



Outstanding Sportsmanship Award

In 2006, the American Kennel Club established the AKC Outstanding Sportsmanship Award Program to recognize and celebrate club volunteers. Every year, the AKC provides each member club with an AKC Medallion to award to one of its own.

This award honors those individuals who deserve special recognition for making a difference in the sport of purebred dogs, embodying the AKC Code of Sportsmanship, and being an active and valued participant in an AKC member club.

The Vizsla Club of America (VCA) has recognized the following individuals with this honor:

2009 Chauncy Smith	2018 Ginger Sammonds
2011 Roy Sanford	2019 Bernard Clifton Boggs
2015 Lynn Worth-Smith	2020 Lu Hart
2016 Jamie Walton	2021 Tania Campbell
2017 Kathy Rust	

Award Criteria

- The sportsman must be a VCA member in good standing.
- Sportsmen respect the history, traditions, and integrity of the sport of purebred dogs.
- Sportsmen commit themselves to values of fair play, honesty, courtesy, and vigorous competition as well as winning and losing with grace.
- Sportsmen refuse to compromise their commitment and obligation to the sport of purebred dogs by injecting personal advantage or consideration into their decisions or behavior.
- The sportsman judge judges only on the merits of the dogs and considers no other factors.
- The sportsman judge or exhibitor accepts constructive criticism.
- The sportsman exhibitor declines to enter or exhibit under a judge where it might reasonably appear that the judge's placements could be based on something other than the merits of the dogs.
- The sportsman exhibitor refuses to compromise the impartiality of a judge.

- Sportsmen respect the AKC bylaws, rules, regulations, and policies governing the sport of purebred dogs.
- Sportsmen find that vigorous competition and civility are not inconsistent and are able to appreciate the merits of their competition and the efforts of competitors.
- Sportsmen welcome, encourage, and support newcomers to the sport.
- Sportsmen deal fairly with all those who trade with them.
- Sportsmen are willing to share honest and open appraisals of both the strengths and weaknesses of their breeding stock.
- Sportsmen spurn any opportunity to take personal advantage of positions offered or bestowed upon them.
- Sportsmen always consider as paramount the welfare of their dogs.
- Sportsmen refuse to embarrass the sport, the American Kennel Club, or themselves while taking part in the sport.

Nominations

Please submit a nomination for the individual you feel embodies outstanding sportsmanship. Send it to the Corresponding Secretary prior to April 1, and include a bio and photograph of the nominee. Biographies will be distributed to board members for review, and an e-ballot will be sent out with a return deadline of April 15 of each year. The Recording Secretary will keep the ballot results confidential until the honoree is announced at the National Specialty banquet.