

## CSCA Top Ten Event



The Clumber Spaniel Club of America (CSCA) offers a Top Ten event to showcase excellence in the Clumber Spaniel dog. This event provides special recognition to those Clumber Spaniel dogs with the most outstanding records as well as their breeders, owners and handlers.

The inaugural event will take place at the 2018 CSCA National Specialty.

This event is an optional part of the CSCA National Specialty and serves many purposes. It offers education for breeders, exhibitors, fanciers and judges. The event offers all who attend a chance to view top dogs in the breed. The Top Ten event provides an incentive for breeders to strive for excellence in conformation, movement, structure and temperament.

### Statistics and Eligibility:

Qualifying dogs are those ranked in the Top 10 (breed and all-breed) AKC rankings as of December 31 of the qualifying year prior to the CSCA National Specialty  
OR/

a BISS Winner of the CSCA National, CSCA Independent Specialty or Regional Specialty shows within the last 5 years prior to the year the Top Ten event is held. For example, for the 2018 Top Ten event, winners in 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014 and 2013 will qualify to receive invitations.

Qualifying dogs are based on point standing in breed (total of Clumber Spaniels defeated) or all-breed (total of dogs defeated) as published by the American Kennel Club, counting on a calendar year basis. Deceased qualifiers will be noted in the CSCA Top Ten qualifiers list published in the event catalog.

To compete in this event, all owners and/or co-owners of finalists must be in good standing with the AKC and CSCA at the time the invitations are extended AND at the time of the event.

All dogs must be eligible at the time of the event to compete in AKC events.

Spayed bitches or neutered dogs who have been named among the final CSCA Top Ten qualifiers may compete in this event.

All previous Conformation winners are invited to attend the event for 'exhibition only,' as they cannot compete even if eligible in the rankings. *This rule pertains to all CSCA Top Ten Events held after the 2018 inaugural event.*

### Invitations and Briefing Packet:

The CSCA Top Ten qualifiers will be sent an invitation to participate in the event. There is an entry fee to be returned with the entry form and other required information accompanying the invitation by the noted deadline on the entry form.

All previous Conformation winners are invited to attend the event for 'exhibition only,' as they cannot compete even if eligible in the rankings. *This rule pertains to all CSCA Top Ten Events held after the 2018 inaugural event.*

#### **Invitation packets include:**

- Formal Invitation
- Entry Form (includes catalog advertisement form)

#### **Exhibitor Information packets include:**

- Judging Procedures & Score Sheet
- Instructional information
- Reference to *CSCA Top Ten Guidelines* document available on *clumbers.org*

### Judges:

There will be three (3) judges for the CSCA Top Ten Event. There will be one judge from each of the following three categories:

1. Breeder - a Clumber Spaniel Breeder in good standing with the CSCA and home-Country Kennel Club. The Breeder must not own or co-own a dog in the CSCA Top Ten competition.
2. AKC Multi-Breed Judge - a person approved by AKC to judge Clumber Spaniels; not a breeder or owner of Clumber Spaniels.
3. Professional Handler – a person in good standing with the AKC.

### Catalogs/Programs:

Each year a catalog is prepared exclusively for the CSCA Top Ten Event. They are available for sale just prior to the scheduled starting time of the event, during the remainder of the CSCA National week.

The catalog contains a page for each competitor, with photograph and text supplied by the dog's owner. The catalog also contains score sheets and judging procedures, a profile of each judge.

2018 is the inaugural event. For future events a page listing all of the previous winners, the judges, and the year in which they won.

### Event Scheduling:

The CSCA Top Ten Event will be held during the CSCA National Specialty week and prior to the National Specialty Show.

The Draw for armband numbers and the order of competition will be held at least one-half hour before the beginning of the competition.

The winners are announced immediately following the event.

The Rescue and Title Holder Parades will be held immediately prior to the Top Ten awards presentation to place importance and focus on these events during National week as well.

### Prizes:

**Participants:** All exhibitors who have entered the CSCA Top Ten Event will receive a commemorative rosette that includes their dog's name.

**Winner:** The judged overall winner will take home a rosette.

**People's Choice Award:** At the same time as the Top 10 dogs are being judged, spectators can participate as People's Choice ringside judges, placing a vote for their top dog in the appropriate ballot box provided. Votes are tallied at the end of the evening and the winner of the People's Choice Award will be announced at the conclusion of the event.

All prizes will be awarded at the conclusion of the CSCA Top Ten Event, that evening.

### Event Procedures:

Entrants and handlers will only be allowed to compete if at least one representative of the entrant attends the exhibitor briefing held at least 30 minutes prior to the event commencement.

### **Exhibitor Briefing:**

- 1) Check in with the Top Ten Committee
- 2) Receive armband
- 3) Receive instructions and order in which the participants will enter the ring
- 4) Participants will be given instructions regarding when to be ringside, where to wait, and specific ring/judging procedures.

**Attire for the Top Ten Event:** This event is considered to be a formal event and as such formal, gala type attire is absolutely encouraged to be worn at the event, both by attendees and handlers. Costuming or props of any kind, but not limited to, anything worn on the dog are prohibited. There shall be NO extraneous props for the handler, as well. This event is about showcasing the dogs and their road to this prestigious Top Ten event. The dogs themselves should be showcased alone in a manner similar to any other AKC conformation event.

### **Judging Procedure:**

1. After all Top Ten competitors are viewed in the ring as a group, each dog will be judged individually. Each dog, as determined in exhibition order, will enter the ring and pose for "First Impression." Judges assign a score of 1-10 (10 being the highest) at this time to be used only in a case of tie points using the breed standard. The dog will then be moved down and back, and in a circle while all three judges watch, and the judges will score the dog for movement. The dog will then be examined and scored completely by the three judges, each judge touching and examining the dog as he/she sees fit. The dog will then circle the ring and exit. This process will be repeated until all dogs have been scored.
2. All dogs will be scored by each judge using the scale of points as provided in the AKC approved standard for the Clumber spaniel.
3. Immediately following the completion of judging, the judges' marked (but not tallied for total scores) sheets will be turned over to an independent and impartial person or persons to be tabulated. The scores for each dog, from each of the three judges, are added together, then divided by three (3) to determine the dog's average score.
4. The winner will be determined on the basis of the average score of each dog. The score sheets and the identity of the winning dog will be given to the Top Ten Chairperson and awarded at the Event that evening.
5. In the event of a tie, the winner is determined by consulting the First Impression total. The dog with the highest First Impression total is declared the winner. The First Impression score is used ONLY to break a tie, and is not included in tabulating the average score. If there is still a tied score, the judge panel will meet to determine the winner.

## TOP TEN SCORE SHEET

DOG NO. \_\_\_\_\_ FIRST IMPRESSION (1-10) \_\_\_\_\_

### SCALE OF POINTS

For Evaluation Of Individual Specimen  
On The Basis Of The Standard

Category	Maximum Points	Points Assigned
General Appearance	10	_____
Size, proportion and substance	10	_____
Head	10	_____
Neck, topline, body	10	_____
Forequarters	10	_____
Hindquarters	10	_____
Feet	5	_____
Coat	10	_____
Color and markings	5	_____
Gait	10	_____
Temperament	10	_____

Total: 100

FINAL SCORE: \_\_\_\_\_