

# **TOPS Terrier Award**

**August 24-26, 2018**

The objective of the TOPS Terrier Award is to recognize the achievement of teams competing at the highest level in a variety of performance and companion events. Teams compete in as many as five titling events over a three-day period. Teams accumulate points for qualifying runs. The terrier with the most points by the end of the competition wins the TOPS Terrier Award.

Terriers do not have to compete in all venues to win the trophy, but versatile terriers competing in the most events have the greatest chance of success. Points are accumulated in licensed agility, obedience, rally, and Barn Hunt trials. Although Earthdog is offered in conjunction with TOPS, qualifying runs earned in this event will not count towards the TOPS Terrier Award because AKC does not allow all terriers to compete in this event.

## **Eligibility**

All terriers eligible to compete in AKC titling events are eligible to compete in the TOPS Terrier competition.

## **Scoring Criteria**

The criteria used to develop the scoring system are as follows:

- Easy to calculate
- Fair and balanced across the venues
- Encourages participation
- Rewards high level performance

Scoring across the venues is designed to award a maximum of 14 points to the top team in each venue. Points are also allocated equally across difficulty levels in each venue. Teams competing at the Master/Utility level can earn a maximum of 14 points. Open and Senior level dogs can earn a maximum of 8 points, and Novice or Junior teams can earn a maximum of four points in each venue. See Table 1 – TOPS Terrier Scoring.

The TOPS Terrier competition includes two trials or tests each in agility, obedience, rally, Barn Hunt, and FCAT. To equalize scoring across the venues, agility and Barn Hunt scores count only on Friday and Saturday. Two tests per day are offered in

Barn Hunt, for a total of six tests over the weekend, but only one test each day on Friday and Saturday may be included for scoring. The owner may select which test from each day will be included in the scoring.

Because FCAT is a pure instinct test requiring no training or handler skills, total points available from this venue are 2 for each qualifying run plus 1 point for the fastest terrier in each test.

#### Agility:

- TOPS terrier points are accrued from the standard and Jumpers with weaves classes only
- TOPS terrier points are accrued from qualifying runs on Friday and Saturday only
- For the purpose of scoring the TOPS terrier competition, we will not distinguish between the regular, preferred, master, or excellent classes, with the exception that dogs competing at the excellent levels must not incur time faults.
- One terrier per trial may earn one bonus point if the dog earns a double Q and had the fastest combined time in standard and jumpers.

#### Obedience

- Terriers earn TOPS points only for the **highest-level class in which they qualify**. For example, a Q in Open and an NQ in Utility earn 4 points. Qs in BN and N earn 2 points. A dog that qualifies in both utility and open accrues six points for the utility leg, but does not also get four points for the open leg. The team earning high combined earns one bonus point in the TOPS terrier competition.

#### Rally

- Similar to obedience, if a terrier qualifies in two or more runs from advanced, excellent, or master, **points are accrued only from the highest qualifying class**. For example, a Triple Q earns 6 points. Qualifiers in both advanced and excellent earn 5 points. The high triple score winner in Rally gets one bonus point.

#### Barn Hunt

- The terrier to qualify with the fastest time in the master classes each day earns a one-point bonus. For example, if the fastest master terrier in the morning qualifies in one minute and the afternoon terrier qualifies in 55 seconds, the afternoon terrier gets the point.