



BREED COLUMNS

HERDING GROUP

The photographs used throughout are of outstanding Pembrokes to emphasize what is correct! It is said that good judging is “pattern recognition,” and the team tried to instill excellence.

The committee’s efforts have resulted in an updated, readable, and educational publication. The new section on the history of the breed illustrates why the breed standard frequently describes moderation. In order to meet the need for an endurance drover, one that could trot all day to take stock slowly to market, the Pembroke must be moderate. Dogs that were too low to the ground had difficulty managing the pitted, rocky roads; dogs that were too leggy took a pounding. Free and smooth gait, particularly as viewed from the side, is essential, but tremendous reach and drive is not efficient for an endurance drover.

Again, moderation is a key concept. Drifts in fashion should be recognized and re-centered by referencing

the standard.

The *Illustrated Standard of the Pembroke Welsh Corgi, New Edition 2024* will be available soon at www.pwcca.org.

—Lynda McKee,
TifflynLDM@aol.com
Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club of America

Pulik

THE OWNER-HANDLED PULI

Throughout the world, many show dogs are handled by their owners. AKC reports that more than 80 percent of show dogs are owner-handled (<https://www.akc.org/sports/conformation/national-owner-handled-series/about-the-akc-nohs/>).

In 2012, the AKC created the National Owner-Handled Series (NOHS) to recognize and showcase quality dogs being exhibited by owner-handlers and provide a venue for those people to compete against their peers. (Dogs exhibited by professional handlers on the day of the event are not

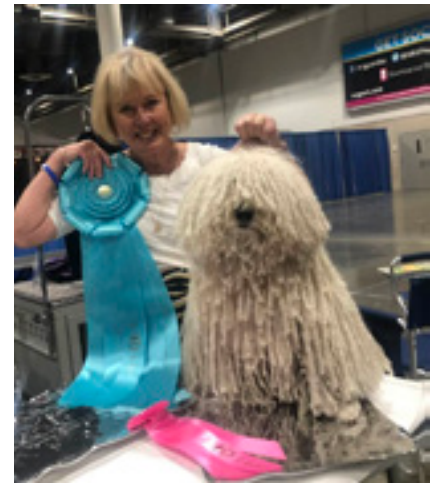
eligible for the NOHS competition.)

The top-ranked dogs from the AKC NOHS are posted on the AKC ranking page (https://www.apps.akc.org/apps/ohs/points_ranking/). Rankings of the dogs competing in the series are compiled based on the Best of Breed, Group, and Best in Show placements in this specific series competition (point schedule: <https://www.akc.org/sports/conformation/national-owner-handled-series/akc-nohs-point-scale-and-ribbon-colors/>).

Regional owner-handled competitions began this year, with the first being in Colorado. At these events the point scales are doubled. An end-of-year competition for the NOHS is held in conjunction with the AKC National Championship. Dogs who finished ranked in the top ten (plus ties) for their breed during the qualifying period are allowed to participate in the year-end competition.

BREED COLUMNS

HERDING GROUP



Top owner-handled Pulik, left to right: Archie, NOHS Lifetime #1 Puli and #1 All-Breed, owner-handled by Jim Moen; Blu, NOHS Lifetime #2 Puli, owner-handled by Glenn VanDerHart; and Woody, NOHS Lifetime #3 Puli, owner-handled by Pam Erstling.

During February 2022, AKC launched its NOHS Levels of Achievement that offers Bronze, Silver, Gold, and Platinum recognitions to exhibits obtaining a predetermined number of NOHS points for each level of award (<https://www.akc.org/sports/conformation/national-owner-handled-series/nohs-levels-achievement/>).

Currently, 33 Pulik have earned enough points to make it to these tiers, with 17 achieving the Bronze level (250 points), eight achieving Silver (500 points), five achieving Gold

(1,000 points), and three reaching Platinum-level recognition (3,000 points):

The number-one owner-handled Puli, with a lifetime ranking of more than 20,000 points, is the black male GCh.G Cordmaker Boys Will Be Boys, RI, PT, FDC, NAP, NJP (Archie).

The number-two highest lifetime-ranking Puli, with more than 4,800 points, is the black male GCh.B Bowmaker Red White & Blue, CGCA (Blu).

Number three, with more than 3,200 points, is the white male Puli GCh. Piroskai The Woodlands Tx

at Pajkos, NAP, NJP, CGC (Woody).

Photographs of these three Pulik with their proud owner-handlers are included with this article, and I thank Cathy Pronzini, Pam Erstling, and Les Stallings for providing these.

Huge congratulations to all our NOHS Pulik! Special recognition goes to the amazing accomplishment of Archie, who is the lifetime Number 1 owner-handled dog not just for Pulik, but for *all breeds*.

—Dagmar Fertl,
dfertl@gmail.com
Puli Club of America

COURTESY OWNERS