

# UKC® FIELD

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# National Champion



**ERIN'S PERFECT STORM**

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

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ON THE  
COVER

### CH. BIRDOGN TRUE CONFIDENCE

#F1693417 • Pointer Female • Sire: Ch. True Confidence • Dam: Elli Elhew Birdogn  
Ben Fleischacker, Owner

## NGSPA REGION 19 CHAMPIONSHIPS

### *Monkeyshines Callme The Breeze Wins Open Shooting Dog*

By Robin Lambourn and Dan DiMambro | Rhame, North Dakota | September 7, 2025



NGSPA Region 19 Open Shooting Dog Championship (l-r). Jarrett Bell (judge), April DiMambro with Monkeyshines Callme The Breeze, Dan DiMambro with Macke's Jim Bob, Vincent Tuttle (judge), and Bradley Laverne.

**T**he NGSPA Region 19 Championships took place in Rhame, North Dakota, for the third consecutive year. The club once again offered Open All-Age and Open Shooting Championships.

The Jacobson Ranch was greener than anyone could recall, the result of heavy summer rains. Wild bird populations were not quite as strong this year as in the past two years, as nesting conditions were less than ideal. Nevertheless, almost every dog that stayed down for the hour had opportunities. Pheasant contacts were a bit more plentiful than grouse contacts this year. The weather cooperated for the most part, with cool mornings turning into warm afternoons, with highs in the upper 70s to low 80s. The beautiful rolling badlands crossed by brushy draws provided the perfect setting for a wild bird trial, as always.

Thank you to everyone who made the 2025 NGSPA Region 19 Championships a success. First, thank you to Ryan Jacobson and his family for hosting. Thanks as well to Will Dunn for sharing his training grounds and setting courses. The

participants and our sponsors also deserve our gratitude. Thank you to our sponsors Purina and Dogs Unlimited for their generous support. Last but not least, thank you to Jarrett Bell and Vincent Tuttle for leaving summer camp for a few days to judge both stakes.

#### **NGSPA Region 19 Open Shooting Dog Championship**

Monkeyshines Callme The Breeze Wins the Open Shooting Dog with a Lofty Shooting Dog Race; Macke's Jim Bob, Runner-up.

The Open Shooting Dog Championship drew a strong field, with several contenders showing the race and bird work worthy of recognition. When the dust settled, Monkeyshines Callme The Breeze, handled by Dan DiMambro, scouted by April DiMambro, and owned by Helmut Schoen, emerged at the top. "Breezy" had a forward, powerful ground race and two well-executed finds, leaving a lasting impression on the judges. Breezy wasted no time showing her intentions, breaking away with strength and determination. She handled the course with an attractive, forward

pattern, reaching the edges while maintaining a smooth rapport with her handler. Her first find came deep on the left, where she was found standing with intensity and style. All was in order at flush and shot. She scored again later with a mannerly piece of bird work, high and tight, showing the kind of composure that complements a big, reaching race. Breezy finished forward and to the front, still driving when time was called, leaving no doubt of her quality.

The runner-up champion was Macke's Jim Bob, handled by Dan DiMambro, scouted by April DiMambro, and owned by Abe and Katelyn Macke. Jim Bob also ran a strong, forward race that pushed the winner to the very end. Jim Bob applied himself with determination, handling kindly and showing great strength on the ground. He was credited with two solid finds, each handled with polish and style. His application to the course was consistent, and he too finished with plenty left in the tank, leaving the judges with a worthy choice for second. Both dogs represented their owners and handlers with distinction, and together they set a high standard for the stake.

Rhame, N. D., September 7

Judges: Jarrett Bell and Vincent Tuttle  
**NGSPA REGION 19 OPEN SHOOTING DOG  
CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats]**

— 20 German Shorthairs

Winner-MONEYSHINES CALLME THE BREEZE, F1699127, German Shorthair female, by Riden High Rudy-Cuttin Wilds Space Cowgirl. Helmut Schoen, owner; Dan DiMambro, handler.

Runner-Up-MACKE'S JIM BOB, F1703274, German Shorthair male, by Riden High Rudy-Cuttin Wilds Space Cowgirl. Abraham Macke, owner; Dan DiMambro, handler.

#### **NGSPA Region 19 Open All-Age Championship**

The judges withheld championship placements in the Open All-Age, awarding first place to BMB's Supernova and second place to P W Lightening Bolt after

downgrading the stake to a Classic. The judges withheld third place. The stake drew some competitive entries, but unfortunately, some dogs ran all-age but did not locate game; other dogs had bird work but did not run all-age, and some dogs did neither.

The first- and second-place dogs both had productive bird work with power shooting dog applications on a warm day. "Nova" was handled by Brandon Blum and scouted by Robin Lambourn. Running in the fourth brace after a quick lunch, she scored an early find at 7 on a hen pheasant at the edge of a field after a powerful breakaway. Nova stood with style and composure with the bird pinned 10 yards in front of her nose. She continued making nice moves, especially at 20 along a ridge to the left, but slowed a bit in the last 30.



*NGSPA Region 19 Open All-Age Classic (l-r): Vincent Tuttle (judge), Brandon Blum with BMB's Supernova, Ryan Jacobson, Rich Robertson Jr. with P W Lightning Bolt, Jarrett Bell (judge), and Will Dunn.*

After some watering, Nova finished nicely at time on the other side of a fence to the right.

"Bolt" was handled by Rich Robertson Jr., scouted by Brandon Blum, and is owned by Keith and Bobbi Richardson. Running in the heat of the day in the fifth brace, Bolt

made some impressive swings in the first half of the brace, taking the fence to the right and front after breakaway. Bolt had an ambiguous stop to flush on a hen pheasant at 30. The judges could not see whether the bird left before or after the dog stopped moving, but Bolt was found standing with everything in order after the flush. Like the first-place dog, Bolt succumbed to the heat a bit in the last 30 minutes, which probably cost him the championship. Nevertheless, both dogs had strong performances in difficult running conditions.

**NGSPA REGION 19 OPEN ALL-AGE CLASSIC  
[One-Hour Heats] – 11 German Shorthairs  
[Title Withheld]**

*Winner-BMB'S SUPERNOVA, F1705662, German Shorthair female, by B M B's Freeloader-All N's Southern Comfort. Karen Bravender & Tim Heydorff, owners; Brandon Blum, handler.*

*Runner-Up-P W LIGHTENING BOLT, F1702025, German Shorthair male, by P W Ben There Done That-P W Penny Singing The Blues. Keith & Bobbi Richardson, owners; Rich Robertson Jr., handler.*

## EASTERN IDAHO BIRD DOG CLUB

### *Edge's Ghostbuster Wins Back-to-Back Championships*

**By Christopher Perkins | American Falls, Idaho | September 17, 2025**

Once again, the Eastern Idaho Bird Dog Club was able to host a series of stakes on the competitive wild bird grounds in the back country of American Falls. For seven days in the third week of September, dogs, horses, and handlers faced the physically challenging terrain, and memories were made. This year, birds were a bit of a hardship early in the trial, and conditions were warm and dry. As the trial progressed, rain and cooler temps prevailed, and scenting conditions improved for the dogs, resulting in more bird work. We are truly grateful to the landowners and our sponsors for helping us continue this great trial and tradition for another year.

### **Idaho Open Shooting Dog Championship**

Named champion was Edge's Ghostbuster (PM), owned/handled by Gordy Jones, and scouted by Mike Robbins. The runner-up champion was Perkins Sawyer's Warrior (PM),



*Idaho Open Shooting Dog Championship (l-r): Robbie Thompson, Gordy Jones holding Edge's Ghostbuster, Ray Carter, Jarry Walton, Christopher Perkins holding Perkins Sawyer's Warrior, Austin Turley, and Jason Staley.*

owned/handled by Christopher Perkins and scouted by Bill Owen.

Edge's Ghostbuster drew the third brace/third course of the stake. Right from the beginning, Ghostbuster ran up and over the hill towards the gate out of sight. Once riders climbed the first hill,

Ghostbuster could be seen in the distance moving along the fenceline towards the gate opening. He was later found pointed at 7 near the gate opening, and Sharptail grouse were seen leaving. The handler fired, grabbed the dog, and sent him on into the wide valley beyond the





**Idaho Open Derby (l-r):** Gordy Jones, Christopher Perkins, Robbie Thompson, Jason Staley holding Perkins Live Stream, Ray Carter, Ryan Mulcahy holding Point Blank, Jim Ledington, Jarry Walton, Austin Turley holding Carbonado's Caldera, Ed Mayhew, Matt Huston, Sergio Velez, Anthony Grimaldi, and Phil Bowden.



**Region 9 Amateur Shooting Dog Championship (l-r):** Robbie Thompson, Christopher Perkins, Gordy Jones holding Edge's Ghostbuster, Ray Carter, Jarry Walton, Austin Turley holding Touch's Too Much, and Jason Staley.



**Manitoba Open All-Age: (l-r):** Christopher Perkins, Ray Carter, Robbie Thompson holding Black Rocks Snow Goose, Austin Turley holding Affinity, Gordy Jones holding Haney's Tennessee Fire, and Jason Staley.

gate. Ghostbuster disappeared from sight and shortly after was found pointed at 15 by the scout, and more Sharptails were produced. After his second find, Ghostbuster proceeded through the thick cover of the valley, over the hill, and down to the road crossing without delay. He climbed the following hill and through the upper gap towards the Quonset Hut. His final piece of work was in the last basin on Sharptails at 53. He finished the hour with plenty in the tank to the front.

Perkins Sawyer's Warrior drew the seventh brace/first course of the second day. He took off up the hill and caught the far-left ridge out of sight. The scout road up the ridge for a look and found Sawyer's Warrior pointed at 5. Handler arrived, dismounted, and flushed a pair of Huns in front of a steady dog. Quickly, Sawyer's Warrior was sent up the center ridge and disappeared over the top. When the riders arrived at the top, Sawyer's Warrior was seen on the far spine in the distance and was rounded up and sent down the long ridge towards the road crossing. Right before the road crossing, Sawyer's Warrior and his bracemate were found pointed at 28. Both handlers flushed, but no birds were produced. Sawyer's Warrior crossed the road and proceeded deep to the front into the following rolling hills and long valley. He was later seen by the sharp turn in the course, reconnected with his handler, and sent into the final valley for a great finish.

**American Falls, Ida., September 17**  
**Judges: Tom Griffin and Marty Middleton**  
**IDAHO OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP**  
**[One-Hour Heats] – 19 Pointers, 2 Setters,**  
**1 Brittany, and 2 German Shorthairs**  
**Winner-EDGE'S GHOSTBUSTER, F1706712, pointer**  
**male, by Haney's Silver Dollar-Edge's Ten Gallon.**  
**Gordy Jones, owner and handler.**  
**Runner-Up-PERKINS SAYER'S WARRIOR,**  
**F1694443, pointer male, by Touch's Grey Street-**  
**Intentional. Christopher Perkins, owner and handler.**

**Judges: Gordy Jones and Matt Huston**  
**IDAHO OPEN DERBY CLASSIC – 21 Pointers**  
**and 3 Setters**  
**1st-PERKINS LIVE STREAM, F1714278, pointer**  
**female, by Perkins Sayer's Warrior-Empire On Line.**  
**Christopher Perkins, owner and handler.**  
**2d-POINT BLANK, F1709781, pointer male, by Light**  
**of Day-Perkins Beautiful Disaster. Ryan Mulcahy,**  
**owner and handler.**  
**3d-CARBONADO'S CALDERA, F1713506, pointer**  
**male, by Nevada's Copper Jim-Boudica. Austin**  
**Turley, owner and handler.**

### **Region 9 Amateur Shooting Dog Championship**

Named champion was Edge's Ghostbuster (PM), owned/handled by Gordy Jones, and scouted by Mike Robbins. The runner-up champion was Touch's Too Much (PM), owned by Keith Wright, handled by Austin Turley, and scouted by Bill Owen.

Edge's Ghostbuster drew the third brace/third course. He took off up the first hill towards the gate opening out of sight. Ghostbuster was found pointed at 8 near the gate opening, and the handler flushed Sharptails in front of him. He was then sent through the gate and proceeded far to the front into the wide valley. He took the whole valley, proceeded to the top of the hill, was sent off the left side by the handler, and later shown towards the road crossing in a very impressive move. Ghostbuster was

then found pointed at 43 right before the road crossing, and the handler produced a large covey of Huns. He was then sent across the road and through the upper gap into the last valley for a large finish.

Touch's Too Much drew the sixth brace/sixth course. In the heat of a warm afternoon, Too Much started off strong, away from the Quonset Hut and up the far hill. He disappeared to the front towards the group of trees in the distance and was later found pointed on the edge of the trees at 12. As riders approached, a group of Sharptails was seen leaving, and Too Much stood, watching admirably. He was then sent along through the upper forest path and far down the wide ravine towards the gap. After the gap, he proceeded up across the flat and down towards the road in a great finish in the challenging heat.

**Judges: Jason Staley and Jarry Walton**  
**REGION 9 AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG**  
**CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats] – 18 Pointers,**  
**4 Setters, 1 Brittany, and 1 German Shorthair**  
**Winner-EDGE'S GHOSTBUSTER, F1706712, pointer**  
**male, by Haney's Silver Dollar-Edge's Ten Gallon.**  
**Gordy Jones, owner and handler.**  
**Runner-Up-TOUCH'S TOO MUCH, F1697545, pointer**  
**male, by Touch's Grey Street-Touch's American Baby.**  
**Keith Wright, owner; Austin Turley, handler.**

### **Manitoba Open All Age Classic**

In first place was Black Rocks Snow Goose, owned by Nick Cummins, handled by Christopher Perkins, and scouted by Robbie Thompson. Goose drew the sixth brace/sixth course of the day. Goose was sent over the edge into the ravine by his handler and was seen

taking the large climb of the main ridge out of sight. Minutes went by with no trace of Goose, and once riders proceeded to the top, Goose appeared above the upper tree line and was sent along the upper bench. He was seen disappearing out of sight again, far to the front, and reappearing again before the descent to the road crossing. Goose then had to be gathered up by his handler, and once they reconnected, he proceeded across the road and over the hill out of sight for his final move. He then reappeared at 58 and was quickly sent by his handler for a strong finish to the front.

Affinity, owned and handled by Austin Turley and scouted by Gordy Jones, drew the second brace/ second course in the morning. Right

off the breakaway, she was seen disappearing out of sight to the front. After being absent for a few minutes, she reappeared up front just after passing the group of trees. She proceeded across the middle flat and was sent down the long ravine far to the front towards the gap. She made it through the gap and was sent up across the valley and at 52 established point. A covey of Huns was flushed by her handler for a great find. She was sent up the long hill for a well-presented finish.

Haney's Tennessee Fire, owned and handled by Gordy Jones and scouted by Austin Turley, drew the eighth brace/ second course. Fire left the breakaway in a hurry and was found backing his bracemate at 5 and stood through a find of Sharptails

from his bracemate. He then disappeared to the front for some time and later was seen way down on the upper flat, headed towards the Quonset Hut. He reconnected with his handler towards the end of the ravine near the gap and was sent up towards it. After going through the gap, he went up the long hill and finished towards the top, doing a respectable job.

**Judges: Jason Staley and Ray Carter  
MANITOBA OPEN ALL-AGE CLASSIC**

**[One-Hour Heats] – 15 Pointers and 3 Setters**  
1st-BLACK ROCKS SNOW GOOSE, F1706706, pointer male, by Miller's Speed Dial-Yale's Sunny Hill Dot. Nick Cummins, owner; Christopher Perkins, handler.  
2d-AFFINITY, F1693066, pointer female, by Touch's Grey Street-Intentional. Austin Turley, owner and handler.  
3d-HANEY'S TENNESSEE FIRE, F1715331, pointer male, by Haney's Silver Dollar-Bandit's Hill Lady. Gordy Jones, owner and handler.

## GRAND VALLEY BIRD DOG CLUB

### Fall Trial

By Jim Cipponeri | Highland, Michigan | September 19, 2025

**T**he Grand Valley Club kicked off the Fall season with a combined U. S. Complete/ Horseback trial at the Highland Silo Course. These historic grounds went through an extensive maintenance plan this summer, which included a much-needed burn and brush hogging program conducted by field trial volunteers and employees from the state of Michigan. Ray Fahlsing, Field Trial liaison and DNR supervisor, also implemented the use of the Department of Natural Resources Forester unit to clear-cut major portions of overgrown habitat.

Released quail were plentiful and strong flyers, which resulted in abundant bird work. Several woodcock were observed, but only one was pointed. The weather was warm and mostly sunny except for a brief shower on Sunday morning.

The Club is fortunate to have members who consistently help out at every trial we run at Highland. Connie Cipponeri helped with the drawing, along with filling out the judges' books. Special recognition

to our friend of over 40 years, Paul Tutro. Paul picked up and delivered birds and donuts, both a necessity at our trial. He also planted birds, loaned out his horse, and supplied water buckets for the horses and dogs. Ron and Maria Sposita provided a feast of Italian Beef Bracirole on Saturday and Marco's Pizza on Sunday, especially enjoyed by Dave Fletcher, our club member who recently celebrated his 90th birthday!

Everyone in attendance enjoyed the presence of Andrea Cerofolini and Cecelia Lezzani, who traveled all the way from Aiken, South Carolina. Andrea resided in our state before settling in South Carolina, where he and Cecelia own "Magnolia Shadows Equestrian Resort." They love visiting here in late summer and traditionally attend two or three of our events each year. Andrea judged the entire U. S. Complete trial and ran in the horseback stakes. Thanks to all the judges, participants, and spectators who came out and enjoyed a great weekend.

Highland, Mich., September 19

**Judges: Andrea Cerofolini and Jim Cipponeri  
OPEN PUPPY – 2 Pointer, 5 Setters,  
and 3 Brittans**

1st-SUNRISE DOUBLE BARRELL STAR, F1721031, setter male, by Sunrise Star-Mia Star. Dr. George Najor, owner and handler.  
2d-COUNTRY GIRL, F1720939, pointer female, by The Treasure Chest-Mohawk Mill For Real. Les Bressler, owner; Christy Helmes, handler.  
3d-HAYWOOD'S PRINCESS ECLIPSE, unreg., Brittany female, breeding not given. Steve McKalko, owner; John Capocci, handler.

**Judges: Andrea Cerofolini and Tom Vanecek  
OPEN SHOOTING DOG – 11 Pointers, 1 Setter,  
and 1 Brittany**

1st-BACKWOODS WILD FIRE BLAZE, F1691395, pointer male, by Erin's Wild Justice-Hollywood Hot'n'tot. Justin Mason, owner; Mark Hughes, handler.  
2d-CHRISTYS KAYLEE GIRL, R331522, Brittany female, breeding not given. Christy Helmes, handler.  
3d-HIFIVES ROLLING STONE, F1701648, pointer male, by Titanium's Hammer-Hifive's Allisin. J. P. Jones, owner and handler.

**Judges: Andrea Cerofolini and Jim Cipponeri  
OPEN DERBY – 4 Pointers and 3 Setters**

1st-EVAN'S FULL THROTTLE, F1713964, pointer female, by Double Deuce Zeke-Braggabull. Evan Smith, owner; Mark Hughes, handler.  
2d-JUNI JONES, F1714645, pointer female, by Hifives Rolling Stone-Speed Dialing Kaia. J. P. Jones, owner and handler.  
3d-CERULEAN STONE, F1714642, pointer male, by Hifives Rolling Stone-Speed Dialing Kaia. Tim Perschke, owner; Mark Hughes, handler.

Judges: Bill Branham and Mike Zack

**OPEN SHOOTING DOG – 6 Pointers and 2 Setters**  
1st-WINDFALL LAST STAND, F1705328, pointer male, by Knight's Last Chipster-Windfall Queen of Soul. Joe Guzman, owner and handler.  
2d-WINDFALL MACKINAW STRAIGHTS, F1701992, pointer male, by Knight's Last Chipster-Windfall Queen of Soul. Joe Guzman, owner and handler.  
3d-HANEY'S HAMMERIN HANK, F1706891, pointer male, by Haney's All In-Haney's Two Dozen Roses. Jim & Connie Cipponeri, owners; Jim Cipponeri, handler.

Judges: Jim Cipponeri and Ron Sposita

**OPEN DERBY – 4 Pointers, 1 Setter, and 1 Brittany**  
1st-MODOC'S LEGACY PIA, F1708529, pointer female, by Miller's Blindsider-Miss Clinique. Andrea Cerofolini, owner; Cecilia Lezzani, handler.  
2d-COUNTRY GIRL, F1720939, pointer female, by The Treasure Chest-Mohawk Mill For Real. Les Bressler, owner; Christy Helmes, handler.  
3d-MOONDANCE PRIMETIME, F1711247, pointer male, by Amarugia Elhew Heir Strike-Moondance Hit Lady Kate. Ron Williams, owner; J. P. Jones, handler.

## SUBMITTING A WRITE-UP & FORMS?

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dwellmann@ukcdogs.com

[Please note that results received well after the trial (60-90 days) cannot be assured that the trial will receive coverage in a printed issue.]

## NATIONAL AMATEUR PRAIRIE SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP

**Erin's Rebel Attraction Named Champion; Notorious Dominator's Reserve, Runner-up**  
By Frank LaNasa | Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin | September 19, 2025



National Amateur Prairie Chicken Shooting Dog Championship (l-r): Frank LaNasa, Rich Boumeester (judge), Mike Vicari (judge), Ed Liermann, Brian Sheehan, Frank Vicari, Sean Patrick Derrig with Erin's Rebel Attraction, Jim Tande, John Mathys, Scott Jordan, Jarrett Bell with Notorious Dominator's Reserve, Allison Bell, Gary Wolf, and Mark Johnson.

This year, 34 dogs took on the six challenging courses at the Buena Vista Grasslands at Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin, home to the largest population of Greater Prairie Chicken east of the Mississippi. Year in and year out, the grasslands have produced an impressive number of chickens on which to hold a quality championship. Despite pressures from other interests and developments in the area, the Wisconsin DNR has committed substantial resources to provide for this population of chickens. It is truly a unique place, having hosted bird dog events for more than 40 years. It has been the only home of the National Amateur Prairie Chicken Championship since its inception. Easily, the Greater Prairie Chicken is the most common upland bird on these lands, with the

occasional pheasant and woodcock.

With a strong partnership between the field trial club, the Wisconsin DNR, and the University of Wisconsin at Stevens Point, a primary provider of future Wisconsin Wildlife employees, along with local residents, this event has proven to be a win-win-win for all.

Noticeably lacking this year throughout the prairies west of the Mississippi were large, healthy coveys of Sharptail grouse and Prairie chickens. Pheasant and Huns seemed to have fared better. There's been a debate about why, since no one event or source provides an obvious cause. Nevertheless, the lack of coveys was also evident on the Wisconsin Grasslands, and most contracts were single or paired birds, with an occasional small covey

scattered in. The good news is that there are still a good number of birds that, if blessed with an average winter and calm nesting season, should do well in 2026.

Once again, we give thanks to all who help with this event, which runs hand-in-hand with the National Open Prairie Chicken Championship. Ed Liermann, year in and year out, does a yeoman's job of putting together all the necessary pieces to make things work. Gary Wolf has been the flawless dog wagon driver for some 20+ years. Mark Johnson works with me to co-chair the event and ensures it runs smoothly. Many other people pitch in to help guard roads, scout, and marshal, and it's all very appreciated.

Judging this year were two capable men. Rich Boumeester, having won here numerous times with his dogs, knows the challenges and the uniqueness of this event. His partner, Mike Vicari, also has been a lifelong patron of the sport as part of a highly successful family with performing bird dogs. Both gentlemen were attentive and supportive, and in the end, their decisions were well-received.

This year's champion, Erin's Rebel Attraction, distanced himself from the rest of the field with an impressive effort. In this reporter's opinion, his performance was never really challenged. Rebel Attraction is owned, raised, and handled by Brian Sheehan of Carol Stream, Illinois. He's a strongly built, handsome 5-year-old male pointer. He was in the first brace on the third day with



Ed Liermann's Cedar Creek Anthem, who failed to stop when birds flushed almost immediately after being turned loose. That gave Attraction the course to himself.

During Anthem's mishap, Attraction was making a deep forward move to the north, and while the course turned west, Attraction headed back to gain the front and had a nice stop-to-flush on a covey of five chickens. Going west and after crossing Griffith Road, Attraction once again showed his wheels and once again had a good stop-to-flush on a single chicken at 18. After crossing W, Attraction drove south, found and pointed a covey of four chickens at 28, thought to be the same covey pointed by our runner-up champion, Notorious Dominator's Reserve, in the first brace. Attraction's style, character, and manners were of high quality.

Shortly after, at 31, Attraction pointed again, and after an extended flushing attempt with handler closing in on the dog to release him, a single chicken flushed from directly in front of the dog. Impressively, Attraction's character and style never flinched as he stood like a soldier and was more confident at this point than the

handler! Attraction continued the second half impressively, reaching into the country and handling kindly. His performance set a very high bar that was never really threatened by the other competitors.

Our runner-up champion, Notorious Dominator's Reserve, a 2-year-old pointer male youngster owned and handled by John Mathys, was braced by Erin's Wild Atlantic Way with Sean Derrig. John Mathys's Reserve, after crossing W, headed straight into the course south, found and pointed a covey of three Greater Prairie chickens with high intensity and style and perfect manners. Reserve challenged by tough cover gained determination and independence as his hour progressed, but relented when called on. His performance never faded despite very challenging cover. Like he began, he finished strong. A performance easily good enough to win most years.

I won't go through all of the braces, but will mention those that made their way into the discussion.

In the fourth brace, Rip Nation, a pointer male handled by Scott Jordan, and Worsham's Spitfire, another pointer male handled by Joe

Worsham, shared a divided find at 8. Spitfire had a good find on a covey of four chickens with Nation backing at 10 off to the left, with all in order. Nation had a good find on a single at 13 and a stop-to-flush on three chickens at 38. Both dogs hunted well and finished their bids.

In the fifth brace, Notorious Southern Son, a pointer male handled by John Mathys, had a nice find at 35 on a single and a stop-to-flush at 40 on a single. Son admirably prevailed on an extremely challenging course to finish well.

Notorious Sweet Cargo, in the 14th brace, a pointer female handled by John Mathys, had a good find at 35 on a single and ran a pleasant race.

With the announcements and congratulations given, another year's event is formally in the books.

Wisconsin Rapids, Wis., September 19  
Judges: Rich Boumeester and Mike Vicari

**NATIONAL AMATEUR PRAIRIE CHICKEN  
SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP**

**[One-Hour Heats] – 30 Pointers and 4 Setters**  
Winner-ERIN'S REBEL ATTRACTION, F1691807, pointer male, by Erin's Country Rebel-Erin's Fatal Attraction. Brian Sheehan, owner and handler.  
Runner-Up-NOTORIOUS DOMINATOR'S RESERVE, F1717932, pointer male, by Notorious Dominator's Heir-Notorious Rebel Woman. John Mathys, owner and handler.



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# NATIONAL OPEN PHEASANT SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP

***Miller's Promotional Upgrade Named Champion; Miller's Lock and Loaded, Runner-up***

**By Joe Lordi | Bloomingdale, Ohio | September 23, 2025**



**National Open Pheasant Shooting Dog Championship (kneeling): Doug Ray and Eli Taylor (scout) with Miller's Promotional Upgrade, Ellie Copeland, and Hailey Moreland with Miller's Lock and Loaded. (Row 2): Bobby Verderosa, Greg Strausbaugh, Mary Tracy, George Tracy, Stacey Goodie, Muriel Primm, Bill Primm, Casey Tracy with Mary Tracy, and Brooke Lanning. (Row 3): Aaron McAfee (judge), Tony Bingham (judge), Mark Hughes, Bo Brewer, Joe Lordi, Mike Tracy, and Eric Clink.**

**T**he 2025 Pheasant Shooting Dog Championship commenced on Tuesday, September 23, on the beautiful grounds of the Mingo Sportsman Club in Bloomingdale, Ohio. Though the setting was picturesque as always, the conditions were daunting. A month of dry weather left the terrain tough on dogs and handlers alike. Despite a few nights of light rain just before the trial, the moisture arrived too late to materially improve the grounds. Even so, the Mingo Sportsman Club staff delivered meticulously groomed courses, making the best of the conditions. We extend our sincere gratitude to the club and to Bill Monk for their dedication and hospitality.

Our appreciation also goes to Casey Tracy, Mary Tracy, and Morgan Brewer, whose meal preparation throughout the trial kept everyone well fed and energized. Lunches and dinners were delicious and timely. Dave Hughes and Mark Hughes once again provided invaluable support, supplying water tubs along the course and with Dave driving the dog wagon. Their efforts were especially important given the dry heat. Mary Tracy and Muriel

Primm handled numerous behind-the-scenes details essential to the trial's success.

We offer a special commendation to those who consistently step forward—no matter the task—to help the trial run smoothly: Greg Strausbaugh, Stacey Goodie, Bobby Verderosa, Casey Tracy, and Kevin Joyce. Whether picking up bird feed, catching or planting birds, assisting with the drawing, handling judges' books, or marshaling, these individuals always bring reliability and a positive attitude.

The club extends heartfelt thanks to the many handlers and owners who supported this year's event. Multiple dogs were capably shown by Doug Ray, George Tracy, Mike Tracy, Matt Basilone, Mark Hughes, and Brooke Lanning.

Our appreciation goes as well to the Southern Bird Hunters Association (SBHA) for their support and dedication to our sport. Their website provides detailed, up-to-date standings and information about their seasonal awards. Please check it out.

Eukanuba generously provided a handlers' dinner, dog food for the

winners, and beautifully embroidered jackets for the judges. We are deeply grateful for their ongoing support. Jeff Haggis and Lion Country Supply again contributed \$100 gift certificates to each of the four honorable mentions.

Judging this year's championship were Tony Bingham of Shelby, North Carolina, and Aaron McAfee of Clinton, Illinois. Both men rode hard throughout, giving every dog its full hour and evaluating performances with fairness and consistency. They sought a forward-running dog with independence, stamina, and demonstrated bird-handling ability—and they found their champions.

## **The Winners**

### **Champion**

Four-year-old Miller's Promotional Upgrade, an orange and white pointer male owned by David Steele and handled by Doug Ray, delivered the defining performance of the championship. Running in the 16th brace, he broke away from the far end of the outer loop and immediately established a strong, forward pattern. His aggressive swing toward the tower—one of the most difficult moves on the course—was executed flawlessly before he met Doug in the valley. After being heeled to the rock pile and sent on, Promotional Upgrade resumed his forward drive with confidence.

His bird work was exceptional throughout the hour. He stopped to flush in high grass, then pinned birds on relocation along the autumn olives almost immediately. At 24, he was found standing again with perfect manners at the end of the main breakaway hedgerow. Minutes later, he recorded a high-style find in the sorghum feed patch, followed by another just uphill. After a substantial sequence of finds, he demonstrated maturity by shifting back into a powerful, forward ground race—a challenge for many dogs after heavy

bird contact.

He navigated the risky right side of the course with skill, an area where many dogs become lost or overextend themselves. Promotional Upgrade handled it with maturity, rejoining the front smoothly. He crested the tower hill with ease before charging up the ridge, where he recorded his final find. He finished the hour out of sight, delivering a complete and polished championship performance.

### **Runner-up Champion**

Miller's Lock and Loaded, owned by Bill and Muriel Primm and handled by George Tracy, set an early benchmark for the championship from the very first brace. His movement across the grounds was fluid and confident. He scored a stylish find as we hit the autumn olives. He was found standing at the end of the breakaway hedgerow with all in order for the flush. He scored his third find on the left side of Locust Grove. He made strong forward casts but handled nicely throughout Locust Grove. He was charged with an unproductive at the end of Locust Grove. He continued a strong ground effort, making the tough conditions look easy. As we started on the outer loop, he locked up for his fourth well-mannered find. He completed the outer loop with precision, and George called point for a fifth find up on the hill. All was again in order, and he was released with a minute to go and flew up the hill, going out of sight at time. This was another fine performance under tough conditions, earning a well-deserved runner-up title.

### **Honorable Mentions (Top Contenders)**

The four dogs judged closest behind the winners were:

- Miller's Special Cinderella, handled by George Tracy
- Miller's Upgraded Patent, handled by Doug Ray
- Mohawk Mill Lady Justice, handled by Matt Basilone
- The Gray Ghost, handled by Matt Basilone



*Painting Presentation of the 2024 winner, Jolene Jolene (l-r): Mike Tracy (handler), Casey Tracy (scout), Joe Lordi, and Joe McHugh (owner).*

Each delivered strong, high-quality performances under challenging conditions.

### **The Running**

The opening day of competition began warm and dry, conditions that would test the endurance and discipline of each entry. The morning started with A Buccaneer under Doug Ray, whose bid ended early when the tracker was required around the 15-minute mark. Miller's Lock and Loaded, also in the first brace, immediately established himself as a top contender with fluid movement and multiple well-mannered finds.

Smoke'N'Mirrors (M. Basilone) and Deena Jet Boyer (M. Tracy) followed in Brace 2. Despite both being accomplished winners, neither was able to overcome the conditions. Deena Jet, stepping up from an exceptional derby season, carded a stylish find and an unproductive before an infraction ended her run. Smoke'N'Mirrors had difficulty in Locust Grove and was picked up.

The morning concluded with a standout effort from Miller's Special Cinderella, who delivered five well-spaced finds and a strong ground race, placing her among the closest competitors to the winners. Hatteras



*Judges Tony Bingham and Aaron McAfee.*

Rip Tide, her bracedmate, showed a bold race before requiring the tracker at thirty.

The afternoon brought heat, but The Gray Ghost (M. Basilone) handled it well, notching two solid finds and finishing strongly enough to earn an honorable mention. His bracedmate, Parkway (M. Tracy), recorded a stylish find before the handler elected to pick up.

Next up was Two Spot Tommy (D. Ray) and Miller's Little Duce Coupe (G. Tracy), each displayed heart but were undone on their second bird contacts.

The final brace of day one featured High Drive Drinkaby (M. Tracy) and Miller's Special Upgrade (M. Tracy). Both dogs made some nice moves on the ground, but with each only having an unproductive both handlers elected to pick up prior to the hour.

The second day opened with Pal's Prestigious Pete (M. Tracy) standing early but self-relocating after a prolonged flush. Miller's Promotional Upgrade (D. Ray) delivered his winning performance (see write-up under the winners).

Wild Covey Derecho (M. Basilone) ran a wide, attractive race but never connected on birds before his handler called for the tracker. Sellers Pashca Skylos (D. Ray), after an early bird contact, was up shortly thereafter.

Backcountry Jacob (M. Tracy) logged a covey find but was undone by an infraction on his second contact. Mohawk Mill King Pen (M. Basilone) had a good find and was running well before disappearing at 35.

Faithful (M. Tracy) stood early but suffered an unproductive and was later missing, while Hatteras High Tide (D. Ray) notched a classy find before the handler picked up.

Miller's High Heat Index (M. Tracy) required the tracker at 35, while Mohawk Mill Lady Justice (M. Basilone) used the conditions to her advantage with multiple stylish finds and a strong finish, securing an honorable mention.

Miller's Automatic Upgrade (G. Tracy) suffered an early unproductive before being lost at 35, while Miller's Upgraded Patent (D. Ray) recorded a polished find and completed the hour.

Heavy overnight storms continued most of the morning and postponed the start until early afternoon. When the running began, Steel Valley Raven (M. Tracy) delivered two stylish finds and a bold race before trouble in the Black Hole forced the handler to use the tracker. Backwoods Dine & Dash (M. Hughes) carded a find and an unproductive before an infraction ended his attempt.

Fort River's Lucky Charm (M. Basilone) produced three impeccable finds—including a particularly impressive one at the end of the breakaway hedgerow with pheasant going everywhere—before a slight lapse of manners on his fourth contact stopped his bid. Miller's Strolling For Gold (G. Tracy) was withdrawn after his first bird contact.

Mohawk Mill Bad Boy (M. Basilone) backed Cool Hand Luke (M. Tracy) on an early find before Luke was lost at 20. Bad Boy continued with a promising race and a find on the ridge but faltered shortly into the outer loop.

Since we had some early pickups, we elected to continue. Calico's Sky's The Limit (M. Tracy) and Miller's Promotional Upgrade (D. Ray) were off from the far outer Loop, and both made big casts to the front. Sky's The Limit swung to the far right, and point was called towards the pond. Out of my sight, there was some cautioning by the handler, and her bid ended. Upgrade was detailed under the winners.

Mo's Curtain Call (M. Tracy) produced two excellent finds before a bird rose unexpectedly in front of her, ending her chance. Mohawk Mill Jacked Up (M. Basilone) delivered two finds before an unproductive prompted his handler to pick up.

Fog delayed the morning start. Erin's Envy (M. Tracy) displayed admirable manners on the breakaway hedgerow while B K Lapaloma Blanca (B. Lanning) failed



*Baby Mary's first field trial: Casey, Mary, and Mike Tracy.*

to back and was up early. Envy added a stop-to-flush and a find on the ridge before a minor infraction on the outer loop ended his run.

Erin's Big Casino (M. Tracy) ran ambitiously before being lost at the end of Locust Grove. Mohawk Mill Patriot (M. Basilone) produced two fine finds before an infraction ended his challenge.

Smooth Talking (D. Ray) suffered a break on the flush at one minute. Miller's Southern Gossip (G. Tracy) displayed a strong race and a pretty find but was withdrawn after an unproductive.

Mohawk Mill Gangster (M. Basilone) built momentum with multiple stylish finds, though an abrupt turn back ended his effort. Millers Customized Upgrade (G. Tracy) was undone by an unproductive and failure to back.

Waybetter Rebel (M. Tracy) was up early after an infraction, and Hatteras Sand Storm (D. Ray) was withdrawn following a find and an unproductive.

The final brace on Thursday featured Hard Truth (D. Ray) and Miller's Heat Seeker (G. Tracy). This brace started from the main breakaway. It was an exciting brace from start to finish. Heat Seeker scored the first two finds with Hard Truth backing. Hard Truth answered with two finds of his own with Heat Seeker backing. They traded casts for much of the hour. At the end of the outer loop, both were standing with neither handler able to locate a bird. They were relocated, but neither could pin the tricky bird. As they were gathered up to go on, a hen took flight. Both dogs were sent on for the final minute of the hour.

The final morning began with Miller's Hopped Up Version (M. Hughes) recording a stop-to-flush and a find before being lost at 39. Pine Straw Hot Chocolate (M. Tracy) showed steadiness under pressure as a flushing bird flew directly at her. She ran well but was stopped by consecutive unproductives.

Two-time defending champion Jolene Jolene (M. Tracy) ran a bold race but was lost without bird contact. Hatteras Storm Watch (D. Ray) carded a stylish find before his handler opted to pick up.

I'm Spartacus (D. Ray) showed range but was withdrawn, while BK Real McCoy (B. Lanning) had multiple well-mannered finds, which included a difficult extended flush and a stop-to-flush. He finished the hour.

Trumped (M. Tracy) and Saddled Up Sadie (M. Hughes) began the afternoon with a divided find amid considerable bird movement. Trumped added a second find with Sadie backing. Both handlers elected to end the brace shortly after the half-hour mark.

Bittersweet War Cry (M. Tracy) and CS Four Season's Gunner (D. Ray) each ran strong, forward races, but both handlers elected to pick up due to the heat prior to the hour.

The final dogs of the championship were Miller's Extreme Heat (M. Tracy), who required the tracker at 25, and Absolute Dominator (D. Ray), who handled smoothly before an unproductive at 30 ended his attempt.

**Bloomington, Ohio, September 23**

**Judges: Tony Bingham and Aaron McAfee**

**NATIONAL OPEN PHEASANT SHOOTING DOG  
CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats]**

**— 50 Pointers and 8 Setters**

*Winner-MILLER'S PROMOTIONAL UPGRADE, F1699547, pointer male, by Miller's Upgraded Version-Quail Roost Too. Harold Ray & Jack & Fran Miller, owners; Doug Ray, handler.*

*Runner-Up-MILLER'S LOCK AND LOADED, F1674986, pointer male, by Just Irresistible-Miller's Bring The Heat. William & Muriel Primm, owners; George Tracy, handler.*

# NBHA SHARPTAIL OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP

***Grouse Trails Little Bud Named Champion; Bandit Hill Bess, Runner-up***

**By Mary Sue Schalk | Danbury, Wisconsin | September 24, 2025**

The NBHA Sharptail Championship is a highly contested championship held on one of the toughest venues in the sport of field trials. For the fourth year in a row, the trial drew over 40 dogs, with a total of 42 coming to the line vying for the title of champion. The Namekagon Barrens provides a unique challenge to both dog and handler, with both the openness of the prairie and the cover of the grouse woods. Justin Crook of Jasper, Missouri, and Scott Hadley of Sayre, Oklahoma, took time out of their schedules to judge the championship. Both Crook and Hadley are no strangers to quality dogs. They both compete across the country with their own string of dogs. They were attentive, as well as helpful, during their time in the saddle.

Those earning top laurels this year were handled by two men who are no strangers to the podium. Pointer male Grouse Trails Little Bud was named champion, owned and handled by John McKellop. Bandit Hill Bess, a pointer female, earned the runner-up title for handler Paul Cook and owner Klaus Schmidt.

With birds being at a premium this year, the top two dogs covered the ground well, were biddable, and handled their bird work with style and class. Bud ran in the 14th brace on Friday morning, while Bess drew the ninth brace, which ran on Thursday morning. During his time on the ground, Bud ran strong to the front. His stylish bird work included a find at 10. The birds were not interested in lifting, and he was able to withstand birds running. McKellop was able to lift the birds after a noteworthy relocation. Bud also had another clean piece of bird work at 40. Bess was biddable during her hour and had a find at 30. She continued to hunt diligently during the hour and had an unproductive around 40.



**NBHA Sharptail Open Championship (l-r): Mike Taylor, Brad Peterson, John McKellop with Grouse Trails Little Bud, Scott Hadley (judge), Justin Crook (judge), Paul Cook with Bandit Hill Bess, Katie Cook, James Kleve (trial chairman), and Jim Kleve.**

Dogs' performances worth noting include Cates Rocket Girl, who ran the first brace of the championship and carded a woodcock find for handler Zach Erne. The English setter female is owned by David Cates. English setter male Boatrights Iron Eagle, handled by James Kleve and owned by Terry Boatright, also turned in a solid performance but was unable to point any birds during his hour. Crouse's Comeback Kid, a pointer male, owned and handled by Mary Sue Schalk, had an unproductive, forward ground race and a breach of manners at the end of the hour, thus ending his bid.

Outcast Siren Song, an English setter female, was fancy on the ground and had a forward ground race. She, too, was unable to produce a bird during the hour for handler James Kleve and owner John Clough. Tom Waite handled Foxy Lady Sadie, an Irish setter female, owned by Mike Fox. Sadie was another dog the judges wanted to commend for her efforts over the course of her hour.

The companion Jeff Hintz Derby Classic drew and ran 24 young

competitors. Scott Hadley returned to the judicial saddle, joined by Steve Snyder, who previously judged this championship in 2022. A trio of pointer males took the table. John McKellop once again rang the bell, taking first with Grouse Trails Chippewa Warrior and second with Grouse Trails Legend. Finishing out the placements was Mike Taylor with Lil Elhew Chief Snakefeather.

The Open Puppy stake completed the event. Todd Manns and Brad Peterson filled the judicial role for the final stake. First place went to Jennifer Taylor's Hackberry's Snake Lady McGee, a snappy liver and white pointer female. Littermates took the second and third place spots, bred by John Clough. Second place went to Clough's Mischief Brew, an English setter female, owned and handled by John Clough. Braden Persinger owns and handled the third-place puppy, also an English setter female, Persinger's Five Roses.

The championship continues to provide memorable performances for all. This event would not be possible without club members who dedicate their energy to flagging courses,





**NBHA Jeff Hintz Open Derby Classic (l-r):** John McKellop with Grouse Trails Chippewa Warrior, Steve Snyder (judge), Katie Cook with Grouse Trail Legend, and Mike Taylor with Lil Elhew Chief Snakefeather.

driving the dog wagon, providing lunches, and helping all who come to participate.

A big thanks to all our sponsors—Purina, Garmin, OnX, Gun Dog Supply, Mule Brand Clothing, Gun Dog Central, and Setter Ridge Collective.

Also, thank you to Nancy Christel and her team at the Wisconsin DNR, who keep the grounds at the Namekagon Barrens well-maintained

and ready for events such as this championship.

To all those who take the time to put on championships and support others who do the same, best of luck as the season continues.

**Danbury, Wis., September 24**  
**Judges: Justin Crook and Scott Hadley**  
**NBHA SHARPTAIL OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP**  
**[One-Hour Heats] – 22 Pointers, 13 Setters,**  
**1 German Shorthair, and 6 Irish 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-BANDIT HILL BESS, F1706165,** pointer female, by Touch's Smooth Rider-West's Lucy. Klaus Schmidt, owner; Paul Cook, handler.

**Judges: Scott Hadley and Steve Snyder**  
**NBHA JEFF HINTZ OPEN DERBY CLASSIC**  
**– 14 Pointers, 8 Setters, 1 German Shorthair,**  
**and 1 Irish Setter**

**1st-GROUSE TRAILS CHIPPEWA WARRIOR, F1710623,** pointer male, by Toth's Tornado Reloaded-Grouse Trails Warrior Cat. John McKellop, owner and handler.

**2d-GROUSE TRAILS LEGEND, F1710621,** pointer male, by Toth's Tornado Reloaded-Grouse Trails Warrior Cat. John McKellop, owner and handler.

**3d-LIL ELHEW CHIEF SNAKEFEATHER, F1709748,** pointer male, by Hackberry's Elhew Chief-Hackberry's Elhew Ashlee. Michial Taylor, owner and handler.



**NBHA Open Puppy (l-r):** Jennifer Taylor with Hackberry's Snake Lady McGee, Brad Peterson (judge), John Clough with Clough's Mischief Brew, Todd Manns (judge), and Braden Persinger with Persinger's Five Roses.

**Judges: Todd Manns and Brad Peterson**  
**NBHA OPEN PUPPY – 2 Pointers and 4 Setters**  
**1st-HACKBERRY'S SNAKE LADY MCGEE, F1721939,** pointer female, by Elhew Snakemaster-Hackberry's Elhew Leve. Michial Taylor, owner; Jennifer Taylor, handler.

**2d-CLOUGH'S MISCHIEF BREW, F1721342,** setter female, by Boatright's Maverick-Outcast Siren Song. John Clough, owner and handler.

**3d-PERSINGER'S FIVE ROSES, F1721344,** setter female, by Boatright's Maverick-Outcast Siren Song. Braden Persinger, owner and handler.

## NORTHEASTERN GROUSE & WOODCOCK CHAMPIONSHIP

**Mohawk Mill Miss You Named Champion; Chasehill Snoop Dog, Runner-up**

**By Russell Ogilvie | Frankfort, Maine | September 26, 2025**



**Northeastern Grouse and Woodcock Championship: Mohawk Mill Miss You with Bill McFadden (owner), Chasehill Snoop Dog with John Stolgitis (handler), Jonathan Cullen (judge), and Dale Hackett (judge).**

**T**he champion, Mohawk Mill Miss You ("Pearl"), owned by Bill McFadden and handled

by John Stolgitis, came out of the fifth brace. Pearl was braced with Elhew Snakewood but ended up having the

course to herself with a late scratch. Pearl, a super fancy female pointer, broke away under warm conditions. With a very wet spring and then a dry summer, everyone knew that birds would be at a premium. Pearl, running on the Beaver Hole course, did not disappoint. Pearl stopped in the alders at 22 just off the edge of the course. Stolgitis walked out in front to flush with the judge, and as he was doing so, the grouse doubled back and blew out in back of the dog. The handler took Pearl on, and they headed across the powerline. Once they got across, Pearl would stop again at 37 on the course, but in more open timber. Not a very likely bird spot. Given her style and confidence, Stolgitis flushed, and a grouse erupted just as he stepped in front of the dog. Pearl finished the hour going strong in the warmest part of the day.

The runner-up came in the seventh brace. Chasehill Snoop Dog, owned by Bill McFadden and handled by John Stolgitis, ran a very strong race. He was braced with Snuffmill Callie, a fancy female setter. Both ran really well, but it was Snoop that had the good fortune on this day. After scouring the first part of the course, Snoop was rewarded with a woodcock at 32, and with that, a sweep of the trial for Bill and John.

While the spring was a wet one and the summer was a dry one, the wild bird game can be a challenge, to say the least. Added to that, our entries were down this year for a variety of reasons, but most call it life. That being said, birds were seen on all the courses, so they were out there to be found. Once again, we could not ask for nicer weather, great

people, classy dogs, and fabulous food to make this such a fun event. What is better than a warm fall evening, eating steak and lobster while catching up with old friends after a day of running dogs?

Without the support of people both far and wide, this event would not happen. The Mid-Coast Maine Field Trial Club would like to thank Purina once again for its gracious support. Each and every owner that enters a dog, whether it's one or 10, makes this a successful trial. Thank you to the handlers for steering your dogs around the course that the club has created and modified in hopes of providing a quality venue. While maybe the judges didn't wear out a pair of shoes, Dale Hackett and Jon Cullen stepped up and gave every dog the attention that they all

deserved, and at the end of the day, they had dogs to talk about. We are extremely lucky that we not only run on public land, but we also have the support of the town of Frankfort to make this trial happen. While it may not be much, a portion of each entry goes to the town's scholarship fund, and the courses that we have created end up being hiking and skiing trails for the local residents. Thanks again, and we hope to see everyone again next year.

**Frankfort, Me., September 26**  
**Judges: Jonathan Cullen and Dale Hackett**  
**NORTHEASTERN GROUSE AND WOODCOCK**  
**CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats]**

**– 15 Pointers and 3 Setters**  
*Winner-MOHAWK MILL MISS YOU, F1703199, pointer female, by Mohawk Mill Big Stuff-Mohawk Mill Dolly. William & Karen McFadden, owners; John Stolgitis, handler.*  
*Runner-Up-CHASEHILL SNOOP DOG, F1703110, pointer male, by Panola Bacon-Chasehill Little Izzy. Erin Stolgitis, owner; John Stolgitis, handler.*

## NGSPA PHEASANT CHAMPIONSHIPS

### 52nd Running

By Anthony Rusciano | Bloomingdale, Ohio | October 2, 2025

**T**he 52nd running of the NGSPA Pheasant Championships marked our second year at the Mingo Sportsmen's Club Field Trial Grounds in Bloomingdale, Ohio, and what an outstanding event it was. We had a fantastic turnout and are grateful to every one of you who traveled and spent your time with us.

A heartfelt thank you goes to Bill Monk and the Mingo Sportsmen's Club for once again opening these premier grounds to the NGSPA and allowing our championship to follow the National Open Pheasant Shooting Dog Championship. This scheduling provided our handlers and dogs the advantage of abundant pheasant populations, and it showed.

Mingo's terrain demands a true bird dog: one that hunts with intelligence, uses the wind efficiently, and shows determination across vast open country. The decision to relocate this championship to Mingo has clearly proven to be the right one, both for the sport and for the dogs we evaluate.

### Grounds and Conditions

Although the weather had been dry leading into the trial, the grounds were in excellent shape. Rolling fields of native grasses and large, healthy food plots stretched across the property. Scenting conditions were favorable, and nearly every dog encountered birds, with many recording multiple finds. Several braces produced coveys of a dozen or more pheasants erupting at once.

With approximately 300 pheasants released, along with hundreds of birds still present from the prior event, opportunities for bird work were plentiful, and the level of competition intense.

### Acknowledgments

Events of this size and importance are only possible through the efforts and generosity of many individuals and organizations.

A sincere thank you to Purina Pro Plan and Greg Blair for their continued sponsorship and unwavering support of our sport. We are equally appreciative of Dogs

Unlimited, another NGSPA partner whose contributions are essential to our championships.

Special recognition is extended to Chris Young and Kirk Loftin, who assisted me in securing qualified judges. Thank you to Jen Goodall for once again managing entries and paperwork with professionalism and care.

We are deeply grateful to Bill Monk and the Mingo Sportsmen's Club Field Trial Committee for their hospitality and dedication in preparing such exceptional grounds. Thank you as well to the many Mingo members who volunteered—planting birds, assisting in the clubhouse, and helping to ensure that every aspect of the week ran smoothly.

A heartfelt thanks to Dayna Rusciano, who handled much of the behind-the-scenes organization, meal planning, shopping, and preparation to keep everyone well-fed and supported.

We also extend our sincere appreciation to Lonestar Kennel Horse Company, Kirk Loftin, and



**NGSPA Pheasant Open All-Age Championship** (standing): Andy and Becky Dynkiewicz, Leroy Long (judge), and Mark Auman (judge). (Kneeling): April DiMambro with Slaterock's Mountain Heart, Dan DiMambro, and Helmut Schoen with Monkeyshines Callme The Breeze.

Sherri Tangsrud for providing rental horses for our judges. Their generosity allowed us to accommodate judges who would not otherwise have been able to participate.

A very special thank-you goes to Becky and Andy Dynkiewicz for providing their side-by-side for the dog wagon and for Becky's exceptional help in the kitchen. Your dedication, generosity, and hard work are truly invaluable—we appreciate you more than words can express.

To our judges, thank you for evaluating our dogs and spending time away from your families and work to join us and help make this event a successful one.

Finally, thank you to the NGSPA Board of Directors for their support and trust in allowing us to conduct this championship on behalf of the Association.

### **Competition and Highlights**

The Championship began on Thursday, October 2, under crisp autumn skies. Handlers and

spectators traveled from across the country, many logging thousands of miles, to run on the challenging but rewarding Mingo courses.

Despite the logistical demands of this venue, the event ran smoothly, and feedback from participants was overwhelmingly positive. While a brace-by-brace report could not be produced this year, everyone in attendance agreed that 2025 was a major step forward for this Championship.



**NGSPA Pheasant Open Derby** (standing): Dayna Rusciano (judge) and Abraham Macke (judge). (Kneeling): Katlyn Macke with MSK's Fast Eddie, Dan DiMambro, Fred Ryan with Chicoree's Stitch In Time, and April DiMambro with MSPA A Need For Speed.

The volume and quality of bird work were exceptional. Judges had ample opportunities to evaluate each dog's ability to hunt, handle game, show style, and maintain composure under pressure. Very few dogs went birdless, creating exciting and competitive performances throughout the trial.

### **Looking Ahead**

The NGSPA Pheasant Championship continues to grow, improve, and solidify its place as one of the premier events on the NGSPA calendar. We are already looking forward to returning to Mingo in 2026.

We invite all GSP field trial enthusiasts—handlers, amateurs, professionals, and especially newcomers—to join us next year and experience this outstanding event.

Congratulations to all who placed; the level of competition was outstanding! Thank you to every participant, volunteer, sponsor, and supporter who made this year such a remarkable success. We look forward to seeing everyone again on October 2, 2026, for another unforgettable NGSPA Pheasant Championship at Mingo.

### **NGSPA Pheasant Open Derby (14 Dogs)**

On October 2, we opened the Pheasant Championship with the Open Derby—seven braces of up-and-coming young dogs, several ready to card their first pheasant find. With Judge Sherri Tangsrud delayed in arriving, Abraham Macke stepped in to judge. We ran a 30-minute out-and-back course. As the first brace broke away that sunny Thursday afternoon and topped the first hill, large coveys lifted, an early sign of just how many pheasants were on the grounds. Fortunately, these youngsters didn't see the birds and give chase; they paused only to listen to the cackling as the coveys crossed the field.

MSK's Fast Eddie in Brace 2A, owned and handled by Dan DiMambro, lived up to his name and stayed in high gear throughout. The judges put him on top for his bold, forward moves across the terrain and fluid gait that demanded attention, marking him as a youngster with clear all-age potential. Though he

reached out, he stayed connected when called and recorded one very stylish find.

Second place went to Chicoree's A Stitch in Time (6B), owned and handled by Fred Ryan. This young dog separated himself with a strong forward run and polished handling. Although birdless, his ground application distinguished him. His range wasn't as consistent as the winner's, but the judges noted a strong foundation and bright future.

Third place was awarded to MSPW A Need For Speed (5B), owned by Keith and Bobbi Richardson and handled by Dan DiMambro. Compared with the top two, she showed more hunt with slightly less range, but impressed with her independence, terrain use, and a stylish, steady point—maturity beyond her years. These juvenile dogs are on track for outstanding field trial careers, and we look forward to their future accomplishments.

The Pheasant Championship sincerely thanks all who participated in this stake, and we welcome owners of young GSPs to join us in 2026 for this fun stake.

**Bloomington, Ohio, October 2**  
**Judges: Abe Macke and Dayna Rusciano**  
**NGSPA PHEASANT OPEN DERBY**  
**– 14 German Shorthairs**

*1st-MSK'S FAST EDDIE, F1727709, German Shorthair male, by High Standing Cuttin Edge-Chicoree's Riden High Trixie. Anthony & Dayna Rusciano, owners; DiMambro, owner and handler.*

*2d-CHICOREE'S STITCH IN TIME, F2717778, German Shorthair female, by Chicoree's Royal Flush Remis-Chicoree's Country Star. Fred Ryan, owner and handler.*

*3d-MSPW A NEED FOR SPEED, F1722956, German Shorthair female, by High Standing Cuttin Edge-Chicoree's Riden High Trixie. Keith & Roberta Richardson, owners; Dan DiMambro, handler.*

**NGSPA Pheasant Amateur**  
**Shooting Dog Championship**  
**(23 Dogs)**

The champion, Slaterock's Mountain Heart ("Rommel"), owned and handled by Andy Dynkiewicz, and the runner-up champion, High Standing Cuttin Edge ("Woody"), owned and handled by Dayna Rusciano, both came out of Brace 7, which ran first on Saturday morning. Depending on weather and conditions, the first and last braces at Mingo are often the toughest due to pheasants pairing up and running around, in addition to the morning



**NGSPA Pheasant Amateur Shooting Dog Championship (standing): Justin Allen (judge), Becky Dynkiewicz, Leroy Long (judge), Stacy Goodie, Dayna Rusciano, Greg Strausbaugh, and Andy Dynkiewicz. (Kneeling): Helmut Schoen with Slaterock's Mountain Heart and Chris Young with High Standing Cuttin Edge.**

"salted" birds.

This brace had judges, handlers, and spectators on the edge of their saddles as both dogs produced an abundance of bird work throughout the hour. Rommel carded seven finds, one divided find, and two backs, while Woody recorded four finds plus one divided find. The brace started from the breakaway field near the parking area. Rommel notched two finds before the rock-pile area of the road, and the pair was later found standing on a divided find in tall grasses past the food plots before the power lines. Both dogs hunted independently, displayed impeccable style and manners, and finished to the front. Woody was found standing at time just past the rock pile as you come back towards the breakaway fields. Judges noted several dogs could have won this competitive stake, but this brace set the standard. Both dogs did an excellent job for their two amateur handlers. The decision ultimately came down to "splitting hairs." Rommel sealed the win by showing slightly more of the shooting dog application they preferred, while Woody's range was a bit further.

**Judges: Justin Allen and Leroy Long**  
**NGSPA PHEASANT AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG**  
**CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats]**  
**– 23 German Shorthairs**

*Winner-SLATEROCK'S MOUNTAIN HEART, F1675343, German Shorthair male, by Hi N's Bodacious-Slaterock Mattie Clark. James Dynkiewicz, owner; Andy Dynkiewicz, handler.*

*Runner-Up-HIGH STANDING CUTTIN EDGE, F1675198, German Shorthair male, by Slicks Cuttin Wild-C L K's Point Me The Way. Anthony & Dayna Rusciano, owners; Dayna Rusciano, handler.*

**NGSPA Pheasant Open All-Age**  
**Championship**  
**17 Dogs**

As the championship continued, temperatures warmed, and more pheasants moved in the midday sun, tempting conditions that led to breaches of manners for a number of entries.

Out of Brace 6A came the champion, Amateur Shooting Dog winner Slaterock's Mountain Heart, owned by the Dynkiewicz family and handled by Dan DiMambro. Rommel carded numerous finds and kept his manners in check throughout the hour. A seasoned dog, he rolled through the Mingo grounds, consistently finding birds off the paths as he dug in and hunted. Rommel's style and composure were exemplary, earning him the win.

Runner-up champion Monkeyshines Callme The Breeze in Brace 4B is owned by Helmut Schoen and handled by Dan DiMambro. "Breezy" wore her all-age wheels, maintained a consistent forward race, and spaced her finds well over the hour. Her style on pheasant coveys was outstanding. Judges remarked that the difference between champion and runner-up was primarily the number of clean finds—it was that close.

The Pheasant Championship thanks everyone who participated in this stake.

**Judges: Mark Auman and Leroy Long**  
**NGSPA PHEASANT OPEN ALL-AGE**  
**CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats]**  
**– 17 German Shorthairs**

*Winner-SLATEROCK'S MOUNTAIN HEART, F1675343, German Shorthair male, by Hi N's Bodacious-Slaterock Mattie Clark. James Dynkiewicz, owner; Dan DiMambro, handler.*

*Runner-Up-MONKEYSHINES CALLME THE BREEZE, F1699127, German Shorthair female, by Riden High Rudy-Cuttin Wilds Space Cowgirl. Helmut Schoen, owner; Dan DiMambro, handler.*

**NGSPA Pheasant Open Shooting**  
**Dog Championship**  
**42 Dogs**

This was a large and very competitive stake judged by Mark Calder and Cory Roy. As pheasants began to covey up, it made for thrilling moments when a dog went on point and multiple birds erupted in different directions.

The champion, a seasoned performer at the Pheasant

Championship with multiple recent placements, was In Country's Hurricane Jane, co-owned by Robert Reynolds and Chris Young and handled by Chris Goegan. Drawn in Brace 12A, "Janie" ran the last brace of the day. With temperatures easing and a light breeze, conditions were ideal. From the breakaway, Janie was all business, carding several finds over the hour and maintaining excellent style and manners on her game. Early in the brace, it was clear she would be hard to beat; her application through the terrain and off-the-path finds stood out. She stood like a statue as pheasants cackled overhead on the flush and ran a strong, forward, classic Shooting Dog race.

Runner-up champion Two Ponds Blanco Roux, owned by Jason



**NGSPA Pheasant Open Shooting Dog Championship (standing): Mark Calder (judge), Robert Reynolds, Chris Goegan, Hank Lewis, and Cory Roy (judge). (Kneeling): Chris Young with In Country's Hurricane Jane and Rich Robertson with Two Ponds Blanco Roux.**

Brooks and handled by Hank Lewis, came from Brace 4A. Earning a placement that early in such a large stake is no small feat, and Roux did it with numerous steady finds.

Judges noted her knack for locating game where others did not, as well as the handler's efficient, composed handling, gathering and releasing her to all the right places. That combination of style, consistency, and game-finding earned the runner-up title in a very competitive stake.

Thank you to all who entered and supported this stake.

**Judges: Mark Calder and Cory Roy  
NGSPA PHEASANT OPEN SHOOTING DOG  
CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats]**

**— 42 German Shorthairs**

**Winner-IN COUNTRY'S HURRICANE JANE,** F1672744, German Shorthair female, by Hi N's Bodacious-Slaterock Mattie Clark. Robert Reynolds & Chris Young, owners; Chris Goegan, handler.

**Runner-Up-TWO PONDS BLANCO ROUX,** F1698966, German Shorthair female, by Riden High Rudy-Hi N's Family Ties. Jason Brooks, owner; Hank Lewis, handler.

# Bernard Bertolina

October 19, 1934 — October 15, 2025

*Submitted by Keith Richardson*

**B**ernard "Bud" "Buddy" Bertolina, the youngest of three boys, was born in the coal mining town of Hahntown, Pennsylvania, to Frank and Mary (Brocco) Bertolina on October 19, 1934, and died peacefully on Wednesday, October 15, 2025.

Bud married Doris Ralph on October 22, 1955, and they had two children, Mark and Teresa. They all predeceased him.

Bud came to Toledo in the 1950s to work as a hairdresser in his Uncle Jim's salon, Burton's, until the early 1970s, when he took a job in maintenance at St. Charles Hospital. He retired from St. Charles.

Bud was an auxiliary sheriff's deputy in Lucas County and Genoa for many years and would ride his horse Demon at festivals (apple butter, Lucas County

Fair) and parades, controlling crowds.

Bud was a true outdoorsman. He loved hunting, fishing, gardening, NASCAR, and animals. He could train any animal to do anything. His horse, Demon, would bow and pray. Sandy, his dog, would get a beer from the fridge and bring it to him. He bred and raised a National number one-ranked German Shorthaired pointer named Rip.

Bud was also a great cook. His Italian mother and aunts were great teachers. He made the best Italian bread. You never knew what you were eating at Bud's house; it could be smelt, perch, quail, pheasant, duck, or deer. A memorable meal was pheasant under glass. He just told all of us that it was chicken. Didn't matter what it really was. It was just chicken!

Bud owned the Double B stables

where he boarded, raised, and trained horses. Every year, he had the most wonderful hobo dinner on the stable property, and everyone looked forward to it.

Tom Davis adds, "Bud was the last surviving member of the group of men who formed the NGSPA in Toledo. The others, Paul Kiles, Bill Wooten, and Vince Herr, have all since passed. Bud is one who helped me get started in American Field type field trials."

Bud is survived by granddaughters Alicia (Michael) Pemberton, Angela (Lance) Fisher, Andrea (Andy) Klunk, Alivia (Michael) Ford, and 11 great-grandchildren, with one more on the way.

Services were held on October 22, 2025, in Walbridge, Ohio.



## REGION 19 (AFTCA) AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP

***Touch's Too Much Named Champion; Carbonado's Silver Sage, Runner-up***

**By Lori Bohl | Minong, Wisconsin | October 3, 2025**

The Region 19 of the Amateur Field Trial Clubs of America held its annual Amateur Shooting Dog Championship at the Namekagon Barrens Wildlife Area, the first weekend in October. This year's field consisted of 22 dogs: 17 pointers, four Vizslas, and one setter. Eleven handlers from as far away as Montana, Missouri, and Texas came to compete on sharptail grouse.

The Namekagon Barrens Wildlife Area is owned by the State of Wisconsin and managed by the Department of Natural Resources. The nearly 6,000-acre wildlife area was established in the mid-1950s for the preservation of its unique barrens habitat and rare native species, most notably, the sharp-tailed grouse. A strong partnership between the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and local field trial clubs helps make these unique grounds available for field trials through a special permit.

This year, unseasonably warm temperatures and recent prescribed burning in some areas of the Barrens Wildlife Area presented extra challenges for Chairman Bill Stapleton, who worked tirelessly to ensure that each participant had the best possible opportunity to showcase their dog. Each of the four continuous courses cut through challenging terrain comprising sand hills, scrub oak, and native prairie. The rolling landscape provided many opportunities for a great view of dogs working amidst the picturesque fall prairie grasses and colorful scrub oak.

Judging for this year's trial was ably handled by two well-qualified gentlemen, professional handlers/trainers, James Kleve and Justin Crook. Much thanks to each of these men for riding for three straight days in high temperatures and for staying ever-alert and attentive to each and every dog. The judges' final decisions



*Region 19 Amateur Shooting Dog Championship: Touch's Too Much with Keith Anderson and Carbonado's Silver Sage with Michelle Turley, joined by participants.*

were well received by all.

A judges' dinner was held on Saturday evening. The food was outstanding, and a good time was had by all.

Special thanks to Fran and Todd Manns for hosting a post-trial dinner for all participants at their home, located a few miles from the grounds. The meal was fantastic, and an opportunity to unwind and celebrate a successful trial was greatly appreciated.

### ***The Winners***

Touch's Too Much, handled by Austin Turley and owned by Keith Wright, was declared champion. The orange and white pointer, "Chief," powered through the tough cover with enthusiasm, yet maintained good contact with his handler. After 25 minutes of hard hunting, Chief stopped at a patch of scrub oak cover, but no birds were found. As if to make amends, the pointer put on a show just 10 minutes later when he made a bold cast around the south edge of "sharp-tail slew" and came to a confident stop along the edge of tall cover. His handler called point and held his hat high, and as if on cue, sharp-tail grouse took flight

from various points around the slew. As the judges and gallery made their way to the dog, single birds continued to lift on all sides. Chief's style and manners were exemplary on point despite an egregious backing infraction from his bracemate, who was collected up. But the show wasn't over yet—several more birds the dog had pinned took flight as his handler flushed and fired. All was in order. Chief continued on and finished the hour with a strong ground performance, but no additional birds were found. Earlier this fall, Chief was named runner-up at the Region 9 Amateur Shooting Dog Championship, and he was declared champion of the Big Sky Open Shooting Dog Championship in the spring.

Carbonado's Silver Sage was named as the runner-up. Handled by Austin Turley and owned by Michelle Turley, the black and white pointer female had an attractive forward race and hit all the likely objectives during her hour. Sage had a beautiful find at 20 along an edge of scrub oak. Backed by her bracemate, Sage stood confident and proud as her handler approached, flushed a covey of sharptail, and fired. No additional birds were found on a

second stop at 40. Sage finished the hour strong and to the front. Sage has a history of strong performances at the Region 19 Championships. She was the champion of the 2024 Region 19 Amateur Shooting Dog Championship and placed first in the 2021 Region 19 Open Derby.

The organizers would like to thank Purina and SportDOG for sponsoring the AFTCA Region 19 Amateur Shooting Dog Championship. Purina provided bags of Pro Plan for the winners, and SportDOG provided a

training collar for the champion. Their contributions and continued support are vital to the competition and are much appreciated.

**Danbury, Wis., October 3**  
**Judges: Justin Crook and James Kleve**  
**REGION 19 AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG**  
**CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats]**  
**– 17 Pointers, 1 Setter, and 4 Vizslas**

*Winner-TOUCH'S TOO MUCH, F1697545, pointer male, by Touch's Grey Street-Touch's American Baby. Keith Wright, owner; Austin Turley, handler.*  
*Runner-Up-CARBONADO'S SILVER SAGE, F1691433, pointer female, by Touch's Diamante-Boudica. Michelle & Austin Turley, owners; Austin Turley, handler.*

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## MINNESOTA GROUSE DOG CHAMPIONSHIP

***Over The Hill Try Named Champion; Over The Hill Morgan, Runner-up***

**By Paul Cook | Mora, Minnesota | October 6, 2025**



*Minnesota Grouse Dog Championship (l-r): Paul Cook (judge), Rod Lein with Over the Hill Try, Ryan Hough with Over the Hill Morgan, and Vance Butler (judge).*

**T**he 2025 renewal of the Minnesota Grouse Championship commenced on October 6 on the Rum River State Forest near Mora, Minnesota. Eighteen setters and 10 pointers competed over two and a half days to name a champion and runner-up on native Ruffed grouse and woodcock. To be named champion, a Ruffed grouse must be pointed.

Opinions vary across regions as to the relative difficulty of pointing dogs handling Ruffed grouse, but be assured, a clean find on a grouse was at a premium during this Championship. Birds were there on

each of the six courses, but extremely dry conditions hindered optimal scenting for the dogs. The Minnesota Grouse Dog Association thanks the club members who came together for this annual Championship. From cutting and marking courses to marshaling braces and providing food and refreshments, there was nothing left to chance; another well-run wild bird championship. Judges for this renewal were Vance Butler from New Era, Michigan, and Paul Cook from Danbury, Wisconsin. Vance was a long-time professional handler and trainer for well over 20 years. He has competed in and won this championship along with

many others. His experience and attentiveness are exactly what should be sought after in a judge. Your scribe has been competing for 20 years in field trials as an amateur and turned professional in 2021. It was a great privilege to be able to judge for the Club on these grounds. The Club would also like to thank our sponsors Purina and OnX Hunt for their continued support.

Emerging as a first-time champion was pointer female Over the Hill Try, owned and handled by Rod Lein. Try ran on Course 6 in the fifth brace. She perfectly handled grouse at 26 and ran to all the right places while maintaining consistent contact with her handler. Runner-up champion was last year's champion here, pointer female Over the Hill Morgan, owned by Robert Zielke and also handled by Rod Lein. She is a littermate to the champion. Morgan laid down a consistent forward pattern, pointing woodcock at 4 and again at 8, then backing her bracemate at 12. She finished going away in the big open timber at the end of Course 7.

### The Running

The running began with Northwoods Cedar (E. Saetre) and Clover Valley's Mulak (Furnish). Cedar was hitting the swamp edge

deep on Course 1, but as dry as it was, she eventually caught the other side. She was brought back on course but picked up at 57. Mack's bell stopped before the half. As handler approached, he relocated, and a bird got up just as he stopped again. Handler continued flushing and produced another Grouse. Mack finished the hour.

Bad Habits (Mergens/Lein) was braced with Grouse Trails Bathilda (McKellop). Lucy had a nice find deep left of course at 25, where she had to stay with a running bird as it took us a while to reach her. Unfortunately, she went with the shot to end her bid. Tillie finished the hour without bird work.

Blind Faith (Pharris) was pushing the front hard. She stopped at 35 deep right of course, but her handler had gotten behind. She stood a grouse for what was likely several minutes until the bird began to walk away on her, and she put it up upon relocating to end her hour. One Acre Wood Lucky's (Rector) bell clearly stopped for quite a while just before time was called, but an extended search failed to produce.

Berg Brothers Doc Holliday (Bukovich) was hitting a lick, reached the road, and was eventually picked up at the trucks. Woods R Callin Apollo (Frahm) got down to business and was rewarded with a woodcock find, finishing his hour.

One Acre Wood Bandit (Rector) pointed directly on course at 7 with a grouse flushed from deadfall, all in order, and finished his hour. Over the Hill Try (Lein) was reported above.

Planet Queen (Anderson) had a nice woodcock find at 12 but was picked up at 40. Grouse Trails Bud (McKellop) was put on the hook as well.



**Reuel Henry Pietz Open Derby Classic (l-r): Scott Anderson with Lead Belly, Roger King with Rib River Best Bet, Sig Degitz (judge), Tim Kaufman (judge), and John McKellop with Buckshot Reloaded.**

I'm Easy Money (Peterson) handled a grouse cleanly at 52, finishing the hour. Fireside's Wallace (Rosario) had the tracker pulled at 58.

One Acre Wood Flash (Rector) finished the hour without bird work. Clover Valley's Evans (Furnish) was picked up on a bird at 38.

Grouse Trails Black Knight (McKellop) ran big, finishing without birds. Northern Slopes Allie (Graddy) had a single find near the halfway mark where a woodcock and a grouse flushed, finishing her hour.

Northwoods Cedar Edge (L. Saetre) and Blue Sugar (Hough) hit the course hard, both finishing without bird work.

Big Big Energy (Pharris) and Rebellious Fearless Fred (Luebke) ran well but also finished without birds.

Over the Hill Morgan (Lein) was reported above. Woods R Callin Saddle (Frahm) was picked up moving on a grouse at 12.

Northern Slopes Bell (Graddy) and Northwoods Dexter (Rosario) both showed well for the hour but produced no birds.

Birdogn True Confidence (Pharris) stopped a couple of times in likely

places but finished without birds. Grouse Trails Warrior Cat (McKellop) lost contact with her handler near the halfway mark.

**Mora, Minn., October 6**

**Judges: Vance Butler and Paul Cook**

**MINNESOTA GROUSE DOG CHAMPIONSHIP**

**[One-Hour Heats] – 10 Pointers and 18 Setters**

**Winner-OVER THE HILL TRY, F1699008, pointer female, by J T H Scion-Over The Hill Patty. Rod Lein, owner and handler.**

**Runner-Up-OVER THE HILL MORGAN, F1699010, pointer female, by J T H Scion-Over The Hill Patty. Robert Zielke, owner; Rod Lein, handler.**

### **Reuel Henry Pietz Derby Classic**

The Reuel Henry Pietz Derby Classic has become a much sought-after derby win in the woods. A beautiful traveling trophy honoring its namesake is awarded to the winner each fall. This year's Classic entry consisted of nine pointers and two setters and was contested over the same multiple courses following the Championship. The judges were two very knowledgeable and accomplished grouse trial amateurs from Wisconsin—Sig Degitz and Tim Kaufman.

Emerging as the winner was pointer female Rib River Best Bet, owned and handled by Roger King, long-time stalwart of the Chippewa Valley Grouse Dog Association. Coming in at second place was pointer male Buckshot Reloaded, handled by John McKellop, and in third, setter male Lead Belly, owned and handled by Scott Anderson.

**Judges: Sig Degitz and Tim Kaufman**

**REUEL HENRY PIETZ OPEN DERBY CLASSIC**

**[One-Hour Heats] – 9 Pointers and 2 Setters**

**1st-RIB RIVER BEST BET, F1710626, pointer female, by Toth's Tornado Reloaded-Grouse Trails Warrior Cat. Roger King, owner and handler.**

**2d-BUCKSHOT RELOADED, F1710624, pointer male, by Toth's Tornado Reloaded-Grouse Trails Warrior Cat. Tim Johnson, owner; John McKellop, handler.**

**3d-LEAD BELLY, F1713001, setter male, by Ponderosa Mac-Snyder's Josephine. Scott Anderson, owner and handler.**

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# NGSPA REGION 3 CHAMPIONSHIPS

## Series Held At Mingo Grounds

By Anthony Rusciano | Bloomingdale, Ohio | October 11, 2025



*NGSPA Region 3 Amateur Shooting Dog Championship (standing): Jason Smit (judge), Chris Young, and Gailen Cooper (judge). (Kneeling): Helmut Schoen (scout) with High Standing Cuttin Edge, and Peter Coppens with Rio (Hi N's Dirty Secret and Hank Lewis were unavailable).*

The NGSPA Region 3 Championships immediately followed the NGSPA Pheasant Championships, taking place on the prestigious Mingo Sportsmen's Club Field Trial Grounds in Bloomingdale, Ohio. This event has a slightly smaller entry than the Pheasant but is just as competitive. This would be an excellent event on outstanding grounds for a newcomer to attend, have fun, meet fellow trialers, and compete at their first NGSPA championship.

A sincere thank you goes out to our sponsors, Purina Pro Plan and Dogs Unlimited, whose continued support makes these events possible year after year. We would also like to express our deep appreciation to Bill Monk for his effort in securing these magnificent grounds and for his continued partnership in making our championships successful.

Special thanks are also extended to the Mingo Sportsmen's Club for their generosity, hospitality, and dedication in allowing the NGSPA to host our events on their outstanding

grounds.

### Grounds and Birdwork

In addition to planting pheasants, the Region 3 Championship also released small coveys of quail throughout the courses. Most dogs encountered pheasants during their brace, while the few quail finds proved more challenging to produce due to the heavy cover and thick feed strips.

The weather throughout the event was overcast but mild—nearly perfect conditions for running bird dogs. The grounds once again proved ideal for evaluating the skills and style of top-class German Shorthaired Pointers.

### Acknowledgments

The Region 3 Championship Committee would like to thank the NGSPA Board of Directors for their continued support and trust in allowing us to conduct this event.

A heartfelt thank-you goes to our judges, who dedicated their time and effort to sit in the saddle and evaluate

each performance with fairness and integrity.

Thank you to Chris Young, Jen Goodall, and Dayna Rusciano, who handled much of the behind-the-scenes organization. The success of this event is due to your hard work and effort.

To Lonestar Kennel Horse Company, Kirk Loftin, and Sherri Tangsrud for providing rental horses for our judges. Their generosity allowed us to accommodate judges who would otherwise not have been able to participate.

A very special thank you goes to Becky and Andy Dynkiewicz for providing their side-by-side for the dog wagon and for Becky's exceptional help in the kitchen. Your dedication, generosity, and hard work are truly invaluable—we appreciate you more than words can express.

Finally, to all the participants who remained after the Pheasant Championships to enter and support this event, we sincerely thank you. Your commitment and sportsmanship are what keep the NGSPA community strong.

### Looking Ahead

With the successful completion of the 2025 Region 3 Championship, we look forward to continuing to build upon the momentum and success we've experienced at Mingo. The grounds, bird work, and camaraderie among competitors all reflect the best of what NGSPA field trialing has to offer.

We hope to see everyone back in 2026 for another exciting and competitive Region 3 Championship!

### NGSPA Region 3 Amateur Shooting Dog Championship 16 Dogs

The NGSPA Region 3 Amateur Shooting Dog stake commenced on October 11 under sunny skies

and cool fall temperatures—ideal conditions for running bird dogs without risk of overheating.

This year's Amateur Shooting Dog Champion title was awarded to Hi N's Dirty Secret ("Badger"), owned and handled by Hank Lewis. Running from Brace 5A later in the afternoon, Badger delivered a polished and consistent shooting dog performance throughout the hour. Although she slipped out of sight on occasion, she remained easy to handle, showing maturity and responsiveness. A seasoned competitor, Badger demonstrated excellent style and manners on all her finds, with multiple pheasant contacts spaced evenly across the course. The judges noted that her overall range and ground application—showing herself more frequently and purposefully than the runner-up—distinguished her from the field.

The runner-up champion was High Standing Cuttin Edge ("Woody"), owned by Anthony and Dayna Rusciano and handled by Chris Young. Although Chris had not previously handled Woody, the dog worked for him with the same respect and responsiveness he shows his owners. Chris did an excellent job keeping Woody forward and in pocket. Woody ran a strong, honest shooting dog race and was found standing on three pheasant coveys and one covey of quail. His bird work, composure, and ground application were admired by the judges, carrying his placement out of Brace 1B.

The judges also remarked that several other dogs delivered admirable performances and that the differences separating placements were minor—a testament to the quality and competitiveness of this year's entry.

The NGSPA Region 3 Championship extends sincere thanks to all who participated in this stake. We warmly welcome GSP owners interested in field trialing to join us in 2026. This stake serves as an excellent entry-level opportunity for newcomers to learn, compete, and enjoy the sport.



**NGSPA Region 3 Open All-Age Championship** (standing): Diane Vater (judge), Gailen Cooper (judge), and Andy Dynkiewicz. (Kneeling): Dan DiMambro (handler) with Chicoree's Riden High Trixie and April DiMambro (scout) with Macke's Jim Bob.

Bloomington, Ohio, October 11  
Judges: Gailen Cooper and Justin Smit  
**NGSPA REGION 3 AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats]**  
— 16 German Shorthairs

Winner-HI N'S DIRTY SECRET, F1687997, German Shorthair female, by Hi N's Bodacious-Hi N's Hasty Matilda. Hank Lewis, owner and handler.  
Runner-Up-HIGH STANDING CUTTIN EDGE, F1675198, German Shorthair male, by Slicks Cuttin Wild-C L K's Point Me The Way. Anthony & Dayna Rusciano, owners; Chris Young, handler.

### **NGSPA Region 3 Open All-Age Championship** **15 Dogs**

With a lot of torn pads from the dry grounds and dogs that ran multiple times already from the previous stakes, this all-age stake was going to test these dogs. The NGSPA Region 3 All-Age Champion title was awarded to Chicoree's Riden High Trixie, owned by Jeff Alexander and handled by Dan DiMambro. Trixie, running from Brace 8A, delivered the kind of bold, forward race expected of an all-age dog. Shortly after a powerful cast off from the breakaway, she recorded a well-earned dug-up find. Later in the brace, she recorded a stop-to-flush following a relocation on a running pair of pheasants, and all manners were in perfect order—no easy task on these challenging pheasants.

Trixie continued forward with speed and determination, ultimately carding another find on quail after reaching the front past the gas wells. Her ground race was fast, forward, and purposeful, and her bird work was marked by exceptional style. These qualities combined to earn her

the All-Age Champion title.

The runner-up champion was Macke's Jim Bob, owned by Abraham and Katlyn Macke and handled by Dan DiMambro. Jim delivered a strong all-age race with big, forward casts and multiple finds, each handled with excellent style and composure. His final find came after a sweeping cast to the front, where he was discovered standing with flawless manners. His performance closely paralleled that of the champion, with the judges noting that the decision between the two was a narrow one.

Congratulations to both the champion and runner-up, and sincere thanks to all who competed in this highly competitive stake.

Judges: Gailen Cooper and Diane Vater  
**NGSPA REGION 3 OPEN ALL-AGE CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats]**  
— 15 German Shorthairs

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

### **NGSPA Region 3 Open Shooting Dog Championship** **28 Dogs**

The NGSPA Region 3 Open Shooting Dog stake concluded two full weeks of championship competition. By this point, owners, handlers, and dogs were understandably feeling the effects of long days in the saddle, making this final stake a genuine test of endurance, consistency, and competitive edge. Our judges for the stake were Diane Vater and Justin Smith. A total of 28 dogs were drawn, and clear weather prevailed throughout the stake.

The champion emerged from Brace 11B: Two Ponds Blanco Roux, owned by Jason Brooks and handled by Hank Lewis. Roux was briefly out of pocket early in the brace but returned to put down a fast, snapping, forward shooting dog race. She recorded stylish quail finds at 33, 38, and 41. At 56, Roux was found standing in heavy cover, though no



birds could be produced. Her strong ground race, excellent handle ability, and polished birdwork earned her the Open Shooting Dog Champion title.

The runner-up champion came from Brace 10A with "Spike" (P W Evolution's Recreation), owned by Keith and Bobbi Richardson and handled by Rich Robertson. Notably, 10-year-old Spike began the brace standing in the middle of a group of eight to 10 pheasants just two minutes after the breakaway. He handled the situation with the composure and steadiness expected of a seasoned veteran. Throughout the hour, Spike added five more pheasant finds at 6, 14,



**NGSPA Region 3 Open Shooting Dog Championship (standing): Jason Smit (judge) and Diane Vater (judge). (Kneeling): Hank Lewis (handler) with Two Ponds Blanco Roux and Rich Robertson (handler) with P W Evolution's Recreation.**

24, 37, and 44, along with a stop-to-flush at 10. His experience, controlled application, and mature

birdwork earned him the Runner-Up Championship placement.

Thank you to all who competed in and attended the Region 3 Championships. We appreciate your support and look forward to seeing you again next year.

**Judges: Justin Smit and Diane Vater  
NGSPA REGION 3 OPEN SHOOTING DOG  
CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats]  
– 28 German Shorthairs**

**Winner-TWO PONDS BLANCO ROUX, F1698966,** German Shorthair female, by Riden High Rudy-Hi N's Family Ties. Jason Brooks, owner; Hank Lewis, handler.

**Runner-Up-P W EVOLUTION'S RECREATION, F1666903,** German Shorthair male, by Evolution's Primo Creation-P W Derailed. Keith & Bobbi Richardson, owners; Rich Robertson, handler.

## WISCONSIN COVER DOG CHAMPIONSHIP

**Grouse Trails Warrior Cat Named Champion; Over The Hill Try, Runner-up**

**By Brent Sittlow and Roger King | Augusta, Wisconsin | October 16, 2025**



**Wisconsin Cover Dog Championship Winners: Brent Sittlow (judge), Ben Mergens (scout), Rod Lein with Over The Hill Try, Roger King, John McKellop with Grouse Trails Warrior Cat, Lindsey Peterson (scout), and Brian Ralph (judge).**

It was decided by club members to run the Wisconsin Championship two weeks later than normal. Two reasons: Many of the leaves are off the trees and underbrush, and the migrating woodcock would add to the opportunities for dogs to point a bird. It turned out to be the right decision. The judges were better able to see the dogs, and the woodcock were plentiful-sometimes too plentiful. Temperatures ranged from high

30s in the mornings to low 60s in the afternoon, except for Friday afternoon when it reached the mid-70s. In addition, we had some much-needed rain at night to help scenting conditions.

We were blessed to have two experienced judges who gave every entrant the fullest opportunity to win, always looking at the positive side of each situation. As we all know, native bird continuous course bird dog trials are hard to win. It seems

that more things can go wrong than you could imagine. Brian Ralph of Sandy Lake, Pennsylvania, and Brent Sittlow of Hudson, Wisconsin, presided over the Championship. Both are seasoned Cover Dog judges. Brian is the owner of the 2023 Grand National Champion, Ralph's Chasehill Rip. Judge Brian Ralph mentioned the great hospitality that he and others felt at the 2024 Grand hosted by Chippewa Valley Grouse Dog Association, Minnesota Grouse Dog Association, and Moose River Grouse Dog Club. Our goal was to create a similar experience for him and all who attended this Championship. Our three clubs respect the tradition of the Grand and appreciate all the work over many years that has been done by all our friends to the East; Thank you! Brent Sittlow has judged numerous championships. He is a highly sought-after judge. He regularly gets asked to judge premier events, which are a testament to his knowledge, fairness, and the decisions he renders. We are blessed to have him as President of CVGDA and do not take his contributions for granted. As the saying goes in our club, call

1-800-Brent Sittlow for what you need, and it gets done, on time or sooner!

These trials don't just happen by themselves. We do not have planted birds or bird planters, but we do have course-cutting people, lunch providers, road marshals, field marshals, and people dealing with the other necessary ingredients for a successful field trial. Thank you to every one of them for their incredible hard work! In addition, Purina has been a longstanding supporter/partner of the Chippewa Valley Grouse Dog Association. For over five decades, Purina has supported us financially and rewarded our winners with its excellent products. Recently, Nestlé's parent company, which owns Purina, donated \$1 million in cash and 2.5 million in-kind to help families struggling with basic food needs. Needless to say, a strong statement of their cultural values as an organization. Thank you, Greg Blair, of Purina, for taking time out of your busy schedule to attend more of our trials than you miss and for continuing to grow our partnership.

Thursday evening, a Judges' dinner was hosted by Scott and Roger King at the King cabin in the heart of the Eau Claire County trial grounds. It's a unique setting on the Eau Claire River, lying between the Culvert course and the Diablo Jake course. In addition to judges Sittlow and Ralph, Ben Mergens, Tim Callahan, Rod Lein, Mike Luebke, Jerry Furnish, and Jordan Pharris, club officers and volunteers enjoyed a delicious meal. Woodcock hors d'oeuvres prepared in the black cast iron frying pan with onions and mushrooms on a tripod over a wood fire were enjoyed by all. Wisconsin is famous for Friday night fish fries, and arguably the best are panfish, namely Bluegills. They are not that big but tasty, sweet morsels, complemented with "Secret" Canadian fish breeding again in the cast iron skillet. Finally, Pineapple Upside Down Cake in the Dutch oven, done to perfection over a bed of charcoal, received many compliments from the group.

Surrounded by friends telling stories and laughter abounding, it was a memorable evening.

### ***The Running***

The club diligently maintains eight courses of one hour in length. The cadence of the trial was six braces per day, picking up where we left off the next day. Therefore, the course order was as such: Highline, Culvert, Crash, Diablo Jake, County H, Horse Creek, Wilson Park, and Gas Line.

Blair's Holy Thunder (Waite) and One Acre Wood Bandit (Rector) started off the trial on the Highline course. The environment was good for this morning brace, but no birds were moved on this course.

Goodgoing Tickety-Boo (Edstrom) and Grouse Trails Little Bud (McKellop) got the Culvert course from the lunch area to the canoe landing. Tick was nimble, fast, and animated. She stopped once for woodcock, but it got the best of her and was up. Bud was strong and powerful for the first 20 minutes. He was observed making game near the halfway point, but got too close to a woodcock and was taken up.

Dirty Waters Chiltepin (Foley) needed the tracker at 20. Northwoods Cedar Edge (Saetre) had most of the Culvert course to herself. She converted a nice woodcock find at 15 in a thick new aspen cut. She was running and handling nicely to the river. She was stopped at 35 for a very long time while a search for her stand ensued. She ended up starting back up on her own and finishing in a very thick cutting at time.

After a delicious pulled pork sandwich lunch at Knight's Pool Pavilion, we shifted across the bridge and started Brace 5 on the Diablo Jake course. I'm Easy Money (Peterson) had an easy handling race and fished with a grouse find to his credit. Blair's Calvary Mountain (Waite) was tough to track. Very attractive at times, with extended casts to the front, but the bell would fade off, and he would inconsistently reappear from various vectors. Calvary finished the brace without

birds.

Grouse Trails Bathilda (McKellop) and Lake Effect Ali (Kaufman) started Brace 5 on the County Road H course. Ali had a nicely pinned woodcock at 10, just past the footbridge. She stood twice in likely cover near the halfway junction, but judge and handler had trouble finding her in thick prickly ash cover along the river. Numerous woodcock were flushed in the searching effort, but without the dog located, they couldn't be converted into credits. She finished the hour working hard as she always does. Bathilda was well behind the forward party and was taken up at half.

Blind Faith (Pharris) and Larix Laricina (Anderson) finished day one on the Horse Creek course. Both dogs looked very good with multiple stylish woodcock finds to their credit. By the time we reached Dack's Crossing, their races were strong, and pattern was good. The birds got the best of these two young dogs, and each was leashed by half.

One Acre Wood Flash (Rector) and King (Waite) started the second day on the Wilson Park course. Both dogs looked nice on the ground, with the slight nod to King in pattern and speed. Each negotiated the road crossing well and got to the second half of the course. Numerous grouse were seen and heard from treetop level, which makes it kind of hard for dogs to point! Both dogs finished without true bird work.

Berg Brothers Hatchet (Peterson) and Northern Slopes Bell (Graddy) broke away on the Gas Line course. Hatchet's bell went quiet, just past the pipeline crossing, and a lengthy search ensued. He eventually started up on his own and regained the front near the end of the brace. He had two woodcock finds near the road crossing and was credited with a divided find at the very end of the brace, with great style. (Note: Hatchet was handled by first-time handler Lindsey Peterson. By all accounts, she did an excellent job. Way to go, Lindsey!)

Bell had some pop in her race and

was energetically moving through the cover, seldom seen on path. She stopped in a thick green bottom at 25. As handler and judge moved in to find her standing, a single grouse blew out of the same covert. Scout Saetre found Bell standing less than a minute later, and she was shot over by her handler—a nice piece of work. Continuing with that same diligent effort, a woodcock find was tallied along the river at 53. A final divided woodcock find was produced at 57. A good finish for both dogs, which kept them on the board until the very final braces of the trial.

Raintree Blue Moon (Waite) was vigorously covering the Highline course through the first 50 minutes, but got hung up at the final road crossing, and tracker was taken.

Northwoods Cedar (Saetre) had a firewagon start. Cedar and handler got some rhythm going after the second road crossing and were settling in. She was standing well to the front at 30 for an extended period of time. When she was located, she moved too much at the flush and was taken up.

Temps and humidity were a big factor on the afternoon braces of day two. Big Big Energy (Pharris) gave a good effort and finished on the Culvert course. Grouse Trails Black Knight (McKellop) worked every angle to produce for his handler, but to no avail.

Rebellious Fearless Fred (Luebke) had a challenging course for a very warm and humid afternoon. Unfortunately, Fred made a woodcock fly in very thick and tangled cutting and was taken up at 15. Moss Mac Daddy (Dozeman) had a similar fate. Daddy made a woodcock fly on a relocation attempt, in splash-filled thick cover, on the Crash course.

Over The Hill Morgan (Lein) ran a very smooth race to the front with some good reach. She carded a very nice woodcock find on the King property, a new wildlife cut on the Diablo Jake course. Clover Valley's Evans (Furnish) gave it a good run and finished strong.

Staying in course rotation, we started day three on the County Road H course. Brook's White Hot Blaze (Waite) diligently finished the hour, but without birds. Bad Habits (Mergens) had a beautiful grouse find in a green bottom after the footbridge. She dove back into that spot again when another grouse was heard leaving the covert. It was difficult to determine what had transpired. She was gathered up, sent on, and produced another stylish find on woodcock along the edge of the river at 20. Thereafter, she encountered a woodcock minefield. She got properly stopped to a flush but moved on her own after acknowledging flight.

Birdogn True Confidence (Pharris) and Grouse Trails Warrior Cat (McKellop) went on a bird finding spree on the Horse Creek course. Both dogs had five or six, or more, woodcock finds with impeccable style and manners. Most were solo finds. Some were shared, and a couple were classic finds and backs. Neither dog backed off from one another, and the pressure kept building through this exciting hour! The separator in this brace was the race and strength shown by Warrior Cat from Dock's crossing to the open meadow. Some great independent moves that took her far to the front earned her the title. This was a brace that will not be forgotten. It was noted by John McKellop his appreciation for the help of his scout, Lindsey Peterson. "She did a phenomenal job of locating Kitty and was a key component to Kitty's win." He was most grateful!

Dale Creek Janie Bell (Waite) and Clover Valley's Mulak (Furnish) let loose on the Wilson Park course. Both dogs had some difficulty gaining momentum in the first half.

After the road crossing, Janie Bell dug in a little better and finished stronger than she started, but no birds. Similar fate for Mulak.

Temperatures were getting warm again by midday for the last brace of the trial on the Gas Line course. North Slopes Allie (Graddy) gave

us a gutty hour and hit all the right spots. She stood once, but that was to back her bracemate at about 40. Over The Hill Try (Lein) had a bit of a rough start, but settled in by 10 and had a strong, smooth race that made you want to root for her to make something happen in the bird department. Her chance at a bird came at 40, when she was found standing on a hill crest before the road crossing. Her handler diligently flushed to no avail. But she was confidently sent for a relocation, and ultimately a second relocation. She had wrapped around the grouse to cut it off and pinned the bird between her and her handler.

Perhaps one of the most impressive pieces of bird work you could ever dream up in a wild bird field trial. She finished confidently to the front with enough reach to earn a runner-up title.

Augusta, Wis., October 16

Judges: Brian Ralph and Brent Sittlow

**WISCONSIN COVER DOG CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats] – 15 Pointers, 14 Setters, 1 Gordon Setter, and 2 Irish Setters**

*Winner-GROUSE TRAILS WARRIOR CAT, F1690752, pointer female, by Panola Bacon-Chasehill Little Izzy. John McKellop III, owner and handler.  
Runner-Up-OVER THE HILL TRY, F1699008, pointer female, by J T H Scion-Over The Hill Patty. Rod Lein, owner and handler.*

### The Derby

The Derby started promptly after the announcements for the championship. When you want to run an efficient, on-time event, Greg Johnson is the man! He had dogs on the line, marshals and judges in the right place, and always letting the next brace know where they needed to be. In comparison with the last several years, the Derby stake was smaller in numbers; however, what it lacked in numbers was made up for with quality. The top three dogs in contention for the Purina Minnesota/Wisconsin Derby Dog of the Year were in contention.

The winner, Grouse Trails Northern Thunder ("Reggie"), handled by Rod Lein, and the third-place winner Northwoods Rip Roy ("Rip"), handled by Greg Johnson, ran on the Horse Creek course Sunday morning. This was a very exciting brace,

both dogs pushing the extent of bell range; Rip, the wider of the two, both handled well to the front and hunting the right cover. Reggie had the find of the stake with a broke find on a woodcock at the halfway point along the Eau Claire River. The find was in excellent woodcock cover, and Reggie displayed perfect manners. Rip made several really nice casts to the front, attacking the cover in a forceful, aggressive style. The second-place dog, Rib River Best Bet (Betty), handled by Roger King, ran Saturday afternoon on the H course. The judges liked Betty's attractive, fancy style of running consistently to the front. She had a stylish woodcock find at 10 with derby manners. The judges also liked Ocooch Ridge Runner (Romeo) run by Tom Waite in the second brace Saturday afternoon on the Diablo Jake/King cabin course. Romeo was inconsistent for the first 10 minutes but gained momentum and finished well. The judges carried him on their cards until the very end.

Our Derby judges were seasoned veteran Ed Graddy and Eric Saetre, who, with his wife Lindsey, have won numerous championships,



*Knights Pool Shelter. We thank Purina for being a major sponsor.*



*Open Derby Winners: Rod Lein with Grouse Trails Northern Thunder, Roger King with Rib River Best Bet, and Greg Johnson with Northwoods Rip Roy.*

including runner-up in the 2024 National Grouse Invitational with their dog Cedar. As the saying goes, "The trial is never over until Ed Graddy runs all of his dogs." Ed has won many championships and is a multiple winner of the prestigious Don Didcoct Memorial Classic. It is truly a pleasure to have both these gentlemen at our trial, and certainly an honor to have them judge.

In preparation for the 2024 Grand National Grouse Championship, our club decided to rebuild a 40-year-old structure at Wilson Park and build an entirely new structure at Knights Pool, located exactly in the center of our grounds. These two would allow us to have a warmer, drier shelter to serve lunches/dinners and host award ceremonies. The Knights Pool project was a longstanding vision of Rod Lein and Roger King for many years. The old saying, "It takes a village to raise a child," likewise, "It takes a village to build a shelter in the middle of the forest," is certainly true. Ben Mergens headed the crew: Rod Lein, Mike Luebke, Denny Baumann, Tim Callahan, Jerry Furnish, Tom and Annette Goltz, Dave Bretrang, and Crew, and I'm sure I've forgotten

someone. Sorry! Ben Mergens also initiated an effort to make a "Special Recognition" to Roger King. At the championship awards ceremony, a very surprised Roger was presented by Ben Mergens and the club with a sign to be hung on the wall of the Knights Pool structure. Roger was very humbled by this gesture, as he was only one of many who made this facility happen. He accepted the recognition on behalf of all the hard work that many put into this project. For many years in the future, field trialers, picnickers, snowmobilers, horse riders, and fishermen can enjoy the beauty of the Eau Claire River, namely Knights Pool, and appreciate the Eau Claire County Forest to it fullest! Come see us in the spring at our next event!

**Judges: Ed Graddy and Eric Saetre**

**OPEN DERBY – 8 Pointers and 3 Setters**

*1st-GROUSE TRAILS NORTHERN THUNDER, F1712850, pointer male, by Ralph's Chasehill Rip-Grouse Trails Firestorm. Brian Stichter, owner; Rod Lein, handler.*

*2d-RIB RIVER BEST BET, F1710626, pointer female, by Toth's Tornado Reloaded-Grouse Trails Warrior Cat. Roger & Kathy King, owners; Roger King, handler.*

*3d-NORTHWOODS RIP ROY, F1711135, setter male, by Woodville's Yukon Cornelius-Northwoods Redbreast. Greg Johnson, owner and handler.*



*An emotional Roger King accepting recognition on behalf of CVGDA club members for the new Knights Pool project.*

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# TALLAPOOSA FIELD TRIAL CLUB

## 66th Annual Fall Trial

By Marty Robinson | Cedartown, Georgia | October 17, 2025



*Open Shooting Dog (l-r): Heard Hill's Mack Cruiser with Lewis Peterson, White's Unfinished Business with Lavon King, and Ray Banne with Robert D. Thomas. (Standing): Judges Jeff Gibbons and John Neely.*

**T**he Tallapoosa Field Trial Club held its 66th annual fall field trial on October 17-19 at the J. L. Lester WMA in Cedartown, Georgia. This trial was a "weekend" trial consisting of 30-minute braces in Amateur and Open Derby and Amateur and Open Shooting Dog stakes. It was truly October in Georgia with above-normal temperatures and very dry conditions. Although it was hot and dry with heavy green cover, the performances were commendable. We were blessed with a good entry with dogs representing the states of Georgia, Tennessee, Alabama, and Florida. The club would like to extend its deepest gratitude to everyone who came in support of the trial.

We are very proud to be running

our trial under the banner of the Southern Bird Hunters Association, which is a forward-thinking organization working very hard to continue making field trials great and carrying on the time-honored traditions of fairness and fun in competition. We are also thankful for the SBHA sponsors who not only show up but also show out in regard to active participation and dedication to our sport. Lynn Carradine with Eukanuba was present for the entirety of the trial and always brings a wealth of knowledge regarding pet nutrition and well-being. Coupled with her authentic and unassuming personality, it is always such a joy to spend time with her. We would also like to extend special thanks to our other sponsors, James O'Neal

Dodge, SportDOG, and Gundog Central. I ask everyone to support these sponsors whenever possible, as they provide much support to keep the field trial sport vibrant.

We utilized a rotating panel of judges, but not as rotating as originally planned, due to a couple having to withdraw for differing reasons. Jeff Gibbons was a lifesaver as Jeff is so supportive and stepped in to judge each stake except the Open Derby. The Open Derby was judged by Bill Goodwin and Ben Stringer, the Open Shooting Dog by John Neely and Jeff Gibbons, the Amateur Derby by Jeff Gibbons and Jim Crayne, and the Amateur Shooting Dog by Jeff Gibbons and Brad Macke. Thank you to each person who gave of their time to judge. Your support is appreciated more than you know.

Recognition must also be extended to Danny Robinson, our infamous bird planter, and Lavon King for his work preparing the grounds, along with those responsible for preparing our meals and assisting with the clean-up of the clubhouse each day. As anyone who puts on trials knows, there is plenty of work and details to attend to. We have such a great group who unselfishly give of themselves and time to make our trial a huge success year after year. Thank you! We look forward to hosting this event again next fall,



*Amateur Shooting Dog (r-l): Erin's Young Offender with Lavon King, Ray Banne with Robert D. Thomas, and Shoulder's Lone Wanderer with Jesse Brown, joined by participants.*



*Amateur Derby (r-l): Silver W Hot Pink with Lewis Peterson, Silver W Cowgirl Candy with Debbie Ozner, and Shoulder's Potent Catalyst with Jesse Brown, joined by participants.*



*Open Derby (r-l): Neely's Lady's Secret with Marty Robinson, Emperor's Stone Cold Warrior with Brad and Colt Macke, and Silver W Cowgirl Candy with Debbie Ozner, joined by participants.*



and we invite you to join us for a fun-filled weekend of competition and fellowship.

**Cedartown, Ga., October 17**

**Judges: Bill Goodwin and Ben Stringer**  
**SBHA OPEN DERBY – 11 Pointers**

1st-NEELY'S LADY'S SECRET. [Placement Voided].  
2d-EMPEROR'S STONE COLD WARRIOR, F1714276, pointer male, by Perkins Sawyer's Warrior-Empire On Line. Brad Macke, owner and handler.  
3d-SILVER W COWGIRL CANDY, F1719738, pointer female, by Miller's Blindsider-Silver W Thunderbolt's Boom. Debbie Ozner, owner and handler.

**Judges: Jeff Gibbons and John Neely**  
**SBHA OPEN SHOOTING DOG**  
**– 17 Pointers and 1 Setter**

1st-HEARD HILL'S MACK CRUIZER, F1698959, pointer male, by Heard Hill's Tom Cruiser-Heard Hill's Rebel Polly. Jeff Arnold, owner and handler.  
2d-WHITE'S UNFINISHED BUSINESS, F1698413, pointer male, by Miller Unfinished Business-Shadow Oaks Sheri. Danny White, owner and handler.  
3d-RAY BANNER, F1701033, pointer female, by Dogwood Bill-Sandhill Lil Juney. Robert D. Thomas, owner and handler.

**Judges: Jim Crayne and Jeff Gibbons**  
**SBHA AMATEUR DERBY – 10 Pointers**

1st-SILVER W HOT PINK, F1719740, pointer female, by Miller's Blindsider-Silver W Thunderbolt's Boom. Debbie Ozner, owner and handler.  
2d-SILVER W COWGIRL CANDY, F1719738, pointer female, by Miller's Blindsider-Silver W Thunderbolt's Boom. Debbie Ozner, owner and handler.  
3d-SHOULDER'S POTENT CATALYST, F1712437, pointer female, by Barton's Gunfire-Pinehill Lucky Lady. Jesse Brown, owner and handler.

**Judges: Jeff Gibbons and Brad Macke**  
**SBHA AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG**

**– 17 Pointers and 5 Setters**

1st-ERIN'S YOUNG OFFENDER, F1692325, pointer male, by Erin's Redrum-Erin's Irresistible Bess. Alan Atkins, owner and handler.  
2d-RAY BANNER, F1701033, pointer female, by Dogwood Bill-Sandhill Lil Juney. Robert D. Thomas, owner and handler.  
3d-SHOULDER'S LONE WANDERER, F1702386, pointer male, by Jesse's Cold Shoulder-Pinehill Lucky Lady. Jesse Brown, owner and handler.

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## LAKE STATES GROUSE CHAMPIONSHIP

**Resin Wins 81st Annual Running**

**By Lori Bohl | Meredith, Michigan | October 22, 2025**

**T**he 81st Annual Lake States Grouse Dog Championship commenced on Wednesday, October 22, 2025, on the Gladwin Field Trial Area and wildlife/game refuge of the Gladwin State Forest. This trial is a Purina-supported cover dog points trial.

The Gladwin Field Trial Area consists of 4,792 acres and is managed extensively by the state of Michigan's Department of Natural Resources, and is subject to controlled timber harvest as necessary to maintain the area as a premier grouse habitat dedicated to field trial events with a wild bird venue. Volunteers help to keep this area a premier wild bird venue. This area was purchased by the State of Michigan as a grouse field trial area in 1916 and was named "The Gladwin Field Trial Refuge." On September 20, 1957, the State of Michigan's Conservation Commission, under the authority of Act 82, as amended, established the "Gladwin Field Trial Area." Since that time, field trialing has remained the priority of this area.



**Lake States Grouse Dog Championship: Meredith with Dave TerHaar (judge), Resin and Marc Forman (handler), Deb Nihart, Hunter Payne (judge), Brent Peters (LSFTC president), and Roger Johnson.**

Local clubs consisting of the Lake States Field Trial Club, the National Brittany Open Grouse Championship Association, the Beaverton Grouse Dog Club, the Michigan Amateur Field Trial Club, and the Ruffed Grouse Field Trial Club have all been endorsed and have been put into writing in the latest GFTA Management Plan. These clubs

all take a hand in keeping this area available for our field trials, local, regional, and national. This year saw some changes in the courses here in Gladwin. Our one-hour courses were changed up for the most part to make it easier to run our trials. A great deal of work goes on behind the scenes to keep courses clean and well-groomed. Every year, according

to new growth and new cuts, coursework is changed accordingly to give the best benefit for bird work for our field trial community. We work closely with our DNR biologist, Bruce Barlow, to make sure we are always updated on upcoming harvesting so as to keep our courses up to date.

This year, as voted by our LSFTC board of directors, Dave TerHaar and Hunter Payne were asked to judge our championship. Dave TerHaar, a native Michigander, is no stranger to these woods or field trialing. Dave has trialed here for many years and has had the pleasure of owning and handling many of his own dogs to championship ranks. His dog, "Elvis," has a legendary reputation for being savagely attacked by a bear during a trial and then going on to win the Grand National Grouse Dog Championship the following year. Dave has a secure handle on what it takes to be a 'Grouse Dog Champion.'

Hunter Payne is from Spring City, Tennessee, and was recommended as a nominee for the judging job by several field trailers in the south. Hunter was introduced to quail hunting at the age of seven by his father in southeastern Tennessee. As the quail population decreased, he migrated to chasing Appalachian grouse. Tired of metro city life, he moved to his current property in southeastern Tennessee and began training dogs full-time. Lake States has, for many years, appointed a judge from Michigan and one from out of state so as to make sure judging is held with high standards and fairness. Putting these two gentlemen in the saddle was a comfortable choice.

The weather here in Gladwin was most unusual this year. Usually, by the time the Lake States hits the woods, the cover is down, woodcock flights have come and gone, and the grouse have headed to their winter cover. This year, the woodcock flights were late, and we were privy to their attendance. Sometimes, to the detriment of the dogs running. The oaks and maples were still holding



*The Roger Johnson Cup Open Derby: Thomas Butler, White Indian Outlaw with Rachel Butler (owner/handler), Mike Brown (judge), Dunroven Hippie Girl with Richard Hollister (handler), Dave Heavlin (judge), Brent Peters (LSFTC president), and Ingomars Delta Force with Rob Ellis (owner/handler).*

their color, while the aspen slowly came down during the week. Still more cover than we are used to at this time of trialing. The weather was good, with rain coming at the proper times. Luckily, not too much rain all at once, but just enough to keep us wet.

This year, our judges withheld the runner-up champion. They did, however, name the champion. The 2025 and 81st annual Lake States Grouse Dog Champion was named Resin ("Artie"), a handsome white and orange ticked male English setter owned by Kevin Lahoda from Church Hill, Maryland. Resin is handled by Marc Forman of Prattsburgh, New York. Marc got Resin when he was a derby and began to develop him. He spent time in South Carolina and in Michigan during the summer, getting him on wild game. Resin has placements to his credit in the Grand National Puppy Classic, a Lake States FTC trial, the Black Ash Grouse trial, and the Black Moshannon grouse trial. Resin is sired by Ch. Ponderosa Mac and dam Hunter's Flight Risk. This breeding goes back to Ch. Bloom's



*Judges Hunter Payne and Dave TerHaar.*

Ole Dollar and Ch. Shady Hills Billy. The breeder was Lance Bressler of Curwensville, Pennsylvania. Artie ran on Day 3 of the championship in the 19th brace, coming to the line with Moss Meadow Able, owned and handled by Ken Moss. Starting off fast, both dogs broke away to the front on Course 10-11, diving into that first cut. They laid out there to the front for the first few minutes. Soon, neither bells were heard for some time. Both handlers moved forward and soon spotted both dogs standing close to the trail, with Able backing Resin. Marc went in to flush with Judge TerHaar. A grouse flushed, with judge calling it. Marc shot, and all was in order. Resin had vigorously worked the cover and provided a stylish and memorable point about six to eight minutes in on Course 10. Both dogs were released with no other birds seen or heard on the courses. Artie continued a big and easy handling race, with both dogs finishing strong.

After the conclusion of the Championship, we were honored to host the Roger Johnson Cup Open Derby. We drew 18 young dogs for a day of excitement. Judges Dave Heavlin and Mike Brown graciously accepted the duty in the saddle. First place was awarded to White Indian Outlaw, a handsome pointer male, owned by Thomas Butler and handled by Rachel Butler. "Wyatt" ran a strong, forward race and hit the cover hard. For a young dog, he ran a beautiful and mature race. On Course 9, they lost his bell approximately 150 yards to the front. When they found Wyatt standing on point, he stood through the flush of the (first) woodcock and the shot. When the second woodcock took flight, he moved. The judge counted the four woodcock as they took flight. Derby manners took over, but Rachel quickly called Wyatt back into the hunt. Rachel was very proud that he came back in and continued to work.

Second place went to Dunroven Hippie Girl, owned by Chal Curtis and handled by Richard Hollister. Hippie Girl has seen her share of time on the podium this fall. She is a beautiful

tri-colored setter female with energy to burn. She delivered a strong performance, running solo when her brace mate scratched, though it did not quite match that of her first-place competitor. She carded a nice grouse find just before the last tote road on Course 14.

Third place was awarded to Ingomars Delta Force, owned and handled by Rob Ellis. Delta was fast and a little bit reckless, according to Rob. She dug deep to produce the woodcock on Course 10, giving her the opportunity to join the group on the podium. Congratulations to all!

Trials like this cannot be hosted without the help of others. We thank Mike and Deb Singleton for their ongoing support with our coffee

breaks and lunches. Without them, it would be hard to make it all work. A big thank you to our horse wranglers, Richard and Jennifer Hollister. We have a saying here in Gladwin that they wrangle the best horses here in Michigan. Our judges never complain about their ride and feel safe. "Boots," "Dusty," and "Ed", we give our greatest gratitude to your superior performances. And lastly, to ALL the others who helped. This would include everyone else who attended. If it weren't for the help of all the handlers and their entourages, we couldn't have gotten it done. It takes a community, and we are very happy to be part of this one!

A big shout-out to Purina for their continued support. Purina has sponsored our events for many

years, and we hope for many years to come.

Meredith, Mich., October 22

Judges: Hunter Payne and Dave TerHaar  
LAKE STATES GROUSE DOG CHAMPIONSHIP  
[One-Hour Heats] – 15 Pointers, 19 Setters,  
and 1 Brittany

Winner-RESIN, F1696519, setter male, by Ponderosa Mac-Hunter's Flight Risk. Kevin Lahoda, owner; Marc Forman, handler.

Runner-Up-[Withheld]

Judges: Mike Brown and Dave Heavlin  
THE ROGER JOHNSON CUP OPEN DERBY  
– 11 Pointers and 7 Setters

1st-WHITE INDIAN OUTLAW, F1709779, pointer male, by Light of Day-Perkins Beautiful Disaster. Thomas Butler, owner; Rachel Butler, handler.

2d-DUNROVEN HIPPIE GIRL, F1713542, setter female, by Dun Rovens Drifter-Dunrovens Midnight Eve. Richard Hollister, owner and handler.

3d-INGOMARS DELTA FORCE, F1709005, setter female, by Ponderosa Mac-Pine Straw's Cover Queen. Robert Ellis, owner and handler.

## OKLAHOMA OPEN TRIALS

***I'm Gallant Wins Open All-Age Championship; Wynona's Nickleback Sugar, Runner-up***  
**By Barry Moore | Booneville, Arkansas | October 27, 2025**

The Ingersoll-McFarlin Ranch is the home of the Inola Open All-Age trials and the Oklahoma Open All-Age Championship. There is a lot of history here with these two trials. When the Quail Futurity was run with these trials, we remember having over 100 entries. I remember having 60 and even 70 dogs in the Oklahoma Championship, not that many years ago. Well, as with everything else, nothing stays the same, and that goes with field trials especially. Entries have declined over the years for numerous reasons, and here in the Midwest, it's no exception.

That was recalled from last year's report. Fast forward to this year, and it gets a little more complicated. After record rainfall this spring and summer, we had explosive growth on the Ranch. We were forced to do more mowing than ever. But when the blue stem and foxtail grew above head high, we were forced to look for another venue. After several weeks, it was decided to move the



**Oklahoma Open All-Age Championship: Allen Vincent, Matt Cochran with I'm Gallant, Dr. Alex Jacocks (judge), Bob Barker (judge), Ronnie Miller, and Ryan Eichelberger with Wynona's Nickleback Sugar.**

trial to the grounds at Blue Mountain in Booneville, Arkansas. I had only been there three or maybe four times before to pick up birds for the Ingersoll-McFarlin Ranch, but had never ridden the courses.

I have chaired and field marshaled countless trials at Inola, but I knew the grounds very well. Now I must admit I was completely out of my element. It was difficult to bring any

help with us on such short notice of the venue change, but with guidance from Ronnie Miller, we pulled it off. I want to thank some of those who really stepped in and helped out. First was Alex Jacocks, who judged without any complaint, and then Bob Barker, who stepped in as a judge when Ken Chenoweth had a family tragedy and had to cancel. Then there was Ronnie Miller, who



**Inola Open All-Age (l-r):** Allen Vincent with Wynona's Rebel, Ronnie Miller, Dr. Alex Jacocks (judge), Jay McKenzie with I'm Gallant, Bob Barker (judge), Ryan Eichelberger with Athena Angel of Blackhawk, and Peggy Eichelberger.

really made it all happen for the trial. Everett Brannon also helped do some field marshaling and gave some general guidance when Ronnie was not at hand. And let's not forget the dog wagon driver, Jerry Oswalt, who was never out of shouting distance and always had something to eat and drink.

The venue of Blue Mountain is really a special place. It is absolutely gorgeous! The grounds had been meticulously mowed and groomed to perfection. I must admit I was informed of "the bridge" several days before the trial. Having only two very young horses, I was a bit apprehensive as the trial started. After having crossed it over and over, it is now a very special memory.

### **Inola Open All-Age**

In the Inola Open All-Age, first place went to Wynona's Rebel, handled by Allen Vincent. He was reaching the limits of the course and, about at the midway point, had a nice single find. He went on to finish very strong. Second place went to I'm Gallant, handled by Allen Vincent, with a nice all-age race and a nice find with everything in place. Third place went to Athena Angel of Blackhawk, handled by Ryan

Eichelberger. She had a covey find at the five-minute mark and went on with a nice race.

**Booneville, Ark., October 27**  
**Judges: Bob Barker and M. Alex Jacocks**  
**INOLA OPEN ALL-AGE [One-Hour Heats] – 18**  
**Pointers and 1 Setter**

1st-WYNONA'S REBEL, F1717783, pointer male, by Dominator's Rebel Heir-White Smoke's Angel. Bruce Sooter, owner; Allen Vincent, handler.  
 2d-I'M GALLANT, F1696254, pointer male, by Valiant-Double Swami Dexie. Jay McKenzie, owner; Allen Vincent, handler.  
 3d-ATHENA ANGEL OF BLACKHAWK, F1694897, pointer female, by Simmons Black Dog-Ranger's Barshoe Honyawker. Phil Sinor, owner; Ryan Eichelberger, handler.

### **Inola Open All-Age Derby**

In the Inola Open All Age Derby, first place went to Texas Blue Northerner, handled by Allen Vincent. He had a great race to the front and handled very well for Vincent. He had a find and perfect manners. Second place went to Red Dirt Road Mondo, also handled by Allen Vincent. He had a great race as well and had a find with great manners. Third place went to Ms. Elhew Big Cabin, handled by Ryan Eichelberger. She ran a good race and had a nice find.

**INOLA OPEN DERBY – 14 Pointers**  
 1st-TEXAS BLUE NORTHERNER, F1711690, pointer male, by Texas Wild Rex-Hard Rock April Showers. Robert A. Rankin, owner; Allen Vincent, handler.  
 2d-RED DIRT ROAD MONDO, F1711695, pointer male, by Texas Wild Rex-Hard Rock April Showers. Jay McKenzie, owner; Allen Vincent, handler.  
 3d-MS. ELHEW BIG CABIN, unreg., pointer female, by Amarugia Elhew Heir Strike-Four River's Fantasy. Scott Shrum, owner; Ryan Eichelberger, handler.

### **Oklahoma Open All-Age Championship**

In the Oklahoma Open All-Age Championship, the named champion was I'm Gallant, handled by Allen Vincent. He had a huge race to the front. At the 50-minute mark, he made a huge cast down the hedgerow just west of the bridge.



**Inola Open All-Age Derby (l-r):** Allen Vincent with Texas Blue Northerner, Dr. Alex Jacocks (judge), Jay McKenzie with Red Dirt Road Mondo, Ronnie Miller, Bob Barker (judge), Ryan Eichelberger with Ms. Elhew Big Cabin, and Peggy Eichelberger.

Then from there he went hunting at the feed strips before you get to the bridge, where he was found on point. Vincent flushed a big covey in front of him, and he had perfect manners. He then went on to a big finish towards the bridge.

Runner-up was Wynona's Nickleback Sugar, also handled by Allen Vincent. This brace started out on Course 2 because the previous brace had been picked up early. Both Sugar and her running mate, Covey Rise Strike Zone, handled by Andy Daugherty, got buried up in a draw on the right. Vincent called and called on Sugar, but she did not show up in the corner where a lot of dogs get lost or behind. Just before it looked like Vincent was going to pull out the tracker at the road, he called point. A single was produced with all in order while Covey Rise Strike Zone backed. She went on to have a good race to finish to the front.

**OKLAHOMA OPEN ALL-AGE CHAMPIONSHIP**  
**[One-Hour Heats] - 16 Pointers and 1 Setter**  
 Winner-I'M GALLANT, F1696254, pointer male, by Valiant-Double Swami Dexie. Jay McKenzie, owner; Allen Vincent, handler.  
 Runner-Up-WYNONA'S NICKLEBACK SUGAR, F1690017, setter female, by T's Nickleback-Carpenter's Don't Ya. Bruce Sooter & Brad Tolson, owners; Allen Vincent, handler.

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## CENTRAL CAROLINA FIELD TRIAL CLUB, INC.

### *Amateur Trial Held At J. Robert Gordon Field Trial Grounds*

**By Sammy and Nida Giddens | Hoffman, North Carolina | October 31, 2025**

**T**he Central Carolina Amateur Field Trial was the first amateur trial of the season, held at Hoffman, North Carolina, on the beautiful J. Robert Gordon Field Trial Grounds. Each year, the most accomplished amateur handlers and owners come from far and near with their dogs to compete for the top honors. The facilities provide six beautiful one-hour courses, a massive remodeled 56-stall horse barn, open corrals, and 100-plus kennels for our animals' comfort and ample electrical hook-ups to accommodate the trialers and campers. Another welcoming feature is the beautiful, historic clubhouse with pine floors, a fireplace, bathrooms, and a full kitchen. The open great room is filled with tables to accommodate a social hub for lunches, dinners, etc., and has large windows with views of the grounds and breakaway area of Course 1. The walls display a wealth of early and recent photos/awards that go back at least 71-plus years, celebrating the rich history of dogs, horses, handlers, and owners.

The present members of the club are: President Sammy Giddens; Secretary/Treasurer John Ivester; and Directors Lefty Henry and Nida Giddens.

We would like to welcome some new, refreshing young blood as directors: Worth and Ashley Lewis, Bob and Barbara Youngs, Will and Karen Herring, and Kyle Whitfield. Thank you to each of them for your help in making our club such a success.

A special note of recognition to Dr. Claude Kidd, president of the Central Carolina Field Trial Club for 50 years.

Dr. Claude Kidd passed away on September 18, 2025. Claude was known for his delicious London broil and pork chop dinners that we all looked forward to at the trial. Claude



*Amateur All-Age Winners (l-r): Amy and Jim Pendergest with Storm's End, Gary and Ellen Winall with Mohawk Mill At Dawn, and Whitley Stephenson with Southpoint's Speedy G. (Second row, l-r): Jesse Brown (judge), Sammy Giddens, Bob Young (judge), and Nida Giddens. (Back row, l-r): Kyle Whitfield, Ashley and Worth Lewis, and Greg Robinson.*

was an active field trialer and leader in many avenues of the sport. He was always available to lend a helping hand to dogs and horses in need of medical assistance.

We would like to recognize that Claude was a medic in the 82nd Airborne Division of the U.S. Army.

We would also like to recognize Dwight Smith, who passed away on June 7, 2025. Dwight, starting in the '50s, was a great supporter of the NCFTA, Hoffman trials, and many other organizations related to the field trial sport. Dwight was a dog owner/handler. Dwight was known nationally for his field trial reporting skills. Dwight was a great ambassador for field trials and believed in fairness as a top priority. He was a friend to many.

Thank you to our NCFTA officials: President Whitley Stephenson; Vice-President Grayson Francis; and Secretary/Treasurer John Ivester.

Thank you to the NC Wildlife Commission and the Sandhills Wildlife Team, led by Nathan Winters, for the beautiful grounds and facilities they help provide for all of us to enjoy.

Thank you to our gallery dog wagon driver, Greg Robinson. He always has the dogs on the line at the right time. He also keeps everyone happy with delicious water, coffee, drinks, and snacks, including his own oven-roasted peanuts! His right-hand lady, Barbara Youngs, rides with him, helping keep tally of covey counts, dog performances, etc., throughout the trial. Barbara's tally for our trial was 35 coveys in All-Age braces and two coveys in the Derby braces.

Thank you to Purina Pro Plan and Greg Blair, SR Specialist with Purina Pro Plan, for your generous support of our trial.

Greg is a great ambassador for field trialing. He not only represents Purina, but he is an owner/handler of his own field trial dogs and hosts field trials. All of this helps him understand what it takes to have a successful trial.

The bird population has been outstanding during the trials held so far this season. Thank you to John Ivester and his team—Lefty Henry, Bob Youngs, Greg Robinson, Mike Hester, Gary Miller, and Steve Mills—for your hard work and dedication to spending long hours



releasing coveys of quail, waterers for the quail, and quail callers to help establish their feeding locations throughout the six courses on the grounds.

Thank you to Johnny O's Awards in Aberdeen for always preparing our awards plaques in a timely manner and providing gifts for our judges.

Thank you to Tommy and Will Herring for the support they give in so many ways to help Hoffman be successful. The new Hog Slat milo bin provided by them was a much-needed and appreciated addition.

Thank you to Hunter Prevatte and his wife, Lindsey, for the delicious assortment of doughnuts and pastries prepared at their bakery, Sandra's Bakery, in Sanford, North Carolina.

Thank you to the Hoffman Family for welcoming our friend, Laura Pittman. She spent Saturday enjoying her day riding the dog wagon and taking pictures for all of us to enjoy. Laura expressed to us how thankful she was to have been embraced so warmly by our group.

Welcome to Hoffman, Taylor Herring, our youngest field trialer (6 years old) at our trial. Taylor expressed to her parents, Will and Karen Herring, that she wanted to attend our trial and ride. Taylor, dressed like a trialer in her quilted jacket and cowboy boots, excitedly joined her father, Will, in the saddle and rode the entire sixth brace with him.

During the trial, extra horses were needed by some of the judges. Thank you to Worth Lewis and Jim Pendergest for stepping up and providing horses as needed.

Delicious lunches were enjoyed daily, prepared by Nida Giddens and Ashley Lewis—hot dogs and the fixings, gumbo and sandwiches, and more, plus homemade desserts.

In honor of last year's winner, Erin's Demolition Man ("Chip"), owner/handler Paul Kelly graciously hosted dinner on Friday night. Paul was sorry that he was unable to join

the celebration due to a previously planned obligation. The meal was prepared by Nida Giddens and Ashley Lewis. The night began with all enjoying cocktails and appetizers while they relaxed and socialized.

Afterward, a delicious meal was served—pork loin cutlets sauteed and baked in gravy and onions served over rice, southern-style fresh simmered black eyed peas, string beans cooked in ham hocks, cranberry sauce, pickled Vidalia onions, and baked three-corn cornbread. Then followed dessert fit for a king—homemade brownies topped with hot fudge and caramel sauce, ice cream, and whipped cream.

Saturday night's cocktail party was hosted by long-time field trialer and friend to many,

Fred Rose. Fred has sponsored these cocktails and appetizers for many years. Thank you, Fred, for always being so supportive and generous to our club.

Heavy appetizers—an assortment of nuts, a charcuterie board filled with various cheeses, sausages, and crackers, hot and savory meatballs, and hot Buffalo cheese dip with chips were prepared by Ashley Lewis. Gary and Ellen Winall prepared a hot sausage and cheese dip with chips.

These appetizers and drinks of choice were enjoyed tremendously. Only the empty bowls were left!

In honor of her husband, the late Dr. A. Hunter Wilcox, our friend, Louise Wilcox, hosted dinner Saturday night. Hunter was a special friend to our Hoffman field trial family, and we honor him and miss his presence at each trial.

Louise decorated the clubhouse beautifully and served a delicious lasagna dinner with fresh garden salad and piping hot garlic knot bread. Pumpkin pie topped with whipped topping was served for dessert. We were delighted that Louise's sister came with her from New Jersey to assist. We also welcomed others who helped Louise—Faye Joye (wife of the

late Ray Joye) and Lynne Leitch, a Hoffman neighbor of Louise. Thank you, Louise, for your support and love for our trial.

The drawing was held at the home of Sammy and Nida Giddens. Twenty-eight Amateur All-Age and 16 Amateur Derbies were drawn for the trial, traveling from both near and far. We all looked forward to watching these fierce competitors and their talented dogs compete for top honors.

We were fortunate to have four veteran dog men handle the judicial assignments.

Bob Young and Jesse Brown were our Amateur All-Age judges, and Kyle Whitfield and Rob Maguire were our Amateur Derby judges. All of the judges dedicated themselves to giving their complete attention to each dog and handler throughout the trial.

### ***Amateur All-Age Judges***

Bob Young, from Ellerbe, North Carolina, has been very supportive and has judged this trial for the last three years. Bob got his first bird dog, a Brittany, when he was 9 years old. He has been field trialing since 1970. Bob was very competitive in the Brittany trials. He won the Brittany U.S. Open Championship and the National Open Championship, along with many other successes. Bob has a Brittany in the Hall of Fame. Bob says one of his proudest parts of field trialing is the friendships his family has made with the dogs. Thank you to Bob and his wife, Barbara, for always giving back so much to the sport and especially to the trials and grounds at Hoffman.

Jesse Brown, from Tignall, Georgia, brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the amateur field trial arena. As a result of many winnings, the "Shoulders" prefix for Jesse's dogs is recognized throughout field trial communities. Jesse started field trialing in 2014 and went with Fred Rayl to the prairies in 2015. Since then, Jesse has developed and trained his own dogs. He has been very successful

with multiple placements in trials throughout the southeast.

### **Amateur All-Age Winners**

Storm's End (PF/"Kate"), handled by Jim Pendergest, owned by Matt Pendergest and Megan Henry, and scouted by Whitley Stephenson. Kate ran in the seventh brace. Kate is 6 years old and a six-time all-age champion and one-time runner-up. She is no stranger to Hoffman. Kate won the Region 3 All-Age Championship twice. During the brace, Kate was independent and relentless with speed on the ground. She had a back at 4, finds at 16 and 25, back at 52, and a find at 54. Kate had excellent manners on all four finds, and her two backs, standing with a high head and intensity. Kate finished strong and far to the front, showing what the judges were looking for in an all-age race. The scout, Whitley, showed keen eyes and knowledge of the Hoffman grounds to help Kate place first in this trial.

Mohawk Mill At Dawn (PF), handled by Gary Winall, owned by Gary and Ellen Winall, and scouted by Ellen Winall. Dawn ran on Course 2 and gave a front-running, forward race. After crossing the road, we headed toward the Army camp. When we reached the long stretch of rolling hills, Dawn could be seen far ahead with speed and animation. As we made the left turn at the Army camp at 54, Gary called point up front in a milo patch on the left side. Dawn's bird work showed immaculate style and composure throughout flush and shot. The scout, Ellen, was absolutely excellent. She was very attentive while riding the top of the hills, scouting this young all-age dog.

Southpoint's Speedy G (PM), owned and handled by Whitley Stephenson and scouted by Sammy Giddens. Speedy G was released on Course 6. As we watched, Speedy G was seen going up the hill headed toward the crossing of Courses 4 and 6. Whitley called point at 9. Speedy stood proud for wing and shot. He continued with a strong, forward



**Amateur Derby Winners (front, l-r): Brad Macke with Emperor's Stone Cold Warrior, Ellen and Gary Winall with Mohawk Mill Captain, and Whitley Stephenson with Southpoint's Playmaker. (Rear, l-r): Amy and Jim Pendergest, Worth and Ashley Lewis, Jesse Brown, Kyle Whitfield (judge), Nida and Sammy Giddens, Rob Maguire (judge), and Kim Maguire.**

race going through the woods at the back of Course 6. After we headed back on the long stretch toward the clubhouse, Speedy appeared on the left side, continued up the hill going through the creek with a strong, forward all-age race, and disappeared. Whitley rode hard as we approached the large, open fields behind the clubhouse. Point was called on the plum thicket hedge row by scout Sammy Giddens. Whitley rode hard to the point and flushed a large covey while Speedy stood intensely as the hour brace ended.

**Hoffman, N. C., October 31**

**Judges: Jesse Brown and Robert Youngs**

**AMATEUR ALL-AGE [One-Hour Heats]**

**– 25 Pointers and 3 Setters**

*1st-STORM'S END, F1687221, pointer female, by Dunn's Tried'n True-K F Prairie Storm. Matt Pendergest & Megan Henry, owners; Jim Pendergest, handler.*

*2d-MOHAWK MILL AT DAWN, F1706911, pointer female, by Imagine-Mohawk Mill Dolly. Gary & Ellen Winall, owners; Gary Winall, handler.*

*3d-SOUTHPOINT'S SPEEDY G, F1692332, pointer male, by Miller's Speed Dial-Bonner's Ransom Dot. Whitley Stephenson, owner and handler.*

### **Amateur Derby Judges**

Rob Maguire, a longtime friend from Suffolk, Virginia, stepped up and judged our Amateur Derby stake. We first met Rob in 1998 at the U.S. Complete Northeastern Championship. Rob has seen many dogs run in trials and has much experience in judging. He has judged championships in walking, shooting dog, and all-age trials. Rob was accompanied by his lovely wife, Kimberly.

Kyle Whitfield has had a love

for bird dogs all of his life. In 1991, Kyle started field trialing. Shortly thereafter, Kyle formed his own company, Whitfield Millwright Services. With his work, he traveled to many places in the United States, leaving little time for field trials. Approximately five years ago, Kyle semi-retired and was able to come back to his love of field trialing. He has developed his beautiful English setters and competed successfully in both professional and amateur trials. He has garnered attention from all of us with his outstanding setter, I Dream of Jeannie. Together, they have achieved 15 placements when she was a derby and are continuing on with placements in shooting dog and all-age stakes.

### **Amateur Derby Winners**

Emperor's Stone Cold Warrior (PM/"Rocky"), owned and handled by Brad Macke and scouted by Grayson Francis. Rocky ran on Course 3, showing a powerful forward race and a flowing, reaching gait. With his bird-finding ability, he had a stylish find at 15 in the switch grass on the right side of the course. He displayed excellent style and manners. He continued on with a forward motion to finish his brace.

Mohawk Mill Captain (PM), handled by Gary Winall, owned by Gary and Ellen Winall, and scouted by Ellen Winall. Captain was released on Course 4. He had a smooth, forward, consistent race, handled well, and required little scouting. At 26, Captain was rewarded with a find in the plum thicket. Ellen released Captain across the road, and Gary sent him forward to finish the brace.

Southpoint's Playmaker (PM), owned and handled by Whitley Stephenson and scouted by Sammy Giddens. Playmaker ran on Course 6. He hunted boldly and independently throughout the course. As we headed through the piney woods toward the clubhouse, Playmaker was seen far ahead going through the long rows of switch grass, then crossing the creek. Whitley pointed him out as Playmaker was going across the top of the hill behind the clubhouse.

Pick up was called, and both handler and scout rode hard and picked Playmaker up at the road as you cross to Course 1.

Thank you to all the many friends who helped in so many ways to make this trial such a fun, successful event. We all enjoyed great performances by handlers and their dogs, delicious meals provided and prepared by special friends, and last year's winner, the best dog wagon services, and last but not least, the "special fellowship" shared by such a

great group of field trialers who came together to enjoy one another and help each other whenever needed. We look forward to the "75th" Central Carolina field trial next year.

**Judges: Rob Maguire and Kyle Whitfield**  
**AMATEUR DERBY – 15 Pointers and 1 Setter**  
 1st-EMPEROR'S STONE COLD WARRIOR, F1714276, pointer male, by Perkins Sawyer's Warrior-Empire On Line. Brad Macke, owner and handler.  
 2d-MOHAWK MILL CAPTAIN, F1708987, pointer male, by Imagine-Mohawk Mill For Real. Gary & Ellen Winall, owners; Gary Winall, handler.  
 3d-SOUTHPOINT'S PLAYMAKER, F1719697, pointer male, by Rocky River Halo-Wiggins Tried Drivin. Whitley Stephenson, owner and handler.

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## KENTUCKY OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP

### Fort River's Lucky Charm Named Champion; Smoke'N'Mirrors, Runner-up

By Terry Boatright | Berea, Kentucky | October 31, 2025



Kentucky Open Shooting Dog Championship: Mike Jackson (judge), Matt Basilone with Fort River's Lucky Charm, Donna Boatright, William Smith (judge), Ed McKay with Smoke'N'Mirrors, and Terry Boatright.

**F**irst, I would like to thank everyone who attended the trial, who watched, and assisted us in putting on another event.

Special thanks to our sponsors Purina Dog Food, Donna Boatright, Kris Hammons, and Tim Hammons, who worked diligently to make this trial a success. It would not have been nearly as successful without them. Thank you so much for your assistance.

Also, another special thanks to this year's judges, Mike Jackson of Battle Ground, Indiana, and William Smith of Moscow, Tennessee.

This year's running of the Kentucky Open Shooting Dog Championship drew 30 shooting dogs. We commenced running each morning with cool temperatures. Halloween morning saw the start of the competition. This year's winner, a setter male named Fort River's Lucky Charm, was handled by Matt Basilone of Pittsgrove, New Jersey. Fort River's Lucky Charm set the standard in the very first brace of competition, scoring on two well-placed finds and a very nice shooting dog performance, handling nicely for his handler.

Thick vegetation made scenting

conditions difficult for everyone and often led to lost dogs as there were hard to scout, few birds were being pointed by the competitors, with many dogs going birdless. Prevailing from the 11th brace was a pointer female named Smoke'N'Mirrors, also handled by Matt Basilone. Smoke'N'Mirrors ran a consistent forward race coupled with a mannerly find. Smoke'n'Mirrors did an excellent job of covering the ground, working with Matt, showing that she is an integral part of his team to grasp the runner-up position.

The judges were impressed with four other dogs as well: River City Free Agent (Zack Erne), Boatright's Maverick (James Kleve), Little More Shine (Tim Hammons), and Mohawk Mill Maverick (Matt Basilone).

These dogs all garnered honorable mentions. Named closest to the winners, all four of these dogs were able to finish their hours strong forward and with bird work. However, these four dogs likely had too much run and range for the judges as they each reached our further than the winners in their determination to find birds.

Brian Sanchez, owner of last year's winner, Great River Stallion, hosted the cocktail party on Friday night, which provided a relaxed

environment for handlers, owners, and guests to socialize. Thank you, Brian.

Berea, Ky., October 31

Judges: Mike Jackson and William Smith  
**KENTUCKY OPEN SHOOTING DOG**

**CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats]**

– 17 Pointers, 10 Setters, and 3 Irish Setters

Winner-FORT RIVER'S LUCKY CHARM, F1681132, setter male, by Mohawk Mill Lucky Charm-Fort River Jackie. Gary Tavares, owner; Matt Basilone, handler.  
Runner-Up-SMOKE'N'MIRRORS, F1679185, pointer female, by Just Irresistible-A Whiskey Lullaby. Richard Gillis & Stacy Goodie, owners; Matt Basilone, handler.



First brace: Andy Erne with Chippewa's Dog of War, Matt Basilone mounting his horse, and Fort River's Lucky Charm with Ed McKay (scout).

## ASSOCIATED FIELD TRIAL CLUBS OF FLORIDA

### *Members' Memorial Trial*

By Petie Brown | Punta Gorda, Florida | November 1, 2025

We could not have asked for a better start to our field trial season with the Members Memorial Trial; not a hurricane in sight. This weekend trial was one of gratitude. Robert Franks kicked it off by flying in from Arkansas with a load of fresh catfish that he diligently fried up prior to the Friday night drawing. Robert was accompanied by a field trial friend, Daniel Mann, who fit right in and looks forward to coming back with dogs.

Turnout was light, so we ran a morning of all-age and an afternoon of shooting dogs in pleasant weather conditions, thanks to a small cold front that moved in. Despite the cooler temperatures, the birds were out feeding early and looked very healthy. We moved over 15 coveys on Saturday, and they were good-sized birds. We saw a lot of deer, and plenty of hog sign; thankfully, there were no encounters.

This trial was hosted by the Muzynski and McEwen families, and they did not disappoint. Saturday evening was a festive culinary experience as we caught up with each other like any family gathering. Awards were given out, and the party continued well into the night since the trial was essentially over. This reporter noted that Sunday morning, with the time change, felt like



Members' Memorial Open All-Age: Holopaw's Rear Axel with Justin Muzynski, Checkmates Country Sunshine with Paul Daniel, and Myakka Lucy Diamond with Petie Brown. (Second row): Carol Muzynski, Kayleigh Muzynski, Daniel Linehan, and Robert Franks. (Back, right): Kenny Muzynski.

New Year's Day. Members finally emerged and gathered their dogs for pictures, to which we thank Purina, who provides the winners with Pro Plan. We all went out to train with Deb McEwen driving the dog truck and Kenny Muzynski carrying dogs on his Polaris, which is perfectly suited for the grounds. Heading out to train Sunday morning and clearing out of camp in a timely manner was about as relaxing as it gets, especially with Robert and Daniel helping us break camp, and all of us pitching in to clean up. Thankfully, we have a lady who mucks stalls for us, so we can load and go.

The Muzynskis have paid for two days of additional training after each trial, which we didn't use this time,

but Mike Tiberii showed up to take advantage of the opportunity; thank you, Kenny, for your generosity. Many thanks to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission for all of their management; the grounds look great.

### **The Winners**

It can be difficult to find judges willing to make the haul this far south, and fortunately for our first trial of the season, we didn't have to go far. Tiffany Bass and Katie McEwen judged the All-Age in the morning, followed by Justin Muzynski and John Castelli judging the Shooting Dog in the afternoon. The judicial decisions came quickly and were met with applause and congratulations at our Saturday evening social.

Third place in the All-Age went to Petie Brown's Myakka Lucy Diamond, who ignored the doe as time was called; her bracemate went AWOL, so she was happy for the company. Second place was taken by Vince Feltner's Checkmates Country Sunshine, handled by Paul Daniel, who had a divided find with her bracemate, Holopaw's Rear Axel, owned and handled by Justin Muzynski. Their divided find was the highlight of the trial, for most of us, as we sat up tall in the saddle, holding our breath. Alex went on to have another clean find for Justin, sealing his first place, and looking very pleased with himself.

The afternoon's Shooting Dog stake began at 2:30 as the temperature started back down. Third place was awarded to Daniel Linehan's German Shorthair, "Benno," who went on point only to have the birds leave in a hurry and Benno stay. Daniel has spent a lot of time, sought help, and worked



**Members' Memorial Open Shooting Dog: Myakka Rebel with Petie Brown, Myakka Maxed Out with Beth Brown, and Benno with Daniel Linehan. (Back row, l-r): Justin Muzynski and Travis Brunson.**

hard to get Benno where he is today, and it showed in the style and happiness both "Man child" and Benno exhibited. We expect many more placements from these two. Second place was earned by Beth Brown's Myakka Maxed Out, normally an all-age performer who reigned himself in for a nice shooting dog run. Myakka Rebel, owned and handled by Petie Brown, placed first with a covey near the Charcoal Pits. Just a few minutes prior, Rebel and her bracemate, Tiffany Bass' Brittany, Chance, looked like they were honing

in on a sprawled out feeding covey at nine o'clock. The dogs returned to the front, but someone in the gallery said they had seen birds fly at seven, so they were running and not in the direction we needed. Thankfully, no fouls were called.

**Punta Gorda, Fla., November 1**

**Judges: Tiffany Bass and Katie McEwen**

**OPEN ALL-AGE – 9 Pointers**

**1st-HOLOPAW'S REAR AXEL**, F1690238, pointer male, by Holopaw's Axel-Hot Dignity Dot. Kenneth & Justin Muzynski, owners; Justin Muzynski, handler.

**2d-CHECKMATES COUNTRY SUNSHINE**, F1702591, pointer female, by Nacho's Texas Rebel-Nacho's Drama Ma Ma. Vince Feltner, owner; Paul Daniel, handler.

**3d-MYAKKA LUCY DIAMOND**, F1665013, pointer female, by Elhew G Force-Myakka Hey Jude. Petie Brown, owner and handler.

**Judges: John Castelli and Justin Muzynski**

**OPEN SHOOTING DOG – 6 Pointers, 1 Brittany, and 1 German Shorthair**

**1st-MYAKKA REBEL**, F1669365, pointer female, by Elhew G Force-Myakka Hey Jude. Petie Brown, owner and handler.

**2d-MYAKKA MAXED OUT**, F1670323, pointer male, by Elhew G Force-Myakka Hey Jude. Beth Brown, owner and handler.

**3d-BENNO**, unreg., German Shorthair male, by Tennessee Jack Honey Smith-Briarcovey's Sweet Anneliese Elsa. Daniel Linehan, owner and handler.

## GRAND NATIONAL GROUSE CHAMPIONSHIP

### **Birdogn True Confidence Named Champion**

**By Mike Husenits | Norwich, New York | November 4, 2025**



**The Winner announcement at Lost Pond Clubhouse (front): Birdogn True Confidence with Jordan Pharris. (Standing, l-r): Rachel Furnish, Jerry Furnish, Pete Flanagan, Katie Flanagan, Russ Fazio, Bill Callahan, Mark Hughes, Joe Cammisa, Dave Hughes, Mike Rosario, Ben Mergens (judge), and Bruce Minard (judge).**

The 83rd running of the Super Bowl of cover dog championships was conducted November 4-10 near the town of Oxford, New York,

over the historic venue known as Grouse Ridge Kennels, consisting of approximately 2000 acres of natural woodlands, old orchards, farmland,

and wetlands. Owners Pete and Katie Flanagan are generous hosts and have shared the property as a field trial site for many years, hosting not only this Grand but numerous trials (i.e., Lost Pond, Chemung County, Orange County, Empire New York Grouse Championship, and others). Pete Flanagan's father, late Hall of Fame member Dr. Tom Flanagan, and brother Jim Flanagan acquired the property and developed Grouse Ridge Kennels starting in the early 50's. Both Jim and Tom were avid bird hunters and trialers, plus Jim had a passion for horses; the property abounded with both dogs and horses for decades. After Jim Flanagan's passing, Dr. Tom, his wife Esther, and children carried on Grouse Ridge Kennels until Dr. Tom passed, then the reins were turned over to son Pete and Katie, who



presently run the operation. While still alive, Dr. Tom dreamed of holding the Grand here at Grouse Ridge; that dream became a reality this year when the opportunity arose, and Pete Flanagan seized that opportunity. Pete and Katie graciously allowed the use of the house located on the grounds (known as the White House) to comfortably house judges, the reporter, and the stake manager all week.

Readers are referred to a well-maintained website of the Grand National for a complete history, bylaws, news, events, and other important details at [grandnationalgrouse.com](http://grandnationalgrouse.com).

The Grand is held annually, starting the first Tuesday of November, the location determined on a rotating basis between the New England States, the Middle Atlantic, and the Great Lakes States. This year, Middle Atlantic was scheduled to host the trial, but due to poor grouse populations on the Marienville, Pennsylvania grounds, the directors chose to pass. The New England region was selected to host the trial, but due to developmental delays of a new venue in upstate New York and other complications on the New Hampshire venue at White Mountain, a dilemma was avoided when Pete Flanagan agreed to hold the trial at Grouse Ridge. Pete and his entire family worked hard for months to open, map, and flag six one-hour courses. Pete's sons, Bill, Mike, Tom, and wife Kaylee, close friend Bill Callahan, and others all pitched in to accomplish the well-done task. Pete, sons, and Bill Callahan were present daily to help with road patrol, moving vehicles, and generally help keep things moving. The history of past venues for the Grand shows that during the first 50 years, nearly half (24) were held at the Gladwin grounds in Michigan, 12 at Pharsalia grounds in New York, two in Andover, Massachusetts, and 14 at Marienville, Pennsylvania. The record verifies that the most successful handlers are Dave Hughes at the top with a total of 23 placements of either champion or



*Grand National President Tom Fruchey greets the large attendance at the Purina Awards Dinner on Monday.*

runner-up in the Grand. Others with successful records include Scott Chaffee, Rich Tuttle, Dr. Jim Stitler, Luther Smith, Jim Tande, and John Stolgitis, all combined for more than 30 placements. Interesting to note that over the 83-year span, the title of champion has been withheld four times, most recently in 1971.

Current leaders of the Grand National organization are President Tom Fruchey, Secretary Brian Ralph, Futurity Secretary Thor Kain, Invitational Secretary Joe Cammisa and Regional Directors Tony Bly, Lloyd Murray, Kelli Short, Robert Little, Adam Dubriske, Russell Ogilve, Erik Munden, Norm Meeder, Dave and Mark Hughes, Doug McMillen, Greg Johnson, Scott Chaffee, Rod Lein, Jerry Furnish plus Director at Large Richard Brenneman.

The entire cover dog fraternity extends sincere thanks to our sponsors. Purina and Greg Blair provide monetary support, cover dog awards, dog food, hats, and other merchandise. OnX provided memberships, awards, hats, banners, and monetary support. Garmin donated valuable electronic training collars to the winner, and Lion Country Supply donated gift certificates and judges' gifts. Thanks to all.

Horses were supplied by David and RB Powell of Nittany Valley Trail Rides. David stayed all week and was "Johnny on the Spot" where needed because he always knew the exact location of the horses due to his clever tracking tag on one saddle.

The Grand week kicked off on Monday evening at Fred's Inn in

nearby Norwich with the Purina-sponsored awards dinner and awards for "Legends of the Cover Dog World" sponsored by The Grand National Grouse Championship. A fine array of food was enjoyed by a large crowd, with the annual awards presented by Secretary Brian Ralph, President Tom Fruchey, Trial Chairman Joe Cammisa, and Points Secretary Bruce Mueller. The Michael Seminatore Top English Setter Award went to Snyder's Fireside Ed, owned by Steve Snyder and handled by Tammy Chaffee. The Top Cover Dog Derby is Clover Valley's Evans, owned and handled by Jerry Furnish. The Top All-Age Cover Dog is Chasehill Poison Ivy, owned by Bill and Karen McFadden and handled by John Stolgitis, who is also the Purina Top Cover Dog Handler of the Year. Awarded Legends of the Cover Dog World for their many years of dedication to the sport are Kellie Short and Peter Flanagan. Congratulations to all winners.

The general membership meeting was held at Fred's Inn on Tuesday evening, with new directors Kellie Short, Rod Lein, and Jerry Furnish elected, financial reports for the annual Futurity, Invitational, and Puppy Classic were approved, and some discussion regarding eligibility qualifications took place, with further follow-up by the Board of Directors scheduled for Wednesday evening.

Morning coffee breaks were handled by Joe Cammisa. Thanks are extended to Bill McFadden for generously purchasing fresh donuts every day and to Bruce Mueller for a supply of delicious apples and pears. Daily hot lunches at the Lost Pond clubhouse were most popular all week, with leftovers helping for several evening meals at the white house for the judges and reporter. Tuesday featured hot chicken and noodles thanks to the New England delegation, and Wednesday was homemade beef stew and applesauce thanks to Tom Fruchey and Craig Peters. The remainder of the week by the Grand membership included pulled pork, chicken and



**Secretaries Bruce Mueller and Brian Ralph present the Seminatore Award to handler Tammy Chaffee.**



**Jerry Furnish accepts the Top Derby award from Bruce Mueller and Brian Ralph.**



**Owner Bill McFadden and handler John Stolgitis accept the award for Purina Top Cover Dog of the Year, Chasehill Poison Ivy.**

stuffing balls, sausage with mac and cheese, and fresh ham sandwiches with tomato bisque. Robert Ecker brought delicious pizza one day and great pasta e fagioli, much to the enjoyment of all partakers. Everyone who had a hand in supplying food is to be commended.

Weather conditions for the week were typical of New York in November. Every day had very cold mornings, some with frost and icing conditions. For several days, a stiff wind made it feel even colder. Precipitation included rain showers and snow flurries that created standing water and mud in the low-lying spots. However, no delays due to weather were experienced.

Judges for the Grand are chosen by the regional board of directors, who develop a list of candidates given to the secretary to compile a complete list of top candidates for the directors to rank in order of preference, with the highest-ranked persons invited in numerical order. This year, Ben Mergens of Inver Grove Heights, Minnesota, and Bruce Minard of Beulah, Michigan, were top vote getters and accepted

the assignment. Ben has vast experience in the cover dog trial world, is an avid bird hunter, plus owns and trains his own dogs and has previously judged one-hour championships. Bruce needs no introduction as his highly successful Hi-Five Kennel and string of winning dogs have prevailed for many years. Bruce has campaigned not only on the cover dog circuit but the major horseback all-age and shooting dog circuits as well. He was accompanied by his spouse and partner, Jennie, who helped wherever needed, especially at the white house. Thank you, Jennie. The judges expected an exceptional performance in order to be named Grand National Champion and reported there were several dogs meeting the expectation one way or another, but few that excelled the whole hour with bird work. Both commented that dug-up finds were a rarity, with most points being at or not far off the beaten path, except for the new champion, who performed admirably. In the end, the judges felt the new champion's performance was high above the closest other dogs and chose not to name a runner-up.

Bird sightings started encouragingly with 10 moved the first day, followed by 5, 8, 5, 4, 4, and 3 on the final day for a total of 39—34 grouse and 5 woodcock. For the week, Course 1 totaled 14 birds, Course 2 had eight, Course 3 had six, Course 4 had five, Course 5 had two, and Course 6 had four.

### ***The Champion***

Birdogn True Confidence (“Sadie”) is an orange-marked pointer female owned by Ben Fleischacker of Hankinson, North Dakota, and handled by professional trainer Jordan Pharris of Ruff Country Kennels in Brainerd, Minnesota. Five-year-old Sadie proved to be just what the judges had hoped for. Sadie carries forward a long legacy of pointer excellence. Her sire is the legendary Hall of Fame Champion, True Confidence; her dam, Ellie, has proven in the field on wild birds. Sadie was bred for the field and loves to hunt wild birds, regardless of the arena she is in. Sadie has earned multiple placements on various venues due to the dedication of Jordan Pharris. She is known for her ability to handle effortlessly, keen



**The Cover Dog Handler of the Year award accepted by John Stolgitis from Bruce Mueller and Brian Ralph.**



**Pete Flanagan receives the Legends of the Cover Dog World from President Tom Fruchey, Joe Cammisa, and Brian Ralph.**



**President Tom Fruchey, Joe Cammisa, and Brian Ralph award Kellie Short an award for Legends of the Cover Dog World.**

intelligence, and strong bird-finding ability, which she displayed like a true champion. When Sadie is not on the field trial circuit, she enjoys time afield hunting the grouse woods and prairies with owners Ben and Melissa Fleishacker and their three children. Sadie made her appearance here in the 38th next-to-last brace, starting at 9:21 on Course 2 across the road from the big house near the equipment barn with steady cold light rain falling and muddy footing. Sadie went fast forward and immediately dug into likely cover with purpose. Her bell fell silent near the 10-minute mark, with scout Jerry Furnish dispatched, finding Sadie locked up tight on a woodcock, which she handled with intense pointing style and proper deportment at flush and shot. Sent ahead, Sadie was out to prove she was serious, locking up again at 27 at a likely spot, but this time nothing raised or relocated. With bracemate picked up at 34, Sadie had the course to herself and continued to hunt likely cover moving in and out of bell range, always forward. Her bell abruptly fell silent at 40 well off to the right front, this time standing tall with a grouse pinpointed exactly; Sadie, solid, as the bird went airborne and shot fired. By this point, it was obvious something special was unfolding as Sadie continued to pour it on in her relentless desire to find more birds, once again her bell falling silent at 53, Sadie found high and tight with another grouse located exactly with manners perfect as the bird exploded from directly in front. Sadie finished the hour going away and as strong as her start, leaving little doubt that a champion had just been made.

### ***The Running***

We will review each brace briefly based on observations and information provided by the judges. All dogs entered were deserving and well-qualified, many of them champions of the cover dog world.

Brace 1: Super Storm Cliff (Dubriske) and Gracie Star (Ecker). Cliff hunted at medium range and proved to be a bird finder with a pair



*The Flanagan family celebrates Pete Flanagan's Legends Award.*

of grouse finds and two unproductive stands. Gracie also hunted at medium range, scored one mannerly find on a grouse, a pair of backs, and a lone unproductive.

Brace 2: Higby Arcade Fire (Stolgitis) and Moss Meadow Able (Moss). Start made on Course 2 below the cornfield across the road from Grouse Ridge Kennel at 9:20. Higby dug into the cover, reaching well at times. He notched a mannerly find on a small brood of grouse at 24 and added a back at 40. Able ran at medium range, backed at 24, but suffered a pair of unproductive at 32 and 40.

Brace 3: Saddled Up Sadie (Hughes) and Mohawk Mill Miss You (Stolgitis). Sadie hunted at medium range and bird less. Miss was picked up at 32 for a breach of manners.

Brace 4: Island Attraction (Ecker) and Stan the Man (Fruchey). Attraction was picked up early, and Stan hunted at medium range with an unproductive at 52.

Brace 5: Hypointe Monarch Express (Fazio) and Meredith Grade Penny (S. Chaffee). Express hunted at wide range with no bird contacts. Penny ran at medium range, her only contact a stop to flush on a woodcock at 50.

Brace 6: Glassilaun Parabellum (Ecker) and Fireside Sally Forth (T. Chaffee). Parabellum got out of pocket, and the tracker requested at 31. Sally hunted at short to medium range and recorded a mannerly find on a grouse at 39 near the pond.

Brace 7: Buck of Piney Woods (Ecker) and Clover Valley's Millie (Furnish). Buck hunted hard the

whole hour, but no birds. Millie shortened and picked up at 25.

Brace 8: Asper Hill Bandit (Cullen) and Springpond Rockin Sidney (T. Chaffee). Bandit went wide and was out of pocket frequently. He pointed at 58 with no bird produced. Sid hunted hard at close to medium range, notched a mannerly grouse find at 15, and had an unproductive at 59.

Brace 9: Mulberry Fields Molly (Hughes), Seldom Rest Jack (Ralph). Molly hunted with plenty of eye-appeal at close to medium range, scored a stylish grouse find at 34, and finished the hour with an unproductive at 59. Jack was scratched.

Brace 10: Backwoods Wild Fire Blaze (Hughes) and I'm Easy Money (Pharris). Blaze ran a classy medium-range forward ground race with one unproductive at 15. Easy hunted well forward but failed to connect with game.

Brace 11: Meridith Grade Corky (T. Chaffee) and Wicked Pursuit (MacLean). Corky ran a steady forward race but went birdless. Pursuit hunted wide but came around to finish less bird work.

Brace 12: Paucek's Little Tommy Tucker (Short) and Double Deuce Jack (Hughes). Tommy tried hard, pointed twice at 15 and 58, both unproductive. Jack hunted at medium range, had an unproductive at 45, and a back at 58.

Brace 13: Blind Faith (Pharris) and Ghost Train Minnie (Peters). Both were forward at medium range but went birdless.

Brace 14: Grouse Hill Rambo (Ecker) and A Distant Spec (Hughes). Spec was moved up from the bye position when Ralphy's Chasehill Rip scratched. Rambo hunted forward the whole hour with an unproductive at 58. Spec had a find on quail at 5 near the cornfield edge, then forward but shortened up, favoring a sore foot.

Brace 15: Grouse Hill Princess (S. Forman) and Grouse Trails Little Bud



*The Judges: Bruce Minard and Ben Mergens.*

(McKellop). Princess hunted at short to medium range and scored a well-mannered find at 20 on a grouse brood, after which she failed to reach out and was up at 35. Bud hunted likely cover at medium range, pointed solidly at 55, the stand unproductive.

Brace 16: Grouse Hill Rock (Ecker) and Anna Lake Sami (M. Forman). Rock had a steady medium-range race without bird contact. Sami had a slow start but widened to finish ahead, minus bird contact.

Brace 17: Braeval Rory (McClusky) and Chasehill Snoop Dog (Stolgitis). Rory ran a strong forward race, backed at 58, no birds seen. Snoop was strong on ground race at medium range, pointed with style at 58, but unproductive.

Brace 18: Grouse Ridge Mags (S. Forman) and Baxter's Indian Arrowhead (Fruchey). Mags hunted hard and finished the hour birdless. Arrow started strong but shortened after the half.

Brace 19: West Wind Big Jake (Hughes) and Over The Hill Try (Lein). Both dogs hunted far and wide; Jake picked up at 30, and Try finished the hour with no birds, although four grouse were flushed wild along the course route.

Brace 20: Chasehill Poison Ivy (Stolgitis) and Rockland Ridge Rocky (Ecker). Ivy hunted forward and handled kindly; she pointed at 45, resulting in an unproductive. Rocky shortened at 20 and was leashed.

Brace 21: Doodle Ridge Elroy (Hughes) and Baxter's Wild Bill (Peters). Roy was strong and forward but failed to find game. Bill started fast but shortened and picked up at

30.

Brace 22: Miller's Hopped Up Version (Hughes) and Super Storm Nell (Dubriske). A grouse flushed wild near the start. Version ("Cricket") hunted wide and was found pointing after a long absence with a barnyard chicken pen in front. Nell stayed forward, pointing solidly at 45 and 58, neither productive.

Brace 23: Moss Meadow Seeker (Moss) and Grouse Trails Black Knight (McKellop). Seeker pointed in likely cover at 20 but was picked up for self-relocating. Knight finished the hour ahead with only a porcupine encounter on his scorecard.

Brace 24: Mohawk Mill Good Advice (Stolgitis) and Clover Valley's Mulak (Furnish). Advice covered the course thoroughly, but couldn't connect with birds. Mulak pointed solidly in thick cover but moved on before a flush attempt, then notched an unproductive at 55.

Brace 25: Ironstone's Dark Horse (Ecker) and Over The Hill Morgan (Lein). Horse hunted hard without game contact and up at 45. Morgan stayed with the job at hand but erred on a bird at 58. One grouse flushed wild along the trail.

Brace 26: Grouse Trails Warrior Cat (McKellop) and Mia Star (Ecker). Cat ranged wide and was not seen often, up at 30. Star started fast, then shortened and up at 25.

Brace 27: Grouse Hill Mac (S. Forman) and Long Island Ice (Ecker). Mac started strong, pointed at 15, but moved during flush and picked up. Ice wasn't having a good day and picked up at 16.

Brace 28: Snyder's Sadie (T. Chaffee) and Warrior Zeke (Hughes). These two started at medium range, Sadie scoring a mannerly woodcock find at 34, followed by a mishap on a grouse at 40, and picked up. Zeke pointed in thick cover at 35 but decided to relocate during a flush attempt.

Brace 29: Sammy The Rock Star (Ecker) and Big Big Energy (Pharris). Both hunted the fore in earnest; Big



*Bill Callahan and Pete Flanagan guarded the roads daily.*

picked up at 35 and Star at 45 after going birdless.

Brace 30: Miller's Special Upgrade (Hughes) and Mohawk Mill Fired Up (Stolgitis). These two were off to a flying start and were looking promising as time went on. Upgrade ("Penny") had a stylish stand at 18 that was unproductive, and Fired Up also had an unproductive at 11. Both finished the hour strong and forward; both judges impressed, but they needed a bird.

Brace 31: Snyder's Big Nose Kate (T. Chaffee) and Back Creek Lucy (S. Forman). Kate started strong but was up at 35 for moving on point. Lucy wasn't in the game today and up at 20.

Brace 32: Niantic River Ava (Dubriske) and Timberdoodle Farms Sal (M. Forman). Both started strong but failed to warm to the task, with both picked up early.

Brace 33: Lake Effect Ali (Pharris) and Double Deuce Zeke (Hughes). Ali was up at 30 after a pair of unproductive stands. Zeke hunted the fore with a stop to flush at 54 on woodcock.

Brace 34: Ironstone's Shenanigans (Ecker) and Beaver Meadow Bit (Hughes). Both impressed with their speed and style, each scoring an unproductive and a mannerly back.

Brace 35: Snyder's Fireside Ed (T. Chaffee) and Millers Dusty Version (Hughes). Both started fast and wide, with Ed pointing at 40 with no results. Dusty reached well forward, and both were up at 50 after no further bird contacts.

Brace 36: Resin (M. Forman) and

Blue Ribbon River (Ecker). Resin hunted forwardly at medium range, had an unproductive at 24, and was up at 35 for a breach of manners. River impressed with her strong and fancy way of going, but her aggressiveness carried her out of the pocket, tracker requested at 35.

Brace 37: Clover Valley's Evans (Furnish) and Rowling's Star (Rowling). Evan ran a strong far-reaching ground race, but no luck finding birds. Star was scratched.

Brace 38: Fox Brook Top Secret (Dubriske) and Birdogn True Confidence (Pharris). Secret hunted forwardly with less bird contact



*The White House accommodated the judges and the reporter.*

and picked up at 34. The winner's performance is described above.

Brace 39: Hitail Roxy Afield (Fazio) and Willow Creek Northwater Grouser (Pharris). Roxy covered a

lot of ground with plenty of speed and eye appeal with a pair of unproductive stands. Grouser, the only German Shorthair in the stake, started fast but picked up at 25 after shortening.

The group gathered at the Lost Pond Clubhouse to await the judges' decision.

Northwich, N. Y., November 4

Judges: Ben Mergens and Bruce Minard  
**GRAND NATIONAL GROUSE CHAMPIONSHIP**  
 [One-Hour Heats] – 33 Pointers, 44 Setters,  
 1 Irish Setter, and 1 German Shorthair

Winner-BIRDOGN TRUE CONFIDENCE, F1693417, pointer female, by True Confidence-Elli Elhew Birdogn. Ben Fleischacker, owner; Jordan Pharris, handler.

## ABHA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

***Tenacee Franklin Named Champion; Mohawk Mill Shake Up, Runner-up***

**By Terry Boatright | Berea, Kentucky | November 6, 2025**

**T**hursday, November 6, saw the start of ABHA's National Championship hosted by the Tennessee Valley Bird Dog Club on the grounds of the Miller Welch Wildlife Area, Berea, Kentucky.

I want to express my appreciation to our sponsors, Purina Dog Food and AFTCA, for their support and donations to the field trial community. I greatly appreciate Donna Boatright's help; she helped me chair two championships back to back, and I'm sure she did way more work than I did. Brian Stockrahm came down from Indiana to drive the dog wagon. A special thanks goes out to our judges who sat in the saddle for four days of judicial duties. Thank you, Tim Hammons and Rich Meadows. Several others contributed where needed as well. Thank you all.

The first day of the trial started out with what appeared to be the best day of the trial weatherwise, as the weather channel forecasted rain for the rest of the trial. Nice weather wasn't enough for the competitors, challenging scenting conditions left dogs birdless, and a majority of the handlers reaching for their tracking collars' receiver. Handlers began



**ABHA National Championship: Ronnie Rogers, Terry Boatright (owner/handler of champion), Greg Isenberg with Tenacee Franklin, Tim Hammons (judge), Rich Meadows (judge), Donna Boatright, Travis Patterson (owner/handler of runner-up), Cliff Monroe with Mohawk Mill Shake Up, and Tony Bingham.**

wondering if any birds were even out there to be found. The first day dogs were just not going to the birds and were running off.

The following three days of the trial were just the opposite, scenting conditions changed to favor the dogs, and the rain mostly stayed away. This, coupled with the buildup of birds from the first day, caused many dogs to have one too many birds, resulting in several early pick-ups.

The winner, Tenacee Franklin, a pointer male, emerged from the first brace of the last day. Franklin had five well-dug-up bird finds that were out on the edges. Franklin exhibited excellent dog manners as handler Greg Isenberg went above and beyond during flushing attempts, often crawling around on his hands and knees in thick cover, literally right in front of his dog on point to produce a bird.

Runner-up in this year's



championship was Mohawk Mill Shake Up, also a pointer male. Shake Up came out on the second day of running. He pushed the edges and range to the limit of what the judges were looking for, topping it off with a very mannerly find for owner and handler Cliff Monroe.

Due to the low number of entries, the National Derby Classic was cancelled for this year.

Berea, Ky., November 6 – One Course  
Judges: Tim Hammons and Rich Meadows  
**ABHA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP**

[One-Hour Heats] – 29 Pointers and 13 Setters  
Winner-TENACEE FRANKLIN, F1686506, pointer male, by Elhew Money-maker-Class Act Pretty Penny. Greg Isenberg, owner and handler.  
Runner-Up-MOHAWK MILL SHAKE UP, F1698765, pointer male, by Mohawk Mill Trail Warrior-Legendary. Cliff Monroe, owner and handler.

### Open Puppy

The Open Puppy saw several really nice puppies running. Topping the field was Boatright's Ruby Red



**ABHA Open Puppy:** Terry Boatright with Boatright's Ruby Red, Brian Stockrahm (judge), Tim Hammons, Travis Patterson with Huber's Gut Buster, Rich Meadows (judge), and Kayleigh Johnson with Huber's Gatling Girl.

("Ruby"/ISF), handled by Terry Boatright. Ruby started out running a huge race until about three-quarters of the way through her brace. At that time, she tried to point quail on two separate occasions in a fence roll. After the second quail contact, Ruby decided to stay in the wood line to find more birds and shorten her distance drastically, but it was

enough to finish in the top spot.

Second place in the Puppy was "Buster," handled by Travis Patterson. Buster had a big going, mostly forward race to lock up the second-place position.

The third-place puppy was also handled by Travis Patterson. "Susy," a tri-colored setter female, ran a shorter but more consistent race than the first and second place puppies. Susy has shown to be a consistent winner this season, placing several times in different states thus far to start her field trial career.

**ABHA OPEN PUPPY – 4 Pointers, 2 Setters and 1 Irish Setter**

1st-BOATRIGHT'S RUBY RED, F1721927, Irish setter female, by S C Simply Irresistable-Keep On Shining. Terry Boatright, owner and handler.

2d-HUBER'S GUT BUSTER, F1717651, pointer male, by I'm Gallant-Huber's Ice Queen. Travis Patterson, owner and handler.

3d-HUBER'S GATLING GIRL, F1720922, setter female, by Boatrights Iron Eagle-Boatright's Texas Tornado. Travis Patterson, owner and handler.

## TEXAS OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP

**Haneys Juggernaut Named Champion; Chelsea's Mae West, Runner-up**

**By John Van Horn | Conway, Arkansas | November 12, 2025**



**Texas Open Shooting Dog Championship (l-r):** Jim Lawless (judge), Zach Hilton with Haneys Juggernaut, Shawn Kinkelaar, Chris Weatherly (judge), Matt Cochran with Chelsea's Mae West, John Van Horn, and Ronnie Miller.

The Texas Open Shooting Dog Championships returned to Camp Robinson near Conway, Arkansas, November 12–15, bringing with it 38 competitors, two seasoned judges, and weather so pleasant that even the gallery dogs seemed to smile.

Warm, clear skies and not a drop of rain set the tone for four days of running, conditions so ideal that several handlers were left wondering whether they should thank the trial committee or the weatherman.

Judges Jim Lawless of Sparta, Illinois, and Chris Weatherly of Grand Junction, Tennessee, cast thoughtful eyes over each brace. With coveys popping up at a rate of ten to twelve per day, both men earned every bit of their meals, clipboards, and saddle time. Though the birds were plentiful, the judges remained unflappable; some said they were as steady as a broke dog on its best day, others noted that, unlike most dogs, neither judge showed any inclination to relocate.

Claiming top honors in the Shooting Dog Championship was Haneys Juggernaut, whose 13th brace performance left little room for debate. He showed forward, purposeful hunting from start to finish, handling the grounds with confidence and style. His two covey finds were polished and professional, just the sort of work that makes judges tip their hats and handlers breathe again. By the time he

reached the final stretch, spectators were whispering that Juggernaut was doing everything but signing his own championship certificate.

The runner-up ribbon went to Chelsea's Mae West, a determined female who ran in the seventh brace under the capable hands of Shawn Kinkelaar. Chelsea recorded three finds under judgment and a fourth "birds-were-here-but-wouldn't-appear-for-the-audience" encounter. Still, her race was forward, her manners impeccable, and her consistency undeniable. Kinkelaar, who also handled the champion, ended the trial with two dogs at the top; proof that sometimes lightning does strike the same handler twice.

Beyond the judges' calls, the bracemates, and the coveys that kept everyone awake in the saddle, the trial offered something more: a reminder of why people keep coming back to these grounds year after year. There's something special about a crisp morning start, a horse shifting beneath you, and the sudden eruption of wings that turns routine into excitement. It's a place where competition meets camaraderie, where rivalries fade at the tailgate, and where a good dog can turn an ordinary day into something worth talking about.

As riders headed home under another streak of perfect weather, the reflection was simple: in a world that changes fast, a good bird dog running to the front has a comforting way of staying the same. And if every November could look like this one, no one in the field trial community would complain, at least not out loud.

Conway, Ark., November 12

Judges: Jim Lawless and Chris Weatherly  
**TEXAS OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP**  
[One-Hour Heats] – 33 Pointers and 5 Setters  
Winner-HANEYS JUGGERNAUT, F1716275, pointer male, by Pleasant Run Samuel-Pleasant Run Sally. Chris Cagle, owner; Shawn Kinkelaar, handler.  
Runner-Up-CHELSEA'S MAE WEST, F1686810, pointer female, by Chelsea's Thunder Bolt-Chelsea's Southern Chic. Ron Prewitt & Brad Sadler, owners;



*Ed Beverly Memorial Open Derby (l-r): Allen Vincent with Red Dirt Road Mondo, Harold Woodward, Jim Lawless, Chris Weatherly, John Van Horn, Bruce Sooter, and Matt Cochran with CK Oklahoma Legacy.*

Shawn Kinkelaar, handler.

### **Ed Beverly Memorial Open Derby**

But the excitement didn't end there. In a thrilling second act to the week's field trial events, the Texas Open Championship Derby kicked off with high expectations and high stakes. The competition was fierce, but only one dog could walk away with the top prize.

Red Dirt Road Mondo, an English pointer male handled by Allen Vincent, turned in a remarkable performance in the 10th brace that left no doubt about his potential. Mondo's stylish forward race was complemented by an impressive four covey finds in just 30 minutes. The judges were particularly impressed with his sharp, consistent application to the ground and his ability to locate birds in both open and challenging terrain. By the end of his run, Mondo had firmly cemented his spot at the top, showcasing what makes Derby dogs so exciting to watch—the raw talent, energy, and promise of a future star.

Coming in second was CK Oklahoma Legacy, handled by Matt Cochran. Legacy's performance was noted for his excellent ground effort and tireless application across the field. While the dog did not land as many finds as the winner, his work on the ground showed a maturity and style beyond his years, earning him the well-deserved second-place spot.

Rounding out the placements was Hunt's Traveling Man, handled by Shawn Kinkelaar. Like his stablemate, Chelsea Mae West, Traveling Man earned his third-place ribbon thanks to his solid ground effort, though he, too, would have liked a few more covey finds to match the blazing performances of the top dogs. Still, his strong race and drive put him in contention for a top finish, reflecting the solid foundation of a promising derby contender.

As the Derby wrapped up, it was clear that the future of field trial competition is in good hands with dogs like Mondo, Legacy, and Traveling Man. Their spirited performances added an extra layer of excitement to the event, showing the bright potential of dogs still in their prime developmental years.

The Texas Open Shooting Dog Championship, with its mix of seasoned champions and up-and-coming derby dogs, was a reminder that the heart of field trial competition lies not only in the victories but also in the journey. Whether it's the thrill of watching a seasoned dog make a perfect find or the promise of a young dog still finding its footing, these events continue to be a celebration of the bond between handler and dog, and the unspoken understanding that no matter the outcome, it's always about the chase.

#### **ED BEVERLY MEMORIAL OPEN DERBY – 23 Pointers**

1st-RED DIRT ROAD MONDO, F1711695, pointer male, by Texas Wild Rex-Hard Rock April Showers. Jay McKenzie, owner; Allen Vincent, handler.  
2d-CK OKLAHOMA LEGACY, F1718486, pointer male, by Whippoorwill Forever Wild-Rum's Irresistible Rose. John Tomaski, owner; Matt Cochran, handler.  
3d-HUNT'S TRAVELING MAN, F1718045, pointer male, by Haney's All In-Hunt's Bella. Justin Hunt, owner; Shawn Kinkelaar, handler.

### **REMINDER: The February print deadline is January 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](mailto:gsmith@ukcdogs.com)

# GYP HILLS FIELD TRIAL CLUB

## Fall Trial Held At Z Bar Ranch

By Douglas Meyer | Aetna, Kansas | November 14, 2025



*Amateur All-Age (l-r): Hunter Livingston, Jase Lewis, Joe Worsham with Worsham's Samson, Lynn Oxendine with Rebel Country Spectre, Mark Livingston, Doug Meyer with Greypointe Patron, and Paul Roederer.*

**T**he amateur stakes on the Z Bar Ranch, southwest of Medicine Lodge, Kansas, held forth the weekend of November 14-15, 2025, under relatively pleasant conditions. The multiple-course venue, utilizing approximately 5,000 acres of the 43,000-acre ranch, required a slight rerouting of the four courses generally used for these stakes. Fortunately, the ranch staff had burned three of the hours the last two years, but the traditional land north of Cottage Creek Road was too lush with 6-foot-tall bluestem and India grasses to utilize it. We managed. Birds were present based on coveys pointed or flushed by the gallery and scouts, but scenting conditions were challenging during this wild bird-only trial. Dogs were mostly placed on race and how they hunted the hills and draw, and creek frontages.

Judges Mark Livingston and son Hunter Livingston rode attentively and enjoyed themselves riding the scenic ranch where bison, deer, and antelope play. Mark grew up in Iowa, attending trials with his late father Ron, and competes successfully with pointers carrying the Waubeek prefix. Hunter, now 31, followed the pattern

as well, attending trials with Dad and Grandpa and even spending a teenage summer in North Dakota with Shawn Kinkelaar. Interestingly, Hunter realized he had ridden my now 27-year-old walking horse, Eddie, which had once belonged to Shawn when he was with Shawn that summer. Small world it is with these dogs and horses!

Club President Doug Meyer had mowed the "judges' path" in October, as well as a few other strategic areas, to properly show a dog and make things as easy as possible for the scouts and handlers. Most dogs finished, and water availability in the wetlands and along Dry Creek, Cottage Creek, and the Salt Fork of



*Open Derby (l-r): Hunter Livingston (judge), Jay Lewis with Bocomo Oklahoma Cowboy, Carla Lewis, Jase Lewis, Jason Super with Bocomo Iceman, Mark Livingston (judge), and Sean Anderson.*

the Arkansas River kept the dogs and horses hydrated. We had some excellent races and some bird work that ended the day for a few dogs as well.

Winning the featured one-hour All-Age stake was Worsham's Samson with a very strong forward race and capable scouting from Lynn Oxendine. Rebel Country Spectre was second for Lynn Oxendine and a scouting assist from Joe. Greypointe Patron ran a very nice handling all-age race without birds to claim third. Sean Anderson scouted him.

The Shooting Dog hour was won by Reed's Super Spirit for Texan Jason Super. Beautiful on the ground and went to all the right places for first place. Justified At Last was braced with Super Spirit and also ran a hustling out front hunting race to take second. It was an enjoyable brace to ride and watch. Worsham's Spitfire, with some nice moves, annexed third place.

The Derby stake was hotly contested, with Jay Lewis named first with Bocomo Oklahoma Cowboy and 8-year-old grandson Jase Lewis named second with Bocomo Iceman. Jase informed us that he usually beats grandpa, but let him win this time! Skydancers Only Orion, setter male, ran an exciting race to take third for Jenny Lindsey.

The Gyp Hills club wishes to thank Eva Yearout, Z Bar Ranch manager, for all her hospitality, and a special thanks to Thane Yunker for driving the dog wagon, for all his assistance, and for leading a tour of the ranch for a few folks who hadn't been there before. We hope to see all of you out this way in the future. It's a unique opportunity and one of the last places I'm aware of to run on wild Bobwhites in the challenging environment of a prairie landscape.

Aetna, Kan., November 14

Judges: Hunter Livingston and Mark Livingston

**AMATEUR ALL-AGE [One-Hour Heats]**

– 8 Pointers

1st-WORSHAM'S SAMSON, F1717675, pointer male, by Haney's Silver Dollar-Haney's Black Widow. Joseph Worsham, owner and handler.

2d-REBEL COUNTRY SPECTRE, F1701262, pointer male, by Frontline Shack Attack-Spectre's Brown Sugar. Lynn Oxendine, owner and handler.

3d-GREYPOINTE PATRON, F1689123, pointer male, by Whippoorwill Justified-Greyhound Invierna. Douglas Meyer, owner and handler.

**OPEN DERBY – 10 Entries**

1st-BOCOMO OKLAHOMA COWBOY, F1720081, pointer male, by Bocomo Dutchman-Bocomo Resters Karen. Jay Lewis, owner and handler.

2d-BOCOMO ICEMAN, F1720084, pointer male, by Bocomo Dutchman-Bocomo Resters Karen. Jase Lewis, owner and handler.

3d-SKYDANCERS ONLY ORION, F1713977, setter male, by Skydancer Skyview Ace-Money Moves. Jennifer Lindsey, owner and handler.



**Amateur Shooting Dog (l-r): Mark Livingston, Doug Meyer (judge), Jay Lewis with Reed's Super Spirit, Jason Super, Lynn Oxendine with Justified At Last, Joe Worsham with Worsham's Spitfire, Doug Watt, and Hunter Livingston (judge).**

Judges: Hunter Livingston and Douglas Meyer  
**AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG [One-Hour Heats]**

– 9 Entries

1st-REED'S SUPER SPIRIT, F1691963, pointer female, by Valiant-Reed's Winter Spirit. Jason Super, owner and handler.

2d-JUSTIFIED AT LAST, F1695105, pointer male, by Whippoorwill Justified-Frontline Sophie Jack. Lynn Oxendine, owner and handler.

3d-WORSHAM'S SPITFIRE, F1701266, pointer male, by Touch's Grey Street-Erin's Miss Daisy. Joe Worsham, owner and handler.

## ESMONT FIELD TRIAL CLUB OF VIRGINIA

### Fall Trial Held At Greenfield Farm

By Tommy Stargell | Scottsville, Virginia | November 21, 2025

**W**e held our fall Scottsville trial as usual at the beautiful Greenfield Farm belonging to John Milton. We thank Mr. Milton for his hospitality and his generosity.

The trial took two days, November 21 and 22, to complete. The conditions were cold both days, with rain coming in on Saturday, November 22, and lasting most of the day. The rain caused a morning delay, but we then trudged along and completed the braces with a minimum of trouble.

We would like to thank Purina for their sponsorship. Thank you also to our judges, Steve Mills, Al Dahl, Kirk Regensburg, Pete DelCollo, and Tommy Stargell. Donna McGuire did a terrific job in the kitchen preparing our lunches. Darryl Miller performed bird planting with his ever-forming perfection. Mike Winchester handled the dog wagon with help from Kirk Regensburg. It was a group of many who worked together, and that made for a quality trial.

We started off with eight good derby dogs. Besting the field was Sadie Ridge Rip. He had two broke finds and a back coupled with a

strong forward race. Second was Wells Midas Touch, who carded two finds and good movement. Third was Walnut Tree Kay, who had two backs and a fast forward race.

The Amateur All-Age was convincingly won by Rocky River Loaded. He had finds at 54 and 58 and ran a pretty and large race. Second was Dry Creek Ares, who had three finds and a solid race. This dog had, by far, the most outstanding cast of the trial in the airplane field.

We ran the Shooting Dog on Saturday. It was wet and uncomfortable, but it was that way for everyone. The winner was Nomads Change Order, who had four finds and a nice shooting dog race. He pointed at 34 in the airplane field in what could be called the Briar Patch from Hell. Handler Lewis waded in with vigor and gusto. This was not some whimpy halfway effort; this was not some scrawny little bush. The effort was outstanding, and lo and behold, a bird was seen by handler who pointed it out to Judge Dahl, who said, as he should, "Shoot your gun!" This was not an attempt at "something for nothing." It was full-blown how to show a best effort and

thus get a proper reward. Second was a really nice dog, Sugarknoll White Lightning. This big ole pretty boy had five finds and was fun to watch.

Gracie's Scout won the Saturday Derby. He carded two finds and a fast-footed race.

We thank everyone for coming and hope you will consider our Purina Points All-Age and Shooting Dog trials in the spring.

We enjoyed having you all.

Scottsville, Va., November 21

Judges: Kirk Regensburg and Tommy Stargell  
**AMATEUR DERBY – 7 Pointers and 1 Setter**

1st-SADIE RIDGE RIP, F1714960, pointer male, by Rocky River Loaded-Sadie Ridge Sally. Grayson Francis, owner and handler.

2d-WELLS MIDAS TOUCH, F1711553, pointer male, by Miller's Upgraded Version-Wells Ray of Gold. Worth Lewis, owner and handler.

3d-WALNUT TREE KAY, F1717435, pointer female, by Walnut Tree Blue-Walnut Tree Betty. Steve Mills, owner and handler.

Judges: Steve Mills and Tommy Stargell  
**AMATEUR ALL-AGE [One-Hour Heats]**

– 5 Pointers and 1 Setter

1st-ROCKY RIVER LOADED, F1696572, pointer male, by Broken Halo-Morgan's Mountain Maggie. Grayson Francis, owner and handler.

2d-DRY CREEK ARES, F1696250, pointer male, by Bad News Bob-Dry Creek Ginger Snap. Jeff Smith, owner and handler.

Judges: Al Dahl and Steve Mills  
**AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG [One-Hour Heats]**  
 – 6 Pointers and 2 Setters

1st-NOMADS CHANGE ORDER, F1700670, setter male, by Black Top-Jo Veeta. Worth Lewis, owner and handler.

2d-SUGARKNOLL WHITE LIGHTNING, F1700086, pointer male, by Lester's Shockwave-BK White Rain. Peter & Christine DelCollo, owners; Peter DelCollo, handler.

Judges: Pete DelCollo and Tommy Stargell  
**AMATEUR DERBY – 2 Pointers and 1 Setter**  
 1st-GRACIE'S SCOUT, F1712367, pointer male, by Miller's Heat Seeker-Powell Mountain Gracie. Gene Hogge, owner and handler.

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## Field Trials



# QUAIL CREEK FIELD TRIAL CLUB

Member NBHA, ABHA & AFTCA • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

**January 2-3, 2026 • Walking Trial • Lewisburg, TN**

Grounds: Ben Weddington's Quail Creek Farm, 2875 TN Hwy. 64, Lewisburg, TN 37091. Text Ben at (901) 604-5652 for a Google Maps pin. Lunch served daily. **Drawing:** Tuesday, December 30, 6:00 p.m. (CST), at the home of Ben Weddington.

\*OPEN SHOOTING DOG (30 Min.)—Min. \$1000-\$500-\$250 Payout .....\$125.00  
 OPEN DERBY (30 Min.)—50-30-20 Payout .....\$ 75.00  
 OPEN PUPPY (20 Min.)—Time permitting .....\$ 45.00  
 AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG (30 Min.)—Belt Buckle & Awards .....\$ 75.00  
 AMATEUR DERBY (30 Min.)—Belt Buckle & Awards .....\$ 55.00  
 AMATEUR GUN DOG (30 Min.)—Time permitting .....\$ 55.00

Judges: *Open Stakes*—Kenton Bryant, Bowling Green, KY, and Woody Woodruff, Shelbyville, TN; *Amateur Stakes*—James Kleve, Paris, KY, and Justin Crook, Jasper, MO.



Entries to: BEN WEDDINGTON, Club President • Phone: (901) 604-5652

Landowners, the club, its officers, members, employees, successors and any agents are not responsible and cannot be held liable for any accidents, injuries, damages, or losses to any person, property, animal, or equipment that may occur during this trial. Any entry upon the property is accepted as a waiver of any and all liability for such. Attend at your own risk. All horses must have proof of a negative Coggins test within the last twelve months.



# QUAIL CREEK FIELD TRIAL CLUB

Member ABHA, NBHA & AFTCA • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

**January 4, 2026 • Horseback Trial • Lewisburg, TN**

Grounds: Ben Weddington's Quail Creek Farm, 2875 TN Hwy. 64, Lewisburg, TN 37091. Text Ben at (901) 604-5652 for a Google Maps pin. Lunch served daily. **Drawing:** Tuesday, December 30, 6:00 p.m. (CST), at the home of Ben Weddington.

AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG (30 Min.)—Belt Buckle & Awards .....\$ 75.00  
 OPEN DERBY (30 Min.)—50-30-20 Payout & Awards .....\$ 75.00  
 OPEN SHOOTING DOG (30 Min.)—50-30-20 Payout & Awards .....\$125.00

Judges: ASD—James Kleve, Paris, KY, and Justin Crook, Jasper, MO;  
*Open Stakes*—To be announced.



Entries to: BEN WEDDINGTON, Club President  
 Phone: (901) 604-5652

Landowners, the club, its officers, members, employees, successors and any agents are not responsible and cannot be held liable for any accidents, injuries, damages, or losses to any person, property, animal, or equipment that may occur during this trial. Any entry upon the property is accepted as a waiver of any and all liability for such. Attend at your own risk. All horses must have proof of a negative Coggins test within the last twelve months.



# WESTARK FIELD TRIAL CLUB

Member ABHA, AFTCA, NBHA & AAFTA • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

**January 15-16, 2026 • Booneville, AR**  
 — Horseback Classic —

Grounds: From intersection of Hwy. 10 and Hwy. 23 in Booneville, AR, go 3 blocks south, turn left on Hwy. 217, then go 7.3 miles, turn left between graveyard and church house, and go 1/4 mile to clubhouse. **Drawing:** Monday, January 12, 6:00 p.m., at the home of Kenny Snow. All handlers must have an Arkansas hunting license.

HORSEBACK OPEN SHOOTING DOG (1 Hour) .....\$90.00  
 HORSEBACK OPEN DERBY (30 Min.) .....\$75.00

Judges: To be announced



Entries to: KENNY SNOW • Phone: (479) 221-8816

**[www.americanfield.com](http://www.americanfield.com)**



# ASSOCIATED FIELD TRIAL CLUBS OF FLORIDA

Member AFTCA • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

January 2-4, 2026 • Everglades Trial  
Babcock Webb Wildlife Management Area  
Punta Gorda, FL



## A PURINA TOP AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG AWARD & NATIONAL AMATEUR INVITATIONAL POINTS TRIAL

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 for training January 5-6. **Drawing:** Thursday, January 1, 8:00 p.m., in the clubhouse. Catered Purina-sponsored dinner. Saturday evening bring your own meat cookout.

AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG (1 Hour)—National Amateur Points .....	\$100.00
OPEN ALL-AGE (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.....	\$ 50.00

—No cash purse, prizes only—

Judges: Charlie Tims (SC) and Jacob Huckabee (FL)

PETIE & BETH BROWN, Chairpersons  
Phone: (941) 962-4024 or (941) 737-3660

JUSTIN MUZYNSKI, President  
Phone: (407) 744-4695

KATIE McEWEN, Secretary  
Phone: (239) 357-8800 • Email: Sarahkmce@gmail.com

BETH BROWN, Treasurer  
Phone: (941) 737-3660 • Email: bbrowndvm@mindspring.com

The Club, club members, and the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission are not responsible for accidents or injuries to vehicles, animals or persons.



## WESTARK FIELD TRIAL CLUB

Member NBHA, AFTCA, ABHA & AFTA • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

January 17-18, 2026 • Booneville, AR

**Grounds:** From intersection of Hwy. 10 and Hwy. 23 in Booneville, AR, go 3 blocks south, turn left on Hwy. 217, then go 7.3 miles, turn left between graveyard and church house, and go 1/4 mile to clubhouse. **Drawing:** Monday, January 12, 6:00 p.m., at the home of Kenny Snow. All handlers must have an Arkansas hunting license.

OPEN SHOOTING DOG.....	\$50.00
OPEN DERBY.....	\$40.00
OPEN PUPPY.....	\$30.00
AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG.....	\$50.00
AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG—Judgment ceases at flush.....	\$40.00
AMATEUR DERBY.....	\$40.00
AMATEUR PUPPY.....	\$30.00

Judges: *Open*—Frank Schoenborn and Greg Gibson;  
*Amateur*—Justin Crook and Kenny Snow.

Entries to: KENNY SNOW • Phone: (479) 221-8816



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## NVA WESTERN SHOOTING DOG, MORTENSEN DERBY & BILL GIBBONS NATIONAL ALL-AGE CLASSICS

January 2, 2026 to Conclusion • Sonoita, AZ

**Grounds:** Empire Ranch, 16655 East Empire Ranch Rd., Sonoita, AZ 85637 (GPS Coordinates: 31.7927, -110.62659). **Drawing:** Tuesday, December 30, 7:00 p.m. (MST), on the grounds.

ALL-AGE CLASSIC.....	\$175.00
DERBY CLASSIC .....	\$100.00
SHOOTING DOG CLASSIC .....	\$175.00

**Judges:** *Shooting Dog*—Guy Mollicone, Hereford, AZ, and Derrick Olsen, Harper, OR; *Derby & All-Age*—To be announced.

Entries to:

DAN MAYER, Co-Chair • Phone: (248) 974-2019  
476 S. Lake View Dr, Vineyard, UT 84059

Email: daedmayer@gmail.com

PATRICK CLARK, Co-Chair • Phone: (801) 712-6689  
2941 Kletha Trail, Flagstaff, AZ 86005

Email: patrick@allpointsbirddogs.com



## A MIDSOUTH AMATEUR FIELD TRIAL ASSOCIATION EVENT

## WEST TENNESSEE FIELD TRIAL CLUB

Member AFTCA & Midsouth AFTA • Blank ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns only!

JANUARY 8-11, 2026



## POINTS TRIAL FOR NATIONAL AMATEUR ALL-AGE & SHOOTING DOG INVITATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

### REGION 6 & MIDSOUTH AFTA DOG OF THE YEAR POINTS TRIAL

### PURINA AMATEUR ALL-AGE DOG OF THE YEAR POINTS TRIAL

**Grounds:** Currie Farms, Miller Rd. and Blalock Dr., Dancyville, TN. Lunch will be served on the grounds. Fish Fry on Saturday night, January 10. **Drawing:** Monday, January 5, 7:00 p.m. (cutoff), at Currie Farms (Bill Currie)—(731) 780-3683. You must be an individual member of AFTCA to enter your dog. **For Motel Reservations, call:** Comfort Inn—(731) 772-4082; or Days Inn—(731) 772-3297. Both located at I-40 and Hwy. 76, Exit 56.

AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG (1 Hour).....	\$80.00
AMATEUR ALL-AGE (1 Hour) .....	\$80.00
AMATEUR DERBY (30 Minutes) .....	\$40.00

**Judges:** *ASD & AD*—Keith St. John, Fulton, KY, and Isaiah Todd, Somerville, TN; *AAA*—Alex Rickert, Thomasville, GA, and Brad McCardle, Lewistown, MT.

Call or text entries to:

BILL CURRIE—(731) 780-3683

-or- J.P. HATHCOCK—(731) 443-0050

Negative Coggins test required. West Tennessee FTC and landowners are not responsible for accidents or injuries to people involved in or attending the trial.

# PINEHURST FIELD TRIAL CLUB

Member AFTCA & NCFTA • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

**January 9-11, 2026**

**Hoffman, NC**

**110th Annual Trial**

— North Carolina's Oldest Amateur Club —



**Early Drawing: Tuesday, January 6, 2:00 p.m.**

**AMATEUR DERBY (30 Min.).....Entry Fee: \$ 60.00**

**Leg on the Pinehurst Derby Trophy**

**U.S. Amateur Derby Invitational Points Trial**

**AMATEUR ALL-AGE (1 Hour) ...Entry Fee: \$120.00**

**Leg on the James W. Tufts Trophy**

**National Amateur Invitational Points**

**& Purina Amateur All-Age Award Points Trial**

**Judges: Sean Melvin, Garland, NC,  
and Larry Cox, Randleman, NC**

**PAUL GADD • Cell: (828) 310-6688**

## OLD HICKORY FIELD TRIAL CLUB

Member AFTCA, SFTC, TFTA & Region 6 • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

proudly presents the 2025

## VIRGIL BEASLEY SR. MEMORIAL AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG CLASSIC

**JANUARY 16-18, 2026 • STARTS 7:30 A.M.**



**AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG INVITATIONAL POINTS TRIAL**

**PURINA TOP AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG POINTS TRIAL**

**SOUTHERN CIRCUIT AND REGION 6 POINTS TRIAL**

**AMATEUR DERBY (30 Min.)—Prizes awarded.....\$ 60.00**

**VIRGIL BEASLEY SR. MEMORIAL**

**AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG CLASSIC (1 Hour).....\$100.00**

**Prizes: 1st—Three bags of Pro Plan dog feed • 2nd—Two bags of Pro Plan dog feed  
3rd—One bag of Pro Plan dog feed**

**Judges: Ruthann Epp, Marion Junction, AL, and Chip Pendergrass, Dayton, TN**

**Reporter: Jeff Blackwell, Shelbyville, TN**

**Grounds: Percy Priest WMA, 381 Old Jones Mill Rd., LaVergne, TN 36086. Directions:**  
From I-24, approx. 10 miles south of Nashville, take Exit 64 (Waldron Rd.) and go east  
approx. 3 miles to Hwy. 41. Turn right and go south approx. 4 miles and turn left on Fergus  
Rd. Go approx. 2 miles and turn right on Jones Mill Rd. Go approx. 1.8 miles and turn left onto  
Old Jones Mill Rd. (dead ends into clubhouse). **Lunch:** Will be served daily including Friday  
courtesy of Pro Pet and Saturday and Sunday courtesy of the club. **Drawing:** Monday,  
January 12, 8:00 p.m. (EST), at the home of Derek Bonner. Must enter all dogs with registered  
names. Motel: Comfort Inn—(615) 793-3600. Ask for Jerry for field trial rate.

**Phone or email entries to: DEREK BONNER**

**Phone: (828) 289-2300 • Email: bonnerderek@bellsouth.net**

Entries accepted with the understanding that OHFTC, its officers or directors are not in any way responsible  
and cannot be held liable for accidents involving anyone attending the trial, their horses, dogs, or equipment.

## ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH CAROLINA FIELD TRIAL CLUBS

Member AFTCA & ASCFTC • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

presents the

## SOUTH CAROLINA AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG CLASSIC



**January 9-11, 2026**



**H. Cooper Black Memorial Field Trial Grounds  
279 Sporting Dog Trail, Cheraw, SC 29520**

**A PURINA TOP AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG AWARD POINTS TRIAL  
QUALIFYING TRIAL FOR THE SOUTH CAROLINA AMATEUR INVITATIONAL**



— Proudly sponsored by Purina —

**Drawing: Monday, January 5, 6:30 p.m.,  
at the home of President Mac Stidham.**

**AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG (1 Hour).....Entry Fee: \$125.00**

**\*AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG DERBY (30 Min.).....Entry Fee: \$ 75.00**

*\*Time permitting*

**Judges: Drew Bastian, Mount Pleasant, SC,  
and Jadie Rayfield, Mt. Pleasant, SC**

**Entries to: MAC STIDHAM**

**Phone: (803) 479-5606 • Email: mstidham49@yahoo.com**

Entries accepted with the understanding that the officers, landowners and club members are not in any way responsible and cannot be  
held liable for any accidents involving anyone attending the trial, their horses, dogs or equipment. Negative Coggins required.

## NORTH CAROLINA FIELD TRIAL ASSOCIATION

Member AFTCA & NCFTA • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

**JANUARY 30-FEBRUARY 1, 2026**

**STARTS 8:00 A.M.**

**BOB GORDON GAMELANDS, HOFFMAN, NC**



**NATIONAL AMATEUR INVITATIONAL  
& PURINA AMATEUR ALL-AGE AWARD POINTS TRIAL**

**Pre-Drawing: Tuesday, January 27, 7:00 p.m. Hotel  
Accommodations: Microtel Motel, Southern Pines,  
NC—(877) 693-3738.**

**AMATEUR ALL-AGE (1 Hour).....\$120.00**


**AMATEUR DERBY (30 Min.).....\$ 60.00**

**Judges: Gene Hogge, Smithfield, VA,  
and Steve Mills, Mayodan, NC**

**Entries to: GRAYSON FRANCIS**

**Phone: (434) 610-8601**

The NC Wildlife Dept., NCFTA or any members are not liable for any loss,  
injury or accident to any persons, animals or equipment on grounds.



# FLINT RIVER FIELD TRIAL CLUB


Member AFTCA, SBHA, Alabama FTA & Dixie Trace FTA • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

**February 5-8, 2026 (depending on entries)**  
**Horseback Trial • Starts 8:00 a.m. each day**  
**A PURINA TOP AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG AWARD**  
**& AMATEUR INVITATIONAL POINTS TRIAL**

Grounds: J.L. Lester WMA, 2568 Antioch Rd., Cedartown, GA.  
 Single course. **Drawing:** Monday, February 2, 7:00 p.m. (EST), at the home of Lavon King, Rockmart, GA. Phone: (678) 918-6124.  
 For drawing and information, visit [www.dixietrace.org](http://www.dixietrace.org). AFTCA member number required for the Classic. **Social event:** To be held by club after the day's running on Saturday.

**OPEN DERBY (30 Min.) .....\$50.00**  
**PAT LaBREE AMATEUR**  
**SHOOTING DOG CLASSIC (1 Hour) .....\$90.00**  
**OPEN SHOOTING DOG (30 Min.)—Time permitting .....\$50.00**  
**Judges:** Meredith Mays, Arab, AL, and Jeff Gibbons, Prattville, AL  
**Entries to: LAVON KING • Phone: (678) 918-6124**  
**Email: [jlking@co.douglas.ga.us](mailto:jlking@co.douglas.ga.us)**

The Flint River Field Trial Club is not responsible for injury to participants, animals or property during these events.



# WOLF RIVER FIELD TRIAL CLUB

— Mid-South Amateur Field Trial Association —  
 Member of AFTCA • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!  
**FEBRUARY 12-15, 2026 • BLUE MOUNTAIN, MS**



**Points Trial for National Amateur All-Age, Shooting Dog & U. S. Amateur Derby Invitationals, Purina Amateur All-Age Award, Purina Top Amateur Shooting Dog Award, Region 6 & Mid-South Amateur Field Trial Association**



**Grounds:** Hell Creek WMA, Blue Mountain, MS. **Drawing:** Tuesday, February 10, 6:00 p.m. (CST), at the home of Amy Spencer. AFTCA membership number must accompany entry.

**AMATEUR ALL-AGE (1 Hour) .....\$80.00**  
**AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG (1 Hour) .....\$50.00**  
**AMATEUR DERBY .....\$50.00**

**Judges:** Keith Bollendorf, Hunter Jacobs, and Bubba & Amy Spencer  
**Entries to: AMY SPENCER, Secretary • Phone/Text: (731) 343-0561**

Club officials and MDWFP are not responsible for accidents, injury, or loss. All Hell Creek WMA rules and regulations must be followed. Ride at your own risk. All tracking receivers must be off during competition.

# GEORGIA AMATEUR CELEBRATION

*Sponsored by: Georgia Field Trial Association*  
**February 13-15, 2026 • Starts 8:00 A.M.**

**Di-Lane Plantation, Herndon Rd.,  
Waynesboro, Georgia**

Released birds daily. Lunch served daily.



**Pre-Drawing:** Tuesday, February 10, 7:00 p.m., at home of Nell Mobley. AFTCA number needs to be called in with entry. **Lodging:** Hampton Inn—Phone: (706) 588-4190. Ask for field trial rates.

**AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG (1 Hour) .....\$100.00**  
**AMATEUR ALL-AGE (1 Hour) .....\$100.00**  
**\*AMATEUR DERBY (30 Minutes) .....\$ 50.00**

*\*Time permitting; Continuous Course*

**POINTS GIVEN TOWARD ALL-AGE AND SHOOTING DOG INVITATIONALS**  
**PURINA TOP AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG & ALL-AGE DOG OF THE YEAR POINTS**  
**Judges:** Randy Marsh, Statesboro, GA, and Gary Futch, Statesboro, GA

The club, club members and Georgia Department of Natural Resources are not responsible for accidents or injuries to vehicles, animals or persons. Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only! Retrieval collars may be used.

**NELL MOBLEY, Secretary/Treasurer**  
**P.O. Box 692, WAYNESBORO, GA 30830**  
**Phone: (706) 466-2991**

*Sponsored by Purina Feed Company and Burke County Chamber of Commerce*



*Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!*



**February 27-March 1, 2026 • Starts 7:30 a.m. (CT)**

**A PURINA TOP AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG AWARD,  
AFTCA INVITATIONAL, REGION 6 & SOUTHERN CIRCUIT POINTS TRIAL**

**Grounds:** Percy Priest WMA Field Trial Grounds, 346 Old Jones Mill Rd., La Vergne, TN 37086. Lunch will be provided. Electric hook-ups \$15.00 per night. **Drawing:** Tuesday, February 24, 6:00 p.m. (CT), at the home of Ben Weddington.

**\*AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG (1 Hour) .....\$90.00**  
**\*AMATEUR DERBY (30 Min.) .....\$60.00**  
**\*YOUTH HORSEBACK (20 Min.)—Judged on Gun Dog Standards . \$25.00**

*\*Belt Buckles, Awards, and Purina Pro Plan to Winners*

**Judges:** ASD & AD—Hunter Payne, Spring City, TN, and Derek Layne, Chapel Hill, TN; *Youth Stake*—Scott & Lisa Little, Woodlawn, TN.

**Call or text entries to: BEN WEDDINGTON • Phone: (901) 604-5652**

Note: Region 6, The Club, its officers, members, employees, successors and any agents are not responsible and cannot be held liable for any accidents, injuries, damages, or losses to any person, property, animal, or equipment that may occur during this trial. Any entry upon the property is accepted as a waiver of any and all liability for such. Attend at your own risk. All horses must have proof of a negative Coggins test within the last twelve months.



**Youth Field Trial  
ALLIANCE**

# REGION 16 (AFTCA) AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP

Member AFTCA & Dixie Trace FTA • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

**Starts Friday, January 2, 2026**  
**Showtime Plantation, Bronwood, GA**



**A NATIONAL AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG INVITATIONAL  
& PURINA TOP AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG AWARD POINTS TRIAL**

**Entry Fee: \$175.00**

**Directions to Grounds:** From Bronwood, GA, take Thornton St. past Bronwood Cemetery to Speir Rd., and turn right to barn 1/2 mile down road. No ATVs or vehicles allowed on courses. **Drawing:** Tuesday, December 30, 7:00 p.m., at the home of Larron Copeland. Phone at drawing: (229) 317-1812. Please be prepared to give your AFTCA Membership number at time of entry. **Qualification:** Dog must have an AFTCA win certificate in an Amateur Shooting Dog or Amateur Derby stake.

**Judges:** Kent Cantrell, Anthony, FL, and Paul Daniel, Zephyrhills, FL

**For further information, call:**

**WOODY WATSON—(229) 886-0422 -or- LARRON COPELAND—(229) 317-1812**

*Club and landowners not responsible for accidents or injuries.*



**TENNESSEE VALLEY FIELD TRIAL CLUB PRESENTS THE**

*Member ABHA, Region 6, KFTA, AFTCA & Southern Circuit FTC • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!*

# ABHA NATIONAL FREE-FOR-ALL CHAMPIONSHIP

**Starts January 8, 2026 • LaVergne, TN**



**Grounds:** Percy Priest Wildlife Management Area, 381 Old Jones Mill Rd., Pooles Knob Recreation Area, La Vergne, TN.

**Drawing:** Monday January 5, 8:00 p.m. (EST), at the home of Ronnie Rogers.

## OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP

(Course with One-Hour Callback)—40% of entries split 60-40 .....	\$180.00
OPEN DERBY (30 Min. Heats)—40% of entries split 50-30-20.....	\$ 80.00
OPEN PUPPY (20 Min. or Course)—40% of entries split 50-30-20.....	\$ 40.00
OPEN HORSEBACK SHOOTING DOG (30 Min.)—Time permitting; 40% of entries split 50-30-20 .....	\$ 80.00
OPEN HORSEBACK DERBY (30 Min.)—Time permitting; 40% of entries split 50-30-20 .....	\$ 80.00
AMATEUR HORSEBACK SHOOTING DOG (30 Min.)—Time permitting .....	\$ 40.00
AMATEUR HORSEBACK DERBY (30 Min.)—Time permitting.....	\$ 40.00

**Judges:** Ronnie and Daphne Rogers, New Market, TN

**All entries to: RONNIE ROGERS • Phone: (865) 712-9229 -or- (865) 475-3459**

*The Tennessee Valley Field Trial Club, its officers and members are not responsible for injuries, losses or accidents involving anyone attending or participating in the trial and their horses, dogs, vehicles and equipment.*

The Ames Amateur Field Trial Association announces the 73rd Renewal of the  
**HOBART AMES MEMORIAL CLASSIC**

Joey McAlexander, President | Dr. Fred Corder, Vice-President | Matt Backus, Secretary/Treasurer

Directors: Chris Weatherly, Jonathan Burch, Larry Huffman, Kent Walker



— Purina is this year's official sponsor —

**Starting Monday, January 12, 2026**

**To be run on the National Championship Morning Course, Ames Plantation, Grand Junction, TN**

Deadline for Entries: On or before 6:00 p.m. (CST), Saturday, January 10.

Drawing: Saturday, January 10, 7:00 p.m., at the Ames Plantation office. Open to all participants.

**\*HOBART AMES OPEN ALL-AGE CLASSIC (1 Hour)..... Entry Fee: \$300.00**

**A NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFYING STAKE • PURINA DOG & PURINA HANDLER OF THE YEAR POINTS STAKE**

*There will also be a \$20/dog National Championship grounds fee in addition to the entry fee for the All-Age stake.*

**\*JOE WALKER OPEN DERBY CLASSIC (1 Hour)—Starts at conclusion of All-Age Stake, if time allows ..... Entry Fee: \$175.00**

**AMERICAN DERBY INVITATIONAL POINTS STAKE**

**\*60% of entry fees divided 50-30-20**

**Judges:** Mark Haynes, Brownsville, TN, and Keith St. John, South Fulton, TN • **Reporter:** James A. Atchison, Caruthersville, MO

**Note:** If the All-Age Stake is longer than 4 days there will be a different set of Derby Stake Judges! The club will run at least 6 braces per day with the next brace ALWAYS on standby!

Only solid barrel guns can and will be used during the trial! Ames Plantation will furnish solid barrel guns (.32 caliber pistols w/blanks) for handlers use if necessary. Anyone attempting to use an open barrel gun with or without blank ammunition will be automatically disqualified!

No alcoholic beverages allowed on the courses. No stallions will be allowed on Plantation property. All horses must have a current negative Coggins Test (less than 12 months). All individuals stabling horses on Plantation property must provide Ames Plantation, for permanent

possession, a photocopy of their current negative Coggins Test upon arrival. Guests are allowed to use their cell phones before and after braces are run, but NOT during the actual running. Those in attendance are special guests of the Ames Plantation and will be asked to comply cooperatively with staff concerning traditional running rules on Ames Plantation. No running on Sunday.

The Wayne Tate Memorial Steak Dinner sponsored by The Bank of Fayette County and the HAMFTC for all owners, handlers, club members, and invited guests will be on Tuesday, January 13, immediately following the afternoon running, at Bryan Hall.

Send entries to: **MATT BACKUS**, Ames Plantation, P.O. Box 389, Grand Junction, TN 38039

Phone: (901) 878-1067 • Email: [mbackus@amesplantation.org](mailto:mbackus@amesplantation.org)



# REGION 6 (AFTCA) AMATEUR ALL-AGE CHAMPIONSHIP

**Hosted by Hell Creek Field Trial Club**

*Member AFTCA, Region 6 & Mid-South AFTA • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!*

**Starts Thursday, January 15, 2026 • Myrtle, MS**

*(\*Start date depends on number of entries)*



**A NATIONAL AMATEUR ALL-AGE INVITATIONAL, REGION 6 DOG OF THE YEAR  
& PURINA AMATEUR ALL-AGE POINTS TRIAL**

**Entry Fee: \$125.00 + \$25.00 Bird Fee • One-Hour Heats**

**Judges:** Elton Bray, Holly Springs, MS, and Lowry Strickland, Holly Springs, MS

**Grounds:** Hell Creek WMA, 4120 County Rd. 825, Myrtle, MS 38650. **Drawing:** Monday, January 12, 7:00 p.m., at the home of Lisa Little, Region 6 Secretary. An AFTCA Win Certificate number, AFTCA Membership number and FDSB registered name and number must accompany each entry.

**Entries to: LISA LITTLE, Region 6 Secretary, 1301 Ross Dr., Woodlawn, TN 37191**

**Phone: (931) 980-0452 • Email: [doubletroublestables@yahoo.com](mailto:doubletroublestables@yahoo.com)**

*Region 6 and its members are not responsible for accidents. Participation in the trial as either a spectator, handler, owner, scout, or in any other capacity constitutes a waiver and release of Region 6 officers, members and landowners from any and all liabilities for accidents or other losses.*



# SOUTHEASTERN OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP

Member AFTCA & Dixie Trace FTA • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

**January 15, 2026 to Conclusion • Starts 8:00 a.m. (EST)**  
**The Farm, 157 SE Endless Ct., Lake City, FL 32024**



**A PURINA TOP SHOOTING DOG AWARD, HANDLER OF THE YEAR AWARD  
& DIXIE TRACE FIELD TRIAL ASSOCIATION POINTS TRIAL  
NATIONAL OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFIER**



**Qualification:** Placement in an American Field recognized 30-minute or longer Open Shooting Dog or Derby stake. In the event more than 60 dogs are entered at the time of the drawing, the stake will revert to a 30-minute qualifying series with the judges selecting up to 12 dogs to run in a one-hour call-back. **Directions to Grounds:** Take Hwy. 247 South out of Lake City for 8 miles; The Farm will be on the left. Signs will be posted. To be run on continuous courses with wild and pre-released birds. **Drawing:** Tuesday, January 13, 1:00 p.m. (EST), at Joel Norman's house, 39 SE 891 Ave., Suwannee, FL 32692.


**SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP (One-Hour Heats) ..... Entry Fee: \$300.00 + \$25.00 Grounds Fee**  
**Purse:** 60% of entry fees divided 70-30

**Judges:** Jeff Gibbons, Deatsville, AL, and Ben Stringer, Thomasville, GA • **Reporter:** Joel Norman




*Thank you to Mr. Chester Stokes for the promotion of the sport and for providing  
a great place for the Southeastern Open Shooting Dog Championship to be held.*

**Entries to: JOEL NORMAN, President • Phone: (352) 356-3561**  
**P.O. Box 87, Suwannee, FL 32692**

The Southeastern Open Shooting Dog Championship, its officers, members, and landowner disclaim all liability or responsibility for loss, accident or injury to visitors, participants, their animals and equipment.



*Announcing the Forty-Third Renewal of the*  
**GULF COAST OPEN  
SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP**  
**Hosted by Conecuh Station Field Trial Club • Union Springs, AL**  
**Trial starts Monday, January 19, 2026, 8:00 a.m., until completion**  
**— A QUALIFYING TRIAL FOR THE NATIONAL OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP —**  
**ALABAMA FIELD TRIAL ASSOCIATION & DIXIE TRACE FIELD TRIAL ASSOCIATION POINTS TRIAL**  
**UNITED STATES SHOOTING DOG INVITATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS TRIAL**  
**A PURINA TOP SHOOTING DOG AWARD POINTS TRIAL**  
**SHOTGUNS WITH BLANK AMMO ONLY. NO PISTOLS.**  
**Entry Fee:** \$300.00 (Payable prior to running) • **Purse:** 60% of entry fees split 60% to Winner and 40% to Runner-up.  
**Judges:** Tim Moore and Will McFerrin  
**Drawing:** Thursday, January 15, 6:00 p.m. (CST), at Conecuh Station Clubhouse. **Qualification:** Entry must have a placement in a recognized Open Shooting Dog or Open Derby stake. Handlers will not be required to run in more than two consecutive braces. Registration information required. **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. **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, Field Dog Stud Book, AFTCA, AFTA, and UKC.  
As of the time of this trial's advertisement, Conecuh Station has not seen any instances of EQUINE HERPESVIRUS (EHV-1 / EHV-4) on our grounds, and CS & CFTC have taken measures to provide clean and safe grounds, but we cannot guarantee against infection. All participants and horse owners assume full responsibility for their horses' health and safety while on the grounds and during the field trial. The CFTC and Conecuh Station expressly disclaim any and all liability for illness, injury, exposure to infectious disease (including, but not limited to EHV), loss, or death of any horse, whether on site, in transit, or following the trial. By attending or participating, you acknowledge and accept these risks. CFTC reserves the right to quarantine or exclude any infected or ill appearing animal.



# NBHA EASTERN REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Hosted by Boiling Springs Field Trial Club

Member NBHA & AFTCA • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

Starts January 22, 2026 • Mid-Carolina Grounds, Camden, SC



**Grounds:** Located at Greenfield and Field Trial Roads. Lunches provided daily. No horse stalls or camper hook-ups. Clubhouse with bathrooms and water available. **Drawing:** Sunday, January 18, 8:00 p.m.

**CHAMPIONSHIP (1 Hour)—40%, 60-40 less \$20/dog ..... Entry Fee: \$170.00**

**Judges:** Chad Wheeler, Riner, VA, and Taylor Henley, Soddy Daisy, TN

**Entries to: CLIFF MONROE • Phone: (704) 692-3580**

NBHA, AFTCA, or Boiling Springs FTC are not responsible for any accidents or injuries to any persons and/or animals. All participants, spectators, or visitors entering the grounds do so at their own risk.



The Duplin County Field Trial Club  
presents the

## 2026 ATLANTIC COAST OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP

*—Dedicated to the Memory of Bill Faust—*

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Grounds, Hoffman, NC

Friday, January 23, 2026  
until completion



**Starts 8:00 A.M.**  
(Subject to Judges' directives)

— A PURINA TOP SHOOTING DOG AWARD AND PURINA HANDLER OF THE YEAR AWARD POINTS TRIAL —

Drawing will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 20  
at the residence of David Huffine.



**ATLANTIC COAST OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP.....Entry Fee: \$300.00**

60% of entry fees (less grounds, dog wagon, and bird fees) divided 70% to Winner and 30% to Runner-Up.

To be run on continuous courses. Entry fees payable prior to running.

Open Derby or Open Shooting Dog placement required for qualification.

**ATLANTIC COAST OPEN DERBY—Time permitting .....Entry Fee: \$150.00**

60% of entry fees (less grounds, dog wagon, and bird fees) divided 50% to first place, 30% to second place and 20% to third place.

**Judges:** Ronnie Rogers, New Market, TN, and Sharon Townley, Culpeper, VA

ONLY MANUFACTURED SOLID BLANK GUNS AND AMMO ALLOWED!

Horses must have a current Coggins test • GPS collars permitted

**Entries to: DAVID HUFFINE • Phone: (910) 620-2970 • Email: dhuffine1951@gmail.com**

**[Text or email required]**

Entries accepted with the understanding that the NCFTA, their officers, directors, and members are not in any way responsible and cannot be held liable for any accidents involving anyone attending the trial, their horses, dogs, or equipment.

# REGION 16 (AFTCA) AMATEUR ALL-AGE CHAMPIONSHIP

Member AFTCA & Dixie Trace FTA • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

**BEGINS FRIDAY, JANUARY 30, 2026 • PUNTA GORDA, FL**



## **A PURINA AMATEUR ALL-AGE AWARD AND NATIONAL AMATEUR ALL-AGE INVITATIONAL POINTS TRIAL**

**Entry Fee: \$175.00**

**Judges:** Tom Hennes, Gordon, AL, and Jeff Arnold, Tallahassee, FL

**Grounds:** Cecil B. Webb Wildlife Management Area, 37503 Bermont Rd., Punta Gorda, FL 33982.

**Drawing:** Monday, January 26, 8:00 p.m., at the home of Paul Daniel, Zephyrhills, FL. AFTCA membership number to be submitted with entry. The drawing will be out Tuesday, January 27 by 12:00 noon. **Qualification:** Entry must have an Amateur Derby or Amateur All-Age placement.

— **NEGATIVE COGGINS REQUIRED** —

**Entries to: PAUL DANIEL • Phone: (813) 477-4104**

*Region 16, its officers and the landowners are not responsible and cannot be held liable for any accidents involving anyone attending the trial, their horses, dogs, or equipment. Disrespect to Judges or Officials in any form will not be tolerated.*

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**A MID-SOUTH AMATEUR FIELD TRIAL ASSOCIATION EVENT**

**ALABAMA FIELD TRIAL CLUB'S**

# ALABAMA OPEN ALL-AGE CHAMPIONSHIP & DERBY CLASSIC

— *Established 1897* —

**Begins Saturday, January 31, 2026, 8:00 a.m.**

**NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFYING TRIAL**

**A PURINA AND PURINA HANDLER OF THE YEAR POINTS TRIAL**



**ALABAMA OPEN ALL-AGE CHAMPIONSHIP (1 Hour).....(includes \$25.00 grounds fee) \$375.00\*\***

**Purse:** 60% divided 70% to Winner; 30% to Runner-Up • \*\*\$20/dog NFTCA fee included in entry fee

**Qualification:** Entry must have a placement in a recognized Open Derby or Open All-Age stake.

**OPEN DERBY CLASSIC (1 Hour)—60%, 50-30-20..... (includes \$25.00 grounds fee) \$275.00**

— *Derby Classic is a Derby Invitational Championship Points Trial* —

**Judges:** Joey McAlexander, Holly Springs, AL, and Jeremy Taylor, Booneville, MS

**Drawing:** Wednesday, January 28, 7:00 p.m., at 524 Co. Rd. 137, Town Creek, AL 35672.

**Grounds:** Hell Creek Wildlife Management Area. From Ripley, go south approx. 12 miles and turn right on CR 825 at WMA sign. From New Albany, go north approx. 8 miles and turn left on CR 825 at WMA sign.

**BLANK AMMO & MANUFACTURED BARREL GUNS ONLY!**

**Entries to: GREG BAIN, Secretary,**

**524 Co. Rd. 137, Town Creek, AL 35672 • Phone: (256) 762-2014**

**JOE HUGHES, President • Phone: (205) 616-0191**

*Entries accepted with the understanding that the Alabama Field Trial Club, officers and the State of Mississippi are not in any way responsible and cannot be held liable for any accidents to anyone attending the trial, their horses, dogs or equipment.*

U. S. COMPLETE SHOOTING DOG ASSOCIATION



# U.S. COMPLETE NATIONAL OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP



Smoke Rise Jake, 2025 Champion  
Fred Rose, Owner



GARMIN



Dakota 283



**Starts Thursday, February 5, 2026**  
**Robert Gordon Field Trial Area, Hoffman, NC**

**Entry Fee: \$225.00**

**Purse: 50% (less bird, dog wagon, and grounds fees) plus additional \$500 provided by USCSDA, divided 70-30**

Winner will receive an oil painting, 12 bags of Purina, and a Garmin 550 Pro E-Collar;

Runner-up will receive 6 bags of Purina and a bark collar by Garmin.

**Qualifications:** Entrants must have an Open Derby or Open Shooting Dog placement.

All participants should have their state hunting license.

**Judges:** Ashby Morgan, Hudgins, VA, and Lee Flanders, Elberon, VA

**Field Trial Chairman:** Tony Bingham • **Reporter:** Margaret Drew

**\*OPEN DERBY CLASSIC (45 Min.)**

**Entry Fee: \$100.00 • Purse: 50% (less bird, dog wagon, and grounds fees) divided 50-30-20**

*\*Time for running of the Classic may be reduced to 30 minutes if reasonably necessary to meet time constraints.*

**Accommodations:** Best Western—(910) 692-0640, Southern Pines, NC. Electrical hook-ups available for \$10/day.

**Meals:** A Handlers' Dinner will be hosted on Friday, February 6; A Purina sponsored dinner will be held Saturday, February 7.

**Drawing/Entries Close:** Monday, February 2, 7:00 p.m.

**Entries to: JAMESON CRANDALL • Phone: (804) 577-3788 • Email: jameson.crandall@gmail.com**

U.S. Complete Shooting Dog Assn. handicap rule applies. Horseback scouting permitted. Gallery wagon will be provided. All entries accepted as a waiver of any claim for loss or damage from the sponsoring club, officers or state.

U. S. COMPLETE SHOOTING DOG ASSOCIATION



**CAPE FEAR FIELD TRIAL ASSOCIATION**

presents the

## USCSDA SOUTHEAST REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

GARMIN



GARMIN

**Starts February 12, 2026 • Robert Gordon Field Trial Grounds, Hoffman, NC**

**Entry Fee: \$200.00 • Purse: 50% (less bird, dog wagon, and grounds fees) divided 60-40**

**PAUL WALKER OPEN DERBY CLASSIC (45 minutes)**

**— Starting at the conclusion of Championship —**

*Time for running of the Classic may be reduced to 30 minutes if reasonably necessary to meet time constraints.*

**Entry Fee: \$100.00 • Purse: 50% (less bird, dog wagon and grounds fees) divided 50-30-20**

**Judges:** Al Fazenbaker, Kingsville, Ohio and Chris Catanzarite, Scenery Hill, PA

**Drawing:** Monday, February 9, 2026, 6:00 p.m.

A handlers' dinner will be provided on Friday, February 13 by Ellen and Gary Winall,  
owners of last year's champion, Mohawk Mill Knight Hawk.

**Entries to: DAVID HUFFINE, Trial Chairman**

**120 Coquina Drive, Wilmington, NC 28411**

**Text: (910) 620-2970 • Email: dhuffine1951@gmail.com**

**— Accepted email and text entries require confirmation —**

Entries accepted with the understanding that the club and officers are not responsible for accidents, injuries or loss to person, dogs, horses or equipment.

# 2026 NGSPA QUAIL CHAMPIONSHIP

**Tuesday, January 6-15, 2026**  
**Lake Murray Field Trial Grounds, Ardmore, OK**



— *Official Sponsor of the NGSPA Quail Championship* —

## **A PURINA HANDLER OF THE YEAR POINTS TRIAL**

**Course:** Three one-hour continuous courses on wild and liberated quail.

**Drawing:** Each night before the stake is to run on the grounds. All dogs drawn must pay prior to running.

- **OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP (1 Hour).....\$210.00 Entry Fee**

**Judges:** Tim Hidalgo, Hardesty, OK, and Richie Rogers, Wills Point, TX

**Purse:** 15% of entry fees, paid 70/30 to Winner & Runner-up and Trophies.

- **AMATEUR ALL-AGE CHAMPIONSHIP (1 Hour) .....\$210.00 Entry Fee**

**Judges:** Tim Hidalgo, Hardesty, OK, and Johnny Martinez, Houston, TX

**Awards:** Winner and Runner-up receive a custom Montana Silversmith buckle;  
Trophies to Winner & Runner-Up.

- **AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP (1 Hour).....\$210.00 Entry Fee**

**Judges:** Jerry Langford, Pilot Point, TX, and Johnny Martinez, Houston, TX

**Awards:** Winner and Runner-Up receive a custom Montana Silversmith buckle;  
Trophies to Winner & Runner-Up.

- **OPEN ALL-AGE CHAMPIONSHIP (1 Hour) .....\$210.00 Entry Fee**

**Judges:** James Messer, Needville, TX, and Keith Bryant, Centennial, CO

**Purse:** 15% of entry fees, paid 70/30 to Winner & Runner-up and Trophies.

- **DERBY CLASSIC (30 Minutes) .....\$125.00 Entry Fee**

**Judges:** To be announced

NGSPA approved retrieval collars allowed. Manufactured Barrel Guns Only! No phones or smart watches allowed on courses!

If a placement is not awarded, purses and prizes remain in club.

Entry form including DNA number and UKC/FDSB number required before drawing for all broke dog stakes.

**Advance entries to: KEVIN TEMPLE, 430 Savannah Hill Ln., Rockwall, TX 75032**

**Phone: (214) 695-3257 • Email: [gsp4me@att.net](mailto:gsp4me@att.net)**

**Advanced entries in writing must be received by January 2, 2026!**

*The NGSPA Quail Association, officers and/or landowners are not responsible for any loss, damage or injury to any participant, animal or equipment.*



# ***TWO NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFYING FIELD TRIALS***

**Camp Robinson Wildlife Management Area  
Mayflower, AR**



## **PRAIRIE OPEN ALL-AGE QUALIFYING TRIAL**

***Presented by Prairie Amateur Field Trial Club***

**NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFYING STAKE • PURINA TOP FIELD TRIAL BIRD DOG POINTS  
PURINA HANDLER OF THE YEAR POINTS • DERBY INVITATIONAL POINTS**

**Starting January 6, 2026**

**OPEN ALL-AGE (1 Hour)—50%, 50-30-20**

**Entry Fee: \$250.00 + \$35.00 Grounds Fee = \$285.00**

**OPEN DERBY (30 Min.)—50%, 50-30-20**

**Entry Fee: \$150.00 + \$35.00 Grounds Fee = \$185.00**

**Judges:** William Smith, Moscow, TN, and Chris Rider, Smithfield, PA

**Field Trial Chairman/President:** Dr. Fred Corder • **Secretary/Treasurer:** Rhonda Lee

**\$20/dog National Championship fee not included in the \$280.00 entry fee**

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## **PELICAN OPEN ALL-AGE QUALIFYING TRIAL**

***Presented by Pelican Amateur Field Trial Club***

**Member AFTCA & Mid-South AFTA • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!**

**NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFYING STAKE • PURINA TOP FIELD TRIAL BIRD DOG POINTS  
PURINA HANDLER OF THE YEAR POINTS • DERBY INVITATIONAL POINTS**

**— Starting at the conclusion of the Prairie Derby —**

**OPEN ALL-AGE (1 Hour)—50%, 50-30-20**

**Entry Fee: \$250.00 + \$35.00 Grounds Fee = \$285.00**

**OPEN DERBY (30 Min.)—50%, 50-30-20**

**Entry Fee: \$150.00 + \$35.00 Grounds Fee = \$185.00**

**Judges:** Daniel Bolden, Holly Springs, MS, and Brett Towery, Murray, KY

**Field Trial Chairman/President:** Dr. Fred Corder • **Secretary/Treasurer:** Rhonda Lee

**\$20/dog National Championship fee not included in the \$280.00 entry fee**

**Drawing (for both trials):** Friday, January 2, 5:00 p.m. (CST), at Magnolia Enterprises.

**\*Entry Deadline (for both trials):** Friday, January 2, 12:00 noon (CST)\*

**Accommodations:** Days Inn, Conway, AR—(501) 450-7575

**Entries to: DR. FRED CORDER—(662) 415-5244**



THE NATIONAL OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP ASSOCIATION  
*Announces the 65<sup>th</sup> Renewal of*  
**THE NATIONAL OPEN SHOOTING DOG  
CHAMPIONSHIP**

**Starting Monday, February 2, 2026, 8:00 a.m. • Sedgefields Plantation, Union Springs, AL**

**Entry Fee: \$700.00 • 1½-Hour-Heats • 4 Braces Per Day**

**Judges:** Jonathan Burch, Holly Springs, MS; Mike Jackson, Battle Ground, IN; and Kevin Stuart, Schnectady, NY.

**Reporter:** Elton Bray, Holly Springs, MS

— **\$30,000 Purse** —

*(Includes donations from Purina Pro Plan and Raymond Harbert)*

- Engraved Browning 20-gauge shotgun to Owner donated by the Champion Family in memory of Dr. Jerry Champion
- Custom Oil Painting of Champion by Ross B. Young to Owner
- Name on the Hawfield Trophy
- Tom & Gladys Weidman Rotating Trophy
- Owner and Handler will receive a unique scrimshaw knife and leather sheath with a bird dog scene with matching pewter belt buckle, designed specifically for the National Open Shooting Dog Championship
- Custom saddle by The Saddle Guy to Owner
- Saddle pads to Handler and Scout donated by 5 Star Equine Products
- One-year supply of Purina ProPlan® Dog Food to Handler
- Garmin Sport Dog Unit donated by Garmin to Handler
- Jackets to the Handler and Scout by Purina
- Gift from Dan's Hunting Gear
- Gun Dog Supply will donate gift certificates
- Name on Winner's Board at Sedgefields Plantation
- TSDA Bonus Points

— **A PURINA TOP SHOOTING DOG AWARD STAKE** —



— *The Exclusive Dog Food Sponsor of the National Open Shooting Dog Championship* —

**Directors:**

Bill Lee, President  
Perry Hicks, Vice President  
Heather Klinck, Secretary/Treasurer

**Directors:**

Jimmy Bassett  
Peter Del Collo



**Directors:**

Jason Howard  
Mike Jackson  
Harold Johnson  
Allen Linder

**LATE HIT**

**2025 National Open Shooting Dog Champion**

**Special Thanks to Raymond & Kathryn Harbert for the use of Sedgefields Plantation for this event.**

— **No access to the Plantation prior to Saturday, January 31** —

**Qualifications:** A placement in a \*Qualifying trial between January 30, 2024 and January 29, 2026.

The Winner is automatically qualified for the next three runnings. Blank shotguns only.

Limited trailer hook-ups available; contact Bill Lee. Lodging available at Dreamfield Farms—(334) 534-6976;

Greenway Sportsman Club—(334) 473-9322; and Tourism Council of Bullock County (334) 738-8687.

**Drawing:** At Union Springs Country Club, **Thursday, January 29, 7:00 p.m.**

**Entries close at 4:00 p.m. (CST), day of drawing.**

**Entries: HEATHER KLINCK, Secretary/Treasurer • (334) 207-9422 • nosdch@gmail.com**

**Bill Lee, Stake Manager**

*Club, club officials and landowners are not responsible for loss of property or injuries to participants and animals.*

**Pertinent information can be found on our website:**

**[www.nationalopenshootingdog.com](http://www.nationalopenshootingdog.com)**

\*Qualifying trials listed on our website and published in the September issue of UKC® Field



**Easter  
Plantation**

**Twin Silos  
Plantation**  
The Whitehurst Family

**Phillips  
Feed & Seed**

Rick Stallings, *President*  
Mathews, AL

Tony Gibson, *Chairman*  
Union Springs, AL

# THE NATIONAL AMATEUR FREE-FOR-ALL CHAMPIONSHIP

*A qualifying and bonus points trial for the National Amateur Shooting Dog Invitational  
and Purina Top Amateur shooting Dog Award bonus points trial*

A Member of the AMATEUR FIELD TRIAL CLUBS OF AMERICA • 410 ga. shotgun with AFTCA approved blank ammo!

Presented under the auspices of the National Amateur Free-For-All Championship Association, Inc.

— Sanctioned by the Amateur Field Trial Clubs of America —

**TO BE RUN STARTING FEBRUARY 22, 2026  
AT UNION SPRINGS, ALABAMA**



**Judges:** Virgil Moore, Texas, and Eddie Taylor, Mississippi

**Reporter:** Morgan Brewer, Wetumpka, AL



**Pre-Drawing will be Tuesday, February 17, 2026,  
at the Sedgefields Plantation Field House at 7:00 p.m. (CST)**



**Running to begin at 8:00 a.m., February 22, 2026**

**Entry Fee: \$300 • AFTCA Membership Number required with all entries!**

Qualifying Heats will be 45 minutes; and the Finals will be one and one half hours.  
A Champion and a Runner-Up will be named. Also, the most outstanding dog in the  
Qualifying Series will be selected. Defending Champion, Shearjoy's Smooth As Silk,  
is automatically qualified for the first brace of the finals.

tri-tronics® Pro 500 collar to the Winner and a Sport 50 collar to the Runner-Up.

*Bone For* sculpted trophy to the Winner and Runner-Up.

## **MEMORIAL TROPHIES**

The A.H. "Bill" Hembree, the J.F. "Tobe" Stallings, the Hoyt Henley Sr.  
and the Kevin "Bubba" Goolsby Rotating Memorial Trophies

*(Winner's name engraved on trophies and kept in Amerifirst Bank at Union Springs, AL)*

Sterling Silver Trophies to Champion, Runner-Up and "Best Dog" in Qualifying Series.

Social activities will be announced at the drawing. Lunches served daily in Field House.

The National Amateur Free-For-All Championship Association, Inc., its officers and directors, and the  
owners of Sedgefields Plantation are in no way responsible for any accident of any kind on the grounds.

You are welcome at your own risk. **NO PISTOLS ALLOWED.** Blanks not furnished by the club.

**EARLY ENTRIES WITH NAME AND ADDRESS OF OWNER-HANDLER, INCLUDING PHONE NUMBER AND  
INFORMATION ON DOGS ENTERED, WILL BE APPRECIATED. AFTCA MEMBER NUMBER REQUIRED.**

**All entries should be sent to: RICK STALLINGS, President**

**P.O. Drawer 70040, Montgomery, AL 36107**

**Phone: (334) 244-2093 • No text or email entries accepted**

**SHIRLEY VARNER • Phone: (334) 224-4888**

**— No telephone entries AFTER 3:00 p.m. (CST), February 17, 2026 —**

# SUBMIT A COVER DOG PHOTO



Submit a photo to be considered for the cover of UKC® Field online at:  
[ukcdogs.com/cover-dog](http://ukcdogs.com/cover-dog)

All cover photo submissions must include:

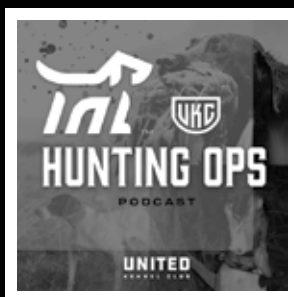
- Dog's name and UKC/FDSB number
- Owner's name and contact information
- A brief description of the dog(s) pictured

For questions, please email: [gsmith@ukcdogs.com](mailto:gsmith@ukcdogs.com)

\*High-resolution color images preferred.



# UKC<sup>®</sup> HUNTING OPS PODCAST



**Available on YouTube and wherever you get your podcasts!**

 @ukchuntingops

 @ukchuntingopspodcast

 @youtube.com/ukcdogs

**Amateur Field Trial Clubs of America**

[www.aftca.org](http://www.aftca.org)

Piper Huffman, Secretary  
Phone: (662) 223-0126  
Email: [piper.huffman@aim.com](mailto:piper.huffman@aim.com)

**American Bird Hunters Association**

[www.facebook.com/trialabha/](http://www.facebook.com/trialabha/)

Ronnie Rogers, President  
Phone: (865) 712-9229  
Email: [esetter34@yahoo.com](mailto:esetter34@yahoo.com)

**National Bird Hunters Association**

[www.nbhadowg.org](http://www.nbhadowg.org)

Ken Sauer, President  
Phone: (281) 960-2508  
Email: [kfsauer@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kfsauer@sbcglobal.net)  
Tim Penn, Secretary  
Phone: (660) 341-1165  
Email: [tpennhwy6@gmail.com](mailto:tpennhwy6@gmail.com)

**National German Shorthaired Pointer Association**

[www.ngspa.org](http://www.ngspa.org)

Natalie Inderman, Secretary  
Phone: (806) 777-2769  
Email: [Nataliealicia@gmail.com](mailto:Nataliealicia@gmail.com)

**National Red Setter Field Trial Club**

[www.nrsftc.com](http://www.nrsftc.com)

Ed Liermann  
Phone: (414) 625-0715  
Email: [eal1886@aol.com](mailto:eal1886@aol.com)

**National Vizsla Association**

[www.thenva.org](http://www.thenva.org)

Todd Meyer  
Phone: (414) 531-9390  
Email: [Tmeyer2243@wi.rr.com](mailto:Tmeyer2243@wi.rr.com)

**Southern Bird Hunters Association**

[www.southernbirdhunters.org](http://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](http://www.uscomplete.org)

Chris Catanzarite, President  
Phone: (724) 884-7244  
Email: [Catanzarite@fairpoint.net](mailto:Catanzarite@fairpoint.net)  
Bill Bonnetti, Vice-President  
Phone: (508) 648-0598  
Email: [bonnetti-william@comcast.net](mailto:bonnetti-william@comcast.net)  
Jameson Crandall, Secretary/Treasurer  
Phone: (804) 577-3788  
Email: [jameson.crandall@gmail.com](mailto:jameson.crandall@gmail.com)

**FUTURITIES**
**Grand National Grouse Futurity**

Thor Kain  
Phone: (570) 702-6670  
Email: [TKain63@gmail.com](mailto:TKain63@gmail.com)

**Midwest Vizsla Futurity**

Andrea Northwood  
Phone: (608) 220-4151  
Email: [anorthwood13@gmail.com](mailto:anorthwood13@gmail.com)

**National Bird Hunters Assn. Futurity**

Jim Ogle  
Phone: (417) 388-0734  
Email: [jojoseenglishsetters@gmail.com](mailto:jojoseenglishsetters@gmail.com)

**National German Shorthaired Pointer Assn.**

Jeff Wallace, Futurity Manager  
Phone: (641) 891-9513  
Email: [jeffwallace@iowatelecom.net](mailto:jeffwallace@iowatelecom.net)

**National Red Setter Futurity**

James Inbody  
Phone: (330) 306-8065  
Email: [BonasaHunter72@aol.com](mailto:BonasaHunter72@aol.com)

**National Shooting Dog Futurity**

Mark Hughes  
Phone: (814) 591-3540  
Email: [mdh275@gmail.com](mailto:mdh275@gmail.com)

**National Walking Shooting Dog Futurity**

Krysta Munden  
Phone: (724) 840-8400  
Email: [krystamunden@gmail.com](mailto:krystamunden@gmail.com)

**New England Shooting Dog Futurity**

Margaret C. Drew  
Phone: (910) 206-0079  
Email: [margaret drew39@gmail.com](mailto:margaret drew39@gmail.com)

**North American Woodcock Futurity**

Joe Dahl  
Phone: (207) 478-3063  
Email: [JosephDahl@aol.com](mailto:JosephDahl@aol.com)

**Southern Bird Hunters Assn. Futurity**

Bruce Mercer  
Phone: (470) 345-6369  
Email: [mercerbruce@hotmail.com](mailto:mercerbruce@hotmail.com)

**U.S. Complete Shooting Dog Assn. Futurity**

Verlene Stephenson  
Phone: (252) 589-1521  
Email: [verlene\\_stephenson@ncsu.edu](mailto:verlene_stephenson@ncsu.edu)

**United States Quail Shooting Dog Futurity**

Margaret C. Drew  
Phone: (910) 206-0079  
Email: [bmdrew@windstream.net](mailto:bmdrew@windstream.net)

**RECOGNIZED FIELD TRIALS**
**Associated Field Trial Clubs of Florida (Everglades Trial)**

January 2, 2026 / Punta Gorda, FL  
Contact: Justin Muzynski  
Phone: (407) 744-4695

**Georgia Derby & Quail Championships**

January 2, 2026 / Waynesboro, GA  
Contact: Nell Mobley  
Phone: (706) 466-2991

**National Vizsla Association Western Classic**

January 2, 2026 / Sonoita, AZ  
Contact: Dan Meyer  
Phone: (248) 974-2019  
Email: [daedmayer@gmail.com](mailto:daedmayer@gmail.com)

**Region 7 (AFTCA) Amateur Shooting Dog Championship**

January 2, 2026 / Roby, TX  
Contact: Mary Ann Gustafson  
Phone: (512) 560-9196  
Email: [redset1950@gmail.com](mailto:redset1950@gmail.com)

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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

**NGSPA Quail Championship**

January 6, 2026 / Ardmore, OK  
Contact: Kevin Temple  
Phone: (214) 695-3257  
Email: [gsp4me@att.net](mailto:gsp4me@att.net)

**Prairie Open All-Age**

January 6, 2026 / Mayflower, AR  
Contact: Dr. Fred Corder  
Phone: (662) 415-5244

**Pelican Open All-Age**

January 7, 2026 / Mayflower, AR  
Contact: Dr. Fred Corder  
Phone: (662) 415-5244

**Hatchchubbee Classics Field Trial Club**

January 8, 2026 / Hatchchubbee, AL  
Contact: Roger Key  
Phone: (334) 750-3705

**West Tennessee Field Trial Club**

January 8, 2026 / Dancyville, TN  
Contact: J.P. Hathcock  
Phone: (731) 443-0050

**National Derby Championship**

January 9, 2026 / Greensboro, AL  
Contact: Ruthann Epp  
Phone: (334) 412-7426

**Pinehurst Field Trial Club**

January 9, 2026 / Hoffman, NC  
Contact: Paul Gadd  
Phone: (828) 310-6688

**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

**Hobart Ames Memorial Classic**

January 12, 2026 / Grand Junction, TN  
Contact: Matt Backus  
Phone: (901) 878-1067  
Email: [mbackus@amesplantation.org](mailto:mbackus@amesplantation.org)

**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](mailto:johnbeauchamp@gmail.com)

**Region 6 (AFTCA) Amateur All-Age Championship**

January 15, 2026 / Myrtle, MS  
 Contact: Lisa Little  
 Phone: (931) 980-0452  
 Email: doubletroublestables@yahoo.com

**Southeastern Open Shooting Dog Championship**

January 15, 2026 / Lake City, FL  
 Contact: Joel Norman  
 Phone: (352) 356-3561

**Virgil Beasley Sr. Memorial  
 Amateur Shooting Dog Classic**

January 16, 2026 / LaVergne, TN  
 Contact: Derek Bonner  
 Phone: (828) 289-2300  
 Email: bonnerderek@bellsouth.net

**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 19, 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  
 Email: kcourtney1218@gmail.com

**North Carolina Field Trial Association**

January 30, 2026 / Hoffman, NC  
 Contact: Grayson Francis  
 Phone: (434) 610-8601

**Region 16 (AFTCA) Amateur All-Age Championship**

January 30, 2026 / Punta Gorda, FL  
 Contact: Paul Daniel  
 Phone: (813) 477-4104

**Alabama Open All-Age Championship**

January 31, 2026 / Blue Mountain, MS  
 Contact: Greg Bain  
 Phone: (256) 762-2014

**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

**Region 4 (AFTCA) Amateur All-Age Championship**

February 6, 2026 / Kevil, KY  
 Contact: Mary Sue Schalk  
 Phone: (270) 625-0196

**Chestnut Bird Dog Club**

February 11, 2026 / Bando Tone Field  
 Contact: Haruo Kurihara  
 Email: hatoppo323@yahoo.co.jp

**Wolf River Field Trial Club**

February 12, 2026 / Blue Mountain, MS  
 Contact: Amy Spencer  
 Phone: (731) 343-0561

**Georgia Amateur Celebration**

February 13, 2026 / Waynesboro, GA  
 Contact: Nell Mobley  
 Phone: (706) 466-2991

**Southwestern Field Trial Club**

February 14, 2026 / Chandlerville, IL  
 Contact: Jeff Waggoner  
 Phone: (309) 657-2536  
 Email: rollinghillskennel@yahoo.com

**Region 3 (AFTCA) Amateur Shooting Dog Championship**

February 20, 2026 / Hoffman, NC  
 Contact: Roger Duerksen  
 Phone: (412) 951-5033

**Mid-State Bird Dog Club**

February 21, 2026 / Chandlerville, IL  
 Contact: Jeff Waggoner  
 Phone: (309) 657-2536  
 Email: rollinghillskennel@yahoo.com

**Carolina Amateur Field Trial Club**

February 26, 2026 / Hoffman, NC  
 Contact: Calvin Curnutte  
 Phone: (910) 995-7902

**Cumberland Field Trial Club**

February 27, 2026 / LaVergne, TN  
 Contact: Ben Weddington  
 Phone: (901) 604-5652

**Region 5 (AFTCA) Amateur Walking Shooting Dog Championship**

February 27, 2026 / Chandlerville, IL  
 Contact: Jim Lawless  
 Phone: (618) 317-7811  
 Email: lawlesskennels@yahoo.com

**Mid-State Bird Dog Club**

February 28, 2026 / Chandlerville, IL  
 Contact: Jeff Waggoner  
 Phone: (309) 657-2536  
 Email: rollinghillskennel@yahoo.com

**Illinois Amateur Shooting Dog Classic**

March 6, 2026 / Chandlerville, IL  
 Contact: Jeff Waggoner  
 Phone: (309) 657-2536  
 Email: rollinghillskennel@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

**Delaware Valley Bird Dog Club**

March 15, 2026 / Bernville, PA  
 Contact: James Humes Jr.  
 Phone: (484) 550-2957  
 Email: jphjr1215@gmail.com

**Tsukuba Field Trial Club**

March 15, 2026 / Bando Field  
 Contact: Susumu Yagami

**Missouri Open Championship**

March 16, 2026 / Grovespring, MO  
 Contact: Sharleen Daugherty  
 Phone: (417) 462-3695

**9A Field Trial Club**

March 19, 2026 / Union Springs, AL  
 Contact: Hunter McDuffie  
 Phone: (334) 207-3887

**Delaware Valley Bird Dog Club**

March 22, 2026 / Coolbaugh, PA  
 Contact: James Humes Jr.  
 Phone: (484) 550-2957  
 Email: jphjr1215@gmail.com

**Kanto Pointing Dog Club**

March 22, 2026 / Tone River Field  
 Contact: Nobumasa Takeishi  
 Phone: 0299-69-2915

**Bear Pond Shooting Dog Classic**

March 23, 2026 / Kevil, KY  
 Contact: Mary Sue Schalk  
 Phone: (270) 625-0196

**Cedar Valley Open Shooting Dog Classic**

March 23, 2026 / Hoffman, NC  
 Contact: Calvin Curnutte  
 Phone: (910) 995-7902

**Region 5 (AFTCA) Amateur  
 Shooting Dog Championship**

March 26, 2026 / Pinckneyville, IL  
 Contact: Jim Lawless  
 Phone: (618) 317-7811  
 Email: lawlesskennels@yahoo.com

**ABHA TRIALS**
**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 Open Walking  
 Shooting Dog Championship**

February 3, 2026 / Kevil, KY  
 Contact: Mary Sue Schalk  
 Phone: (270) 625-0196

**NBHA TRIALS**
**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**
**Gulf Coast Open Shooting Dog Championship**

January 19, 2026 / Union Springs, AL  
 Contact: Lisa Littell  
 Phone: (334) 649-0076

**Fort Mill Field Trial Club**

January 22, 2026 / McBee, SC  
 Contact: Tom Brigman  
 Phone: (410) 908-4428

**Flint River Field Trial Club**

February 5, 2026 / Cedartown, GA  
 Contact: Lavon King  
 Phone: (678) 918-6124  
 Email: jlking@co.douglas.ga.us  
 Carolina Celebration  
 March 7, 2026 /

**USCSDA TRIALS**
**USCSDA Futurity & Classics**

January 26, 2026 / Camden, SC  
 Contact: Verlene Stephenson  
 Phone: (252) 589-1521  
 Email: verlene\_stephenson@ncsu.edu

**USCSDA National Open Championship**

February 5, 2026 / Hoffman, NC  
 Contact: Jameson Crandall  
 Phone: (804) 577-3788  
 Email: jameson.crandall@gmail.com

**USCSDA Southeast Regional Championship**

February 12, 2026 / Hoffman, NC  
 Contact: David Huffine  
 Phone: (910) 620-2970  
 Email: dhuffine1951@gmail.com



## UPCOMING PRINT DEADLINES

March Issue.....	February 5	June Issue.....	May 5
April Issue.....	March 5	July Issue.....	June 5
May Issue.....	April 5	August Issue.....	July 5

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