
AWARDS PROGRAM OF THE GIANT SCHNAUZER CLUB OF AMERICA, INC.



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GSCA Awards Program

Objective The Giant Schnauzer Club of America is proud to recognize excellence in our Giants and in our members and to promote the trainability and versatility of the Giant Schnauzer through our GSCA Annual Awards program.

Eligibility The following awards, presented at the National, are based on American Kennel Club (AKC) records, AKC titles, IGP titles, and GSCA points earned in the previous calendar year by Giant Schnauzers whose primary owner is a club member (i.e. for a Giant Schnauzer to be eligible for the 2024 awards presented at the 2025 National, the physical owner needs to be a member in 2024 and 2025).

Membership affiliation due to a breeder co-ownership does not qualify. Awards will not be distributed prior to the National. For those members unable to attend the National, awards will be mailed to the member at the member's cost, in a reasonable time frame following the National. Members who do not respond to the Awards Program's notifications of award by the deadline given will forfeit the physical club sponsored award, but not the award designation itself.

An owner must be a GSCA member at the end of the award year and by March 31 of the year receiving the award. This requirement is to facilitate the administrative processing of awards and to clarify that new members are eligible for awards even though their membership did not start at the beginning of the calendar year.

Award Items All trophies and awards will use the dog's official AKC name and titles at the end of the award period (i.e. December 31, of the award period). If a member's Giant Schnauzer is recognized in multiple award programs, only one award per year will be given. All awards for the defined award period will be printed on one award.

Members, at their full expense (including shipping and handling), may request additional separate awards, as offered by the Club and subject to change at the discretion of the GSCA Board from time to time. If a member does not wish a plaque award as the club sponsored award, that club member will be allowed a credit of equal market value towards a different award. For example, \$35 {cost of a plaque award} could be applied as credit towards a rosette or photo frame award in lieu of a plaque with the member being responsible for the balance of the alternate award cost. Said credit will only be applicable towards the current period's awards, only one award credit per dog will be allowed.

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Conformation Awards Program

Summary	The conformation awards recognize Giant Schnauzers, whose primary owner is a GSCA member, that have excelled in the show ring. There are separate award categories for rankings based on breed points and all-breed points as tabulated by AKC and reported by GSCA and also by Canine Chronicles. All awards will be based on the entirety of the award period (typically the calendar year) preceding the Awards Banquet except where otherwise noted.
Breed Points	The Top 10 Giant Schnauzers ranked by breed points (per AKC and as reported by GSCA and Canine Chronicles) and primarily owned by club members will receive awards. Additionally, the #1 Giant on the list by breed points will be awarded Conformation Giant Schnauzer of the Year – Breed , and the top ranked Giant of the opposite sex will be awarded Conformation Giant Schnauzer of the Year – Opposite Sex – Breed .
All-Breed Points	The Top 10 Giant Schnauzers ranked by all-breed points (per AKC and as reported by GSCA and Canine Chronicles) and primarily owned by club members will receive awards. In this all-breed point system, no additional all-breed points are earned for Reserve Best in Show wins. Additionally, the #1 Giant on the list by all-breed points will be awarded Conformation Giant Schnauzer of the Year – All-Breed , and the top ranked Giant of the opposite sex will be awarded Conformation Giant Schnauzer of the Year – Opposite Sex – All-Breed .
Owner-Handled	Using the AKC National Owner-Handled Series (NOHS) rankings for the time period prior to the year when the Awards Banquet is held, the #1 Giant owned and handled by a GSCA member will be awarded Owner Handled Conformation Giant Schnauzer of the Year . The top ranked Giant of the opposite sex will be awarded Owner Handled Conformation Giant Schnauzer of the Year – Opposite Sex . The AKC NOHS competition timeframe is typically mid-September through mid-September and thus will be slightly offset from the award period for other GSCA awards. Also, the NOHS ranking system is independent of both breed and all-breed points, and while there are strict requirements for owners showing the dog in NOHS events, it does not preclude the dog being handled by someone other than the owner in non-NOHS events.
Top Producing	The Stud Dog and Brood Bitch with the largest number of offspring completing their championships during the calendar year will be recognized. To receive this award, the Stud Dog and Brood Bitch must be primarily owned by a GSCA member; however, the offspring completing their championships do not. The dog will be awarded Top Producing Giant Schnauzer of the Year – Dog , and the bitch will be awarded Top Producing Giant Schnauzer of the Year – Bitch .

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Conformation Awards Program, *continued*

Combined Awards

These awards recognize Giants who have earned both AKC Championships and select working titles. Select working titles are defined as AKC performance or companion program first level titles from the highest regular or preferred class, with both Tracking Program pathways being included. Optional titling classes are not included in these select working titles.

Any club member with a Giant Schnauzer that earns a qualifying combination of titles needs to notify the Awards Chair between January 1 and March 1 of the awarding year to be presented an award for their Giant Schnauzer's accomplishment earned in the previous calendar year.

The following title combinations are eligible for these awards:

- Champion and Utility Dog (CH/UD)
 - Champion and Preferred Utility Dog (CH/PUTD)
 - Champion and Master Agility Excellent (CH/MX)
 - Champion and Master Excellent Jumper (CH/MXJ)
 - Champion and Master Agility Excellent Preferred (CH/MXP)
 - Champion and Master Excellent Jumper Preferred (CH/MJP)
 - Champion and Variable Surface Tracker (CH/VST)
 - Champion and Tracking Dog Excellent (CH/TDX)
 - Champion and Rally Master (CH/RM)
 - Champion and Herding Excellent (CH/HX)
 - Champion and Scent Work Detective (CH/SWD)
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Working Awards Program

**AKC Performance
and Companion
Champions and IGP3
Recognition**

Any GSCA member with a Giant Schnauzer that earns a performance Championship, companion Championship or International Gebrauchshund Prufung 3 (IGP3) title needs to notify the Awards Chair between January 1 and March 1 of the awarding year to be presented an award for their Giant Schnauzer's accomplishment earned in the previous calendar year. GSCA member Giant Schnauzers will be honored each time of the accomplishment (e.g. OTCH2 is honored as another OTCH earned).

The following titles are eligible for these awards:

- Obedience Trial Champion (OTCH)
 - Preferred Obedience Champion (POC)
 - Master Agility Champion (MACH)
 - Preferred Agility Champion (PACH)
 - Champion Tracker (CT)
 - Rally Champion (RACH)
 - Herding Champion (HC)
 - International Gebrauchshund Prufung 3 (IGP3)
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Outstanding AKC Recognition at an All-Breed Trial

Outstanding AKC Recognition

Any GSCA member with a Giant Schnauzer that earns one of the below AKC recognitions at an all-breed trial needs to notify the Awards Chair between January 1 and March 1 to be presented an award for their Giant Schnauzer's accomplishment earned in the previous calendar year.

Outstanding AKC recognition is defined as (associated AKC program):

- Highest Scoring Dog in the Regular Classes (Obedience)
- Highest Scoring Dog in the Preferred Classes (Obedience)
- Highest Combined Score in the Regular Classes (Obedience)
- Highest Combined Score in the Preferred Classes (Obedience)
- Highest Combined Score in the Advanced B and Excellent B Classes (Rally)
- Highest Scoring Triple Qualifying Score (Rally)
- High-in-Trial (Herding)
- Reserve High-in-Trial (Herding)

Note: Although single or multiple High-in-Trial awards may be offered at a Scent Work trial, they are not recorded or reported by AKC. Therefore, these awards are not currently recognized by GSCA as an outstanding accomplishment for a Giant Schnauzer at an All-Breed trial.

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Top Giant Schnauzer and Top 10 Programs

Rating Systems

GSCA uses data provided monthly by AKC including New Title listings and Event Results reports to compile monthly Top 10 reports for the following eight categories of AKC events:

- Obedience – regular classes
- Obedience – preferred and optional classes
- Agility – regular classes
- Agility – preferred classes
- Rally
- Tracking
- Herding
- Scent Work

Refer to [Appendix A](#) for calculation details for each of the Top 10 reports.

Top Giant

The GSCA member with the Top Giant Schnauzer in each of the eight GSCA rating systems will be eligible for an award for their Giant Schnauzer's accomplishment.

If there is a tie (2 or more recipients) for first place in the Top 10, all tied members will be awarded (i.e., two dogs tied for Top Giant Schnauzer will share the honor, with the next dog receiving third place).

Top 10

The Top 10 Awards for GSCA members with Giant Schnauzers from each of the eight GSCA rating systems will be eligible for an award for their Giant Schnauzer's accomplishment.

If there is a tie (2 or more recipients) for any placement in the Top 10, all tied members will be awarded the higher placement (i.e., two dogs tied for fourth place will both receive fourth, with the next dog receiving sixth place).

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Versatility Program

Summary

The GSCA Versatility Program recognizes Giant Schnauzers that demonstrate ability in a range of performance sports, conformation, and/or working trials and venues. Points are allotted to the highest title earned in each of the various categories in [Table 1](#). With the exception of Detection, Street Service, Carting, Barn Hunt, Flyball and UpDog all titles are AKC titles (earned from either AKC programs or AKC recognized programs).

There are 4 award levels:

- **GSCA Versatility:** 14 or more points across 3 or more categories
- **GSCA Versatility Excellent:** 22 or more points across 3 or more categories
- **GSCA Versatility Master:** 30 or more points across 3 or more categories
- **GSCA Versatility Elite:** 40 or more points across 6 or more categories

Points accumulated based on the highest level earned within each category ([Table 1](#)). The titles must be earned while the owner of the Giant Schnauzer is a member of GSCA.

Any member with a Giant Schnauzer that earns one of the Versatility awards must provide notification to the Awards Chair between January 1 and March 1 to be presented with an award for their Giant Schnauzer's accomplishment in the previous year. Please include a list of the titles that qualify the GS for the award in your email.

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Table 1: Versatility Program Point Matrix

Agility	Obedience	Tracking	Herding
ACT: 1	BN-V: 1	IGP1: 3	HT: 2
Any Novice or Novice P: 5	BN, CD-V: 2	IGP2: 4	PT: 3
Any Open or Open P: 6	PCD, CD, GN, or BH: 5	TD, TDU, or IGP3: 6	HS or HS Masters: 5
Any Excellent or Excellent P: 8	PCDX, CDX, GO, VER, or IGP1: 6	TDX or IFH1: 8	HI: 6
Any Masters or Masters P: 10	IGP2: 7	VST or IFH2: 9	HI Masters: 7
MACH, PACH, NAC, PNAC: 12	PUTD, UD or IGP3: 8	CT: 12	HX: 8
Agility Grand Champion: 13	OM: 9		HX Masters: 10
	PUDX, UDX, or OGM: 10		HC: 12
	OTCH, POC, NOC: 12		

IPO Protection¹	Rally	Scent Work	Conformation	AKC Family Dog Program, Coursing Ability Tests (CAT & Fast CAT)
IGP1: 5	RN: 2	SCN, SIN, SEN, SBN, SHDN, SHDNE, VSWB/I/E: 1	CH: 7	TKN, VHMP/VHMA, ATT, FITB/FITS, FTN, BCAT/DCAT/FCAT, or CA/CAA/CAX: 1
IGP2: 6	RI: 3	SCA, SIA, SEA, SBA, SHDA, SHDAE: 2	GCH: 8	TKI, CGC/CGCA/CGCU, THDN/THD/THDX/THDD, FDC, FTG: 2
IGP3: 8	RA: 4	SCE, SIE, SEE, SBE, SHDE, SHDEE: 3		TKA, FTA: 3
	RE: 6	SCM, SIM, SEM, SBM, SHDM, SHDME: 4		TKP, TKE, FTR: 4
	RAE, RM, RC: 8	SWN, SWNE: 5		
	RACH, RNC: 10	SWA, SWAE: 6		
		SWE, SWEE: 7		
		SWM, SWME: 8		
		SWD: 12		

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Table 1: Versatility Program Point Matrix, *continued*

Active Duty²	AKC Title Recognition Program: Carting³ / Barn Hunt (BHA) / Dock Diving (NADD) / Flyball (NAFTA) / Flying Disk (UpDog)
Detection (drug/explosive/bug): 3	RATN, RATNX, Crazy 8 Bronze, any Flyball title, any Bronze or Silver UpDog title, or Any Novice dock diving title: 1
Street Service (police/military): 4	Any on-leash carting title, RATO, RATOX, Crazy 8 Silver, any Gold UpDog title, or any Junior dock diving title: 2
SAR-W or SAR-U: 5	RATS, RATSX, Crazy 8 Gold, any Platinum UpDog title, or any Senior dock diving title: 3
	Any off-leash carting title, RATM, Crazy 8 Platinum, any Unobtainium UpDog title, Any Master or higher dock diving title: 4
	RATCH: 5
	RATCHX: 6

AKC recognized Search and Rescue (SAR) titles, GSCA recognized detection and street service², Carting³ (offered by AKC parent clubs), and AKC recognition programs⁴ (crossover title to AKC with application to be eligible):

Notes

1. IGP: IGP 1, 2, and 3 earn credit in 3 categories: Tracking, Obedience, and Protection. Note that IGP also offers the option of titling in the individual phases of Obedience and Tracking, in which case points will be earned in only the category tested. Copy of scorebook is required for verification of accomplishment.
2. ACTIVE DUTY: AKC has a program to recognize SAR-W and SAR-U titles. To qualify in Detection or Street Service, the Giant Schnauzer's owner must provide documentation to the Performance Committee of their Giant Schnauzer having worked in the field for a minimum of 6 months, and also possess certification by a recognized state or national organization.
3. CARTING: Various breed clubs hold Carting/Draft Work trials, and the trials are often open to all breeds. Dogs generally work on-leash for Novice level tests. Off-leash control is required for advanced titles. To earn points in this category, the Giant Schnauzer's owner must provide documentation of having qualified for a title from a breed club with an AKC-recognized carting/draft program.
4. AKC recognition program: Includes all AKC crossover titles.

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Nominated Awards

Introduction

GSCA is proud to recognize excellence in our Giants and our members during the Annual Awards Banquet at every National Specialty, and the Nominated Awards are key components of the overall Awards program.

There are several nominated awards which recognize outstanding achievements, dedicated service, and sportsmanship of our members and/or their Giants. All are determined by member nomination followed by Board approval, and none are mandatory yearly awards. Nominations may only be submitted by a GSCA member in good standing.

Outstanding Giant Schnauzer Award

Presented to the individual Giant Schnauzer who through its outstanding conformation and intelligence has accomplished a feat that is first for the breed, or an outstanding achievement, which has brought recognition and honor to the breed.

Lady Fergie Award

Presented to the individual Giant Schnauzer whose actions and outstanding achievement in public and/or community service has brought recognition and honor to the breed.

The Prinz Wilhelm (Willie Award)

Presented to the GSCA member who has done the most to further the principles of obedience training and sportsmanship.

Dedicated Service Award

Presented to up to 3 GSCA members who have made substantial or extraordinary effort to further the best interests of the Club and our breed.

AKC Sportsmanship Award

The AKC Outstanding Sportsmanship Award program was established in 2006 to provide each member club with an AKC Medallion to award to one of its own on a yearly basis. This award honors those individuals who deserve special recognition that have made a difference in the sport of purebred dogs, embodied the [AKC Code of Sportsmanship](#), and have been an active and valued member of an AKC member club. Medallions are awarded solely at the club's discretion.

This award may be given in memory and honor of a club member for one or more consecutive years, including the following:

- Kathie Anderson
- Greg Reyna

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Nominated Awards, *continued*

President's Award

The GSCA President may recognize a club member(s) for outstanding service to the club or breed at his/her discretion. Nominations or Board approval are not required for this award.

New Member of the Year Award

Presented to a new member having joined the club in the last three years who has distinguished themselves through a combination of participation and results in AKC events, engagement with their local club(s), and contributions to support the efforts and objectives of GSCA.

Breeder of the Year Award

Presented to a Giant Schnauzer breeder and club member who embodies the spirit of a responsible breeder through both their words and their actions. Minimum requirements are fully health testing before breeding and taking responsibility for all dogs they have produced for life. A GSCA Breeder of the Year always puts the interests of the Giant Schnauzer breed above their individual dogs and kennel, always towards the betterment of the breed.

The award is not intended to simply recognize quantitative results (puppies produced, titles earned, etc.) but rather qualitative impact through the support of puppy owners and the encouragement of others. However, this is certainly not limited to dogs they have produced and should include helping other Giant owners and even supporting other breeders.

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Junior of the Year Awards

Introduction

GSCA is proud to recognize and support Juniors competing with Giants and views this as being critical for the future of our sports and our breed.

Junior of the Year awards will be presented annually to the Junior who meets the eligibility requirements and accumulates the highest total points during the annual competition period. Awards will be given in each of the following categories:

- Junior Showmanship (Conformation)
- Performance (total points from participation in Obedience, Rally, Agility, Scent Work, Herding, and Tracking trials)

Scoring and Competition Period

The scoring system is based entirely on and fully aligned with the [AKC Junior Recognition Program](#), which has an annual competition period of **July 1 – June 30**. [Points are awarded for all events](#) in which Juniors can compete, and monthly reports will be posted on the GSCA website along with the other monthly Top 10 reports.

Eligibility

To be eligible a Junior competing with a Giant must meet *at least one* of the following criteria:

- Be a Junior Member of GSCA
- Be a relative (child, grandchild, niece, or nephew) of a GSCA member
- Exhibit a Giant that is owned by a GSCA member

Liaison Responsibilities

Each Junior is also required to have a club member serve as their designated liaison and who is responsible for the following:

- Notify the Awards Chair (Awards@GiantSchnauzerClubofAmerica.com) of the Junior's participation in the program
- Provide the Awards Chair with the Junior's AKC Number to aid in tracking their results
- Inform the Junior that they have been enrolled in this competition and that monthly reports will be available on the GSCA website
- Encourage and support them in becoming Junior Members of the club

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Appendix A: Top 10 Rating System Structure

Rating Systems Structure

GSCA will rank the performance of Giant Schnauzers competing in the following eight categories of AKC events according to total points earned throughout the calendar year.

- Obedience – regular classes
- Obedience – preferred and optional classes
- Agility – regular classes
- Agility – preferred classes
- Rally
- Tracking
- Herding
- Scent Work

Points may be awarded for new titles, qualifying runs, placements, scores, and special awards with the details depending on the category/rating system. Refer to the Top 10 Report for each system for additional details.

Special Note for Scent Work and Tracking

Event results for Scent Work and Tracking trials may include qualifying runs, placements, scores, and special awards. However, these results are not currently reported by AKC and are not available to GSCA for tabulation and Top 10 report calculations. Top 10 systems for Scent Work and Tracking will be based solely on new titles earned until additional event data is available from AKC.

New Titles

Points may be awarded for new titles earned during the calendar year. Refer to the Top 10 Report for each system for additional details on the points awarded for various titles.

Qualifying Runs

Points may be awarded for AKC qualifying runs (Qs) and maximum class Qs counted per calendar year per Giant Schnauzer. Refer to the Top 10 reports for details.

AKC Placements

Giant Schnauzers earning a qualifying run (see above for restrictions) with an AKC placement will also receive additional points for placements as follows:

- 5 points for each 1st place
 - 4 points for each 2nd place
 - 3 points for each 3rd place
 - 2 points for each 4th place
 - 1 point for each 5th place (Herding only)
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Appendix A: Top 10 Rating System Structure, *continued*

AKC Scores

Giant Schnauzers earning a qualifying run (see above for restrictions) with a high score will also receive additional points for placements as follows:

Obedience – scoring system is 200 points maximum with 0.5-point increments.

- 3 points for each score of 200
- 2 points for each score of 195-199.5
- 1 point for each score of 190-194.5

Rally – scoring system is 100 points maximum with 1-point increments.

- 3 points for each score of 100
- 2 points for each score of 95-99
- 1 point for each score of 90-94

Agility – scoring system is 100 points maximum with 1-point increments, but dogs need to earn a 100 in the regular master classes to qualify.

- 2 points for each score of 100
- 1 point for each score of 95-99

Herding – scoring system is 100 points maximum with 0.5-point increments.

- 3 points for each score of 100
 - 2 points for each score of 95-99.5
 - 1 point for each score of 90-94.5
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Special AKC Awards

Giant Schnauzers earning a qualifying run (see above for restrictions) with a Special AKC Award at a multi breed or a GSCA specialty trial will also receive additional points for placements as follows:

Obedience – regular classes

- 10 points for Highest Scoring Dog in Regular Classes
- 10 points for Highest Combined Score in Regular Classes

Obedience – preferred and optional classes

- 10 points for Highest Scoring Dog in Preferred Classes
- 10 points for Highest Combined Score in Preferred Classes

Rally

- 5 points for Highest Combined Score in Advanced B & Excellent B Classes
- 5 points for Highest Scoring Triple Qualifying Score

Herding

- 5 points for High in Trial
- 3 points for Reserve High in Trial

Additional points may not be combined for multi-breed trials that are also designated as GSCA specialty events. In Rally for example, earning High Triple Qualifying Score Giant as well as High Triple Qualifying Score overall is worth a maximum of 5 points and not 5 points for the Giant results and an additional 5 points for the overall results.

GSCA Document Management Information

Related Documents List related and supporting documents here, if applicable:

- [GSCA Website – Annual Awards Program](#)
- [GSCA Website – New Titles and Statistics](#)
- [AKC Titles and Abbreviations](#)
- [AKC Junior Recognition Program](#)
- GSCA Stats Reporting Workbook (maintained by Stats Chair)

Ownership This document is owned and maintained by the [Awards Committee Chair](#).

Review This document should be reviewed periodically as indicated below and revised if changes are necessary:

- Annually
- Biennially
- Upon change in committee chair

Change Approval Any substantive changes to the intent or requirements described in this document must be approved by the following:

- Committee/Chairman
- Board of Directors

Revision History The last three revisions to this document are listed below:

Date	By	Changes
Sep 2024	C Reed <i>Approved by Board – 5/8/24</i>	Added section for Junior of the Year awards
Jul 2024	C Reed <i>per Awards committee – 7/23/24</i>	Clarified intent of Special AKC Awards point bonus when recognition occurs in conjunction with trial designated as GSCA specialty
Jul 2024	C Reed	Corrected typo for virtual SW titles in Table 1
Apr 2024	C Reed <i>Approved by Board - 4/10/24</i>	Added Nominated Award section including new awards for New Member of the Year and Breeder of the Year

Mar 2024	S Johnstone R Letson B Postovit M Raukhverger E Riley <i>Approved by Board - 3/13/24</i>	Clarified expectations for attending national, shipping of awards, etc. Added options for award item selection. Updated conformation and NOHS sections Clarified time period for notifying Awards Chair Added Flyball and UpDog and revised points schedule in Versatility Matrix Updated points for Top 10 report calculations Converted document to new format
Jan 2020	?	Previous version
Dec 2018	?	Previous version
Apr 2018	?	Previous version
Aug 2012	?	Previous version