

The Top Twenty in 2020!

The purpose of the Top 20 event is to showcase excellence in Cairn Terriers, showcasing those Cairn Terriers top in the standings, their breeders, owners, trainers, and handlers. It offers all who attend a chance to view the “cream of the crop” in competitive standings from the previous year (2019) in both conformation and performance. It also serves to educate judges, exhibitors, breeders and fanciers. The intent is to provide incentive to strive for excellence in structure, movement, temperament and conformation to our American written standard and in performing work this breed was bred to do, and for those dog sports in which they can excel.

This event is hosted by the Cairn Terrier Club of Denver, in conjunction with the 2020 National Specialty being held at the Double Tree Hotel in Greeley, Colorado.

Eligibility – Conformation Top Twenty:

- The eligibility period is for the calendar year of January 1, 2019-December 31, 2019.
- The top twenty Cairn Terriers will be invited to compete in this event utilizing the Cairn Terrier AKC conformation statistics of points awarded for BOB (points are determined by the number of Cairn Terriers defeated)
- Additionally, the top twenty Cairn Terriers will be invited to compete in this event utilizing the Cairn Terrier AKC conformation statistics of points awarded for All-Breed (points are determined by the number of dogs defeated)
- The winners of the Top 20 competition from previous years will be invited to compete
- The people’s choice winners of the Top 20 competition from previous years will be invited to compete
- If twenty entries for competing dogs are not filled for the conformation competition, up to 5 additional Cairn Terriers will be invited in ranking order, BOB and then All-Breed from the 2019 calendar year, to make up a full compliment of 20 dogs

Eligibility – Performance Top Twenty:

- The eligibility period is for the calendar year of January 1, 2019- December 31st, 2019.
- The top twenty Cairn Terriers will be invited to compete in this event utilizing the CTCA Versatility Scoring system.
- The winners of the Top 20 competition from previous years will be invited to compete
- The people’s choice winners of the Top 20 competition from previous years will be invited to compete
- If twenty entries for competing dogs are not filled for the performance competition, up to 5 additional Cairn Terriers will be invited in ranking order from the calendar year, to make up a full compliment of 20 dogs

Conformation Judges:

There will be three judges, each of whom will rate each dog in five (5) categories based on a maximum point scale as listed on the Scale of Points (see Scorecard). The panel will include:

1. BREEDER: An established Cairn Terrier Breeder who has been breeding for at least ten (10) years, having produced at least 10 Champions of Record as published in the AKC Gazette
2. MULTI-BREED AKC APPROVED JUDGE: Approved to judge Cairn Terriers and at least four (4) other breeds in any group
3. PROFESSIONAL HANDLER: A professional handler (past or present), meeting the requirements for membership in a Professional Handler’s Association (though not necessarily a member). Must have five (5) years experience in Terriers.

Conformation Judging:

Part 1: Hands on Exam

Dogs will be judged in groups three (3) for the hands on evaluation beginning 1 hour prior to dinner. No spectators are allowed in the room during the hands on judging. Judges will rotate through each group of three dogs. After judging, the dogs may rest until Part 2.

The order of judging will be random and announced to the exhibitors.

Part 2: Introduction of the Judges:

At the start of the dinner, the master of ceremonies will formally introduce each of the three judges.

Part 3: Movement

After dinner, the conformation dogs and their handlers will enter the ballroom as their selected song selection is played. Each dog and handler team will go around the ring once, will complete movement pattern of the judge's choice, will make another half circle to the center of the ring for a free stack and exit the ring.

Once the judging is complete for each Cairn Terrier, the scorecard will be collected and tabulated.

Part 4: Performance Exhibition

Following the completion of conformation judging each Top 20 performance team will be presented and will have up to two (2) minutes to share a performance routine of their choice.

People's Choice Judging:

Each spectator will have two votes, one for a people's choice conformation Cairn and one for a people's choice performance winner.

Part 5: Final Group Entrance and Awards:

The top performance Cairns present will enter the ring in Versatility Ranking order. The Reserve Top 20 Versatile Cairn for 2019 will be announced followed by the Top 20 Versatile Cairn for 2019. The People's Choice Award will then be announced and awarded.

The top conformation Cairns present will enter the ring in Conformation Top Twenty (20) order, Breed then All-Breed. The Reserve Winner Top Twenty (20) will be announced, followed by the Winner of the 2020 Top Twenty winner based on judge's total scores.

Tie-Breaker:

In the event of identical scores from the three judges, the tied entries will be brought back into the ballroom and rescored by the three judges. The re-judging will include both hands-on and movement of each dog.