



# ***Perpetual Trophy Policies and Procedures***

Updated January 19, 2025

## **Introduction**

This document serves as the Natural State Golden Retriever Club Trophy Committee's policies and procedures manual. These policies apply to all Natural State Golden Retriever Club Perpetual Trophies, regardless of the wording of the individual trophy requirements.

## **Trophy Eligibility and Minimum Requirements**

Only members in good standing of the Natural State Golden Retriever Club (NSGRC) are eligible to apply for NSGRC Perpetual Trophies. The following additional requirements apply to members:

- Applicants must have been a member of the club for a minimum of 8 months for that trophy year.
- Applicants must achieve **6** total volunteer/activity points during the trophy year:
  - **3** points must come from volunteering
  - **3** points must come from activities
- Dogs must be purebred Golden Retrievers registered with the American Kennel Club (AKC) and/or the Canadian Kennel Club (CKC). AKC Purebred Alternative Listing (PAL) numbers are allowed. Purebreds of other breeds and mixed breed dogs are not eligible for NSGRC Perpetual Trophies.
- Applicants must be the primary owner of the dog for which the trophy is being claimed. If the applicant is listed as a co-owner, the dog must live with the applicant full time (when not out with a professional handler) OR be shown/handled to eligible points by the applicant.
  - Applicant must have been listed as owner/co-owner at the time of the dog's achievement AND at time of trophy application. Changing ownership from a non-member to a member after the dog's achievement in an attempt to make the dog eligible for a NSGRC Perpetual trophy will result in disqualification.
- Applicants must provide documentation to support the number of volunteer/activity points achieved during the trophy year. Documentation will be cross-checked by the Trophy Committee with sign-in sheets, meeting minutes, catalogs, and AKC records (if applicable).



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Additionally, some trophies require GRCA membership in addition to NSGRC membership, therefore applicants are encouraged to apply for and maintain GRCA membership.

## **Trophy Application Requirements**

Applicants are responsible for providing documentation in support of their dog's achievements for each trophy application. Documentation may take the following forms:

- For trophies awarded to the dog with the highest title achieved, any of the following documentation may be submitted:
  - Copy of the Title Certificate from AKC or GRCA
  - Official copy of the dog's AKC record showing events entered, placements, scores, etc. A printout of the dog's title progression summary will NOT suffice as documentation.
- For trophies awarded to all dogs achieving a particular title during the trophy year:
  - Copy of the Title Certificate from AKC or GRCA
  - Official copy of the dog's AKC record showing events entered, placements, scores, etc. A printout of the dog's title progression summary will NOT suffice as documentation.
- For the Service to the World Award and Natural State Golden Retriever Club: Mighty Dirk Maus Healing Paws Therapy Dog Trophy:
  - Copies of AKC title certificates, if applicable
  - Copies of Therapy Dog licensure/certification from therapy organization
  - Written essay detailing the dog's achievements in Service to the World and/or as a Therapy Dog
- For trophies requiring GRCA membership:
  - A copy of the welcome documentation from GRCA for new members
  - A copy of the renewal receipt for current members

For trophies involving AKC and/or GRCA titles, please note that the Trophy Committee will verify these titles in the GRCA yearbook. Any false representation will result in automatic disqualification.

## **Trophy Application Procedures**

The trophy application will be available on the NSGRC website beginning on January 1<sup>st</sup> of each calendar year for the prior year's achievements. The trophy application will be in the form of a fillable PDF. Trophy applications should be submitted to the current Trophy Committee Chairperson via email at [nsgrctrophies@gmail.com](mailto:nsgrctrophies@gmail.com). Applications



must be received by the Trophy Committee no later than March 1<sup>st</sup> of each calendar year.

The Trophy Committee will begin the application review process no later than March 1<sup>st</sup> of each calendar year. The Committee will provide feedback for deficient applications no later than March 31<sup>st</sup> of each calendar year. Applicants will have an additional 15 days (until April 15<sup>th</sup>) to provide missing documentation for titles and achievements. Volunteer and activity points may NOT be made up after December 31<sup>st</sup> of each trophy year. Notifications to successful and unsuccessful applicants will be provided by April 30<sup>th</sup> of each calendar year.

Take-home awards and certificates will be presented to successful applicants to celebrate their achievement(s). Their dog's name will be added to the plates on the base of each Perpetual Trophy earned. Starting in 2025, Perpetual Trophies are NOT eligible to be taken home by awardees.

## **Definitions**

AKC: The American Kennel Club, a not-for-profit purebred dog registry.

AKC Record: a dog's full competition record to be purchased from AKC which includes all events entered, placements, and scores (if applicable).

Co-owner: an owner listed subsequently to the primary owner on the dog's AKC registration.

CKC: The Canadian Kennel Club, a not-for-profit purebred dog registry.

GRCA: Golden Retriever Club of America, a not-for-profit organization known as the parent club for the Golden Retriever breed.

Member in Good Standing: a member of the NSGRC and/or GRCA that is current on dues and has not received any disciplinary actions from the Club within the past 18 months.

Owner: The first/primary owner listed on the dog's AKC registration.

Trophy Year: the preceding calendar year during which members and their dogs completed the various achievements required for NSGRC Perpetual Trophies. For example, trophies will be awarded in 2025 for achievements during 2024. Thus, 2024 is the trophy year. Trophy years are from January 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup>.