

LEO PRIDE



2018
LCA

NATIONAL SPECIALTY

ST CHARLES, ILLINOIS • APRIL 10-15, 2018

PREMIUM

CLOSING DATE: 5 PM PST, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21, 2018

DEAR LEO ENTHUSIASTS AND FRIENDS,

You are cordially invited to attend the 33rd Annual LCA National Specialty to be held in St. Charles, IL. Located about 40 miles west of Chicago, St. Charles, is the quintessential midwestern town. Come early and explore the surrounding area. There is plenty to see and do in and around the historic Fox Valley area and the Pheasant Run Resort is superbly located to be able to enjoy all of it. If you want to see the big city sights, downtown Chicago is only an hour away. We are excited to be going to the Pheasant Run Resort for the first time. The resort is dog friendly and all events will be held on site. We sincerely hope you'll join us and our very hard working Team of Volunteers for what we hope will be the biggest Leo gathering ever! We look forward to seeing you, your families and your Leos in Illinois!

- Ginny Bartholomay, Brenda Ford and Matt Messley
2018 Co-chairs

INDOOR CONFORMATION, OBEDIENCE & RALLY

Pheasant Run Resort
4051 E Main St
St Charles, IL 60174



OUTDOOR DRAFT TEST & FASTCAT EXHIBITION

Pheasant Run Resort
4051 E Main St
St Charles, IL 60174

Closing Date: 5 PM PST, Wednesday, March 21, 2018

PREMIUM INFORMATION

All events open to Leonbergers only



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Committees & Show Info

2017-2018 LCA Officers & Directors

President Virginia Bartholomay

Vice President Harry Austin

Treasurer Yves Parent

Secretary David Mallory - mallory@marshall.edu
3746 County Road 30
Kitts Hill, OH 45645

Directors Elizabeth Burnham, Don James, Jim Walker,
Peggy Walker, D'Nae Wilson

AKC Delegate Don James

Show Chairman Jim Carretta, (916) 989-0280, j.carretta@comcast.net

Show Secretary

AKC Show Secretary Roy Jones Dog Shows, Inc.
PO Box 828, Auburn, IN 46706
260-925-0525 Fax: 260-925-1146

On site Secretary Matt Messley (Tuesday) & Roy Jones Dog Shows, Inc.

Show Photographers and Videographer

Photographer Classique Photography – Dawn Gabig, Wilson, North Carolina

Photographer Foto's by Fred – Fred White

Videographer Purebred Studios – Gary Weitz, Pebble Beach, California

2018 National Specialty Committee

Specialty Co-Hosts Ginny Bartholomay, Brenda Ford, Matt Messley

Show Event Committee Chair Don James

Show Chairman Jim Carretta, (916) 989-0280, j.carretta@comcast.net
6745 Beech Avenue, Orangevale, CA 95662

Obedience & Rally Chair Jim Carretta

Draft Chair Sunny Simpson

Chief Steward Don James

Equipment Coordinator Matt Messley

Volunteer Coordinator Kimberly Mallory

Raffle & Silent Auction Coordinator Ember Sebastian

Corporate Donations Michelle Cohen

Registrar Matt Messley

Newbie Orientation & Mentor Advisor Pixie Baber

Show Tech Don James

Judge's Liaison Peggy Atchley

Treasurer Yves Parent

Registration Coordinator Aleida Rios

Vendor Coordinator Matt Messley

Crating/Grooming Coordinators Matt Messley

Seminars, Clinics & Workshops Ginny Bartholomay & Matt Messley

Parade Coordinators Peggy Walker and Jan Parola

Premium & Catalog Maria Nelson, Dogged Design

Logo Design Maria Nelson

Ad Design Maria Nelson

Ad Sales Cindy Stratton

Trophy Sponsorships Lara Bohinc

LCA National Specialty | April 10 - April 15, 2018

Judges

Tuesday Judge

Obedience & Rally

Mrs. Anna Lorenz (AKC# 19278)
920-876-4179

W6281 County Rd FF
Elkhart Lake, WI 53020

Wednesday Judges

Draft Judges

Ms. Mary Alice Eschweiler and
Ms. Christine Mann

Thursday Judges

LCA Club Show Males and
Non-Regular Conformation

Mr. Denis Vernon
France

LCA Puppy & Veteran Sweeps

Ms. Sharon Springel
United Kingdom

Friday Judges

LCA Club Show Junior Showmanship
Ms. Fiona Parry
United Kingdom

LCA Club Show Conformation
Females, Best in Show, Brace,
Breeders Line, Breeders Group
Mr Denis Vernon

Saturday Judges

Conformation, 4-6 Month, Beginner
Puppy & Jr. Showmanship

Mrs. Kimberly Meredith-Cavanna
(AKC# 5978)
539 Osborn Ln
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523-2118

Obedience & Rally - Morning Trial
Ms. Suzanne Hemminger (AKC#15146)
11720 W Offner Rd
Peotone, IL 60468-9011

Obedience & Rally - Afternoon Trial
Mrs. Loretta Lazzara (AKC#90526)
263 Fairview Drive
St Charles, IL 60174

Hotel Info

Pheasant Run Resort, 4051 E Main St, St Charles, IL 60174

Rooms & Room Rates

Our negotiated room rate is \$109 per night, single occupancy, \$109 double, \$109 Triple and \$109 quad plus fees and tax. Reduced Suite rates of \$139, \$149 and \$189 are also available. Guests with dogs must pay a \$50 non-refundable deposit. Please refer to the LCA website for information on how to make reservations at either hotel. Reservations are subject to availability.

Check in & Check Out Times

Check in time is after 4:00 p.m. Check out time is no later than 11:00 a.m.

Early arrivals or late departures will be handled on a request only basis; additional charges may apply.

Airports & Ground Transportation

Closest Airport: Chicago O'Hare (ORD)

Pheasant Run Resort does not have an airport shuttle, but taxicabs, Uber and Lyft are available.

Air Transportation for Dogs

For those of you who would like to come to the national and are restricted by time, you might investigate the service offered by Runway Pets LLC., a travel agent for dogs. Contact by email at runwaypets@runwaypets.com or by phone at 417-466-0441. The website is www.runwaypets.com.

Car Rental Agencies

Numerous Rental agencies are located on property at Chicago O'Hare and Midway Airports.

Hotel Parking

RV Parking is free; maximum 30 units and is located on the East side of Mega Center. There are no hook-ups so it is dry camping only. Guests who will be staying in their campers will be able to purchase a temporary resort membership for \$45 which will entitle them to access to the resort pools, fitness center, locker rooms etc. General parking is free in the front lot and around the rooms anywhere on the hotel grounds.

Pet Deposit

Pheasant Run Resort will charge a \$50 non-refundable dog fee upon check in.

Dogs are to be crated at all times when guests are not in their room. Dogs are not to be left loose in the room if guests are not in the room. To prevent damage to the carpeting, the guests must put a sheet of plastic or tarp underneath the crate. Please observe where the dog relief stations are and clean up after your dog!

Hotel Conduct

We expect your cooperation in leaving the hotel rooms and public areas clean and neat. Tarps/plastic sheets should be used in guest rooms under crates and dogs should not be left uncrated and unattended in your room under any circumstances at any time. Pick up and clean up after your dog(s).

Always be gracious to the hotel staff and management. Remember, the LCA's ability to continue to acquire first class facilities for future shows is always dependent on the conduct and deportment of attendees at past shows.

Directions

Directions to Pheasant Run Resort - 4051 E Main St, St Charles, IL 60174

From the North:

➤ I-94 E and I-294 S to IL-64 W/ North Ave in Lombard. ➤ Take the IL-64/North Ave exit from I-355 S
➤ Follow North Ave and E N Ave to your destination in St. Charles 21 min (11.4 mi).

From the North West:

➤ I-90 E to N Randall Rd in Dundee Township. ➤ Take the Randall Rd exit from I-90 E ➤ Get on US-20 E in Elgin, 7 min (3.7 mi) ➤ Merge onto US-20 E, 4 min (3.5 mi)
➤ Take IL-25 S, Dunham Rd, N Kirk Rd and IL-64 E/E Main St to your destination in St. Charles.

From the West:

➤ I-88 E to N Farnsworth Ave in Aurora Township. ➤ Take the Farnsworth Ave S exit from I-88 E
Take Kirk Rd to your destination in St. Charles.

From the East:

➤ I-80 W/I-94 W ➤ Continue on I-80 W. ➤ Take I-294 N to IL-64 W/ North Ave in Lombard. ➤ Take the IL-64/North Ave exit from I-355 N ➤ Follow North Ave and E N Ave to your destination in St. Charles.

From the South:

➤ I-65N ➤ Take I-294 N to IL-64 W/ North Ave in Lombard. ➤ Take the IL-64/North Ave exit from I-355 N
➤ Follow North Ave and E N Ave to your destination in St. Charles.

From the Southwest:

➤ I-55 N to IL-59 N in Naperville. ➤ Take exit 123 from I-88 W ➤ Continue on IL-59 N to your destination in St. Charles.

Show Venue

All events will be held inside at the Pheasant Run Resort Mega Center except for the Draft Test and FastCat exhibition, which will be held outside.

April weather in the Chicago area is unpredictable so plan accordingly.

Historically, the temperatures range from 38 to 59 degrees fahrenheit. Average rainfall is 3+ inches. Weather forecasts can be found on www.weather.com

The zip code for St. Charles is 60174.

Set-up & Hours of Operation

The Mega Center will be open for set-up beginning Tuesday, April 10th at 10:00 a.m. and from 6:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. daily, Wednesday through Saturday. Please see the complete schedule for details.

Crating/Grooming Area

Advance Reservations Required.

No crating is allowed in the show ring area. A separate, designated area is reserved for crating and grooming in a separated section of the Mega center so it is close to the show ring. There is a separate Crate Space Reservation Page online; and space can be reserved on the paper form if mailing your entry. Reservations will be on a first come, first served basis only. Once set up, you may keep your personal belongings in the crating area until the conclusion of the show. However, though the room will be locked at night, there will be no additional security.

If you leave any personal property, it will be at your own risk.

Self Service Dog Wash

FYDOLAND

1317 E. Main, St. Charles, IL 60175

Phone: (844) 438-3936 option 3

Monday thru Friday: 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Saturday: 8:00 a.m. to Noon

Canine Health

All dogs must be in good health. DON'T BRING A SICK DOG.

Dogs over four (4) months of age must have a certificate of current rabies vaccination.

Veterinarians

On call Veterinarian:

Animal House Veterinary Hospital

2079 Lincoln Highway, St. Charles, IL 60175

630-443-1472

Hours: Mon.- Fri. 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Sat. 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

24-hour Emergency Small Animal Hospitals:

Emergency Veterinary Services of St. Charles,

530 Dunham Road, St. Charles, IL 60174

630-584-7447

Hours: Mon. – Fri. 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 a.m.

Sat. Noon – 8:00 a.m Monday

Directions: ► via E Main St, ► Turn left toward IL-64 W/E N Ave/E Main St 190 ft. ► Turn left at the 1st cross street onto IL-64 W/E N Ave/E Main St. ► Continue to follow IL-64 W/E Main St, 1.6 mi.

► Turn right onto Dunham Rd. Destination will be on the right 0.2 mi.

Total distance: Approximately 5 min (1.8 miles)

Photographer & Videographer

All rights to televise, videotape, advertise, photograph, promote or otherwise exploit these events are vested in the Club or in persons to whom assignments of such rights have been made in writing by the Club. All persons and animals on the show grounds at anytime while these events are in progress, do by attending these events or participating therein, grant to the Club the right to photograph, televise, video tape, audiotape or otherwise use their likeness and voice in any manner without further release or consent. The Club is not responsible for the actions or products of the commercial vendors at these events.

Photographers

Winners and Portraits

Classique Photography

Dawn Gabig - Wilson, North Carolina

classiquephotography.com

Ringside Photography

Foto's by Fred

Fred White

fotosbyfred.com

Videographer

Purebred Studios

Gary Weitz - Pebble Beach, California

Registration Forms

<https://lca.memberclicks.net/national-specialty-links>

The most accurate and efficient way to register is online where you may either pay with a credit card through MemberClicks or by check. If paying by check, print the invoice provided during the registration process and include it with your check. If you absolutely cannot register online, you may mail your registration forms with your check made payable to LCAS to:

2018 LCA National Specialty
Matt Messley
3868 E 2609th Rd.
Sheridan, IL 60551

Entries must be received no later than 5 PM EDT, March 21, 2018.
There will be no exceptions made.

You will be notified by email that we have received your registration.

Online registration is available at:

<https://lca.memberclicks.net/national-specialty-links>

LCA Entry Fees

LCA Club Show Competition Fees

Sweeps Entry Fee \$25.00

PeeWee Handler No Entry Fee

3-6 Month Baby Puppy \$25

Club Show

**Traditional Conformation,
Non-Regular Conformation**

LCA Members \$25

Non-Members \$30

Junior Showmanship

Entry Fee \$20.00

Draft Test Entry Fee \$30.00

Closing Date: 5 PM PST, Wednesday, March 21, 2018

2018 - Checklist

Use this list to make sure you haven't forgotten anything in your planning!

2018 - Registration

Use this to register the people to attend the show, workshops, seminars & clinics, order an extra catalog, etc.

2018 - Dog Entry - Drafting

Use this form to enter any and all LCA events for dogs including Conformation, Obedience, Rally and Juniors. To register for any AKC event, complete an AKC Entry Form or register online via Infodog.

2018 - Crate Reservation

Make sure you reserve crate space in the show area, particularly if you need electricity. These spaces go fast.

2018 - Meal Reservations

Use this form to pre-order meals. There will be no meals for sale beyond the registration period.

2018 - DVD Order

Use this form to order DVDs of the Club Show, the AKC National,

additional Specialty Programs, and Club Show Catalogs.

2018 - Merchandise

Our specially designed show apparel and commemorative items are a great way to remember the fun for years to come. Use this form to order your gear.

2018 - Health Clinics

Eye and Cardiac clinic information can be found at the Registration table. Pre-register online. Fees to be determined. LHF Blood Draws on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

2018 - Parades

Do you have a Leo that you would like recognize in the Veteran's, Rescue or Therapy Parades? Use this form to let us know.

2018 - Program Advertisement

Have you placed a Program ad? Priced for all budgets and design services are free. You must contact Cindy Stratton at yogilov@aol.com to reserve and confirm your space. Ad payment must be received by 5:00 pm EDT on February 25, 2018.

2018 - Trophy Sponsorship

Support your National Specialty by sponsoring a trophy. <https://lca.memberclicks.net/national-specialty-links> You must contact Lara Bohinc at tsavoleonbergers@gmail.com prior to reserving your trophy to confirm availability if you are ordering via this form. Do not complete this form until you have confirmed your trophy with Lara first. You may also order online without prior confirmation. Trophy Sponsorship payment must be received within 7 days of reservation. The 2018 LCA National Specialty Committee reserves the right to relist trophies if payment is not received within this time.

2018 - Fees

Use this form to total fees owed for the show and mail a copy with your check to:

2018 LCA National Specialty
Matt Messley
3868 E 2609th Rd.
Sheridan, IL 60551

Meals

Breakfast and Lunch

Breakfast and lunch will be available at two restaurants in the resort or grab and go concessions in the Mega Center.

Dinner

- › **Wednesday** evening, during the Top 20, a plated dinner will be served.
- › **Thursday** evening, Sweeps night, we will be featuring a Game day Buffet.
- › **Friday** night is the LHF seminar and Pizza buffet.
- › **Saturday** evening Awards dinner will be a buffet dinner.

Sign up for all of these dinners as part of the online registration process. There is a paper Meals form if you are entering by mail. Meal tickets will be in your Registration Bags. Additional, meal tickets may or may not be sold after the closing date for Registration at the discretion of the committee and based on availability, so order early.

Fees

The registration fees charged are to offset the costs of the Specialty Program & Show Catalogs, venue rental, ribbon and trophy costs and various incidentals. Please help us make this a successful show for the Leonberger Club of America.

Specialty Program, Show Catalogs & Ads

For those of you that have attended past shows, you know that our Specialty Program has been a keepsake that is cherished for years to come. Why not place an ad of your own with a photo of your beloved Leo? Maria Nelson and her talented team will help you create a beautiful Ad. Not able to make it to the show? There is no better way to send your well wishes than by placing an ad to cheer on all your Leo friends! And don't forget, you can still get a Program mailed to you if you cannot attend the show by completing the registration form. Contact our Ad Sales Coordinator to reserve your space: Cindy Stratton at yogilov@aol.com

Contact Maria Nelson for creative design help: maria@doggeddesign.net

Remember the deadline for ad copy and payment is February 25, 2018. Ad space must be reserved with Cindy Stratton and Ad content is due to Maria Nelson by that date. Again this year we will produce a separate Club Show Catalog. We have separated this out because it allows us to keep entries open later for the Club Show. There will be a separate AKC show Catalog as well. These are also available to be mailed.

Everyone will receive one copy of the Specialty Program and the Club Show Catalog with their registration packet and additional copies can be ordered during the registration process. AKC show catalogs will be available for purchase on site on Saturday, subject to availability.

Raffle

Our Brown Bag and Silent Auctions are almost world famous! Please support the Club by donating a raffle item. It may be dog- related or simply something others will want to take home. Every offering is very much appreciated!

If you need to ship anything in advance contact Raffle Coordinator: Ember Sebastian at flame1977@gmail.com

Ship raffle items to: **2018 LCA National Specialty**

Matt Messley
3868 E 2609th Rd.
Sheridan, IL 60551

Please include a note that the item is a donation to the LCA National Specialty Raffle, and include your contact information in case there are questions. Direct any raffle and silent auction questions to the Raffle Coordinator: Ember Sebastian at flame1977@gmail.com

Room Raffle

We are selling tickets for a standard room for a 4 night stay. **Value \$500**

Meal Raffle

This raffle is for 2 dinners for each evening event of the national for a total of 8 dinners. **Value \$248**



Show Merchandise

Specialty Co-Chairs have been very hard at work choosing quality merchandise that you will want to order and that you will use for years to come! If you ordered Specialty merchandise it will be waiting for you as you check in with our volunteers. Be sure to check your order carefully. If you are unable to attend the show, all items will be available for shipping. Why not ask a friend to pick up your order, and you will save the shipping charge? Merchandise must be ordered now as there will be no post show orders or merchandise available for purchase at the show. Merchandise orders must be received by March 9, 2018. Look for photos and sizing information of our merchandise at <https://lca.memberclicks.net/national-specialty-links>

Trophies

There is no better way to wish someone good luck; honor those who have crossed over the Rainbow Bridge or to play an active role in your show than by sponsoring a trophy. You must contact Lara Bohinc at Lara Bohinc tsavoleonbergers@gmail.com to confirm availability. Payment must be received within 7 days of the trophy reservation or the LCA National Specialty Committee reserves the right to relist the trophy.

Activities

Board Meetings

Board meetings are open to all members. What a great way to learn how the LCA conducts business and to get updates on the issues the club is facing.

LHF Blood Draws for Research

The Leonberger Health Foundation will be conducting blood draws on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. Times and location to be announced.

General Membership Meeting

4:30 p.m. (start time subject to change) Saturday Location to be announced

Join club members at this once-a-year event to discuss club business. The Annual Meeting is an opportunity for the membership to participate in and hear about what has been happening with your club. Let your voice be heard for the betterment of the club and our beloved Leos.

Rookie Orientation

Wednesday 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Location to be announced

Is this your first time at a National Specialty Show? Please join Pixie Baber and a hand selected group of LCA Specialty veterans for a brief social and Rookie Orientation Program.

Working Dog Workshops

Fast CAT Fun Trial

Tuesday - At the conclusion of Obedience/Rally trial - outside Mega Center

The Fast CAT Test is a timed 100 yard dash for dogs. Come check out this fun and healthy activity for both dog and owner! Pre-register online as part of your Specialty registration. Additional sign-ups will be available at the registration desk subject to available space.

CGC, CGCA, CGCU (Canine Good Citizen/Advanced/Urban)

TKN, TKI, TKA, TKP (Trick Dog Novice/Intermediate/Advanced/Performer)

Location and time TBD

Pre-register online for a discounted rate (\$15) as part of your Specialty registration.

Additional sign-ups will be available at the registration desk (\$20) subject to available space.

Parades

To enter any of the Parades, please fill out the Parade Registration form and email to the coordinator for that event, or simply enter online when registering for the Specialty and an email will automatically be sent to the proper coordinator.

Parades will take place during a lunch break. Exact time will be announced on the day of the parade.

Rescue Parade

Thursday Afternoon - Time to be announced

There are incredible stories about Rescue Leos who have been fortunate to find their Forever Homes. Please complete the Parade Registration form. Please contact Peggy Walker at peggy@walkerdallas.com if you have any questions.

Veterans Parade

Friday Afternoon - Time to be announced

We all know how fortunate we are when our beloved Leos reach their golden years. If your Leo is age 7 or older, we would like to honor him/her at the Veteran's Parade. Please complete the Parade Registration form. Please contact Peggy Walker at peggy@walkerdallas.com with questions.

Therapy Parade

Saturday Morning - Time to be announced

Therapy Leos are amazing Therapy dogs and we would like to recognise your dog and your therapy accomplishments. Please complete the Parade Registration form. Contact Peggy Walker at peggy@walkerdallas.com if you have any questions.

Education

Wednesday, April 11

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Location to be determined

Reproduction and Ovary Spaying Seminar

Presenter:

Dr. Jo Randall, DVM, DACT

The first part of the seminar will be devoted to discussion of timing of chilled, fresh and frozen semen usage in the bitch, AI techniques and timing, frozen semen procedure and storage. There will be a short break and the second portion of the seminar will discuss ovary spaying spay.

Thursday, April 12

2:00 p.m.

Location to be determined

History of the Leonberger Seminar

Presenter: Caroline Bliss Isberg

Caroline has recently published an award winning book entitled The Leonberger: A Comprehensive Guide to the Lion King of Breeds which is arguably the best book of Leonberger facts and history ever collected. She is funny and entertaining and this seminar will not disappoint.

Thursday, April 12

4:30 p.m.

Location to be determined

Working Dog Program Seminar

Presenter: TBD

The seminar will discuss all of the ways that you can have fun with your Leonberger.

Friday, April 13

6:00 p.m.

Location to be determined

LHF Seminar and Pizza Buffet Dinner

One Health: The New Way Forward for Leonbergers and their People

Presenter: Dr. Kristin Bloink,

Senior Director Global Research External Innovation at Elanco Animal Health

LCA Rules

Conformation, Working Events, Titling, Certificate, and Awards Programs

(Approved January 2013)

Introduction

The Leonberger Club of America (LCA) Club Show Conformation Events provide a European-style evaluation and written critique of each entrant as judged against the American Kennel Club Breed Standard. LCA Draft Tests demonstrate the traditional working ability of the Leonberger. While the LCA cannot award Conformation titles, the club will award Draft titles, as well as Water Work Titles and a variety of other awards, to dogs meeting the specified criteria.

Conformation Club Shows and Draft Tests will be held according to LCA rules and regulations. If AKC events are held in conjunction with an LCA event, AKC rules shall take precedence during the posted hours of the AKC event. See Section III, IV & V for specific information on Draft, Water Work and Versatility titles and other LCA Certificate and Awards Programs.

Conformation Competition (LCA Club Shows)

1. Competition Eligibility

- A. Registration:** In order for a Leonberger to compete in any LCA Event, American bred dogs must be registered with the AKC or the LCA and have an AKC or LCA number (LCA numbers were issued prior to 2009). Foreign bred dogs may also enter as long as they have a registry number from an FCI recognized kennel club, or AKC.
- B. LCA Membership:** the owner/handler need not be an LCA member to compete in LCA sanctioned events. However, LCA membership is required in order to be eligible for LCA awards and the following specific classes.
- C. Breeders Line/Group:** In order for any breeder or stud dog owner to compete in the Breeder's Line or Breeder's Group competition at any LCA Sanctioned National or Regional event, the breeder or stud dog owner must be an LCA member in good standing.

2. Conformation Event Protocol

A. LCA Conformation Events: LCA Club Shows are organized in the following manner:

1. All entrant Leonbergers (except in a Puppy Sweeps event) will be evaluated by, and will receive a written assessment from a qualified judge. Qualified judges are those certified by a recognized Kennel Club, such as AKC, FCI, LCA or UKC. Entries will be evaluated against the American (AKC) Breed Standard. Each entry will receive a rating (for adult dogs: Excellent, Very Good, Good or Poor) (for youth dogs - classes for dogs/bitches under 18 months: Very Promising, Promising or Fair). Class placements (1st – 4th) will be determined and presented by the judge during class judging.
2. The rating on the evaluation does not determine advancement in the event.
3. Judging will proceed as follows:
 - a. All dogs will be evaluated starting with Youth Classes - classes for dogs/bitches under 18 months. Entries will be divided by sex and may be judged concurrently in separate rings using two qualified judges.
 - b. After the Youth Classes have been judged, Best Youth Dog/Bitch will be selected from the winners of each age group (see class definitions). The Best Youth Dog/Bitch will go on to compete for Winners Dog/Bitch against the winners of the following classes: Novice, Bred by Exhibitor, Foreign Bred, and Open.
 - c. If only one ring is used, after all dogs are evaluated, bitches will be evaluated in the same manner.
 - d. Winners Dog, Winners Bitch, Versatile, Veteran and Champion class winners (both dog and bitch) will advance to compete in the overall Best of Breed competition.

During the final competition the Judge(s) will select Best in Show, Best of Opposite Sex, Best of Winners and Best Veteran.

B. Conformation Class Eligibility: It is the Exhibitor's responsibility to make sure their Leonberger(s) is entered in the correct class.

1. Failure to enter the Leonberger in the correct class may result in disqualification from competition at the event. There is no further penalty for this error.
2. No class shall be re-judged to accommodate a Leonberger who has been entered in the incorrect class. However, if the error is discovered before competition begins in the affected classes, the Leonberger may be moved to the correct class.
3. If a Leonberger is disqualified after being placed in a class, the next placed Leonberger will assume the higher placement.
4. Questions regarding class eligibility should be directed first to the Event Chair for any given event. Exhibitors may also consult the LCA Show Committee Chair. However, the Show Committee Chair, Event Chair, or any other individual shall not be held responsible for advice of eligibility based on inaccurate or incomplete information given by the exhibitor.
5. Exhibitors should read the class definitions (section II D) carefully before entering any show.
6. A Leonberger will be considered ineligible for conformation competition if it has been subjected to any type of procedure that would change, disguise, correct or eliminate a congenital or hereditary defect or undesirable characteristic with the exception of the removal of rear dewclaws.
7. All Leonbergers competing in regular conformation classes or special adult classes must be intact.

C. General Guidelines:

1. No badges, clothing with kennel names, or other means of identification may be worn or used while exhibiting in the ring.
2. Handlers shall not use pinch collars in the ring.
3. If a dog/bitch is owned either wholly or in part by a judge at an LCA Sanctioned Event, the Leonberger shall not be exhibited under said judge.
4. Exhibitors and their Leonbergers are not to fraternize individually with judges immediately prior to an event. Group gatherings are exempt from this policy. Under no circumstances should an entered Leonberger be in the presence of the judge prior to the event.

D. Conformation Classes

1. Regular Youth Classes:

- a. **Youth Dog/Bitch 6-9 months:** Open to all Dogs/Bitches at least 6 months and under 9 months of age.
- b. **Youth Dog/Bitch 9-12 months:** Open to all Dogs/Bitches at least 9 months and under 12 months of age.
- c. **Youth Dog/Bitch 12-18 months:** Open to all Dogs/Bitches at least 12 months and under 18 months of age.

Note: Leonbergers must be moved to the next age class on the "anniversary" of their birth, as per the following example:

- A puppy born on January 1st will be eligible to compete only in the 3-6 month Non-Regular class as of April 1st, and until June 30th.
- At any show held on or after the next anniversary, which constitutes a new age class (6, 9, and 12 months) that puppy will be eligible to compete only in the next age class.
- At any show held on or after the 18-month anniversary of birth, that puppy will be considered an adult, and will be eligible to compete only in the appropriate adult class.

2. Regular Adult Classes (Non-Champion):

- a. Novice Dog/Bitch:** Open to any Dog/Bitch 18 months or older who has NOT won 3 first place awards in LCA or AKC Novice combined, or won 1 first place award in any of the following LCA or AKC classes: (Bred by Exhibitor, Foreign Bred, Open, Amateur Owner-Handler, American Bred or Veterans), AND who has earned NO points toward an AKC Championship.
- b. Bred By Exhibitor Dog/Bitch:** Open to any Dog/Bitch 18 months or older who is exhibited by his or her breeder where the breeder is either the sole or part owner of the Leonberger being shown.
- c. Foreign Bred Dog/Bitch:** Open to any Dog/Bitch 18 months or older who is from a kennel domiciled outside of the United States.
- d. Open Dog/Bitch:** Open to any Dog/Bitch 18 months or older. Dogs or Bitches that are eligible for the Novice, Bred by Exhibitor, or Foreign Bred classes may be entered in this class instead, at the owner's discretion.

3. Special Adult Classes: The class winners of Versatile, Veteran and Champion classes compete for Best in Show and Top Leo points.

- a. Versatile Dog/Bitch:** Open to any Dog/Bitch with a LCA Versatility title of any level. This class to be offered at the LCA National Specialty only.
- b. Veteran Dog/Bitch:** Open to any Dog/Bitch who is 7 years of age or older, including AKC or LCA Champions.
- c. Champion Dog/Bitch:** Open to any Dog/Bitch who has attained an AKC or LCA Championship.

4. Non-Regular Classes: Non-regular classes such as Puppy Dog/Bitch 3-6 months, Spay/Neuter, Honors, Brace and Group Classes compete in conformation-type exhibition events, but do not compete for Best in Show.

- a. Puppy Dog/Bitch 3-6 months:** Open to all Puppy Dogs/Bitches at least 3 and under 6 months of age.

Note: Leonbergers must be moved to the next age class on the "anniversary" of their birth, as per the following example:

- A puppy born on January 1st will be eligible to compete only in the 3-6 month non-regular class as of April 1st, and until June 30th.
- At any show held on or after the next anniversary, which constitutes a new age class (6, 9, and 12 months) that puppy will be eligible to compete only in the next age class
- At any show held on or after the 18-month anniversary of birth, that puppy will be considered an adult, and will be eligible to compete only in the appropriate adult class.

- b. Spay/Neuter:** Open to any Neutered Dog or Spayed Bitch who is 6 months of age or older.
- c. Honors Dog/Bitch:** Available at the National Specialty only; open to any Dog or Bitch who has won Best in Specialty Show (Best of Breed) at an LCA National Specialty. This class does not compete for points or for Best in Specialty Show (Best of Breed). The entrant may not be entered in any other Regular or Non-Regular class at the show.
- d. Breeder's Group:** Entrants are a minimum of three (3) Leonbergers with the same Kennel Name that meet the qualifications for conformation showing in regular or non-regular conformation events.
- e. Breeder's Line:** Entrants are a sire or dam with a minimum of 5 offspring, of any gender, from at least two litters, that meet the qualifications for conformation showing in regular or non-regular conformation events.
- f. Brace Class:** Entrants are Two (2) Leonbergers, at least 6 months old but not necessarily the same bloodlines that resemble each other.

5. LCA Junior Showmanship Classes:

- a. Novice:** Open to boys and girls who are at least 9 years old and under 18 years old on the day of the show and who at the time entries close have not won three (3) first place awards, with competition present, in a Novice Class at any LCA or AKC show.
- b. Open:** Open to boys and girls who are at least 9 years old and under 18 years old on the day of the show, and who have won three first place awards in a Novice Class in an LCA or AKC show, with competition present in the Novice class. Junior Handlers who win a third Novice Class with competition present after the closing of entries for a show may transfer their entry from the Novice Class to the Open Class provided that this transfer is made by Show Chair or Show Secretary at least one half hour prior to the scheduled start of Junior Showmanship judging at the show. No entry may be changed or cancelled unless notice of the change or cancellation is received in writing by the Show Chair or Show Secretary named in the premium list to receive entries, prior to the closing date for entries, except that a correction may be made from one age division to another provided this transfer is made by the Show Chair or Show Secretary at least one half-hour prior to the scheduled start of any Junior Showmanship class at the show.
- c. Junior and Senior Classes:** Each of the regular classes may be divided by age into Junior and Senior Classes. The Junior Class shall be for boys and girls who are at least 9 years old and under 13 years old on the day of the show. The Senior Class shall be for boys and girls who are at least 13 years old and under 18 years old on the day of the show.
- d. Best Junior Handler:** The Junior Handler who placed first in each of the regular Junior Showmanship Classes shall automatically be eligible to compete for Best Junior Handler in Show.
- e. Pee Wee Handler:** Open to boys and girls younger than 9 years old on the day of the show and who have not won 3 first place awards, with competition present, in an LCA Pee Wee handling class. This class does not compete for Best Junior Handler.

E. Puppy Sweepstakes

The purpose of Puppy Sweepstakes is to offer ring experience to the puppies, and handling practice, as well as health/structural information to the exhibitor. LCA National Puppy Sweepstakes Classes are divided by sex and age (**6-9 months, 9-12 months, 12-18 months**) with a percentage of the entry fee monies given as cash prizes. The first 20% of the puppy sweeps entry fees go to the LCA. The remaining 80% is divided by the total number of entries in each class to determine the value of each placement. The first place winners of each class compete for Best in Sweeps and Best of Opposite in Sweeps.

3. Working Event Titling Programs

- A. Draft Program & Titles:** LCA will award Draft Titles upon completion of a passing score at a test held under the LCA Draft Test Regulations and Draft Test held by other LCA recognized breed clubs as noted in the LCA Draft Test regulations available on the LCA website.
- B. Water Work Titles:** The LCA awards Water Rescue titles for Water Dog (WD), Water Rescue Dog (WRD) and Water Rescue Dog Excellent (WRDX).
 - 1. In 1997 the Leonberger Club of America received permission from the Newfoundland Club of America (NCA) to utilize the NCA official water test requirements. The LCA continues to follow these requirements. The NCA will test Leonbergers at the end of a regularly scheduled water test, space permitting. To be included in a water test, contact the local chapter of the NCA.
 - 2. To apply for a water title the owner must send the LCA Show Committee Secretary a copy of the water test evaluation form signed by the judge(s). A water title is granted when a Leonberger passes the test in all areas. A Leonberger need only pass the test one time to be granted the title.
 - 3. Newfoundland Club of America's Water Test Regulations can be found online at <http://www.newfdogclub.org> or a copy may be obtained from the LCA Show Committee.

4. Other Titling and Certificate Programs

- A. Versatility Program:** The LCA Versatility Program recognizes the achievements of our breed in multiple venues and awards 3 levels of Versatility Titles based on those achievements. See the Versatility Award Program Rules available on the LCA website.
- B. Conformation Certificate Program:** The LCA also awards a Conformation Certificate to qualifying entrants in spay/neuter classes. An LCA or AKC registered Leonberger, who is either spayed or neutered, and at least 18 months of age, is eligible to earn an LCA Conformation Certificate by earning 3 evaluations with a rating of Excellent, from 3 different judges, at LCA sanctioned events. Events being defined as the National Specialty Club Show and/or an LCA sanctioned Regional Specialty Club Shows. All “excellent” evaluations earned at LCA sanctioned events will automatically be reported to the LCA Show Committee Secretary by the Event Committee. Any dog completing these requirements will have the right to use CC after the dog’s registered name.

5. LCA Awards Programs

- A. LCA Top Leo Program:** The purpose of the Top Leo Award is to recognize the most winning Leonbergers each year. The top five Leonbergers in Conformation, Obedience and Rally will receive an award at the National Specialty and special recognition in the LeoLetter. Only placements earned in LCA Conformation Club Shows or AKC Conformation shows (Top Leo Conformation) or scores from AKC Obedience & Rally Trials (Top Leo Obedience & Rally) will be counted towards each year’s Top Leo Award. See TopLeo Program Rules & Regulations available on the LCA website for details of how placements are determined.

6. LCA Safety Policy

- A. Dogs must be crated or on leash at all times.**
- B. When on leash, the length must not exceed six feet and may not be a retractable lead.**
- C. Dogs must be under control at all times.**
- D. Dogs showing uncontrolled or aggressive behavior may be asked by the event chair, a board member, or other official to leave the site promptly – or be crated for the duration of the event.**
- E. Current rabies certificates are required.**
- F. There will be occasions when a dog will be allowed off-lead when approved by the event chair.**
- G. Failure to meet these conditions may result in a disciplinary hearing.**

LCA Conformation Club Show Flow Chart

Youth Dog Classes

- Puppy 6-9 month →
- Puppy 9-12 month →
- 12-18 month →

Best Youth Dog

Adult Dog Classes

- Novice →
- Bred by Exhibitor →
- Foreign Bred →
- Open →

Winners Dog

Reserve Winners Dog

Non-Regular & Special Dog Classes

- Versatile Dog (first place) →
- Veteran Dog (first place) →
- Champion Dog (first place) →

Non-Regular & Special Bitch Classes

- Versatile Bitch (first place) →
- Veteran Bitch (first place) →
- Champion Bitch (first place) →

**Best in Show
Best of Winners
Best of Opposite Sex
Best Veteran**

Adult Bitch Classes

- Novice →
- Bred by Exhibitor →
- Foreign Bred →
- Open →

Winners Bitch

Reserve Winners Bitch

Youth Bitch Classes

- Puppy 6-9 month →
- Puppy 9-12 month →
- 12-18 month →

Best Youth Bitch

AKC Leonberger Breed Standard

Revision Effective August 31, 2016

GENERAL APPEARANCE

The Leonberger is a large, sociable working dog, muscular yet elegant, with a proud head carriage. The breed is distinguished by its black mask, substantial bone, balanced build, and double coat. Adult males are particularly powerful and strong and carry a lion-like mane on the neck and chest. Bitches are unmistakably feminine. The Leonberger is a dimorphic breed; a dog or a bitch easily discernible as such. Although imposing in size, the Leonberger is graceful in motion. Natural appearance is essential to Leonberger type. The breed is to be shown with no trimming, sculpting or other alterations. True to the breed's origins as a multipurpose family, farm and draft dog, today's Leonberger excels as a versatile working dog and devoted family companion. Intelligent and lively, friendly yet vigilant, the Leonberger is attentive and self-assured in all situations.



SIZE, PROPORTION, SUBSTANCE

Size: An adult male is 28 to 31½ inches in height (30 inches preferred). An adult female is 25½ inches to 29½ inches, (27½ inches preferred). Weight is in proportion to the overall size and structure. When proportion, substance, and balance are present, a slight deviation above standard is tolerated.

Proportion: Height to length of body is 9:10. Height is measured at the withers; body length is measured from point of shoulder to point of buttock. The depth of chest is 50 percent of the height; brisket reaches to elbow. The angulation of front and rear quarters is in balance. Overall balance and proportion are as important as height.

Substance: Strong bone in proportion to size of the body, well-muscled.

HEAD

The head, in its entirety, is deeper than it is broad, rectangular shaped, with no wrinkles. The length of muzzle to length of backskull is equal. Cheeks are only slightly developed. The male head is strong and masculine, while the female head always expresses femininity.

Mask: Face is covered with a full black mask that extends from the nose up to and over the eyes. A lesser mask is acceptable, but not desirable.

Expression: Good-natured, soft, and intelligent expression.

Eyes: Dark brown is preferred over light brown. Eyes are medium size, oval to almond shaped, neither deep-set nor protruding. Eyelids are close fitting, not showing any haw or sclera.

Ears: When alert, ears are level with top of skull and set slightly forward. They are of medium size, triangular, fleshy, hanging flat and close to the head. Tips are level with corners of the mouth.

Skull: As seen from the front and in profile, backskull is slightly arched. Skull is slightly longer than wide and the width of backskull is only slightly broader than it is at the eyes.

Stop: Clearly recognizable and moderately defined.

Muzzle: Nasal bridge of even breadth, never running to a point, level or slightly arched (Roman nose); never dipped. The jaw remains broad and strong between the canines.

Planes: As seen from the side, the planes of muzzle and backskull are parallel.

Nose: Large with clearly outlined nostrils, always black.

Lips: Tight, corners closed and dry, outer lips black in color. Some de-pigmentation due to aging is acceptable.

Teeth/Bite: Complete dentition of 42 teeth (20 upper, 22 lower), strong, meeting in a correct scissors bite, lower incisors touching inside of upper incisors. A level bite is accepted.

Serious Fault Lips: Drooling or wet mouth.

Disqualification

Expression/Mask: Complete lack of mask.

Teeth/Bite: More than one missing tooth other than M3s.

NECK, TOPLINE, BODY, TAIL

Neck: Muscular, well set on shoulders, blends smoothly into withers, of sufficient length to allow for proud head carriage. No dewlap.

Topline: Withers set above a firm level back that flows into a gently sloping croup. Rump not higher than withers. **Body:** Chest is broad, roomy, and deep, reaching at least to the level of the elbows, pronounced prosternum.

Ribs: Well-sprung, oval. **Underline:** Only slightly tucked up. **Loin:** Broad, compact, strong, well-muscled. **Croup:** Broad, relatively long, gently sloped, flowing smoothly into root of tail.

Tail: While standing relaxed, tail hangs straight down with the last vertebrae reaching to or below the hock. In movement, tail is carried no higher than the level of the back, with a curve up at the end permitted. An exuberant tail carriage, though higher than ideal, should not be confused with a high, incorrectly placed tail.

Serious Fault: High tail carriage with tail curled over back at all times, whether standing or in motion.



FOREQUARTERS

Shoulder: Well laid-back and well-muscled.

Angulation: The shoulder meets the upper arm at slightly greater than a right angle. Shoulder and upper arm about equal in length.

Elbows: Close to body, neither in nor out.

Forelegs: Substantial bone, muscular, straight and parallel to each other.

Pasterns: Strong, firm and straight when viewed from front, slightly sloping when viewed from side.

Dewclaws: Usually present. **Feet:** Turn neither in nor out, rounded, tight, toes well arched (cat foot).

HINDQUARTERS

Rear Assembly: Powerful, muscular with substantial bone.

Angulation: In balance with forequarters.

Legs: Viewed from the rear, the legs are straight and parallel, with stifles and paws turned neither in nor out, placed widely enough apart to match a properly built body.

Thighs: Upper and lower of equal length, slanting and strongly muscled.

Stifles: Angle clearly defined.

Hocks: Substantial bone with a distinct angle between lower thigh and rear pastern; well let down.

Dewclaws: Rear dewclaws may be present.

Feet: Turned neither in nor out, and may be slightly elongated. Toes arched.

COAT

Leonbergers have a medium to long, water resistant, double coat on the body and short fine hair on the muzzle and front of limbs. Outer coat is medium-soft to coarse and lies flat. It is straight, with some generalized wave permitted. Mature males carry a mane, which extends over neck and chest. The male coat is typically longer than the female coat. The undercoat is soft and dense, although it may be less so in summer months or warmer climates. In spite of the double coat, the outline of the body is always recognizable. Leonbergers have some ear feathering and ample feathering on fore and rear legs. Tail is very well furnished. Leonbergers are to be presented with no sculpting, scissoring, trimming of whiskers, or any other alterations whatsoever, except for neatening of the feet.

Fault: Parted or curly coat.

COLOR

Coat colors are lion-yellow, golden to red and red-brown, sand colored (cream, pale yellow) and all combinations thereof, always with a black mask. All colors may have black tips (some with long black tips) on the outer coat, but black must not be the basic color. Dark coat colors are accompanied by a lighter colored undercoat and feathering of front and hind legs, that blend harmoniously with the basic body coloring. A small, unobtrusive stripe or white patch on the chest and some white hairs on toes is tolerated.

Disqualification: Any coat color other than those listed. White hair on chest that exceeds 5 inches in width; white extending beyond toes.



GAIT

The Leonberger has a ground-covering, even and balanced gait. The stride is powerful, free and fluid, with good reach and strong drive, giving the impression of effortless power. In motion, the Leonberger maintains a level topline. Viewed from the front and from behind, forelegs and hind legs travel straight. As the dog's speed increases, the legs tend to converge toward the centerline.

TEMPERAMENT

The gentle character and even temperament of the Leonberger is of utmost importance for fulfilling their role as a family companion. The Leonberger is confident, with a steady, playful demeanor. The breed is willing to please and possesses a good capacity for learning.

Serious fault: Quarrelsomeness or hostility towards people or dogs in normal situations; unwarranted show of timidity or nervousness.

FAULTS

Any deviation from these specifications is a fault. In determining whether a fault is minor, serious, or major, these two factors should be used as a guide:

Deviation: The extent to which it deviates from the standard; and

Impact: The extent to which such deviation would actually affect the Leonberger's phenotype or ability to fulfill its role as a family companion, and working dog.

DISQUALIFICATIONS

Mask: Complete lack of mask

Teeth: More than one missing tooth other than M3s.

Color: Any coat color other than those listed. White hair on chest exceeding 5 inches in width, white extending beyond toes.