



# United States Kerry Blue Terrier Club, Inc.

*(Member of the American Kennel Club)*

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## **HAYMARKET FUTURITY and MATURITY RULES** **UNITED STATES KERRY BLUE TERRIER CLUB** *(revised January 2023 by USKBTC Board of Governors)*

### **Introduction**

The Haymarket Futurity and Maturity is a showcase of breeders and their breeding program and to encourage breeders to conform to the AKC Kerry Blue Terrier Standard and the exhibition of their litters. The breeders are the backbone of our breed and the Futurity/Maturity is a tribute to all of them.

### **Futurity and Maturity Descriptions**

The **Futurity** is open to nominated litters as described below. The classes are for dogs under 18 months of age on the day of the Event.

The **Maturity** is open to dogs previously nominated for the Futurity whether shown in the Futurity or not. The classes are for dogs 18 to 30 **months** of age on the day of the event.

Both the Futurity and Maturity are judged by the same rules (see below.)

### **Litter Nomination**

For a dog (dog is used for either dog or bitch) to compete in the Futurity/Maturity, the litter must be nominated by the breeder no later than 60 days in advance of the event where the dog would be eligible to compete in the Futurity for puppies 6 months and under 18 months, and in Maturity for dogs 18 months and under 30 months of age on the day of the event. A dog may compete in Maturity even if it was not shown in Futurity as long as the litter was nominated the year before for Futurity.

Each year the date nominated litters are due will be posted in ***Kerry Blueprints*** and on the USKBTC Website. Nomination forms will be available in electronic form on the USKBTC website.

### **Dog Eligibility**

The Futurity/Maturity is open to all AKC-registered Kerry Blue Terriers whose breeder or co-breeder was and is a member in good standing of the United States Kerry Blue Terrier Club at the date the litter was whelped. Only the breeder/co-breeder of the litter **may** nominate it.

If a puppy is sold, eligibility will continue to the new owner provided such owner of the puppy is a member or has applied for membership in the USKBTC at the time he/she pays any fees. Entry forms will be available in electronic form on the USKBTC website.

At the time of competition, ownership will be determined by the same conditions affecting entries as required by the American Kennel Club. In addition, the dog MUST be individually registered with the American Kennel Club when the actual entry is submitted.

No cryptorchid (unilateral or bilateral), neutered, or any other dog with a disqualifying fault under the Kerry Blue Terrier standard or AKC regulations may compete in any Futurity/Maturity. The Futurity/Maturity judge is required to dismiss from the ring any dog with a disqualifying fault(s). Any dog that attacks another dog or a person during judging, with intent to bite, shall immediately be dismissed from further competition.

### **Location and Date of Event**

The Futurity/Maturity is to be held annually on the Fall Montgomery County National Specialty weekend on Saturday with event start time no later than 1:00 PM local time. The time and place is to be determined by the USKBTC.

### **Fees**

It is the sole responsibility of the breeder/owner to pay all fees and to send them to the USKBTC within the time limits specified. Fees and nomination/entry deadlines will be set by the Board of Governors and published on the USKBTC Website annually.

### **Classes Offered**

Futurity Classes shall be as follows (dog's age as of date of event):\*

- Puppy Dogs, 6-9 months: puppies six months of age to under nine months of age
- Puppy Dogs, 9-12 months: puppies nine months of age to under twelve months of age
- Junior Dogs, 12-15 months: juniors twelve months of age to under fifteen months of age
- Junior Dogs, 15-18 months: juniors fifteen months of age to under eighteen months of age

\*The same Classification for bitches.

Maturity Classes shall be as follows (dog's age as of date of event):\*

- Senior Dogs, 18-24 months: dogs 18 months of age to under 24 months of age
- Senior Dogs, 24-30 months: dogs 24 months of age to under 30 months of age

\*The same Classification for bitches.

## **Judging Procedure**

Judges are asked to judge the Kerry on the day and to not anticipate what the dogs will look like in the future. They are asked to judge the Futurity/Maturity to the best of their abilities, following the standard for the Kerry Blue Terrier, and according to their interpretation of such standard when it is applied to the age of the class that is being judged.

Equal consideration is to be given to each of the class winners in the run-off competitions, realizing that the more youthful dogs will be less mature, provided that such points of immaturity are normal and appropriate for this breed at that time in development and should not be penalized.

Since handlers may range from the novice to the professional, and because it is a breeder's Futurity/Maturity, judges will place emphasis on the selection of a superior specimen and have considerable tolerance for the novice handler.

The Futurity/Maturity will consist of three judges, one selected from each of three different regions as defined by membership distribution to the extent possible as designated by the USKBTC Board of Governors. Judges are selected by the Judges Selection Committee which is appointed by the USKBTC Board of Governors and must meet the criteria therein. Judges will be designated by lot Judge A, Judge B, or Judge C immediately before judging on the day of the Futurity, by random drawing. The assignment of the judges will be announced before the start of the classes.

A judge's state of residence is determined by their primary address or residence. Judges selected are not required to be USKBTC members. A judge's state of residence is that at the time of their selection by the Judges Selection Committee; relocation to a different state following their selection will not affect their assignment.

A judge who's dog has sired a litter of puppies that are eligible for entry in the Futurity/Maturity may judge as long as the person has not had constant contact with the litter after whelp. They cannot be grading, setting ears, or grooming the litter. If they so choose to have contact with the litter, then they must excuse themselves from being a judge in an appropriate amount of time in order to find a replacement.

Judges are required to refrain from watching sweepstake classes at the specialty shows held on the same weekend and to not go over puppies and young dogs that are entered in Futurity/Maturity in the year they are judging.

In all classes, there is to be absolutely no conferring between judges. Judges will judge classes using normal AKC judging procedures. Judging speed should average 2-2 1/2 minutes per dog.

A scheduled judge not in attendance at the Futurity site fifteen minutes prior to the scheduled start time of judging will be replaced. A committee of the USKBTC president, the Futurity Committee chairman/chairmen, and those Futurity Rules Committee members in attendance will select the replacement judge. Any replacement judge will judge the entire assignment.

A ramp will be used as per AKC rules as of January 2023.

## **Judging Schedule**

Dogs and bitches will be judged separately until selection of Best in Futurity and Best of Opposite Sex to Best in Futurity.

One large ring will be utilized. The ring will have ring stewards and armbands for the assigned classes (dogs-odd numbered, bitches-even numbered). Prior to the ring being manned, armband numbers may be picked up from the Futurity secretary no less than 15 minutes prior to judging.

Each class will be judged individually by two of the judges as selected prior to judging with both judges evaluating the class simultaneously without discussion.

The class placements will be selected by averaging the scores of the two judges. Judge's placements will be assigned by averaging the scores of the two judges. Judge's placements will be assigned a point value as follows: first place-4 pts., second place-3 pts., third place-2 pts., fourth place-1 pt., no placement-0 pts. Each judge will score each class, the points will be averaged, and the dog with the highest average is the winner, second highest total is second, etc. for third and fourth placements. In the event of a tie among placements, the third judge will be used to break the tie or ties.

Classes will be judged in the following order by the following judges:

6-9 month Puppy Dogs:	Judges A & B
6-9 month Puppy Bitches:	Judges B & C
9-12 month Puppy Dogs:	Judges A & C
9-12 month Puppy Bitches:	Judges A & B
12-15 month Junior Dogs:	Judges B & C
12-15 month Junior Bitches:	Judges A & C
15-18 month Junior Dogs:	Judges A & B
15-18 month Junior Bitches:	Judges B & C

Dogs and bitches from each class with the highest score will be declared class winners and will proceed to the run-off competition. Tabulation and verification of points will be completed by the Futurity secretary and ring stewards.

All three judges will judge each run-off competition. The dog receiving a majority of the three votes in each run-off competition will proceed to the next round of competition. Run-off classes will be judged in the following order:

Best Puppy Dog: 6-9 winner versus 9-12 winner  
Best Puppy Bitch: 6-9 winner versus 9-12 winner  
Best Junior Dog: 12-15 winner versus 15-18 winner  
Best Junior Bitch: 12-15 winner versus 15-18 winner  
Best Dog: Best Puppy Dog versus Best Junior Dog  
Best Bitch: Best Puppy Bitch versus Best Junior Bitch  
Best in Futurity/Best of Opposite Sex to Best in Futurity: Best Dog versus Best Bitch.

## Stake Disbursements

The Stake will include total moneys collected (entry fees, nominations fees, donations, etc.) less Futurity expenses. The total Stake will be divided proportionally based on entry in the Futurity and Maturity. Purse distributions will be as follows:

	Futurity Stake			Maturity Stake	
BEST IN FUTURITY	35%		BEST IN MATURITY	40%	
BEST OF OPPOSITE	25%		BEST OF OPPOSITE	30%	
BEST PUPPY DOG	10%		BEST DOG	15%	
BEST PUPPY BITCH	10%		BEST BITCH	15%	
BEST JR DOG	10%				
BEST JR BITCH	10%				

All prize money will be distributed between the owner (75%) and the breeder (25%). Monies will be sent to addresses given on entry forms. It is the Owners responsibility to get the Breeder Share check to the breeder and it will be included in their envelope. Disbursements are to be made within 90 days of the event completion.

Rosettes and/or trophies will be offered for class placements: Best Puppy Dog, Best Puppy Bitch, Best Junior Dog, Best Junior Bitch, Best in Futurity, and Best of Opposite Sex to Best in Futurity.

## Futurity/Maturity Rules

Futurity/Maturity rules and procedures may on occasion be evaluated and revised as needed by a committee appointed by the USKBTC Board of Governors. Three members will be appointed to this committee. Any proposed revisions require approval by the USKBTC Board of Governors.

*Revised: January 2023*