

***2026 MNRC Foundation Award Nominations will open on October 12, 2026.
Deadline to submit a nomination is November 11, 2026.***

All nominations must use the new MNRCF Awards Form and may be sent either as a hard copies mailed to MNRCF Secretary, c/o Lynn Teague, 1307 E. McLemore Court, Nacogdoches, TX 75964 or an emailed form sent to bltdogs4@gmail.com

To nominate an individual for an award, submit a legible and completely filled out MNRCF Award Nomination Form, which will be available on the MNRC website. Only completely filled out nomination forms will be considered and must include all required information on the form.

[MNRCF Foundation Award Nomination Forms](#)

History of the MNRC Foundation

In 2015, the **Master National Retriever Club Foundation** announced they had approved supporting three, new Awards developed by the Foundation and suggested by the original donor. And in February 2019 the Foundation approved a humanitarian sportsman recognition to honor individuals or groups within the Retriever Hunting Test (RHT) Community that participate in the Master National Retriever Hunting Test program and provide humanitarian services to either those in the sport or outside the sport.

The Foundation Awards Include:

“Youth Handler of the Year Awards” Policy

The “Youth Handler of the Year Awards” (Awards) were established by the Foundation in 2015 at the suggestion of an active supporter of the annual Retriever Hunting Test conducted by the Master National Retriever Club under the current American Kennel Club (AKC) regulations and guidelines. The support is in memory of beloved Master National Retriever Club Hunting Test (MNRCHT) dogs lost, in honor of dogs currently competing in MNRCHT, and in the prospect of upcoming pups for future MNRHT events, as well as in memory and honor of all handlers who have sacrificed so much to experience such an awesome event and in unending support of those still to come. Our future lies not only with future retriever breedings that compete at the highest level of our sport, but also in the hearts and abilities of future handlers that share in the love and sportsmanship of MNRCHT's.

The primary purposes of the Awards are to honor and continue to encourage youth handlers in each bracket to step up to the line not only at the weekend AKC tests but also at the MNRCHT. There shall be two award categories; one for youth ages 12 years old and younger and another for youth ages 13-17 years old. The primary purpose of having two categories is to be fair to participants in each age group. Each award

consists of a plaque and check in the amount of \$1,000, and having their names added to the permanent plaques that are displayed at every MNRCHT.

The recipients shall be selected by the Foundation Board of Directors (Board) who have final authority on the selection of the awardees and whether or not the Awards will be given in a particular year. The Awards may not be awarded each year. In considering potential awardees, the Board shall, among other things consider the following criteria:

The age of the handler must meet above requirements;
The handler must:

- handle a dog(s) in all eligible series (any series where the dog is 'called back') at the Master National Retriever Club's annual Retriever Hunting Test;
The dog(s) does/do not have to "qualify" (get a plate) at the MNRCHT for the handler to be eligible for the award;
- have trained, or at least participated in the training of the dog(s) handled;
- successfully control the dog from the holding blind to the line at the tests;
- exhibit expertise in handling the dog(s) during the tests;
- have knowledge of the AKC's current Regulations and Guidelines applicable to the event;
- apply the AKC's current Regulations and Guidelines applicable to the event;
- exhibit the ability to handle the dog(s) to the AKC Standards;
- exhibit knowledge of how to properly care for the dog(s); and
- exhibit personal & professional conduct at the event.

The handler must be in good standing with the MNRC and AKC.

A handler of a dog that is owned by any member of the MNRC or MNRCHT boards of director or their family is ineligible for this award.

To nominate an individual for one of these awards, submit a completely filled out MNRC Foundation Award Nomination Form. Hard copies or e-mail copies will be accepted and must be received within 30 days of the completion of the current MNRCHT. Nominees must have competed in the current MNRC Hunt Test. Hard copies may be mailed to MNRCHT Secretary, c/o Lynn Teague, 1307 E. McLemore Court, Nacogdoches, TX 75964 or E-mailed to bltdogs4@gmail.com

"Bill T. Teague Handler of the Year Award" Policy

The "Bill T. Teague Handler of the Year Award" (Award) was established by the Foundation in 2015 at the suggestion of an active supporter of the annual Retriever Hunting Test conducted by the Master National Retriever Club under the current American Kennel Club (AKC) regulations and guidelines. The support is in memory of beloved Master National Retriever Hunting Test (MNRHT) dogs lost, in honor of dogs competing in MNRHT and in the prospects of upcoming pups for future MNRHT events, as well as in memory and honor of all handlers who have sacrificed so much to

experience such an awesome event and in unending support of those to come. The award is named after a past MNRC President who was a mentor and friend to many in the sport and who exemplified the spirit and tenets of the AKC Code of Sportsmanship. This award is to recognize and support an adult handler at the annual MNRCHT who actively demonstrates the tenets of the AKC Code of Sportsmanship. The award consists of a plaque, a check in the amount of \$1,000, a lapel pin, and having their name inscribed on the permanent plaque that is displayed at every MNRCHT.

The recipient shall be selected by the Foundation Board of Directors (Board) who have final authority on the selection of the awardees and whether or not the Award will be given in a particular year. The Award may not be awarded each year. In considering potential awardees, the Board shall, among other things consider the following criteria:

- The handler must: handle a dog(s) in all eligible series at the Master National Retriever Club's annual Retriever Hunting Test;
The dog(s) does/do not have to "qualify" (get a plate) at the MNRHT for the handler to be eligible for the award;
- have trained, or at least participated in the training of the dog(s) handled;
- successfully control the dog from the holding blind to the line at the tests;
- exhibit expertise in handling the dog(s) during the tests;
- have knowledge of and apply the AKC's current Regulations and Guidelines applicable to the event;
- exhibit an ability to handle the dog(s) to the AKC Standards;
- exhibit knowledge of how to properly care for the dog(s); and
- exhibit personal & professional conduct at the event.
- be in good standing with the MNRC and AKC

A handler of a dog that is owned by any member of the MNRC or MNRCHT boards of director or their family is ineligible for this award.

To nominate an individual for this award, submit a completely filled out MNRC Foundation Award Nomination Form. Hard copies or e-mail copies will be accepted and must be received within 30 days of the completion of the current MNRCHT. Nominees must have competed in the current MNRC Hunt Test. Hard copies may be mailed to MNRCHT Secretary, c/o Lynn Teague, 1307 E. McLemore Court, Nacogdoches, TX 75964 or E-mailed to bltdogs4@gmail.com

The "Humanitarian Sportsman Recognition" (Recognition) was established by the Foundation in February 2019 to recognize individuals or groups within the Retriever Hunting Test (RHT) Sport that participate in the Master National Retriever Club Hunting Test program and provide humanitarian services to either those in the sport or outside the sport.

The Recognition may not be given every year. This Recognition is designed to recognize members of the RHT sport for their humanitarian services and raise the awareness of the positive impact on individuals, groups and communities that members

of the RHT provide. While it is expected members of the RHT sport will provide some humanitarian services, this Recognition is to recognize those who go 'above and beyond the call' to provide that service.

Candidates for this Recognition must meet the tenets of the AKC Code of Sportsmanship and Master National Retriever Clubs' Code of Ethics. This award consists of a personal plaque, name on a perpetual plaque & presentation of the plaques at the Master National Retriever Club's annual event following their selection. Nominations for the recognition must be received within 30 days after the close of the event.

To nominate an individual for this award, submit a completely filled out MNRC Foundation Award Nomination Form. Hard copies or e-mail copies will be accepted and must be received within 30 days of the completion of the current MNRCHT. Nominees must have competed in the current MNRC Hunt Test. Hard copies may be mailed to MNRCF Secretary, c/o Lynn Teague, 1307 E. McLemore Court, Nacogdoches, TX 75964 or E-mailed to bltdogs4@gmail.com

MNRC Foundation Board of Directors:

President – Jack Morris

Secretary – Lynn Teague

Treasurer – Jimmy Hughes

Gloria Mundell – Director

Ex Officio Director MNRC President Annette Pacheco

At the conclusion of the 2026 event the incoming 2027 MNRC President will become the Ex Officio Director.

Previous Award Winners Are:

The Bill T Teague Handler of the Year Award:

2025 – Kristen Ingram

2024 – Ronnie Lee

2023 – Dr. Kathryn (Katie) Quarles

2022 – Dr. Dennis Greer and Jim Windham

2021 – None

2020 (No Event)

2019 Sallie Sullivan

2018 Lyle Steinman

2017 Bob Neipert

2016 Bill Autry

2015 Ken Vidrine

Youth Handler of the Year: 13 to 17 year/old category

2023 Preston Anderson

2019 Haleigh McKeithan

2017 Mary Emma Simon

The Humanitarian Sportsman Recognition Award

2019 awards were presented to **Rody Best** for his work during Hurricane Harvey in the Houston, TX area and **Frank Barton** for his work with the wounded soldiers in the Marion, AR area.

Remember – Deadline for submitting a nomination for any of these awards is November 11, 2026. Nominations must be made using the MNRC Foundation Award Nomination Form. Nomination Forms may be mailed to MNRCF Secretary, c/o Lynn Teague, 1307 E. McLemore Court, Nacogdoches, TX 75964 or emailed to bltdogs4@gmail.com.