

PIRJO AALTONEN (Finland)

I was an authorised FCI Dog Show Judge in 2002 and I was authorized to judge all breeds in December 2016 by the Finnish Kennel Club.



I'm a member of the Finnish Dog Show Judges Society.

The Finnish Kennel Club has very high level of basic education of the judges and it is not easy to become a Judge in Finland. There are about 200 Dog Show Judges in our country, 19 of us are qualified for all breeds. In Finland the interest in pure-bred dogs is very strong. In a country of only five million inhabitants we have dog population of approximately half a million – and majority of these are pedigree dogs.

I got my first dog in 1981 and bred my first litter in 1989. I have shared my everyday life with Lapponian Herders, Rough Collies, Tibetan Terriers and Boxers. I have bred Tibetan Terriers under the kennel name Triamus. I have been awarded with the Finnish Kennel Club's Vuolasvirta prize for merited breeding. I however gave up breeding when I became a dog show judge.

I have judged in many European countries, Australia, Japan and England.

In addition to dogs I like culture. I enjoy all harmony and beauty, but I have very little time for other hobbies, because judging appointments both in Finland and overseas take up most of my weekend.