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GROUP AT 143RD ANNUAL WESTMINSTER KENNEL CLUB DOG SHOW IN NEW YORK CITY

New York, NY – The Sussex Spaniel "Bean" of Hampden, Massachusetts, handled by Per Ingar Rismyhr for breeder-owners Karen Ann Toner and Amanda Toner, won the Sporting Group under Judge Douglas Johnson at the 143rd Annual Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show in New York City on Monday and Tuesday, Feb. 11-12, 2019.

Bean, an 8-year-old male officially known as GCHS Kamand's Full Of Beans @ Erinhill, took top honors in a field of 32 Best of Breed winners entered, comprising the Sporting Group. Westminster reached its conformation entry limit of 2,800 dogs, with two days of Best of Breed competition held at Piers 92/94 and Group and Best in Show competitions held at Madison Square Garden.

"Bean is no stranger to the Westminster Best in Show ring, having won the Sporting Group here in 2018 as well," said Westminster Kennel Club Director of Communications Gail Miller Bisher.

Selected highlights of the Best of Breed competitions were featured live on Nat Geo WILD on Feb. 11-12. For full Sporting Group results and video visit <u>www.westminsterkennelclub.org</u>. All Westminster Week events are presented by Purina Pro Plan®.

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About The Westminster Kennel Club – The Westminster Kennel Club is America's oldest organization dedicated to the sport of purebred dogs. Established in 1877, Westminster's influence has been felt for more than a century through its famous all-breed, benched dog show held every year in New York City. Today 204 breeds and varieties of dogs compete in Best of Breed judging at Piers 92/94 with the winners advancing to Group and Best in Show competitions at Madison Square Garden. America's dog show has expanded into Westminster Week which includes the Masters Agility Championship at Westminster and the Masters Obedience Championship at Westminster, both held at Pier 94. More than 3,000 dogs entered from around the world compete in these events, making Westminster Week like no other. Westminster. There's only one. (R) Follow us @WKCDOGS or visit: westminsterkennelclub.org.

About Purina Pro Plan®:

Purina Pro Plan is the food of choice for 12 of the past 13 Westminster Best in Show winners*. Our goal is to give your dog the nutrition to be his absolute best, helping him to be energetic and resilient, while maintaining an ideal body condition, healthy skin, and a stunning coat. Because being the best he can be means something different for every dog, our wide range of dry and wet foods, sold exclusively at pet specialty retailers and online, can be found in four specialized categories formulated for a dog's unique

needs. For more information, visit www.proplan.com or follow @ProPlan on Twitter, Instagram, or Facebook. The brand is manufactured by Nestlé Purina PetCare, which promotes responsible pet care, humane education, community involvement, and the positive bond between people and their pets. A premiere global manufacturer of pet products, Nestlé Purina PetCare is part of Swiss-based Nestlé S.A., a global leader in nutrition, health, and wellness.

*The handler or owners of these champions may have received Purina Pro Plan dog food as Purina ambassadors.