

Top 20 Competition Rules and Regulations

Purpose

To showcase excellence in the Papillon, the Papillon Club of America will sponsor a Top 20 Competition Event. This event is "separate" from the National Specialty. This event is intended to educate and entertain judges, exhibitors, breeders and fanciers. This event provides special recognition to those Papillons with the most outstanding records in the show ring during the previous year, together with their breeders, trainers and owners. The event provides a continuing incentive to strive for Papillons that excel in structure, movement, temperament and conformation to our written standard.

The Top 20 Competition offers all who attend a chance to view the very best Papillons in the country based upon their competitive standings in breed points from the previous year. Using a scale of points, each dog is evaluated according to how closely it conforms to the breed standard. This procedure is not available at any AKC show and allows the spectators an opportunity to evaluate the dogs, scoring them at the same time they are being judged. The event is educational, promoting discussion of the standard and providing spectators an opportunity to see how individual views can produce a consensus decision, which can then be compared to their own impressions.

The Chairperson for the National Specialty has no responsibilities and/or involvement with the Top 20 Event. It is up to the National Specialty Chairperson to designate the date and time for the Top 20 Event along with the other National Specialty program.

The Top 20 Chair Person

1. The Top 20 Chairperson is responsible for obtaining the three (3) Judges. This is to be kept in strict confidence and the selected judges are not to reveal their involvement in the Top 20 Event until 1 hour prior to the event.
2. The Top 20 Chairperson is responsible for organizing, fundraising and planning the event.

Statistics and Eligibility

1. To be eligible to compete in the Top Twenty Event the dog/bitch must be ranked one of the final Top Twenty Papillons in conformation competition in the AKC Breed point Standings. There are no other eligibility requirements to compete.
2. The Top Twenty invitees are based on point standing in breed (total of Papillons defeated), counting on a calendar year basis (January 1 through December 31 annually).
3. To compete in this event, all owners and co-owners of finalist must be in good standing with the AKC at the time the invitations are extended and at the time of the event. All dogs must be eligible at the time of the event to compete at AKC events, with the exception of item
4. Spayed bitches or neutered dogs that have been named among the final Top Twenty Papillons may compete in this event.

5. *All finalists will need to attend the briefing held prior to the event for the purposes of assigning armbands, reviewing the staging of the event, and the draw for order of competition.*
6. *All Participants agree to abide by any and all rules as may become effective through authorization of the Top Twenty Committee and/or the PCA Officers and Board of Directors as concerns the conduct of finalists participating in the event.*

Invitations

1. *The first listed owner of a Top Twenty finalist will be sent an invitation to participate in this event. The entry fee for the event is \$75.00. The entry fee is to be returned with the entry form and other required information accompanying the invitation.*
2. *Previous winners of the event will be sent invitations to appear at the following year's event. The opportunity to purchase a page of advertising in the Top Twenty catalog and/or a ribbon(s) is available for nominal fee for all previous winners.*
3. *The invitations shall be sent out to all eligible dogs in the month of January. Invitations, Basic Facts, Basic Ring Procedure, Donation, Order Forms, Score Sheet and any other pertinent information will be sent to the invitees at this time. The deadline will be well noted so as not to be missed by anyone.*

Entry Fees

1. *The entry fee is \$75.00, which includes two (2) pages in the catalog along with a photo and three (3) generation pedigree, and a Top 20 acknowledgement ribbon with name.*
2. *Extra acknowledgement ribbons may be ordered by co-owner for \$30.00 but there will be no shipping (must be picked up at show). This must be done by order form and paid in advance.*
3. *If unable to attend but would like a one page and an acknowledgement ribbon with name, the fee is \$45.00. The ad may include photo, name of the dog, sire and dam, owner, breeder, whelping date, finishing date.*
4. *All photos are to be cropped to show the "dog" only, preferably from a show photo.*

Catalogs

1. *Each year a catalog will be prepared exclusively for the Top Twenty event.*
2. *The catalog will contain two pages for each competitor, with photograph and text supplied by the dog's owner or agent.*
3. *The catalog will have several basic inclusions. The front page will list the officers of the Club, the chairperson for the event and any committee members working on the event.*

4. *The catalog will include a page for listing all the previous winners, the judges and the year in which they won, a page for recognition of donors, a page listing all dogs eligible for the event for current year. The score sheet, the Papillon Standard, a photo and bio for each of the three judges.*

Trophies and Rosettes

1. *Finalists in attendance will receive a formal rosette.*
2. *Finalists are afforded the privilege of responding "No" to the invitation if they are unable or do not plan to attend and still obtain their rosette by ordering it in advance from the committee chair for \$30.00. Rosettes will also be awarded to the finalists qualifying and opting to attend for Exhibition Only. A shipping fee will be required for rosettes to be mailed.*
3. *Co-owners and breeders of finalists may also purchase rosettes by ordering them from the committee chair (advance response is mandatory). The total number of additional rosettes ordered may not exceed the number of listed breeders and co-owners of the finalist.*
4. *Previous winners in attendance will receive a rosette.*
5. *Finalists responding "No" to the invitation and not in attendance at the event will be noted in the rankings in the catalog.*
6. *The winner of the Top 20 Competition will be awarded a rosette.*

Event Scheduling

1. *The Top Twenty Event will be held prior to intersex competition of the PCA National Specialty Show.*
2. *Armband numbers will be distributed and the draw for order of competition will be held at least one-half hour before the beginning of the Top Twenty competition.*
3. *The winner of the event will be announced at the Champagne Celebration following the close of the National by the Top Twenty Chair person or his/her designee.*

Judges

1. *There will be three (3) judges of the Top Twenty event. There will be one judge from each of the following three categories.*
 - a. *Breeder Judge: an established Papillon breeder who has been breeding for at least five years, having produced at least five AKC Champions of Record as published in the AKC Gazette; or is approved by the AKC to judge Papillons. The Breeder Judge must not own or co-own a dog in the top twenty, or be a recorded breeder of the same. The breeder judge MAY exhibit Papillons in all classes, including intersex, at the PCA National Specialty Show and any associated All-breed or Papillon Specialty shows.*

3. *Immediately following the completion of judging, the judges' marked (but not tallied for total scores) sheets will be turned over to an independent and impartial person or persons to be tabulated (chosen prior to the event). The scores for each dog, from each of the three judges, are added together, then divided by three (3) to determine the dogs average score.*
4. *The winner will be determined on the basis of the average score of each dog. The score sheets and the identity of the winning dog will not be announced until the evening of the Champagne Celebration.*
5. *In the event of a tie, the winner is determined by consulting the "First Impression score" total. The dog with the highest First Impression total is declared the winner. The First Impression score is used ONLY to break a tie, and is not included in tabulating the average score. If there is still a tied score, there will be two (2) winners who shall share the title of the Top Twenty Winner.*