

Guidelines for dog show judges about traineeships

In The Netherlands aspiring dog show judges are required to follow traineeships before they are allowed to take a breed examination.

A trainee has to ask permission from the judge and the organizing committee plenty of time before the show date.

Should you be asked for a traineeship by an aspiring dog show judge and decide to agree to this request, please comply with the following guidelines: you are of course under no obligation to accept a trainee and even if you do, the organizing committee of the show concerned can refuse a traineeship accepted by you, in case the number of dogs entered is too large.

You are allowed to accept only one trainee per breed. If you are judging several breeds at a show, you may accept trainees for different breeds but no more than two altogether and only one per breed.

The aspiring dog show judge should prepare for the traineeship by making a thorough study of the breed standard of the breed(s) concerned. You may test the thoroughness of the preparation by:

- Asking the trainee to write an ideal critique for the breed(s) concerned which should be submitted to you at least two weeks before the traineeship. This gives you time to comment on this critique, for instance by e-mail.

and/or

- Discussing the breed standard with the trainee prior to judging on the day of the show.

During judging, we suggest the following procedure for the traineeship. You judge the dogs and the trainee subsequently examines a number of dogs indicated by you. The trainee writes the critiques and places the dogs just on paper, without any discussion with the judge.

If the trainee has any questions, these should be asked **after** the whole entry has been judged and placed, as otherwise exhibitors might get the impression that the trainee and you are conferring on the placing. If the entry is very large, questions may be asked **after** a class has been placed, but **under no circumstances before**. As part of your evaluation after judging has been completed, you may point out breed-specific characteristics to the trainee, both positive and negative.

It is important for you and the trainee to agree on this procedure before judging commences. If you should deem it necessary to terminate a traineeship before judging is completed, judging will continue without the trainee. You should report the reason for the early termination of the traineeship in writing to the delegate of the Raad van Beheer, or, if no delegate is present, to the secretariat of the show.

When the trainee has acted to your satisfaction you will be asked to sign a form.