

Dogs Queensland Puppy of the Year Rules 2025

RULES FOR THE CONDUCT OF QUEENSLAND PUPPY OF THE YEAR COMPETITION IN 2025

GENERAL RULES

1. The Queensland Puppy of the Year Competition will be sponsored, promoted and run by Dogs Queensland, commencing on Wednesday, 1st January 2025 and ending on Wednesday, 31st December 2025.
2. The Puppy of the Year Final will be judged on Friday evening, 6th February 2026.
3. In the event that a cash prize is awarded for the Competition, the prize will be awarded in the name of the Queensland resident owner/s of the winning exhibit. Where an exhibit is held in joint ownership with a current financial member of the ANKC, that member must be financial as of 1st December 2025 up to and including 6th February 2026.
4. Finalists in the competition will receive a memento from the Events Committee.
5. Catalogues for the Competition will be available for a fee.
6. The Committee is authorised to take steps to verify the eligibility of Competition finalists. Should an exhibitor or exhibit not meet all the specific criteria for eligibility, the exhibit in question will not be permitted to compete in the Competition Final.
7. The Events Committee reserves the right to alter any Competition rules should it be deemed necessary.
8. The Dogs Queensland Board of Directors is the final arbiter of disputed issues in respect to this Competition and exhibitors acknowledge that, by entering this Competition, they agree to be bound by the Rules and they further agree to indemnify Dogs Queensland against all claims arising from any actions associated with this Competition.

ELIGIBILITY TO COMPETE

In order to qualify for Dog of the Year, the exhibit must reside in the State of Queensland from 1st January 2025 or born during 2025 and reside in the State of Queensland and must remain resident in the State until the Competition date, 6th February 2026.

The exhibit must be registered to a Dogs Queensland member either solely or in partnership during this period (General Rules 3).

To reside means to physically live at the address on the Certificate of Registration. The term 'exhibitor' means owner/s, as recorded on the Certificate of Registration.

INELIGIBILITY TO COMPETE

All Events Committee Members and any other individual closely involved with the Competition or closely associated with persons involved with the Competition shall be excluded from entering at the discretion of the Events Committee. Sponsors are eligible to enter at the discretion of the Events Committee.

The decision if any person and/or exhibit should be excluded is to be decided upon the facts of each case with the final arbiter being the Events Committee.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

The following eligibility requirements must be adhered to:

1. If an entrant has ownership transferred during the Competition period, its results remain valid if the ownership of the dog remains valid (Refer to Eligibility to Compete) and providing the exhibit continues to reside in Queensland.
2. Any exhibit leased/transferred out of Queensland during the Competition period, or any exhibitor who moves Interstate or Overseas during the Competition period, automatically loses all entitlements to compete in the Competition.
3. All fees paid by an Exhibitor to enter in the Competition (including fees paid by an Exhibitor who falls under General Requirements 2), will not be refunded.
4. Any exhibitor who transfers to Queensland, permanently, from another Country / State will be eligible to compete:
 - (i) providing they join and/or hold current membership of Dogs Queensland:
 - a) at their permanent address in Queensland; and
 - b) during the eligibility period and is prior to and includes the end date of the eligibility period (Refer to General Rules 1).
 - (ii) providing the exhibit is transferred to that Queensland address and resides there, referred to in (i), for the majority of the eligibility period (majority referring to more than half of the time of the eligibility period).

QUALIFICATION FOR ENTRY AS A FINALIST

1. For the Puppy of the Year Competition an exhibit over the age of 6 (six) months is required to be awarded a minimum of 1 (one) Best Minor Puppy or Puppy in Show at any All Breeds Championship Show, Agricultural Show, Group / Multi Breed Championship Show where a Best Minor Puppy or Puppy in Show is awarded, or a Breed / Multi Breed Specialty Championship Show held in Queensland during the qualifying period (Refer General Rules 1).
2. To enter the Final, exhibitors will register their exhibit for a fee of \$50 per exhibit through Show Manager prior to the advertised closing date, 14th January 2026.
3. All rules under the General Rules apply.
4. For cataloguing purposes, the following is required of the qualifying exhibit by 14th January 2026:
 - (i) Photocopy of the Exhibits registration to be emailed to the Events Committee
 - (ii) Owners Name
 - (iii) Breed of exhibit
 - (iv) Date of birth of exhibit
 - (v) Name and date of the qualifying show.

Note:

The Events Committee reserves all rights to include or exclude an exhibit which they feel does or does not meet any of the criteria listed within these Rules.

The Dog of the Year Event will be run in accordance with the rules and regulations of Dogs Queensland.

However, given the contrasting nature of the event to that of a normal Conformation Show, the rules can be subject to change in exceptional circumstances, at the Events Committee's discretion.