

ECSCA Field Trial Committee
Mission Statement and Duties
Revised 2025

The ECSCA Field Trial Committee (FTC) is a committee of the English Cocker Spaniel Club of America. Its primary mission is twofold: to act as the main governing body on all matters pertaining to Cocker Spaniel field trials and to promote the Working English Cocker Spaniel as a quality hunting and companion dog.

Field trialing is the primary method we have to compare and assess the ability of individual Working English Cockers to perform the tasks for which they were bred. Those dogs deemed most worthy are awarded the title of Field Champion (FC) or Amateur Field Champion (AFC). These titles have a direct effect on breeding programs going forward. It is the FTC's responsibility to assist and guide local clubs holding Cocker Trials to ensure titled dogs possess the qualities that will enable the breed to remain true to its heritage.

In order to accomplish this mission, the FTC is responsible for the following duties:

1. Accepting and approving bids for the National Cocker Championship (NCC) and the National Amateur Cocker Championship (NACC).
2. Approving and posting the schedule of local AKC Cocker Field Trials.
3. Issuing the ECSCA field trial license to non-club affiliated individuals wishing to hold a Cocker Field Trial.
4. Establishing qualification requirements for Cocker judges for both National Championships and for local trials.
5. Conducting elections to select the judges for the NCC and the NACC.
6. Establishing educational programs to deal with all facets of training, trialing and hunting with Cockers.
7. Keeping records of all field trial events and their results.
8. Conducting an annual meeting at the NCC.
9. Selecting an individual to receive the annual Bixby Award
10. Reviewing geographic areas of representation on a periodic basis.

FTC COMPOSITION

THE FTC IS COMPRISED OF (at least) SEVEN REPRESENTATIVES. Three of the seven are regional representatives; one each for the East, Central and West. The remaining four are at-large representatives. The committee will elect a chairperson from their membership. The Chairperson must have served on the FTC for at least one year.

TERMS OF SERVICE: Election to the FTC shall be for a term of 2 years with no longer than four years continuous service. All seats will come up for reelection at the end of 2 years. At the end of four years, a Representative may rerun for a seat after one year off the committee. Terms will commence on the first of January. Regional representatives' terms will expire on even numbered years and at-large seats will expire on odd numbered years. Any regional rep moving out of the area they represent will vacate their seat.

FTC COMMITTEE ELECTION PROCEDURE: The FTC committee members are elected by ECSCA Field Trial members. The list of eligible voters will be compiled and kept by the FTC Committee. Upcoming vacancies on the committee will be posted by September 15th. Individuals interested in running must submit an application along with a brief bio to the FTC Chair by October 15. Those individuals wishing to run for a regional seat must reside in the area they represent. They will be voted on only by field trial members who also live within the region.

At-large seats are open to any qualified individual living anywhere in the country and will be voted on by all eligible field trial individuals.

REQUIREMENTS TO SERVE ON FTC: All applicants must be an ECSCA member in good standing. They should also have a minimum of five years' experience with English Cockers to include trialing and hunting. Ideally, any applicant will also have experience in organizing and running cocker field trials. All applications shall be reviewed by the current FTC to ensure they meet these requirements to serve.

Anyone who meets the criteria set forth should be free to indicate their willingness to work on the FTC and may nominate themselves. When seeking a nomination, each candidate should include the position they are seeking (Regional or At-large), a brief bio and a statement acknowledging that they are in good standing with the ECSCA and meet the criteria for being a member of the FTC. The nominations shall be sent to the FTC Chairperson no later than October 15.

ELECTION: The election shall take place no later than November 15th. In the event only one person applies for a vacant seat they shall be deemed elected.

VACANCIES: In the event that a vacancy occurs on the FTC, the vacancy will be filled by the next highest vote receiver that ran for the vacated seat. If the position was uncontested, the FTC reserves the right to appoint a replacement for the balance of the term.

GEOGRAPHIC AREAS OF REPRESENTATION

EASTERN REGION: Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Ohio, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida, Georgia

CENTRAL REGION: Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa, Missouri, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Alabama, Kentucky, Tennessee

WESTERN REGION: Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Nevada, Utah, Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, Wyoming, Nebraska, Texas, Kansas, California, Oklahoma

RESOLUTION OF COMPLAINTS AND DISPUTES

All complaints and grievances shall be brought before the Committee for settlement. In the event the dispute is unable to be solved by the Committee, the matter shall be referred to the ECSCA Board of Directors for final resolution. The Board's decision based on the organization's policies and procedures shall be the final authority.

