

## **ECSCA FTC MINUTES – February 7, 2012**

**Present:** Kim Wiley (Chair/Mid-West), John Dartt (At-Large), Joe DeMarkis (At-Large), Sue Wilson (South), Terry Oliver (East), Robert Griffin (At-Large), and Sue Rose (Guest)

**Absent:** Olivia Steele-Mortimer (West)

The meeting was called to order and the new members, Joe DeMarkis and Robert Griffin, and returning member, John Dartt, were welcomed.

Kim suggested we schedule meetings on the first Tuesday of each month and asked committee members to review the proposed 2012 Field Trial Committee Calendar for additions and/or corrections. The finalized calendar will be voted on next month.

### **2012 NCC Update (10/23-10/27/2012) – Terry Oliver**

**NCC 2012** will commence on **Tuesday, October 23, 2012** with a Welcome Event held at the field trial headquarters, the **Fox Ridge Resort in North Conway, New Hampshire**. The trial will begin on Wednesday morning and run until conclusion which is expected to be **Saturday, October 27, 2012**. Kim requested that Terry notify Nadine of the dates so that they may be posted on fieldcockers.com.

Terry advised the committee that all grounds are now secured, and that back-up grounds are in place if needed. There will be training grounds and birds available from Sunday, October 21, 2012 through Tuesday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>. Interested parties should reserve training birds through Terry. Sue Rose requested that Terry include the training dates through the end of the trial in the insurance certificate.

Terry anticipates that he will have the committee and full roster in place by mid-March, and hopes to have LL Bean, who are celebrating their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year, in place as a major sponsor.

### **NCC 2013 and 2014 Applications**

Clubs interested in holding an NCC event should send a letter of intent accompanied by their proposal to the FTC Chair, Kim Wiley. Applications for NCC 2013 should be submitted no later than April 20, 2012 so that they may be presented at the ECSCA April board meeting for approval. The North Dakota Sporting Spaniel Club has expressed a strong interest in hosting NCC 2013 and will be submitting their proposal.

### **NCC Qualified Dog Criteria**

The committee discussed shortening the length of time a dog is qualified for the NCC from three (3) years to two (2) years. The procedure as outlined in the January 9, 2009 minutes and the 2008 FTC year end report state: "Dogs qualified for entry in an ECSCA NCC FT shall be the dogs placing in the three years before that event, plus all NCC Champions. This procedure is to be reconsidered at the end of the decade (2010) or when entry approaches 100 dogs." It has been suggested that by shortening the qualifying period this could possibly be an avenue for increasing entries at field trials. Entries are not yet approaching 100 dogs, and by a consensus the committee agreed to leave the qualification period at three (3) years.

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### **“Perception” of Conflict of Interest:**

The committee agreed to draft a positive statement that we could unanimously support.

### **Eligibility of Amateur Placing Dogs for the NCC:**

AKC has stipulated that they would consider approving an Amateur National when the amateur stakes reach seventeen (17) events per year. There were eight (8) in 2010 and seven (7) in 2011. And when there were 60+ dogs qualified for an amateur national. According to Sue Rose we currently have 80 dogs qualified. She will send us some statistics.

As a pathway to that, the AKC has suggested we might consider allowing amateur stake placing dogs to be eligible for the NCC. This topic has been discussed by the committee several times over the past 6 months. We discussed again with good feedback from our newest FTC at large members Joe DeMarkis and Robert Griffin. We will decide at our next meeting if more discussion and input is needed or if we are ready to vote on the subject of Eligibility of Amateur Stake placing dogs for the NCC..

### **Field Trial Approval Process:**

The eastern region is in the enviable position of having eleven (11) clubs holding field trial events in an area the size of Texas and Oklahoma combined. This has resulted in problems with overlapping or conflicting dates and several events running on consecutive weekends with the end result of smaller entries, because participants can't either financially or time-wise attend all trials. The solution has been suggested to have the area representative more involved with the field trial calendar in his/her area.

The committee agreed that clubs with seniority on certain dates will still have priority, The field trial chair will still approve trials on the same weekend that are at least 500 miles apart.

Clubs are requested to review their prospective trial dates with their area representative prior to submitting the request to the FTC Chair. The FTC Chair has agreed to review the dates with the area representative prior to approving them.

### **Statistics Calendar and Update to “How to Run an NCC”:**

Discussion on these two topics was moved to the March meeting.

### **Next meeting Tuesday, March 6, 2012 7:00PM CST**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30PM CST.

Respectfully Submitted,  
*Sue Wilson*