

# Colorado Junior Foundation's JUNIOR CHOICE AWARD

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 8-7-23**

## **BACKGROUND/CONCEPT:**

Juniors are indeed a critical part of the future of the sport of dogs, and not just them showing their dogs in junior showmanship but being more involved and learning more about the sport of dogs.

Meanwhile, the sport of dogs has rules, programs, etc. all defined and ran by Adults; but for this, we want to allow Juniors to step forward and amongst themselves, declare/select (by secret ballot) who is their Annual Junior's Choice Award Winner.

The entire AKC Code of Sportsmanship applies, but these two points expressly speak to Juniors and Showmanship:

- Sportsmen commit themselves to values of fair play, honesty, courtesy, and vigorous competition, as well as winning and losing with grace.
- Sportsmen find that vigorous competition and civility are not inconsistent and are able to appreciate the merit of their competition and the effort of competitors.

## PROCESS/MECHANICS:

The CJF/ CJHEF will prepare a Ballot with the name of each Junior Invited to the Annual Junior Event.

This Ballot will have these minimal guidelines for the Juniors to consider before voting. Does the Junior you are voting for, consistently

- have properly groomed dogs and are themselves wearing appropriate attire;
- presents/shows their dog/dogs in harmony with their breeds proper presentation;
- engage with the judge and other competitors respectfully and courteously;
- demonstrate sportsmanship in the ring, ringside and before and after showing;
- makes no excuses for their dog or their performance if they do not place or win;
- stands out in the juniors ring, so that if you were judging you would reward them.

Juniors are encouraged not to vote for themselves; but there will be no policing or interference with their voting. Call it a little test of their integrity!

Ballots will be mailed to each junior, by December 1<sup>st</sup>, and due back to the Foundation by Jan 1<sup>st</sup>. Ballots will not be signed or numbered or tracked in any fashion.

The junior with the highest number of votes will be declared the winner. Should there be a tie, the CJF Board will determine if there is enough funds to have two winners; and if not the CJF Board will need to pick from those juniors who have tied or try to secure additional funding for two winners.

### **SPONSORSHIP/AWARD/PRIZES:**

- Everything Dog, LLC, a Loveland, Colorado, Dog Training Facility has graciously stepped forward to sponsor this Junior Choice Award. It is a great fit the Junior's Choice Award since it is more or less looking for the Everything Junior (as seen by their peers).
- Award/Prizes are being finalized by the CJF Board and once determined will be shared on our CJF website.

#### ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS BEING FINALIZED AND TO BE ANNOUNCED SOON:

- Colorado Junior Showcase / Best of the Best Junior
- Colorado Junior Sportsman Award

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

For more information on our newly formed Junior Foundation, this new Junior's Choice Award Program, our other two new Junior Programs (Junior Showcase/Best of the Best Junior, and Junior Sportsman Award), our collaborative All Breed Kennel Club efforts towards educating and encouraging juniors in the sport of purebred dogs, please contact

- CJF President, Marlene Groves.
- marlene@buffalogroves.com, H 303.621.1111, C 303.243.0440

Colorado's Junior Handler Educational Foundation, aka/dba Colorado Junior Foundation is a formal 501c3 charity where donations are fully tax deductible.

Donations are kindly accepted.
By Mail to: Colorado Junior Foundation 1911 Andrea Pl. Parker, CO 80138
By Paypal to: Treasurer&coloradoJuniorFoundation.org
www.ColoradoJuniorFoundation.org