



### **Breed Mentor and Seminar Presenter Application**

The United States Neapolitan Mastiff Club (USNMC) welcomes qualifying members to apply to be a breed mentor and/or a seminar presenter. Our goal is to educate and provide a positive learning experience for judges' education attendees and mentoring candidates. It is also our goal to provide valuable experience and knowledge of our breed and the standard.

#### **Presenters**

Present USNMC Judges Education Seminars at USNMC specialty shows, seminars and workshops.

#### **Mentors**

Provide ringside mentoring, tutoring, and kennel visits to prospective conformation judges.

#### **Application Process**

Submit application to the Judges Education Committee with all required documentation. Upon JEC approval, the Judges Education Committee Chair will submit applicant to the USNMC Board for review. The board will make the final decision by majority vote. Any applicant who is denied may re-apply after 1 year.

Presenters and Mentors will be evaluated in the presentation of their assigned projects. Presenters and Mentors who repeatedly fail to meet the expectations of the USNMC are subject to removal from the program by a majority vote of the USNMC Board.

#### **Duties and Expectations**

- Presenters must comfortably articulate the AKC breed standard, the breed history, and how to evaluate the Neapolitan Mastiff against the breed standard in front of a live audience.
- Mentors need to feel comfortable with one-on-one discussions and dealing with the individual's needs.
- All answers should be consistent with what is in the approved and written standard.
- Speak coherently and describe characteristics in specific terms using correct canine terminology.
- Conduct oneself in accordance with AKC Sportsmanship guidelines.
- Only use approved USNMC and AKC materials.
- Must be well-versed in commonly used vocabulary to describe canine anatomy and structure.
- Refrain from inserting personal preferences i.e., color, size, pedigree, style, etc.
- Presenters will assemble a group of Neapolitan Mastiffs, both dogs and bitches, which represent a variety of acceptable styles, ages, and colors. Refrain from using identifiable information about dogs, owners of dogs, and handlers.
- Do virtual, in person mentoring, or kennel visits.
- Respond to all requests for more information in a timely manner.
- May not exhibit to a judge in the breed ring for 3 months following any mentoring sessions.
- Provide copies of sign-in sheets, certificates, feedback sheets and hands-on forms to AKC Judges Education Department and USNMC judges education chair.

#### **Qualifications**

To qualify for consideration as a USNMC approved breed mentor and/or seminar presenter, the prospective applicant must meet or exceed the criteria:

1. Be in good standing with the AKC for the previous 10 years.
2. USNMC member in good standing for the previous 10 years.
3. Exhibited Neapolitan Mastiffs in conformation for at least 6 years, having exhibited at least 1 to a championship.
4. Bred 5 champions of record.
5. Attended 3 USNMC national specialties.
6. Attended 2 USNMC judges education seminars and 2 mentoring sessions.
7. Pass the Neapolitan Mastiff Breed and anatomy exams through AKC Canine College.
8. Secure the sponsorship of 1 current USNMC approved Mentor or Presenter.
9. Signed Application, Code of Conduct and Consent.
10. Committee invitation may supersede provisions of the application process with USNMC Board approval.

**Breed Mentor and Seminar Presenter Application**  
**Biographical Information / Qualifications**

*Please include as much information as possible. Include additional sheets if needed.*

Applying for:            Breed Mentor \_\_\_\_\_ Seminar Presenter \_\_\_\_\_ Both \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a member of the USNMC?    Yes    No    If yes, what year did you join the club? \_\_\_\_\_  
If no, why not? \_\_\_\_\_

How long have you been actively involved in the breed? \_\_\_\_\_

Please explain how you first became interested in the Neapolitan Mastiff. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please describe your activities in the breed and the USNMC. Please mention all activities, including breeding, raising, exhibiting, judging, rescuing, or researching the breed.

\_\_\_\_\_

Please list the books, articles, or publications about the Neapolitan Mastiff that you have read. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Are you a (indicate all that apply): Breeder \_\_\_\_\_ Owner \_\_\_\_\_ Exhibitor \_\_\_\_\_ Judge \_\_\_\_\_

How many Neapolitan Mastiffs have you owned: \_\_\_\_\_ Do you currently own: \_\_\_\_\_

How many Neapolitan Mastiff litters have you bred: \_\_\_\_\_

How many Neapolitan Mastiff Champions have you bred: \_\_\_\_\_

How many dogs that you own(ed) have you exhibited to their AKC Championships? \_\_\_\_\_

How many years have you actively shown Neapolitan Mastiffs? \_\_\_\_\_

How many USNMC National or Regional Specialties have you attended? Nationals \_\_\_\_\_ Regionals \_\_\_\_\_

Have you attended any other shows in the US or other countries with large entries of Neapolitan Mastiffs? Yes    No  
If yes, please list where you have seen large entries other than National and Regional Specialties. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please list all USNMC endorsed educational events, seminars, and mentoring sessions you have attended and the name of the presenter or mentor. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Are you involved or have you been involved in any other breeds or clubs?    Yes    No  
If yes, please describe your involvement, indicating breed or club, length of involvement, and typical activities in the breed or clubs. \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



### Mentor/Presenter Code of Conduct and Consent

Please initial each item to demonstrate that you have read, understand, and agree with each stipulation.

As representative of the United States Neapolitan Mastiff Club as a Mentor/Presenter at any USNMC approved events, I

\_\_\_\_\_ agree to the following:  
(Full name)

- \_\_\_\_\_ • A Mentor's/Presenter's demeanor should be pleasant, positive, respectful, and courteous at all times. Rudeness or arrogance is inappropriate and unacceptable. A Mentor/Presenter will be more effective with an attitude of humility, openness and respect for the knowledge and experience of the judge being mentored. The position as Approved Mentor/Presenter of the USNMC is a privilege and you must act with dignity.
- \_\_\_\_\_ • A Mentor/Presenter has the responsibility to exhibit sportsmanlike conduct and serve as an example for all. (i.e. congratulate winners, give positive reinforcement to all exhibitors, show respect to judges and ring stewards.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ • Mentors/Presenters must have an in-depth understanding of the current Neapolitan Mastiff Breed Standard as well as knowledge of the specific terms and concepts stated therein.
- \_\_\_\_\_ • Mentors/Presenters also should be knowledgeable of proper dog structure and movement. They should be familiar with and fluent in the use of the proper vocabulary concerning canine anatomy and physiology.
- \_\_\_\_\_ • Mentors/Presenters must be aware of their own prejudices and priorities regarding the Breed and be respectful of other Mentors/Presenters' opinions. Never argue with other Mentors/Presenters or judges/attendees while mentoring/presenting. Never interfere with AKC representatives during seminars, mentoring, or on show grounds.
- \_\_\_\_\_ • Dog judging is very subjective with no set rules other than personal interpretations of Breed standards that are enhanced by experience, seminars, and mentoring/presenting. Individual opinions vary and judges' opinions must be respected.
- \_\_\_\_\_ • Mentors/Presenters must be familiar with the approved USNMC Judges Education material. They are to present USNMC supplied materials and discuss key points without bias to breeders, owners and/or pedigrees.
- \_\_\_\_\_ • A Mentor/Presenter must not expand on this material with the use of personal show pictures or any material that is of a personal nature. Your guidance is given because of your commitment to the breed and is not a means of self-promotion.
- \_\_\_\_\_ • A Mentor/Presenter must conduct themselves ethically.- They will not promote their own [dogs](#) or those of closely related individuals. If such are in the ring during the time of mentoring it is a requirement that the mentor simply declines to comment on them.
- \_\_\_\_\_ • The Neapolitan Mastiff Standard is to be taught in whole, without emphasis on any one part and without inserting personal preference as to color, size, pedigree, or style. This is the Standard as approved by the USNMC membership and accepted by the AKC.
- \_\_\_\_\_ • A Mentor/Presenter who has just exhibited a dog to a judge should not offer unsolicited opinions of the judging either directly or indirectly. Mentors/Presenters should mentor only if asked and must not declare opinions at ringside as to the quality of the judging.
- \_\_\_\_\_ • The Mentor/Presenter shall complete all administrative duties by providing copies of sign-in sheets, certificates, feedback sheets and hands-on forms. All copies shall be sent to the AKC Judges Education Department and USNMC judges education chair.
- \_\_\_\_\_ • Mentors/Presenters agree to refrain from exhibiting to a judge in the breed ring for 3 months following any mentoring session.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of current Mentor/Presenter Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_