

Press release
25 March 2010

Search on for the fairest Mutt of them all

Pure-bred or just pure love, your dog could be what the judges are looking for at this year's annual Royal Canin SPCA Mutt of the Year dog show, which takes place on Sunday, 25 April at Camps Bay High School.

Now in its 16th year, this popular Cape of Good Hope (CoGH) SPCA fundraising event has grown into the largest non-pedigree dog show in the country, attracting dog owners from across the peninsula hoping to take home the coveted title of SPCA Mutt of the Year.

The event offers great entertainment for entrants and visitors, with dog obedience and agility displays taking place through the day along with a wide selection of food vendors, pet product stalls and a large children's entertainment area.

The Dog show categories include the Mutt of the Year (aged between one and eight), Pup of the Year (four to 12 months) and Best Veteran (nine years and older). All categories are open to pedigree and non-pedigree dogs, except the Mutt of the Year, which is exclusive to cross-breeds.

"This year the judges will be looking for that extra special connection between an owner and their dog", says CoGH SPCA event coordinator, Juan August. "The show is not about looks but rather celebrating the relationship between 'man' and his or her best friend, regardless of the age of the owner or pedigree of the dog. We hope to fill the venue with lots of waggy tails, happy barks and doting owners", he says.

The show has also become a platform for demonstrating that shelter dogs are just as desirable as their pure-bred cousins, and are often one-of-a-kind specialities. Of the 173 dogs entered into the show last year, the majority had been rescued or adopted by their owners from either the SPCA or another animal welfare charity.

Last year's SPCA Mutt of the Year title was awarded to Shenzi, a wire-haired mutt from Noordhoek, who was rescued by his owner Lindy Croxford from outside a vegetable shop in Tokai. He wowed judges with his gentle and charming nature and perfect obedient behaviour.

Entry is just R50 per dog per category and all entrants and finalists stand a chance of winning fantastic prizes sponsored by event sponsors Royal Canin.

Pre-register online at www.spca-ct.co.za or on the day from 10h00 at Camps Bay High. Entry forms will also be available from the SPCA and selected vets and vet shops. Entrants who register in person at the SPCA Vet Shop in Plumstead, at 6 Gabriel Road will receive a complimentary dog lead from Royal Canin.

The 2010 Royal Canin SPCA Mutt of the Year will receive the coveted floating trophy and feature on the cover of the CoGH SPCA magazine *Footprints* in July.

For more information contact Juan August on 021 700 4141/80, email events@spca-ct.co.za or visit www.spca-ct.co.za

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Issued by the Cape of Good Hope SPCA. For further details and visuals please contact
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