

# ECSCA FTC Meeting Minutes 8/23/2011

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**Present:** Buzz Benson, Kim Wiley, John Dartt, Sue Wilson, Dennis Joannides, and Olivia Steele-Mortimer

**Absent:** Terry Oliver

**Correction to 7/26/2011 meeting minutes in the paragraph regarding the Amateur National Championship:** “Olivia also suggested that we discuss an “All Variety” spaniel stake to encourage more participation in field trials.”

## **Field Trial Calendar:**

There has been some confusion in the fall field trial schedule. This has resulted primarily from clubs changing their trial dates without securing prior approval from the Field Trial Committee Chairperson. All trial dates are to be approved by the FTC Chairperson, and it will be his/her responsibility to notify AKC and fieldcockers.com of the approved field trial schedule. Fieldcockers.com will not post trial dates to the calendar without the FTC Chairperson's approval. Any changes to trial dates must be approved by the FTC Chairperson prior to posting on the calendar. FTC regional representatives will be responsible for checking and verifying the dates of field trials in their area, in an effort to assist the FTC Chairperson in maintaining an accurate and up-to-date trial calendar.

## **Harold Bixby Award:**

The FTC agreed by a vote of acclamation to again this year sponsor the Harold Bixby Award trophy. Each committee member will send his/her personal check for \$29.00 payable to ECSCA NCC 2011 to Kim Wiley.

FTC committee members should send their nominations for the award recipient to Buzz Benson via email and they are due by no later than **September 6, 2011**.

It was moved (John Dartt) and seconded (Sue Wilson) and approved by a vote of acclamation that the FTC committee will nominate and vote on the Harold Bixby award recipient. Olivia made a motion suggesting a clarification in the wording that “this is an annual award given at the discretion of the FTC” (second Kim Wiley). This too was approved by a vote of acclamation. Kim Wiley will update the verbage describing the award, and once approved, the updates will be made to the fieldcockers.com website.

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### **2012 NCC Judge Selection:**

Buzz has received seven (7) nominations for NCC 2012 judges. Clubs are reminded that nominations and bios for NCC judge nominations are due NOW.

### **2011 NCC Update:**

Kim Wiley reported that he has recently visited the trial grounds and that grounds grooming efforts are on schedule.

### **Bird Dog Hall of Fame (BDHOF) Update:**

Dennis Joannides reported that the HFC (Hall of Fame Committee) had held it's first meeting on 8/15/2011 with 100% attendance. The committee had agreed unanimously that **“that we were not in a rush to induct any dogs or individuals into the HOF at the February 2012, annual induction by the National Bird Dog Hall of Fame (NBHOF). Further there was no feeling that any minimum number of dogs needed to elected on an annual basis.”** Dennis will distribute the meeting minutes for full details. FTC members are encouraged to solicit “supporter donations” among their area constituents.

### **Amateur National Championship:**

Doug Ljungren, AKC Assistant Vice President of Performance Events, attended the NDSSC Hunt Tests on 8/20-8/21/2011 at the Hob Brown Farm in Menoken, ND. In an informal meeting he stated that an Amateur National Championship for English Cocker Spaniels was not a viable option in the near future. He suggested that dogs placing in Amateur Stakes be included as qualifiers for the National Open Championship (NCC) and encouraged the ECS field trial community to discuss this as one option in a pathway to an Amateur National Championship.

### **Next Meeting:**

Tuesday, September 20, 2011 – 7:00PM CDT (8:00PM EDT, 6:00PM MDT, 5:00PM PDT)

Respectfully Submitted,

*Sue Wilson*