



International Competition Rules

General

The contestant can apply for the following categories:

- Handstripping
- Spaniels and Setters
- Poodles
- Other pure breeds scissoring
- Commercial *
- Beginner – not more than 1 years experience. Dog shows also counts as experience*
The contestant can compete as “beginner” in several contests for one year even if winner.
The second year he/she must enter “Open” class even if not winner
- Intermediate- - Intermediate class is for all contestants who have no more than 2 years experiences.
The gold medal winner won't be allowed to compete in "Intermediate class" anymore
The second year he/she must enter "Open" class even if not winner

* These Categories not eligible for best in show.

Per category, the contestant can compete in one of the two following classes:

1. Open – Can be admitted in “Open” class all contestants that never won their categories and will stay till they attain a victory. Contestants will enter “Champion” class, where existing, the year after and only in the categories they won.
2. Champion – Can be admitted in “Champion” class contestants that already won in the same category at a competition. When a “Champion” class registers less than 5 entries it must be considered invalidated and contestants have to enter “Open” class

Useful information

- Contestants must bring their own dogs.
 - Contestants must bring their own grooming tools.
 - The organization will provide the tables.
 - The contestants need to be in the ring 30 minutes before the start of the competition for prejudging.
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- In each category, there will be 3 contestants placed per class.



Timing

Handstripping without clipper use

- *Small and Medium sizes* 2 :30 hours
- *Big sizes* 3 hours

Handstripping with clipper use

- *Small* 2 hours
- *Medium sizes* 2 :15 hours
- *Big sizes* 2 :30 hours

Spaniels and Setters

All Setters, American Cockers, English Cockers, Springers,... 2 : 30 hours

Poodles*

up to 35 cm 2.00 hours
35 cm up to 45 cm 2:15 hours
Over 45 cm 2:30 hours

Pure Breeds

Bichon, Bedlington 2:00 hours
Kerry Blue Terrier, Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier, Black Russian Terrier, Bouvier 2:30 hours

Commercial*

Small breeds 1.30 hours
Medium and Big breeds 2:00 hours

* When feet, muzzle and tail have been groomed before the competition, time can be reduced up to 15 minutes.



Grooming regulations

The dogs will need to be washed (except for the handstrip dogs)

The ears and nails need to be groomed and the dog's underbelly, genitals and hind quarters may be previously groomed for reasons of hygiene, according to the breed standard.

The dog needs to have at least 8 weeks coat growth or poodles minimum 5 cm coat length.

Any evident line or pattern should not be visible. Dog's coat must be long enough to allow the groomer to make a difference in it's appearance.

All grooming techniques are allowed, as long as the chosen technique suites the type of the dog's coat.

Category Handstripping / Spaniels & Setters

Stripping knives are allowed

Dog needs to be groomed according to the breed standard

(Colored)Chalk powder/block/spray and cream is allowed.

It is not allowed to use clippers except:

Scottish Terrier – chest, head and ears.

West Highland Terrier - chest and ears.

Cockers and Setters - chest and ears.

Schnauzer - chest, head, inside of back legs and ears

Category Poodles / Pure Breeds

The dog needs to be washed and fluff dried.

The muzzle, feet and tail should have at least a 2-week's hair growth.

Poodles must be groomed in a style recognized in the breed standard.

Poodles with top knots can have 15 minutes extra time to finish the top knot and may ask for help from an outsider to hold the dog.

Coloring is not allowed

Commercial category

For all FCI recognized breeds groomed commercially. In this class you may also enter with breeds that usually need stripping and groom them using scissors or clippers.

Coloring is not allowed



Competition End

Contestants should remove all hair, equipment and products from the grooming table. A comb should be placed on the table for the judge to use during judging. Contestants may comb their dogs before and after the judging panel has evaluated their dogs. Contestant should stack his/her dog to present to judge. It will be announced when the judging is finished so contestants can relax their dogs.

Judging

The judges will examine each dog during prejudging and final judging and will take in consideration the following issues:

- Suitability of chosen style to the dog.
- The difficulty degree of the clip.
- Ability to camouflage defects and enhance beauty.
- Up to date with today's modern grooming styles.
- Respect for today's breed standard. *
- The quality of scissoring, shaving and or stripping after passing a comb.
- Balance, symmetry, and smoothness.
- Presentation of the dog to the judge.

*Allowance to be made for International differences in styling for example USA or Scandinavian styles.

Poodles

The quality of the clipper work whether the feet, face and tail are clipped with the appropriate blade. All clipper work should be smooth with no tufts of hair around the lips, eyes, pads of the feet.

Hand Stripping

There should be no visible pink or bald patches. The hair must be removed with the lay of the coat and without causing pain. Removing the undercoat by a carding tool is allowed only after the handstripping has taken place. Rolling coats are acceptable; however the work done in the ring must be sufficient to allow the groomer to make a distinct change in the dog's appearance.

If clippers are used to trim the soft coat on the head or ears, the front of the neck, or on the insides of the back legs, these areas must be trimmed neatly and smoothly with the appropriate blade. The clipper work should blend smoothly with the furnishing or feathering rather than stick out. **Excessive scissors use will be penalized.**

Pure Breeds and Spaniels & Setters

If thinning shears are used: the areas that are thinned should blend smoothly and create a natural appearance.

The judges' decision will be final and binding.



POINTS

In the four main categories (Handstrip, Spaniels and Setters, Poodles, and Other pure breeds) the judging system is based on points.

Each judge awards 10 points for the first place, 8 points for the second, 6 points for the third and 4 points for the fourth in each class

Judges are not allowed to exchange any opinion concerning the judgment during the competition.

Each judge will have his/her own place list. Adding up the points of all judges, the President of the Jury will obtain the final place list. Just in case of tie the President of the Jury will discuss with the judges to establish the place list.

Handling

Judges may give a warning to any competitor who is seen handling a dog in a rough or unsafe manner. A second warning will constitute disqualification.

If the competitor makes clipper burns, nicks or cuts he can't be placed as a winner.

Any indecorous or aggressive language used towards the judges may lead to disqualification.

Best in Show

An "all round" Judge member of the Jury Panel can be charged to judge the BIS after Contests' Organizers resolution.

It is understood that contestants entering the competition accepted all the items of these rules.