



The Roger McKay Breeder Futurity Program Rules and Regulations

Futurity Litter Nominations Open Each Year on October 1 and Close on September 30.

Futurity Classes are divided into 3-month age groups by date of birth as follows:

DIVISION 1 - Born October 1 – December 31 (Oldest Puppies)
DIVISION 2 - Born January 1 – March 31
DIVISION 3 - Born April 1 – June 30
DIVISION 4 - Born July 1 – September 30 (Youngest Puppies)

Litter Nomination Fees	
Litter Age	Fee
Litters up to 1 month of age	\$25.00
Litters up to 2 months of age	\$100.00
Litters up to 3 months of age	\$200.00
Litter nominations for puppies over 3 months of age will not be accepted.	

Individual Nomination Fees	
Individual Puppy up to 4 months of age	\$100.
Late Fee: Individual nominations will be accepted up to 30-days past the 4-month age with an additional \$100. late fee assessed.	

Litter and Individual Nomination Forms are available online at
www.australianshepherds.org/Futurity or from the Futurity Chair.

Please carefully read the following Futurity Rules and Regulations. Any information or payments requested by the Futurity Chair and not received by the Closing Date, or any violation of Rules will result in elimination from the Futurity with no refund.

- All Litter nominations must be made no later than 3 months after whelping, with the appropriate fee (see above table) according to the Litter age paid at the time of nomination. Notification of receipt of the Litter Nomination Form and payment will be mailed/e-mailed to the Litter Owner.
- Following the Litter nomination, an Individual Nomination Form must be submitted for each individual dog/bitch. Entry fee is \$100.00 for each individual nomination up to 4 months of age. Individual Nomination Forms received within 30-days past the 4-month age will be assessed a \$100 Late Fee. Individual Nomination Forms received after 30-days past the 4-month age will not be accepted.
- Payments must be postmarked or paid online no later than the Due Date. Any Payments received not in accordance with the above schedules will be returned.
- Litter and Individual nominations may be made and paid for online through the website www.australianshepherds.org/Futurity. If paying by mail, please make checks, money orders, or cashier checks payable to USASA and mail to the Futurity Chair. Please do not pay with cash.
- A copy of the AKC Registration papers is required for each Individual Nomination and must be submitted as well as the Individual Nomination form and payment. The AKC Registration papers may be scanned and emailed to futurity@australianshepherds.org or copies can be mailed to the Futurity Chair.
- If the ownership changes after the close of the Futurity, a copy of the transferred AKC registration papers must be received by the Futurity Chair by the closing date of regular entries for the corresponding National Specialty Show.
- To be eligible to compete in the Futurity, a dog/bitch must also be entered in a Regular Class. If, in the unlikely case, a USASA Nationals is scheduled before April 1st in a given year, the Futurity Chair will immediately notify Owners of dogs/bitches that will be under 6 months of age of alternative requirements.
- Futurity entries are processed by the Show Superintendent. Even though you have nominated your litters and individual puppies, the entry must also be made on the Nationals Show Entry form along with the required Regular Class. The Show Superintendent will be responsible for the Futurity Entry Catalog and it will be created from these entries.
- If “conflict of interest” arises (i.e. co-ownership or co-breeder with the Futurity Judge), an explanation must be provided in writing to the Futurity Chair by close of the National Specialty Regular Entries. If approved, entry fees may be refunded for Individual dog only but not Litter nomination fee. Refunds only. No substitutions/changes. No dog/bitch may be dropped or exchanged for another entry.
- The Futurity will be held in conjunction with each National Specialty, before the start of Regular Classes.

- The Futurity Judge will be selected from the Breeder Judge membership election list (Category 1). The Futurity Judge must be an Australian Shepherd breeder of record. AKC licensed judges who do not meet the following criteria are not eligible to judge the Futurity:
 - Minimum age: 26
 - 10 years documented breed involvement
 - Breeder of (minimum) 3 AKC registered Litters
 - Breeder of (minimum) 5 AKC Champions
- The elected judge will sign a contract attesting to the above criteria and, if necessary, provide documentation of breed involvement before being announced in the USASA Newsletter and posted on the USASA website (www.australianshepherds.org) after the close of the Futurity.
- Only the breeder(s)/owner(s)/co-owner(s) who appear on the AKC registration papers submitted to the Futurity Chair may show the dog/bitch in the Futurity classes. No Professional Handlers (persons who receive a fee or payment for showing dogs) may show in the Futurity unless they are the breeder(s)/owner(s)/co-owner(s) of the dog/bitch.
- All exhibitors and entered dogs/bitches should be at ringside 15 minutes before the official start time of judging stated in the Judging Program but no later than 15 minutes before an entered class. The Futurity Chair and/or members of the show committee may request exhibitors/handlers identify themselves before entering the ring. Therefore, all exhibitors/handlers MUST bring to ringside a valid driver's license with photo or other valid photo ID to avoid check-in delays.
- Dogs/Bitches will be divided by sex and in age groups of 3 months, as outlined on page 1. There will be no placements in classes, only selections (Selects) that will advance to the final judging. One in three dogs shown in a class will become Selects, according the following examples: 1 to 5 dogs/bitches in class = 1 Select; 6 to 8 dogs/bitches in class = 2 Selects; 9 to 11 dogs/bitches in class = 3 Selects, etc. From the Selects there will be chosen one Best In Futurity (BIF) and one Best Opposite Sex in Futurity (BOSIF). There will also be Selects of Merit (SOM) chosen at a ratio of 1 SOM for every 10 entered, rounding up. For example, if there are 44 total entries, there will be 4 SOM's; if there are 45 total entries, there will be 5 SOM's. SOM's can be all of one sex, or any combination of both.
- Payments will be divided as follows: 15% towards Futurity expenses. 30% split 60/40 between BIF/BOSIF. 20% divided evenly among the SOM's. 35% divided evenly among the Selects in the classes.
- Awards: All money will be awarded at the time of judging to the handler in the ring and none will be mailed. BIF, BOSIF, and SOM will receive rosettes in addition to money.
- The Futurity Chair and immediate family members may not exhibit in the Futurity. Litters bred or co-bred, and Individuals owned or co-owned by the Futurity Chair are ineligible for nomination.
- Any protest regarding Futurity eligibility must be filed with the Futurity Chair within 30 minutes after Best In Futurity judging and accompanied by a \$100 filing fee. If the protest is ruled legitimate, the \$100 fee will be returned to the individual filing the protest. If not, the \$100 fee will be forfeited and will be added to the Futurity purse for the following year.