

Preface

The Mixed Breed Dog Clubs of America is an organization specially for mixed breed dogs. It offers the opportunity to take the next step from dog training classes into advanced obedience training and competition. Dogs can be shown and earn titles in obedience, tracking, conformation, retriever instinct, and lure coursing. As an organization that actively promotes and practices responsible dog ownership, MBDCA and its affiliates do not accept any known non-canid mix (i.e. wolves, foxed, coyotes, etc.) for registration. In keeping with this philosophy, neither do we accept breeders of non-dog canid mixes for registration.

All dogs registered with MBDCA must be spayed, neutered, or otherwise made sterile. Each member signs the following code of ethics which stresses responsible dog ownership and good sportsmanship:

MBDCA Code of Ethics

1. I hereby certify that the mixed breed dog(s) owned by me are spayed, neutered, or otherwise permanently made sterile; except that any puppies I may own shall be spayed, neutered, or otherwise sterilized by the ages of 9 months if female, 6 months if male.
2. I hereby pledge to sterilize any mixed breed dog(s) or puppies hereafter acquired by me within 30 days of the date of such acquisition, unless they are less than 9 months of age if female, 6 months of age if male.
3. I shall not breed any mixed breed dog owned by me.
4. I shall not breed any purebred dog which is not registered with a nationally recognized kennel club of good standing.
5. I pledge to observe good breeding practices in connection with any purebred dogs I may own, including adherence to the breed's code of ethics.
6. I pledge to practice good sportsmanship toward fellow club members and other dog owners.

MBDCA-registered dogs earn MBDCA obedience titles (MB-CD, MB-CDX, MB-UD, MB-UDX, MB-OTCh) by exhibiting at "Fun Matches" which offer AKC or CKC-style obedience classes and which allow mixed breeds to enter. (You cannot enter your mixed breed dog in AKC-licensed shows/trials or AKC-sanctioned matches.) Look for events listing "Mixed Breed Welcome in Obedience." Of course, shows sponsored by MBDCA and its chapters are always acceptable.

Qualifying scores toward titles can be awarded only by judges who have been approved by MBDC. MBDC requires that judges have qualifications and experience in dog obedience competition before being authorized to award obedience legs and titles.

Requirements for Approval of Judges

If the applicant is an AKC (American Kennel Club), ASCA (Australian Shepherd Club), CKC (Canadian Kennel Club), SKC (States Kennel Club), or UKC (United Kennel Club), or ASFA (American Sighthound Field Association) judge they are automatically approved for the same level of judging in MBDC. Applications must still be completed and signed.

1. Obedience Judges. Prospective judges must have an equivalent title on one dog (i.e. CD for Novice judging, etc.), and must have judged the class twice at fun matches. Exceptions may be made based on judging beginning class graduations, training of additional dogs, and judging non-regular classes. Judges can be approved for the day during which they judge the class for the second time.
2. Rally Obedience Judges. Prospective judges must have an equivalent Rally title on one dog and must have judged the class twice at fun matches. Alternately, prospective judges must have earned the Rally title at the level of judging (i.e. RE for Rally Excellent) and be a licensed obedience judge at the Open level in Regular Obedience.
3. Conformation Judges. Prospective judges must have experience in at least one area of breeding, handling, or judging.
4. Tracking Judges. Prospective judges must have a TD title on at least one dog. TDX judges must have either a TDX on one dog, be a tracking instructor with TDX students, or be an experienced TDX track layer at AKC tracking tests.
5. Retriever Instinct. Prospective judges need at least one field trial, hunting title, or Retriever Working Certificate on a dog.
6. Lure Coursing. Prospective judges must have an equivalent title on one dog (i.e. JC for Junior Courser judging, etc.), and must have judged the class twice at practices or fun matches. Exceptions may be made based on experience in setting up a course or functioning as the Hunt Master. Judges can be approved for the day during which they judge the class for the second time.

Procedures for Entering Matches

When you have practiced sufficiently with your dog and have familiarized yourself with these regulations, you are ready to try to earn a title. Follow the basic steps outlined below:

1. Check upcoming events for a match which allows mixed breed dogs to enter and which has an approved judge for your class. You may either pre-enter or day-of-match enter the event as allowed by the club sponsoring the event.
2. On the day of the match, give the judge the **Judge's Certification Form**. You should fill in everything on the form except the score and the judge's signature. **You must give the form to the judge before he gives you the first command or the score will be invalid.** At the end of your test, the judge will then sign and date the form.
3. Always take a copy of the **Judge's Questionnaire** in case the judge is not on the MBDCA approved list or if there is a change in judges. Qualifying scores toward titles will count only if the judge is approved.
4. After the match, mail the **Judge's Certification Form** (and **Judge's Questionnaire**, if applicable) to MBDCA at the address listed on each form (they may be different). It is always wise to keep a copy of the forms before mailing. The **Judge's Certification Form** must be postmarked within 30 days of the date of the match.
5. An obedience title is earned when you and your dog earn three qualifying scores (legs) under two different judges, in accordance with the Rules and Regulations as detailed.

Good luck to you and your canine companion! Have fun, and remember that good sportsmanship is paramount to a good experience.