

# GREATER PITTSBURGH GOLDEN RETRIEVER CLUB, INC.

## AWARDS GUIDELINES

### INTRODUCTION

The Greater Pittsburgh Golden Retriever Club Awards Program is designed to recognize Club members who actively participate with their Golden Retrievers in any of the diverse American Kennel Club (AKC) events, Golden Retriever Club of America (GRCA) activities, Master National Retriever Club (MNRC) events, or Greater Pittsburgh Golden Retriever (GPGRC or Club) approved community service activities. Additionally, recognition is given for Junior member achievements.

The program recognizes these accomplishments for each calendar year.

### ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

#### **A. Membership:**

Membership types eligible for awards are described in the Club By-Laws.

#### **B. Ownership:**

The dog must be owned or co-owned by a member in good standing both with the Club and the AKC. A member shall be deemed to be in good standing when (a) all dues and other obligations to the Club by such member are current; (b) such member's membership has not lapsed or terminated in any manner, and (c) such member has not been suspended or expelled per the provisions of the By-Laws of the Club.

#### **C. Contribution:**

Each member must contribute in at least three of the Club's activities during the calendar year, two of which must be participation in major Club events, specifically, the Specialty, the Agility Trial, and/or the Hunt Test. For those events that are multiple days, each day of work counts as a contribution. The third contribution may be any of the following: committee or job participation or meeting attendance.

**D. Reporting:**

Members must report achievements to the Club's Accomplishment Recorder on the Title/Award Record Form. The form is available on the Club's Website and will be printed periodically in the *Golden Gait*. Achievements are recognized in the calendar year reported.

**E. Awards:**

All achievements are recognized at the Annual Awards Banquet.

An individual Golden is recognized only once per title or award. A title followed by a numeric designation indicating the quantity of time the dog has met the initial title requirements is not considered a new title or award.

All titles and awards reported in a calendar year will be recorded on one plaque or certificate.

Achievements are recognized for:

- **New Titles/Awards** in AKC or GRCA Conformation, Field, Performance or Community Service Events. Plaques are awarded for these achievements.
- **Master National Retriever Club**
  - The first qualifying score at the MNRC Annual Hunting Retriever Test is recognized with a Certificate.
  - Upon receiving a second qualifying score the AKC title of MNR is earned. The Master National Title is awarded a plaque.
- **Community Service** is recognized:
  - With a Plaque when an AKC Therapy Dog Title is earned. Some examples are:
    - \* Education and outreach programs;
    - \* Therapy visits to hospitals and nursing homes, reading programs at schools.
    - \* Dog rescue activities.

- With a Certificate when requirements are met for registration in organizations that promote dog assisted activities. Some examples are:
  - \* Therapy Dog International (TDI)
  - \* Delta

**F. Junior Members - Additional Considerations**

- In addition to titles and awards previously mentioned, junior members have the potential for additional recognition with a Plaque.

Some examples are:

- \* AKC Junior Showmanship Scholarship Award
  - \* GRCA Junior Achievement Award
  - \* GRCA Junior Handler of the Year.
- Participation in a Limited Junior Showmanship Class, as defined in the AKC regulations, such as Westminster:
    - \* Are recognized with a Certificate upon being qualified to attend.
    - \* Are awarded a Plaque if awarded a placement.
  - Junior members ranked in the GRCA Junior Showmanship Top 20 are recognized with a Plaque.