

ECSCA FTC MINUTES – April 3, 2012

Present: Kim Wiley (Chair/Mid-West), John Dartt (At-Large), Joe DeMarkis (At-Large), Sue Wilson (South), Terry Oliver (East), Robert Griffin (At-Large), Olivia Steele-Mortimer (West) and Sue Rose (Guest)

Absent: None

The meeting was called to order and the agenda was reviewed. There were no new agenda items introduced.

2012 NCC Update – Terry Oliver

Terry advised the committee that the budget for NCC 2012 is now finalized, and the committee is holding a grounds work weekend next week. Benelli guns has agreed to sponsor the gun team and their expenses, along with donating a gun for a silent auction event. Terry has one other major sponsor still pending, and hopes to have details finalized soon.

NCC 2013 Application, and NCC 2014 Update

The **North Dakota Sporting Spaniel Club** is putting the final touches on their NCC 2013 application, and Kim Wiley indicated he was confident he would have the application in hand for submission to the ECSCA Board at their meeting on April 30th.

Initial contacts have been positive towards holding the NCC 2014 in Pennsylvania. Joe DeMarkis anticipates lots of good ideas and discussion at the meeting in October will solidify Pennsylvania as the venue for NCC 2014.

Discussions for possible venues are ongoing and **ALL interested clubs are encouraged to consider hosting an NCC** and are encouraged to contact any FTC member with questions or to express interest about hosting the NCC.

How to Run an ECSCA NCC FT Manual - Revised & Updated

The committee has had an opportunity to review the revised (25) page “How to Run an ECSCA NCC Field Trial Manual “ document and following a motion (1st Sue Wilson; 2nd Terry Oliver) unanimously agreed to send the revised document on to the ECSCA Board for their approval.

Cockers Adopt AKC Rule Regarding Professional Relationships in Judging Assignments

The committee discussed the AKC rule regarding “professional relationships” as it pertained to English Springer Spaniel Field Trials and the reason it originally applied only to springers. Reasoning that participation in cocker field trials has grown, it was discussed and decided that we should adopt the bolded sentences in the selection of a judging panel for cocker field trials as highlighted in the following AKC rule:

CHAPTER 5 – JUDGES – SECTION 1:

Page 2 – FTC Minutes 4/03/2012 Meeting

“Persons judging field trials are not required to obtain licenses and a field trial club may submit the name of any reputable person who is in good standing with the American Kennel Club for approval to judge at its field trial. Such approved Judges may run dogs in any stakes in which they are not judging, excepting as the rules applying to trials for particular breeds may provide otherwise. (See Chapter 14, Section 4). **The following eligibility requirements apply to judges of English Springer Spaniel Field Trials.** As a matter of policy, in order to be approved to be published in the premium list as a judge of a licensed or member club English Springer trial, all prospective judges (persons who have never judged a Springer Spaniel field trial) shall have a record of having completed two Open and two Amateur apprentice judging assignments at a licensed trial(s), of having attended a Spaniel Field Trial Seminar, and of having received a passing score on the test. Judges must also be a minimum of 18 years of age. Panel experience: In order to be approved to be published in the premium list, the two Judges of the All-Age Stakes for English Springer Spaniels must have a combined record of having judged at least twelve previous AKC member or licensed field trials. Except for good cause, the same requirements applies to substitute Judges and to judges of a licensed or member club water tests. **A professional dog trainer and a client with an ongoing business relationship should not be allowed to judge one another within one year of their relationship. The definition of a professional relationship is one where the professional dog trainer, or a member of the trainer’s household, is compensated for the training of a client’s dog for field trials or hunting, or the handling of a client’s dog in a field trial or hunting test.** It would not include the purchase or sale of a dog, attendance at a seminar, or the purchase of dog training equipment, or other business transactions that may occur not related to the training of dogs. To further clarify, the definition of a professional relationship also would extend to a member of the client’s household.”

The committee agreed unanimously that the bolded sentences above should be adopted in the cocker field trial judge selection process.

AKC Requests Changes Prior to Approving the Judging Criteria For Cocker Spaniel Field Trials (dated 3/15/2011)

ECSCA submitted the Judging Criteria for Cocker Spaniel Field Trials dated 3/15/2011, written by a panel of ECSCA members and experts; revised and approved by FTC 2011 to include apprentice judging assignments as a requirement; and approved by the ECSCA Board, and the AKC has declined to approve the document. They are requesting that the “recommended criteria” be changed to “required criteria”. This makes attending and passing a Spaniel Judges Seminar a requirement in order to be eligible to judge a cocker field trial. This would align the cocker judging requirements more closely with the springer judging requirements.

Committee members engaged in a lengthy discussion regarding the AKC’s requested changes, and with no consensus apparent, it was decided to table the discussion until next month’s meeting.

There is an AKC Judging Seminar being held in Northern California the end of April, and the committee is looking for feedback about the seminar.

Next meeting Tuesday, May 1, 2012 7:00PM CST

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30PM CST.

Respectfully Submitted ~ Sue *Wilson*