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Letter by United Kennel Club

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As an international dog registry, we celebrate the Total Dog through family-friendly events and programs highlighting canine bonds, instincts, and heritage while maintaining the virtue of our pedigrees. Through these efforts, we give Honor to Whom Honor is Due™.



National Champion



ERIN'S PERFECT STORM

Brad Woodie, Owner | Luke Eisenhart, Handler | Sean Derrig, Breeder | Photo by Chris Mathan

TABLE OF CONTENTS

4	Beaver Valley Pointer and Setter Club
8	Southwestern Championship
12	South Dakota Classic
14	NGSPA Hun Championships
18	National Amateur Pheasant Shooting Dog Championship
21	NGSPA Region 8 Championships
25	National Shooting Dog Futurity
27	NGSPA Region 8 Classics
29	Northwest Chukar Championships
31	Region 13 (AFTCA) Amateur Walking Shooting Dog Championship
33	National Brittany Open Grouse Championship Association
35	Region 19 (AFTCA) Amateur Walking Shooting Dog Championship

36	U.S. Complete National Amateur Championship
38	Region 19 (AFTCA) Amateur All-Age Championship
39	Michigan Woodcock Championship
42	National Amateur Grouse Championship
44	North Missouri Field Trial Association
45	Region 1 (AFTCA) Amateur Shooting Dog Championship
46	Northern Michigan Coverdog Championship
48	National Red Setter Championships
52	Northeastern Open Championship
55	Pennsylvania Grouse Championship
58	Esmont Field Trial Club of Virginia

ON THE
COVER

CH. COAL CAMP'S ANNIE

#F1687566 • English Setter Female • Sire: Full Blast • Dam: Herbie's Asta La Vista
Jim Humphrey, Owner

BEAVER VALLEY POINTER AND SETTER CLUB

Annual Autumn Trial Wraps Up 75th Season

By Al Fazenbaker | Rochester, Pennsylvania | August 30, 2025



Open Shooting Dog (front, l-r): Chris Catanzarite with Backcountry Bruiser, Chris Young with In Country's Hurricane Jane, and Mark Hughes with Saddled Up Sadie. (Standing, l-r): Curious spectators join Steve Turbock and Joe Cammisa.

Seventy-five years is a long time. When the Beaver Valley Pointer and Setter Club formed in 1949, Harry S. Truman was President, the Soviet Union tested its first atomic bomb, the NATO organization had just formed, George Orwell published the book "1984," Kraft marketed the first plastic-wrapped cheese singles, actor Robert Mitchem was released from jail after serving two months for possession of marijuana, and LEGO blocks and Silly Putty hit the market! How times have changed! Yet through the years, the Beaver Valley Pointer and Setter Club has remained steadfast in its mission of hosting pointing dog field trials to promote the improvement of the pointing breeds. The club started as a group of men who shared a passion and interest in bird dogs, and the club has never looked back. This spring, the club hosted its annual spring trial and began its 75th Anniversary season. On the weekend of Labor Day, the Beaver Valley Pointer and Setter Club hosted its annual autumn trial to wrap up the 75th season.

We are especially grateful to the many volunteers who, as is typical

of a weekend at the Beaver Valley club, pitched in to help make the trial run smoothly. With the club stalwart Joe Cammisa serving as trial chair, the trial went without a hitch. Many thanks to the bird planters, dog wagon drivers, cooks, and kitchen help, and everyone who assisted. A special thank you to the judges who put in long hours to evaluate each brace of dogs and render their honest opinions on the placements, including Brian Ralph, Steve Tubach, Bruce Mueller, Carlos Escalante, Mark Hughes, Eric Munden, Chris Catanzarite, Dave Tipping, and Brandon Kreurer. Another celebration that coincided with the weekend trial was the 40th wedding anniversary of Al and Deb Fazenbaker, who had decided the best way to celebrate 40 years of bliss was to help out at the Beaver Valley trial! (It's not the first time.) There was even a cake to share and celebrate with our field trial friends.

Last, but not least, thanks to Purina, which has supported this club and continues to do so. Consider Purina if you're looking for a high-quality food based upon solid research.

Open Horseback Shooting Dog

Coach (ESM/Hughes) and Less (PF/Catanzarite). The trial started Friday morning with the horseback stake. Less was found standing in the lower field, with his brace mate honoring. No bird could be flushed, and both dogs were moved on. Coach and Less flipped places, with Coach suffering a nonproductive with Less honoring. Coach scored the first find at the lone tree near the oil well, with Less backing. Less scored her first find in the lower field in front of the clubhouse. Both dogs showed a pleasant and forward shooting dog race.

Flex (PF/Catanzarite) and Sadie (PF/Hughes). Sadie scored her first of several finds at 7, in a feed strip. Flex honored, with all in order. Flex pointed at 12 on the upper tree line and scored again at 14 at the lone tree. Sadie had reached forward and was found standing in the lower field. Both dogs finished to the front, and Sadie's efforts earned a third place.

Wonder (PF/McClurg) and Bruiser (PM/Catanzarite). Bruiser started the brace with a find in the back lower field at 4. Wonder scored her first find in a feed strip at 11 but was on the leash after picking up a bird. Bruiser scored again at 8, suffered a nonproductive at 14, and was found pointed 19, with a nice woods find. He showed a classy and racy forward pace and finished strong for the gallery to take the blue ribbon for the stake.

Patch (GSPF/Young) and Dusty (PF/Hughes). Patch scored her first find along the upper tree line; meanwhile, Dusty scored a find at the end of the breakaway field. Patch scored the final find of the brace at 14, with some movement on the flush. Both dogs finished forward, with Patches reaching out to finish strong.

Dee (PF/Catanzarite) and Winston

(ESM/Hughes). Both of these dogs showed a strong race. They both scored a find at 7 at the tree line at the end of the walking dog breakaway, one dog on each side; Winston showed a bit of movement on the shot. Dee suffered a non-productive at 13 at the lone tree; Winston scored a nicely handled find in the lower field. Both dogs showed a powerful finish.

Stella (GSPF/Ketchet) and Penny (PF/Hughes). Penny scored a find at 6 in the trees below the open field. Both dogs finished forward.

Mac's Slim Jim (PM/McClurg) and Moose (PM/Hughes). Both dogs were strong, fast, and forward. Moose scored the only find of the brace, with Slim Jim honoring. They finished to the front.

Buddy (PM/Catanzarite) and Janie (GSPF/Young). If one wanted to see a couple of dogs roll, this was a brace to watch. Both dogs showed a far-reaching race to the front; Janie scored the only find at 15, with Buddy honoring. She dug up her find after a nicely handled relocation, viewed very enjoyably from the clubhouse. Her efforts earned her a second-place finish.

Mac's Real McCoy (PM/McClurg) and Dash (PM/Hughes). Real McCoy showed a nice race but had no birds. Dash scored quickly at 2 in the lower field, suffered a non-productive at 4, then produced a nice find at 13 at the lone tree. Both dogs finished to the front.

Denver (PM/Park) and Mickey (PM/Catanzarite). Denver scored the first find of the brace at 4 in the lower field. Mickey took his turn with a nicely handled find on the back tree line, with Denver honoring. Mickey suffered a nonproductive at 13, but dug up a nice find at 19 in the back of the course. Denver likewise scored a nicely handled find in the back. Both dogs finished forward, with a moderate shooting dog race.

Cricket (PF/Hughes). Cricket scored a find at 13, and showed a moderate race, finishing to the front.



Open Walking Shooting Dog (from, l-r): Joe Cammisa with Saddled Up Sadie, Mark Hughes with Backwoods Wild Fire Blaze, and Robert Ecker with Buck of Piney Woods. (Standing, l-r): Brian Ralph and Brandon Kruerer.

Open Walking Shooting Dog

Miles (PM/Hughes) and Long Island Ice (PM/Ecker). Ice scored the first find of the Open Walking Shooting Dog, along the upper tree line. Miles nailed his only bird at the lone tree, with Ice honoring. Miles was not seen much for the duration of the brace; Ice showed a moderate, but sometimes erratic pattern.

Gracie Star (ESF/Ecker) and Spec (PM/Hughes). Star scored her only find at 4, but was on the leash soon after as she was not pleasing the handler. Spec was lost to judgment.

Glassilaun Parabellum (ESF/Ecker) and Jack (PM/Hughes). Jack scored at the tree line at the end of the breakaway field, with all in order. He was not seen much for the rest of the brace. Parabellum scored a find at the lone tree at 8 and finished to the front.

Ironstone's Shenanigans (PM/Ecker) and Blaze (PM/Hughes). Ironstone scored his only find at 8. Blaze was found standing by the scout at 12, buried in cover at the tree line, with Ironstone honoring. Blaze scored his second find in a strip of switchgrass. He finished a strong race to the front to take the second-place spot in the stake.

Less (PF/Catanzarite) and Remi (ESF/Hughes). Less scored two finds, but showed some flagging on his stance. Remi had no birds.

Ironstone's Dark Horse (PM/Ecker) and Lenni (RSM/Fazenbaker). Both dogs were up after Lenni moved on the bird as it walked in the open; Dark Horse followed Lenni, and both

were up.

Lucky (BRITM/Jarosinski) and Mia Star (ESF/Ecker). Lucky scored his only find on the back tree line, with good manners displayed. Star scored her first find at 6 in a feed strip; she carded a stop to flush at 8, then suffered two unproductives at 10 and 12. She scored a find at 15 in the woods and finished to the front.

Bodie (PM/Lasica) and Kaylee (BRITF/Helms). Bodie suffered a non-productive at 3, in the cover to the right of the breakaway. He pointed in a feed strip at 7, with Kaylee honoring. At 9, Bodie rooted out a bird, and Kaylee arrived and pointed the bird. Bodie was on the hook, and Kaylee moved on, suffering a non-productive in the woods, then scoring a nicely handled find in the bottom field before finishing with a moderate forward race.

Warrior Zeke (PM/Hughes) and Kaia (PF/Helms). Kaia had a short run after taking out a bird on the breakaway. Zeke scored a nice relocation find at 7, at the upper tree line. He scored again at the lone tree and suffered a non-productive at a feed strip in the bottom. He scored twice more, at 21 and 25. He showed a nice forward pattern to finish.

Buck of Piney Woods (PM/Ecker) and Winston (ESM/Hughes). The two dogs scored a divided find at the lone tree at 7. Winston was on the leash after pushing a bird in the vicinity; Buck moved on to score a nice woods find at 16; he scored again at 19 in the open bottom, and finished strong to the front to earn a third-place finish.

Flex (PF/Catanzarite) and Sadie (PF/Hughes). After her nice performance in the Open Horseback Shooting Dog the previous day, Sadie came out with "guns a blazing" as she dug up six finds in a powerful forward race. Flex was on the leash after failing to back at 4, and Sadie never looked back, showing a classy pattern as she hit bird after bird to garner the first-place spot for the stake.



Open Walking Derby: Mark Hughes with Blue, Christie Helmes with One Eyed Jack, and Eric Munden with Evan's Full Throttle.

Bryant (PM/Helms) and Hoppy's War Bird Farmgirl (PF/Hopkins). War Bird pointed at the tree line on the end of the breakaway at 3, but no bird was produced. Bryant scored the first find of the brace at 5 at the upper tree line. He scored again at 10 at the lone tree. War Bird was found standing in the woods; a bird was flushed in good order; he was on the leash after pushing a bird at 16. Bryant scored a find at 20, with a bit of movement as the bird was flushed. He had a find at 23, although he self-relocated as the handler moved in front. He scored again at 25 along the bottom field, with all in good order. He finished to the front and showed a moderate shooting dog race.

Grouse Hill Rambo (PM/Ecker) and Dusty (PM/Hughes). No information was recorded for Rambo due to the separation of the dogs. Dusty was found pointing at 7 on the back tree line, but a bird could not be flushed. He scored a find at the old pond at 17, and again at 20 in the bottom field, finishing to the front.

River (RSM/Fazenbaker) and Coach (PM/Hughes). Coach was on the leash after chasing and catching a bird. River scored his first find at 7, with good manners displayed. He scored again at 13 and 22, and finished strong and to the front.

Sammy The Rock Star (ESM/Ecker). Sammy was found standing at the upper tree line at 7, but a bird could not be produced. He pointed at 9 but was on the leash after moving on the shot.

Open Walking Derby

The Open Walking Derby was won handily by Blue, pointer handled by Mark Hughes. Taking the number two spot was One Eyed Jack, a setter handled by Christy Helmes. Rounding out the placements was Evan's Full Throttle, pointer handled by Hughes.

Open Walking Puppy

The small but mighty Open Walking Puppy was taken by Meadowink's Quick Silver, setter handled by his owner, William Yant. Hitail Perfect Storm garnered the second place for her handler, Nick Mellon. John Clough handled Clough's Mischief Brew, setter, to the third-place mark.

Amateur Shooting Dog

Rufus (RSM/Fazenbaker) and Stella (GSP/Ketchet). The Amateur Shooting Dog ran on Sunday, with warming temperatures as the day moved forward. Stella was on the leash after moving with the bird on the flush. Rufus suffered a non-productive at the tree line and scored a find in the back of the course; he finished to the front.

Chuck (PM/Munden) and Mickey (PM/Bowser). Chuck and Mickey both showed a strong and wide race right out of the gate. Chuck was found standing at 7 in a feed strip near the top tree line. He scored again at 10, with the bird flushing wild as the handler approached. Mickey, who had not been seen since the breakaway, was found standing at 14 in the bottom field, but no bird could be produced. Chuck scored his third find near a grove of trees in the bottom field. Both dogs finished



Open Walking Puppy: William Yant with Meadowink's Quick Silver, Nick Mellon with Hitail Perfect Storm, and John Clough with Clough's Mischief Brew.

strong and to the front.

Sage (PF/McMillen) and Molly (ESF/Meeder). Both Sage and Molly scored a find at 7; Sage in the lower tree line, Molly at the upper. Sage scored again at the lone tree, with Molly backing; a bird was produced with both dogs showing good manners. Sage was found standing on the back of the course near the top, with Molly honoring. A bird was produced, and both dogs moved on. Molly suffered a non-productive at 19. Both dogs showed to the front and finished strong. Sage was awarded the first-place honor for her efforts.

Hoppy's War Bird Farmgirl (PF/Hopkins) and Lenni Lenapi (RSM/Fazenbaker). Both dogs showed a wide and powerful forward race. Lenni scored his only find at time, along the edge of the bottom field. Farmgirl was on the leash after failing to honor. Lennie finished strong to the front and was awarded third place for his effort.

Lola (PF/Munden) and Lucky (BRITM/Jarosinski). Lucky was not so lucky in the brace, as he pointed, then caught the bird, and was on the leash. Lola scored a find at the edge of the woods at 8, and again in a feed strip at the top. She rolled and, at a very nice and forward pace, moved out into the open bottom field, where she scored her third find and was awarded the second-place ribbon.

Buddy (PM/Bowser) and Wayne (PM/Munden). Wayne and Buddy both showed a competitive spirit as they raced to the tree line; Buddy scored at 6 in a feed strip, with



Amateur Walking Shooting Dog: Doug McMillen with Double Deuce Sage, Eric Munden with Wildland Warrior, and Al Fazenbaker CC Lenni Lenape.

Wayne honoring. The dogs scored a divided find at the lone tree. Wayne was found standing on the back of the course; Buddy was on the leash after failing to honor. A bird was produced after an extensive flushing effort by Munden. Wayne suffered a non-productive in the open field at 26; he finished to the front.

Zeke (PM/McMillen) and River (RSM/Fazenbaker). Zeke was lost to judgment. River scored his first find at 7, with all in order. At 13, he was found standing in a feed strip near the lone tree; he was on the lead after scooping the bird on a relocation effort.

Amateur Walking Derby

Eric Munden handled the first-place derby, Evan's Full Throttle, pointer, to take the blue. Hitail Rolling Dixie, pointer, took the number two spot for handler Dave Riley.

Amateur Walking Puppy

Taking first place was Clough's Outcast Will, handled by her owner, John Clough. Joanna Sampson handled her pointer, Let Her Rip Tater Chip ("Tater"), to the number two spot. Meadowink's Quick Silver rounded out the placements for his

owner/handler, William Yant.

Join us at the Beaver Valley Pointer and Setter Club. After 75 years, we still have a few good years ahead! We'd love to have you be a part of it!

Rochester, Pa., August 30
Judges: Chris Catanzarite and Dave Tipping
OPEN WALKING DERBY – 5 Pointers
and 3 Setters

1st-BLUE, unreg., pointer male, breeding not given. Tim Perschke, owner; Mark Hughes, handler.
 2d-ONE EYED JACK, F1711826, setter male, by Parker Bayou's Boo Jay-Parker Bayou's Ivy Rose. Tim Mulvaney, owner; Christy Helmes, handler.
 3d-EVAN'S FULL THROTTLE, F1713964, pointer female, by Double Deuce Zeke-Braggagbull. Evan Smith, owner; Mark Hughes, handler.

Judges: Brian Ralph and Steve Tubach
OPEN SHOOTING DOG – 16 Pointers, 2 Setters,
and 3 German Shorthairs

1st-BACKCOUNTRY BRUISER, F1672645, pointer male, by Erin's War Creek-Backcountry Tornado. Chris Catanzarite, owner and handler.
 2d-IN COUNTRY'S HURRICANE JANE, F1672744, German Shorthair female, by Hi N's Bodacious-Slaterock Mattie Clark. Chris Young, owner and handler.
 3d-SADDLED UP SADIE, F1699757, pointer female, by Double Deuce Zeke-Beaver Meadow Rose. Joe Cammisa, owner; Mark Hughes, handler.

Judges: Brandon Krener and Brian Ralph
OPEN WALKING SHOOTING DOG – 18 Pointers,
7 Setters, 2 Brittany's, and 2 Irish Setters

1st-SADDLED UP SADIE, F1699757, pointer female, by Double Deuce Zeke-Beaver Meadow Rose. Joe Cammisa, owner; Mark Hughes, handler.
 2d-BACKWOODS WILD FIRE BLAZE, F1691395, pointer male, by Erin's Wild Justice-Hollywood Hot'N'Tot. Justin Mason, owner; Mark Hughes, handler.
 3d-BUCK OF PINEY WOODS, F1696648, pointer male, by Bo of Piney Woods-Grouse Hill Prima. Richard Wartens, owner; Robert Ecker, handler.

Judges: Chris Catanzarite and Dave Tipping
OPEN WALKING PUPPY – 2 Pointers, 4 Setters,
and 2 Irish Setters

1st-MEADOWINK'S QUICK SILVER, F1720595, setter male, by Dun Rovens Zip-Castle Rock's Autumn Breeze. William Yant III, owner and handler.
 2d-HITAIL PERFECT STORM, F1720599, setter female, by Dun Rovens Zip-Castle Rock's Autumn Breeze. Russ Fazio, owner; Nick Mellon, owner and handler.
 3d-CLOUGH'S MISCHIEF BREW, F1721342, setter female, by Boatright's Maverick-Outcast Siren Song. John Clough, owner and handler.

Judges: Mark Hughes and Eric Munden
AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG – 1 Pointer, 2 Setters,
1 Brittany, and 2 German Shorthairs

1st-ALL DAY GRINDER, F1696246, pointer male, by Dominator's Bull Market Bud-Erin's Lemon Drop. Ron Guidas, owner and handler.
 2d-MEADOWWINK'S SMOKIN COPPER, F1677105, setter male, by Royal Wind'em Samson-Royal Highway Annie. William Yant III, owner and handler.

Judges: Carlos Escalante and Dr. Bruce Mueller
AMATEUR WALKING PUPPY – 2 Pointers,
4 Setters, and 2 Irish Setters

1st-CLOUGH'S OUTCAST HILL, F1721337, setter male, by Boatright's Maverick-Outcast Siren Song. John Clough, owner and handler.
 2d-LET HER RIP TATER CHIP, F1718083, pointer female, by Bryan's Damascus Jack-Nelson's Jazz. Jesse Burkert & Joana Sampson, owners; Joana Sampson, handler.
 3d-MEADOWWINK'S QUICK SILVER, F1720595, setter male, by Dun Rovens Zip-Castle Rock's Autumn Breeze. William Yant, owner and handler.

AMATEUR WALKING DERBY – 5 Pointers

1st-EVAN'S FULL THROTTLE, F1713964, pointer female, by Double Deuce Zeke-Braggagbull. Evan Smith, owner; Mark Hughes, handler.
 2d-HIGHTAIL ROLLING DIXIE, F1714644, pointer female, by Hifives Rolling Stone-Speed Dialing Kia. Russ Fazio, owner; Dave Riley, handler.

AMATEUR WALKING SHOOTING DOG
– 8 Pointers, 1 Setter, 1 Brittany, 3 Irish Setters,
and 1 German Shorthair

1st-DOUBLE DEUCE SAGE, F1673986, pointer female, by Double Deuce Peter-Funseeker's Holiday. Doug McMillen Jr., owner and handler.
 2d-WILDLAND WARRIOR, F1676947, pointer female, by Erin's War Creek-Suemac's Coventry. Eric Munden, owner and handler.
 3d-CC LENNI LENAPE, F1705228, Irish setter male, by Silver Creek Wild Again-Roses Are Red. Al Fazenbaker, owner and handler.

PLANNING A FIELD TRIAL?

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Each week we'll discuss aspects of one of our hunting dog sports, with topics like competition rules, UKC events, and discussions with today's top competitors along with the legends of yesterday.

Listen on:



SOUTHWESTERN CHAMPIONSHIP

Miller's Heat Advisory Named Champion; Sta'ao O' War, Runner-up

By Claudia McNamee | Trail City, South Dakota | September 3, 2025

This year marked a historic milestone for the Southwestern Championship, its 2025 edition being a testament to the hard work of a few and the support of many. In 2024, this trial was canceled because lower-than-normal entries just wouldn't cover the costs of running the trial. As with many all-age trials, the number of handlers, owners, and dogs has steadily decreased over time for a myriad of reasons not up for discussion here. Fortunately, this year unfolded a different story. Fresh thinking, innovative fundraising, and engaging social media promotion, including a dedicated Facebook page, brought this important competition back from the brink and resulted in great success.

It all started with club members and Mr. John "Squire" Seawright having regular phone conversations about what could be done to bring it back bigger and better in 2025. Sadly, and unexpectedly, Squire passed away in early 2025, but the club remained committed to the vision and went about executing on the plan: raise money to cover expenses and figure out how to attract more handlers. Matt Brown, an enthusiastic amateur from St. Louis, suggested an out-of-the-box approach, that we invite amateur handlers by offering special amateur recognition awards. In addition, he and Tucker Johnson, longtime owner with Luke Eisenhart, gave generously towards the championship purse. And then to top it off, there were 100 or so field trialers countrywide who bought our hats to help support our efforts. All of these things contributed to the incredible end result (for these times), which was a total of 77 entries—34 derbies and 43 all-age. Even more satisfying was the number of amateur handlers who entered dogs; a total of 11 were in it to try and win the special amateur



Southwestern Championship (front, l-r): Miller's Heat Advisory with Squire Lee and Sta'ao O' War with Lee Phillips. (Behind, l-r): Gary McKibben, Judd Carlton, Alan Johnson, David Williams, Douglas Spale, Claudia McNamee, Joe Rentz, Tricia Rentz, Luke Eisenhart, Melody Shenker, and Tom Shenker.

recognition awards. There were also nine professional handlers present, which was equally as noteworthy because, in recent years, there have been significantly fewer vying for the title. A total of 21 handlers entered dogs in this storied championship, with 19 competing (two ended up scratching). Squire would be very happy and proud!

The 2025 Southwestern Championship returned to the Johnson Ranches in Trail City, South Dakota, on Wednesday, September 3, and finished up on Monday, September 8. A week later in the season than previous years, but conditions were good with pastures green, with a great diversity of prairie vegetation. The cover held wild game well, giving all contenders equal opportunity to showcase their hunting abilities. These ranch grounds are rolling prairie above the Missouri River Valley, used for pasturing cattle rather than crops or hay. Punctuated by watercourses and draws, it is a country of sweeping, stunning vistas where an all-age performance has infinite possibilities. To ride across this country on a sure-footed Tennessee Walker and be witness to this quality of competition and performance is exceptional in today's world, and those of us here are very fortunate indeed.

The task of judging both the Derby and All-Age stakes was in the capable hands of Joe and Tricia

Rentz of Chester, Georgia. Securing trial judges is always challenging, so the club was quite fortunate to have their commitment early. This married, dynamic duo has broad experience in field trialing, bird hunting, and dog training and development, and is highly qualified to observe and place judgment on the 34 derbies and 43 all-age dogs in this 2025 renewal. Always maintaining a professional observance and demeanor, they were impressed with the field of talent competing for top honors. The three continuous courses were charted out so that no course was more advantageous or desirable than the others. Weather was the only factor that wasn't quite as equitable, with windy conditions and higher afternoon temperatures playing into some dogs' overall performances.

With the experience of the club member team, consisting of President Garland Priddy, Secretary/Treasurer Kathy Priddy, Lee Phillips, Luke Eisenhart, Judd Carlton, Tom Shenker, and this writer (Claudia McNamee), the trial ran well and without incident. Alan Johnson, our consummate host, traveled from Hermosa, South Dakota, with his wife, Collette, to take the dog wagon wheel once again. Knowing the grounds and how to navigate the challenging terrain is critical in this role, and Alan's maneuvering, as always, was flawless. He was punctual and always where he needed to be, which is absolutely necessary for the trial to stay on schedule. Others who sprang to action when needed for "gatekeeping" were Frank LaNasa, Scott Jordan, and Calvin Curnutte. Lunch setup/breakdown was handled by landowner Angie Allison and field trialer Shannon Grady-Nygard.

Our traditional Landowner's Supper was held on Friday, September 5, at the Trail City Town Hall for a total of about 50 guests.

The caterer was the Country Market Grocery Store located in Timberlake, South Dakota, and owned by Patty and John Linderman. Food and drink were plentiful, making for a fun and memorable evening with field trialers and local friends who generously share their special lands with us.

The Winners

Named champion was Miller's Heat Advisory, a 7-year-old, white and orange pointer male (Just Irresistible-Miller's Bring the Heat). Heat Advisory ("Mick") was handled by Judd Carlton, scouted by Luke Eisenhart, and is owned by Mike Sweet of Sebring, Florida. Mick was named runner-up in 2023 and returned here two years later to snag top honors with three quintessential all-age finds and a race to match!

Earning runner-up was newcomer, Sta'ao O'War, a 3-year-old white and orange setter female (T's Nickleback-T's Hidden Grace). Sta was handled by Luke Eisenhart, scouted by Judd Carlton, and is owned by Douglas Spale of Lenexa, Kansas. A prized hunting dog, Sta had one credited find and a stylish, strategic race with an exceptional finish!

The John Seawright Memorial Open Derby

The program at the Southwestern began with the Derby stake on Wednesday, September 3. Thirty-four (34) young contenders were entered, and 32 competed for three placements in 16 30-minute braces. A total of 15 handlers participated, five of whom are amateur competitors. There was a sixth amateur handler who entered his dog but ended up unable to attend. The derby handlers who held amateur status (in alphabetical order) included: Jarrett Bell, Matt Brown, Scott Jordan, Erick Parsons, and Nik Zewers.

We broke away at 7:30 a.m. (CST), in light fog with temperatures in the 60s. The judges were impressed with the strong roster of talent, particularly because birds were elusive, as had been the case all summer. A strong prairie derby performance should demonstrate all age potential more



Open Derby Winners (front): Squire Lee with Law Man and Judd Carlton with Rester's Wildflower. (Standing, l-r): Kyle Whitfield, Matt Brown, Stacy Brown, Alan Johnson, Tom Shenker, Lee Phillips, Claudia McNamee, Luke Eisenhart, Tricia Rentz, and Joe Rentz. [Not pictured: Scott Jordan and Haney's Redhill Nation].

than finished qualities—purposeful and bold hunting, a forward ground pattern, and attentiveness to the handler. Most importantly, derbies should show the physical and mental tendencies and characteristics that will lead to successful future all-age performances.

First place winner, Law Man, appeared on the second morning in Brace 13 under the whistle of Tom Shenker and scouted by Squire Lee. He and his bracemate, Rick, with Jason Loper, let loose in cool temperatures in the 40s and had a divided find at 28. Law Man ran a big race and handled with ease throughout his 30 minutes on the ground. Finishing forward and strong, this young athlete definitively snagged the top spot. Law Man, an orange-white pointer male (Ch. Miller's Blindsider-Fly In the Sky), is owned by Kirk Law of Dawson, Georgia.

Second place was claimed by Rester's Wildflower (Ch. Rester's Johnny Ringo-Wynona's Funseeker Dixie), owned by Pat and Julie Roach of Fort Wayne, Indiana. This pointer female was handled by Luke Eisenhart and scouted by Judd Carlton, alongside Confident Sun with Ryan Mulcahy in the second brace of the stake. At 6, Wildflower was standing staunchly, and a single was flushed by his handler. There was no further game contact until 23, when both dogs were found standing. As both handlers approached these bracemates, another single chicken got up. Confident Sun didn't quite keep his composure, but Wildflower certainly did!

Third place was awarded to pointer male, Haney's Redhill Nation (Ch. Haney's All In-Ch. Pearl Jam Nation) for amateur handler and owner, Scott Jordan. Frank LaNasa provided scouting support. Redhill ("Joe") was also recognized as the Top Amateur Derby. Joe ran in the third brace on the very first morning with Erin's Dreamcatcher as his bracemate. He had one solid piece of bird work, an unproductive and impressive ground race, demonstrating that he belonged in the winners' circle!

**Trail City, S. D., September 3
Judges: Joe Rentz and Tricia Rentz
JOHN SEAWRIGHT MEMORIAL OPEN DERBY
— 32 Pointers and 2 Setters**

1st-LAW MAN, F1723359, pointer male, by Miller's Blindsider-Fly In The Sky. Kirk Law, owner; Tom Shenker, handler.

2d-RESTER'S WILDFLOWER, F1718696, pointer female, by Rester's Johnny Ringo-Wynona's Funseeker Dixie. Julie Roach, owner; Luke Eisenhart, handler.

3d-HANEYS REDHILL NATION, F1716099, pointer male, by Haney's All In-Pearl Jam Nation. Scott Jordan, owner and handler.

The Championship Running

The Southwestern Championship began immediately following the completion of the Derby stake on Thursday morning, before breaking for lunch. We did not run that afternoon because of winds gusting upwards of 45-50 mph. We finished up midday on Monday, September 8.

A total of 43 dogs were entered, and 42 competed. Fifteen (15) handlers participated, of which eight* held amateur status. By comparison, in 2023, the last time this stake was run, a total of nine handlers participated. The 2025 handlers included (in alphabetical order): Jarrett Bell*, Matt Brown*, Judd Carlton, Calvin Curnutte, Luke Eisenhart, Brian Gingrich, Scott Jordan*, Frank LaNasa*, Squire Lee, Chris Perkins*, Lee Phillips, Tom Shenker, Austin Turley*, Kyle Whitfield*, and David Williams*.

In addition to the owner-handlers who participated in the trial, two other owners were present to watch their dogs: Douglas Spale from Lenexa, Kansas, for Sta'ao O'War, and this reporter, Claudia McNamee from Chattahoochee Hills, Georgia, for

Erin's War Eagle and Erin's Bold Ruler.

We attempted to break away each morning at 7:30 a.m. (CT) and start back promptly one hour after returning from the morning braces, usually around 12:30-1:00 p.m. (CT). Wind and fog hampered our efforts on a few days, but participants were always ready and eager to get to the line in the mornings and afternoons. Wild bird finding was particularly challenging this year, attributed to fewer coveys of young birds seen during the spring and summer months. Overall, bird numbers seemed a bit off, which affected the hunt success of both our young and experienced contenders. The champion and runner-up both came out of morning braces on Thursday, B1, and Sunday, B14, respectively.

The Champion:

Miller's Heat Advisory

Brace 1 (B1) of the Championship running began directly after the completion of the Derby stake on Thursday morning. Conditions were less than desirable, with winds steadily picking up and gusts approaching 40 mph. However, nothing was going to deter the Miller's Heat Advisory team, and they delivered an incredible performance that would remain the gold standard for the duration of the trial. Braced with World Class Terminator under Squire Lee's whistle, both dogs broke away at 9:53 a.m. into the wind with high energy and determination. Heat Advisory ("Mick") was always forward and strong, casting long and wide the entire hour. At 3, he pinned his first covey, which was easily flushed into flight by Carlton—an estimated 12 birds got up and were beautiful to watch. At 7, Terminator stood with conviction, but his handler was unable to flush out birds even with a relocation. About 10 minutes later, Lee decided to pick up his charge, not pleased with how the hour began. Mick had the field to himself, and he made the most of it, not letting a solo run make him any less competitive. His next objective was eight minutes later at 11, and this was the limb find

of the trial! As the gallery rode and looked on in anticipation, Carlton made his way to Mick, who stood gallantly across a great divide and up the side of another hill. A shot was heard, and birds were in the air once again. His third find was at 40—a single this time, but nonetheless impressive. And then finally at 46, although Mick appeared certain on his game, his handler wasn't able to put birds into flight on his fourth stand, and an unproductive was noted. For the next four minutes, until pick-up was called, Mick punched out the front and completed his hour in true all-age fashion. Bravo for an exceptional performance!

The Runner-up:

Sta'ao O'War

Translated from the Blackfeet Indian language, her name means "Ghost of War"; her owner's heritage traces back to this Native American tribe. Sta was handled by Luke Eisenhart, scouted by Judd Carlton, and is owned by Douglas Spale of Lenexa, Kansas. A prized hunting dog, Sta has spent the last couple of summers in the prairies on Luke's string. Douglas had asked Luke to keep her conditioned in the summers so that when he picked her up on his way west in September to bird hunt, she'd be in prime shape. This year, she was qualified to run in a championship, and Spale decided to stay a few days to see how she'd measure up to the top all-age dogs in the country. The result was a grand surprise! So, who says gun dogs can't be formidable field trial contenders?!

Sta ran for Luke Eisenhart first thing Sunday morning in Brace 14 (B14) alongside Black Rocks Snow Goose, who was handled by Chris Perkins. This was the last full day of the Championship running. Temperatures were cool in the mid-50s with light, smoky fog rising above water spots and just a whisper of a breeze to carry scent. Goose was running strong and went on point at 20, but bad luck would prevail for this team with an unproductive noted after relocation, and then as

Perkins was taking his charge on, a covey took flight. To say these birds were elusive at that moment was an understatement and a disappointment. Goose experienced another unproductive at 33, and unfortunately, that finished his time on the ground. Meanwhile, the young female setter had sprung into action off the breakaway and hunted with determination the entire hour. Making sweeping casts in search of native game that can only be found through assiduous effort, Sta pinned a single at 31 deep down in a draw. Eisenhart flushed and shot with his charge remaining in fine composure—stylish, steady, and seemingly proud. Four minutes later, at 35, Eisenhart's hat was again in the air as he rode hard to reach her quickly. Sta stood head high and sure of her find. In the next moments, her handler called, "There go the birds!" but alas, the judges weren't near enough to see. For the next 25 minutes, Sta continued the hunt—attractive in motion and demonstrating her connection to her handler. With an impressive finish, both strong and forward, Sta completed the hour and punctuated it with an owner's smile from ear to ear. Well done, team!

Field of Other Contenders

Brace 1 (B1) was let loose on Thursday just before lunch and produced the champion as described earlier in this report.

Brace 2 was put down on Friday at 8:05 a.m., pairing Rambling Rivers Unplugged, handled by Brian Gingrich, and Sunset Sam Houston with amateur handler Matt Brown. Temperatures were in the 40s, and the wind was still blowing but had calmed down some since the day before. Unplugged had two solid finds at 12 and 23, but then went off course, and his handler asked for the tracker. Sam Houston didn't fare much better—unsteady on his one find and was picked up as well.

Brace 3 let loose at approximately 8:45 a.m. and presented Late Hit under Tom Shenker's whistle and Erin's Code of Honor with Luke Eisenhart. At 10, Late Hit had a

breach of manners on his first and only find and was picked up. Code of Honor, defending champion from 2023, went on to have two noteworthy finds at 16 and 40 and hunted the entire hour with intensity and purpose. He completed the hour with a strong finish—job well done.

Next to the line in Brace 4 were C S Smoke Roll with Calvin Curnutte and Rester's Johnny Ringo (Eisenhart). Neither contender finished their hours. Smoke Roll had a nice find at 35, but then two unproductives followed at 25 and 50. Ringo didn't have any bird work and wasn't pleasing his handler. He was picked up at 50. And that concluded the morning runs.

Friday afternoon, Brace 5 was brought to the line at 12:48 p.m. and paired up Erin's Three Amigos for Judd Carlton and B G K's Luke with Jarrett Bell. Both of these contenders sprang into action and hunted fiercely. Luke went on point at 17 with his bracemate backing. Relocation involved a breach of manners, and the judge gave Bell his tracker. Three Amigos now had the field to himself. At 34, Carlton's hat was in the air with his charge looking stylish and certain. Unfortunately, no birds were produced after two relocations. Carlton asked for his tracker at 41.

Brace 6 braced Perkins Sawyer's Warrior with amateur handler, Chris Perkins, and Cash Slinger (Carlton). Warrior stopped at 23 and 30 with Slinger backing at both locations, but no birds were flushed. Both handlers picked their dogs up at 30.

Brace 7, the final brace of the day, let loose under continued windy conditions and some light rain. Southern Confidence, handled by Frank LaNasa, and Haney's Silver Dollar (Eisenhart) were paired together, but neither stayed on the ground long. Silver Dollar pointed one minute off the breakaway, and Southern Confidence politely backed—birds were easily flushed! At 12, Eisenhart's charge pointed again with certainty, and birds were flushed, but Silver Dollar didn't maintain his composure, which

ended his bid for the title. LaNasa wasn't pleased with his charge and decided to pick him up as well.

On Saturday morning, Brace 8 broke away at 7:30 a.m. with temperatures in the 30s, clear skies, and a very light wind. The gusty conditions that had prevailed over the first three days of the trial had finally subsided. Chasin Coveys Justified (Curnutte) and Quail Woods Pine (Carlton) were braced together, but neither finished their hours. Justified wasn't pleasing his handler and was picked up at 22. Woods Pine stood staunchly at 6 and 35, but neither produced any game. This brace concluded quickly at half the hour.

Brace 9 would prove to be slightly more successful for both contenders, Erin's Doc Holliday (Bell) and Comanche (Eisenhart), in that they both finished their hours with and ran big, strong races, but alas, no bird work for either. Doc Holiday had one UP at 15, and Comanche had one UP at 47.

The last brace of the morning was Brace 10 with Touch's Too Much, handled by Austin Turley, and Haney's Storm Warning under his owner, Chris Cagle's whistle. Off the breakaway, Storm Warning took to the front, always hunting with style, albeit seeming uncharacteristically "handy" at times. He had one covey find at 41 and then finished the hour strong and out front where he needed to be. The judges named Storm Warning the Top Amateur All-Age winner. Turley handled Too Much in a broader pattern from the start, so these two bracemates rarely connected. At 43, Too Much stood staunchly and certain he had pinned his game, but his handler couldn't produce the birds, and an unproductive was noted. He went on to finish his hour in good fashion.

The afternoon session began at 12:51 p.m. with temperatures rising into the 60s and a light wind. Brace 11 paired up Erin's Legacy (Carlton) and Confident Nation (Jordan). Both dogs finished their hours, but neither had bird work. Confident Nation had two unproductives at 36 and 56,

and Legacy had one unproductive at 46. Both hunted hard and ran big, bold races, but birds continued to be elusive.

Brace 12 presented Touch's Crush (Perkins) and Erin's High Note (Carlton). These contenders ran their hours with purpose and promise, but towards the very end, at 56, High Note had a breach of manners on his one find, taking him out of contention. Crush backed High Note and finished his 60 minutes, but had no bird work.

Brace 13, the final brace of the day, paired up T S Coal Train with Lee Phillips and Southern Thunder (Shenker), and as good luck would have it, both of these contenders had bird work and finished their hours! After the breakaway at 13, Coal Train pointed a covey with Southern Thunder backing, and birds were quickly flushed by his handler. Both dogs ran independently, demonstrating their hunting prowess with strong races. Coal Train would go on to have one unproductive at 16 and another solid find at 40, finishing up front and in good fashion. Meanwhile, Southern Thunder hunted hard with a single, deep limb find at 55 and finished his hour as he started—going big and wide!

Brace 14 was the first morning brace on Sunday and produced the runner-up champion, which was described earlier in this report. Six braces were run on this Sunday, the last full day of the Championship. Monday morning would present the final four contenders in the final two braces.

Brace 15 paired up Touch's Walk the Line (Turley) and Erin's Bold Ruler (Eisenhart), who both hunted up pheasant instead of prairie chickens, but no strikes against them for that! Walk the Line stood staunchly at 22, but his handler wasn't able to produce any game and took him on. He would stop again at about 40, but even with three attractive relocations, birds were elusive, and he lost composure as a pheasant took flight, and he was out of contention. Meanwhile, Bold Ruler was pleasing his handler and owner

(this writer) with a strong, forward race and sensible hunting patterns. He wouldn't dig up any game until 45 on top of a butte across a wide divide. It took his handler some time to reach him—scouts had called point—but he was still standing proudly, and a single pheasant was flushed out by Eisenhart. He finished his hour in strong fashion up front. Good job for this first-year dog!

Brace 16 was the third morning brace and presented Erin's Copper Colt (Carlton) and World Class Zip Lock (Lee). Both contenders broke away with determination and hunted with focus, but they both went birdless and were picked up by their handlers around the 40-minute mark.

After a quick lunch break, Brace 17 was released at 12:55 p.m., pairing Warbird under his owner's whistle, Frank LaNasa, and Rester's Knight Move (Carlton). The wind had again picked up, blowing around 20 mph, and temperatures were warm in the 70s. Neither dog was finding game nor pleasing their handler. Both contenders were picked up by their respective handlers around the 40-minute mark.

Next to the line in Brace 18 were Erin's Perfect Storm (Eisenhart) and Rebel Gold (Williams). Together they hunted the country enthusiastically for their entire hours, but disappointedly had no bird contacts. Perfect Storm put down

one of the best ground races of the trial, and when he went on point at 25, all who watched were hopeful, but his handler was unsuccessful in producing birds, and an unproductive was noted. Rebel Gold also continued hunting and handling well for Williams, but also finished his hour without bird work.

Sunday afternoon finished with Brace 19 presenting I Dream of Jeannie with handler Kyle Whitfield and Touch's Amazing Greyce (Turley). These two contenders were run by amateur handlers vying for the Top Amateur All-Age dog. With sunny skies, temperatures had risen into the high 70s, and the heat was challenging. Jeannie had one solid find at 15 after relocation, which took some time. It was difficult for this team to catch the front, and Jeannie became overheated, and Whitfield picked her up at 30. Turley and Greyce, meanwhile, continued forward and pointed two birds at 27 and another single at 53. This team performed extremely well in challenging conditions, moving with strength and hunting prowess throughout the hour and finishing to the front in style.

The final two braces of the trial were run on Monday morning. Things got off to a slow start as a heavy fog had settled in, and it was necessary to wait until the sun burned it off enough to see the dogs. Brace 20 finally broke away at 8:47 a.m. with

Touchy Feely under Turley's whistle and Shagtime Bill running under Eisenhart. Cool temperatures didn't last long, and it became warm quite quickly as the sun rose in the sky. Touchy Feely didn't have any luck locating birds in spite of his efforts, and his handler picked him up at 51. Shagtime Bill ran a strong race, but two unproductives at 13 and 38 took him out of contention.

Brace 21 was the final brace of the trial and paired Erin's War Eagle (Eisenhart) and Affinity (Turley). War Eagle snapped on point early at 5, but no birds were flushed, and an unproductive was noted. Following this quick stand, War Eagle just didn't run the way his handler and owner (this writer) hoped he would, and he was picked up by Eisenhart at 22. Meanwhile, Affinity ran a big race but wasn't always to the front. He had an unproductive at 53 and stood a second time just after time was called, which was unfortunately too late for the judges to consider. He was one of a small group of contenders to finish their hours.

And this concluded the 2025 edition of the Southwestern Championship.

SOUTHWESTERN CHAMPIONSHIP

[One-Hour Heats] – 39 Pointers and 4 Setters

Winner-MILLER'S HEAT ADVISORY, F1685672, pointer male, by Just Irresistible-Miller's Bring The Heat. Mike Sweet, owner; Judd Carlton, handler.

Runner-Up-STA'AO O' WAR, F1704718, setter female, by T's Nickleback-T's Hidden Grace. Douglas Spale, owner; Luke Eisenhart, handler.

SOUTH DAKOTA CLASSIC FIELD TRIAL CLUB

Southern Shadows T-Bone wins Open Shooting Dog

By Jason Loper | McLaughlin, South Dakota | September 7, 2025

The South Dakota Classic, formerly the Shadow Oak Field Trial, commenced September 7 near McLaughlin, South Dakota. The Shadow Oak Field Trial Club was founded by the late Butch Houston of Nashville, Georgia, with assistance from John Neely and Caleb Hardeman. The Shadow Oak ran for several years on Butch's Shadow Oak Plantation until

his passing in 2022.

With help from Butch's son, Adam Houston, the decision was made to move the trial to the prairies. Wild bird trials and training are an important part of the development of all pointing breeds. For the continued betterment of the breed and sport, all bird dog enthusiasts must work together to ensure this continues.

It would not be possible to have a

quality trial without good judges and sponsors. We were fortunate to have both! The judges for the Open Derby were L. J. Lundstrom of Peever, South Dakota, and Lance Schultz of Bismarck, North Dakota. Occupying the judicial seats for the Open Shooting Dog were Tommy Rice III of Pavo, Georgia, and L. J. Lundstrom.

Many thanks to our sponsors: Mick Marietta/World Class Kennels,

The Western Rancher of Mobridge, Runnings of Mobridge, Bingers Restaurant of Mobridge, Whoa Buck Enterprises (Don Marsh), and Purina.

The Open Derby stake started Sunday, September 7. Eleven derbies came to the line with cool temps and partly cloudy skies. Winning the Derby stake was pointer male Mayhaw's New Money, handled by Trey Mills. "Russ" ran a powerful forward race for the length of the brace and had to be ridden for at time. HH Smokeshow ("Babe"), handled by Jessie Graffam, had a strong forward race to place second. Placing third was pointer male, Osceolas Silver Colt, handled by Jason Loper. Colt had a good forward race with a find on a single sharptail and a strong finish.

The Open Shooting Dog stake, with 35 contenders entered, started after a short lunch on Sunday and ended on Wednesday, September 10. Conditions for the stake were warm and dry. Winning the Open Shooting Dog was pointer male Southern Shadow's T-Bone, handled by Brian Peterson and owned by Brian along with Lance Servais. Bone ran the second brace after lunch on Monday. He was forward and strong on the ground and had the find of the stake on a huge covey of sharptails with a great finish going away. Placing second was pointer male Just Sayin, owned by Mike Moses and handled by Judd Carlton. Sayin had a find on a single sharptail along with a strong forward race



Open Shooting Dog (standing, l-r): Tommy Rice III (judge), Steve Hurdle, Brian Peterson, Shawn Kinkelaar, Doug Swingley, L. J. Lundstrom (judge), and Curtis Teare. (Kneeling): Lance Servais with Southern Shadow's T-Bone and Laura Pergolizzi with Virgil Moore. (Not pictured: Just Sayin handled by Judd Carlton).

and finish in the heat of the day. The third-place dog came in the next-to-last brace of the trial. Pointer female Laura Pergolizzi, owned by Doug Swingley and handled by Shawn Kinkelaar, had a good forward race and a find on a covey of sharptails.



Open Derby (standing, l-r): Tommy Rice III, Lance Schultz (judge), and L. J. Lundstrom (judge). (Front): Mayhaw's New Money with Trey Mills, HH Smokeshow with Jessie Graffam, and Osceolas Silver Colt with Jason Loper.

McLaughlin, S. D., September 7

**Judges: L. J. Lundstrom and Tommy Rice III
OPEN SHOOTING DOG [One-Hour Heats]**

– 29 Pointers and 6 Setters

1st-SOUTHERN SHADOW'S T-BONE, F1716940, pointer male, by Southern Shadow's T Rex-Southern Ritz Lane. Brian Peterson, owner and handler.

2d-JUST SAYIN, F1698956, pointer male, by Erin's Redrum-Worth The Wait. Mike Moses, owner; Judd Carlton, handler.

3d-LAURA PERGOLIZZI, F1705950, pointer female, by Chelsea's Thunder Bolt-Buche's Elhew Rebel. Nicole Lombardi & Doug Swingley, owners; Shawn Kinkelaar, handler.

**Judges: L. J. Lundstrom and Lance Schultz
OPEN DERBY – 10 Pointers and 1 Setter**

1st-MAYHAW'S NEW MONEY, F1721752, pointer male, by Tallokas New Business-Diamond R Netta. Mayhaw Plantation, owner; Trey Mills, handler.

2d-HH SMOKESHOW, F1724254, pointer female, by Miller's King Poast-Bryson's Dialing On Line. James Graffam, owner and handler.

3d-OSCEOLAS SILVER COLT, F1714255, pointer male, by Weber's Little Bullett-Osceola's Last Dial. Osceola Plantation, owner; Jason Loper, handler.

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NGSPA HUNGARIAN PARTRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

24th Running of the "Hun"

By Keith Richardson | Cheyenne, Wyoming | September 13, 2025



NGSPA Hungarian Partridge Open Shooting Dog Championship (top row, l-r): Rich Robertson Jr., Keith and Bobbi Richardson, Jarry Walton, Howard Burbach, Dan DiMambro, Adolfo Gamboa with P W Evolution's Recreation, and April DiMambro with Macke's Jim Bob.

The 24th running of the "Hun" Championship was a very successful event where people enjoyed their time, exhibited respect and sportsmanship, and we saw some great dog performances. Competitors appreciated the extra Handler of the Year and Dog of the Year points for a Species trial.

It ran from September 13 until September 20. The weather was near perfect for running dogs. The Richardson Ranch is nearly 7,000 feet in elevation and very dry; attendees are always advised to drink plenty of water and use ample sunscreen.

The "Hun" Championship and Region 8 are held back-to-back at the Richardson Ranch and are two of the premier NGSPA Championships. The challenging grounds and difficult birds provide an extreme test for dogs and handlers. The two courses are remarkably different, each with its own challenges. The end of the day brings a relaxing time in the Clubhouse, including wonderful homemade meals, beverages of choice, friendship, and hospitality.

We enjoyed wonderful lunches and dinners, expertly prepared by Christy

Harris and Will from the Memphis area. Our previous cook, Marya Kirchner, left Cheyenne to attend culinary school in New Orleans. Fine aged wines from Keith's cellar were served by Gary Kercher. Other benefits of the facilities enjoyed by all were showers, laundry, electrical and water hookups, round pens and enclosures for horses, and ample areas for staking out dogs. Judges enjoyed first-class accommodations in either the Guest House or the Clubhouse.

These two Championships provide unrivaled "on-the-job training." The large number of challenging multiple chukar and Hun finds, running coveys, large explosive covey flushes, and concentrations of "old" scent will teach the dogs things that cannot be learned in training setups.

The "Hun" is the only trial in the American Field that uses pen-raised Hungarian Partridges. The birds were young, strong, great flyers, and remarkably like wild Huns. Large covey rises, with birds exploding in all directions, tested the steadiness of every dog. A dog making it clean through the Hun Habitat continues up Shooting Dog Draw along the rim of a steep plateau where mixed

coveys of jumpy chukars and Huns lurk. The immense pressure of many difficult, multi-bird contacts places the Hun Championship at a level of difficulty arguably exceeding that of the wild bird trials. Dogs that survived the "bird cover" were able to demonstrate their endurance during a mile of undulating prairie with a draw on one side and a drop to the Habitat on the other.

During our two weeks of Championships, we were pleased to have two pros in attendance: Dan DiMambro and Rich Robertson. We were happy to welcome a number of amateurs from outside of the region: Dr. Fred Ryan (OH), Hank Lewis (OH), Kirk Loftin (TX), Sherri Tangsrud (MO), Andy and Becky Dynkiewicz (OH), Peter Coppens (IL), Larry Metter and Linda Sivertsen (CA), and Tom Kosmack (UT). Our "local" amateurs from CO included: Mike Patrick, Brandon Blum, and Robin Lambourn. Keith Bryant is still recovering from a new hip surgery. Adolfo Gamboa was the official wrangler, but we were happy to see Ziggy for a quick visit. They also ran some dogs. Jack and Emily Young dropped by from Laramie to see what field trials were all about, rented a couple of horses, and rode most of the day. They think a GSP might be in their future to accompany their English pointer and Llewellyn setter. We hope to see them again.

We had a slate of excellent judges, and our thanks go out to each of them. Our Open Shooting Dog, Open Derby, and Amateur All-Age stakes were judged by Jarry Walton (NV) and Howard Burbach (MO). The Open All-Age and Amateur Shooting Dog were judged by Mick Cheshire (CO) and Chip Pendergrass (TN).

The Hun course gives the judges an opportunity to evaluate a dog's "total package." The cast-off crosses a half mile of rolling short-grass prairie before entering the "Hun

Habitat,” which is a three-mile flowing line of dense willow-lined creek bottom bordered by large mown fields, stands of wild plum thickets, and an irrigation ditch with dense grass and shrubs. The course then heads towards the steep Shooting Dog Draw, allowing the dogs to reach to the slope to the east of the draw and hunt it before rounding the corner at the base of the draw. A right turn at the top takes the dogs along the Upper Rim, where a dog can hunt the rim or search the many pockets below the rim until reaching Derby Bench, often loaded with large coveys all around its steep edges. The course continues along the Badlands with steep draws, which tend to draw the dogs backward. This demanding course finishes (time permitting) through the High Gate and along the edge to the right until reaching the main road to the Habitat, and then flows through the Habitat and possibly the Ferguson Gate until time is called.

We are grateful for our sponsors. Purina provided financial support and a pallet of Pro Plan for the winning dogs. We also welcome SportDOG's sponsorship, with their generous gifts of excellent training and bark collars. Our good friend, Jim Morehouse, continues to generously support our events. Beautiful Hungarian Partridge mounts, generous cash prizes, gift cards, Purina products, and SportDOG collars were among the gifts to champions and runners-up. Our good GSP friends, Eldon and Terry Hongo, who own the local Bunkhouse Bar and Grill, kindly gave \$50 gift certificates to all champions.

A special thanks to the organizational abilities and hard work of Bobbi Richardson, without whom these trials would not be successful. A big thanks also to all the other folks who helped: Joe and Japheth Frauendienst (bird catching, planting, feeding, and water-sled filling) and Gary and Chris Kercher (bird planting and organizational details). All participants were grateful to the “dog wagon/booting team”: Kaitlin Gaukel and Leandra Pfizenmaier, who booted all dogs with best-in-

class Ruff-Wear boots to protect them from cactus. They also picked up dogs and helped keep us on schedule. Other behind-the-scenes “heavy lifting” was done by Brittny Haberkorn, with assistance from Alex (Joe's daughter).

NGSPA Hungarian Partridge Open Shooting Dog Championship

Judges: Jarry Walton and Howard Burbach. Starters: 23 GSPs.

General Comments by the Judges

This year, the Huns were plentiful from the very first brace, and no brace went birdless. The birds were plentiful, very strong fliers, and there were some coveys of well over 30 birds. It was a true test of the dogs' steadiness. The birds were so wild and jumpy that they would often leave after the dog hit point and as the riders were approaching, through no fault of the dogs. The challenges presented by the birds are unlike any other trial.

P W Evolution's Recreation (Spike”), handled by Rich Robertson and owned by Keith and Bobbi Richardson.

The champion came from Brace 10, which ran on the second day. Spike put on a show and lit up the course from the breakaway through his finish. He broke away powerfully to the left as he crossed the prairie, dropping into the Habitat and heading through it quickly as he searched the cover. He had his first find at 15, showing robust intensity and style, and had a divided find at 19, where a covey of Huns flushed wild. His third find was at 26, where he snapped to an instant point with a picturesque high head and tail as a large covey of Huns was seen to be running all around him and his bracemate. His fourth find in the Habitat was at the very end, on a dense willow edge, where he was speeding along and slammed on point with great intensity. Handler worked the dense cover thoroughly, and upon being released to relocate, he took about 10 steps through the cover, slammed on point, and handler immediately flushed a single bird. It was classic. He then

flowed along the Upper Rim hunting aggressively and speedily, with one more find and a big, powerful finish, he had the heart and desire to go on. Spike didn't need any scouting and handled easily and smoothly. He showed all the attributes of a true Shooting Dog Champion.

Macke's Jim Bob (“Jim”), handled by Dan DiMambro, owned by Abe and Katelyn Macke, was named runner-up.

Jim had a strong cast across the prairie into the Habitat and had his first find at 19 in the House Section, where he showed intense classic style while a giant covey of Huns ran all around him before flying off. At 26, he had a stop to flush. At 32, at the very end of the Habitat, he had another find with birds running all around him while standing statuesque. His next find on the rim at Derby Bench at 52 on chukar, followed by a fifth find at 56. Jim had a big finish, taking the left side of the prairie, where he had a short antelope distraction and showed as much speed and range as at the cast off. He required no scouting as he cooperated with his handler without any hacking.

Other Notable Performances

PW Singing the Blues (“Boo”), handled by Rich Robertson and owned by Keith and Bobbi Richardson.

Boo had an NP at 15 and a nice find on Huns at 24. She was forward the whole time through the Habitat. When she made it to the top of Shooting Dog Draw, she was not seen by the handler, so he rode on expectantly. The scout spotted her down the hill, and handler rode back and took several minutes to get her back on course. She finished strong with two more high-quality finds, with one being a memorable dug-up find, but the absence cost her, and didn't leave her much time to show a finish.



NGSPA Hungarian Partridge Open Derby Classic (top row, l-r): Dan DiMambro, Howard Burbach, Jarry Walton, Kirk Loftin, Keith Richardson, April DiMambro with Alpenblick's Ella, Andy Dynkiewicz with Weideland's Slate Rock's Bronco, and Sherri Tangsrud with Uodibar's Lonestar Seekin A Thrill.

Cheyenne, Wyo., September 13

Judges: Howard Burbach and Jarry Walton

NGSPA HUNGARIAN PARTRIDGE OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP

[One-Hour Heats] – 23 German Shorthairs

Winner-P W EVOLUTION'S RECREATION, F1666903, German Shorthair male, by Evolution's Primo Creation-P W Derailed. Keith & Bobbi Richardson, owners; Rich Robertson Jr., handler. Runner-Up-MACKE'S JIM BOB, F1703274, German Shorthair male, by Riden High Ruby-Cuttin Wilds Space Cowgirl. Abe Macke, owner; Dan DiMambro, handler.

NGSPA Hungarian Partridge Open Derby Classic

Judges: Jarry Walton and Howard Burbach. Starters: 12 GSPs.

General Comments

The Derby is run on an out-and-back course from one end of the Habitat to the other, and there are some wide-open vistas so the bigger-ranging dogs can be easily seen. There is no cactus, so the dogs do not need to be booted.

Alpenblick's Ella ("Ella"), handled by Dan DiMambro and owned by Helmut Schoen, earned first place.

Ella was in the first brace and had a nice forward race, hitting the edges along the willow line. She handled well and showed a good use of the wind. At 5, Ella and her bracemate dropped into a depression loaded with dense willow cover. A covey of Huns burst out with the two dogs in hot pursuit. It could not be determined if either dog had pointed the birds. At the end of the course, she had reached a nice range to the front, and a covey of Huns was seen, but the dogs did not appear to have been involved. All in all, Ella showed a lot of promise and no doubt will

someday be a contender.

Weideland's Slate Rock's Bronco ("Bronco"), handled by Dan DiMambro and owned by Rebecca Dynkiewicz, earned second place.

Bronco made some nice forward moves. He started slow but showed excellent speed and power in the second half. He went to cover with good application to the course. He was not as consistent or far forward as the first-place dog.

Uodibar's Lonestar Seekin a Thrill ("Cheyenne"), handled and owned by Kirk Loftin, earned third place.

She didn't have the range or speed of the first two dogs, but her application was exceptional. She and her bracemate were seen twice with birds in the area, but specific contact was not observed. She was forward-moving and showed good promise.

Honorable Mention

Uodibar's Lonestar God of War ("Aries"), handled and owned by Kirk Loftin.

No dog in the Derby had the range, race, and power of Aries. He was fast, powerful, and forward, but a bird dog must have birds on its mind first and foremost, and Aries showed no desire to hunt. He never hit objectives or likely bird cover on his journey down course. If his desire to hunt is awakened and channeled into superior application, he will have a remarkable future.

NGSPA HUNGARIAN PARTRIDGE OPEN DERBY CLASSIC – 12 German Shorthairs

1st-CLENBLICK'S ELLA, F1726325, German Shorthair female, by Chicoree's Royal Flush Remis-Chicoree's Country Star. Helmut Schoen, owner; Dan DiMambro, handler.

2d-WEIDELAND'S SLATE ROCK'S BRONCO, F1720228, German Shorthair male, by Slaterock's Mountain Heart-Weideland's Ray of Sunshine. Rebecca Dynkiewicz, owner and handler.

3d-UODIBAR'S LONESTAR SEEKIN A THRILL, F1723006, German Shorthair female, by Uodibar's Lover Boy-Stoney Hill's Light It Up. Kirk Loftin, owner and handler.

NGSPA Hungarian Partridge Amateur All-Age Championship

Judges: Jarry Walton and Howard Burbach. Starters: 8 GSPs.

Twin Creeks Running Rocky ("Rocky"), handled and owned by



NGSPA Hungarian Partridge Amateur All-Age Championship (top row, l-r): Kirk Loftin, Keith and Bobbi Richardson, Sherri Tangsrud with Twin Creeks Running Rocky, and Mike Patrick with Cuttin Wild Heavy Firepower.

Kirk Loftin, was named champion.

In true all-age fashion, Rocky blasted across the prairie and disappeared over the ridge into the Habitat and was not seen until nearly 12, when he was spotted to the front running over the second hill before the double gate. There was a covey seen in the air from a distance, and Rocky and his bracemate were in the area, but no infraction was seen, so the dogs were left down by positive judges. Rocky had a strong run through the Habitat, but no birds were pointed. He was cast off, disappeared up Shooting Dog Draw, and was found standing on the Upper Rim at 48. He was released and soon was out of sight as he hunted the Rim. He was spotted on point in a hard-to-see spot at 51. Rocky continued to demonstrate all-age range and power as he had the biggest finish of the stake.

Cuttin Wild Heavy Firepower ("Tank"), handled and owned by Mike Patrick, was named runner-up.

Tank had a strong cast off across the prairie, dropping into the Habitat far ahead of the handlers, and was not seen until 14, when he was found pointed after the Ferguson Gate. He then had a back at 16 and his second find at the very end of the Habitat at 27. He had a nice run along the Upper Rim and had a find at 50 after he passed through the High Gate and found the High Covey. Tank was always forward and was always hunting versus some of the dogs that did more running than hunting. He was good on his game. More power



NGSPA Hungarian Amateur Shooting Dog Championship (top row, l-r): Linda Sivertsen, Mick Cheshire, Chip Pendergrass, Keith and Bobbi Richardson, Larry Metter with Nike's Frozen Arrow, Brandon Blum, and Hank Lewis with Hi N's Secret Society.

at the finish may have improved his ranking.

**NGSPA HUNGARIAN PARTRIDGE AMATEUR
ALL-AGE CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats]
– 8 German Shorthairs**

Winner-TWIN CREEKS RUNNING ROCKY, F1685652, German Shorthair male, by Twin Creeks Running Ruger-P J Wildfire's Little Lexi. Kirk Loftin, owner and handler.

Runner-Up-CUTTIN WILD HEAVY FIREPOWER, F1711530, German Shorthair male, by Cuttin Wild's Rebel Yell-Dunfur's Tule Creek. Mike Patrick, owner and handler.

**NGSPA Hungarian Partridge
Amateur Shooting Dog
Championship**

Judges: Mick Cheshire and Chip Pendergrass. Starters: 18 GSPs.

Nike's Frozen Arrow ("Arrow"), handled and owned by Larry Metter, was named champion.

Arrow had a strong cast off to the Habitat and flowed through the Habitat with finds at 14 and 18, a stop to flush at 27, and a back at 30 at the very end. She then made a nice move up the hillside of Shooting Dog Draw, reaching the Upper Rim, where she flowed along the edges, hunting them thoroughly and having her last find at 44 on Derby Bench. She finished her run by an impressive move through the dangerous Badlands and finished at the High Gate water tanks. The Badlands move is not common. Most handlers pull their dogs out of them, fearful of the bad outcome if the dog drops too deep, because all of the deep draws take a bad turn, guiding the dog backward to Suicide Hill. Nike had a lot of bird work, and it was all flawless with elegant style. She presented a smooth forward

race with no scouting required, and she was closely connected to her handler, needing little vocalization. Her groundwork was snappy and stylish. Her finish was strong, and she seemed to build speed and power as the hour went on. Arrow and Larry put on a show that was unmatched in the stake.

Hi N's Secret Society ("Stella"), handled and owned by Hank Lewis, was named runner-up.

Stella had some nice bird work in the Habitat with divided finds at 14 in the House Section and 25 in the Big Section with a stop-to-flush at 33. She ran the Upper Rim and had a find at 45, about halfway along, and another at 52 on Derby Bench Corner. Stella also dropped down to the Badlands, where she maintained a forward run and popped out at the High Gate water tanks at time. She had a consistently polished and flowing race with no hacking or scouting needed, and she hunted the objectives. Her bird work was flawless with attractive style.

Dogs Worthy Of Mention

Uodibar's Lover Boy ("Blue"), handled by Kirk Loftin and owned by Sherri Tangsrud.

Blue had a really nice race throughout, except for having come from behind in the Habitat, which was a detraction not shared by the placing dogs. Blue had three finds, one with an impressive relocation, a stop-to-flush, and a non-productive.

Uodibar's Back In The Game ("Dakota"), handled by Kirk Loftin and owned by Sherri Tangsrud.

Dakota was another dog that was "right there" with a strong forward run and excellent bird work, but he required a lot of loud hacking, which the placing dogs did not need.

WFK Rio Grand Nash ("Rio"), handled by Peter Coppens and owned by Peter and Diane Coppens.

Rio had a stylish and powerful gait and noticeably hunted the available cover, where many of the dogs did more running than hunting. He had more power than most of the dogs,



NGSPA Hungarian Partridge Open All-Age Championship (top row, l-r): Bobbi and Keith Richardson, Rich Robertson Jr., Chip Pendergrass, Mick Cheshire, Adolfo Gamboa with P W That Was Then This Is Now, Hank Lewis, and Brandon Blum with B M B's Freeloader.

but had two NPs, which ended his run at 40.

**Judges: Mike Cheshire and Chip Pendergrass
NGSPA HUNGARIAN PARTRIDGE AMATEUR
SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP**

[One-Hour Heats] – 18 German Shorthairs
Winner-NIKE'S FROZEN ARROW, F1702898, German Shorthair female, by B M B's Freeloader-Aunt Troji's Dirty Nike. Larry Metter, owner and handler.
Runner-Up-HI N'S SECRET SOCIETY, F1688000, German Shorthair female, by Hi N's Bodacious-Hi N's Hasty Matilda. Hank Lewis, owner and handler.

**NGSPA Hungarian Partridge
Open All-Age Championship**

Judges: Mick Cheshire and Chip Pendergrass. Starters: 16 GSPs.

P W That Was Then This is Now ("Nova"), handled by Rich Robertson and owned by Keith and Bobbi Richardson, was named champion.

Nova broke away with power and purpose, heading directly towards the Habitat and disappearing from view, and was not seen until handlers and judges broke out of the Richardson Habitat and had a distant view of the Twin Hills, where they saw the dark speck of Nova cresting the top of the hill. Handler could do nothing but ride and sing until he passed through the double gates into the Big Habitat, searching in vain for any sign of Nova until his scout called her out on the far hillside to the right on the Region 8 course, where she was hunting the steep face of the hill. Handler began calling on her and encouraging her to continue this rare, extreme move as she rimmed the hill, hunting all the way until she hunted down its curving slope and dropped into the Big Habitat, where she capped off this incredible move by slamming

on point. Her first find at 26 quickly produced Huns, which Nova handled with perfection. She was watered and sent up to Shooting Dog Draw, where she hunted its lower point before disappearing up the Draw. There was no sign of her when handler crested the Draw, so he and scout searched the rim until they reached Derby Bench, where they figured she had to be, but she was not seen pointed at the usual places. Finally, Judge Mick spotted her over the side of the rim and standing on a huge rock, pointing at the air in front of her. After some scrambling, handler found the dug-in bird underneath the rock and flushed it while Nova maintained her statuesque bearing. She had a huge finish, which capped off a consistently powerful, extreme all-age race where she hunted without

any purposeless running, was always to the front, and handled at extreme range. She was never out of control as Nova and Rich put on a memorable show.

B M B's Freeloader ("Hewey"), handled and owned by Brandon Blum, was named runner-up.

Hewey blew across the prairie after cast off, dropping into the Habitat. He was briefly seen far to the front and was not seen again until he was spotted on point through the Double Gates, where he had an NP at 21 at a spot known for its difficulty in producing birds. His cast through the Big Habitat was fast and powerful as he hunted his way to the end, where he was watered and sent up Shooting Dog Draw. He had a find at 35 on the hillside and another along the rim at 41. His third find was on

Derby Bench at 48. All of Hewey's finds were handled impeccably with impressive style. He had a strong all-age finish. Throughout his run, Hewey maintained a consistent all-age range and handled at long range, while he was always hunting and reaching to objectives. He and Brandon made a nice team, and Brandon rarely needed to vocalize. While Hewey had a worthy all-age performance, he did not make the extreme moves of the champion.

**NGSPA HUNGARIAN PARTRIDGE OPEN
ALL-AGE CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats]
— 16 German Shorthairs**

*Winner-P W THAT WAS THEN THIS IS NOW, F1685385, German Shorthair female, by Rio's Rising Renegade-P W Extraordinaire. Keith & Bobbi Richardson, owners; Rich Robertson Jr., handler.
Runner-Up-B M B'S FREELOADER, F1678664, German Shorthair male, by B M B's Free Ride-Hightailing Saddle's Mandolin. Brandon & Jennifer Blum, owners; Brandon Blum, handler.*

NATIONAL AMATEUR PHEASANT SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP

Calico's Over The Top Named Champion; Backcountry Champagnesupernova, Runner-up

By Joe Cammisa | Bloomingdale, Ohio | September 19, 2025



National Amateur Pheasant Shooting Dog Championship (first row, l-r): Alex Smith with Calico's Over The Top and Stacey Goodie with Backcountry Champagnesupernova. (Second row, l-r): A curious spectator joins Ralph Gillota, Aaron McAfee, Ronnie Rogers (judge), Tiffany Smith, Mark Janiec, Ella, Chris Catanzarite, Michelle Gillota, Lee Long (judge), and Greg Strausbaugh.

This year's National Amateur Pheasant Shooting Dog Championship is...(drum roll)...Alex Smith and Calico's Over the Top; Runner-up, Backcountry Champagnesupernova with Chris Catanzarite.

A continued short history of the

National Amateur Pheasant Shooting Dog Championship shows the most recent winners since 2017.

2017 —Touch's Katrina. Austin Turley, owner and handler.

2018—Touch's Hail Stone. Alexander Rickert, owner and handler.

2019—Upfront's Southern Star. Lance Schulz, owner and handler.

2020—Touch's Diamante. Austin Turley, owner and handler.

2021—Hightailing Maggie. Kevin & Maureen Joyce, owners; Kevin Joyce, handler.

2022—Navajo Cody. Camille Masiello & Saverio Morelli, owners; Joseph E. Lordi, handler.

2023—Miller's Cover Girl. Jack & Fran Miller, owners; Fran Miller, handler.

2024—Calico's Country Strong. Calico Kennels, owner; Alex Smith, handler.

2025—Calico's Over the Top. Calico Kennels & Alex & Tiffani Smith, owners; Alex Smith, handler.

Calico's Over the Top ("Blaze") comes from Frank Henderson, Alex and Tiffany Smith's Calico Kennels, home of notables such as Calico's Dancing Bear and Calico's Thrilllogy. Blaze was the winner of the Purina Top Amateur Shooting Dog of the Year this past year and is a two-time National Amateur champion. He is

out of Calico's Country Strong, who won the National Amateur Pheasant Shooting Dog Championship last year.

B a c k c o u n t r y Champagnesupernova ("Flex") is another product of Chris Catanzarite's wonderful and successful breeding program. Flex won the red ribbon in the National Pheasant Shooting Dog Futurity on these same grounds. She won the blue for first place in the National Quail Shooting Dog Futurity in 2024, and she placed third in the National Walking Shooting Dog Futurity. This, by the way, is her very first title, and her performance dictates many more to come.

The judges for the trial were Lee Long of Berkey, Ohio, and New Market, Tennessee native, Ronnie Rogers. Both are long-time owners, handlers, and trainers with many placements between them. They rode high in the saddle under extreme heat conditions, never letting down and watching each brace as if it were their own. The dogs were first, and their comfort was second. They are two great sportsmen and outdoorsmen who well represent our sport, having given freely of their time.

The winner and runner-up are detailed in the brace descriptions.

At the breakaway gathering, Chris Catanzarite, the trial chairman, introduced the judges and reporter, and outlined the weekend's events. Notables riding in the gallery were: Jeff Haggis, Dave and Jen Park, Alex and Tiffany Smith, Tim McClurg, Stacey Goodie, Greg Strausbaugh, Dave McKay, and others.

The Running

Brace 1: Red Alert (PM/Ed) and Redbud's Southern Boy (PM/Aaron McAfee). The conditions on the grounds were hot, dry, dusty, and hard ground. I do not know the last time it rained here. The first brace broke away at 8:05, and it was a foot race up to the "Top O' The Hill," where a line of autumn olive trees stretches for about 200 yards. Both

scouts were riding left with the two dogs showing once before the end of the autumn olive. A pheasant was flushed by the gallery before the treeline ended. After the first turn and at the road crossing, both dogs made a second appearance. By now, the sun was already bright, and there were no clouds in the sky. With the ground parched dry and conditions getting more extremely dusty, Aaron asked for the tracker at 27. Red Lane Alert Lane hunted hard for the hour, never backing down from the heavy cover, finishing his hour strong.

Brace 2: Glenmere's Cruiser (PM/Jeff Haggis) and Backcountry Pure Gold (PF/Chris Catanzarite), last year's runner-up champion. Both broke away at 9:19 at the rockpile crossing heading west towards the clubhouse turn. Both making a long cast up the hill, with Pure Gold found pointing at 5. She was moved forward for a relocation, but there was no one home. The weather continued with a warm breeze now added, and overall, best described as hot, dry, and nasty. Both were covering the ground well until Cruiser had a short disappearance, and Jeff called for the tracker at 41. Pure Gold ran the hour with no other bird contacts.

Brace 3: Mohawk Mill Gangster (PM/Ed McKay) and Calico's Country Strong (PF/Alex Smith), last year's champion. Cutaway at 10:40, both were eager to get started and took a deep cut into the outlying area. Country Strong made the Top O' The Hill turnaround at 18 and worked the autumn olive orchard from one end to the other. Gangster didn't quite make the turnaround, and the tracker was called for at 21. Country Strong dropped over the hill with ease and began running bigger, with Alex asking for the tracker at 30.

Brace 4: Jolene Jolene (PF/Dave McKay) and Tian Butterbean (PM/Cliff Mesnard). Butterbean was scratched by his handler, and Jolene was loosed on her own at 1:37. She checked in at the first road crossing, scrambled up the right-side hill, and followed the left tree line towards

the rockpile crossing. She was found standing, but the flushing and relocating attempt could not produce a bird. [Editor's note: Seriously, you can fry an egg on the seat next to me in the side-by-side.] The heat did not deter her as she, like the mailmen of yesteryear, conducted her appointed rounds. She was found standing at 30 on the left with a relocation carrying her up to a slight grade, with bird presence proving to be null in void, she was then taken up by her handler.

Brace 5: Mac's Slim Jim (PM/Tim McClurg) and Ragg's Rich and Rare (PM/Greg Strausbaugh). Breaking away at 2:18, both were off to a great start, running deep and wide, crossing the course before the powerline hill, heading towards the well pad. Jim ran very well in the heat, pushing forward, hunting the covers at hand. Rich and Rare was not seen for a while, and Greg asked for the tracker at 22. By 45, the few clouds that had appeared in the sky were broken up or gone, with the heat continuing to swelter. Tim worked tirelessly trying to put Jim on a bird, and at 50, they were up at the order of the handler.

Brace 6: Backcountry Fearless (PF/Chris Catanzarite) and Crow Creek Redbud (PF/Aaron McAfee). They left in a hurry at 3:21, scrambling to the Top O' The Hill and the autumn olive line. A pheasant flew off the left side of the olives and out towards the right tree line with no dog having made contact. Both dogs were seen just before the first road crossing, and Fearless was found standing at the rockpile crossing in the tree line. She was relocated and covered the autumn olive on both sides of the road, suffering an unproductive. After the crossing, both dogs continued, keeping up a good forward pace, with Fearless picked up by her handler at 54 and Crow Creek Redbud finishing the hour.

Brace 7: Miller's Miss Congeniality (PF/Joe McHugh) and Calico's Over the Top (PM/Alex Smith). With the morning a bit cooler than the day before, the fanfare started at 8:05.

Both dogs headed for the Top O' The Hill, and at 2, Over the Top was already standing at the first part of the autumn olive. Alex made quick work of flushing a pheasant and, with all in order, moved his charge on. Miss Congeniality continued for a bigger and more hopeful down-course pursuit. At 7, Over the Top was found again, pointing near the left and end of the olives. A pheasant was produced, a shot rang out, and we were moving forward once more. At 20, just past the first pond on the left, Over the Top was holding true to his name, standing another time on a third pheasant find. Alex flushed, the bird erupted, and the shot was fired with all in order. The gallery rode up a pheasant at the next pond on the right. Joe McHugh had never handled Miss Congeniality before, but did a great job when she was found at 35 after the fifth road crossing, high and tight. All in order, she went on to finish the hour. Not to be outdone at the end, at 48, Over the Top stopped once more for a pheasant find. Looking good as we all rode up, she just put the icing on the cake.

Brace 8: The Secret (PM/Joe Lordi) and Mohawk Mill King Pen (PM/Dave McKay). The brace broke away at the clubhouse turn. King Pen was found standing at 7; a pheasant was produced in the autumn olives at the Top O' The Hill, all in order. At 10, near the end of the autumn olives, The Secret was found standing. Joe flushed, and a pheasant was produced. All in order, he moved on, showing speed and determination as he left the stage. The Secret crossed at the rockpile just before 25, and the tracker was called for at 30. King Pen went on, hunting hard and in all the obvious covers. He made a nice move just after the well pad when he took in the entire left field.

Brace 9: Waybetter Bobby (PM/Bobby Venterosa) and Backcountry Bruiser (PM/Chris Catanzarite). Off at 10:42, with a big breakaway by both, it did not take Bruiser long to start the excitement. He was found standing at 7 in the autumn olives with Bobby backing. It was there that

a pheasant was produced by Chris, who fired the shot, and all was in order. Bruiser was at it again at 57 with a second find as Bobby came back, and another pheasant was in the books. Chris decided to pick up Bruiser at 58. Bobby finished the hour.

Brace 10: Mac's Real McCoy (PM/Tim McClurg) and Cheyenne Jack (PM/Joe Lordi). The after-lunch brace started at 1:43 when both dogs broke away with an initial large cast up the hill. The heat was back, and clouds were starting to form. Meanwhile, both dogs continued running hard and searching for the quarry. Scenting conditions were dissipating, and the dust and heat were starting to become unbearable. The brace was short-lived when Joe picked up Jack at 20 and Tim decided to lift Real McCoy at 24.

Brace 11: Redbud's Lightning Catcher (PM/Aaron McAfee) and Hirollins Bad Boy (PM/Ed McKay). Both dogs broke away in the heat of the day. The time was 2:16 in the middle of the afternoon. Conditions were hot and very dry. Both dogs started with a large cast and immediately settled into the work at hand. Both were big runners and quickly put distance between themselves and their handlers. The heat started taking its toll on body and pads, as Catcher was up at 25 with Bad Boy up a few minutes later, both by their handlers.

Brace 12: Backcountry Champagnesupernova (PF/Chris Catanzarite) and Calico's Bright Eyes (PF/Alex Smith). Both were off the starting line at 3:04. Dark clouds came out of nowhere, and both dogs had bird finds while thunderclaps and lightning started. The brace was canceled for the day.

Breaking away at 8:07 the next day, both dogs took the hill, and Bright Eyes was standing at 10 with Supernova backing. Alex flushed, fired, and both charges were staunch and tall for a good finish to the birdwork. Cut loose once more and just three minutes later, both were found standing

over a divided find. Both handlers flushed, putting a pheasant to flight, and all was in order. Supernova took a big leap to the front, hunting deep and hard. At 24, Alex moved a pheasant and decided to pick up. Champagnesupernova had the field to herself and went to work, hunted hard to the front, and handled well. She hit all the right covers and, at 45 and 50, was rewarded for her efforts with two nice pheasant finds, all in order as usual. When she was cut loose after the second find, she put plenty of turf between her and Chris; she was seen standing a long way off at time. Flex finished the hour as strong as she started.

Brace 13: Southpoint's Hog Wild (PM/Mark Janiec) and Bittersweet War Cry (PM/Joe Lordi) were the second brace of the morning and broke away clean. War Cry took a big leap of faith from the beginning bell and put a lot of turf between himself and Joe; Joe up at 20 after not seeing her for a while. Meanwhile, at 5, Hog Wild had a beautiful find with all in order. Joe decided to call it a day at 20 and asked for the tracker, ending War Cry's bid, and at 35, Hog Wild stood again. Mark was not sure that his charge was confident of what it was pointing and moved him on. Mark and Hog Wild finished the hour.

Brace 14: Broken loose at the rockpile, coming in towards the clubhouse turn, Patriot started out strong. He pinned a pheasant at 10, with Ed flushing, firing, and all in order. There was a wild flush at 14 with no dog contact, and Patriot continued hunting hard and driving forward. Patriot is a classy moving dog that made some good moves throughout and finished the hour.

The Amateur Pheasant Shooting Dog Championship sponsored its customary banquet on Friday, which was well attended. The food was fantastic. The local 4H Club held a banquet and fundraiser at the clubhouse. As usual, the field trial group attended, trying to support the youngsters as they do each year.

We would especially like to thank our proud sponsors: Greg Blair

with Purina, Garmin, the Amateur Field Trial Club of America, and Jeff Haggis of Haggis Saddles.

We thank everyone who contributed to the trial's success, especially Dave Hughes and Dave Park for their late-night efforts filling water tubs on the course. Dave Hughes also needs to be thanked for his attention and perseverance in driving the dog wagon, making sure that dogs were on the truck and on the line in this continuous course trial.

This report details the 2025 National Amateur Pheasant Shooting Dog Championship, highlighted by winning dogs like Calico's Over the Top and Backcountry Champagnesupernova along with all the notable participants and the challenging conditions of the Mingo Field Trial grounds and the weather Mother Nature dealt out. Let me emphasize the dedication and hard work of the owners and handlers who train and compete for this championship title. The trial is portrayed as a testament to the field

trial community's commitment and passion, whose efforts sustain the tradition year after year.

Until next year...

Bloomington, Ohio, September 19
Judges: Lee Long and Ronnie Rogers
**NATIONAL AMATEUR PHEASANT SHOOTING
DOG CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats]**

– 27 Pointers

Winner-CALICO'S OVER THE TOP, F1692315, pointer male, by Dominator's Rebel Heir-Calico's Country Strong. Calico Kennels, Alex & Tiffani Smith, owners; Alex Smith, handler.

Runner-Up - BACKCOUNTRY CHAMPAGNESUPERNOVA, F1701699, pointer female, by Dragonfly-Apple Annie's Sweet Delight. Chris Catanzarite, owner and handler.

NGSPA REGION 8 CHAMPIONSHIPS

Championship Series Held At Richardson Ranch

By Keith Richardson | Cheyenne, Wyoming | September 22, 2025

The Region 8 Championship was a success, with a good entry in all stakes and with participants coming from all over. Many of the competitors also attended the NGSPA Hungarian Partridge Championship held previously.

The venue is not only scenic but also provides great objectives for dogs to hunt and display their ability to find and handle difficult game birds. The course is unlike any other in the country. The cast off is over several hundred yards of prairie to Suicide Hill, named for the large number of birds inhabiting it and for the fact that most infractions can be seen ¼ mile away. Then following around the hill's base, we enter the deep Derby Cove defined by a steep escarpment holding large rocks, and dense shrub cover. We pass Derby Draw, which cuts through the high bench, and we continue along the bottom of the escarpment until around Shooting Dog Point, heading up Shooting Dog Draw. We climb to the Upper Rim and spend 15 to 20 minutes hunting the brushy edges of this steep chukar habitat anchored by the extensive rim ending at Derby Bench. The next leg offers a run through the prairie on the left or a steep series of draws on the right



NGSPA Region 8 Amateur Shooting Dog Championship (first row, l-r): Sheldon Rogers, Dawn Rogers, Ken Chenoweth, Bobbi Richardson, and Keith Richardson. (Front row, l-r): Sherri Tangsrud with Uodibar's Lover Boy and Kirk Loftin with Twin Creeks Running Rocky.

known as the Badlands, which tend to draw the dogs into a backward move. The High Gate is entered, and the dog finishes on the Richardson prairie, but time permitting, the dogs may be brought into the Habitat heading west towards the cast off. The finish allows the judges to clearly observe the dogs' stamina and range.

During their run, the dogs will experience running coveys, large explosive covey flushes of 20 or more chukar, with birds flying back over their heads, and concentrations of "old" scent left by recent coveys

that have flown off. The birds are healthy, young, and strong fliers. Any dog that completes this course is ready for Eureka, a few weeks away!

We welcomed two pros: Dan DiMambro and Rich Robertson. We were also happy to welcome a number of local amateurs: Keith Bryant (CO), who showed briefly, but a recent hip replacement kept him from participating; Brandon Blum (CO), Robin Lambourn (CO), and Mike Patrick (CO). Others came a long way to support us: Kirk Loftin (TX), Sherri Tangsrud (MO), Hank Lewis (OH), and Dr. Fred Ryan (OH).

Adolfo Gamboa (CA) was the official wrangler, but we were happy to see Ziggy show up to entertain us.

We had excellent judges, and a big thanks to Sheldon Rogers (and his lovely wife, Dawn), who came down from Saskatchewan and judged the entire trial. He was joined for the Amateur Shooting Dog and the Open All-Age by Ken Chenoweth (MO), and by Jadie Rayfield (SC) for the Open Shooting Dog, Open Derby, and our Classic, which ran after Region 8. All our judges were very experienced, attentive, and a joy to be around.

We are grateful to our sponsors. Purina provided financial support and a pallet of Pro Plan for the winning dogs. Their support of the Purina Handler of the Year program is also very important, as contenders often travel to championships hoping to earn points. We encouraged all contestants to feed Purina. We also welcome SportDOG's sponsorship of training collars and bark collars. Cash purses, gift certificates, Purina food, and SportDOG collars made up the prize offerings.

A special thanks to the organizational abilities and hard work of Keith and Bobbi Richardson. A big thanks also to the other folks who helped: Joe Frauendienst and Japheth Frauendienst (many tasks, including catching and planting birds), and Gary and Chris Kercher (bird planter and paperwork). Kaitlin Gaukel and Leandra Pfizenmaier booted dogs and ran the dog wagon. Brittiny Haberkorn helped many with dog health-related questions and lots of tasks behind the scenes. Joe's daughter, Alex, was a big help. Christy Harris and Will prepared very good lunches and dinners. Ryan Haberkorn did a lot of important work and some welding for folks. Our IT guy, Aaron Thorpe, also lent a helpful hand.

NGSPA Region 8 Amateur Shooting Dog Championship

Judges: Sheldon Rogers and Ken Chenoweth. Starters: 14 GSPs.

Uodibar's Lover Boy ("Blue"),

handled by Kirk Loftin and owned by Sherri Tangsrud, was named champion.

Blue had his first find at 5 on Suicide Hill. His bracemate took out the birds while Blue stood high and tight. His next find was at 14 on Chukar Hill, after crossing over Derby Draw and climbing the hill. He hunted along the base, and after not finding any birds home at Shooting Dog Point, he disappeared up the Draw and was found standing on the Rim. It was a nice find showing excellent style. He made a good shooting dog cast and had another find at 37 on the Upper Rim. He consistently hunted the cover and worked his way around to the High Gate, where he had a strong finish in the prairie. Blue had a consistent forward race with plenty of power and range and showed a strong Shooting Dog finish. He handled nicely for Kirk and required no scouting or hacking. In summary, Blue ran an attractive Shooting Dog Race with outstanding bird work, clearly earning his Championship.

Twin Creeks Running Rocky ("Rocky"), handled and owned by Kirk Loftin, was named runner-up.

Rocky had a solid run to the front, hitting many of the objectives and having his first find at 22 at Shooting Dog Point, which he handled with great style and intensity. He hunted along the Upper Rim, having a divided find at 36. His next find was on Derby Bench at 46. He worked the Badlands, and after passing through the High Gate, he was found standing with his bracemate on a covey of Chukar down the first draw to the right at 57. Rocky was always to the front, had a strong Shooting Dog race, and was easy handling, requiring no scouting. He finished strong and did a nice job on his game.

Other Worthy Performances

Nike's Frozen Arrow ("Arrow"), handled and owned by Larry Metter.

In the judges' words, "Arrow did an awesome job!" BUT she was lost at 47 and returned after time

was called. She had two of the best finds of the stake. One was after dropping into the Habitat, where she slammed on point, way to the front. It took a while for the riders to get to her, and as they were approaching, a huge covey of Huns took flight from all around her, and her staunchness was impressive. Arrow's second find was on another large covey of Huns at the top of Shooting Dog Draw. Her run was stellar, and she would have been hard to beat if her last 13 minutes were like the first 47.

Hi N's Dirty Secret ("Badger"), owned and handled by Hank Lewis.

Badger was braced with Rocky, the runner-up. He and his bracemate both headed into the Habitat, and his handler worked hard to get him out of the Habitat and back on the Region 8 course. It took some tugging and pulling, but he eventually responded, settled in, and had a nice find at Shooting Dog Point at 23. He had a divided find at 36 on the Upper Rim. Once he settled in, he had a nice performance with his handler, hunting and finding birds with a good finish.

Cheyenne, Wyo., September 22

**Judges: Ken Chenoweth and Sheldon Rogers
NGSPA REGION 8 AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG
[One-Hour Heats] – 14 German Shorthairs**

Winner-UODIBAR'S LOVER BOY, F1689423, German Shorthair male, by Diamonds R S Texas Express-Uodibar's Bet Your Booty. Sherri Tangsrud, owner; Kirk Loftin, handler.

Runner-Up-TWIN CREEKS RUNNING ROCKY, F1685652, German Shorthair male, by Twin Creeks Running Ruger-P J Wildfire's Little Lexi. Kirk Loftin, owner and handler.

NGSPA Region 8 Open All-Age Championship

Judges: Sheldon Rogers and Ken Chenoweth. Starters: 16 GSPs.

Twin Creeks Running Rocky ("Rocky"), handled and owned by Kirk Loftin, was named champion.

Rocky made a nice all-age cast across the prairie to Suicide Hill, where he had an impressive find at 4. There were a lot of birds running all over the place as the handler approached. Rocky maintained staunch integrity through the flush and impressed the judges. He was out of sight when the handler got off



NGSPA Region 8 Open All-Age Championship (first row, l-r): Kirk Loftin, Sheldon Rogers, Dawn Rogers, Ken Chenoweth, Keith Richardson, and Dan DiMambro. (Front row, l-r): Sherri Tangsrud with Twin Creeks Running Rocky and April DiMambro with Chicoree's Riden High Trixie.

the Hill and around the Cove and spotted him as he again disappeared to the front. He ran powerfully around the base of the High Bench until reaching Shooting Dog Draw, where he disappeared again. He was found standing on the Upper Rim at 22, but the judges couldn't figure out how he got there. They thought he climbed the face of the hill instead of using the horse path up the Draw. In short, the find was impressive. He was released and headed off, showing great speed as he hunted the Upper Rim through the High Gate, disappearing over the prairie. He was found pointed at Cathy's Bench covey at 48, and he went on to enter the Habitat with the strongest finish of the stake, ending up near the Cottonwood trees near the first house. He had a powerful forward all-age race and was solid on his birds, clearly earning the champion title.

Chicoree's Riden High Trixie ("Trixie"), handled by Dan DiMambro and owned by Rondal Alexander, was named runner-up.

This was an unusual brace in that the two dogs, handlers, and judges got separated early on and remained that way for much of the hour. On the cast off, Trixie hunted Suicide Hill with no success and then dropped through the fence into the Habitat, where she made a huge move along the willow line all the way to the end of the Habitat, where she continued her huge move up to Shooting Dog Draw, where she disappeared. This was an impressive move that

caught the eye of the judges. Trixie was found on point at the top of the Draw at 23 with impeccable style and manners. She had her second find on the Upper Rim at 28 and another at 35. Both Trixie and her bracemate were out of pocket at 48, and the handlers continued riding on through the High Gate. Trixie shocked everyone when she showed, coming down off a high ridge to the front at 58. Trixie did a great job, but her finish was not as strong as the champion's.

Other Worthy Performances

Cuttin Wild Heavy Firepower ("Tank"), handled and owned by Mike Patrick.

Tank had finds at 5, 11, 19, 24, and 42, and was found standing at time on Cathy's Bench covey. He had so many finds that he could not really get going enough to demonstrate all-age range and power along with a big finish. His bird work was excellent, but there was just too much of it. An unfortunate situation in an All-Age stake.

NGSPA REGION 8 OPEN ALL-AGE CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats] – 16 German Shorthairs

Winner-TWIN CREEKS RUNNING ROCKY, F1685652, German Shorthair male, by Twin Creeks Running Ruger-P J Wildfire's Little Lexi. Kirk Loftin, owner and handler.
Runner-Up-CHICOREE'S RIDEN HIGH TRIXIE, F1685125, German Shorthair female, by Riden High Rudy-Chicoree's Sparkle In Her Eye. Rondal J. Alexander, owner; Dan DiMambro, handler.

NGSPA Region 8 Open Derby

Judges: Sheldon Rogers and Ken Chenoweth. Starters: 10 GSPs.

MSPW A Need For Speed ("Needa"), handled by Dan DiMambro and owned by Keith and Bobbi Richardson, earned first place.

This was an out-and-back course, and Needa was the only placing dog that ran into the wind. She had a very strong race with good power and ground speed, and she hunted the cover well. She was forward the entire time and responded well to her handler. She was an impressive young dog.

Uodibar's Lonestar God of War ("Aries"), handled and owned by Kirk



NGSPA Region 8 Open Derby (first row, l-r): Kirk Loftin, Sheldon Rogers, Dawn Rogers, Ken Chenoweth, Keith Richardson, and Dan DiMambro. (Front row, l-r): April DiMambro with MSPW A Need For Speed, Sherri Tangsrud with Uodibar's Lonestar God of War, and Layton Norwood with Red River Metallic Moon Pie.

Loftin, earned second place.

Aries ran with the wind to his back and was strong for the first half when he was running across the more open ground of the Big Habitat, but he shortened up when he hit the cover in the Richardson Habitat. He was forward the whole time.

Red River Metallic Moon Pie ("Pie"), handled by Dan DiMambro and owned by Layton Norwood, earned third place.

Pie had a similar run to Aries, but it was a bit immature by comparison. Pie was forward the whole time.

NGSPA REGION 8 OPEN DERBY – 10 German Shorthairs

1st-MSPW A NEED FOR SPEED, F1722956, German Shorthair female, by High Standing Cuttin Edge-Chicoree's Riden High Trixie. Keith & Bobbie Richardson, owners; Dan DiMambro, handler.
2d-UODIBAR'S LONESTAR GOD OF WAR, F1723003, German Shorthair male, by Uodibar's Lover Boy-Stoney Hill's Light It Up. Kirk Loftin, owner and handler.
3d-RED RIVER METALLIC MOON PIE, F1718708, German Shorthair male, by Keg Creek LJ-Autry's Natural Chromoly Steel. Layton Norwood, owner; Dan DiMambro, handler.

NGSPA Region 8 Open Shooting Dog Championship

Judges: Sheldon Rogers and Jadie Rayfield. Starters: 16 GSPs.

Macke's Jim Bob ("Jim"), handled by Dan DiMambro and owned by Abe Macke, was named champion.

Jim headed to Suicide Hill and immediately established point standing while his bracemate stole point. Bracemate was picked up, and handler flushed extensively before releasing Jim to relocate the running

birds. It took a second relocation to finally pin them, and Jim handled the sequence with admirable style and skill. He was released, and by the time the handler got around the base of the hill, Jim was nearly through Derby Cove. He continued at a big Shooting Dog range with speed and power along the base of the steep slopes and was seen heading to Shooting Dog Draw. He was found standing five minutes later at 23 at the top of the Draw, and his manners and style were again top-notch. He continued along the Upper Rim and soon had a clean stop to flush on a bird out in the open. He had another find midway on the Rim at 30 and an NP on Derby Bench at 45. He made a powerful cast to the High Gate and was found pointing the High Covey, down the steep draw just past the Gate at 52. It was an excellent dug-up forward find, and Jim handled it well. He still had time to show he had plenty of power in reserve as he passed Cathy's Bench in the distance and dropped down to the Habitat for a truly big finish. Jim was always to the front in a classic 10-to-2 big shooting dog range and handled well. He was solid on his game with high style and no holes throughout his run. He was well deserving of his title: Open Shooting Dog Champion.

P W Penny Singing the Blues ("Boo"), handled by Rich Robertson and owned by Keith and Bobbi Richardson, was named runner-up.

Boo made a direct and powerful cast up Suicide Hill and immediately slammed a hard point in some thick mountain mahogany brush. Handler quickly produced the bird, and Boo sped to the front, where she was seen hunting the rocky slope of Derby Cove, coursing through the heavy cover and finally disappearing around the far corner. She evidently continued working the dense cover



NGSPA Region 8 Open Shooting Dog Championship (first row, l-r): Dan DiMambro, Sheldon Rogers, Dawn Rogers, Keith Richardson, Bobbi Richardson, Jadie Rayfield, and Rich Robertson Jr. (Front row, l-r): April DiMambro with Macke's Jim Bob and Adolfo Gamboa with P W Penny Singing the Blues.

because she was found at 18 pointed above Derby Draw for a quality "field trial" find, which she handled perfectly. Her next cast took her around Chukar Hill, where she continued to hunt the hillside until disappearing at Shooting Dog Point and was found standing at 30 on the top of the Draw. This culminated the best 30 minutes of any dog in the stake. Unfortunately, she got hung up after her bird work on the steep hillside and was lost to view while handler rode on. The scout spotted her, and handler returned to assist in getting her back on track. This episode cost her the Championship, but she went on to redeem herself as she again disappeared on Derby Bench far to the front. After extensive searching, scout Adolfo spotted her on point far down the steep slope. Judge Sheldon got into a position where he could see the glint of her collar, and handler dropped down, being guided by scout. Rich eventually located her, and she was in the midst of a huge covey of moving chukar when he fired and led her back to the top. Boo made a big move through the High Gate with only a few minutes left, but was found pointed down the first draw. Rich saw the bird leave, but not the judge, so he pulled her off point without firing and released her, but

with two minutes left, she could not show the big finish he was hoping for. Despite a remarkable performance, she could not surmount her period of absence.

Other Worthy Performances

P W Catch Me if You Can ("Sprint"), handled by Rich Robertson and owned by Keith and Bobbi Richardson.

Sprint had her first find at 20 on Chukar Hill, but she had a slow start getting there. Her second find was at 30, midway up Shooting Dog Point. Her third find was on the Upper Rim at 37, where she whirled to a point, and a covey was produced. Her fourth find was at 57 on Derby Bench, showing remarkable intensity and style. Her bird work was flawless, and her style pristine. She handled easily with no scouting required, and she was always seen going to and hunting the cover. She was a pleasure to watch, but her slow start plagued her performance.

Uodibar's Lover Boy ("Blue"), handled by Kirk Loftin and owned by Sherri Tangsrud, was named champion.

Blue was notable for the number of finds he had: five in total at 6, 19, 27, 39, and 46. His race was a bit erratic, with some big moves and some shorter moves. He showed a lot of power but needed a lot of handling to channel it. He was always to the front with hunting on his mind.

**Judges: Jadie Rayfield and Sheldon Rogers
NGSPA REGION 8 OPEN SHOOTING DOG
CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats]
- 16 German Shorthairs**

Winner-MACKE'S JIM BOB, F1703274, German Shorthair male, by Riden High Ruby-Cuttin Wilds Space Cowgirl. Abe Macke, owner; Dan DiMambro, handler.

Runner-Up-P W PENNY SINGING THE BLUES, F1674964, German Shorthair female, by P W Penny For Your Thoughts-P W Dark Energy. Keith & Bobbi Richardson, owners; Rich Robertson Jr., handler.

REMINDER: The January print deadline is December 5.

Material must be received by 4:30 p.m. on the deadline date.
Deadlines that fall on weekends or holidays move to the next business day.

For more information, please email gsmith@ukcdogs.com

62nd NATIONAL SHOOTING DOG FUTURITY

Hightailing Pink Named Winner

By Mike Husenits | Bloomingdale, Ohio | September 23, 2025

The 62nd running of the National Shooting Dog Futurity began and was concluded on September 22 over the grounds of the Mingo Sportsman's Club near Steubenville, Ohio. This breeder's classic is among the most prestigious annual shooting dog derby stakes, with winners awarded bonus points for the Purina Top Derby Award annually. Historically, pheasants have always been the primary game bird, both native and released, but credit is also given for handling quail, grouse, or woodcock as dictated by previously established futurity guidelines. The original concept and planning for this event occurred around 1961/62, with the inaugural running held on October 4, 1964, at Baldwinsville, New York. The founders were all well-respected patrons of the sport and included stalwarts and Hall of Fame members, namely Dr. Tom Flanagan, Bob Wehle, Harold Crane, Frank Ash, Anthony Imbesi, Dr. Alvin Nitchman, Richard Shear, Harry Townsend, Lee White, plus several others. This event, coupled with the sister U. S. Quail Shooting Dog Futurity and the Mid-States Futurity, is recognized as the most prestigious derby events on the major shooting dog circuit. The early renewals drew between 40 and 50 starters annually, then gradually increased throughout the 60s and into the mid-90s, averaging 60 to 70 starters, with 1982 holding the record high of 106. Throughout those early decades, several large bird dog breeding operations were active and responsible for enrolling and nominating 80 to 100 litters annually. Around the turn of the century, large pointing dog breeding operations declined noticeably, with litter enrollments dropping to current levels of 15 to 25 annually and average starting levels to 25 to 35. This year's entry of 20 is the lowest number of starters on record. However, on the bright side, superior



62nd National Shooting Dog Futurity (front): Hightailing Pink with Kevin Joyce, Hale's Kickstart Country with Eli Taylor, Bryant's Sunset Silver Surfer with Bo Brewer, Sunset Creek Uptown Girl with Holly Moreland, and Cy's Dancing Tequila with Stacie Goodie. (Behind): Joe Lordi (judge), Doug Ray, Casey Tracy with baby Mary Michale Tracy, Mike Tracy, Dennis Hood, Marc Janiec, George Tracy, Karen Janiec, Mark Hughes, Greg Strausbaugh, and Ella Copeland.

performance levels witnessed over the past several decades prove that higher-quality derby-age contenders are being produced, thus providing food for thought that selective breeding practices have improved the overall quality of the breeds.

Primarily, the established performance criteria for futurities are to recognize potential and ability in dogs to develop and become competitive performers in the most prestigious shooting dog championships—namely, the National Pheasant, the National Open Shooting Dog Championship, and the National Amateur Championships.

Breeders are required to be diligent and attentive to details in order for litters born to be eligible for futurities. Litters must be nominated within 60 days of whelping to avoid penalty. Otherwise, a significant late fee must be paid in order to regain eligibility. Futurity secretary Mark Hughes handles the bulk of the work required to maintain necessary records, plus handling of the numerous inquiries from year to year. He is assisted by semi-retired Secretary Mike Husenits, who helps with reporting, a duty he has handled for the past 22 years. Prior to Mark Hughes and Mike Husenits, past futurity secretaries included Keith

Severin for 22 years, Verle Farrow for 16 years, and David Miller for the first two years. The current futurity President is Mike Tracy, a two-year rotating position. Chris Catanzarite and Mike Husenits are current Vice Presidents. Chris is extremely instrumental in ensuring this event succeeds, serving as co-chair and handling the procurement and daily release of strong flying pheasants. Chris and Mark Hughes also share the marshaling duties.

Others making notable contributions include Mary Tracy, who always assists in any way needed, plus Mary generally keeps the program on track. Casey Tracy prepared and served a Monday evening spaghetti dinner at the pavilion to the delight of all. The annual highlight of an oil painting presentation by artist Mary McPherson of last year's futurity winner, Deena Jet, a pointer female owned by Steve and Daron Boyer and handled by Mike Tracy, was admired. Accolades are also extended to Dave Hughes and Dennis Hood for their expert management of dog truck duties, no easy task with 30-minute heats run on a continuous course arrangement. Additionally, Dave and Dennis kept the truck well supplied with cold drinks, coffee, fruit, candy, and other

snacks for morning and afternoon breaks.

Heartfelt thanks and sincere appreciation are extended to Greg Blair and Purina for their continued financial sponsorship and for providing Pro Plan dog food to the winners.

That brings us to the all-important critical element of field trial judges and judging. This year's duo could not have been better. Tony Bingham, a successful professional trainer from Shelby, North Carolina, teamed with Joe Lordi, an active amateur owner/handler from Atco, New Jersey. Both gentlemen know what potential looks like in a young dog and have definitely proved it by elevating winners that demonstrated potential, plus other necessary traits that should ensure they are successful in future major shooting dog events. This reporter appreciated their help and is thankful to both for sharing their thoughts with me throughout the running.

Weather conditions were less than ideal due to dry, hard ground, dust, and warm temperatures. The goldenrod and autumn olive growth has expanded in height and thickness, making visibility somewhat limited in certain areas.

An ancestry review of the 20 entries reveals Cheyenne Jack as the most popular sire, followed by Game Surge, Haney's Silver Dollar, Double Deuce Zeke, and Springflow's Backcountry P.

The Winners and Honorable Mention

Hightailing Pink, orange-marked pointer female owned and handled by Kevin and Maureen Joyce of Northport, New York, captured the blue ribbon on the merits of a smooth front-running classy ground race and a pair of pheasant finds. Kevin Joyce handled Pink and bred the litter sired by Ch. Cheyenne Jack out of Kevin's female Ch. Hightailing Maggie, the litter whelped January 4, 2024. Pink's development can be credited to George and Mike Tracy of Summerhill Kennels, as well as



Oil painting of last year's winner, Deena Jet, held by Mike Husenits.

to Kevin, who raised and started the entire litter that included three other starters in the Futurity. Pink broke away in the ninth brace at 4:37 from the traditional starting place near the activity pavilion. She quickly caught the judge's attention with her classy way of getting through the country. Her first find at 12 along the hillside in an autumn olive thicket approaching the stone pile crossing, Pink standing tall and remaining mannerly as the flush attempt was not easy in the heavy cover. Sent ahead, Pink continued to impress with her fancy way of going, capping off her effort with a beautiful find in bottom goldenrod at 27 handled with pinpoint location and advanced manners, then up the hill to finish ahead with plenty of willingness to continue.

Second-placed Hale's Kickstart Country, orange-marked pointer female owned by Chris Sellers and Doug Ray, handled by Doug Ray and bred by Dr. Jeff Hale, was sired by Fred Corder's Ch. Game Surge ex Hale's High Kick, the litter whelped January 20, 2024. Game Surge traces to Lester's Storm Surge and Game Maggie. Country made her appearance in the fourth brace, starting at 10:26 from the hilltop near the turnback to the starting point. She was all business from the get-go to the call of pick up, not restricted by the thick vegetation or the dry, hot conditions. Near the midway point, Country pointed with sky-kissing style and rock-solid intensity, with the handler quickly raising a perfectly located pheasant, with Country remaining steadfast for the shot. Her finish was far to the front, going

strong.

Bryant's Sunset Silver Surfer, orange-marked pointer male owned by Mark Janiec of Cranberry, New Jersey, bred by Wade Williams, and handled by Mike Tracy, was third. Surfer is well conformed with a short-coupled build and tall in stature. He is from a litter whelped January 24, 2024, by Ch. Haney's Silver Dollar ex Bluemound's Charged Up, very strong in Ransom and Rock Acre Blackhawk blood. His noteworthy performance came in the second brace, starting at 8:52 from the backside hilltop area, with Surfer attacking the heavy cover with reckless abandon, his efforts paying off with three well-mannered finds and a stop to flush on pheasants. Surfer ran stronger as the time passed, finishing with a far-reaching cast.

Fourth was Sunset Creek Uptown Girl, liver-marked pointer female also owned by Mark Janiec of Cranberry, New Jersey, bred by Mark Hughes, and handled by veteran Hall of Fame handler George Tracy. Girl is a compactly built, extremely classy female out of Ch. Double Deuce Zeke, ex R-U Ch. and multiple trial winner Braggabull, strong in the pointer blood line of Funseeker's Rebel and Calico's Thrillology. Girl was released at 3:08 from the normal Course 1 starting line and quickly demonstrated her classy way of getting through the country in well directed forward fashion. She stood high and tight near the stone pile road crossing at 15, remaining steady throughout flush, then ahead to a strong finish.

Honorable mention went to pointer female Cy's Dancing Tequila, owned and handled by 13-year-old Ella Copeland, who directed her with confidence and ability that defied her young age. The classy youngster hunted the front and dug up a pheasant, which she pointed and handled nicely. Congratulations to Ella and to her travel partner and mentor, Stacie Goodie.

The Running

Hightailing Cindy (G. Tracy) and Calico's Bright Eyes (A. Smith) started at 8:11; both ranged well ahead, with Cindy contacting a pheasant at 10, no birds for Bright Eyes.

The second brace had the third-placed winner above and the honorable mention above.

She's A Ten (M. Tracy) and Evan's Full Throttle (M. Hughes) both ran with plenty of eye appeal. Ten pointed near midway but was a bit immature as the pheasant roared away. Throttle ("Charlie") had a solid point in heavy cover that proved unproductive. Both finished well ahead.

Hale's Kickstart Country (described above) and Pine Straw Cold Brew (M. Tracy) were off at 10:26; Brew picked up early after shortening in the heat and dense cover.

Cy's Hot Meth Express (S. Goodie) and Hightailing Candy (G. Tracy). Cy hunted hard in the heavy cover,

maintaining her medium-range effort throughout. Her lone find was handled with acceptable fall derby manners. Candy raced well ahead and was counted out at 15.

Walden's Ridge Dot Com (D. Ray) and Bully Bud (E. Saniga). Dot started with a burst of speed but was soon out of pocket and counted out. Bud showed a classy way of going, scored an early stop to flush, then suffered an unproductive before being picked up.

Sunset Creek Uptown Girl (G. Tracy) and Cape Point Wildfire (D. Ray). Girl's fourth-place finish is described above. Wildfire rendered a challenging effort with a well-directed forward ground race and a nicely handled pheasant find at 22, shortening a bit at the end.

Peek A Bull (E. Saniga) and Bluebar Index (M. Tracy). Bull hunted hard to the front, but his only contact was a stop to flight on a pheasant. Index ran wide but failed to contact game.

Lonetree's Tanqueray (D. Ray) and Hightailing Pink (K. Joyce). Tanqueray started strong, pointed at 14, but picked up for a breach of manners. Pink's winning performance is described earlier.

Hightailing Peach (M. Tracy) and Cerllon Stone (M. Hughes). Peach handled well forward while maintaining medium range and scoring a well-handled find at 22 near road crossing, finishing well ahead. Stone hunted hard and ranged wide; his only stand at 28 unproductive.

Bloomington, Ohio, September 23
Judges: Tony Bingham and Joe Lordi
62ND NATIONAL SHOOTING DOG FUTURITY
- 19 Pointers and 1 Setter

1st-HIGHTAILING PINK, F1714949, pointer female, by Cheyenne Jack-Hightailing Maggie. Kevin Joyce, owner and handler.

2d-HALE'S KICKSTART COUNTRY, F1710929, pointer female, by Game Surge-Hale's High Kick. Chris Sellers & Doug Ray, owners; Doug Ray, handler.

3d-BRYANT'S SUNSET SILVER SURFER, F1708719, pointer male, by Haney's Silver Dollar-Bluemound's Charged Up. Mark Janiec, owner; Mike Tracy, handler.

4th-SUNSET CREEK UPTOWN GIRL, F1713966, pointer female, by Double Deuce Zeke-Braggabull. Mark Janiec, owner; George Tracy, handler.

NGSPA REGION 8 CLASSICS

Association's First-Ever 30-Minute Classics Series

By Keith Richardson | Cheyenne, Wyoming | September 26, 2025

The Region 8 Championship was a success and was followed by the Region 8 Classic, which is the first-ever 30-minute NGSPA Classic. The NGSPA Board approved these Classics with the intention of providing a venue for NGSPA participants to qualify their dogs for the NGSPA Nationals without having to run in AKC 30-minute trials. We used the out-and-back course in the entire three-mile Habitat, which does not require the dogs to be booted. There were plenty of wily Huns and chukar on the course to test the steadiness of all dogs.

Two pros stayed after Region 8 to run the Classic: Dan DiMambro and Rich Robertson. We were happy to welcome a newcomer to the NGSPA, Bob Toney from Iowa. He showed



NGSPA Region 8 Amateur Shooting Dog Classic (first row, l-r): Kirk Loftin, Dawn Rogers, Sheldon Rogers, Keith Richardson, Bobbi Richardson, and Jadie Rayfield. (Front row, l-r): Sherri Tangsrud with Stoney Hill's NK Deadman's Hand.

up with two nice dogs and ran them in the Region 8 and in the Classic. Several amateurs stayed over to run

as well: Mike Patrick, Kirk Loftin, and Sherri Tangsrud. Two super-qualified judges stayed to help: Sheldon



NGSPA Region 8 Open All-Age Classic (first row, l-r): Rich Robertson Jr., Sherri Tangsrud, Dawn Rogers, Sheldon Rogers, Keith Richardson, Bobbi Richardson, Jadie Rayfield, and Dan DiMambro. (Front row, l-r): Kirk Loftin with Uodibar's Keystone Cowboy, Adolfo Gamboa with P W High Voltage, and April DiMambro with Weideland's Slate Rock's Chisel.

Rogers and Jadie Rayfield. A special thanks to all of the same people who made Region 8 such a success.

NGSPA Region 8 Amateur Shooting Dog Classic

Judges: Sheldon Rogers and Jadie Rayfield. Starters: 6 GSPs.

Stoney Hill's NK Deadman's Hand ("Ace"), handled and owned by Kirk Loftin, earned first place.

Ace ran a strong forward race and had a find on Huns after the double gate mid-course, which he handled well with nice style.

Second and third places were withheld.

The other five dogs either went birdless or had trouble handling the birds they found, resulting in the other placements being withheld. Even though our Classics are 30-minute events, the standards are the same as for a 60-minute championship.

Cheyenne, Wyo., September 26
Judges: Jadie Rayfield and Sheldon Rogers
NGSPA REGION 8 AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG CLASSIC – 6 German Shorthairs
1st-STONY HILL'S NK DEADMAN'S HAND, F1719661, German Shorthair male, by Patrick's Hi-Tailyn Buck-Hi-Tailyn Nakia. Kirk Loftin, owner and handler.
2d-[Placement Withheld].

NGSPA Region 8 Open All-Age Classic

Judges: Sheldon Rogers and Jadie Rayfield. Starters: 6 GSPs.

Uodibar's Keystone Cowboy ("Cowboy"), handled and owned by Sherri Tangsrud, earned first place.

Cowboy had the biggest run of the stake. His huge opening cast took him through the Ferguson Gate over the double hills through the double gates. He hunted the heavy cover line of the Big Habitat.

P W High Voltage ("Ellie"), handled by Rich Robertson and owned by Keith and Bobbi Richardson, earned second place.

Ellie had a nice ground race, hanging the edges and going to likely cover throughout. She had handled nicely, had good ground speed, and excellent application.

Weideland's Slate Rock's Chisel ("Chisel"), handled by Dan DiMambro and owned by Andrew Dynkiewicz.

Chisel had a nice run but was edged out by Ellie on ground race and application.

NGSPA REGION 8 OPEN ALL-AGE CLASSIC – 6 German Shorthairs
1st-UODIBAR'S KEYSTONE COWBOY, F1689422, German Shorthair male, by Diamonds R S Texas Express-Uodibar's Bet Your Booty. Sherri Tangsrud, owner and handler.
2d-P W HIGH VOLTAGE, F1702024, German Shorthair female, by P W Ben There Done That-P W Penny Singing The Blues. Keith & Bobbi Richardson, owners; Rich Robertson Jr., handler.
3d-WEIDELAND'S SLATE ROCK'S CHISEL, F1720227, German Shorthair male, by Slaterock's Mountain Heart-Weideland's Ray of Sunshine. Andrew Dynkiewicz, owner; Dan DiMambro, handler.



NGSPA Region 8 Open Shooting Dog Classic (first row, l-r): Rich Robertson Jr., Dawn Rogers, Sheldon Rogers, Keith Richardson, Bobbi Richardson, Jadie Rayfield, and Kirk Loftin. (Front row, l-r): Adolfo Gamboa with P W Catch Me If You Can and Sherri Tangsrud with Stoney Hill's NK Deadman's Hand.

NGSPA Region 8 Open Shooting Dog Classic

Judges: Sheldon Rogers and Jadie Rayfield. Starters: 6 GSPs.

P W Catch Me If You Can ("Sprint"), handled by Rich Robertson, owned by Keith and Bobbi Richardson, earned first place.

Stoney Hill's NK Deadman's Hand ("Ace"), handled and owned by Kirk Loftin, earned second place.

Third place was withheld.

NGSPA REGION 8 OPEN SHOOTING DOG CLASSIC – 6 German Shorthairs
1st-P W CATCH ME IF YOU CAN, F1705761, German Shorthair female, by P W Evolution's Recreation-P W Race To The Front. Keith & Bobbi Richardson, owners; Rich Robertson Jr., handler.
2d-STONEY HILL'S NK DEADMAN'S HAND, F1719661, German Shorthair male, by Patrick's Hi-Tailyn Buck-Hi-Tailyn Nakia. Kirk Loftin, owner and handler.

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NORTHWEST CHUKAR CHAMPIONSHIPS

Championship Series Held On New Grounds

By Jeremy Skousen | Ontario, Oregon | September 26, 2025

Due to the success of the spring trial, the Northwest Chukar Championships and the National Amateur Shooting Dog Championship were held at the new grounds about 10 miles outside of Ontario, Oregon, off Moore's Hollow Road. This venue offers many benefits, but the biggest, in this reporter's mind, is that the trials are run strictly on wild birds. Chukar, Hungarian partridge, and California quail can be found in the sagebrush-covered hills. Our thanks go out to Alex Mauck, Kris Wall, and Bill Owen for spending the time to secure the grounds this fall and for mapping out the courses. Thanks to Kris Wall for gear lunches and to Alex Mauck, with his new hip, for driving the dog truck with his sidekick, Frank Bright.

There were many people on the new grounds during the running of the trials, and all enjoyed the venue.

The Boise Valley Pointing Dog Club would like to thank Jim and Martha Ledington, Phil and Sharon Bowden, Alex Mauck and Christina Wall, Bill Owen, and all the others who helped in making these trials successful. Without the efforts of all these people, the Chukar trials would not have been possible. Also, the club would like to thank the attendees and professionals who come each year. The BVPDC would also like to extend our deepest gratitude to the landowners, Purina, SportDOG, Big Gun Kennel, Conkey's Outdoors, and the AFTCA for the sponsorship of these trials.

**Boise Valley Pointing Dog Club
Ontario, Ore., September 26**

**Judges: Jim Ledington and Kris Wall
OPEN ALL-AGE**

– 2 Pointers and 2 German Shorthairs

1st-BK DIALING LANCELOT, F1705199, pointer female, by Sand Mountain Jim-Cold Creek Laurie Girl. Jeff & Lisa Walter, owners; Jeff Walter, handler.

2d-WESTERN CONFIDENCE, F1705075, pointer male, by True Confidence-Red Sunshine. Ryan Mulcahy & Jessica Vandembush, owners; Ryan Mulcahy, handler.



Larry Brech Memorial Classic Derby (front, l-r): Phil Bowden, Sergio Velez with Circle BK Wanted, Jim Ledington with Painted Owyhee Ky, and Jerone Boggs with Hadley Deputy OBG. (Back, l-r): Duke Johnson, Mel Lueck, Jeff Walter, and Ryan Mulcahy.

**Judges: Phil Bowden and Bill Owen
OPEN DERBY – 8 Pointers, 1 Setter,
and 2 German Shorthairs**

1st-WILD CONFIDENCE, F1721903, pointer female, by Light of Day-Perkins Beautiful Disaster. Ryan Mulcahy, owner and handler.

2d-WENDY LOU'S UTE, F1709785, pointer female, by Light of Day-Perkins Beautiful Disaster. Buddy Petersen, owner; Ryan Mulcahy, handler.

3d-FOXGLOVES DIAMONDS ARE WILD. [Placement Voided].

**Judges: Jim Ledington and Kris Wall
OPEN SHOOTING DOG – 2 Pointers, 1 Setter,
2 Brittany's, and 4 German Shorthairs**

1st-BK SCAR LIT, F1725417, pointer male, by Bittersweet War Cry-Bittersweet Recovery. Sergio Velez, owner; Lisa Walter, handler.

2d-FOXGLOVES DIAMONDS IN THE RUFF, F1709801, German Shorthair male, by Snowy River's Strut'n N Cuttin-Foxgloves White Diamonds. Brian Hill, owner and handler.

3d-RAMEY'S ELHEW INDEPENDENCE, F1695977, pointer male, by Amarugia Elhew Heir Strike-Rich's Elhew Pepper. Jeff Ramey & Melanie, owners; Mel Lueck, handler.

The National Amateur Chukar Shooting Dog Championship ran over the weekend; that report is separate. Then the Chukar trials started.

Larry Brech Memorial Open Derby Classic

In the Larry Brech Memorial Open Derby Classic, Circle BK Wanted, owned and handled by Sergio Velez, was named first, with a pleasing race and a strong finish. The young

English setter female shined during her half hour. Second place went to Painted Owyhee Ky, owned and handled by Jim Ledington, impressing the judges with a searching race. Third place, new to the grounds, was Jerone Boggs, who owns and handled Hadley Deputy OBG, the pointer female with a wide race and solid finish. Judges Mel Lueck and Jeff Walter were attentive and positive in their judging, encouraging all handlers and apprising the young dogs of their future potential.

**Judges: Mel Lueck and Jeff Walter
LARRY BRECH MEMORIAL OPEN DERBY
CLASSIC – 8 Pointers, 2 Setters,
and 1 German Shorthair**

1st-CIRCLE BK WANTED, F1719937, setter female, by Circle B Wanted Ryder-Coyote Creek Miss Lacy. Sergio Velez, owner and handler.

2d-PAINTED OWYHEE KY, F1708747, pointer male, by Miller's Total Eclipse-Painted Owyhee Breeze. Jim Ledington, owner and handler.

3d-HADLEY DEPUTY OBG, F1712179, pointer female, by Miller's Blindsider-Hadley's Honky Tonk Song. Jerone Boggs, owner and handler.

Northwest Chukar Open Shooting Dog Championship

The Northwest Chukar Open Shooting Dog Championship was next, judged by Lisa Walter and Chris Perkins. The champion was Miller's Newest Version, owned and



Northwest Chukar Open Shooting Dog Championship (front, l-r): Jim Ledington, Sergio Velez, The Controller, The Foreman. **(Back, l-r):** Jeff Walter, Bill Owen, Lisa Walter, Chris Perkins, Phil Bowden, Jerone Boggs, Frank Bright, and Alex Mauck, joined by two future trialers.

handled by Bill Owen. The stylish pointer female had an impressive forward race and handled kindly for her handler. She pointed a covey and had a stop to flush, which is common on wild bird trials. She set a high bar in the second brace.

Runner-up was Circle B Wanted Ryder, a setter male owned by Phil Bowden and run by Sergio Velez. Ryder ran in the third brace and started with a non-productive, then showed his class with a big race and strong finish. His two covey finds were enough to secure the runner-up spot.

Birds were seen in every brace; unfortunately, for some of the dogs, they were ridden up instead of located. The weather was dry and hot, making scenting conditions difficult.

Judges: Chris Perkins and Lisa Walter
NORTHWEST CHUKAR OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats]
 – 8 Pointers and 2 Setters

Winner-MILLER'S NEWEST VERSION, F1696284, pointer female, by Miller's Upgraded Version-Miller's Special Edition. Bill Owen, owner and handler.
Runner-Up-CIRCLE B WANTED RYDER, F1702409, setter male, by T's American Gunfighter-Circle B Burning Stardust. Phil Bowden, owner; Sergio Velez, handler.

Northwest Chukar Open All-Age Championship

The Northwest Chukar Open All-Age Championship, a National Qualifier, started with cool mornings, but the heat quickly caught up. The overcast skies were a welcome change, but some rain caused a slight delay.

The champion was Circle B Wanted Ryder with a very powerful start, with a move on the right side of the course. His two finds were in the second half of his hour, and he perfectly handled a covey at the 40-minute mark, then a single seven minutes later. His finish was forward, and despite the afternoon heat, he was still seeking game.

Runner-up was High Mountdan Man, owned and handled by Jerone Boggs. "Dan" ran in the second brace of the second day and had a fast start, sharing a non-productive with his bracemate at 14. He continued searching for birds and was eventually rewarded with a find near the end of the hour. He handled his find perfectly and went on to finish his hour.

The judges, Ray Larrondo and Jeremy Skousen, were in complete agreement on the winners.

Judges: Ray Larrondo and Jeremy Skousen
NORTHWEST CHUKAR OPEN ALL-AGE CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats]
 – 8 Pointers and 8 Setters

Winner-CIRCLE B WANTED RYDER, F1702409, setter male, by American Gunfighter-Circle B Burning Stardust. Phil Bowden, owner; Sergio Velez, handler.
Runner-Up-HIGH MOUNTDAN MAN, F1702088, pointer male, by Dominator's Rebel Heir-Rebel Dreamer. Jerone Boggs, owner and handler.

National Amateur Chukar Shooting Dog Championship

The 2025 National Amateur Chukar Shooting Dog Championship was held during the Northwest Chukar Championships at the Moore's Hollow grounds outside Ontario, Oregon. It seems fitting that chukar were heard calling the morning the trial began, as the venue is a wild bird only trial, it tests the dogs and handlers in a way that is unique in the sport. Our thanks go out to the AFTCA and Piper Huffman, as well as our sponsors: Purina, Garmin, Haggis Saddle, Gun Dog Supply, CSI Saddlepads, USRider, Big Gun Kennel, and Conkeys Outdoors. And to Alex Mauck, Kris Wall, and Bill Owen for spending the time to secure the grounds this fall, and for mapping out the courses.

The Boise Valley Pointing Dog Club would like to thank Jim



Northwest Chukar Open All-Age Championship (front, l-r): Phil Bowden, Sergio Velez with Circle B Wanted Ryder, Sharon Bowden, Jerone Boggs with High Mountdan Man, Jeremy Skousen, and Frank Bright. **(Back, l-r):** Bruce Hale, Jeff Walter, Lisa Walter, Bill Owen, Jim Ledington, Brad McCardle, and Ray Larrondo.

Ledington, Phil and Sharon Bowden, for their tireless efforts, as well as the fine judges, Ryan Mulcahy and Sergio Velez.

The trial drew strong interest, and a total of 10 braces were run over two days, and the placements were swept by long-time trialer Bill Owen. The judges agreed to name Miller's Concealed Weapon, owned and handled by Bill Owen, the champion. The striking setter male had a strong forward race and a single find on chukar at the 48-minute mark. The champion searched the hills for his game and proved his championship caliber for the entire hour.

The runner-up was Erin's Grey Ghost, a pointer male. Ghost ran in the first brace and had a strong race with punching moves throughout the hour. His two stops-to-flushes, one early at 4, and the second just after the mid-point, proved his efforts to locate the wily birds of the sagebrush-covered high desert require total effort.

The Rest of the Running

Brace 1: Ozzie Trigger (Jeff Walter) and the runner-up champion, Erin's Grey Ghost (Bill Owen). Ghost's hour was already reported. Trigger had a lateral race that resulted in a stop-to-flush at 33.

Brace 2: Man O War (Bruce Hale) and Perkins Diamond Cutter (Chris Perkins). Man started strong but succumbed to the warm and dry conditions. Cutter was also slowed down by the conditions.

Brace 3: Mauck's Wyeast Owyhee Dallee (owned by Alex Mauck but handled by Mel Lueck) and KC Moen's Freedom's Bell (Scott Kragerud). Dallee started strong but shortened up for the last half hour. Bell also had a very promising start, but couldn't keep up the pace for the whole hour.

Brace 4: High Mountdan Man (Jerome Boggs) and Painted Hank (Jim Ledington). Birds were seen during the brace for both dogs, and nice casts were noted.

Brace 5: Dunfur's Big Timber (Anthony Bucknam) and Ready or Not (Keith Anderson). Timber had a strong race despite the heat, with two unproductives, but pleasing to the judges. Ready or Not didn't finish the hour, not pleasing the handler.

Brace 6: Champion Miller's Concealed Weapon (Bill Owen) and Acadia Mountain Lane Maggs (Casey Gibbens). Weapon's race was previously recorded. Maggs was unable to locate any game.



National Amateur Chukar Shooting Dog Championship (front, l-r): Bruce Hale, Jim Ledington with Miller's Concealed Weapon, Alex Mauck with Erin's Grey Ghost, Sergio Velez, and Frank Bright. (Back, l-r): Phil Bowden, Lisa Hale, Mel Lueck, Brian Hill, Bill Owen, Ryan Mulcahy, Scott Kragerud, Lisa Walter, and Jeff Walter.

Brace 7: Trail Blazin White Lightening (Lisa Walter) and Touch's Jimi Thing (Chris Perkins). Lightening had a shorter race with no bird contacts. Thing had two unproductives which hampered his hour.

Brace 8: Mauck's Wyeast Molly (owned by Alex Mauck and handled by Mel Lueck) and Dunfurs Former Athlete (Anthony Bucknam). Molly

didn't complete the hour and was picked up by the handler. Athlete had a big race and one non-productive but impressed the judges.

Brace 9: Hale's Honey Badger (Bruce Hale) and Bells Yellowstone Pride (Keith Anderson). Badger didn't have a game contact, and the heat took its toll for the last half hour. Pride had a strong race despite the heat, but no birds.

Brace 10: Miller's Newest Version (Bill Owen) and Mauck's Wyeast Owyhee Ajay (owned by Alex Mauck and handled by Mel Lueck). Version had a nice race despite running in the worst heat of the trial. Ajay also had a good race and despite the heat, filled the course.

Judges: Ryan Mulcahy and Sergio Velez
NATIONAL AMATEUR CHUKAR SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats]
 – 11 Pointers, 5 Setters, and 4 German Shorthairs
Winner-MILLER'S CONCEALED WEAPON, F1699549, setter male, by Miller's Black Butte-Alaqua Dee. Bill Owen, owner and handler.
Runner-Up-ERIN'S GREY GHOST, F1706514, pointer male, by Erin's Grey Justice-Erin's Miss Sam Houston. Bill Owen, owner and handler.

REGION 13 (AFTCA) AMATEUR WALKING SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP

By Tyler Miller | Meredith, Michigan | September 26, 2025

The Michigan Amateur Field Trial Club hosted the annual Region 13 Amateur Walking Shooting Dog Championship beginning September 26, 2025, at the Gladwin Field Trial Area in Meredith, Michigan.

Maintained by the Michigan DNR, the Gladwin Field Trial Area is a remarkable piece of bird dog and conservation heritage with over a century of history as a trial ground. The landscape is a mix of scrub oak, aspen, pine, and the occasional cedar on hilly terrain with low-lying marshy areas, sandy soil, and an undergrowth of fern and teaberry. With the help of field trial clubs maintaining the courses during summer workdays, the state has done an incredible job managing and preserving this unique property.

Dave Terhaar of Lake Ann, Michigan, and Marc Forman of Prattsburgh, New York, were our judges, holding the entries to a high standard of conduct and performance. Richard Hollister provided horses for the judges and acted as stakes manager. Special thanks go to Mark Dozeman for providing breakfast over the weekend of the trial and to Bob Wheelock, president of the MAFTC, for coordinating lunches and Saturday's fried chicken dinner.

The Shooting Dog Championship began at 8 a.m. September 26 with a cool, overcast sky that quickly heated up as the sun rose and the clouds blew over. Twenty-nine dogs had drawn and 27 broke away in 13 braces and a bye. Heat was the main challenge of the day for all the

handlers, who worked hard to keep their dogs cool and hydrated. Despite the heat, however, the birds were in abundance, with 17 grouse and two woodcock walked up along the courses, with 10 of those grouse and one woodcock flushed on the first two courses alone.

The Running

The first brace broke away on the dense, newly cut courses 4 and 5, with Lonnie Rademacher handling Springpond's Gibby and Tom Fruchey handling Stan the Man. Springpond's Gibby hit point at the 35-minute mark, yielding a woodcock and a shot at 37. The always-forward Stan the Man pointed a bird on the right side of the trail at 17. Stan the Man found a further two woodcock at the 42 and 47-minute marks.



Region 13 Amateur Walking Shooting Dog Championship (front, l-r): Moss Meadow Able with Ken Moss (owner) and Back Creek Lucy with Robert Ellis. (Back, l-r): Dave Terhaar (judge) and Marc Forman (judge). [Photo Credit: Tyler Miller].

The second brace set Bob Wheelock's Tupelo Honey against Back Creek Lucy, owned by Stevie Graham and handled by Michael Brown. Back Creek Lucy had an incredible string of finds on a forward race, pointing a pair of woodcock at 17, another at 20, and then more still with single woodcock finds at 21, 30, 34, and 41, duly earning her the runner-up placement in the trial.

Brace 3 saw both Ken DeLong's Justice and J. P. Jones/Steve McKalko's Hifives Rolling Stone make solid woodcock finds in the final 10 minutes of their run. At 55, Justice pointed woodcock to the left of the trail, while Hifives Rolling Stone pointed a woodcock at 53 and 57 to the left and right of the course, respectively.

In Brace 4, Rachel Butler's Kelly and Dale Ash's Fat Bottom Girl ran hard across challenging terrain. At 40, Kelly's bell went silent, yielding a limb-find grouse to the right of the course flushed at 45. The find earned Kelly an honorable mention from the judges.

Brian Ralph's Ralph's Chasehill Rip and Mark Dozeman's Mac Daddy broke away in the next brace. Mac Daddy had two woodcock finds at 18

and 22, with a grouse find at 27.

The second day of the trial began much like the first: cool, cloudy, and with a hint of mist in the air. Though as the sun came up, the temperature rose quickly, baking off all the moisture the early morning had brought. The first brace of the day was the eighth of the event, and Rachel Butler's Shady broke away against Russell Fazio's Hitail Roxy Afield at 8 a.m. Both dogs ran hard, with Shady working at the edge of bell range and Hitail Roxy Afield making big casts in an aggressive, forward race.

Ken Moss's Moss Meadow Seeker and Brian Ralph's Seldom Rest Jack competed in the 10th brace, with Moss Meadow Seeker making a grouse find at 14, as well as woodcock finds at 24, 27, and 53.

Brent Peters's Baxter's Wild Bill and Russell Fazio's Hypointe Monarch Express ran the 11th brace. Hypointe Monarch Express ran a forward race with a remarkable limb-find grouse at 24 to the left of the course, earning an honorable mention from the judges.

In Brace 12, Ken Moss's Moss Meadow Able and Bruce Mueller's Roy broke away on hilly, varied

terrain with dense, young aspen in areas, and open, mature wood in others. Moss Meadow Able ran a deliberate, forward race, making big moves across the landscape, finding a grouse just past the 18-minute mark.

Moss Meadow Able's impressive run, grouse find, and strong finish at the hottest part of the day made him a clear winner in the eyes of the judges. Of the runner-up, Back Creek Lucy, the judges' decision came from her forward race and the sheer number of finds she made.

Meredith, Mich., September 26

Judges: Marc Forman and Dave Terhaar

**REGION 13 AMATEUR WALKING SHOOTING
DOG CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats]**

– 9 Pointers and 20 Setters

Winner-MOSS MEADOW ABLE, F1703648, setter male, by Ponderosa Mac-Moss Meadow Lil. Ken Moss, owner and handler.

Runner-Up-BACK CREEK LUCY, F1683067, setter female, by Peyton's Legacy Kip-Girl's Little Dixie. Steve Graham, owner; Mike Brown, handler.

Amateur Puppy

The Puppy stakes began at 9 a.m. on Saturday, September 27, on the Gladwin Field Trial Area's Puppy course, which forms a loop in the northeast corner of the property between courses 6 and 7. Ten dogs drew and nine broke away. Ken DeLong's Mercy took first place, Russell Fazio's Stormy took second, and Steve McKalko's Brutus took third place.

Judges Tom Butler and Mike Lareau said the winning pups showed all the checkmarks for a promising trial dog, and all three finished strong. The judges noted that Mercy consistently worked the course at over 100 yards, showing style and hunting to objectives. Stormy made big moves, fading in and out of bell range while maintaining a forward race. Brutus had a wild, showy run showing promise for future events.



Amateur Puppy (front, l-r): Lucy's Just Have Mercy with Ken DeLong (owner) and Hitail Perfect Storm with Russell Fazio (owner). **(Back):** Tom Butler (judge). [Not pictured: Haywood's Brutus Eclipse and Steve McKalko (owner) and Mike Lareau (judge)]. [Photo Credit: Tyler Miller].

Judges: Tom Butler and Mike Lareau
AMATEUR PUPPY – 2 Pointers, 5 Setters,
and 3 Brittany's

1st-LUCY'S JUST HAVE MERCY, F1723542, pointer female, by Highbanks Final Justice-Highbanks Diamond Lucy. Ken DeLong, owner and handler.
 2d-HITAIL PERFECT STORM, F1720599, setter female, by Dun Rovens Zip-Castle Rock's Autumn Breeze. Russ Fazio, owner and handler.
 3d-HAYWOOD'S BRUTUS ECLIPSE, F1727341, Brittany male, by Hawk V-O'Callaghan's Luna Eclipse. Steve McKalko, owner and handler.

Amateur Derby

The Amateur Derby began at 8 a.m., Sunday, September 28. The judges were Eric Naus and Scott Forman. Fifteen dogs drew and broke away. In the first brace, Ken Moss's Searcher ran against Bob Wheelock's Billie. Billie ran a forward

race, but Searcher had productive woodcock finds at the 15 and 20-minute marks, earning him third place.

The second brace saw Russell Fazio's Dixie against Steve McKalko's Ausable Junction Odin. Dixie had two woodcock finds at minute one and minute five of the brace, as well as at the 12-minute mark. Odin had a find at 30.

The third brace set Juni Jones, handled by Steve McKalko, against Ken DeLong's Mercy. Juni Jones handled well; though, Mercy's two woodcock finds at 27 and 29 in a solid run would secure her second place.

Tom Butts's Heartbreaker Bud Light and Steve McKalko's Sunrise Lea Star made up Brace 5. Sunrise Lea star pointed a ruffed grouse at minute three.

Tom Butler's Wren and Brian Ralph's Seldom Rest Pork Chop ran Brace 6. The final 10 minutes proved interesting with a walked-up woodcock and grouse at 24 and 26, respectively, but Tom Butler's Wren made a strong grouse find at 25 that brought her first place.

The judges said that all the winning



Amateur Derby (front, l-r): American Renaissance with Tom Butler (owner), Lucy's Just Have Mercy with Ken DeLong (owner), and Moss Meadow Searcher with Ken Moss. **(Back, l-r):** Eric Naus (judge) and Tyler Miller (reporter). [Photo Credit: Ann Naus].

dogs ran strong races, showing good application in finding birds. Ken Moss's Searcher and Ken DeLong's Mercy both found two woodcock in less-than-ideal conditions, but it was the impressive grouse find that set Tom Butler's Wren apart as the winner.

Judges: Scott Forman and Eric Naus
AMATEUR DERBY – 7 Pointers and 8 Setters

1st-AMERICAN RENAISSANCE, F1714640, pointer male, by Hifives Rolling Stone-Speed Dialing Kaia. Thomas Butler, owner and handler.
 2d-LUCY'S JUST HAVE MERCY, F1723542, pointer female, by Highbanks Final Justice-Highbanks Diamond Lucy. Kenric DeLong, owner and handler.
 3d-MOSS MEADOW SEARCHER, F1709320, setter male, by Moss Meadow Seeker-Tupelo Honey. Ken Moss, owner and handler.

NATIONAL BRITTANY OPEN GROUSE CHAMPIONSHIP ASSN.

Back Creek Lucy Wins Theda Langstaff Memorial Open Shooting Dog

By Kenny DeLong | Meredith, Michigan | October 2, 2025

Unseasonably warm (hot!) temperatures in the 80s were the daily rule for most of the trial, putting dogs' endurance and stamina to the test. We had a nice-sized entry of quality dogs. The Club would like to thank Greg Blair and Purina for their sponsorship and steadfast support of cover dog events across the country. We express our gratitude to our faithful wranglers, the Hollister Family. Mr. Steve McKalko provided sumptuous vittles as well as marshaling. Josh and Max Bambach tirelessly walked/marshaled nearly every brace on the weekend, brought desserts, and

were always available to help out. Brent and Denise Peters helped direct traffic and marshal as well. Tammi Savage handles the myriad of administrative and clerical tasks in addition to serving as something of a Sergeant-at-Arms on the grounds. Many folks helped out in other ways by moving vehicles, helping get dogs to the line, and otherwise keeping the trial moving. We are grateful for all of the entries and volunteer efforts.

The annual renewal of the Theda Langstaff Memorial Open Shooting Dog started things off Thursday morning, with 40 dogs competing over two days. Conditions were

tough—hot and dry. When the dust settled, judges Dave Heavlin and J. P. Jones liked the two setter females in the next-to-the-last brace of the stake for the top two placements. Running on Course 7 Friday afternoon, Stevie Graham's Lucy, handled by Rich Hollister, scored on grouse and woodcock to earn the blue, with Mark Hughes guiding Molly to multiple finds and coming in a close second. Kenny DeLong's pointer male, little ol' man Justice, ran forward and hard earlier in the day on course 15, pointing a woodcock nicely in a bottom—good for the yellow ribbon.



Theda Langstaff Memorial Open Shooting Dog: Chuck Langstaff, Rich Hollister with Back Creek Lucy, Dave Hughes, Mark Hughes with Mulberry Fields Molly, J. P. Jones (judge), Dave Heavlin (judge), and Kenny DeLong with Faith's Maximum Justice.

Saturday morning saw the Restricted Breed Open Grouse Championship start on Course 8. Veteran Pro Tammy Chaffee and Chris Wasserman were in the saddle under conditions that were brutally hot all day, especially in the afternoon, with the heat taking its toll on several of the entrants. The tight-knit team of handler Christy Helmes and her busy, birdy liver Brittany Kaylee owned Courses 12 and 13 in the very late morning. Kaylee hunted hard and to the front for the hour, hitting a grouse hard early on Course 12 before the crossing, then nailing a woodcock on 13. She finished forward in spite of the heat, scouring the cover and securing the runner-up spot. Last year's champion, Kenny DeLong's Brittany male, ran in the last brace of the day, with temperatures in the mid to upper 80s. Shooter laid it down for the

entire hour; always powerful and well forward, searching the most likely cover, while always in touch with his handler. At the 40-minute mark, crossing from Course 1 up the hill, beginning Course 2, 10 yards into the cover, Shooter hit the brakes hard. As handler and judge Wasserman approached, a grouse blew out. His bracemate, the Irish Setter Asa, showed up to back the Britt, who was still standing staunchly. Just then, another grouse noisily exited its deadfall hideout to the left, both dogs motionless, turning their heads to mark the flight. A pumped-up Shooter was released to complete the hour, defying the heat with the stamina and drive to earn him the championship title.

On the other end of the grounds Saturday morning, judges Tom Winters and Bob Ackerman watched puppies. They had quite a variety to

look at. Some traveled far and wide, some closer to home. Three pups applied the "Goldilocks" principle and were just about right. Famous Fantastic Fazio handled his setter female Stormy to a strong showing that earned them the top spot. Kenny DeLong's pointer female, Mercy, blended forward, searching both cover and edges to claim the red. George Najor's setter male Joey impressed the judges with a strong race for third place.

Sunday morning, the Open Derby started on course under moderately cooler conditions, with Jeff "Keystone" Keller and Brian Ralph judging the nine braces. Birds were at a bit of a premium, but the precocious setter, Hippie Girl, handled by Rich Hollister, ran strong and found a couple of grouse to secure first place. Fantastic Fazio guided pointer female Dixie through Course 8 to score on grouse and nabbed the red ribbon. The pointer Mercy and setter Whip battled it out in the second brace on Course 5, with Dr. Pershke's classy charge getting the nod for the third-place spot.

We had a late lunch and announcements, with folks glad to finish by early afternoon after a long, busy four days of trialing. We would like to thank all participants and our judges. We are blessed to have great grounds and good folks who enjoy the fellowship and competition. We look forward to seeing everyone in the Spring. God Bless Us Everyone!



Restricted Breed Open Grouse Championship: Tammi Savage, Kenny DeLong with K Del's Eagle Magnum Hotshot, Tammy Chaffee (judge), Chris Wasserman (judge), and Christy Helmes with Christys Kaylee Girl.



Open Puppy: Russ Fazio with Hitail Perfect Storm, Tom Winters (judge), Kenny DeLong with Lucy's Just Have Mercy, and George Najor with Sunrise Double Barrell Star.

Meredith, Mich., October 2

Judges: Dave Heavlin and John P. Jones
THEDA LANGSTAFF MEMORIAL OPEN
SHOOTING DOG – 21 Pointers, 18 Setters,
and 1 Brittany

1st-BACK CREEK LUCY, F1683067, setter female, by Peyton's Legacy Kip-Girl's Little Dixie. Steve Graham, owner; Rich Hollister, handler.

2d-MULBERRY FIELDS MOLLY, F1698754, pointer female, by Stillmeadow's Benjamin-The Eiger. Norman Meeder, owner; Mark Hughes, handler.

3d-FAITH'S MAXIMUM JUSTICE, F1660276, pointer male, by Nelson's Van Max-Wild Apple Faith. Kenny DeLong, owner and handler.

Judges: Tammy Chaffee and Chris Wasserman
RESTRICTED BREED OPEN GROUSE
CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats] – 6 Brittanys,
2 Irish Setters, and 2 German Shorthairs
 Winner-K DEL'S EAGLE MAGNUM HOTSHOT, F1685770, Brittany male, by Magnum High Velocity-K Del's Eagle's Chance to Soar. Kenny DeLong, owner and handler.
 Runner-Up-CHRISTYS KAYLEE GIRL, R331522, Brittany female, by Bailey's Ramblin Rusty-Bailey's Lil Cody Wink. Christine Helmes, owner and handler.

Judges: Bob Ackerman and Tom Winters
OPEN PUPPY – 3 Pointers, 3 Setters,
and 1 Brittany
 1st-HITAIL PERFECT STORM, F1720599, setter male, by Dun Rovens Zip-Castle Rock's Autumn Breeze. Russell Fazio, owner and handler.
 2d-LUCY'S JUST HAVE MERCY, F1723542, pointer female, by Highbanks Final Justice-Highbanks Diamond Lucy. Kenny DeLong, owner and handler.
 3d-SUNRISE DOUBLE BARRELL STAR, F1721031, setter male, by Sunrise Star-Mia Star. George Najor, owner and handler.



Open Derby: Rich Hollister with Dunroven Hippie Girl, Jeff Keller (judge), Russ Fazio with Hitail Rolling Dixie, Brian Ralph (judge), Dr. Perschke with Watch Me Whip, and Mark Hughes.

Judges: Jeff Keller and Brian Ralph
OPEN DERBY – 10 Pointers and 8 Setters
 1st-DUNROVEN HIPPIE GIRL, F1713542, setter female, by Dun Rovens Drifter-Dun Rovens Midnight Eve. Richard Hollister, owner & handler.
 2d-HITAIL ROLLING DIXIE, F1714644, pointer female, by Hifives Rolling Stone-Speed Dialing Kaia. Russell Fazio, owner and handler.
 3d-WATCH ME WHIP, F1711113, setter male, by Cash Van Pioneer Scouts Man-Anna Van Frutchey Ranch. Tim Perschke, owner; Mark Hughes, handler.

REGION 19 (AFTCA) AMATEUR WALKING SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP

By Jerry Furnish | Moose Junction, Wisconsin | October 3, 2025

Friday, October 3, was the beginning of our Region 19 Amateur Walking Shooting Dog Championship, and what followed was three days of top-notch sportsmanship and stellar dog work. Weather conditions were not ideal in the woods as most braces for the championship saw over 80 degrees. The well-being of dogs and participants was on our minds, and the outpouring of help to carry extra water, locate bells, and go the extra mile to help was noted and appreciated. As noted by Judge Eric Saetre, "It was amazing how everyone pitched in." Thank you to all who came and walked braces. This event could not have been successful without you.

The Moose River Grouse Dog Club would also like to thank the following for another successful event:

To all club members who helped clear courses, helped with prep work leading up to the trial, and those who helped during the trial, including Tim Kaufman, Ed Graddy, Bill Frahm, Sig Degitz, Lindsey Saetre, Eric Saetre, Ben Mergens, Tucker Johnson, Colin Peterson, Jeff Marek, and Greg Johnson; Judges Eric Saetre, Bill



Region 19 Amateur Walking Shooting Dog Championship: Eric Saetre (judge), Scott Anderson with Planet Queen, Ben Fleischacker with Birdogn True Confidence, and Bill Frahm (judge).

Frahm, Tim Kaufman and Ed Graddy; Douglas County Forestry Department for their cooperation in allowing us to hold our event on county forest land; Purina for sponsoring and providing awards; Trent Sprague at Moose Junction Lounge for the wonderful lunches, fantastic campground facilities, and a great place to serve as our trial headquarters; to everyone who participated and entered dogs, the Moose River Grouse Dog Club is extremely grateful.

The Champion

"Rhonda" (Scott Anderson), a setter female, started on the Bear Bait Course and ran a really strong brace in very warm and dry conditions. She was in the second brace on Saturday morning, and the temperatures were already 80°F when she started her brace. She pushed forward the whole brace, had an unproductive at 15, and Scott let her try to relocate. She covered the area with intensity but was unable to produce a bird. She moved on

and continued hitting likely covers. Scott did a great job bringing her in regularly for water. She was moving well despite the heat. As we crossed the snowmobile trail and moved toward a young cut, Rhonda pushed forward over a small rise. As she dropped down with 45 seconds left in the brace, her bell went silent. Scott went down the hill and moved into the cut on the left side of the trail. As he walked in, a grouse burst out of the cover, and Rhonda was observed standing staunch about 10 yards away. Time expired, and Rhonda bested the tough conditions with a strong run and bird work worthy of a champion.

The Runner-up Champion

“Sadie” (Ben Fleischacker), a pointer female, started on the Beaver Dam Course and from the beginning ran out front, and at halfway, she was still running with purpose and intensity. She made a big move into a good-looking alder swamp and held until found. No bird was produced on that point. Then, with about 15 minutes left, her bell went silent again. This time, she was found in a thick patch of brush, and her point was very intense. Ben moved in, and a WC got up right under her nose. Sadie was a statue through the process, and when Ben released her, she again raced to the front. Ben brought her in for water with just over three minutes to go. As



Open Derby: John McKellop with Grouse Trails Fire Dancer, Brian VanderMaazen with Kenzie's Cookies & Cream, and Roger King with Grouse Trails Chippewa Warrior.

she broke away, Frahm said, “Make these her best three minutes,” and she did. She moved to our left about 30 yards off the trail. As she was searching for scent, a grouse flew out of a tree just above her. She stopped instantly and held point. As Ben moved toward her, another grouse got up just behind her, and she held that as well. She definitely saved her best for the last three minutes. Very stylish and intense in both points, ran with purpose and hit all the likely spots again, fighting through hot, dry conditions.

Moose Junction, Wis., October 3
Judges: Bill Frahm and Eric Saetre
REGION 19 AMATEUR WALKING SHOOTING
DOG CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats]
– 8 Pointers and 15 Setters

Winner-PLANET QUEEN, F1702708, setter female, by Rufus Del Fuego-Stumbo's Scarlet. Scott Anderson, owner and handler.
Runner-Up-BIRDOGN TRUE CONFIDENCE, F1693417, pointer female, by True Confidence-Eli Elhew Birdogn. Ben Fleischacker, owner and handler.

Open Derby

“Lottie” (John McKellop) ran on “Bear Bait #2 Course” and had a nice ground race, often powering through thick cover. She stayed out front for most of the brace and was an easy handle.

“CC” (Brian VanderMaazen) ran on “New Course,” which had some nice spots to observe her running with a nice smooth gate, and stayed in good cover. According to Judge Kauffman, “She was a gem to walk behind”.

“Chip” (John McKellop) ran on “Bear Bait #1 Course” and was a little more lateral than the first two placers, but also had a stylish appearance, powerful race, and easy handle.

Congratulations to all placements.

Judges: Ed Graddy and Tim Kaufman

OPEN DERBY – 9 Pointers and 2 Setters

1st-GROUSE TRAILS FIRE DANCER, F1712856, pointer female, by Ralph's Chasehill Rip-Grouse Trails Firestorm. John McKellop, owner and handler.

2d-KENZIE'S COOKIES & CREAM, F1717431, pointer female, by Bluestem's Blackhawk Frank-Lee's Yellow Rose. Brian VanderMaazen, owner and handler.

3d-GROUSE TRAILS CHIPPEWA WARRIOR, F1710623, pointer female, by Toth's Tornado Reloaded-Grouse Trails Warrior Cat. John McKellop, owner and handler.

U.S. COMPLETE NATIONAL AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP

Lightning Flash Named Champion; Cape Point Lucky Strike, Runner-up

By John Olfson | East Windsor, Connecticut | October 4, 2025

The U.S. Complete Shooting Dog Association held its National Amateur Championship on October 4 and 5, 2025, at the Dr. John Flaherty Field Trial Area in East Windsor, Connecticut. This was the second year in a row that this Championship was held at this venue.

These grounds, known historically to old-time New England field trialers

as “Pelton's Pasture,” have seen many, many field trials, and are great grounds to show a field trial dog.

The trial was hosted by the New Britain Field Trial Club, an old New England club that typically hosts horseback trials at Flaherty but is now excited to offer class walking trials as well, under the auspices of U.S. Complete.

Judges for the event were

Marcus Ramseur of Newfield, New Jersey, and Tim Cavanaugh of East Hampton, CT. Both of these gentlemen are extremely skillful and competent individuals when it comes to anything involving bird dogs. We were very fortunate and grateful to have them.

The field trial committee consisted of me, Bill and Jayne Bonnetti, and Tom Tracy. There were many coveys

established throughout the course. The Flaherty gallery wagon followed every brace, providing spectators with the opportunity to be part of the action. In the clubhouse, Jaynie never disappoints with three hot meals a day and snacks in between.

The U.S. Complete Shooting Dog Association would also like to acknowledge all our sponsors who generously contribute to our national events. For many years now, Purina and Garmin have heavily supported us. This year, U.S. Complete entered into new partnerships with Stone Creek Outfitters, Dakota 283 Kennels, Lion Country Supply, and Union Level Leather. For this Championship, the winner received 12 bags of Purina dog food, a Garmin Pro 550 training collar, a custom embroidered handler's jacket from Stone Creek, and a \$75 Lion Country Supply gift certificate. The runner-up received six bags of Purina dog food, a Garmin Bark Limiter Deluxe, a Dakota 283 Dine-and-Dash feed and water system, and a \$50 gift certificate from Lion Country Supply.

You're never really sure what you might get for weather during early October in New England. This year brought calm, mostly sunny weather, on the mild side, with a backdrop of early fall foliage starting to turn, perhaps a bit prematurely, due to late summer drought stress. Cover, however, was still high, probably due to early spring rainfall, and not yet having had a frost. There were some strips mowed by the State throughout the course in some of the fields and along some of the edges.

Our Winners and Others

Lightning Flash Remington, a 6-year-old, white, orange, and ticked English setter male, proudly owned by Brian Dix, would run in the first brace and emerge as our champion.



U. S. Complete National Amateur Championship (l-r): Rich Wartens, Liam Dix, Brian Dix with Lightning Flash Remington, Gregor McCluskey, Lucas Dix, Doug Dix, Bill Bonnetti with Cape Point Lucky Strike, Marcus Ramseur (judge), John Olsson, and Tim Cavanaugh (judge).

Brian would handle him to this win. Remington ran a mature shooting dog race, utilizing all the available country, completing his casts with style on the ground. He was able to connect on quail multiple times, showing his trademark great style and advanced manners on birds.

Our runner-up champion, Cape Point Lucky Strike, is another 6-year-old English setter male. This white, black, and ticked setter was bred by and is owned by Bill and Jayne Bonnetti. He was handled by Bill. Lucky Strike's callname is "Bill," sharing the same name as his owner/handler. Bill would run in the second brace and put down a comparable performance to the champion, hitting objectives, completing his cast, and scoring multiple times on game as well. He made a particularly nice move, where he was ultimately found standing far to the front with lofty style, just before time.

According to the judges, closest to the winners was Richfield Roxy, a liver and white pointer female owned and handled by Rich Giuliano. Roxy ran in the second brace on day two. After not showing for some time,

Roxy was spotted by one of our judges, on course, standing in an open scrub oak stand where birds had moved to from the edge. Roxy would go on to finish the hour with two more nice finds.

Also completing the hour, in the third brace of the trial, was Snuff Mill Magnum Force, an orange and white setter female, owned and handled by Lanny Dellinger. The young setter showed class on the ground and also connected with quail multiple times.

Once again, the New Britain Field Trial Club and the U.S. Complete Shooting Dog Association would like to thank all our participants, as well as all our sponsors, for their support, and look forward to seeing everybody next time.

**East Windsor, Conn., October 4 – One Course
Judges: Tim Cavanaugh and Marcus Ramseur
U. S. COMPLETE NATIONAL AMATEUR
CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats] – 6 Pointers, 5
Setters, and 1 Irish Setter**

Winner-LIGHTNING FLASH REMINGTON,
F1687367, setter male, by Denco's Crockett Again-
Arctic Tundra Bird Dog. Doug Dix, owner; Brian Dix,
handler.
Runner-Up-CAPE POINT LUCKY STRIKE,
F1687954, setter male, by Awsum In Motion-Cape
Point Millbilly. Bill Bonnetti, owner and handler.

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REGION 19 (AFTCA) AMATEUR ALL-AGE CHAMPIONSHIP

Pearl Jam Nation Named Champion; Notorious Dominator's Reserve, Runner-up

By Todd Manns | Danbury, Wisconsin | October 6, 2025



Region 19 Amateur All-Age Championship (forefront, l-r): Notorious Dominator's Reserve with John Mathys and Pearl Jam Nation with Scott Jordan. (Back): Todd Manns, Don Dack, Judge Chad Chadwell (judge), Mike Northwood (judge), and Ned Meyers.

We want to thank everyone who took the time and effort to make it up to the Namekagon Barrens for the 2025 running of the Region 19 Amateur All-Age Championship. As always, the native sharptail provided a significant test, though this year presented an even greater challenge. The unusually heavy spring rains, followed by a subsequent drought, resulted in lower numbers, making locating and pointing these elusive game birds exceptionally difficult.

This year's companion Open Derby stake featured a strong entry of 16 talented dogs. It was a very competitive stake, and thankfully, an almost 30-degree drop in temperature from the previous days provided much more favorable running conditions. Our judges this year were the Johnson duo—Mark Johnson from Illinois and Mark Johnson from Wisconsin. Their discerning eyes and dedication to observing each dog's performance are always deeply appreciated. They had a number of quality dogs to choose from this year's contenders. With a strong race, quality find, and bird work at time, the winner was Erin's Banshee, handled by Sean

Pat Derrig and owned by Allen Linder. Coming in second place with a commendable performance was Prairewood's Lone Survivor, owned and handled by Todd Manns. Third place with another solid run was Erin's Forged In Fire, owned and handled by Sean Pat Derrig.

Danbury, Wis., October 6
Judges: Mark Johnson (IL) and Mark Johnson (WI)
OPEN DERBY – 16 Entries

1st-ERIN'S BANSHEE, F1713039, pointer male, by Erin's Grey Justice-Erin's Red Smoke. Allen Linder, owner; Sean Patrick Derrig, handler.

2d-PRAIREWOOD'S LONE SURVIVOR, F1721613, pointer male, by Confident Nation-Upfront's Piper. Todd Manns, owner and handler.

3d-ERIN'S FORGED IN FIRE, F1712745, pointer male, by Erin's Grey Justice-Erins Miss Stuart. Sean & Sean Patrick Derrig, owners; Sean Patrick Derrig,



Open Derby (forefront, l-r): Mark Johnson (judge), Erin's Banshee with Sean Derrig, Prairewood's Lone Survivor with Todd Manns, and Erin's Forged In Fire with Jarrett Bell. (Back): John Mathys, Fran Kelly, Bill Stapleton, Nancy Brown, Chad Chadwell, Bruce Mueller, Frank LaNasa, Allycin Bell, and L. J. Lundstrom.

handler.

In the Region 19 Amateur All-Ag Championship, we had a very strong field of competition with 28 entries. Weather conditions were ideal, ranging from the 20s to the high 50s with a fair amount of sun and light winds. Finding and pointing the wild sharptail within the dense, brushy oak habitat of the Barrens is always a challenge, but the birds become increasingly pressure-weary and wily as the season progresses, adding another layer of difficulty to successful bird work. Our sincere thanks go to our judges, seasoned field trial competitors Mike Northwood and Chad Chadwell; their expertise and careful attention ensured every dog had a fair opportunity to showcase its abilities. Our champion for the 2025 running on Course 2, with a very solid race and bird work at 38, was Pearl Jam Nation, owned and handled by Scott Jordan. Through hard work and training, Scott makes the difficult task of winning championships look easy.

This year's runner-up champion, Notorious Dominator's Reserve, with a find at 52 as he entered the Course 1 lek area, was owned and handled by John Mathys. Congratulations to both Scott and John!

Finally, I must make special mention of Don Dack, our dedicated and long-standing dog wagon driver. His unselfish commitment and incredibly hard work are absolutely indispensable to the success of our trials. Year after year, Don goes above and beyond, putting in an immense effort to ensure everything runs smoothly across the multiple courses. His tireless efforts are truly the backbone of these events, and we are profoundly grateful for his unwavering dedication.

Judges: Charles R. Chadwell and Mike Northwood
REGION 19 AMATEUR ALL-AGE CHAMPIONSHIP
[One-Hour Heats] – 26 Pointers and 2 Setters

Winner-PEARL JAM NATION, F1701309, pointer female, by Confident Nation-Notorious Rebel Woman. Scott & Julie Jordan, owners; Scott Jordan, handler.
Runner-Up-NOTORIOUS DOMINATOR'S RESERVE, F1717932, pointer male, by Notorious Dominator's Heir-Notorious Rebel Woman. John Mathys, owner and handler.

MICHIGAN WOODCOCK CHAMPIONSHIP

Stan The Man Named Champion; Springpond Rockin Sidney, Runner-up

By Robert Ellis | Gladwin, Michigan | October 7, 2025

Hosted by the Ruffed Grouse Field Trial Club in Gladwin, Michigan, this was the 36th running of this prestigious event. The club had a solid entry with 31 braces to run on the famed grounds.

We thank all who entered, as well as our judges Ben Mergens and Shane Haskins, for their time on the saddle for five days.

Thank you to all who helped to maintain a smooth-running event, moving vehicles and marshaling the braces.

A special thank you to Marc and Betsy Dozeman for the great food, including the now-famous breakfast burritos.

Thank you, Paul Tutro and Brian Wood, for your large contribution in getting the dogs to line and announcing each brace.

Thank you to Purina and Greg Blair for their support of the club and the championship.

We had one of the worst droughts in decades leading up to the trial. Conditions were tough and truly challenged dogs to rise to the occasion, especially on woodcock.

The Running

Brace 1, Course 4/5: Mulberry Fields Molly (ESF/Mark Hughes) and Clancy (RSM/Scott Chaffee)

The dogs cut loose with a big race. Clancy was making big casts that grew beyond earshot, leading Scott to ask for the tracker at 20. Molly handled nicely on the edge of bell range most of the time, but



Michigan Woodcock Championship: Ben Mergens (judge), Tom Fruchey with Stan the Man, Chris Wasserman, Theo Wasserman, Rob Ellis (reporter), Leeann Parnell, Tammy Chaffee with Springpond Rockin Sidney, and Shane Haskins (judge).

unfortunately came into the wrong side of a grouse that ended her bid.

Brace 2, Course 6/7: Anna Lake Sami (PF/M. Forman) and Stone (PM/Christy Helms).

Both dogs carried to the front through the sweet ferns, pines, and scrub oaks, and two-thirds of the way into Course 6, landed a pair of woodcock. At 40, Stone had a mishap with a grouse. Shortly after, Sami had a pair of grouse at the end of Course 6. Sami finished the hour.

Brace 3, Course 8/9: Miller's Hopped Up Version (PF/Mark Hughes) and Seldom Rest Jack (ESM/Scott Chaffee).

These two dogs were on full charge and were racing to great lengths. Mark called for the tracker at 14 and was likely a little more than Mark appreciated on this day. Jack

was dialing in, but unfortunately was tempted by the flush on a grouse find at 40.

Brace 4, Course 10/11: Ryn (ESF/Jeff Keller) and Ponderosa's Copper Penny (ESF/Robert Ellis).

The dogs broke loose and stayed on the left, carrying forward in the better cover. Penny had a grouse at 17. From that point on, Ryn's bell went unheard, and at 35, Jeff took up his tracker. Penny carried on only to have a UP at 42 and another just before the end of the hour.

Brace 5, Course 12/13: Highbanks Final Justice (PM/Scott Chaffee) and Distant Spec (PF/Mark Hughes).

Highbanks had an STF at 18. All was in order. A UP at 23 and then a WC at 38, which was picture-perfect with great composure. Spec ran a strong, deep race to no avail

with effort past the hour. Both dogs finished the hour.

Brace 6, Course 15/16: Hifive's On The Rocks (PF/Mike Lareau) and Hightail Roxy (ESF/Mark Forman).

Highfive and Roxy rolled on 15/16. Roxy had a UP at 10. Highfive backed. Highfive had a UP at 33 and 42. Both dogs went birdless, finishing the hour strong.

Brace 7, Course 1/2: Miller's Special Upgrade (PF/Mark Hughes) and Grouse Hill Princess (ESF/Mark Forman).

Both dogs had made a solid effort as the day had warmed significantly, only for each to card a UP during the hour.

Brace 8, Course 4/5: Baxter's Indian Arrowhead (ESM/Brent Peters) and Fireside Sally Forth (ESF/Tammy Chaffee).

Sally was on fire (pun intended) to a point that Tammy elected to take up the tracker at 18. At 21, Indy's bell went silent. The handler, scout, and both judges went down into the heavy cover. Unfortunately, they were unable to locate Indy during the allotted time. The tracker showed Indy still standing the target bird after a long search. All our ears led us to where Indy stopped.

Brace 9, Course 6/7: Grouse Hill Mac (ESM/Scott Forman) and Resin (ESM/Mark Forman).

Both dogs hit it hard. Mac was found standing on the edge of the scrub oaks.

Scott put a grouse up; however, Mac's desires got the best of him. Resin carded a UP at 8 and 28. Then, Resin had a nice find on a woodcock at 38. At 48, Resin had another UP and was picked up by Mark.

Brace 10, Course 8/9: Stan the Man (ESM/Tom Fruchey) and Warrior Zeke (PM/Mark Hughes).

These two dogs ran a powerful race. Stan took a long line along the small stream leading to a limb find on a mature swamp grouse buried in the alders. Stan then carried forward,

crossing onto Course 9. At 47, Stan's bell came to a screeching halt up in the poplar stand. Tom flushed a WC, and all was in order. Stan finished the hour going deep to the front with the same charge he started with. Zeke had a powerful run, leading to a grouse at 50 and a woodcock at 57, followed by a UP at 59.

Brace 11, Course 10/11: Lucy (ESF/Rich Hollister) and Fireside Ed (ESM/Tammy Chaffee).

Course 10/11

Lucy carded one WC at 18. Lucy carried to the front, sweeping the ground before her, going deeper as time went on, with some extended absences showing dedication to another bird. Lucy was full of charge and reluctant to end her hour. Ed went birdless until the 45-minute mark, and Tammy elected to pick him up.

Brace 12, Course 12/13: Dine and Dash (PM/Mark Hughes) and Reba (ESF/Christy Helms),

Reba was picked up at the half by the handler. Dash had a UP at 3, then carried on until another UP at 40, and was picked up by the handler.

Brace 13, Course 15/16: Grouse Ridge Mags (ESF/Scott Forman); Seeker (Moss) was scratched.

Mags showed a strong work ethic throughout the entire brace, with no birds to show for her efforts, and only one UP at 56.

Brace 14, Course 1/2: Millers Dusty Version (PF/Mark Hughes) and Rowling's Star (ESF/Scott Forman).

Star was running strong but failed to capitalize on a back at 22. Dusty had a UP at 22 and was picked up by the handler at 38.

Brace 15, Course 4/5: Meridith Grade Corky (ESM/Tammy Chaffee) and Cash (ESM/Rich Hollister).

Cash and Corky pushed forward, working hard in the young cut. Corky scored a WC at 14 and yet another one at 17. At 28, Tammy was searching for Corky as Cash's bell stopped a little further up. Cash

let his desire get the best of him at the flush of a woodcock. Corky was in there and was led back out to the course and sent on. Corky finished the hour.

Brace 16, Course 6/7: Springpond Rockin Gibby (ESM/Lonnie Rademacher) and Hypointe Monarch Express (PF/Mark Forman).

They had a good race going. The beginning of Course 6 offers a lot to see and hear. Hypointe had a WC at 13. At 24, Hypointe flash pointed a grouse that lifted quick and was picked up. Gibby had a WC at 28 and a UP at 35. Gibby was picked up at 40.

Brace 17, Course 8/9: Paint (PM/Rachel Butler) and Backroads Wildfire Blaze (PM/Mark Hughes).

Paint and Blaze handled throughout the course during a hot and sunny hour. Blaze had a pair of grouse at 11. Paint scored a WC at 52. Both dogs finished the hour.

Brace 18, Course 10/11: Tupelo Honey (ESF/Bob Wheelock) and Snyder's Sadie (ESF/Tammy Chaffee).

Tupelo was on a mission. After eluding the handler's ears on a couple of long absences, she was picked up at 40. Sadie had one clean WC find in an unsuspecting location at 17. Sadie carried on through to the end, working diligently for another bird, finishing the hour.

Brace 19, Course 12/13: Singleton's Lady Kati (ESF/Mike Singleton) and West Wind Big Jake (PM/Mark Hughes).

Kati ran a strong hour with a UP at 18. Jake also had a nice run, with a WC find at 21. Both dogs finished the hour going away to the front.

Brace 20, Course 15/16: Meredith Grade Penny (ESF/Scott Chaffee) and Shady (PF/Butler).

Shady and Penny broke out fast and furious and were exciting for a moment, but likely less cooperative than desired by the handlers as they raced each other out. Scott picked up at 30 and Butler at 40.



Ch. Stan the Man, Winner of the Michigan Woodcock Championship

Brace 21, Course 1/2: Sandy (PF/Rich Hollister) and Double Duce Jack (PM/Mark Hughes).

Sandy was picked up at 20 after a long absence. Jack carried on until a UP at 40 and 44, and the handler picked up Jack.

Brace 22, Course 4/5: Timberdoodle Sal (PF/Mark Forman) and Springpond Rockin Sidney (ESF/Tammy Chaffee).

Three minutes from being loosed, Sidney stopped up on top of the left side hill, showing great style and manners as a WC was raised. Sidney was then sent onward, showing readiness for the task. As the course comes downhill, it makes a hard right turn. Sidney made the turn outward to the front, coming across in the young cut where Sidney's bell stopped again. The judge and handler spent a good amount of time searching. During that time, they walked up a grouse and then a WC. This added time to the search, as we all know, looking for the dog near the birds. Tammy then tweeted the whistle. Sidney made a small move and stopped, maybe 40 yards away. A WC was flushed! A great show of talent. Further down the course, Sidney had another WC at 40. Sal also ran a very respectable race, with a UP at 24 and 38, followed by a WC at 42. Both dogs finished the hour.

Brace 23, Course 6/7: Kaylee (BRITF/Christy Helms) and Patsy (ESF/Bob Wheelock).

Kaylee and Patsy hit a pocket of WC. Kaylee had a UP at 28, WC 37, WC 41, WC 47, UP at 50, and another WC at 52. Patsy had a back at 28, STF at 30, WC at 37, WC at

41, and another UP at 46. Both went on to finish the hour.

Brace 24, Course 8/9: Ralph's Chase Hill Rip (PM/Scott Chaffee) and Double Duce Miles (PM/Mark Hughes).

After a long absence from the start, Mark called for his tracker. Rip had a UP at 14 and 39 and was picked up.

Brace 25, Course 10/11: Mac Daddy (ESM/Marc Dozeman) and Nellie (ESF/Jeff Keller).

At the 8-minute mark, Nellie had a WC and Mac backed. Perfect! At 18, Nellie had another WC, and Mac backed yet again! Then, at 42, Nellie was standing, and you guessed it—Mac backed; however, Nellie moved during the flush attempt. Mac finished the hour.

Brace 26, Course 12/13: Saddle Up Sadie (PF/Mark Hughes) and Fat Bottom Girl (ESF/Scott Forman).

Queenie, unfortunately, was picked up at the half after colliding with her bracemate and a bad tongue cut that was affecting her. Sadie had a UP at 31 and was picked up at 43.

Brace 27, Course 15/16: Minnie (ESF/Tom Fruchey) and Kelly (PF/Butler).

Kelly had a UP at 10, a WC at 54, and a UP at 56. Minnie had a grouse find at 52 but moved forward at the flush.

Brace 28, Course 1/2: Snyder's Big Nose Kate (ESF/Tammy Chaffee) and Baxter's Wild Bill (ESM/Brent Peters).

Kate had a UP at 24, and Billy missed a backing opportunity. Kate was picked up at the half.

Brace 29, Course 4/5: Hypointe Sharpshooter (ESM/Scott Chaffee) and Stone (PM/Rich Hollister).

Stone was picked up at the half. Sharpshooter had a WC at 29 and carried onward, finishing the hour.

Brace 30, Course 6/7: Beaver Bit Meadow (PF/Mark Hughes) and Springponds Otto ESM/Lonnie Rademacher).

Bit had a grouse at 8 and Otto



Springpond Rockin Sidney, Runner-up in the Michigan Woodcock Championship

backed. All was in order. The dogs carried forward, and Otto scored a WC at 27 and had a UP at 40.

Brace 31, Course 8/9: E J Jonesy (ESF/Scott Chaffee) and Jax (PM/Mike Francus).

Jonesy and Jax had a good race going. Jonesy had a UP at 15 and 39 and was picked up. Jax ran well the whole hour, but unfortunately, no birds were had.

The Winners and Others

Stan the Man was named champion, and Springpond Rockin Sidney was named runner-up. Honorable mentions went to Lucy, Meridith Grade Corky, and Springponds Otto.

Gladwin, Mich., October 7

Judges: Shane Haskins and Ben Mergens

MICHIGAN WOODCOCK CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats] – 25 Pointers, 35 Setters, 1 Brittany, and 1 Irish Setter

Winner-STAN THE MAN, F1683677, setter male, by Ghost Train Cody-Ghost Train Sassy. Ghost Train Kennels, owner; Tom Fruchey, handler.

Runner-Up-SPRINGPOND ROCKIN SIDNEY, F1689212, setter female, by Springpond Rockin Autumn-Tailsup Olive. Leann Parnell & Roger Johnson, owners; Tammy Chaffee, handler.

Bill Wendt Memorial Open Derby Stake

Judges Brent Peter and Brandon Short awarded the following placements.

First went to Erin's Green River ("Tuck"), owned and handled by Mike Francus. Tuck had a mature forward race with a grouse find near time. Second was Grouse Hill Dixie, owned by John Capocci and handled by Scott Forman. Dixie had a finished grouse find coupled with a nice race. Third was White Indian Outlaw ("Wyatt"). Wyatt ran an

animated race with a woodcock find.

Judges: Brent Peters and Brandon Short
BILL WENDT MEMORIAL OPEN DERBY
– 15 Pointers and 8 Setters

1st-ERIN'S GREEN RIVER, F1713040, pointer male, by Erin's Grey Justice-Erin's Red Smoke. Mike Francus, owner and handler.

2d-GROUSE HILL DIXIE, F1710163, pointer female, by Grouse Hill Rambo-All On. John Capocci, owner; Scott Forman, handler.

3d-WHITE INDIAN OUTLAW, F1709779, pointer male, by Light of Day-Perkins Beautiful Disaster. Thomas Butler, owner; Rachel Butler, handler.



Bill Wendt Memorial Open Derby: Susan Haskins, Mike Francus with Erin's Green River, Chris Wasserman, Russ Fazio, Shane Haskins, Scott Forman with Grouse Hill Dixie, Brent Peters (judge), Marc Dozeman, Christy Helmes, Rachel Butler with White Indian Outlaw, Brandon Short (judge), and Tom Butler.

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NATIONAL AMATEUR GROUSE CHAMPIONSHIP

Grouse Trails Little Bud Named Champion; Larix Laricina, Runner-up

By Jerry Furnish | Moose Junction, Wisconsin | October 10, 2025

The Moose River Grouse Dog Club was formed in 2008, with the intention of honing breeding practices for outstanding grouse dogs. The Moose River trial grounds were also developed in 2008 on Douglas County forestry land in Northwest Wisconsin. With the help of its members, the grounds have been continually improved to provide ample cover for grouse and woodcock.

The Moose River Grouse Dog Club would like to thank the following for another successful event:

All club members who helped clear courses, helped with prep work leading up to the trial, and those who helped during the trial, including Tim Kaufman, Ed Graddy, Bill Frahm, Sig Degitz, Lindsey Saetre, Eric Saetre, Colin Peterson, Jeff Marek, and Greg Johnson; Judges Brent Sittlow, Tim Kaufman, Lindsey Saetre and Jerry Furnish; Douglas County Forestry Department for their cooperation in allowing us to hold our event on county forest land.

We are especially grateful to Greg Blair and Purina for their generous donation of food, prizes, and, of course, the well-attended Purina dinner that we held Saturday night. Your continued support has helped



National Amateur Grouse Championship: John McKellop with Grouse Trails Little Bud and Alex Anderson with Larix Laricina.

our sport and is greatly appreciated. Also, Trent Sprague at Moose Junction Lounge for the wonderful lunches, food for the Purina dinner, fantastic campground facilities, and a great place to serve as our trial headquarters.

To everyone who participated and entered dogs, the Moose River Grouse Dog Club is extremely grateful.

The Championship Running

By Brent Sittlow

With slightly warmer-than-average temperatures and a lush forest canopy not yet spoiled by frost, the grounds provided excellent bird cover

and enjoyable braces throughout.

Grouse Trails Black Knight (McKellop) and Fireside's Wallace (Rosario) led off the trial on the Beaver Dam Course. Knight was searching a bit wider than Wallace. Both were stopped at the turn where the course loops back to the road. A long search effort ensued for both dogs. Both dogs eventually started up on their own and finished.

Across the road to start on the Bear Bait Course were Clover Valley's Mulak (Furnish) and Berg Brothers Hatchet (Peterson). Mulak neatly pointed a grouse on a hill crest but couldn't resist the flight. Hatchet took advantage of having the course to himself for most of the brace. He ranged to likely cover without having to give much direction or handling. He finished with two woodcock finds and was on the board for much of the trial.

With temperatures starting to rise and the wind drying out the leaves, Berg Brothers Doc Holiday (Bukovich) and Northwoods Homer (Anderson) gave it a good go on the Spruce Course. Doc got a little behind Homer after suffering a couple of unproductives but relinquished himself with a nifty grouse find at about 20. Homer was reported to

have a woodcock find up ahead. On the back half of the course, the handlers were rejoined, and Doc seemed to have a more ranging race of the two—a good effort by both dogs in tough conditions.

After a delicious lunch of chicken alfredo, we moved to the East Course to watch Grouse Trails Warrior Cat (McKellop) and Kona's Blue Skye (Kalupa). Warrior Cat had a pinned woodcock at 17 but suffered a barren stand at 25 in likely cover. Warrior Cat is a strong animal and was perhaps a bit wide and extended for these grounds. She finished with a lot of help from her handler. Kona was quick and nimble and held up to the temperatures in fine fashion. She suffered some bad luck by running over a grouse just off the path, after being watered and released by her handler at 45.

One Acre Wood Bandit (Rector) and North Slopes Allie (Graddy) were on Course "One" for the fifth brace. Both dogs had some trouble moving with their handler in the crunchy leaves. Neither dog had bird work.

The last brace of the day was Northwoods Cedar Edge (Saetre) and Planet Queen (Scott Anderson) on the "New" Course. Both setters had a steady range and a consistent search. Anticipation was building for both dogs near the end of the brace when Queen nailed a grouse in view of the handlers. Cedar Edge came in for a back. But at the flush approach, the bird exited a bit early, and Queen unacceptably moved up a few steps to end her bid.

Day two had One Acre Wood Flash (Rector) and Clover Valley's Evans (Furnish) back on the Beaver Dam Course. Numerous grouse were seen and heard coming from treetops and other locations, but neither dog seemed to be directly involved.

Larix Laricina (Alex Anderson) and Grouse Trails Little Bud (McKellop) took advantage of the morning temperatures on the Bear Bait Course. Bud was the stronger running of the two, with power and strength that broke through the heavy cover. He recorded two separate



Open Derby: Greg Johnson with Northwoods Rip Roy, Jerry Furnish (judge), John McKellop with Johnson's Blazing Inferno, Lindsey Saetre (judge), and Brian VanderMaazen with Kenzie's Cookies & Cream.

woodcock finds in the first half. Laricina was a little more directed, in the pocket, and very fancy moving. At about 58, Laricina's bell went quiet in a green bottom. Bud was moving through the same area and was second to stop. The cover was thick, and neither dog could see the other, but the handlers and judges had a good vantage point from an elevated position. As the handlers moved in to find their dogs, a tight sitting grouse lifted between the two dogs. Both handlers shot, and a true divided find was recorded—a great punctuation to a good brace, which earned placements for both dogs. According to Judge Kaufman, "Bud and Tammy had the best brace of the championship, and when two dogs push each other, good things happen. Both were strong to the front and finished strong as well."

Northwoods Cedar (Saetre) was gone to the front, and the tracker was requested at 20. Northwoods Dexter (Rosario) was battling the heat and was leashed at 30.

Northern Slopes Bell (Graddy) had an issue with a grouse and was up by half. One Acre Wood Lucky (Rector) also had issues with grouse and made an early exit.

Grouse Trails Bathilda (McKellop) was the bye-dog. She was not handling to McKellop's liking and was leashed at 20.

Moose Junction, Wis., October 10

Judges: Tim Kaufman and Brent Sittlow

NATIONAL AMATEUR GROUSE CHAMPIONSHIP

[One-Hour Heats] – 6 Pointers and 15 Setters

Winner-GROUSE TRAILS LITTLE BUD, F1701061, pointer male, by Toth's Tornado Reloaded-Grouse Trails Warrior Cat. John McKellop III, owner and handler.

Runner-Up-LARIX LARICINA, F1700092, pointer female, by Touch's Grey Street-Alliwood's Shady Shay. Alex Anderson, owner and handler.

Open Derby

Running on the newly reworked East #2 Course, "Rip" (Greg Johnson) ran a strong forward race, pleasing to the eye, and always in likely cover. Both dogs in this brace competed for the front and into cover. It was an easy handle for Johnson and an enjoyable brace to watch.

Also on the East #2 course, "Fern" (John McKellop) competed well in the first half, hitting all the likely cover and stretching out well when the cover wasn't close. Though slightly more lateral in the second half, Fern had all the qualities expected of a young grouse dog.

Running on the East #1 Course, "CC" (Brian VanderMaazen) ran out well and into cover, but found herself behind for a few minutes in the beginning. Once she found the front, she had a nice run, stretching forward and into cover, and was barely spoken to for the remainder of her brace.

Notably, although this was a smaller derby field than we've had in recent trials, all dogs displayed the qualities expected to become competitive shooting dogs. This was a very enjoyable stake to judge.

Judges: Jerry Furnish and Lindsey Saetre

OPEN DERBY – 10 Pointers and 2 Setters

1st-NORTHWOODS RIP ROY, F1711135, setter male, by Woodville's Yukon Cornelius-Northwoods Redbreast. Greg Johnson, owner and handler.

2d-JOHNSON'S BLAZING INFERNO, F1712854, pointer female, by Ralph's Chasehill Rip-Grouse Trails Firestorm. Tim Johnson, owner; John McKellop, handler.

3d-KENZIE'S COOKIES & CREAM, F1717431, pointer female, by Bluestem's Blackhawk Frank-Lee's Yellow Rose. Brian VanderMaazen, owner and handler.

NORTH MISSOURI FIELD TRIAL ASSOCIATION

Annual NBHA Trial

By Kevin Western | Martinstown, Missouri | October 11, 2025



Amateur Shooting Dog (front, l-r): Sam Nutting with Cedar Creek Duke, Mike Fox with Foxy Lady Sadie, and Jack Glover with Glover's Pepper Shaker. (Standing): Ned Myers (judge), Tim Penn, and Kevin Western (judge).

North Missouri Field Trial Association hosted its annual NBHA trial on October 11-12 at the Kevin and Heather Western Farm, located in Northeast Missouri near Martinstown. This farm is primarily used for hay. It is lined with edges of timber and native grass, allowing for excellent cover to hold quail throughout the trial. This year, the Westerns added a multi-purpose building with a finished living area that allows guests to be comfortable during inclement weather. A special thanks to the Westerns for allowing the field trial group the opportunity to use their facilities.

With a large draw of entries, it was a combined effort by all who participated to be ready when it was time to run their dogs. Thanks to our judges who gave their full attention and evaluated each dog's performance. Judges were Scott Beeler, Ned Meyers, Doug Watt, and Kevin Western. Kevin Western also handled the dog wagon duties and was assisted on Saturday by visiting past field trialer, Gary Cowell.

North Missouri Field Trial Association would like to thank the NBHA sponsors who provided additional support for this trial—

Purina Pro Plan dog food coupons and Gun Dog Supply gift certificates. We also want to recognize the sponsors who support the NBHA throughout the field trial season: Purina Pro Plan, Garmin, Gun Dog Supply, OnX Hunt, Mule Brand Cloths, and Gun Dog Central. Their sponsorship support is greatly appreciated.

Martinstown, Mo., October 11

Judges: Scott Beeler and Ned Myers

NBHA OPEN SHOOTING DOG – 10 Pointers, 4 Setters, 3 Irish Setters, and 1 German Shorthair

1st-FULL RED AFTERBURN, F1691624, Irish setter male, by Zansett Simply Red-Foxy's Lil Red Missy. Mike Fox, owner and handler.

2d-PENROSA FORBIDDEN EVE, F1703804, setter female, by Penrosa Hidncash-Shamrock's Tish. Tim Penn, owner and handler.

3d-HACKBERRY'S STORMY NIGHT, F1693085, pointer female, by Blackhawk's Elhew Doc-Erin's Irresistible Cedar. Brian Kennedy, owner and handler.



Emma Creason, winner of the Youth Stake, and her dog, Gus.

Judges: Scott Beeler and Doug Watt

NBHA OPEN DERBY – 4 Pointers, 7 Setters, and 1 German Shorthair

1st-PENROSA CHESSMATE, F1715061, setter female, by Trail Boss Grover-Penrosa Forbidden Eve. Tim Penn, owner and handler.

2d-PENROSA DICTATOR, F1715055, setter male, by Trail Boss Grover-Penrosa Forbidden Eve. Tim Penn, owner and handler.

3d-WINDY POINT'S LITTLE ANNIE, F1711936, setter female, by Buck Shamrock-Hard Hats Bad Dotty. Robert D. Jones, owner; Justin Crook, handler.

Judges: Scott Beeler and Ned Myers

NBHA AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG – 7 Pointers, 7 Setters, 3 Irish Setters, and 3 German Shorthairs

1st-CEDAR CREEK DUKE, F1693591, Irish setter male, by Cedar Creek Sixgun-Cedar Creek Ciara. Ed Liermann, owner; Sam Nutting, handler.

2d-FOXY LADY SADIE, F1691626, Irish setter female, by Zansett Simply Red-Foxy's Lil Red Missy. Mike Fox, owner and handler.

3d-GLOVER'S PEPPER SHAKER, F1695618, setter male, by Erin's Wild Atlantic Way-C C Erin O'Shamrock. Jack Glover, owner and handler.

Judges: Scott Beeler and Doug Watt

NBHA AMATEUR DERBY – 5 Pointers, 3 Setters, 1 Irish Setter, and 1 German Shorthair

1st-PENROSA MIZZ GROVY, F1715060, setter female, by Trail Boss Grover-Penrosa Forbidden Eve. Tim Penn, owner and handler.

2d-PENROSA CHESSMATE, F1715061, setter female, by Trail Boss Grover-Penrosa Forbidden Eve. Tim Penn, owner and handler.

3d-HACKBERRY'S CALLIN THE SHOTS, F1709761, pointer female, by Elhew Sinbad-Hackberry's Addie Blackhawk. Brian Kennedy, owner and handler.

Judges: Ned Myers and Kevin Western

NBHA AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG – 1 Pointer, 1 Setter, and 2 German Shorthairs

1st-GIZMO'S SWEET LITTLE WONDERFUL, F1714104, pointer female, by Dennis Rock Handsome-Honky Tonk Pearl. Ed Disher, owner and handler.

2d-COON CREEK'S PRIDE CROW, unreg., German Shorthair male, by Mack's Moesgaard Charlie-My Queen Saydy Ross. Cory Huchteman, owner and handler.

REGION 1 (AFTCA) AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP

Calico's Country Strong Named Champion; Calico's Over The Top, Runner-up

By John Olfson | East Windsor, Connecticut | October 11, 2025

The Region 1 Amateur Shooting Dog Championship commenced Saturday, October 11, in East Windsor, Connecticut, at the Dr. John E. Flaherty Field Trial Area, with judges Tim Cavanaugh and Mitch Swierczynski mounted and ready for action. Tim and Mitch are experienced pointing dog handlers and judges with a great deal of championship experience. We are most appreciative that they accepted the assignment.

Under the joint effort of the Dr. John E. Flaherty Field Trial Clubs Association, and its President, Rich Murph, as well as the State of Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection, Eastern District Wildlife Biologist Ann Kilpatrick, the grounds were in as good a condition as could be expected. We are thankful and appreciate this continued joint effort.

We had many large coveys produced throughout the trial. This seems to be the result of the protective cover, together with the callers bringing in holdover birds, and our seeded birds.

Pointer female Calico's Country Strong was named champion. She was handled by Alex Smith and is owned by the Calico Kennels ownership group. Country Strong ran an exceptionally powerful forward race. When entering the Dearborn section, most dogs take the inside edge. Country Strong made a bold move along the outer edge, hunted her way to the top, and was found pointing a large covey. Turned loose after this spectacular bird work, she took the back edge and continued to rim the outer edge on her way out of Dearborn to be found on point in the Pines on another large covey.

Pointer male Calico's Over The Top was named runner-up champion. He is also owned by the Calico



Region 1 Amateur Shooting Dog Championship (l-r): Tiffany Smith with Calico's Country Strong, John Olfson, Mitch Swierczynski (judge), Brayden Smith, Doug Dix, Alex Smith with Calico's Over the Top, Bill Bonnetti, and Tim Cavanaugh (judge).

ownership group and was handled by Alex. He ran a powerful race, making snappy moves, hunting, taking edges, and was very classy on point. This is the third time in the last four years he has been named runner-up champion of the event. He also recently won the National Amateur Pheasant Championship.

Honorably mentioned was female pointer Cape Point Hidden Jewel. She had a strong forward-hunting race with nice, classy covey finds. She was handled by Bill Bonnetti. Backcountry Champagnesupernova handled by Chris Catanzarite in the first brace had a nice run with a nice, large covey find at the first bird



Calico's Over The Top, runner-up in the Region 1 Amateur Shooting Dog Championship.

spot. She is coming off a runner-up champion placement in the National Amateur Pheasant Championship.

Many thanks to Greg Blair and Purina for providing Pro Plan Sport to the winners, as well as the judging gifts and awards through the AFTCA store credit program. Thank you again, and we appreciate your ongoing support.

Many thanks to Jane Bonnetti for taking care of the clubhouse and putting on all the delicious meals. Many thanks to Chris Catanzarite for sponsoring Saturday's dinner in honor of the 2024 champion, Backcountry Pure Gold.

Thank you to all participants. We look forward to seeing everyone next year.

East Windsor, Conn., October 11
Judges: Tim Cavanaugh and Mitch Swierczynski
REGION 1 AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG
CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats]

– 21 Pointers and 3 Setters

Winner-CALICO'S COUNTRY STRONG, F1679850, pointer female, by Waybetter Rocky-Calico's Touch of Class. Alex Smith, owner and handler.

Runner-Up-CALICO'S OVER THE TOP, F1692315, pointer male, by Dominator's Rebel Heir-Calico's Country Strong. Alex Smith, owner and handler.

NORTHERN MICHIGAN COVER DOG CHAMPIONSHIP

Millers Dusty Version Named Champion; Ralphy's Chasehill Rip, Runner-up

By Tom Fruchey | Meredith, Michigan | October 14, 2025



Northern Michigan Cover Dog Championship (l-r): Brent Peters and grandson, Dave Hughes, Mark Hughes with Millers Upgrade Version, Larry Guild (judge), Travis Burnett (judge), and Scott Chaffee with Ralphy's Chasehill Rip, joined by participants.

Millers Dusty Version wins the 16th running of the Northern Michigan Cover Dog Championship over a large field of 70. Close on her heels was Ralphy's Chasehill Rip, who was awarded the honor of runner-up!

The Beaverton Grouse Dog Club is guided very capably by President Shane Haskin, with the help of many other individuals who work tirelessly behind the scenes to make sure a quality trial is put forth each and every year. The planning of such an event starts in early July, garnering quality judges, applying for permits, securing horses, and planning a menu of food for the contestants. Much of their efforts go unnoticed because of the timing, but be assured, we are all grateful for their time and efforts to make for a smooth-running, high-quality trial. This year was no exception, even though we needed to start a day earlier than planned because of the large 70-dog entry for the championship. The trial needed to be completed by Sunday so the next event at the Gladwin Field Trial Area could be used by the next line-up of Championships. The Northern Michigan Cover Dog Championship

was the third in a list of four cover dog championships to be run on the famed grounds of the Gladwin Field trial area near Meredith, Michigan. Once again, the grounds were loaded with native grouse and woodcock, giving every contestant an opportunity to win!

Once again, this year, the horses were provided by Rich and Jenny Hollister. They are superb mounts for our judges and are always ready to go when called upon. Bryan Wood was again on hand to get the dogs to the line on time to make sure we were able to get our goal of seven braces in each day. All eight hours of courses were used throughout the week, starting each new day wherever we left off the day before. This changes the times of each day we use the courses, which seems to help in keeping the bird numbers up on each course every day. Tailgate lunches were provided each day by the club, and on Saturday evening, at the conclusion of the championship, the traditional New York strip BBQ took place. Nearly 40 people enjoyed a perfectly cooked steak by chefs Ken and Shane, with all the fixins' to make for a most enjoyable time together!

This year's championship judges were Larry Guild from Minnesota and Travis Burnett from Indiana. Larry has judged many high-quality championships over the past several years. He has a keen eye, looking for that dog that has that something extra special, making for a complete true champion. Travis is also a very attentive judge, watching all the moves a dog makes and able to assess each contestant fairly. He knows what a good bird dog needs to do for the show. The Wolverine Derby judges were Sean McKellip of Grayling and Lonnie Rademacher from Lake Leelanau. They were very attentive to their duties, and their decisions were well-received.

The Winners

This was a repeat of the owner and handler winning this event. Mark Hughes has handled both of Mike Husenits' dogs to the winner's circle in 2024 and 2025. This year, Mike's young 3-year-old pointer female, Millers Dusty Version, topped a fine field of 70 to become the 16th winner of the Northern Michigan Cover Dog Championship.

She was loosed on course 6/7, the fourth brace of day two, just before lunch. Dusty is a fine, smooth-moving dog with good style and light afoot, making it easy on the eyes to observe. She rimmed the clearing of the mature oak stand running to the front, looking all business, ranging wide but always in touch with Mark. When we reached the thicker aspen stands on Course 6, she shortened some to be able to stay in touch with her handler, a trait normally seen in older dogs, but she seems very mature for her age. She crossed over onto Course 7 at about the 45-minute mark, as Course 6 is a little long. Once in 7, about five minutes, her bell went silent off to our right. She was found standing high and tight in short order. Mark

made a large flushing effort to try and block a running bird, and as he started nearing the dog, he spied a clump of grass under a log, which he just gave a kick, and as soon as that happened, a huge grouse took flight, not more than 10 yards in front of the dog. Dusty stood the temptation of that grouse blowing out, and also after the shot, making for a beautiful piece of bird work! She finished her hour hunting hard to the front, showing, whenever called upon, truly a good championship performance.

Ralphy's Chasehill Rip was cut loose in the last brace of day three on Course 10/11 by his handler, Scott Chaffee, along with bracemate Sandy, handled by Rich Hollister. Rip is a perfectly built male pointer, whose quick and light-footed running style is a joy to behold. Course 10 consists of mixed popple cover, scattered with pine trees. At the 10-minute mark, Chaffee sent out a scout to the cover on the left side of the course as he could no longer hear his bell. Shortly, Chaffee decided to also join the search, as still no bell could be heard. With handler, scout, and judge all searching for Rip, a shout came from the front that they had the dog standing about 200 yards up the course. Chaffee and the judge made their way to the dog and found him standing majestically, with his head thrown back and a poker-straight tail. Chaffee flushed a woodcock from in front of the dog, fired the shot, all very much in order. Released from his find, he raced to the front to join his bracemate and headed up Heart Attack Hill towards Course 11. Shortly after this, his bracemate elected to pick up, leaving the rest of the hour to Rip alone. Rip used the remaining hour hunting forward with a large cast that could be seen through the open mature



Championship Judges (l-r): Larry Guild and Travis Burnett.

oak woods with all the style, class, and speed one could ask for from a dog. At pick up time, Rip was still going strong, coming in from the front, affording him the best ground performance of the stake. This fine performance earned Rip runner-up champion, a well-deserved honor.

The judges said that over the course of the five days of running, there were many dogs that had satisfactory bird work. Grouse were seen on every course every day, and they thought the courses were as evenly matched as could possibly be. They were extremely satisfied with the quality of dogs they observed, and both said they had a most enjoyable time watching all the dogs go. I would also like to praise and give thanks to both Larry and Travis for their very fine, attentive viewing



Wolverine Derby Classic (l-r): Lonnie Rademacher (judge), John Capocci, Marc Forman with Grouse Hill Patch, Rich Hollister with Dunroven Hippie Girl, Mark Hughes with Evan's Full Throttle, Sean McKellip (judge), and Dave Hughes.

of all the dogs in this trial. They did a remarkable job, thank you very much, guys!

Meredith, Mich., October 14

Judges: Travis Burnett and Larry Guild

NORTHERN MICHIGAN COVER DOG

CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats] – 25 Pointers, 43 Setters, 1 Brittany, and 1 Irish Setter

Winner-MILLERS DUSTY VERSION, F1706290, pointer female, by Miller's Upgraded Version-Miller's Special Edition. Mike Husenits, owner; Mark Hughes, handler.

Runner-Up-RALPHY'S CHASEHILL RIP, F1697746, pointer male, by Panola Bacon-Chasehill Little Izzy. Brian Ralph, owner; Scott Chaffee, handler.

Wolverine Derby Classic

The Wolverine Derby Classic ran on Sunday with 24 young hopefuls vying for the silver cup. The winner was a pointer female, Grouse Hill Patch, handled by Marc Forman and owned by Michael Capocci. Patch ran in the third brace; she is a classy running pointer to the front and carded one grouse and two woodcock finds. Second place was awarded to Dunroven Hippie Girl, handled by Rich Hollister and owned by Chad Curtis. She ran in Brace 1 and had a nice woodcock find coupled with a classy race to the front. Rounding out the placements was Evan's Full Throttle. She was handled by Mark Hughes and owned by Evan Smith. She ran in the last brace of the stake and had an extremely fine ground performance, earning her the yellow ribbon, even though she was unable to locate a bird.

Judges: Sean McKellip and Lonnie Rademacher
WOLVERINE DERBY CLASSIC – 13 Pointers,

10 Setters, and 1 Brittany

1st-GROUSE HILL PATCH, F1710162, pointer female, by Grouse Hill Rambo-All On. Michael Capocci, owner; Marc Forman, handler.

2d-DUNROVEN HIPPIE GIRL, F1713542, setter female, by Dun Rovens Drifter-Dunrovens Midnight Eve. Chad Curtis, owner; Rich Hollister, handler.

3d-EVAN'S FULL THROTTLE, F1713964, pointer female, by Double Deuce Zeke-Braggagull. Evan Smith, owner; Mark Hughes, handler.

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NATIONAL RED SETTER CHAMPIONSHIPS

Championship Series Held At Grovespring Grounds

By Bonnie Hidalgo | Grovespring, Missouri | October 15, 2025



National Red Setter Open Championship (front, l-r): Tony King (judge), Roger Boser, Kelli-Aitken Thompson with Gratitude, Bonnie Hidalgo and Ed Liermann with Cedar Creek Sixgun, and Ken Chenoweth (judge). (Back row, l-r): Clayton Thompson, Terry Trzcinski (Purina rep), Tyler Houser with Lincoln, Don Beauchamp, Tom Norton, Mel Matis, and Dennis Hidalgo.

Oppressive heat dictated the story of this trial, but birds saved the day. Conditions were beyond tough, especially for those dogs that drew an afternoon brace. Bird work was plentiful, which made the days somewhat more bearable. Coveys of quail and planted pairs ensured opportunity for all to point game.

Ch. Gratitude put on quite a show to annex his sixth championship title with the win of the National Red Setter Open Championship. The 8-year-old Irish "Red" setter male is owned and handled by Dr. Roger W. Boser of Seven Valleys, Pennsylvania. He was sired by Come Back Cutter and is out of Come Back Doodle, having been bred by Joe Edwards.

Three-time champion Cedar Creek Sixgun ran a strong race to earn runner-up honors for his owner and handler, Ed Liermann of Palmyra, Wisconsin. Sixgun holds three previous runner-up titles. Sixgun is an 8-year-old male by Come Back Magic out of Come Back Lady Soul and is also a product of Joe Edwards' Come Back Kennels.

The National Amateur Championship winner was three-time champion Red Bird's The Fifth Element, owned by Kelli Aitken-Thompson and Kristi Gallino. "Griffin" was handled by Kelli and scouted by Clayton Thompson. Kristi was on hand to witness the performance; Kristi is his breeder. The runner-up title went to Ch. Firefly's Power Play, a 10-year-old, four-time champion running his last hour prior to retirement. "Puck" is owned by Robbie Nesson and Dennis and Bonnie Hidalgo; Bonnie handled him. He was sired by Flintstone out of Firefly's Hot Tip and was bred by Dennis and Bonnie.

The third stake to run was the Open Derby, which was won by Cedar Creeks Skyline Lady, owned, handled, and bred by Ed Liermann. Second place went to Snap Back, a male owned and handled by Roger Boser. Red Bird's Plead The Fifth placed third for owner Kristi Gallino and handler Tyler Hosler, both of Madras, Oregon.

Amy Gauthier and Cedar Creek Asa's Reign defended their title for a repeat win of the one-hour Red Setter Open Walking Shooting Dog

Classic. Amy and her husband, Jerry, hail from Bay City, Michigan; she and Asa defied the heat and humidity to win this stake with a good race and quality bird work.

The drawing was held on Sunday, October 12, at the home of Milt and Wendy Schafer in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. Entries were alarmingly light with a noticeable absence of walking handlers. The Open Walking Puppy and the Open Walking Derby were both canceled. The Walking Shooting Dog Classic drew only six entries, a noticeable drop from past events. The horseback stakes fared slightly better; both championships drew 12 starters. The Open Derby drew six entries, but the Open Puppy was canceled due to no entries. The trial commenced on October 15 with the Open Championship.

The Field Trial Sportsmen's Grounds at Grovespring, Missouri, was once again the site for this event. The hayfields looked different this fall; a second crop of hay could not be taken, which allowed weeds and grass to prosper in some places. The rest of the grounds were groomed as usual. The fall quail release was obviously quite successful; birds were plentiful, and many favorable comments were made about them by participants.

The weather was a huge factor; dogs already sporting their fall and winter coats faced hot conditions. Highs each day were in the mid-80s, with abundant sunshine beating down. Morning lows hovered around 60, but the temperature climbed quickly. All championship winners appeared in morning braces.

Judges for all stakes were Tony King of Columbia, Missouri, and Ken Chenoweth of Fair Grove, Missouri. They kept a reasonable and consistent pace throughout the running. They paid close attention and were always in good humor.

The Club and the participants enjoyed them very much. Tony King is well-known in pointer circles for his activities within the AFTCA and his work in hosting the Missouri Open Shooting Dog Championship, as well as co-hosting the American Derby Invitational Championship. Tony works his own pointers and competes with them in regional and national events. Ken Chenoweth has been successfully training and competing with German Shorthairs for many years. He is currently working dogs for himself and others to trial and hunt. Both gentlemen are in high demand as judges at major trials; it is quite obvious why that is so. Their decisions here were well-received.

The National Red Setter Field Trial Club is very grateful to Purina for its unwavering support of our events. They were represented at this trial by Terry Trzcinski, their very personable field rep, who attended the majority of the trial. Purina generously provided Purina Pro Plan for the winners of every stake, which was happily received by the handlers. They also provided the club with credit through the AFTCA online store to purchase good-quality apparel for the judges. Purina is the sole dog food sponsor of the NRSFTC, and as such, we encourage all club members and trial participants to feed Purina Pro Plan.

On Thursday evening, a steak dinner sponsored by Purina was served in the clubhouse. Our chefs were Kelli Aitken-Thompson and Tyler Hosler. It was a delicious dinner of New York strip steak grilled to perfection by Tyler, one of our newest members. Linda Beauchamp provided dessert. It was a wonderful meal and a great time spent with friendly people. Presentation of season-ending awards was made following the Purina dinner, even though the winners were not present. Tim and Kristine Hammons won "The Duke Award" for most points won in All-Breed Shooting Dog competition with their Ch. Little More Shine. Deb Dlobik's Dale Creek Simply Next was the recipient of the Derby of the Year award, and Paul Ober's Celtic's

Tipping Point won the Puppy of the Year. Mike Fox was named the Jim Fike Amateur Handler of the Year for the 2024-2025 season. We are all appreciative of the meal and the evening that Purina provided!

Dinners were also served on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday evenings. Different club members volunteered their time and groceries to provide the meals in a welcoming atmosphere. All cooks enjoyed the clubhouse's beautiful new stove. Tuesday night's meal of pesto pasta with sausage was on Dennis and Bonnie Hidalgo and cooked by Dennis. Wednesday night's roast beef dinner was provided by Milt and Wendy Schafer and prepared by Wendy. On Friday night, the remaining skeleton crew ate well on leftovers. Many people had left as soon as the trial ended due to warnings of severe storms, including hail and a tornado watch for early Saturday. The severe storm materialized by 10 a.m. on Saturday, with light rain preceding it a couple of hours earlier, as the last of the club members were packing up.

All club members pitched in to make this trial a success. Milt Schafer and Dennis Hidalgo planted birds early each morning and replanted behind the gallery during the morning running. In doing so, they successfully kept the coveys on the courses. Having judges who knew the courses greatly reduced the work of a field marshal, but members Ed Liermann, Kelli Aitken-Thompson, Clayton Thompson, and your scribe were available to assist with that task as necessary. The dog wagon duties were proficiently covered by Don Beauchamp, Tom Norton, and Mel Matis. Cookies for the coffee breaks were provided by the Hidalgos and Wendy Schafer; the club provided ample water, Gatorade, soda, and coffee. Linda Beauchamp collected the entry fees and ran errands in addition to her many scrumptious desserts.

On a final note, before moving on to the performances of the dogs, everyone who participated

in this event is to be congratulated on their sportsmanship and camaraderie. The judges remarked at the conclusion of the trial that they were impressed with the way everyone helped each other and rooted for each other's success. We were pleased to welcome new members, Kristi Gallino and Tyler Hosler, along with their young son, Lincoln. They came all the way from Madras, Oregon, to attend this trial. James Martin made the trip up from Tennessee to pick up a puppy; he stayed to watch a day's running at the trial. He so thoroughly enjoyed the trial and the welcoming crowd that he joined the NRSFTC and said he would be back with his pup when they were ready. Mel Matis of Durango, Colorado, attended his first club event and joined the club, saying he learned a lot and would like to come back. Mel traveled to the event with long-time member Tom Norton.

National Red Setter Open Championship

This stake is run over three one-hour continuous courses of varying terrain and cover. The courses are set up to have a good flow. They make it natural for a dog to make turns and to stay forward. The fall colors were starting to show, creating beautiful views of the courses. The only drawback is that red dogs aren't easy to see when they are pointing in autumn leaves; often, it is the flash collar that is spotted first.

The Winners

The newly crowned champion, Gratitude, under the guidance of his owner and handler, Roger Boser, set an unattainable mark in the second brace of this stake. By the end of his hour, there was little doubt in the minds of the viewers that this would be the winning performance. Gratitude scored a nice find at 12, with all in order on Little Vine loop. He pointed again at 25, just prior to Sycamore bottom, once again showing high style and superb manners throughout. On the ridge, near the twin barns, Gratitude was

styled up nicely, but relocation was required. He did so, successfully locating a covey. Gratitude showed a high-class and faultless demeanor through flush and shot at 47. At 58, he pointed on the left near the old house site, but birds were not officially seen. Gratitude's race was textbook, using the edges and the wind to his advantage. He was consistently forward at desirable range and speed for the hour.

Cedar Creek Sixgun was named runner-up for Ed Liermann, his owner and handler. He appeared in the first brace of the stake. The day promised to be hot, but the early morning was cool, with a start-time temperature of 59. There was a heavy dew, but the air was still for most of the first hour. Cedar Creek Sixgun was standing stylishly to the front at 8, before the rocky creek crossing. This proved to be his only find. The strength and quality of his ground effort were undeniable. It was a big, edge-running race with a strong finish.

The Running

Quantonas Reloaded (Thompson) and Cedar Creek Sixgun (Liermann). Sixgun was named runner-up, and as such, his performance is given above. This brace was released into "Breakaway Bottoms" on Wednesday morning, October 15. Reloaded was inconsistent in pattern early, but improved tremendously as time went on. At 45, she pointed on the right, approaching Horse Killer Hill. Her style was high and her manners immaculate. She topped the big hill and took the east side of the fence line south. Popping through a gap well to the front at 51, she ran over a quail to end her bid.

Gratitude (Boser) and Firefly's Beeline (B. Hidalgo). This pair was released just beyond Apple Tree Hill. Temperatures were reasonable with some dew still on the ground. Grady earned the championship title in this hour, and his performance is described under "The Winners." Beeline was found backing her bracemate at 12; she showed perfect decorum throughout. At 47, both

dogs could be seen standing to the front at the Twin Barns. Beeline carded another noteworthy honor on that covey. She took the right edge of the next field, where she pointed at 55. Relocation proved necessary; she moved to the left and stopped. Her handler insisted she keep on, whereupon she got too close, stopping as her quarry flushed. She finished the hour forward.

Come Back Delta Dawn (K. Aitken-Thompson) with Cedar Creek MacArthur Ruby (Liermann). Delta had a find at 2, all in order. Neither dog was into the task and was off the ground early.

Cedar Creek Anthem (E. Liermann) and Red Bird's The Fifth Element (K. Aitken-Thompson). The afternoon running started at 1 p.m. under a temperature of 82 degrees. Griffin and Anthem scored a divided find at 20, after the second creek crossing. Griffin was high and tight throughout the work. Anthem was stylish but took a couple of steps. Across the road and into Davis bottoms, Anthem got out of pocket near the cemetery and didn't show again until the far end of Davis, where she showed up hot. Her handler opted to pick up. Griffin was also up early due to the heat.

Firefly's Power Play (B. Hidalgo) and Slingblade (R. Boser) were released into Island field at the dog wagon crossing. Slingblade, a first-year dog, was under a bird at 5. Power Play pointed along the east edge of Apple Tree Hill at 23, showing style and manners through flush and shot. "Puck" ran his edges forward and was solid on the ground until 27, when the heat took its toll and he was up.

Cedar Creek Titan (E. Liermann) with Firefly's Lucky Penny (B. Hidalgo) were set loose on Don Fox hill. The tracker was out for Lucky at 20. Titan had a good find with all in order at 20. Titan was up early in Sycamore bottom, due to the difficult conditions of the afternoon.

**Grovespring, Mo., October 15
Judges: Ken Chenoweth and Tony King
NATIONAL RED SETTER OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP
[One-Hour Heats] – 12 Irish Setters**

Winner-GRATITUDE, F1676458, Irish setter male, by Come Back Cutter-Come Back Doodle. Roger W. Boser, owner and handler.

Runner-Up-CEDAR CREEK SIXGUN, F1677430, Irish setter male, by Come Back Magic-Come Back Lady Soul. Ed Liermann, owner and handler.

National Red Setter Amateur Championship

This stake commenced on Thursday morning, giving the dogs just one night of rest between their hour performances. Running in back-to-back stakes didn't seem to have as much effect on their performances as did the time of day in which they competed. Normally, the supporting Open Derby and Open Puppy would have given these dogs a day off. With the Puppy canceled and the Derby entry light, it was decided to run the Amateur Championship next. If the Derby had run and been immediately followed by the Amateur Championship, some championship dogs would have had the benefit of a second night's rest. It was decided that the playing field needed to be level, and all Amateur Championship dogs would run on the same day.

The Winners

The newly crowned champion, Red Bird's The Fifth Element, and the runner-up champion, Firefly's Power Play, were drawn together in the first brace of the stake. They were released in Breakaway Bottoms at 8 a.m. on Thursday.

Red Bird's The Fifth Element is owned by Kelli Aitken-Thompson and Kristi Gallino. Kelli handled him to the win. Clayton Thompson scouted him. "Griffin" scored his first find at 5, buried up on the left edge with all in perfect order. He scored a divided find at 25, on Davis bottom's left edge. He stood with beautiful style; his manners were impeccable. Griffin scored a third, high-tailed, well-mannered find at 30, on the left, near the centerline of Davis. Red Bird's The Fifth Element ran a beautiful race and finished heading away toward Little Vine loop.

Firefly's Power Play is a 10-year-old male owned by Bonnie and Dennis Hidalgo, as well as their grandson, Robbie Nesson. "Puck" was forward on point at 8, with a well-located covey. The birds were flushed while the dog stood with perfect style and comportment. Puck shared in the divided find at 25, showing style and intensity. He hung on to the edges; although his speed was less than the champion's, he was steadily forward for the hour with constantly increasing range and power. Firefly's Power Play finished strong and forward, well into Little Vine.

The Running

Firefly's Power Play (B. Hidalgo) and Red Bird's The Fifth Element (K. Aitken-Thompson). This was the brace of the day and is related above.

Cedar Creek Anthem (E. Liermann) and Switchblade (R. Boser) turned loose at the bottom of Apple Tree Hill, headed to Little Vine. Switchblade was under birds at 2. Anthem pointed nicely at 7, but didn't stand the pressure of the bird flushing over her head.

Firefly's Beeline (B. Hidalgo) with Quantas Reloaded (C. Thompson) were released in the field before Little Vine Road. Reloaded scored two finds in quick succession just past the shallow old pond on Little Vine at 10 and 14. The first was a covey rise; she was seen standing when they started lifting, all was in order. A little further down the line, she pointed again; her birds were flushed as she stood politely with high head and tail. At the bottom of the loop, she went into the woods before coming forward, which she did by taking the right side forward toward Sycamore. Reloaded was forward up the hill to Daugherty's ridge, where she scored her third find at 35. Quantas Reloaded showed poise and manners on her birds. She disappeared out the front end and was absent for much of the last quarter hour. Upon catching up, she headed into the bull pasture to finish forward. Beeline started slowly but



National Red Setter Amateur Championship (front, l-r): Kelli and Clayton Thompson with Red Bird's The Fifth Element, Dennis and Bonnie Hidalgo with Firefly's Power Play, and Ken Chenoweth (judge). (Back row, l-r): Tyler and Lincoln Hosler, Ed Liermann, Tony King (judge), Tom Norton, Mel Matis, Don Beauchamp, and Terry Trzcinski (Purina rep).

warmed into a steady edge-running race with some big moves. Bee took the alley from Sycamore Bottom, showing midway on the ridge. She scored a find at the first draw on Daugherty's ridge at 42 and further down the ridge, another nice find at 47, all in order. She caught the front in the field west of the barns, stopping at the pond before taking the left fence line. Bee pointed near the old house site at 53, but self-relocated as a covey lifted to end her bid.

Gratitude (R. Boser) was braced with Cedar Creek Titan (E. Liermann). Since the day was going to be hot and the morning braces were done with more than a full course remaining, the judges called for the fourth brace. Gratitude was ragged in his handle. Titan pointed by the pond on the west side of Clubhouse loop at 25, Gratitude backed when he saw Titan. Relocation was needed, and Gratitude was taken on. Titan ended by removing a covey from the draw. He had been mostly forward until then. Gratitude was picked up soon after, as he was not pleasing his handler.

Cedar Creek MacArthur Ruby (E. Liermann) with Firefly's Lucky Penny (Hidalgo). This brace was short-lived. Ruby wasn't feeling well and was picked up at 8. Lucky showed to the front a few times on the way to the creek. She took the far-right side after the rocky crossing and showed to the front near the second crossing. Then she grabbed the

edge and headed west, contrary to her handler's command, and was picked up.

Cedar Creek Sixgun (E. Liermann) and Come Back Delta (K. Aitken-Thompson). The final pair was set down heading into Davis Bottom. Sixgun scored a stylish find at 3 on the left edge. Delta was making game at 5 on the left, but couldn't pin them, and her handler opted to pick up. Sixgun pointed again on the Island field's right line. He took steps before he was asked to relocate, which proved to be unproductive. Sixgun headed up Horse Killer Hill and headed forward on the line from the pond. He pointed at 35, before moving under the birds to complete the stake.

NATIONAL RED SETTER AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats] – 12 Irish Setters

Winner-RED BIRD'S THE FIFTH ELEMENT, F1687076, Irish setter male, by Eshod's Barn Burner-Red Bird's River Wild. Kristi Gallino & Kelli Aitken, owners; Kelli Aitken, handler.

Runner-Up-FIREFLY'S POWER PLAY, F1664073, Irish setter male, by Flintstone-Firefly's Hot Tip. Bonnie Hidalgo & Robbie Nesson, owners; Bonnie Hidalgo, handler.

Red Setter Open Derby

The Derby began first thing on Friday morning, starting in Breakaway Bottom. Six youngsters came to the line. It was run over the same courses as the championship, or rather, the first hour and a half of the second hour course.

Cedar Creeks Skyline Lady, owned and handled by Ed Liermann, won the Derby with a good, independent race and one nice find. She was sired by Cedar Creek Sixgun and out of the female, Cedar Creek's Skyline Belle. Ed Liermann is her breeder. Lady appeared in the second brace, which started in Davis Bottom.

Snap Back, a male owned and handled by Roger Boser, drew the first brace. He hunted hard and fast. Snap Back scored four bird contacts, one of which was finished quality, to earn second place. He made some good moves and was mainly forward. Snap Back was bred and raised by Roger in a litter sired by Wayward and out of Slipstream.



Red Setter Open Derby (front, l-r): Ed Liermann with Cedar Creeks Skyline Lady, Roger Boser with Snap Back, and Tyler Hosler with Red Bird's Plead The Fifth. **(Back row, l-r):** Amy Gauthier, Tony King (judge), Jerry Gauthier, Tom Norton, Bonnie and Dennis Hidalgo, James Martin, Kristi Gallino, and Ken Chenoweth (judge).

Red Bird's Plead The Fifth was handled by Tyler Hosler for owner Kristi Gallino. Plead The Fifth had three bird contacts. The country and the cover were completely foreign to this West Coast youngster, but once she got into the quail, she started to figure it out and improved as she went. She was sired by Red Bird's The Fifth Element, her dam was Quantonas Running Mate. Plead The Fifth was bred by Kelli Aitken-Thompson.

RED SETTER OPEN DERBY - 6 Irish Setters

1st-CEDAR CREEKS SKYLINE LADY, PL024734, Irish setter female, by Cedar Creek Sixgun-Cedar Creek's Skyline Belle. Ed Liermann, owner and handler.

2d-SNAP BACK, F1708312, Irish setter male, by Wayward-Slipstream. Roger W. Boser, owner and handler.

3d-RED BIRD'S PLEAD THE FIFTH, F1726374, Irish setter female, by Red Bird's The Fifth Element-Quantonas Running Mate. Kristi Gallino & Tyler Houser, owners; Tyler Houser, handler.

Red Setter Open Walking Shooting Dog Classic

This one-hour stake has been run at the NRSFTC fall trial at Grovespring for three consecutive years. It is the club's desire to have it become a Red Setter Walking Championship at some point in the not-too-distant future. This year, the course was changed from out-and-back to continuous courses. The courses started at Breakaway Bottom and followed the normal horseback course across the two dry creek crossings. From there, it crossed Parks Creek Road and continued into Davis Bottoms. Near the end of the bottoms, it followed the dog wagon route into Island Field, keeping to the right edge and taking the two-track up the knoll into the next field. The course made a right turn back into Davis at the cut below Horse Killer Hill and went north across the road. The third and final brace finished below Daugherty's house. The new route had a great flow to it, and it eliminated the need to deadhead on an early pick-up. Reaction to the course change was favorable.

Six dogs came to the line in this stake, but for one reason or another, five did not finish their hour. Cedar Creek Asa's Reign, owned and handled by Amy Gauthier, came through for the win with a nice, kind handling forward race. He braved



Red Setter Open Walking Shooting Dog Classic (front, l-r): Amy Gauthier with Cedar Creek Asa's Reign and Tony King (judge). **(Back row, l-r):** Ed Liermann, James Martin with his new pup, Dennis Hidalgo, Jerry Gauthier, Tom Norton, Tyler Hosler, Bonnie Hidalgo with Lincoln Hosler, Ken Chenoweth (judge), and Clayton Thompson.

the heat that shut his competition down and scored one stylish and very mannerly find below Horse Killer Hill. He pointed one other time, but no birds were produced. Cedar Creek Asa's Reign is a 5-year-old male that was bred by Ed Liermann. Asa was sired by Cedar Creek Talon and is out of Cedar Creek's Skyline Belle. Amy has owned him since he was a young pup, and she has done most of the work on her own. They have become a very competitive pair, winning in both Red Setter and all-breed trials with regularity. Both Amy and Asa proved how tough they are by winning this stake on an afternoon when the temperature was well into the eighties.

RED SETTER OPEN WALKING SHOOTING DOG CLASSIC [One-Hour Heats] - 6 Irish Setters

1st-CEDAR CREEK ASA'S REIGN, F1692805, Irish setter male, by Cedar Creek Talon-Cedar Creek Skyline Belle. Amy Gauthier, owner and handler.

NORTHEASTERN OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP

Miller's High Heat Index Wins Title; Erin's Envy Annexes Runner-up

By Tom Gates | East Windsor, Connecticut | October 15, 2025

Last year's runner-up champion is this year's new champion! Miller's High Heat Index, owned by Allen Linder of Livingston, Tennessee, and Casey Tracy of Blakely, Georgia, put on a show that will be talked about for decades to come! The 7-year-old white and orange pointer male was again handled by Mike Tracy. Emerging from the seventh brace, which was away at 10:18 on Tuesday

morning, he was braced with Smoke'N'Mirrors (PF/ M. Basilone). Both dogs were very stylish, fast-going with snappy tails and a hard-driving gait. Talk about dogs that make you stand up in the saddle—these were two! They both pointed at 7, with Index having the big covey on the right and Smoke with a sizable quail covey on the left side of the road. Both very classy pointing dogs! At Fox Hill, both dogs again had

birds in separate locations. Nice find, they looked like statues! I didn't know which one to watch! Index had a two-bird find with extreme style at the top of the hill, all in order. Smoke had a single up towards the clubhouse with great pointing style and was then lost on point not to return. Too bad, as this dog was 'getting it done' also! Index ran a far-reaching race with incredible drive and style. He was always in just the right spot and

made just the right turn at the exact perfect moments recalled by the judge. He was next found standing high and tight out to the Dearborn property with quail well located. Adding singles at 50 and 55, Index finished strong on the edge, going away. One judge glanced over and said, "This is the dog that I want to take home with me!" Incredible dog!

Runner-up laurels went to Erin's Envy. The 3-year-old white and liver pointer male is owned by Joe McHugh of Barton, Georgia, and was also handled by Mike Tracy. Envy ran in the 15th brace on Wednesday afternoon. Braced with Mohawk Mill King Pen (PM/ M. Basilone), both dogs were fantastic on the ground. Envy swapped ends at 7 for the big covey with a high tiptoed posture. A statue at flush! Both dogs scored singles behind Fox Hill in separate locations. Envy is a hard charger with a fast, driving gait that makes you look at him as the high-cracking tail catches your eye. We nearly rode past Envy at the top of the hill, buried in the thick cover with birds well located. King Pen scored going toward the clubhouse, all in order. Envy was found standing the covey out to Dearborn. What a picture! Super nice pointing dog! King Pen logged a single coming back toward the middle. Envy added two more singles and didn't slow down a step, only getting bigger and bigger; finally finishing as a dot on the distant edge. Wow, great job! This young dog has a fantastic future.

The judges gave Honorable Mention to two dogs, which were very close to the winners. Miller's Heat Seeker with George Tracy, and Waybetter Rebel with Mike Tracy. Both had more than championship-caliber braces. Great dogs!

The Field Trial

The Northeastern Open Championship is by far a nationally recognized premier event. This was the 67th renewal of the Northeastern with an entry of 31 championship-caliber contenders. We would like to thank George and Mike Tracy, along with Matt Basilone, for their



Northeastern Open Championship Winners (l-r): Haley Moreland with Erin's Envy and Mike Tracy with Miller's High Heat Index. (Standing): Amilcar Pereira, Gene Casale, Mary Tracy, Tom Tracy, Alene Levasseur, George Tracy, John Malone (judge), and Kevin Stuart (judge).

continued support.

The Casale family has run this prestigious event for over 50 years. Hall of Famer Eugene Casale chaired and ran this event for decades. His son, Gene Casale Jr., took the reins of running the event about 35 years ago. Gene Sr. stayed active in the trial until his passing in 2009. It has always been the most prestigious event in the Eastern United States. Thank you, Gene!

This year brought a new era to the Casale family's participation. All three of Gene and Pam's children have had babies within the past year. Instead of holding a family celebration for the new arrivals, the whole family came together to help run the championship. Son, Dr. Joel, came from Louisiana and planted birds with his 1-year-old son Julian on the saddle. Daughters Heather

and Anna brought their new arrivals, Harper and Zoe, to help Pam with the meals and cleaning. The Northeastern Open Championship now has a fourth generation of the Casale family, ensuring its prestigious future. Thank you all!

A major championship of this level requires judges of the highest caliber and experience. John Malone of Bolton, Connecticut, was back to judge again this year. Having judged dozens of championship trials and hundreds of weekend trials all over the country, John is nationally recognized as a top judging choice and adds a high level of expertise to the event. His dedication and focus are quite visible when judging. Kevin Stuart needs no introduction. His 50-year resume of judging major championships is unparalleled. From setting and maintaining the pace to complementing each other, covering a find, these judges were certainly the best. Thank you both for another fantastic job. Their placements were well-received and applauded by all attending.

Purina has sponsored this event for over 50 years. Wow! Greg Blair of Purina is a very knowledgeable dog man and provides a huge amount of support to the Northeastern Championship. A great man and a great dog food. Purina is the only dog food any of our New England people use. Thank you, Purina, and



Seven-year-old Owen Malone, a third-generation field trialer, rides braces as Grandpa John Malone judges.

thank you again, Greg!

As stated last year, NO ONE leaves the Northeastern Championship hungry! Pam Casale and her whole family deserve a huge THANK YOU for their tireless efforts in providing the best and most food imaginable. From coffee and donuts in the morning to subs, pizza, soup, and stews at lunch, to incredible dinner offerings of stuffed shells, meatballs, lasagna, salad, and five desserts, you are unquestionably the best. Thank you! Tony Forte, now 86, donated a huge offering of his famous eggplant to the dinners (everyone's favorite!). He has contributed to the dinners for over 45 years. Thank you, Tony! With over 30 attending each night, a good time was had by all.

You can't run a top event at this level without good help. We had the best! Thank you to Amilcar Pereira, Tom Tracy, Alene LeVasseur, Bill Bonnetti, John Olsson, Dr. Joel Casale, Anna (Casale) LaRose, Heather (Casale) Whalen, Tony Forte, Craig Santos, and Gary Tavares.

I have run dogs, run trials, judged countless braces, and manned hundreds of hours on work parties at the Flaherty area since 1972. This year was unquestionably the worst running conditions that I have ever experienced at the Flaherty Field Trial Area. You couldn't see a dog in many places, and I know that a few dogs were lost on point because of this. Another year or so of this and the grounds will be overgrown and useless.

Fortunately, the Flaherty Association has Keith Cagle as our Government Relations Representative. Keith addressed the issue at the Commissioner level. He brought the Director to our trial, put him on a horse, and had him ride a few braces to see the issues firsthand. Fantastic job, Keith. Thank you again!

The weather for the championship was less than desirable. A Nor'easter came through Sunday, Monday, and half of Tuesday with high winds and



The Casale Family (l-r): Kevin and Anna LaRose with baby Zoe, Dr. Joel and Kaitlyn Casale with baby Julian, Jon and Heather Whalen with Grandpa Gene and baby Harper, and Grandma Pam Casale.

lots of rain. The grounds were muddy, but not slippery for the horses.

The Running

Brace 1: Limbsmoke Urban Lullaby (PM/M. Basilone) with Mo's Curtain Call (PF/M. Tracy). Away at 12:35 on Monday, these were two pretty going pointers. Unfortunately, they eventually got into a foot race and were lost, not returning within time.

Brace 2: Mohawk Mill Jacked Up (PM/M. Basilone) with Miller's Heat Seeker (PM/G. Tracy). Stylish and hard driving, this was a great brace. Both dogs had a covey find at 7 in separate locations. Manners and style were perfect. Heat Seeker had a two-bird find at Fox Hill, with Jacked Up recording a stylish back. Both dogs again had a quail covey in separate locations at the top of the hill. Jacked Up scored near the Clubhouse with a single taking wing. Heat Seeker was putting on a show for George! He added a single at the Dearborn property while just eating up the course. Snappy tail and having a good time. He added two more finds near the end and finished strong.

Brace 3: Waybetter Rebel (PM/M. Tracy) with Wild Covey Derecho (PM/M. Basilone). Rebel had the covey at 7 with plenty of style. Derecho logged a nice covey at 9 with birds well located. He hunted hard but was lost on point. Rebel found the Fox Hill birds and a pair of bobwhites at the top of the hill with plenty of style. Rebel added

two single finds out to Dearborn and finished strong.

Brace 4: The Grey Ghost (ESM/M. Basilone) with Miller's Little Duce Coupe (PF/M. Tracy). These were bird dogs! Both had big covey finds in separate areas at 7. Again, near Fox Hill, both dogs recorded excellent covey finds. Coupe locked up for a pair of bobwhites near the old Tobacco Barn area with plenty of style pointing. Coupe got the Dearborn covey while Ghost carded a dug-up find nearby. Coming back toward the middle, Ghost was a picture on another dug-up find. Both dogs added a single near the end and finished strong.

Brace 5: Red Alert Lane (PM/M. Basilone) with Miller's Extreme Heat (PF/M. Tracy). These two pointers were very big going. Heat recorded a nice find at 7, but both were eventually lost to the front. Too bad, as they both looked great going!

Brace 6: Cool Hand Luke (PM/M. Tracy) with Miller's Strolling for Gold (PF/G. Tracy). These two pointers were big going and stylish on the ground. Gold scored first at 8 with a single. Luke was found standing at Fox Hill with a nice covey. Additional finds were reported for each at the Dearborn area with perfect manners. Nice dogs!

Brace 7: Smoke'N'Mirrors (PF/M. Basilone) with Miller's High Heat Index (PM/M. Tracy). This brace was covered above.

Brace 8: Steel Valley Raven (PF/M. Tracy) with Hirollins Bad Boy (PM/M. Basilone). Away at 1:35 after lunch, these dogs were top contenders on the ground— fast, snappy, excited, and focused! Boy looked like a million dollars on point at 7. His straight tail and motionless stand impressed. Raven had a single at Fox Hill and another single at the top of the hill. Boy scored at the top of the hill and added finds near the clubhouse and out to Dearborn. He was lost after that, which I feel he may have been missed while standing on point. Too bad, as he was a very nice dog.

Brace 9: Miller's Southern Gossip

(PF/G. Tracy) Bittersweet War Cry (PM/M. Tracy). Gossip locked up on the big covey at 7 with nice pointing style. George called point again at the top of the hill with Gossip standing high and proud. War Cry took in a lot of country finding birds at Fox Hill and near the clubhouse. Nice running dogs.

Brace 10: Mohawk Mill Lady Justice (PF/M. Basilone) with Erin's Big Casino (ESM/M. Tracy). Lady Justice was a "very nice dog," according to the judges. I believe she is still a derby or a young first-year dog, but she impressed everyone this day! Casino scored singles at 4 and 16 but was too much dog for these grounds today. He was evidently lost on point to the front. Lady Justice had the big covey at 7. Pretty pointing dog. She added a pair of bobwhites going up the hill in the back. Great dog!

Brace 11: Miller's Automatic Upgrade (PM/M. Tracy) with Fort River's Lucky Charm (ESM/ M. Basilone). If you like setters, you'll love this one! Charm is a powerhouse with plenty of style going. A cracking tail and animated gait that makes you look at him. Charm had the big covey from 30 feet away. He added a nice

little covey on top and ran like the wind. Nice dog! Upgrade also had birds at 8 with a more than adequate stance. He hit the cover hard and scored again at 16. Very animated race!

Brace 12: Millers Customized Upgrade (PM/G. Tracy) with Calico's Sky's the Limit (PF/ M. Tracy). George called point for Upgrade at 7 with the big covey well located. Intense pointing style and great manners. Limit jacked up for Mike a few minutes later with a good-sized covey of her own. Very pretty on point! Both dogs flowed stylishly on the ground; Upgrade traded ends on top with a nice find and ran the limits. Limit added singles at 16 and 24, also running an exciting race.

Brace 13: Mohawk Mill Patriot (PM/M. Basilone) with Miller's Special Cinderella. (PF/M. Tracy). A great challenging brace. Patriot took the lead with a hard-charging race that caught your eye. Cinderella was all class going and scored first at 7 on a covey. Patriot also logged a dug-up covey near the tree line at 8. Pretty pointing dog! He added singles at 15 and 22 with a far-reaching race. Nice dog! Cinderella again found birds at Fox Hill and near the clubhouse with

perfect manners and style.

Brace 14: Mohawk Mill Gangster (PM/M. Basilone) with Trumped (PM/M. Tracy). Trumped, last year's champion, had his running shoes on and was out of sight early. Gangster was all business! The young pointer ran hard and took in a lot of country. He carded an excellent find at 10 with plenty of style. Gangster added two singles to a fast-driving effort.

Brace No.15 (covered above): Mohawk Mill King Pen (PM/M. Basilone) with Erin's Envy (PM/M. Tracy).

Brace 16: Faithful (PF/M. Tracy). Bye dog. This pointer female attacked the course with purpose and a high cracking tail. She tallied three finds at 7, 15, and 24. Great running dog!

East Windsor, Conn., October 15

Judges: John Malone and Kevin Stuart

67th NORTHEASTERN OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP

[One-Hour Heats] - 28 Pointers and 3 Setters

Winner-MILLER's HIGH HEAT INDEX, F1685674, pointer male, by Just Irresistible-Miller's Bring the Heat. Allen Linder & Casey Hollander, owners; Mike Tracy, handler.

Runner-Up-ERIN'S ENVY, F1705275, pointer male, by Dominator's Rebel Heir-Erin's Miss Maggie. Joe McHugh, owner; Mike Tracy, handler.

PENNSYLVANIA GROUSE CHAMPIONSHIP

Blue Ribbon River Named Champion; Gracie Ballroom Star, Runner-up

By David A. Fletcher | Marienville, Pennsylvania | October 21, 2025

The 2025 Pennsylvania Grouse Championship, the club's 78th renewal, was held over the historic Loleta and Lamonville regions of the Allegheny National Forest near Marienville, Pennsylvania, beginning October 21. Thirty-one dogs were entered, consisting of 15 pointers, 15 setters, and a lone Red setter. Entry numbers were up, with 2023 having 26 entries and 2024 having 23. In the Open Derby, there were 13 entries, and the Open Puppy eight.

The Pennsylvania Club is the oldest in the state, holding wild bird grouse trials. They staged

their first event in 1913, at Portland Mills, Pennsylvania, with an entry of 11 setters and one pointer. Two New England field trial clubs were established earlier, beginning wild bird Grouse trials at Assonet, Massachusetts, in 1891, followed by the Connecticut Field Trial Club, at Hampton, Connecticut, in 1899. Both clubs, in later years, moved to horseback-released pheasant events. The Pennsylvania Club conducted the National Grouse Championship from 1913 to 1947. After a distinguished group of Grouse trialers got together in Cleveland in 1943, the Grand National Grouse

Championship came into being. The Pennsylvania Grouse Championship began in 1947, a time when many grouse clubs slightly reorganized their events.

Grouse populations are known to be cyclic. This factor affects Grouse events from Minnesota and Wisconsin through Pennsylvania and New York to New Hampshire. The Allegheny National Forest near Marienville has certainly shown the effect of cycles in grouse populations over the last few decades. Stake Manager Dick Brenneman confirms that bird populations have certainly been low the last few years. What



Pennsylvania Grouse Championship (l-r): Rich Warters, Robert Ecker (handler) with Blue Ribbon River, Norm Meeder (club president), Steve McKalko (judge), John Ferdinand with Gracie Ballroom Star, Dave Fletcher (reporter), and Dr. Tim Perschke (judge).

is the cause of this dilemma? Old, mature timber is the main talking point. Old timber is not considered a proper habitat for grouse and woodcock. How to combat this problem? The Michigan DNR has shown the possibility of a solution. Many years ago, on the Gladwin Field Trial Area near Meredith, Michigan, they began a clear-cutting program, totally cutting to bare ground several 40-acre sites each year. The regrowth has proven to be good habitat for cover, nesting, broods, and winter feeding. The Quaking Aspen, or "Popple," seems to be the key, especially the Aspen buds, for winter feeding.

Grouse moved in total for the two and a half days of the running were five grouse, two pointed and three wild flushed. No woodcock were seen. There have been renewals over these Marienville grounds, with bird scarcity evident. These situations nearly always required callbacks and additional series, and in over a dozen of these, no champions were named, almost always because of a lack of grouse found and pointed. Several clear cuts have already been made on the Lamonaville side, and more are planned for the Loleta area in the years ahead. Let's hope this will help to have more birds on the grounds despite the cyclic problems.

Dick Brenneman was the stake manager. He got the braces away,

met the gallery at course end, and got the next brace started. It was a heavy-duty job, and it took a great knowledge of the courses to manage the running. Dick has been active in grouse trials for 53 years, serving as past President and Secretary/Treasurer of the Grand National Grouse for many years, as well as past President of the Pennsylvania Grouse Championship. His Cover Dog Setters kennel, with partner Bob Watts, has won 35 cover dog championships and runner-up championships, and their Straight Forward competitor won an amazing 12 championships. Russ Fazio helped with the marshaling duties, Joe Cammisa with the tailgate lunches, and many other duties, and Club President Norm Meeder and Club Secretary/Treasurer Dave Duell were in attendance, and their work with the road gallery and all other matters was very evident.

Passing the Bucktail Hotel in downtown Marienville was very nostalgic to your scribe. The Bucktail has now been closed for about five years, but we remember when it was the focal point of trials at the Allegheny National Forest venue. Breakfasts, evening dinners, and banquets were held there, and the rooms were full of trialers.

Judges for this year's Championship were Dr. Tim Perschke of Marienville, Pa., a

retired Podiatrist, whose property near the clubhouse is the functional center for judges and reporters, and he has a long history with grouse dogs. He has bred, trained, and competed some great ones, winners of championships and many other laurels. Partnered with Canadian pro, the late Tim Tufts, the products of their breeding programs produced many Championship and Futurity winners. Dr. Tim has great experience judging and evaluating great grouse dogs—an excellent choice for this renewal of the Pennsylvania Grouse Championship. His judging partner, Steve McKalko of Troy, Michigan, is an avid grouse trial setter and Brittany man. Steve came to the Championship to run a puppy, but became a Championship judge when an emergency situation struck the advertised judge, Ohioan Jim Johnson, making him unable to attend. Steve has many seasons of grouse trialing with his own dogs in Michigan and many other places. Steve was also this 91-year-old scribe's transportation to the Marienville grounds. We talked dogs all the way.

Thanks are extended to Greg Blair and Purina for the donation of product and faithful support over many years, as well to Lion Country Supply for their gift certificates, and lastly to Dr. Steve Perschke for the judge's lodging in "the cabin" and his "Puppy course."

The Winners and Others

Both the winner of this Championship, Blue Ribbon River, a pointer female owned by Marty Festa of Sugarloaf, Pennsylvania, and the runner-up, Gracie Ballroom Star, a setter female owned by Dr. George Najor of Southfield, Michigan, were handled by trainer Robert Ecker. Not only did they have the same trainer and handler, they both performed their winning hours on the same course, Lamonaville No. 1, in the first morning braces. Both rendered championship performances in all facets and were very worthy of the honor bestowed upon them. They hunted the course extremely well,

found and handled their grouse with good location, great style standing on point, and perfect manners. The brace-by-brace section of this report details every facet of the hour's hunting. Three contenders stood out, but were birdless: Roy, handled by Mark Hughes, and Hoppy's War Bird Farmgirl, handled by Robert Ecker, both in the 13th brace, and West Wind Big Jake, handled by Mark Hughes, in the 14th.

The Running

The initial brace of this Championship broke away at 8:05 on Lamonaville Course 1. It was a white frost morning in the 30s. Rain came mid-morning, gone by early afternoon, with the temperature inching up to the 50s.

Clancy (Forman)-Blue Ribbon River (Ecker). Witnessed a great pair of grouse dogs in this very first brace. They were fleet of foot, stylish in motion, hit the far course edges, worked forwardly, and finished well. Clancy was deep and gone in the latter part of the hour, and taken up at 40. A grouse flushed wild at half time, no dog in the vicinity. Ahead 10 minutes, coming off high ground, we heard River's bell go silent. She stood tall and sure, facing a Beech thicket. It was a great grouse find, bird well located, style and manners perfect—a nice piece of work. She stood again in beautiful posture near time, but nothing could be flushed.

A Distant Spec (Hughes)-Sammy The Rock Star (Ecker). Both jumped away hard from the breakaway, hunting all the good places. Both were forward, but reaching casts were not always in evidence in Star's search. Star logged an unproductive with great pointing style. Spec, wide at times, was without birds.

Millers Dusty Version (Hughes)-Hitail Roxy (Fazio). This pair had all the attributes good grouse dogs should have on display. Style afoot and range were top-notch. Purpose, pattern, and handling were well done. Both hunted a birdless hour.

Grouse Hill Princess (Forman)-Beaver Meadow Bit (Hughes). A

great brace of dogs. They hunted the course superbly. What more could be asked of them? Princess was charged with a missed back and was taken up. Bit had a stylish point, nothing flushed, and was lost to judgment later in the hour.

Glassilaun Parabellum (Ecker)-Warrior Zeke (Hughes). Both hunted the course edges nicely from the breakaway. Parabellum was the leader in deep, purposeful casts. She logged an unproductive during the hour. Zeke was moderate in some of his searching and had a back of bracemate's unproductive.

Ironstone Darkhorse (Ecker)-Sadie (Yant). The final brace of the day went away on Loleta Course 2. Darkstone turned in a good, rather wide hour of hunting but was birdless. Sadie also hunted and reached well, but was without birds.

The score for the day was a lone grouse pointed, two dogs with unproductive stands, and a grouse wild flushed.

Wednesday morning's breakaway was overcast, in the 40s. The start came at 8:28.

Mulberry Fields Molly (Hughes)-Gracie Ballroom Star (Ecker). The early hunting showed powerful searching by Gracie and Molly that could only be described as "way out there." Both dogs soon settled into good hunting patterns, loved the course and the terrain, and hunted it well. Molly was birdless, and Gracie, right at the half, scored a perfect grouse find. The find was with great stature and perfect execution. In all likelihood, Gracie's grouse could have been the same bird pointed the previous morning by Blue Ribbon River. Later in the hour, Gracie pointed stylishly again along an edge of what appeared as prime woodcock cover, but no birds were flushed.

Grouse Hill Rambo (Ecker)-Miller's Special Upgrade (Hughes). In my reporter's book, I penned VG in every category of performance I have spaces for. The VG of course stands for "very good," and this pair fit that description to a T. Unfortunately, it

was a birdless brace.

Seldom Rest Jack (Ralph)-Grouse Ridge Mags (Forman). What should one say about a pair of dogs that hunt the course in the precise manner it should be hunted? Both Jack and Upgrade accomplished that. This pair, again, was unfortunately birdless.

Mia Star (Ecker)-Backwoods Wildfire Blaze (Hughes). A little heavier rain made an appearance as this brace went down. It was a bye brace, and the last brace bye could not be moved up—a Hughes charge. Mia, co-owned by Judge McKalko, was scratched when he was asked to judge. Advertised judge Jim Johnson declined because of troubles at home. Blaze hunted well, made casts to likely places, came around well, and had plenty of stamina for the hour. Another birdless contender.

Double Deuce Miles (Hughes)-Ironstone Shenanigans (Ecker). They went away hard, very forwardly. Handler sent Shenanigans hard right in the following minutes, a region of heavy cover that reputedly always had birds. The search there was difficult and birdless, and Shenanigans was taken up not long afterward. Miles hunted the hour well, at times at moderate range, always to good places and handling well.

Double Deuce Jack (Hughes)-Grouse Hill Mac (Forman). The rain picked up a bit as we turned loose. Jack had great running gear, style in motion, but loved the far places. He spent much of the hour on the far edges, and hearing his bell was difficult. Mac was pleasant to watch, hunting and handling well. He logged an unproductive after the half in a very thick place where he was discovered by a tiny tinkle of his bell.

Thursday, the final day of this Championship, was overcast, in the 40s at the morning breakaway, but a steady rain soon settled in.

Roy (Hughes)-Hoppy's War Bird Farmgirl (Ecker). One could use the term excellent to describe the hunting, range, purpose, and hunting

pattern of this duo. It would be difficult for a pair of dogs to hunt the terrain better than these two did. One could muse about them challenging for a placement, with a bird find.

West Wind Big Jake (Hughes)-Hypointe Monarch Express (Fazio). Another pair doing a great job looking for a grouse to point. Both dogs were certainly what a judge should be looking for in a championship stake performance. Jake might have challenged for a placement with birds. Express had an unproductive late in the hour.

Saddled Up Sadie (Hughes)-Buck of Piney Woods (Ecker). An eager start, plenty of good moves forwardly to good cover, and handling with ease were the keynotes of this pair. No birds were found during the hour, but both dogs deserve credit for a fine hour of bird hunting.

Miller's Hopped Up Version (Hughes). A bye in the final championship brace. This attractive pointer female sped away up front from the breakaway. She was getting



Open Derby (l-r): Rob Hopkins, Tom Butts (judge) with Heartbreaker Bud Light, John Ferdinand with Lizard Creek's All Zoom, Mark Hughes with Cerulean Stone, and Rich Jarosinski (judge).

deeper in the course as she went. In the far places and still surging, the tracker was soon called for. This contender was lost to judgment.

Thursday's four braces revealed only one wild flushing grouse.

Marienville, Pa., October 21

Judges: Dr. Tim Perschke and Steve McKalko
PENNSYLVANIA GROUSE CHAMPIONSHIP
[One-Hour Heats] - 15 Pointers, 15 Setters,
and 1 Red Setter

Winner-BLUE RIBBON RIVER, F1701966, Pointer female, by Double Deuce Zeke-Huckleberry's Lucky Penny. Martin Festa, owner, Robert Ecker, handler.
Runner-Up-GRACIE BALLROOM STAR, F1694839, Setter female, by Sunrise Star-Lucy Two Star. George Najor, owner, Robert Ecker, handler.

Judges: Scott Forman and Brian Ralph
OPEN PUPPY - 4 Setters and 4 Brittanys

1st-SUNRISE DOUBLE BARRELL STAR, F1721031, setter male, by Sunrise Star-Mia Star. George Najor, owner; Bob Ecker, handler.
2d-MEADOWINK'S QUICK SILVER, F1720595, setter male, by Dun Rovens Zip-Castle Rock's Autumn Breeze. William Yant, owner and handler.
3d-HAYWOOD'S PRINCESS ECLIPSE, unreg., Brittany female, breeding not given. Steve McKalko, owner; John Capocci, handler.

Judges: Tom Butts and Rich Jarosinski
OPEN DERBY - 13 Entries

1st-HEARTBREAKER BUD LIGHT, F1710620, pointer male, by Toth's Tornado Reloaded-Grouse Trails Warrior Cat. Tom Butts, owner and handler.
2d-LIZARD CREEK'S ALL ZOOM, F1710164, pointer female, by Grouse Hill Rambo-All On. Marissa Everett, owner; R. J. Ecker, Jr., handler.
3d-CERULEAN STONE, unreg., pointer male, by Hifives Rolling Stone-Speed Dialing Kaia. Tim Perschke, owner; Mark Hughes, handler.

SUBMITTING A WRITE-UP & FORMS?

Please submit all information to:
dwellmann@ukcdogs.com

[Please note that results received well after the trial (60 days) cannot be assured that the trial will receive coverage in a printed issue.]

ESMONT FIELD TRIAL CLUB OF VIRGINIA

Fall Trial

By Tommy Stargell | Brookneal, Virginia | October 24, 2025

The Esmont trial was held on October 25 and 26 at beautiful Sadie Ridge Farm in Brookneal, Virginia. Sadie Ridge is owned by Sandra and Grayson Francis. Their generosity and hospitality were second to none. Not a soul left without being stuffed with good food and thoroughly enjoying themselves. We all thank our hosts; you outdid yourselves.

We also genuinely thank Purina and Greg Blair, who sponsored our trial. Their products are second to none, and their loyalty is unquestioned. Thank you for all that you do for us.

We began with the first of two Amateur Derby stakes. Littermates were the eventual winners. In second was Bevy's Cotton Patch handled by Tommy Stargell, who scored one

covey find and a back. In first was Sadie Ridge Rip for Grayson Francis, who had a good find midway through and one at pickup. The ground races for these two were basically equal, with ample speed and pattern being shown. This was a very nice performance by both dogs.

The second stake was an Amateur All-Age. Gene Hogge's Pagan Creek Atticus garnered second place. Atticus had birds at 7, 9, 14, and finished. Our winner was Dry Creek Ares (Jeff Smith), who found his birds 10 minutes into his brace.

We adjourned for a wonderful Saturday night supper fixed entirely by our hostess, Sandra Francis. The spaghetti et al was delicious.

Sunday morning, Sandra had coffee and an assortment of fruit,

bread, and muffins; way too much work, but appreciated.

Bruce Conover's Action Jackson won the Amateur Shooting Dog. His always-to-the-front shooting dog pattern was coupled with two quality finds, the second right at pickup. Chloe Lewis handled her Greypointe Nubarron to second place with two finds and an even ground pattern. In third was Worth Lewis and setter Nomads Change Order. He carded two of the most beautiful and independently performed backs I have ever seen and had a find of his own.

The second Derby, our last stake, was won by Al Dahl's Buffalo JCT Penny. Penny had a splendid find on the course bottom and a forward race. In second was Worth Lewis's Nomads Easy Come Easy Go, who

had a spirited and good race.

Once again, we went to the Clubhouse for the last terrific lunch, prepared by Miss Sandra.

Tremendous accolades and applause go to our bird planter, Darryl Miller. Equal thanks go out to our Judges, Grayson Francis, Al Dahl, and Gene Hogge. You all did splendid work!

It is always a good time at Sadie Ridge, and this trial followed that pattern. Thank you to all for your entries and your fellowship.

Until next year!

Brookneal, Va., October 24

Judges: Al Dahl and Gene Hogge
AMATEUR DERBY – 4 Pointers

1st-SADIE RIDGE RIP, F1714960, pointer male, by Rocky River Loaded-Sadie Ridge Sally. Grayson Francis, owner and handler.

2d-BEVY'S COTTON PATCH, F1714965, pointer female, by Rocky River Loaded-Sadie Ridge Sally. Thomas A. Stargell, owner and handler.

Judges: Grayson Francis and Tommy Stargell
AMATEUR ALL-AGE – 8 Pointers and 1 Setter

1st-DRY CREEK ARES, F1696250, pointer male, by Bad News Bob-Dry Creek Ginger Snap. Jeff Smith, owner and handler.

2d-PAGAN CREEK ATTICUS, F1692037, pointer male, by Goldberg-Mohawk. Gene Hogge, owner and handler.

Judges: Al Dahl and Tommy Stargell
AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG – 4 Pointers, 2 Setters, and 1 Brittany

1st-ACTION JACKSON, F1726999, Brittany male, by Sam In Unison Levi-Top Gun Sugar. Bruce Conover, owner and handler.

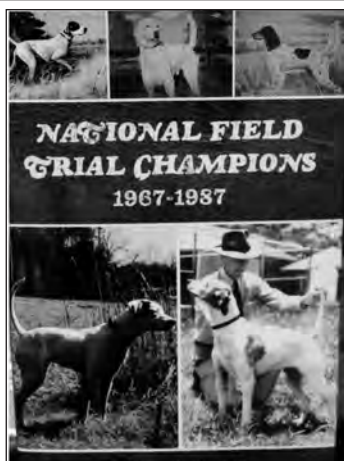
2d-GREYPOINTE NUBARRON, F1674499, pointer male, by S F Bandwagon-Greyhound Gloriosa. Worth Lewis, owner; Chloe Lewis, handler.

3d-NOMADS CHANGE ORDER, F1700670, setter male, by Black Top-Jo Veeta. Worth Lewis, owner and handler.

Judges: Grayson Francis and Tommy Stargell
AMATEUR DERBY – 3 Pointers and 1 Setter

1st-BUFFALO JCT PENNY, F1720749, pointer female, by Warmarks Suny Hill Jo's Texas-Warmarks Heatseeker's Kris. Al Dahl, owner and handler.

2d-NOMADS EASY COME EASY GO, F1714931, setter male, by T's Ridge Reaper-Bell On The Run. Worth Lewis, owner and handler.



NATIONAL FIELD TRIAL CHAMPIONS 1967-1987

By William S. Smith

The much-anticipated sequel to William F. Brown and Nash Buckingham's book, "National Field Trial Champions 1896-1955," and William F. Brown's "National Field Trial Champions 1956-1966," is here! To continue the Championship series, William Smith was asked to document the history of the National Champions 1967-1987. By in-depth research and investigation of these twenty-one National Champions, he was able to portray interesting facts about the people and the dogs that reached the pinnacle of field trials to be crowned National Champions. It is William's hope that this book will enlighten, entertain, and enrich your understanding of these past great champions. This makes a great gift!

Limited Edition, Hardcover, 321 pages ♦ \$40.00 + \$5.00 S&H (PayPal S&H is more)

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Field Trials

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December 6-7, 2025 • Super Bowl Trial

Babcock Webb Wildlife Management Area, Punta Gorda, FL



Continuous courses with native Bobwhite quail. Trial to be run in accordance with "Guidelines to Field Trial Procedure and Judicial Practice." Grounds will be open through December for training. Drawing: Friday, December 5, 8:00 p.m., in the clubhouse. Bring-your-own-meat cookout Saturday evening.

OPEN ALL-AGE (1 Hour)—National Amateur Points.....\$100.00
OPEN SHOOTING DOG (1 Hour)—National Amateur Points.....\$100.00
OPEN DERBY (30 Min.)—At club's discretion\$ 50.00
OPEN PUPPY (20 Min.)—At club's discretion.....\$ 35.00

— No cash purse, prizes only —

Judges: Matthew Ford and Scott Ford

Paul Daniel—(813) 477-4104 & Scott Ford—(941) 650-1255, Chairpersons

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The Club, club members, and the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission are not responsible for accidents or injuries to vehicles, animals or persons.



EAST KENTUCKY FIELD TRIAL CLUB

Member ABHA, AFTCA & KFTA
Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

December 6-7, 2025 • Starts 8:00 a.m. daily
Central Kentucky WMA, 638 Dreyfus Rd., Berea, KY 40403

Drawing: Thursday, December 4, 8:00 p.m. (EST),
at the home of Adam Thomas.

OPEN PUPPY (20 Min.)—Plaques	\$35.00
OPEN DERBY (30 Min.)—Plaques	\$45.00
OPEN SHOOTING DOG (30 Min.)—Plaques	\$65.00
AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG (30 Min.)—Plaques	\$65.00

Judges: Bill Siemer, Hamersville, OH,
and Daryl Thomas Jr., Danville, KY



Entries to: ADAM THOMAS • Phone: (859) 310-3258

East Kentucky Field Trial Club is not responsible for injury or loss to participants, animals or property during course of this event.



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ABHA FUTURITY & CLASSICS

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Grounds: Miller-Welch Central Kentucky WMA, 638 Dreyfus Rd., Berea, KY 40403. Drawing: Wednesday, December 3, 7:00 p.m., at the home Brian Kennedy.

*ABHA SHOOTING DOG INVITATIONAL CLASSIC (45 Min.)	\$150.00
**ABHA FUTURITY (45 Min.)	\$ 80.00
**EARL ELKINS PUPPY CLASSIC (30 Min.)	\$ 60.00

*Plaques & Purse: 40% (minus dog tax), 40-30-20

**Plaques & Purse: 40% (minus dog tax), 40-30-20-10

Judges: *Invitational Classic*—To be announced; *Futurity*—Bud Moore and
Ronnie Rogers; *Puppy Classic*—Mary Sue Schalk and Mike Griffin.



Entries to: BRIAN KENNEDY • Phone: (712) 561-6090
412 Hackberry Rd., Shelby, IA 51570



NORTHERN NEW JERSEY FIELD TRIAL CLUB

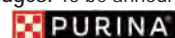
Member AFTCA & NBHA • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

Sunday, December 7, 2025 • One-Day Trial • Starts 8:00 a.m.

Grounds: Indian Creek Shooting Preserve, 43 Lasinski Rd., Franklin, NJ 07416.
Directions: Off of Rt. 94, turn onto Lasinski Rd. and go over the railroad tracks
to the end. Trial to be run on quail, chukar and pheasant. Drawing: Tuesday,
December 2, 7:00 p.m., at the home of Trial Chairman John Dobson, 227 Forge
Rd., Eagleswood, NJ 08092.

OPEN PUPPY	\$40.00
OPEN DERBY (30 Min. or course)	\$55.00
OPEN SHOOTING DOG (30 Min. or course)	\$55.00
AMATEUR GUN DOG (30 Min. or course)—JC@F	\$55.00

Judges: To be announced



Entries to: JILLIAN STUHR, Secretary

Call or Text: (570) 369-8624 • Email: jillian.stuhr@gmail.com

Entries are accepted with the understanding that the club, its officers, members and landowners are not responsible and cannot be held liable
for any accidents involving anyone attending the trial, their horses, dogs or equipment.



PINEWOOD WALKING FIELD TRIAL



Hosted by Sandlapper Field Trial Club

Member AFTCA, ASCFTC & USCSDA • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!



Starts Thursday, December 11*-14, 2025

Railway Kennels, 6525 Guardrail Rd., Pinewood, SC

(*Start date depending on entries)

Drawing: Monday, December 8, 7:00 p.m., at Railway Kennels.

OPEN DERBY QUALIFIER (30 Min.)—40%, 50-30-20 less \$5/dog	\$40.00
OPEN SHOOTING DOG (30 Min.)—40%, 50-30-20 less \$5/dog	\$50.00
AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG (30 Min.)—Ribbons	\$40.00
AMATEUR DERBY (30 Min.)—Ribbons	\$30.00

Judges: Rotating Panel

Entries to: NICK MELLON • Phone: (724) 333-3006



CONECUH STATION FIELD TRIAL CLUB

Member Alabama FTA, Dixie Trace FTA & SBHA
Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!



5th ANNUAL TOMMY TRAYLOR MEMORIAL

Sunday, December 14, 2025, 10:00 a.m.

Conecuh Station Plantation, Union Springs, AL

— Alabama, SBHA, and Dixie Trace Youth Handler Points Trial —

For handlers 17 and younger • Continuous Courses on Horseback • 20-Minute Braces
Dogs judged on Horseback Gun Dog standards.

\$20.00 entry fees graciously paid by Chris and Cindy Sellers of Selmer, TN!

A revolving trophy in memory of Tommy Traylor, donated by Jack & Fran Miller, will be presented to the
first-place dog. Top three placements and Top Dog in Junior Division will receive trophies and prizes.

Directions to Grounds: Take Hwy. 29 South from Union Springs, AL. Travel approx. 8 miles, turn
right on South Gate Rd., just past Mile Marker 136. Noon meal provided. Drawing: Saturday,
December 6, 6 p.m., at the Conecuh Station Field House. Accommodations: Master Rack Lodge,
located 3 miles from grounds on Hwy. 29 South in Blues Stand Community. For reservations, call:
Steve Maxwell—(334) 474-3600. Greenway Sportsman Club is approx. 8 miles from grounds near
Union Springs; call Justin Green—(334) 473-9322. Camper hook-ups available on trial grounds.

Judges: To be announced

Entries to: DARRON HENDLEY—(334) 300-5836 -or- ROBERT MOORER—(334) 558-7080

Special thanks to Tony and Becky Gibson for offering their beautiful grounds!



MIKE REYNOLDS MEMORIAL YOUTH TRIAL



Saturday, December 20, 2025, 10:00 a.m.

Reynolds Farm, 8120 County Rd. 37, Mathews, AL 36052

— Alabama and SBHA Youth Handler Points Trial —

For handlers 17 and younger • 20-Minute Braces

Liberated Quail • Dogs judged on Horseback Gun Dog standards.

\$20.00 entry fees graciously paid by Chris and Cindy Sellers.

— Lunch fundraiser for Blackfeet Indian Methodist Ministries —

Drawing: Tuesday, December 16, 6:00 p.m.,
at 1081 Merrywood Dr., Pike Road, AL.

Judges: Tom and Melody Shenker, Hurtsboro, AL

Entries to: DARRON HENDLEY—(334) 300-5836

-or- TONY REYNOLDS—(334) 850-3313

Club officials, organizers, members, landowners, and entrants are not responsible
for accidents or injuries to persons or animals or loss of any kind.



NBHA MISSOURI STATE CLASSIC

Hosted by Missouri Bird Hunters Association

Member NBHA, MBHA & AFTCA • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

Wednesday, December 3 (depending on entries)

Sportsmen's Association Grounds, Grovespring, MO

BOB CATLETT OPEN SHOOTING DOG CLASSIC (1 Hour)	\$120.00
LARRY CARPENTER AMATEUR DERBY (30 Min.)	\$ 85.00
LARRY CARPENTER AMATEUR PUPPY (20 Min.)	\$ 60.00

Judges: Doug Watt, Tim Penn, and Jim Ogle

Directions to Grounds: At Lebanon, MO, take Hwy. 5 South approx. 18 miles. Located at 10321 Parks Creek Rd., Grovespring, MO 65662. Clubhouse is one mile north. Horse and dog stalls available for handlers on a first come basis. **Drawing:** Sunday, November 30, 7:00 p.m., at the home of Missouri BHA President Chrsian Ogle. Handlers/owners must be an AFTCA member to enter dogs in the amateur stakes. **Accommodations:** Super 8 Motel— (417) 588-2574. Ask for special field trial rates.

Entries to: JIM OGLE • (417) 388-0734 • Jasper, MO

-or- KEVIN WESTERN • (660) 341-3522 • Queen City, MO

Neither Missouri Bird Hunters Association, nor landowners, are responsible for any accident or mishap to spectators, handlers, dogs, etc.



BAMA QUAIL CLASSIC

— Presented by the Bama Quail Club —

Member AFTCA, AFTA & DTFTA • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

Thursday, December 4, 2025* to Conclusion • Starts 8:00 a.m.

(*Depending on entries)



A PURINA TOP AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG AWARD,
AMATEUR INVITATIONAL, ALABAMA & DIXIE TRACE POINTS TRIAL

Grounds: BAMA Quail Club, 3039 Heritage Hill Rd., Tuskegee, AL. Signs will be posted. Single course. Bitches in season may not compete! **Drawing:** Tuesday, December 2, 7:00 p.m. (CST), at 1459 Auburn Rd., Notasulga, AL. This trial is open to all handlers currently in good standing with UKC/American Field, *Field Dog Stud Book* and Purina Awards Committee. For Amateur, handlers and owners must be an individual member of AFTCA to enter a dog.

(Thurs.) AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG DERBY (30 Min.)	\$ 60.00
AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG (1 Hour)	\$140.00
(Sun.) *BILL HARKINS MEMORIAL YOUTH STAKE—Time permitting	

Alabama FTA, Dixie Trace FTA and SBHA Youth Points Trial

*Contact Darron Hendley at (334) 300-5836; No entry fee courtesy of Chris & Cindy Sellers, Selmer, TN.

(Mon.) OPEN SHOOTING DOG DERBY (30 Min.)—50%, 50-30-20..... \$ 85.00

PAT LaBREE MEMORIAL OPEN SHOOTING DOG (1 Hour)—50%, 50-30-20.. \$200.00

Judges: *Amateur Stakes*—Lee Harkins, Auburn, AL, and Ben Stringer, Thomasville, GA;

Open Stakes—John Neely, Albany, GA, and Roger Key, Auburn, AL.

Contact: BILL GOODWIN, Secretary—(334) 467-5100

Generously sponsored by:

PURINA • Victoryland Greyhound Park • Shine It Company

Farmers Feed LLC • Oak Hill Quail Farm • Prattville Farm Center

Club officials or landowners are not responsible for accidents involving anyone attending the trial, horses, dogs or equipment. Bama Quail Club will not tolerate any abuse of the judges or club officials!

ALABAMA FIELD TRIAL CLUB

Member AFTCA • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

December
4-7, 2025



Starts 7:30 a.m.
Amateur Trial

POINTS TRIAL FOR:

NATIONAL AMATEUR INVITATIONAL ALL-AGE, DERBY & SHOOTING DOG

MID SOUTH FIELD TRIAL ASSOCIATION • REGION 6

PURINA AMATEUR ALL-AGE & TOP AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG AWARD



Grounds: Hell Creek WMA, 4120 Co. Rd. 825, Myrtle, MS 38650.

Drawing: Tuesday, December 2, 7:00 p.m., at 915 County Road 170, Moulton, AL 35650.

J.R. PAGE AMATEUR ALL-AGE (1 Hour)..... \$75.00

AMATEUR DERBY (30 Minutes)

AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG (1 Hour)..... \$75.00

Judges: Greg Bain, Town Creek, AL; Hunter Clark, Ethel, MS; Joe Hughes, Moulton, AL; and Tessa Hughes, Moulton, AL.

Entries to: JOE HUGHES • Call or Text: (205) 616-0191
915 County Road 170, Moulton, AL 35650

HOFFMAN AMATEUR FIELD TRIAL CLUB

Member AFTCA & NCFTA • Blank ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns only!

DECEMBER 5-7, 2025

ROBERT GORDON AREA, HOFFMAN, NC



AMATEUR ALL-AGE INVITATIONAL POINTS TRIAL

PURINA POINTS TRIAL

Drawing: Tuesday, December 2, 7:00 p.m.,
at the home of Derek Bonner.

AMATEUR DERBY (30 Min.)..... \$ 75.00

Points Stake for U.S. Amateur Derby Invitational Classic

AMATEUR ALL-AGE (1 Hour) \$125.00

Judges: Jerry Raynor, Dunn, NC,
and Shawn Melvin, Garland, NC

Entries to: DEREK BONNER, Chairman
1065 Ferry Rd., Mooresboro, NC 28114

Phone: (828) 289-2300

The NC Wildlife Department, Hoffman Amateur Field Trial Club, and club members are not responsible for accidents, or injuries to persons, animals, or equipment.

TENNESSEE VALLEY FIELD TRIAL CLUB

Member ABHA, AFTCA & KFTA, Southern Circuit & Region 6 • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

DECEMBER 5-9, 2025



— AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG INVITATIONAL POINTS TRIAL —

A PURINA TOP SHOOTING DOG, TOP AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG
& HANDLER OF THE YEAR AWARD POINTS TRIAL

AN AFTCA TOP AMATEUR HANDLER OF THE YEAR POINTS TRIAL

Grounds: Percy Priest Wildlife Management Area, Pooles Knob Recreation Area, LaVergne, TN. Lunch will be served on grounds. **Drawing:** Monday, December 1, 8:00 p.m. (EST), at the home of Ronnie Rogers. You must be an individual member of AFTCA to enter your dog. **Motel:** Econo Lodge (on I-24), LaVergne, TN. Phone: (615) 793-3600; other motels available.

STAKES AND ORDER OF RUNNING:

AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG (1 Hour).....	\$ 80.00
*AMATEUR DERBY (30 Min.)	\$ 50.00
AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG (30 Min.)	\$ 50.00
AMATEUR ALL-AGE (30 Min.)	\$ 50.00
OPEN SHOOTING DOG (30 Min.)—No payback.....	\$ 50.00
OPEN ALL-AGE (30 Min.)—No payback	\$ 50.00
*OPEN DERBY (30 Min.)—40%, 50-30-20; Time permitting.....	\$ 80.00
OPEN SHOOTING DOG (1 Hour)—40%, 50-30-20	\$150.00

*Run at club's discretion

Judges: Justin Crook, Jasper, MO; Mike Griffin, Stilwell, OK;
Ed Stevens, West Union, OH; and Taylor Henley, Soddy Daisy, TN.

Phone entries to: RONNIE ROGERS—(865) 712-9229 or (865) 475-3459
-or- ARNOLD HALL—(423) 748-1825

Entries accepted with the understanding that the club and members are not responsible for accidents or loss to persons, animals or equipment.

MISSOURI AMATEUR CLASSICS & OPEN DERBY

Hosted by Whetstone Field Trial Club in conjunction with
Missouri State Field Trial Association

December 11-14, 2025 (depending on entries)
Sportsmen's Association Grounds,
Grovespring, MO



A PURINA AMATEUR ALL-AGE AWARD POINTS TRIAL
U. S. AMATEUR DERBY INVITATIONAL, AMATEUR ALL-AGE
& AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG INVITATIONAL POINTS TRIAL

AMATEUR ALL-AGE (1 Hour)\$95.00 + \$30.00 Grounds Fee
Saddle to Winner • Breast Collar to Runner-Up

RALPH BERENDZEN MEMORIAL

OPEN DERBY (30 Min.)\$60.00 + \$20.00 Grounds Fee
All-Age Standards • 50%, 50-30-20 (\$1,000 added purse divided 50-30-20)

*AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG (1 Hour)\$90.00 + \$30.00 Grounds Fee
Prizes to Winner • Amateur Shooting Dog Points Trial
*To be run at club's discretion, pending entries.

Judges: Dave Capstick, Wentzville, MO,
and Dr. Stan Wint, Gardner, KS

Drawing: Monday, December 8, 7:00 p.m., at the home of the chairman, 12380 Bob Veach Rd., Ashland, MO 65010. **Banquet:** Saturday evening following the day's running sponsored by the Missouri State Field Trial Association.

Entries to: JAY LEWIS, Trial Chairman • Cell: (573) 489-4373

CONECUH STATION AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG CLASSIC

Hosted by Conecuh Station Field Trial Club

Starts December 11, 2025, 8:00 a.m. until completion
Union Springs, AL



A PURINA POINTS TRIAL



ALABAMA FIELD TRIAL ASSOCIATION POINTS

DIXIE TRACE FIELD TRIAL ASSOCIATION POINTS

SOUTHERN BIRD HUNTERS ASSOCIATION POINTS

Directions to Grounds: Take Hwy. 29 South from Union Springs, AL. Travel approximately 8 miles. Turn right on South Gate Rd. just past Mile Marker 136. Look for Conecuh Station field trial sign. **Drawing:** Saturday, December 6, 6:00 p.m., at the Conecuh Station Field House. Handlers will not be required to run in more than two consecutive braces. Registration information required. **Accommodations:** Master Rack Lodge (334) 474-3600. Ask for field trial rates. Barn, lots, and camper set-ups available at field trial site with handlers and their owners having priority. Breakfast and lunch provided.

OPEN SHOOTING DOG DERBY\$100.00

*AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG\$125.00

*AFTCA Amateur Invitational Points Trial

Judges: Ruthann Epp and Caitlin Lee

Entries to: LISA LITTELL • Phone: (334) 649-0076

Entries accepted with the understanding that the Conecuh Station Field Trial Club, its officers and landowners, are not in any way responsible and cannot be held liable for any accidents or injuries involving anyone attending the trial, their horses, dogs or equipment. Abuse of Judges and Club Officials will not be tolerated. Unsportsmanlike conduct will result in immediate disqualification. The CSFTC Board of Directors reserves all rights to refuse entry in trial or on grounds to anyone not in good standing with CSFTC, SBHA, Dixie Trace, The Field Dog Stud Book, AFTCA, AFTA, the American Field/UKC.



Eukanuba
Sporting Dog



NBHA KENTUCKY STATE CLASSIC

Hosted by West Kentucky Field Trial Club

Member NBHA, AFTCA, ABHA & KFTA • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

December 19-21, 2025

West Kentucky WMA

10535 Ogden Landing Rd., Kevil, KY



Drawing: Tuesday, December 16, 6:00 p.m. (CST), at the home of Mary Sue Schalk. Please contact Mary Sue Schalk in regard to accommodations.

Kennels and barns available on the grounds.

*OPEN SHOOTING DOG CLASSIC (1 Hour)\$125.00

*OPEN DERBY (30 Min.)\$ 65.00

*Purse: 40%, 50-30-20 (purse determined after dog tax)

OPEN PUPPY (20 Min. or Course)—Ribbons.....\$ 45.00

Judges: Dennis Sneed, Ewing, IL, and Tim Hammons, Berea, KY

Entries to: MARY SUE SCHALK, Club Vice President

Phone: (270) 625-0196

Neither West Kentucky FTC, nor landowners, are responsible for any accident or mishap to spectators, handlers, dogs, etc.



SHADOW OAK FIELD TRIAL CLUB

Member AFTCA, Dixie Trace FTA & Alabama FTA • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

Begins Saturday, December 27, 2025

Starts 8:00 a.m.

Round Pond Plantation, Leesburg, GA



**A PURINA AMATEUR TOP SHOOTING DOG AWARD,
AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG INVITATIONAL,
DIXIE TRACE & ALABAMA POINTS TRIAL**

Directions: From Leesburg, GA, approximately 10 miles north on Hwy. 195 and East onto Batts Rd. Follow field trial signs. From Leslie, GA, approximately 7 miles south on Hwy. 195 and East onto Batts Rd. Follow field trial signs.

AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG (1 Hour).....\$125.00

OPEN DERBY (30 Min.)—50%, 50-30-20\$100.00

Judges: Willis Wright, Albany, GA,
and Ricky Furney, Panama City, FL

Drawing: Monday, December 22, 7:00 p.m.,
at the home of John Neely.

Food available for lunch.

Call or text entries to:

MARTHA NEELY • (229) 894-7766

Please have your AFTCA Member Number available when entering dogs.

The club officers, landowners, and trial officials are not responsible and cannot be held liable for any accidents involving anyone attending the trial or their horses, dogs, or equipment.

MID-SOUTH AMATEUR FIELD TRIAL ASSOCIATION AMES AMATEUR JOE G. WALKER MEMORIAL FIELD TRIAL



**Running will commence Monday, December 29, 2025
at Ames Plantation, Grand Junction, TN**

**POINTS TRIAL FOR THE NATIONAL AMATEUR INVITATIONAL,
PURINA AMATEUR ALL-AGE AWARD, REGION 6
MID-SOUTH ASSOCIATION DOG OF THE YEAR AWARDS
AND U.S. AMATEUR DERBY INVITATIONAL**



****NOTE**** Drawing: Will be held Monday evening, December 22, 7:00 p.m. AFTCA membership number must accompany all entries! Motel Reservations: Hampton Inn, Collierville, TN. Phone: (901) 854-9400.

AMATEUR ALL-AGE (One Hour).....Entry Fee: \$75.00

AMATEUR DERBY (30 Minutes).....Entry Fee: \$40.00

Judges: Jeremy Taylor, Rienzi, MS, and Brad Kennedy, Red Bay, AL

Reporter: Kent Walker

Blank ammunition and manufactured barrel guns only. Lunches served. Horses must have negative Coggins.

Help us make this the best Ames Amateur yet. Come and compare your dog's bird finding ability with the National Champion!

Entries to: KENT WALKER, President • (901) 277-1527

SWAMP FOX OPEN SHOOTING DOG CLASSIC

— Presented by Cock-N-Fire Field Trial Club —

Starts December 27, 2025*, 8:00 a.m.

Hoffman, NC Field Trial Grounds

**Start date depends on number of entries*



A PURINA TOP SHOOTING DOG AWARD

& PURINA HANDLER AWARD POINTS TRIAL

NATIONAL SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFIER

OPEN SHOOTING DOG (1 Hour)—50%, 50-30-20.. Entry Fee \$275.00

OPEN DERBY—Time Permitting; 50%, 50-30-20 ... Entry Fee \$150.00

Judges: Dan and April DiMambro, Big Rapids, MI

A BBQ Supper will be held Saturday, December 27, at the clubhouse.

Lunch will be served daily.

Drawing: Monday, December 22, 5:00 p.m.

Entries to: ALLEN JOHNSON—(803) 464-5525

-or- JERRY RAYNOR—(910) 237-0619

Participants and spectators attend at their own risk.



VIRGINIA CLASSIC

— Walking Trial —

**Hosted by the Virginia Field Trial Clubs of
Hanover, Lancaster, Peninsula and Powhatan**

Members AFTCA & USCSDA • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

January 16-18, 2026

Starts 7:30 a.m. each day

Cutawhiskie Farm, Ahoskie, NC

Directions: From Ahoskie, take W561 to St. John's (stay to left) continue on 561 for 1.5 miles, turn right onto Lewter Lane, and go through gates. Signs posted or follow GPS to Lewter Lane, Aulander, NC. Lunch will be provided. One course with repeat starts. Wild and pre-released quail. **Drawing:** Tuesday January 13, 7:00 p.m., at the home of Dennis Kivikko. **Lodging:** Chief Motel—(252) 332-2138 or Tomahawk Motel—(252) 332-3194.

AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG CLASSIC (45 Min.).....\$90.00

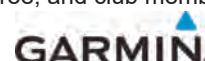
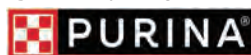
AMATEUR GUN DOG (30 Min.).....\$45.00

AMATEUR DERBY (30 Min.).....\$45.00

AMATEUR PUPPY (20 Min.).....\$35.00

Running order could depend on entries.

Judges: Tony Bingham, Cliff Monroe, and club members.



Call or text entries to: DENNIS KIVIKKO • (804) 218-4581

All entries must be confirmed.

Please make checks payable to: VA U.S. Complete Shooting Dog Assoc.

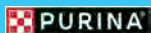


ALABAMA OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP

Hosted by Conecuh Station Field Trial Club

Monday, December 1, 2025, 8:00 a.m. until completion
Union Springs, AL

— A QUALIFYING TRIAL FOR THE NATIONAL OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP —



U.S. SHOOTING DOG INVITATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS TRIAL



A PURINA POINTS TRIAL • ALABAMA FIELD TRIAL ASSOCIATION POINTS

DIXIE TRACE FIELD TRIAL ASSOCIATION POINTS • SOUTHERN BIRD HUNTERS ASSOCIATION POINTS

Entry Fee: \$300.00 • One-Hour Heats • Continuous Course Trial • Shotguns only, no pistols!

Purse: 60% of entry fees split 60% to Winner and 40% to Runner-up.

Judges: Debbie Ozner and George Hickox

— To be run at the completion of the Alabama Open Shooting Dog Championship —

KENNETH NEWMAN MEMORIAL OPEN SHOOTING DOG DERBY (30 Min.)—50%, 50-30-20\$100.00

Directions to Grounds: Take Hwy. 29 South from Union Springs, AL. Travel approximately 8 miles. Turn right on South Gate Rd. just past Mile Marker 136. Look for Conecuh Station field trial sign. **Drawing:** Tuesday, November 25, 6:00 p.m., at the Conecuh Station Field House. Handlers will not be required to run in more than two consecutive braces. **Accommodations:** Master Rack Lodge—(334) 474-3600. Ask for field trial rates. Barn, lots, and camper set-ups available at field trial site with handlers and their owners having priority. Breakfast and lunch provided.

Entries to: LISA LITTELL • Phone: (334) 649-0076

Entries accepted with the understanding that the Conecuh Station Field Trial Club, its officers and landowners, are not in any way responsible and cannot be held liable for any accidents or injuries involving anyone attending the trial, their horses, dogs or equipment. Abuse of Judges and Club Officials will not be tolerated. Unsportsmanlike conduct will result in immediate disqualification. The CSFTC Board of Directors reserves all rights to refuse entry in trial or on grounds to anyone not in good standing with CSFTC, SBHA, Dixie Trace, The Field Dog Stud Book, AFTCA, AFTA, the American Field/UKC.



Eukanuba
Sporting Dog



ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH CAROLINA
FIELD TRIAL CLUBS

present the

FORT MILL FIELD TRIAL CLUB

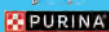
Member AFTCA & ASFTC • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

JANUARY 22, 2026 • STARTS 8:00 A.M.

JOHN IVESTER'S SAWTOOTH PLANTATION, McBEE, SC



Purina Top Amateur Shooting Dog Award, ASFTC, SBHA,



& Amateur Shooting Dog Invitational Points Trial

Directions to Grounds: From McBee, go north on U. S. 1, 3.5 miles to Wildlife Dr. and turn left. Go 1.4 miles and turn right on Wire Rd.

Drawing: Monday, January 19, 7:00 p.m., at home of Tom Brigman.

OPEN DERBY (30 Min.)—50%, 50-30-20 less \$5 Assn. Fee\$ 55.00

OPEN SHOOTING DOG (30 Min.)—No Purse\$ 45.00

AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG CLASSIC (1 Hour)\$130.00

Judges: Rob McGuire (VA), Daniel Bell (NC), and Grayson Francis (VA)

Entries to: TOM BRIGMAN • Phone: (410) 908-4428

2931 Moores Bridge Rd., Rose Hill, NC 28458

Landowners and Club not responsible for accidents.



Eukanuba
Sporting Dog



**LOOKING FOR A GIFT?
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NBHA NATIONAL AMATEUR INVITATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Hosted by Missouri Bird Hunters Association

Member NBHA, MBHA & AFTCA • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

December 5, 2025 • First Series start 8:00 a.m. • Grovespring, MO

• Bandit Hill Bess (PF)
Klaus Schmidt
• Glover's Flintstone (ESM)
Jack Glover
• Glover's Pepper Shaker (ESF)
Jack Glover
• Sky Hawk's Little Rascal (ESM)
Rob Warner

• K Del's Eagle Magnum Hotshot (BM)
Kenric DeLong
• Raintree Blue Moon (ISM)
Cathy Lewis
• Beaucoup Creek Buck (ESM)
Donald Heisner
• Dale Creek Janie Bell (PF)
Ryan Eder

• Miller Creek's On The Horizon (GSF)
Matt Miller
• Tenacee Shelby (PF)
Greg Isenberg
• Erin's Gypsy Lady (PF)
Matthew Puckett
• Tenacee Cooper (PM)
Greg Isenberg



Glover's Pepper Shaker, 2024 Champion

Grounds: Sportsmen's Association Grounds, Grovespring, MO. **Drawing:** Sunday, November 30, 7:00 p.m., at the home of Missouri BHA president Christian Ogle—(417) 388-0734. **Qualification:** Entries by invitation only. Handlers/owners must be an AFTCA member.

NATIONAL AMATEUR INVITATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP (1 Hour)—One-hour Final Series \$180.00

Judges: Doug Watt, Melbourne, IA, and Tim Penn, Edina, MO

Entries to: JIM OGLE, Jasper, MO—Phone: (417) 388-0734 -or- KEVIN WESTERN, Queen City, MO—Phone: (660) 341-3522

Neither North Missouri Field Trial Association, Inc., nor landowners, are responsible for any accident or mishap to spectators, handlers, dogs, etc.



Schley Rutherford, President

Ruthann Epp, Vice President

The United States Field Trial Club presents the

UNITED STATES OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP & DERBY

The United States Open Championship begins December 5, 2025, at 7:30 a.m.

The Open Derby follows immediately after.

M. Barnett Lawley Forever Wild Field Trial Area, Greensboro, AL.



UNITED STATES OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP (One-Hour Heats)*

A NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFYING TRIAL

PURINA TOP BIRD DOG AWARD POINTS • PURINA HANDLER OF THE YEAR AWARD POINTS

Entry Fee: \$400.00 (\$20/dog NFTCA fee is included in entry fee) • **Purse: 50% of entries divided 70-30**

**Open Championship entries must have a qualifying placement (1st, 2nd, or 3rd) in an Open All-Age or Open Derby stake to be eligible. Runner-up will be named.*

OPEN DERBY (30 Min. Heats)**

Entry Fee: \$150.00 • Purse: 50% of entries divided 50-30-20

***Open to all pointers and setters whelped on or after January 1, 2023.*

Judges: Dr. Justin Howard, Sardis, AL, and Walker Davidson, Auburn, AL • **Reporter:** Ruthann Epp, Marion Junction, AL

Drawing: Monday, December 1, 7:00 p.m. (CST).

\$20 per stall • Blank Ammo Only! .32 or larger.

Entries to: RUTHANN EPP • Phone: (334) 412-7426

Neither M. Barnett Lawley Forever Wild FTA nor the United States Field Trial Club will be responsible or liable for any accidents of any kind at the trial.

REGION 3 (AFTCA) AMATEUR ALL-AGE CHAMPIONSHIP

Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only! • .32 Caliber or Larger

— *Sponsored by Purina* —



Starts Thursday, December 11, 2025 (depending on entries)

To be run at Sandhills Wildlife Area, Hoffman, NC

Entry Fee: \$150.00 • Trophy to winner and runner-up

— A NATIONAL AMATEUR INVITATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFIER —

Judges: George Kimbrell, Fort Mill, SC, and Pete Del Collo, Farmville, VA

Pre-Drawing: Tuesday, December 9, 2:00 p.m. Must be an AFTCA member. **Qualification:** Dogs must have an AFTCA Win Certificate in an Amateur All-Age or Amateur Derby stake. **Accommodations:** Best Western, Southern Pines, NC—(910) 693-2280. Ask for field trial rate.

Entries to: GRAYSON FRANCIS • Phone: (434) 610-8601

OKLAHOMA OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP

Dr. D. E. Hawthorne, *President Emeritus* • Bob Barker, *President* • Betty Crow, *Treasurer*

Directors: Jon Humphrey and Mike Griffin

STARTS JANUARY 5, 2026

— A PURINA TOP SHOOTING DOG & HANDLER OF THE YEAR AWARD POINTS TRIAL —

Entry Fee: \$200.00 + \$25.00 Grounds Fee • Purse: 50% of Entry Fees

— *Hosted by Purina* —



If a runner-up is named, purse to be divided two-thirds to champion, one-third to runner-up.

Dog must have a prior placement in a recognized Open Derby or Open Shooting Dog stake to qualify. REGISTERED NAMES ONLY!

OPEN DERBY—To follow the Championship—Entry Fee: \$85.00 (\$25.00 Grounds Fee)

Grounds: McFarlin-Ingersoll Ranch, eight miles south of Claremore, OK, on Hwy. 88. East on Rd. 560.

Note! Early Drawing: Saturday, January 3, 6:00 p.m.

Lodging: Will Rogers Motel, Claremore, OK. Phone: (918) 341-4410 or (800) 644-9455. Mention you are a field trialer.

Judges: Tony King, Centralia, MO,
and Steven Auxier, Lincoln, NE

- There will be a charge of \$10.00 a day for RV hook-ups
- Lunches served daily in the clubhouse
- Ample horse stalls and pens
- Negative Coggins test for all horses
- No tethered horses in parking areas
- Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Pistols Only!
- NO LIVE AMMUNITION ALLOWED!

Phone entries to: BOB BARKER • (918) 633-5495

Ruthann Epp, President

Schley Rutherford, Vice President

The National Field Trial Club presents the
**NATIONAL FREE-FOR-ALL
CHAMPIONSHIP**

Join us for its 110th year!

**Commences at the conclusion of the National Derby Championship, which begins
January 9, 2026, at M. Barnett Lawley Forever Wild Field Trial Area, Greensboro, AL.
Morning braces begin at 7:30 a.m. (CST).**



**A NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFYING TRIAL
PURINA HANDLER OF THE YEAR POINTS • INVITATIONAL POINTS**

Purina Bonus points stake: 300 points additional to winner

One-Hour Qualifying Heats; One-Hour & Thirty-Minute Finals

Entry Fee: \$500.00 (\$20/dog NFTCA fee is included in entry fee) • **Purse: 50% of entries**

Judges: Jarrett Bell, Troy, MO, and Dr. Stan Wint, Gardner, KS • **Reporter:** Morgan Brewer, Union Springs, AL

Drawing: Monday, January 5, 7:00 p.m. (CST).

\$20 per stall for the duration of both trials • Blank Ammo Only! .32 or larger.

Entries to: RUTHANN EPP • Phone: (334) 412-7426

Neither M. Barnett Lawley Forever Wild FTA nor the National Field Trial Club will be responsible or liable for any accidents of any kind at the trial.

Ruthann Epp, President

Schley Rutherford, Vice President

The National Field Trial Club presents the
**NATIONAL DERBY
CHAMPIONSHIP**

— Open to all pointers and setters whelped on or after January 1, 2024 —

Friday, January 9, 2026

M. Barnett Lawley Forever Wild Field Trial Area, Greensboro, AL.

Running will begin at 7:30 each morning.



**A NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFYING TRIAL
PURINA DERBY & HANDLER OF THE YEAR POINTS • DERBY INVITATIONAL POINTS**

90-Minute Heats • Entry Fee: \$400.00 (\$20/dog NFTCA fee included in entry) • **Purse: 50% of entries divided 70-30**

*Derby Champion trophy donated by the Epp family • Runner-up Champion trophy donated by the Ivester family
Graphite Profile Portrait by artist Mary McPherson to the winner.*

Judges: Brent Cox, Mathews, AL, and Hunter McDuffie, Cecil, AL • **Reporter:** Morgan Brewer, Union Springs, AL

Drawing: Monday, January 5, 7:00 p.m. (CST).

\$20 per stall for the duration of both trials • Blank Ammo Only! .32 or larger.

Entries to: RUTHANN EPP • Phone: (334) 412-7426

Neither M. Barnett Lawley Forever Wild FTA nor the National Field Trial Club will be responsible or liable for any accidents of any kind at the trial.

U.S. COMPLETE SHOOTING DOG FUTURITY, LES HOBBS PUPPY CLASSIC & ROBERT E. LEE OPEN SHOOTING DOG CLASSIC



January 26*-February 1, 2026
Mid-Carolina Grounds, Camden, SC

**Start date and time dependent on entries • Supported by Purina & Garmin*

ROBERT E. LEE OPEN SHOOTING DOG CLASSIC (1 Hour)—Purse: 40% minus \$10/dog bird fee split 50-30-20.....Entry Fee: \$150.00
Judges: Dennis and Hope Beauford, Troy, SC

30th U. S. COMPLETE SHOOTING DOG FUTURITY—To follow Robert E. Lee Classic.....Entry Fee: \$125.00
Judges: Jameson Crandall, Kilmarknock, VA, and Chris Catanzarite, Scenery Hill, PA

Purse: \$1,500 to be divided between breeders and owners (4 placements) • Winner also receives a Garmin collar and Purina dog food.

Proof of DNA required at owner's expense. Eligible derby dogs and litter information available from:

Verlene Stephenson, Futurity Secretary—Home: (252) 589-1521 or Email: verlene_stephenson@ncsu.edu

LES HOBBS OPEN PUPPY CLASSIC (30 Min.)—Open to all puppies; To follow Futurity.....Entry Fee: \$ 60.00
Judges: Mark Hughes, Grampian, PA, and Tony Bingham, Shelby, NC

Directions to Grounds: Located seven miles east of Camden, SC, off US Hwy. 1, on Kershaw County Park Land at intersection of Field Trial Road and Greenfield Road. Lunch available on grounds. A handler meal will be provided by Warren Parrott, owner of 2025 Bob Lee Classic winner, Hirollins Gone and Doneit. Futurity meal sponsored by Nick Mellon, owner of 2025 Futurity winner, Hypointe Monarch Express. **Entries Close:** Thursday, January 22, 6:00 p.m. Drawing to follow.
Lodging: Comfort Inn & Suites, Camden, SC—(803) 425-1010.

All entries to: VERLENE STEPHENSON, Futurity Secretary

Home: (252) 589-1521 • Email: verlene_stephenson@ncsu.edu • [No voicemail or text entries. Emails will be confirmed.]

Manufactured closed barrels only. Retrieval collars permitted but not provided. USCSDA Futurity, its officers, directors and sponsors are not in any way responsible for accidents or injury to person, animals or property U.S. Complete handicap rule applies.

REGION 3 (AFTCA) AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP

Solid Barrel Manufactured Guns Only, 209 Primer or .32 caliber or larger blank ammunition required.

February 20-22, 2026 • Starts 8:00 a.m.
Hoffman Field Trial Grounds, Hoffman, NC



— Sponsored by Purina —

**A NATIONAL AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG INVITATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFIER
& PURINA TOP AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG AWARD POINTS TRIAL**

Entry Fee: \$125.00 • Prizes to the Champion and Runner-Up

Judges: Grayson Francis, Brookneal, VA, and Dan Knox, Edgemoor, SC

Stake Manager: George Kimbrell

Drawing: Sunday, February 15, 6:00 p.m. **Qualifications:** Entries must have an Amateur Derby or Amateur Shooting Dog AFTCA win certificate. Handlers, owners, and co-owners must be members of the AFTCA.

Entries to: ROGER DUERKSEN • Text or Call: (412) 951-5033

The Camp Robinson Field Trial Club presents the
**OZARK OPEN SHOOTING DOG
CHAMPIONSHIP**

Camp Robinson Field Trial Area, Conway, AR
Starting Wednesday, December 3, 2025, 8:00 a.m.



Entry Fee: \$230.00 + \$35.00 Grounds Fee = \$265.00

One-Hour Heats • Purse: 50%, 70-30



— A PURINA TOP SHOOTING DOG & HANDLER OF THE YEAR POINTS TRIAL —

Judges: Dr. Laura Miller, Manhattan, KS, and Kaj Larson, Tescott, KS

Followed by the:

ARKANSAS DERBY CLASSIC

Entry Fee: \$125.00 + \$35.00 Grounds Fee = \$160.00

45-Minute Heats • Purse: 50%, 70-30

— A PURINA TOP DERBY AWARD POINTS TRIAL —

Judges: Ken Chenoweth, Buffalo, MO, and Molly Ward, Booneville, AR

Starting at the conclusion of the Arkansas Derby Classic:

**ARKANSAS OPEN SHOOTING DOG
CHAMPIONSHIP**



Entry Fee: \$230.00 + \$35.00 Grounds Fee = \$265.00

One-Hour Heats • Purse: 50%, 70-30



— A PURINA TOP SHOOTING DOG & HANDLER OF THE YEAR POINTS TRIAL —

Judges: Ken Chenoweth, Buffalo, MO, and Molly Ward, Booneville, AR

Drawing: Sunday, November 30, 7:00 p.m. Entry fees due prior to running.

Please note: You must be in good standing with the *Field Dog Stud Book* in order for entries to be accepted.

All entries to: STEVE MESSICK • Phone: (501) 680-2862

Club, its officers, and members are not responsible for accidents, injury, or loss incurred to any person, horse, dog or equipment.

Gary Futch
President
Statesboro, GA
(912) 536-0129

Art Lively
Vice-President
Waynesboro, GA
(706) 360-2235

Craig Elliott
Secretary
Waynesboro, GA
(706) 833-3574

Nell Mobley
Secretary Emeritus
Waynesboro, GA
(706) 466-2991

John Ray Kimbrell
Stake Manager
(803) 322-3073

GEORGIA FIELD TRIAL ASSOCIATION

Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

**Welcomes owners, handlers and guests to the 2026 running of the GFTA!
Starts Friday, January 2, 2026 • Waynesboro, Georgia**

— Bird Dog Capital of the World —

GEORGIA DERBY CHAMPIONSHIP

— One of the three Derby Championships to qualify for the National Championship —

Winner of the Derby Championship will automatically qualify to run in the 2026 National Championship

Entry Fee: \$250.00** • **Purse:** 55% divided 60-40 (Runner-up will be named)

Beautiful sterling silver "Berol's Greenwood Pep" Challenge Trophy to winner, donated by

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Berol (to be kept in club's possession). Keepsake trophy to winner donated by GFTA.

Judges: Chad Adams, Goldsboro, NC, and Whitley Stephenson, Smithville, NC

followed by

GEORGIA QUAIL CHAMPIONSHIP

QUALIFYING TRIAL FOR THE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP • A PURINA AWARD POINTS STAKE

Entry Fee: \$300.00** • **Purse:** 55% divided 60-40 (Runner-up will be named)

The "Addison Simpson Memorial Challenge Trophy" to the winner, donated by

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Berol (to be kept in club's possession). Keepsake trophy to winner donated by GFTA.

A dog must be qualified by having placed in a recognized Open All-Age or Open Derby stake to participate.

Judges: Chad Adams, Goldsboro, NC, and Whitley Stephenson, Smithville, NC • **Reporter:** To be announced

****Includes \$10 bird fee and \$20 National Championship qualifying fee**

Pre-Drawing: Tuesday, December 30, 2025, 7:00 p.m., at the home of Nell Mobley.

Entries to: NELL MOBLEY—(706) 466-2991 or GARY FUTCH—(912) 536-0129

GEORGIA SHOOTING DOG DERBY CLASSIC

Will begin 24 hours after the Georgia Quail Championship

Plenty of birds, released daily.

Entry Fee \$175.00 + \$10 bird fee • **One-Hour Heats** • **Purse:** 55% of entry fees to be divided 50-30-20.

Judges: Harold Johnson, Shorter, AL, and Steve Mills, Mayodan, NC

followed by

J. MOSER GEORGIA OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP

(formerly known as Georgia Open Shooting Dog Championship)

Entry Fee \$250.00 + \$10 bird fee • **One-Hour Heats** • **Purse:** 55% of entry fees divided 70-30 (Runner-up will be named).

Berol Challenge Trophy to Champion (stays in club's possession). Keepsake trophy to winners.

Lamar Mobley Open Shooting Dog Championship Memorial Trophy will be given to the Champion (stays in club's possession).

Keepsake trophy to winners.

A dog must be qualified by having placed in a recognized Open Shooting Dog or Open Derby stake to participate.

— **POINTS STAKE FOR PURINA TOP SHOOTING DOG & PURINA HANDLER OF THE YEAR AWARDS** —

Judges: Harold Johnson, Shorter, AL, and Steve Mills, Mayodan, NC

Pre-Drawing: Sunday, January 4, 2026, 7:00 p.m., at home of Nell Mobley. Phone: (706) 466-2991.

Phoned entries accepted until 7:00 p.m.

All one-hour heats qualify for all Amateur and Open Shooting Dog Championships, except the National.

Trials will be run on Di-Lane Plantation, 4854 Herndon Road, Waynesboro, Georgia (property purchased by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, leased to the State of Georgia as Public Wildlife Management land). Birds will be released daily. Retrieval collars may be used. Six braces each day. **NO LIVE AMMUNITION!** No dogs will be posted. No vehicles allowed on courses. **Headquarters & Accommodations:** Hampton Inn, 235 Peachtree St., Waynesboro, GA. Call for reservations: (706) 558-4190. Ask for field trial rates. Stalls and hay available. Lunch to be served. Owners' and Handlers' Banquet to be announced.

— **Sponsored by Purina, Hampton Inn and Burke County Chamber of Commerce** —

The club, club members and Georgia Department of Natural Resources are not responsible for accidents or injuries to animals or persons.





2025 NGSPA 8th Annual Open All-Age *Invitational Championship*

Open All-Age Invitational

The Standard Will Be Set!

January 4-6, 2026 • Hell Creek WMA*, Blue Mountain, MS

**Do not use GPS directions; Proper directions mailed to entrants or call Keith.*

Entry Fee: \$500.00 (Due the night of drawing)

Drawing: January 3, at the Hell Creek Clubhouse during dinner.

Judges: David Russell, Como, MS, and Bill Mason, Moundville, AL

NGSPA DOG OF THE YEAR AND PURINA HANDLER OF THE YEAR POINTS TRIAL

Confirmed Participants:

- **Chicoree's Riden High Trixie**
Rondal J. Alexander, Owner
- **P W Race To The Front**
Keith & Bobbi Richardson, Owners
- **BMB's Supernova**
Karen Bravender & Tim Heydorff, Owners
- **Evergreen's Jed**
Lance Olsen, Owner
- **Stoney Hill's Pinnacle Dee**
Kirk Loftin, Owner
- **P W Bert's Joke On Us**
Keith & Bobbi Richardson, Owners
- **Texas Preacher Man**
Kirk & Terry Bomer, Owners
- **Monkeyshines Callme The Breeze**
Helmut Schoen, Owner
- **High Standing Cuttin Edge**
Anthony & Dayna Rusciano, Owners
- **Hi N's Allison Miranda**
Kirk Loftin, Owner
- **Twin Creeks Running Rocky**
Kirk Loftin, Owner
- **Uodibar's Robbi Jo**
Sherri Tangsrud, Owner

PRIZE PACKAGES

Winning Handler:

- \$5,000 Guaranteed Purse
- Purina ProPlan: 12 large bags

Winning Dog's Owner(s):

- Oil Painting of Winner from Leah Brigham
- Garmin or SportDOG Collar

Twelve dogs will compete. Their selection is based upon NGSPA Open All-Age award points earned from June 1, 2024 to May 31, 2025. The prior year's winner will receive an automatic invitation. All braces will be one-hour heats on two consecutive days. Third day is a call-back with 90-minute heats. Judges will determine number of dogs called back.

General Information

Closest major airport is Memphis, TN. Grounds are about a 90-minute drive. Quail are released. Calcutta night of drawing. All meals catered at a cost of \$45 per person per day. Limited electrical hook-ups available. Horse pens and hay available. There will be a charge for hay. Jacket and tie appreciated. Unique Guidelines apply to this event; Available at www.ngspa.org.

For questions, contact:

Keith Richardson

Cell: (307) 630-9907

Email: gspkeith@gmail.com



CALIFORNIA BIRD DOG CHAMPIONSHIP

A PURINA TOP SHOOTING DOG AWARD, PURINA HANDLER OF THE YEAR AWARD
& AMATEUR INVITATIONAL POINTS TRIAL

Hosted by Antelope Valley Bird Dog Club

Member AFTCA • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

Tuesday, January 13, 2026
California City, CA (Camp H)



Entry Fee: \$170.00

Judges: Don Pool, Madrea, CA, and Ken Kraft, Santa Clara, CA

Purse: 30% of entry fees divided 70-30 with 16 or more entries

Prizes: SportDOG collars, Silver Bowl, and Purina dog food

OPEN SHOOTING DOG (30 Min.)—Follows California Bird Dog Championship.....\$ 65.00

Judges: To be announced • **Prizes:** Silver Plates

Directions to Grounds: From Kramer Junction, head north on Hwy. 395 for 15 miles to 20 Mule Team Road and turn left. Head west on 20 Mule Team Road for approximately 5 miles. Turn left (south) at the "Field Trial" sign. **Drawing(s):** Monday, January 12, 4:00 p.m., on the grounds. Open Shooting Dog drawing to follow. Full entry information and payment must be provided at drawing. **Meals:** Lunch will be served daily. **Accommodations:** Best Western Inn & Suites—(760) 373-1369.

Entries to: TERRY ERICKSON—Phone: (562) 208-2334

AVBDC, Region 11, its officers and membership, assume no responsibility for participants or spectators in the event of injury or damage to persons or property.

To follow the Open Shooting Dog, but not before Thursday, January 15, 2026

ARIZONA OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP

A NATIONAL OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFIER,
PURINA TOP SHOOTING DOG AWARD, PURINA HANDLER OF THE YEAR AWARD,
& AMATEUR INVITATIONAL POINTS TRIAL

Hosted by Arizona Bird Dog Club

Member AFTCA • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!



Entry Fee: \$170.00

Judges: Tom Griffin, Santa Barbara, CA, and Brian Smith, Queen Creek, AZ

Purse: 30% of entry fees divided 70-30 with 16 or more entries

Prizes: SportDOG collars, Silver Bowl, and Purina dog food

Directions to Grounds: From Kramer Junction, head north on Hwy. 395 for 15 miles to 20 Mule Team Road and turn left. Head west on 20 Mule Team Road for approximately 5 miles. Turn left (south) at the "Field Trial" sign. **Drawing:** Wednesday, January 14, 4:00 p.m., on the grounds. Full entry information and payment must be provided at drawing. **Meals:** Lunch will be served daily. **Accommodations:** Best Western Inn & Suites—(760) 373-1369.

Entries to: JOHN BEAUCHAMP • Cell: (480) 235-1570 • Email: johnbeauchamp@gmail.com

Arizona BDC, Region 11, its officers and membership, assume no responsibility for participants or spectators in the event of injury or damage to persons or property.

THE CONTINENTAL FIELD TRIAL CLUB

Member AFTCA, FFTA & Dixie Trace FTA • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

Continental Field Trial Club Board of Directors: Randy Floyd, President • John McCormick, Vice-President
Dr. Kent Cantrell • Larron Copeland • Dr. Ron Deal • Julie Ripley • Clay Sisson
Dr. Terry Terlep • John Thompson • Jason Williams • Til Hankley • Woody Watson

Extends Best Wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!
and proudly announces

THE 131ST CONTINENTAL TRIALS



Official Dog Food Sponsor

Beginning Monday, January 19, 2026
Held at Livingston Place (Dixie Plantation)
1583 Livingston Rd., Greenville, FL 32331

CONTINENTAL OPEN DERBY CHAMPIONSHIP CONTINENTAL OPEN ALL-AGE CHAMPIONSHIP

OPEN DERBY CHAMPIONSHIP PURSE—\$4,000

If Runner-up named, \$3,000 to Winner and \$1,000 to Runner-up
(Payout will not exceed these amounts. If we receive insufficient entries, the payout will be 50% split 70-30)

OPEN ALL-AGE CHAMPIONSHIP PURSE—\$10,000

If Runner-up is named, \$7,500 to Winner and \$2,500 to Runner-up
(Payout will not exceed these amounts. If we receive insufficient entries, the payout will be 50% split 70-30)

TOP QUALIFYING DOG—\$1,000

(Payout will not exceed this amount)

— Silver Bowls will be awarded to the owners of the winner and runner-up in both championships —

OPEN DERBY CHAMPIONSHIP (One-Hour Heats)..... Entry Fee \$500.00 + \$20.00 Dog Tax

OPEN ALL-AGE CHAMPIONSHIP..... Entry Fee \$750.00 + \$20.00 Dog Tax

— **PURINA AWARD POINTS TRIALS & NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFIERS** —

(One-Hour Qualifying Heats; One-Hour & Fifty-Minute Finals | Number of Dogs Qualifying for Finals at the Discretion of the Judges)

Email: rfloyd@talltimbers.org • **Phone:** (850) 509-4528 or (850) 528-8210

Deadline for Entries is on or before 12:00 Noon (EST), Friday, January 16, 2026.

Drawing held at Livingston Place office at 5:00 p.m. (EST), Friday, January 16, 2026 (open to all participants).

— **ENTRY FEES DUE AT TIME OF DRAWING** —

Derby Championship Judges: Bill Mason and Wayne Pope • **Reporter:** Kris Walls

All-Age Championship Judges: Alex Mauck and Dr. Stan Wint • **Reporter:** Kris Walls

This trial will not tolerate disrespect of our judges, reporters, or officials in any form from anyone in attendance. Anyone failing in this regard shall be asked to leave and remove all dogs they may have in competition and forfeit all entry fees and winnings.

Note: Open or solid barrel guns are permitted with the proper blank ammunition. The Continental Field Trial Club, its Officers, Board of Directors, and Livingston Place are not in any way responsible and cannot be held liable for any accidents involving anyone attending the trial, their horses, dogs or equipment.

Horses and dogs to be quartered on Livingston Place. Negative Coggins for all horses required.





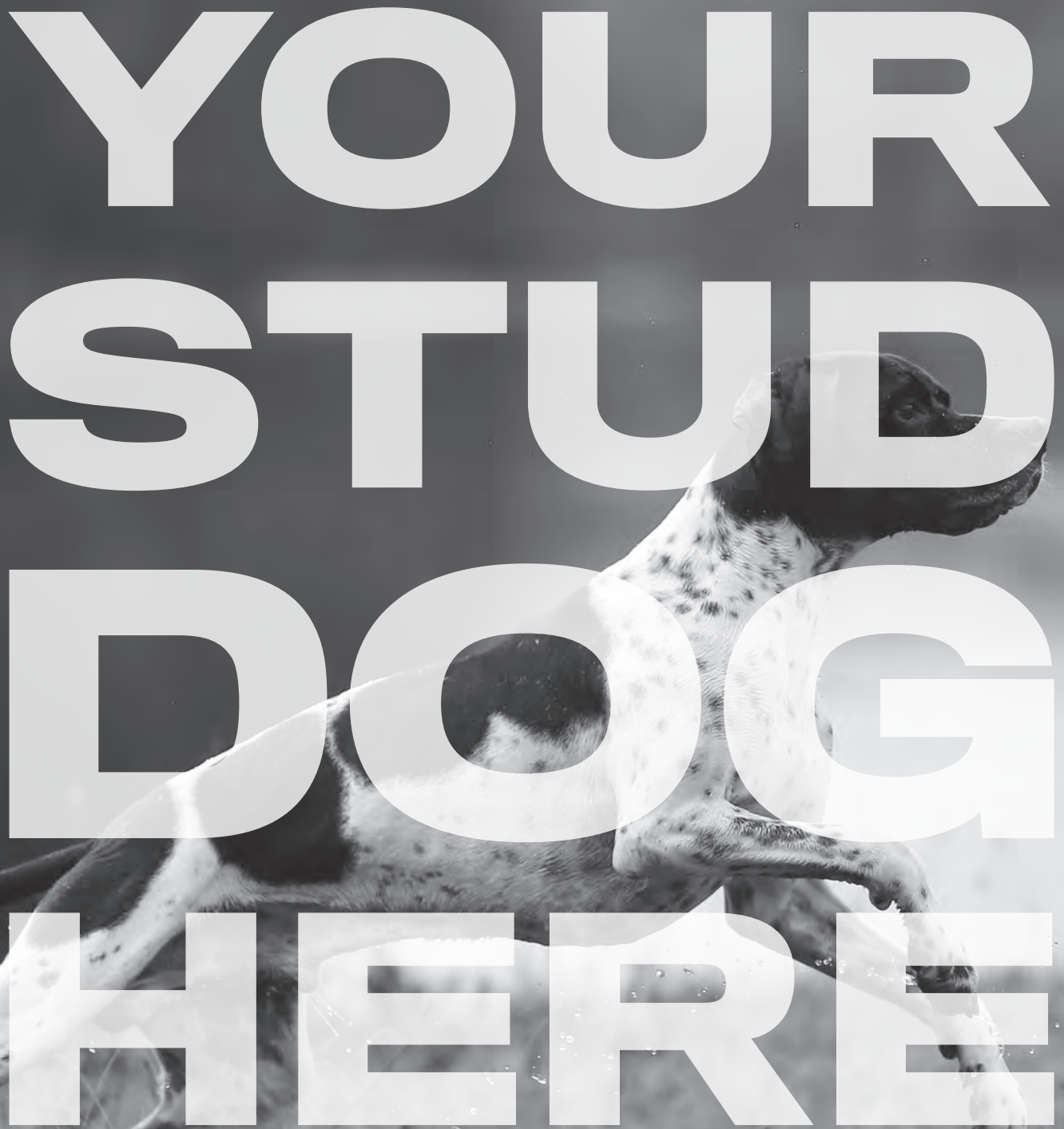
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Amateur Field Trial Clubs of America
www.aftca.org

Piper Huffman, Secretary
Phone: (662) 223-0126
Email: piper.huffman@aim.com

American Bird Hunters Association
www.facebook.com/trialabha/

Ronnie Rogers, President
Phone: (865) 712-9229
Email: esetter34@yahoo.com

National Bird Hunters Association
www.nbhdog.org

Ken Sauer, President
Phone: (281) 960-2508
Email: kfsauer@sbcglobal.net
Tim Penn, Secretary
Phone: (660) 341-1165
Email: tpennhwy6@gmail.com

National German Shorthaired Pointer Association
www.ngspa.org

Natalie Inderman, Secretary
Phone: (806) 777-2769
Email: Nataliealicia@gmail.com

National Red Setter Field Trial Club
www.nrsftc.com

Ed Liermann
Phone: (414) 625-0715
Email: eal1886@aol.com

National Vizsla Association
www.thenva.org

Todd Meyer
Phone: (414) 531-9390
Email: Tmeyer2243@wi.rr.com

Southern Bird Hunters Association
www.southernbirdhunters.org

Marty Robinson, President
Phone: (770) 862-6568
Georgia Casey, Treasurer
Phone: (618) 638-2952

U.S. Complete Shooting Dog Association
www.uscomplete.org

Chris Catanzarite, President
Phone: (724) 884-7244
Email: Catanzarite@fairpoint.net
Bill Bonnetti, Vice-President
Phone: (508) 648-0598
Email: bonnetti-william@comcast.net
Jameson Crandall, Secretary/Treasurer
Phone: (804) 577-3788
Email: jameson.crandall@gmail.com

FUTURITIES
Grand National Grouse Futurity

Thor Kain
Phone: (570) 702-6670
Email: TKain63@gmail.com

Midwest Vizsla Futurity

Andrea Northwood
Phone: (608) 220-4151
Email: anorthwood13@gmail.com

National Bird Hunters Assn. Futurity

Jim Ogle
Phone: (417) 388-0734
Email: jojosenglishsetters@gmail.com

National German Shorthaired Pointer Assn.

Jeff Wallace, Futurity Manager
Phone: (641) 891-9513
Email: jeffwallace@iowatelecom.net

National Red Setter Futurity

James Inbody
Phone: (330) 306-8065
Email: BonasaHunter72@aol.com

National Shooting Dog Futurity

Mark Hughes
Phone: (814) 591-3540
Email: mdh275@gmail.com

National Walking Shooting Dog Futurity

Krysta Munden
Phone: (724) 840-8400
Email: krystamunden@gmail.com

New England Shooting Dog Futurity

Margaret C. Drew
Phone: (910) 206-0079
Email: margaretdrew39@gmail.com

North American Woodcock Futurity

Joe Dahl
Phone: (207) 478-3063
Email: JosephDahl@aol.com

Southern Bird Hunters Assn. Futurity

Bruce Mercer
Phone: (470) 345-6369
Email: mercerbruce@hotmail.com

U.S. Complete Shooting Dog Assn. Futurity

Verlene Stephenson
Phone: (252) 589-1521
Email: verlene_stephenson@ncsu.edu

United States Quail Shooting Dog Futurity

Margaret C. Drew
Phone: (910) 206-0079
Email: bmdrew@windstream.net

RECOGNIZED FIELD TRIALS
Alabama Open Shooting Dog Championship

December 1, 2025 / Union Springs, AL
Contact: Lisa Littell
Phone: (334) 649-0076

NGSPA Open Shooting Dog Invitational Championship

December 1, 2025 / Gentry, MO
Contact: Keith Richardson
Phone: (307) 630-9907
Email: gspkeith@gmail.com

Kentucky Quail Classic

December 2, 2025 / Kevill, KY
Contact: Mary Sue Schalk
Phone: (270) 625-0196

Ozark & Arkansas Open Shooting Dog Championships

December 3, 2025 / Conway, AR
Contact: Steve Messick
Phone: (501) 680-2862

Alabama Field Trial Club

December 4, 2025 / Myrtle, MS
Contact: Joe Hughes
Phone: (205) 616-0191

Bama Quail Classic

December 4, 2025 / Tuskegee, AL
Contact: Bill Goodwin
Phone: (334) 467-5100

South Carolina Open Shooting Dog Championship

December 4, 2025 / Cheraw, SC
Contact: Mac Stidham
Phone: (803) 479-5606

Hoffman Amateur Field Trial Club

December 5, 2025 / Hoffman, NC
Contact: Derek Bonner
Phone: (828) 289-2300

NGSPA Amateur Shooting Dog Invitational Championship

December 5, 2025 / Gentry, MO
Contact: Keith Richardson
Phone: (307) 630-9907
Email: gspkeith@gmail.com

Tennessee Valley Field Trial Club

December 5, 2025 / LaVergne, TN
Contact: Ronnie Rogers
Phone: (865) 712-9229 or (865) 475-3459

United States Open Championship & Derby

December 5, 2025 / Greensboro, AL
Contact: Ruthann Epp
Phone: (334) 412-7426

Associated Field Trial Clubs of Florida (Super Bowl Trial)

December 6, 2025 / Punta Gorda, FL
Contact: Justin Muzynski
Phone: (407) 744-4695

Tachibana Bird Dog Club

December 7, 2025 / Gunma Pref., Japan
Contact: Norio Yamazaki
Phone: 03 (3929) 2963

National Amateur All-Age Invitational Championship

December 8, 2025 / Grand Junction, TN
Contact: Piper Huffman
Phone: (662) 471-1700

Conecuh Station Field Trial Club (Amateur)

December 11, 2025 / Union Springs, AL
Contact: Lisa Littell
Phone: (334) 649-0076

Missouri Amateur Classics

December 11, 2025 / Grovespring, MO
Contact: Jay Lewis
Phone: (573) 489-4373

Region 3 (AFTCA) Amateur All-Age Championship

December 11, 2025 / Hoffman, NC
Contact: Grayson Francis
Phone: (434) 610-8601

National Amateur Shooting Dog Invitational Championship

December 12, 2025 / Leslie, GA
Contact: Piper Huffman
Phone: (662) 471-1700

Lee County Field Trial Club

December 13, 2025 / Bronwood, GA
Contact: Larron Copeland
Phone: (229) 317-1812

All Japan Open Shooting Dog Championship

December 14, 2025 / Tone River
Contact: Yoshiharu Akisada
Phone: 0537-73-2393

Region 6 (AFTCA) Amateur Shooting Dog Championship

December 18, 2025 / Grand Junction, TN
Contact: Lisa Little
Phone: (931) 980-0452
Email: doubletroublestables@yahoo.com

Bando Field Trial Club

December 21, 2025 / Bando Tone Field
Contact: Toshikazu Tanaka

KENNEL FIXTURES

For the most up-to-date trial dates and ads, visit the Calendar at: www.americanfield.com

Shadow Oak Field Trial Club

December 27, 2025 / Leesburg, GA
Contact: Martha Neely
Phone: (229) 894-7766

Swamp Fox Open Shooting Dog Classic

December 27, 2025 / Hoffman, NC
Contact: Allen Johnson
Phone: (803) 464-5525

Ames Amateur Joe G. Walker Memorial Field Trial

December 29, 2025 / Grand Junction, TN
Contact: Kent Walker
Phone: (901) 277-1527

— 2026 —

National Vizsla Association Western Classic

January 1, 2026 / Sonoita, AZ
Contact: Dan Meyer
Phone: (248) 974-2019
Email: daedmayer@gmail.com

Georgia Derby & Quail Championships

January 2, 2026 / Waynesboro, GA
Contact: Nell Mobley
Phone: (706) 466-2991

Region 16 (AFTCA) Amateur Shooting Dog Championship

January 2, 2026 / Bronwood, GA
Contact: Woody Watson
Phone: (229) 886-0422

United States Quail Shooting Dog Futurity

January 2, 2026 / Hoffman, NC
Contact: Margaret Drew
Phone: (910) 281-5259 or (910) 206-0079
Email: bmdrew@windstream.net

NGSPA Open All-Age Invitational Championship

January 4, 2026 / Blue Mountain, MS
Contact: Keith Richardson
Phone: (307) 630-9907
Email: gspkeith@gmail.com

Georgia Classic & J. Moser Open Shooting Dog Championship

January 5, 2026 / Waynesboro, GA
Contact: Nell Mobley
Phone: (706) 466-2991

Oklahoma Open Shooting Dog Championship

January 5, 2026 / Claremore, OK
Contact: Bob Barker
Phone: (918) 633-5495

Hatchechubbee Classics Field Trial Club

January 8, 2026 / Hatchechubbee, AL
Contact: Roger Key
Phone: (334) 750-3705

National Derby Championship

January 9, 2026 / Greensboro, AL
Contact: Ruthann Epp
Phone: (334) 412-7426

South Carolina Amateur Shooting Dog Classic

January 9, 2026 / Cheraw, SC
Contact: Mac Stidham
Phone: (803) 479-5606

National Free-For-All Championship

January 10, 2026 / Greensboro, AL
Contact: Ruthann Epp
Phone: (334) 412-7426

Tsukuba Field Trial Club

January 11, 2026 / Bando Field
Contact: Susumu Yagami

California Bird Dog Championship

January 13, 2026 / California City, CA
Contact: Terry Erickson
Phone: (562) 208-2334

Arizona Open Shooting Dog Championship

January 15, 2026 / California City, CA
Contact: John Beauchamp
Phone: (480) 235-1570
Email: johnbeauchamp@gmail.com

Region 4 (AFTCA) Amateur All-Age Championship

January 17, 2026 / Kevil, KY
Contact: Mary Sue Schalk
Phone: (270) 625-0196

131st Continental Championships

January 19, 2026 / Greenville, FL
Contact: Randy Floyd
Phone: (850) 509-4528 or (850) 528-8210
Email: rfloyd@talltimbers.org

Gulf Coast Open Shooting Dog Championship

January 19, 2026 / Union Springs, AL
Contact: Lisa Littell
Phone: (334) 649-0076

Atlantic Coast Open Shooting Dog Championship

January 23, 2026 / Hoffman, NC
Contact: David Huffine
Phone: (910) 620-2970
Email: dhuffine1951@gmail.com

9A Field Trial Club

January 29, 2026 / Union Springs, AL
Contact: Hunter McDuffie
Phone: (334) 207-3887

Sandlapper Field Trial Club

January 29, 2026 / McBee, SC
Contact: Katie Courtney
Phone: (803) 804-4584

North Carolina Field Trial Association

January 30, 2026 / Hoffman, NC
Contact: Grayson Francis
Phone: (434) 610-8601

Eastern Kanto Field Trial Club

February 1, 2026 / Sakuragawa Field
Contact: Kazumi Sekioka
Phone: 047-357-2351

National Open Shooting Dog Championship

February 2, 2026 / Union Springs, AL
Contact: Heather Klinck
Phone: (334) 207-9422
Email: nosdch@gmail.com

Chestnut Bird Dog Club

February 11, 2026 / Bando Tone Field
Contact: Haruo Kurihara
Email: hatoppo323@yahoo.co.jp

Region 3 (AFTCA) Amateur Shooting Dog Championship

February 20, 2026 / Hoffman, NC
Contact: Roger Duerksen
Phone: (412) 951-5033

Region 5 (AFTCA) Amateur Walking Shooting Dog Championship

February 27, 2026 / Chandlerville, IL
Contact: Jim Lawless
Phone: (618) 317-7811
Email: lawlesskennels@yahoo.com

South Carolina Amateur Invitational

March 6, 2026 / Nesmith, SC
Contact: Mac Stidham
Phone: (803) 479-5606

Delaware Valley Bird Dog Club

March 8, 2026 / Ottsville, PA
Contact: James Humes Jr.
Phone: (484) 550-2957
Email: jphjr1215@gmail.com

Willie Byrd Owens Trial

March 12, 2026 / Union Springs, AL
Contact: Hunter McDuffie
Phone: (334) 207-3887

Tsukuba Field Trial Club

March 15, 2026 / Bando Field
Contact: Susumu Yagami

ABHA TRIALS

East Kentucky Field Trial Club

December 6, 2025 / Berea, KY
Contact: Adam Thomas
Phone: (859) 310-3258

ABHA Futurity & Classics

December 10, 2025 / Berea, KY
Contact: Brian Kennedy
Phone: (712) 561-6090

— 2026 —

Quail Creek Field Trial Club

January 4, 2026 / Lewisburg, TN
Contact: Ben Weddington
Phone: (901) 604-5652

ABHA National Free-For-All Championship

January 8, 2026 / LaVergne, TN
Contact: Ronnie Rogers
Phone: (865) 712-9229 or (865) 475-3459

Westark Field Trial Club

January 15, 2026 / Booneville, AR
Contact: Kenny Snow
Phone: (479) 221-8816

ABHA Western Championship

February 5, 2026 / Kevil, KY
Contact: Mary Sue Schalk
Phone: (270) 625-0196

NBHA TRIALS

NBHA Missouri State Classic

December 3, 2025 / Kevil, KY
Contact: Jim Ogle
Phone: (417) 388-0734

NBHA National Amateur Invitational Championship

December 5, 2025 / Grovespring, MO
Contact: Christian Ogle
Phone: (417) 388-0734
Email: jojoenglishsetters@gmail.com

Northern New Jersey Field Trial Club

December 7, 2025 / Franklin, NJ
Contact: Jillian Stuhr
Phone: (570) 369-8624
Email: jillian.stuhr@gmail.com

NBHA Kentucky State Classic

December 19, 2025 / Kevil, KY
Contact: Mary Sue Schalk
Phone: (270) 625-0196

— 2026 —

Quail Creek Field Trial Club

January 2, 2026 / Lewisburg, TN
Contact: Ben Weddington
Phone: (901) 604-5652

Westark Field Trial Club

January 17, 2026 / Booneville, AR
Contact: Kenny Snow
Phone: (479) 221-8816

NBHA Eastern Regional Championship

January 22, 2026 / Camden, SC
Contact: Cliff Monroe
Phone: (704) 692-3580

SBHA TRIALS

Alabama Open Shooting Dog Championship

December 1, 2025 / Union Springs, AL
Contact: Lisa Littell
Phone: (334) 649-0076

Concuh Station Amateur Shooting Dog Classic

December 11, 2025 / Union Springs, AL
Contact: Lisa Littell
Phone: (334) 649-0076

— 2026 —

Fort Mill Field Trial Club

January 22, 2026 / McBee, SC
Contact: Tom Brigman
Phone: (410) 908-4428

USCSDA TRIALS

Sandlapper Field Trial Club

December 11, 2025 / Pinewood, SC
Contact: Nick Mellon
Phone: (724) 333-3006

— 2026 —

USCSDA Futurity & Classics

January 26, 2026 / Camden, SC
Contact: Verlene Stephenson
Phone: (252) 589-1521
Email: verlene_stephenson@ncsu.edu

UPCOMING PRINT DEADLINES

January Issue	December 5	April Issue	March 5
February Issue.....	January 5	May Issue	April 5
March Issue	February 5	June Issue	May 5

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Material must be received and approved by 4:30 p.m. on the deadline date.

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UKC® FIELD ADVERTISERS INDEX

BOARDING & TRAINING

ECKER, Robert (Midnight Kennel) 59

FIELD TRIALS

ABHA Futurity & Classics 60
Alabama Field Trial Club 61
Alabama Open Shooting Dog Championship 64
Ames Amateur Joe G. Walker Memorial Field Trial 63
Arizona Open Shooting Dog Championship 72
Arkansas Open Shooting Dog Championship 69
Associated Field Trial Clubs of Florida
(Super Bowl Trial) 59
Bama Quail Classic 61
California Bird Dog Championship 72
Conecuh Station Amateur Shooting Dog Classic 62
Continental Derby & All-Age Championships 73
East Kentucky Field Trial Club 60

Fort Mill Field Trial Club 60
Georgia Championships & Derby Classic 70
Hoffman Amateur Field Trial Club 61
Mike Reynolds Memorial Youth Trial 60
Missouri Amateur Classics 62
National Derby Championship 67
National Free-For-All Championship 67
NBHA Kentucky State Classic 62
NBHA Missouri State Classic 61
NBHA National Amateur Invitational Championship 65
NGSPA Open All-Age Invitational Championship 71
Oklahoma Open Shooting Dog Championship 66
Ozark Open Shooting Dog Championship 69
Region 3 (AFTCA) Amateur All-Age Championship 66
Region 3 (AFTCA) Amateur Shooting Dog
Championship 68
Sandlapper Field Trial Club 60

Shadow Oak Field Trial Club 63
Swamp Fox Open Shooting Dog Classic 63
Tennessee Valley Field Trial Club 62
Tommy Traylor Memorial Youth Trial 60
United States Open Championship 65
USCSDA Futurity & Classics 68
Virginia Classic 63

GENERAL

American Field Merchandise Back Cover
American Field Inside Front Cover
Eukanuba Inside Back Cover
Kennel Fixtures 77
National Field Trial Champions Book 59



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