

American Bouvier des Flandres Club

PERFORMANCE TOP TWENTY

(updated 4-18-10)

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 “Cream of the Crop” 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, Agility, Herding, Tracking and Carting) and Obedience Grand Master title holders of that year would be included in the Performance Top Twenty event under the category of Performance Elite. 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

Each dog would receive a special token of their accomplishment (commemorative ribbon/rosette/medallion). The names of the Performance Top Twenty plus any performance/companion sport champions (Obedience, Agility, Herding, Tracking and Carting) and Obedience Grand Master 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 at a recommended cost of 50% of the current entry cost of the conformation Top Twenty. Performance Top Twenty t-shirts, and/or other token, may be offered for purchase by the recognized exhibitors.

Tabulations

The Performance Committee chair and the Statistician, or their designee(s), will be responsible for determining/calculating eligibility, tallying points, notifying qualifiers, issuing invitations, 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.

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.

1. To be eligible for the Performance Top Twenty, a dog must have earned a level 1 AKC title, or higher, during the competition year from the sports of obedience, agility, herding, tracking, carting, or rally. The competition year will be May 1 thru April 30th. (See chart below).

Eligibility Title Point Scale

L E V E L	PTS	O B E D I E N C E	R A E L Y	AGILITY	H E R D I N G	C A R T I N G	T R A C K I N G
1	5	CD	RE	NA(J)(P)(F)	HS	CS	TD
2	7	GN	-	-	-	CA	-
3	10	CDX	RAE	OA(J)(P)(F)	-	MCD	TDX
4	12	GO	-	-	-	MCDX	-
5	15	UD	RAE2	AX(J)(P)(F)	HI	-	-
6	20	VER	RAE3	-	-	-	VST
7	23	UDX	-	MX(J)(P)(F)	HX	-	-
8	25	OM	RAE4	PAX/FTC(P)	-	-	-

2. The highest 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 also 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. (See below).

Special recognition will be given to any dog earning a performance championship (obedience, agility, herding and tracking). 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.

- **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 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 10 points).
- **NOTE:** If an exhibitor has multiple titles at the same level, the eligibility title will be determined by choosing one title as the eligibility title and the others will be treated as additional titles (Example – OA – 10 pts., CDX – 5 pts., TDX – 5 pts.).
- **NOTE:** Titles with multiples (UDX, OM, greater than RAE 4, PAX and MACH). If a dog should earn a multiple of a title, 5 points will be added for each multiple. (Example – UDX earns 23 points, UDX2 earns 28 points, UDX3 earns 33 points, etc.).

- **NOTE:** In the sport of agility, only 1 of the 3 forms of the sport can be counted in the point total (standard, jumpers 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 (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. Exhibitor must submit verification of these titles.

3. Bonus points may also be earned for nontraditional sports/duties and individual honors in sports such as High in Trial, High Combined and Reserve High in Trial. Multiple 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:

3 points – PT, Weight Pull, Water title, Pack Dog, Search and Rescue, Detection, Service Dog, Rally Advanced, Flyball, Freestyle Obedience, Disc Dog, High In Trial (All-Breed trial), High Combined (All-Breed trial)

2 points – High In Trial (Specialty), High Combined (Specialty), Rally Novice, HT, Reserve High In Trial (All Breed trial)

1 point – Reserve High In Trial (Specialty)

- **NOTE:** Verification of the following bonus point sports/duties/certification will be submitted by the exhibitor: Weight Pull, Water title, Pack Dog, Search and Rescue, Detection, Service Dog, Flyball, Disc Dog and Freestyle Obedience.
- **NOTE:** Rally and Herding Bonus Point Scale Exception. Bonus points can not be earned for a RA or RN if a Rally title has been earned on the eligibility title scale (RE or above). Bonus points can not be earned for an HT or PT if a Herding title has been earned on the eligibility title scale (HS or above).

4. Additional titles earned, at levels 1 thru 8 on the eligibility scale, will receive the following amount of points listed below (Example – If you earn a CD and RA, you will earn 5 points for the CD and 3 points for the RA (or vice versa). If you earned a CDX and an RA, you will receive 10 points for the CDX and 3 points for the RA):

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

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
4. MACH points
5. Highest number of performance titles earned from other sports during the competition year.

Obedience

1. Highest eligibility title
2. Highest number of HIT
3. Highest number of High combined
4. Highest average score
5. Highest number of legs toward the next title
6. Highest number of performance titles earned from other sports during the competition year.

Rally

1. Highest eligibility title
2. Highest average score
3. Highest number of legs toward the next title
4. Highest number of performance titles earned from other sports during the competition year.

Herding

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
6. Highest number of performance titles earned from other sports during the competition year.

Tracking

1. Highest eligibility title
2. Highest number of performance titles earned from other sports during the competition year.

Ties between dogs with their highest eligibility title coming from different sports:

1. Highest level of eligibility title (Ex. AX (level 3) outranks a CDX (level 2))
2. Highest number of legs toward the next title level
3. Highest number of performance titles earned from other sports during the competition year.