



Conflict of Interest Policy

This policy helps to establish the highest standards in the pet styling profession as stated in the Code of Conduct and guidelines.

Board Members, Officers, and Official Representatives are prohibited from competing in Classes or judging Division "A" classes.

1. Competitors will not be eligible compete under the following conditions:
 - b. Entry provided by your judge(s).
 - c. Entry prepared by any judge(s) throughout the duration of the show.
 - d. Familial relationship with any judge(s) assigned during the timeframe(s) of that class(es).
 - e. Personal Mentoring Relationship with judge(s) assigned during the timeframe(s) of that class(es). (Excluding post contest critiques).
 - Private or semi-private instruction (less than six attendees) within four months of competition.
 - Instructor/Student/Apprentice within the last six months.
 - f. Vested business relationship, defined as an involvement having the element of personal gain, within the last twelve months including but not limited to:
 - Employee/Employer/Subcontractor
 - Consulting
 - Professional Handling or Handling Assistant
 - Business Partnership or Venture
2. Show Organizers must adhere to the following conflict of interest policies.

Show management:

 - a. May not influence or advise contest placements.
 - b. May not utilize the services of judges who:
 - Are employees/employers (free-lance authors/sub-contractors are exempt).
 - Are directly involved with the planning and production of the contest.
 - Are relatives of show management.
 - Have a business ownership/partnership with show management.
 - Use professional handler services for/with show management.
3. Although judge/competitor conflicts of interest are ultimately the competitor's responsibility, it is in the best interest of show management to hire judges that have retired from the competition ring. Show Management should prohibit judges from:
 - a. Judging their students, relatives, or employees/employers.
 - b. Judging contestants with whom they have a vested business relationship.
 - c. Providing contest dogs to contestants in a class that they are judging.
 - d. Personally assisting a competitor with any dog entry preparation for the show duration.

The Teton Grooming Expo has the responsibility to quickly address issues directly related to the above policies. **To resolve issues, immediately submit a Grievance Form for the perceived infraction to the attention of The Teton Grooming Expo.** All other concerns should be brought to the attention of the Teton Grooming Expo director. Contact information can be found on the Teton Grooming Expo website.