



AKC Junior News

The official newsletter of the AKC Junior Organization | Spring 2019

A Message from Mari-Beth O'Neill

AKC is pleased to announce the [2019 Junior Scholarship Recipients](#). Twenty exceptional students were awarded scholarships ranging from \$500-\$2,000 to pursue their education.

The criteria for the application included having to submit documentation that they are members of a club and have volunteered to work, as well as an essay on how the applicant has been involved with providing education about purebred dogs within their school and/or community.

If you have already qualified for the AKC National Championship, please submit your transcript and permission form. You may submit to juniors@akc.org or fax to 919-816-3770.

AKC encourages Juniors to try different events, and perhaps become eligible for the [Junior Recognition Scholarship](#).

Junior Clinics

Junior Seminars

Jrs on
Facebook

Junior Mentor Program

The Public Education department in conjunction with Sports Services is excited to tell you about our Junior Mentor Program! The Junior Mentor Program was created to connect enthusiastic, experienced and caring Juniors with Juniors that are interested in learning more about the sport and/or improving their skills. This program is for any junior currently competing in any AKC sport. The program seeks to provide Juniors a mentor and friend who will help them on their journey to become an accomplished Junior. Participating in the Junior Mentor Program as a mentor or mentee counts toward the number of activities required to become a Junior Ambassador, a program that recognizes Juniors for being active in the sport.

We are currently looking for Mentors as well as Mentees to sign up. Mentors must be under 18 years of age.

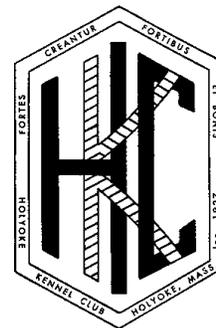
[See More Information Here](#)



2019 AKC Juniors Classic

Exciting news - the 2019 AKC Juniors Classic will be a Junior Showcase event. Qualifying scores in AKC Rally and Obedience will be recorded on the Juniors' and dogs' records!

[Read More](#)



Junior Showcase Rally Trial

The Holyoke Kennel Club will host a Junior Showcase Rally Trial on Saturday, July 6 in West Springfield, MA. A Junior Handler clinic will be held the same day.

[Read More](#)

Junior Spotlight: Taylor Ferguson

My name is Taylor Ferguson. I am 11 years old and live on a small farm near Odon, Indiana. I am a 3rd year 4-H member and I participated in mini 4-H for 3 years prior to that. While I was in mini, I watched the dog shows at the local fair and decided that I was interested in getting a new dog to show. My parents and I discussed which breeds might be a good fit for our family and I decided on a Miniature American Shepherd. I chose this breed because it is a small herding dog known to be highly intelligent and obedient. Since I show cattle, horses, and pigs in 4-H, I thought that this breed would be perfect. We began our search on the internet to find a suitable dog. I had already picked out the name 'Fetch' and as soon as I saw his picture, I knew that was the dog for me. He was just adorable! That weekend we traveled to Missouri to talk to the owner and Fetch became the newest member of our family.

I have shown Fetch at our local and state 4-H shows for 3 years with much success. I began his training at home while doing my nightly chores in the barn. I started with teaching Fetch to sit when he was only a pup and worked up to a sit-stay position while I washed my show calves. Fetch and I also practiced during our weekly 4-H meetings, and I attended a weekly agility class offered by a local trainer. I also took obedience and rally classes under the direction of a different instructor that focuses on training for AKC events. My 7 year-old sister Aubrey and I also practiced at home on rally and agility courses we made up. I searched the internet for information on showmanship and applied what I learned during practice at home. Once Fetch was really showing improvement, I decided to take it a step higher by entering him into area AKC events. After Fetch earned two titles, I decided to enter him in the Miniature American Shepherd National Specialty which was held at Purina Farms, Gray Summit, Missouri. We participated in the fall of 2017 and again in the spring of 2018. Fetch currently holds the following titles: Beginner Novice Obedience, Preferred Novice Obedience, Novice A Obedience, Rally Novice, Rally Intermediate.

I am really proud of Fetch! I plan to continue his training and attend more AKC events. We also have a female Mini American Shepherd that is being trained alongside Fetch and plan to begin a breeding program soon. My biggest hope for Fetch is that we continue to do well and that he will sire puppies that will be loved as much as he is!



Send Us Your Story!

Junior Photo Gallery

Westminster Kennel Club







Limited Junior Competition Portland Dog Fanciers Association

Send Us Your Photos!



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