

# **Junior Spotlight: Kirsten Potts**

By Randi Berthold

- 1. How old were you when you started showing dogs?** I was 6 years old when I started showing in the Chihuahua ring. I was always the shy one sitting by the ring observing the others. My Mom and Dad had won several classes so they asked me to help them out by taking a puppy back in. I won that day and beat them both.
- 2. Junior Dog/ Dogs and past Junior Dogs?** I have a Champion Chihuahua named Ch. Flo Davi's Blue Pearl of a Girl (Pearl). She is my main Juniors dog in the Chihuahua ring. I also show a Tibetan Terrier that I co-own with Mikki DeMers and I show her in the all breed shows.
- 3. What other areas of Dog Shows do you enter besides Junior's?** Besides juniors I show many breeds in the conformation rings. I have started training one of my Chinese Cresteds in Agility.
- 4. Other breeds you show now or in the past?** I assist Lois DeMers at the all breed shows and I show Lhasa Apso's, Tibetan Terriers, Havanese and Chinese Cresteds. I also help my dad show French Bulldogs, Boston Terriers and I have shown an English Setter. I love the Chihuahuas the most though.
- 5. Most memorable win?** My most memorable win was at the Chihuahua Nationals in October when I won my first Best Junior award with my girl Pearl. We competed against a lot of other talented juniors.
- 6. Most embarrassing moment in the ring?** My most embarrassing moment in the ring was when the Tibetan Terrier I was showing peed before we got on the table and during her whole down and back she splattered all over the mats.
- 7. Toughest win?** My toughest win was at the Chihuahua Nationals in October with my 7 month old girl Dakota when I placed 1st in a very large class.

**8. Favorite Dog Show?** My favorite dog show is the River City Cluster of dog shows in San Antonio.

**9. Favorite hobbies other than Dog Shows?** When I am not at shows, I like to swim, read and go clothes shopping.

**10. Future Dog related plans?** I hope to become as talented a handler in the future as some of the people who I look up to. I have learned so much by watching my mom and dad and by working with Lois at the shows.

**11. Future Non-Dog Related plans?** I am still deciding on what I want to do with my future outside of dogs. I want to be so many things, but I would have to say a Pediatrician, Teacher or Photographer top the list right now.

**12. Who is your Mentor?** My mentors are my mom and dad. They share their love of dogs with me. I love working for Lois because she is showing me so much about caring for coated breeds. I learned a lot in the beginning from Randy Carr. Pat and Michael Holzkopf are also two of my favorites to be with, they teach me not just about the dogs, but about how to be well rounded in and out of the dog world.

**13. Why do you like showing Chihuahua's and why did you pick that breed?** Chihuahuas are very loving to their owner and will protect you. They think they are bigger than they really are and are very sassy. They make me laugh when I am having a bad day. Their attitude is bigger than their tiny bodies. My mom and dad were showing Chihuahuas when I was born and I grew up with them.

**14. Any additional thoughts, quotes or helpful ideas you would like to share with other Junior's?** Even if you are having a bad day in the ring and you think nothing else can go wrong, don't give up trying. The judge is always looking for that handler who keeps trying, no matter what your dog has decided to do.