

# Field Trial Committee Minutes



**NFC, FC Absolute Winnie**

Owner: **Jim Leferman**

Handler: **Dan Murray**

## 2017 FIELD TRIAL COMMITTEE

### **Deb Strohl**

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### **Mike Schroeder**

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*"Doing My Part"*

Tuesday, May 09, 2017

8:00 p.m. Eastern Time

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

### **Also Present: Dominique Savoie**

Approval of minutes      The Minutes were approved Dennis made a motion and Terry seconded the motion, all were in favor

Approval of the agenda      Vicky made a motion to accept the agenda and Mike seconded the motion, all were in favor

- I.      **Dominique Savoie 2017 Cocker National Update**      The date of November 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> was chosen because there was a conflict with the Springer Trial in the area and also the weather would be warmer in October. The Springer trial was moved up a few weeks in order to give the grounds a chance to rest. Dominique would like it to be known that Don & Trisha Bramwell kindly offered their grounds to host the Cocker National in Zenda KS. Dominique feels that the cover is great and with approx.. 700 acres there is a wide variety of cover types.

The bird cost will be \$9 a bird for Cock Pheasant, Hen Pheasant and Chukar regardless. The bird supplier is 45 minutes away from the grounds and will deliver fresh birds to the grounds each day. The bird supplier will also provide 2 bird planters for the trial. Dominique has lined up people to clean and process the shot birds, she has also recruited people to pick up birds that are left over in the field. The senior center will be providing breakfast and lunch coffee etc. at a building that is on the grounds. This will reduce the costs as a tent will not be needed. The Bramwells will provide UTVs and ATVs for the trial. NO personal UTVs or ATVs will be allowed on the grounds.

Bob Iverson will be the Gun Captain. Bob is assembling the Gun Team and has secured the ammunition for the trial. Trish Bramwell will be the Head Marshall. Chris Dartt and Alan Wilson and several others will be on the Marshalling team. The banquet will be held at the Lumberyard Restaurant located close to the grounds.

**The Cobblestone Inn is located in Harper KS 620-896-9977.** Dominique has reserved rooms and these will be held till September 30<sup>th</sup>. Dominique will be going to KS in June to finalize the arrangements and to look at the courses.

She will also return 10 days prior to the NCC in order make sure everything is in order. The grounds are large enough that there is a permanent training ground that will be available during the trial. Birds will be available for the training day. There is a pond on the property and a backup pond at a neighbor's land. Dominique still has some volunteer positions that are open and could use help, if anyone would like to volunteer at the NCC please contact Dominique. The closing for the trial will be October 11<sup>th</sup>. Any dogs that qualify at one of the three trials after the closing date will be included in trial. Those qualified for the NCC after the closing date should contact Rumi Schroeder as soon as possible after qualifying. The cost of entry will be \$250 and will include lunch each day. There will be a silent auction but a very limited amount of fundraising. The FTC would like to thank Dominique for all the work that she has put into setting up the 2017 NCC.

## II. Unfinished Business

NCC Qualification – From the survey that was sent out about changing to a shorter NCC qualification approx.. 75% of those surveyed felt that the change to a 2 year qualification was a good idea. On the choice of starting a new qualification period approx. 60% chose the 2018 start date. Vicky made a motion to use a 2 year, 1 point qualification for the NCC Dennis seconded it a unanimous vote was taken. The 2 year qualification passed. Vicky made a motion to start the Qualification period in either 2018 or 2019, Dennis seconded the motion. A vote was taken on whether to start in 2018 or 2019. A 4 to 2 vote was held in favor for starting in 2018. The starting dates for qualifications will be begin with the 2016 NCC placements forward to any placements prior to the start of the 2018 NCC. The committee took into consideration the comments made in the survey as well as the field preference in making its decision. It was extremely helpful to have the insight from the field in making this decision. There was extensive discussion by the committee and it was felt the subject needs to be revisited once operational. **A list of currently qualified dogs for the 2018 NCC is attached, all other dogs must requalify as no prior qualifiers are grandfathered.**

The FTC is still waiting to hear back from the AKC about getting permission to host an Amateur National in 2018.

- A. FIELDCOCKERS web page Tabled till the next meeting
- B. Judges Questionnaire Terry has converted the judges questionnaire, developed by Dennis and approved by the FTC, into a pdf fillable form that can be emailed directly to the FTC chairperson The FTC found the form to be easy to use and helpful in getting uniform information on all candidates. There were a few glitches that Terry will be working out. This would make it easier to get the Judges information and qualifications in a standardized form.

## III. New Business:

- A. Amateur Status Clarification: Background: At the Fox Valley trial a Pro's daughter had entered a client's dogs in the amateur. A comment was made about it and the local committee met and felt that it was ok. Tom Meyer was contacted and said that the owner should be handling the dog and the entry was scratched. Deb wrote a letter to the AKC and it was noted that the AKC stated that there are no rules for handlers running spaniels in field trials other than an amateur is defined as "not receiving compensation for training" Fox Valley had to reimburse the handler and submit a letter of apology as well. In another trial a Pro's son entered a dog in the amateur trial, this was later rescinded prior to the trial. There was a lengthy discussion regarding the definition of an amateur. This subject will be continued in the next meeting and the field is invited to send comments to the field trial committee members.

- B. Number of trials in a geographical area                      This was tabled till the next meeting
  
- C. Regional awards presented at the Cocker National - Pete and Vicky came up with the idea of having a Regional High Point awards similar to the Springers. The region will be awarded based on where the handler resides and not where you earn the points. Vicky made a motion to have Regional High Point Open and Amateur traveling trophies, Deb seconded the motion. A vote was taken and it was unanimous. The trophies will be given out at the 2017 Open National. Pete will work on getting the Trophies made. Pete will also work on getting an Overall High Point Open Trophy made as well.
  
- D. ECSCA membership drive – 2016    This was tabled till the next meeting
  
- E. Start thinking about clubs putting up judges for the 2018 Cocker Open    This was tabled till the next meeting
  
- F. Four FTC, at large, positions are up for re-election this year. We need to discuss potential people nominees..    This was tabled till the next meeting
  
- G. The Next FTC Meeting will be on June 13<sup>th</sup> 8 pm eastern time