

## 2012 ETRC PUPPY OF THE YEAR RULES

(Revised December 1, 2011)

1. The dog which accumulates the most points per the rules below in ETRC club trials or AKC licensed Junior Hunter tests throughout the year will be the winner of the annual Austin-Williams Puppy of the Year award and trophy. Puppies between 10 weeks and one year of age are eligible to compete.
2. Age Classifications: Junior Puppy: 10 weeks through six months or (27 weeks of age)  
Senior Puppy - Seven months to One Year (28 weeks to first birthday)
3. a) Points will be earned only in ETRC club events or AKC licensed hunt tests. Only dogs competing in ETRC Puppy and Junior Stakes or Junior Hunter AKC hunt tests may earn points toward Puppy of the Year. Before one year of age points earned in Senior, Master, or Singles Classic stakes will not count toward the Puppy of the Year total, but will count toward Gun Dog of the Year point totals. Any Junior Hunter level points earned cannot be counted for both Puppy of the Year and Gun Dog of the Year.  
  
b) Puppies are eligible to run in their current age classification. A Senior puppy may not compete in the Junior Puppy class. Junior puppies may compete in the higher stake Senior Puppy class for a JAM ribbon only, no placement or points will be awarded.
4. Calculation of Points:  
a) Points will be awarded for placements in ETRC club puppy stakes as follows:  
Five Points will be awarded for first place.  
Three points will be awarded for second place.  
Two points will be awarded for third place.  
One point will be awarded for fourth places.  
JAMS will be awarded to puppies that the judges believe to have earned a JAM, but no points will be awarded.  
  
b) BONUS POINTS: A puppy will receive one point for passing each ETRC Junior Hunter stake or any licensed AKC Junior Hunter test.
5. Only ETRC members in good standing are eligible to compete for the Puppy of the Year award.
6. In case of a tie, all dogs receiving the same score will receive recognition.
7. Puppy of the Year candidates can start earning points beginning January 1 and running thru December 31 of that year. The annual award and trophy will be presented at the February ETRC annual awards banquet. The recipient of the Austin-Williams Puppy 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 puppy and the owner.
8. It will be the responsibility of the owner to provide evidence of ETRC club and AKC passes to the ETRC club member who is responsible for tabulating points. Tabulations must be written on the ETRC point summary form (available on ETRC website – [www.etrclub.org](http://www.etrclub.org)). The form must be submitted to the ETRC designee by January 15. If in the event there is a discrepancy in the points submitted and the records provided to the ETRC Secretary after each club test, the records of the ETRC are final. Any discrepancies in AKC points submitted will be compared to AKC's Performance records with AKC tabulations being final.

9. These rules and regulations along with a copy of the puppy point tabulation and summary form 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. In addition Puppy Stake judges should be given a copy of these guidelines prior to judging the stake.

10. As some puppies will compete in both stakes, judges are strongly encouraged to set up different marking tests for the Junior and Senior puppy tests. A water mark should be included in the Senior puppy stake. Lack of suitable grounds and time may prohibit this suggestion but all efforts should be made to adhere to it.