

**Valid from January 1st 2022**



# **Guidelines**

**For English speaking conformation  
judges officiating at dog shows in Sweden**



**SVENSKA KENNELKLUBBEN**

## The Classes

<b>Swedish</b>	<b>English</b>	<b>Age of dogs</b>
Valpklass	Puppy Class (unofficial)	6-9 months
Juniorklass	Junior Class	9-18 months
Unghundsklass	Intermediate Class	15-24 months
Bruks-/jaktklass	Working Class	15 months and over
Öppen klass	Open Class	15 months and over
Championklass	Champion Class	15 months and over
Veteranklass	Veteran Class	8 years and over

Please also observe the *Special Breed Specific Instructions* when judging certain breeds.

# General information

**Svenska Kennelklubben (SKK), i.e. the Swedish Kennel Club, is the head canine organization for the sport of purebred dogs in Sweden, registering some 60 000 dogs each year, and supervising dog shows and working trials/field trials with annual entries in excess of 350 000.**

SKK is a member of the Fédération Cynologique Internationale (FCI) as well as the Nordic Kennel Union (NKU), comprising of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden, all of which have more or less identical show rules.

There are different types of dog shows in Sweden, but this booklet will only focus on the official Championship Shows. These are arranged by the SKK's provincial kennel clubs (SKK sub units "Länsklubbar") as well as the breed clubs recognized by the SKK. All official shows are held under the SKK show rules and the awards given are registered by the SKK.

## **National Championship Shows**

where national CACs are offered, are either all breed shows arranged by the SKK units or they are Breed (Group) specialties arranged by the Breed Clubs.

## **Nordic Dog Shows**

all breed show where Nordic Show Certificates are offered in addition to the national CAC. Nordic Dog Shows are never arranged by the Breed Clubs.

## **International Championship Shows**

are all arranged by the SKK or the regional sub units and are all breed shows sanctioned by the FCI to offer CACIB in addition to the national CAC. CACIB shows are never arranged by the Breed Clubs.

Any foreign judge who is invited to judge at CAC/CACIB level must have experience from judging the breed(s) in question at CAC level or equivalent!

Thus, when invited to officiate in Sweden a foreign judge should ascertain

- if the show is an official show or not
- the club is affiliated with the SKK
- what breed(s) the invitation covers

If any doubts arise, the judge is encouraged to get in contact directly with the SKK.

Invitations should be answered within 15 days. All arrangements in connection with the assignment, such as transport, boarding and financial matters etc should be clearly stated and agreed upon in writing.

The judge is expected to obey the rules of the FCI and honour SKK show rules and the Swedish breed standard(s) in question, which are basically identical with the FCI standards. If required, the judge should be provided with the FCI standards by the inviting club.

Judges are not expected to take on more than 80 dogs per day since the time required writing individual critiques and grading the dogs are at least twice the time needed when judging according to a system with only competition and placing of the dogs. The club can get a dispensation from the SKK for a higher number per judge, providing the judge accepts that.

### At the Show

Upon arrival at the show venue, the judge should report to the Show Secretary's office/ Show secretariat ("Utställningssekretariatet"), no later than 30 minutes before the time set for the judging to start and also to meet with the ring steward(s).

The judge should wear the judge's badge/ribbon clearly visible in the ring. The overall responsibility for all proceedings in the ring is entrusted to the judge. Should a conflict or problem arise, the Show Committee ("Utställningsbestyrelsen") should be summoned at once to solve the problem on the spot, or to decide upon other necessary measures. Smoking is never permitted in the ring.

The judge is responsible for ascertaining that all male dogs have normally developed and positioned testicles. Dogs with one or no testicles are not allowed to compete and should be excused from the ring but graded "*Disqualified*" with a completely written critique. The judge is also asked to assess obvious defects and exterior exaggerations

with respect paid to endangered health matters in show dogs and is entitled to consult the Show Veterinary Surgeon or another officiating judge in borderline cases concerning measuring, or to confirm defective tail vertebrae, faulty mouths etc.

Show catalogues will not be available to the judge until the end of the show when one copy, marked by the Ring Steward, will be handed over. Under no circumstances should judges consult a catalogue until they have completed their judging and, if judging on two consecutive days in the same area, until completion of the second day's assignment.

### Special Breed Specific Instructions

The SKK has stipulated Special Breed Specific Instructions (BSI) regarding exaggerations of type characteristics in pedigree dogs. The breeds considered at risk for developing unsoundnesses and health problems due to exaggerations are listed and the issues for each breed are described in the document.

All judges invited to judge any of the BSI-listed breeds are requested to apply the BSI-instruction as a complement to the breed standard and report their observations. The list must not be seen as an enlargement of the number of disqualifying faults and the faults listed in the BSI are never linked to a specific quality grading.

Detailed information is supplied to each judge by the inviting club in connection with the assignment.

**The system is principally the same as in other FCI countries and in the text below special emphasis is put to differences.**

# The judging system

Each dog can be entered in one class only! The class is defined according to

1. age of the dog on the day of the show
2. merits at earlier shows (champions) and in certain breeds also from working trials or field trials

Each exhibit is assessed individually and is graded regarding to its quality and conformation as *Excellent*, *Very good*, *Good*, *Sufficient* or *Disqualified* according to its conformity with the breed standard.

The judge is required to motivate his or her assessment of each exhibit in a written critique, a copy of which will be given to the exhibitor at the end of breed judging.

In Sweden, all dogs that have been awarded a Ck compete later for Best Male/Best Bitch and CAC/CACIB/Nordic Show Certificate. If at least four dogs received the quality award *Excellent*, the dogs with *Very good* will not be taken into the ring for competition assessing. Competition class involves the dogs taking part in the class being ranked 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th.

The winning juniors and veterans with a Ck can compete for the CAC and Best Male/Best Bitch and thus Best of Breed which is not the case in many FCI countries. The

system used in Sweden allows the judge to pick the best exhibit out of Best Male/Best Bitch for Best of Breed.

## Definition of The Quality Grades

The following are the definitions of the quality grades as they are practised in Sweden.

In classes where quality grading is carried out, the following quality grades may be awarded:

### Excellent (*utmärkt*)

May only be awarded to a dog which comes very close to the ideal standard of the breed. To a dog 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.

### Very good (*mycket god*)

May only be awarded to a dog which possesses the typical features of its breed, which has well-balanced proportions and is in correct condition. A few minor faults may be tolerated but none of a morphological nature. This award can only be granted to a dog that shows class.

### Good (*god*)

Is to be awarded to a dog that possesses the main features of its breed however showing faults provided these are not concealed.

### Sufficient (*godtagbar*)

Must be awarded to a dog which corresponds adequately to its breed, without possessing the generally accepted characteristics or whose physical condition leaves something to be desired.

### Disqualified

Must be awarded to dogs which meet any of the following criteria:

#### a) Untypical or disqualifying fault

Dogs who are untypical of the breed in appearance or mentality, or have faults that are listed as disqualifying in the breed standard.

#### b) Unsoundness

Dogs who have such anatomical defects that they have a negative impact on the dog's health and soundness, particularly with regard to the origin/function/use of the breed.

#### c) Testicles

Male dogs who do not have normally developed and normally positioned testicles.

#### d) Mentality

Dogs who in the ring demonstrate aggression or a clear tendency to flee, i.e. a dog which has panicked and shied away from the judge, and where it has not been possible to approach the dog in a natural manner.

The judge should specifically sign Disqualified in the list of results if this has been awarded as a result of b) or d) above.

Other deviations in mental attributes should be judged in accordance with the requirements of the breed standard and graded accordingly.

The reason for awarding *Disqualified* should always be entered in the judge's report and in the list of results too.

### Cannot be judged (*kan ej prissättas*)

Dogs that are shown in such a condition that the judge cannot form a sound opinion of their quality may, in exceptional cases, be awarded *Cannot be judged*. Examples of this include dogs that have obvious deficiencies in show and ring culture (such as being unaccustomed to walking on a lead or having a puppyish temperament) or are shown in poor condition (are excessively underweight or overweight). The same may apply to a dog that has had its coat trimmed so recently that the judge cannot form a sound opinion of the quality of its coat. A dog may also be shown so badly as a result of an injury that its movement is hard to judge.

The judge is asked to verbally motivate to the exhibitor, why a dog has been given *Disqualified* or *Cannot be judged*.

### The following quality grades are awarded in competition classes:

#### Certificate quality (Ck)

A dog that is typically and correctly built in every respect, with such outstanding merits and such insignificant faults that it is an excellent example of breeding, may be deemed to be of certificate quality (Ck). Certificate quality can be awarded to as many dogs as the judge considers being of such quality.

## Honour Prize (HP)

Exceptionally promising puppies can be awarded an Honour Prize (HP). In progeny classes and breeders' classes, the Honour Prizes are awarded to those groups which are of uniform and excellent quality.

### Definition of Classes

A dog can only be entered in one of the following classes. All classes are separate for males and bitches respectively. There are no mixed classes other than in Progeny Class and Breeder's Class.

#### Puppy Class (Valpklass)

(6-9 months)

This class is unofficial and is not obligatory at official shows. Puppies under 9 months of age may not be entered in any of the official classes.

Only competition is practised in puppy class. Written individual critiques should be issued to each exhibit but no grading for quality is made. If an exhibit gets a *Disqualified* or *Cannot be judged* it is excluded from the competition.

The puppies are placed in order of merit: 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th. Those which are very promising can be awarded an HP (Hederspris = Honour Prize). There are no limits to the number of HPs to be given.

The winner of the class, provided it has been given an HP, is declared Best Male Puppy. After the male puppies, the same procedure is repeated for the bitch puppies. Finally, Best Male Puppy and Best Bitch Puppy compete for Best of Breed Puppy, which then later goes on to compete for Best Puppy in Show. If no puppy is awarded an HP there will be no Best of Breed puppy selected.

## The official classes

### Junior Class (Juniorklass)

(9-18 months, not eligible to compete for CACIB)

Written individual critiques and quality gradings (*Excellent*, *Very good*, *Good*, *Sufficient*, *Disqualified* and *Cannot be judged*). Quality grading is applied in this class. Dogs that are awarded *Excellent* or *Very good* will compete in the junior competition class. If at least four dogs received the quality award *Excellent*, the dogs with *Very good* will not be taken into the ring for competition class (Juniorkonkurrenssklass) and will be placed in order of competitive merit 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th. Juniors of outstanding quality and worthy of competing for the CAC should be awarded a Ck.

The judge can award as many Ck's as he/she finds dogs worthy of. These distinctions can be made regardless of if the amount outnumbered the placed 4 dogs in the line-up of this class. The judge must be aware that a junior which is awarded a Ck, will automatically also get the CAC if it is not beaten in the further competition! It must therefore be of champion quality to deserve a Ck. It is on the other hand also to be considered that a dog which has not been awarded a Ck does not go on to further competition in the Best male/Best bitch competition, even if he/she has won the class. An exhibit that has not been awarded a Ck is not eligible for further competition.

### Intermediate Class (Unghundsklass)

(15-24 months)

**The procedure practised in this class is identical to the one described for Junior class.**

Quality grading is applied in this class. Dogs that are awarded *Excellent* or *Very good* will compete in the intermediate competition class. If at least four dogs received the

quality award *Excellent*, the dogs with *Very good* will not be taken into the ring for competition class.

(Unghundskonkurrenssklass) are placed in order of merit 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th. The procedure for awarding Ck's is identical to Junior Competition Class. Exhibits awarded a Ck will go on to the competition for Best male/Best bitch.

### Working Class (Bruks-/jaktklass) (15 months and over)

**This class is arranged for breeds of which there are breed specific trials, and is open to exhibits with trial merits that have reached the age of 15 months on the day they are shown.**

The procedure is in principal the same as described above. Quality grading is applied in this class. Dogs that are awarded *Excellent* or *Very good* will compete in the working class. If at least four dogs received the quality award *Excellent*, the dogs with *Very good* will not be taken into the ring for competition class. Working Competition Class (Bruks-/jaktklasskonkurrenss) and are placed in order of merit 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th. The judge has to decide which dogs are worthy of a Ck. **Dogs that are awarded a Ck will go on to compete in the Best male/Best bitch class.**

### Open Class (Öppen klass) (15 months and over)

**The procedure practised in this class is identical to the one described for Junior class.**

Quality grading is applied in this class. Dogs that are awarded *Excellent* or *Very good* will compete in the open class competition. If at least four dogs received the quality award *Excellent*, the dogs with *Very good* will not be taken into the ring for competition class.

Open Class Competition (Öppen klass konkurrenssklass) and are placed in order of merit 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th. The judge will decide which dogs are worthy of a Ck. **Dogs which are awarded a Ck will go on to compete in the Best male/Best bitch class.**

### Champion Class (Championklass) (15 months and over, Swedish, International or other by SKK approved national champion titles)

Written individual critiques and quality gradings (*Excellent*, *Very good*, *Good*, *Sufficient*, *Disqualified* and *Cannot be judged*).

Quality grading is applied in this class. Dogs that are awarded *Excellent* or *Very good* will compete in the champion competition class. If at least four dogs received the quality award *Excellent*, the dogs with *Very good* will not be taken into the ring for competition class. In Champion Class and Champion Class Competition (Champion klass konkurrenssklass) dogs are placed in order of merit 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th. Any number of dogs placed or unplaced can be awarded a Ck provided they are found to be worthy champions. **The Ck qualifies them to compete in Best Male /Best Bitch Class.**

### Veteran Class (Veteranklass) (8 years of age or more)

Written individual critiques and quality gradings (*Excellent*, *Very good*, *Good*, *Sufficient*, *Disqualified* and *Cannot be judged*). This class is open to dogs which, on the day of being shown, have reached the age of 8 years. (N.B. Dogs that have been entered to this class are not entitled to compete for CACIB.)

Quality grading is applied in this class. Dogs that are awarded *Excellent* or *Very good* will compete in the veteran competition class and the best four should then be placed in order of merit 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th. If at least four dogs received the quality award *Excel-*

*lent*, the dogs with *Very good* will not be taken into the ring for competition class.

Competition assessment is applied in this class. Certificate quality (Ck) can be awarded dog who have received *Excellent*.

Dogs that are awarded Ck carry on to compete in the Best Male/Best Bitch class.

The best veteran male and the best veteran bitch compete for best veteran in the breed and the winner will compete in the veteran finals.

### Best Male/Best Bitch Class (Bästa hane/Bästa tik)

This class is eligible and obligatory to all the dogs which have been awarded a Ck in the previous classes. Dogs which has won their classes, but not been awarded a Ck, are not eligible for this class. In case no Ck has been awarded, there will be no Best Male/Best Bitch Class. The dogs are presented to the judge by being lined up by the steward in the order they were placed in each of the above classes respectively.

In a numerous breed, where the quality can be high, the number of dogs in this class may be large. Judges used to only having each unbeaten class winner in the ring for the challenge of Best Male and Best Bitch respectively, may find this confusing and is advised to make eliminations so that the number of dogs in the ring becomes more convenient. The best are placed 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th and the winner is declared Best Male or Best Bitch respectively.

If the judge in this class reverses placing among individuals which have met before, he is asked to be able to give a clear explanation to this. Changing orders is quite possible, since in this final competition a dog suddenly can show a lot better than before or the opposite. If the judge reverses the order (which is seldom done) this must

not be seen as a mistake and lack of memory from earlier placing.

### Certificate (CAC)

In the Best Male/Best Bitch class, a certificate is awarded to the best exhibit that is entitled to compete for a certificate.

The following may not compete for a certificate:

- a) Swedish show champion
- b) Dogs that have received the necessary certificate for Swedish show champion. (Note that at least one certificate must be won after the age of 24 months.)

For breeds where a **working trial or field trial merit is required in order to win a certificate** (see specific regulations), a certificate will be awarded to the best dog in the Best Male class and the Best Bitch class that **meets the trial merit requirements**.

**Only one (1) certificate is awarded per sex.** In addition, **one (1) reserve certificate** is awarded per sex (to the second best placed dog/bitch that is entitled to compete for the certificate). For those breeds that have a requirement for a trial merit, the dog that is awarded the reserve certificate must also meet the requirement for a trial merit.

If none of the four placed dogs in the Best Male or Best Bitch class are entitled to compete for the certificate, the certificate will be awarded to the dog which the judge considers to be the best of the unplaced dogs, and the reserve certificate will be awarded to the dog that the judge considers to be the second best of the unplaced dogs in the Best Male or Best Bitch class.

In several breeds, notably among the Gundog and Working breeds and also some of the native hound breeds, there are a number of special restrictions and rules as far as the championship is concerned. The

ring steward will be fully familiar with these special regulations.

### Nordic Dog Show

Only one Nordic Show Certificate can be awarded in each sex, in every breed and breed variety - in accordance with the national kennel club show regulations.

All breeds recognized by the Nordic Kennel Union can receive the Nordic Show Certificate.

The Nordic Show Certificate is awarded to the winner of the best dog/bitch class, and the reserve Nordic Show Certificate is awarded to the second best dog and bitch.

The Nordic Show Certificate proposals will be issued by the officiating judges. The final confirmation will be done by the national kennel clubs.

At the Nordic Dog Show, national certificates will also be awarded.

### International Dog Show

At international shows the CACIB and Reserve-CACIB are also given to the best and second best exhibits in sex, provided they are 15 months old. It is important to observe that a dog worthy of the national CAC (and thus of champion quality in this country) does not therefore necessarily deserve the title of champion in the country of origin, which is the definition for the quality of the winner of a CACIB (also applying for the Reserve-CACIB). For awarding CACIB and Reserve-CACIB there are similar restrictions to the awarding of the CAC.

Please note that a CACIB cannot be awarded to some breeds which are not (fully) recognized by the FCI. No dog entered in the Junior or Veteran Class may compete for the CACIB. There are additional rules

regarding the CACIB, such as separate awards for different colour varieties within the same breed (Poodles, Great Danes etc). Several breeds have other specific rules for the CACIB. The ring steward will be fully familiar with the regulations for awarding CACIBs.

It might be of importance to stress again, that in case no dogs or bitches respectively have been awarded a Ck there are no Best Male or Best Bitch classes - and there will consequently be no Best of Breed. The judge cannot withhold the CAC in the Best Male/Best Bitch class if the dog earlier has been awarded a Ck = being of certificate (CAC) quality. A dog might of course for some reason be disqualified or excused at the moment of the Best Male/Best Bitch class - a dog that at this stage must be disqualified due to showing unacceptable mentality, is disqualified and also loses all the earlier awards gained at this show.

### Best of Breed Class (Bäst i rasen)

The Best Male and the Best Bitch compete for Best of Breed (BIR) and Best of Opposite Sex (BIM). In case the judge has not awarded any Ck's during the breed judging there will be no Best Male or Best Bitch and thus no dog will become Best of Breed - and the breed will have no representative in the group finals.

### Progeny Class (Avelsklass)

*(Mixed class)*

This class is open to stud dogs and brood bitches together with four offspring, all of which must have been entered in official classes at the present show and shall at least be assigned to the quality price *Very good*.

A written critique should be issued to each group. Competition is applied in this class,

which involves all the groups taking part in the class being ranked 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th. Outstanding groups should be awarded an HP. The Best Progeny Group with HP goes on to compete in the group finals.

**Breeders' Class (Uppfödarklass)**  
*(Mixed class)*

Four dogs bred by the same breeder are entered, all of which must have been entered in official classes at the present show and shall at least be assigned to the quality price *Very good*.

A written critique should be issued to each group. Competition is applied in this class, which in involves all the groups taking part in the class being ranked 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th. Outstanding groups should be awarded an HP. The Best Breeders Group with HP goes on to compete in the group finals.

**The finals**

**Group and Best in Show judging**

Group finals are unofficial, and have the regular competition between the Best of Breed (BOB) winners in the nine groups. Group 4 and 6 is judged in the same group. Finals will also include Best Puppy, Best Veteran and Best Breeder's Group in Show. The finals can also include Best Progeny Group and Best Junior. The winners of the nine (nine) FCI groups finally meet for Best in Show. As usual, four exhibits should be placed 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th in each of the finals.

**Prizes are identified by the following colours:**

**Quality grading**

- Excellent..... red
- Very good.....blue
- Good.....yellow
- Sufficient.....green

- Certificate (CAC) quality.....pink
- Honour Prize.....purple

**Competition assessment:**

- 1st place..... red
- 2nd place.....blue
- 3rd place.....yellow
- 4th place.....green
- Certificate.....blue/yellow
- Reserve certificate.....light blue
- Champion.....red/green
- Nordic Show Certificate.....black/gold
- Reserve Nordic Show Certificate.....white/silver
- CACIB.....white
- Reserve CACIB.....orange
- BOB.....red/yellow
- BOS.....green/white

A new champion, made up at the show, receives a red/green card/ribbon.

**Critiques**

Judges from abroad are advised to observe that the written critiques are the "backbone" of the Swedish show system. Consequently, judges should endeavour to make the critiques as comprehensive as possible, and above all, equally comprehensive throughout, regardless of the individual quality of the respective exhibits. Judges should also be aware of the fact that most of the critiques will be published in various Breed Club Magazines or Club Annuals.

The detailed description can start from the head, working backwards with particular mention of virtues as well as faults. It is not necessary to scrutinize the dog in every detail, but it is important to be specific enough to justify the quality grade given. The ideal critique should, in a few sentences,

# Critique form

Arrangör/ Organizer

Katalog nr/ Catalogue no

Ras/Breed				Kön/Sex
Klass/Class				
Valpklass/Puppy class				Plac. .... <input type="checkbox"/> hp
Måtesultat/Measurement	Färg/Colour	Mentalitet/Mentality	SRD notering/BSI notes <input type="checkbox"/>	Kvalitet/pris/Quality grading <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Sufficient <input type="checkbox"/> Disqualified <input type="checkbox"/> Cannot be judged
Konkurrensklass/ Competition class Plac. .... <input type="checkbox"/> OK				Bästa haner/tik-klass/ Best male/f bitch class Plac. .... <input type="checkbox"/> Cert/CAC <input type="checkbox"/> R-cert/R-CAC <input type="checkbox"/> NORDIC <input type="checkbox"/> NORDIC <input type="checkbox"/> Cert/CAC <input type="checkbox"/> R-cert/R-CAC <input type="checkbox"/> CACIB <input type="checkbox"/> R-CACIB <input type="checkbox"/> BIR/BOB <input type="checkbox"/> BIM/BOB
Avels-/uppfödarklass/ Progeny/breeder's class Plac. .... <input type="checkbox"/> hp				

SKK T118 20.000 ex juli 2019

Domare/Name of Judge

enable anybody not present at the show to visualize the dog described therein.

The form (see previous page) for the written critiques contains the following sections:

- 1) Ras/*Breed*
- 2) Mätresultat/*Measurement*
- 3) Färg/*Colour*
- 4) Storlek/*Size*
- 5) Mentalitet/*Mentality*
- 6) Särskilda Rasspecifika Domaranvisningar/*Special Breed Specific Instructions*

Judges may, or are even encouraged to, give an open oral critique in addition to the written one if conditions allow this. This can be done, either while assessing each individual exhibit or if time is sparse, just to motivate the final placements in the competition classes. The placing in the competition classes are not included in the written individual critique so if the judge finds it desirable to openly motivate the placing, the open oral critique is the way to do so. Language barriers should be a minor problem as most exhibitors will understand basic English. Oral critiques are in general much appreciated by both spectators as well as exhibitors.

### Measuring

Measuring may be compulsory in some breeds, whose standards include specific maximum and minimum heights. Measurements should always be expressed in centimetres and not in inches (1 inch = 2,54 centimetres). A standardized instrument should be used. The judge may very well measure any dog if needed.

### Late arrivals

Dogs that arrive too late for the judging, that is to say when the last dog in the class is finished, can get a quality grading by the

judge when the breed is finished. That dog cannot compete any further.

Dogs arriving too late for the competition assessment are not allowed to compete any further.

### Problems

Should the judge suspect any exhibit not to be purebred, the dog should be assessed in the normal way, given a written critique and a "Disqualified". In addition, a special mention of the case should be made in the award sheet in connection with the judge's signature, and the Show Committee should be notified separately.

### Double Handling

Double Handling, i.e. attracting the dogs' attention by means of a person outside the ring, must be prohibited. Judges should discourage artificial over handling. Whenever possible, dogs should be shown on a loose lead with a minimum of physical handling.

### Veterinary certificates

Exhibitors occasionally show veterinary certificates testifying to surgical or other measures taken in connection with various acquired defects, such as e.g. accidental damage, scars, removal of teeth etc.

The veterinary certificates should be handled only by the ring steward and judges' may take these into account at their discretion. Nevertheless, when grading for quality, judges are recommended to refrain from putting too much emphasis on acquired defects unless, of course, these are so pronounced, so as to render a correct assessment overly difficult or even impossible. On the other hand, in the competition classes, such defects may well be considered, however, once again, at the judges own discretion.

# Doping

## **Swedish National regulations against dog doping**

### Treatment of coat, nose or skin

Dogs whose coat, nose or skin have been treated with substances intended to change the colour or texture may not be exhibited. This includes the use of colorants, hair spray, gel, mousse, chalk, talcum powder etc.

Only preparations which are clearly intended to help combing/brushing (conditioner/conditioning spray) and/or reduce static electricity may be used on an otherwise untreated coat prior to the show.

### Doping and other improper measures

The showing of injured or sick dogs is not permitted, nor is the showing of dogs which have been subjected to measures aimed at improperly altering their appearance, performance or character, or intended to conceal signs of injury or illness.

For detailed regulations outlining which treatments or actions are permitted, see the National regulations against dog doping.

It is incumbent upon the person responsible for a dog to ascertain how a specific treatment or other measure may affect the eligibility of the dog to participate in the show.

When the show committee decides to carry out tests with the aim of investigating the issue of doping or other prohibited actions, it is obligatory upon the person responsible for a dog to make the dog available both for testing and for any further examinations resulting from the test.



**Valid from January 1st 2022**



## Guidelines

**For English speaking conformation  
judges officiating at dog shows in Sweden**



### **SVENSKA KENNELKLUBBEN**

HUNDÄGARNAS RIKSORGANISATION

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