

American Black and Tan Coonhound Association

Youth Endowed Scholarship 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 coon hunting alive.

1. Awards. The ABTCHA will initially award \$500 scholarships to the high scoring B&T cast winner in the Senior Division (13-17) of the All Black and Tan Youth Hunt and to the winner in the Senior Division (13-17) of the All Black and Tan Youth Showmanship Contest held at 2012 B&T days. These events will be referred to collectively as the Youth Scholarship Championships. 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. Youth who need financial or other assistance in qualifying for, attending or competing in the Black and Tan Days Youth Hunt and Showmanship contest should contact the Youth Committee for help.

2. Qualifying. To be eligible to compete for a 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
- d. Be an active, paid up member of at least one local coon hunters' club or association.
- e. Subscribe to at least one major coonhound publication (Bloodlines, American Cooner, Full Cry)
- f. 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:
 - (1) Show and/or hunt a Black and Tan Coonhound in UKC sanctioned bench shows or nite hunts. One point per entry. Maximum of 7 points in this category.
 - (2) Show or hunt a Black and Tan Coonhound in an ABTCHA sectional. Two points per entry.
 - (3) Submit and have an article published in a national coonhound publication such as Coonhound Bloodlines Next Generation News Column. 2 points per article published.
 - (4) Serve as an officer or committee member in a coon hunter club or association. 2 points per office held.
 - (5) Be named to an academic honor roll at their school. 2 points
 - (6) Raise a litter of registered Black and Tan puppies. 2 points.

3. Mentor. To facilitate the documentation of these requirements and participation, each young person who plans to enter the Youth Scholarship Competition will 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 Championships. The Mentor Certification Form, available on line at <http://www.abtcha.net>, is to be used to assist the young person and his/her mentor in certifying that all requirements for participation in the Youth Scholarship Championships have been met.

4. Rules

a. **Hunt Championship.** The ABTCHA Youth Scholarship Hunt 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 Hunt Scholarship Championships. The high scoring cast winner with plus points in the senior division will be declared the scholarship winner. If there is no cast winner with plus points, 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.

b. **Showmanship Championships.** Participants in this contest, to be held at Black and Tan Days each year, are to be judged on how well they prepare and present themselves and their dog, not on the conformation quality of the dog they are showing. Only participants who have been certified as having met the eligibility requirements by their mentor may participate in the Youth Showmanship Scholarship Championships. The contest will be judged by a three person panel selected by the Board of Trustees of the ABTCHA Youth Scholarship Program. Judges shall not be related to or have served as a mentor for any of the contestants. The following score card will be used by each panel member to evaluate each participant in the contest. The scores awarded by the three panel members will be added together for each participant with the youth having the best total score being declared the winner.

Youth Showmanship Contest Score Card

Participants Number _____

Category 1. General appearance and demeanor of participant (youth handler). Maximum points = 10. Participant's points = _____

Factors to be considered in this category are:

- A. General appearance and appropriate dress of participant.
- B. Responsiveness of participant to questions asked by panel members.
- C. Responsiveness of participant to orders given by panel members during contest.
- D. Appropriate treatment of dog during contest.
- E. Courtesy of participant to others during contest.

Category 2. Conditioning and grooming of dog. Maximum points = 10. Participant's points = _____

Factors to be considered in this category are:

- A. Weight and conditioning.
- B. Muscle tone
- C. Cleanliness of eyes, ears and teeth
- D. Cleanliness, conditioning and appearance of coat
- E. Condition of nails

Category 3. Performance of dog while on ground. Maximum points = 10. Participant's points = _____

Factors to be considered in this category are:

- A. Proper gaiting.
- B. Proper stopping and setup while on lead.

Category 4. Performance of dog while on bench. Maximum points = 10. Participant's points = _____

Factors to be considered in this category are:

- A. Proper mounting of bench
- B. Proper positioning of legs and feet
- C. Proper positioning of head and body
- D. Exposing teeth

Total Maximum points = 40.

Participants Total Score = _____

5. Other Matters

a. 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.

b. 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.

c. 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.

d. 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.

6. Donations. 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. Donation forms are available on line at <http://www.abtcha.net>. Make some copies and give it to others who wish to donate.