

Year of Induction 2023

Category – Prominent Persons



Heather Ellis, Western Australia

Club Activities

Since January 1995 Heather has been an active member of the Retrieving Club of WA Inc and has had several positions before becoming the President of the Retrieving Club of WA Inc. Heather was made a life member of the club at the 2022 AGM. Heather is a very active club person, organizing judges for the year ahead, making sure enough stewards are available to help at any given trial run by the club. She also ensures that the judge and stewards have the equipment they need and are supplied with refreshments on the day.

Heather has been running training classes on behalf of the club which have resulted in a number of newcomers to the sport of retrieving, some even going on to become judges themselves. Not only have these training classes nurtured people into the sport but has enabled the Retrieving Club of WA Inc. to remain in a very stable financial position.

Apart from the Retrieving Club Heather was also a very active member in the Australian National Retrieving Trial Working Party (formally known as the ANRTC) for at least 20 years helping to organize and run 3 National events in Western Australia.

Trial- Judging/Stewarding/Managing

Heather has always demonstrated her willingness to steward and help at any trials regardless of which the club is running the event or even which State of Australia it is held. She has loaded shot and sourced pigeons whenever she could. Fetched and carried equipment and ensured the packing up was done at the end of the trial, usually being one of the last to leave the trial site.

Heather began judging in 2012 and her first All Age judging appointment was in Victoria in 2014. She has achieved Championship Retrieving Trial Judge status, judging her first State Championship NSW in 2019

Owner/Breeding

Owner of Golden Retrievers since acquiring Westrova S S Thistledon (Amber) who was born in 1995. Heather has bred, under the Ellishea prefix, over 100 puppies. Through careful planning and importing semen from overseas, her dogs are highly sort after in the retrieving world. They have been titled by other owner/handlers at various levels including Retrieving Trial Champions in various states of Australia. Many of her puppies have also gone on to become successful assistance dogs.

Handling/Trial History

Heather is a great sport and offers a smile and encouragement to her fellow competitors and everyone she meets. She is very kind to her dogs and has been very successful at the All Age level. She has been the owner of the 'Retrieving Dog of the Year' in Western Australia many times, often winning this award in successive years with the same dog.

Competing in every Australian State Heather has titled five dogs, four of which she bred herself:

- RT. CH. Westrova S S Thistledon
- RT. CH. Ellishea Asks Gypsy
- RT. CH. Ellishea Katos Czarda
- GR. R.T. CH. Ellishea Just Cussy CM.
- RT. CH. Ellishea Wyatts Flash (AI) CM.

Other

Heather is the Chairperson of Dogs West RAFT and has been the National Raft Representative since 2018. Heather is also the Subcommittee Chair of the ANKC Judges Training Scheme Review and has facilitated in a number of judges successfully completing the Judges Training Scheme in Western Australia. Heather has also been a member of the National Raft Subcommittee advising on the use of artificial game in retrieving. Her dedication and involvement in this delicate matter will only benefit retrieving in the long term.