

## **American Black and Tan Coonhound Association Youth Endowed Scholarship Program**

Initial Youth Scholarship Awards Committee: This committee, consisting of Carl Minehart, chair, Dr. John Thornton, Dr. David Birdsall and Jarvis Umphers, members, was appointed by the President of the American Black and Tan Coonhound Association, hereafter referred to as ABTCHA, and charged with the responsibility of drafting a proposal for consideration and approval by the Executive Board and membership of the ABTCHA at the 2010 Black and Tan Days. The Committee met in November, 2009 and decided that the proposal should include recommendations regarding the following matters:

1. Proposed number and size of annual scholarships to be awarded.
2. Proposed date for the first competition for the scholarships.
3. Proposed eligibility requirements for participating in the annual competition to determine the winners of the youth scholarships.
4. Proposed rules for conducting and determining the winners of the youth scholarships.
5. Proposed procedures for raising the money necessary to endow a fund large enough to ensure that the ABTCHA will be able to annually award scholarships in perpetuity.
6. Proposed guidelines that will ensure that donations to the endowed scholarship fund will be tax deductible, secure and professionally managed.
7. Proposed procedures and requirements which will ensure that the funds awarded as scholarships are used only by the recipient of the scholarship for legitimate costs associated with enrollment and participation in an accredited post-secondary educational program.
8. Proposed procedures for revoking an awarded scholarship because of failure of the scholarship winner to enroll and participate in a timely manner in an accredited post-secondary educational program or for illegal or unsportsmanlike behavior.
9. Proposed structure, membership, responsibilities and operating procedures for a permanent Youth Scholarship Board of Trustees which will oversee the continuation, operation, growth and improvement of the Youth Scholarship Program.

Following presentation of their initial proposal to the Administrative Board and the General Membership Assembly of the American Black and Tan Association, the Youth Scholarship Awards Committee revised its initial proposal and approved the following Endowed Youth Scholarship Program Announcement.

### **American Black and Tan Coonhound Association Endowed Youth Scholarship Fund and Program**

Purpose: The purpose of this program is to encourage youth to own, train, breed, hunt and

show American Black and Tan Coonhounds and to actively participate in the organizations and activities which keep the sport of coonhunting alive.

1. The ABTCHA will initially award one, \$1000 scholarship to the high scoring B&T cast winner in the Senior Division (13-17) of the American Black and Tan Days Youth Hunt. As the endowed Scholarship Fund grows, the number and size of the scholarships can be increased by authority delegated to the Youth Scholarship Board of Trustees. (Note - Youth who need financial or other assistance in attending and competing in the Black and Tan Days Youth Hunt should contact the Youth Committee for help).
2. The first scholarships will be awarded at the first Black and Tan Days following the date when the endowed scholarship fund reaches \$20,000. The goal is for this to be the 2011 Black and Tan days.
3. To be eligible to compete for the scholarship a young person must:
  - a. Be at least 13 years old and not older than 17 years unless he/she is still in high school.
  - b. Be a paid up member (individual or family) of the ABTCHA
  - c. Own, at least sometime during the year preceding the Black and Tan Days in which they will participate, an American Black and Tan coonhound which is UKC registered in their name.(Note - Youth who need assistance in acquiring a registered Black and Tan coonhound should contact the Youth Committee for help)
  - d. Be an active, paid up member of at least one local coonhunters' club or association.
  - e. Subscribe to at least one major coonhound publication (Coonhound Bloodlines, ProHound, American Cooner, Full Cry, etc. (Note - Youth who need assistance in acquiring a subscription to one of these publications should contact the Youth Committee for help.)
  - f. Satisfactorily complete the Youth Program Outlined in the ABTCHA Youth Booklet or, during the twelve month period prior to the Black and Days in which they plan to compete, the young person must earn a total of ten points by participating in their choice of the following activities:
    - (1) Showing or hunting a Black and Tan Coonhound in a local UKC, PKC, AKC or other nationally recognized bench show or nite hunt. One point per entry. Maximum of seven points in this category.
    - (2) Showing or hunting a Black and Tan Coonhound in an ABTCHA sectional. One point per entry.
    - (3) Submitting and having an article published in a national

- coonhound publication such as Coonhound Bloodlines  
Next Generation News Column. 2 points per article  
published.
- (4) Serving as an officer or committee member in a  
coonhunter club or association. 2 points per office held.
- (5) Being named to an academic honor roll at their school.  
2 points
- (6) Raising a litter of registered Black and Tan puppies.  
2 points.

To facilitate the documentation of these requirements and participation, each young person who plans to enter the Youth Scholarship Competition shall be required to select An adult member of the ABTCHA to serve as a mentor. The responsibility of the mentor will be to assist the applicant in effectively documenting the entry requirements and provide a signed statement certifying that the applicant is eligible to participate in the Youth Scholarship Championship. To become eligible by completing the Youth Program outlined in the ABTCHA Youth Booklet, the young person should contact the chair of the Youth Committee of the ABTCHA (or get the booklet online at <http://www.abtcha.net>). After completing the program outlined in the booklet the youth must submit the completed booklet to the Chair of the ABTCHA Youth Committee who will be responsible for certifying satisfactory completion of the program.

4. The ABTCHA Youth Scholarship Championships will be held on Thursday night of Black and Tan days using UKC nite champion rules, non-hunting guides and non-hunting judges. Registered, nite champions and grand nite champions will hunt together. Parents, mentors and spectators may go with the cast to the hunting area but must remain with the vehicles and may not be with the casts during hunting time. Participants must be hunting a UKC registered B&T hound although it will not be a requirement that the handler be the registered owner of the hound. Only participants who have been certified as having met all eligibility requirements by their mentors may participate in the Youth Scholarship Championships. The high scoring cast winner with plus points in the senior division, who has not previously won more than a total of \$2000 from the ABTCHA Youth Scholarship Fund, will be declared the scholarship winner. If there is no cast winner with plus points in a division, there will be no scholarship winner that year. The scholarship will be awarded when the winner notifies the President of the ABTCHA that he/she has officially enrolled in an accredited post-secondary educational program.

Youth meeting all participation requirements will be allowed to complete in more than one Youth Championship but will not be eligible for more than a total of \$2000 in scholarships from the ABTCHA Youth Scholarship Fund.

5. The President of ABTCHA will be responsible for raising the resources necessary for the endowed scholarship fund. The President may seek assistance from members of the Youth Scholarship Board of Trustees, Executive Board members and others in carrying out this responsibility. The President may request reimbursement for expenses incurred in carrying out this responsibility from the treasurer of the ABTCHA. The President should seek contributions from members of the ABTCHA, dog food companies, dog supply vendors, hunting supply manufacturers, coonhound registries, coonhound magazine publishers and other friends and supporters of the sport of coonhunting. Consideration should also be given to transferring funds from the ABTCHA treasury to the Youth Endowed Scholarship Fund. The initial goal will be to have at least \$50,000 in the Scholarship Fund by January 1, 2011.

6. The ABTCHA will enter into an agreement with The Communities Foundation of Oklahoma authorizing the Foundation to establish the ABTCHA Youth Scholarship Fund, to receive charitable tax deductible contributions to the fund and to secure, professionally invest and manage the fund. Such an arrangement allows donors to use their donations as a tax deductible contribution when filing their federal income tax, will result in correspondence with all donors acknowledging their contributions, will professionally invest the funds following the directions of the ABTCHA, will produce regular reports on the status of the fund and provide for orderly distribution of scholarship funds to the winners as directed by the ABTCHA. The Communities Foundation of Oklahoma will, during 2010, provide a 50% match to our contributions to the fund up to a maximum match of \$5000. It may also provide additional matches in the future.

7. To receive the scholarship money a young person has won, he/she must first apply to, be officially accepted into and enroll in an accredited post-secondary educational program. Following enrollment, the scholarship winner shall notify the President of ABTCHA of such and provide the mailing address of the appropriate financial officer of the educational program. Upon receipt of this information the President of ABTCHA will direct the Communities Foundation of Oklahoma to send the scholarship money to the educational program's financial officer to be used exclusively in meeting educational expenses of the recipient.

8. Winners of the scholarships will be informed by the Youth Scholarship Board of Trustees that the winners are expected to enroll in the post-secondary educational program of their choice within one year of graduation from high school. In the event the recipient should decide to delay initial entry into a post-secondary educational program beyond one year after high school graduation to serve in the armed services or other service activities or

because of hardship, they may request an extension of the entry date of their formal post-secondary education by writing to the chair of the Youth Scholarship Board of Trustees explaining the need for an extension. The Board of Trustees will consider such a request and either grant or deny it and inform the scholarship winner of the decision. If the winner does not enter a post-secondary educational program within one year of high school graduation and does not have a request for an extension approved, the President of ABTCHA shall notify the winner that his/her scholarship has been revoked.

Any member of the ABTCHA may recommend that a scholarship which has been won but has not yet been awarded should be revoked because of documented illegal or unsportsmanlike behavior by the recipient. Such recommendations must be in writing to the Chair of the ABTCHA Youth Scholarship Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees will consider such recommendations, provide the winner the opportunity to respond to the allegations and make a decision as to whether or not the scholarship should be revoked. The Board of Trustees shall forward its decision to the President of the ABTCHA who will inform the recipient of the action.

If the winner chooses to appeal the revocation of his/her scholarship, he/she may do so by submitting a written request to the chair of the Executive Board of the ABTCHA. In such cases the ruling by the Executive Board on the request is final.

9. The Youth Scholarship Board of Trustees shall consist of the President of the ABTCHA, who will serve a non-voting chair, and three voting trustees, each serving a five year term. Appointments of trustees to be made by the President of ABTCHA with the advice and consent of the Executive Board of the ABTCHA. To provide continuity, initial appointments will be made for a one year term, a three year term and a five year term. Subsequent reappointments or replacements will be for five year terms or in the case of a replacement of a trustee who has not finished his/her term, for the remainder of that term. The function of the Board of Trustees shall be to oversee the safety and appropriate use of the Youth Scholarship Fund, to encourage growth of the fund and recommend to the Executive Board of the ABTCHA changes to the Youth Scholarship Program that will expand and improve the program.

10. Contributions to the ABTCHA Endowed Youth Scholarship Fund are to be sent to Communities Foundation of Oklahoma, 2932 N.W. 122, Suite D, Oklahoma City, Ok 73120-1955. Checks are to be made out to CFA/ABTCHA Youth Scholarship Fund. Contributions can also be made on line, using a credit card, by going to <http://www.cfok.org> and clicking on Make a Donation.

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