

## **RESCUE ADVISORY COMMITTEE GUIDELINES**

The purpose of the Rescue Committee is to foster a productive relationship between the BHCA and recognized 501(c)(3) Basset Hound Rescue groups across the country. The goals of this BHCA/Rescue relationship are to:

1. Promote involvement of rescue Basset Hounds in events as allowable by AKC guidelines and rules.
2. Provide breed information, educational information, and information about allowable venues to pet owners of Basset Hounds at Breed Club events.
3. Provide venues for pet and rescue Basset Hounds to participate in at local events and dog shows.
4. Encourage involvement of Breed Clubs with their local rescue groups by sharing information, activities, and educational opportunities, as a resource for owners of pet Basset Hounds in the local community.
5. Plan and coordinate, with the assistance of the local rescue groups, an activity which is designed to engage and involve both the rescue community and BHCA membership at the BHCA Nationals each year.
6. Encourage rescues to become BHCA-recognized rescue organizations.
7. Encourage rescues to become involved with and support BHCA through cooperative effort, education, referrals, and sharing of information via websites and social media.

Breed Clubs are encouraged to:

- Appoint a Breed Club Rescue Liaison to serve as contact with the local Basset Hound Rescue groups in order to establish a positive working relationship.
- Inform and invite members of the local Basset Hound Rescue groups to Breed Club events, such as matches, Meet-Ups, tracking, agility, obedience, therapy dog, Rally, Scent Work, Lure Coursing classes and other events that are appropriate activities allowed by AKC.
- Support and participate in events and fundraising activities of local Basset Hound rescues
- Develop a reliable method of ongoing communication in which the Breed Club and local Basset Hound Rescue groups can seek advice and share information regarding local and personal Basset Hound concerns.
- Encourage pet owners of Basset Hounds to become members of BHCA and the local Breed Club.

### **Requirements for designation as a BHCA-Recognized Basset Rescue for inclusion on the BHCA Website and Social Media**

1. Registered with the IRS as a 501(c)(3) organization
2. Financial data is available through annual review and expense reports for at least one full year.
3. Current Forms 990 or 990-N on file with IRS for the previous year
4. Mission Objectives clearly specify the rescue of Basset Hounds

5. Community Impact statement identifies the focus of their local efforts
6. Letter of support/cooperation from a local breed club from the state/region of operation. If there is not an active breed club in the area, a letter of support from three (3) BHCA members who are knowledgeable about or involved with the rescue must be provided.

After the Rescue Advisory Committee reviews the rescue's application and status through GuideStar or other resources, the rescue will be included on the website or will be contacted to supply additional information.

We will provide a "Seal of Approval" from the BHCA for those rescues that meet the published criteria. This seal may be posted on the organization's social media and website stating that they are recognized by BHCA as a qualified Basset Hound Rescue. (see below

We will put a link to the rescue's Facebook page from the BHCA Facebook page and to their website from the BHCA website. The rescue will also be required to put a link to the BHCA Facebook page on their Facebook page and to the BHCA website on their website. Any changes in contact information must be reported immediately to the Rescue Advisory Chairperson so it can be updated on the BHCA website.

The "Recognized Rescue" list will be reviewed annually by the Rescue Advisory Committee Chair to assure that the rescue is still operating as a 501(c)(3) organization, maintains accurate contact information and an active website and/or social media profile to promote adoption of Basset Hounds.

Applications for BHCA Recognized Rescue status may be obtained from the Rescue Advisory Committee Chairperson. The chair's contact information is listed on the BHCA website [www.basset-bhca.org](http://www.basset-bhca.org)

Approved March 19, 2019

