

ETRC FIELD TRIAL DOG OF THE YEAR AWARD RULES

(Final Rules approved April 2025 effective 1/1/25)

1. The dog which accumulates the most points in AKC-Licensed Retriever Field Trials and ETRC club trial Singles Classic Stakes throughout the calendar year will be the winner of the annual ETRC Field Trial Dog of the Year Award and trophy. The annual award and trophy will be presented at the February ETRC annual awards banquet. The recipient of the Field Trial 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's owner.
2. Points may be earned only in AKC Member or Licensed Retriever Field Trials.
3. Points earned for "Derby" Stakes at AKC Retriever Field Trials by puppies under 12 months of age at the time of the AKC Field Trial will not be included in computation of Field Trial Dog Of The Year Award totals, but may be applied towards Puppy Of The Year totals.
4. Dogs past their first birthday are eligible to earn points at any AKC Member or Licensed Field Trial stake.
5. Dogs are eligible to earn points at their current level or above in AKC Retriever Trials. Once a dog has qualified twice at Qualifier stakes, for example, it may not earn any further points in qualifiers.
6. Calculation of Points For ETRC Field Trial Dog of the Year Award:
 - a. **Derby.** A dog over one year of age will receive 5 points for 1st place, 4 points for 2nd place, 3 points for 3rd place, 2 points for 4th place, and 1 point for JAM or ResJAM at each AKC Member or Licensed Retriever Derby Stake.
 - b. **Qualifier.** A dog over one year of age will receive 5 points for 1st place, 4 points for 2nd place, 3 points for 3rd place, 2 points for 4th place, and 1 point for JAM or ResJAM at each AKC Member or Licensed Retriever Qualifier Stake, whether open or Amateur/owner handler.
 - c. **All Age Stakes.** A dog will receive 10 point for 1st place, 8 points for second place, 6 points for 3rd place, 4 points for 4th place, 2 points for RJAM, and 1 point for JAM.
 - d. **Points for National or Amateur Championship Field Trials:**
 - i. A dog will receive 2 points for qualifying for the National and/or National Amateur Field Trial.
 - ii. A dog will receive 20 points for 1st place at one of the national competitions; 19 points for 2nd place, 18 points for 3rd place, and 17 points for 4th place plus 16 points for Reserve JAM and 15 points for a JAM.
 - e. **Specialties:** Points earned at a Specialty where only one breed is allowed to compete may be included in the points calculations, but only up to a maximum of two tests entered for which points are to be awarded.
7. Only dogs fully owned by one or more ETRC members in good standing are eligible to compete for the Field Trial Dog of the Year award. However, points gained while the dog is being handled by someone other than the owner will count towards the award, whether or not the handler is an ETRC member. No points earned before the owner is a member of the East Tennessee Retriever Club will count towards this award. Only one plaque will be awarded for a co-owned dog.

8. In the event of a tie, the tied dog who competed in the most ETRC Club Trial Singles Classic Stakes during the awards year will be declared the winner. If this tie breaker still results in a tie, all tied dogs will receive recognition.
9. The eligibility year for the Field Trial Dog of the Year Award begins January 1 and runs through December 31 of the award year.
10. It will be the responsibility of the owner to provide information on ETRC club and AKC passes to the ETRC club member who is responsible for tabulating points, by the date specified in the December newsletter. If there is a discrepancy in the points submitted for ETRC events and ETRC's records, 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. These rules and regulations are to be published in the club newsletter in December of each year. A copy will be posted on the ETRC website. Any changes to the rules will be published in the club newsletter and posted on the website. Winners will be announced in the March Newsletter and posted on the ETRC Website.

Approvals: Approved except for specific language changes at Board meeting, 4/4/25. Language change approvals:

1. Nate Lamping 4/5/25
2. Alan Bruhin 4/5/25
3. Luke McCoy 4/6/25
4. Kyle Griffin 4/6/25
5. Bob Smith 4/7/25
6. Mike Smith 4/7/25
7. Jim Pearce 4/8/25
8. Karen Edwards 4/8/25