



Scottish Terrier Club of California

August 9, 2023

RE: Scottish Terrier Club of California 2024 specialty date

Dear STCA Officers and Board Members,

In the last several years, mostly due to the covid pandemic, we in southern California have been faced with the loss of numerous available and/or affordable show sites to hold a specialty. Numerous clusters have either folded, not brought shows back yet, or moved dates due to loss of show sites. The few sites that are available either conflict with another regional specialty, are unacceptable with dirt arenas or burrs and moles infesting the grass, or are an unacceptable distance for our members to travel to for exhibiting or working at the show. With an aging membership we are fighting an uphill battle, as most clubs are.

We would like to petition the board of the STCA to allow our club to possibly hold our 2024 specialty on Memorial Day weekend. The Mission Circuit cluster is a well-known weekend of four all-breed clubs and numerous specialties held on beautiful grass and large tenting. It is one of the few acceptable locations for our specialty to be held and a great option for us.

We understand that the Greater Pittsburgh STC has typically had that weekend for their specialty. However, we think its time to think outside the box and provide more options to the regional clubs. The STCC is one of the oldest and largest regional clubs, but we have been hampered by the loss of shows and available show sites in the greater Los Angeles area. The STCC specialty is on the west coast and the GPSTC specialty is on the east coast and it's very rare for us to have any members attend their specialty or vice versa. If it ever occurs, it's usually one professional handler from the east coast. In 2023, Pittsburgh had a total specialty entry of only 8 Scotties, and in 2022 it was 10 Scotties entered. STCC had 25 entered in 2023 and 26 entered in 2022. Its highly unlikely that the two specialties on the same weekend would have any effect on either club's entry. Also, it would not necessarily be on the same day of the weekend. Many breed clubs hold their specialties on the day before the Mission Circuit cluster begins (so our specialty could be on that Thursday) or we could designate classes at one of the all-breed shows or even ask for a concurrent specialty to have two shows in one day. That would still allow someone to fly across country to attend both specialties, if they were inclined to do so and we made sure to not have the specialties on the same day.

We respectfully request that the STCA board add our request to the agenda of their next meeting of the officers and board.

Any questions please feel free to reach out to me.

Sincerely,

Rod Ott - President

Scottish Terrier Club of California

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