

WESTMINSTER KENNEL CLUB DOG SHOW



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July 30, 2021

LONG ISLAND, NEW YORK SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT TO SELECT BEST IN SHOW AT THE 146th ANNUAL WESTMINSTER KENNEL CLUB DOG SHOW

America's Dog Show returns to New York City in January 2022

New York, NY — Dr. Don Sturz of Brooklyn, New York, will judge Best in Show at the 146th Annual Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show presented by Purina Pro Plan® at Madison Square Garden on January 26, 2022. The superintendent of the Valley Stream 24 School District in Long Island, New York, Dr. Sturz brings a lifetime of experience as a breeder, exhibitor and judge to the most prestigious judging assignment in the sport of purebred dogs. Anchoring Westminster Week, this iconic annual dog show has been held continuously since 1877.



Dr. Sturz began participating in the sport of dogs as a child. As a highly successful Junior Handler, he exhibited in the famed Westminster Junior Showmanship competition. He was selected as a Junior Showmanship Finalist three years at Westminster beginning with his first time entered at the age of ten. During his Junior Showmanship career, he was ranked as the number one Junior Handler in the U.S. for three consecutive years.

While growing up in the sport, Dr. Sturz trained and exhibited dogs in a variety of American Kennel Club events including conformation, obedience and field trials, earning numerous awards and titles. A long-time preservation breeder and handler, he has bred, owned and handled All-Breed and Specialty Best in Show winners and nationally ranked dogs in Golden Retrievers, Miniature Poodles and Pembroke Welsh Corgis.

He currently serves as the delegate to the American Kennel Club for the Poodle Club of America, is a member of the Bull Terrier Club of America and recently assisted in the revival of the Knickerbocker Bull Terrier Club. Additionally, Dr. Sturz has been an analyst for the Fox Sports telecast of the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show for the past three years and a co-host for the Westminster Kennel Club Highlights Show presented by Purina Pro Plan® for the past two years.

Since 1990 Dr. Sturz has adjudicated at major dog shows around the world, in addition to judging the Sporting and Hound groups at Westminster in 2010 and 2006. In 2020 he was voted Judge of the Year at the Purina Pro Plan® Show Dogs of the Year award ceremony. Dr. Sturz is approved to judge the Sporting and Hound groups, several Terrier, Non-Sporting and Herding breeds, Best in Show and Junior Showmanship. This is his tenth judging assignment at Westminster.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the iconic dog show was held outdoors at the Lyndhurst Estate in Tarrytown, New York in June 2021. It was the first time in the club's 145-year history that the event was held outside of Manhattan. For 2022, Westminster Week returns to Manhattan starting with the Masters Agility Championship on Saturday, Jan. 22, the Masters Obedience Championship on Monday, Jan. 24 and the breed competitions on Monday (Hound and Herding), Tuesday (Toy, Non-Sporting and Terrier) and Wednesday (Sporting and Working), Jan. 24-26 all on Pier 36. The evening Group judging will be held at Madison Square Garden on Jan. 25-26, 2022.

Seven **Group Judges** will select their picks for the Best in Show competition over two nights at Madison Square Garden.

On Tuesday, Jan. 25, the following judges will select four group winners to advance to the Best in Show competition. Mr. Eugene Blake of Tulsa, Oklahoma for the **Hound** Group; Mrs. Rosalind Kramer of High Point, North Carolina for the **Toy** Group; Ms. Evalyn Gregory of Louisville, Kentucky for the **Non-Sporting** Group; and Mrs. Sharon Ann Redmer of Whitmore Lake, Michigan for the **Herding** Group.

On Wednesday, Jan. 26, the following judges will select the remaining three group winners to advance to Best in Show. Dr. Elliot L. More of Deerfield, New Hampshire for the **Sporting** Group; Mrs. Faye Strauss, of Kent, Washington for the **Working** Group; and Mr. Richard W. Powell of Palmyra, Pennsylvania for the **Terrier** Group.

The **Best Junior Handler** award will be decided on Wednesday, Jan. 26 at Madison Square Garden by Junior Showmanship Finals Judge Mrs. Karen Mammano of Webster, New York. The eight junior showmanship finalists will be determined in preliminary rounds by judges Mrs. Amy Booth of Mims, Florida, and Ms. Lisa Gallizzo of Branchburg, New Jersey.

The **9th Annual Masters Agility Championship at Westminster** on Saturday, Jan. 22, will be judged by Ms. Ronda Bermke of Greenleaf, Wisconsin and Mr. Ben Gibbs of Kingsport, Tennessee. Mr. Christopher Cornell of Sequim, Washington, will officiate the **7th Annual Masters Obedience Championship at Westminster** on Monday, Jan. 24.

Pending American Kennel Club approval, the judging panel for the **Best of Breed or Variety** competitions includes:

SPORTING BREEDS AND VARIETIES (34)

Mr. Gregory A. Anderson of Middleton, Maryland: American Water Spaniels, Boykin Spaniels, Clumber Spaniels, Cocker Spaniels (all Varieties), English Cocker Spaniels, English Springer Spaniels, Field Spaniels, Sussex Spaniels, Welsh Springer Spaniels.

Mr. Edd E. Bivin of Fort Worth, Texas: Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers, Lagotti Romagnoli, Nederlandse Kooikerhondjes, Vizslas, Wirehaired Pointing Griffons, Wirehaired Vizslas.

Mrs. Susan St. John Brown of Divide, Colorado: German Shorthaired Pointers, German Wirehaired Pointers, English Setters, Gordon Setters, Irish Setters, Irish Red and White Setters, Pointers.

Ms. Elizabeth "Beth" Sweigart of Bowmansville, Pennsylvania: Barbets, Brittanys, Irish Water Spaniels, Labrador Retrievers, Spinoni Italiani.

Ms. Nancy E. Talbott of Quartz Hill, California: Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, Curly-Coated Retrievers, Flat-Coated Retrievers, Golden Retrievers, Weimaraners.

HOUND BREEDS AND VARIETIES (35)

Mrs. Susan St. John Brown of Divide, Colorado: Basenjis, Basset Hounds, Cirnechi dell'Etna, Ibizan Hounds, Pharaoh Hounds, Rhodesian Ridgebacks.

Mr. Edmund Dziuk of Columbia, Missouri: American English Coonhounds, American Foxhounds, Black and Tan Coonhounds, Bloodhounds, Bluetick Coonhounds, English Foxhounds, Grand Basset Griffon Vendéens, Harriers, Irish Wolfhounds, Norwegian Elkhounds, Otterhounds, Petit Basset Griffon Vendéens, Plotts, Portuguese Podengo Pequenos, Redbone Coonhounds.

Mrs. Lesley E. Hiltz of Brush Prairie, Washington: Beagles (both Varieties), Dachshunds (all Varieties).

Mr. Juan Miranda of Mexico City, Mexico: Afghan Hounds, Azawakhs, Borzois, Greyhounds, Salukis, Scottish Deerhounds, Sloughis, Treeing Walker Coonhounds, Whippets.

WORKING BREEDS (31)

Mr. Rick Gschwender of Nampa, Idaho: Alaskan Malamutes, Boerboels, Cane Corsos, Dogues de Bordeaux, Dogo Argentinos, Great Pyrenees, Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs, Kuvaszok, Portuguese Water Dogs, Samoyeds, Siberian Huskies, Tibetan Mastiffs.

Mrs. Lesley E. Hiltz of Brush Prairie, Washington: Bernese Mountain Dogs.

Ms. Theresa L. Hundt of Sandy Hook, Connecticut: Anatolian Shepherd Dogs, Black Russian Terriers, Bullmastiffs, Chinooks, German Pinschers, Komondorok, Leonbergers, Mastiffs, Neapolitan Mastiffs, Newfoundlands, Saint Bernards.

Ms. Ann Ingram of Rochestown, Cork, Ireland: Akitas, Boxers, Doberman Pinschers, Giant Schnauzers, Great Danes, Rottweilers, Standard Schnauzers.

TERRIER BREEDS AND VARIETIES (32)

Mrs. Bergit Coady-Kabel of Indio, California: Australian Terriers, Border Terriers, Cairn Terriers, Norfolk Terriers, Norwich Terriers, Sealyham Terriers, Skye Terriers, West Highland White Terriers.

Dr. Ian Howell Gabriel of London, United Kingdom: Bedlington Terriers, Cesky Terriers, Smooth Fox Terriers, Wire Fox Terriers.

Mrs. Mareth K. Kipp of North Prairie, Wisconsin: Airedale Terriers, Irish Terriers, Kerry Blue Terriers, Miniature Schnauzers, Parson Russell Terriers, Russell Terriers, Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers, Staffordshire Bull Terriers.

Mrs. Cindy Vogels of Greenwood Village, Colorado: American Hairless Terriers, American Staffordshire Terriers, Bull Terriers (both Varieties), Dandie Dinmont Terriers, Glen of Imaal Terriers, Lakeland Terriers, Miniature Bull Terriers, Rat Terriers, Scottish Terriers, Standard Manchester Terriers, Welsh Terriers.

TOY BREEDS AND VARIETIES (24)

Mr. Edd E. Bivin of Fort Worth, Texas: Chinese Cresteds, Havanese, Maltese.

Mr. Albert Eason of Moffat, United Kingdom: Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Pekingese, Pomeranians, Pugs.

Ms. Ann Ingram of Rochestown, Cork, Ireland: Toy Poodles.

Mr. James J. Mitchell of Wilmington, Delaware: Affenpinschers, Brussels Griffons, English Toy Spaniels (both Varieties), Italian Greyhounds, Miniature Pinschers, Shih Tzu, Toy Fox Terriers, Toy Manchester Terriers.

Mrs. Angela Pickett of Chuluota, Florida: Chihuahuas (both Varieties), Japanese Chin, Papillons, Silky Terriers, Yorkshire Terriers.

Mrs. Cindy Vogels of Greenwood Village, Colorado: Biewer Terriers.

NON-SPORTING BREEDS (21)

Mr. Edd E. Bivin of Fort Worth, Texas: Finnish Spitz, Lhasa Apsos, Shiba Inu.

Mr. Albert Easdon of Moffat, United Kingdom: Boston Terriers.

Ms. Ann Ingram of Rochestown, Cork, Ireland: Bulldogs, Chinese Shar-Pei, Chow Chows, Dalmatians, French Bulldogs, Miniature Poodles, Standard Poodles.

Mr. Bill Lee of Aurora, Colorado: American Eskimo Dogs, Bichon Frises, Cotons de Tulear, Keeshonden, Lowchen, Norwegian Lundehunds, Schipperkes, Tibetan Spaniels, Tibetan Terriers, Xoloitzcuintlis.

HERDING BREEDS AND VARIETIES (32)

Mrs. Nioma Stoner Coen of Great Barrington, Massachusetts: Collies (both Varieties), Pembroke Welsh Corgis, Shetland Sheepdogs.

Mr. Thomas W. Coen of Great Barrington, Massachusetts: Australian Cattle Dogs, Australian Shepherds, Belgian Laekenois, Belgian Malinois, Belgian Sheepdogs, Belgian Tervuren, Icelandic Sheepdogs, Norwegian Buhunds, Old English Sheepdogs.

Ms. Janina K. Laurin of Ashford, Connecticut: Bearded Collies, Beaucerons, Bergamasco Sheepdogs, Berger Picards, Bouvier des Flanders, Entlebucher Mountain Dogs, Finnish Lapphunds, German Shepherd Dogs, Pulik, Pumik, Pyrenean Shepherds, Spanish Water Dogs, Swedish Vallhunds.

Mr. James J. Mitchell of Wilmington, Delaware: Border Collies, Briards, Canaan Dogs, Cardigan Welsh Corgis, Miniature American Shepherds, Polish Lowland Sheepdogs,

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About the Westminster Kennel Club

The Westminster Kennel Club, established in 1877, is America's oldest organization dedicated to the sport of dogs. It hosts the iconic, all-breed Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show, the second-longest, continuously held sporting event in the U.S., and since 1948, the longest nationally televised live dog show. The annual dog show—a conformation competition for purebred dogs—and the Masters Agility Championship and Masters Obedience Championship—where dogs from all backgrounds are eligible to compete—make Westminster Week with its nearly 3,000 dogs from the U.S. and around the world a pinnacle experience for any dog lover. America's Dog Show has captivated canine enthusiasts for more than a century with its educational benched format, where the public can engage with more than 200 breeds of dogs in New York City. The Club's mission, which enhances the lives of all dogs, celebrates the companionship of dogs, promotes responsible dog ownership, and breed preservation. WESTMINSTER. *There's only one.*® Visit: westminsterkennelclub.org and follow us @WKCDogShow.

About Purina Pro Plan Purina Pro Plan is a leader in the advanced nutrition category, with more than 70 formulas in dry and wet pet food to help meet a variety of needs. Its science is backed by 500 Purina scientists globally, including nutritionists, veterinarians and behaviorists, who continuously rethink what nutrition can do. It is also the food of choice for 14 of the past 15 Westminster Best in Show winners*. 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, 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.