

**NOTICE New England Pet Grooming Professionals (NEPGP)
2009 ATTENDEES & COMPETITORS
Please read these rules carefully.**

The dogs entered in our competitions and involved in the programs are essential to the success of our show. Since special arrangements have been made with the Hotel to accommodate these dogs, we ask dog owners and handlers to observe the following rules:

1. Only dogs entered in the various competitions or scheduled for demonstrations or seminars will be permitted at the hotel. No pets should accompany other attendees
2. The hotel will permit only four dogs per room – Dogs must be crated at all times unless accompanied by a human occupant. Crates must be placed on plastic to protect the carpet. Please bring sufficient crates to house your dogs.
3. Advance reservations are required noting that dogs will need to be accommodated. A \$25.00 one time cleaning fee is required for any room that is occupied by dogs.
4. Each guest must sign a letter prior to check-in that will require them to agree to not leave their dogs unattended in their guestroom. The hotel will immediately investigate any guestroom that receives a complaint. If this guestroom is occupied by a person we will require them to immediately quiet their dogs. If the hotel receive more than two (2) complaints about the same guestroom, the occupant will be asked to vacate the guestroom and will forfeit payment in full for the entire length of the reservations. Also, if the hotel receives a dog barking complaint (single or multiple) and the hotel discovers that the guestroom does not have a person present, once the registered guest is located, they will be required to vacate the hotel and will also forfeit payment in full for the entire length of the reservation.
5. Dogs must be leashed or kenneled when they are not being groomed in the contest ring or in the seminars. They also must be leashed and well supervised at all times when in public areas of the hotel. The hotel will allow dogs to be escorted through the Star Light Lobby (not the main lobby) only if poor weather is prevalent. Poor weather will be at the discretion of the hotel and will be attributed to strong wind, rain, snow, sleet, and or extreme cold. **Otherwise, the escorted dogs must be walked outside the hotel to reach the Grand Ballroom.**
6. The special “walking” and lavatory area for all dogs is located at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. The area will be clearly marked and no other area should be used for this purpose. **Come prepared to pick-up after your dogs.**
7. **Absolutely NO bathing, blow-drying or pre-grooming of dogs is allowed in any of the sleeping rooms. Penalties will be severe. You will be asked to leave immediately and there will be no refund of monies.**

We have made special arrangements with “BEST IN SHOW” for the use of their specially designed grooming facility. This has proved far superior to any other accommodations we have tried before. Again this year, they will have a **SIGN-UP SHEET** for you to schedule your bathing appointment time. Please register on arrival to ensure a timely spot for preparation.

Contestants who sign an entry form to any of the competitions scheduled at **NEPGP 2009** agree to abide by the rules of good conduct that govern grooming contests and purebred dog shows. You have also agreed to “hold harmless” the owner or leaser of the premises and you assume all the responsibility of any acts of your dog(s). The Crowne Plaza Hotel has put the following rules into effect to minimize future problems:

If you or your dog damage, destroy or steal hotel property, you are responsible to make restitution to the satisfaction of the hotel. Behavior which could result in such action may be, but not limited to: stealing or damaging towels or linens; improper clean-up after the dog; actual blow drying, clipping or scissoring in the sleeping room (which is not allowed and subject to charges); causing destruction to room furniture (beds, dressers, drapes, etc.); and/or failure to pay room charges.

**Violations will be dealt with firmly;
these are serious problems.**

Competition Prize List - Regular Classes

Division A: Open

1st* \$200.00 Cash, 2nd \$125.00 Cash, 3rd \$100.00 Cash, and trophy from sponsor

*1st place receives entry to Intergroom's International Groomer of the Year Competition

*1st place in Open Poodle Class receives \$600 from Aesculap!

Division B: Intermediate

1st* \$125.00 Cash, 2nd \$100.00 Cash, 3rd \$75.00 Cash, and trophy from sponsor

*1st place receives entry to Intergroom's International Groomer of the Year Competition

*1st place in Intermediate Poodle Class receives \$225 from Aesculap!

Division C: Entry

1st \$100.00 Cash, 2nd \$75.00 Cash, 3rd \$50.00 Cash, and trophy from sponsor

Each Competitor receives a beautiful rosette ribbon

BEST GROOMED DOG "A" DIV. OPEN \$750.00 Cash and Trophy

BEST ALL AROUND GROOMER "A" DIV. OPEN \$750.00 Cash and Trophy

BEST GROOMED DOG "B" DIV. INT \$250.00 Cash and Trophy

BEST ALL AROUND GROOMER "B" DIV. INT \$250.00 Cash and Trophy

BEST GROOMED DOG "C" DIV. ENTRY \$125.00 Cash and Trophy

BEST ALL AROUND GROOMER "C" DIV. ENTRY \$125.00 Cash and Trophy

Special Awards:

Taxi Mixed Breed Memorial – donated by Sue, Ray and Christopher Zecco; to go to the Mixed breed with the best expression and character.

Best Groomed Poodle – in memory of Dreamcatcher's Poodles, donated by Sue & Ray Zecco. Awarded to the Best Groomed Poodle chosen between all Divisions.

Spider-Dog Memorial – trophy and \$ prize to be awarded to Best Poodle Pattern chosen between all Divisions. Donated by Diane Betelak in memory of her first standard, Alex.

Will Stone Joulie Memorial Award – awarded to the most harmonious relationship with his/her dog throughout the competition. Donated by Stone, Robitalle, Briggs Family.

Trinket Memorial Award - This lovingly created stained-glass award is given to an intermediate or open level competitor, Donated by Dick Marsh.

Daquiri Memorial Award - Awarded to the best groomed terrier, Donated by Robyn O'Donnell

Sailor Memorial Award - Open Sporting Class, Donated by Denise King

Champion Majesty's Afternoon Delight Award - Best Groomed English Springer Spaniel, Donated by Denise King in memory of Ch. "Afternoon Delight". Ent/Int Level

Scissor Awards – Best Scissored dog - Donated by Kenchii Shears

1st: Five Star grooming set which consists of a 8" Straight, 8" Curve, and 44 Tooth thinner

2nd: Faux Leather Case

3rd: Faux Leather Case

Best First Timer Award– Plaque & Commemorative Rosette, to be chosen from all first time competitors - Donated by Linda C. Claffin

Competition Rules

Classes:

A=Open, B=Intermediate, C=Entry (OPEN level is sanctioned for GroomTeam USA points) Send in entries early for guaranteed space

Eligibility:

There are three Divisions: Open, Intermediate and Entry. All will compete together and be judged simultaneously in each Class. There are four Classes: Sporting, Terrier, All Other Pure-breds/Mixed, Poodles. Separate prizes will be awarded in each Division. No pre-scissoring or shaping before any class. Evidence of this will merit disqualification. No pre-banding on Poodles. All banding and spray ups must be done in the time allowed. (no elastics under scrunchies) When time is up—time is up—no additional spraying. Judges will take into consideration spray-ups when combing during judging.

Coat length: All dogs entered in competition must have a minimum of six weeks growth of hair. Since coat grows differently of all dogs, acceptable coat length will be defined as follows: the coat must be sufficient to allow the competitor to make a distinct change in the dog's appearance. Rolled coats on hand-stripped dogs, as above, must make a distinct change in dog's appearance. Dog must be correct height for the class as well as entered in correct class.

Dogs should be free of mats, freshly shampooed (except on some terriers), dried, ears cleaned, and toenails clipped (filed optional).

Age of dog: at least six months at start of competition and by special permission from show management over eleven years at show time.

The genital and stomach areas can be pre-trimmed (for sanitary reasons) according to breed standards, as well as the pads under the feet including poodles. All other trimming performed in the competition ring only. If this is not done for special reasons, notify your Judge during pre-judging.

All dogs must be on leads or in crates. Only dogs participating in the competition and other programs are permitted in the hotel and must be crated when left alone in sleeping rooms. (unless prior exceptions made with show coordinator) Only four dogs per room allowed. No walking dogs thru the hotel lobby area. Use the access doors to the outside and walk around to the competition area. PLEASE clean up after your dog. Not cleaning up STINKS! Competition privileges at this show may be suspended.

The Divisions:

OPEN- open to all contestants. AKC breeders, owners and handlers who have "finished" two champions are required to enter the Open Division. Grooming contest Judges, Instructors, Certifiers must also enter Open Division. GroomTeam USA sanctioned points honored in Open Division. INTERMEDIATE-is restricted to stylists who have not competed or who have competed but not had any placements in the Open Division. You may stay in this Division until you have won three first places or Best All Around two times or Best Groomed Dog (Best in Show or similar) two times in Intermediate.

ENTRY-is restricted to new competitors and those who have competed but not had ANY placements in Intermediate or Open Divisions. You may stay in this division until you have won three first places, Best All Around two times or Best Groomed Dog (Best in Show or similar) two times in Entry. Advancement to a higher Division based on three first places applies if there were at least four(4) competitors in the class when the first place wins were awarded. A Group win or placement in a Two or Three Tier competition automatically advances the contestant to the next highest Division from where she/he was eligible prior to the Group win or placement.

The Classes:

Sporting-Includes American/English Cocker Spaniels, English Springer Spaniels, English Setters, Gordon Setters, Irish Setters and other Sporting Breeds. Time: two (2) hours

Terrier- Includes all Terrier Breeds that will be trimmed with clippers or scissors. Hand

Stripping is optional. Small, short legged terriers (westies, scotties, miniature schnauzers, wire fox) will be allowed 1 3/4 hours. Large (long legged terriers): Bedlingtons, Kerry Blues, Airedales will be allowed 2 1/4 hours. Hand Stripping note: In a Class when a contestant will hand strip and clip only in accordance with the specific breed clubs acceptable 'clipped areas' (clipping the cheeks on a Schnauzer or Scottish terrier), the time allowed will be 2(two) hours

All Other Purebreds/Mixed- All other purebreds that do not qualify for the Poodle, Sporting or Terrier Class groomed to the Breed Standard of Appearance (Bichon, Giant Schnauzer, Bouviers) Under 17 inches will be allowed 1 3/4 hours. Over 17 inches: 2 1/4 hours. Mixed –breed parentage and any purebred groomed in a style OTHER than its breed profile is groomed in Mixed Breed Class. Example: Poodle in a Bedlington trim, Cocker in a Surbuban, Bichon in a Panda/ Teddy Bear trim. Poodles CANNOT have face or feet trimmed in the traditional Poodle style. Under 17 inches, time is 1 3/4 hours, over 17 inches- 2 1/4 hours.

Poodles: Eleven inches and under at the withers allowed 1 1/2 hours. Over 11 inches to 17 inches allowed 2 hours, over 17 inches at the withers allowed 2 1/2 hours. Face and feet must be clipped in the ring. Tail clipping is optional (European Style). Various moustaches are allowed. Any Show trim is allowed.

Reasons for disqualifications:

*Rough handling of animals, outside ring coaching, non- payment, visual aids, clipper burns, cuts (at the discretion of your Judge), damage to hotel, late arrival to ring, conflict between employee/rep of sponsor of that class or judge providing a competition dog owned by the judge. Competitors fraudulently entering a class which they are not eligible will be required to forfeit all titles, return any prize money, prizes, trophies, plaques, ribbons etc. to the Show Management. GroomTeam USA points will also be forfeited. Of course, good sportsmanship is expected in and out of the Ring during the show weekend.

Contestants must provide their own dog(s), equipment, table and crate(s). No clipper-vacs or dryers in the competition ring. We have a dog holding area that is unsecured- please bring a lock, water etc.

Attire: Competitors are expected to dress professionally in the ring. Excessive short shorts, cutoffs, miniskirts, tank tops, tee shirts and open toed shoes are inappropriate. A grooming smock over an outfit for competition is expected; for judging, the grooming smock may be removed providing an outfit is beneath.

No smoking, cell phones, I-pods, headsets etc. are allowed during competition.

Best in Show will be chosen from all first place winners in each Division. You may freshen up or even re-bathe your dog for BIS, but no additional scissoring, clipping, carding, plucking etc is allowed. Please dress high casual for BIS-no grooming smocks.

To qualify for Best All Around in each Division, competitor must enter and compete in at least three Classes.

Best All Around Award in each Division will be chosen by a point system: 3 points for first, 2 points for second and one point for third in each class provided there are at least four contestants in the Class. If the Class has less than four, the points awarded will be calculated as follows: number of entries minus the placement equals point(s) awarded. Points will be totaled and highest points will be named Best All Around. In the event of a tie: the Groomer with the most placements will win. If there is still a tie, the groomer with the highest placement in a class will win. If there is still a tie, a point will be assigned for every contestant they have beaten in each class. Highest points will be named BAA of the Division.

NEW RULING:

No adding or changing competition classes after the National Anthem begins.

No re-scissoring or touch-ups before lineup for Best in Show for 1st place winners. Rebathing is allowed. This rule is in effect for all divisions.