

Revised: February 1, 2026

Mission Statement

German Pointer Club of America's mission is to host an exceptional National Specialty Show event that showcases the excellence of the German Shorthaired Pointer breed. The GSPCA is dedicated to honoring the breed's conformation, while fostering camaraderie among GSP enthusiasts. Through our commitment to high standards and sportsmanship, the GSPCA aims to preserve and promote the integrity and heritage of the German Shorthaired Pointer.

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I - National Specialty Show:

- A. National Specialty Show: The German Shorthaired Pointer Club of America (GSPCA) shall sponsor and hold a National Specialty Show, GSPCA Regional Show, Futurity, Sweepstakes, Obedience Trials, Rally Trials, Junior Showmanship and other related activities here in after referred to as the National Specialty Show (NSS).
 - 1. All activities surrounding the National Specialty Show shall be conducted and governed by the National Specialty Show Executive Committee (NSSEC) and the German Shorthaired Pointer Club of America Board of Directors (GSPCA BOD).

2. GSPCA Member Club specialty shows, and/or AKC performance and companion events may be held in conjunction with the National Specialty Show with the approval of the NSSEC and the GSPCA BOD.
 3. The National Specialty Show dates to be determined by the NSSEC, with preference given to the months of May and/or April.
 4. The National Specialty Show schedule is to be determined by the NSSEC, with a preference to encompass at least one (1) weekend day.
 5. All aspects of the National Specialty Show shall be subject to the approval and direction of the Board of Directors of the GSPCA.
 6. The National Specialty show and all associated events are open to all exhibitors in good standing with the AKC except for those events requiring GSPCA membership to enter- i.e. Show Futurity and Top 25 competition.
- B. Event Location: The National Specialty Show shall be held on a rotating basis among three geographic regions of the country as follows or a central location for multiple years may be considered:
1. East (comprised of the following sections):
 - Northeastern: CT, DE, ME, MA, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT
 - Southeastern: AL, FL, GA, MD, NC, SC, VA, WV, DC
 2. Central (comprised of the following sections):
 - North Central: IA, IL, MN, NE, ND, SD, WI
 - South Central: AR, KS, LA, MS, MO, OK, TX
 - East Central: OH, IN, KY, MI, TN
 3. West (comprised of the following sections):
 - Northwestern: AK, ID, MT, OR, WA, WY, that portion of CA with postal zip codes 93600 and above.
 - Southwestern: AZ, CO, HI, NV, NM, UT and that portion of CA with postal zip codes of 93599 and below.
 4. A central location for multiple years may be considered pending GSPCA BOD approval.
- C. Event Location Selection: The site of the National Specialty Show shall be reviewed, a minimum of two years prior to the event date.
1. Prior to a recommendation, the NSSEC will coordinate with the GSPCA Corresponding Secretary and request by email the Member Club secretaries to provide recommendations for sites in the designated region. The NSSEC will provide the Member Club Secretaries with site criteria to ensure the recommended sites meet the requirements. A minimum of one month will be given for their feedback.
 2. Once feedback is received the NSSEC members will review and make a recommendation with at least two site location options. The initial recommendations will be sent by the NSSEC to the GSPCA BOD for preliminary approval.

3. The site location options, once reviewed by the GSPCA BOD, will be sent by the Corresponding Secretary to the Member Club Secretaries for email voting. The results will be tallied by the Corresponding Secretary and sent to the Chairperson of NSSEC.
 4. The NSSEC will then review, make a final site selection, negotiate details/ schedule and prepare a final contract with the site location facility.
 5. All final site location details will be presented by the NSSEC to the GSPCA BOD for final approval prior to site contracts being finalized. In the event of the inability to hold the NSS at the location as selected, the NSSEC can select an alternate location with final approval of the GSPCA BOD.
 6. Upon final approval by the GSPCA BOD, the NSSEC Chairperson will direct the GSPCA Webmaster to post the location and tentative dates on the website.
- D. Show Finances: The financing of the National Specialty Show shall be the responsibility of the GSPCA.
1. The NSSEC will be responsible for preparing an event budget. The budget for the NSS will be submitted a minimum of ninety (90) days prior to the NSS by the NSSEC to the GSPCA BOD for review. All event expenditures not in the original budget require NSSEC Chairperson and GSPCA Treasurer approval prior to the expenditure being made.
 2. All other NSS events-i.e. Agility, Top 25, FastCat, Scentwork, etc., associated with the NSS, Committee Chairs shall prepare a budget and submit to the NSSEC Chairperson and GSPCA Treasurer for review and approval.
- E. Member Event Eligibility for the Show Futurity, Top 25 and Annual Awards presented at the NSS have specific requirements for membership status. All owners and co-owners must be members of the GSPCA by March 1st of the competition year and the year the award is presented or participates in the Top 25. Membership requires approval by the GSPCA BOD, and a membership number given. There will be no exceptions to this rule for competing in these events. **The Futurity requires that all breeders, owners and co-owners must be members before February 28th of the Futurity year.**

II. National Specialty Show Delegate Meeting:

- A. There shall be an annual meeting of the National Specialty Show Delegates representing the Member Clubs of the GSPCA. Member Clubs and their designated representatives must be in good standing with the AKC and with the GSPCA to be able to participate in the meeting.
- B. The annual meeting of the National Specialty Show Delegates shall be held at the place of and in conjunction with the NSS as determined by the NSSEC.
- C. A Member Club will be represented by one individual at the delegates' meeting. Each delegate must reside in the same region as the club they are representing or be a member of that club. Prior to the annual meeting, each Member Club is responsible for sending the Recording Secretary of the GSPCA with the name of their Delegate by the prescribed deadline. The

delegates must be submitted to the Recording Secretary of the GSPCA in writing prior to the National Specialty Show Delegates meeting.

D. If a Delegate from a Member Club cannot attend the Delegates Meeting, the Member Club can exercise its voting right by proxy provided this has been submitted to the Recording Secretary of the GSPCA by the member club prior to the National Specialty Show Delegates Meeting. The proxy must be a resident of the same section as that of the Member Club. The maximum number of votes that may be held by any single Delegate is two (2). Proxies shall have the right to vote on all questions presented at that meeting.

E. Member Clubs may also cast their vote by email sent to the Recording Secretary on any matter included on the agenda for the meeting. The vote must be received prior to the Delegates Meeting.

F. All items voted on at the meeting must be presented to the GSPCA Recording Secretary as an agenda item. **The deadline for these items is two (2) months prior to the event. A request will be sent out to all member clubs by the GSPCA Corresponding Secretary four (4) months prior to the event asking for the delegate names and agenda items.**

G. Each Member Club shall be entitled to one (1) vote, cast by its designated representative on the items as follows:

1. Election of representatives to the NSSEC. This is an automatic agenda item. Nominations will be taken during the meeting from the floor and voting will be immediately after nominations close.
2. Items relating to the NSS are presented as agenda items by any GSPCA member or Member Club in good standing.

H. The Chairperson of the NSSEC shall preside at the annual meeting of the National Specialty Show Delegates. They shall have the usual functions and duties of a presiding officer and shall exercise the general supervision of the business of the meeting.

I. The Vice-Chairperson, in the absence of the Chairperson, shall perform all duties and functions of the Chairperson at the annual meeting of the National Specialty Show Delegates meeting.

J. The Secretary for the Delegates Meeting shall be the Recording Secretary of the GSPCA or designated person if the Recording Secretary is unable to attend the meeting.

K. All Delegates present at the National Specialty Show Delegates Meeting will receive a copy of the agenda and order of business for that meeting, prior to the start of the meeting from the Recording Secretary of the GSPCA or a Designated person if the Recording Secretary is unable to attend the meeting.

L. The Recording Secretary will provide a copy of the meeting minutes to be posted on the website.

III - National Specialty Show Executive Committee

A. Committee Members: The NSSEC is composed of:

1. One (1) member from each geographical section as defined in the Constitution and By-Laws of the GSPCA. Total 7 geographical members. The geographical NSSEC members shall be elected by a majority vote from among the delegates attending the annual National

Specialty Show Delegates meeting. Individuals nominated need not to be present to be nominated for the position.

- a. All Members must be in good standing with the GSPCA and AKC.
 - b. All Members are expected to attend each NSS during their term unless excused by the NSSEC Chairperson.
 - c. All Members are permitted to participate/ exhibit at all events associated with the NSS with dogs they bred, own or co-owned.
 - d. The term for each member of the NSSEC will expire at the annual National Specialty Show Delegates meeting approximately three (3) years from the date elected.
 - e. Members will attend all and participate actively in committee meetings. If more than two (2) meetings are missed during a calendar year, the member may be replaced by a majority vote of the committee. Members must be responsible for at least two activities at the NSS, if a member can't commit to this responsibility, the member may be replaced by the majority vote of the committee.
 - f. If a member of the NSSEC moves out of their region b) resigns c) or is removed from the NSSEC, that member will step down from their position. The NSSEC will contact the Corresponding Secretary to do an email blast requesting a volunteer and the NSSEC will select from the applicants who applied from that section.
 - g. It is preferred by the NSSEC that members of the GSPCA BOD (other than the BOD liaison, Recording Secretary and Treasurer) not be elected to serve on the NSSEC.
 - h. If a member of the NSSEC is elected to the board in any capacity other than the Recording Secretary or Treasurer, they will step down and the NSSEC will contact the Corresponding Secretary to do an email blast requesting a volunteer and the NSSEC will select from the applicants who applied from that section.
2. The Recording Secretary of the GSPCA. This position is automatic and has voting privileges. This position is responsible for setting up committee meetings, meeting notes, and other administrative duties that laise with the GSPCA BOD. The position remains on the committee in perpetuity, although the incumbent will change as the GSPCA BOD changes.
 3. The Treasurer of the GSPCA. This position is automatic and has voting privileges. This position is responsible for the overall budget and contract approvals. The position remains on the committee in perpetuity, although the incumbent will change as the GSPCA BOD changes.
 4. The GSPCA BOD of Directors will appoint a board liaison to the NSSEC. This position is responsible for facilitating communication and decisions between the board and the NSSEC. The liaison and the NSSEC Chairperson must communicate on a regular basis and will be included in all meetings. The liaison should have prior knowledge of NSS events and an overall understanding of what is required to run this event. The liaison will be responsible for mentoring the Chairperson on the event's functions, expectations and

financial aspects of the show. The GSPCA Liaison position is a non-voting member of the committee.

5. Shortly after the National Specialty Show Delegates meeting, the NSSEC will hold a meeting to elect a new Chairperson and Vice Chairperson.
6. After the NSSEC elects a Chairperson and Vice Chairperson, the NSSEC may choose to add additional members for their positions from members that reside in their section for the duration of their tenure as Chairperson/Vice Chairperson as defined in the GSPCA By-Laws. The NSSEC Chairperson will contact the Corresponding Secretary to send an email blast to the GSPCA membership asking for volunteers from the same regions as the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson to replace those members on the NSSEC. This process will provide the Committee with two additional members.
 - a. The additional NSSEC member(s) will have voting privileges for their tenure.
 - b. The additional section member(s) are expected to attend the National Specialty Show and assume roles in assisting NSSEC members.
 - c. The Section additional member(s) can be assigned tasks as needed by the NSSEC.
7. All Members of the NSSEC are expected to work as a committee and respect the decisions made by the NSSEC and the GSPCA BOD. All members are encouraged to follow the AKC Good Sportsmanship code and refrain from sharing opinion on Social Media Platforms. Differences of opinions happen in any committee, but a united front should be presented to the GSPCA membership.
8. All Members of the NSSEC must be willing to assume the responsibilities of at least two or more of the following functions or activities, including presenting a financial report of said committee to the NSSEC Chairperson and GSPCA treasurer:
 - Contracts – The Committee will appoint someone from the committee to review all contracts for the events including the site, other events and the judges' contracts with the GSPCA Treasurer and Corresponding Secretary.
 - Awards Dinner - Includes determining the format, cost and coordinating all the details for the event including reservations and working with Webmaster to post all the information on the website.
 - Grounds – Responsible for all set-up, clean-up before and after the show. Provide clean-up supplies at all rings.
 - RV Parking – Determine availability, fees, reservations and designating an onsite coordinator during the event. Send all the information to the Webmaster.
 - Hospitality – At least one hospitality event will be included for participants during the week of the NSS. This includes communication, event details, cost and information to be included on the website and in the premium list.
 - Judges Hospitality/Gifts – Determine the gifts and who will present the gifts to the judge.

- Catalog - Solicit advertising, preparation and determining the number of catalogs for printing by the required deadline, assisting with the sale of catalogs at the event and ensuring purchased mark catalogs are completed and mailed to purchasers.
- Communication, prepare information and provide information to coordinate posts with the GSPCA Corresponding Secretary, Social Media Committee, Journal Editor and the GSPCA Webmaster for all related communications required pre, during and post the event. Only the Social Media GSPCA Event Page will be used for social media posts and all posts will be coordinated with the GSPCA Social Media Committee. At the event, communication coordinators will prepare information and schedules for events, locations, and times and display information at various locations around the site including the performance event sites. Post event, communication coordinator will help assist with post event survey if desired.
- Merchandise – All merchandise with the designated logo will be handled by the Merchandise Chairperson and the designated vendor.
- Parade of Title Holders – Coordination of the entries, ribbons, cost and all details required will be in the premium list.
- Premium List – Preparation of all information and coordinated with all the event chairs to be included by the deadline.
- Raffles – Coordination and preparation of all items for the various raffles offered at the NSS. Information to be included in the premium list. All raffles held by supporting clubs should be removed prior to the start of the NSS.
- Ribbons – All orders for ribbons for all NSS events should be coordinated by the designated person ordering the ribbons.
- Seminar Reservations – All details for any reservations including Judging Education will be included in the premium list.
- Health & Welfare – The H & W activities will be included in the premium list and coordinated with the Chairperson of the H & W Committee.
- Top 25 Competition & Related Events (e.g. Top Ten Owner Handler)
- Trophy Donations – Communication of how to donate trophies and financial donations should be coordinated with the Corresponding Secretary and the Webmaster prior to the event and in the premium list.
- Welcome Bags – Coordination of items to include with a schedule of events and distribution at event.
- Develop a comprehensive checklist to ensure completion of all tasks required for a successful event and post event tasks.
- A committee member will be selected and be responsible for sending pictures and results to Purina, Journal Editor and Webmaster.
- Junior Activities to be coordinated with the GSPCA Juniors Committee. All events will have a discount for Juniors including all performance activities offered at the NSS.
- Other Activities/Functions as required.

- B. Event Show Chairperson: The NSSEC will appoint an on-site Event Show Chairperson and/or an Assistant Event Show Chairperson if needed. These positions are non-voting positions for NSSEC business, and they will attend regular scheduled meetings of the NSSEC committee.
1. The Event Show Chairperson and/or Assistant Show Chairperson are not permitted to exhibit in conformation events at the NSS. However, participation in Performance events is permitted with dogs bred, own or co-owned by the Event Show Chairperson.
 2. Event Show Chairperson is responsible for all judge correspondence in conjunction with the GSPCA Corresponding Secretary. The GSPCA Corresponding Secretary will retain copies of all correspondence.
 3. The Event Show Chairperson will be the primary contact at the event to manage any facility issues, judges and participants' concerns or issues with assistance from the NSSEC.
- C. Sub-Committees: The NSSEC shall select qualified GSPCA members as volunteer(s) to oversee and act as Sub-Committee Chairs for sub-events such as Companion/Performance Events/Top 25 (and possibly others) to be held in conjunction with the National Specialty Show. These individuals shall report to the NSSEC all activities and will delegate tasks as deemed necessary for the event.
1. Volunteers/ Sub-Chairpersons of all the sub-events (Agility, Obedience, Rally, Top 25, etc.) held at the NSS will have no NSSEC voting privileges.
 2. Sub-Committee Chairpersons are expected to participate in NSSEC meetings to enhance communication for the success of the event and keep the NSSEC informed of their activities.
 3. Sub-Committee Chairpersons are expected to provide financial budget information for review and all expenses approval by the NSSEC.
 4. Sub-Committee Chairpersons will be included in the process of developing the premium list(s) for the NSS events.
 5. All Sub-Committee Chairpersons are permitted to exhibit in all NSS events with dogs bred, own or co-owned by them.
- D. Committee Duties: The NSSEC shall have overall responsibility for the running of the National Specialty Show, subject to the authority of the GSPCA BOD. In addition, it shall have the power to:
1. Make changes or additions to the running rules whenever deemed necessary, subject to approval of the GSPCA BOD. The changes and additions will be published in the minutes and on the GSPCA website. Each year prior to **the January** board meeting a revised copy of the running rules will be presented with a notation of any revisions. If no revisions are made, a notation will be made.
 2. Select a Judge if a vacancy occurs prior to a National Specialty event.
 3. Finalize the site location and coordinate the facility contract.

4. When appropriate, dedicate the National Specialty Show to the memory of deceased members of the GSPCA with approval from the GSPCA BOD. National show memorial dedications are to be based on the former members' volunteer contributions and impact to the GSPCA club and the NSS.
5. Select a Judge Selection Coordinator.
6. Make changes to the running/ schedule of the NSS event as required subject to the review and approval of the GSPCA BOD.
7. All meetings of the NSSEC will be run in accordance with Roberts' Rules of Order. The Treasurer of the GSPCA and the Chairperson will be responsible for the committee maintaining compliance with the rules.
 - a. The Chairperson is allowed to vote.
 - b. Any vote by email requires all members of the committee to vote before the action item can be determined.
 - c. In the event there is a tie during the voting process, the BOD Liaison
8. All NSSEC meeting minutes will be recorded and a copy of the meeting minutes to be placed on the GSPCA Website.

IV-GSPCA National Specialty Show Conformation Judges

A. Selection Process:

1. Selection of judges is completed two (2) years prior to the assignment.
2. The NSSEC will appoint a Judge Selection Coordinator (JSC). The JSC is responsible for managing the judge selection process.
 - a. The JSC will be a member of good standing with GSPCA and AKC.
 - b. Preference will go to the individuals who have demonstrated participation in volunteer duties for the GSPCA in the past and have completed them in a timely manner.
 - c. The JSC will be responsible for ensuring proof of eligibility and completion of all judging requirements.
 - d. The JSC will establish and update a yearly a pre-screened list of judges in good standing with the AKC and the GSPCA. A list will consist of judges meeting the minimum qualifications as of September 1st of that current year. This list will highlight and list alphabetically breeder judges first. All other eligible judges will then be listed alphabetically. A list of eligible judges that cannot be nominated because they have judged within the past three (3) years or will be judging in the future will be clearly differentiated. The list will be available on the GSPCA website and published annually in the November/December issue Journal. The list will be modified and updated by the JSC using the minimum qualifications in the National Specialty Show Running Rules Section as approved by the GSPCA BOD.

3. All members and member Clubs may vote for three (3) different eligible judges for regular class judging and for two (2) different eligible people, each for Futurity and Sweepstakes. Eligibility requirements for Futurity and Sweepstake judges will be included in the ballot.
4. Voting Deadline: **Feb. 1.**
 - a. Individual members' votes must be submitted with the person's GSPCA current membership number. Votes will be submitted electronically via the GSPCA website.
 - b. A Member club secretary may submit votes on club letterhead to the Corresponding Secretary.
5. A tabulation of votes will be completed by the GSPCA Webmaster. The Webmaster will provide a list of the top vote receivers names and number of votes received only to the JSC and NSSEC Chairperson. The Webmaster will retain a copy of this list until the nomination process is complete.
6. The JSC will mail / or via email correspondence letters to the top five (5) candidates in each category by February 12th requesting their bio, confirmation they meet all judging criteria requirements, and provide applicable fee schedule/ expense requests. The JSC will provide the judge candidates with a copy of the judging obligations as indicated in Section IV.C. The deadline for the return of this information to the JSC will be March 1st.
7. After receiving letters from judge candidates of either acceptance or refusal is indicated, the JSC will advise the NSSEC Chairperson of all responses to any changes to the original list.
8. Each candidate's fee schedule will be reviewed by the NSSEC and deemed acceptable or not. If not acceptable the NSSEC may direct the JSC to contact the nominee to renegotiate the fee. If still unacceptable then the nominee's name will be withdrawn. The reason for removal from the list will be noted. If the minimum number of candidates (five) is not met for all assignments, the JSC will contact the next candidate on the list and ask for the biography, fee and availability. The deadline for sending out these notices is March 20th with a return date April 10th.
9. Upon the final list of nominations completed, the NSSEC Chairperson will send the list to be posted on the GSPCA Website prior to the NSS. Copies of each candidate's biography may be available to members upon written request to the NSSEC Chairperson.
10. There will be only one (1) NSS Conformation judge for all regular and non-regular classes, unless otherwise deemed necessary by the NSSEC.
11. The Top five (5) names will be randomly drawn at the NSS at the Annual Awards dinner or time and location to be determined by the NSSEC. The Top five (5) names for each judging assignment will be on tickets placed in a bowl and drawn. The selection process will be weighed by giving the candidate with the most votes will receive five (5) tickets with their name on it, the second will have four (4) tickets, the third three (3) tickets, the fourth two (2) tickets and the fifth one (1) ticket in the bowl. The first name selected will be asked to judge the corresponding assignment. The second first alternate and so forth.
 - a. The names and alternates for each assignment will be recorded by the GSPCA Recording Secretary or a designated person if the Recording Secretary is unable to attend.
 - b. Once the names have been announced and recorded, they cannot be contested by any GSPCA individual or club member.

- c. The NSSEC will submit the judges for final approval by the GSPCA BOD at the June BOD meeting.
12. The GSPCA Recording Secretary will retain all ballots on file until after the NSS at which these judges officiate.
13. The Recording Secretary will provide the results of the selection to the Webmaster, to be posted on the website under the appropriate year within thirty (30) days and the Journal Editor to publish the results from the selection in the next Journal edition.
14. The NSSEC Chairperson will direct the Corresponding Secretary to notify the individuals of their selected judging assignments and to inform all judge contracts will be sent after the show location and dates have been established and a facility contract has been signed.
15. If the selected judge cannot fulfill their Breed, Sweeps or Futurity assignment, the first alternate judge would be asked to judge the assignment, provided they still can meet the judging requirements. The NSSEC Chairperson will direct the Event Show Chairperson to contact the alternate to verify availability, fee, expenses and acceptance of the assignment. In the event the individual does not accept the assignment, the next alternate on the list will be contacted until a judge has accepted. If all the alternates do not accept the assignment, then the NSSEC will select a judge based on the merits of the assignment and direct the Event Show Chairperson to contact the selected individual to verify availability, fee, expenses and acceptance of the assignment.
16. If it is necessary to add an additional judge due to an overdraw to their judging assignment the NSSEC will review candidates for a second judge. Such considerations will be based on the merits of the assignment, fees, location, and other practical matters. The NSSEC Chairperson will direct the Event Show Chairperson to contact the selected individual to verify availability, fee, expenses and acceptance of the assignment.
17. For Non-regular class assignment such as Stud Dog/ Brood Bitch and Brace classes, the NSSEC can elect to add an additional judge for these classes. Such considerations will be based on the merits of the assignment, fees, location, and other practical matters. The NSSEC Chairperson will direct the Event Show Chairperson to contact the selected individual to verify availability, fee, expenses and acceptance of the assignment.
18. Once a person has judged a regular NSS Conformation, Sweepstakes, and or Futurity class assignment, **they are not eligible for nomination to judge ANY NSS conformation classes for three (3) years.** Junior Showmanship, 4 to 6 Beginner Puppy and Pee Wee judges are excluded from this requirement.
19. Any judge who declines the assignment after accepting the assignment will not be eligible for nomination again for three (3) years from the date of the original assignment. In cases of extenuating circumstances that are justified by the NSSEC this rule can be set aside i.e. death in the family, severe illness that would prevent attendance.
20. If the conformation judge is ineligible to judge Junior Showmanship, the NSSEC will select an alternate judge for Junior Showmanship classes. The Junior Showmanship judges will be selected based on their qualifications and cost considerations including travel costs, fees and other expenses.

21. Performance judges (including Obedience, Rally & Agility) will be selected by the specific Performance Chairperson with the approval of the NSSEC. Judges will be selected based on their qualifications and cost considerations including travel costs, fees and other expenses

B. Judge Criteria: Qualifying persons as eligible for nomination to judge GSPCA National Specialty Conformation Events:

1. Conformation Breed Judge:

- a. The selection of a Breeder Judge is encouraged by the GSPCA.
- b. A Breeder Judge is defined as a person who is knowledgeable with success in breeding, exhibiting/handling GSP for ten (10) years or more. Has produced at least five (5) AKC GSP Champions. Breeder Judges can be nominated while on permit status. A breeder judge must be a GSPCA member in good standing with AKC and GSPCA for a minimum of ten (10) years. Breeders will be highlighted and listed first on the nomination list.
- c. Any AKC approved (regular status) judge for German Shorthaired Pointers in good standing with AKC is eligible to be voted to judge the GSPCA National. The judge will have been approved by AKC to judge German Shorthaired Pointers for at least seven (7) years.
- d. Any approved foreign judge (regular status) for German Shorthaired Pointers in their country of residence and in good standing with AKC is eligible to be voted to judge the GSPCA National. Foreign judges will have to be nominated as a write-in.
- e. Parent Clubs by request may invite eligible individuals to judge their Nationals or Specialties. In addition to the AKC requirements the Individual would be required to be a member of the GSPCA in good standing a minimum of ten (10) consecutive years. Full details for this process can be found on the AKC website and they must be completed prior to the nomination process.
- f. The judge must have completed all required AKC training or courses required one year prior to fulfilling the assignment and submit certificates to the JSC.

2. Futurity Judge: mandatory requirements at time of nomination:

- a. Will be knowledgeable, with success in breeding/exhibiting/handling the GSP breed for ten (10) years or more. Candidates will take and pass two (2) AKC courses through the online Canine College. They are “ABC’s of Dog Breeding - Canine Anatomy Course and German Shorthaired Pointer Breed Course. Provide completion certificates to the JSC by the required deadline of one year prior to the assignment.
- b. Produced 5 AKC GSP bench champions.
- c. Candidate will be a member in good standing of the GSPCA for a minimum of ten (10) years.
- d. Judging experience in a minimum of two (2) events such as local sweepstakes or puppy matches. If a candidate does not have this experience and is selected to judge it should be stipulated in their contract that they will need to accomplish this at least six months prior to the NSS they are selected to judge.

3. Sweepstakes Judge: mandatory requirements at time of nomination:

- a. Attended at least one (1) national specialty for a sporting breed. Candidates will take and pass two (2) AKC courses through the online Canine College. They are “ABC’s of Dog Breeding - Canine Anatomy Course and German Shorthaired Pointer Breed Course. Provide completion certificates to the JSC by the required deadline of one year prior to the assignment.
- b. Seven (7) years of involvement in AKC conformation venues with a sporting dog.
- c. Bred or exhibited at least five (5) sporting dogs to their AKC bench championships.
- d. Judging experience in a minimum of two (2) events such as local sweepstakes, puppy matches or 4–6-month-old beginner puppy. If a candidate does not have this experience and is selected to judge it should be stipulated in their contract that they will need to accomplish this at least six months prior to the NSS they are selected to judge.

C. Judges’ Contracts and Obligations:

1. After GSPCA BOD approval and the site contract is signed by the GSPCA Treasurer or designated Officer and countersigned by the site informing them of their selection, the NSSEC Chairperson shall direct the GSPCA Corresponding Secretary to send a contact to the selected judges and provide them with a judge contract for signature. Selected judges will be requested to return their signed contracts within thirty (30) days of the date of this notification letter.
2. For Breed Judges: Allowable expenses for Judges shall not exceed round trip air coach transportation, round trip transportation to and from home and the hotel to the airport, airport parking, lodging and meals from the day preceding the start of events they are judging to the day after the conclusion of the events they judge. Judging fees may be negotiated with the judge by the NSSEC Chairperson and or, GSPCA Treasurer.
 - a. The Breed judge contract will have the following notation in accordance with AKC Guidelines: No dog may be entered or exhibited under a judge if, within the prior year, the owner or co-owner also owns or co-owns a dog with the judge.
3. For Futurity and Sweepstakes Judges: Allowable judges’ expenses will include lodging and meals one day preceding the start of events they are judging on the day after the conclusion of the events they judge. Futurity and Sweepstakes judges DO NOT receive travel expenses. The contracts are executed by the direction of the NSSEC Chairperson and GSPCA Corresponding Secretary.
 - a. The Futurity and Sweepstake judge contracts will have the following notation in accordance with AKC’s “Rules Policies and Guidelines for Conformation Dog Show Judges”: Neither the judge nor any member of their immediate family/ household may exhibit at this National event and no dog they bred or co-bred, own or co-own, may be shown at the National event which is to include all host functions prior to and following the National event.
 - b. The contract for Futurity and Sweepstakes will also state that no dog the judge bred, or co-bred may be shown to them. If an exhibit is professionally handled by the Futurity /Sweepstakes judge in the year prior to the National event, it is understood that the owners/co-owners and the exhibit cannot show or be shown to said judge.

4. Elected judges for Breed Classes- regular/ non-regular, Futurity, Sweepstakes (Puppy and Veteran) at the NSS and the GSPCA Regional held the same week as the NSS will not judge German Shorthaired Pointers in breed competition for six (6) months prior to the NSS except in group or best in show judging. This does not apply to local GSP Club Supported shows during the NSS but should be considered in their judge selection.
5. Any judge judging at the NSS cannot accept judging assignments for any GSPCA Regional Specialty for six (6) months prior to the NSS assignment. This includes Sweepstakes (Puppy and Veteran) assignments in conjunction with the Regional specialty show.
6. All judges, regular and non-regular, sweepstakes and futurity will not exhibit, own or co-own an exhibit at the National event which will include all host functions prior to and following the National during national week. The only exception to this is the judge for Junior Showmanship classes and the Special Attraction-Pee Wee class.

V-National Specialty Show-DNA requirements:

- A. All entrants at the National Specialty Show, including performance and hunt test events, will require an AKC DNA number at the time of entry. This number must be included with the entry form. The number can be a temporary AKC DNA number that has been assigned to that dog pending the final results. If an AKC DNA number is contested and proven to be falsified, then all wins will be revoked by the GSPCA and AKC per entry certification.

VI- National Specialty Show Futurity:

- A. The GSPCA National Specialty Show Futurity shall be held each year in conjunction with the National Specialty Show. The NSSEC will determine the schedule with preference to holding the National Show Futurity after the National Specialty Show Sweepstakes.
- B. **ELIGIBILITY:** Puppies whelped between October 1 and September 30, of a consecutive year, will be eligible for the Futurity in the year following the September cutoff date. (Ex: Yearend Sept 30, 2020, eligible for 2021 Futurity). **All breeders and co-breeders of litters nominated for the Show Futurity must be members of good standing of the GSPCA at the time of Nomination. All breeders, owners and co-owners of individual dogs or bitches that compete in the Show Futurity must be members in good standing of the GSPCA before February 28th. If the ownership changes prior to the Futurity, the dog will remain eligible provided all new owners/co-owners are members or apply for membership to the GSPCA before February 28th. The Show Futurity Chairperson must be notified within ten (10) days of any changes of ownership.**

NOMINATION: Bitches must be nominated within 56 days (8 weeks) of whelping, and a fee accompany the nomination. Any nominations postmarked or finalized online later than 56 days from whelping will be considered late. Litters may be nominated after the 56th day but not later than 112 days (16 weeks), with an additional \$50 penalty payment (\$75 total). Litters may be nominated after 112 days (16 weeks), with an additional \$200 penalty payment (\$225 total). No nomination will be accepted if postmarked or finalized online later than 143 days (20 weeks) after whelping.

SENIOR CLASS: For dogs whelped on or after October 1 through January 31. Dogs and bitches will be judged separately.

INTERMEDIATE CLASS: For dogs whelped on or after February 1 through May 31. Dogs and bitches will be judged separately.

JUNIOR CLASS: For dogs whelped on or after June 1 through September 30. Dogs and bitches will be judged separately.

PAYMENT OF FORFEITS: Three forfeits must be paid as follows: First Forfeit of \$20 must be postmarked or finalized online by December 31; Second Forfeit of \$20 must be postmarked or finalized online by February 28 (29); Third Forfeit of \$20 (to count as entry fee) must be received at the Superintendent's Office by the closing date of the National Specialty Show entries. Any forfeits, with the exception of the third forfeit, will be accepted if postmarked or finalized online up to 21 days late and accompanied by a penalty payment of an additional \$20 on the First Forfeit and \$20 per pup on the Second Forfeit. Late forfeits postmarked or finalized online after the 21st day, or forfeits without proper payments, will be returned and/or deemed ineligible. All forfeits will become the property of the GSPCA Futurity and are non-refundable. All payments must be U.S. Funds. U.S. Funds drawn on a foreign bank must include an additional \$5 processing fee per check.

FORMS: An email acknowledgement with your Futurity Litter Number will be sent to the breeder upon nomination of the litter. After Futurity Litter Numbers have been received by the breeders, First Forfeits can be made. First and Second Forfeit Forms are downloadable on the GSPCA website or payments can be made online. All Forfeits must be made within the noted timelines either by mail or online. First Forfeits are paid as a quantity of pups multiplied by the fee. Second Forfeits require a form for EACH pup moving forward in the Futurity. Forfeit Forms must be completed in full. Leaving items blank or filling with incorrect information can be cause for refusal and/or ineligibility. Entries are compared to the Second Forfeit Form; be sure all information is correct. Any deviations can result in pups being deemed ineligible.

DIVISION OF PRIZE MONEY:

Actual Futurity expenses will be deducted from Futurity money. The remaining balance will be divided as follows:

- a. Best of Futurity and Best of Opposite will receive 12.5% of the funds, which will be further divided 50% to the owner and 40% to the breeder.
- b. The winner of each class will receive up to \$300 or the total of the funds available for that class if the funds are less than \$300.
- c. If the funds available for each class are more than \$600, the winner will receive at least \$300 of those funds available, according to the following allocation:

1st Place = 50%

2nd Place = 25%

3rd Place = 15%

4th Place = 10%

d. If the funds available for each class allow for the winner to receive \$300, but are less than \$600, the allocation of the funds for placements 2 through 4 would be as follows:

2nd Place = 50% of the remaining funds

3rd Place = 32% of the remaining funds

4th Place = 18% of the remaining funds

All funds for each class will be further divided 60% to the owner and 40% to the breeder.

VII - National Specialty Show Sweepstakes:

A. The National Specialty Show Puppy Sweepstakes shall be held each year in conjunction with the National Specialty Show. The following classes may or may not be offered as follows, subject to NSSEC final approval.

Puppy dogs (6 mos. & under 9 mos.) Puppy Bitches (6 mos. & under 9 mos.)

Puppy dogs (9 mos. & under 12 mos.) Puppy Bitches (9 mos. & under 12 mos.)

Dogs (12 mos. & under 15 mos.) Bitches (12 mos. & under 15 mos.)

Dogs (15 mos. & under 18 mos.) Bitches (15 mos. & under 18 mos.)

Dogs (18 mos. & under 24 mos.) Bitches (18 mos. & under 24 mos.)

B. The division of the prize money will be as follows:

1. The GSPCA shall retain 30% of the total receipts of the Sweepstakes entry fees. The remaining 70% will be known as the Sweepstakes Fund and shall be divided proportionately based on the number of entries in each class, and then further divided as follows:

Best in Sweepstakes: 7% of Sweepstakes Fund

Best of Opposite: 5% of Sweepstakes Fund

1st place: 40% of Class Fund

2nd place: 30% of Class Fund

3rd place: 20% of Class Fund

4th place: 10% of Class Fund

C. Dogs and bitches that are entered in the Sweepstakes must also be entered in a regular or non-regular class of the National Specialty Show.

D. The National Specialty Show Veteran Sweepstakes shall be held each year in conjunction with the National Specialty Show. The following classes may or may not be offered as follows, subject to NSSEC final approval:

Veteran dogs (8 yrs. & under 10 yrs.) Veteran bitches (8 yrs. & under 10 yrs.)

Veteran dogs (10 yrs. & Over) Veteran bitches (10 yrs. & over)

E. Entrants are not required to enter a regular class at the National Specialty Show. Spayed or neutered veterans may enter the Veteran Sweepstakes. Division of the prize money will be as follows: The GSPCA shall retain 30% of the total receipts of the Sweepstakes entry fees. The remaining 70% shall be known as the Veteran Sweepstakes Fund and shall be divided

proportionately based on the number of entries in each class, and then further divided as follows:

Best Veteran Sweepstakes Dog: 5% of Sweepstakes Fund
Best Veteran Sweepstakes Bitch: 5% of Sweepstakes Fund
1st place: 40% of Class Fund
2nd place: 30% of Class Fund
3rd place: 20% of Class Fund
4th place: 10% of Class Fund

Resources:

www.akc.org/downloadable-forms/#conformationevents

Include:

Checklist for events

Disaster Plan

Sample budget

Checklist for working with the GSPCA Secretary for Social Media Activities

Sample GSPCA Event Checklist

Checklist for each performance event at the NSS

Sample Post Event Survey

Site requirements for the NSS and associated performance events

Resource for leadership of leading committees

Roberts Rules of Order