

The following criteria must be met to qualify for the NAVHDA Utility Breeder's Award:



1. Breeder must be a paid member of NAVHDA. The breeder is defined as the primary owner of the dam at time of whelping.
2. Producing dam must be NAVHDA registered.
3. The litter and puppy registration must occur before the dogs are tested.
4. The puppies must be registered under the litter number issued at time of litter registration.
5. At least three dogs from one litter must qualify (Prize I, II) with a minimum of 180 points and a Prize II in **NAVHDA Utility** tests.
6. To be eligible for the **Utility Breeder's Award** the dogs may not be judged as being temperament "sensitive," temperament "shy" or noted as "aggressive" in their qualifying **NAVHDA Utility** test.
7. A **Utility Breeder's Award** can be awarded for each successful litter. Breeders are not limited to one award per calendar year. No fixed duration of time shall exist for this accomplishment. It is the breeder's responsibility to apply for the award by December 31st in order for the award to be presented at the Annual Meeting the following January, although application may be made at any time during the year. The Registrar will verify the information and a parchment certificate will be awarded. The breeder will also receive an application for ordering a "Breeder's Award Plaque" at their cost. Any application made after that date will not be denied but will be awarded the following year.
8. All dogs of a litter qualifying for the **Utility Breeder's Award** must have ownership transferred from the breeder to the primary owner of record prior to award certification.
9. The breeder must submit proof, with the application for the **Utility Breeder's Award**, that the sire, dam and dogs eligible for the award have no evidence of hip dysplasia and/or their hip joint conformation must be within the normal limits for that dysplasia registry. The dysplasia registry must be one that is recognized by the NAVHDA Registry.
10. DNA certification for both parents must be submitted for the award. The DNA certification must be obtained through NAVHDA. In the event either parent is deceased at the time of submission or other extenuating circumstances exist, the NAVHDA Registrar may make an exception.

Breeder's Awards are announced the NAVHDA Annual Meeting.