

Why Choose A Collie

Not only are they beautiful, but they are intelligent, friendly, loyal, loving, and sensitive. They are real family dogs and are noted for being very people-friendly. Likewise, they are easy to train. In addition to being very clean dogs, they are one of the easiest breeds to housebreak. One of his greatest assets is his natural love of children. Even when not raised with children, the Collie can be charming, playful, and protective with children. Collies make wonderful Juniors dogs due to their easy trainability and their great love for children.

Reading Suggestions

Best Junior Handler!: A Guide to Showing Successfully in Junior Showmanship

by Annie Olejniczak

Junior Handling, The Complete Guide on How to Show Your Dog

by Felix Cosme

Junior Showmanship “How to Get Started in One of the Best Family Sports”

by Leah H. Tedesco

Note: The books listed on this brochure are available at amazon.com

Mission Statement

The mission of the CCA Junior Showmanship Program is to create well-rounded individuals whose showmanship skills are enhanced by a sense of sportsmanship and fair play with a more important emphasis on obtaining a solid educational foundation.

It is the goal of the Collie Club of America Junior Showmanship Program to cultivate a lifelong love of collies while nurturing a balance between education, showmanship, sportsmanship, and safety.



Collie Club of America

Founded in 1886

www.collieclubofamerica.org



Collie Club of America

Collies and Their Children

Junior Showmanship
as a character
building sport



www.collieclubofamerica.org

General Information

For many years the Collie Club of America has enjoyed many active, successful junior handler members. Our club encourages youth to become members and to participate in the wide variety of activities open to them through the American Kennel Club. While the Collie Club of America does not have a membership for youth only, parents are encouraged to apply for a family membership in order to better support their children in this positive and rewarding sport.

Life Long Benefits

Showing dogs gives Junior Handlers a diverse set of life skills. Among the obvious are, sportsmanship and developing knowledge of ring procedures, grooming and showing techniques specific to the Collie he or she is showing. They also develop a close bond with their Collie to foster team work. Being expected to arrive at the ring on time teaches responsibility. Junior Showmanship can also be an apprenticeship which prepares youth for careers in dog handling, raising, and training.

Social Benefits

Among the less obvious benefits to showing Collies are of the social variety. Junior Handlers meet people of all ages and backgrounds from around the country while attending dog shows. Many form life long friendships with other Junior Handlers of the same age and class division, older and younger Junior Handlers in other class divisions, adult mentors showing other Collies, adult mentors of other breeds, dog show Judges, Professional Handlers and many more.

Scholarships

The Tuff Quest

The Tuff Quest offers a scholarship for graduating high school seniors and current college students. This scholarship is available for students who show or have shown a Collie in Junior Showmanship. An application is available at:
www.collieclubofamerica.org/tuffquest.html



Conformation Handling

Junior Showmanship is open to youth from 9 to 18 years old and is divided into two classes: Novice and Open. All participants in Junior Showmanship must have a Junior Showmanship Handler Number provided by AKC. Novice classes are for those youth who have not yet won three (3) first-place awards, with competition, in a Novice class at a show. The Novice class gives beginners a chance to gain experience and confidence separate from experienced Junior Handlers. Open classes are for youth who have had three first-place wins. Both Novice and Open classes are divided into age groups:

- Junior: At least **9** years old but under **12** years old on the day of the show.
- Intermediate: At least **12** years old but under **15** years old on the day of the show.
- Senior: At least **15** years old but under **18** years old on the day of the show.

Performance Handling

While the most common activity for Junior Handlers to participate in is Conformation, AKC and the Collie Club of America encourage youth to participate in a variety of performance events with their dogs. Youth can earn titles in obedience, herding, agility and tracking to help produce a more well-rounded experience for both the Junior and his/her Collie.