



# **VDH Show Regulations**

## Contents

<b>Chapter 1</b>	<b>General Provisions</b>	3
Section 1	Definitions	3
Section 2	Classification of Dog Shows and Scope of Show Regulations	3
Section 3	Permission by VDH and Formalities	3
Section 4	Admission of Dogs	3
Section 5	Admission of Exhibitors	4
Section 6	Show Entries	4
Section 7	Entry Fees	4
Section 8	Liability	5
Section 9	Responsibilities of Exhibitors/Handlers	5
Section 10	Rights of Exhibitors	5
Section 11	Access to Venue	5
Section 12	Access to Ring	5
Section 13	Division into Breeds and Classes	5
Section 14	Transfers to a different class	6
Section 15	Qualifications and Evaluation	6
Section 16	Awarding of Placings	7
Section 17	Late arrival of Exhibitors	8
Section 18	Announcement of Evaluations and Placings	8
Section 19	Authorization of Breed Judges	8
Section 20	Obligations of Breed Judges	8
Section 21	Number of Dogs per Breed Judge	8
Section 22	Replacement of Judges	8
Section 23	Breed Judge Apprentices	8
<b>Chapter Two</b>	<b>Competitions, Titles and Challenge Certificates</b>	8
Section 24	Competitions	8
Section 25	General Notes on Title Awards and Challenge Certificates	10
Section 26	VDH Titles and VDH “Winner of the Day” Titles	10
Section 27	Neutral CAC and Neutral Junior CAC	10
Section 28	German Champion (Club)	11
<b>Chapter Three</b>	<b>National and International Dog Shows</b>	11
Section 29	Cancellation of Dog Shows	11
Section 30	Integration of Speciality Shows	11
Section 31	Entry forms/Confirmations	11
Section 32	Division into Classes	11
Section 33	Admittance into Venue	12
Section 34	Judges’ Reports	12
Section 35	Order of Judging	12
Section 36	Federal Winner Show, VDH European Winner Show and German Winner Show	12
<b>Chapter Four</b>	<b>Regulatory and Concluding Provisions</b>	12
Section 37	Regulatory Provisions	12
Section 38	Show Regulations of VDH Member Clubs	13
Section 39	Partial Invalidity of These Regulations	13
Section 40	Implementing Regulations	13
Section 41	Effectiveness	13

## Chapter 1 General Provisions

### Section 1 Definitions

1. Dog shows within the meaning of these regulations are exhibitions of pedigree dogs for which permission has been granted by Verband für das Deutsche Hundewesen e.V. (VDH, the German Kennel Club).  
They promote and support dog breeding. They are public events which facilitate the evaluation of pedigree dogs, demonstrate the current state of breeding and familiarize the public with the diversity of dog breeds.
2. Owners are defined as persons who hold dogs as their legal property.  
Exhibitors are defined as persons who make themselves known as such to dog show organizers and deal with the formalities at shows.  
Handlers are defined as persons who present dogs in the rings.

### Section 2 Classification of Dog Shows and Scope of Show Regulations

1. Dog shows in the categories listed below may only be held with the permission of Verband für das Deutsche Hundewesen e.V. (VDH). Their organization and running are governed by the provisions of these Show Regulations, the VDH Judge Regulations, and the relevant provisions in the Show Regulations of the Fédération Cynologique Internationale (FCI).
  1. International dog shows
  2. National dog shows
  3. Speciality shows organized by VDH member clubs and approved by VDH (including dog shows organised jointly by multiple member clubs)
2. The provisions contained in this first Chapter apply – unless otherwise expressly provided for – to all dog shows which have been granted date protection (and in particular to special breeding shows).
3. Dog shows without official permission by VDH are not subject to these regulations. These dog shows may not award challenge certificates for the titles “German Champion (VDH)”, “German Junior Champion (VDH)”, “German Veteran Champion (VDH)” and “German Champion (Club).” Qualifications – including breeding-relevant qualifications – can be awarded.

### Section 3 Permission by VDH and Formalities

All regulations governing applications for permission for speciality shows and the formalities that must be observed are contained in the “Speciality Shows” Implementation Regulations. They are determined by the Board (after consultation with the Shows Committee) and become effective after being circulated to the member clubs in writing.

### Section 4 Admission of Dogs

1. Only those pedigree dogs for which a breed standard has been adopted by the FCI and/or VDH and which are registered in a stud book or register (*livre d’attente*) recognized by the FCI and/or VDH may be admitted for showing. The identity of dogs entered for showing may be verified.
2. Prohibition on showing dogs with cropped ears/docked tails  
Dogs from Germany and abroad are banned from being shown if they display the following:
  1. cropped ears
  2. docked tail (with the exception of those employed for hunting in accordance with the German Animal Welfare Laws / only for FCI-recognised hunting breeds).
3. The organizer may demand that proof that the admission requirements are fulfilled is furnished within a set period of time. If such proof is not supplied within the stated time period, entries may be rejected.

4. Dogs that bite, are ill, or are infested with parasites are not permitted to enter the show venue. This restriction also applies to bitches that are visibly in whelp, lactating or accompanied by their puppies. Any person who brings a diseased or ill dog into a show shall be liable for any consequences which result. Dogs which are evidently deaf or blind are not permitted to take part in the show. Nor may castrated males take part, other than in the veteran class.
5. Bitches on heat may be shown at dog shows for which permission has been granted by VDH.
6. Dogs not listed in the show catalogue cannot be judged unless the dog's omission from the catalogue is due to an error on the part of the organizer. Late entries (after the closing date) are not permitted, with the exception of entries in the categories Breeders Group, Couples, Progeny Group and Junior Handling. The rules set out by the organizer shall apply in these cases.

### **Section 5 Admission of Exhibitors**

1. Dogs owned by officiating show organizers or any person living in the same household as an officiating show organizer may not be entered and shown.
2. Ring stewards, Ring secretaries and members of their respective households may only show dogs belonging to breeds for which they are officiating on the day of the show in exceptional circumstances and with written permission from the show organizer. Ring stewards may not act as handlers for their own dogs and must leave the ring during the evaluation of the class in which their own dog is presented. Ring secretaries may not act as handlers for any dogs belonging to the breed for which they are working on the day of the show and must leave the ring for the duration of the evaluation of the class in which their own dog is entered.
3. Persons belonging to the following categories, in particular, are banned from attending VDH shows:
  - Persons on whom a time-limited or permanent VDH exhibition ban has been imposed
  - Persons banned from exhibiting dogs by a VDH member club whose ban has been confirmed by the VDH Board
  - Commercial dog breeders/traders

### **Section 6 Show Entries**

1. Only owners are entitled to enter dogs for shows. They may appoint representatives to act on their behalf. Dogs can only be entered for showing using the name under which they are registered in the stud book or registry. Submission of an entry obliges entrants to pay the registration fee.
2. Owners acknowledge the binding character of the show regulations with the submission of their entries.
3. Owners may show dogs themselves or have them shown by a representative. Acts or omissions of a representative (exhibitor/handler) shall count in favour of or against the owner and/or the representative involved.
4. Double entries are not permissible.
5. Entries may be withdrawn by giving notice in writing at any point before the end of the official registration period. Show organizers may retain up to 25% of the entry fee as a processing fee in such cases.
6. If the organizer changes the date of a show, entries may be withdrawn by giving notice in writing.

The organizer may set a time limit for the withdrawal of entries. A change of date becomes effective once an owner has been notified about the change by the organizer. Entries not withdrawn by the specified deadline count as having been submitted for the new show date.

### **Section 7 Entry Fees**

Entry fees are set by show organizers.

## Section 8 Liability

The owners of exhibited dogs are liable for all damages caused by their dogs.

## Section 9 Responsibilities of Exhibitors/Handlers

1. Exhibitors acknowledge that qualifications and placings awarded by the judge are incontestable and shall not be subject to review. Public expressions of criticism or insults directed at judges are impermissible.
2. Each exhibitor/handler is personally responsible for presenting dogs punctually for showing.
3. Pedigrees of dogs registered for showing, performance certificates for working dogs and proof of Champion titles are to be presented on request.
4. Badges with correct catalogue numbers must be displayed clearly by handlers on their person.
5. Disruptive “double handling” may lead to the exclusion of the dog who is the beneficiary of the “double handling” by the officiating judge. A disturbance shall be deemed to have occurred when evaluations are disrupted or impeded. Where applicable, an exhibition ban pursuant to Section 37 can be obtained against an exhibitor/handler.
6. In the show area, dogs may only be prepared for showing by combing and brushing without the use of any substances or grooming aids. Tying dogs to so-called “gallows” is not allowed. Neither in the Breed nor in the Main Ring may a dog be presented on a dais. The use of laser pointers is prohibited. It should also be noted that no information which might indicate the pedigree or kennel of a dog may be given (through, for example, prints on clothing).

## Section 10 Rights of Exhibitors

Formal complaints relating to the running of a dog show and the procedures followed during the awarding of titles and challenge certificates may be made without delay and in writing to show organizers. All formal complaints must be accompanied by a deposit of €150. Complaints relating to National or International dog shows must be made to the VDH office within two days of the event’s conclusion. The date on the postmark shall be decisive. In the latter case, the deposit must be transferred by bank transfer without delay, or a crossed cheque must be enclosed with the complaint. In the event of failure to comply with the time limit, the complaint shall be deemed to have been waived. Should the complaint be rejected as unsubstantiated, the deposit shall not be refunded.

## Section 11 Access to Venue

1. The show organizer reserves the right to determine who may access a dog show venue. Organizers may bar individuals who interfere with the orderly running of a dog show or violate provisions contained in these regulations from attending current or future events which are under their control. The instructions of show organizers and their representatives must be followed at all times.
2. A general prohibition on smoking shall obtain in the rings before judging is complete.

## Section 12 Access to Ring

Only the judge, authorized judge trainees, the ring steward, the ring secretaries, the ring assistants, the interpreter and the handlers may enter the show rings. The show organizer may enter the breed rings. No influence on the judging or placing of dogs may be exercised.

## Section 13 Division into Breeds and Classes

1. The division into breeds used must accord with the FCI exhibition regulations valid at the point when the show is held.
2. Classes:
  1. Puppy Class 6–9 months
  2. Junior Class 9–18 monthsThe “Best Junior Dog” is selected from the best placed male and female dogs (if graded as “Vorzüglich 1”) and takes part in the “Best of Breed (BOB)” competition.

3. Intermediate class 15–24 months
4. Open class 15 months and upwards
5. Working class 15 months and upwards

Working Class competitions may only be held for breeds classed as working breeds in the FCI and VDH regulations. Dogs may only be entered in Working Class competitions when proof of the necessary training/performance certification is supplied by the last day of the official registration period in the form of the uniform FCI Working Class Certificate. A copy of this certificate should accompany the entry. If this documentation is missing, the dog shall be transferred into the Open Class.

6. Champion class: from 15 months

Dogs may only be entered in the Champion class if any required title – International Beauty Champion of the FCI, national beauty champion of a FCI country, German Champion (Club + VDH) – has been confirmed by the final day of the official registration period. The titles “Bundessieger”, “VDH Europasieger” and “German Winner” only entitle dogs to start in the Champion Class when they are supported by a challenge certificate towards a Champion title at another pedigree dog show. The title “VDH Winner of the Year” also entitles dogs to start in the Champion Class. A copy of this should accompany the entry. If this documentation is missing, the dog shall be transferred into the Open Class.

7. Veteran class: from 8 years upwards

Only dogs which will have completed their eighth year on the day of judging may be entered. The assessment of the dogs in this class is carried out by the judge according to the usual breed standard. Particular consideration should, however, be given to the overall condition of the dogs. The dogs do not receive a qualification, but they are placed. The “Best Veteran of the Breed” is selected from the first-placed dog and first-placed bitch in the Veteran Class and takes part in the “Best of Breed (BOB)” competition.

International shows also include a Veteran competition in which the Best Veteran from each breed participates. The organizers of National shows are free to determine whether a Veteran competition is to be held in addition to the Veteran Class.

3. The decisive date for determining the age of dogs is the day they are shown.
4. Offering the classes 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 is obligatory at all dog shows.
5. At speciality shows, additional classes may also be opened. Entries may, in particular, be invited for a Minor Puppy Class (4–6 months). (Qualifications and placings as for the Puppy Class)

### Section 14 Transfers to a different class

A dog may only be moved to a different class if it has been entered in a class which is incorrect on grounds of its age, sex, colour, coat type, missing training documentation or other prerequisites, or when it has been placed in the wrong class due to an error on the part of the show organizers. Such cases should be clarified with reference to the entry form. If the class is not stated unambiguously, the organizer may assign the dog to a class. Moving a dog to a different class at the request of an exhibitor is prohibited unless one or more of the conditions listed above are met.

### Section 15 Qualifications and Evaluation

The following qualifications can be awarded at all pedigree dog shows:

Vorzüglich (V) = Excellent

Sehr Gut (SG) = Very Good

Gut (G) = Good

Genügend (Ggd) = Sufficient

Disqualifiziert (Disq) = Disqualified

In the Puppy Class (And Minor Puppy/Baby classes at special breeding shows):

Vielversprechend (vv) = very promising

Versprechend (vsp) = promising

Weniger versprechend (wv) = less promising

**VORZÜGLICH/EXCELLENT** may only be awarded to a dog which comes very close to the ideal standard of the breed, which is presented in excellent condition, displays a harmonious, well-balanced temperament, is of high class and has excellent posture. Its superior characteristics in respect of its breed permit that minor imperfections can be ignored; it must however have the typical features of its sex.

**SEHR GUT/VERY GOOD** may only be awarded to a dog that possesses the typical features of its breed, which has well-balanced proportions and is in correct condition. A few minor faults may be tolerated. This award can only be granted to a dog that shows class.

**GUT/GOOD** is to be awarded to a dog that possesses the main features of its breed. The good points should outweigh the faults so that the dog can be considered a good representative of its breed.

**GENÜGEND/SUFFICIENT** should be awarded to a dog which corresponds adequately to its breed, without possessing the generally accepted characteristics or whose physical condition leaves a lot to be desired.

**DISQUALIFIZIERT/DISQUALIFIED** must be awarded to a dog which does not correspond to the type required by the breed standard; which shows a behaviour clearly not in line with its standard or which behaves aggressively; which has testicular abnormalities; which has a jaw anomaly; which shows a colour or coat structure that is not according to the breed standard or clearly shows signs of albinism. This qualification shall also be awarded to dogs that correspond so little to a single feature of the breed that their health is threatened. It should furthermore be awarded to dogs that show disqualifying faults in regard to the breed standard. The reason why the dog was rated **DISQUALIFIED** has to be stated in the judge's report.

Dogs that cannot be awarded one of the above qualifications shall be released from the ring with the rating:

**OHNE BEWERTUNG/CANNOT BE JUDGED.** This rating is to be given to any dog which does not move, which is lame, which constantly jumps up and down on its handler or tries to get out of the ring, which makes it impossible to assess the gait and the movement or avoids constantly to be examined by the judge and makes it impossible to inspect teeth, anatomy and structure, tail or testicles. This rating is also to be given if traces of operations or treatment can be observed which seem to indicate that the exhibitor wanted to deceive the judge. The same applies if the judge has ample reason to suspect operations that were intended to correct the original condition or feature (e.g.: eyelid, ear or tail). The reason why the dog was rated **CANNOT BE JUDGED** has to be stated in the judge's report.

**ZURÜCKGEZOGEN/WITHDRAWN:** This applies to dogs that are withdrawn from the ring before judging begins.

**NICHT ERSCHIENEN/NON-ATTENDANCE:** This applies to dogs that were not presented in the ring on time.

### Section 16 Awarding of Placings

1. The four best dogs should be placed if they have been awarded, at a minimum, the qualifications "Sehr gut/very good" or, in the Puppy Class, "versprechend/promising". First, second, third and fourth places shall be awarded. No further placings may be awarded.

2. When only one dog is shown in a given class, it may be awarded “Vorzüglich 1/Excellent 1”, “Sehr gut 1/Very good 1”, “Vielversprechend 1/Very Promising 1” or, as appropriate, “Versprechend 1/Promising 1” if it is evaluated as excellent, very good, very promising or promising. Dogs are placed immediately after all dogs in the class have been evaluated.

### **Section 17 Late arrival of Exhibitors**

Dogs that are brought into the ring after at least one dog in the relevant class has already been placed may not be placed. They can, however, receive a qualification. When an exhibitor arrives before a judge has finished his work in the ring on that day, the dog may still be judged and given a critique at a time determined by the judge.

### **Section 18 Announcement of Evaluations and Placings**

Placings may only be communicated on the boards or lists intended for that purpose once the evaluation and placing of an entire class has concluded. When questions of interpretation arise in relation to evaluations and placings, the notes on the officiating judge’s score sheet shall prevail. Reports on a dog presented late are to be marked “delayed”.

### **Section 19 Authorization of Judges**

Only judges on the VDH judge lists may judge dogs at dog shows. The regulations applicable to the deployment of judges from countries other than Germany are contained in the “Deployment of Judges from Abroad” Implementation Regulations. These are determined by the Board (after consultation with the Judges and Standards Committee) and take effect upon being circulated to the member clubs in writing.

### **Section 20 Obligations of Judges**

1. Judging dogs not listed on the judge’s score sheet and/or in the show catalogue is prohibited. Dogs which are not in the catalogue cannot be judged unless exhibitors can show written confirmation from the organizer which clarifies that the dog was entered on time but not listed in the catalogue as a result of an error.
2. In cases of doubt, the judge can have the pedigree papers of the dog checked. Judges are prohibited from inspecting the catalogue before judging has been concluded.
3. While judging, judges must write or dictate a critique of each dog presented for evaluation when required to do so by show organizers. Judges must fill in their score sheets themselves.

### **Section 21 Number of Dogs per Judge**

A judge should not be expected to judge and produce reports on more than 13 dogs per hour. In optimal conditions with ideal technical and human resources, more dogs may be assigned. At National and International shows, this decision is made jointly by the ring steward, the show director and the judge. At speciality shows, the decision is made jointly by the show director and the judge.

### **Section 22 Replacement of Judges**

The show organizers are entitled to replace a judge.

### **Section 23 Judge Apprentices**

Show organizers are encouraged to sponsor judging engagements by judge trainees. They must be informed about planned deployments of judge trainees. Further details are contained in the Judge Training Regulations.

## **Chapter Two Competitions, Titles and Challenge Certificates**

### **Section 24 Competitions**

1. The competitions listed from 3. point 1–8 in the following are obligatory events at National and International dog shows. It is recommend that all competitions – apart from point 2 – are



held at date-protected special breeding shows.

2. Each of the competitions listed below may only be judged by a single breed judge who is entitled to do so. If multiple judges carry out the individual evaluations of single breeds, the judge with responsibility for the respective competition is to be decided on in advance.
3. The following competitions must or can take place at dog shows permitted by the VDH:

1. “Best of Breed (BOB)” Competition

A “Best of Breed” competition takes place for each breed/variety for which a CACIB is assigned by the FCI as well as for national breeds recognized by VDH.

Best of Breed (BOB and Best of Opposite Sex (BOS))

The Best Junior, the CACIB Winner and the Best Veteran compete for Best of Breed (BOB). As well as identifying the BOB Winner, the judge must also select the Best of Opposite Sex (BOS).

Optionally, when the optional “Best of Sex” competition is held, the best male dog and the best female dog from the Best of Sex competition can compete for Best of Breed (BOB) and Best of Opposite Sex (BOS).

Optional competition: Best Male/Best Female

Must include, at a minimum: the “Best Junior”, the CACIB Winner, and the “Best Veteran.”

The judge places the dogs in order of quality without taking into consideration which classes they come from.

The competition is open to winners of the Junior Class, the Best Veteran for the breed, and dogs that have received a CACIB (a challenge certificate awarded at national shows or speciality shows for the title German Champion (VDH) or a challenge certificate for the German Champion (Club) title).

At International shows, the dogs entitled to take part in the case of breeds which have been “provisionally” recognized by the FCI (and hence are not awarded a CACIB) and national breeds recognized by VDH are those with a challenge certificate for the “German Champion” (VDH) title, the Best Veteran within the breed and the Best Junior.

2. “Best in FCI Group (BIG)” Competition

All “Best of Breed” winners (with the exception of breeds recognized only at national level) participate in the Group Competition (Group = FCI Group). The best three dogs in the individual FCI groups are placed and the Group Winner is determined in this way.

3. “Best in Show (BIS)” Competition

At National and International dog shows, all Group Winners participate in the competition “Best in Show (BIS)”. The “Best in Show” winner is selected from the winners of the ten groups.

This may be done either by choosing “Winners of the Day” that go on to compete against each other in the final, or, preferably, by making it possible for all group winners to compete in the final. At speciality shows with multiple breeds, all “Best of Breed (BOB)” winners take part in the “Best in Show (BIS)” competition.

4. Veterans’ Competition

A veterans’ competition may be held at all dog shows. The “Best Veterans” from each breed compete against each other. The evaluation of the dogs in this competition is carried out by the judge according to the breed standard. Particular consideration should, however, be given to the overall condition of the dogs. The organizers should ensure that the veterans are particularly introduced to visitors to the show. The Best Veterans are placed (1-3).

5. Breeders' Group Competition:

A Breeders Group' competition may be held at all dog shows. A Breeders' Group consists of a minimum of three dogs of the same breed and with the same kennel name. Each dog must have achieved, at a minimum, the qualification "gut/good" on the same day in the individual judging or must have been shown in the Veteran Class on the day of the show.

6. Progeny Group competition

A Progeny Group competition may be held at all dog shows. Progeny are defined as the offspring of a single dog or bitch. A group consists of a sire or dam with at least five of its offspring, which must include dogs of both sexes and from at least two litters. All dogs presented in the Progeny Group must have been shown before and received the minimum qualification of "gut/good", and at least two of the dogs in the group must have been exhibited on the same day. Proof of the required qualification must be submitted with the competition entry. Groups are judged by the quality of each individual dog and the phenotypical conformity of the offspring with their sire or dam.

7. Couples' competition

A Couples' Competition may be held at all dog shows.

A male and a female belonging to the same owner may be entered. They are judged using the same criteria that apply in the Breeders' Group: the most typical couple should win. Both dogs must have achieved the minimum classification of "gut/good" in the individual judging on the same day or have been exhibited in the Veteran Class.

8. Junior Handling

Conditions for participation in the Junior Handling competition and the rules for the conduct of the competition are regulated separately in the Junior Handling Implementation Rules. These are determined by the VDH Board (after consultation with the Shows Committee) and become effective after being circulated to the member clubs in writing.

9. Cash prizes may not be offered.

### **Section 25 General Notes on Title Awards and Challenge Certificates**

The allocation of titles and challenge certificates is at the discretion of the judge.

When dogs are placed as Number 1 in their class and awarded the qualification "Vorzüglich (V) = Excellent", they are also automatically awarded the corresponding title or challenge certificate. If a title or challenge certificate is not to be awarded, this must be expressly stated in the judge's report.

### **Section 26 VDH Titles and VDH "Winner of the Day" Titles**

The following titles are awarded by VDH:

1. German Champion (VDH)
2. German Junior Champion (VDH)
3. German Veteran Champion (VDH)
4. Bundessieger/ Bundesjugendsieger/Bundes-Veteranensieger
5. VDH-Europasieger/VDH-Europa-Jugendsieger/VDH-Europa-Veteranensieger
6. German Winner/German Junior Winner/German Veteran Winner
7. VDH Winner of the Year

The conditions for awarding these and other titles and "Winner of the Day" titles are regulated in the "VDH Titles and VDH 'Winner of the Day' Titles" Implementation Regulations.

### **Section 27 Neutral CAC and Neutral Junior CAC**

Competitions for "Neutral CACs" and "Neutral Junior CACs" are held at all National and International dog shows where the respective breed is not covered by a Category I Special Show held with the cooperation of a specific club. This also applies to the breeds evaluated

within the context of a Category II or Category III Special Show (see the “Special Shows at National and International Dog Shows” Implementation Regulations) in cases where no specific club award competition is held.

Neutral CACs are awarded using the criteria used in CACIB judging and should – if a VDH member club dedicated to the breed in question exists – be recognized by this club as a challenge certificate for the “German Champion (Club)” title.

The neutral Junior CAC is awarded on the basis of the criteria used for judging the German Junior Champion (VDH) competition and should – if a VDH member club dedicated to the breed in question exists – be recognized by this club as a challenge certificate for the “German Junior Champion (Club)” title.

### **Section 28 German Champion (Club)**

The German Champion (Club) title awarded by VDH member clubs can only be reached through at least four challenge certificates awarded by a minimum of three different judges; a minimum period of twelve months and one day must separate the dates on which the first and last of these certificates were attained. The challenge certificates required can only be awarded in the Intermediate Class, the Open Class and the Champion and Working Classes at dog shows with VDH protection at which the dog has been rated as “Vorzüglich 1/Excellent 1.” Only one challenge certificate for the title “German Champion” (Club) may be awarded per class on a single day and in a single location by a VDH member club. A dog can only attain the title “German Champion (Club)” from one club, which must be dedicated to that particular breed. Challenge certificates may only be awarded at dog shows which have been granted permission by VDH.

## **Chapter Three National and International Dog Shows**

### **Section 29 Cancellation of Dog Shows**

1. If a dog show cannot take place and cannot be moved to a later date for any reason, the organizer may retain up to 50 % of the entry fees in order to cover the costs which have arisen.
2. The proportion of the entry fee which is to be retained in order to cover costs incurred by organizers must be determined jointly by the show organizer, the member of the VDH Board responsible for shows, and the Executive Secretary of the VDH. It may not be set at a higher level than is required to cover the costs which have been incurred.

### **Section 30 Integration of Special Shows**

All provisions governing the integration and organization of Special Shows held within the framework of National and International dog shows with VDH as the host organizer, including the formalities to be observed, are regulated separately in the “Special Shows at National and International Dog Shows” Implementation Regulations. These are determined by the VDH Board (after consultation with the Shows Committee) and become effective after being circulated to the member clubs in writing.

### **Section 31 Entry forms/Confirmations**

1. The standard VDH entry form should be used for all dog show entries.
2. Exhibitors receive confirmation of acceptance when dogs which have been entered are accepted for showing at National and International dog shows.

### **Section 32 Division into Classes**

Classes 1 – 7 as laid out in Section 13 No. 2 must be used at National and International dog shows.

**Section 33 Admittance into Venue**

Dogs which have been accepted for showing (confirmation of acceptance must be provided) are to be brought into the venue within the admittance period specified in the programme and on the confirmation of entry. One person per dog accepted for showing may enter the show free of charge.

**Section 34 Judges' Reports**

Judges' reports must be drawn up at National and International dog shows. The use of the standard forms for the judges' reports is obligatory.

**Section 35 Order of Judging**

Dogs should be judged in the following order at National and International dog shows:

It is recommended that the sequence Veteran Class, Puppy Class and Junior Class be followed. This is then followed by the obligatory sequence: Intermediate Class, Champion Class, Working Class, and Open Class.

The Open Classes must be the last classes judged for both males and females.

**Section 36 Bundessieger Show, VDH-Europasieger Show and German Winner Show**

VDH is entitled to hold a Bundessieger Show, a VDH-Europasieger Show and a German Winner Show annually. The dates and venues of these events shall be determined by the VDH Board.

**Chapter Four Regulatory and Concluding Provisions****Section 37 Regulatory Provisions**

1. Violations of these regulations can be sanctioned with disciplinary measures.
2. These may include, in particular:
  1. Reprimands
  2. Cancellation of awards and titles attained by dogs
  3. Temporary bans on showing
  4. Permanent bans on showing

The choice of measures shall depend on how severely or frequently the regulations have been breached. The person affected by a disciplinary measure may be the owner, exhibitor or handler of a dog.

3. Sanctionable violations may include, in particular:
  1. Disturbances to the orderly running of dog shows
  2. Failure to comply with an instruction given by a show organizer or their representative
  3. Being present in the ring without authorization
  4. Introducing a dog barred under Section 4, No. 4 into the show venue
  5. Violations of Section 9, No. 6
  6. Insulting behaviour towards a breed judge or verbal or written criticism of their judgement in public
  7. Fraudulently securing participation by making false statements
  8. Carrying out interventions on a dog registered for showing that could lead to judges being deceived, or tolerating that such interventions are carried out by a person engaged to do so, or presenting such dogs or tolerating their presentation by a person engaged to do so.
  9. Non-payment of entry fees
4. Persons who have been excluded from all events run by a VDH member club may be excluded from all dog shows if the VDH Board confirms the exclusion order upon the request of the member club.

5. Any dogs which have demonstrated over-aggressive or snappy behaviour towards people or other dogs at a dog show may be barred from showing on either a temporary or permanent basis. This also applies to dogs who have undergone irreversible interventions falling within the scope of Section 37 No. 3. 8.
6. Member clubs who infringe these regulations may be barred temporarily or permanently from holding Special Shows at National and International dog shows, subjected to a penalty of up to 5,000 Euro, or excluded from the VDH. Section 5 No. 4. 8 of the statutes shall apply accordingly.
7. Organizers of National and International dog shows who infringe these regulations or the statement of intent adopted by the VDH Board in relation to the organization of National and International dog shows can be subjected to a penalty of up to 10,000 Euro.
8. Those affected are entitled to a hearing.
9. Decisions on disciplinary measures are taken by the VDH Board.  
If the board considers an exclusion pursuant to Point 5 to be justified, it submits an application to the VDH tribunal.
10. The decision of the VDH Board can be contested by filing a formal objection with the VDH tribunal within two weeks of receiving the decision of the Board in writing. Objectors must take note of the requirements stated in the Association Tribunal Regulations. Objections have a suspensory effect when the VDH Board has not ordered that its decisions be implemented with immediate effect.
11. The governing board of the respective member club is responsible for taking disciplinary action in respect of breaches of these regulations taking place in the context of a speciality show. If the member club in question does not have Show Regulations of its own, it must ensure that the provisions contained in these Show Regulations take effect and are applied.

### **Section 38 Show Regulations of VDH Member Clubs**

Member clubs can issue regulations and instructions that are complementary to these regulations and supplement them meaningfully, but regulations which run contrary to these regulations are impermissible.

### **Section 39 Partial Invalidity of These Regulations**

If one or several of the above provisions should be or become invalid, this shall not invalidate the remaining provisions.

### **Section 40 Implementing Regulations**

The VDH Board is authorized, as set out in Article 10 No. 7 of the Association's Statutes, to issue implementation regulations which complement these Show Regulations. The Specialist Committees are to be consulted before implementation regulations are issued, modified or supplemented.

### **Section 41 Effectiveness**

These regulations were adopted by the VDH General Assembly on 26/04/2015. **They take effect on 29 March, 2016.**

**Implementing Regulations supplementing the Show Regulations:**

**“Speciality Shows” Implementation Regulations**

**“Special Shows at National and International Dog Shows” Implementation Regulations**

**“National and International Dog Shows” Implementation Regulations**

**“Deployment of Judges from Abroad” Implementation Regulations**

**“VDH Titles and VDH ‘Winner of the Day’ Titles” Implementation Regulations**

**“Junior Handling” Implementation Regulations**