

Dear 2017 Top 20 Committee:

The IHCUS Board of Directors is pleased to advise your event has been approved. Attached are the guidelines adopted by the BOD which incorporates the program you presented.

IHCUS has approved \$300.00 funds for your inaugural year. These funds will be designated for use by our Treasurer as outlined in the guidelines attached and shall be refunded to the Specialty fund if there is a profit for the 2017 Top 20. The Board would advise you to begin your fundraising immediately. Your point of contact will be our 2017 National Specialty Show Chair, Lisa McKay. Her email is show_chair@ihcus.org.

We will need to finalize the 2017 itinerary and fees charged for entry and spectators. Your committee will need to decide on a Chair as soon as possible. The chair shall contact the BOD via the secretary notify them of your chair and the committee members.

The Board made a couple of changes to the original program presented which we believe to be in the best interest of the venue's integrity:

Eligibility for entry – *Previous winner may exhibit but are ineligible for competition*. The Board has removed this item; we believe if the dog is eligible it should be permitted to compete since the judges are different each year. Only dogs that are in the Top 20 for the eligible year will be allowed to compete.

Judges Selection & Eligibility – The Board has added that the person on the committee that is choosing the judges will submit to the Board up to five (5) names for each of the judge categories for the BOD to review. The BOD will then choose a minimum of 3 judges for each category from which the person choosing the judges can select from.

Once the BOD has received acknowledgement of receipt of the guidelines, the BOD would like to announce the event on both IHCUS Facebook groups.

We cannot thank each of you enough for the effort and attention you have given this program. We are excited to add this event to the 2017 National Specialty venue.

Respectfully Submitted,

IHCUS Board of Directors

Top 20 Committee Guidelines

Communication –

Top 20 Chair should be chosen by December 1st for the next specialty year (i.e. 2018 decided upon 12/1/17). Notification shall be submitted in writing to the IHCUS BOD for the December meeting.

The Top 20 Chair will report directly to the IHCUS National Specialty Show Chair.

The requested night of the Top 20 must be discussed with the Show Chair and approved by the BOD. The event shall not interfere with any National Specialty event.

Status reports should be submitted in writing to the Show Chair and the IHCUS Secretary, due the Saturday before each BOD meeting (held the 1st Wednesday of each month)

Fundraising ideas shall be shared with the IHCUS BOD, via the IHCUS secretary, to ensure efforts will not be in conflict with IHCUS National Specialty sponsorship efforts.

Financial Responsibilities –

All Top 20 monies will be retained in the IHCUS business checking account. The IHCUS Treasurer will be responsible for tracking the funds as a separate line item within the accounting software. These funds will not be used for any purpose other than Top 20.

No monies will be dispersed without invoices or receipts. Items which need to be paid prior to the event will be submitted to the Treasurer for direct payment. Additional committee expenses shall be submitted to the Treasurer for payment via IHCUS Expense report which must include receipts for reimbursement.

Budget shall be reviewed annually based on interest, growth and profit. Top 20 projected budget should be submitted to the IHCUS Secretary, for BOD review, after invitations have been sent. Final expense budget shall be submitted to the IHCUS Secretary, for the BOD meeting, within 30 days of the close of entries.

The Top 20 committee will not commit IHCUS to any contract or expense without written consent from the IHCUS Board. This will include but not be limited to photography, food & beverage, rosettes and judges' expenses. All contracts or expense commitments need to be sent to the IHCUS Secretary.

IHCUS will not be held liable for any costs for which funds were not raised. The Top 20 committee members shall be responsible for expenses not covered through their fundraising efforts and spectator/entry fees.

Entry fees and spectator fees shall be set at a reasonable amount by the Top 20 committee each year.

Entry fee shall include entry to the event, attendance of one (1) person, one (1) catalog and food.

Handler of the dog can attend at no charge.

Spectator fee shall include one (1) catalog and food.

All checks must be made out to IHCUS or if paid via PayPal sent to treasurer@ihcus.org. A note specifying what the PayPal payment is for would be extremely helpful.

Important dates and information:

Invitations to be mailed no later than three (3) months prior to the date of the National Specialty

Entries close date shall be 45 days before the close date of the National Specialty

Along with the entry, the committee must receive print ready photo, 3 generation pedigree and music selection

Any individual is permitted to handle the entrant except for those individuals as outlined (Judges, Judge's Selection individual(s))

Spectator reservations shall close no later than the Friday after National Specialty entries close.

Judges Selection and Eligibility –

The judges shall be selected by a non-competing member(s) of the committee. Non-competing is defined as no dog owned, co-owned, bred by or exhibited by (including individuals living in the same household). This person shall act as the liaison for the selected judges which shall include all communication. The Top 20 Judge selection person shall submit a minimum of five (5) eligible judges from each category to the IHCUS Secretary. The BOD will then choose a minimum of 3 judges for each category from which the person choosing the judges can select from.

The Top 20 Judges panel shall be kept secret until the event begins. No member of the Top 20 committee will be made aware of the judges nor shall they attempt to solicit a judge for the panel. The National Specialty conformation judge or sweepstakes judge are ineligible to judge this event for the current year.

Committee members with eligible hounds are permitted to compete however will not be permitted to participate in catalog production, Judge's selection or score tabulation

Judges shall consist of one of each:

A breeder, professional handler and AKC Licensed Hound Group Judge.

Per the Top 20 guidelines none of the three (3) judges shall be eligible to compete in the event nor shall this individual have any dog owned, co-owned or bred entered in the event.

Judges definitions:

Breeder: Minimum of 10 years experience with Ibizan Hounds and bred at least three (3) champions

Professional Handler: A handler that has a minimal five (5) years experience handling any sight hound breed.

AKC Conformation Judge: Any AKC licensed judge approved to judge the Hound group; may not be provisional for Ibizan Hounds

The Top 20 committee will not be responsible for any fees or expenses for the Breeder or Handler Judge. The AKC Judge shall have the same expense paid as the National Specialty Sweepstakes judge.

Eligibility for Entry:

Ibizan Hounds in the final Top 20 All-Breed and Breed rankings as published by AKC for events processed through December 31 for the previous year (i.e. 2017 will be final top 20 Ibizans for 2016) Altered animals will be eligible for competition

Catalogs:

Catalog will have a short of biography of each Judge

Catalog will include past winners (Judge’s and People’s Choice)

Each entry shall have a page listing the following:

Registered name including all titles and IHCUS awards (i.e. Hall of Fame, Versatility, etc.)

Call Name

Breeder and Owner

Date of Birth

Photo

Pedigree

Health Checks

A list of all Top 20 Eligible Dogs will be included in the catalog

Last page of the catalog shall consist of the People’s Choice Ballot

Rosettes will be provided to each entrant

Large Rosette will be awarded to the Judge’s Choice and the People’s Choice

Colors will be determined each year by the Top 20 Committee

Scoring:

Judge’s Score Sheet will have the following:

Dog Number _____

Notes on first impressions:

Category	Maximum Points	Points Awarded
General Appearance	20	
Type (size, proportion & substance)	20	
Head	10	
Neck, Topline, Body	15	
Forequarters, Moving	25	
Hindquarters, Moving	25	
Side Gait	25	
Temperament	10	
Final Score	150	xxxx

In case of tie, the dog with the highest general appearance score will be the winner.

Ring Procedure:

To be determined

Dress:

The committee shall determine a theme or costume each year. The committee has the option to award best costume/theme attire.