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## How dog-Showing Works

### **Breakdown of Classes, How Points Are Earned, Etc.**

**Classes (At either an all breed OR a specialty):** Males are judged first, then Bitches, but the class names are the same.

**6-9** - over six months, under 9 months of age

**9-12** - 9 months or over, under 12 months of age

**12-18** - 12 months of age, under 18 months

**Novice** - (hardly ever used in doxies - must have had less than two wins)

**American Bred** (hardly ever used in doxies, except for oversized minis...must have been bred in the US)

**Bred-By-Exhibitor** - Handler must be a breeder AND owner of record

**Open Mini** - Over 12 months of age and under 11 pounds (not considered a mini till 12 months of age)

**Open Standard** - anything over 11 pounds

Each class is judged in the order presented in the catalog. Usually any animals entered in each class go into the ring in CATALOG ORDER. The judge will award ribbons for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup>.

The **WINNERS of each class** go back into the ring for either **Winner's Dog or Winner's Bitch**. They go back in in reverse order, so the Open Standard (if there is one) will be at the head of the line; the 6-9 puppy will be at the end. The judge will choose one dog/bitch from this group...that animal is the **ONLY** one to be awarded points. Then that dog leaves, and whoever was second in that class (if there was one) goes into the ring and competes with the others for **Reserve Winner's Dog/Bitch**. This is important because if, for any reason, AKC denies the points to the winner (inaccurate entry, etc.), then the Reserve Dog/Bitch will get the points. Doesn't happen often, but it can!

After the judging of the Dogs, and then the Bitches, the **"Specials"** or champions come into the ring, along with the Winner's Dog and Bitch. These dogs all then compete for **Best of Variety, and Best of Opposite to Variety**, and WD and WB compete for **Best of Winners**.

The judge chooses a **Best of Variety (BOV)**. It may be any of the dogs in the ring, including the Winner's Dog (WD) or Winner's Bitch (WB). He then chooses a dog of the **OPPOSITE SEX** to the BOV for **BOS**. He then chooses either the WD or WB for **Best of Winners (BOW)**. This is important, because if there happens to be more points in males, and the bitch goes BOW, she gets the bigger number of points as well, and vice versa. Likewise, if WD or WB wins the Variety, there is the possibility of more points, depending on how many Specials have been defeated.

Now, here is where it is different at all-breeds than at Specialties. **At an all-breed**, the same type of judging goes on for all three coats, and then the **BOV of each coat** goes on to compete in the **Hound Group** which is one of seven groups. At a **Specialty**, however, **the three BOV's then compete for Best of Breed**. And then there will also be a **Best of Opposite to Best of Breed**.