

JCCA Policies and Guidelines

Judges Selection Policy for Specialties

Judges for JCCA specialties (regular classes) and sweepstakes will be selected using a two-round voting system. The nominating and balloting process will be conducted every other year and will include two specialty years. Judges should be selected at least two years prior to the planned specialty; earlier is preferred.

Nomination & Ballot Process:

1. Each member may nominate up to three specialty judges and up to three sweepstakes for a given year. As a reference, a list of AKC judges who are approved to judge Japanese Chin will be posted on the JCCA website. Judges who are ineligible due to frequency will be indicated.
2. Eligibility of each nominee should be checked prior to balloting.
3. The nominations will be compiled into an alphabetized list for each specialty and each sweepstakes. Members will vote on the nominees via a secure, online voting mechanism.
4. The top 10 vote recipients for each event will be listed on a ballot form approved by the JCCA Board and mailed to each member.
5. In the case of ties from the online ballot tally, the tied names will be counted sequentially rather than as one place. For instance, if there is a two-way tie for first place, the two names will be placed alphabetically on the ballot as nominees one and two. The nominee receiving the most votes for second place would then be placed on the ballot as nominee number three and so forth.
6. The ballot shall be returned to the secretary or to an independent entity approved by the JCCA Board. The ballot shall be counted by either an independent entity or a committee of three approved by the JCCA Board.

Eligibility Criteria:

1. Candidates must not have judged regular classes or sweepstakes at a JCCA National Specialty or JCCA Parent Club Specialty in the four years prior to the intended event.
2. Candidates for regular conformation classes must be AKC licensed judges approved for Japanese Chin or AKC approved visiting judges. Per [AKC policy](#), visiting judges may be approved to judge regular classes if they are approved by an AKC-recognized registry to judge Japanese Chin in their own country.
3. Candidates for sweepstakes judge must have bred five Japanese Chin champions in any country and must be a JCCA member for a minimum of five years at the time the vote is counted. Contracts for judging sweepstakes at JCCA specialties will be signed only with JCCA members.
4. Before nominating a person to judge sweepstakes, the member should first ascertain the person would be willing to judge if elected.
5. Both regular class and sweepstakes judges must be in good standing with the JCCA and the AKC. Any judge who is not in good standing with the JCCA and the AKC is ineligible to judge JCCA Sweepstakes or Specialty regular classes. Loss of good standing with the AKC or JCCA is grounds for cancellation of the judging contract. This provision will be included in all judging contracts.
6. A contracted specialty judge must agree not to judge Japanese Chin in the United States for six months prior to the event.

Screening & Hiring:

1. The Show Chair, Specialty Support Committee, or an officer will confirm the eligibility of judges receiving the highest number of votes before any invitations are extended. Future judging assignments should be checked on the AKC website to ensure there are no conflicts with the specialty event.
2. The Show Chair will offer the judge the assignment and will negotiate fees and travel expenses. In the case a Show Chair has not been selected, the Specialty Support Chair or an officer will act in this capacity.

3. For each specialty and each sweepstakes event, the nominated judge with the highest number of votes will be offered the assignment. Should the nominated judge decline, the assignment will be offered to the next judge, continuing in successive order until the position is filled.
 - a. If the same judge receives the highest number of votes for both the National Specialty and the Parent Club Specialty, priority will be given to the National.
 - b. If there is a tie, the judge receiving the most votes overall (combined total for the National Specialty and Parent Club Specialty) will be offered the assignment first.
4. If the chosen National Specialty or Parent Club Specialty judge is not approved to judge Junior Showmanship, the Show Chair or Specialty Support Committee will select an alternate AKC approved judge to judge Junior Showmanship.
5. After negotiations are concluded, the secretary will send the judge a contract in accordance with this policy and the Guidelines for JCCA Specialties.

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