

# ARC Junior Showmanship Program

Approved by ARC Board of Directors: 4/6/08

## Mission and Purpose

The primary goal of the program is to promote and encourage juniors to participate in the sport of American Kennel Club purebred dog events with Rottweilers, as well as to become active in the American Rottweiler Club.

This will be achieved through offering incentives such as, but not limited to, scholarships to help with continued education at an institute of higher education and stipends offered for attendance at the Junior Showmanship Competition at the Westminster Kennel Club and AKC/Eukanuba National Championship Dog Shows.

We will remain supportive and encourage junior handlers, whenever possible, to maintain their enthusiastic interest in the sport of purebred dogs and with Rottweilers in particular.

## Programs

### **1. The Kalyn Rae Bastyr Memorial Scholarship.**

This program will initially be funded over a two year period, with the ARC matching funds up to \$5,000 in this two year limit. Funding for scholarships will be obtained through investments, interest, on-going fund raising, etc. for the scholarship fund. The ARC membership renewal form will provide a space for members who would like to contribute to the fund.

The ARC will offer one \$750 scholarship each year in which the ARC Junior Showmanship Committee determines there is a qualified and deserving applicant. The application for the scholarship will include an essay, school transcripts, questionnaire, as well as financial disclosure of need of the applicant and proof of participation in AKC events with a Rottweiler.

The scholarship criteria shall be as follows:

- a. applicant must be between the ages of 16 and 20.
- b. applicant must document plans to attend, or provide proof of attending, an institute of higher education of at least a 6 month formal program.
- c. applicant's financial need.
- d. applicant's academic achievement and potential.
- e. applicant must evidence interest and participation in showing Rottweilers by any of the following:
  1. competing in at least 5 Junior Showmanship competitions with a Rottweiler(s) within the last 2 years.
  2. competing in at least 5 AKC dog shows within the past 2 years showing a Rottweiler(s) in either breed or a performance competition.
  3. competing in a combination of Junior Showmanship and dog show breed or performance competition to add up to 5 events within the past 2 years
- f. applicant must document participation in a manner which can be confirmed with AKC records.
- g. applicant should include information on additional activities with a Rottweiler i.e. regional club, therapy, rescue, education, etc. This information will be used in deliberation process but is not a requirement to qualify for the award.
- h. applicant must submit an essay describing his/her experience with, and interest in Rottweilers and plans for future involvement with the breed.
- i. applicant must apply on an official ARC application form which may be obtained thru the ARC Junior Showmanship Committee, downloaded from the ARC website, or from the ARC Policies & Procedures Chairperson.
- j. this scholarship will only be awarded once to an individual.
- k. all personal application information will remain confidential.

The scholarship recipient will be announced at the Annual Award Banquet at the ARC National Specialty. ARC will provide complimentary banquet tickets for the recipient and his/her parents. A picture of the recipient with his/her Rottweiler, along with the application essay, will be printed in the *ARK* and on the ARC web site. Other applicants' essays may be printed if space permits.

### **2. Westminster Kennel Club and AKC/Eukanuba National Championship Dog Show Stipends**

A \$250 stipend will be provided by the ARC (monies provided by ARC and contributions) to be applied to travel cost of any junior that has successfully gained an invitation to and competes in the Junior Showmanship Competition at the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show. A \$250 stipend will also be available for any junior that is invited and competes in the Junior Showmanship Competition at the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship Dog Show. This stipend will be provided to show ARC's support and pride of juniors achieving this accomplishment with a Rottweiler.

Guidelines to qualify for the stipend are as follows:

- a. monies only awarded for those qualifying in the calendar year prior to the attendance of the Westminster Kennel Club and/or AKC/Eukanuba National Championship Dog Shows.

- b. junior has fulfilled the requirements to participate in the Junior Showmanship Competition at the Westminster Kennel Club and/or the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship Dog Shows with their Rottweiler.
- c. Junior Showmanship entry with noted requirements is submitted and accepted to Westminster Kennel Club and/or AKC/Eukanuba National Championship Dog Shows.
- d. acknowledgement of show entry will be photocopied and forwarded to the American Rottweiler Club Junior Liaison. If junior is under 18 years, name and address of parent/guardian must be included as check will be issued in his/her name. (Priority mail with delivery of confirmation/tracking is recommended.)
- e. junior will receive the stipend within 15 days of the Junior Liaison sending information to the ARC Treasurer. This will be PRIOR to the date of the show(s) if at all possible.
- f. should the junior be unable to attend - the ARC stipend must be returned by recipient to the ARC Junior Liaison within 45 days of the show(s). (Priority mail with delivery of confirmation/tracking is recommended.)
- g. juniors may qualify for both a Westminster Kennel Club and AKC/Eukanuba National Championship Dog Shows stipend (\$500 total) during the same year.

### **3. Junior Web Page**

A web page on the ARC web site will be specifically dedicated to Juniors. This page would include the information about the ARC Junior Scholarship Program, including scholarship application, pictures and accomplishments of our juniors that are showing Rottweilers, as well as tributes to and pictures of past juniors, to assist in motivating those currently competing with Rottweilers. It will also offer links to related Junior Showmanship web sites (such as the AKC scholarship program information, Junior AKC events and other noteworthy Junior Showmanship web pages).

The Junior Showmanship Committee will appoint an ARC member in good standing, with ARC Board approval, to assist the ARC Webmaster in maintaining this page. This volunteer will also try to identify web sites which could offer links to our Junior web page and vice-versa.

### **4. Junior Liaison**

The Junior Showmanship Committee will appoint an ARC member in good standing, with ARC Board approval, to act as a Junior Liaison. The Junior Liaison is generally a member who is a past junior participant or parent of a past junior.

The Junior Liaison will attempt to answer all inquires and offer advice to juniors and parents who are currently involved or want to participate in the sport. In articles for the *ARK* and on the ARC web site Juniors Page, the liaison can advise of any rule changes proposed by the AKC and any literature available for junior handlers. The liaison may write articles spotlighting outstanding juniors, such as those who qualify for the Westminster Kennel Club and AKC/Eukanuba National Championship Junior Showmanship Competition, as well as write or have professional handlers or Junior Showmanship judges write articles stressing what is expected in junior competition. If at all possible, the liaison may make himself/herself available to demonstrate or offer critiques at specialties or matches.

The Junior Liaison will be responsible for identifying juniors who qualify for the Westminster Kennel Club and/or the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship Junior Showmanship competition with a Rottweiler and determining if the juniors plan to attend.

### **5. ARC National Specialty**

Juniors will be asked to help with handing out trophies at the annual Awards Banquet and/or Top Dog Night in order to give them an opportunity to meet some of the long-time members. ARC will provide a complimentary banquet ticket and a special table will be set up for all juniors to sit together at the Awards Banquet.

A seminar for juniors may be offered at the ARC National Specialty. Past juniors, current handlers and/or breeders would present this seminar. This educational venue would teach the history of the breed, handling tips for showing Rottweilers and useful information such as animal husbandry, appropriate attire and etiquette in the ring, etc. This seminar will be offered when the ARC National Specialty Junior Showmanship entry grows to at least ten attendees, or at a time specified by the Junior Showmanship Committee.

At the discretion of the Junior Showmanship Committee, and with presenters' approval, juniors may attend the ARC Judges Breed Study/Seminar, the ARC Rottweiler Measurement Survey, and/or the ARC Rottweiler Measurement Survey Evaluators Seminar free of charge. Juniors may be asked to help with the sign-in table, distributing handouts, etc.

The Junior Showmanship Committee will solicit donations to be used in a gift bag of dog items (towel, dog food samples, dog combs, brushes, etc.) for those entered in the Junior Showmanship Classes at the ARC National Specialty. At the discretion of the Committee, the Junior Trophy Fund may also be used to purchase small items for the gift bag.

The Committee will also solicit donations or raise funds in order to offer a prize on the Rottweiler Only/Armetale Day to the Highest Scoring Junior in each performance event, as well as to any Junior with a dog passing a Tracking Test.

There will be no entry fee for the Junior Showmanship Classes at the ARC National Specialty. ARC will encourage ARC Regional Host Clubs and other Rottweiler specialties to do the same.

## **6. The Kalyn Rae Bastyr Top Junior Handler Award**

A bronze of a young girl with a Rottweiler on a wooden base will honor the #1 Rottweiler Junior Handler each year (ARC statistics). It will serve as a permanent record for the club and the name of the #1 Junior will be added each year. The statue itself is not a trophy; however, the recipient will be honored and receive a commemorative memento either at the ARC Annual Awards Banquet or the Top Dog Evening at the National Specialty. The statue will be displayed each year at the ARC National Specialty.

Initial funding for the statue, as well as continual funding for the mementos, will be through private donations. The fund will be maintained and the mementos provided by Cindy Earich-Leibert., who will also retain the statue and will be responsible for the engraving, maintenance, shipping, etc.

A picture of the #1 Junior Handler with his/her Rottweiler will be featured each year in the *ARK* Specialty Supplement and on the ARC web site.

## **7. Top 10 Junior Handler Awards**

The Top 10 Junior Handlers (ARC Statistics) will be honored each year at the Top Dog Evening at the ARC National Specialty. Each junior will be presented with a certificate and an ARC Achievement Medallion.

## **8. Junior Handlers In Companion Events Awards**

Any junior who titles a Rottweiler through the AKC's Junior Handler In Companion Events Program will be honored at the Top Dog Evening at the ARC National Specialty the following year. The junior would be presented with a certificate and an ARC Achievement Medallion. If more than one title was earned with the same Rottweiler during a calendar year, there will only be one certificate with all information included.

## **9. Junior Handlers In Carting Tests Awards**

Any Junior who handles a Rottweiler to an ARC Carting title will be honored at the Top Dog Evening at the ARC National Specialty the following year. The junior would be presented with a certificate and an ARC Achievement Medallion. If more than one title was earned with the same Rottweiler during a calendar year, there will only be one certificate with all information included. In the case of Carting Team titles, one certificate will be issued with both dogs' names included.

Juniors must obtain an ARC Junior Handler Carting Title Certification form(s) from the ARC Junior Liaison before competing in a Carting Test. Both parts of the form must be filled out by the Junior and presented to the Carting Test Secretary, at least 1/2 hour prior to the start of judging. If the Rottweiler passes the Test/earns the Carting title, then both the Judge and Carting Test Secretary must sign and date the form. One part of the form shall be mailed to the ARC Junior Liaison by the Carting Test Secretary within 14 days of the Test; the other part shall be retained by the junior for his/her record.

If more than one Carting title is earned at the same Test, a separate form must be completed for each title.

The ARC Carting Coordinator will send a copy of the Junior Handlers In Carting Test Awards and ARC Junior Handler Carting Title Certification form to any club that is approved to hold a Carting Test in case a junior is entered in the Test that is not aware of this award.

The Rottweiler ownership requirement is the same as required for participation in all AKC Junior programs: the dog must be owned or co-owned by the Junior Handler or the junior's father, mother, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, grandfather, or grandmother, including corresponding step and half relations, or by a permanent member of the junior's household. In the case of a Carting Team Title, this ownership requirement would apply to both dogs.

## **10. The *ARK***

A free subscription to the *ARK* will be provided to all juniors until they reach the age of 18, at which time they would be eligible to become a regular ARC member. The person appointed by the Committee as the Junior Liaison shall send to any junior handlers showing Rottweilers in any given year a form to fill out in order to receive the free subscription. This form would have to be sent annually and the junior would have to return each year to continue receiving the *ARK*.

## **11. bestjunior.com Junior Recognition Program**

ARC will sponsor the Rosette awarded annually by bestjunior.com to the top ranking Rottweiler Junior Handler.

## **12. Junior Packets**

Junior Packets will be sent out each year to all Juniors who handled a Rottweiler the previous year. The Packet shall include the Junior Booklet or Program Highlight sheet, ARC National Invitations/Reservations sheet(s), Junior Questionnaire and Scholarship Application. Packets sent to Top 10 Juniors and Companion Events Juniors, shall also include the invitation letter

to the Top Dog Evening, Catalog Information Form, as well as a Photo Form for the ARC website. Other documents may be included at the discretion of the Committee.

The Committee will also keep a supply of Junior Booklets, Junior Questionnaires, and Scholarship Applications to hand out to Juniors at shows which they attend.

### **Junior Showmanship Committee**

The Junior Showmanship Committee will consist of 3 active members and an Alternate. They are to be selected and appointed by the Board in accordance with the ARC Standing Rules on Committees. At the time of the appointment, the Board will designate 1 of the 3 active members of the Committee to be Chairperson. The Chairperson should be willing and able to assume the administrative responsibilities of the Committee.

When selecting a new Committee it is recommended, but not required, that at least 1 member of the new Committee be a "hold-over" from the previous Committee in order to maintain continuity.

### **Scholarship Operating Procedure**

The general procedure for accepting applications for the ARC Junior Showmanship Scholarship, as well as the time frames in which these applications must be acted upon, are outlined below and should be adhered to precisely.

At the time the Committee is appointed, the ARC Secretary will send each member a copy of this procedure. Each Committee member should read this procedure thoroughly in order to insure that they are familiar with their responsibilities and be aware of the requirements of their position.

**Soliciting of Applications:** The application form may be obtained thru the ARC Junior Showmanship Committee, downloaded from the ARC website, or from the ARC Policies & Procedures Chairperson. It will also be included in the Junior Packets.

**Requirements for Applying:** See #1 under Programs above.

**Accepting and Processing Applications:** All applications should be sent to the Committee Chairperson no later than January 15 of each year. Once the deadline date has been reached, the Chairperson should send copies of all applications to the other 2 Committee members as well as to the Committee Alternate. This should be done promptly since the procedure allows a maximum period for considering and processing these applications.

At the same time the Chairperson sends out the copies of the applications, he/she should set up a date for the Committee to meet, either in person or through a telephone conference call or via e-mail.

The Committee members should respond to the Chairperson within 10 days of receipt of the applications. Such responses should indicate whether the member would be available to consider these applications. They should also include requests that additional information is needed in order to consider the application(s), as well as what type of additional information is needed.

If additional information is needed, the Chairperson shall appoint a Committee member to collect the requested information either through a personal visit or via telephone or e-mail.

**Committee Deliberation:** It is the responsibility of each Committee member to be certain that he/she is able to deliberate each application fully and without personal prejudice. A Committee member should abstain from deliberating if impersonal evaluation is impossible on a particular application(s) or if other commitments would make him/her unavailable during the period of time in which the applications are under consideration.

Upon deciding to abstain from deliberating on a particular application or if he/she is to be unavailable, the Committee member should immediately inform the Committee Chairperson. The Chairperson will then call upon the Alternate to take the abstaining member's place on the Committee for the deliberations on that year's applications.

The Alternate should receive copies of all materials, whether or not he/she is directly involved in the deliberations; however, the Alternate will have no vote and express no opinion unless a regular Committee member is unable to participate or becomes unable to participate during the course of deliberation.

In an effort to expedite matters, the Chairperson may choose to ask each Committee member to send, either via regular mail or e-mail, his/her views to the Chairperson with copies to the other member and the Alternate. This is an acceptable procedure, as long as the Chairperson is able to insure that all members are kept properly informed.

Should more than 1 Committee member abstain from the deliberations, the Chairperson will immediately notify the ARC President. The President will temporarily appoint another alternate for the sole purpose of considering that year's applications.

**Scholarship Approval:** The Committee shall consider all applications for the scholarship thoroughly. It is the Committee's sole responsibility to award the scholarship based on the merits of the application. The Committee shall make its final decision on awarding the scholarship no later than March 15<sup>th</sup>.

As soon as the scholarship is approved, the Chairperson shall send a report of the Committee to both the ARC Secretary and Treasurer. At that time, the Chairperson shall also send a congratulatory letter to the individual being awarded the scholarship inviting him/her and parents to attend the Annual Awards Banquet as guests of the ARC. The letter will also request that the individual send a picture, preferably with his/her Rottweiler(s), to the Committee Chairperson so that it may be included in a future issue of the *ARK* and on the ARC website.

The recipient will be announced at the ARC National Specialty Annual Awards Banquet; however, the actual check will be held until the recipient actually attends the higher education facility of his/her choice. It shall be the Chairman's responsibility to ascertain the date the recipient will be attending and forward this information to the ARC Treasurer. The ARC Treasurer will send a check directly to the higher education facility no later than 14 days before the start of the applicable school year.

The Chairman will forward information about the scholarship recipient, along with picture and copy of the essay to the *ARK* Editor for publication. Other applicant essays may also be forwarded to the *ARK* Editor for possible publication if space permits. This information will also be given to the person assisting the ARC Webmaster with the Junior web page.

At this time, he/she shall also send a rejection letter to any individual whose application has not been approved.

### **Westminster Kennel Club and AKC/Eukanuba National Championship Stipend Operating Procedure**

The Junior Liaison will be responsible for identifying juniors who qualify for the Westminster Kennel Club and/or the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship Junior Showmanship competition with a Rottweiler and determining if the juniors plan to attend.

The ARC Junior liaison will forward the junior's show confirmation to the ARC treasurer and a check for \$ 250.00 will be issued within 15 days of the Treasurer's receipt of the information. This should be prior to the show date if possible, but should be done even if the information is not known until after the event is concluded. If the junior is under 18 years of age, the check will be made payable to the junior's guardian.

### **Additional Committee Responsibilities**

The Committee, with final ARC Board approval, shall appoint an ARC member in good standing to assist the ARC Webmaster in preparing and updating the Junior web page. They also, again with final ARC Board approval, shall appoint an ARC member in good standing as the Junior Liaison. (See #s 3 & 4 in Programs above.) One person may serve in both positions and the individual(s) may also be a member of the Junior Showmanship Committee.

The Committee will be responsible, with final ARC Board approval, for determining the best investment opportunities for the Scholarship fund. In addition, they will be responsible for soliciting monies to add to this fund, i.e. auctions, raffles, grant money, etc. Donations may be made to this program through membership renewals.

The Committee will solicit donations to be used in a gift bag of dog items (towel, dog food samples, dog combs, brushes, etc.) for those entered in the Junior Showmanship Classes at the ARC National Specialty and ensure that the bags are stuffed and available at the hospitality table upon check in. They are also responsible for obtaining funding/donations for trophies for the Highest Scoring Junior in each performance event at the ARC National Specialty.

### **Junior Fund**

The Junior Fund will be divided into 3 categories:

1. **The Kalyn Rae Bastyr Scholarship Fund**: money for this fund will come from the ARC initial matching funds of up to \$5,000, on-going fund raising, donations, investments, interest, etc. The ARC membership renewal form will provide a space for members who would like to contribute to the fund. The money in this fund will be used solely for the Scholarship.
2. **Junior Stipends for Westminster and Eukanuba Invitational**: this fund will be financed by Club's general account.
3. **Junior Trophy Fund**: this fund will be financed through on-going fund raising, donations, investments, interest, etc. The money in this fund will be used solely for the engraving and upkeep of the Kalyn Rae Bastyr Top Junior Handler Award, commemorative mementos presented each year to the Top Junior Handler, and prizes offered in each performance event at the ARC National Specialty. At the discretion of the committee, this fund may also be used to purchase small items for the gift bags presented to the juniors competing in the Junior Showmanship classes at the ARC National Specialty.
4. **Miscellaneous**: tickets for the Awards Banquet, Top 10/Companion Event Jr. certificates and medallions, bestjunior.com rosette, and postage/printing costs of the Junior Packets, will be financed by Club's general account.

### **Committee Expenses**

Original receipts for committee expenses in regards to mail and phone costs may be submitted to the ARC Treasurer for reimbursement. Reimbursement will be made by the Treasurer using the funds from the Club's general account. The Chairperson should confer with the President and Treasurer before incurring any costs over \$50.