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TELEVISION COVERAGE EXPANDS AS ENTRIES SOAR AT THE 142nd ANNUAL WESTMINSTER KENNEL CLUB DOG SHOW

Multiple Telecasts on FOX, FS1 and Nat Geo WILD Highlight Westminster Week Events on February 11-13, 2018

New York, NY – The Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show made its first appearance on television in 1948. To celebrate 70 years of sharing our passion for dogs with television audiences at home, Westminster along with its broadcast partner, FOX Sports, will air three consecutive days of expanded television coverage on three channels – FOX, FS1 and Nat Geo WILD. More than 3,200 dogs entered across three dog sports will entertain, enamor and excite dog lovers around the world.

Viewers will be able to tune into the FOX broadcast network for the first time to catch expanded coverage of the 5th Annual Masters Agility Championship at Westminster finals on Sunday, Feb. 11, 2018 from 2 pm to 4:30 pm EST. Daytime viewers will enjoy expanded select live coverage of the 142nd Annual Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show and 3rd Annual Masters Obedience Championship at Westminster on Nat Geo WILD on Monday and Tuesday, Feb. 12-13, 2018 from 1 pm to 4 pm EST. The coveted Groups and Best in Show live telecast will continue on FS1 on Monday and Tuesday evenings from 8 pm to 11 pm EST.

For 2018, the dog show and obedience entries increased and 10 more agility entries will compete in the final round. The 142nd Annual Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show reached its conformation entry limit of 2,800. There will be a total of 2,882 dogs at the show representing 2,919 entries which includes 95 junior showmanship qualifiers and 24 obedience teams in the 3rd Annual Masters Obedience Championship at Westminster on Monday, Feb. 12, 2018. There are also 330 agility teams entered in the 5th Annual Masters Agility Championship at Westminster on Saturday, Feb. 10, 2018.

NEW Channel / Expanded Agility Finals Coverage from Pier 94 on FOX Sunday, Feb. 11, 2018 / 2 pm to 4:30 pm EST

It took a mere eight hours for the 330 invited agility dogs to fill the entry at the 5th Annual Masters Agility Championship at Westminster. But viewers of this fast-paced sport will have an additional half hour in the expanded telecast to watch dogs and handlers race against the clock over a challenging obstacle course. The finals also expanded from 10 to 12 finalists from each height division for a new total of 60 dogs in the Championship Round from where the Masters Agility Champion will emerge.

Expanded LIVE Coverage from Pier 94 on Nat Geo WILD Monday and Tuesday, Feb. 12-13, 2018 / 1 pm to 4 pm EST

During the day, an extra hour of live selected daytime coverage on Nat Geo WILD from Pier 94 has been added to the telecast from 1 pm to 4 pm EST. Dogs from all 50 states, the most from the West Coast and beyond, with California (240), Alaska (7) and Hawaii (7) as well as 136 dogs from 16 other countries, including 102 from Canada will compete in breed competition at the 142nd Annual Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show. Selected live coverage of the 3rd Annual Masters Obedience Championship at Westminster on Monday, Feb. 12, will feature dogs from 16 states, including Illinois (3) and Indiana (2), New York (2), South Carolina (2), Pennsylvania (2) and Tennessee (2). New this year, all handlers and dogs will compete in both the preliminary exercises and popular freestyle performance rounds to determine the 2018 Masters Obedience Champion.

<u>LIVE from Madison Square Garden on FS1</u> Monday and Tuesday, Feb. 12-13, 2018 / 8 pm to 11 pm EST

The 142nd Annual Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show evening group competitions will once again be telecast live on FS1 Monday and Tuesday, Feb. 12-13, 2018 from 8 pm to 11 pm EST. Viewers will see best of breed winners from among the 201 Breeds and Varieties entered. Seven group winners will vie for the coveted Best-in-Show moment at Madison Square Garden. Hounds, Toys, Non-Sporting, and Herding groups compete on Monday night. Working, Sporting, and Terrier groups as well as Best in Show will occur on Tuesday night.

Top Breeds By Sport

Dog Show Entries: Golden Retrievers (52), followed by French Bulldogs (48), Labrador Retrievers (46), Vizslas (45), Rhodesian Ridgebacks (43), Whippets (42), Australian Shepherds (37), Bernese Mountain Dogs (35), Doberman Pinschers (35), and German Shorthaired Pointers (34). Agility Entries: Border Collies (55), Shetland Sheepdogs (34), All-American Dogs (29), Golden Retrievers (18), Australian Shepherds (18), Poodles (18), and Papillons (15). Obedience Entries: Golden Retrievers (9), Border Collies (3) and Labrador Retrievers (3).

Meet & Compete: On Saturday, Feb. 10, the Meet & Compete event featuring the 5th Annual Masters Agility Championship at Westminster and the 9th Annual AKC Meet the Breeds[®] will be held. This joint effort between The Westminster Kennel Club and the American Kennel Club provides an opportunity for people to interact with more than 150 dog and cat breeds and learn about responsible pet ownership. Information: For tickets to all events and the telecast and live streaming video schedules visit westminsterkennelclub.org.

All Westminster Week events are presented by Purina Pro Plan[®].

The 142nd Annual Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show
Monday-Tuesday, Feb. 12-13, 2018 / Pier 92/94 / Madison Square Garden

There are 2,882 dogs from 50 states and Washington D.C. with the most dogs from California (240), followed by New York (238), Pennsylvania (195), New Jersey (175), Florida (153), Virginia (135), Connecticut (128), Texas (121), Massachusetts (117), and Ohio (115). They include Junior Showmanship qualifiers (95) and 136 entries from 16 other countries, topped by Canada (102), Mexico (7), Japan (7), and Russia (5). The farthest entries are from Australia (1) and China (1).

Dog Show Breed Entries by Group

Sporting breeds (527): Brittanys (16), Lagotti Romagnoli (7), Pointers (17), Pointers (German Shorthaired) (34), Pointers (German Wirehaired) (7), Retrievers (Chesapeake Bay) (12), Retrievers (Curly-Coated) (7), Retrievers (Flat-Coated) (29), Retrievers (Golden) (52), Retrievers (Labrador) (46), Retrievers (Nova Scotia Duck Tolling) (21), Setters (English) (21), Setters (Gordon) (9), Setters (Irish) (22), Setters (Irish Red & White) (8), Spaniels (American Water) (2), Spaniels (Boykin) (3), Spaniels (Clumber) (3), Spaniels (Cocker) ASCOB (6), Spaniels (Cocker) Black (10), Spaniels (Cocker) Parti-Color (13), Spaniels (English Cocker) (18), Spaniels (English Springer) (30), Spaniels (Field) (12), Spaniels (Irish Water) (9), Spaniels (Sussex) (7), Spaniels (Welsh Springer) (13), Spinoni Italiani (12), Vizslas (45), Weimaraners (16), Wirehaired Pointing Griffons (13), Wirehaired Vizslas (7).

Hound breeds (409): Afghan Hounds (17), American English Coonhounds (2), American Foxhounds (7), Basenjis (19), Basset Hounds (11), Beagles (13") (7), Beagles (15") (20), Black and Tan Coonhounds (2), Bloodhounds (8), Bluetick Coonhounds (11), Borzois (19), Cirnechi dell'Etna (11), Dachshunds (Longhaired) (16), Dachshunds (Smooth) (18), Dachshunds (Wirehaired) (22), English Foxhounds (1), Greyhounds (14), Harriers (3), Ibizan Hounds (6), Irish Wolfhounds (11), Norwegian Elkhounds (8), Otterhounds (4), Petit Basset Griffon Vendeens (14), Pharaoh Hounds (15), Plotts (4), Portuguese Podengo Pequenos (17), Redbone Coonhounds (3), Rhodesian Ridgebacks (43), Salukis (19), Scottish Deerhounds (5), Sloughis (1), Treeing Walker Coonhounds (9), Whippets (42).

Working breeds (477): Akitas (12), Alaskan Malamutes (16), Anatolian Shepherd Dogs (4), Bernese Mountain Dogs (35), Black Russian Terriers (14), Boerboels (3), Boxers (17), Bullmastiffs (26), Cane Corsos (21), Doberman Pinschers (35), Dogues de Bordeaux (12), German Pinschers (12), Giant Schnauzers (12), Great Danes (28), Great Pyrenees (14), Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs (16), Komondorok (1), Kuvaszok (3), Leonbergers (16), Mastiffs (21), Neapolitan Mastiffs (5), Newfoundlands (17), Portuguese Water Dogs (18), Rottweilers (31), Samoyeds (26), Siberian Huskies (23), St. Bernards (8), Standard Schnauzers (20), Tibetan Mastiffs (11).

Terrier breeds (333): Airedale Terriers (23), American Hairless Terriers (8), American Staffordshire Terriers (8), Australian Terriers (12), Bedlington Terriers (9), Border Terriers (13), Bull Terriers (Colored) (3), Bull Terriers (White) (4), Cairn Terriers (12), Cesky Terriers (13), Dandie Dinmont Terriers (3), Fox Terriers (Smooth) (18), Fox Terriers (Wire) (12), Glen of Imaal Terriers (7), Irish Terriers (5), Kerry Blue Terriers (14), Lakeland Terriers (9), Manchester Terriers (Standard) (10), Miniature Bull Terriers (8), Miniature Schnauzers (26), Norfolk Terriers (4), Norwich Terriers (16), Parson Russell Terriers (7), Rat Terriers (17), Russell Terriers (13), Scottish Terriers (7), Sealyham Terriers (6), Skye Terriers (6), Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers (10), Staffordshire Bull Terriers (14), Welsh Terriers (4), West Highland White Terriers (12).

Toy breeds (373): Affenpinschers (9), Brussels Griffons (11), Cavalier King Charles Spaniels (32), Chihuahuas (Long Coat) (23), Chihuahuas (Smooth Coat) (18), Chinese Cresteds (31), English Toy Spaniels (Blenheim & Prince Charles) (6), English Toy Spaniels (King Charles & Ruby) (8), Havanese (24), Italian Greyhounds (20), Japanese Chin (13), Maltese (14), Manchester Terriers (Toy) (7), Miniature Pinschers (12), Papillons (14), Pekingese (12), Pomeranians (24), Poodles (Toy) (10), Pugs (22), Shih Tzu (15), Silky Terriers (11), Toy Fox Terriers (12), Yorkshire Terriers (25).

Non-Sporting breeds (297): American Eskimo Dogs (12), Bichon Frises (12), Boston Terriers (16), Bulldogs (22), Chinese Shar-Pei (9), Chow Chows (10), Cotons de Tulear (8), Dalmatians

(26), Finnish Spitz (5), French Bulldogs (48), Keeshonden (16), Lhasa Apsos (14), Lowchen (2), Norwegian Lundehunds (2), Poodles (Miniature) (9), Poodles (Standard) (25), Schipperkes (8), Shiba Inu (14), Tibetan Spaniels (12), Tibetan Terriers (16), Xoloitzcuintlis (11).

Herding breeds (384): Australian Cattle Dogs (15), Australian Shepherds (37), Bearded Collies (19), Beaucerons (8), Belgian Malinois (16), Belgian Sheepdogs (8), Belgian Tervuren (8), Bergamasco Sheepdogs (7), Berger Picards (19), Border Collies (12), Bouviers des Flandres (10), Briards (17), Canaan Dogs (2), Cardigan Welsh Corgis (24), Collies (Rough) (21), Collies (Smooth) (15), Entlebucher Mountain Dogs (6), Finnish Lapphunds (6), German Shepherd Dogs (14), Icelandic Sheepdogs (7), Miniature American Shepherds (19), Norwegian Buhunds (7), Old English Sheepdogs (10), Pembroke Welsh Corgis (21), Polish Lowland Sheepdogs (13), Pulik (3), Pumik (10), Pyrenean Shepherds (6), Shetland Sheepdogs (11), Spanish Water Dogs (8), Swedish Vallhunds (5).

Dog Show Entries by Location

States (50): Alaska (7), Alabama (14), Arkansas (3), Arizona (26), California (240), Colorado (47), Connecticut (128), Delaware (14), Florida (153), Georgia (54), Hawaii (7), Idaho (12), Illinois (68), Indiana (40), Iowa (18), Kansas (14), Kentucky (22), Louisiana (27), Maine (20), Maryland (75), Massachusetts (117), Michigan (89), Minnesota (35), Mississippi (7), Missouri (21), Montana (5), Nebraska (4), Nevada (9), New Hampshire (26), New Jersey (175), New Mexico (9), New York (238), North Carolina (96), North Dakota (1), Ohio (115), Oklahoma (36), Oregon (28), Pennsylvania (195), Rhode Island (19), South Carolina (47), South Dakota (2), Tennessee (40), Texas (121), Utah (8), Vermont (20), Virginia (135), Washington (89), West Virginia (10), Wisconsin (50), Wyoming (5). Other: Washington D.C. (4).

Other Countries (16): Australia (1), Brazil (1), Canada (102), China (1), Columbia (1), Costa Rica (1), Finland (1), Germany (1), Greece (2), Italy (1), Japan (7), Mexico (7), Russia (5), South Korea (3), Spain (1), and Sweden (1).

5th Annual Masters Agility Championship at Westminster Saturday, Feb. 10, 2018 at Pier 94

There are 330 dogs entered representing 66 breeds and 28 states with the most coming from New Jersey (77), New York (75) and Pennsylvania (33). The top 5 entries are Border Collies (55), Shetland Sheepdogs (34), All-American Dogs (29), Australian Shepherd (18), Golden Retrievers (18), and Poodles (18).

Agility Entries by Breed

Breeds (66): All-American Dogs (29), American Eskimo Dogs (2), American Staffordshire Terriers (1), Australian Cattle Dogs (1), Australian Shepherds (18), Basenjis (1), Beagles (1), Bearded Collies (6), Bedlington Terriers (1), Belgian Malinois (1), Belgian Sheepdogs (2), Belgian Tervuren (2), Berger Picards (1), Bernese Mountain Dogs (2), Bichon Frises (5), Biewer Terriers (1), Border Collies (55), Boxers (1), Brittanys (1), Bull Terriers (1), Cairn Terriers (1), Cardigan Welsh Corgis (3), Cavalier King Charles Spaniels (10), Chihuahuas (3), Cocker Spaniels (6), Curly-Coated Retrievers (1), Dachshunds (3), Dalmatians (2), Doberman Pinschers (1), English Cocker Spaniels (7), Finnish Lapphunds (1), Flat-Coated Retrievers (1), Fox Terriers (1), German Shepherd Dogs (4), German Shorthaired Pointers (1), Golden Retrievers (18), Irish Red & White Setters (1), Irish Setters (1) Italian Greyhounds (2), Keeshonden (1), Labrador Retrievers (11), Manchester Terriers (2), Miniature American Shepherds (4), Miniature Pinschers (2) Miniature Schnauzers (1), Norfolk Terriers (2), Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers (1), Papillons (15), Parson Russell Terriers (5), Pembroke Welsh

Corgis (6), Pomeranians (3), Poodles (18), Portuguese Water Dogs (1), Pugs (1), Rat Terriers (3), Rhodesian Ridgebacks (1), Rottweilers (2), Salukis (1), Scottish Terriers (2), Shetland Sheepdogs (34), Shiba Inu (2), Siberian Huskies (1), Staffordshire Bull Terriers (1), Toy Fox Terriers (3), Vizslas (1), West Highland White Terriers (5), Yorkshire Terriers (2).

Agility Entries by Location

States (28): Arizona (4), California (16), Colorado (2), Connecticut (22), Delaware (4), Florida (4), Illinois (4), Indiana (2), Kentucky (2), Louisiana (1), Massachusetts (5), Maryland (9), Michigan (1), Missouri (2), North Carolina (4), New Hampshire (7), New Jersey (77), New Mexico (2), Nevada (1), New York (75), Ohio (19), Pennsylvania (33), Rhode Island (2), Texas (7), Virginia (21), Vermont (1), Washington (1), Wisconsin (2).

3rd Annual Masters Obedience Championship at Westminster Entries Monday, Feb. 12, 2018 at Pier 94

There are 24 dogs entered from 16 states led by Illinois (3) and Indiana (2), New York (2), South Carolina (2), Pennsylvania (2), and Tennessee (2). Golden Retrievers (9) are the most entered followed by Border Collies (3) and Labrador Retrievers (3).

Obedience Entries by Breed

All-American Dogs (1), Border Collies (3), Chinese Cresteds (1), German Shepherd Dogs (1), German Shorthaired Pointers (1), Miniature American Shepherds (1) Papillons (1), Pembroke Welsh Corgis (1), Poodles (Toy) (1), Retrievers (Golden) (9), Retrievers (Labrador) (3), Rhodesian Ridgebacks (1).

Obedience Entries by Location

States (16): Connecticut (1), Florida (1), Illinois (3), Indiana (2), Maryland (1), Minnesota (1), Missouri (1), North Carolina (1), New Jersey (1), New York (2), Pennsylvania (2), South Carolina (2), Tennessee (2), Texas (1), Washington (1), West Virginia (1).

*** All entry counts are subject to final AKC audit ***

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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 at New York City's Madison Square Garden. Today, 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 Piers 92/94. More than 3,000 dogs from the US and abroad make Westminster Week like no other. Westminster. There's only one. Visit us at: www.westminsterkennelclub.org or follow @WKCDOGS.

About Purina Pro Plan – Purina Pro Plan is proud to be the food of choice for 10 of the past 11 Westminster Best in Show winners and 98 of the top 100 AKC All-Breed Champions.* With more than 400 on staff scientists, veterinarians and nutritionists, it is our goal to provide dogs with the nutrition they need to be their absolute best, to help keep them energetic and resilient, and to maintain 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 and snacks, sold exclusively at pet specialty stores, can be found in 80+ formulas across four specialized categories, formulated for a dog's unique needs. For more information, visit www.proplan.com or follow @ProPlan on Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, Vine or Google+. The brand is manufactured by Nestle 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, Nestle Purina PetCare is part of Swiss-based Nestle S.A., a global leader in nutrition, health and wellness.

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

About Meet the Breeds:

From Afghan Hounds to the Turkish Van and everything in between, AKC Meet the Breeds® is brought to you by exclusive pet care sponsor Purina Pro Plan. The ninth annual event gives pet lovers the unique opportunity to meet and play with more than 150

different dog and cat breeds in booths individually decorated to depict each breed's country of origin, historical purpose/function, and attributes as a family pet, all while learning about responsible pet ownership and which breeds may be right for them. Event sponsors include AKC Pet Insurance, Motel 6, AKCSM Visa® Card and Pet Brands, Inc. For more information, visit www.akc.org/meetthebreeds.

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