

Australian National Kennel Council Ltd ABN 77 151 544 679 trading as Dogs Australia

Rules for the Conduct of Canine Grooming Competitions

(Effective from 1st January, 2027)

Adopted by the Member Bodies of the Australian National Kennel Council Limited October 2026

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page No.

SECTION 1 – GENERAL RULES

1.1 The Show Ring 4
1.1.2 Allocated Spot 4
1.2 Additional Requirements 4
1.3 Refunds and Changes 4
1.4 Check in Procedures 5
1.5 Pre-judging and Entry Confirmation 5
1.6 Judges will undertake the following during pre-judging 5
1.7 Product Application 6
1.8 Assistance during the show 6
1.9 Break 6
1.10 Judging 6
1.11 Competition End 6
1.12 Show Manager 7
1.13 Codes of Conduct, Ethics and Social Media Policy 8
1.14 Code of Practice (Judges and Competitors) 8
1.15 Promotion Activity 9
1.16 General Information 10
1.17 Miscellaneous 11

SECTION 2 - OPEN SHOW COMPETITIONS

2.1 Preface 12
2.2 Purpose 12
2.3 Entry Qualifications 12
2.4 Entry Fee 12
2.5 Classifications of Groups 12
2.6 Special Classes 12
2.7 Format 13
2.8 Requirements for Open Show Judges 13
2.9 Rules & Regulations for Open Show Judges 13
2.10 Placements 14
2.11 Group Placements 14
2.12 Best in Show Placements 14
2.13 Best in Show for Levels B & C 14
2.14 Best Salon Freestyle/Asian Fusion in Show 14
2.15 Grooming Expertise Levels 14
2.16 Additional Guidelines 15
Dogs Australia Recognised Breeds admitted to compete at Open Show 16
Time Allocation – Open Show 17

SECTION 3 - CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW COMPETITIONS

3.1 Preface 18
3.2 Objectives of Canine Grooming 18
3.3 Canine Grooming General Rules 18
Dogs Australia Recognised Breeds admitted to compete at Championship Show 19
3.4 Group 1 - Hand stripping 20
3.5 Group 2 - Spaniel/Setter 20
3.6 Group 3 – Poodle 21

3.7 Group 4 – Pure Bred Scissoring 22
3.8 Group 5 – Salon Freestyle/Asian Fusion 22
3.9 Special Classes 22
3.10 Classification of Levels 23
3.11 Awards and Prizes 24
3.12 Group Placements 24
3.13 Best in Show Placements 24
3.14 Best in Show for Level B 24
3.15 Best in Show for Level C 24
3.16 Best Salon Freestyle/Asian Fusion in Show 25
3.17 Awards and Prizes 25
3.18 Group Placements 25
Time Allocation – Championship Show 26
3.19 Entering 27

SECTION 4 – FCI SHOW COMPETITIONS
4.1 Preface 28
4.2 Objectives of Canine Grooming 28
4.3 Welfare and Health of Dogs 28
4.4 Eligibility 28
4.5 FCI Canine Grooming General Rules 28
4.6 Classification of Levels 29
FCI Recognised Breeds admitted to compete at FCI Show 30
4.7 Category 1 – Hand-stripping 31
4.8 Category 2 – Spaniel and Setters 31
4.9 Category 3 – Poodles 31
4.10 Category 4 – Other Purebred Dogs Scissoring 32
4.11 Category 5 – Pet (Freestyle) 32
4.12 Aspects that the judges must consider as they judge 33
Time Allocation – FCI Show 35
4.13 “Best in Level” and “Best Groomer in Show” Competitions 36

SECTION 1 – GENERAL

1.1 The Show Ring

1.1.1 The following is **strictly prohibited** during competition:

a) Use of phones, radios and headsets
b) Standing on tables or chairs
c) Beverages NOT in spill proof containers
d) Coaching by anyone, at any time during the competition
e) Visual/written instructions or any coaching aids during the competition
f) Hair dryers either corded or cordless cannot be used once the class commences.

1.1.2 Allocated Spot

1.1.2.1 The allocated site for exhibitors to groom should be proportionate to the size of the dogs but must be a minimum of 170 cm (length) x 150 cm (width) in area and must have a 50 cm walkway.

1.1.2.2 Any equipment used in the formation of a grooming ring must meet minimum safety standards to prevent injury to officials, judges, or animals (e.g., electrical connections are prohibited).

1.1.2.3 The Show Manager has the discretion to adjust layout providing they maintain minimum safety standards.

1.2 Additional Requirements

a) Only cordless clippers and equipment permitted. Due to safety requirements no equipment requiring a power cord is to be used within the competition ring. No cordless equipment is to be charged at power points within the competition ring at any time.
b) Professional Conduct by Competitors at all times
c) Appropriate grooming attire and shoes must be worn at all times.
d) Inappropriate attire would be considered as very short skirts, tight shorts, and low-cut blouses.
e) Open toe shoes are not permitted.
f) A professional manner and attitude must be maintained at all times
g) Competitors must maintain a safe styling counter at all times (as an example: Open scissors left on the table for the dog to step on would be considered unsafe styling counter).
h) Handling of dogs is to be done in a humane way that will not cause distress to the dog. In particular, lifting an exhibit from the ground to the table by means of head and tail is not permitted
i) The dogs' welfare and health must be of UTMOST PRIORITY at all canine grooming competitions.
j) Competitors are responsible to ensure that their grooming dog is able to endure the groom time and have the ability to stand on the table for the length of time of the groom.
k) Competitors must practice kind and safe handling techniques at all times.
l) Dogs must not be left unattended at any time.
m) Competitors must apply technical skills with safety. Nicks, cuts and clipper burns are considered unsafe technical skill application.
n) Good sportsmanship must be displayed at all times.
o) It is the responsibility of each contestant to clean up after their dog both inside and outside the venue, including all clipped hair.

1.3 Refunds and Changes

1.3.1 Cancellation of entry may incur a 5% Administrative and Processing fee and will be deducted from the refund.
1.3.2 No refund of entry fees will be made after the closing date of entries.
1.3.3 Entry fees are non-refundable in the event of the Competitors being withdrawn or disqualified.
1.3.4 In the event that the grooming competition is cancelled by the Show Organiser refunds will be available subject to a 5% Administrative and Processing fee being applied.
1.3.5 No changes will be made after the closing date of entries.
1.3.6 Any class change may be permitted after the closing date with the approval of the Show Manager or member body however only in exceptional circumstances such as dog exhibit illness, incorrect entry or clerical error.

1.4 Check in Procedures

a) The check-in counter will open one (1) hour prior to the contest commencement time.
b) Competitors are strongly encouraged to arrive no later than 60 minutes prior to contest commencement time.
c) Competitors must have the pre-judging photographs taken prior to judging commencing. It is the responsibility of the competitor to ensure that this is completed with the event team.
d) The check in counter will close 15 minutes prior to the contest commencement time.
e) Competitors will present themselves and their dog at check in counter 45 to 60 minutes prior to commencement time.
f) Grooming Competitors who have not checked in within 15 minutes prior to the contest commencement time may be excluded from competing
g) Model dogs may be submitted at the check in counter at least 30 minutes to prior to the commencement of judging.

1.5 Pre-judging and Entry Confirmation

a) Dogs should be clean, dry, and preferably free from mats and tangles.
b) Nails should be clipped and/or filed and ears clean.
c) Sanitary and pads can be clipped prior to the show.

1.6 Judges will undertake the following during pre-judging:

a) Confirm that the dog is entered in the correct class;
b) Confirm that there is sufficient coat growth and evaluate preparation. It is recommended all competition dogs should not be groomed within 6 weeks (42 days) of the date of competition. For hand stripping breeds It is recommended that Competition dogs should not be groomed for a minimum of 4 weeks (28 days) prior to the date of the competition except for the flatwork areas of stripping breeds which may be groomed up to 3 weeks (21 days) prior to the date of the competition. The above timings are a guide only. The onus is on the groomer of all competition dogs ensure there is adequate growth to ensure the judge can discern a visible, distinct difference from pre-judging to completed groom.
c) Confirm that there is sufficient coat growth and evaluate preparation. (Note – Competition dog must not be groomed for 6 weeks (42 days) or more prior to the date of the competition except for the hand stripped breeds 4 weeks (28 days) and flatwork areas which may be groomed up to 3 weeks (21) days.

d) Confirm the time frame permitted according to size, breed or technique as per regulations for the particular competition;
e) Confirm that the contestant is entered in the correct division;
f) Determine if pattern has been pre-set.
g) Document specific information relating to the health and presentation of the dog such as, but not limited to: ear infections, missing coat, moles, scars or healing injuries.
h) If the judge determines that any of the pre-judging requirements are not met, they reserve the right to allow the competitor to continue with penalty, move to another class or disqualify the competitor.

1.7 Product Application

a) Spray is limited to only “freshening up” once time is called.
b) Reshaping such as that done on Kerry Blue jacket, shaping or patting coat into place, utilizing water or product or shaping a show Poodle headpiece may not be done once time is called.
c) Chalk, such as terrier chalk may be applied prior to or during the show time frame to aid in hand stripping. It is prohibited to apply chalk after time is called.

1.8 Assistance during the show

1.8.1 The Competitor should notify the ring steward immediately if he/she needs assistance during the competition. Assistance should be relative to dog exhibit welfare, competitor welfare, safety or equipment failure.

1.9 Break

a) (Championship Show) A mandatory break will take place during the show.
b) (Open Show) A minimum 10-minute mandatory break will take place during the show at each session.
c) All Competitors and dogs must proceed as a group to the designated break area.
d) Water will be offered for both Competitors and dogs.
e) Toilet/potty break opportunity available for both Competitors and dogs
f) Any discussion with regard to dogs or grooming by Competitors or assistants is prohibited and could be construed as coaching which may result in disqualification of offending grooming competitors.
g) No grooming or styling of any kind is permitted during the break

1.10 Judging

1.10.1 In order to determine placement, Judges will evaluate the following:
a) The Profile of the competition dog groomed to.
b) The overall uniformity of the trim.
c) The overall balance, symmetry and style of the trim.
d) Judging of all competition dogs is to take place on the table or on the floor mats. All competition dogs are to remain stationary during judging.
e) For purebred dogs, the adherence to the acceptable breed profile and standard.
f) For Freestyle classes, the ability of the groomer to create the best possible profile for the competition dog chosen according to his/her body type, coat and structure.
g) For scissored competition dogs, the plush overall appearance without scissor

marks, utilizing the proper technique.

h) For hand striped and carded competition dogs, the smooth and natural appearance utilising the proper technique.
i) Clipper lines should be clean and free of irritation.
j) Edges such as in the American Cocker Spaniel or Poodle foot should show neat and tidy bevels.
k) Consideration will be given to difficulty with regard to the amount of coat removed, whether a pattern is created or followed, difficulty of the coat type, texture, quality and quantity and how the stylist achieves the ultimate trim.
l) Competition dog welfare and safety concerns override all aesthetic considerations

1.11 Competition End

a) When time is called Competitors will cease grooming and place tools on the table.
b) The competitor will remove hair, tools and equipment from grooming table.
c) A comb will be placed on the table.
d) Minimal amount of combing is acceptable immediately prior to judging.
e) Grooming Competitors may use finishing sprays to freshen up their dogs after scissors down, prior to and after judging, but reshaping or styling with hair spray, products or water is prohibited. (refer to Section 1.7)
f) Grooming Competitors will stack and present their dog to the judges.
g) Ensure that the Competition dogs have proper grip on the table when being stacked and presented to the judge

1.12 Show Manager

1.12.1 The Show Manager shall ensure that:

a) All Policies, Procedures and Rules are adhered to by Grooming Competitors.
b) Grooming Competitors do not influence or otherwise provide advice to Judges with regard to placements.

1.13 Codes of Conduct and Ethics

1.13.1 We are committed to building a safe and inclusive environment where everyone can participate in our competition. This includes fostering respect, fairness, and equality for all participants, regardless of their background, experience level, or identity. We strive to ensure that our events are welcoming and accessible, promoting a culture of inclusivity and mutual respect.

1.13.2 We are Inclusive

We come from diverse backgrounds and share different views. We value and celebrate diversity and we respect the rights and dignity of each other. We are equal and are committed to zero tolerance for discrimination and bullying.

1.13.3 We make Canine welfare and health our priority

We do not engage in, or allow others to engage in, activities that put the welfare and health of our dogs at risk

1.13.4 We strive for safe environment

We do not engage in, or tolerate, threatening, aggressive or violent language and behavior. We do no incite or encourage hatred or violence. We do not intimidate or abuse our judges or stewards

1.13.5 We respect the judge's decision

We acknowledge that competitors may not agree with the grooming competition judge's decision however, the judge's decision is final. No grooming competitor shall call into question their decisions. No grooming competitor shall question their integrity, abuse, bully, harass or belittle them. We are grateful for the important and challenging role they play in our competition. We always show respect for the judge and other show official

1.13.6 We play fairly

We do not cheat. We compete by the rules and the expected standards of fair competition.

1.13.7 We respect public property and spaces

We do not damage property, we follow event rules. We keep our grooming station clean, put our rubbish in the bin. and we pick up after our dog. We represent member of DA Canine Grooming in a positive way.

1.13.8 We are good sports

We respect good play whether from yourself or the competitor. We thank the competitors and officials after the competition and we are gracious – win, lose or draw.

1.13.9 We keep our competition Fair and Honest

We do not engage in dishonest or any corrupt practices. We are here to compete with integrity, respecting their opponents and abiding by the rules, regardless of the outcome and we hold each other to these Standard

1.13.10 Social Media Policy

- Grooming competitors must not make defamatory, disparaging, degrading or derogatory comments about grooming competitor's grooms, competitor dogs, competition officials or any domestic or international judges, either expressly or implicitly.
- Grooming competitors must not engage in harassment, bullying or intimidation towards any grooming competitor, official, domestic or internation judge.
- Grooming competitors and their assistants must not utilize abusive, profane, obscene or sexually explicit language or material.

1.14 Code of Practice (Judges and Competitors)

1.14.1 a) No person shall enter the show if the judge owns the competition dog.
b) If the judge previously owned the dog, the person shall not enter under that judge within twelve (12) months from the date of ownership.
c) A judge who has prepared or privately provided or bred the competition dog to

a grooming competitor in the class that they are judging must not adjudicate.

d) No person shall enter under a judge if the judge has groomed the competition dog within six (6) months prior to the grooming competition.

e) No person shall take any grooming products or tools belonging to the judge in the ring at which the judge is officiating.

f) No person of a Judge's Immediate family or household including a person who resides at the same address or a judge's partner, shall enter the grooming competition that the judge is officiating at.

h) No person shall enter under a judge if that person has accommodated that judge or been accommodated by that judge in the period of twelve (12) months prior to the grooming competition or intends to accommodate the Judge within 72 hours after the grooming competition.

1.14.2 No person shall enter under a judge if that person has;

a) **Instructor-Student Relationship** - A person is disqualified from competing under a judge if there has been any form of instructional relationship, including as an instructor or student. This rule encompasses all personal mentoring, coaching, or tutoring activities within the previous (6) six months.

b) **Private Lessons** - If a person has received private training or semi- private training at hands-on workshop conducted by the judge, the person shall not compete under that judge within the 6 (six) months, from the date of the competition.

c) **Exceptions** – 1.14.7 a) and b) does not apply to:
1. Seminars
2. Virtual or online subscription training
3. Grooming critiques at grooming competitions.
4. Non-face-to-face tutoring

d) No person shall enter under a judge if that person has a vested business relationship with the judge including that of consultant, sub-contractor, or leasing within twelve (12) months prior to the grooming competition.

e) A judge must request that the Grooming Competitor be withdrawn from competition if the judge has a conflict of interest with the competition dog or the grooming competitor, such as employer or employee including apprentice or trainee relationships, financial considerations, separate interest in a Grooming School or Salon, or co-owned a dog with the judge, or any other conflicts of interest. Once the conflict of interest ceases an exclusion period of 12 months will apply.

f) A person shall not enter under a judge with whom they travel to grooming competitions with. "Travels to grooming competitions" would also include those with whom one shares a hotel room or regularly dines with / park / set up together at dog or grooming shows within six (6) months prior to the grooming competition.

g) No competitor will contact a judge in the six (6) months prior to the grooming competition event via social media platforms, email or phone with regards to an upcoming competition.

h) Failure to disclose or comply with conflict-of-interest provisions may result in withdrawal, disqualification or disciplinary action.

i) All judges must only accept appointments to judge for categories and levels that they are licensed for under the Dogs Australia Canine Grooming Judges list.

j) All judges must report to the Organiser Canine Grooming Competition at least a half hour prior to pre-judging being scheduled.

k) In the event that a judge has not presented a half hour prior to pre-judging the Organiser of the Canine Grooming Competition may replace the judge with another suitably qualified judge.

1.15 Promotion Activity

1.15.1 A person shall not display inside or in view of the judging ring:

a) Wearing badges, clothing, jacket or other garments with visible sponsorship, ambassador or anything which indicates or might indicate they are a member of a Grooming Team of certain Company, Brand or Country.
b) Grooming competitors are not permitted to wear clothes advertising a salon, kennel name or grooming products in the ring.
c) Any cards, ribbons, rosettes or trophies except those won at the entered grooming competition.
d) Any advertising materials
e) None of the above are permitted in official photographs
f) Breaches of the above may result in withdrawal, disqualification or disciplinary action.

1.15.1 Rule1.15.1 does not apply to:

a) General merchandisers where any person would able to purchase from an open market
b) After the completion of the General specials.

1.16 General Information

a) The use of hairspray is allowed (Refer Section 1.7)

b) The use of grooming products such as powder/chalk and volumiser should be used sparingly and should not be evident on the judge's hands, on table at the completion of the groom or interfere with any other grooming competitor.

c) Any products that change the colour, nature and texture of the coat should be used sparingly and should not be evident on the judge's hands or table at the completion of the groom.

d) Grooming competitors must be over the age of 18 years. Those under 18 years of age require written parental consent prior to the competition and maintain parental or guardian supervision during the grooming competition.

e) It is recommended that competition dogs should not be groomed for 6 weeks (42 days) or more prior to the date of the grooming competition except for the Hand Stripped breeds.

f) There will be a compulsory 10-minute break for dogs and/or grooming competitors to rest in the middle of the competition.

g) The grooming competitors must provide their own competition dogs, canine grooming tools and table.

h) The grooming competitors must ensure that their competition dogs must have a current vaccination certificate and provide proof of vaccination if required by the Show Manager.

i) The use of table grooming arms is permitted. However, the safety and welfare of competition dogs is of utmost importance. Where a competition dog is found to be short of breath on the table due to the use of a grooming arm or restraint, points will be deducted. Where a competition dog is left attached to a grooming arm and not supervised by the groomer or steward, points will be deducted.

j) Points may be deducted if the canine groomer is found to be untidy with their equipment. Grooming competitors need to be in the ring 30 minutes prior to the start of the competition for prejudging.

k) Breaches of the rules stated may result in a penalty or disqualification at the judge's discretion.

1.17 Miscellaneous

1.17.1 From time to time, some changes to these rules may be necessary. Amendments of these Rules and Regulations can be recommended by the National Canine Grooming Committee (NCGC) for consideration by the Dogs Australia Board of Directors.

1.17.2 Any incident of aggressive dog must be dealt with in accordance with the Aggressive Dog Procedure of the Dogs Australia State Body conducting the Canine Grooming event.

1.17.3 Insurance coverage at Canine Grooming events are in accordance with the Dogs Australia State Body Insurance Policy where the event is conducted.

SECTION 2 – OPEN SHOW COMPETITIONS

2.1 Preface

2.1.1 The purpose of an Open Show is to encourage groomers and the public to participate and have fun, where no championship points can be awarded.

2.2 Purpose

2.2.1 The purpose of the Grooming Open Show is to raise public awareness of the importance of grooming for the welfare and health of dogs, to inspire groomers to further develop their knowledge and skills, and to present grooming practices in a competitive format.

2.2 Entry Qualifications

2.3.1 The Open Show is open to the general public, including both members and non-members of ANKC.

2.3.2 All competitors, Dogs Australia State Body members or not, are bound by the Dogs Australia rules for the event. Failure to adhere to the rules will be subject to disciplinary action and may include removal from the competition.

2.4 Entry Fee

2.4.1It is recommended to have separate entry fees for members and non-members, with the fee structure left to the discretion of the Show Organiser.

2.5 Classifications of Groups

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4	Group 5
Handstripping	Spaniel /Setter	Poodle	Scissoring	Salon Freestyle
Level A (Advance)				
Level B (Intermediate)				
Level C (Novice)				

2.6 Special Classes

2.6.1 Special classes may be offered at Open Shows, including:

a) Asian Fusion: Teddy trim with an Asian flair. Some colouring, clothes, and accessories are permitted. Coat carving, such as spirals, wings, love hearts, etc., is also allowed. At the discretion of the Show Manager/organiser Asian Fusion Special Class may be awarded separately or combined with Salon Freestyle.

b) Model Dogs: Grooming shall be completed at home and presented for judging on the day of the competition. Model dogs may be presented in any of the following styles: -

***Asian Fusion*:** Model dogs may be altered, modified, and minimally coloured. Bows, decorations, and accessories are permitted.
***Creative*:** Model dogs may be altered, modified, and coloured. Bows, decorations, and accessories are permitted.
***Pure Breed*:** Model dogs may be altered, modified, and coloured to achieve any DOGS AUSTRALIA-recognized breed standard.

2.7 Format

2.7.1 The competition format is at the discretion of the Show Organizer. However, the name (title) of the show must include "Open Show" as the judge is either a trainee judge or not fully qualified.

2.8 Requirements for Open Show Judge

2.8.1 The judge must be a Dogs Australia member for at least 4 years.
2.8.2 The candidate must have a proven interest in grooming dogs.
2.8.3 The Show Organiser should publish the profile of the judge prior to entries opening for the competition or 3 months prior to the competition date.

2.9 Rules & Regulations for Open Show

2.9.1 The Open Show must be conducted in accordance with the judging procedures and competition times stipulated in the Regulations for Dogs Australia National Canine Grooming (DACGC).
2.9.2 The number of judges for each group is at the discretion of the Show Organiser, with the possibility of appointing one or more judges.
2.9.3 Code of Practice and conflict-of interest rules also pertain to Open Shows.
2.9.4 Dogs Australia welfare and conduct standards also pertain to Open Shows

2.10 Placements

2.10.1 The competition placements are left to the discretion of the Show Organizer.
2.10.2 The DACGC recommends the following:

2.11 Group Placements

2.11.1 Level A+, A, B & C winners will compete for Best in Group.
2.11.2 Group winners will compete for the Best in Show awards (BIS).

2.12 Best in Show Placements

2.12.1 The 1st place Best in Group winners will compete for Best in Show 1st .
2.12.2 The 2nd place winner in the group that was awarded Best in Show shall enter the lineup to compete for Best in Show 2nd.

2.13 Best in Show for Levels B & C

2.13.1 The Level B 1st place winners from the four main groups will compete for Best in Level B. In the event that Level B winner is awarded Best in Show 1st or Best in Show 2nd that winner will automatically be awarded Best In Show Level B.
2.13.2 The Level C 1st place winners from the four main groups will compete for Best in Level C. In the event that Level C winner is awarded Best in Show 1st or Best in Show 2nd that winner will automatically be awarded Best In Show Level C.

2.14 Best Freestyle/Asian Fusion in Show

2.14.1 The 1st place winners from Levels A+, A, B, & C will compete in General Specials for Salon Freestyle in Show.

2.15 Grooming Expertise Levels

2.15.1 It is recommended to have three levels of grooming expertise in each competition:

a) **Level C - Novice/Beginner**: A competition groomer with less than 2 years of experience in grooming.

b) **Level B – Intermediate Class:** A competition Groomer with between 2 to 4 years' experience in grooming

c) **Level A - Advanced:** A competition groomer who has more than 4 years of experience grooming

d) **Level A+ -** A groomer who has achieved a certification point score of 90 or above from Level A at a Dogs Australia Certification Event

2.16 Additional Guidelines

a) Refer to individual class descriptions for permissible colouring.

b) Any pre-existing colour must be fading out and removed by the end of the groom (e.g., pink ears must be trimmed or shaved to leave no remaining colour). This does not apply to creative classes.

c) For all other DA-recognized breeds to be groomed, guidelines are left to the discretion of the Show Organizer.

d)All of the above are subject to Dogs Australia Rules for Conduct of Canine Grooming Competitions.

GROUPS / BREEDS

DA Recognised Breeds, admitted to compete at open show

Group 1	Group 2	Group 4
Hand Stripping	**Spaniel & Setter**	**Scissoring**
Affenpinscher	American Cocker Spaniel	Afghan Hound
Airedale Terrier	Brittany Spaniel	Australian Shepherd
Australian Terrier	Cavalier King Charles Spaniel	Bedlington Terrier
Basset Fauve de Bretagne	English Cocker Spaniel	Bichon Frise
Border Terrier	English Setter	Black Russian Terrier
Cairn Terrier	English Springer Spaniel	Border Collie
Dachshund Wire (All Sizes)	Field Spaniel	Bouvier des Flandres
Dandie Dinmont Terrier	Gordon Setter	Cesky Terrier
Deerhound	Irish Red & White Setter	Chinese Crested
Fox Terrier (Wire)	Irish Setter	Chow Chow
Basset Griffon Vendeen (Grand)	King Charles Spaniel	German Shepherd
Basset Griffon Vendeen Petit	Sussex Spaniel	Irish Water Spaniel
German Wirehaired Pointer	Welsh Springer Spaniel	Japanese Spitz
Griffon Bruxellois		Kerry Blue Terrier
Hungarian Wirehaired Vizsla		Lagotto Romagnolo
Irish Terrier	**Group 3**	Old Englsh Sheepdog
Irish Wolfhound	**Poodles**	Pomeranian
Italian Spinone	(No restriction of size or hairstyles)	Portuguese Water Dog
Jack Russell Terrier		Pumi
Lakeland Terrier	Continental Trim	Samoyed
Norfolk Terrier	English Saddle Trim	Shetland Sheep Dog
Norwich Terrier	Puppy Trim	Shih Tzu
Parson Russell Terrier	Second Puppy Trim	Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier
Schnauzer (All Sizes)	German Trim	
Scottish Terrier	Lamb/Modern Trim	**Group 5**
Welsh Terrier	Modified Continental Trim	
West Highland White Terrier	Sporting Trim	**Salon Freestyle**
		5a Mixed bred Dogs & Purebred
		5b Purebred Dogsonly

For all of the Dogs Australia recognised breeds that are to be groomed will be left to the discretion of the Show Organiser

TIME ALLOCATIONS - Open Show

Group 1		Group 2		Group 4	
Hand Stripping	**Time**	**Spaniel & Setter**	**Time**	**Scissoring**	**Time**
		Spaniels			
Affenpinscher	1	American Cocker Spaniel	3	Bedlington Terrier	2
Airedale Terrier	5	Cavalier King Charles Spaniel	1	Bichon Frise	2
Australian Terrier	2	English Cocker Spaniel	3	Black Russian Terrier	3
Basset Fauve de Bretagne	2	English Springer Spaniel	4	Bouvier des Flandres	3
Border Terrier	1	Field Spaniel	2	Cesky Terrier	1
Cairn Terrier	2	King Charles Spaniel	1	Irish Water Spaniel	3
Dachshund Wire (Miniature)	1	Sussex Spaniel	2	Kerry Blue Terrier	3
Dachshund Wire (Standard)	2	Welsh Springer Spaniel	3	Lagotto Romagnolo	2
Dandie Dinmont Terrier	2	**Setters**		Portuguese Water Dog	2
Deerhound	3	English Setter	3	Pumi	2
Fox Terrier (Wire)	4	Gordon Setter	3	Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier	3
German Wirehaired Pointer	2	Irish Red & White Setter	3	All Other Purebred Scissoring	2
Grand Bassett Griffon Vendeen	4	Irish Setter	3		
Griffon Bruxellois	1			**Group 5**	
Hungarian Wirehaired Vizsla	2	**Group 3**			
Irish Terrier	2			**Salon Freestyle**	
Irish Wolfhound	2	Poodle Toy	1	**5a (Purebred & Mixed bred Dogs)**	
Italian Spinone	2	Poodle Miniature	2	**5B (Purebred Dogs)**	
Jack Russell Terrier	1	Poodle Standard	3		
Lakeland Terrier	4			Under 28cm	1
Norfolk Terrier	2			Over 28 cm	2
Norwich Terrier	2				
Parson Russell Terrier	1				
Petit Basset Griffon Vendeen	2				
Schnauzer	3				
Schnauzer (Giant)	5				
Schnauzer (Miniature)	2				
Scottish Terrier	2				
Sealyham Terrier	2				
Welsh Terrier	4				
West Highland White Terrier	2				

Time Allocation

1: 1 hour 45 minutes
2: 2 hours
3: 2 hours 15 minutes
4: 2 hours 30 minutes
5: 2 hours 45 minutes

SECTION 3 – CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW COMPETITIONS

Championship grooming competitions open to members of Dogs Australia State Member bodies only.

3.1 Preface

3.1.1 The purpose of these rules is to encourage the canine groomers to further develop and extend their skills by participating in canine grooming competitions.

3.2 Objectives of Canine Grooming

3.2.1 The objectives of canine grooming are:

a) Preserving the traditional trims that may be less commonly practiced in modern grooming.

b) Promoting conformation canine grooming

3.3 Canine Grooming General Rules

3.3.1 Classification of Categories Five (5) categories are offered in the competition. There are four (4) levels offered within each category

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4	Group 5
Handstripping	Spaniel/Setter	Poodle	Scissoring	Salon Freestyle/Asian Fusion
Level A+				
Level A (Advanced)				
Level B (Intermediate)				
Level C (Novice)				

GROUPS / BREEDS

DA Recognised Breeds, admitted to compete at championship show

Group 1	Group 2	Group 4
Hand Stripping	**Spaniel & Setter**	**Scissoring**
All Levels	**All Levels**	**All Levels**
Airedale Terrier	American Cocker Spaniel	Bedlington Terrier
Dandie Dinmont Terrier	English Cocker Spaniel	Bichon Frise
Fox Terrier (Wire)	English Setter	Black Russian Terrier
Lakeland Terrier	English Springer Spaniel	Bouvier des Flandres
Schnauzer (All Sizes)	Gordon Setter	Irish Water Spaniel
Scottish Terrier	Irish Red & White Setter	Kerry Blue Terrier
Welsh Terrier	Irish Setter	Lagotto Romagnolo
West Highland White Terrier	Welsh Springer Spaniel	Pumi
	Level B & C only	Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier
Level B & C only	Cavalier King Charles Spaniel	
Affenpinscher	Field Spaniel	**Level B & C only**
Australian Terrier	King Charles Spaniel	Cesky Terrier
Basset Fauve de Bretagne	Sussex Spaniel	Portuguese Water Dog
Basset Griffon Vendeen (Grand)		**Group 5**
Petit Basset Griffon Vendeen	**Group 3**	
Border Terrier	**Poodles**	**Salon Freestyle**
Cairn Terrier		**5a (Purebred & Mixed bred Dogs)**
Dachshund Wire (All Sizes)	Poodle Toy	**5b (Purebred Dogs)**
Deerhound	Poodle Miniature	
German Wirehaired Pointer	Poodle Standard	Under 28cm
Griffon Bruxellois		Over 28 cm
Hungarian Wirehaired Vizsla	**All Levels**	
Irish Terrier	**Show Trim with spray ups**	
Irish Wolfhound	English Saddle Trim	
Italian Spinone	Continental Trim	
Jack Russell Terrier	Second Puppy Trim	
Norfolk Terrier	Puppy Trim	
Norwich Terrier		
Parson Russell Terrier	**Level B & C only**	
	Trims with no spray ups	
	German Trim	
	Lamb/Modern Trim	
	Modified Continental Trim	
	Sporting Trim	
	Town and Country Trim	

3.4 Group 1 - Hand stripping

a) It is recommended that Competition dogs should not be groomed for a minimum of 4 weeks (28 days) prior to the date of the competition except for the flatwork areas of stripping breeds which may be groomed up to 3 weeks (21 days) prior to the date of the competition. The above timings are a guide only. The onus is on the groomer of all competition dogs ensure there is adequate growth to ensure the judge can discern a visible, distinct difference from pre-judging to completed groom.
b) All competition dogs may have their sanitary and pads shaved prior to the start of class.
c) The coat must be carded or hand stripped.
d) There should be no visible pink skin or bald patches after grooming.

3.4.1 Restrictions

a) Level A+ & A - Clipping/Scissoring is not permitted (see exemption breeds).
b) Level B - Clipping and excessive usage of scissors will be penalized.
c) Level C - Clipping and scissors are permitted.

3.4.2 **Exemption Breeds** (Clipper permitted):

a) Schnauzer - Ears, Head, Neck, and inside of back legs only.
b) Scottish Terrier - Ears, Head, Neck Only.
c) West Highland Terrier - Ears and Neck only.
d) Sealyham Terrier - Ears, Head, Neck only.

3.5 Group 2 - Spaniel / Setter

a) All competition dogs must be groomed according to breed standard and as presented in the conformation show ring
e) It is all competition dogs should not be groomed within 6 weeks (42 days) of the date of competition. The above timings are a guide only. The onus is on the groomer of all competition dogs ensure there is adequate growth to ensure the judge can discern a visible, distinct difference from pre-judging to completed groom.
b) Thinning scissors are sparingly permitted to be used on the jacket. Refer to Restrictions below
c) Thinning scissors can be used for blending ears, head, face, neck, and rear.
d) Chalk is allowed.
e) Clipping is allowed on the face, neck, chest, and ears.
f) All dogs may have their sanitary and pads shaved prior to the start of class.
g) Finishing sprays are permissible to tidy up after the time frame ends.

3.5.1 Restrictions

a) Level A+ & A - Thinning scissors are permitted to be used on the jacket for the purpose of blending jacket into clipped area and to tidy colour patterns.
b) Level B - Minimal usage of clippers and thinning scissors is permitted on the jacket but not encouraged.
c) Level C - Clipping and thinning scissors are permitted on the jacket.

3.6 Group 3 – Poodle

a) All competition dogs must be groomed according to breed standard and as presented in the conformation show ring)
b) It is recommended all competition dogs should not be groomed within 6 weeks (42 days) of the date of competition. The above timings are a guide only. The onus is on the groomer of all competition dogs ensure there is adequate growth to ensure the judge can discern a visible, distinct difference from pre-judging to completed groom.
c) All Poodles can have their sanitary and pads shaved prior to the show.
d) All Poodles can have their face, feet, & tail shaved prior to the show.
e) Topknot bubble must be done during the show time frame; bandings can be done prior.
f) Finishing sprays are permissible to tidy up after the show time frame ends.
g) Hairspray may be used at any time throughout the showtime.
h) Hair extensions may be used during the competition

3.6.1 Restrictions

a) Level A+ & A*:*
    1) Clipper guide combs are not permitted.
    2) Show trims with spray up only (i.e., English Saddle, Continental, or Scandinavian (Second Puppy). Non show trims without spray up German Trim, Lamb/Modern Trim, Modified Continental Trim, Sporting Trim and Town and Country Trim
    3) The topknot bubble must be done during the competition time frame.
    4) Hair extensions are permitted and shall be of the same coat colour as the dog and can be applied before the competition.
    5) An extra 15 minutes will be added for show trims.
    6) Hairspray can be used on the topknot at any time throughout the competition time.
    7) A thin layer of hairspray can be applied to the topknot prior to or during the time of competition however must be able to be combed through at prejudging. Inability to comb through the topknot and coat at pre-judging may incur a penalty.
    8) Show collar to be applied before spray up.

b) Level B & C:

1) Clipper guide combs are permitted.
2) Trims permitted at your level are German Trim, Lamb/Modern Trim, Modified Continental, Sporting Trim Town and Country Trims, or Any other Pet trims.

3.7 Group 4 – Pure Bred Scissoring

a) All dogs must be groomed according to breed standard and as presented in the conformation show ring
b) All dogs may have their sanitary and pads shaved prior to the start of class.

3.7.1 Restrictions

a) Level A+ & A - Clipper guide combs are not permitted.
b) Level B - Minimal usage of clipper guide combs is permitted.
c) Level C - Usage of clipper guide combs is permitted.

3.8 Group 5 (Salon Freestyle/Asian Fusion)

3.8.1 This is an inclusive group for any breeds groomed in the everyday salon style.
3.8.2 Any crossbreed in the everyday salon style or groom any purebred in the teddy style. Examples: Poodle in Bedlington trim or Old English Sheepdog in a teddy bear trim.
3.8.3 Points are awarded for skills in clipper work, scissor work, balance, symmetry & scissor finish.
3.8.4 All dogs may have their sanitary and pads shaved prior to the start of class.
3.8.5 Finishing sprays are permissible to tidy up after the time frame ends.
3.8.6 These classes are for exhibition only and are not eligible for Best In Show awards.
3.8.7 Asian Fusion – Teddy trim with an Asian flair, some colouring, clothes and accessories are permitted. Coat carving is permitted e.g. spirals, wings, love heart etc. Grooming competitors should be mindful of excessive inclusions/additives/enhancers that may interfere with other grooming competitors and may come off on the judges' hands e.g. glitter.

3.9 Special Classes

3.9.1 Special classes may be offered at approved championship shows.
3.9.2 These classes are for exhibition only and are not eligible for Best In Shows awards.

3.9.3 **Model Dogs** - Canine Grooming shall be completed at home and brought for judging on the day of the competition. Model dogs may be presented in any of the following styles.

Asian Fusion – Model dogs may be altered, modified, and minimal colours permitted. Bows, decorations, and accessories permitted

Creative – Model dogs may be altered, modified, and coloured. Bows, decorations,

and accessories permitted

Pure Breed – Model dogs may be altered, modified, and coloured to achieve any recognized DOGS AUSTRALIA recognized breed.

3.10 Classification of Levels

3.10.1 Each category we have 4 skill levels and the classification should help you understand and choose the correct level.

3.10.2 Groups

3.10.2.1	Main Categories	Levels
a)	Poodle	Level A+, A, B & C
b)	Scissoring	Level A+, A, B & C
c)	Spaniel & Setter	Level A+, A, B & C
d)	Hand Stripping	Level A+, A, B & C
e)	Salon Freestyle/Asian Fusion*	Level A+, A, B& C
	Model Dogs*	One Level

* ***These categories and Level B & C are not eligible for BEST IN SHOW***

3.10.3 Classification of Levels

3.10.3.1 Level C (Novice)
Groomers who have less than 2 years of experience grooming

3.10.3.2 Level B (Intermediate)
Groomers who have less than 4 years of experience grooming

3.10.3.3 Level A (Advanced)
Groomers who have more than 4 years of experience grooming.

3.10.3.4 Level A+
This level is for a groomer who has achieved a certified point score of 90 and above from Level A at a Dogs Australia Certification event.

3.10.3.5 First Full Groom (FFG) Experience
Your grooming experience officially counts from your First Full Groom (FFG) experience. This experience is determined from the first time you independently completed a full groom on any breed, without any direct support or supervision.

3.10.3.6 Definition:
FFG is defined as the first instance where you have successfully completed a full grooming session on any dog breed, entirely on your own.

3.10.3.7 Exclusions:
Please note that any grooming experience gained during TAFE school training or while working under the guidance of trainers or mentors will not be counted towards your FFG. This policy ensures that the experience considered is entirely independent.

3.11 Awards and Prizes

3.11.1 Level Winners

a) 1st and 2nd - Rosette
b) 3rd and 4th - Award of Merit awards may be presented dependent upon entry numbers

3.11.2 Group and Best In Show Winners

a) Best In Group 1st, 2nd & 3rd - Rosette and Prizes
b) BEST IN SHOW 1ST & 2ND - Rosette and Prizes
~~c)~~ Best Level B In Show - Rosette and Prizes
d) Best Level C In Show - Rosette and Prize
e) Best Salon Freestyle/Asian Fusion in Show - Rosette and Prizes

3.12 Group Placements

3.12.1 Level A+, Level A, Level B and Level C winners will compete for Group 1st, 2nd and 3rd

3.12.2 Group winners (1st, 2nd and 3rd) from the Hand Stripping, Spaniel & Setter, Scissoring and Poodle categories are required for the Best In Show award (BIS). Group Winners are required for BIS and Second and third place come in if required.

3.13 Best in Show Placements

3.13.1 The Best in Group 1st place winners from the 4 main categories will compete for BEST IN SHOW 1st.

3.13.2 The 2nd place winner in the group that was awarded Best In Show 1st shall enter the lineup to compete for Best in Show 2nd.

3.14 Best In Show for Level B

The Level B 1st place winners from the four main groups will compete for Best in Level B. In the event that Level B winner is awarded Best in Show 1st or Best in Show 2nd that winner will automatically be awarded Best In Show Level B.

3.15 Best In Show for Level C

The Level C 1st place winners from the four main groups will compete for Best in Level C. In the event that Level C winner is awarded Best in Show 1st or Best in Show 2nd that winner will automatically be awarded Best In Show Level C.

3.16 Best Salon Freestyle/Asian Fusion In Show

The 1st place winner from Levels A, B & C are required in General Specials to compete for Best Salon Freestyle/Asian Fusion in show.

3.17 Awards and Prizes

3.17.1 Level Winners

a) 1st, 2nd and 3rd placement

3.17.2 4th and 5th place – Award of Merit awards may be presented depending on number of entries.

3.17.3 Group and Best in Show Winners

- Best In Group 1st ,2nd and 3rd

- Best in Show 1st & 2nd
- Best Level B In Show
- Best Level C In Show
- Best Salon Freestyle/Asian Fusion In Show
- Model Dog In Show (optional)

3.18 Group Placements

3.18.1 Level A+, Level A, Level B and Level C Winners will compete for Group 1st, 2nd and 3rd.

3.18.2 Group winners (1st, 2nd and 3rd) from the Hand Stripping, Spaniel & Setter, Scissoring and Poodle categories are required for the Best In Show award (BIS).

TIME ALLOCATIONS

Group 1		Group 2		Group 4	
Hand Stripping	**Time**	**Spaniel & Setter**	**Time**	**Scissoring**	**Time**
		Spaniels			
Affenpinscher	1	American Cocker Spaniel	3	Bedlington Terrier	2
Airedale Terrier	5	Cavalier King Charles Spaniel	1	Bichon Frise	2
Australian Terrier	2	English Cocker Spaniel	3	Black Russian Terrier	3
Basset Fauve de Bretagne	2	English Springer Spaniel	4	Bouvier des Flandres	3
Border Terrier	1	Field Spaniel	2	Cesky Terrier	1
Cairn Terrier	2	King Charles Spaniel	1	Irish Water Spaniel	3
Dachshund Wire (Miniature)	1	Sussex Spaniel	2	Kerry Blue Terrier	3
Dachshund Wire (Standard)	2	Welsh Springer Spaniel	3	Lagotto Romagnolo	2
Dandie Dinmont Terrier	2	**Setters**		Portuguese Water Dog	2
Deerhound	3	English Setter	3	Pumi	2
Fox Terrier (Wire)	4	Gordon Setter	3	Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier	3
German Wirehaired Pointer	2	Irish Red & White Setter	3	All Other Purebred Scissoring	2
Grand Bassett Griffon Vendeen	4	Irish Setter	3		
Griffon Bruxellois	1			**Group 5**	
Hungarian Wirehaired Vizsla	2	**Group 3**			
Irish Terrier	2	**Poodles**		**Salon Freestyle**	
Irish Wolfhound	2	**Show Trim with spray ups**		**5a (Purebred & Mixed bred Dogs)**	
Italian Spinone	2	English Saddle Trim		**5B (Purebred Dogs)**	
Jack Russell Terrier	1	Continental Trim			
Lakeland Terrier	4	Second Puppy Trim		Under 28cm	1
Norfolk Terrier	2	Puppy Trim		Over 28 cm	2
Norwich Terrier	2				
Parson Russell Terrier	1	Poodle Toy	2		
Petit Basset Griffon Vendeen	2	Poodle Miniature	3		
Schnauzer	3	Poodle Standard	4		
Schnauzer (Giant)	5	**Trims with no spray ups**			
Schnauzer (Miniature)	2	German Trim			
Scottish Terrier	2	Lamb/Modern Trim			
Sealyham Terrier	2	Modified Continental Trim			
Welsh Terrier	4	Sporting Trim			
West Highland White Terrier	2	Town and Country Trim			
		Poodle Toy	1		
		Poodle Miniature	2		
		Poodle Standard	3		

Time Allocation

1: 1 hour 45 minutes
2: 2 hours
3: 2 hours 15 minutes
4: 2 hours 30 minutes
5: 2 hours 45 minutes

3.19 ENTERING

3.19.1 By entering DA Canine Grooming Championship show, you will also give permission to enter into The Point score Competition.

3.19.2 Please note that once an entry has been entered into the Point score Competition, it will not be removed until the full year cycle end.

3.19.3 We have 2 Point score Competitions:
1) Top Groomer of the Year
2) Rising Star of the Year

SECTION 4 – FCI SHOW COMPETITIONS

4.1 Preface

4.1.1 The purpose of these rules is to encourage groomers to further develop and extend their skills by participating in FCI grooming competitions for purebred dogs, always with the aim of promoting and protecting the welfare of healthy, purebred dogs.

4.1.2 This regulation serves as the primary guideline for organizing FCI competitions conducted under the auspices of an FCI NCO. New NCOs embarking on the adoption of these FCI guidelines can tailor their own NCO regulations to align with FCI standards within a two-year timeframe, ensuring alignment with the objectives outlined by the FCI Grooming Commission in the regulations.

4.2 Objectives of Canine Grooming

4.2.1 The objectives of canine grooming are:

a) to maintain a dog's health and cleanliness;
b) to prevent illness by maintaining the healthy condition of skin and coat;
c) to enhance the structural and anatomical strength of the dog;
d) to respect the image of each breed according to its standard and maintain the correct techniques to perform each grooming task.

4.3 Welfare and Health of Dogs

4.3.1 The welfare and health of dogs must be of utmost importance and priority at all grooming competitions. Consequently, the organizers must provide a physically and mentally beneficial environment for dogs (for example, ensuring water is always available, dog not to be standing for too long, etc.)

4.4 Eligibility

4.4.1 Contestants must be a financial member of a state member body affiliated with ANKC and not under suspension at the time of entry or exhibition.

4.5 FCI Canine Grooming General Rules

4.5.1 Classification of Categories Five (5) categories are offered in the competition. There are three (3) levels offered within each category

Category 1 Hand-stripping	**Category 2** Spaniels and Setters	**Category 3** Poodles	**Category 4** Other Pedigree Dogs Scissoring	**Category 5** Pet
Level A - Advanced				
Level B - Intermediate				
Level C - Apprentice				

4.5.2 The winners of each category compete for a BIS by Level and will be taken into consideration to decide for the overall BIS winner.

4.6 Classification of Levels

4.6.1 Level C – Apprentice

Apprentice refers to competitor who have less than 2 years of experience grooming.

4.6.2 Level B – Intermediate

Competitor who has more than 2 years and less than 4 years' experience grooming

4.6.3 Level A – Advanced

Competitor who has more than 4 years' experience grooming

4.6.4 First Full Groom Experience

Your grooming experience officially counts from your First Full Groom (FFG) experience. This experience is determined from the first time you independently completed a full groom on any breed, without any direct support or supervision.

CATEGORIES / BREEDS

FCI Recognised Breeds, admitted to compete

Category 1

Hand-stripping

All Levels

Airedale Terrier
Dandie Dinmont Terrier
Fox Terrier (Wire)
Lakeland Terrier
Schnauzer (All Sizes)
Scottish Terrier
Sealyham Terrier
Welsh Terrier
West Highland White Terrier

Level B & C only

Affenpinscher
Australian Terrier
Basset Fauve de Bretagne
Basset Griffon Vendéen (Grand)
Basset Griffon Vendéen (Petit)
Border Terrier
Cairn Terrier
Dachshund Wire (all sizes)
Deerhound
Drótzörü Magyar Vizsla
Deutsch Drahthaar
Griffon Belge
Griffon a Poil Dur Korthals
Griffon Bruxellois
Irish Terrier
Irish Wolfhound
Jack Russell Terrier
Norfolk Terrier
Norwich Terrier
Parson Rusell Terrier
Spinone Italiano

Category 2

Spaniels / Setters

All Levels

American Cocker Spaniel
English Cocker Spaniel
English Setter
English Springer Spaniel
Gordon Setter
Irish Setter

Category 3

Poodles

Poodle (Toy)
Poodle (Toy Miniature)
Poodle (Medium)
Poodle (Standard)

All Levels

Show Trim with Spray-ups
English Saddle Trim
Continental Trim
Second Puppy Trim
Puppy Trim (<15 months)

Level B & C only

German Trim
Lamb/Modern Trim
Modified Continental Trim
Sporting Trim
Town and Country Trim

Category 4

Other Purebred Dogs

Scissoring

All Levels

Barbet
Bichon Frisé
Bedlington Terrier
Black Russian Terrier
Bouvier des Flandres
Irish Water Spaniel
Kerry Blue Terrier
Lagotto Romagnolo
Irish Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier

Level B & C only

Cão de Água Português
Cesky Terrier

Category 5

Pet Purebred Dogs

Updated 210824

4.7 Category 1 - Hand-stripping

4.7.1

a) Dog models must not be groomed for 30 days or more prior to the date of the competition except for the flatwork areas of stripping breeds which may be groomed up to 20 days prior the competition
b) All dogs may have sanitary and pads shaved prior to start of class
c) Coat must be carded or hand stripped
d) Coat can be rolled up to 3 weeks before the show.
e) There should be no visible pink skin or bald patches

4.7.2 All Levels- Clipping / Scissoring are not permitted (see exemption breeds).

4.7.3 Chalk, such as terrier chalk may be applied prior to or during the time frame to aid in hand stripping.

4.7.4 Enhance the coat color chalk is permitted in Level A only and shall not easily transfer onto judges hands

4.7.5 Exemption Breeds (Clipper permitted)

a) Schnauzer - Ears, Head, Neck and inside of back legs only
b) Scottish Terrier - Ears, Head, Neck Only
c) West Highland Terrier - Ears and Neck only
d) Sealyham Terrier - Ears, Head, Neck only

4.8 Category 2 - Spaniel and Setters

4.8.1

a) Dog models must not be groomed for 60 days or more prior to the date of the competition
b) Thinning scissors are not permitted to be used on jacket
c) Thinning scissors can be used for blending ears, head, face, neck and rear
d) Chalk is allowed.
e) Clipping is allowed on face, neck, chest and ears.
f) All dogs may have sanitary and pads shaved prior to start of class
g) Finishing sprays are permissible in order to tidy up after time frame ends

4.8.2 All Levels - Thinning scissors are strictly not permitted to be used on jacket

4.9 Category 3 - Poodles

4.9.1

a) Dog models must not be groomed for 60 days or more prior to the date of the competition
b) All Poodles can have sanitary and pads shaved prior to the show.
c) All Poodles can have their face, feet & tail shaved prior to the show.
d) Topknot bubble must be done during the show time frame, bandings can be done prior.
e) Finishing sprays are permissible in order to tidy up after the show time frame ends
f) Hairspray may be used at any time throughout the show time

4.9.2 Level A

a) Clipper guide combs are not permitted
b) Show trims with spray up only (i.e. English Saddle, Continental or Scandinavian (Second Puppy).
c) Topknot bubble must be done during competition time frame
d) Hair extensions are permitted and shall be of the same coat colour of the dog and can be applied prior to the competition.
e) Extra 20 minutes will be added for show trims
f) Hairspray can be used to the topknot at any time throughout the competition time
g) A thin layer of hairspray can be applied to the topknot prior to the competition but must be able to be combed through at prejudging
h) Show collar to be applied before spray up.

4.9.3 Level B & C

a) Clipper guide combs are permitted

4.9.4 Trims permitted at your level are German Trim Lamb/Modern Trim Modified Continental Sporting Trim Town and Country Trims or Any other Pet trims

4.10 Category 4 - Other Purebred Dogs Scissoring

4.10.1 Dog models must not be groomed for 60 days or more prior to the date of the competition.

4.10.2 All dogs must be groomed according to breed standard and as presented in the conformation show ring.

4.10.3 Points are awarded for the skills and technique in the usage of scissors, balance, symmetry, and scissor finish.

4.10.4 All dogs may have sanitary and pads shaved prior to start of class.

4.10.5 Finishing sprays are permissible in order to tidy up after the competition time frame ends

4.10.6 Clipper guides:

a) Level A - Clipper guide combs are not permitted
b) Level B - Minimal usage of clipper guide combs are encouraged
c) Level C - Usage of clipper guide combs are permitted

4.11 Category 5 - Pet (Freestyle)

4.11.1 For all FCI-recognised breeds that are to be groomed. In this category, the candidate may enter with breeds that usually require stripping or scissoring. Salon-clip styling is very much dependent on the creativity of the contestant. There are no restrictive styles. Colouring is not allowed. Artistic clips amplifying the beauty of the dog form the basis of judging. If accessories are being used, they must not harm the dog’s health and they cannot be permanent.

4.12 Aspects that the judges must consider as they judge:

4.12.1

a) Respect for the current breed standard
b) The Quality of scissoring, clipping and/or hand stripping, and the groomers attention to detail Balance, symmetry and smoothness of the groom
c) The ability to camouflage defects and bring out the beauty of the dog
d) The suitability of the chosen style for the dog
e) The degree of difficulty the groom
f) Up to date with today's modern grooming styles
g) Presentation of the dog to the judge

4.12.2 Respect for the current breed standard

Breed standards change and FCI has made several changes taking into account the health and the welfare of the dog as utmost importance. Groomers need to know the breed characteristics of the breed that they are grooming and are expected to amplify them

4.12.3 The Quality of scissoring, clipping and/or hand stripping

The Quality of scissoring, clipping and/or hand stripping, and the groomer's attention to detail.

Judge the skills and technique in handling scissors, clippers or blades and the results of such skills and the use of these tools. The more detailed the workmanship observed, the bigger impact it will have on the judging

4.12.4 Balance, symmetry, and smoothness of the groom

For example, the length of legs should be balanced with the depth of the body, length of body should be balanced with the height in accordance with the breed standard.

4.12.5 The ability to camouflage defects and bring out the beauty of the dog

For example, if an unwanted sloping topline is observed on the dog but the groomer can camouflage the defect this will be assessed positively.

4.12.6 The suitability of the chosen style for the dog

Depending on the balance of the dog, the chosen style should cover up the flaws and emphasize the positive features of the dog.

4.12.7 The degree of difficulty the groom

If a groomer can make a big change between before and after, or to handle a coat of poor quality by improving it in relation to the breed standard this will be rated positively.

4.12.8 Up to date with today's modern grooming styles

For example, the style for grooming Miniature Schnauzers differs from those of 10 years ago as dogs improve in conformation. This allows for more volume of hair on the leg, two eyebrows and the beard become triangular instead of round.

4.12.9 Presentation of the dog to the judge

The health of the dog, muscle condition, condition of the coat, whiteness, etc., and at the end of the competition during the judge's examination, the correct posing of the dog will be looked favorably for the judging.

	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3	Category 4	Category 5
Level A	1st Place	1st Place	1st Place	1st Place	1st Place
	2nd Place	2nd Place	2nd Place	2nd Place	2nd Place
	3rd Place	3rd Place	3rd Place	3rd Place	3rd Place
Level B	1st Place	1st Place	1st Place	1st Place	1st Place
	2nd Place	2nd Place	2nd Place	2nd Place	2nd Place
	3rd Place	3rd Place	3rd Place	3rd Place	3rd Place
Level C	1st Place	1st Place	1st Place	1st Place	1st Place
	2nd Place	2nd Place	2nd Place	2nd Place	2nd Place
	3rd Place	3rd Place	3rd Place	3rd Place	3rd Place

TIME ALLOCATION

Category 1
Hand-stripping

	Time
Affenpinscher	1
Airedale Terrier	5
Australian Terrier	2
Basset Fauve de Bretagne	2
Border Terrier	1
Cairn Terrier	2
Dachshund Wire (MIniature)	1
Dachshund Wire (Standard)	2
Dandie Dinmont Terrier	2
Deerhound	3
Deutsch Drahthaar	2
Drótzörü Magyar Vizsla	2
Fox Terrier (Wire)	4
Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen	4
Griffon a Poil Dur Korthals	2
Griffon Belge	1
Griffon Bruxellois	1
Irish Terrier	2
Irish Wolfhound	2
Jack Russell Terrier	1
Lakeland Terrier	4
Norfolk Terrier	2
Norwich Terrier	2
Parson Rusell Terrier	1
Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen	2
Riesenschnauze	5
Schnauzer	3
Scottish Terrier	2
Sealyham Terrier	2
Spinone Italiano	2
Welsh Terrier	4
West Highland White Terrier	2
Zwergschnauzer	2

Category 2
Spaniels & Setters

	Time
Spaniels	
American Cocker Spaniel	3
English Cocker Spaniel	3
English Springer Spaniel	3
Setters	
English Setter	3
Gordon Setter	3
Irish Setter	3

Category 3
Poodles

Poodle (Toy)	1
Poodle (Toy Miniature)	1
Poodle (Medium)	2
Poodle (Standard)	3

Category 4
All Other Purebred Dogs
Scissoring

	Time
Barbet	2
Bedlington Terrier	2
Bichon Frisé	2
Black Russian Terrier	3
Bouvier des Flandres	3
Cão de Água Português	2
Cesky Terrier	1
Irish Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier	3
Irish Water Spaniel	3
Kerry Blue Terrier	3
Lagotto Romagnolo	2

Group 5
Pet Purebred Dogs

Under 28cm	1
Over 28cm	2

Time allocation
1 : 1 hour 45 minutes
2 : 2 hours
3 : 2 hours 15 minutes
4 : 2 hours 30 minutes
5 : 2 hours 45 minutes

4.13 "Best in Level" and "Best Groomer in Show" Competitions

4.13.1 The organiser may also choose to offer prizes for the Top participant across each Level and then across each category as follows:

	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3	Category 4	
Level A	1st Place	1st Place	1st Place	1st Place	Best in Show
Level B	1st Place	1st Place	1st Place	1st Place	Best in Show
Level C	1st Place	1st Place	1st Place	1st Place	Best in Show

4.13.2 After the finals, the competitors will have a short period of time in which they can ask to the judges for a brief critique of the work they presented, so that they know which aspects they can correct in the future.

4.13.3 FCI Grooming Shows in Australia differ slightly from those overseas.
To be eligible for the BBBBSSBB IIII SSSSSSSS award, Levels B & C competitors must compete with a breed that is permitted at All Levels of the competition. Only those entries that have qualified at All levels are eligible for consideration for the Best In Show title.