

NAMASCUSA - MOST VERSATILE AUSSIE

Conformation, Herding, Rally & Agility

2008 NATIONAL SPECIALTY RULES

MVA-08

The Most Versatile Aussie award is offered to recognize the dog which best combines willingness to please, trainability and the desire to work livestock, as well as demonstrate a high level of skill in select performance events. The winning MVA dog is also a true and honest representation of the breed when evaluated against the breed standard.

Entrant dogs shall qualify in at least one of the recognized performance events, specifically Agility, Rally, Herding, Obedience and/or Tracking and also obtain a qualifying score in the Conformation Evaluation event. Working ability, performance skill and breed standard (conformation) evaluation are based on rules established by NAMASCUSA. The measure of a dog's performance and evaluation is recorded on scorecards established by NAMASCUSA for the individual events and shall serve to recognize and award the winning "Most Versatile Aussie."

Most Versatile Aussie Award Rules

1. Only Miniature Australian Shepherds registered with NAMASCUSA are eligible for the MVA-08 competition.
2. To earn the Most Versatile Aussie Award, each entrant dog must earn a qualifying score from one of the following events: Agility, SCORE Rally or NAMASCUSA Herding AND a qualifying score from the Conformation Evaluation event.
3. Placements will be awarded for 1st through 4th place in each offered event. If there is a tie between 2 dogs for 1st place, ties will be handled per the rules used for that event venue (NAMASCUSA Herding, SCORE Rally, and CPE Agility).
4. Scoring will be tabulated by the MVA-08 chairperson, Kathy Munson, a NAMASCUSA member in good standing who was chosen by the NAMASCUSA Board prior to the Nationals event. Assistance can be provided by the Show Chair with tabulation and record keeping. The Host Club will provide a centralized location where all scores are posted as soon as practicable after each offered event is completed. It is the owner/handler's responsibility to check the posted scores and report to the MVA-08 chairperson any discrepancy no later than one hour prior to the time scheduled for the MVA-08 awards ceremony. **Awards for MVA-08 are final once presented at the awards ceremony.**
5. All entrants will be presented with a participant ribbon for the Conformation Evaluation event. During a Nationals Specialty show, the participant ribbons will be given immediately upon completion of individual evaluation. Immediately thereafter, the entrant may leave the ring. All entrants who earn qualifying scores in the Conformation Evaluation and at least one of the other performance events offered, as required by these rules, will be presented with a qualifying ribbon and certificate at the MVA-08 awards ceremony. Qualifying dogs will also earn the title "MVA-08."

Qualifying Events

Conformation Evaluation (Refer to the Conformation Evaluation Worksheet)

- A. The Conformation Evaluator must be an ASCA breeder judge and/or AKC Herding Judge. A senior breeder judge is preferred but not mandatory. An ASCA provisional breeder judge cannot be the Conformation Evaluator. Should the Conformation Evaluator also be an owner/exhibitor in the Nationals event, he or she will be allowed to exhibit prior or subsequent to the day of the MVA-08 conformation competition. Further, any dog(s) owned by the evaluator may compete in any and all venues, other than MVA-08 conformation evaluation, on the same day that the evaluations are performed, provided the handler is someone other than the

evaluator. Members of the evaluator's immediate family may handle the dog. If the evaluator is judging other classes or venues in addition to the MVA-08 evaluation at the cluster, the NAMASCUSA rules pertaining to that judging will take precedence.

- B. Two hundred points are available. The point schedule worksheet will be provided to the Conformation Evaluator and be used to tabulate conformation points.
- C. This class will not be placed, but entrants will receive a participant ribbon. Point scoring assigned by the Conformation Evaluator will be used to determine total points assigned to each entrant.
- D. Both full and limited NAMASCUSA registrations qualify. This class is open to spayed and neutered animals as well as intact animals.

Herding

- A. NAMASCUSA Herding results, criteria for entering levels, rules and regulations, etc. will be used. Scores will be taken from the NAMASCUSA Nationals Herding Specialty Trial. For herding entrants to read this chart, Clean = 100% of possible points and Faulted = 70-99% of possible points.
- B. The highest qualifying score on Thursday, September 4th, 2008 will be used to compute points.
- C. Points will be awarded as follows:

- 230 for a qualifying clean Herding Advanced Dog (HAD)
- 220 for a qualifying faulted Herding Advanced Dog (HAD)
- 210 for a qualifying clean Herding Open Dog (HOD)
- 200 for a qualifying faulted Herding Open Dog (HOD)
- 190 for a qualifying clean Herding Started Dog (HSD)
- 180 for a qualifying faulted Herding Started Dog (HSD)
- 175 for a qualifying clean Herding Junior Dog (HJD)
- 170 for a qualifying faulted Herding Junior Dog (HJD)
- 165 for a qualifying clean Herding Capability Certificate Leg2 (HCC)
- 160 for a qualifying faulted Herding Capability Certificate Leg2 (HCC)
- 155 for a qualifying clean Herding Capability Certificate Leg1 (HCC)
- 150 for a qualifying faulted Herding Capability Certificate Leg1 (HCC)
- 140 for a qualifying Herding Instinct Test (mHIC) run

Five (5) bonus points will be given for each additional qualifying run if dog qualifies in two or more trials. The mHIC test run must be done at the National Specialty – certificates will not be accepted.

- D. Bitches in heat WILL be allowed to run at the Nationals Specialty at the end of the day.

SCORE Rally

- A. NAMASCUSA SCORE Rally results, jump heights, criteria for entering levels, rules and regulations, etc. will be used. Scores will be taken from the SCORE Rally trial.
- B. The highest qualifying score on Friday, September 5th, 2008 will be used to compute points.
- C. Points will be awarded as follows:

- 200 for a qualifying Skill Level 3 run (score: 190+)
- 195 for a qualifying Skill Level 3 run (score: 170 – 180)
- 190 for a qualifying Skill Level 2 run (score: 190+)
- 185 for a qualifying Skill Level 2 run (score: 170 – 180)
- 180 for a qualifying Skill Level 1 run (score: 190+)
- 175 for a qualifying Skill Level 1 run (score: 170 – 180)
- 160 for a qualifying Puppy/Junior/Challenged run (score: 190+)
- 155 for a qualifying Puppy/Junior/Challenged run (score: 170 - 180)

Five (5) bonus points will be given for each additional qualifying leg if dog qualifies in two or more trials.

- D. Bitches in heat will NOT be allowed to run at the National Specialty SCORE Rally Trial. Failure to comply with this rule will result in dismissal from all SCORE Rally trials held in conjunction with the NAMASCUSA National SCORE Rally Specialty.

Agility

- A. CPE Standard(s) results will be used for the regular, veterans, enthusiasts and specialists divisions. CPE jump heights, criteria for entering levels, rules and regulations, etc. will be used. Scores will be used from the CPE Agility Trial.
 - B. The highest Standard qualifying score on Saturday, September 6th, 2008 will be used to compute points.
 - C. Points will be awarded as follows:
 - 200 for a qualifying Level 5 Regular/Veteran Standard Run
 - 195 for a qualifying Level 5 Enthusiasts/Specialist Standard Run
 - 190 for a qualifying Level 4 Regular/Veteran Standard Run
 - 185 for a qualifying Level 4 Enthusiasts/Specialist Standard Run
 - 180 for a qualifying Level 3 Regular/Veteran Standard Run
 - 175 for a qualifying Level 3 Enthusiasts/Specialist Standard Run
 - 170 for a qualifying Level 2 Regular/Veteran Standard Run
 - 165 for a qualifying Level 2 Enthusiasts/Specialist Standard Run
 - 160 for a qualifying Level 1 Regular/Veteran Standard Run
 - 155 for a qualifying Level 1 Enthusiasts/Specialist Standard Run
- Five (5) bonus points will be awarded if dog qualifies in both Standard runs. In addition, Five (5) points will be awarded for each qualifying run in classes offered on Saturday, September 6th. Classes may include any or all of the following: Jumpers, FullHouse, Wildcard, Snooker, Gamblers, Colors.
- D. Bitches in heat will NOT be allowed to run at the National Specialty Agility Trial. Failure to comply with this rule will result in dismissal from all agility trials held in conjunction with the NAMASCUSA National Agility Specialty.

Special Awards

The National Specialty Host Club for the NAMASCUSA Nationals shall include in their flyer any special awards to be given in the MVA-08 competition.