



The official newsletter of the AKC Junior Organization | Spring 2021

## A Message from Mari-Beth O'Neill

Everyone is pleased that we are beginning to see a return to normalcy this Spring. Many of you tried other events as a result of COVID, whether it was Virtual Rally or attending a FAST CAT event. Conformation events are returning, many being held with COVID restrictions, but at least we are able to attend dog shows again and see our friends. We encourage you to continue to try different events and become eligible for the Junior Versatility Scholarships that are awarded each year.

I wish to congratulate the Scholarship recipients for 2021. The past year was challenging for everyone. The essay this year requested the applicant to share how you remained involved with your dog and AKC Events during COVID-19. The essays shared how creative some of you were in developing routines and activities at home as well as participating in the different virtual activities available to earn titles.

## List of All the Scholarship Recipients

Junior Showmanship

Companion Events

Performance Events

The AKC Board approved a new role for every club to have, the Junior Coordinator. The responsibilities of this person will include engaging with current Junior Members for the club, encouraging new Junior membership and the development of Junior involvement and activities within the club. This role will be added to the list of officers submitted by each club provide AKC with the contact information to communicate with these individuals as they may do so with the Public Education Coordinator. It is hoped that these individuals will serve as mentors to Juniors, or guide Juniors to individuals to mentor them in a breed or event.

AKC would like to develop additional webinars for Juniors. The ones that have been conducted to date are available for viewing on the AKC Web Site: [Previously Aired Webinars: 2021 - American Kennel Club \(akc.org\)](#). What topics are of interest to you? Please submit ideas to [juniors@akc.org](mailto:juniors@akc.org)

### Reminder:

The Board reviewed a Staff recommendation to allow an exception to the Conformation Junior Showmanship Regulations to allow Juniors to continue to compete beyond their 18th birthday up until their 19th birthday or December 31, 2021, whichever comes first. This was passed unanimously by the AKC Board. This is for Juniors who turned 18 on or after March 1, 2020.

### Reminder:

**Qualification criteria for Junior Showmanship at the 2021 AKC National Championship:**

Qualifying Dates are: **October 8, 2020 – October 13, 2021.**

Criteria includes 3 wins in Open with Competition as well as a 3.0 grade point average or equivalent. The Spring Semester is almost over, please go ahead and submit your transcript if you are planning to attend the AKC National Championship sponsored by Royal Canin in Orlando in December.

## AKC Virtual Titles & Events

Looking for something fun to do at home? Titles in Trick Dog, ACT, and Rally can now be earned virtually! Click below for instructions.



Trick Dog Titles

[Learn More](#)



ACT 1 & ACT 2 Titles

[Learn More](#)



Rally Titles

[Learn More](#)

## Junior Stories

Izzy and Shiloh compete in Conformation, Barn Hunt, and Coursing Ability. Blair is a fourth-year veterinary student and an AKC Canine Ambassador. Jack trains his Golden Retriever, Gem, in dock diving and Agility. Read their stories and share your own with us at [juniors@akc.org](mailto:juniors@akc.org).

[Read More](#)



Jack



Blair



Izzy

## Junior Photo Gallery



Samantha Schwarz writes: After watching the movie "Footprints" (a true story about a therapy dog team that used therapy work to share the Gospel,) God led us to join a therapy dog organization to do likewise. Since then our family has joined the Greater Kansas City Dog Training Club and has been blessed to assist classes.

## Wheaton KC PeeWee Class



## Around the Ring



Reno KC Best Junior Handler and Scholarship Recipient Kylie Compton.



Greater Fredericksburg KC



Brianna Schaff and Streak won the Under 15 Small Dog Individual jumping at the 2019 European Open.



Rachel Clark, Greyslake IL All Breed Show and Combined Specialties

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