

**English Cocker Spaniel Club of America
Field Trial Committee**

Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, June 30, 2015
8:00 p.m. Eastern Time

Members Present: Deb Strohl, Mike Schroeder, Vicky Thomas, Robert Griffin, Keith Meissner, Joe DeMarkis

- I. Call to order was made at 8:11 pm EST
- II. Mike made a motion to approve the agenda and Keith seconded the motion
- III. Unfinished Business
 - a) 2016 NCC Bids Chris Dartt has presented a proposal to host the 2016 NCC in Forada MN. It will not be a MHSC event but an ECSCA event put on with support from the various clubs in that region. Vicky made a motion to accept the proposal and Mike seconded it. A vote was taken and all were in favor. Congratulations to Chris Dartt. The FTC would like to see an estimated budget; Joe will send Chris a previous year's budget to work off of.

Mike presented the FTC with a preliminary proposal for the 2017 NCC. Tawney Crawford / Tim DeGroff will be submitting a proposal to host the 2017 NCC in Sterling, Colorado, between October 20th and 27th. A formal proposal will be submitted at a further date.

A discussion was held about the qualifications for a dog to run in a NCC and whether the qualifications went from calendar dates or from NCCs. Joe will look into this.

2015 NCC update: Joe has been in contact with Jim Karlovec and has requested an updated budget. The info for the NCC will be sent to fieldcockers.com to be posted. Joe will be traveling to the grounds in Sept. and will give us an updated report on the grounds/cover etc.

- b) Increasing ECSCA field trial interest membership: Joe will contact Beth Hendricks at the ECSCA about the hats for new field members. Joe has spoken with Rumi about the ECSCA hats for new members. The thought is that all new ECSCA members will get hats. Vicky stated that we were trying to do this in order to recognize and draw in new ECSCA members on the field side. Keith was concerned that the money for the hats is coming from our NCC account and we will be providing hats for all new members and it will drain our account with no benefit to the field side of the ECSCA. The FTC wanted to use the hats as a way to recruit and recognize new ECSCA members that participate in Field Trials, Hunt Test, WDX etc.. Vicky would like to have a list of ECSCA field trailers as well as a list of field trailers who are not ECSCA members. Keith and Deb both reported that there are a lot of people on both the Central and Eastern region ECSCA Field Lists that don't field trial dogs. Mike stated that most people want to know what the ECSCA does for field trailers. Vicky stated that most people want to know what field trailers get from joining the ECSCA. Mike reported that the field side of the ECSCA is only group allowed to pick its NCC judges who are not ECSCA members. Robert wants to know what motivates someone to join the ECSCA? Vicky reported that several ex-members have stated that they don't see the ECSCA money being put to use on the field side. Deb would like to see more representation in the ECSCA literature showing field dogs. Vicky would like to see a simplified ECSCA application. How do we move forward recruiting more members to the ECSCA? Joe mentioned that he always points out that

there are a very few people making decisions about their dogs and more people are needed to support. We need to build a brand and add members, and then we can show the ECSCA that we play an important part in the organization. Turning the FTC minutes into more of a newsletter with pictures and recognition for ECSCA members dogs may help to increase membership. Joe will take care of all the extra work involved. There are 77 ECSCA members with field interest of which approx. only 30-40 actually field trial dogs.

Joining the ECSCA gets a member recognition at a National Level, ECSCA members are allowed to vote for FTC members,

- c) Procedure for approving Field Trials ---tabled till the next meeting.

Nominations for Field Trial Clubs who have hosted a Cocker Trial or committee of an ECSCA hosted Field Trial in the 2014-2015 season may submit a name and bio for nomination of the 2016 NCC judges. Nominations are due in by August 11th. Please submit all nominations to Joe DeMarkis. Joe will contact club secretaries in order to let them know. Below is a letter that will be sent to the club secretaries about the nomination process.

Dear Field Trial Club,

Your club hosted a field trial in 2014/15 thereby qualifying you to submit a name to be placed on the ballot to judge the 2016 ECSCA National Cocker Championship. Our protocol allows each club that has staged a trial in the prior year to nominate one candidate.

Additionally, when an AKC trial is hosted by a committee utilizing the ECSCA National Club license, that trial committee may submit a choice for the ballot. The committee is defined as the Trial Chairman, Trial Secretary and 4 additional members.

Please note a person must meet the **NCC Judges selection criteria as follows:**

- Have judged a minimum of twelve (12) AKC Championship Spaniel Field Trial stakes, (4) four of which must be AKC Cocker Spaniel Field Trial Championship stakes. Please submit the trial dates upon submission.
- Have earned points towards an AKC Field Championship by training or handling a spaniel in a field trial within the past three (3) years.
- Prior to submitting the person's name, you must get an acceptance from the individual to appear on the ballot and a biography which will be mailed out with the ballot.

It is essential that judges be of the highest standard possible, active in all phases of Spaniel training, trialing and handling.

Please submit the name of the individual and their biography by August 12, 2015 to Joe DeMarkis at the email address listed below.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me. Thank you for participation in this election process.

Regards,
Joe DeMarkis
FTC Chairperson
jdemarkis@verizon.net

IV. New Business

- a) 2016 Judges Nominations ----tabled till the next meeting

- b) Field Trial Liaison to the BOD ----tabled till the next meeting
- c) 1st Quarter FTC Chair report to the BOD--- tabled till the next meeting
- d) Mission Statement Revision from Sue Rose--- tabled till the next meeting
- e) Decide on date for next meeting July 14th, 2015 8:00pm EST

V. Adjournment – Mike made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:21pm Vicky seconded it.

VI. Next FTC Meeting July 14th, 2015 8:00 pm Eastern time

77 ECSCA Field Members and growing.....