

Field Trial Committee Minutes



NFC, FC Absolute Winnie

Owner: **Jim Leferman**

Handler: **Dan Murray**

2017 FIELD TRIAL COMMITTEE

Deb Strohl

FTC Chair & Central Region
debstrohl@gmail.com

Vicky Thomas

Western Region
gigvicky@aol.com

Pete Rizzo

Eastern Region
workingdogs10@yahoo.com

Keith Meissner

Recorder & Member At Large
kjmeissner@yahoo.com

Dennis Joannides

Member At Large
djoannides2@gmail.com

Terry Reckart

Member At Large
osblc@roadrunner.com

Mike Schroeder

Member At Large
besbeam@hotmail.com



"Doing My Part"

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 15, 2017
8:00 p.m.- 9:45p.m. Eastern Time

Members Present: Deb Strohl, Mike Schroeder, Vicky Thomas, Keith Meissner, Pete Rizzo, Dennis Joannides, Terry Reckart

Call to order was made at 7:03 p.m.

Approval of minutes Keith made a motion to approve the minutes and Mike seconded the motion, all were in favor

Approval of the agenda Dennis made a motion to approve the agenda and Keith seconded the motion, all were in favor

Unfinished Business

Nominations for judges for the 2018 National Amateur Cocker Championship (NACC) were received. In the order received, they are Mike

Wallace by Door County Sporting Spaniels; Lynn Miller by MHSA; Ken Hanson by Central Wisconsin, Bob MacDonald by Maine; Terry Quinlan by Western New York; Jason Givens by Fox Valley. The judges nominated have all completed a questionnaire in addition to submitting individual biographies. The questionnaire was designed to give us similar information on all nominees. This information will be summarized on a spreadsheet and sent to eligible voters with copies of the biographies.

Vacancies for member-at-large positions on the FTC; 4 openings.

Nominations should be sent to Deb Strohl and they must be received no later than August 30, 2017. If you are interested in serving, or know of someone who might be interested, please submit that name with a brief biography about their interest and experience with running cocker spaniels in field trial. They must be a member of the ECSCA and have a minimum of 5 years of experience running or handling cocker spaniels.

Eligibility to run dogs as an amateur in an amateur stake. The committee has had extensive conversation about the subject and has reviewed correspondence from the field and from the president of the ECSCA, our parent club. As an advisory panel to the ECSCA, the FTC felt that in the interest of preserving the integrity of sport, there was a need to clarify rules for running in an amateur cocker spaniel field trial. It was decided that we should follow the lead of other breeds who have dealt with this subject, namely the pointer and

retriever breeds. The FTC has voted unanimously, on a motion made by Terry and seconded by Dennis, to recommend the following language be inserted in the rules for running AKC cocker field trials. Considering the importance of this issue, the FTC has elected to delay submission of this change until September 15, 2017 to hear any additional comments from the field. The FTC will be accepting comments or suggestions, in writing, to Deb Strohl, chairperson of the FTC prior to September 10, 2017 for review by its committee.

An Amateur All-Age Stake shall be for dogs over six months of age that are handled by amateurs. The status of the handler is to be determined by the Field Trial Committee of the club holding the trial. *An Amateur is a person who, during the period of two years preceding the trial has not accepted remuneration in any form for the training of a hunting dog or the handling of a dog in a field trial. For purposes of this definition, the word ‘remuneration’ means any payment in money, goods or services. No member of the household of a person who does not qualify as an Amateur under this definition, can qualify as an Amateur. For purposes of this section, an Amateur “excluded as a member of a household of a person who does not qualify as an amateur”, may run any number of dogs wholly owned by him or her, or members of his or her immediate family, provided such dog ownership was continuous since the birth of the dog or for at least two years prior to the event. Dogs jointly owned with individuals or entities outside of the immediate family of the Amateur are not eligible for the family owned exception described above.*

An Amateur, “other than a member of a household of a person who does not qualify as an amateur” may run any number of dogs wholly owned by him or her, or members of his or her immediate family, but shall not run more than three dogs that are not so owned in any amateur stake.

“Definition of A Professional” *A professional shall be defined as ‘any person who accepts, or has accepted, money, or other compensation (defined as anything that has a monetary value), for the field training or field trial handling of any breed hunting dog. Once a person performs as a professional, he or she cannot run in Amateur stakes thereafter. If they have not run as a professional for a full year, and they want to reclaim their amateur status, they can do so after a one year waiting period.*

The 2017 NCC committee reports that the grounds have been selected, trophies are being ordered, the birds have been reserved and lodging has been arranged. Apparently, the land owners, who are active field trailers that customarily traveled in an RV, will permit camping on their grounds. We understand there are bathrooms and showers as well as electric hook ups for those camping. **Important:** anyone interested in camping must contact Domonique Savoie to confirm arrangements.

NCC Judge Nominations—Nominations for the 2018 NCC judges must be received by Deb Strohl no later than 8/31/2017. Only clubs that sponsored an open event in the prior year are eligible to make nominations. All nominations must include a biography of the nominee as well as a completed judge’s questionnaire.

NCC voting--It came to the FTC attention that the recent rule change to qualifying dogs in a 2 year “field trial period” precluded a number of dog owners from being able to vote. The reason this is true is because we vote for NCC judges 14 months prior to the event, leaving only 10 months to earn a placement with your dog to become eligible to vote. Therefore, it was felt that the voting eligibility needed to have its own rules.

Motion: Mike made a motion, that was seconded by Terry, to change the eligibility period for vote qualification to three field trials years. Any dog owner who has earned points for a placement in a field trial during a period of three field trial years prior to the date of NCC being voted upon, shall be eligible to vote for NCC judges. This motion was seconded and all present voted to approve the motion. Vicky left meeting early so she did not vote.

By way of example, those eligible to vote for the 2018 NCC judges must have received a placement between the first day of the 2015 NCC and up to the cutoff date to vote for the 2018 NCC judges, which is September 15, 2017. This creates approximately 24 month window for voting eligibility versus 12 months.

Spring Trial Calendar—We are requesting club secretaries send in their request for Spring Calendar dates.

NCC 2018--New York will host this championship. Mike Ludwig and Tom Calabrese will co-chair the event

Adjournment--Dennis made a motion to adjourn and Terry second the motion.