The National Dog Show

Hosted by

NOVEMBER 14 & 15, 2020

A Thanksgiving Tradition

Broadcast at Noon Thanksgiving Day
November 26
Welcome to the National Dog Show hosted by the Kennel Club of Philadelphia. On behalf of the members of the Kennel Club of Philadelphia, I thank you for joining us today as we once again celebrate showing purebred dogs in the Philadelphia area. The show was founded in 1879 and became an annual event in 1933. The Kennel Club of Philadelphia proudly supports a number of canine related organizations and has donated over $500,000 to these groups in the past 5 years.

The National Dog Show, airing annually on Thanksgiving Day at noon on NBC, has been thrilling dog lovers ever since it began in 2002, and we estimate that since then, one quarter of a billion people have watched!

Enjoy the dog show, and let us know about your experience at www.facebook.com/kennelclubofphiladogshows/.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Wayne Ferguson, President
Kennel Club of Philadelphia
When NBC airs the “National Dog Show” on Thanksgiving Day, millions of viewers will be interested to discern how the global pandemic has impacted the popular, annual family TV special.

The truth is, home viewers should see little difference other than the fact that there will be no spectators gathered around the usually packed stadium show ring. John O’Hurley and David Frei will still serve as host and expert analyst, respectively, as they have every year since the show’s inception in 2002. Mary Carillo will provide color and interviews from backstage once again. Certainly, social distancing and mask-wearing will prevail as safety protocols are followed.

That’s because this year’s show in suburban Philadelphia is being conducted under the approving guidance of the Montgomery County Board of Commissioners and the Montgomery County Department of Health. Thus, spectators, vendors, sponsors and other non-essential personnel will not have access to the premises of the Greater Philadelphia Expo Center in Oaks, Pa. Still, dog shows have been organized around the country throughout the summer and many of the best dogs in America live with their owners and handlers in the northeast and mid-Atlantic states. Or, they have traveled to Philadelphia for the National Dog Show because of the show’s prestige and the national TV coverage that comes for group winners and the seven Best in Show competitors.

Most of the 200-plus breeds are expected to be represented at the show.

The can’t-miss celebration of man’s best friend airs on Thanksgiving Day (noon-2 p.m. in all time zones), Nov. 26, following the telecast of NBC’s “Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade.”

Last year, the telecast reached nearly 25 million viewers over Thanksgiving weekend, delivering its third-best score in total viewers since the first broadcast in 2002. The show is part of a five-hour block of family programming on NBC, offering the country’s 65 million pet-owning households a special offering of fun entertainment while raising money for canine-related causes.
BELGIAN LAEKENOIS
Herding Group
The Belgian Laekenois is known for being strong, sturdy, and often protective of his or her master and property. The breed is the rarest member of four closely related Belgian herders— the Belgian Sheepdog, Malinois, Tervuren, and Laekenois. The Belgian Laekenois is distinguished from its brethren by a rough, tousled coat that comes in shades of red or fawn or grayish tones. They are considered quick learners and they were often called on as messenger dogs during World War I and II.

DOGO ARGENTINO
Working Group
The Dogo Argentino gives off the impression of explosive power and energy through its athletic build, but is also extremely agile. The breed was originally developed in the Cordoba region of Argentina in 1928 as a fighting dog. However, it was quickly discovered that the Dogo Argentino was adept at hunting wild boar and other big game, an activity that requires fearlessness and stamina. The large, pure-white Dogo Argentino might look imposing, but despite being a natural hunter and watchful guardian, this is a cheerful, friendly breed that is an excellent family companion.

BARBET
Sporting Group
The fiercely loyal Barbet is a strong, sturdily built dog with the agility to be a hunter and swimmer. This medium-sized dog is covered in a dense, curly coat from its head to its long, sweeping tail. A water dog, the Barbet has been used to find, flush, and collect birds. The breed nearly became extinct after the World Wars, but today the Barbet, although rare, continues to delight and amaze people around the world with its versatile abilities.

THREE NEW BREEDS IN 2020

BARBET
Sporting Group

BELGIAN LAEKENOIS
Herding Group

DOGO ARGENTINO
Working Group

WATCH THE NATIONAL DOG SHOW
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Dubbed by New York Magazine as “probably the most famous human in the world of canines,” Frei has been the co-host/analyst of “The National Dog Show” since its inception in 2002. After 27 years with the famed Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show, he now works for NBC and helped create and is the co-host of the Beverly Hills Dog Show, NBC’s springtime broadcast of the celebrity-studded competition on the left coast.

“Think of it as a tournament, like an advancing bracket in sports, where a dog wins at one level of the competition and advances to the next,” offers Frei. “The competition this year will begin with hundreds of dogs and will be narrowed down at each round. The dogs first compete within their breeds, the Best of Breed winners advance to the next level and compete in each of seven groups, and then the seven group winners compete for Best in Show.”

At each stage, all dogs are judged to their breed’s “standard,” an American Kennel Club (AKC)-approved written description of the ideal specimen of that breed. The standard usually describes the dog’s form as based on its function, what it was originally bred to do. Depending on what the standard asks for, those attributes evaluated by the judge can include size, color, coat and other factors.

The first step is for the dogs to compete at the breeds and varieties level. There are currently 208 breeds and varieties recognized by the AKC. Whatever the number is, from each breed, the judge’s ultimate award is Best of Breed or Best of Variety, and those winners move on to the next round, the group.

So, it is like college basketball’s March Madness — winning the breed can be likened to winning on the opening weekend and advancing to one of seven groups: Sporting, Hound, Working, Terrier, Toy, Non-Sporting and Herding. If a dog in the Sporting Group wins Best of Breed, it then moves forward to compete against the other Sporting breed winners.

Who to root for? “What we’ve learned from a lifetime in the dog show world is that the ‘Alma Mater factor’ usually prevails,” Frei continued. “Dog owners root for their breed, even if they’re not exactly sure what breed that is because the pup on the couch at home can be a combination of many, all special.”

“After all,” Frei concluded, “the real Best In Show dog is the one sitting on the couch next to you at home.”

HOW TO WATCH THE DOG SHOW

By Julia Shelley

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“After all,” Frei concluded, “the real Best In Show dog is the one sitting on the couch next to you at home.”
One of the entertainment industry’s most versatile players, John O’Hurley is an award-winning actor, show host, advertising spokesperson, feature film star and one of People Magazine’s “Sexiest Men Alive.”

Serving as host of The National Dog Show on NBC since its inception in 2002, O’Hurley is best known as J. Peterman on Seinfeld, the #1 syndicated television show in the world. With a career that began on a number of soap operas, O’Hurley went on to star on Broadway in Chicago and hosted the syndicated game show, Family Feud. He is also the host of The Beverly Hills Dog Show, also airing on NBC every spring since its 2017 debut.

In 2005, he was crowned the ultimate champion of ABC’s hit Dancing with the Stars and has added to his success with other ventures, including authoring three books—Before The Dog Can Eat Your Homework First You Have To Do It: Life Lessons From A Wise Old Dog To A Young Boy, It’s Okay To Miss The Bed On The First Jump and a book for children, The Perfect Dog.

The Perfect Dog inspired a children’s theatrical production, The Perfect Dog in which Sam, a twelve-year old perfectionist, searches for a flawless dog to enter in the town dog contest. The musical has become a staple of the Philadelphia-area community theater scene, selling out performances during November each year.

O’Hurley tours the country with his own one-man show, A Man With Standards, which includes songs, nostalgic stories, and comedic moments from his time on programs like Seinfeld and other poignant musings about life. He is also a spokesperson for The Epilepsy Foundation.

An avid golfer, O’Hurley enjoys spending his free time with his wife, Lisa, and son, Will, playing with his dogs and cheering for his beloved Boston Red Sox.

Watch the National Dog Show Thanksgiving Day at noon, November 26, on NBC.
David Frei, expert analyst for The National Dog Show since 2002, is arguably the most authoritative voice in the dog show world. He is an AKC-licensed judge who has officiated dog shows all over the world and he hosted USA Network’s coverage of the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show from Madison Square Garden for 27 years.

New York Magazine calls Frei “probably the most famous human in the world of canines.” He is also developer and co-host of The Beverly Hills Dog Show®, along with John O’Hurley. The program debuted in 2017, also on NBC, and airs annually around the Easter holiday in the spring.

Frei has enjoyed much competitive success as a breeder, handler, and owner of Afghan Hounds and Brittanys. Over the past 30 years his dogs have been used as therapy dogs at places such as the Ronald McDonald House and Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in Manhattan and at New York’s VA Medical Center.

He is the prime mover in establishing the newly-minted National Dog Show Therapy Dog Symposium, which debuted successfully in 2019 at Rowan University in Glassboro, NJ. The 2020 National Dog Show Therapy Dog Symposium is a virtual event — now national in scope — taking place on Tuesday, November 17, again in partnership with Rowan University.

His first book, The Angel by My Side, published in 2002 with Mike Lingenfelter, earned two Dog Writers Association of America (DWAA) awards. In 2011, Frei also published Angel on a Leash, which tells of his years of experience and work with therapy dogs.

A native of Eugene, Oregon, Frei has held public relations positions with the Denver Broncos, San Francisco 49ers, ABC Sports, the American Kennel Club and the Westminster Kennel Club. He currently resides in Cannon Beach, Oregon and is a consultant for NBC Sports.

David Frei

Watch the National Dog Show Thanksgiving Day at noon, November 26, on NBC.
Mary Carillo, longtime NBC Sports analyst and lifelong lover of man’s (and woman’s!) best friend, brings a wealth of experience to the National Dog Show as she returns for her tenth year as part of the commentary team.

Best known for her work as a host and correspondent for the Olympic Games on NBC, she also serves as an analyst for major-event tennis coverage on Tennis Channel and as a correspondent for HBO’s Real Sports with Bryant Gumbel. Carillo was the only female inducted into the 2018 Class of the Sports Broadcasting Hall of Fame that also included Bob Costas, Jim Nantz and Dick Vitale.

In addition to the National Dog Show, Carillo hosted USA Network’s presentation of the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show for several years alongside longtime host and now NBC colleague David Frei.

Her distinguished career in broadcast journalism has earned her two Peabody Awards, one of the highest honors in the field. She received her first Peabody for her work on the HBO documentary Billie Jean King: Portrait of a Pioneer and her second for co-writing the HBO documentary Dare to Compete: The Struggle of Women in Sport with Frank Deford. In 2010, she became the first female recipient of the Dick Schaap Award for Outstanding Journalism.

Carillo was named “Best Commentator” by Tennis Magazine from 1988-91 and “Broadcaster of the Year” by the Women’s Tennis Association in 1981 and 1985. She has co-written two books: Tennis My Way with Martina Navratilova and Tennis Kinetics with Rick Elstein.

Carillo played on the WTA tour from 1977-80. Teaming with childhood friend John McEnroe, Carillo won the 1977 French Open mixed doubles title. She was a doubles runner-up at the U.S. Clay Court Championships and a doubles quarterfinalist at the U.S. Open in 1977.

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The judges examine the dogs and place them according to how closely each dog compares with the judge’s mental image of the perfect dog as described in the breed’s official standard. The main consideration is the dog’s conformation or overall appearance, temperament, structure and movement. The judges are looking for characteristics that allow the dog to perform the function for which his or her breed was bred.

**BEST OF BREED**
In order to win Best In Show a dog must first be judged the best of many dogs of its same breed competing in the show. Some breeds have more than 100 dogs entered. The winner of the breed moves on to the Group judging.

**FIRST IN GROUP**
Each of the 208 AKC registered breeds and varieties are assigned to one of seven groups (Sporting, Hound, Working, Terrier, Toy, Non-Sporting and Herding) representing characteristics and functions for which the breeds were originally bred. By winning the Group competition, that dog joins an elite group of winners of the seven group competitions that go on to compete for the ultimate Best In Show award, the coveted gold and blue ribbon, and to become winner of National Dog Show.

**ABOUT JUDGING**

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**EARNING POINTS**
A dog will begin his show career by competing to become a “champion.” To earn an AKC Championship title (and to be able to place Ch. in front of his/her name) the dog needs to win 15 points at AKC shows. Points are earned by defeating other dogs of the same sex and breed in classes held specifically for non-champions. Points used to determine national rankings are recorded by the AKC and based on the number of dogs defeated. For each dog defeated at a dog show, the other dog gets one all-breed point. The top dogs in the country easily have more than 50,000 points in a given year.

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Welcome to the 19th annual edition of The National Dog Show hosted by The Kennel Club of Philadelphia.

We continue to build upon our efforts to make our show experience entertaining and educational for all. Our tradition-rich shows are a regional treasure as well as a national phenomenon and a win at Philadelphia is considered one of Dogdom’s greatest achievements.

The Kennel Club of Philadelphia is no newcomer to the dog show world. Since hosting a major dog event in 1876 at the Centennial Exposition, we’ve been at the forefront of the purebred dog world. The KCP and its predecessors have been presenting shows since 1879. Our club predates the American Kennel Club (AKC), which was organized at a meeting of the then Philadelphia Dog Club on September 17th 1884. We are not only one of America’s oldest continuing sporting events but our annual National Dog Show TV special is the most widely watched canine event in the world, capturing 20 million plus viewers a year with its broadcast on NBC at noon on Thanksgiving Day and an NBC prime time encore presentation the following Saturday.

We hope you enjoy your visit to our shows and return many years to come.

Sincerely,
Wayne Ferguson, President
Thor, the Bodacious Bulldog

The energetic Bulldog “Thor” joined the hall of Best In Show champions at The National Dog Show in 2019, becoming an immediate celebrity as a result of his winning performance before a total audience of over 20,000 canine lovers watching the NBC broadcast on Thanksgiving Day.

The two-year-old, 60-pound male captivated everyone in Philadelphia and around the world with his distinctive, muscular look, topping six other group-winning canines, advancing out of the 2,080-entry, 196-breed competition.

“Thor is an active and sweet dog and very athletic,” offered handler Eduardo Paris, a native of Peru. “You should see how high he can jump. He loves to play with his kennel-mate Chihuahuas, and he has beautiful construction, I think that’s why he won.”

Best in Show Winner 2019 - GCHG Diamond Gold Majesu Pisko Bulls a.k.a. Thor
various tasks for their handlers. These dogs are working farm and draft animals. They guard homes and livestock, serve heroically as police and military dogs, security dogs, guide and service dogs and hunters.

TERRIER GROUP
All but two of the terriers evolved in the British Isles. The geography of the specific area (water, rocky terrain) helped to determine the exact duties of each breed but it usually involved hunting vermin and varmints ranging from rats to badgers to otters and more. These are dogs of great determination, courage and self-confidence, with a great willingness to go to ground in search of their quarry.

TOY GROUP
Toy dogs have been around for centuries, and are bred for one purpose: to be companions for their humans. Many have been bred down from and still resemble their larger cousins. Their small size and portability make them ideal for city dwellers and those with limited space.

NON-SPORTING GROUP
The AKC originally registered dogs as either Sporting or Non-Sporting. Eventually, hounds and terriers were split from the Sporting Group and the Toys and Working dogs were split off from Non-Sporting, with the Herding Group eventually splitting from Working. Today, the Non-Sporting Group is literally every breed that is left, resulting in a wide variety of sizes, shapes, coat, function and history.

HERDING GROUP
Herding is a natural instinct in dogs that is seen in the wild. Humans have used that instinct to their advantage on farms and ranches with herding dogs who have the sole purpose of gathering and moving livestock from one place to another.

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To learn more, visit:
www.NationalDogShow.com
www.akc.org
**SPORTING**
- English Setter
- Gordon Setter
- Irish Setter
- Irish Red & White Setter
- Pointer
- German Shorthaired Pointer
- Weimaraner
- Vizsla
- Wirehaired Vizsla
- Brittany
- German Wirehaired Pointer
- Wirehaired Pointing Griffon
- Barbet
- Lagotto Romagnolo
- Spinone Italiano
- Flat-Coated Retriever
- Curly-Coated Retriever
- Golden Retriever
- Labrador Retriever
- Chesapeake Bay Retriever
- Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever
- Nederlandse Kooikerhondje
- Irish Water Spaniel
- American Water Spaniel
- Boykin Spaniel
- English Springer Spaniel
- Welsh Springer Spaniel
- Field Spaniel
- Clumber Spaniel
- Sussex Spaniel
- English Cocker Spaniel
- Cocker Spaniel (ASCOB)
- Cocker Spaniel (Parti-Color)
- Cocker Spaniel (Black)

**HOUND**
- Afghan Hound
- Saluki
- Azawakh
- Sloughi
- Ibiza Hound
- Pharaoh Hound
- Cirneco dell’Etna
- Greyhound
- Whippet
- Borzoi
- Scottish Deerhound
- Irish Wolfhound
- American Foxhound
- English Foxhound
- Harrier
- Beagle (15 inch)
- Beagle (13 inch)
- Rhodesian Ridgeback
- Norwegian Elkhound
- Basenji
- Portuguese Podengo Pequeno
- American English Coonhound
- Black and Tan Coonhound
- Bluetick Coonhound
- Redbone Coonhound
- Treeing Walker Coonhound
- Plott
- Bloodhound
- Otterhound
- Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen
- Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen
- Basset Hound
- Dachshund (Smooth)
- Dachshund (Longhaired)
- Dachshund (Wirehaired)

**WORKING**
- Doberman Pinscher
- German Pinscher
- Black Russian Terrier
- Giant Schnauzer
- Standard Schnauzer
- Rottweiler
- Bernese Mountain Dog
- Greater Swiss Mountain Dog
- Alaskan Malamute
- Siberian Husky
- Chinook
- Samoyed
- Akita
- Boxer
- Great Dane
- Bullmastiff
- Mastiff
- Tibetan Mastiff
- Neapolitan Mastiff
- Dogo Argentino
- Cane Corso
- Dogue de Bordeaux
- Boerboel
- Portuguese Water Dog
- Newfoundland
- Leonberger
- Saint Bernard
- Great Pyrenees
- Kuvasz
- Komondor
- Anatolian Shepherd Dog

**TERRIER**
- Airedale Terrier
- Irish Terrier
- Welsh Terrier
- Lakeland Terrier
- Wire Fox Terrier
- Smooth Fox Terrier
- Parson Russell Terrier
- Russell Terrier
- Border Terrier
- Kerry Blue Terrier
- Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier
- Bedlington Terrier
- Manchester Terrier
- (Standard)
- Rat Terrier
- American Hairless Terrier
- Miniature Schnauzer
- Australian Terrier
- Cairn Terrier
- Scottish Terrier
- Sealyham Terrier
- Cesky Terrier
- West Highland White Terrier
- Skye Terrier
- Dandie Dinmont Terrier
- Glen of Imaal Terrier
- American Staffordshire Terrier
- White Bull Terrier
- Colored Bull Terrier
- Staffordshire Bull Terrier
- Miniature Bull Terrier
- Norfolk Terrier
- Norwich Terrier

**TOY**
- Italian Greyhound
- Chinese Crested
- Toy Poodle
- Pomeranian
- Smooth Coat Chihuahua
- Long Coat Chihuahua
- Toy Fox Terrier
- Miniature Pinscher
- Toy Manchester Terrier

**NON-SPORTING**
- Poodle (Standard)
- Poodle (Miniature)
- Bichon Frise
- Coton de Tulear
- Löwchen
- Dalmatian
- Xoloitzcuintli
- Finnish Spitz
- Keeshond
- American Eskimo Dog
- Norwegian Lundehund
- Shiba Inu
- Schipperke
- Lhasa Apso
- Tibetan Spaniel
- Tibetan Terrier
- Boston Terrier
- French Bulldog
- Bulldog
- Chinese Shar-Pei
- Chow Chow

**HERDING**
- German Shepherd Dog
- Belgian Laekenois
- Belgian Malinois
- Belgian Sheepdog
- Belgian Tervuren
- Briard

To learn more, visit:
- www.NationalDogShow.com
- www.akc.org

Watch the National Dog Show Thanksgiving Day at noon, November 26, on NBC.
The National Dog Show Therapy Dog Symposium is back in 2020 after an amazing debut last year. Because of the pandemic, November’s event will be fully virtual (via Cisco Webex), making it possible for participants from across the country to participate.

The unique forum for therapy dog practitioners, advocates, and aspirants drew over 130 people to Rowan University last November to hear a diverse group of expert presenters share information and best practices. The event drew registrants from nine states, 18 animal and therapy animal-related groups, and over 30 career occupations.

The 2020 virtual event is set for Tuesday, Nov. 17, from 11 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., ET. The event is open to the public and participants can register at the cost of $20 per person at go.rowan.edu/NDSTherapyDogSymposium2020. The symposium is scheduled in conjunction with the annual Kennel Club of Philadelphia’s (KCP) National Dog Show Nov. 14-15 at the Greater Philadelphia Expo Center in Oaks, Pa. This year, the National Dog Show is being conducted without spectators, vendors and sponsors in conjunction with regional authorities.

“This symposium has been a wonderful addition to the Shreiber Family Pet Therapy Program at Rowan, and going virtual allows us to offer continuity, safety, and increased accessibility this time around. Post-COVID-19 we look forward to expanding the program by hosting an in-person conference as well as a simultaneous virtual conference for participants around the country in the future,” said Michele Pich, the symposium co-founder. “The Rowan University administration has been so supportive as we’ve adjusted our format for this year.”

Sympoism organizers include Frei, co-host of The National Dog Show Hosted by the Kennel Club of Philadelphia on Thanksgiving Day on NBC, and Pich, assistant director of The Shreiber Family Pet Therapy Program at Rowan and an adjunct professor and research associate at the University.

Frei, an internationally known canine expert and a member of the Kennel Club of Philadelphia, is a longtime leader in the therapy dog movement. For 27 years he was the face and voice of the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show on USA Network and founded the therapy dog nonprofit Angel On A Leash. He introduced therapy dog visitation to multiple major New York City healthcare facilities, including Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. Frei also developed and co-hosts the Beverly Hills Dog Show Presented by Purina in April on NBC.

Pich, a member of the National Dog Show Therapy Dog Ambassador Team since 2012 with her Staffordshire terrier mix, Vivian Peyton, runs the Shreiber Family Pet Therapy Program at Rowan University, where they bring the joy of therapy animal visits to students and community members. Pich previously worked at the Ryan Veterinary Hospital at the University of Pennsylvania, where she served as veterinary grief counselor and taught a course in the human-animal bond. She is the former co-director of the VetPets Animal Assisted Activities at Penn Vet and held advisory roles with the therapy dog program at the Philadelphia Ronald McDonald House and the Philadelphia animal-assisted prisoner re-entry nonprofit, New Leash on Life-USA.

Frei and Pich are certified presenters for Continuing Education credits via the Registry of Approved Continuing Education (RACE) and the American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB). Veterinary industry employees can get Continuing Education credits for participating in the symposium.

To learn more, visit: www.NationalDogShow.com • www.akc.org
WATCH THE NATIONAL DOG SHOW
THANKSGIVING DAY AT NOON, NOVEMBER 26, ON NBC.

HOSTED BY THE KENNEL CLUB OF PHILADELPHIA