

2012 ETRC GUN DOG OF THE YEAR AWARD RULES

(Revised December 1, 2011)

1. The dog which accumulates the most points in the ETRC club trials and any AKC Licensed Retriever Hunting Test throughout the year will be the winner of the annual Holcomb Gun Dog award and trophy. The annual award and trophy will be presented at the February ETRC annual awards banquet. The recipient of the Holcomb Gun Dog of the Year award will keep the trophy for one year and is responsible for its care. An engraved personal plaque is awarded to the retriever and the owner.
2. Points may be earned only in ETRC club trials and any AKC Licensed Retriever Hunting Test.
3. "Puppy" and "Advanced Junior" events will not be included in computation of Gun Dog of the Year point totals. However, an annual Austin-Williams Puppy of the Year award and trophy will be awarded separately.
4. Dogs are eligible to run in their current AKC classification and higher stakes.
5. All hunting stakes and competitive stakes will be run for completion points only (one point).
6. Once a dog earns an AKC pass in a higher stake than its current AKC classification, that dog cannot run a lesser hunting stake for points. Also, any dog completing two consecutive club tests in a higher stake than its current AKC classification cannot run a lesser stake for points. (A dog with an AKC senior pass cannot run in the Junior stake for points, but may run in the Master stake. Likewise, a Junior dog that passes two Senior club tests cannot run for points in the Junior stake).
7. Calculation of Points:
 - a. A dog will receive 1 point for any AKC Licensed Retriever Hunting Test passed.
 - b. A dog will receive 1 point for each club test stake passed.
 - c. Points for Master National:
 - 1) A dog will receive 1 point for qualifying for the Master National
 - 2) A dog will receive 2 points for passing at the Master National
 - d. BONUS POINTS: A dog will receive 10 bonus points for passing in all 3 club tests.
8. Only ETRC members may earn points.
9. In the event of a tie, all dogs receiving the same score will receive recognition.
10. A dog which earns a leg in a higher AKC classification may continue to earn bonus points by entering all stakes in the classification they are now eligible to run in. (i.e. A Junior dog that runs and passes two club tests in the spring and receives an AKC Senior pass may finish earning bonus point in the club Senior stakes in the fall). The same also applies to a dog that passes two consecutive club tests. (i.e., A Senior dog that runs and passes two consecutive Master club tests may finish earning bonus points in the club Master stakes).
11. 2008 Gun Dog of the Year retrievers will start earning points for any AKC Licensed Retriever Hunting Test and club test beginning January 1, and running through December 31 of the award year. It will be the responsibility of each handler/owner to contact the club designee to report entering and passing any AKC Licensed Retriever Hunting Test other than ETRC.
12. The rules and regulations are to be published in the club newsletter preceding and following the club's annual February meeting. A copy will be posted on the ETRC website.