

JUDGES PROFILES



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Jocelyne Gagne

Starkeeper Irish Wolfhounds

BIO:

In 1978 I acquired my first Irish Wolfhound that started me on my journey of learning about wolfhounds, sighthounds, and the dog world. The first Starkeeper litter was born in 1980. Since then, I have produced over 150 Irish Wolfhound show champions, obedience & rally titlists, lure coursing and racing champions in Canada, the USA, Italy, Russia and Australia. I am committed to breeding Irish Wolfhounds that are both typical examples of the breed and can perform in the field. As a judge I strive to recognize dogs that are functional. Given the amount of time I spent on the field, in my home and the show ring with sighthounds, I consider myself a sighthound specialist. In 2017 I became an all breed judge. My judging assignments since 2000 have literally taken me around the world. I have had the pleasure of going over some outstanding dogs in the course of my travels across Canada, the USA, Mexico, South America, United Kingdom, many countries in Europe, Russia, South Africa, Australia and New Zealand. In 2015 I judged at the Westminster Kennel Club Show. The dog world has provided me with ample opportunities and positive experiences in my areas of interest: dogs, travel and meeting interesting people. In giving back to the sport that has so enriched my life, I have developed a form and function educational presentation on the Irish Wolfhound. I was a contributor to the current Illustrated Standards for Irish Wolfhounds sponsored by the Irish Wolfhound Club of America and the Federation of Irish Wolfhound Clubs in Europe. I was the co-creator and co-presenter of the AKC Webinar on the Irish Wolfhound delivered to judges in 2021.

After over 45 years I am still active in breeding and exhibiting Irish Wolfhounds and have had many successes in performance events, all breed and specialty rings with my hounds. So I know what it's like to be judged, as well as doing the judging.

It's exciting for me to find quality dogs in my ring. I am very much looking forward to my assignment at the World Dog Show in Italy in 2026 and feel honoured to be invited.