

# **MR PUPPY EUROPE 2017**

## **CONTESTANTS GUIDE**

### **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION**

Welcome to Mr Puppy Europe!

Mr Puppy Europe is a title contest for pups from across Europe, created to encourage and to acknowledge service to the Pups & Handlers community. Since 2015, the title-holders and the organisational committee that supports them have been working to promote pup play and a cohesive community of Pups & Handlers in an increasing number of European countries where pups have a presence. We are honoured to have joined together with numerous international Leather, Rubber, and Pup title-holders to be able to bring this to you.

By joining the contest, now in its third year, you'll be connecting not only to a community of pups from across Europe, but also to a team of pups, handlers, and friends who are actively involved in community outreach and advocacy. You'll be doing something meaningful to help reach out to more people across the continent. And, we hope, you'll have a fantastic time doing it!

The contest itself, though a competition, is friendly. All pups are encouraged to step forward, and all are acknowledged for the gift that is their contribution over the weekend. The organisational committee works to make the contest not only fun and enjoyable, but also meaningful and significant, and it is our hope that everyone who participates emerges from the weekend having made friendships and connections that they can take with them to the pup communities in their home cities and countries.

Leatherpride Belgium has been our host since the inception of the contest, and we are delighted to have been able to work closely with our Belgian partners. We hope you have a chance to enjoy some of the fantastic experiences on offer at Darklands, one of Europe's largest events of its kind.

You'll find some useful information regarding the contest in this guide. As always, though, what's offered in here are guidelines. The exact schedule, contest order, and other items are subject to change as and when necessary. The team and I are here to support you in this, and if you need anything, please don't hesitate to ask us. We're here to help.

On behalf of the organisational committee, I wish you a weekend of excitement, fun, and plenty of puppy love!

Pete "Brock"  
(United Kingdom)  
Mr Puppy Europe Organisational Committee

## PROGRAMME AND SCHEDULE

### Saturday 18 February

- 13:00 – 14:00 Registration  
All contestants are required to register in person at the Camp K-9 registration area, where further information about the contest will be given and questions about the contest can be answered. The Head Judge will brief all contestants on the contest scoring system.
- 14:30 Opening Ceremony  
Contestants will gather behind the Main Stage, before being brought on stage for the opening ceremony and introductions.  
ROUND ONE: PRESENTATION (10% of final score)
- 16:45 Puppy Mosh & Obstacle Course  
Contestants will report to Camp K-9 to prepare for the next two contest rounds. Various other activities will be on offer, which contestants are free to enjoy. Full pup gear is required, and please don't wear anything with spikes or sharp edges or points which might damage another's gear or cause injury.  
ROUND TWO: PUPPY MOSH (10%)  
ROUND THREE: OBSTACLE COURSE (10%)
- 19:00 Official Dinner  
Contestants are invited to join the official dinner, included with registration, and enjoy a meal with fellow participants and spectators

### Sunday 19 February

- 10:00 – 11:30 Rehearsal  
Contestants are encouraged to come early so as to rehearse for their Performance rounds on the main stage. This is the only rehearsal time that is permitted. It is strongly recommended that contestants using their own music for Performance come to rehearse it on stage. Rehearsal time is not structured, and is concurrent with the Interviews.
- 10:00 – 13:00 Interviews  
Held concurrently with the rehearsal, contestants will be invited singly and privately to a separate area for an interview with our panel of judges. This is the most important component of the contest, and must be conducted without masks or hoods. The interviews will be held in English, and contestants are welcome to bring a translator for assistance if they wish, though no other assistance is permitted.  
ROUND FOUR: INTERVIEW (60%)
- 12:00 – 14:00 Official Brunch  
The men of Darklands will be holding a Brunch in the main hall. Once your interviews are done, contestants who would like to join may head over. A separate ticket, purchased online, is required for the brunch.
- 13:45 Main Performance  
Contestants gather at the Main Stage to be brought on for their Performance round, the freestyle performance which each contestant prepares individually. Contestants may have one helper or assistant on stage with them if they wish. As a reminder, contestants may not speak or sing, and are limited to canine vocalisations.  
ROUND FIVE: PERFORMANCE (10%)
- 15:15 Charity Appeal  
Contestants will gather at Camp K-9, and are invited to go out into the auditorium in Handler-pup pairings, and sell raffle tickets in support of Leatherpride Belgium's chosen charity.
- 17:00 Closing Ceremony & Prize Presentation  
Contestants gather at the Main Stage, and will be brought on stage for the closing ceremony and the announcement of the contest results.

## **ABOUT MR PUPPY EUROPE**

Being Mr Puppy is a calling for the community-minded pup. Whoever is chosen during the contest to assume the Mr Puppy title isn't necessarily the best pup, nor the one with the best gear or the nicest image. Holding a title isn't a judgment on who you are. It's a commitment to serve.

Whoever receives the Mr Puppy title becomes two things: he becomes a Mister, and he becomes a title-holder. The former is an example to guide and inspire others, and the latter is an advocate to encourage and grow the community. You're given a year in which to make the greatest impact you can.

It's fun to be a pup, and it's fun to belong to a supportive and vibrant community as well. That's why it's important to have title-holders who encourage others, who can reach out and welcome new pups into the community, and who can inspire pups to feel a common sense of fraternity and brotherhood.

You never do it alone, of course. You have the backing of the organisation behind you, as well as the support of your fellow Mr Puppy title-holders, past and present, all of whom share a vision of a better community. We're here, and they're here, to help you.

Take your title and use it to reach out. Set up a pup event in your home town or country. Establish a network of like-minded pups. Get the word out and publicise how much fun it is to belong to our community. And be out there, seen and heard, living a fun and vibrant life as a pup.

That's Mr Puppy. Go be pawsome!

Kriszly  
(The Netherlands)  
Mr Puppy Europe 2015  
Mr Puppy Europe Organisational Committee

## CONTEST SCORING

### Interview (60%)

Each individual contestant will meet with the judging panel offstage prior to the contest to answer the judges' questions about the contestant's interest in being a puppy, knowledge on human puppies and the interaction with his community and willingness and ability to represent the title. They'll be asking about why you want the title, and what you plan to contribute to the community with it. You won't be wearing a pup hood or mask, and you'll be presenting your human self, rather than your pup identity.

What we're looking for: leadership and vision

### Presentation (10%)

Each individual contestant will present themselves on stage to the audience, and introduce themselves and why they wish to compete for the title. You can say whatever you like, and hopefully use the time to let everyone get to know you a little bit, and help everyone decide who they'd like to vote for. As with the Interview, you won't be wearing a pup hood or mask.

What we're looking for: friendliness and personality

### Obstacle Course (10%)

Each individual contestant will be given a dog agility run, like an obstacle course, to demonstrate how canine and puppy-like he is. It is not a time trial: run the course as a puppy might, and be as canine as you like. The goal is to have fun, to entertain the audience, and to bring a sense of puppy joy to the event.

What we're looking for: canine behaviour and fun

### Puppy Mosh (10%)

All contestants together will be given a pup play space, and invited to play and mosh there together, not only with other contestants but also with any other pup who likes to join. The puppy mosh is open to all pups. This is where your ability to play and interact with others is assessed, and while there are no requirements as to the kind of play you engage in, you're expected to demonstrate as broad a range of pup play as you're able to.

What we're looking for: interaction and engagement with others

### Freestyle (10%)

Each individual contestant will be given the stage to perform a pup-related act of their choice. You'll perform it entirely in pup gear and as your pup self, and you may not sing or speak (but puppy noises are fine). It can be anything you like, and you may use one other person such as a pup handler to perform the act with. You may also use gear and equipment, which you will provide yourself. If someone needs to speak in order to introduce or explain your act, it needs to be the other person you're performing with.

What we're looking for: stage presence and ability to entertain an audience

## TITLE REQUIREMENTS AND EXPECTATIONS

There are a few key requirements of competing or holding the title:

1. You are at least 18 years old and legally male as of the date of the election.
2. You identify as a human puppy or human dog.
3. You will appear in the contest and as the title-holder as yourself. Your hood is an accessory but may not be used to disguise your identity. In taking part and especially in holding the title, you will have to deal with international popularity in the Fetish Community. Please be aware of that before applying.
4. You own all gear worn on stage during the contest.
5. You agree to return to Mr. Puppy Europe Election next year to hand over your title to your successor and may be asked to be a judge in the contest.
6. You agree to permit onstage photographs and/or recordings to be taken for the use of Mr. Puppy Election and Leatherpride Belgium.
7. You agree as Mr Puppy it will be expected that you appear fully geared with the item of gear that shows your title at international fetish events. That can include various stage appearances, photo shoots and public hang outs where you will be expected to socialise.

We've also included a list of our general expectations of the title-holder. This is to help us support you, to help support the pup community. They're in place to help, and we hope you'll agree that adhering to them is what will make your title year meaningful and valuable for everyone.

1. You'll carry yourself at all times with the dignity and goodwill of a title-holder, a Mister, and a community representative and advocate.
2. You'll promote and support pup organisations and events in your country, or help set them up if none yet exist, with our support.
3. You'll support us and our sponsors throughout your title year, especially our sponsors, and give them your support in particular on social media and at public events.
4. You'll appear as often as possible as a title-holder at leather, kink, and fetish events across Europe, and we ask that you attend at least five throughout the year, one of which should be an international pup title contest.
5. You'll raise funds, by holding fund raisers, for the title travel fund which will facilitate not only you but also future title-holders to attend and compete at international events.
6. You won't compete in any other title contest, unless it's an international pup contest, whilst holding the title.

At the end of your title year, when you return with our invitation to the Mr Puppy Europe contest next year, we hope you'll come with the excitement and enthusiasm of a year well spent, having done as much as you can to support and promote pups throughout Europe. When you pass on your title, we hope you will also pass on this excitement and enthusiasm to whoever follows in your paw-steps!

KittyRony  
(France)  
Mr Puppy Europe Organisational Committee