

# PAULA THOMASON INSTRUCTOR BIO



Paula Thomason is a nationally recognized AKC Rally competitor and instructor with more than 20 Rally Championship titles earned with five different breeds. Her dogs have earned more than 200 High In Trial awards, and her students consistently place and title in AKC Rally competition.

In 2021, Paula had four dogs ranked among the top six AKC all-breed Rally dogs in the nation:

- Ash – #1 German Shepherd Dog, #3 Herding Dog, #3 All-Breed
- Levi – #1 Russell Terrier, #1 Terrier, #4 All-Breed
- Spot – #1 Border Collie, #4 Herding Dog, #5 All-Breed
- Patch – #1 Miniature American Shepherd, #5 Herding Dog, #6 All-Breed

Additional accomplishments include:

- 2019 German Shepherd Dog Club of America Rally Dog of the Year – Ash
- 2024 American Border Collie Association Rally Dog of the Year – Bolt
- In both 2025 and 2026, all five of Paula's rally dogs qualified for the AKC Rally National Championship
- In 2025, Bolt, Spot, and Levi received AKC Rally Championship Invitational invitations as top five competitors in their breeds

Paula's seminars focus on understanding rally signs, improving ring confidence, building teamwork, mastering course strategy, and developing clear communication between handler and dog.