



THE 148TH ANNUAL
WESTMINSTER
KENNEL CLUB DOG SHOW

PRESENTED BY



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

****Interviews Available****

***CENTER CROSS, VA RESIDENT SELECTED TO JUDGE AT
148TH ANNUAL WESTMINSTER KENNEL CLUB DOG SHOW***

New York, NY — The Westminster Kennel Club has selected Center Cross, VA resident Mr. Michael Faulkner as a judge for the 148th Annual Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show presented by Purina Pro Plan. For the second year, the iconic dog show will return to the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center in Flushing Meadows–Corona Park, in Flushing, New York on May 11, 13, and 14.

Michael returns to Westminster to judge the Herding group.

The sport of purebred dogs has been an integral part of Michael's life, having owned, bred, and exhibited numerous Best in Show-winning Golden Retrievers, along with owning and breeding champions in the following breeds: Field Spaniel, Pointer, English Springer Spaniel, Black & Tan Coonhound, and Pug. Michael continues his Golden Retriever breeding program with his partner Dr. Ann Greenbank, and spends countless hours mentoring new judges on several of the Gundog breeds.

Michael is approved to judge all Sporting, Herding, and Hound breeds, and numerous Toy and Working breeds. He is proud of his numerous national specialty assignments, international judging experiences, and multiple invitations to judge at the prestigious Westminster Kennel Club.

The 2024 Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show will kick off with the 11th Annual Masters Agility Championship and the 9th Annual Masters Obedience Championship, both presented by Purina Pro Plan, on Saturday, May 11, welcoming top-ranked purpose-bred and All-American (mixed breed) dogs to compete.

This year also marks the 90th anniversary of Westminster's Junior Showmanship competition, which assesses the handling skills of children 9-18 years of age to prepare the next generation for responsible dog ownership, sportsmanship, and future success in the sport.

The breed competitions will take place on Monday, May 13 (Hound, Toy, Non-Sporting, Herding breeds, and Group judging) and Tuesday, May 14 (Sporting, Working, Terrier breeds, and Group judging, followed by Best in Show).

For the schedule of Westminster Week events, please visit <https://westminsterkennelclub.org/westminster-week/>. Tickets are available now, exclusively on [Ticketmaster](#). For group sales and ADA-accessible and companion seat requests, email tickets@westminsterkennelclub.org.

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About the Westminster Kennel Club

The Westminster Kennel Club, established in 1877, is America's oldest organization dedicated to the sport of showing dogs. It hosts the iconic, all-breed Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show, the second-longest, continuously held sporting event in the U.S. after the Kentucky Derby and, since 1948, the longest nationally televised live dog show. The Club's mission is to enhance the lives of all dogs by celebrating the companionship of dogs and promoting responsible dog ownership and breed preservation. The Club advocates for purpose-bred dogs, with an understanding that each breed has a legacy and history that deserves to be taught, honored, and preserved. The Club uses education to raise awareness and encourage owners to conscientiously select dogs that are the right match for their families. The annual dog show—a conformation competition for purpose-bred dogs—and the Masters Agility Championship and Masters Obedience Championship—where dogs from all backgrounds are eligible to compete—make Westminster Week, with thousands of dogs from the U.S. and around the world, a pinnacle experience for any dog lover. The Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show has captivated canine enthusiasts for more than a century. Learn more at westminsterkennelclub.org.

About Nestlé Purina PetCare

Nestlé Purina PetCare creates richer lives for pets and the people who love them. Founded in 1894, Purina has helped dogs and cats live longer, healthier lives by offering scientifically based nutritional innovations. Purina manufactures some of the world's most trusted and popular pet care products, including Purina ONE, Pro Plan, Fancy Feast and Tidy Cats. Our more than 10,000 U.S. associates take pride in our trusted pet food, treat and litter brands that feed 46 million dogs and 68 million cats every year. More than 500 Purina scientists, veterinarians, and pet care experts ensure our commitment to unsurpassed quality and nutrition. Purina Pro Plan is a leader in the advanced nutrition category, with more than 140 targeted formulas to help your pet thrive throughout every stage of life. It is also the food of choice for 16 of the past 17 Westminster Best in Show winners*. For more information, visit www.proplan.com or follow @ProPlan on Twitter, Instagram, or Facebook.

Purina promotes responsible pet care through our scientific research, our products and our support for pet-related organizations. Over the past five years, Purina has contributed more than \$150 million towards organizations that bring, and keep, people and pets together, as well as those that help our communities and environment thrive.

Purina is part of Nestlé, a global leader in Nutrition, Health and Wellness. For more information, visit purina.com or [subscribe here](#) to get the latest Purina news.

**The handler or owners of these champions may have received Purina Pro Plan dog food as Purina ambassadors.*