

FTC Meeting for Tuesday June 16, 2009

Meeting called to order at 7 p.m. CST

Present on telephone conference call: Tom Calabrese, Buzz Benson, A.R. Ginn, Dede Griffin, Tony Roettger, Sue Wilson, Hobson Brown. Guests Sue Rose, Barbara Houpe

Barbara Haupt, present to answer questions and present any new updates for the Fall 2009 NCC. Cabela's is a new major sponsor.

Welcome dinner will be on Wednesday evening, and held at the NCC Headquarters, with Purina helping out.

Barbara stated Thursday and Friday are still in the planning stages and will report back as plans are set.

Thursday November 5 will start the trial and looking at finishing by Saturday afternoon. Information to be posted on the Internet as it comes up.

Sue Wilson reported on the Patron Program. First draft letter sent out to Tom Calabrese and Barbara Haupt.

Discussion about levels of contribution. Levels suggested, Gold, Silver and Bronze. If contribution received by September 1, 2009, apply a discount at each level. The thought was to get people to commit early, not to delay the catalog processing.

Other discussion included, not having a Bronze level, meals as part of the contribution, and gift. Tom Calabrese was concerned that we have a lower level of contribution for those who wanted to contribute but may not plan on attending, or just felt the upper amounts were not affordable. A. R. suggested a level, such as a "gold Plus" for couples. Sue Wilson and Barbara Haupt will get together and work out the details, and get a letter posted.

Paul McGagh and Vicky Thomas have donated North American High Point Cocker Trophy. Dogs with qualifying points from both Canada and the U.S. will be eligible for the trophy.

Tom Calabrese asked for feedback from the different regions on the subject of, combined Cocker & Springer Field Trials (AV Event). The committee across the board was not in favor of investigating further at this point. It was felt; we have a lot going on and leading the list is working on an amateur cocker National. Tom Calabrese to put a letter together and respond back, that we are at this time not interested in pursuing the option.

Next was a report from the Judges Committee. See attached document from the Judges Committee. The Judges Committee recommended the changes start immediately.

Discussion on the number of votes allowed per individual. One vote person or one vote for each dog qualified discussed.

Other discussion included having four judges at the NCC. It was felt, a strong statement needs to be made on the NCC judging to preserve the future of the Cocker Nationals.

A.R. said he would take the suggestion back to the Judges Committee.

Tom Calabrese reported that we have interest in both the 2010 and 2011 NCC. Tom may have more news at the next FTC meeting.

Hob Brown reported, the AKC was looking at us matching the open numbers before giving the go ahead on an Amateur national. The numbers before the Open National was approved was; minimum of 17 trials, 59 qualified dogs, and 37 entered the NCC. Hob hopes to have a letter from the AKC Performance people before the next meeting.

Sue Wilson volunteered to help Tom Calabrese construct a letter to get to the clubs encouraging amateur stakes. If we are to get to the numbers the AKC is asking, we need clubs having amateur stakes.

Discussion dealing with prior years NCC prints and how to sell them. It was suggested we present them for sale by placing them on the websites for sale.

Next meeting set for Tuesday July 7, 2009 at 7 p.m. CST

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 CST

Meeting Minutes submitted by Buzz Benson

