

Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Club of America

Guidelines for Owner Handled Awards

I. Purpose

The GSMDCA Owner Handler awards were created to recognize the efforts and accomplishments of owners who show their own dogs in conformation. There are three awards given annually that recognize owner handlers in conformation: 1. Championship Owner-Handled award; 2. Grand Champion Owner-Handled award; and 3. Top 10 owner handled recognition. For each of these awards the owner-handler must be a GSMDCA member in good standing as of December 31 of the year the award is earned, as well as the year the achievement award is given.

II. AWARDS

1. *Champion Owner-Handled Award:*

This award was created to recognize the owner of a Greater Swiss Mountain Dog that is handled for ALL 15 points to its championship by the registered owner of record. One pin and grooming towel will be awarded to each dog that meets these criteria regardless of how many owners are listed on the registration. Breeders must be the only owner of a dog in order to be eligible. Professional handlers are eligible for this award only if they are the sole registered owner on the dog. If a professional handler is a co-owner on the dog, the nonprofessional co-owner must be the one that handled the dog for all 15 points to the championship. One pin will be awarded per dog for the first Champion finished by said owner. Another pin will be awarded to that owner when he/she has owner-handled five, ten and twenty.

Owners must submit an application to be eligible for this award. Once completed, the application is the responsibility of the owner to send to the GSMDCA Statistician by March 31st of the year following the award year. The application and mailing address of the current GSMDCA Statistician are available on the GSMDCA website. (see Exhibit A: Application Form)

2. *Grand Champion Owner-Handled Award:*

This award recognizes the owner of a Greater Swiss Mountain dog that is handled for ALL 25 points to its grand championship title by its owner of record. One pin and grooming towel will be awarded to each dog that meets these criteria regardless of how many owners are listed on the registration. Breeders must be the only owner of a dog in order to be eligible. Professional handlers are eligible for this award only if they are the sole registered owner on the dog. If a professional handler is a co-owner on the dog, the

nonprofessional co-owner must be the one that handled the dog for all 25 points to the grand championship. One pin will be awarded per dog for the first Grand Champion finished by said owner. Another pin will be awarded to that owner when he/she has owner-handled five, ten and twenty grand champions.

Owners must submit an application to be eligible for this award. Once completed, the application is the responsibility of the owner to send to the GSMDCA Statistician by March 31st of the year following the award year. The application and mailing address of the current GSMDCA Statistician are available on the GSMDCA website. (see Exhibit B: Application Form)

3. Top 10 Owner-Handled Recognition

Beginning in 2015, this annual award recognizes the top 10 GSMDs according to the AKC Owner Handled program as of December 31 of each year. Points for this award are earned according to the AKC schedule of points:

<http://www.akc.org/events/nohs/finals/point-scale/>

No separate application is required of the owner to be eligible for recognition. The GSMDCA will recognize each of the Top 10 Owner Handled Swissies each year with a certificate and grooming towel.