

## Rules and Regulations

**Purpose: To encourage and reward the breeding of the best possible Shiba Inu. Such recognition is important to the breed and these stakes will not only reward the efforts of the breeder but also the owners in whose hands lay the responsibility of developing the inherited potentialities. Recognition is also given to the Sire of these dogs for his contribution in the breeding.**

## Rules & Regulations of Futurity Stakes:

1. All Futurity stakes shall be held in connection with only the National Specialty of the National Shiba Club of America. Said stakes will not be held at any other NSCA or non-NSCA sanctioned function.
2. Eligibility of dog:
  - a. The breeder must nominate a litter. Each individual puppy from said litter shall be eligible to compete in the next Futurity stakes held on or after the date they will reach six (6) months of age; eligibility to enter a Futurity stakes will be for this stakes only.
  - b. Each nomination must meet all time restrictions in order to be considered legitimate nominations. Only dogs that actually compete in the stakes, for which they are eligible, will be eligible for any stakes money and/or prizes.

## How to Nominate a Litter:

1. Nomination forms shall be provided by the Stakes committee, shall be printed periodically but no less than annually in the Shiba E-News, and shall be made available on the NSCA website.
2. Forms shall be submitted to the Stakes committee by the breeder or co-breeder of the litter; said person must be a member in good standing of the National Shiba Club of America for at least six months prior to the date of nomination. The nominator must also be a member of the National Shiba Club of America at the time of the stakes judging.
3. Completed Litter Nomination Form and check or money orders made payable to the National Shiba Club of America (NSCA) must be received by the Stakes committee. Litter Nomination Form may be sent to the committee via electronic mail. Utilizing electronic mail delivery requires payment of the Litter Nomination Fees to be made to NSCA's PayPal account. Validation of eligibility of a litter nominated by electronic mail will require verification of NSCA's timely receipt of the appropriate litter fees to their PayPal account by the Treasurer.

4. Fees for nominating a litter may be revised by the Board of Directors of the NSCA at any time. There shall be no refunds given for ANY reason. Fees are as follows:

- Prior to Birth: **FREE**
- 1 day to 30 days old: \$30
- 31 days to 60 days old: \$60
- 61 days to 90 days old: \$90
- 91 days to 120 days old: \$120
- No Litter Nominations accepted after 120 days of age.

5. All puppies in a nominated litter shall be eligible for Futurity competition; however a Puppy Information Form must be submitted to the Stakes Committee by the owner of any puppy to become eligible to enter the Stakes competition.

6. Upon receipt of a Litter Nomination Form, the Stakes Committee shall send to the breeder by return mail or electronic mail, copy(ies) of the Puppy Information Form.

### Individual Puppy Information Form(s):

1. The owner of an individual puppy from a nominated litter that wishes to compete in the Stakes will need to complete a Puppy Information Form supplied by the breeder; said owner need not be a member of the NSCA.
2. Puppy Information Forms shall be returned to the Stakes Committee and must be postmarked or electronic mail delivery stamped on or before 2 months prior to the date of the Futurity Stakes competition at which it will be first eligible. **All individual nominations must be made BEFORE the individual puppy turns 6 months old!** An additional fee of \$10.00 will complete each individual nomination. This will be done on a separate Individual Puppy Information form which will be sent to the breeder for each individual puppy nominated and may be sent in by owner who does not need to be a member of the NSCA.
3. Any changes to information submitted on the Puppy Information Form (owner's name/address, correct AKC registration name of puppy, etc.) that would be printed in a Stakes catalog must be received by the Futurity/Maturity committee at least two (2) months prior to the date of the Futurity Stakes competition for which the dog will be first eligible. Failure to provide such information shall render the dog ineligible in said Stakes.

### How to Enter a Dog for Futurity Stakes Judging:

1. Dog must be entered in any regular class, at the NSCA National Specialty and Obedience Trial, which it is also eligible for Futurity Stakes competition. Entry fee for said regular class must be paid and accepted as a valid entry by the superintendent/show secretary responsible for taking said entries.

2. The Futurity Stakes entry shall be listed on the official AKC entry form for this Specialty and Obedience Trial as an Additional Class. Fee for this class shall be \$15.00. The Additional Class must include the appropriate age division as described in #3 below.
3. Futurity Stakes competition shall be divided into four (4) age divisions as follows: 6-9, 9-12, 12-15, and 15 months and over. Each age division is further divided by sex. The reason for a classification for 15 months and over is due to a puppy which will only be 5 months of age at the next Specialty, would conceivably be up to 19 months of age due to the "floating schedule" for Specialties to be held from September to December of each year.

### **Procedure for Judging a Futurity Stakes:**

1. The Judge shall judge the Male entry for the 6-9 division first, then the Female entry for the same, and shall continue in this manner until all age divisions have been judged, making four placements for each sex, if possible.
2. After completion of all age divisions for both sexes, the first place winners of both sexes for the 6-9 and 9-12 month age divisions shall enter the ring and compete for Best Futurity Junior Puppy and Best Opposite Sex to the Best Futurity Junior Puppy. The same procedure shall be used to judge the 12-15 and 15 month and over class first place winners with the Judge selecting the Best Futurity Senior Puppy and Best Opposite Sex to the Best Futurity Senior Puppy.
3. The Best Futurity Junior Puppy and Best Futurity Senior Puppy shall then compete for the Grand Futurity winner.

### **How the Futurity Stakes Monies are distributed:**

1. 75% of each Futurity litter nomination fee collected from litters eligible for the next Futurity stakes and received by the chairman, shall go into the following Futurity "accounts":
  - a. 20% of the total amount for stakes expenses; the remaining 80% shall be divided:
  - b. 50% for the Breeders,
  - c. 35% for the Owners, and
  - d. 15% for the owner of the Sire at the time of the mating.
2. The remaining 25% from each Futurity litter nomination shall be placed into the Maturity "account". Any late fees collected on Litter Nomination Forms shall be considered part of the litter nomination fee, to be divided as described above.

### **How the Individual Stakes Monies are distributed:**

1. The "accounts" described above shall have their monies divided as follows:

- a. The Grand Futurity Winner shall receive 40% of each “account” for its Breeder, Owner, and the Owner of the Sire at the time of mating.
- b. The Best Futurity Junior Puppy and the Best Futurity Senior Puppy shall each receive 20% of each “account” for its Breeder, Owner, and the Owner of the Sire at the time of the mating, and
- c. The Best of Opposite Sex to the Best Futurity Junior and Senior Puppies shall each receive 10% of each “account” for its Breeder, Owner, and the Owner of the Sire at the time of mating.

### **How Trophies and Ribbons will be offered:**

The NSCA shall offer a rosette for the Best Futurity Junior Puppy, Best Futurity Senior Puppy, and Grand Futurity Winner, from the Futurity expense fund. A smaller rosette shall be offered for the winners of Best of Opposite Sex to the Best Futurity Junior Puppy and Senior Puppy also from the Futurity expense fund. Flat ribbons for each age division class placements will be offered from the expense fund also. Other rosettes and/or trophies may be offered at the discretion of the National Specialty Show Chairman and the Futurity Chairman.

### **How the Judges shall be selected for the Futurity Stakes:**

Each NSCA member who nominates a litter shall have the opportunity to select three (3) names of people whom they would like to have judge Futurity Stakes at the Futurity Stakes competition for which the litter nominated will first be eligible. Nominated judges must be a breeder of five AKC champion Shiba Inu or be approved by AKC to judge the breed. Nominated judges must be in good standing with the American Kennel Club (AKC).

If two or more nominees have the same number of nominations, preference will be given to judges who are, or have been, breeders of Shiba Inu. Nominated AKC approved judges will be reminded of the honor the members are bestowing in nominating an individual as a Futurity/Maturity judge. When choosing any individual as a potential judge of a Futurity Stakes, one must remember that this Judge or any member of his or her immediate family cannot be the owner, co-owner, breeder, or co-breeder of any nominated puppy entered in the Futurity in which he or she judges. Also, no individual shall be eligible to judge the Futurity Stakes more than once in three (3) years.

### **Miscellaneous Information Regarding the Futurity Stakes:**

1. There will be no formal confirmation of receipt given by the Stakes committee for any submitted Puppy Information Form, unless a self-addressed, stamped envelope is included when the form was submitted, or sender’s e-mail address is listed on said Form.
  2. It is highly recommended that anyone who has entered a puppy in a Stakes competition have available at the time of judging, copies of all correspondence, such as the Puppy Information Form, and/or correspondence to the Committee for any changes made to the information listed on the said Form.
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## Rules and Regulations for Maturity Stakes:

1. All Maturity stakes will be held in connection with only the National Specialty of the National Shiba Club of America. Said stakes will not be held at any other NSCA or non-NSCA sanctioned function.
2. Eligibility of dog:
  - a. Any dog which has been nominated for the Futurity Stakes is automatically eligible for the Maturity Stakes, but will only be eligible to enter the Maturity Stakes in the year following the Futurity Stakes for which it was eligible, whether or not it was entered in the previous year's Futurity Stakes.
  - b. Only dogs that actually compete in the stakes, for which they are eligible, will be eligible for any stakes money and/or prizes.

## How to Nominate a Dog for Maturity Stakes:

All dogs from a litter previously nominated for Futurity Stakes, for which the Stakes committee has on file a completed and timely-submitted Puppy Information Form which made said dog eligible to compete in the previous year's National Specialty, shall be eligible to compete in the Maturity Stakes.

## How to Enter a Dog for Maturity Stakes Judging:

1. Any changes to owner information which was submitted on the original Futurity Puppy Information Form must be sent to the Stakes committee on or before eight (8) weeks prior to the date of the Stakes competition for which the dog is eligible to compete in the Maturity Stakes. Failure to timely submit any changes will render said dog ineligible to compete in the Maturity Stakes.
2. Dog must be entered in any regular class, at the NSCA National Specialty and Obedience Trial, which it is also eligible for Maturity Stakes competition. Entry fee for said regular class must be paid and accepted as a valid entry by the superintendent/ show secretary responsible for taking said entries.
3. The Maturity Stakes entry shall be listed on the official AKC entry form for this Specialty and Obedience Trial as an Additional Class. Fee for this class shall be \$15.00. The Additional Class must include the appropriate age division as described in #4 below.
4. Maturity Stakes competition shall be divided into three (3) age divisions as follows: under 15 months of age, 15-18 months of age, and 18 months of age and over. Each age division is further divided by sex.

## Procedure for Judging a Maturity Stakes:

1. The Judge shall judge the Male entry for the under 15 months of age division first, then the Female entry for same, and shall continue in this manner until all age divisions have been judged, making four placements for each sex, if possible.
2. After completion of all age divisions for both sexes, the first place winners of all three (3) age divisions shall re-enter the ring and compete for the Grand Maturity Winner and the Best Opposite Sex to the Grand Maturity Winner.

## How the Maturity Stakes Monies are distributed:

1. All monies collected from the Futurity litter nomination fees and previously placed into the Maturity "account", shall be divided into the following "accounts":
  - a. 20% of the total amount for stakes expenses; the remaining 80% shall be divided:
  - b. 50% for the Breeders,
  - c. 35% for the Owners,
  - d. 15% for Owner of the Sire at the time of mating.

## How the Individual Stakes Monies are distributed:

1. The "accounts" described above shall have their monies divided as follows:
  - a. The Grand Maturity Winner shall receive 60% of each "account" for its Breeder, Owner, and the Owner of the Sire at the time of mating.
  - b. The Best Opposite Sex to the Grand Maturity Winner shall receive 40% of each "account" for its Breeder, Owner, and the Owner of the Sire at the time of mating.

## How Trophies and Ribbons will be offered:

The NSCA shall offer a rosette for the Grand Maturity Winner and Best Opposite Sex to the Grand Maturity Winner, from the Maturity expense fund. Flat ribbons for each age division class placements will be offered from the expense fund also. Other rosettes and/or trophies may be offered at the discretion of the National Specialty Show Committee and the Futurity/Maturity Chairman.

## How the Judges shall be selected for the Maturity Stakes:

The Judge for the Maturity Stakes shall be the same person chosen to judge the Futurity Stakes for the NSCA National Specialty for that year.

## Miscellaneous Information Regarding Maturity Stakes:

1. Same as for Futurity Stakes.

*Updated as of January 16, 2016*