



MOST VERSATILE AUSSIE PROGRAM (MVA) – 2023



There will be an entry fee of \$25.00 for the Most Versatile Aussie Conformation Evaluation. In addition, the MVA Entry Form must be filled out and submitted with the fee by the deadline to ensure being listed as entered in MVA in the catalog. The form is used to gather information for the catalog and to prepare scoring sheets.

VERSATILITY COMPETITION RULES (EFFECTIVE JANUARY 2023)

PURPOSE: The Most Versatile Aussie Competition offered at a USASA National Specialty recognizes those dogs that exemplify true versatility by successfully competing in herding and performance competitions and meeting the USASA Breed Standard in the Versatility Conformation class.

To qualify in the Most Versatile Competition, a dog must: Earn a score in the Versatility Conformation class, earn a qualifying score in a regular Herding class, and earn a qualifying score in at least one of the Performance classes (obedience, agility, rally, and tracking, if offered). Only scores from the designated National Specialty day will count.

ELIGIBILITY: Open to all AKC registered Australian Shepherds, including neutered dogs and bitches. PAL/ILP registered Australian Shepherds are not eligible for MVA competition. Bitches in season will be allowed to compete as dictated by AKC Rules and Regulations. Bitches in season are not eligible to compete in Agility, Obedience or Rally according to AKC Rules and Regulations. They are eligible to compete in Herding and Versatility Conformation. Refer to the premiums for additional information.

SCORING: Only qualifying scores in each of the three divisions (Conformation, Herding and Performance) will be counted.

MVA Conformation Ring Procedure

At the beginning of the MVA conformation evaluation, all entrants will enter the ring together in catalog order. The judge will ask them to go around the ring and then each dog will be evaluated individually. All entrants will remain in the ring during the individual evaluations. There may be more than one handler allowed for each dog if needed. Each entrant will receive a Conformation Class Score Sheet signed by the Judge. Note: The MVA evaluator may alter the final ring procedure after all entrants are presented in the ring together.

CONFORMATION: This class will be held at a time and place designated by the Nationals Show Committee. All dogs competing for the versatility awards will be judged against the USASA Breed Standard. One judge, who will have qualifications appropriate to judging conformation, will judge the class. Details on ring procedure will be included in the premium each year.

MVA Score will be computed as follows:

The conformation score given by the judge – maximum 100 points.

HERDING: HIGHEST QUALIFYING SCORE FROM THE TRIAL CLASSES, SHEEP, CATTLE, OR DUCKS, ANY COURSE OFFERED. STARTED THRU ADVANCED. Pre-Trial & Herding Test do not count. If a dog qualifies on more than one type of stock or course, the highest score will apply, with additional points awarded for the additional qualifying score (as noted below). When there are separate trials or courses for the different types of stock, these will be treated as one trial for MVA purposes.

MVA Scores will be computed as follows:

Started: raw score
Intermediate: raw score plus 5 points
Advanced: raw score plus 10 points

Additional Qualifying Score Points will be computed as follows:

Started: 5 Points
Intermediate: 7.5 Points
Advanced: 10 Points

PERFORMANCE:

HIGHEST QUALIFYING SCORE FROM ONE OF THE PERFORMANCE CATEGORIES OF OBEDIENCE, AGILITY, RALLY, AND TRACKING. The one qualifying score with the highest MVA score value will be the Performance base score. Any and all additional qualifying scores in the Performance categories will each count (as noted below) and will be added to the Performance base score. The overall total will be the Performance score.

OBEDIENCE: 50% OF HIGHEST QUALIFYING SCORE FROM A REGULAR CLASS, NOVICE A & B, OPEN A & B, UTILITY A & B.

MVA Scores will be computed as follows:

Novice: 50% of raw score

Open: 50% of raw score plus 5 points
Utility: 50% of raw score plus 10 points

RALLY (if offered): 50% OF HIGHEST QUALIFYING SCORE FROM A REGULAR CLASS, NOVICE A & B, INTERMEDIATE, ADVANCED A & B, EXCELLENT A & B, and MASTERS.

MVA Scores will be computed as follows:

Novice: 50% of raw score
Intermediate: 50% of raw score
Advanced: 50% of raw score plus 5 points
Excellent: 50% of raw score plus 10 points
Masters: 50% of raw score plus 15 points

AGILITY: HIGHEST QUALIFYING SCORE FROM A STANDARD, JUMPERS, OR FAST CLASS. Only one qualifying run will accrue weighted points toward the total.

MVA Scores will be computed as follows:

Novice: raw score
Open: raw score plus 5 points
Excellent/Master: raw score plus 10 points

TRACKING (if offered): EVERY EFFORT MUST BE MADE TO HOLD TRACKING ON A DAY SEPARATE FROM OTHER AUSSIE - ONLY EVENTS. If for any reason a tracking test must be scheduled in conflict with another Aussie-only event, tracking exhibitors competing in MVA will be allowed to count a score earned in an all-breed trial of that event held on another day.

MVA Scores will be computed as follows:

TD 90
TDX 100

Additional Qualifying Score Points will be computed as follows:

- Rally score (any level): 3 points
- Obedience Novice, Agility Novice, and TD: 5 Points
- Obedience Open, Agility Open, and TDX: 7.5 Points
- Obedience Utility and Agility Excellent: 10 Points

TIES: The entire stock score will be used to break any ties. If the stock scores are even, then the best centerline score will break the tie. If there is still a tie, the fastest time from the highest stock score will be used to break the tie. Exhibitors should keep Herding score sheets in case of a tie.