

Erie Kennel Club Excusal and Disqualified Policy

The term “judge” means any person acting as a judge, host, or chair person for training practice, classes, seminars, or other events held by Erie Kennel Club in the building or on the grounds located at 9457 Wattsburg Rd, Erie PA 16509.

Excuse any dog that in your opinion:

- Menaces
- Threatens
- Exhibits any sign that it may not be safely approached or examined in the normal manner.

Signs may include growling, showing or snapping its teeth. Any dog that displays such demeanor is a threat to you and every judge that follows you.

When you excuse the dog, complete the EKC Excused/Disqualified Form (circle the “Excused” heading) and submit to the Secretary

A dog recorded as excused for threatening or menacing, dog on dog attack, or attempt to attack on three occasions will be administratively disqualified by the Erie Kennel Club.

Disqualify any dog that, in your opinion, attacks any person in the clubhouse or on club grounds. An attack is defined as a bite or an attempt to bite anyone, including its own handler, without valid extenuating circumstances, for example accidentally biting the hand that is baiting a dog. Immediately, fill out the EKC Excused/Disqualified form (circle the “Disqualified” heading). Be certain to clearly communicate your decision to the exhibitor of the dog using the word “disqualified,” and explain that the dog may not participate in any activity at the club until it is officially reinstated by Erie Kennel Club.

As the judge you have little latitude regarding your responsibility to disqualify or not. Refer all questions to the Board of Directors. Deliver the original form to the Secretary. You may be contacted by the Board at a later date for additional information.

Disqualifications for attacking are very serious. The failure to appropriately address a potentially dangerous dog compounds the vulnerability of future judges and participants. Therefore it is of the utmost importance to use the word “disqualified” or “excused”, as appropriate, when dismissing a handler whose dog is vicious or shy.

Dog on dog aggression may, in the opinion of the judge, necessitate the excusal of one or more dogs involved. Such an incident that results in contact with injury to either dog or person is to be reported to the Secretary immediately, as it must be addressed by the Board of Directors.

Any dog disqualified for attacking or attempting to attack a person will be ineligible to participate in any EKC event. A member may request reinstatement as provided in the EKC Reinstatement Procedure.