

*Welsh Springer Spaniel  
Club of America, Inc.*



*Policies and Procedures  
Last Updated on 02/03/2009*

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**Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America, Inc.  
POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE POLICIES**

As directed by the WSSCA Constitution and By-laws Article IV  
Section 3. Annual Elections. At the annual election of officers and directors . . . . .  
The President, Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, and three (3) Directors shall  
be elected in odd numbered years. The Vice President, Treasurer and three (3)  
Directors shall be elected in even numbered years. All officers and directors shall  
be elected for two year terms. The delegate to the American Kennel Club will be elected  
on years divisible by four (4) for a four year term. The Board of Directors shall appoint  
two (2) independent inspectors of election or an independent ballot association to  
receive and count the ballots.

Remember to consider geographical representation as much as is practical to do so.  
Prior to November 15, you will need to submit a slate of candidates to the Secretary.  
You need to procure a written acceptance from each candidate and it would be best  
to get a resume from each candidate at the same time. This will save time later if  
there are petitions for additional nominations.

Section 4. Nominations and Ballots. No person may be a candidate in a club election who  
has not been nominated in accordance with these By-laws. A nominating committee  
shall be chosen by the board of directors before September 1<sup>st</sup>. The committee shall  
be chosen and shall consist of three members from different areas of the USA and two  
alternates; all members in good standing, no more that one (1) of whom may be a member  
of the current Board of Directors. The board shall name a chairperson for the committee.

The official WSSCA membership list is maintained by the treasurer.

**BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE**

The WSSCA BOD shall conduct three annual meetings according to the following schedule.

- Meeting 1: Begins immediately after annual meeting (March 1 - May 31<sup>st</sup>)  
Adjourns August 31<sup>st</sup>.
- Meeting 2: Begins September 1<sup>st</sup>.  
Adjourns December 31<sup>st</sup>.
- Meeting 3: Begins January 1<sup>st</sup>.  
Adjourns: day of the annual meeting.

### **SPECIALTY SHOW POLICIES**

- I. Plans for the annual specialty will be formalized at least two years in advance.
  - A. The annual specialty show must be held between March 1, and May 31. The WSSCA secretary shall receive a copy of all applications mailed to AKC for licensed events.
  - B. The first consideration for the location should be the geographic location of the membership; and second an attempt to hold the annual specialty in various areas of the country.
  - C. Some field event shall be held in conjunction with the specialty, if at all feasible. This event, while under the direction of the specialty committee, will receive help from the field committee.
  - D. One of the people suggesting the location must have first hand knowledge of the sites.
  - E. At least one committee member must live close enough to or be familiar enough with the area to be able to handle arrangements for motels, meals, meetings, etc.
  - F. The arrangements and offerings of the all-breed host club must be submitted at least two years in advance of the proposed specialty date to the WSSCA secretary for approval by the WSSCA board.
  - G. The regional club hosting the national specialty will be financially responsible for the event, including arrangements for the specialty judge and the sweepstakes judge. Some trophy funds are available from the WSSCA treasury.
  - H. A national specialty judge should not accept judging assignments of Welsh Springer Spaniels three months in advance of the specialty date.
  - I. At the conclusion of a specialty event, the chairperson shall submit a marked catalog or results of the event to the club historian, the newsletter editor, the WSSCA website chairperson and the annual awards chairperson.
  - J. All chairpersons of related specialty events must be WSSCA members.
  - K. The use of the WSSCA club logo and /or head study (Salinas) is approved for use on premium lists, catalogs, trophies, programs and promotions for WSSCA licensed or sanctioned events.
  - L. The WSSCA may hold a second (regional) specialty every year, but no sooner than four months after the national specialty. All of the above requirements must be met except A and C.
  - M. No more than one WSSCA sponsored breed event may be held in different parts of the country on the same weekend.
  - N. Each year ten percent of the trophy money collected with the dues billing will be put toward the trophy fund of the next Regional Specialty. The Regional Specialty trophy fund is not to accumulate for more than two years.
  - O. Any host club/group member who has direct contact, verbal or written, with a

judge regarding his/her hiring or show planning for the National Specialty, Sweepstakes, or corresponding Supported Entries shall not exhibit or enter any owned or co-owned dogs at said event. Nor shall any member of the person's immediate household or immediate family exhibit or enter any owned or co-owned dogs at said event. (AKC Rules Applying To Dog Shows, CH 11, Sec. 13. for what constitutes immediate family) Show planning contact includes, but is not limited to, any verbal or written contact with a judge regarding:

- Availability
- Travel arrangements
- Lodging arrangements
- Food/meal arrangements
- Banquet/club function invitation(s)
- The scheduling of the event

P. No person shall judge more than one WSSCA National Specialty in any ten year period.

Q. Situations may occur where multiple Regional clubs/groups submit a bid to host the National Specialty for the same year. When this occurs, the Regional club/group with the largest amount of time between the date of their most recently hosted National Specialty and the date of the requested National Specialty shall be given precedence by the WSSCA Board of Directors. In the case that a Regional club/group in the above situation has never previously hosted a National Specialty, they shall be given the highest precedence if they have hosted a WSSCA Regional Specialty with Sweepstakes or WSSCA Supported Entry with Sweepstakes within 5 years of the date that their request is made.

R. The WSSCA Vice President shall create a list of a future and past approved conformation WSSCA events. This list shall consist of:

- the name of the host club
- a contact person and their email/phone information
- type of event
- chairperson
- event location
- event date
- judge(s) for each event

The Vice President shall regularly send the list to the WSSCA webmaster, so that it will be publicly posted on the WSSCA website (WSSCA.com). It shall be the responsibility of each regional club/group to report their selected judges to the Vice President so that the list may be up to date.

S. There shall be a creation of a list of requested conformation judges by the WSSCA membership. The list will be available as a guide to Specialty host clubs/groups on the WSSCA membership's judge preferences. It will not be mandatory for a specialty host club/group to select a specialty judge from the list. The list shall be separated into American judges and foreign judges and ordered by request points. Only those who are members in good standing of the Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America shall be allowed to vote. Members shall be able to select 3 fully approved/provisionally approved AKC Welsh Springer Spaniel judges and 3 judges who are fully approved to judge Welsh Springer Spaniels for a

foreign registry recognized by the AKC. Member requests shall be ordered by preference, with a member's first judge preference earning 3 points, a member's second judge preference earning 2 points, and a member's third judge preference earning 1 point. The list shall be updated yearly and shall be posted on the WSSCA website. WSSCA judge requests will be accepted between September 1<sup>st</sup> and October 31<sup>st</sup> yearly. Members can submit their judge requests via a website or by mail. The address to send judge requests to and the website address shall be printed in the Starter Barks.

## **REGIONAL WELSH SPRINGER SPANIEL CLUB POLICIES**

In continuing recognition of its responsibility to a national membership and due to geographical restrictions placed on regional breed clubs by the American Kennel Club (AKC), WSSCA adopted the following policy:

1. Regional Welsh Springer spaniel Clubs may become affiliated with the WSSCA through the yearly payment of fifty dollars (\$50.00) and the submission of the following information: copy of the constitution and by-laws, list of current officers and members, list of club activities for the previous year, and a current financial report. This affiliation must be approved annually by the WSSCA board of directors.
2. WSSCA affiliated clubs or groups of responsible WSSCA members may apply to host WSSCA events, specialties, sweepstakes, supported entries, hunting tests, working tests, tracking tests, rally trials, obedience trials, agility trials or other events under the regulations and guidelines of the American Kennel Club. In the case that a group applying to host an event is not a WSSCA affiliated Regional club, that group is required to be sponsored by a WSSCA affiliated Regional club in areas where such a club exists. The WSSCA secretary shall receive a copy of all applications mailed to AKC for licensed events.
3. WSSCA affiliated clubs or groups of responsible WSSCA members may only conduct events sanctioned by the AKC. These events must be conducted according to AKC regulations. Exceptions to this rule are "fun matches" and WSSCA working dog tests.
4. The regional WSS club or group of WSSCA members hosting the event is financially responsible for the event.
5. Any profits of a hosted event will accrue to the regional affiliate club hosting the WSSCA event. A hosted event held by a WSSCA affiliated club or group of members shall not be conducted or operated for profit where any part of any profits or remainder or residue from the monies collected from this event benefit any member or individual.
6. Within 60 days following the event, the WSSCA affiliated club or group of members hosting the event must submit a financial summary of the event to the WSSCA President and Treasurer showing the proceeds and expenses for the event. If a profit was made from the event, 10% of this profit must be donated to the WSSCA Club treasury to be used as follows. For conformation events, this donation will be split equally between the WSSCA trophy fund and WSSCA rescue fund. For non-conformation events, this donation will be put split equally between the WSSCA health fund, the WSSCA rescue fund, and a separate WSSCA performance trophy fund which is to be used for performance awards for WSSCA sponsored events.
7. Applications by affiliate clubs or groups of members to host WSSCA events must be received within the appropriate time frame as listed below and are subject to board approval. The request will include the name of the event or show, the date, and the chairperson. For non-conformation events, an estimate of the expected profits (e.g. entry fees) and expenses for the event must be included in the application.

**National and Regional specialties** - at least two years in advance.

**Supported entries** - at least one year in advance

**Working dog test** - 6 months in advance

**Hunting test, Tracking test, Agility trial, Obedience Trial, Rally Trial:**  
- two months in advance of the AKC application deadline

8. All committee chairpersons and members appearing in the premium list or catalog of a WSSCA hosted event must be members of WSSCA.

9. The secretary of each WSSCA Licensed hunting Test will, upon receipt of AKC approval for said test, notify the WSSCA national field chairperson of the approval.

10. Upon completion of any WSSCA Licensed Hunting Test, the secretary of said test will, within three weeks of the date of the test, send a marked catalog to the WSSCA national field chairperson, who will see that the proper national publications receive results.

### **SWEEPSTAKES GUIDELINES**

1. Sweepstakes shall only be held at Specialties, Supported Entries, and at the American Spaniel Club Annual Flushing Spaniel Show.
2. Board considerations for the approval of a sweepstakes include show location and the show date.
3. Requests for a sweepstakes must be submitted at least 1 year prior to the date of the proposed sweepstakes event.
4. Regional clubs are encouraged to contact the WSSCA Judges Education Chairperson regarding available sweepstakes judges who have participated in WSSCA breed seminars and/or ringside mentoring and who are not yet approved or provisionally approved to judge Welsh Springer spaniels in the United States.
5. Regional clubs and groups must gain approval by the WSSCA BOD in order to have sweepstakes classes offered at a show.
6. Only one puppy and one veteran sweepstakes will be approved by WSSCA per weekend or cluster of shows.

**BREEDERS DIRECTORY POLICY**

1. A breeder must be a WSSCA member in good standing for two years before they may be listed in the WSSCA breeder referral directory on the WSSCA website ([www.wssca.com](http://www.wssca.com)).

## **WELSH SPRINGER SPANIEL WORKING CERTIFICATE TEST**

### **RULES AND REGULATIONS**

The purpose of the Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America in providing rules and regulations for the Working Certificate is:

- A. To provide encouragement for the numerous exhibitors and breeders who are endeavoring to keep the Welsh Springer Spaniel a hunting dog as well as a show dog of good conformation.
- B. To promote cooperation and good will within the Welsh Springer Spaniel Club community and with other flushing breeds by the holding of field tests.

In order to make the tests available to as wide a number of flushing spaniel owners as possible, Working Tests may be offered by a club or by a group of owners. Club groups desiring to hold tests must obtain permission and approval from the chairperson of the Working Certificate Committee, starting date of the test, site, and names of proposed judges. Necessarily, the judges should be qualified by experience and be approvable for the judging of Licensed Field Trials and/or Hunt Tests. If no such qualified persons live in the area where the field test is to be held, the club or group may nominate any person known to be thoroughly familiar with the work of flushing spaniels in the field, briefly stating their qualifications. Working Tests are noncompetitive events. Dogs which pass these tests shall be qualified for the Working Certificate (W.D.) or Working Dog Excellent (W.D.X.).

Any dog [owned by a club member at the time of the test] that earns a hunting test leg (JH, SH, or MH) shall be granted a club title of WD (Working Dog) upon submission of proof from the American Kennel Club to the WSSCA Hunting Chairperson.

**Entries** for dogs being tested are to be entered on Working Certificate forms, supplied, on request, by the Chairperson of the Working Certificate Committee. Dogs are to be run singly; however, a minimum of three (3) dogs of any flushing breed must be entered and present to constitute an official testing. The Working Certificate Chairperson shall be responsible for keeping a permanent record of every Welsh Springer Spaniel that qualifies and shall inscribe and mail Working Certificates to the owners of dogs that have successfully qualified.

**Rules:** For Welsh Springer Spaniels entering a Working Dog test and attempting to earn a Working Certificate, two (2) entry forms must be filled out, completed and signed by the judges for each dog entered. One copy must be sent to the Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America, Chairperson Working Dog Certificates, within one week of the test by the officiating Club or group members. The remaining copy of the completed entry form shall be given to the owner of the qualifying dog on the date of the test and it shall be the owners responsibility to send it to the parent club secretary.

**Land Test:** Live upland game birds (ducks and pigeons are optional), should be planted on the course or beat (two for each dog), at least seventy-five (75) to ninety (90) feet ahead of the starting line so that there is the opportunity for the dog to demonstrate ground coverage and hunting ability. Each dog is required to work a minimum of two (2) birds. There should be suitable ground cover at the site; stubble, brush, grass clumps, etc.

**Water Test:** At the water test, a shot is fired into the air and at the same time a dead bird is thrown; either from the shore or from a boat, so as to fall approximately 20-25 yards that requires the dog to swim in order to make the retrieve. A duck call, or similar action, should be utilized to assist with focusing the dog's attention to the vicinity from where the bird will be thrown.

In both the land and water test, the dog must retrieve the bird to a reasonable distance, but not necessarily to hand. Dogs may not be "chased down" to retrieve a bird. At the water test, both the dog and bird must be completely out of the water for completing the retrieve.

***The established Safe-Gunning rules must be in effect at all times.*** If for some reason the bird cannot be shot (for example, a bird flying over the gallery or where a person may be in the line of fire, the bird getting up wild before the dog is started,) or if the bird is missed, additional birds should be planted to allow sufficient judging of hunting, flushing, and retrieving abilities. If a dog has **sufficiently** demonstrated that it can find and flush game but said game cannot be shot, a dead bird may be thrown with a shot fired while the bird is in the air to enable the dog to make the retrieve. The bird should be thrown at a distance to adequately test marking and retrieving ability. In the case of a fly-away, a dead bird may be thrown immediately following the recall and control of the dog at the handler's side, in order to assist with evaluating retrieving ability as well as taking the dog's mind off of the fly-away.

As an important safety measure and to prevent possible interference with the work of the dog being tested, or the guns a chance to shoot, one (1) or two (2) Stewards should be appointed to keep spectators, other handlers and dogs in a close group BEHIND the judges or in a designated place.

## **WORKING CERTIFICATE**

**In the Land Test for the Working Certificate, the dog should:**

1. Sit or stay by the handler at the starting line, unleashed, until the judge instructs the handler to proceed. The handler "sends" his/her dog and walks behind directing the dog on the course.
2. Show reasonable, not necessarily immediate, response to the whistle and/or command, and reasonable quartering of the ground. The dog should not, for example, be completely out of control although a leniency should be allowed to give the handler time to collect his dog.
3. NOT be required to be steady to wing and shot (flush or shot).
4. Demonstrate sufficient hunting ability to find and put up game in a workmanlike manner without undo urging, and should show no evidence of "pottering".
5. Within in a reasonable time, retrieve game to hand or within reasonable distance so that the handler can pick up the bird without chasing down the dog. The dog should retrieve the bird within one or two steps for satisfactory completion of a retrieve. The handler may direct the dog to the fall if the dog has not marked it.

6. "Hardmouth" is a serious fault. When a dog delivers a 'damaged' bird, ('damaged' meaning a bird that has been chewed or damaged by the dog making the bird unsuitable for the table or unable to be used in another training session for another dog), he will be disqualified. The disqualification occurs even if all other requirements of the Working Certificate test were completed satisfactorily.

**In the Water Test for the Working Certificate:**

1. The dog should not be required to sit or stay on the line, unleashed. The dog may be held on lead until the handler is directed by the judge to send the dog. At the water, the dog must be line-steady, off-lead, in order to qualify for a Working Dog Excellent title.
2. The dog should retrieve to hand or within reasonable distance (one or two steps) so that the handler can take the bird without chasing the dog on land, and at the water ensure the dog and bird both are completely out of the water for delivery of the bird.
3. The dog MUST swim to make retrieve. Wading is not sufficient for the test.

**PROCEDURE TO BE USED IN AWARDING CERTIFICATES BY JUDGES**

1. A dog that completes all parts of the test in a creditable manner will be awarded the Working Dog Certificate.
2. If in the opinion of the judges, the dog performs in an excellent manner in ALL (not just part) of the tests, the dog will be awarded the Working Dog Excellent Certificate. Therefore, a dog earning a W.D.X. must have all marks in the excellent column on the judges report.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:  
WSSCA POLICY REQUIRES THAT ALL PARTICIPANTS AND SPECTATORS AT  
WSSCA SPONSORED FIELD EVENTS WEAR AN ARTICLE OF BLAZE ORANGE  
WHILE ON TEST GROUNDS!**

For additional information, contact the WSSCA Field Chairperson

### **WSSCA VERSATILITY CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENTS**

To be awarded a **versatility certificate (VC)** a dog must be AKC titled in at least one area and meet the following criteria in each area:

**1. Conformation:**

Must be awarded an AKC championship or earn a major in an AKC licensed show.

**2. Obedience:**

a. Obedience - earn an AKC companion dog title (CD) or a qualifying score (leg) in Novice A or Novice B at an AKC licensed obedience trial.

<OR>

b. Agility - earn an AKC novice agility title or a qualifying leg in AKC novice agility.

<OR>

c. Tracking - earn an AKC tracking dog title (TD)

<OR>

d. Rally Obedience – earn an AKC Rally Obedience dog title (RN).

**3. Field:**

a. Field - earn an AKC hunt test title (JH, SH, or MH) or qualify at an AKC licensed hunt test at any level.

<OR>

b. Earn a WSSCA working dog (WD) or working dog excellent (WDX) certificate.

The **versatility certificate excellent (VCX)** may be awarded to Welsh Springer Spaniels earning titles in three areas:

1. Conformation
2. Hunting
3. And one of the following: Obedience, Agility, or Tracking

In addition, at least one title must be earned at an advanced level of competition. For example a CDX or UD title would satisfy the requirement for obedience. An Open or Excellent title in agility would satisfy the requirement for agility. A TDX or VST would satisfy the requirement for tracking. A SH or MH title would be regarded as an advanced title for hunting.

Owners must apply for these awards sending copies of AKC registration papers, AKC title certificates or photocopies of the AKC Show Result pages indicating awards such as majors, obedience or agility or hunt test legs, or tracking test passes.

## **WSSCA ANNUAL CONFORMATION AWARDS**

The annual awards year is from October 1, to September 30.

### **Deckard Cup Award**

The Deckard Cup Award is presented by William & Jane Pferd. (10/6/74). The award should be open to all dogs and bitches registered as Welsh Springer Spaniels with the American Kennel Club. Owners must be members of the Club for the full award year. The award will be administered by a committee appointed by the Club.

#### **Scoring:**

1. BOB receives one point for each dog defeated.
2. BOS receives one point for each dog defeated.
3. AOM's at National and Regional Specialties shall receive five (5) points less than the top winner of their sex (BOB or BOS) minus the total number of AOM's awarded at the show. If an AOM is also WD, WB or BOS it shall receive only the higher number of points, not the total. It shall be the duty of the show chairperson to report to the chair of the Deckard and Olympian Cups and the Wildfire Award.

Additional points will be awarded for group placements as follows:

1. 1st place - 25 points; 2nd place - 20 points; 3rd place - 15 points; and, 4th place - 10 points.
2. Best in Show will be awarded an additional 25 points

#### **Scoring Year:**

The time period for scoring the award will run from October 1st through September 30th of the following year. This will allow for all scores to be officially published in the AKC Gazette and tabulated in time for the Annual Meeting.

### **Olympian Cup Award**

The Olympian Cup Award is presented by Rick and Emily Preston (8-23-78). To be awarded to the top winning Welsh Springer Spaniel bitch. Owners must be members of the Club for the full award year. Scoring is to be in the same manner as for the Deckard Cup.

### **Founders Award**

The "Laddie Little C" Cup is presented by Carl and Francis Bloom, hereafter to be called the Founders Award. The award is to be presented to the Welsh springer spaniel who defeats the most Welsh springer spaniels in the award year. Points are tabulated for Best of Breed, Best of Opposite and Award of Merits in the same manner as for the Deckard Cup; however, no points are tabulated for group wins or Best in Show. To be eligible for this award, at least one owner must have been a member of WSSCA for the full award year. The first cup that will be used will bear the name "The Laddie Carswell Cup" in his memory. When this cup is filled with names of winners, the Blooms have the option of replacing the cup or allowing another club member to donate a cup.

### **Wildfire Award**

The Wildfire Award is presented by Tydaky Kennels, Maurice and Carol Krohn (2-12-94). To be awarded to the top winning amateur member owned and handled dog. The owner, co-owners and handlers must be amateurs. Amateur is defined as someone who has not taken payment of any kind for showing any dog during the award year. The handler may be the member owner, co-owner, spouse, parent or child. Scoring and membership requirements will be the same as for the Deckard Cup. Prospective winners must verify wins and sign a statement.

Scoring for the Deckard, Olympian and Wildfire

1. BOB receives one point for each dog defeated
2. BOS receives one point for each dog defeated
3. AOM's at National and Regional Specialties shall receive 5 points less than the top winner of their sex (BOB or BOS) minus the total number of AOM's awarded at that show. It shall be the duty of the Show chairperson to report to the annual awards chairperson.
4. Additional points will be awarded for group placements as follows:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> place - 25 points
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> place - 20 points
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> place - 15 points
  - 4<sup>th</sup> place - 10 points
5. Best In Show will be awarded an additional 25 points.

### **Statesman Award**

The Statesman Award is presented by Statesman Kennels, Gary and Susan Riese and Meghen and Charles Bassel. The Statesman Award is to be awarded to the top winning Welsh springer spaniel with an AKC hunting title (JH, SH, and/or MH). To be eligible, a dog must have earned an AKC hunting title before the end of the scoring year, September 30. All owners must be members of the Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America for the full award year. The scoring system and scoring year is to be in the same manner as for the Deckard Cup. In the event of a tie, the Statesman Award shall be awarded to the dog with the highest number of group placements. If this results in a tie, the Statesman Award shall be awarded to the dog with the highest hunting title level, with a JH being the lowest level and a MH being the highest level. If this tie-breaker system results in more than one dog qualifying for the award, each of these qualifying dogs shall be listed on the award.

The award will consist of a Welsh springer spaniel head study mounted on a base. The base will have a metal plate attached for engraving. Each winner will be responsible for the engraving of their dog's name and the year won on the metal plate. The font and size of the lettering is to match that of the previous winner. The award shall be presented at the annual awards banquet each year. The winner shall be responsible for ensuring that the Statesman Award is available at the awards ceremony in the year following their possession of it. Each winner is expected to repair any damage to the award that occurs while the award is in their possession and shall report any damage to the award to the WSSCA National Awards and Trophy steward.

### **Tomjoy Breeder of Merit Award**

This award is presented by Tom and Joyce Tracy to recognize outstanding breeders. To apply for the award, the WSSCA member must have bred 15 AKC champions of record and submit these records to Tom Tracy by December 31, of the preceding year of the award.

Qualifications and rules are as follows:

1. The breeder must be a member of WSSCA
2. Must have bred or co-bred 15 AKC champions of record.
3. Foreign titles such as Canadian, Mexican or International championships do not count.
4. Must send to Tom Tracy, 1130 Butler Ave., Santa Rosa, CA 95407, the names and registration numbers of the 15 champions that qualify you for the award.
5. December 31<sup>st</sup> is the cutoff date for receiving the award in the coming year. Thus if Your letter is received on or before December 31<sup>st</sup>, you will receive the award at the next National Specialty.
6. The award is made at the Club dinner held during the National Specialty.
7. A breeder cannot receive this award more than once.
8. Those breeders that meet the criteria as set by the Board of Directors will have their name engraved on the Tomjoy Breeder of Merit trophy and will receive an individual plaque.

### **Ron Mengel – Bred By Exhibitor Award.**

The Ron Mengel Best Bred by Exhibitor award is an annual award donated by Susan Mengel in memory of Ron Mengel. The award shall be open to all class dogs and bitches competing in the National Specialty Bred By Exhibitor class and will be awarded by the judge of the National Specialty of that year. The competition will be between the winner of the Bred By Exhibitor Dog class and the winner of the Bred By Exhibitor Bitch class. If Winners Dog or Winners Bitch comes from the Bred By Exhibitor class they will automatically win the Best Bred By Exhibitor Award. If both Winners Dog and Winners Bitch come from the Bred By Exhibitor Class the one receiving the Best of Winners ribbon will automatically win the Best Bred By Exhibitor Award. Owners must be members of the Welsh Springer Spaniel club of America for a full year.

The perpetual award will be provided by Susan Mengel. The trophy will consist of a base with the name of the winner engraved on a plaque each year and a topper of some sort. The winner of that years' trophy will be allowed to keep the trophy for the award year only. Trophy must be returned to the Trophy chairperson to be awarded to the next years' National Specialty BBBE. The award will be presented at the annual banquet. This award will start at the 2009 National Specialty.

## **WSSCA ANNUAL OBEDIENCE AWARDS**

### **Jesse Award**

This award is presented by Jim and Debbie Sackrison in memory of Jesse Of Limberlost UD. To be awarded to the highest scoring Novice (A or B) obedience WSS dog/handler team. The highest score is the sum of the first three qualifying scores received when earning the AKC Companion Dog title. Handler must be a member of WSSCA for the full award year.

### **Ch Cicero Gus UDT Cup**

The Ch Cicero Gus UDT Cup is presented by William and Jane Pferd to recognize the Welsh springer spaniel which has performed with consistency and quality in advanced levels of obedience. The award will be open to all Welsh Springers competing in Open A or B and Utility A or B classes at AKC recognized obedience trials. In the event that there are no Welsh Springers in the advanced classes, the award will be open to all Welsh competing in Novice A or B classes at AKC recognized Obedience Trials.

In order to be eligible for the annual award, the owner of the WSS must be a member in good standing of the WSSCA for the full award year. The award will go to the WSS which has earned the five (5) highest scores in Open A or B or Utility A or B classes at AKC Obedience Trials. If there are no qualifying scores in the advanced classes, the award will be given to the Welsh Springer Spaniel earning the three (3) highest scores in Novice A or B classes at AKC Obedience Trials.

### **WSSCA ANNUAL AGILITY AWARDS**

#### **The Holly House Master Excellent Agility Award**

1. This perpetual award is presented by Anne Legare in memory of Holly House Daniel O'Killagay MX NAJ TT CGC, for presentation to the WSS earning a Master Excellent title (MX) in the standard AKC Agility class.
2. All WSS earning a Master Excellent title (MX) in the Standard AKC Agility class will have their names on the trophy. The owner(s) of each dog winning the trophy is responsible for the engraving expenses and supplying a photograph for the photo album. The responsibility of having the name(s) placed on the trophy within one year of earning the trophy rests on the owner(s) of the dog winning the trophy as described in item 3.
3. If more than one dog receives a MX title in an award year, the winning dog will be the one with the most cumulative MACH points earned in the Excellent B Standard class and this dog's owner(s) will get to display the award for the year.
4. To be eligible, the owner(s) of the dog must be a member(s) of the WSSCA for the full award year.
5. The calendar year for the award shall be October 1, to September 30.
6. A photograph and pertinent information of every Welsh springer spaniel earning a Master Excellent title will be put into a photo album by the winner as described in item 3. This album will accompany the award.
7. The 8 1/2 inch trophy will be a silver plated loving cup with two handles. It will be mounted on a walnut base, which can be added onto. There will be individual nameplates.
8. Each year before the National Specialty, the award and album are to be returned to the national trophy steward in time to be presented at the banquet at the National Specialty.
9. This trophy is retroactive, so that every dog that has been awarded an AKC MX Standard title will have their name on the trophy.

### **WSSCA ANNUAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS**

The Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America, Inc. awards certificates of merit to members who have submitted photographs of their new title holders to the Club Historian. It is recommended that photographs and title information for qualifying dogs be submitted to the WSSCA Historian at least 4 weeks prior to the date of the National Specialty. The WSSCA Historian will advertise the achievement awards on the WSSCA website and in the Club newsletter (Starter Barks) at least 6 weeks prior to this 4 week deadline.

## **CHAMPION FOR HEALTH AWARD**

### **Description of the Champion for Health Award (from the OFA):**

This award refers to the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA) sponsored annual "Champion for Health" award. The award will consist of an engraved silver medallion awarded to the owner, and a \$100 donation to the AKC Canine Health Foundation (AKCCHF) in the name of the honored dog. It is intended that the award be announced and given at the club's annual awards banquet. In addition, photographs of dogs winning this award will be displayed on a "Champions for Health" webpage on the WSSCA website and also the OFA website.

### **RULES:**

I) The WSSCA Health Committee shall be in charge of collecting and submitting applications for the Champion for Health Award to the OFA

II) Eligibility Requirements

1) All WSS applicants must have a CHIC number. WSS that do not have a CHIC number on the date(s) of significant accomplishments are still eligible if they have a CHIC number on the date that the application is submitted for consideration.

2) The owner of the WSS must be a member in good standing with the WSSCA for the award year.

3) Automatic eligibility:

a) The Champion for Health winner of the Top 10 competition is automatically eligible for the given year of the win.

b) A dog that has earned an extraordinary performance AKC title or win in obedience, agility or field is automatically eligible in the year that the title was earned. Owners are required to notify the WSSCA President of such title or win in order to meet this automatic eligibility requirement. Title/win requirements are:

- Obedience: OTCH or High-In-Trial at an all-breed or American Spaniel Club obedience trial
- Agility: MACH
- Field: MH (Master Hunter)
- Tracking: CT (Champion Tracker)

c) The Best-of-Breed winner at the National Specialty is automatically eligible for the year following the win. In the event the BOB winner does not have a CHIC number, the Best-of-Opposite Sex winner is automatically eligible.

d) The Health Committee shall prepare an application for all automatically eligible dogs using a photograph and other supporting information from the owner.

e) The calendar year for award eligibility shall be October 1 to September 30.

4) Regular Eligibility

a) Owner(s) of a dog that has had significant achievements in the breed ring, performance ring, in the field, or as producers may submit a completed application as described below to the Health Committee for this award. Achievements prior to the year of application are allowable. A CHIC number is required for regular eligibility.

III) Completed applications and selection process for submission to OFA.

- 1) A completed application for submission to the OFA shall include a brief write-up of the WSS's accomplishments, a record of its health certifications, the dog's CHIC number and a suitable photograph. Owners of automatically eligible dogs shall assist the Health Committee with assembling this application.
- 2) Applications must be completed and submitted by the Health Committee to the OFA no later than February 1st in order to allow sufficient time for OFA consideration before the National Specialty.
- 3) The Health Committee shall nominate from one to three dogs each year for the annual award, and present their nominations to the OFA for final selection.
- 4) In the event that, between automatic and regular applications, there are more than three nominees for this award in a given year, the Health Committee shall submit these applications to the WSSCA Board of Directors who will select the top three nominations by a plurality vote. The final selections should include, if possible, a balanced slate of applications recognizing accomplishments in multiple venues such as the breed ring, performance ring, in the field, or as producers.

#### IV) Rules regarding ineligibility

- 1) Any WSS without a CHIC number is ineligible. If a dog obtains a CHIC number in a later year after earning a significant accomplishment, this dog shall become eligible under the "regular eligibility" rule.
- 2) A WSS shall only be eligible for one "Champion for Health" award.

#### V) Awards from the OFA

Awards made by the OFA such as the medallion, donation to the AKC-CHF, OFA webpage features, etc. are at the discretion of the OFA and may be changed without notice.

VI) Information regarding the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals CHIC program  
The CHIC database is a centralized pool of health information on individual animals from multiple sources. CHIC is maintained to assist breeders in making more informed breeding choices, and for scientists in conducting research. The requirements for a CHIC number have been tailored to meet the needs for WSS based on inherited diseases that are of the greatest concern and for which some screening test is available. Information on the requirements are available from the OFA. These unique requirements have been established through input from the WSSCA prior to the breed's entry into the CHIC program.

Each dog must be permanently identified in order to have test results included in CHIC. Permanent identification may be in the form of microchip or tattoo. A CHIC number is issued when test results are entered into the database satisfying each breed specific requirement, and when the owner of the dog has opted to release the results into the public domain. The CHIC number itself does not imply normal test results, only that all the required breed specific tests were performed and the results made publicly available.

As health priorities within WSS change, or as new screening tests become available, the specific requirements for WSS can be modified to reflect the current environment. If the breed specific requirements are modified, existing CHIC numbers are not revoked since the CHIC number is issued to a dog that completed all required tests at a given point in time.

### **WSSCA ANNUAL JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP AWARD**

The WSSCA Top Junior Handler Award is presented by the Welsh springer spaniel Club of America, Inc. The WSSCA Top Junior Handler Award is to be awarded to the junior handler who earns the most points in Junior Showmanship competition. A point shall be earned for each junior defeated in competition. A junior shall only earn points when competing with a Welsh springer spaniel in Junior Showmanship.

Open to juniors who have at least one member of their family who is a member of WSSCA and juniors who are a member of WSSCA. The scoring year shall run from October 1st to September 30th of the following year. In the event of a tie, the WSSCA Top Junior Handler Award shall be awarded to the junior with the highest number of Best Junior Handler wins during the scoring year. If this results in a tie, the Top Junior Handler Award shall be awarded to the junior with the highest number of open class wins during the scoring year. If this tie-breaker system results in more than one junior qualifying for the award, each of these qualifying juniors shall receive an award.

The award will consist of a Best in Show sized Rosette to be presented at the WSSCA Annual Awards Banquet. The top ten ranked Juniors shall have their names read at the banquet and shall receive a small rosette to commemorate their dedication to the breed. The Rosette(s) shall be purchased using a small portion of the available funds in the William Pferd III, Jr. Memorial Fund account.

## **WSSCA ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIPS**

### **THE WILLIAM PFERD III, JR. MEMORIAL AWARD**

Open to juniors who have at least one parent who is a member of the WSSCA for the full club year (October 1, to September 30.) Junior is to include persons from eight years of age through seventeen years of age. Only activities accrued while in this age bracket shall count toward the award, though the award may be given to a person who is eighteen years old based on activities while seventeen years old.

The amount of the award will be in the range of \$100.00 to \$200.00 (depending upon the account). The committee shall determine the winner based on the junior's overall contribution to and involvement with Welsh Springer Spaniels. The chairperson shall supply photocopies of candidates' activity lists to the committee by December 1<sup>st</sup>. The committee shall determine the award winner by January 15<sup>th</sup>.

Candidates shall submit the following to the Committee chairperson by November 1<sup>st</sup>:

1. Full name, address, phone number
2. Birth date, grade in school
3. Complete list of all Welsh Springer related activities (to include date, event, and specific activity and award, if applicable, for the previous club year.)
  - a. Junior Showmanship
  - b. Dog Shows
  - c. Obedience Trials
  - d. Hunting Tests
  - e. Agility
  - f. Matches

NOTE: Activity does not necessarily mean exhibiting a dog. It can mean helping at the event, such as stewarding, helping with registration at a Welsh Springer match or specialty, or bird planting at a hunting test, etc.

They must be exhibiting a Welsh springer spaniel at an event (all breed or WSS only) or assisting at a WSS (only) event.

All candidates are to be notified of the award winner by February 1<sup>st</sup> and the award is to be sent to the winner by February 1<sup>st</sup>. The award winner is to be acknowledged in the annual reports and at the annual meeting.

**SPECIALTY SHOW TROPHIES**

**NATIONAL SPECIALTY**

Challenge Trophy donated by Marion Daniel Champaign Cooler	BOB National Specialty
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Challenge Trophy donated by Connie Christie SS Flower Pot on Wood Base	BOS National Specialty
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Challenge Trophy donated by Anne & John Walton SS Loving Cup on Wood Base	BOW National Specialty
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Daytime Winners Dog donated by GCWSSC Plaque with Bronze WSS	WD National Specialty
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Daytime Winners Bitch donated by GCWSSC Plaque with Bronze WSS	WB National Specialty
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**REGIONAL SPECIALTY**

Challenge Trophy donated by WSSC of Wales Wood Plaque	BOB Regional Specialty
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Challenge Trophy donated by Ken & Paula Hightower Wood Plaque	BOS Regional Specialty
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*Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America, Inc.*

**CODE OF ETHICS**

**PREAMBLE**

This Code of Ethics is intended to serve as a guide that Members of the Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America strive to follow, recognizing their role as guardians of the breed, and in a common interest in the protection and wellbeing of the breed and of the individual dogs that members own and produce in their breeding programs. Implicit in membership in the Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America is acceptance and understanding of the Code of Ethics.

**DEFINITIONS**

The singular includes the plural.

"Dog" as used herein is to be interpreted as gender neutral and age neutral.

"Transferee" as used herein means the person(s) with whom a dog is placed regardless of ownership or the type of registration.

"Person" as used herein is to be interpreted broadly to refer to any natural person, corporation, associations, and all other forms of legal entities.

**GENERAL CONDUCT**

Members of the Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America strive to:

Abide by the rules and regulations of the American Kennel Club ("AKC"), the Constitution and Bylaws of the Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America ("WSSCA"), and this Code of Ethics ("CoE").

Consider the protection and future wellbeing of the Welsh springer spaniel in all of their dog-related activities.

Conduct themselves in a manner that reflects positively on themselves, the breed, and the WSSCA.

Behave as responsible dog owners, treating their dogs humanely and providing them with adequate food, water, shelter, veterinary care, exercise, grooming, and the socialization and training necessary for them to be family companions.

Exhibit good sportsmanship and good will at all dog-related events.

Educate others about the characteristics of the Welsh springer spaniel and the principles of responsible dog ownership.

Act against the maltreatment or misuse of dogs, whether by interceding personally or by notifying appropriate law enforcement authorities. WSSCA Officers are to be notified when such maltreatment or misuse involves Welsh Springer Spaniels. Act to ensure the welfare of any Welsh Springer Spaniel discovered in a pound or shelter or otherwise requiring new home placement and notify the WSSCA Rescue Committee.

Participate in efforts to assess and improve the health of the individual dog and of the Welsh Springer Spaniel breed, including, but not limited to, participation in valid, reliable, and responsible testing for hereditary diseases, providing samples and information for development of hereditary disease tests, and sharing health information with other WSSCA members. Be honest, factual, and not misleading or fraudulent, in any written or oral statement about dogs and breeding programs, whether about their own dogs or those of others.

## **BREEDING**

Members of the Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America, as guardians of the breed, strive to breed conscientiously, taking responsibility for the lives that they produce, including responsible placement of all puppies produced by any breeding, to ensure the safety and well-being of the individual dogs and of the breed.

Accordingly, members of the Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America strive to:

Educate themselves to recognize the correct conformation of the Welsh Springer Spaniel and its relationship to the traditional function of the breed, familiarizing themselves with the AKC breed standard and representative dogs, prior to breeding a stud dog or brood bitch.

Learn the basic principles of genetics prior to breeding a stud dog or brood bitch and apply those principles to breeding decisions.

Keep abreast of current knowledge, technology, and available tests for inherited disease, including, but not limited to, hip dysplasia, epilepsy, and glaucoma, and use such knowledge and tests to reduce the incidence of inherited disease.

Plan breedings to conserve and improve conformation, health, temperament, and working ability in accordance with the AKC breed standard, including, but not limited to, the breed's function as a hunting dog and family companion, keeping these considerations in balance, neglecting none of them, whether acting as owner of the stud dog or owner of the brood bitch.

Prior to breeding, do the following:

Determine the radiographic hip status and eye condition of the breeding stock tested by a licensed or certified veterinary professional.

Share the results of the tests with the breeder(s) of the potential mates and with the owner(s) of potential mates. And, submit X-rays, eye examination information, and other test information to the appropriate health registries for their evaluation and allow their evaluation to be used to determine overall health statistics for the breed. Recommended health registries are the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals and The Canine Eye Registration Foundation.

Breed only animals that are in good health and who are physically and temperamentally sound.

Avoid breeding animals before the age of two years, in consideration of the animal's physical and mental maturity and well-being and in consideration of the age of onset of inherited diseases, such as, epilepsy and hip dysplasia.

Remove animals from breeding who are known to have, or who are strongly suspected of having, a serious inherited disease or defect that will likely be passed onto offspring and that, if inherited, would significantly affect the quality of life of any offspring that would be produced.

Breed only dogs and bitches whose offspring will be AKC registerable.

Keep accurate records in accordance with AKC requirements.

Share information gained through breeding with other Welsh springer spaniel owners.

### **Bitches**

Ensure that bitches are not bred more than twice in any three consecutive seasons, out of concern for the physical and mental well-being of the bitch.

### **Stud Dogs**

If a stud dog owner, do the following:

Consider the health, hip, eye evaluations, and pedigree of the bitch prior to agreeing to provide stud services.

Make every reasonable effort to contact the breeder of the bitch in order to check for genetic problems and breeding restrictions.

If a contract exists between the bitch's owner and her breeder, not breed contrary to restrictions and not to interfere with the contract.

Confirm that the bitch's owner is aware of the effort required to produce and care for a litter and that they will ethically and responsibly sell and place puppies as described herein.

### **Puppies**

Commit to keeping all puppies until they can be placed directly with responsible persons.

Commit to accepting the return of any puppy at any future time as may be needed in conformity with this Code of Ethics.

Provide a clean, warm, safe environment for puppies with ample exposure to human handling, to household activity, and to a nutritious diet.

Transfer dogs of any age with written contracts signed by both parties covering any guarantees or restrictions, including, for example, limitations on breeding and a commitment to sharing health information.

Place puppies only with persons who intend to act responsibly for the life of the dog.

Act as a mentor to persons with whom they place puppies and encourage an open dialogue for the life of the dog.

Use AKC Limited Registration to encourage responsible ownership and discourage irresponsible breeding.

Ensure that puppies that are not of show or breeding quality are sold with an AKC Limited Registration.

Transfer dogs of any age with AKC Full Registration only if the new owner agrees to follow the Code of Ethics of the WSSCA and are aware of and will honor their responsibilities to the future of the breed.

Release or ship no puppy to its new home before the age of seven weeks.

Provide all puppies, prior to releasing or shipping, with at least one examination by a licensed veterinarian, and veterinary care which includes vaccinations on a veterinarian approved schedule.

Provide transferees with a three (or more) generation pedigree.

Provide transferees with their puppy's health record.

Provide transferees with complete instructions on diet, training, and care.

Provide an AKC registration application or transfer form unless their contract includes a provision or condition withholding papers.

### **PLACEMENTS**

Members of the Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America strive to:

Ensure that no dog is sold, consigned, transferred, or brokered to unethical breeders, to puppy mills.

Ensure that no dog is sold to a person who may use the dog in a way that would be detrimental to the breed.

Prevent the use of a Welsh springer spaniel as a prize in any contest, raffle, or lottery.

Act as a mentor to transferees.

Encourage a continued dialogue with transferees throughout the life of the dog in an interest in the well-being of the dog and in the well-being of the breed.

### **DISCIPLINE**

Where applicable under the Rules and Regulations of the AKC or under the WSSCA Constitution and By-laws, and in accordance with the policies and procedures therein, conduct contrary to this Code of Ethics may be subject to disciplinary action

*Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America, Inc.*  
**WELSH SPRINGER SPANIEL RESCUE GUIDELINES**

**What constitutes a Rescue Animal?**

Welsh Springer Spaniels in the following situations:

1. Immediate peril
2. Strays
3. Relinquished to shelters
4. When breeders refuse to take the dog back or give strong support to the owner

Any dog that cannot stay in its present home that the breeder does not take full responsibility for or any Welsh springer spaniel of unknown origin is considered a rescue dog.

**Guidelines for the Rescue Committee**

1. To help placeable Welsh Springer Spaniels who are unwanted, abandoned or are victims of inhuman treatment or subject to an uncertain fate find good and loving homes;
2. To coordinate and assist the efforts of committee personnel and WSSCA members in the rescue of Welsh springer spaniels in their area;
3. To provide financial assistance with the rescue effort when the guidelines for rescue are met;
4. To educate potential adoptive owners about the Welsh Springer Spaniels and their special requirements to ensure an educated decision in adopting this breed;
5. To keep statistics on Welsh Springer Spaniels that get into the rescue system;
6. To educate animal control officers and shelter staff on how to identify a Welsh springer spaniel;
7. To encourage the policy that final responsibility for any Welsh Springer Spaniel that needs a home lies with the breeder(s), this responsibility is for the life of the dog, no matter what the circumstances.

**Funding For Rescue**

Rescue money will be collected annually, with dues, on a voluntary basis. If needed, a special appeal for funds may also be a funding source. Money collected for rescue will be used toward the direct costs in rescuing dog and the reasonable reimbursement of medical fees and impoundment fees. Rescue is a volunteer function of the WSSCA. As the word "volunteer" implies, certain sacrifices should be expected.

Telephone and gasoline expenses should be donated by each volunteer member in the spirit of the rescue program. However, in the event that extensive travel or calls are necessary, the WSSCA will reimburse the member, if a request for reimbursement is made.

## **Reimbursement**

The WSSCA Guidelines must be followed in order to be eligible for reimbursement. Any major deviation must be presented and approved by the Rescue Committee prior to reimbursement;

1. Request for reimbursement will be sent to the Chairperson of the Rescue Committee, who will review and submit the approved reimbursement request to the treasurer.
2. All items for reimbursement must be documented, showing receipts for services. No money will be reimbursed without receipts or some type of clear documentation of expenses.
3. A maximum of **\$500.00** in expenditures will be reimbursed for each dog unless special circumstances have been approved by the Board of Directors and Treasurer.
4. Reimbursements will be paid for dogs that must be bought from Humane Societies or Shelters.

## **Welsh Springer Spaniel Identification**

All dogs must be properly identified as Welsh Springer Spaniels to the best of the Rescue Committee's knowledge. If a dog is found without positive breed identification (registration papers or known breeding) it is suggested that a team of three Welsh Springer spaniel owners/breeders evaluate the dog (either in person or by photographs), if possible, and when the time to be taken for this identification does not place the dog in danger of imminent euthanasia. If there is any question regarding the dog's heredity, the team should give the dog the benefit of the doubt. It is better to rescue a possible Welsh springer spaniel cross than to leave an untypey purebred Welsh springer spaniel behind.

Should a dog be determined not to be a purebred Welsh Springer Spaniel following removal from an animal shelter, rescue group or control center, the WSSCA Rescue Committee Chairperson will attempt to transfer the dog to an appropriate breed rescue group (i.e. Brittany Rescue, English Setter Rescue, English Springer Spaniel rescue, etc.). If the appropriate breed rescue group does not have room to take the dog in to their foster home program, a WSSCA member will be asked to foster the dog in the interim and the WSSCA Rescue Committee Chairperson will work with the appropriate breed rescue group to secure a forever home placement with someone seeking that breed. This will typically involve helping the appropriate breed rescue with photos, website information for posting and screening potential adopters.

Should a rescued dog be determined to be a mixed breed animal, the WSSCA Rescue Coordinator will attempt to seek foster care and adoptive placement with an all-breed rescue group in the area that the dog has been found and rescued in. If an all-breed rescue group is not immediately available at the time of the dog's rescue, WSSCA will continue to care for the dog until such time as it can be transferred to the care and control an appropriate all-breed rescue group.

### **Medical**

1. Dogs that become part of the rescue program should be spayed or neutered. However, each case must be evaluated on an individual basis. If the decision is made to spay/neuter, then it is to be done with money from the Rescue Fund and before the animal is adopted into a new home.
2. Inoculations for Rabies, DHLPP booster and Bordatella are required and will be paid from the Rescue Fund.
3. Heartworm testing and initial preventative medication will be paid from the Rescue Fund.
4. Routine worming that covers all types of internal parasites will be paid from the Rescue Fund.
5. Major medical expenses must have prior approval by the Board of Directors and Treasurer for reimbursement. This includes treatment of heartworm positive dogs, radiographs, blood work and so forth.
6. When a dog is rescued and his/her vaccination status is questionable or unknown, WSSCA will reimburse all charges for up to fourteen consecutive days of veterinary care and boarding in order to reduce the risk to any dogs in the designated foster care home.

### **Emotional/Treatment Status of Animal**

The dog must be of stable temperament and without any serious chronic behavior problem. The dog must be considered adoptable and desirable as a family companion for even a novice pet owner. Any rehabilitation and/or needed training should be attainable by a novice owner. If the animal is in a foster home, that home should start the rehabilitation when possible as it is then possible to learn more about the depth of any problem and the corrective work that may be required. The dog MUST NOT have a history of biting, snapping or acting aggressively or being excessively fearful towards people. It should not be aggressive towards or with other dogs. NO DOG SHALL BE PLACED THAT HAS A HISTORY OF BITING. This dog should be humanely euthanized at Rescue's expense.

### **Foster Care**

The best situation for the rescue dog is to be placed in a loving foster home until a permanent home may be found. This way, the personality traits, house behavior and reaction to everyday situations of the dog may be observed and any problems noted. The animal should be observed and evaluated for a minimum of 2 weeks, giving the dog adequate time to adjust to new surroundings so that the true behavior and personality may be observed. If a dog must be boarded at a commercial kennel, the Rescue Fund will pay up to \$12.00 per day for a maximum of 2 weeks (14 days).

### **Adoption Criteria**

1. The prospective owners should be personally interviewed and a home visit conducted when possible. The interview should be an in-depth process designed to educate the individual(s) on owning a Welsh springer spaniel, as well as to evaluate the lifestyle of the prospective owner(s) and plans for the dog. Past dog ownership history and personal views on companion dogs must be explored when evaluating a potential home.
2. It is recommended that the individual meet the dog and then wait to think about the decision for 24 to 48 hours before adopting the dog. This helps prevent emotional impulse adoptions. Prospective owners who are committed will make a second trip to acquire the dog.

3. An adoption questionnaire must be filled out. A written agreement MUST be signed by the prospective owner and witnessed. This agreement releases the WSSCA and person conducting the adoption from any liability; forbids the owner from transferring ownership without contacting the Rescue Committee; prohibits the sale or donation of the dog to a person or corporation for experimental research; specifies that the dog will live as a family pet with its emotional needs met and states that the person will provide humane care and treatment including regular care for the dog. The adoption agreement must also require the owner to license the dog yearly, follow local pet regulations and not allow the dog to roam freely.

4. A mandatory adoption donation of \$400.00 is to be collected at the time of adoption. The check should be made out to the Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America, Inc. The purpose of the adoption fee is an indication of the new owner's commitment to the dog and to replenish the Rescue Fund for the next dog. An owner that cannot afford a reasonable adoption donation cannot afford to maintain a dog properly.

**The Rescue Committee's responsibility toward the new owner is to provide:**

1. Documentation of all medical care, including Rabies vaccination certificate.
2. General information about the dog's age, where found, history and so forth.
3. Guidelines for feeding and general care.
4. Any observed behaviors, rehabilitation guidelines, if needed, and a general statement about the adjustment period for rehoming.
5. Names and telephone numbers of local WSSCA and Rescue Committee members to contact with questions or concerns.
6. A copy of the signed agreement.
7. After adoption, quarterly follow-up calls and/or visits should be made to check on the progress of the dog for a period of one year. Thereafter, a yearly check is sufficient.

**Rescue of Puppy Mill Sales/Auction/Charity Raffle Dogs**

The Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America will not, as an organization, endorse the purchase of any dogs offered through puppy mill sales, auctions and/or charity raffles as the funds spent in the rescue effort may be further used by the seller/auctioneer to continue those efforts that have been deemed not to be in the best interest of the dog(s).

**For more information, contact the WSSCA Rescue Committee Chairperson**

### **WSSCA MENTOR GUIDELINES AND QUALIFICATIONS**

The list of WSSCA approved mentors shall be posted on the WSSCA website and shall be updated yearly. The Judges Education Chairperson will send the annual listing to AKC and the WSSCA webmaster.

Approval from the WSSCA Board of Directors and the WSSCA Judges Education Committee is needed for a person to be listed and considered as a WSSCA approved Mentor.

Approval from the WSSCA Board of Directors shall come from a majority vote. If either the WSSCA Board of Directors or the WSSCA Judges Education Committee does not approve an application, the application shall be denied. In the case that an applicant is denied, the person shall be supplied with the reason for the decision by the WSSCA President.

WSSCA approval of a mentor shall be valid for two years from the date of approval, after such time, the person must again apply for approval.

A 2/3rds WSSCA Board of Directors vote for mentor removal, accompanied with a recommendation for mentor removal by the WSSCA Judges Education Committee, shall remove a person from the Mentor list. In the case that a person is removed from the mentor's list, the person shall be supplied by the WSSCA President with the reason for the decision.

Each mentor shall, within a week of the mentoring session, disperse a WSSCA Mentor Feedback Form to each student. The completed form will be mailed or emailed to the Judges Education Chairperson for feedback and monitoring of the Mentor Program. The mentor shall not participate in or be present during the completion of the form.

Mentors shall conduct themselves in a professional manner that reflects positively on the Welsh springer spaniel, the Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America, Inc., and the American Kennel Club.

Each Mentor Program Applicant must complete the WSSCA Mentor Program Application and submit a signed hard copy of this to the Judges Education Chairperson for consideration. The Judges Education Committee will examine the application and send their recommendation for the applicant's acceptance to the WSSCA Recording Secretary accompanied by a hard or electronic copy of the application. The WSSCA President shall bring the application and Judges Education Committee recommendation to the WSSCA Board of Directors for voting.

Mentors shall disperse a completed WSSCA Mentoring Program Form to each student and shall maintain a list of all persons mentored, the date of the mentoring sessions, and the location of the mentoring sessions. The mentor shall send a list of persons mentored to the Judges Education Committee Chairperson for records at least once a year. The list of mentored judges shall be published in the Judges Education Annual Report. Any mentor who fails to submit their list of mentored judges in the said time frame is subject to removal from the Mentor list.

Each approved mentor shall be issued a WSSCA Mentor Number.

The qualifications for a mentor are:

- Must have extensive experience with the Welsh springer spaniel in AKC conformation shows and extensive knowledge of the AKC Breed Standard for the Welsh springer spaniel.
- Must be a member in good standing of WSSCA and AKC.
- Must be able to describe breed characteristics in specific terms using correct canine terminology (AKC Glossary of Terms).
- Must have at least 12 years of involvement with breeding Welsh springer spaniels and showing Welsh springer spaniels in AKC conformation.
- Must have at least 4 litters of Welsh springers bred and raised on premises
- Must have owned or bred at least 10 AKC conformation champions
- Must have attended at least one WSSCA approved breed seminar in the past four years.
- Must have attended at least two WSSCA specialties (National or Regional) in the past six years.
- Except in the initial round of 2006-2007 applications, applicants must have attended at least one AKC Spaniel Hunting Test or WSSCA Working test in the past six years. Those 2006-2007 applicants who have not attended at least one AKC Spaniel Hunting Test or WSSCA Working test in the past six years shall attend a Hunting Test or WSSCA Working test by December 31, 2007. Proof of attendance (Running Order signed by the event chairperson or secretary) must be submitted to the WSSCA Judges Education Chairperson prior to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2007. Failure to attend or provide proof of attendance will result in removal from the Mentor list.
- Must enjoy interacting with others and be pleasant and able to communicate in an understandable, clear and insightful manner.

It is *preferable* that each mentor have judged a WSSCA sweepstakes, a WSSCA match, and/or Welsh springer spaniels at an AKC show.

## ***Various WSSCA Forms***

**WSSCA Mentor Program Application**

1. Do you enjoy interacting with others? \_\_\_\_\_

2. Will you be able to communicate in an understandable, clear, and insightful manner in regards to explaining and describing the Welsh springer spaniel and basic canine anatomy?  
 \_\_\_\_\_

3. Will you be able to remain objective in your mentoring without promoting your own dog(s) or the dog(s) of others? \_\_\_\_\_

4. How many years have you been involved with breeding or exhibiting Welsh springer spaniels in conformation? \_\_\_\_\_

5. Please give a brief description of your years of experience:  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

6. List four Welsh springer spaniel litters bred and raised on your premises. Indicate their litter numbers and whelp dates.

Litter #	Whelp Date	Litter #	Whelp Date

7. List ten AKC champion Welsh springer spaniels for which you are listed as the breeder of record or owner. Indicate their registered names and numbers.

Registration Number	Registered Name

8. List one WSSCA approved breed seminar that you have attended in the past four years.

Date	Location	Presenter





### **WSSCA Mentor Expectations**

All WSSCA Approved mentors must:

- have thorough knowledge of the Welsh springer spaniel AKC standard and current breed strengths and weaknesses.
- have the ability to answer in a clear and concise way, all questions that may be asked concerning the Welsh springer spaniel.
- be able to speak coherently and describe breed characteristics in specific terms using correct canine terminology.
- agree to conduct ones self ethically at all times.
- follow up on all questions from any person who needs more specific information either by forwarding the person to another source, researching the request and responding with requested information, or by forwarding the questions or requests for further information to the WSSCA Judges Education Chairperson.
- be willing to attend a WSSCA training session or WSSCA mentor's meeting if requested.
- keep records of the names and addresses of mentored persons and send a copy of this list to the Judges Education Chairperson yearly.
- complete a "WSSCA Mentoring Program Form" for each student and either mail or give in person the WSSCA Mentoring Program Form and Mentoring assessment to the student within a week of the session.
- have significant depth of knowledge regarding structure, type, and their integral relationship to function.
- be able to pass a basic test on the AKC Welsh springer spaniel breed standard and AKC canine anatomy if requested.
- be able to, if needed, assemble a small group of Welsh springer spaniels, both dogs and bitches that represent a variety of acceptable styles and ages. These dogs should represent a broad picture of the breed as a whole. The identity of all dogs, owners, and handlers during a mentoring session will remain anonymous, including any information on the wins or accomplishments.
- be a member in good standing of WSSCA and AKC.

I understand that my status of WSSCA approved Mentor may be revoked by the WSSCA Board of Directors or WSSCA Judges Education Chairperson at any time for failure to comply with the *WSSCA Mentor Expectations* or the *WSSCA Mentor Guidelines*. All WSSCA mentors are expected to conduct themselves in a professional and ethical manner, especially during AKC events and mentoring sessions.

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Printed Name

---

Signature

Date

---

Street Address

---

City

States

Zip Code

---

Phone Number

Email Address

**WSSCA Mentoring Program Form**



Mentor Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 WSSCA Mentor # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Judge Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Judge's AKC # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Start Time \_\_\_\_\_ End Time \_\_\_\_\_  
 Location/Show \_\_\_\_\_

Please check the type of mentoring session:

**Ring-side Mentoring Session**  
 (The total Welsh springer entry on this day was \_\_\_\_\_.)  
 **Kennel Visit**  
 **General Mentoring Session**

Mentor notes:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
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 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
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 \_\_\_\_\_

Student notes:

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 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Mentor Signature                      Student Signature                      Date

**Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America, Inc.**  
**TROPHY ACCEPTANCE LETTER**

I acknowledge receipt of the Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America, Inc. trophy as listed below and agree to return it to the Trophy Steward by March 1, of the following year in the condition in which it was received on this date. If it is not shipped to the Trophy Steward, I will deliver the trophy, in person, to the specialty show at which the trophy is to be awarded. I understand the inherent value of this trophy and further bind my heirs to this agreement. I agree to accept complete liability for any damage or loss to this trophy regardless of the cause of damage or loss. Engraving costs are the responsibility of the trophy winner. In order to have possession of the trophy for the award year, the winner must be a member of the Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America, Inc.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 SIGNATURE OF RECIPIENT

\_\_\_\_\_  
 DATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
 PRINTED NAME

\_\_\_\_\_  
 PHONE NUMBER

\_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS

\_\_\_\_\_  
 EMAIL ADDRESS

RING TROPHIES	Initial
Best of Breed (National Specialty) – Challenge Trophy	
Best of Breed (Regional Specialty) – Challenge Trophy	
Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed (National Specialty) – Challenge Trophy	
Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed (Regional Specialty) – Challenge Trophy	
Best of Winners (National Specialty) – Challenge Trophy	

SPECIAL AWARDS TROPHIES	Initial
Deckard Cup	
Olympian Cup	
Founders Cup	
Tomjoy Breeder of Merit Award	
Ch Cicero Gus UDT Cup	
Jesse Award	
Daytime Winners Dog Award	
Daytime Winners Bitch Award	
Ron Mengel Bred By Exhibitor Award	
Holly House MX Agility Award	
Wildfire Award	
Statesman Award	