

Field Trial Committee Meeting  
Monday May 18, 2009  
7:00 P.M. Central

Members present via phone conference call: Tom Calabrese, A.R. Ginn, Buzz Benson, Dede Griffin, and Sue Wilson

Meeting minutes from April 28, 2009 approved.

Tom reported for Hob on the latest information from the AKC regarding an Amateur Cocker National. A favorable response was reported in that if we duplicate the numbers with the amateur that we did with the open in 1998, when we qualified for a national, they would be favorable toward an amateur cocker national.

We will wait for a letter from the AKC outlining the requirements. Hob used the 1998 numbers of events and qualified dogs as our goal for the amateur. In 1998 we had 59 dogs qualified and 37 entered for the nationals. At this point we have 45-47 dogs qualified for the amateur. We are getting close and need to get the word out to the clubs to consider amateur stakes with the open stakes. One question we need clarification on is the number of events. We were running two open events to reach an event number of 17 for the open. At present we typically run two open events with one amateur event. We may have trouble getting to the 17, if required by the AKC.

Discussion followed about the number of qualified dogs vs. number of stakes. It was noted that at this time an amateur can not be run without an open stake. We may see an amateur a year or so down the line.

Tom commented he had a conversation with Barbara Haupt and an update on the 09 NCC. It is set to start on Thursday, and go Friday, Saturday and Sunday, if needed. Not likely we would carry over to Sunday. Arrangements have been set for the start to be on Thursday.

Discussion from the group on the possibility in the future of fewer days for the NCC.

Sue Wilson asked if we have had any proposal for the 2010 NCC. Tom stated not at this time. Tom did state Bethann Wiley had inquired about a 2011 NCC. Tom is going to send out a letter to all the club secretaries to discuss possibilities.

Tom noted he would be getting together with Vicky Thomas to report discussion from the Springer group on combining cockers and Springer's.

A.R. stated he has had several people comment they are not in favor of mixing the two. A.R. questioned losing our identity as the Cocker group. Some confusion as to why we would want to combine the two. At this time the thought is, it is not in the best interest of the Cocker breed to combine the two. We are concentrating our energy on building the amateur stakes, and it is not a good time.

The alternate judge for the NCC will walk with one judge the first and second series, and the other judges for the third and fourth series. The committee felt it important to emphasize the alternate judge spend equal time with both judges. This would also help clarify what would be expected from the alternate judge.

Sue Wilson is working on a sample letter for the Patron Program. More next meeting regarding the Patron gift and the mission of the program is to earn money for the NCC.

Next meeting time and date set for Tuesday June 16, 2009 at 7 P.M.

Minutes submitted by Buzz Benson