

Juniors and AKC® Events

American Kennel Club



An AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB Program



AMERICAN
KENNEL CLUB®

www.akc.org



Join the World of AKC Juniors!

You are the future of the sport of dogs and responsible dog ownership. The more you learn, the more you will grow in the sport of purebred dogs and as a person. The values, attitudes and responsibility learned while competing with your dog as a Junior will serve you well throughout life. By putting time and effort into learning about your dog and how to participate with it, Juniors are rewarded with a win.

AKC Events Offer Juniors the Opportunity to:

- Develop social skills
- Develop self-confidence
- Create bonds with other Juniors their age
- Develop dog handling and training skills
- Learn about good sportsmanship
- Learn about dogs and dog shows
- Become involved in AKC events and organizations
- Become a responsible dog owner

“I have to think before I act, make good decisions and plan ahead.”

– Lisa Toth

“My experiences in dog training have been some of the best times of my childhood and high school days.”

– Laura Coulter

Getting Started

The best way to see what is involved in participating in AKC events is to watch the Junior Showmanship classes at a dog show and attend Companion and Performance Events. You will see how youth take part at all levels of competition, how they have developed friendships and have learned to compete and accept their wins and losses in a gracious manner. Talk to these young participants in our sport. Find more information about dog clubs and upcoming events in your area at www.akc.org/clubs.

To learn from other Juniors and read about their experiences, subscribe to *AKC Jr. News* at <http://cs.silverpop.com/akc/preferences/index.sp>.



Who May Participate?

Anyone younger than 18 may participate in AKC events. Junior Showmanship (Conformation) requires the Junior to be between the ages of 9 and 18. The requirements for juniors vary with each event. To find more information about requirements for showing in Juniors, visit www.akc.org/kids_juniors.



Events to Participate in:

- Conformation
- Obedience
- Agility
- Rally Obedience
- Tracking
- Coonhounds (water and nite hunts)
- Field Trials
- Earthdog Tests
- Hunting Tests
- Herding Tests
- Lure Coursing

FAQs

1. How do I join the AKC Junior Organization?

Everyone who has a Junior Showmanship number is automatically entered in the AKC National Junior Organization, which allows you to participate in events. Getting a Junior Showmanship number is easy. Call (919) 816-3776 and leave your name, address and birth date; e-mail: juniors@akc.org; use our online Junior Showmanship Request Form.

2. What is a Junior Showmanship number, and do I need to have one to compete in AKC events?

A Junior Showmanship number is a number you use when you enter an event. It is used to track your wins and determine eligibility for Open competition. In Performance Events your Junior number is linked to the dog's results to recognize your handling the dog to a title.

3. What dogs are eligible to show in Juniors?

To enter a dog in a Conformation Junior Showmanship Class the dog must be eligible for entry in an AKC Dog Show or Obedience Trial. This means the dog must be AKC registered and purebred. This includes dogs that have Purebred Alternative Listing (PAL) or Limited Registration status.

4. Can a Junior handler show a spayed or neutered dog in Junior Showmanship competition?

Yes.

5. What if I don't own a purebred dog?

Can I show someone else's?

Each purebred dog must be owned or co-owned by the Junior Handler or by the Junior Handler's father, mother, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, grandfather, or grandmother, including the corresponding step and half relations, or by a member of the Junior Handler's household.

6. Is there a special Junior class for Performance Events?

There is not a special class, however Juniors are recognized for competing in all the Performance Events. A Junior handling a dog to a Performance title will receive a certificate and a specially designed pin.

Through the events regulated by the American Kennel Club, participants and spectators alike are given the chance to appreciate the full range of beautiful and healthy purebred dogs. Preparing to show or to work these wonderful animals requires dedication, commitment and patience, for both dog and handler. In turn, this produces the greatest benefit of all — strengthening of the ancient and noble bond between dog and man.

The American Kennel Club's Mission Statement

The American Kennel Club is dedicated to upholding the integrity of its registry, promoting the sport of purebred dogs and breeding for type and function. Founded in 1884, the AKC and its affiliated organizations advocate for the purebred dog as a family companion, advance canine health and well-being, work to protect the rights of all dog owners and promote responsible dog ownership.

To obtain more information on Junior Showmanship, or if you have questions on where to find a local dog club or obtaining a purebred dog, please contact:



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