

## **ECSCA FTC MINUTES – December 13, 2011**

**Present:** Buzz Benson (Chair/At-Large), John Dartt (At-Large), Dennis Joannides (At-Large), Olivia Steele-Mortimer (West), Terry Oliver (East), and Kim Wiley (Mid-West).

**Absent:** Sue Wilson (South).

### **2011 NCC Summary & Debriefing – Kim Wiley**

Kim went over the financials for the 2011 NCC. He congratulated the NCC Committee for a job well done. Dennis questioned Kim on the call at the NCC over the water test and late hour of holding it. Ensuing discussion highlighted the concern from several handlers about the decision and how it was handled. A suggestion has been made for the FTC to add to the “How to Run an NCC” some language on starting and stopping times for the days activity at an NCC which will help future NCC committee’s from having to deal with the issue.

### **2012 FTC Committee & Chair Selection - Buzz Benson**

On the odd years the terms expiring are the Members At Large positions, of which 3 of the 7 members are At Large. Dennis Joannides and John Dartt had expressed interest in a second term. Buzz is finishing his second term and will be off the committee after the January ECSCA Board meeting. Having only one other name being presented for the 2012 committee, Kim Wiley presented Joe DeMarkis. Second by Dennis. Unanimous approval was given of the three At Large committee members. Dennis Joannides nominated Kim Wiley as Chairman of the FTC for 2012. John Dartt seconded the nomination. No other names offered and the vote was unanimous. Pending ECSCA Board approval the committee is set for 2012.

### **Hall of Fame Update - Dennis Joannides**

Dennis updated us on the HOF fundraising and the construction on the new Sporting Wing which is complete and awaiting approval of the fire marshal. The Committee and Dennis have submitted proposed by-laws for the English Cocker Spaniel Field Trial Hall of Fame to the Bird Dog Foundation for approval and comment. Once approval has been received the by-laws will be posted to Field Cockers and distributed to the members.

### **Review of FT Application/Approval Process - Terry Oliver**

Not discussed for lack of time. The intent from Terry was to engage the committee in the respective regions to develop the next year’s field trial schedule. This will be on the January agenda.

### **Discussion Changing Time Frame for Dogs Qualified for the NCC - Buzz Benson**

It has been discussed that it is time to shorten the qualifying period from the present 3 years to 2 years. This topic will be examined more thoroughly in our 2012 meetings.

## **Page 2 – ECSCA FTC Minutes 12/13/2011**

### **Discussion Eligibility of Amateur Placing Dogs for the NCC - Buzz Benson**

We continued our discussion on whether we should be allowing Amateur placing dogs to be qualified for the NCC. The number of dogs affected is thought to be only a handful. Much discussion followed about pros and cons of allowing the dogs to enter the NCC and the possibility of more stringent requirements for amateurs. It appeared that the committee would be split and therefore no motion was made to accept or reject the concept. Buzz felt that further discussion on this topic in 2012 might be necessary.

### **Discussion Avoiding the Perception of Conflict of Interest – Dennis Joannides**

Dennis offered his comments on feedback from his constituents and others he had spoken with during the current and past NCC events. He feels that further discussion on this topic in 2012 is warranted. In summary, he has suggested that the FTC Committee put forth a requirement that “no individual sponsorships of individuals or groups who might directly or indirectly influence the outcome of the trial shall be permitted”. Buzz cautioned the group that there could be other ways that offer the perception of a conflict of interest. He used an example of a gunner who has a family member or significant other handling a dog even though the gunner was not shooting during the family members run. This discussion was curtailed because of the late hour of the meeting but will be continued at the next meeting.

### **Next meeting Tuesday January 24, 2012 7:00PM CST**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00PM CST.

Respectfully Submitted

Buzz Benson  
Chairperson