

# IRISH SETTER CLUB OF AMERICA FOUNDATION JUNIOR SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Irish Setter Club of America Foundation recognizes the importance of juniors in our sport and through this scholarship also recognizes the importance of education in creating an informed and well-rounded adult. Junior handlers are important to the future of the sport of dogs and dog ownership; the more juniors learn, the more responsible they become. The values, attitudes and responsibility learned through junior handling will serve youngsters well throughout their lives. Junior handlers are the hope for the future of the sport of dogs.

## The Role of the Irish Setter Club of America, Inc. (ISCA)

The active interest in junior handlers by ISCA demonstrates the importance which the Parent Club places on their activities. The Parent Club includes the following activities for juniors: 1) Junior and family memberships at reduced rates, 2) promotes responsible club members by having juniors assist in different tasks at the National Specialty Show, 3) recognizes all juniors who qualify for Westminster Kennel Club as part of the annual awards, and 4) offers an annual junior seminar in conjunction with the National Specialty Show.

## Scholarship Selection Criteria

**PARTICIPATION IN THE SPORT OF DOGS:** The Irish Setter Club of America Foundation offers up to two scholarships annually for juniors. The applicant must be a current member in good standing with ISCA and at least one year immediately prior to application. The applicant must have participated in AKC events for a minimum of three years. These include one or more of the following activities: conformation, junior handling, obedience trials, agility trials, field trials, hunt tests, and Canine Good Citizen tests.

**OPEN TO HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATING SENIOR OR COLLEGE FRESHMAN:** The Irish Setter Club of America Foundation may provide up to two scholarships per year to graduating high school seniors or full time college freshmen pursuing a two or four-year degree in an accredited college or university program. The applicant must be a full time student with a minimum of 12 semester hours.

**TRANSCRIPT:** Each applicant is required to submit an official current high school transcript. Information must verify the GPA. If an applicant is home schooled or a grading system is not being utilized, then test results or other information describing the student's work may be submitted. College freshman need to submit their previous grade college coursework. Scholarships will be based on a minimum 3.0 high school grade point average, school leadership and community involvement.

**PERSONAL ESSAY:** Applicants must write and type an essay of no more than 750 words. The typed essay must describe the applicant's interests and experiences in the sport of purebred dogs, and how the individual perceives his or her future role in the fancy. Essays will be evaluated by the scholarship committee based on originality, merit of content and writing proficiency. Applicants should use the essay to demonstrate their maturity and ability to communicate. They are encouraged to highlight academic, extracurricular activities, *involvement with Irish Setters and achievements in the sport of dogs.* The essay should be submitted as an attachment to the application and signed by the writer.

**TWO RECOMMENDATION LETTERS:** Applicants must submit two letters of recommendation, one of which must be written by an ISCA member. Letters from relatives of the applicant will not be considered. Letters should state why the writer believes the applicant should be considered for this scholarship. The two reference letters should be placed in a sealed envelope with the signature of the writer across the seal of the envelope and submitted with the application.

## Scholarship Payment

Chosen applicants will be awarded \$3,000 for college/university expenses. Scholarship checks will be paid directly to the institutions. Chosen applicants must sign an agreement stating that the money will only be used for tuition and fees, books and supplies. Furthermore, if his/her enrollment drops below full-time for any reason, the balance of the scholarship must be returned directly to the Irish Setter Club of America Foundation. Applicants must remain enrolled in the college or university for at least one year after accepting scholarship funds. Winners will be made public at the annual awards banquet of ISCA and the Memo. Irish Setter Club of America Foundation will issue funds payable and sent to the school to establish a credit in the name of the student.

## Junior Scholarship Advisory Committee

The Junior Scholarship Advisory Committee will consist of four people who are members of the Irish Setter Club of America, Inc. but not members of the Board of Directors of ISCA or of the Irish Setter Club of America Foundation. One of these four will act as a non-voting administrator. This committee will be charged with receiving applications and selecting one and not more than two candidates annually based on their written qualifications.

**IRISH SETTER CLUB OF AMERICA FOUNDATION  
APPLICATION FOR JUNIOR SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

The Irish Setter Association of America Foundation, Inc. is pleased to provide this application for the Junior Scholarship Program and may provide up to two \$3,000 scholarships per year for college/university expenses. The applicant must be a current member in good standing with ISCA and for at least one year immediately prior to application. The applicant must have participated in AKC events for a minimum of three years. Recipients must be a senior student at an accredited high school/ home school, or a freshman at an accredited two or four-year college or university. Applicants must provide proof of acceptance of enrollment in a two or four-year college or university (include copy of letter of acceptance or schedule of classes). Those who receive scholarships during an academic year may apply again in another year.

Please *print or type* your responses:

Name of applicant:

Home address:

City:

State:

Zip code:

Telephone:

E-mail:

Date of Birth:

Age:

Membership Status: Family, Individual or Junior (Please circle or bold)

If a Family Membership please indicate name & address listed on membership:

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High school or institution currently attending:

Anticipated date of high school graduation:

Have you ever been on probation, suspended or dismissed from school/college? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, please explain.

I am a current member in good standing of ISCA and for at least one year immediately prior to application and have participated in AKC events for a minimum of three years \_\_\_\_\_ Years member of ISCA \_\_\_\_\_ Years participated in AKC

List the accepted college or university's name and address:

*I certify that I have truthfully and accurately answered the above questions to the best of my knowledge and belief, and that I understand any false or concealed information will be grounds for rejection of my application or subsequent termination of my scholarship. All scholarship funds will be paid directly to the attending college or university. I have enclosed the following documents. I understand that if any of these documents are missing, my application will not be processed.*

- Provided proof of acceptance and full time enrollment in a college or university. (This can be accomplished by including a copy of the acceptance letter or schedule of classes.)
- High school transcript or first semester freshman coursework and grades (minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0)
- Two sealed letters of recommendation with signatures across back of the envelop flap
- Typed personal essay (750 words or less) listing significant academic achievements and/or accomplishments in the sport of dogs, community involvement and leadership.
- Completed Application

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Postmark Deadline: All materials must be mailed in one envelope that is postmarked on or before March 29, 2024.**

**Mail to:** Sarah Spang, Selection Committee Scholarship Coordinator, 1169 Comiskey Ave, North Aurora, IL 60542