



2026 LCNW Regional Specialty Premium A Traditional Club Show

August 15, 2026 • Nolte State Park, Enumclaw, Wa.

Dear Leo Family, Friends, and Fanciers,

You are invited to the **2026 LCNW Regional Specialty** at **Nolte State Park** in **Enumclaw, Washington**, on **Saturday, August 15, 2026**.

The **entry period closes on Wednesday, July 29, 2026**. All forms and payments must be **received by or on July 29** to compete in the show.

The online registration form is available at www.leonbergerclubnw.com.

Please complete your registration(s) online. Payments may be made via **check** or **PayPal** (instructions are listed on the website and fee form).

Mail check payments to **Junko Ferguson** (junkofifi@gmail.com).

If you require a hard copy of the registration materials, please contact Show Chair

Lori Taft at (loritaft@hotmail.com) or ☎ (360) 722-1049.

We are continuing with online registration this year. You'll find the entry form and all details on the LCNW website. The form is easy to use—for both **conformation entries** and **non-exhibitors**.

Planning to attend the picnic but not participate in the show? Please RSVP using the same form and select the "picnic-only" option to help us get a headcount.

Thank you for your continued support. With so many dog events happening nearby, we hope you'll join us for the largest Leo gathering in the region. See you there!

— The Leonberger Club of the Northwest Board and Show Chair



Premium Information - All events open to Leonbergers only

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CLOSING DATE:
WEDNESDAY, JULY 29, 2026

2025-2026 LCNW Officers

President

Wally Johnson

Treasurer

Junko Ferguson

Secretary

Jody Woodruff

Member-at-Large

Mark Nelson

Member-at-Large

Maria Nelson

Show Chair

Lori Taft



www.leonbergerclubnw.com

Schedule of Events

Saturday, August 15, 2026 – LCA Traditional Club Show		
Time	Activity	Judge
8:00 - 10:30 AM	Show Set-up (Volunteers Welcome)	—
9:30 AM	Registration Opens – Check in, Pick up packets, Armbands at ringside	—
10:30 AM-Completion	LCA Traditional Club Show Begins	—
	Regular Conformation Dogs	Linda Sebastiani*
	Baby Puppy, Spay/Neuter (Non-Regular)	Linda Sebastiani*
	PeeWee Handler, Junior Showmanship (Non-Regular)	TBA
	Lunch Break (Judge's Discretion)	—
	Regular Conformation Bitches	Linda Sebastiani*
	Best in Show	Linda Sebastiani*
After BIS	Winner Photos with Judge(s)	—
After Photos	LCNW Membership Meeting + RaffleMania	—
After Raffle	Famous Post-Show Potluck Picnic & BBQ	—

* See Judge Bio and Eligibility Notice below.

Meet the Judge & Disclaimer

Judge: Linda Sebastiani – Bellawood Leos

I was born and raised in Northern California and currently reside in Orangevale, California, with four Leonbergers.

I got my first dog, a Great Dane named Cuddles, when I was three years old.

Since then, I've owned many dogs of various breeds, including a hound appropriately named Useless. My first venture into the show world came in the late 1980s with a Golden Retriever named KC.

I welcomed my first Leonberger in 2000 and began showing the breed after acquiring my second Leonberger in 2002. Under the Bellawoods kennel name, my first litter was born in 2005, producing my first AKC Grand Champion.

I continue to breed and exhibit Leonbergers.

I earned regular status as an AKC judge for Leonbergers in May 2025 and am actively pursuing judging approval for additional Working Group breeds.



Judge Eligibility Notice

To help ensure a fair and comfortable experience for everyone, Judge Linda Sebastiani of Bellawood Leos has kindly asked that no dogs of her breeding be entered under her judging. While entries of this kind are allowed under the rules of this non-AKC-pointed event, we fully support and appreciate Judge Sebastiani's wish to avoid any appearance of bias.

Thank you for your understanding and for helping us maintain the spirit of sportsmanship and integrity at our specialty.

FIRST-TIME EXHIBITOR?

Welcome! We're so glad you're here.

- ▶ Need help understanding which class to enter? Ask the Show Chair or a Board member—we're happy to help!
- ▶ Bring your own shade, chair, leash, and water—we're outdoors all day.
- ▶ You don't need fancy attire or a professional handler—just a love for your Leonberger and community spirit.

You belong here. Reach out, ask questions, and enjoy your first LCNW Specialty!

Entry Fees

Conformation (Pre-Registration required, closes 7/29/26)		Fee
Judge: Linda Sebastiani*	All classes	\$25.00/dog
Junior Showmanship (Pre-Registration required, closes 7/29/26)		Fee
Judge: TBA	Junior Class (ages 9 to 13)	Free
Judge: TBA	Senior Class (ages 14 to 18)	Free
Pee Wee Showmanship (Pre-Registration preferred, Day of Show OK)		Fee
Judge: TBA	Ages 8 and under	Free

* See Judge Eligibility Notice on Page 2.

Payment Instructions

Important: Please complete and submit your registration form before sending payment. This ensures your entry and payment are correctly matched.

Paying by Check

Make checks payable to:
Leonberger Club of the Northwest

Mail checks to:
Junko Ferguson
10650 NE 9th Place, Unit 824
Bellevue, WA 98004

Email contact: Junko Ferguson
(junkofifi@gmail.com)

Paying by PayPal

To send money via PayPal:

1. Log in to your PayPal account.
2. Click on the "Send Money" or "Send" button near the top of the page.
3. **Recipient's email:** lcnwshows@gmail.com
4. **Amount:** Insert "**Total**" found on last line of the LCNW Specialty Club Show Entry Form Receipt (which includes 4% processing fee).
5. **Currency:** USD (\$)
6. **Memo:** Type "[your first & last name] LCNW Summer Show".
7. **Category of purchase (If required):** Goods and Services

All registration forms and fees must be received by **July 29, 2026**, to compete in the show. **Mail early!**
If payment is not received, we will send you a PayPal invoice. Payment must be completed by the deadline.

Show & LCNW Event Information

Location: Nolte State Park – 📍 36921 Veazie Cumberland Road, Enumclaw, WA 98022 [Link to more Park Info](#)

- ▶ Nolte is a large woodland park featuring a walking loop, swimming lake, and picnic areas.
- ▶ The show site is a spacious grassy field surrounded by tall trees. Shade is limited—please bring your own chairs and a canopy.
- ▶ Day-use only. No overnight camping permitted.
- ▶ Arrive early—parking is limited (see *Parking & Discover Pass on Page 6*).

Registration: Please complete your registration(s) online. Payments may be made by **check or PayPal** (instructions above are also available on the LCNW website and on the fee form).

Closing Date: All entries and payments must be received by **Wednesday, July 29, 2026 to compete in the show and be included in the catalog.**

Conformation (Regular & Non-Regular Classes): Pre-registration is required. No day of show entries will be accepted.

Junior Showmanship (ages 9 to 18): Pre-registration is required. No day of show entries will be accepted.

PeeWee Handler (up to age 8): Pre-registration is preferred. Day-of-show entries will be accepted, but will not appear in the catalog.

Show Photographs: Volunteer amateur photographers will take winner photos for the LeoLetter and LCNW website.

Please note: Neither the Club nor the photographers make any warranties, express or implied, regarding photographic services or results. If you require a specific image, please make arrangements for a photographer or camera.

Sponsor a Trophy

Support the Specialty while honoring a beloved Leo or memory. Sponsorships include a catalog dedication and are first-come, first-served.

How to Sponsor:

1. Email Junko Ferguson at junkofifi@gmail.com to confirm availability.
2. Complete the form after confirming availability of class. Submit form and payment.
3. Please include a dedication or short message along with and your name in the from field.
You can be listed any way you like - for example, a breeder might prefer to use a kennel name.

Available Classes and Fees

Best Youth Dog	\$20.00	Best Youth Bitch	\$20.00	Best Veteran	\$ 25.00
Novice Dog.....	\$5.00	Novice Bitch.....	\$5.00	Best of Winners	\$ 30.00
Bred by Exhibitor Dog	\$5.00	Bred by Exhibitor Bitch	\$5.00	Best of Opposite.....	\$30.00
Foreign Dog.....	\$5.00	Foreign Bitch.....	\$5.00	Best in Specialty Show	\$35.00
Open Dog	\$5.00	Open Bitch	\$5.00	Best Baby Puppy.....	\$20.00
Winners Dog	\$25.00	Winners Bitch.....	\$25.00	Best Spay/Neuter	\$20.00
Reserve Winners Dog	\$15.00	Reserve Winners Bitch	\$15.00	Junior Handler	\$5.00
Champion Dog	\$10.00	Champion Bitch	\$10.00	PeeWee Handler	\$5.00
Veteran Dog	\$10.00	Veteran Bitch	\$10.00		

What to Expect on Show Day

LCNW RaffleMania

Everyone's favorite fundraiser is back—RaffleMania! This event is made possible by your generous donations. Please bring an item or two to contribute, and don't forget to pre-order your raffle tickets via the registration form using PayPal or check. Day-of-event ticket sales will be cash only.

Annual LCNW Potluck Picnic & BBQ

After the show, raffle, and club meeting, join us for a relaxed potluck and BBQ with friends and fellow fanciers.

- Please bring a dish and beverage to share. (A cooler is strongly recommended.)
- LCNW will provide burgers, hot dogs, and bottled water.
- **Reminder:** There are no food vendors or services nearby.
- You do not need to be entered in the show to join the fun—everyone is welcome!
- If you are attending the picnic but not entering the show, please RSVP on the registration form by selecting the "picnic-only" option. Your RSVP helps us plan food and drinks.

All Day Drop-In Activities

Obstacle Fun Course (no-host): Step right up and cruise with your Leo through a course of fun activities. Bring a bag of treats and follow the signs. No judges or critiques, just fun. Drop in throughout the day at your convenience.

Walk the Lake Loop Trail (no-host): There is a 1.4 mile, gravel/dirt loop around the lake. It's a great place to let your dogs stretch their legs. Pets must be on leash and under physical control at all times. Pet owners must clean up after pets on all state park lands.

Take a Dip In Deep Lake: Deep Lake is a clean, stocked freshwater lake. Leos and people alike will enjoy the calm waters. Dogs may swim, but they must be on leash. Dogs are not allowed on the Public Beach.

Please note: no electrical service [for blow dryers] in the park.

What to Wear

This is a **casual outdoor show**—wear whatever makes you comfortable and safe for a grassy field. Yes, even flip-flops are welcome!

Want to show your Leonberger pride? This year's **LCNW T-shirts and sweatshirts** are a perfect way to stay cool (or cozy) while supporting the club. Whether you pick a short-sleeve tee or a warm hoodie, you'll look great and help fund LCNW activities.

Bonus style points if you sport this year's limited-edition shirt in the ring or around the park!

LCNW Apparel Fundraiser

Don't miss out—get your LCNW T-shirts and Sweatshirts!

We've partnered again with **Custom Ink** for one of our favorite fundraisers: **Summer Specialty Shirt Sales!**

Proceeds from this special fundraiser help support LCNW activities and events all year long.



Pictured: Short-Sleeve Tee and Hooded Sweatshirt.

The LCNW holds several fundraisers each year to support our club activities. Thank you for your continued support of our limited-edition shirt sales!

[Click here to order your gear](#) or find all of the details on the [LCNW website](#).

Choose your style: unisex short-sleeve tee or cozy hooded sweatshirt.

Sales close: Tuesday, July 21, 2026

2026 Pricing:*

- **Short-Sleeve Tee: \$28.00**
- **Hooded Sweatshirt: \$50.00**

**Tax and direct shipping are separate.*

Orders will ship approximately two weeks after the deadline, and Custom Ink also ships to Canada.

Please note: shirts must be ordered in advance—no shirt sales at the show. A minimum quantity must be reached for apparel to print.



Help Make the Show Happen (Volunteers)

Volunteers Needed

Each show succeeds thanks to our amazing volunteers. It's a great way to get involved and meet fellow Leo lovers. No experience necessary!

To volunteer please contact Lori Taft at loritaft@hotmail.com or (360) 722-1049 or reach out to any Board Member via the LCNW website (www.leonbergerclubnw.com/About-Leonberger-Club-Northwest/LCNW-Board-Members).

Volunteer Roles

Scribes (1+): Record the judge's comments for each dog's evaluation. Ensure the judge signs catalogs and books. Forms for dogs receiving "Excellent" ratings must be reviewed by the club secretary before distribution.

Stewards (1+): Check in exhibitors, record scratches, announce class numbers, and track placements. Ensure judges sign catalogs and books for submission to the club secretary.

Judge Liaison (1+): Ensure judges have access to hospitality items and lunch.

Raffle Table Volunteers (1+): Set up and organize the raffle tables. Answer questions, monitor the area throughout the day, and coordinate with Show Chair Lori Taft and Raffle Ticket Lead Junko Ferguson.

Photographers (1+): Take ring, winner, and candid photos. Upload to your preferred site and provide a link to LCNW. Photographers agree to delay posting winners' photos to social media until the club has published them.

Parking & Discover Pass

All vehicles must display a Washington Discover Pass or purchase a day-use pass at the gate.

The penalty for not displaying the pass is \$99. For information and exemptions, please visit the Discover Pass website: <https://www.discoverpass.wa.gov/>.

Washington Libraries allow library card holders to check-out a special Discover Pass (no charge). For a list of participating libraries check here (<https://www.discoverpass.wa.gov/148/Check-Out-Washington>).

Note: No overnight parking.

Where to Stay & How to Get There

Nolte State Park: 36921 Veazie Cumberland Road, Enumclaw, WA 98022. Located north of the town of Enumclaw, Wa., at the western edge of the Cascade Mountains. <https://parks.wa.gov/find-parks/state-parks/nolte-state-park>

Directions: From east of Enumclaw: On SR 410, turn north on 284th Ave., S.E., and continue approximately seven miles to park entrance.

A Note about Mobile Service: Nolte Park is located in unincorporated area near the foot of the Cascade Mountains. Mobile service may be limited as you get closer to the park.

Hotels:

- | | |
|---|---|
| ▶ GuestHouse Inn, Enumclaw – 800-214-8378 | ▶ Best Western, Puyallup – 888-204-5804 |
| ▶ Rodeway Inn, Enumclaw – 360-825-1626 | ▶ Motel 6, Issaquah – 425-392-8405 |
| ▶ Econo Lodge, Buckley – 360-829-1100 | |

Please be a responsible motel guest. Make reservations early. Area activities will make available space scarce. Hotel pet fees & acceptance policy may vary. Exhibitors are encouraged to phone ahead.

Information on pet-friendly hotels or motels for the area can be found at the following web sites:

- ▶ Pets Welcome (<https://www.petswelcome.com/pet-friendly-hotels/washington/enumclaw>)
- ▶ Bring Fido (https://www.bringfido.com/lodging/city/enumclaw_wa_us/)

Not familiar with the area? Other nearby cities: Buckley, Puyallup, Issaquah, and beyond.

Rules & Safety Policy

Cleaning up After Your Leo

There will be a \$25 fine if you are observed not cleaning up after your dog.

LCA Safety Policy For Dogs At All LCA Events

- ▶ Dogs must be crated or on leash at all times.
- ▶ When on leash, the length must not exceed 6 feet and may not be retractable.
- ▶ When on leash, dogs must be under control at all times.
- ▶ Dogs showing uncontrolled or aggressive behavior may be asked by the event chair, a board member, or other official to leave the site promptly or be crated for the duration of the event.
- ▶ Current rabies certificates are required.
- ▶ There will be occasions when a dog will be allowed off leash when approved by the event chairperson.
- ▶ Failure to meet these conditions may result in a disciplinary hearing.

LCNW Additions To LCA Safety Policy

- ▶ Excessive barking or aggressive behavior will not be tolerated. It is at the judge's discretion to disqualify dogs exhibiting such behavior in the ring.
- ▶ Continued aggressive behavior will result in being asked to remove the dog from the grounds. If your dog tends to be aggressive, please keep him/her out of the main area and under control at all times.
- ▶ If your dog likes to bark in their pen at passers-by, please set up away from the flow of traffic.
- ▶ If your bitch is in heat, please set up in the designated area.
- ▶ Failure to pick up after your dog may result in a \$25 fine. Please scoop!!
- ▶ Please be sure your children are mindful of other dogs.

Things to Remember – State Park Rules

- ▶ Park hours: 8 AM – Dusk
- ▶ No pets on public swimming beach
- ▶ Use trash receptacles
- ▶ Alcohol only in designated areas
- ▶ No fireworks, smoking in cabins, or glass bottles on beach

[Click Here for a Full list of State Park Rules](https://parks.wa.gov/about-us/rules-and-safety/park-rules-and-regulations) - <https://parks.wa.gov/about-us/rules-and-safety/park-rules-and-regulations>

Associated Events

Enumclaw Expo Center is located approximately seven miles south of Nolte State Park. There are many AKC events available to you and your Leos throughout the weekend.

Olympic Kennel Club Show, Enumclaw, Wa. August 14, 15 & 16, 2026. Superintendent: BaRay, www.barayevents.com

- ▶ **An early ring time has been requested for Saturday** to allow entrants to participate in both the AKC events and our Specialty. Please remember that although we may request an early ring time, there is no guarantee that BaRay will award one. It is the responsibility of the entrant to manage any ring conflicts. The LCNW will not delay our specialty or activities to accommodate time conflicts.

Contacts & Resources

Show Chair: Lori Taft - loritaft@hotmail.com | ☎ (360) 722-1049

Payment & Trophy Contact: Junko Ferguson - junkofifi@gmail.com

Show Forms: www.leonbergerclubnw.com

[Click here to order your 2026 LCNW Apparel](#)

Conformation Show Guidelines

Conformation Class Eligibility

It is the Exhibitor's responsibility to make sure their Leonberger is entered in the correct class.
(See LCA Rules, Section 2. Conformation Event Protocol, D. Conformation Classes, pg 10.)

1. Failure to enter the Leonberger in the correct class may result in disqualification from competition at the event. There is no further penalty for this error.
2. No class shall be re-judged to accommodate a Leonberger who has been entered in the incorrect class. However, if the error is discovered before competition begins in the affected classes, the Leonberger may be moved to the correct class.
3. If a Leonberger is disqualified after being placed in a class, the next placed Leonberger will assume the higher placement.
4. Questions regarding class eligibility should be directed first to the Event Chair for any given event. Exhibitors may also consult any member of the LCA Show Committee. However, the Show Committee, Event chair, or any other individual shall not be held responsible for advice of eligibility based on inaccurate or incomplete information given by the exhibitor.
5. Exhibitors should read the class definitions carefully before entering any show.
6. A Leonberger may not be moved to a champion class without notification of eligibility to the exhibitor by the LCA Points Secretary.
7. A Leonberger will be considered ineligible for conformation competition if it has been subjected to any type of procedure that would change, disguise, correct or eliminate a congenital or hereditary defect or undesirable characteristic with the exception of the removal of rear dewclaws.
8. All Leonbergers competing in regular conformation classes or special adult classes must be intact (except as noted in veteran class). Male Leonbergers must have two normal testicles fully descended into the scrotum (except as noted in veteran class).

Note On Grooming

In order to avoid confusion among those familiar with grooming other breeds for conformation showing, owners and handlers please be advised that the LCA insists upon strict adherence to the following language from the AKC Standard: "Leonbergers are presented naturally and untrimmed. No scissoring is allowed with the exception of trimming excess hair on toes for neatness. Any other trimming or shaping of the coat is penalized to the extent that it is effectively eliminated from competition."

General Conformation Guidelines

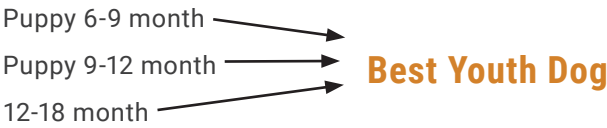
- ▶ No badges, clothing with kennel names, or other means of identification may be worn or used while exhibiting in the ring. No collars with ID tags on Leos while being exhibited.
- ▶ Handlers shall not use pinch collars in the ring.
- ▶ If a dog/bitch is owned either wholly or in part by a judge at an LCA Sanctioned Event, the Leonberger shall not be exhibited under said judge.
- ▶ Exhibitors and their Leonbergers are not to fraternize with judges immediately prior to an event.

Note On Good Sportsmanship

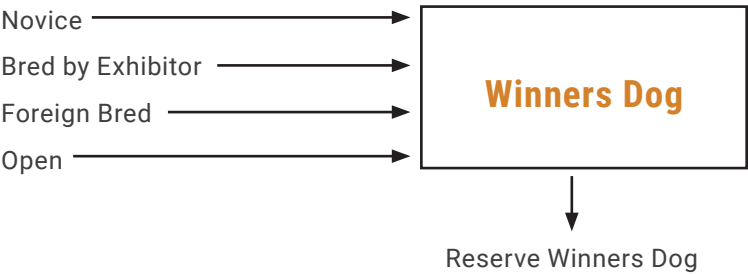
Owners and handlers please be mindful that Good Sportsmanship is a condition of membership and an object of the Leonberger Club of America (LCA) and Leonberger Club of the Northwest (LCNW) Constitutions. Be respectful toward owners, handlers, judges, volunteers, other officials, and the clubs. Failure to exhibit good sportsmanship may result in suspension and/or expulsion pursuant to the Bylaws of the LCA.

LCA Conformation Club Show Flow Chart

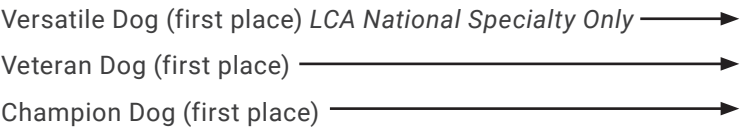
Youth Dog Classes



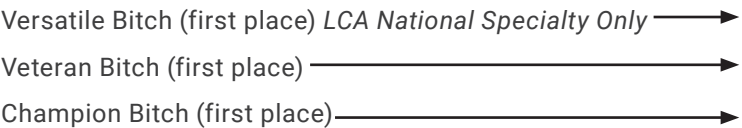
Adult Dog Classes



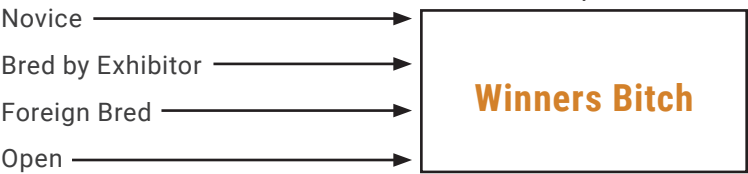
Non-Regular & Special Dog Classes



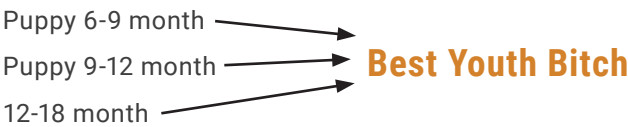
Non-Regular & Special Bitch Classes



Adult Bitch Classes



Youth Bitch Classes



LCA Rules

Conformation, Working Events, Titling, Certificate, and Awards Programs

(Approved January 2023)

Introduction

The Leonberger Club of America (LCA) Club Show Conformation Events provide a European-style evaluation and written critique of each entrant as judged against the American Kennel Club Breed Standard. LCA Draft Tests demonstrate the traditional working ability of the Leonberger. While the LCA cannot award Conformation titles, the club will award Draft titles, as well as Water Work Titles and a variety of other awards, to dogs meeting the specified criteria.

Conformation Club Shows and Draft Tests will be held according to LCA rules and regulations. If AKC events are held in conjunction with an LCA event, AKC rules shall take precedence during the posted hours of the AKC event. See Section III, IV & V for specific information on Draft, Water Work and Versatility titles and other LCA Certificate and Awards Programs.

Conformation Competition (LCA Club Shows)

1. Competition Eligibility

- A. Registration:** In order for a Leonberger to compete in any LCA Event, American bred dogs must be registered with the AKC or the LCA and have an AKC or LCA number (LCA numbers were issued prior to 2009). Foreign bred dogs may also enter as long as they have a registry number from an FCI recognized kennel club, or AKC.
- B. LCA Membership:** the owner/handler need not be an LCA member to compete in LCA sanctioned events. However, LCA membership is required in order to be eligible for LCA awards and the following specific classes.
- C. Breeders Line/Group:** In order for any breeder or stud dog owner to compete in the Breeder's Line or Breeder's Group competition at any LCA Sanctioned National or Regional event, the breeder or stud dog owner must be an LCA member in good standing.

2. Conformation Event Protocol

- A. LCA Conformation Events:** LCA Club Shows are organized in the following manner:
 - 1. All entrant Leonbergers (except in a Puppy Sweeps event) will be evaluated by, and will receive a written assessment from a qualified judge. Qualified judges are those certified by a recognized Kennel Club, such as AKC, FCI, LCA or UKC. Entries will be evaluated against the American (AKC) Breed Standard. Each entry will receive a rating (for adult dogs: Excellent, Very Good, Good or Poor) (for youth dogs - classes for dogs/bitches under 18 months: Very Promising, Promising or Fair). Class placements (1st – 4th) will be determined and presented by the judge during class judging.
 - 2. The rating on the evaluation does not determine advancement in the event.
 - 3. Judging will proceed as follows:
 - a. All dogs will be evaluated starting with Youth Classes - classes for dogs/bitches under 18 months. Entries will be divided by sex and may be judged concurrently in separate rings using two qualified judges.
 - b. After the Youth Classes have been judged, Best Youth Dog/Bitch will be selected from the winners of each age group (see class definitions). The Best Youth Dog/Bitch will go on to compete for Winners Dog/Bitch against the winners of the following classes: Novice, Bred by Exhibitor, Foreign Bred, and Open.
 - c. If only one ring is used, after all dogs are evaluated, bitches will be evaluated in the same manner.
 - d. Winners Dog, Winners Bitch, Versatile, Veteran and Champion class winners (both dog and bitch) will advance to compete in the overall Best of Breed competition.

During the final competition the Judge(s) will select Best in Show, Best of Opposite Sex, Best of Winners and Best Veteran.

LCA Rules

Conformation Competition (LCA Club Shows)

B. Conformation Class Eligibility: It is the Exhibitor's responsibility to make sure their Leonberger(s) is entered in the correct class.

1. Failure to enter the Leonberger in the correct class may result in disqualification from competition at the event. There is no further penalty for this error.
2. No class shall be re-judged to accommodate a Leonberger who has been entered in the incorrect class. However, if the error is discovered before competition begins in the affected classes, the Leonberger may be moved to the correct class.
3. If a Leonberger is disqualified after being placed in a class, the next placed Leonberger will assume the higher placement.
4. Questions regarding class eligibility should be directed first to the Event Chair for any given event. Exhibitors may also consult the LCA Show Committee Chair. However, the Show Committee Chair, Event Chair, or any other individual shall not be held responsible for advice of eligibility based on inaccurate or incomplete information given by the exhibitor.
5. Exhibitors should read the class definitions (section II D) carefully before entering any show.
6. A Leonberger will be considered ineligible for conformation competition if it has been subjected to any type of procedure that would change, disguise, correct or eliminate a congenital or hereditary defect or undesirable characteristic with the exception of the removal of rear dewclaws.
7. All Leonbergers competing in regular conformation classes or special adult classes must be intact, with the exception of veterans, (in keeping with the AKC interpretation of the class as described in AKC Rules Applying to Dog shows. Chapt 11 Sec 8).

C. General Guidelines:

1. No badges, clothing with kennel names, or other means of identification may be worn or used while exhibiting in the ring.
2. Handlers shall not use pinch collars in the ring.
3. If a dog/bitch is owned either wholly or in part by a judge at an LCA Sanctioned Event, the Leonberger shall not be exhibited under said judge.
4. Exhibitors and their Leonbergers are not to fraternize individually with judges immediately prior to an event. Group gatherings are exempt from this policy. Under no circumstances should an entered Leonberger be in the presence of the judge prior to the event.

D. Conformation Classes

1. Regular Youth Classes:

- a. Youth Dog/Bitch 6-9 months:** Open to all Dogs/Bitches at least 6 months and under 9 months of age.
- b. Youth Dog/Bitch 9-12 months:** Open to all Dogs/Bitches at least 9 months and under 12 months of age.
- c. Youth Dog/Bitch 12-18 months:** Open to all Dogs/Bitches at least 12 months and under 18 months of age.

Note: Leonbergers must be moved to the next age class on the "anniversary" of their birth, as per the following example:

- ▶ A puppy born on January 1st will be eligible to compete only in the 3-6 month Non-Regular class as of April 1st, and until June 30th.
- ▶ At any show held on or after the next anniversary, which constitutes a new age class (6, 9, and 12 months) that puppy will be eligible to compete only in the next age class.
- ▶ At any show held on or after the 18-month anniversary of birth, that puppy will be considered an adult, and will be eligible to compete only in the appropriate adult class.

LCA Rules

Conformation Competition (LCA Club Shows)

2. Regular Adult Classes (Non-Champion):

- a. **Novice Dog/Bitch:** Open to any Dog/Bitch 18 months or older who has NOT won 3 first place awards in LCA or AKC Novice combined, or won 1 first place award in any of the following LCA or AKC classes: (Bred by Exhibitor, Foreign Bred, Open, Amateur Owner-Handler, American Bred or Veterans), AND who has earned NO points toward an AKC Championship.
- b. **Bred By Exhibitor Dog/Bitch:** Open to any Dog/Bitch 18 months or older who is exhibited by his or her breeder where the breeder is either the sole or part owner of the Leonberger being shown.
- c. **Foreign Bred Dog/Bitch:** Open to any Dog/Bitch 18 months or older who is from a kennel domiciled outside of the United States.
- d. **Open Dog/Bitch:** Open to any Dog/Bitch 18 months or older. Dogs or Bitches that are eligible for the Novice, Bred by Exhibitor, or Foreign Bred classes may be entered in this class instead, at the owner's discretion.

3. Special Adult Classes: The class winners of Versatile, Veteran and Champion classes compete for Best in Show and Top Leo points.

- a. **Versatile Dog/Bitch:** Open to any Dog/Bitch with a LCA Versatility title of any level. This class to be offered at the LCA National Specialty only.
- b. **Veteran Dog/Bitch:** Open to any Dog/Bitch who is 7 years of age or older, including AKC or LCA Champions.
- c. **Champion Dog/Bitch:** Open to any Dog/Bitch who has attained an AKC or LCA Championship.

4. Non-Regular Classes: Non-regular classes such as Puppy Dog/Bitch 3-6 months, Spay/Neuter, Honors, Brace and Group Classes compete in conformation-type exhibition events, but do not compete for Best in Show.

- a. **Puppy Dog/Bitch 3-6 months:** Open to all Puppy Dogs/Bitches at least 3 and under 6 months of age.

Note: Leonbergers must be moved to the next age class on the "anniversary" of their birth, as per the following example:

- ▶ A puppy born on January 1st will be eligible to compete only in the 3-6 month non-regular class as of April 1st, and until June 30th.
- ▶ At any show held on or after the next anniversary, which constitutes a new age class (6, 9, and 12 months) that puppy will be eligible to compete only in the next age class
- ▶ At any show held on or after the 18-month anniversary of birth, that puppy will be considered an adult, and will be eligible to compete only in the appropriate adult class.

- b. **Spay/Neuter:** Open to any Neutered Dog or Spayed Bitch who is 6 months of age or older.
- c. **Honors Dog/Bitch:** Available at the National Specialty only; open to any Dog or Bitch who has won Best in Specialty Show (Best of Breed) at an LCA National Specialty. This class does not compete for points or for Best in Specialty Show (Best of Breed). The entrant may not be entered in any other Regular or Non-Regular class at the show.
- d. **Breeder's Group:** Entrants are a minimum of three (3) Leonbergers with the same Kennel Name that meet the qualifications for conformation showing in regular or non-regular conformation events.
- e. **Breeder's Line:** Entrants are a sire or dam with a minimum of 5 offspring, of any gender, from at least two litters, that meet the qualifications for conformation showing in regular or non-regular conformation events.
- f. **Brace Class:** Entrants are Two (2) Leonbergers, at least 6 months old but not necessarily the same bloodlines that resemble each other.

LCA Rules

Conformation Competition (LCA Club Shows)

5. LCA Junior Showmanship Classes:

- a. **Novice:** Open to boys and girls who are at least 9 years old and under 18 years old on the day of the show and who at the time entries close have not won three (3) first place awards, with competition present, in a Novice Class at any LCA or AKC show.
- b. **Open:** Open to boys and girls who are at least 9 years old and under 18 years old on the day of the show, and who have won three first place awards in a Novice Class in an LCA or AKC show, with competition present in the Novice class. Junior Handlers who win a third Novice Class with competition present after the closing of entries for a show may transfer their entry from the Novice Class to the Open Class provided that this transfer is made by Show Chair or Show Secretary at least one half hour prior to the scheduled start of Junior Showmanship judging at the show. No entry may be changed or cancelled unless notice of the change or cancellation is received in writing by the Show Chair or Show Secretary named in the premium list to receive entries, prior to the closing date for entries, except that a correction may be made from one age division to another provided this transfer is made by the Show Chair or Show Secretary at least one half-hour prior to the scheduled start of any Junior Showmanship class at the show.
- c. **Junior and Senior Classes:** Each of the regular classes may be divided by age into Junior and Senior Classes. The Junior Class shall be for boys and girls who are at least 9 years old and under 13 years old on the day of the show. The Senior Class shall be for boys and girls who are at least 13 years old and under 18 years old on the day of the show.
- d. **Best Junior Handler:** The Junior Handler who placed first in each of the regular Junior Showmanship Classes shall automatically be eligible to compete for Best Junior Handler in Show.
- e. **Pee Wee Handler:** Open to boys and girls younger than 9 years old on the day of the show and who have not won 3 first place awards, with competition present, in an LCA Pee Wee handling class. This class does not compete for Best Junior Handler.

E. Puppy Sweepstakes

The purpose of Puppy Sweepstakes is to offer ring experience to the puppies, and handling practice, as well as health/structural information to the exhibitor. LCA National Puppy Sweepstakes Classes are divided by sex and age (**6-9 months, 9-12 months, 12-18 months**) with a percentage of the entry fee monies given as cash prizes. The first 20% of the puppy sweeps entry fees go to the LCA. The remaining 80% is divided by the total number of entries in each class to determine the value of each placement. The first place winners of each class compete for Best in Sweeps and Best of Opposite in Sweeps.

LCA Rules

Conformation Competition (LCA Club Shows)

3. Working Event Titling Programs

- A. Draft Program & Titles:** LCA will award Draft Titles upon completion of a passing score at a test held under the LCA Draft Test Regulations and Draft Test held by other LCA recognized breed clubs as noted in the LCA Draft Test regulations available on the LCA website.
- B. Water Work Titles:** The LCA awards Water Rescue titles for Water Dog (WD), Water Rescue Dog (WRD) and Water Rescue Dog Excellent (WRDX).
 - 1. In 1997 the Leonberger Club of America received permission from the Newfoundland Club of America (NCA) to utilize the NCA official water test requirements. The LCA continues to follow these requirements. The NCA will test Leonbergers at the end of a regularly scheduled water test, space permitting. To be included in a water test, contact the local chapter of the NCA.
 - 2. To apply for a water title the owner must send the LCA Show Committee Secretary a copy of the water test evaluation form signed by the judge(s). A water title is granted when a Leonberger passes the test in all areas. A Leonberger need only pass the test one time to be granted the title.
 - 3. Newfoundland Club of America's Water Test Regulations can be found online at <http://www.newfdogclub.org> or a copy may be obtained from the LCA Show Committee.

4. Other Titling and Certificate Programs

- A. Versatility Program:** The LCA Versatility Program recognizes the achievements of our breed in multiple venues and awards 3 levels of Versatility Titles based on those achievements. See the Versatility Award Program Rules available on the LCA website.
- B. Conformation Certificate Program:** The LCA also awards a Conformation Certificate to qualifying entrants in spay/neuter classes. An LCA or AKC registered Leonberger, who is either spayed or neutered, and at least 18 months of age, is eligible to earn an LCA Conformation Certificate by earning 3 evaluations with a rating of Excellent, from 3 different judges, at LCA sanctioned events. Events being defined as the National Specialty Club Show and/or an LCA sanctioned Regional Specialty Club Shows. All "excellent" evaluations earned at LCA sanctioned events will automatically be reported to the LCA Show Committee Secretary by the Event Committee. Any dog completing these requirements will have the right to use CC after the dog's registered name.

5. LCA Awards Programs

- A. LCA Top Leo Program:** The purpose of the Top Leo Award is to recognize the most winning Leonbergers each year. The top five Leonbergers in Conformation, Obedience and Rally will receive an award at the National Specialty and special recognition in the LeoLetter. Only placements earned in LCA Conformation Club Shows or AKC Conformation shows (Top Leo Conformation) or scores from AKC Obedience & Rally Trials (Top Leo Obedience & Rally) will be counted towards each year's Top Leo Award. See TopLeo Program Rules & Regulations available on the LCA website for details of how placements are determined.

6. LCA Safety Policy

- A. Dogs must be crated or on leash at all times.**
- B. When on leash, the length must not exceed six feet and may not be a retractable lead.**
- C. Dogs must be under control at all times.**
- D. Dogs showing uncontrolled or aggressive behavior may be asked by the event chair, a board member, or other official to leave the site promptly – or be crated for the duration of the event.**
- E. Current rabies certificates are required.**
- F. There will be occasions when a dog will be allowed off-lead when approved by the event chair.**
- G. Failure to meet these conditions may result in a disciplinary hearing.**

AKC Leonberger Breed Standard

Revision Effective August 31, 2016

GENERAL APPEARANCE

The Leonberger is a large, sociable working dog, muscular yet elegant, with a proud head carriage. The breed is distinguished by its black mask, substantial bone, balanced build, and double coat. Adult males are particularly powerful and strong and carry a lion-like mane on the neck and chest. Bitches are unmistakably feminine. The Leonberger is a dimorphic breed; a dog or a bitch easily discernible as such. Although imposing in size, the Leonberger is graceful in motion. Natural appearance is essential to Leonberger type. The breed is to be shown with no trimming, sculpting or other alterations. True to the breed's origins as a multipurpose family, farm and draft dog, today's Leonberger excels as a versatile working dog and devoted family companion. Intelligent and lively, friendly yet vigilant, the Leonberger is attentive and self-assured in all situations.



SIZE, PROPORTION, SUBSTANCE

Size: An adult male is 28 to 31½ inches in height (30 inches preferred). An adult female is 25½ inches to 29½ inches, (27½ inches preferred). Weight is in proportion to the overall size and structure. When proportion, substance, and balance are present, a slight deviation above standard is tolerated.

Proportion: Height to length of body is 9:10. Height is measured at the withers; body length is measured from point of shoulder to point of buttock. The depth of chest is 50 percent of the height; brisket reaches to elbow. The angulation of front and rear quarters is in balance. Overall balance and proportion are as important as height.

Substance: Strong bone in proportion to size of the body, well-muscled.

HEAD

The head, in its entirety, is deeper than it is broad, rectangular shaped, with no wrinkles. The length of muzzle to length of backskull is equal. Cheeks are only slightly developed. The male head is strong and masculine, while the female head always expresses femininity.

Mask: Face is covered with a full black mask that extends from the nose up to and over the eyes. A lesser mask is acceptable, but not desirable.

Expression: Good-natured, soft, and intelligent expression.

Eyes: Dark brown is preferred over light brown. Eyes are medium size, oval to almond shaped, neither deep-set nor protruding. Eyelids are close fitting, not showing any haw or sclera.

Ears: When alert, ears are level with top of skull and set slightly forward. They are of medium size, triangular, fleshy, hanging flat and close to the head. Tips are level with corners of the mouth.

Skull: As seen from the front and in profile, backskull is slightly arched. Skull is slightly longer than wide and the width of backskull is only slightly broader than it is at the eyes.

Stop: Clearly recognizable and moderately defined.

Muzzle: Nasal bridge of even breadth, never running to a point, level or slightly arched (Roman nose); never dipped. The jaw remains broad and strong between the canines.

Planes: As seen from the side, the planes of muzzle and backskull are parallel.

Nose: Large with clearly outlined nostrils, always black.

Lips: Tight, corners closed and dry, outer lips black in color. Some de-pigmentation due to aging is acceptable.

Teeth/Bite: Complete dentition of 42 teeth (20 upper, 22 lower), strong, meeting in a correct scissors bite, lower incisors touching inside of upper incisors. A level bite is accepted.

Serious Fault **Lips:** Drooling or wet mouth.

Disqualification

Expression/Mask: Complete lack of mask.

Teeth/Bite: More than one missing tooth other than M3s.

AKC Leonberger Breed Standard

NECK, TOPLINE, BODY, TAIL

Neck: Muscular, well set on shoulders, blends smoothly into withers, of sufficient length to allow for proud head carriage. No dewlap.

Topline: Withers set above a firm level back that flows into a gently sloping croup. Rump not higher than withers. Body: Chest is broad, roomy, and deep, reaching at least to the level of the elbows, pronounced prosternum.

Ribs: Well-sprung, oval. Underline: Only slightly tucked up. Loin: Broad, compact, strong, well-muscled. Croup: Broad, relatively long, gently sloped, flowing smoothly into root of tail.

Tail: While standing relaxed, tail hangs straight down with the last vertebrae reaching to or below the hock. In movement, tail is carried no higher than the level of the back, with a curve up at the end permitted. An exuberant tail carriage, though higher than ideal, should not be confused with a high, incorrectly placed tail.

Serious Fault: High tail carriage with tail curled over back at all times, whether standing or in motion.

FOREQUARTERS

Shoulder: Well laid-back and well-muscled.

Angulation: The shoulder meets the upper arm at slightly greater than a right angle. Shoulder and upper arm about equal in length.

Elbows: Close to body, neither in nor out.

Forelegs: Substantial bone, muscular, straight and parallel to each other.

Pasterns: Strong, firm and straight when viewed from front, slightly sloping when viewed from side.

Dewclaws: Usually present. Feet: Turn neither in nor out, rounded, tight, toes well arched (cat foot).

HINDQUARTERS

Rear Assembly: Powerful, muscular with substantial bone.

Angulation: In balance with forequarters.

Legs: Viewed from the rear, the legs are straight and parallel, with stifles and paws turned neither in nor out, placed widely enough apart to match a properly built body.

Thighs: Upper and lower of equal length, slanting and strongly muscled.

Stifles: Angle clearly defined.

Hocks: Substantial bone with a distinct angle between lower thigh and rear pastern; well let down.

Dewclaws: Rear dewclaws may be present.

Feet: Turned neither in nor out, and may be slightly elongated. Toes arched.

COAT

Leonbergers have a medium to long, water resistant, double coat on the body and short fine hair on the muzzle and front of limbs. Outer coat is medium-soft to coarse and lies flat. It is straight, with some generalized wave permitted. Mature males carry a mane, which extends over neck and chest. The male coat is typically longer than the female coat. The undercoat is soft and dense, although it may be less so in summer months or warmer climates. In spite of the double coat, the outline of the body is always recognizable. Leonbergers have some ear feathering and ample feathering on fore and rear legs. Tail is very well furnished. Leonbergers are to be presented with no sculpting, scissoring, trimming of whiskers, or any other alterations whatsoever, except for neatening of the feet.

Fault: Parted or curly coat.



AKC Leonberger Breed Standard

COLOR

Coat colors are lion-yellow, golden to red and red-brown, sand colored (cream, pale yellow) and all combinations thereof, always with a black mask. All colors may have black tips (some with long black tips) on the outer coat, but black must not be the basic color. Dark coat colors are accompanied by a lighter colored undercoat and feathering of front and hind legs, that blend harmoniously with the basic body coloring. A small, unobtrusive stripe or white patch on the chest and some white hairs on toes is tolerated.

Disqualification: Any coat color other than those listed. White hair on chest that exceeds 5 inches in width; white extending beyond toes.

GAIT

The Leonberger has a ground-covering, even and balanced gait. The stride is powerful, free and fluid, with good reach and strong drive, giving the impression of effortless power. In motion, the Leonberger maintains a level topline. Viewed from the front and from behind, forelegs and hind legs travel straight. As the dog's speed increases, the legs tend to converge toward the centerline.

TEMPERAMENT

The gentle character and even temperament of the Leonberger is of utmost importance for fulfilling their role as a family companion. The Leonberger is confident, with a steady, playful demeanor. The breed is willing to please and possesses a good capacity for learning.

Serious fault: Quarrelsomeness or hostility towards people or dogs in normal situations; unwarranted show of timidity or nervousness.

FAULTS

Any deviation from these specifications is a fault. In determining whether a fault is minor, serious, or major, these two factors should be used as a guide:

Deviation: The extent to which it deviates from the standard; and

Impact: The extent to which such deviation would actually affect the Leonberger's phenotype or ability to fulfill its role as a family companion, and working dog.

DISQUALIFICATIONS

Mask: Complete lack of mask

Teeth: More than one missing tooth other than M3s.

Color: Any coat color other than those listed. White hair on chest exceeding 5 inches in width, white extending beyond toes.

