

***LONG ISLAND, NEW YORK SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT
TO SELECT BEST IN SHOW AT THE
146th ANNUAL WESTMINSTER KENNEL CLUB DOG SHOW***

America's Dog Show returns to New York City in January 2022

New York, NY — Dr. Don Sturz of Brooklyn, New York, will judge Best in Show at the 146th Annual Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show presented by Purina Pro Plan® at Madison Square Garden on January 26, 2022. The superintendent of the Valley Stream 24 School District in Long Island, New York, Dr. Sturz brings a lifetime of experience as a breeder, exhibitor and judge to the most prestigious judging assignment in the sport of purebred dogs. Anchoring Westminster Week, this iconic annual dog show has been held continuously since 1877.



Dr. Sturz began participating in the sport of dogs as a child. As a highly successful Junior Handler, he exhibited in the famed Westminster Junior Showmanship competition. He was selected as a Junior Showmanship Finalist three years at Westminster beginning with his first time entered at the age of ten. During his Junior Showmanship career, he was ranked as the number one Junior Handler in the U.S. for three consecutive years.

While growing up in the sport, Dr. Sturz trained and exhibited dogs in a variety of American Kennel Club events including conformation, obedience and field trials, earning numerous awards and titles. A long-time preservation breeder and handler, he has bred, owned and handled All-Breed and Specialty Best in Show winners and nationally ranked dogs in Golden Retrievers, Miniature Poodles and Pembroke Welsh Corgis.

He currently serves as the delegate to the American Kennel Club for the Poodle Club of America, is a member of the Bull Terrier Club of America and recently assisted in the revival of the Knickerbocker Bull Terrier Club. Additionally, Dr. Sturz has been an analyst for the Fox Sports telecast of the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show for the past three years and a co-host for the Westminster Kennel Club Highlights Show presented by Purina Pro Plan® for the past two years.

Since 1990 Dr. Sturz has adjudicated at major dog shows around the world, in addition to judging the Sporting and Hound groups at Westminster in 2010 and 2006. In 2020 he was voted Judge of the Year at the Purina Pro Plan® Show Dogs of the Year award ceremony. Dr. Sturz is approved to judge the Sporting and Hound groups, several Terrier, Non-Sporting and Herding breeds, Best in Show and Junior Showmanship. This is his tenth judging assignment at Westminster.

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