



NFC, FC Aikane Hokulani "Lani"

Owners: John M. Bishop &
Susan Takemoto
Handler: Paul McGagh

2016 FIELD TRIAL COMMITTEE

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Mike Schroeder

Member At Large
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STANDING COMMITTEES:

NCC 2016 Chairperson

Chris Dartt

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Gun Committee, Chairman

Tom Calabrese

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"Doing My Part"

ECSCA Field Trial Committee

**FTC Meeting Minutes
Meeting 11.29.16
8:00 PM Eastern Time**

**Members Present: Vicky Thomas, Mike Schroeder, Dennis Johnides,
Keith Meissner
Absent: Terry Reckart, Pete Rizzo, Deb Strohl**

1. Approval of Minutes: There was a motion and second to Approve the Minutes.
2. Approval of Agenda: There was a motion to approve Agenda.
3. Old Business:

A. New Gun Committee Representatives--The Gunning Program has been approved by the ECSCA BOD and we discussed the fact that while waiting for the approval, we have two qualified candidates for the Mid-West Region, one qualified candidate for the Rocky Mountain Region and one pending candidate from the Eastern Region. Mike moved to have the current members of the Gunning Committee invited to meet at the next FTC conference call and give us their input in selecting representatives for the expanded regions. Keith seconded the motion. Vicky will contact the Gun Committee and invite them to the next FTC meeting to be held December 13th.

B. 100th ECSCA Field Trial--The South Carolina trial to be held in February will be the 100th ECSCA HOSTED Field Trial. The FTC has requested Pete Rizzo give a congratulation speech acknowledging the changes and our growth of English Cockers and their history, our fellowship and stories of past trials since the first ECSCA licensed trial in 1993. The FTC felt it was especially appropriate to have Pete represent us as he is also a member of the HOF Committee. We are especially pleased to hear Sue Rose will also be attending the Field Trial as she judged the first Puppy Stakes at the 1993 Colorado Event! We are encouraging those of you in the East to try to support this memorable event!

C. Review of NCC--The final budget results from the 2016 NCC are still pending. We will table this until the final budget is received.

D. Shortening the Qualification Period-- Do we want to change the qualifications for the NCC from the current 3 years to 2 years? Dennis stated that we should wait on changing the qualifications till we see how the Amateur National affects the numbers. He also questioned if we wanted to change the point system rather than shorten the time period, for example, 2

points in 3 years. It was asked how the springers view qualifications. Vicky reported the Springers qualifications have been in a state of flux. Currently, the NOC (National Open Championship) have a 3 point (in a single year) qualification (2016 will have 128 dogs at the NOC, 2015 was 99). They are currently considering changing their points at their meeting this December moving to a higher number (some are suggesting 5 points) so they will have fewer dogs, which would allow them to “test” them more stringently. The NAC (National Amateur Championship) changed their qualification from 2 points (voted into effect in 2015) down to 1 point in a single year (2016-108 entries, 2015- 86 entries). The thought process behind this decision was to give Amateurs in the local area where the trial is held the best opportunity to participate in the Amateur Stakes. It was also noted that more people participate when the trial is held in the center of the country. Mike thought that if we went to a higher qualification we would have a higher level of dogs qualified to run the NCC. Keith stated that the qualification going from 3 years to 2 years would force more dogs to enter into regular trials in order to keep dogs qualified. Dennis stated that we should survey the field trial community to find out their opinion(s). Dennis wondered if we should look at other criteria options such as, 3 years with 2 points, or 1 point each year. Dennis also stated that we will have to give a date for this to become effective possibly 2019. Vicky stated that this is a big change and we need to get thoughtful feedback from trialers before we move too rapidly ahead on this proposal. It was also discussed if rather than allowing the FTC to make this decision if it should be an issue that is voted upon by the larger Cocker trialing Community and who would be voting on the issue. One option would be to allow everyone with a qualified dog and another would be only ECSCA members since the NCC is an ECSCA event. The FTC is requesting feedback from each Field Trial Club and interested individuals!

- E. National Amateur Cocker Championship--The FTC has been notified that Chuck Nelson has offered grounds in Southern Wisconsin for the NACC. Mike, Deb, Rumi and Vicky will make efforts to visit these grounds this April 2017 to see if the grounds/cover will be appropriate for the first NAC. Mike stated there are ponds on the property for the water test. The FTC felt Wisconsin was a centrally located and suitable commute for cocker trialers in the east and should the cover prove adequate, we should adapt this as our 2018 NAC venue. The FTC would like to thank Chuck for working on acquiring grounds for the first NAC. Note: We still must get AKC permission to stage this event by having 17 Amateur Stakes.

4. New Business:

- A. Set up Fall Trial Schedule—We’ve had several requests for the FTC to establish the fall trial schedule so people can plan their 2017 vacation time around the trials. We are requesting Trial Clubs to contact their FTC Representative so we can schedule the trials and create a calendar even if they haven’t established judges or locations as yet. If we want to encourage more people to attend the trials we need to have a schedule set early each year so people can plan their time off of work. We will list these on the fieldcocker.com calendar as pending dates.
- B. Hall of Fame--There are 3 members on the Hall of Fame committee that are coming to the end of their terms. If you know anyone or would like to be a member of the Hall of Fame committee please contact Bethann Wiley.
- C. ECSCA Dues--We want to remind current ECSCA members that their ECSCA dues are now payable. IF all ECSCA members could send their dues in that would be helpful in showing that the Field side of the club is up to date.

Meeting adjourned at 8:52pmEST.

Next Meeting Dec. 13th