

Regional Specialty Policy

This policy concerns FBDC Parent Specialties other than the FBDC National Specialty. (FBDC Regional Specialties) An understanding of the definitions of the different type of specialties is required in order to understand the applicable AKC rules, regulations and policies.

Applicable Show Definitions

- **National Specialty** – This is a parent club premier event. This is normally the largest breed specialty show. This specialty enjoys several unique advantages.
 - The Reserve Winners may be eligible for a “3-point major” if the entry is double the required entry for a “5-point major.”
 - Some of the winners receive invitations to the AKC Eukanuba show and Crufts
- **Regional Specialty** - Since parent clubs are not limited to the number of shows they may hold each year, these specialties held by the parent club may be held in any “region” of the country.
 - All of the show committee MUST be members of the parent club. FBDC is responsible for all aspects of these shows since they are “parent club specialties” regardless of the experience of the FBDC approved show committee. Because of this FBDC responsibility, the Board must approve the event and the judges selected to judge at these specialties.
 - Local club wishing to “host” a FBDC Specialty must have held at least one successful Sanctioned-B match may “host” a specialty for the parent club. The proper notice in the premium list is “This French Bull Dog Club of America Specialty is hosted by the _____ Club.”
- **Local Specialties** – These are shows held by clubs formed in a particular area and are assigned a specific “local” territory. Although these shows require parent club approval, they are totally independent clubs and have authority and responsibility for their own shows. All show committee members MUST be members of the local club. In accordance with *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, local clubs may appeal to the AKC Board of Directors if the parent club unreasonably withholds permission for their shows. FBDC approval is granted unless these shows are in conflict with other French Bulldog specialties or the local club or the show committee members are not in good standing with FBDC.
- **Designated Specialty** - AKC permits specialty clubs to “designate” the regular classes of an all-breed show as the specialty clubs show. Although the specialty club must provide a show committee consisting of their members, the all-breed club has responsibility for the conduct of the show, including event hearings and discipline. These may be local, regional or national specialties. The Morris & Essex show is an example of a FBDC Designated Specialty.
- **Supported Entries** – A supported entry is NOT a specialty. AKC does not require AKC permission for clubs to “support an entry” at shows but does provide guidance in the AKC Show/Trial manual that must be followed. Supporting an entry requires written approval from the hosting club. FBDC may hold sweepstakes as part of the supported entry but must have permission of the hosting club. Supported Entries may only be approved by clubs that have reached AKC Sanctioned status and have successfully held an AKC Sanction B Match.

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Application to hold a FBDC A Regional Specialty

FBDC A members may submit a letter to the Secretary requesting Board approval to hold a FBDC A Regional Specialty. This request must be submitted a minimum of eight (8) months prior to the intended specialty date in order for the FBDC A Board to approve the request and to permit AKC. This request must include the following information:

1. Date and location of the event.
2. List the associated cluster or shows being held with the specialty.
3. List the intended FBDC A members that will serve on the show committee by position. (Minimum of five members.)
4. Provide budget information to describe the financial impact on FBDC A.
5. State the reasons FBDC A should approve this specialty.

The Board will review the request and make a decision regarding the approval. If the specialty is approved the following procedures are required

Regional Specialty AKC Requirements

Regional Specialties are held under the authority of FBDC A. In order for FBDC A to avoid fines or penalties it is imperative that the show chair comply with all AKC rules, regulations and policies.

1. Show Chair must have availability and be familiar with the *AKC Show/Trial Manual, Rules Applying to Dog Shows, and Dealing with Misconduct at AKC Dog Shows*.
2. Request to FBDC A a minimum of eight (8) months prior to the intended show date.
3. Submit the show application and judging panel to AKC a minimum of eighteen (18) weeks prior to the closing of entries for the show. (This may be completed with a paper *AKC Events Application* available at www.akc.org under keyword "downloadable forms" or use the online application found at www.akc.org/olp with appropriate fees, a permission letter from the host club or cluster, and a permission letter from FBDC A. A *Conformation/Obedience Application Checklist* is available at www.akc.org under keyword "downloadable forms."
4. Show Chair must have a written agreement with the cluster chair or show chair of the accompanying all-breed or Group club prior to submitting the application to AKC.
5. Show Chair must have FBDC A approval prior to submitting the application to AKC.
6. The show report and payment of AKC fees must be sent to AKC within seven days of the specialty. The show report must describe any event hearing or occurrence that might cause a complaint to AKC or to the FBDC A.
7. Trophies must be listed and described in the premium list(s) in accordance with *Rules Applying to Dog Shows, Chapter 5*. Any additional trophies not listed must be approved by the FBDC A President and Show Committee prior to being offered and the reason they are not listed included in the show report.

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Suggestions regarding judge selection

Although Regional Specialties are FBDCA parent club specialties, FBDCA authorizes the show committee more flexibility in selecting judges. Since Regional Specialties are normally held with all-breed shows or clusters, the show committee is permitted to suggest judges that are economically feasible and are appropriate for the breed rather than following the membership nomination procedure used for the FBDCA National Specialty. Suggestions to minimize expenses include using judges that only charge a “per dog” fee with no reimbursement for travel & lodging expenses, judges that will be in the area for other events and will judge for as reasonable “flat fee,” or judges that will be used on the panel of accompanying shows and will have no travel expenses associated with the specialty.

FBDCA Requirements

1. Perspective judges and the judging contract(s) must be approved by the Board prior to sending them to the judge(s).
2. Judges must have signed a contract prior to submitting their name to AKC.
3. The following statements must be included in ALL FBDCA premium lists:
 - a. The dogs owned or co-owned by the show chairman or committee members who contact the judge(s) in an official capacity will not be exhibited in this FBDCA show.
 - b. Dogs that are bred and owned by a professional handler may compete in the FBDCA Sweepstakes. Dogs not bred and owned by a professional handler may not be exhibited by a professional handler at FBDCA Sweepstakes.
 - c. Professional Handlers are defined as any person who belongs or has belonged to a professional handlers’ organization, distributed rate cards, or otherwise represented themselves as handling dogs for pay.
4. A copy of the premium list(s) must be sent to the FBDCA secretary when published. (Electronic copy is acceptable)
5. A copy of the AKC show report and an accounting of the specialty funds must be sent to the FBDCA Secretary within 14 days of the specialty.

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