

# Regulations for Regional Specialties and/or Supported Entries

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The purpose of this document is to provide consistent guidelines for all non-AKC licensed BMDCA recognized clubs which desire to hold Supported Entries, Sweeps or Designated / Concurrent Specialties under the BMDCA name.

*As a parent club, the BMDCA is obligated to do as much as possible to fulfill its constitutional objective required by AKC, "to encourage the organization of independent local Bernese Mountain Dog Specialty Clubs where sufficient fanciers of the breed exist to meet American Kennel Club (AKC) requirements."*

The BMDCA remains strongly committed in our efforts for BMDCA clubs to actively strive for AKC License status. The documentation of BMDCA clubs' activities via this process will recognize and permit clubs to hold events based on their level of activities in support of Bernese Mountain Dogs and recognize those clubs whose activities continue serving the best interests of the breed. The documentation contained within this process will also serve as documentation for progress toward AKC license status.

BMDCA Recognized Clubs belong to one of the following four CLUB categories

Category ONE (1) - AKC-licensed Specialty Club

Category TWO (2) - AKC-Sanctioned Specialty Club

Category THREE (3) - BMDCA Recognized Specialty Club

Category FOUR (4) - Newly formed but not yet BMDCA Recognized Club

THE FOLLOWING CLUBS BELONG TO CATEGORY ONE (1)  
(AKC Licensed and BMDCA recognized Specialty Clubs)

Alaska: BMDC of Alaska  
Arizona Grand Canyon State BMDC  
California: BMDC of Northern California  
California: Sierra West BMDC  
Colorado: BMDC of the Rockies  
Illinois: BMDC of Northeastern Illinois  
Maryland: Potomac Valley BMDC  
Massachusetts: BMDC of Nashoba Valley  
Minnesota: BMDC of the Greater Twin Cities  
New Jersey: BMDC of Watchung  
Ohio: North Coast BMDC of Ohio  
Pennsylvania: Mason-Dixon BMDC  
Pennsylvania: Three Rivers BMDC  
Wisconsin: BMDC of Southeastern WI  
Virginia: BMDC of Hampton Roads

THE FOLLOWING CLUBS BELONG TO CATEGORY TWO (2)  
(AKC SANCTIONED AND BMDCA RECOGNIZED SPECIALTY CLUBS)

Arizona: Northern Arizona BMDC (Sanction B)  
Washington: BMDC of Greater Seattle (Sanction B)

THE FOLLOWING CLUBS BELONG TO CATEGORY THREE (3)  
(BMDCA RECOGNIZED SPECIALTY CLUBS)

California: BMDC of Southern California  
Georgia: Chattahoochee Valley BMDC  
Idaho: Inland Northwest BMDC  
Kansas: Heartland BMDCA  
Michigan: Heart of Michigan BMDC  
New York: BMDC of Finger Lakes  
North Carolina: Blue Ridge BMDC  
Ohio: Buckeye BMDC  
Oregon: BMDC of Oregon  
Texas: Lone Star BMDC  
Virginia: Central Virginia BMDC

THE FOLLOWING APPLY TO CATEGORY ONE (1) CLUBS:

Regional AKC-licensed Bernese Mountain Dog clubs may support entries and hold specialties for Bernese Mountain Dogs under their club's own name at either all-breed shows (Designated / Concurrent Specialty) or at their own venue. Those regional Bernese Mountain Dog clubs that achieved AKC-license status *prior* to July 2011 may hold Independent Specialties. Clubs that achieved AKC-license status *after* July 2011 are designated with '\*' above and must hold specialties at all-breed shows.

The BMDCA will file a letter with the AKC which grants Blanket Approval for the Category ONE Clubs (AKC Licensed Specialty Clubs) for a period of no more than three years at a time for events held on their designated AKC week(s) (including any preceding weekdays). AKC License Specialty Clubs must contact the BMDCA National Specialty Chair to seek concurrence for change of their designated AKC week to avoid conflicts with other BMDCA Regional Clubs.

Any other requests from BMDCA specialty clubs for AKC events not specifically outlined here will require written parent club approval.

## THE FOLLOWING PROCESSES APPLY TO NON AKC-LICENSED BMDCA RECOGNIZED SPECIALTY CLUBS CATEGORIES TWO AND THREE:

### **BMDCA Designated / Concurrent Regional Specialties**

**CATEGORY TWO AND THREE BMDCA REGIONAL CLUBS** may request to hold one Regional Specialty per year under the BMDCA name by completing the BMDCA Activities Form. The club will be permitted to hold this activity if the documented club activities support the request. The premium list will show that the Specialty is held by the BMDCA in conjunction with the Regional club.

### **BMDCA Supported Entries -**

**CATEGORY TWO AKC SANCTIONED A OR B BMDCA RECOGNIZED REGIONAL CLUBS** may hold one Supported Entry per year under the BMDCA name. The premium list will show that the entry is supported by the BMDCA in conjunction with the Regional club. BMDCA medallion awards may be requested for award. The club will be permitted to hold this activity if the documented club activities support the request.

BMDCA recognized Regional Clubs that are CATEGORY TWO - AKC Sanctioned A or B clubs may hold a Supported Entry under their Regional club name as per AKC guidelines. The premium list will list the Regional Club as supporting the entry.

NOTE: If the Supported Entry is held only under the Regional club name, Sweepstakes may not be held.

**CATEGORY THREE BMDCA RECOGNIZED REGIONAL CLUBS** may hold one Supported Entry per year under the BMDCA name only. The premium list will show the entry is supported by the BMDCA in conjunction with the Regional club. BMDCA medallion awards may be requested for award. The club will be permitted to hold this activity if the documented club activities support the request.

BMDCA recognized Regional Clubs that are CATEGORY THREE ( non- AKC Sanctioned clubs) may not hold a Supported Entry under their Regional club name as per AKC guidelines.

### **BMDCA Sweepstakes Events**

**CATEGORY TWO AND THREE REGIONAL CLUBS** wishing to hold Sweepstakes in conjunction with a Supported Entry or a Designated / Concurrent Regional Specialty under the BMDCA name may request this activity by completing the BMDCA Activities Form. The club will be permitted to hold this activity if the documented club activities support the request. Sweepstakes require BMDCA approval.

**RECENTLY FORMED BMD CLUBS (CATEGORY FOUR (4) MAY NOT HOLD SUPPORTED ENTRIES, SWEEPS OR DESIGNATED SPECIALTIES.**

## PARENT CLUB APPROVAL

An application along with the BMDCA Activities Checklist must be submitted to the BMDCA National Conformation Chair to obtain parent club approval to hold a Regional Designated / Concurrent Specialty, Supported entry, Sweepstakes or BMDCA Supported entry based on the above guidelines.

The application and BMDCA Activities Checklist Form is available online under the "Specialty" of the BMDCA club website at <http://www.bmdca.org>. Applications submitted online are sent directly to the BMDCA National Conformation Chair for review and consideration.

The completed BMDCA Activities Checklist for Supported Entries/Specialties must accompany the application for all Category TWO and THREE BMDCA recognized clubs.

## BMDCA ACTIVITIES CHECKLIST FORM AND APPLICATION

All Category TWO and THREE BMDCA recognized clubs will be permitted to hold events based on their level of documented activities.

If the activities requirement is met, the BMDCA Conformation Chairperson will grant approval for the individual club to hold the events based on the levels outlined in the Form.

The BMDCA Activities Checklist must be completed annually until the club obtain AKC licensure.

The BMDCA Conformation Chair will maintain a record of club requests, activities and approvals to the National Specialty Chair and provide a summary report to BMDCA board on a monthly basis as warranted.

## AKC SHOW/TRIAL APPLICATIONS FORMS

AKC applications for Specialty Shows and/or Sweepstakes events held under the BMDCA must be reviewed and signed by the National Conformation Chair for all clubs designated as category TWO AND THREE. When approved, the BMDCA Conformation Chair will submit a signed AKC Form AETV02 and the BMDCA approval letter to AKC event operations. The Conformation Chair will forward the form to the Regional club contact who will also submit these to the show chair or superintendent. **The Regional Club is responsible for obtaining written permission from the All-Breed Club for the event.**

Licensed AKC BMDCA clubs will be forwarded a BMDCA's parent club approval letter issued by the BMDCA National Conformation Chair which must accompany all show applications. This letter will also be filed with AKC Event Operations and may cover multiple years.

NOTE: AKC rules require that the Show Chair and Event Chairs be members of the show-giving club.

## ADDITIONAL REGIONAL SPECIALTY RESTRICTIONS & REQUIREMENTS

### INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS:

IMPORTANT NOTE: All BMDCA Specialty clubs holding events under the BMDCA are required to have proof of \$1.0 Million general liability insurance coverage on file with the BMDCA Treasurer as a condition for event approval and BMDCA must be named as an additional insured during the dates of the events. A document of insurance must be obtained from the insurance agency for the specific event and forwarded to both the Event Venue contact and/or Show Chair and the BMDCA Conformation Chair.

### DATE AND LOCATION:

BMDCA regional specialties are restricted to at least 30 days before or after a BMDCA National Specialty when the location is at least 300 road miles from that year's National Specialty. However, if the location of the regional is less than 300 road miles from the National, the regional must be held at least 60 days before or after the National Specialty. Exceptions to this rule will be considered on a case-by case basis and require express written consent from both the Chair of the affected National Specialty Show and the BMDCA Board.

### PROTECTED TERRITORIES:

1. All Regional Specialties held during the same AKC Show Week must be at least 1000 miles apart. Distance is calculated using driving miles between show sites.
2. All Regional Specialties are to be at least two AKC Show Weeks apart from other Specialties on the same coast (Nashoba is grandfathered). Requests for Specialty requests that fall within these parameters may be approved by the BMDCA Conformation Chair.
3. All requests for a Regional Specialty that is one AKC Show Week before or after that of an existing approved Specialty must have the existing Specialty club's approval in writing before submitting their Specialty application. The approval is for that requested year only.
4. Any request for a change of AKC Show Week for an existing Regional Specialty AKC Show Week must be submitted to the BMDCA Conformation Chair. The request should indicate whether it is a temporary change or permanent change. These requests must adhere to the above rules.

### JUDGING PANEL:

National Specialty judges are restricted from judging Bernese at the breed level for six months prior to the National Specialty Show dates (Note: Group judging is permissible.)

### CONCESSION SPACE

Whenever possible, it is requested that complimentary booth space be provided to the BMDCA Ways & Means and to the current year National Specialty Ways & Means.

### REPORTING

Within two weeks after the event, the Regional Club Show Chair shall submit entry data to the National Conformation Chair for the total number of dogs competing in Best of Breed, Dog and Bitch classes, as well as all Sweepstakes classes (Non-Regular classes, Junior Showmanship and performance event entry numbers are optional).