

Field Trial Committee Minutes



NFC, FC Absolute Winnie

Owner: **Jim Leferman**

Handler: **Dan Murray**

2017 FIELD TRIAL COMMITTEE

Deb Strohl

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"Doing My Part"

Tuesday, June 13, 2017

8:00 p.m. Eastern Time

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

Absent: Pete Rizzo

- I. **Call to order** A call to order was made at 8:05pm EST
- II. **Approval of minutes** Vicky made a motion to accept the minutes and Dennis seconded
- III. **Approval of the Agenda** The agenda was approved with no additions.
- IV. **Update on 2017 Cocker National** from Dominique and Paul. They reviewed the grounds and courses and were very happy with the cover and the amount of options available. They met with the manager of the hotel and confirmed the details, costs, etc. They also met with the banquet facility and secured the cost for the banquet. She also met with a Cake Baker to order a cake for the National Banquet. She has also located a rental house near the grounds and a few rental cabins that sleep 4-6 people located about 20 minutes away from the grounds. Dennis noted that in 2002 all participants received an ECSCA National Pin. Dominique is waiting to hear back from the ECSCA to order National Pins to hand out.
- V. **Revised Gunning Program** The Gunning Program is in Kim Wiley's hands to present to BOD when he is back from vacation in mid-June. Kim will present this to the BOD personally, so that he can let the BOD know about the thoughts and process behind the Gunning Program changes.
- VI. **Unfinished Business**
 - A. **Amateur Clarification** There is the need to discuss the situation where a Professional's family member is running a dog in the amateur trials. Do we need to have a clarification or do we just drop the subject and rely on good sportsmanship to prevail and hope it doesn't come up in the future? Dennis stated that "Amateur" definition is understood and we don't need to change it. Dennis stated that we should stick to discussing the family member issue only. Terry asked for a written definition of an amateur. It appears to be someone who does not act as a professional; someone who has trained a dog and received either direct or indirect compensation. The spaniels seem to be the only field trial breed that does not further define the relationship of an amateur residing in the same household as a professional trainer. Vicky felt that in the Springer game, family members of the professionals are technically not allowed to run in the amateur trials, the rule may be overlooked from time to time but there is a

rule. There was a lengthy discussion about why do we need to review the amateur status. Vicky stated that we should contact the people who may appear to be in violation before we make any decisions. Keith stated that we shouldn't make any decisions on this at this meeting but we should discuss it further after we get some additional feedback.

B. Amateur National as per AKC requirements. Deb has contacted Tom Meyer of the AKC for approval of the Amateur National. Tom will be meeting with Doug Ljungren of the AKC and review the fact that the Cockers have met the requirements for holding an Amateur National. They will let us know soon. The FTC will continue to reach out to the AKC for its approval. Deb will also contact Dawn Schuster who will be the secretary for the Amateur National to submit the paperwork for the Amateur National with a cover letter stating that we have met the requirements to the AKC for approval. Deb will also contact the president of the ECSCA for her ideas.

C. Regional Trophy's – Pete and Vicky update Vicky is having the ECSCA trophy committee review the trophy design. She is waiting to hear back from the ECSCA. The trophies need to be ordered in July in order to have them all custom made in time for the Amateur National. In all its a total of 6 trophies that will be needed. Vicky will continue to work on this.

D. INSURANCE – field trials – Hunt Tests / clubs should be insured? Clubs running under the ECSCA license are insured under its policy. The FTC wanted to remind all Field Trial Clubs that they should be carrying insurance to cover their clubs field events. It was decided that the AKC was the approving body and therefore it is their responsibility to check the insurance of clubs applying for a field trial application.

E. ECSCA membership drive/do we know how many people are still waiting to be accepted by the ECSCA. Deb noted that while we had many people fill out applications for the ECSCA membership last year some people were accepted and others had incorrectly filled out their applications and the forms were returned to them. Those new forms must now be sent back in to the ECSCA for approval.

New Business:

A. Review policy about number of trials in a geographical area Tabled till the next meeting

B. Judges nominations. Start thinking about clubs putting up judges for the 2018 Cocker Open. The FTC is asking all clubs that have hosted an AKC Cocker Field trial in 2017 to submit judges nominations for both the 2018 Open Cocker National as well as the 2018 Amateur Cocker National.

The requirements for a Cocker National Judge are listed below:

· *Have twelve (12) AKC Championship Spaniel Stake judging assignment points. Three (3) of the 12 assignments must be from judging AKC Cocker Field Trial Championship stakes. These three (3) trials must be separate assignments at different locations. (Amended to three separate venues on 3/8/2016 from two separate venues on 1/26/16. Pending ECSCA BOD Approval)*

· *Have handled a spaniel and earned at least one (1) Championship point by placing in an Open All-Age or Amateur stake at an AKC Field Championship trial. (Amended by the FTC to allow handing any dog, not just ones without an FC or AFC 4/19/16)*

· *Have actively handled a spaniel in an AKC field trial in the past three (3) years prior to the NCC they would be judging.*

C. FTC Nominations--FTC members who are dropping off this year / start thinking of new members All of the FTC members at large terms on the FTC are coming to an end in December. Keith and Mike have reached the maximum number of 4 years of painful service that they could serve on the FTC. Dennis and Terry have decided not to continue as FTC members at the end of this term in December. The FTC is asking for nominations for (4) new at large members. **Nominations will close on August 1st** and all nominations should be sent to Deb Strohl.

CRITERIA FOR ECSCA FIELD TRIAL COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

- *The person shall desire to serve for the betterment of the breed (English Cocker Spaniel) and the growth of the field trial activities for the breed (English Cocker Spaniel).*
- *Any ECSCA member that is (or has been) working, training, or handling an English Cocker Spaniel for field trials can be on the committee.*
- *Regional Representatives must live in the region they are to represent. At Large Representatives can be from any area of the country.*
- *The person shall have at least five (5) years experience in field trial training or hunting with an English Cocker Spaniel.*
- *The person shall have experience in organizing/running English Cocker Spaniel field trials.*
- *The person shall be comfortable with use of e-mail and conference calls as the basic committee correspondence and communication vehicle.*

Requirements for serving on the FTC For regional nominations; Each region will ask for nominations, these nominations will be sent to the Field Trial Chairperson. Members at large will be nominated in the same fashion as the Regional Representatives but may reside in any area in the country. Regional and At-large are elected in alternate years. The nomination shall include the name of an ECSCA Member in good standing and meeting the criteria for being a member of the FTC along with a brief Bio. A consensus with the rest of the FTC will determine if the nominee meets the requirements for appearing on the ballot. A vote shall take place by region for regional representatives; the person receiving the most votes will represent his region for the next two years. Members at large will be nominated in the same fashion as the Regional Representatives but will be elected by all eligible voters.

Bethann Wiley is in the process of taking over the website from Nadine and all correspondences or info that deals with the website should be sent fieldcocks@yahoo.com website email.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:02pm EST.

Next FTC meeting will be held July 11 8pm EST