

# ETRC CHUCK ATCHLEY LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD RULES

(Finalized 10/16/23)

1. Every year, ETRC will award the Chuck Atchley Lifetime Achievement award to the nominated ETRC-owned dog that most clearly represents the highest levels of achievement as detailed below. Any member is welcome to nominate any dog for this award during the December awards nomination period; if more than one dog is nominated, selection will be made by a vote of the Board. For this award, the usual prohibition against the President voting is waived; if there is a tie, a second vote will be taken and if there is still a tie, both dogs will be honored for that year.
2. Dogs nominated must be owned /have been owned by a current ETRC member at the time the award nomination is made. Deceased dogs are eligible for this award. A dog may be nominated multiple times, however once the dog has won the award, he / she will no longer be eligible for further consideration.
3. Nominations will be called for in the December issue of the ETRC Newsletter, and details will be provided in that newsletter of where to send your nominations. In order to nominate a dog, the owner (or other member nominating another member's dog) must provide a detailed written explanation of why the dog is worthy of this award. Two or three sentences will not suffice! This justification should include statistics and details concerning one or all of the following areas for consideration:
  - a. **Field performance.** Please enumerate titles earned in hunt tests or field trials (including AKC and HRCH events), number of passes achieved, and any other comments that pertain to the dog's excellence (number of tests passed out of tests taken, ETRC awards such as Gun Dog of the Year, age at the time titles were earned, comments about style, etc.).
  - b. **Breeding performance.** Please enumerate the total number of puppies sired / whelped by the nominated dog and the number of titled puppies. Titles can be earned by those puppies in any recognized AKC or HRCH dog sport. Also include any breed recognition such as Outstanding Sire or Dam awards achieved by the nominated dog. You may also include any other notable achievements by the nominated dog's progeny for which titles aren't awarded, such as Seeing Eye, etc.
  - c. **Success of the nominated dog in any other non-field related endeavor.** Please include any information on the nominated dog's titles / achievements in other AKC or HRCH events, such as Agility, Obedience, Scent Work, etc. You may also include service awards, therapy work, and anything else that you feel makes the dog worthy of a lifetime achievement award.
4. Nominations will be rated subjectively, without points assigned for various categories of achievement. However, evaluators voting on dogs must take into consideration the hierarchy of achievements outlined above by placing more value on individual field achievements first, by breeding achievements second, and by other considerations third. Since the ETRC is a retriever club, it is entirely possible for a dog to win this award who was outstanding in the field but never had offspring or earned a non-field title. It should not be possible for a dog to achieve this title without having reasonable accomplishments in the field.

5. The Board of Directors may decide not to award this title during any particular year if no dogs are nominated, or if none of the nominated dogs seem to possess a record worthy of a Lifetime Achievement Award. Decisions by the Board of Directors are final.
6. Winners will be announced at the annual Awards Banquet in February. Names and pictures, along with information on the dog's achievements, will be published in the March Newsletter and posted on the ETRC Website and Facebook page. The winning dog's name and owner will be engraved on a perpetual trophy and the owner will also be provided with a small trophy/plaque to keep.
7. These rules and regulations are to be posted permanently on the ETRC Website. A copy of them will be published in the December 2023 Club newsletter, and annually thereafter. However, publication of a link to the rules on the club website will be considered sufficient after the first year, at the newsletter editor's discretion. Any changes to the rules will be published in the club newsletter and posted on the website.
8. Chuck Atchley, to whom this award is dedicated, is a Charter Member of the ETRC which was formed in 1986. He actively trained and ran several Labrador Retrievers to titles over a number of years. He served as Treasurer from 1996 - 2015 and continues to be a faithful member. During some of our leaner periods, he personally bailed us out so we could continue operating until our financial situation improved. We have benefited from using his beautiful farm countless times for training and Club Trials. On his retirement as Treasurer in February 2015, ETRC awarded Chuck a Special Platinum Award for Outstanding Service. His lifetime achievements for our club make his name a worthy one for recognizing some of the Club's superior dogs.