



SCHEDULE 05E (24) – REGULATIONS FOR KUSA DOG OF THE YEAR COMPETITIONS

(Effective 01.10.2026)

1. HOLDING OF DOG OF THE YEAR COMPETITIONS

1.1. SHOW REGULATIONS

Participation is automatic. The Constitution of KUSA shall apply to these Competitions insofar as it can be relevant and does not conflict with the specific terms of this Schedule.

2. KUSA SHOWDOG OF THE YEAR

2.1. ELIGIBILITY OF DOGS TO COMPETE IN THE SHOWDOG OF THE YEAR COMPETITION

2.1.1. The Competition will run from the day after the final Show of the cluster weekend, generally referred to as "The KUSA Classic Weekend", which includes the KUSA Championship, KUSA Winners, KUSA FCI (Africa) Dog Show, and the KUSA National Awards in any year, to the final day of The KUSA Classic Weekend, which includes the KUSA Championship Show, KUSA Winners Show, KUSA FCI (Africa) Dog Show and the KUSA National Awards in the following year (Competition Period), and is open to dogs on the Kennel Union Primary Breed Register.

2.2. SHOWS AND POINTS AWARDED FOR THE SHOWDOG OF THE YEAR COMPETITION

- 2.2.1. Only points attained at All-breeds Championship, FCI & KUSA National and Winners Shows, during the Competition Period, will count.
- 2.2.2. Only the highest points gained at any such All-breeds Championship Show will count (e.g. Best in Show – 10 points only.)
- 2.2.3. KUSA National Awards will count as double points.

2.3. POINTS ALLOCATION

2.3.1. KUSA Winners and KUSA All-breeds Championship Shows:

- 2.3.1.1. Best in Show 10 Points
- 2.3.1.2. Reserve Best in Show 6 Points
- 2.3.1.3. Best in Group 4 Points
- 2.3.1.4. 2nd in Group 3 Points
- 2.3.1.5. 3rd in Group 2 Points

2.3.1.6. 4th in Group 1 Point

2.3.2. KUSA National Awards:

2.3.2.1. Best in Show 20 Points

2.3.2.2. Reserve Best in Show 12 Points

2.3.2.3. Best in Group 8 Points

2.3.2.4. 2nd in Group 6 Points

2.3.2.5. 3rd in Group 4 Points

2.3.2.6. 4th in Group 2 Point

2.3.3. FCI:

2.3.3.1. Best in Show 10 Points

2.3.3.2. Reserve Best in Show 6 Points

2.3.3.3. Best in Group 3 Points

2.3.3.4. 2nd in Group 2 Points

2.3.4. Multiple Bests in Show

Bonus Points: for every three (3) Bests in Show won during the Competition Period, five (5) Bonus Points will be added to the dog's score.

2.3.5. A League Table of the leading dogs, updated throughout the Competition Period, will be published on the KUSA website.

2.3.6. Publication of points gained is dependent on the Kennel Union receiving marked catalogues timeously from the All-breeds Clubs. Final results cannot be calculated until all catalogues have been received and the Show results have been processed.

2.3.7. Notwithstanding the provisions of Schedule 03 Regulation 31.1.1, upon the publication of the League Table containing the final results on the KUSA website, contenders shall be given a period within which to query the calculations of the KUSA Office, or the position of any dog on the League Table. Once the published period for queries has lapsed, the results will be declared as final and finite and no further queries shall be entertained or investigated, and no further correspondence will be entered into with regards to points calculation or positions of dogs on the League Table.

2.4. TIE-BREAKER

In the event of a tie for first place, or first place in a Group, the following tie-break mechanism shall be applied:

2.4.1. The Best in Show awards won by each dog at KUSA All-breeds Championship Shows, the KUSA Winners Show and any FCI Shows (but not the KUSA Nationals) shall be tallied and the dog with the greater number of these awards shall be declared the winner.

2.4.2. If the numbers are the same for two dogs, the Reserve Best in Show awards won by each dog at KUSA All-breeds Championship Shows, the KUSA Winners Show and any FCI Shows (but not the KUSA Nationals) shall be tallied and the dog with the greater number of these awards shall be declared the winner.

2.4.3. If the numbers are still the same for both dogs, the Group First awards won by each dog at KUSA All-breeds Championship shows, the KUSA Winners Show and any FCI shows (but not the KUSA Nationals) shall be tallied and the dog with the greater number of these awards shall be declared the winner.

2.4.4. In the unlikely event of the numbers still remaining the same for both dogs, Group Second awards won by each dog shall be considered, followed by Group Third awards and then Group Fourth awards.

2.5. PRIZES

SHOWDOG OF THE YEAR - Peter Collins Memorial Floating Shield

Prizes as approved by the Federal Council, or contributed by any sponsor of the Competition, will be awarded to Winner, Runner-up and the other Group Winners.

2.6. FCI World Challenge of Top Dogs

2.6.1. The winner of the KUSA Showdog of the Year Competition shall be entitled to represent KUSA at this Challenge.

2.6.2. Since this Challenge is likely to be held shortly after the closing of the Competition Period, the winner of the KUSA Showdog of the Year Competition shall be entitled to represent KUSA at the FCI World Challenge of Top Dogs in the year following the year in which the dog had won the KUSA Showdog of the Year Competition, e.g. the winner of the 2023/24 KUSA Showdog of the Year Competition, shall be eligible to compete at the FCI World Challenge of Top Dogs in 2025.

2.6.3. Expenses relating to the travel and attendance of the FCI World Challenge of Top Dogs shall be borne by the Registered Owner(s) of the KUSA Showdog of the Year Competition winner.

2.6.4. Should, for whatever reason, the winner of the KUSA Showdog of the Year Competition in a particular year be unable to represent KUSA at the FCI World Challenge of Top Dogs in the following year, no other dog shall be eligible to attend in its place.

3. KUSA DOG CARTING DOG OF THE YEAR

3.1 ELIGIBILITY OF DOGS TO COMPETE

3.1.1. The Competition will run from the day after the final Show of the cluster weekend, generally referred to as "The KUSA Classic Weekend", in any year, to the final day of The KUSA Classic Weekend, in the following year ("Competition Period"), and is open to dogs registered with the Kennel Union of Southern Africa on the Primary Breed Register, Breed Appendix Register and the Canine Dogsport Record.

3.1.2. Separate "Carting Dog of the Year" awards shall be recognised for the Miniature and Standard Carting divisions, i.e. "Carting Miniature Dog of the Year" and "Carting Standard Dog of the Year".

3.2. DETERMINATION OF WINNER

- 3.2.1. Only points attained at licensed Championship and KUSA National Shows, in each division, during the Competition Period, will count.
- 3.2.2. The five (5) highest qualifying Carting scores, attained during the Competition Period shall be counted for purposes of the "Carting Dog of the Year" Competition.
- 3.2.3. Two (2) of the scores need to be equal to or higher than 97 points (out of 100).
- 3.2.4. At least two (2) of the contributing qualifying scores must have been attained under different Judges.
- 3.2.5. Final placings shall be determined by the cumulative total of the five (5) qualifying scores counted.
- 3.2.6. A League Table of the leading dogs, updated throughout the Competition Period, will be published on the KUSA website.
- 3.2.7. Publication of points gained is dependent on the Kennel Union receiving the League Table from the National Carting Sub-committee. Final results cannot be confirmed until all catalogues have been received, and the results have been reviewed by the KUSA Office, if required.
- 3.2.8. Notwithstanding the provisions of Schedule 03 Regulation 31.1.1, upon the publication of the League Table containing the final results on the KUSA website, contenders shall be given a period within which to query the allocation of points, or position of any dog on the League Table with the National Sub-committee. Once the published period for queries has lapsed, the results will be declared as final and finite and no further queries shall be entertained or investigated, and no further correspondence will be entered into with regards to points calculation or the position of dogs on the League Table.

3.3. TIE-BREAKER

In the event of a tie for first place, the following tie-break mechanism shall be applied:

- 3.3.1. A countback shall be applied to all scores attained during the Competition Period, beyond the highest contributing five (5) scores, until the tie is broken.
- 3.3.2. The next highest scores shall be compared, in descending order, until the tie is broken.

3.4. PRIZES

Prizes as approved by the Federal Council, or contributed by any Sponsor of the Competition, will be awarded to the Winners.

4. KUSA DANCING DOG OF THE YEAR

4.1. ELIGIBILITY OF DOGS TO COMPETE

- 4.1.1. The Competition will run from the day after the final Show of the cluster weekend, generally referred to as "The KUSA Classic Weekend", in any year, to the final day of The KUSA Classic Weekend, in the following year ("Competition Period"), and is open to dogs registered with the Kennel Union of Southern Africa on the Primary Breed Register, Breed Appendix Register and the Canine Dogsport Record.
- 4.1.2. Separate "Dog Dancing Dog of the Year" awards shall be recognised for Heelwork to Music, and Musical Freestyle divisions, i.e. "Dog Dancing HTM Dog of the Year", for Singles, Veterans and Handy Dandy, and "Dog Dancing MF Dog of the Year", for Singles, Veterans and Handy Dandy".

4.2. DETERMINATION OF WINNER

- 4.2.1. Only points attained at licensed (live or video rounds) Championship and KUSA National Shows, in each division and division category, during the Competition Period, will count.
- 4.2.2. All qualifying scores attained during the Competition Period shall be counted for purposes of the "Dog Dancing Dog of the Year" Competition.
- 4.2.3. Non-qualifying scores shall not be included in the calculation of results.
- 4.2.4. Final placings shall be determined by the cumulative total of all qualifying scores attained during the Competition Period, divided by ten (10).
- 4.2.5. A League Table of the leading dogs, updated throughout the Competition Period, will be published on the KUSA website.
- 4.2.6. Publication of points gained is dependent on the Kennel Union receiving the League Table from the DOGSPC and the NAPC Ad hoc Dog Dancing Sub-committees. Final results cannot be confirmed until all catalogues have been received, and the results have been reviewed by the KUSA Office, if required.
- 4.2.7. Notwithstanding the provisions of Schedule 03 Regulation 31.1.1, upon the publication of the League Table containing the final results on the KUSA website, contenders shall be given a period within which to query the allocation of points, or position of any dog on the League Table with the DOGSPC and NAPC Ad hoc Dog Dancing Sub-committees. Once the published period for queries has lapsed, the results will be declared as final and finite and no further queries shall be entertained or investigated, and no further correspondence will be entered into with regards to points calculation or the position of dogs on the League Table.

4.3. TIE-BREAKER

In the event of a tie for first place, the following tie-break mechanism shall be applied:

- 4.3.1. A countback shall be applied to all scores attained during the Competition Period, beyond the qualifying scores counted for the initial calculation, until the tie is broken.
- 4.3.2. The next highest scores shall be compared, followed by each subsequent score in descending order, until the tie is broken.

4.4. PRIZES

Prizes as approved by the Federal Council, or contributed by any Sponsor of the Competition, will be awarded to the Winners.

5. KUSA FLYBALL TEAM OF THE YEAR

5.1. ELIGIBILITY OF TEAMS TO COMPETE

5.1.1. The Competition will run from the day after the final Show of the cluster weekend, generally referred to as “The KUSA Classic Weekend”, in any year, to the final day of The KUSA Classic Weekend, in the following year (“Competition Period”), and is open to dogs registered with the Kennel Union of Southern Africa on the Primary Breed Register, Breed Appendix Register and the Canine Dogsport Record.

5.1.2. A single “Flyball Team of the Year” winner shall be recognised.

5.2. DETERMINATION OF WINNER

5.2.1. Only points attained at licensed Flyball competitions and the KUSA Nationals, during the Competition Period, shall count.

5.2.2. Teams may select their best five (5) Flyball competition times attained during the Competition Period for purposes of the “Dog of the Year” Competition.

5.2.3. Points shall be awarded as follows:

5.2.3.1. Entering and competing at a Flyball competition: **1 point** per competition entered (maximum 5 points).

5.2.3.2. Posting a time of under 24 seconds: **2 points**.

5.2.3.3. Posting a time of under 20 seconds: **1 bonus point** in addition to the points awarded for posting a time of under 24 seconds.

5.2.3.4. Posting a time of under 18 seconds: **2 bonus points** in addition to the points awarded for posting a time of under 24 seconds.

5.2.3.5. Improving the South African Flyball record time: **2 points**.

This shall only be granted once per team during the Competition Period, irrespective of the number of times the same team improves the record.

5.2.3.6. KUSA Nationals:

5.2.3.6.1. Entering and competing at the KUSA Nationals: **2 points**.

5.2.3.6.2. Winning team at the KUSA Nationals: **3 points**.

5.2.3.6.3. Runner-up team at the KUSA Nationals: **2 points**.

5.2.3.6.4. Third-placed team at the KUSA Nationals: **1 point**.

5.2.4. Final placings shall be determined by the cumulative total of points attained from the five (5) competitions counted for the initial calculation.

5.2.5. A League Table of the leading teams, updated throughout the Competition Period, will be published on the KUSA website.

5.2.6. Publication of points gained is dependent on the Kennel Union receiving the League Table from the National Flyball Sub-Committee. Final results cannot be confirmed until all

catalogues have been received, and the results have been reviewed by the KUSA Office, if required.

- 5.2.7. Notwithstanding the provisions of Schedule 03 Regulation 31.1.1, upon the publication of the League Table containing the final results on the KUSA website, contenders shall be given a period within which to query the allocation of points, or position of any dog on the League Table with the National Sub-committee. Once the published period for queries has lapsed, the results will be declared as final and finite and no further queries shall be entertained or investigated, and no further correspondence will be entered into with regards to points calculation or the position of dogs on the League Table.

5.3. TIE-BREAKER

In the event of a tie for first place, the following tie-break mechanism shall be applied:

- 5.3.1. A countback shall be applied to all scores attained during the Competition Period, beyond the highest contributing five (5) scores, until the tie is broken.
- 5.3.2. The next highest scores shall be compared, in descending order, until the tie is broken.

5.4. PRIZES

Prizes as approved by the Federal Council, or contributed by any Sponsor of the Competition, will be awarded to the Winners.

6. KUSA RALLY DOG OF THE YEAR

6.1. ELIGIBILITY OF DOGS TO COMPETE

- 6.1.1. The Competition will run from the day after the final Show of the cluster weekend, generally referred to as "The KUSA Classic Weekend", in any year, to the final day of The KUSA Classic Weekend, in the following year ("Competition Period"), and is open to dogs registered with the Kennel Union of Southern Africa on the Primary Breed Register, Breed Appendix Register and the Canine Dogsport Record.
- 6.1.2. Only dogs competing in the Master Class shall be eligible for the Dog of the Year Competition. A single "Rally Dog of the Year" winner shall be recognised.
- 6.1.3. To be eligible for the "Dog of the Year" Competition, a competitor must participate in at least sixty percent (60%) of the Championship Shows held within the competitor's Province during the Competition Period.
- 6.1.4. To be eligible for the "Dog of the Year" Competition, a competitor must have attained at least one (1) Qualifying Certificate during the Competition Period.

6.2. DETERMINATION OF WINNER

- 6.2.1. Only scores attained at licensed Championship and KUSA National Shows, during the Competition Period, will count.

- 6.2.2. Final placings shall be determined by calculating the average score attained by each eligible competitor during the Competition Period.
- 6.2.3. The average score shall be calculated by dividing the cumulative total of all scores attained during the Competition Period by the number of licensed Shows entered by the competitor.
- 6.2.4. A League Table of the leading dogs, updated throughout the Competition Period, will be published on the KUSA website.
- 6.2.5. Publication of points gained is dependent on the Kennel Union receiving the League Table from the National Rally Dog Sub-Committee. Final results cannot be confirmed until all catalogues have been received, and the results have been reviewed by the KUSA Office, if required.
- 6.2.6. Notwithstanding the provisions of Schedule 03 Regulation 31.1.1, upon the publication of the League Table containing the final results on the KUSA website, contenders shall be given a period within which to query the allocation of points, or position of any dog on the League Table with the National Sub-committee. Once the published period for queries has lapsed, the results will be declared as final and finite and no further queries shall be entertained or investigated, and no further correspondence will be entered into with regards to points calculation or the position of dogs on the League Table.

6.3. TIE-BREAKER

In the event of a tie for first place, the following tie-break mechanism shall be applied:

- 6.3.1. A countback shall be applied to all scores attained during the Competition Period, beyond the qualifying scores counted for the initial calculation, until the tie is broken.
- 6.3.2. The next highest scores shall be compared, in descending order, until the tie is broken.

6.4. PRIZES

Prizes as approved by the Federal Council, or contributed by any Sponsor of the Competition, will be awarded to the Winner.

7. KUSA WORKING TRIALS (CLASSIC) DOGS OF THE YEAR

7.1. ELIGIBILITY OF DOGS TO COMPETE

- 7.1.1. The Competition will run from the day after the final Show of the cluster weekend, generally referred to as "The KUSA Classic Weekend", in any year, to the final day of The KUSA Classic Weekend, in the following year ("Competition Period"), and is open to dogs registered with the Kennel Union of Southern Africa on the Primary Breed Register, Breed Appendix Register and the Canine Dogsport Record.
- 7.1.2. Separate "Dog of the Year" awards shall be recognised for Police Dog (PD) and Tracker Dog III (TD3), i.e. "PD Dog of the Year" and "TDIII Dog of the Year".

- 7.1.3. To be eligible for the Working Trials Dog of the Year Competition, a dog must attain a minimum of two (2) Qualifying Certificates during the Competition Period.

7.2. DETERMINATION OF WINNER

- 7.2.1. Only scores attained at licensed Working Trials and KUSA National Shows, in each division, during the Competition Period, shall count.
- 7.2.2. The four (4) highest qualifying results attained during the Competition Period shall be counted for purposes of the Working Trials Dog of the Year Competition.
- 7.2.3. Raw marks attained shall be used for purposes of the calculation and not percentages.
- 7.2.4. Final placings shall be determined by calculating the average of the four (4) qualifying results counted.
 - 7.2.4.1. Where fewer than four (4) qualifying results have been attained, all qualifying results attained shall be averaged out, provided the dog has attained the minimum of two (2) Qualifying Certificates required for eligibility.
- 7.2.5. A League Table of the leading dogs, updated throughout the Competition Period, will be published on the KUSA website.
- 7.2.6. Publication of points gained is dependent on the Kennel Union receiving the League Table from the National Working Trials Sub-committee. Final results cannot be confirmed until all catalogues have been received, and the results have been reviewed by the KUSA Office, if required.
- 7.2.7. Notwithstanding the provisions of Schedule 03 Regulation 31.1.1, upon the publication of the League Table containing the final results on the KUSA website, contenders shall be given a period within which to query the allocation of points, or position of any dog on the League Table with the National Sub-committee. Once the published period for queries has lapsed, the results will be declared as final and finite and no further queries shall be entertained or investigated, and no further correspondence will be entered into with regards to points calculation or the position of dogs on the League Table.

7.3. TIE-BREAKER

In the event of a tie for first place, the following tie-break mechanism shall be applied:

- 7.3.1. A countback shall be applied to all scores attained during the Competition Period, beyond the qualifying scores counted for the initial calculation, until the tie is broken.
- 7.3.2. The next highest scores not included in the initial calculation shall be compared, followed by each subsequent score in descending order, until the tie is broken.
- 7.3.3. Non-qualifying scores may be considered for purposes of the countback only.

7.4. PRIZES

Prizes as approved by the Federal Council, or contributed by any Sponsor of the Competition, will be awarded to the Winners.

8. KUSA WORKING UTILITY DOG OF THE YEAR

8.1. ELIGIBILITY OF DOGS TO COMPETE

- 8.1.1. The Competition will run from the day after the final Show of the cluster weekend, generally referred to as "The KUSA Classic Weekend", in any year, to the final day of The KUSA Classic Weekend, in the following year ("Competition Period"), and is open to dogs registered with the Kennel Union of Southern Africa on the Primary Breed Register, Breed Appendix Register and the Canine Dogsport Record.
- 8.1.2. A single "Working Utility Dog of the Year" winner shall be recognised.
- 8.1.3. To be eligible for the Working Utility Dog of the Year Competition, a dog must attain a minimum of two (2) Qualifying Certificates during the Competition Period.

8.2. DETERMINATION OF WINNER

- 8.2.1. Only scores attained at licensed Working Utility Dog Trials and KUSA National Shows during the Competition Period shall count.
- 8.2.2. The four (4) highest qualifying results attained during the Competition Period shall be counted for purposes of the Working Utility Dog of the Year Competition.
- 8.2.3. Raw marks attained shall be used for purposes of the calculation and not percentages.
- 8.2.4. Final placings shall be determined by calculating the average of the four (4) qualifying results counted.
 - 8.2.4.1. Where fewer than four (4) qualifying results have been attained, all qualifying results attained shall be averaged out, provided the dog has attained the minimum of two (2) Qualifying Certificates required for eligibility.
- 8.2.5. A League Table of the leading dogs, updated throughout the Competition Period, will be published on the KUSA website.
- 8.2.6. Publication of points gained is dependent on the Kennel Union receiving the League Table from the National Working Trials Sub-committee. Final results cannot be confirmed until all catalogues have been received, and the results have been reviewed by the KUSA Office, if required.
- 8.2.7. Notwithstanding the provisions of Schedule 03 Regulation 31.1.1, upon the publication of the League Table containing the final results on the KUSA website, contenders shall be given a period within which to query the allocation of points, or position of any dog on the League Table with the National Sub-committee. Once the published period for queries has lapsed, the results will be declared as final and finite and no further queries shall be entertained or investigated, and no further correspondence will be entered into with regards to points calculation or the position of dogs on the League Table.

8.3. TIE-BREAKER

In the event of a tie for first place, the following tie-break mechanism shall be applied:

- 8.3.1. A countback shall be applied to all scores attained during the Competition Period, beyond the qualifying scores counted for the initial calculation, until the tie is broken.
- 8.3.2. The next highest scores not included in the initial calculation shall be compared, followed by each subsequent score in descending order, until the tie is broken.
- 8.3.3. Non-qualifying scores may be considered for purposes of the countback only.

8.4. PRIZES

Prizes as approved by the Federal Council, or contributed by any Sponsor of the Competition, will be awarded to the Winners.



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