

# **Evelyn A. Williams Award of Excellence**

## **Introduction**

Evelyn A. Williams embodied the art of training and handling her dogs to the very highest levels of performance and breed competition. Evelyn became involved with the Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever in early 1989, and until her untimely death on April 13, 1998, she demonstrated excellence in her breeding program having placed many Champion titles on her dogs, and in her training and handling of Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers (Tollers) in obedience and hunt tests. She was the recipient of the Sylvan Trophy on multiple occasions for high scores in obedience and received the Rusty Jones Award on multiple dogs. In 1993 she handled her dog to Best in Specialty at the Canadian NSDTR National Specialty and that same day took High in Trial in obedience with the same dog at the all-breed show held in conjunction with the Specialty. At the Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever Club (USA) National Specialty in Massachusetts in 1996, she scored 199 in the Open B class and took High in Trial. During that same weekend with one of her other dogs, she qualified for the Working Certificate Excellent at the first NSDTRC (USA) WCX Test ever offered. In 1997, as the breeder/owner/trainer/handler, Evelyn obtained a NSDTRC (USA) Working Certificate Excellent and a UKC Hunting Retriever Champion title on one of her dogs. Her exemplary work in the training and handling of her dogs provides a model for those wishing to reach a high level of achievement through teamwork and the need to be ever mindful of the important role of the handler to the team.

## **Name of Award**

Evelyn A. Williams Award of Excellence

## **Purpose**

The Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever Club (USA) establishes this award in dedication to the memory of Evelyn A. Williams. The award is intended to inspire present and future owner/handlers of Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers to pursue the highest levels of achievement in various venues available to the Toller. Those eligible members of the Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever Club (USA) that achieve the levels defined are recognized and celebrated each year for outstanding work with their Tollers.

## **Description**

Each year recognition is given to Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever owners who handle their own Tollers to any of the levels defined. The award consists of the presentation of a Certificate of Excellence for each dog owner/handled to any of the levels defined and a lapel pin representing said achievement. An Honor Roll of Excellence is maintained, and each year, the recipients of the Evelyn A. Williams Award of Excellence are recognized in Quackers.

## **Eligibility**

Individuals eligible for this award must be NSDTRC (USA) members in good standing for a minimum of 1 year. The eligible recipient must be the owner or co-owner of the dog, and said owner or co-owner must handle the dog in meeting all of the requirements of the title or achievement for which recognition is given. Junior Handlers are also eligible if they have met the length of membership requirements as defined above, and meet the owner/co-owner and handling requirements.

## **Dates of Eligibility**

For any given year the dates of eligibility for receiving an award is the period from July 1 through June30 immediately preceding the Annual Meeting weekend. No retroactive awards will be presented for prior year periods.

**NOTE: For the year 2002-2003, the period of eligibility will be September 1, 2002 through June 30, 2003.**

## **Titles/Achievements Defined**

Recognizing that the Toller is a versatile breed and is seen participating in many venues, this award may be presented to those owner/handlers participating in and achieving the highest levels of recognition in any of these venues: Conformation, Obedience, Field Tests/Field Trials, Tracking, and Agility. Also recognizing that the membership of the Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever Club (USA) has members in several foreign countries, and members freely crossing the Canadian border to participate in these various venues, titles/achievements comparable to those listed below by recognized foreign and domestic registries and organizations as listed are eligible for this award. This is an award in recognition of and in celebration of the outstanding achievements of the owner/handlers of Tollers.

With the exception of the NSDTRC (USA) WCX or other recognized registries with WCX programs, the venues listed are the various kinds of events in which the Toller could participate and receive titles in the AKC. If the owner/handler chooses to not participate in AKC events, that does not preclude the use of other approved registries/organizations for obtaining titles/achievements in the types of venues listed.

**Invitationals:** With the exception of Tracking, all venues offer special events, which require a dog to meet predefined criteria prior to being allowed to enter the event. Examples of such Invitationals: ARBA Invitational; Westminster; Master National; NAHRA Invitational Field Test; FC/AFC Nationals; AKC Obedience Nationals; USDAA Agility Nationals. Tollers and their owner/handlers participating in these various events at the highest levels may be eligible for an Award of Excellence when the requirements are met.

## **Examples of Titles/Achievements & Contingent Requirements**

The following examples of titles/achievements or equivalents as defined above are eligible for the Evelyn A. Williams Award of Excellence:

### **Conformation**

- ◆ Best in Specialty – contingent upon the exhibition of an entry equal to or greater than a 5 point major in both dogs and bitches in the regular classes as well as a minimum of three dogs entered and exhibiting in the Best of Breed class.
- ◆ Best of Breed at Supported Entry shows – contingent upon an entry equal to or greater than a 5 point major in both dogs and bitches in the regular classes, and a minimum of 3 dogs entered and exhibiting in the BOB class.
- ◆ Best in Show, All-Breed – contingent upon an entry equal to or greater than 100 dogs.
- ◆ Invitationals, All-Breed – Group 1 or Best in Show

### **Obedience**

- ◆ Utility Dog
- ◆ Utility Dog Excellent
- ◆ Obedience Trial Champion
- ◆ Score of 198 or higher in any of the regular classes
- ◆ Rally Excellent
- ◆ Rally Advanced Excellent
- ◆ High in Trial – contingent upon a score of 195 or greater
- ◆ High Combined Score in Open B & Utility – contingent upon a score of 380 or greater
- ◆ Invitationals – Qualifying score and placing 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> in class
- ◆ Placing in the yearly Top 10 all breed list of various registries/organizations compiling lists, i.e., Front & Finish

### **Field Tests**

- ◆ Working Certificate Excellent – NSDTRC (USA) or recognized registry WCX title, i.e. CKC
- ◆ UKC Hunting Retriever Champion or above
- ◆ NAHRA Master Hunter Retriever or above
- ◆ AKC Master Hunter
- ◆ Invitationals – Qualifier

## **Field Trials**

- ◆ All-Age Qualified
- ◆ Derby Pointed – accumulation of a minimum of 2 points
- ◆ Field Trial Champion
- ◆ Amateur Field Trial Champion
- ◆ Invitational – Qualify through all stakes, placement not necessary

## **Tracking**

- ◆ Tracking Dog Excellent
- ◆ Variable Surface Tracking

## **Agility**

- ◆ Agility Trial Champion title from UKC, USDAA, NADAC or Agility Excellent from AKC or other recognized registry
- ◆ Master Agility (AKC)
- ◆ Invitational – Qualifying score and placed in top 10% of height division
- ◆ Placing in the yearly Top 10 all breed list of any of the various registries/organizations compiling lists, i.e., USDAA, NADAC, Front & Finish

## **Application for Award**

Potential recipients must make application to the NSDTRC (USA) to receive this award. An application (Attachment 4) must be requested from the club and submitted back to the club with appropriate supporting documents by August 25 for the preceding defined twelve month period. An announcement will be published in the Spring issue of Quackers each year including to whom requests for applications are to be directed.

## **Presentation of Awards**

Beginning in 1999 during the Annual Meeting weekend, the Evelyn A. Williams Award of Excellence is presented to those individuals recognized as meeting the highest levels of achievement as owner/handlers of Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers during the preceding Period of Eligibility. The awards are presented each year thereafter until such time that the Officers and Board of Directors of the club choose to discontinue the award.

## **Administration**

The Board of Directors of the club appoints a member of the Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever Club (USA) in good standing to administer the various responsibilities attendant to this award. A complete list of duties and responsibilities is found in a separate document. In addition, the individual appointed by the Board designates other club members that have expertise in the various venues to act as advisors in case of dispute or if questions arise regarding eligibility for an award. The names of the individuals appointed to the Advisory Panel are submitted to the Board of Directors yearly at the Annual Meeting.

## **Review/Revisions**

These rules/regulations may be reviewed from time to time as deemed appropriate by the Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever Club (USA) Officers and Directors, and revisions made as approved by the Board to reflect the various changes that occur within the club or the various registries/organizations. Revisions take effect at the beginning of the next Period of Eligibility after approval or as approved by the Board of Directors.

## **Recognized Registries & Organizations**

### ***Domestic registries and organizations:***

Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever Club (USA)  
American Rare Breed Association

United Kennel Club  
States Kennel Club  
American Kennel Club  
Hunting Retriever Club (UKC)  
North American Hunting Retriever Association  
United States Dog Agility Association  
North American Dog Agility Club

**\*Foreign registries:**

Any of the foreign registries recognized by the American Kennel Club or the recognized parent breed clubs for Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers

Note: If a registry within one of these countries does not offer a particular venue recognized for this award, but there is an organization within the country that is comparable to the various domestic organizations listed above, then that organization will be recognized.

\*Contingent upon the Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever being a recognized breed by the registry.