

Jukka Lillstrang von Wendt

My journey in the world of dog showing began in 1992 with my first medium-sized Poodle. Just two years later, in 1994, while still a teenager, I took the ambitious step into breeding Poodles. What started as curiosity quickly developed into a deeply rewarding and active pursuit that has now spanned over three decades.

In 2002, a new chapter began as I introduced Italian Greyhounds into my breeding program. This elegant and captivating breed remains close to my heart, and I continue to actively breed and exhibit them today.

In recent years, I have also become involved with Rhodesian Ridgebacks. Although my breeding work with the breed is still in its early stages, it has already brought new perspectives and enriching experiences within the dog world.

Along the way, I have also been involved with breeds such as the Chinese Crested Dog and the Afghan Hound. Over the course of my career, I have bred more than 200 dogs, many of which have achieved World Winner, European Winner, and numerous national titles. My breeding work has been recognized with the Finnish Kennel Club's highest honor for breeders, the Vuolasvirta Award, which I have received twice—for medium-sized Poodles and Italian Greyhounds. In addition, I have been awarded the Finnish Breeder Association's (SUKOKA) Breeding Award for my work with Italian Greyhounds.

I began my career as a conformation judge in 2019, initially judging Poodles. Since then, I have expanded my judging rights to include breeds from FCI Group 9 and FCI Group 10, and I am currently further expanding my portfolio into FCI Group 6. I already hold judging rights for breeds such as the Rhodesian Ridgeback and the Dalmatian.

Professionally, I am a veterinarian and the owner of three animal clinics in Finland. My particular areas of interest include cardiology, anaesthesia, advanced surgery, and dentistry. This professional background strongly influences my judging philosophy: I place great emphasis on health, sound structure, and balanced temperament.

My passion for animals extends beyond dogs. Horses have been an important part of my life since childhood, and while I am no longer actively competing in dressage, equestrian sport remains close to my heart.