



AKC Junior News

The official newsletter of the AKC Junior Organization | Winter 2019

A Message from Mari-Beth O'Neill

Happy New Year! Congratulations to all that competed at the AKC National Championship! The [Junior Showmanship Competition](#) was the largest entry in the show- of which we are very proud. The competition in the [AKC Juniors Classic](#), holding classes in Obedience and Rally as well as the [Junior Agility Competition](#), were very popular!

We look forward to seeing everyone at the annual Junior Reception where the Junior Versatility Scholarships and the top Juniors in Each of the seven groups were presented with certificates.

The deadline for the AKC Junior Scholarships is approaching. [Find the application here.](#)

Junior Clinics

Junior Seminars

Jrs on
Facebook

AKC National Championship presented by Royal Canin

Best Junior Handler, Mary Claire Ctibor

Dog shows have been an integral part of my life for over ten years now. I started

showing in junior showmanship on my ninth birthday, after having already shown for about six months and finishing the championship on my very first juniors dog. Over the course of these ten years, I have competed in performance events such as lure coursing, field trials, hunt tests, canine good citizen tests, trick dog, rally, and dock diving. I have also competed in Canada earning a championship title on a dog I bred, own, and handle.

I can confidently say I have dreamt about winning something as big as the National Championship, and now I can truly say that dream has been realized. The scholarship money that I was awarded is so greatly appreciated, especially considering that I am currently enrolled at Kennesaw State University to earn my Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice.

I want to wholeheartedly thank the American Kennel Club for hosting such a prestigious event and for investing so much time into the junior handlers. I would also like to thank Royal Canin for their generous support of this event. Lastly, I want to thank my parents and "cheer squad" for the constant love and support I have received. You have all made my dreams come true!



Mary Claire Ctibor, Irish Setter



Best Junior, Mary Claire Ctibor; 2nd Place, Johnathon Wehry; 3rd Place, Cortlund Towell; 4th Place, Josie Scoonover-Nelson



Finalists: Jacob Waters, Johnathon Wehry, Kyle Bismore, Emma Rogers, Josie Scoonover-Nelson, Cortlund Towell



Left to right: Erin La Plante, Faith Rogers, Mary Claire Ctibor, Olivia Persinger, Ava Engel, Taylor Johnson

[See Full Results Here](#)

2018 AKC European Open Junior Team USA

Twenty-three teams represented the AKC at the 2018 FCI competition in Roosendall, Netherlands. Over 500 juniors from 25 countries competed.

Juniors compete based on age (Children under 15 and Juniors are 15-18), and in teams of four and individually in Agility and Jumping. The AKC/USA team had a Champion and many top ten placements!

Kai Macauley and his Border Collie "Stitch" are the 2018 Children Large Dog Champions, placing 4th in Agility and 4th in Jumping for a combined score for the Championship.

The Medium Team placed 3rd in Agility, 6th in Jumping and 4th overall. Team members are Natalie Spinsby and Shetland Sheepdog "Fire"; Sasha Zitter and Poodle "Jinx", Claire Oneil and Keeshond "Ama", and Morgan Vance and Shetland Sheepdog "Shadow."

Other Top 10 placements include Brie Schaff and Shetland Sheepdog "Streak",

4th in Children Small Dog Jumping and 7th overall in Children Small Dog; and Natalie Spinsby and "Fire", 6th in Junior Medium Dog Agility & 5th Overall in Junior Medium Dog Event.



Team USA



Kai Macauley



Medium Team

Junior Showcase Highlight: Jada Sawhney

Ten-year-old Jada Sawhney started training dogs when she was just five years old and she got her Golden Retriever, Bentley, when she was seven and he was six months old. The two have been training in obedience, rally and agility for the past three years. Jada said, "I love training and showing my dog. I find it really fun and I recently got my Rally Novice title. My favorite part of training is rally, but Bentley loves agility because he loves to jump. He is going to do agility off-leash for the first time at the State Fair." Besides showing her dog, Jada also rides hunter/jumpers with her pony, shows her chickens and goats at the County Fair, takes watercolor painting classes and has recently started playing the piano. When asked about showing Bentley in the AKC Junior Showcase Obedience and Rally events held by the Manatee Kennel Club she said, "The junior shows are fun because we are all juniors competing."

AKC Junior Showcase events (for obedience, rally and agility) are regular club events that are limited to Junior handlers 18 years old and under on the day of the event. If your club is interested in hosting a Junior Showcase event, contact AKC at obedience@akc.org to learn more about it.



Junior Spotlight: David Frasca

I have been in the sport since I was 5 years old learning from many different experiences. Dog sports have taught me patience, success over time, and how to manage simple problems easily. I learned agility from one mentor, Karen Winter, and I learn from anyone I can in obedience and rally. I am mainly taught by Virginia Kinion. I usually show one-three weekends a month. Right now, I train two dogs in obedience and rally, and I train five dogs in agility. My mom also competes in agility. I do not often travel far for shows, since there are many in the area where I live. The competition in Missouri is high. My fellow exhibitors are very supportive and there is a lot of competition.

I have made lots of new friends in the sport. I have had some train wreck agility, rally, and obedience runs from which I have learned how to recover. Every dog has at least one. Every trial I go to, I try to volunteer my time as either a Gate Steward, Leash Runner, or working at the table or in the ring.



[Send Us Your Story!](#)

Junior Photo Gallery



Caitlyn Hayes earned the Novice Trick Dog title with her Rottweiler, Eis Haus Wickedly Delicious (Coco).



Lily earned the Trick Dog Title with Ginger.



The Towell Brothers



Madison and Oreo High Combined Score at the Washington State 4-H Fair.



Best Junior, Clemson Kennel Club



[Send Us Your Photos!](#)



AMERICAN
KENNEL CLUB

[Learn About Dogs](#) | [Register Your Dog](#) | [AKC Events](#) | [AKC Clubs](#)



American Kennel Club, 101 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10178

You are subscribed to AKC Junior News. You can unsubscribe at any time.

© 2019 American Kennel Club. All Rights Reserved.

[About AKC](#) | [Mission Statement](#) | [Privacy Policy](#)