

Dog Showing

in New Zealand



Dogs New Zealand
www.dognz.org.nz
Organisation of Dog Owners

Dogs
NEW ZEALAND

The World of Dog Shows

Welcome to the world of dog showing. The aim of this booklet is to promote the welfare of pedigree dogs and to create an appreciation, on the part of the public, of the value of pedigree dogs.

Each year hundreds of conformation (Breed) shows, Obedience tests and Agility events are held throughout New Zealand.

All dogs competing in these shows are registered at the New Zealand Kennel Club, the governing body of dog related sports in New Zealand.

The National Dog Show is the largest in our annual calendar. The National Dog Show is recognised as a showcase for the country's top quality dogs.

Exhibitors come from varied backgrounds, participating in the many aspects of the sport, but the common interest is the love of dogs. Conformation shows provide the opportunity for various breeds to be promoted and for breeders to present to their peers the results of their breeding programme.

Whilst Obedience and Agility shows display, primarily, training results, many of the country's top dogs are bred from top performers themselves, therefore breeding results are also evident in these event rings.



Who's Who at a Dog Show?

Exhibitors

Generally speaking they are the owners or handlers of the dogs (exhibits). Quite often they are also the breeders of the exhibit on display. They can come from anywhere in New Zealand and indeed from all around the world. The Eukanuba National Dog Show is something of an annual pilgrimage for the New Zealand canine fraternity and hosts many overseas visitors.



Exhibits

These are the dogs themselves. In the conformation ring they must be purebred and registered with the NZKC and must be over three months of age. Exhibits may have been born in New Zealand or imported from overseas.

Judges

Most judges are or have been breeders/exhibitors, or obedience or agility eventers themselves. They have accumulated lengthy experience in the dog world and have undertaken years of training and study.

Stewards

Stewards come from within the show fraternity; they are usually exhibitors etc who give their time voluntarily to assist in the efficient running of the show. The steward's job is to ensure that the correct dogs are presented to the judge and that order is maintained in the ring. They have no part in deciding which dog will win an award.

Show committee

Each club that conducts a show must be affiliated or associated with the NZKC. They are given permission to conduct shows under the regulations laid down by the NZKC. Club members are volunteers who organise and deal with the arrangements necessary to hold the event. They contract the judges, collect the entries, produce catalogues and endeavour to staff the show on the day as efficiently as possible.

Breed Standards



These provide a blueprint for each breed. They are usually written in the designated country of origin (sometimes the country of development) and lay down the features of appearance, temperament and ability that are paramount in a top specimen of any particular breed.

Breed standards do not often change. Sometimes points may be clarified, but in essence the current standard is usually one which has been unaltered for many years.

Originally the standards were drawn up by a group of experienced fanciers/breeders concerned that the particular traditional traits of their breed should be retained. It is to be appreciated that most breeds were developed for specific purposes with the primary aim of course to assist humans with their endeavours.

In some instances these uses have fallen out of favour but the qualities exhibited by those breeds have been successfully diverted for other purposes. Many breeds are still being used for the purpose for which they were developed.

It is a real challenge for breeders to breed as close to the standard as possible. This involves dedication, study and in some cases heartbreak, but like most involved in animal husbandry it brings its own rewards in so many ways.

The New Zealand Kennel Club has information available to the public to help answer your queries.

What breeds can be shown?

Any dog breed that is recognised by the NZKC may be shown, as long as it is registered with the NZKC. Currently the NZKC recognises 219 different breeds. It is a conservative estimate that there are over 700 separate pedigree breeds worldwide although many are little known outside their country of origin.

New breeds are introduced into New Zealand from time to time, but breed recognition is not automatic. For example, there are some breeds that are known as having been developed for fighting, and the New Zealand authorities have been alerted to these with the result that they may be banned imports.



How are the Dogs Judged?

The major conformation awards are:

- * Best In Show
- * Reserve Best In Show
- * Best Baby Puppy In Show
(class restricted to exhibits over 3 and under 6 months)
- * Best Puppy In Show
(class restricted to exhibits over 6 and under 12 months)
- * Best Junior In Show
(class restricted to exhibits over 12 and under 24 months)
- * Best Intermediate In Show
(class restricted to exhibits over 24 and under 36 months)
- * Best New Zealand Bred In Show
(class restricted to dogs over 6 months, bred in New Zealand)
- * Best Open In Show
(class restricted to dogs over 6 months)

Each of these awards will have seven contesting exhibits, one from each of the seven groups. A similar competition will be held to obtain each 'of group' winner where the breed representatives will compete against each other for these awards.

Each conformation exhibit may only be entered in one breed class.

At breed level, each class winner in a sex will compete for the challenge award – this is where the points towards a championship title are won (the exception here is baby puppies – although eligible to win best of sex they cannot obtain the challenge points).

The challenge dog and bitch then compete for Best of Breed. This award brings the right to represent the breed at the Best of Group level. The Best of Group winner then goes on to line up with the other six group winners vying for the ultimate accolade of Best In Show. Winning this will secure a place in New Zealand's canine history.



In New Zealand the Breeds are Divided into 7 Groups as follows:

Group 1 – Toys



Small canines largely bred to be companions. Although some were initially small, others have been deliberately miniaturised over a long period of time. Generally Toys are long lived, affectionate and require limited exercise compared to larger breeds. Many Toy breeds do require extensive coat maintenance.

Affenpinscher, Australian Silky Terrier, Bichon Frise, Bolognese, Cavalier King Charles Spaniel, Chihuahua (Long Coat), Chihuahua (Smooth Coat), Chinese Crested, English Toy Terrier, Griffon Bruxellois, Havanese, Italian Greyhound, Japanese Chin, King Charles Spaniel, Lowchen, Maltese, Miniature Pinscher, Papillon, Pekingese, Pomeranian, Pug, Russian Toy, Yorkshire Terrier.

Pomeranian

Group 2 – Terriers

These game little dogs of the Earth (Terra Firma, hence Terrier) were originally bred to go to ground, hunt and kill vermin and even today they have not forgotten their roots and will make short work of a mouse, rat or even rabbit and possum. They make wonderful pets and companions, even though they have minds of their own and can be very independent and stubborn. They love their families and try to please them. Some breeds require help from a groomer, but all Terriers love and need exercise.

Airedale Terrier, American Staffordshire Terrier, Australian Terrier, Bedlington Terrier, Border Terrier, Bull Terrier, Bull Terrier (Miniature), Cairn Terrier, Cesky Terrier, Dandie Dinmont Terrier, Fox Terrier (Smooth), Fox Terrier (Wire), German Hunting Terrier, Glen of Imaal Terrier, Irish Terrier, Jack Russell Terrier, Kerry Blue Terrier, Lakeland Terrier, Manchester Terrier, Norfolk Terrier, Norwich Terrier, Parson Russell Terrier, Scottish Terrier, Sealyham Terrier, Skye Terrier, Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier, Staffordshire Bull Terrier, Tenterfield Terrier, Welsh Terrier, West Highland White Terrier.

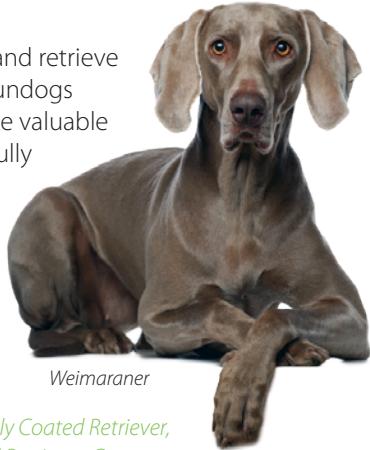


Fox Terrier (Wire)

Group 3 – Gundogs

These breeds are hunting companions that find, flush and retrieve game birds. They are bred to work closely with man. Gundogs are usually very trainable and very energetic. Most make valuable family companions and their scenting abilities are usefully adapted for search and rescue and direction work.

Several of the breeds were used for searching in the World Trade Centre tragedy in New York. In this country Labradors and Golden Retrievers are used as guide dogs and of course we see Labradors employed by the Customs Department for their scenting abilities.

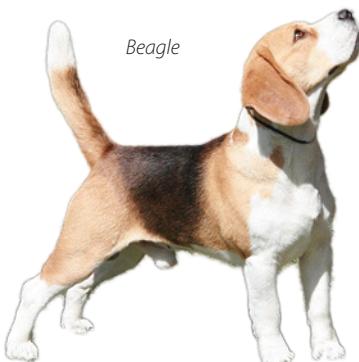


Weimaraner

American Cocker Spaniel, Bracco Italiano, Brittany, Chesapeake Bay Retriever, Clumber Spaniel, Cocker Spaniel, Cesky Fousek, Curly Coated Retriever, English Setter, English Springer Spaniel, Field Spaniel, Flat-coated Retriever, German Shorthaired Pointer, German Wirehaired Pointer, Golden Retriever, Gordon Setter, Hungarian Vizsla, Hungarian Wire Haired Vizsla, Irish Water Spaniel, Irish Red & White Setter, Irish Setter, Italian Spinone, Labrador Retriever, Lagotto Romagnolo, Large Munsterlander, Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever, Pointer, Spanish Water Dog, Sussex Spaniel, Weimaraner, Welsh Springer Spaniel.

Group 4 – Hounds

These are hunting dogs bred to hunt prey ranging from rabbits to bears and lions. There are two main divisions within this group – the swift running sighthounds who follow their prey by sight, and the scent hounds – pack dogs that use their incredible scenting ability to follow a trail. Unlike Gundogs, ‘Hounds’ work with a minimum of outside interference and this is reflected in their independent personalities. Scent hounds are used by several agencies for their phenomenal scenting prowess. The most obvious example of this is the MAF detector dogs, the happy Beagles that greet you and your luggage at many International ports.



Beagle

Afghan Hound, Azawakh, Basenji, Basset Fauve de Bretagne, Basset Hound, Beagle, Black & Tan Coonhound, Bloodhound, Bluetick Coonhound, Borzoi, The Dachshunds (Long Haired, Smooth Haired, Wirehaired, Miniature Long Haired, Miniature Smooth Haired, Miniature Wire Haired), Deerhound, Finish Spitz, Foxhound, Grand Basset Griffon Vendeen, Greyhound, Hamiltonstovare, Harrier, Ibizan Hound, Irish Wolfhound, Norwegian Elkhound, Otter Hound, Petit Basset Griffon Vendeen, Portuguese Podengo (all varieties), Pharaoh Hound, Rhodesian Ridgeback, Saluki, Sloughi, Whippet.

Group 5 – Working Dogs



Bearded Collie

These are primarily used as herding dogs for sheep and cattle. Many of the breeds remain successfully employed as herders, however there is another occupation for many of the working dog breeds and that is one of protector of the flocks. It is understood that in New Zealand we do see breeds such as the Maremma Sheepdog guarding paddocks of Miniature Horses. In their home land of Finland the Lapphund herds Reindeer. Of course there is the unmistakable ability of the German Shepherd to assist our Police Force, and lest we forget Murray Balls' 'Dog' the famous Border Collie, star of the Footrot Flats movies.

Australian Cattle Dog, Australian Kelpie, Australian Shepherd, Bearded Collie, The Belgian Shepherds - Groenendael, Lakenois, Malinois, Tervueren, Border Collie, Bouvier De Flandres, Briard, Collie Rough Coat, Collie Smooth Coat, Dutch Shepherd, Finnish Lapphund German Shepherd Stock coat and Long stock, Hungarian Puli, Icelandic Sheepdog, Komondor, Kuvasz, Maremma Sheepdog, Norwegian Buhund, NZ Huntaway, Old English Sheepdog, Polish Lowland Sheepdog, Pumi, Pyrenean Sheepdog, Shetland Sheepdog, Stumpy Tail Cattle Dog, Swedish Lapphund & Vallhund, Tatra Shepherd Dog, Welsh Corgi (Cardigan), Welsh Corgi (Pembroke), White Shepherd Dog.

Shepherd Stock coat and Long stock, Hungarian Puli, Icelandic Sheepdog, Komondor, Kuvasz, Maremma Sheepdog, Norwegian Buhund, NZ Huntaway, Old English Sheepdog, Polish Lowland Sheepdog, Pumi, Pyrenean Sheepdog, Shetland Sheepdog, Stumpy Tail Cattle Dog, Swedish Lapphund & Vallhund, Tatra Shepherd Dog, Welsh Corgi (Cardigan), Welsh Corgi (Pembroke), White Shepherd Dog.

Group 6 – Utility Dogs

Many of the larger breeds are found in this group. Some breeds, as in the Working Group, have been bred to guard livestock from predators, or to protect their owners. The Spitz breeds which are still used for freighting in many parts of the world also fall into this group. Rescue dogs such as Newfoundlands and Saint Bernards are also included in this group as is the Portuguese Water Dog who proved to be an excellent messenger.



Neapolitan Mastiff

Akita, Alaskan Malamute, Anatolian Shepherd Dog, Bernese Mountain Dog, Black Russian Terrier, Boxer, Bullmastiff, Central Asian Shepherd Dog, Canadian Eskimo Dog, Estrela Mountain Dog, Dobermann, Dogue De Bordeaux, Fila Brasileiro, German Pinscher, Italian Corso Dog, Japanese Akita, Kangal Dog, Leonberger, Mastiff, Neapolitan Mastiff, Newfoundland, Portuguese Water Dog, Pyrenean Mountain Dog, Rottweiler, Saint Bernard, Samoyed, Schnauzer, Schnauzer (Giant), Schnauzer (Miniature), Shiba Inu, Siberian Husky, Spanish Mastiff, Tibetan Mastiff.

Group 7 – Non-Sporting Dogs

This group includes a number of the more unusual breeds, along with some of the Asian breeds and some of the medium sized Spitz breeds. All of these were bred for a specific task and these traits continue to be bred into the various breeds.

Boston Terrier, Bulldog, Canaan Dog, Chow Chow, Dalmatian, Eurasier, French Bulldog, German Spitz (Klein), German Spitz (Mittel), Great Dane, Japanese Spitz, Keeshond, Lhasa Apso, Peruvian Hairless Dog (Small), Peruvian Hairless (Medium), Peruvian Hairless (Large), Poodle (Standard), Poodle (Miniature), Poodle (Toy), Schipperke, Shar Pei, Shih Tzu, Tibetan Spaniel, Tibetan Terrier, Xoloitzcuintle



French Bulldog



Obedience, Rally-O and Agility Breeds

Any breed or 'mixture' of breeds can compete in the Obedience, Rally-O and Agility rings, providing the dog is registered with the New Zealand Kennel Club. There is a second register held by the New Zealand Kennel Club that includes Obedience events and mixed breed dogs must be on this register.

Obedience

In Obedience there are five classes: Special Beginners, Novice, Test A, Test B and Test C.

A series of set routines are included in the course that the judge sets. As the dogs progress through the tests the tasks increase and become more advanced requiring a higher level of skilled training, and understanding by the dog. Tasks include: heel work (both on and off the lead), retrieval, scent discrimination and the stays. As the tests progress the timing and distance control increases plus the 'handler out of sight' is introduced.



In this day and age it is more important than ever to consider some form of obedience training for your dog.



The New Zealand Kennel Club has Obedience affiliates throughout the country and most clubs hold training sessions weekly. The New Zealand Kennel Club, your local Citizens Advice Bureau and local authority will be able to put you into contact with a branch in your area. Puppy preschool is also a great place to start with your new puppy. These are run by many Veterinary clinics throughout the country. Who knows your initial introduction to the world of Obedience may lead you into the competitive Obedience ring in the future.

Rally-O

Rally-O is a great dog sport that can be enjoyed by dogs (and people!) of any age and ability. The dog and their handler are required to perform a different exercise every few metres. Exercises include combinations of turns, presents, finishes, changes of position, heeling around cones, halts, stays and jumps. Even though Rally-O has evolved from competitive

Obedience, it does not require the same level of precision as Obedience.

The main goal in Rally-O is to gain a score of at least 90% and so earn a qualifying certificate. Once you have enough qualifying certificates, your dog can gain a New Zealand Kennel Club Rally-O title. There are several levels of title to work towards, each level more challenging than the one before, with longer courses, more difficult exercises and stricter criteria for success. Rally-O is fun and exciting!

Agility

Agility is to dogs what show jumping is to horses but much more fun and fantastic to both watch and compete in. The dogs love it!

The competition has four categories: Starters, Novice, Intermediate and Seniors and is based on a set course of obstacles with the added incentive not only to clear all obstacles but to complete the course in the best possible time. This demands teamwork, precision, speed and a faultless performance.

As with the Obedience clubs there are a number of Agility clubs throughout New Zealand. Again these can be contacted through the New Zealand Kennel Club, Citizens Advice and your local authority. If you are energetic and fit and have a dog that fits the same bill then this is definitely a sport for you.



Gundog Trials

Field Trials is yet another aspect of the canine hobbies. The ability and intelligence of well trained and well-bred Gundogs is remarkable. The dogs are required to retrieve fallen game with the retrieve pattern of varying degrees of difficulty, depending on the level attained. Clubs affiliated to the New Zealand Kennel Club regularly hold field trials. Competition leads to the obtaining of championship and other titles related to the sport of field training.



The Junior Dog Handlers Competition

Handlers aged 12 to 18 years compete throughout the year in 10 regional heats. Heat winners compete at the National Dog Show for the outstanding prize package which includes, a trip for the winning handler and one chaperone (courtesy of our current sponsors) to travel to the world famous Crufts Dog Show to compete in the International Final of the Junior Dog Handlers competition.

This competition attests the handlers competence in handling two breeds as if in the conformation exhibition ring. The judges will assess: the handler's rapport with the dog, the effective use of ring space, the sympathetic handling of the dog during the judges inspection, the ability to demonstrate to the judge all that would be required for the dog to be assessed fully in breed competition and the consideration, courtesy and sportsmanship shown to other handlers in the ring.

Prior to the ring exercises the handlers will have attended an interview with the judging panel. New Zealand can boast some top Junior Dog Handlers who have gone onto become our top handlers.



Dogs New Zealand Juniors

Dogs New Zealand Juniors (DNZJ) is the junior division of the NZKC catering for young enthusiasts aged between 5 and not older than 20 years of age.

These juniors can train and compete in conformation events, whilst under the Dog Training banner: agility, jumpers, obedience and control classes.

Generally Camps are held annually combining both divisions activities, where possible, which include team building exercises, demonstrations, sharing knowledge and fun.

The DNZJ conformation and dog training divisions also hold heats throughout the country to secure finalists for their Annual competitions, the finals are held at the National Dog Show or NZ Dog Agility Championship, or the National Dog Training Assembly.

Whilst participating in the DNZJ activities the members shall commit themselves to values of fair play, honesty, courtesy and vigorous competition, as well as winning and losing with grace.

All events are designed with fun and canine education in mind... the future of breeding and exhibiting dogs, trialing and DNZJ member Club administration; is in their hands.



Canine Good Citizen™



What is Canine Good Citizen?

Canine Good Citizen™ (CGC) is a nationally moderated Dogs New Zealand programme open to dogs over 12 months of age who are currently registered with a local authority.



It is recommended that preparation and training commence as early as possible, but it is not possible to sit an assessment until the dog is at least one year of age.

Obedience clubs conduct courses to assist in training your dog with the optional goal of sitting a CGC assessment and receiving the nationally recognised award.

There are four levels of certification available. Each level builds on the previous one and increases in the degree of difficulty and challenge. Upper levels are assessed with the dog in a public area and as close to real life scenarios as practicable.

Why do CGC?

Your dog learns valuable skills and develops the confidence to prepare them for everyday situations they may encounter in their life as a valued family member.

You develop a better relationship with your dog and have a lot of fun along the way as you progress through the training and certification process.

You gain formal recognition of your journey to train or breed well mannered and temperamentally sound dogs.

You may benefit from reduced registration fees as some local authorities and dog control services throughout New Zealand offer a discount for CGC certified dogs.

You receive some handsome certificates, and are nationally registered on a CGC database. Other special souvenirs are also available in recognition of your dog's achievements.



So... You Want a Dog?

A number of factors spring to mind when considering the purchase of a puppy of any breed. Before you commence your breed selection search consider:

- * Are my living arrangements conducive to having a dog?
- * Can I afford a good quality dog food?
- * Can I afford grooming fees every 6 – 8 weeks?
- * What happens when I go on holiday?
- * Can I afford local council registration fees?
- * Do I have enough time to contribute to training and exercising?



With these practicalities carefully considered and all options answered YES, lets then talk choosing a puppy.

Choosing a Pedigree Dog

Many people are attracted to pedigree dogs because there is more certainty surrounding their characteristics and appearance. A pedigree dog provides an educated selection of the breed best suited to their home, lifestyle and personality.

Some breeds are not suited for family situations whilst others are ideal. Some of course need large areas to exercise and others don't, the same applies to coat maintenance. Regardless of any obstacles that may appear there is a breed that will suit you and your situation.



Behind most breeds is a wealth of breeding knowledge and research, advice on care and sensible breeding options. No reputable breeder would knowingly breed from poor quality stock but sometimes issues can arise which can be either inherited or environmental, i.e. due to the way the puppies are raised.

Dogs New Zealand has a Code of Ethics for their registered breeders relating to the keeping, welfare, breeding and selling of dogs. All New Zealand Kennel Club members are bound to adhere to this Code.

The best advice when choosing a dog is to spend time learning about the breed of your choice. The Dogs New Zealand website is full of breed information. Try the breed selector on our website – www.dogsnz.org.nz



Once you have decided on a breed that suits your lifestyle contact Dogs New Zealand for a list of breeders in your area or again visit our website – where our breeders advertise their puppies and Kennels.

All breeds are real dogs. They are not animated characters such as *The Lady and the Tramp* in the Disney movies. The movie lasts for a little over an hour, your dog will last some 9 to 16 years and will require constant attention and companionship. You in turn will be rewarded with an unparalleled loyalty.

www.dogsnz.org.nz





Benefits of Dogs New Zealand Membership

There are many benefits to being a Dogs New Zealand member, some of these benefits include:

- being able to compete at Obedience and Agility shows
- breeding/showing pedigree dogs
- discounted Ferries – members receive a discounted fare
- preferential rates with various business partners
- dog insurance benefits
- information and services to help with your breeding, showing and competing
- access to our website – offering information and links to all DNZ disciplines
- a monthly magazine – with articles, information, show calendars, show results etc
- member rate advertising in the magazine and on the website
- dog titles and achievements published in the magazine
- NZKC can act as your advocate and lobby government for dog owners rights on issues concerning dog welfare and control.

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