

ECSCA FTC Meeting Minutes 9/20/2011

Present: Buzz Benson, Kim Wiley, John Dartt, Sue Wilson, Dennis Joannides, Terry Oliver, and Olivia Steele-Mortimer

2012 NCC Judges Ballots:

Buzz Benson advises that the ballots for NCC 2012 judges are in the mail to all qualified dog owners. **Ballots are to be completed and returned with postmarks no later than Friday, 10/07/2011 (the same date NCC entries close).**

2011 NCC Update:

Kim Wiley reported that final preparations for the 2011 NCC were on target and that the **ECSCA Field Trial Committee Annual Meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, October 26, 2011 4:00-5:30PM** at Donovan Hall (next to the Pizza Ranch) in Wadena.

All field trial participants are encouraged to attend and offer ideas and comments as different aspects and directions for our sport are discussed at this important yearly meeting.

Pathway to an Amateur National Championship Field Trial:

Since we are still not close to meeting the AKC criteria for holding an Amateur National Championship, Doug Ljungren, AKC Assistant Vice President of Performance Events, has suggested that we might consider allowing dogs who have a placement in an Amateur Stake to qualify for the NCC event.

Committee members have been discussing this proposal within their areas to mixed reviews. Some of the concerns are that allowing dogs who place in an amateur stake to qualify for an NCC, while growing amateur stake numbers, would deplete open stake entries, and that amateurs, may because of inexperience, jeopardize the opportunity for others to have a good experience at the National. It was suggested that we petition the AKC to allow us to hold an Amateur National one time with our current numbers to see if it works.

We agreed that we need more geographical coverage and that we need to grow our sport with more field trials and more people at the entry level. It was felt that more discussion was needed and that the Annual Meeting would be a good venue for more input from the field trial community and Buzz Benson will invite Doug Ljungren to participate in the discussion.

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Bird Dog Hall of Fame (BDHOF) Update:

The Bird Dog Hall of Fame will be on the agenda for the Annual Meeting, and Dennis Joannides will be there to introduce the Hall of Fame Committee.

Next Meeting:

Annual Meeting – OPEN to ALL Field Trial Participants and Interested Parties

When: Wednesday, October 26, 2011 – 4:00-5:30PM CDT

Where: Donovan Hall (next to Pizza Ranch) Wadena, MN

Respectfully Submitted,

Sue Wilson