

Versatility Award Guidelines

Airedale Terriers are intelligent, active and versatile dogs. To recognize and preserve these characteristics and to encourage owners of Airedale Terriers to fully develop their dog's abilities, the Airedale Terrier Club of America provides a Versatile Airedale Terrier Recognition Program open to all ATCA members. This program provides various versatility recognizing the achievements of owners who lead their Airedale Terrier to earn titles in a variety of canine events. To earn a ATCA Versatility title(s), the team (owner and Airedale Terrier) must meet the following requirements:

1. The owner of the Airedale Terrier must be a member of ATCA in good standing at the time of application for a Versatility Award. In addition, the owner must have been an ATCA member at the time the last qualifying title for the award was earned.
2. In circumstances where there are multiple owners, a primary owner will be designated and this owner will complete the application and receive the awards as earned. Additional owners may purchase the awards if desired.
3. The Airedale Terrier to be awarded must be registered with the AKC and must be the dog awarded all qualifying titles.
4. The titles must be earned in events approved by the ATCA Board of Directors and included in the Versatility Award Application List. Typically, these events are AKC events but events in venues other than AKC may be considered for inclusion on the qualified list if AKC has no competing events in that venue. To be considered for inclusion by ATCA, the venue must have established rules and regulations and be offered nationwide. (See Versatility Award Application for approved list and call Versatility Award Coordinator for more information).
5. Levels of versatile achievement will be recognized including
 - a. Versatility Award: 3 titles earned in three different disciplines (e.g. Agility; Dock Diving and Conformation)
 - b. Bronze Versatility Award: 4 titles in three different disciplines
 - c. Silver Versatility Award: 5 titles in four different disciplines
 - d. Gold Versatility Award: 6 titles in four different disciplines
 - e. Platinum Versatility Award: 7 titles in five different disciplines
6. At the initial application for a versatility award, the owner must apply for the award at the highest level the dog has currently achieved. For example, an owner making an initial application for a dog with 5 titles (in 4 different disciplines) must apply for the Silver Versatility Award.
7. The owner is not required to be the handler of the dog during competition for a title.
8. The owner applies for a Versatility Award by completing the "Versatility Award Application" and submitting it to the Versatility Award Coordinator.
9. The award year will run from August 1 to July 31 (the ATCA fiscal year). The final title that qualifies the dog for the Versatility Award or award level must be earned during the award year. Only one award will be given per year and it will reflect the highest level of achievement earned that year.
10. During the initial roll out of the program, the award year will be considered to be January 2015 to July 31, 2017.
11. The dog to be awarded must be alive at the time of application.
12. Each achievement level will be recognized in the following ways:
 - a. Presentation of a letter and commemorative item by the ATCA. The commemorative item may vary depending on the level of award achieved.
 - b. Publication of the achievement in "The American Airedale"
 - c. Publication of all annual recipients in an ad in the Montgomery County Kennel Club catalog.
 - d. Announcement of the award recipients at the ATCA General Membership meeting.