

Your **BTCA Good Sport Award Committee** is seeking your participation for 2016.

Remember our motto - **“Here’s to a good bullterrier, a good bullterrier fancy, an honest realization of sportsmanship, not my bullterrier, or your bullterrier, but THE bullterrier”**.

It is the committees’ aspiration to recognize and encourage behaviors, both individual and corporate, that fosters this type of good will and generosity of spirit, to advance the Bull Terrier, as far as possible, in the best and most sportsman-like way possible.

Wikipedia defines sportsmanship as an aspiration that a sport will be enjoyed for its own sake, with proper consideration for fairness, ethics, respect and a sense of fellowship with one’s competitors.

What attributes are the committee looking for in nominees?

1. This is a sport, but let’s keep it positive.

- Those individuals who exemplify that “good guys” do not finish last: that are serious and dedicated to the task at hand, without taking themselves too seriously.
- Those exhibitors who enjoy the ring time with their dog, and seek to enhance the joy of other competitors.
- Those who **celebrate** the win of a good Bull Terrier, **period** –no matter who owns the dog.
- Those who illustrate that vigorous competition and civility are not mutually exclusive terms. They are able to appreciate the merit of their competition and applaud the efforts of their competitors.

2. Fostering a sense of community, enhancing the group environment and working for the whole.

*The committee wishes to encourage a shift of mind-set, one that focuses on group good over individual achievement. Encouraging **each** BTCA member to make a **conscious** decision to work **together** with a shared vision – the long-term preservation and prosperity of the breed we love.*

- To recognize those folks who lend a helping hand to competitors inside and outside the ring.
- Those who encourage everyone. The nice-guys, who play nice.
- Those who actually say “Thank you” or give a shout-out to someone’s random acts of kindness.
- Those who take an active part in a regional or our national club, attend meetings, dinners, events or raffles.
- Those who understand that wisdom comes from the melding of many minds. A good sport **respectfully** voices opinions, ideas or discussion points on club business –even on social media! They know that it takes the entire membership, and the efforts and ideas of “us” all to benefit the dogs we love.

3. Ethics.

- Those individuals who treat others with fairness, honesty, courtesy and respect.
- Good sports deal fairly with all. Good sports play well with others.
- Those who listen more than talk.
- Those who are courageous and accept responsibility for personal actions.
- Those who don’t blame others when they lose, and especially not the dog or the judge.
- Win, lose or draw, good sports are persistent.

- Those who maintain self-control, winning and losing with equal grace and perspective.
- Good sports share and look out for the welfare of all.
- Good sports are willing to share open and honest disclosure of their dogs' assets and deficits for the benefit of the breed.
- Good sports do not speak poorly of others breeding stock, lines or ethics. They do not rumor monger or gossip.
- Good sports do not break the rules to gain advantage.

4. Mentor.

- Does your nominee welcome, encourage and support newcomers to our sport.
- Do they educate where they have knowledge and experience.

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Please give us specific examples of how your nominee fits the above criteria by answering the following questions. Do the best you can to "make your case" by answering as completely as possible. E-mail your information to Franne Berez at fberez@aol.com.

The name of your nominee(s).

How do they/ did they promote or celebrate our breed?

How do they/did they foster a sense of community, putting other members or their dogs first?

How did they exhibit excellence in ethics?

How did they mentor or share knowledge?

What sets your nominee ahead of the rest?

Is there anything else you would like to share about your nominee?