

FACILITY GUIDELINES

A satisfactory show site and headquarters are important to the enjoyment of the visiting exhibitor as well as the smooth conduct of the show. It is ideal to have all activities at one location such as a large low-rise hotel with exhibition and meeting space as well as banquet facilities.

Show room size should be no smaller than 65 feet x 120 feet. (AKC guidelines say minimum ring size is 48' x 64'. 50' x 70' is more ideal). Allow additional space if there are ring obstructions such as pillars or posts. Additionally, you will need enough room to accommodate grooming areas, ready ring, vendors and spectators. Obedience rings must have a minimum of 40' x 50', plus space for spectators, exhibitors and some area for crating dogs.

Your initial contact with the management of a site you are considering should be made only after careful examination of what you want and what you have to offer. There are many ways to negotiate your contracts to achieve the best space for the dollar as well as the best rates for the attendees. The National Specialty Coordinator will be of assistance with these negotiations and must have final approval before any contracts are signed.

The following figures are only guidelines to help you determine whether your site will be suitable for hosting a National:

Number of dogs entered: Recent figures show that we have ranged from 150 to 200 dogs and/or entries. Consider whether you are in a central location or a more remote section of the country. It stands to reason that Central US will have higher attendance than areas such as Massachusetts, Florida or the West Coast.

Banquet facility: Attendance is approximately 100. The host hotel or the facility should be able to accommodate this number.

Educational facility: Judges' education draws approximately 25 attendees. This must also include a herding demonstration using previously selected dogs. Dogs must be able to successfully complete at least a started B course to be used.

Room nights: Hotel accommodations must be able to handle 150 to 200 people on the peak nights. Total number of rooms to be counted can be calculated at 150.

***When locating performance event sites other than those used for conformation and obedience, please consider travel distances. Those people traveling by airline may be limited in their attendance at events which are located too far from the host, or main, site.

EXERCISE AREA FOR DOGS IS A PRIME CONSIDERATION! Please attempt to find facilities which will lend themselves to ease of walking and policing this area.

RV PARKING: Although we do not have an unusually large number of attendees using RV's they, too, must be taken into consideration. Some hotels will allow the rigs to be parked on site but most require that they not be utilized for sleeping purposes.