner
MASTIFF CLUB OF AMERICA-TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS

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.
TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS PROCEDURES

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 of 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.
EXAMPLE OF TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS – JUDGES SELECTION

LETTER

MASTIFF CLUB OF AMERICA
NATIONAL SPECIALTY

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
THE TOURNAMENT JUDGING FORM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Judge</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>Sex:</th>
<th>M</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>Entry #</th>
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<tr>
<td>Balance</td>
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<td>4</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Substance/Bone</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<td>4</td>
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Score:

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<td>Skull</td>
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<td>Muzzle</td>
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<td>Stop</td>
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<td>Eyes</td>
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<td>Ears</td>
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Score:

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<tr>
<td>Topline</td>
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<tr>
<td>Neck/Shoulder</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chest/Rib</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Front Angulation</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rear Angulation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feet/Pawterns</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Croup</td>
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<td>Tail</td>
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Score:

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<td>Pigment/Mark (Ears)</td>
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Score:

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<tr>
<td>Coming</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slide gait</td>
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</tr>
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<td>Soundness</td>
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Score:

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Score:

Total Score:
REGIONAL CLUB INFORMATION

REGIONAL CLUB SPECIALTIES

In recognition of many requests and in honor of the hard work and dedication of MCOA's regional clubs, the Board of Directors approved a motion to pilot a regional specialty hosted by the Lone Star Mastiff Fanciers to be held in July 2012. Based on the success of this regional specialty the 2012-13 Board approved regional specialties on an on-going basis given the following conditions.

MCOA will:

1. MCOA will front the initial filing fee to AKC to be reimbursed by the regional clubs at conclusion of the specialty.
2. Regional club will be required to provide minimum trophies for BOB, BOS, BOW.
3. The MCOA will sponsor the BOB trophy not to exceed $50.
4. Hosting club is responsible for all other expenses. MCOA will not be responsible for any expenses incurred at this event.
5. The request needs to be sent to the MCOA corresponding secretary within nine (9) months prior to the show date.
6. Judges requirement - that the regional specialty judges must sign a contract that they will not judge Mastiffs within 500 miles of the specialty for two months prior to the specialty.
Regional Club Contacts,

I am providing an outline of the process for requesting permission from the MCOA to host a Supported Show and/or Sweepstakes event. I hope you find the following information helpful. I am open to any suggestions to continue to improve this process.

Requests for Supported Entry shows and/or Sweepstakes event must be approved by the MCOA Board of Directors. The Regional Club needs to submit all paperwork to the Corresponding Secretary, who will submit the motion to the BOD after making sure all the paperwork is in order. You need to allow enough time for your motion to be approved and for the MCOA to receive permission from the AKC – generally this needs to be 18-20 weeks (i.e. 5 months) prior to the Entry Closing Date. The Corresponding Secretary will keep you posted on the progress on your request.

The revised MCOA Supported Entry Request Form will allow you to complete the form on your computer. If you are only requesting a Supported Entry show, this is the only form you need to complete. The MCOA will sponsor one Best of Breed Trophy for a Supported Entry show per Regional Club, per year. If you have more than one Supported Entry in a calendar year, you may request an additional trophy at the expense of your club. Additional BOB trophies cost $30, plus shipping costs.

If you would like to hold a Sweepstakes, you must also complete the AKC’s Application for Show/Trial and submit it with the Supported Entry Request Form. Unfortunately the AKC form is a PDF, so you will have to complete it by hand or typewriter, and scan it or snail mail it to the MCOA Corresponding Secretary. DO NOT send anything directly to the AKC – it must be signed by an MCOA Officer. In addition to the Application for Show/Trial, you will need to submit a letter from the hosting all-breed club giving you permission to hold your Sweepstakes event.

One more reminder… at the Annual Meeting last year, Motion #5/10-10 passed. The motion requires Regional Clubs to include the names of approved MCOA Mentors that will be available to support mentoring and ringside observation during the Supported Entry show. The motion became effective January 1, 2011, and has been added to the Supported Entry Request Form. A current list of approved MCOA Mentors may be found on the Judges Education page on the MCOA website at www.mastiff.org.
This information will be available on the MCOA webpage on the Regional Clubs Admin Page. If you are not the correct contact for your club, please let me know so that we can update our contact information and the MCOA webpage. If you have any questions, or if you need help completing forms please let me know.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Lambden
Corresponding Secretary, MCOA
sunnydalemastiffs@yahoo.com
# REGIONAL CLUBS SUPPORTED ENTRY REQUEST FORM

**Mastiff Club of America**

## GENERAL CLUB INFORMATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regional Club Name:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date of Submission:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name &amp; Title of Club Officer Submitting Request:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submitting Officer’s Email:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submitting Officer’s Mailing Address:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submitting Officer’s Phone:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Has this event been approved by your Regional Club’s Board of Directors (yes or no)?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## HOST SHOW INFORMATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name of Host All-Breed Kennel Club:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supported Show Date:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entry Closing Date:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name of Show Cluster (if any):</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name of Host Show Chair:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Host Show Chair’s Email:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Host Show Chair’s Phone:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name of Show Superintendent:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name and Address of Show Site:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type of Venue (check one):</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indoor Arena</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fairgrounds</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Park</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (Specify)</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

## SWEEPSTAKES INFORMATION*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sweepstakes (check all that apply):</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name of Sweeps Judge:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* SWEEPSTAKES INFORMATION*
Sweeps Judge’s Email:  
Sweeps Judge’s Phone:  
Sweeps Judge’s Mailing Address:  

*You must also complete an ‘AKC Application for Show/Trial’ and submit with this form if you are requesting permission for a Sweepstakes.

**TROPHY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Is a Best of Breed trophy requested for this event (yes or no)?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Is this the first trophy your club has requested for the show’s calendar year (yes or no)?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**APPROVED MCOA MENTORS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Will your Regional Club’s be offering ring side mentoring at this Supported Event (yes or no)?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Name(s) of approved MCOA Mentors available at Supported Entry  
(If the event is more than one day, please indicate which dates mentors will be available.) |

By signing and submitting this form I (we) understand that:

- MCOA provides only one Best of Breed trophy per regional club per year by request only. Additional trophies may be purchased from MCOA at the club’s expense.
- Regional clubs (not MCOA) are responsible for all other trophies and any costs associated with this or any supported entry event.
- No special classes can be approved by MCOA except for Sweepstakes. Only AKC sanctioned clubs can offer special classes such as Brood Bitch, Stud Dog, Brace, etc…

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Signature of Regional Club Officer:</th>
<th>Date:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
REGIONAL CLUB RECOGNITION

The criteria to become and remain a MCOA recognized Regional Club:

1) Must have MCOA approved COE or 2/3 members must belong to MCOA

2) Been in existence for at least five years.

3) A yearly report must be submitted to be included with the yearly committee reports that are distributed at the Annual Meeting (Report should include show related activities, rescue participation/support, meetings held and number of members.)

4) If no MCOA approved COE exists, all membership rosters need to be submitted to MCOA membership secretary by July one to verify continued recognition status of supported clubs. This supersedes any other motion relative to regional organization recognition.

MCOA Recognized Clubs: Please visit www.mastiff.org for current clubs and officers.

Other Regional Mastiff Clubs:
Cascade English Mastiff Club www.cascademastiff.com
Empire State Mastiff Fanciers www.empirestatemastifffanciers.com
Garden State Mastiff Fanciers www.gardenstatemastiffs.com
Lone Star Mastiff Fanciers www.lsmf.com/Pages/default.aspx
Midwest Mastiff Fanciers www.midwestmastifffanciers.org
Mastiff Club of Northern Ohio www.ohiovalleymastiffs.com
Pacific Northwest Mastiff Fanciers www.pnmf.org
Redwood Empire Mastiff Club www.redwoodempiremastiffclub.com
Rocky Mountain Mastiff Fanciers www.rmmf.org
Southern States Mastiff Fanciers www.ssmfmastiff.org
ETHICS

ETHICS COMMITTEE PROCEDURES

In accordance with the MCOA By-laws, the Ethics Committee shall investigate charges made by any person whether member or non-member, against a club member for alleged conduct not in the best interest of the club or breed, or alleged violations to the Code of Ethics.

The Ethics Chairperson is an elected officer to the Board of Directors, selected by the Board during the July board meeting. The remaining committee members are comprised of four (4) additional MCOA members, one from each time zone, if feasible, drawn at random by the Parliamentarian, and subsequently asked to serve, by the Ethics Chairperson. The members’ names are kept strictly confidential and their identity is not revealed outside of the Board of Directors, who must approve the names prior to the committee convening. The by-laws state that these members shall not serve more than two (2) consecutive terms; however, it is the current practice to select names each time a charge is received by the Ethics Chairperson.

Contact with the Ethics Chairperson prior to the filing of formal charges is suggested as a practical solution can sometimes be reached. It is also of assistance to members to have the Ethics Chairperson discuss just what items constitute an alleged violation that can be dealt with by the Ethics Committee.

When the Recording Secretary receives charges, five (5) copies are made and sent to the Ethics Chairperson for distribution to the committee. A letter of instructions for evaluation of the alleged violation(s), a ballot, and suspense date are provided to the committee members by the Chairperson. The ballots determine the disposition of the charges and a simple majority prevails.

If the Ethics Committee determines that charges should be heard, the Ethics Committee Chairperson shall advise the Board through the Recording Secretary of its decision to forward the charges to a Board Hearing. If the Ethics committee determines that the alleged violation(s) do not constitute any further action, the Recording Secretary will be advised and a letter sent to the individual preferring the charges.

All contacts, written material, discussions, and proceedings are confidential. Any member of the Ethics Committee who breaches this confidentiality will be subject to discipline by the Board of Directors of the MCOA. Once charges have been filed, all parties are to maintain the highest degree of confidentiality.
ETHICS HEARING PROCEDURES

The MCOA Board of Directors shall appoint an elected Officer or Board Director to serve as Hearing Committee Chairperson. The remainder of the committee will consist of 2 additional Board members and 1 appointed alternate. These appointments will be made during the July Board meeting, to serve for the next club fiscal year. If it is necessary for any of these appointed members to disqualify themselves from hearing charges, due to conflict of interest, or any other reason that might be prejudicial to the impartiality of the hearing, the alternate will assume the duties, or another current board member may be temporarily appointed for that specific hearing in order to maintain the committee total of three.

When an Ethics Committee votes to send alleged charges to hearing, the Recording Secretary is so notified. Upon receipt of the Ethics committee’s decision, the Recording Secretary promptly notifies the Hearing Chairperson, and sends five (5) copies of all pertinent documentation to the Chairperson for distribution to the remaining members of the hearing Committee. The Hearing Chairperson sets a date and time for a conference call to hear the complaint. The Recording Secretary is notified of the date and time of the hearing, whereupon a notice of the hearing is sent to the complainant and to the Hearing Committee. All witnesses and materials must be in written form and all participants will receive all copies submitted to the Recording Secretary, by a specified date, in advance of the scheduled Hearing.

The Hearing Committee has complete authority to decide whether counsel may be included on the conference call hearing, and both the accused and the complainant shall be treated uniformly in this, and in all regards. The Hearing will be taped for transcription purposes by the Hearing committee, after which the tape will be destroyed. Any other electronic or stenographic record of the hearing is prohibited.

While it is preferable for both the accused and the complainant to participate in the conference call Hearing, if any choose not to participate, the Hearing continues as scheduled. Should the accused member(s) submit a resignation from the MCOA prior to the Hearing, the Board is under no obligation to accept the resignation while charges are pending and shall continue with the Hearing as scheduled.

Should the charges be sustained after all written materials are addressed and testimony of both parties is completed, the complainant and accused are excused from the conference call for deliberation of the Hearing Committee. The hearing Committee may, by majority vote, impose punitive action as outlined in the MCOA By-Laws.

Immediately after the Hearing, the findings shall be put in written form and sent to the Recording Secretary. The Recording Secretary shall then notify each of the parties of the decision and penalty, if applicable. If the charges are sustained, the findings and penalty will be published in the next quarterly bulletin.
In December of 2005 the Mastiff Club of America formed a corporation in the state of Virginia (RESCUE FOUNDATION INCORPORATED) with the goal that this entity would achieve tax exempt (501C-3) status and be a source of income for regional organizations involved in the rescue/placement of English Mastiffs. The internal Revenue Service did approve the charitable organization status. The RFI is currently chaired by Mary Speer.

Their major tasks at this time are to develop a criteria for funding rescue groups, planning the fund raising activities for the National Specialty, planning other means of gathering income and making their presence known to rescue groups, the MCOA membership and the total mastiff community.

There seems to have developed over the past two years a perception that MCOA is out of the rescue business. This is not the case at all.

"MCOA Rescue/Placement Service exists to aid in placing stray or abandoned Mastiffs in adoptive homes which will provide a high level of care and where the spirit of the MCOA Code of Ethics is observed.

The Rescue / Placement Service may assist Mastiff owners, who for any reason can no longer provide a home for their Mastiff."

With the RFI now active there will be support available from a dollar and cents standpoint and there has always been the Rescue Website available for those with questions, needs, or a willingness to take in a mastiff in need.

If any member would like to get involved, contact your MCOA or RFI Board member or just send money, it takes many dollars to do rescue right. You can contact the RFI Board at the following email address: RFIBOD@GMAIL.COM Please send donations to: 

Rescue Foundation, Inc.  
P.O Box 166  
Penfield, NY 14526

Or you may make a donation online at MCOA.org and selecting ‘Mastiff Rescue’.

You may also wish to donate or apply to adopt from and volunteer for the regional Mastiff rescue group which is in your area.
## APPROVED MCOA REGIONAL MASTIFF RESCUES

Below are the currently approved MCOA Regional Mastiff Rescues located around the various regions of the United States. Check with the regional rescue closest to you to volunteer or to apply to adopt.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Southern State Mastiff Rescue</th>
<th>Mastiff Hope</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.SOUTHERNSTATESmastiffrescue.org">www.SOUTHERNSTATESmastiffrescue.org</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.MastiffHope.org">www.MastiffHope.org</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Great Lakes Mastiff Rescue</th>
<th>RedwoodEmpire Mastiffs Club</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.glmr.org">www.glmr.org</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.redwoodempiremastiffclub.org">www.redwoodempiremastiffclub.org</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
RESCUE / PLACEMENT SERVICE--RESCUE VOLUNTEER QUESTIONNAIRE

(PLEASE PRINT)
Name:_______________________________________________________________________________
Address:_____________________________________________________________________________
City/State/Zip:_________________________________________________________________________
Home Phone:______________________ Work Phone:_______________________ Fax:_____________________
Email:___________________________ When is the best time to reach you?_______________________

(PLEASE CHECK)
_____ Yes, I would like to help with Rescue. Add my name to your Volunteer List.
_____ Yes, I would be able to foster a mastiff. Please add my name to your foster home list.
_____ No, I am no longer able to help with Rescue. Please remove my name from the list.

**MCOA MEMBERSHIP: You do not have to be a member of MCOA to be a Rescue Volunteer**

_____ I am a MCOA Member (date joined)
_____ I am NOT a MCOA Member, though I would like to be. Please send me more information.
_____ I am NOT a MCOA Member and I am not interested in joining at this time.

HOME VISITS
These visits are necessary both prior to placing a dog in a new home and after the placement to insure that all is well and that the dog and the family are adjusting well.
Would you be willing to do a home visit? _____Yes _____No
Comments:___________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________

TRANSPORTATION
To insure everyone's safety, we prefer to transport Mastiffs that are crated inside a vehicle.

Do you have access to an enclosed vehicle large enough to transport a Mastiff YES NO
Do you have a crate for transporting a Mastiff? YES NO
How far are you able to transport from your home? _____ miles
When are you available? Days - Evenings - Weekends Only
Comments:___________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________

Please send this form to:
Jennifer Lambden,
MCOA Corresponding Secretary
13882 County Road 1028
Sinton, Texas 78387
Phone: #361-633-1539 Email: sunnydalemastiffs@yahoo.com
MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION AND FORMS

BREEDER REFERRAL FORM

Breeder Referral is about educating the public, not just about selling puppies. If you would like to help educate a prospective Mastiff owner even when you do not have puppies, please complete the following and you will be placed on MCOA’s Breeder Referral Listing.

**Note:** You must be a MCOA member in good standing to be placed on the Breeder Referral Listing.

There are many states that are not being represented in the listing and it would be great to have the whole United States represented for contacts.

Your Name:  
__________________________________________________________________

Your Kennel Name:  
__________________________________________________________________

City: ________________________________ State: ______________ Zip Code: _____________

Phone: (____) ____________________________

Email:  
__________________________________________________________________

Please forward this form to:  
Kelly Meyer,  
**Breeder Referral Chairperson**  
2229 Tennessee Avenue  
Savannah, GA 31404  
Phone: 912. 238.3170  Email: KELLYSMASTIFFS@comcast.net
MCOA LOVE TAX FORM

What is the "Love Tax"? Basically, it is your donation for any breeding(s) you may have done, whether you make it in the name of your "stud" dog, or "number of puppies" that you have whelped. The amount is up to you. ALL "LOVE TAX" MONEY GOES TO RESCUE!

LITTER NOTICE

SIRE:________________________________________________________
DAM:________________________________________________________
NUMBER OF PUPPIES:_________________ DATE OF BIRTH:_______________
BREEDER(S):____________________________________________________
KENNEL(S):____________________________________________________
ADDRESS:______________________________________________________
CITY, STATE, ZIP:_______________________________________________
PHONE: ___________________________ EMAIL:______________________

STUD SERVICE

SIRE:________________________________________________________
DAM:________________________________________________________
OWNER(S):____________________________________________________
KENNEL(S):____________________________________________________
ADDRESS:______________________________________________________
CITY, STATE, ZIP:_______________________________________________
PHONE: ___________________________ EMAIL:______________________

Make your check, credit card or money order payable to: MCOA Rescue and note on your payment "Love Tax" and send to:

Rescue Foundation, Inc.
P.O Box 166
Penfield, NY 14526
MCOA MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

MASTIFF CLUB OF AMERICA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

MASTIFF CLUB OF AMERICA, INC MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

 Incorporated 1929, Member of the American Kennel Club

MCOA Membership is open to all reputable persons 18 years or older (or at least 10 years or older for Juniors), in good standing with the American Kennel Club, and who subscribe to the rules and purposes of the club. Applicant understands that they will not have voting or office holding privileges until they become active members pursuant to Article I, Section I of the Bylaws. One name per application – Please print clearly.

NAME OF APPLICANT: ____________________________ KENNEL NAME: ______________

MAILING ADDRESS ________________________________________________________________

CITY ___________________ STATE ________ ZIP _____________ (+4) ______________

If mailing address is a PO Box, also include your physical address for MCOA records only:

PHYSICAL ADDRESS ____________________________________________________________

TELEPHONE _____-____-_______ CELL _____-____-_______ Publish in MCOA directory? Yes ☐ No ☐

EMAIL (Will be used for some club communication):

I would prefer to receive my Castlekeeper Bulletins electronically via e-mail: Yes ☐ No ☐

What areas of the club are you interested in volunteering for:

Have you ever applied for membership or been a member of the MCOA before? Yes ☐ No ☐

I have read and agree to abide by the MCOA Code of Ethics and the Constitution & Bylaws and I also agree to abide by the MCOA and American Kennel Club rules. I have attained the required age to become a member. Include a signed copy of the Code of Ethics (page 2 of this form).

Name: ____________________________ Signature: ____________________________ Date: ___/___/___

MCOA MEMBERSHIP DUES AND PAYMENT INFORMATION

| Dues – Associate Membership | For those 18 years of age and older | $35 | $ |
| Dues – Junior Membership | For those at least 10 and less than 18 years of age | $15 | $ |

Processing fee Non-refundable mandatory fee $10 $10

Donations to MCOA (General Fund)
General Fund $ ________________ Juniors Program $ ________________
Specialty: Trophies $ ________________ Welcome Party $ ________________

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: MCOA for this amount MCOA TOTAL: $ ________________

Tax Deductible Donation for Health Write separate check payable to: MCOA Charitable Trust $ ________________
Tax Deductible Donation for Rescue Write separate check payable to: Rescue Foundation, Inc $ ________________

Each applicant must be sponsored by two active MCOA members in good standing (not less than 3 years). Associate Member Sponsors can not be family members or related to each other. Junior Member Sponsors can include one family member. We, the undersigned MCOA members, do individually recommend this applicant.

Name: ____________________________ Signature: ____________________________ Date: ___/___/___

Name: ____________________________ Signature: ____________________________ Date: ___/___/___

Mail the checks or money orders and the completed 2 page application within 30 days of the last signature on the application to: Jodi LaBomard, MCOA Membership Secretary, 189 Miranda Ln., Roxboro, NC 27574

OFFICE USE ONLY: Date Received / / Letter Sent / / Board Approved / / PD Check #

MCOA Membership Application revised August 2010 Page 1 of 2
The Mastiff Club of America requires its members to adhere to the following guidelines which constitute its Code of Ethics. The Club also requires that members, breeders and stud dog owners not aid or abet the violation of these guidelines by anyone else. The Club does not entertain contractual disputes as a part of its hearing process, but will determine if any additional actions should be taken, if such contractual disputes have been remedied by other parties, or institutions. This Code details certain practices necessary to implement the objectives of the Club as outlined in Article 1, Section 2 of its Constitution.

1. I will consider only the betterment of the breed when breeding a bitch or allowing a breeding with my stud dog, being conscientious of controlling and eliminating inherited problems. A breeder and stud dog owner shall plan each breeding with the paramount intention of protecting the breed, and only when the parties involved agree the breeder is in a position and has the knowledge to give proper care to both the bitch and offspring.

2. I will not allow a bitch to be bred prior to her reaching twenty-two (22) months of age, nor shall any bitch be bred after her seventh (7th) birthday. A bitch will not be bred more than twice in any eighteen (18) month period unless she does not whelp a litter, the litter is stillborn, consists of a single (1) pup, or as a part of a veterinarians recommendation for treatment of pyometria. A bitch will have no more than four litters in her lifetime.

3. I will sell a Mastiff only to a buyer whom I believe to be interested in the protection of the breed and who would agree in writing to provide the highest quality of care for said Mastiff, including quality food, water, proper shelter from heat or cold, active companionship, appropriate exercise, socialization and professional veterinary care whenever necessary.

4. An MCOA member will sell each Mastiff puppy/adult on a written contract signed by all parties. Said contract shall contain, but is not limited to the following provisions:
   a. Complete care/feeding instructions.
   b. A record of inoculations and worming with a recommended continuation schedule.
   c. Provide the buyer with a five (5) generation pedigree on the litter.
   d. Furnish a signed AKC registration or transfer form, unless written agreement is made with the buyer that such papers are withheld or are to follow.
   e. A provision that ensures that the breeder is contacted whenever an owner can no longer keep a dog at any time in the dog’s life and that the breeder will take back the dog if asked to do so.
   f. Stipulate that the buyer have a veterinary check-up within five (5) working days of the sale, (or whatever is applicable in your state of residence), to determine that the Mastiff is healthy. If the veterinarian determines that the Mastiff is not in good health, the breeder will, upon the Mastiffs return, refund the purchase price or replace the Mastiff.
5. I will not sell, nor allow any co-owners of my dogs to sell or provide a Mastiff for resale through gift, auction, prize or to a broker/agent or commercial outlet for resale. I will not engage nor allow any co-owners of my dogs to engage in the brokering of puppies, (selling or buying). If confronted with a potential rescue situation I will contact an MCOA approved rescue group to assist the dog(s) in need.

6. I will not sell a puppy/adult who is sick, nor will I ship or deliver to the buyer a puppy less than eight (8) weeks of age.

7. I will adhere to the AKC code of sportsmanship at all times and in all matters relating to Mastiffs. I will maintain the highest degree of honesty and integrity. I will not knowingly make a misstatement of fact in any serious discussion of my Mastiffs or the Mastiffs of any other Mastiff owner that I might have with persons not qualified to judge the fact for themselves. When advertising my Mastiffs in any media (magazines, internet websites, mail, email, etc.) I will not make false or misleading statements. The MCOA will review any person found guilty of such misstatements, but removes itself from any domain in ascertaining such guilt. Any remedy should be between affected individual parties and the legal findings of guilt then presented to the MCOA for further action if necessary.

8. I will take back any Mastiff bred/sold by me who has been displaced. If I am unable to do so, I will assist the purchaser in finding a new home and if all options are exhausted, contact an MCOA APPROVED RESCUE GROUP OR REGIONAL CLUB, with whom I will reimburse for all costs incurred not to exceed $500 per placement.

9. I will recommend the neutering/spaying of any puppy/adult I place or sell as pet quality as soon as the dog reaches the appropriate age. The MCOA strongly recommends all members register all their puppies with AKC and uses the AKC Limited registration option on any puppies deemed pet quality.

10. I will not sell, place, nor use, a Mastiff for the purpose of attack training, fighting, or any other sport detrimental to the breed and its reputation. I will not allow any Mastiff in my care to roam free unattended or unsupervised.

11. I will not produce more than eight (8) litters in two calendar years per household nor will I permit my stud dog to be used in a program, which would exceed eight (8) litters in two calendar years per household. I will not purposely evade these guidelines by putting my dogs in the name of friends or other family members.

12. I will provide the highest quality care to all Mastiffs that I own, or that are in my possession, for as long as they are in my care including quality food, water, proper shelter from heat or cold, active companionship, appropriate exercise, socialization, and routine veterinary care. I will never abuse, nor knowingly allow abuse of these same Mastiffs.

I have read and agree to abide by the Mastiff Club of America Code of Ethics:

Printed Name: __________________________ Signature : __________________________ Date: ___/___/___

MCOA Code of Ethics revised January 2013. Page 2 of 2