

TCVESSA GENERAL ANNUAL AWARD GUIDELINES

Each year TCVESSA awards recognizes the achievements of its members and their Springer(s). Certificates, mementos, and trophies are handed out and recognition given at the annual awards banquet. All titles, championships and awards must be earned or completed where applicable, during the previous calendar year prior to the awards banquet. TCVESSA recognizes only AKC Titles, ESSFTA Parent Club Titles and titles that are a part of the AKC Titling Program.

Award recipients **for all awards** are club members who must have been members in good standing for the entire calendar year prior to the awards banquet. **The Award year is the year preceding the awards banquet.** New members count their membership from the date of receipt of their written membership application. This must be before July First. Six months of membership is required for awards for new members. Membership applications received after July First may not apply for awards for this year. In both cases, disputes pertaining to award criteria, ties, and memberships, will be addressed by the board. Decisions determined by the board of directors are final. The board reserves the right to delay award presentation until disputes or ties are settled.

Club members are responsible for keeping track of their own dog(s) wins, titles, points, legs, show or trial dates or other criteria required for each of the awards. It is also the responsibility for each member to carefully read the requirements of each award and contact the Awards Chairperson if they have questions. Appropriate forms for the various awards and venues are found at the club website TCVESSA.org. All forms must be submitted to the Awards Chairperson by the annual award application deadline. **The annual award application deadline is January 31st prior to the Annual Award Banquet.** Applicants who do not have their documentation to the Awards Chairperson by the award deadline will still receive recognition at the awards banquet but will not receive actual plaques, awards, mementos or trophies. All wins, points, scores, times, and appropriate statistics submitted will be verified by official AKC results. In the event of a tie for an award, both recipients will have their names engraved and each will have possession of the award for one-half of the year after the awards banquet. In the event that the club, TCVESSA dissolves, each award is to be returned to the donor if possible.

All trophies must be returned to the Awards Chairperson by the end of January preceding the next awards banquet so that necessary cleaning and engraving can be done for the new winners. It is the responsibility of the previous year's winner to return the trophy to the Awards Chairperson. Trophies may be personally delivered to the Awards Chairperson or shipped, at the previous winner's expense via any insured carrier (USPS, UPS, Fed EX or bonded delivery company). Trophies must be insured for their replacement cost. \$200 is recommended.

TITLES RECOGNIZED BY TCVESSA

TCVESSA recognizes all titles recognized by the AKC. This includes prefix titles (titles that come before a dog's registered name) and suffix titles (titles that follow a dog's registered name). These are titles for which each owner receives an official AKC Certificate of Title. For an up-to-date list of all prefix and suffix titles, go to the AKC website at AKC.org. If you have questions, please contact the Awards Chairperson.

TCVESSA also recognizes all titles that are recognized by the AKC that are part of the AKC Title Recognition Program. These are titles earned in which an AKC Certificate of Title is not automatically issued. These titles **may not** officially be listed with a dog's registered name unless an application process is completed and submitted to the AKC. The AKC then issues a certificate and will allow official use of the titles with a dog's registered name. This applies to all AKC registered purebred Springers and all PAL registered Springers (formerly called ILP). Titles included in the AKC Title Recognition Program are from Canine Good Citizenship, Title of the Barn Hunt Association (all levels above instinct), Titles from the North America Dock Diving as well as Search and Rescue. Three titles from the North American Flyball Association are recognized and AKC recognizes Therapy Dog Titles. For further information search the AKC website for AKC Title Recognition Program. Again, please direct questions to the Awards Chairperson for more help.

TCVESSA also recognizes titles from our parent organization, ESSFTA. These include the Working Dog Title (WD) and the Working Dog Excellent Title (WDX).