

FUTURITY ANNOUNCEMENT

Dear American Rottweiler Club Members:

On June 14th we were informed by a Purina representative that they would be discontinuing the Futurity Alliance Program for the American Rottweiler Club which had been sponsored by Purina since its inception in 2004. The reason given for this discontinuance was lack of participation both in litter and puppy nominations and overall entries. At this time, we believe Purina only has three (3) parent clubs that it continues to support for futurity in these type programs.

Over the past five (5) years several changes were made in the Futurity Program at the request of Purina in order to try and increase entries and participation. These changes included going back to allowing litter and puppy nominations from non-ARC members and allowing late puppy and litter registrations past the normal deadline. Whether it is the economy or generally declining dog show entries, none of these efforts increased entries to the point where Purina felt it to be a sustainable or profitable program. (Please see the spreadsheet on the next page comparing Futurity entries to other entries at National Specialties.)

Since this decision by Purina the Board has made several attempts to decide the future of the Futurity Program for the American Rottweiler Club. There have been several votes taken, none with a clear majority as to how or if at all the Futurity Program should be continued. Some of the Board felt the program should be discontinued immediately while others wished to give the membership notice of the possible discontinuance and an opportunity to provide input and to increase entries to determine if the program should be continued. The Board still has not reached a firm decision in this matter but the 2014 Futurity will continue as planned. We hope that any members or non-members who have considered nominating a litter or individual puppies do so immediately so that the 2014 Futurity can be a good indication for the Board and the Club as to the future direction of this program. The Board would like written comments or suggestions including whether you wish to see the program continue or not. Financially, the program does not appear to be generating significant costs or profit for the Club. The main changes will be the loss of Purina's Trophy for the breeder of the Best In Futurity puppy and financial support provided to the Club's Purina Futurity Alliance Fund. Purina has also discontinued offering a Recognition Pin to those puppies who were nominated and entered in previous years' Futurities that have gone on to earn a Championship.

For the 2014 Specialty the American Rottweiler Club will continue to provide the cash prizes and Armetale. We hope to make the 2014 Futurity one which has greater participation but that can only happen with your nominations and entries. If you as the members wish to have this program continue please write and let us know and enter your dogs. Otherwise, it appears likely that the program may not be continued in the future. It really is up to the membership based upon participation and comment.

We would like to thank Purina for their sponsorship of this event over the past 10 years and their contribution of approximately \$29,000 to the ARC's Purina Futurity Alliance Fund.

The ARC Board

Year/Check	# Litters	# Puppies	Futurity*	Puppy Sweeps*	Reg. Puppy Classes*	Total Conformation*
2004/ \$2,436.68:	124	263	106 (91)	143 (118)	156 (122)	761 (629)
2005/ \$3,428.82:	?	?	115 (101)	168 (145)	169 (136)	779 (692)
2006/ \$3,692.63:	?	?	110 (97)	168 (132)	145 (110)	705 (548)
2007/ \$3,483.13**:	74	159	64 ?	139 ?	129 ?	591 ?
2008/ \$4,419.00**:	91	221	67 (56)	104 (78)	92 (63)	446 (336)
2009/ \$2,639.00:	77	102	22 (18)	55 (49)	70 (61)	309 (273)
2010/ \$2,307.00**:	57	109	29 (26)	96 (87)	92 (85)	434 (405)
2011/ \$2,323.00	66	143	73 (63)	141 (117)	120 (101)	590 (492)
2012/ \$2,310.00	42	103	45 (36)	93 (77)	83 (67)	435 (353)
2013/ not received yet	45	90	30 (26)	67 (63)	76 (69)	359 (320)

* number entered in show; number in () are the number that were actually exhibited. Reg. Puppy Classes include 6 – 9, 9 – 12 & 12 – 18. Total includes Futurity, Puppy & Veteran Sweeps and Regular Conformation Classes, including Veteran and Working; does not include Stud Dog, Brood Bitch, Brace or Juniors.

? Figures not available.

** all of checks include \$ for champions finished in previous year, but only have info for following years:

2007: 75 champions

2008: 73 champions

2010: 61 champions