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### **American Bouvier des Flandres Club**

#### PERFORMANCE TOP TWENTY GUIDELINES *(Updated 2-17-17)*

As stated in our breed standard, Bouviers possess all the qualities that have proven them to be formidable performance dogs. Their characteristics of strength, vigor, agility and keen intelligence have made them well suited to both traditional and non traditional performance sports. One way to recognize those dogs that have excelled in the use of these traits is the Performance Top Twenty recognition event.

A Performance Top Twenty recognition event will be held at the National Specialty. This event will recognize the extraordinary dogs competing in performance sports during the competition year. Some of the benefits to this program are:

1. An opportunity to showcase the top performance dogs at the national level.
2. Encourage increased participation in performance sports.
3. Give the membership an opportunity to become more familiar with the top performance dogs in the different sports.

### **Program Outline**

The Performance Top Twenty recognition event will be held annually at the National Specialty before the Top Twenty conformation competition, on the same evening. Each of the 20 qualifying dog would be introduced to the audience and their accomplishments of that competition year would be announced. Also a special separate recognition of any performance/companion sport Champion Obedience (OTCH and POC), Agility (AGCH, MACH and PACH), Herding, Tracking and Carting), Schutzhund 3/IPO 3, IPO FH, VCD4, VCCH, SWD (Scent Work Detective), Elite 1, Obedience Grand Master (OGM) title holders of that year would be included in the Performance Top Twenty event under the category of Performance Elite. Performance/companion sport champions will be included from the North American Barn Hunt Association (RATCh/RATChX) and winners of any AKC Performance/Companion Dog

National Championship Competition (i.e. Obedience, Agility, Rally - NOC, NAC, PNAC, RNC titleholders, etc.). This does not include ABdFC Champions from the Versatility program. Performance Elite from the North American Barn Hunt Association (RATCh/RATChX) and AKC national competition champions will be responsible for providing official documentation of the title and notifying the Performance Committee Chair and Top Twenty Committee of their accomplishment prior to set deadlines. **The Performance Top Twenty event will not replace any other performance dog recognition previously/normally held during the Top Twenty evening, such as the recognition of the #1 performance dog in each sport, etc.**

### Participants/Honorees

The names of the Performance Top Twenty plus any performance/companion sport champions (Obedience (OTCH and POC), Agility (AGCH, MACH and PACH), Herding, Tracking and Carting), SchH/IPO3, IPO FH, VCD4, VCCH, SWD (Scent Work Detective), Elite 1, and Obedience Grand Master (OGM) title holders would be listed in the Top Twenty program. The dog would be entitled to a 2 page ad, with photo, in the Top Twenty program. Entries for the Performance Top 20 shall be charged the same entry fee as Conformation Top 20 entries and shall receive the same rosette (different color) and a catalog.

### Tabulations

The Performance Committee chair and the Statistician, or their designee(s), will be responsible for determining/calculating eligibility, tallying points, etc. The Performance Committee chair and the Statistician, or their designee(s), will work with the conformation Top Twenty committee to ensure all required information is exchanged related to participants/honorees. All Top Twenty activities (performance and conformation) shall be handled by the Top Twenty Committee in order to have one coordinated event.

## ELGIBILITY AND POINT CALCULATIONS

Performance Top Twenty eligibility will be determined by using a point scale related to titles and outstanding accomplishments earned during the competition year. Major updates to the guideline/point scale will normally be submitted to the Board in February of each year. The updates become effective for the current competition year. This is done to ensure exhibitors benefit from any new titles accepted by AKC. Also to ensure necessary corrections can be made to the guidelines so that the system can be as fair and accurate system as possible. Updates may be made at other times if necessary.

## Performance Top Twenty Guidelines

Last Updated Thursday, 09 March 2017 17:09

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1. To be eligible for the Performance Top Twenty, a dog must have earned at least a Level 1AKC title, ScHH/IPO, Scent Work, Herding or Carting title, during the competition year. Eligibility Titles are earned from the sports of Obedience, Agility, Herding, Tracking, Carting, Scent Work, Coursing, ScHH/IPO or Rally. The competition year will be May 1 thru April 30th. (See chart below).

### Eligibility Title Point Scale:

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2. The highest AKC Level title earned will determine the amount of points the competitor will start with. This will be listed as the exhibitor's Eligibility Title. Points can be obtained for additional titles earned from the Additional Title Point Scale. Bonus points may be earned for nontraditional sports/duties and individual honors. The 20 dogs with the highest total number of points will comprise the Performance Top Twenty for the year.

Special recognition will be given to any dog earning a performance championship (obedience, agility, herding, carting and tracking) Schutzhund 3/IPO 3, IPO FH, VCD4, VCCH, Obedience Grand Master title, Elite 1 and SWD (Scent work Detective). These dogs will not be required to compete for placement on the Performance Top Twenty list. These dogs will be placed under the special recognition category of Performance Elite.

Performance/companion sport champions will be included from the North American Barn Hunt

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Association (RATCh/RATChX) and winners of any AKC Performance/Companion Dog National Championship Competition (i.e. Obedience, Agility, Rally - NOC, NAC, PNAC, RNC titleholders, etc.). Performance Elite from Barn Hunt and AKC national competition champions will be responsible for providing official documentation of the title/honor and for notifying the Performance Committee Chair and Top Twenty Committee of their accomplishment prior to set deadlines.

- **NOTE:** Only the highest title earned in each sport, during the competition year, will be counted toward the point total (Example – if the Eligibility Title is in obedience and you earned a CD and CDX in the same year, you can not add bonus points for the CD. The CDX would make the exhibitor eligible for the Top Twenty and would receive 12 points).

- **NOTE:** If an exhibitor has earned multiple titles at the same level and from different sports, the Eligibility Title will be determined by choosing one title as the Eligibility Title and the others will be treated as Additional Titles (Example: If an exhibitor earned an HSM, OA and PCDX, the points earned would be – HSM – 10 pts., OA – 5 pts. , PCDX – 5 pts.).

- **NOTE: Titles with Multiples.** Only Master level Bronze, Silver, Gold and Century Agility titles will earn additional points beyond the original amount of points earned for a single title of its kind. This situation pertains to standard, jumpers and fast. These dogs will earn 2 additional points per milestone (Example – MJB(P) earns 22 points and a MJS(P) earns 24 points, etc.). Master level Preferred agility titles will earn no additional points beyond the amount for a single form of any title earned outside of the Bronze, Silver, Gold and Century titles (Example - MXP 3 will earn 20 points).

Multiples for T2B (regular or preferred) will earn 2 additional points for each multiple (Example – T2B2 will earn 17 points, etc.)

Multiples for Obedience titles (PUDX, UDX and OM) will earn 2 additional points for each multiple (Example - UDX2 will earn 32 points, a UDX3 will earn 34 points, etc.)

Multiples for RAE and \*CAX titles will earn 1 additional point for each multiple (Example - RAE2 will earn 8 points, a RAE3 will earn 9 points, etc.) \*This regulation applies for CAX until 4-30-17 after which the title and sport will be deleted from the Eligibility Scale and moved to Bonus Point Scale.

- **NOTE:** In the sport of **Agility**, only 1 of the 5 forms of the sport can be counted in the point total (standard, jumpers, T2B Premier and Fast).
  
- **NOTE: Agility regular and preferred titles:** A regular and a preferred title, at the same level and in the same form of the sport, can not both be counted in the point total (Example – OA and OAP. Only points for one title can be counted).
  
- **NOTE:** Eligibility Titles in **Carting** are those titles as listed in the ABdFC Carting Test Regulations and those carting titles earned through other breed carting tests. Exhibitor must submit verification of these titles.
  
- **NOTE:** In the sport of **Carting**, only 1 carting title can be counted in point calculations, if more than one title is earned at the same level (Example - If an exhibitor earns an NDD and NBDD only one title can be counted in point calculations).
  
- **NOTE: Eligibility Titles in herding titles earned through other breed venues (ASCA and AHBA):** Exhibitor must submit verification of these titles.
  
- **NOTE: Herding multiple stock titles:** Only points for one title will be counted if titles are earned at the same level, but on different types of stock (Example – If an HSd and HSc are earned; only 5 points will be awarded.)
  
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- **NOTE: Eligibility Titles in Scent Work earned through other breed venues:** Exhibitor must submit verification of these titles.
  
- **NOTE: Schutzhund/IPO titles:** Verification of the Schutzhund/IPO titles must be submitted by the exhibitor.

3. Bonus points may be earned for nontraditional sports/duties, lower level AKC titles and individual honors. Individual honors are defined as High in Trial, Preferred High in Trial, High Combined, Preferred High Combined, Reserve High in Trial, current ABdFC Multi-Level Performance Award winner and current ABdFC Reserve Multi-Level Performance Award winner. Multiple individual honors will earn multiple bonus points (Example – If 2 All – Breed

High In Trial honors are earned, then the exhibitor would earn 6 points instead of 3). See list below for the Bonus Points scale.

**Bonus Points Scale:**

**5 points** – Certified Scent Detection Dog (active/working), Search and Rescue (FEMA Certified/ AKC recognized titles – Urban SAR, Wilderness SAR), Street Service (police, military)

**4 points** - Barn Hunt – RATM, Detection-Nosework titles

**3 points** – Pre-trial Tested (PT), Junior Herding Dog (JHD), Weight Pull, Water Rescue title, Pack Dog, Barn Hunt - RATO, Rally Advanced (RA), Flyball, Freestyle Obedience, Beginner Novice (BN), Disc Dog, VCD (1, 2 or 3), AKC High In Trial (All-Breed trial), AKC High Combined (All-Breed trial), Preferred CD (PCD), AD (Endurance), Dock Dive/Air Retrieve, Agility Course Test 2 (ACT 2), Treibball

**2 points** – AKC High In Trial (Specialty), AKC High Combined (Specialty), Rally Novice (RN), Herding Tested (HT), AKC Therapy Dog title (THD thru THDD), Carting HIT, AKC Reserve High In Trial (All Breed trial), High Combined – Rally (All-Breed), current ABdFC MLP winner, CGCA (Official recorded AKC title certificate required), Barn Hunt – RATN, AKC Preferred High in Trial (PHIT), AKC Preferred High Combined (PHC), CGCU (Official recorded AKC title certificate required), Agility Course Test 1 (ACT1), Farm Dog, and \*CAA and above

**1 point** – AKC Reserve High In Trial (Specialty), High Combined – Rally (Specialty), Carting RHIT, CGC (Official recorded AKC title certificate required), Therapy Dog (registered/certified), AKC Therapy Dog Novice title (THDN), current ABdFC Reserve MLP winner, Coursing Ability (CA), Barn Hunt – RATN, Preferred High in Trial (Specialty), Preferred High Combined (Specialty), Fast CAT

- **NOTE: Verification of the following bonus point sports/duties/certification will be submitted by the exhibitor:** Weight Pull, Water Rescue title, Pack Dog, Barn Hunt, Search and Rescue, Detection (All types), Street Service, Flyball, Disc Dog, Freestyle

Obedience, Dock Dive/Air Retrieve, CGC (all types), Treibball, JHD and Therapy Dog.

Only **Therapy Dog** organizations listed as recognized by AKC will be counted. Please check the AKC website Therapy Dog section for a current list of recognized organizations. Copies of dated current ID cards and/or certificates must be submitted to verify Therapy Dog titles earned during the competition year.

**CGC** titles (all types) must be earned during the competition year. To receive credit for CGC/CGCA/CGCU titles, a copy of the new official AKC title certificate must be presented.

- **NOTE: Obedience, Rally, \*Coursing, Scent Work, Schutzhund, Agility and Herding Bonus Points:** Bonus points cannot be earned for lower level titles in Obedience, Rally, Scent Work, \*Coursing, Schutzhund, Agility and Herding, if a title has been earned in the sport on the Eligibility point scale. This applies to bonus points for AD, BN, PCD, RN, RA, HT, PT, \*CA, \*Fast CAT, RATN, RATO, ACT 1 and ACT 2

Only the highest Bonus Point title will be counted if more than one title is earned in Obedience, Rally, \*Coursing, Schutzhund, Agility, Barn Hunt, Therapy, CGC and Herding (Example: If an RA and RN are earned, only the Bonus Points for the RA will be counted.

- **NOTE: Herding Honors:** The only honors that will be counted in herding are those levels that are also awarded by AKC; meaning HIT and RHIT honors with AHBA and ASCA will be the only honors counted. Verification of these honors from other venues must be provided.

- **NOTE: Rally Honors:** Highest Combined Score in the Advanced B and Excellent B Classes: Exhibitors wanting to count a Rally High Combined honor will need to provide documentation of the award being offered. Rally High Combined is an optional title for clubs to award and they are not documented on the AKC Event Result site. Examples of proof include, but not limited to scanned pages from the trial premium list stating the award was offered, clear award photo with ribbon, etc.

- **NOTE: Scent Work Honors:** High in Trials: Exhibitors wanting to count a Scent Work High in Trial honor will need to provide documentation of the award. Scent Work High in Trial honors is not recorded by AKC. Examples of proof include, but not limited to scanned pages

from the trial premium list stating the award was offered and a clear award photo with ribbon, etc.

4. **Additional titles** earned, at levels 1 thru 11 on the eligibility scale, will receive the following amount of points listed below (Example – If you earn a CD and RE, you will earn 5 points for the CD and 3 points for the RE (or vice versa). If you earned a CDX and an MCDD, you will receive 12 points for the CDX and 6 points for the MCDD):

**Additional Titles Points Scale:**

- Level 1** – 3 points
- Level 2** – 4 points
- Level 3** – 5 points
- Level 4** – 6 points
- Level 5** – 8 points
- Level 6** – 10 points
- Level 7** – 12 points
- Level 8** – 13 points
- Level 9** – 14 points
- Level 10** – 15 points
- Level 11** – 18 points

**TIES IN POINT TOTALS**

**Ties between dogs with their highest Eligibility Title coming from the same sport:**

Agility

1. Highest Eligibility Title (Ex. AX outranks an OA). Regular outranks Preferred title.
2. Highest score average
3. Highest number of legs toward the next title(s)
4. MACH/ PACH points. MACH points outrank PACH points
5. Highest number of performance titles and/or legs earned from other sports during the

competition year. Regular outranks Preferred legs. Total legs earned at higher levels outrank totals at lower levels (Example – Two exhibitors with 3 additional legs toward titles - 2 MX and 1 CD leg outrank 1MX and 2 CD legs).

6. Highest number of titles and/or legs earned in the same sport. Regular outranks Preferred legs. Total legs earned at higher levels outrank totals at lower levels

7. Highest number of multiple qualifying legs (QQs, etc.)

8. Highest individual score

### Obedience

1. Highest Eligibility Title

2. Highest number of HIT. Regular HIT outranks a PHIT

3. Highest number of High Combined. Regular HC outranks a PHC

4. Highest average score

5. Highest number of legs toward the next title(s)

6. Highest number of performance titles and/or legs (including multiple Qs) earned from other sports during the competition year. Regular outranks Preferred legs. Total legs earned at higher levels outrank totals at lower levels (Example – Two exhibitors with 3 additional legs toward titles - 2 MX and 1 CD leg outrank 1MX and 2 CD legs).

7. Highest number of titles and/or legs earned in the same sport. Regular outranks Preferred legs. Total legs earned at higher levels outrank totals at lower levels

8. Highest individual score

### Rally

1. Highest Eligibility Title

2. Highest number of High Combined

3. Highest average score

4. Highest number of legs toward the next title

5. Highest number of performance titles and/or legs (including multiple Qs) earned from other sports during the competition year. Regular outranks Preferred legs. Total legs earned at higher levels outrank totals at lower levels (Example – Two exhibitors with 3 additional legs toward titles - 2 MX and 1 CD leg outrank 1MX and 2 CD legs).

6. Highest number of titles and/or legs earned in the same sport. Regular outranks Preferred legs. Total legs earned at higher levels outrank totals at lower levels

7. Highest individual score

### Herding

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1. Highest Eligibility Title
2. Highest number of HIT
3. Highest number of Reserve HIT
4. Highest average score
5. Highest number of legs toward the next title(s)
6. Highest number of performance titles and/or legs (including multiple Qs) earned from other sports during the competition year. Regular outranks Preferred legs. Total legs earned at higher levels outrank totals at lower levels (Example – Two exhibitors with 3 additional legs toward titles - 2 MX and 1 CD leg outrank 1MX and 2 CD legs).
7. Highest number of titles and/or legs earned in the same sport. Regular outranks Preferred legs. Total legs earned at higher levels outrank totals at lower levels
8. Highest individual score

### Tracking

1. Highest Eligibility Title
2. Highest number of performance titles and/or legs (including multiple Qs) earned from other sports during the competition year. Regular outranks Preferred legs. Total legs earned at higher levels outrank totals at lower levels (Example – Two exhibitors with 3 additional legs toward titles - 2 MX and 1 CD leg outrank 1MX and 2 CD legs).
3. Highest number of titles and/or legs earned in the same sport. Regular outranks Preferred legs. Total legs earned at higher levels outrank totals at lower levels
4. Highest average score in other sports
5. Highest individual score in other sports

### Carting

1. Highest Eligibility Title
2. Highest number of HIT from other breed carting competitions
3. Highest number of performance titles and/or legs (including multiple Qs) earned from other sports during the competition year. Regular outranks Preferred legs. Total legs earned at higher levels outrank totals at lower levels (Example – Two exhibitors with 3 additional legs toward titles - 2 MX and 1 CD leg outrank 1MX and 2 CD legs).
4. Highest number of legs toward the next title
5. Highest number of titles and/or legs earned in the same sport. Regular outranks Preferred legs. Total legs earned at higher levels outrank totals at lower levels
6. Highest average score in other sports
7. Highest individual score in other sports



## Coursing Ability Tests

1. Highest Eligibility Title
2. Highest number of performance titles and/or legs (including multiple Qs) earned from other sports during the competition year. Regular outranks Preferred legs. Total legs earned at higher levels outrank totals at lower levels (Example – Two exhibitors with 3 additional legs toward titles - 2 MX and 1 CD leg outrank 1MX and 2 CD legs).
3. Highest number of legs toward the next title
4. Highest number of titles and/or legs earned in the same sport. Regular outranks Preferred legs. Total legs earned at higher levels outrank totals at lower levels
5. Highest average score in other sports
6. Highest individual score in other sports

## Schutzhund/IPO

1. Highest Eligibility Title
2. Highest number of performance titles and/or legs (including multiple Qs) earned from other sports during the competition year. Regular outranks Preferred legs. Total legs earned at higher levels outrank totals at lower levels (Example – Two exhibitors with 3 additional legs toward titles - 2 MX and 1 CD leg outrank 1MX and 2 CD legs).
3. Highest number of titles and/or legs earned in the same sport. Regular outranks Preferred legs. Total legs earned at higher levels outrank totals at lower levels
4. Highest average score in other sports
5. Highest individual score in other sports

## Scent Work

1. Highest Eligibility Title
2. Highest number of HIT
3. Highest number of performance titles and/or legs (including multiple Qs) earned from other sports during the competition year. Regular outranks Preferred legs. Total legs earned at higher levels outrank totals at lower levels (Example – Two exhibitors with 3 additional legs toward titles - 2 MX and 1 CD leg outrank 1MX and 2 CD legs).
4. Highest number of legs toward the next title
5. Highest number of titles and/or legs earned in the same sport. Regular outranks Preferred legs. Total legs earned at higher levels outrank totals at lower levels
6. Highest average score in other sports

7. Highest individual score in other sports

**Ties between dogs with their highest Eligibility Title coming from different sports:**

1. Highest level of Eligibility Title (Example - AX (level 5) outranks a CDX (level 4))
2. Highest number of legs toward the next title level
3. Highest number of performance titles and/or legs (including multiple Qs) earned from other sports during the competition year. Regular outranks Preferred legs. Total legs earned at higher levels outrank totals at lower levels (Example – Two exhibitors with 3 additional legs toward titles - 2 MX and 1 CD leg outrank 1MX and 2 CD legs).
4. Highest eligibility titles - Regular title outranks Preferred title (Example – HSM outranks OJP).
5. Highest average score in other sports
6. Highest individual score in other sports, if comparable