



STCA JUNIOR INCENTIVE FUND

Proposal to Board of Scottish Terrier Club of America

A decision is requested to support the development of an STCA Junior Incentive Fund.

The Purpose of an STCA Junior Fund

STCA Paws for Juniors is a network of ten adults formed in 2012 that directly supports STCA Juniors. The overall mission of this group is to provide leadership and encouragement to help the entire membership of STCA recruit and retain junior members. The concept of providing a national junior incentive fund to show a commitment toward sustaining junior involvement originates from this committee.

The purpose of the Scottish Terrier Club of America Junior Incentive Fund is to celebrate and recognize the accomplishments of STCA Junior Members using motivational and monetary incentives for participation in all AKC Events involving Scottish Terriers. The overall goals are to help defray the cost of junior involvement in showmanship and provide opportunities for scholarship toward higher education.

The membership of STCA Juniors is small, currently only four individuals, but we see growth on the horizon. With the support of Scottish Terrier breeders and recently aged-out juniors we are seeing an increase in applications and interest for junior members. It is important to remember that future owners, breeders and exhibitors of our breed will come from this group.

Justification for a Junior Fund with Grants & Scholarships

Nine recent and current STCA Juniors responded to an email survey about their preference for junior awards which was conducted the week of April 23. Using a rating scale of three points for their most preferred award, two points for second preference and one point for their least preference, the STCA Juniors responded as follows: 13 points for Public Recognition and/or Certificates, 16 points for Trophies and Rosettes at junior events and 25 points for Grants and Scholarships. Of nine juniors polled seven favored grants or scholarships. The survey told us that

the most meaningful way that the STCA could recognize worthy junior handlers would be through a program of scholarship.

Several parents of STCA Juniors and our recently aged-out juniors (10 adults total) were polled by phone and related that the cost of junior involvement in showmanship, invitations to STCA or AKC specialties and other financial needs required financing in order to encourage juniors and keep them involved in Scottish Terriers.

Criteria for Grants

Grants are earned by junior participation in AKC Junior Showmanship and STCA events and by meeting the point criteria for outstanding performance in conformation, agility, and obedience, as well as performance events throughout the calendar year from September 1 to September 1. Refer to attached grant application

Criteria for Scholarship

To encourage junior handlers the STCA will create a Scholarship Program with funds awarded each year for college expenses including: tuition, books and fees at the college/university where the student is enrolled. Junior handlers applying for scholarship submit a letter of intent to or acceptance from a junior college or accredited institution with their scholarship application to the STCA. Applicants need to be a junior or senior in high school in good academic standing (according to AKC criteria 3.0 or above) or have documentation substantiating the meeting of quality home school standards or special needs requirements (PL94-142).

Documentation of both current and future participation in AKC/STCA activities is required. A passion for service to the breed as well as leadership ethics and sportsmanship are confirmed in a personal essay and recommendation letters that validate these character attributes. Application for an STCA Junior Scholarship will be made by September 1 of the calendar year. Refer to attached scholarship application.

Applying for Grants or Scholarship

Active STCA junior Showmen applying for grants or scholarships will complete an application and submit it to the STCA Junior Grant/Scholarship Committee made up of four members of Paws for Juniors Network including the STCA Junior Showmanship Chairman along with one member of the STCA Board of Directors (5 members total).

To encourage, foster and mentor junior handlers the PAWS Committee will award \$2,000 per year as follows: one \$1,000 scholarship, up to \$1,000 in grant(s) ranging from \$100-\$500 each. PAWS funds that accrue over the annual \$2,000 award amount will continue to accrue towards the next year's awards and may be used for additional incentives for juniors as agreed to by the Committee and the STCA Board.

Funding the Scholarship Program

A call will be made to members of STCA and other individuals interested in promoting the Scottish Terrier Breed in order to raise funds to support the awarding of STCA Junior Showmanship Scholarships and Grants. Communication will be made through The STCA website, The STCA Regional Wrap-Up electronic newsletter, The Bagpiper and club email groups. The treasury of STCA and its banking institution will handle the initial grant and scholarship funds collected. The junior funds will be maintained in an account and monitored by The STCA Junior Showmanship Chair and the STCA Treasurer.

Fundraising for juniors began at the 2012 STCA Rotating, continued through Great Western Terrier Specialty, the Houston and Denver Specialties and will culminate with a raffle drawing at Montgomery County 2012. An STCA Paws for Juniors lapel pin was created and offered as a thank you gift for a donation of twenty dollars. When worn it indicates an individual has supported the scholarship fund and serves as a conversation starter to promote the fund among the fancy.

The 2012 donations will be added to the 2013 fundraising effort. Fund raising will continue through the 2013 Rotating Specialty in Atlanta and throughout the summer. When funds are available, the first grants and scholarships will be awarded at the annual banquet in October 2013, and each subsequent fall national specialty.

Submitted by: Barbara Casey, Jerry Burge and The STCA Paws for Juniors Network: M Melucci, D Burge, R Inman, W Shaffer, R & D Fowler, K Prokopetz, L Hills, R Cross and S Maniscalco.

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