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# National Champion



**GAME SURGE**

Dr. Fred Corder, Owner/Handler | Photo by Jamie Evans

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ON THE  
COVER

## R-U CH. BANG BANG'S LONGSHOT

#F1696304 • English Setter Male • Sire: R-U Ch. North Creek Scooter • Dam: Blue Ridge Molly

Scott Luther, Owner • Photo by Morgan Smith

*"Captures the intensity that field trial dogs run with that most people never see."*

# SETTER CLUB OF NEW ENGLAND

## Spring Trial

By Jim Hathaway | Falmouth, Massachusetts | March 4, 2026



*Tom Foley & Ed Flanagan Shooting Dog Classic (top, l-r): Liam Dix (with trophy), Kelly Hays (judge), James Levesque with Ledge Hill Mia, Ryan Cyr with Starbarn's Chase, and Kellie Short with Paucek's Rocky Road.*

This year, the 97th anniversary of the Setter Club of New England's first spring trial almost didn't happen. In my 25+ years as a member/officer/trial chairman/reporter of the Setter Club, I have only seen this trial canceled twice. In 2015, the snowplow piles on the road into the trial grounds were so high you couldn't see the field right on the other side from inside your truck. Then, in 2019 or was it 2020, Mass. Wildlife pulled our permit the week before. Mud on the road into the trial grounds was their concern, and the rain was forecast to continue daily. This year, a late-season snowstorm dumped over a foot of snow on us. With only a couple of weeks til the trial, there were still waist-high drifts on the road into the trial grounds. We thought about canceling after exploring dates we could reschedule. Then, as if by magic, rain and 60-degree temps, the snow was gone in four days. The spring trial would go on! Not so fast, here comes the fire Mass. Forestry had scheduled the week before our trial to control-burn the section of this WMA where we hold our trial. Seems they had started burning our entire WMA on a three-year rotating

basis. No one had informed us, and this year was our turn. As an alternative, Mass. Wildlife offered us the option of returning to the grounds where we ran this trial 11 years ago. It was then pretty wide open. It is now roughly 400 acres of sandplain, warm-season grassland with sparse cover, especially on the first weekend of April. So, we amended our advertisement, posted notices, set our courses, and held our breath.

By the time the drawing started, 75 dogs had entered and were drawn. From here to the first breakaway, finishing touches had to be done to the new courses and grounds. So, with water barrels set and filled, signs warning off the public posted, and tables and tents delivered, all was set for an early morning breakaway.

We have two courses. The West course is where our puppies run. The East course is set with liberated quail for our derbies and shooting dogs. Though we have two courses, running two stakes of open dogs at the same time saves no time, as handler conflicts cause too much stop-and-go running, so we run them in order.

Open Puppy up first. As I said

earlier, the grounds here are sandplain grasslands. The fact is, the dogs had no problem handling the wide open. It's the handlers that need to make adjustments, especially if they are used to handling cover dogs or working breakaways with treelines closer than a half mile away. So around they all went. The judges, Deb Kennedy and Cate Jewett, placed these three dogs in order. First place was Sage (PF), owned by Karen Unsworth and handled by Tim Cavanaugh. Second place was Chief (BRITM), owned and handled by Jeff Wecal. Third place was Diamond (PF), owned by Doug Dix and handled by Tim Cavanaugh.

Derbies and Shooting Dogs run on the East course. Back in the day, before the Sandplain grassland restoration started, there was a Red Pine Tree line about 150 yards from the breakaway. That tree line zigged to the left and away, then zagged straight out. It was nice to see a dog hit that tree line and take it left and away. That tree line is gone now, so it's another 200 yards from where the tree line was to a stand of young cedar and the old PVC-lined waterhole just beyond there. Used to be from the water hole on, we were in the woods with small half-acre or so fields. Now you don't get to any woodline until after the power lines, a couple of 100 yards after the waterhole. Even here, the woods aren't what they used to be. Back to the grassland restoration, Mass. Wildlife had better than half the trees, mostly Pitch Pines, removed. And the dense scrub underbrush has been kept down with prescribed burning.

Enough of that for now. On with the Francis Harwarth Open Derby. Both of our judges made it here to Cape Cod from Vermont. Bob Arkley and Doug Dix kept an eye on a healthy derby field of eight dogs, four braces. Their placements are as follows. In first place was Mildred (PF), owned



*Open Puppy (l-r): Deb Kennedy (judge), Tim Cavanaugh with Biscuit City Sage, Jeff Wecal with Chief Muddy Paws, and Brian Dix with Hog Hill Sparkling Diamond.*

and handled by Tim Cavanaugh. In second place, Livey (PM), owned and handled by Victor Forsyth. In third place, Blue (SM), owned by Steve Graham, was handled by Tim Cavanaugh.

After lunch, Puppy and Derby placements were announced and photos taken. The wind had picked up. There are no windbreaks on a grassland, and only four days past March, it wasn't a warm breeze. We always get a good entry for the club's Phil Fogg Open Shooting Dog Classic. This year was a bit light, but only by a couple of dogs. Any entry over 20 is expected, but it can also cause us trouble getting the stakes finished on Saturday. Our judges, Jim Levesque and Eric Rizza, were in no hurry to squeeze this stake in. They gave each dog the consideration you would expect of a champion. First place was Hog Hill Fafo (PM), owned by Brian Dix. In second place was Paucek's Dormin, owned and handled by Kellie Short. Third place was Little Miss Margaret, owned and handled by Tim Cavanaugh.

Day one Saturday finished nicely before the last light of the day. Plenty of time for calling the placements and getting photos. Cleanup and breaking down for Sunday was pretty much take everything and bring it back in the morning. The weather forecast was unsettled. It was to be overcast all day with rain moving in after noon. This was a typical Cape Cod spring weekend. Expect at least one day of rain and a little sun if you're lucky on the day it doesn't rain.

Sunday started with a long hurry-



*Florence Harwarth Open Derby (l-r): Brian Dix with Back Creek Blue, Victor Forsyth with VW's Hifive Livey, and Tim Cavanaugh with Little Miss Mildred.*

up-and-wait. Fog, as I had never seen it here, held us up. Usually, it clears before long. As chairman, I wasn't in too much of a rush to start the Amateur Puppy stakes. But after waiting around half an hour past the advertised 7 a.m. start time, the handlers started getting restless. Visibility had gone from 100 feet to 100 yards, so they wanted to get on with it, and the judges agreed. So, into the fog they broke away at about 7:45 a.m. Seven puppies, three braces, and a bye to run. Most went smoothly. Though a couple of pups got off course, causing their handlers some extra walking. In the end, our Puppy judges, the same as yesterday, Deb and Cate, placed these puppies in this order. In first place was "Sta" (PF), owned by Brian Dix and handled by Liam Dix. Second place was "Gale" (ESF), owned and handled by David Theroux. In third was "Duke" (PM), owned by Rod Champion and Bob Arkley, and handled by Bob Arkley.

Back over to the East course for the Amateur Derby. When I left off describing the East course for the Open Derby, we were just under the power lines. Now, due to the forest cleaning and burning, we can keep the course right down the road. There are fields and open hardwoods on both sides now. It all pinches down a bit after the Doughnut Field. But soon you break into The Bowl. This was a nice round field surrounded by woodland back in the day. Now, from the top entrance to The Bowl, looking right, to the east, it is all clear. From The Bowl, you can see the course breakaway.



*Phil Fogg Shooting Dog Classic (l-r): James Levesque (judge), Brian Dix with Hog Hill Fafo, Kellie Short with Paucek's Dormin, and Tim Cavanaugh with Little Miss Margaret.*

Now back to running the Open Derby. This won't take long. Only three dogs were entered, so the judges, Bob Arkley and Doug Dix, had only one placement to make. Getting the blue ribbon for first place was Paucek's Arabella (ESF), owned and handled by Kellie Short.

From here, the day became an organized jumble. We were watching the clouds on the horizon and the radar on our phones. The plan was to run two stakes, the Amateur Shooting Dog and the Amateur Gun Dog, at the same time on the East and West courses, respectively. The idea was to beat the rain that was definitely coming our way. The plan was to keep the 11-brace Shooting Dog going as quickly as possible and sandwich the four-brace Gun Dog in while keeping both courses moving. Anyone who has chaired a trial and tried to run two courses with two stakes at once knows how jumbled this can get. There will be conflicts! Somebody's gonna have to be running on two courses at once, and as much as you want to keep Course A moving, that won't happen, and if it happens once, it will happen three times. And so it did. And the rain moved in early. And soaked us all.

These are the times that truly try men's and women's souls. Judging and walking multiple braces in the rain is discomfort beyond the pale. For this, my special gratitude to our Amateur Shooting Dog judges, Jim Levesque and Allen Raiano. And our Gun Dog judges, Kelly Hays and David Theroux.

The Tom Foley & Ed Flanagan Gun



**Amateur Puppy (l-r):** Brian Dix and Liam Dix with Hog Hill Axis Sally, Cate Jewett (judge), David Theroux with Gale Force Wind, and Lucas Dix and Bob Arkley with Duke of King's Mountain.



**Amateur Derby (top, l-r):** Bob Arkley (judge) and Doug Dix (judge). (Front): Kellie Fogg with Paucek's Arabella and Angelo Calabro with "Bonnie."



**Frankie McLaughlin Open Shooting Dog (top, l-r):** Allen Raiano (judge) and James Levesque (judge). (Front): Kellie Short with Paucek's Dorming, Bob Arkley and Lucas Dix with Rock Solid Sweet Baby Ray, and David Theroux with Henry's Susieq Dot.

Dog Classic was run on the Puppy course in pouring rain most of the time. For that reason, good bird work was hard to come by. However, the judges found three dogs that stood out. In first place was Ledgehill Mia (ESF), owned and handled by Jim Levesque. In second place, Starbarn's Chase (ESM), owned and handled by Ryan Cyr. In third place, Rocky (ESF), owned and handled by Kellie Short.

The Frankie McLaughlin Amateur Shooting Dog almost didn't happen this year. We had a ton of entries, but only Allen Raiano would commit to judging.

So my special gratitude to Jim Levesque. He had already committed to judge the Phil Fogg Open Shooting Dog Classic. Now he agreed to double duty to keep the Frankie McLaughlin Amateur Shooting Dog going. Now, after 10 braces mostly in the rain, here is how they saw the placements. In first place was Paucek's Dormin (ESF), owned and handled by Kellie Short. Second place, Ray (ESF), owned and handled by Bob Arkley. Third place, Dot (ESF), owned and handled by David Theroux.

If you noticed and if you didn't, we had a number of judges who did double duty, judging the same stakes both Saturday and Sunday. Puppy judges Deb and Cate, Derby judges Bob and Doug, and Shooting Dog judge double duty Jim. A double thank you to Kelly, David, and Alan, you didn't sign up for the weather. Thank you again. Eric, thanks for the time and thought you put into each

brace. And I always put this last, so it stands alone. Thanks to Greg Blair, Purina, and U.S. Complete for providing the Purina coupons for the winners.

Now, all y'all, heads up. Next year's Setter Club Spring trial will be Saturday and Sunday, April 3-4. Easter next year is Sunday, March 28, a week before the trial. Please plan accordingly now so we will see you next spring, come snow, fire, wind, rain, or whatever else.

Falmouth, Mass., March 4

**Judges: Cate Jewett and Deb Kennedy  
OPEN PUPPY – 7 Entries**

1st-BISCUIT CITY SAGE, F1725670, pointer female, by Chasehill Snoop Dog-Ms. Antebellum. Karen Unsworth, owner; Tim Cavanaugh, handler.

2d-CHIEF MUDDY PAWS, unreg., Brittany male, by White Rock Ranch's First Turkk's-Eussie's Pride Daisy Mae. Jeff Weal, owner and handler.

3d-HOG HILL SPARKLING DIAMOND, F1725086, pointer female, by Indian Creek Spur-Little Miss Margaret. Douglas Dix, owner; Tim Cavanaugh, handler.

**Judges: Bob Arkley and Doug Dix  
FLORENCE HARWARTH OPEN DERBY  
– 8 Entries**

1st-LITTLE MISS MILDRED, F1725085, pointer female, by Indian Creek Spur-Little Miss Margaret. Tim Cavanaugh, owner and handler.

2d-VW'S HIFIVE LIVEY, F1709081, pointer female, by Hifive's Ruff Runner-Wild Apple Siri. Victor Forsyth, owner and handler.

3d-BACK CREEK BLUE, F1717086, setter male, by Tarheel Hunter-Tarheel Attitude. Stevie Graham, owner; Tim Cavanaugh, handler.

**Judges: James Levesque and Eric Rizza  
PHIL FOGG SHOOTING DOG CLASSIC  
– 5 Pointers and 13 Setters**

1st-HOG HILL FAFO, F1711945, pointer male, by Tattle Tailer-Ms. Antebellum. Brian Dix, owner; Tim Cavanaugh, handler.

2d-PAUCEK'S DORMIN, F1689478, setter female, by Deadwater Jake-Deadwater Wissah. Kellie Short, owner and handler.

3d-LITTLE MISS MARGARET, F1693526, pointer female, by Panola Bacon-Chasehill Little Izzy. Tim Cavanaugh, owner and handler.

**Judges: Cate Jewett and Deb Kennedy**

**AMATEUR PUPPY – 3 Pointers and 4 Setters**

1st-HOG HILL AXIS SALLY, F1725084, pointer female, by Indian Creek Spur-Little Miss Margaret. Brian Dix, owner; Liam Dix, handler.

2d-GALE FORCE WIND, F1723241, setter female, by Super Storm Cliff-North Country Shooting Star. David Theroux, owner and handler.

3d-DUKE OF KING'S MOUNTAIN, unreg., pointer male, by Indian Creek Spur-Little Miss Margaret. Rod Champion & Bob Arkley, owners; Bob Arkley, handler.

**Judges: Bob Arkley and Doug Dix**

**AMATEUR DERBY – 3 Pointers**

1st-PAUCEK'S ARABELLA, F1719098, setter female, by Paucek's Little Tommy Tucker-Hunter's Moon Blue Ivy. Kellie Short, owner and handler.

**Judges: James Levesque and Allen Raiano  
FRANKIE MCLAUGHLIN AMATEUR SHOOTING  
DOG – 21 Entries**

1st-PAUCEK'S DORMIN, F1689478, setter female, by Deadwater Jake-Deadwater Wissah. Kellie Short, owner and handler.

2d-ROCK SOLID SWEET BABY RAY, F1706422, setter female, by Rock Solid Tucker-Rock Solid Casey. Bob Arkley, owner and handler.

3d-HENRY'S SUSIEQ DOT, F1680901, setter female, by Henry of Ferguson-Blossom's Pale Face Susieq. David Theroux, owner and handler.

**Judges: Kelly Hays and David Theroux  
TOM FOLEY & ED FLANAGAN**

**SHOOTING DOG CLASSIC – 7 Entries**

1st-LEDGEHILL MIA, unreg., setter female, breeding not given. James Levesque, owner and handler.

2d-STARBARN'S CHASE, F1686634, setter male, by Long Gone Porky-Popgun. Ryan Cyr, owner and handler.

3d-PAUCEK'S ROCKY ROAD, F1704261, setter female, by Long Gone Porky-Paucek's Mandy. Kellie Short, owner and handler.

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# WEST VALLEY BIRD DOG CLUB

## Annual Spring Trial

By Jim Rose | Valley Springs, California | March 6, 2026

The West Valley Bird Dog Club held its annual spring trial, running the Paul Rose Memorial Open Shooting Dog Derby and the Hal Meyer Amateur Shooting Dog on March 6.

The trial took place at Lynn Stinson's Moonlight Ranch in Valley Springs, California. The weather and course were ideal for trialing. All the creeks were full, and the pastures were lush green.

The Paul Rose Memorial was won by Horizons Katie, owned and handled by Terry Erickson. She was forward from the start and hunted the objectives with a strong finish. Second was Rocking J's Chip, owned and handled by Jarry Walton. Third was Tuca's Fox On The Run, owned and handled by Ed Mayhew.

The Hal Meyer Amateur Shooting Dog was won by Pride N Joy, owned and handled by Tom Griffin. He handled his game flawlessly and ran with style. Second was High Deserts Huntin The Rim Rocks, owned and handled by Aaron Fausett. Third was High Deserts Jewel of The Sierra, also owned and handled by Aaron Fausett.

A shout-out to Patti Rose for the wonderful meals and to Jamie Griffin, our first-time dog wagon driver. She was always where we needed her with the right dog.

Thank you to all the participants and judges for making their long trips, supporting the West Valley Bird Dog Club, and making the trial a success.



**Hal Meyer Amateur Shooting Dog Classic (l-r): Pride N Joy with Tom Griffin, High Deserts Hunting The Rim Rocks with Aaron Fausett, and High Deserts Jewel of The Sierra with Jarry Walton. (Standing): Terry Erickson.**

Valley Springs, Cal., March 6

Judges: Terry Erickson and Cliff Mesnard

### HAL MEYER AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG CLASSIC

- 13 Entries

1st-PRIDE N JOY, F1703602, pointer male, by Quickmarksman's Ace-Sweet Child O Mine. Tom Griffin, owner and handler.

2d-HIGH DESERTS HUNTING THE RIM ROCKS, unreg., Gordon setter male, by B M B's Free Ride-High Desert Queen Bee Cleopatra. Aaron Fausett, owner and handler.

3d-HIGH DESERTS JEWEL OF THE SIERRA, unreg., Gordon setter female, by B M B's Freeloader-Aunt Troji's Dirty Nike. Aaron Fausett, owner and handler.

Judges: Gina Bosio and Tom Griffin

### PAUL ROSE OPEN DERBY - 7 Entries

1st-HORIZONS KATIE, F1723187, setter female, by Plumthicket Webster-Plumthicket Rilee. Terry Erickson, owner and handler.

2d-ROCKING J'S CHIP, F1720767, pointer male, by Brock Force-Sleepless Money Maiden. Jarry Walton, owner and handler.

3d-TUCA'S FOX ON THE RUN, F1712984, pointer male, by Montana Buck-Tucalota's Rebel Touch. Ed Mayhew, owner and handler.



**Paul Rose Open Derby (l-r): Terry Erickson with Horizons Katie, Jarry Walton with Rocking J's Chip, and Ed Mayhew with Tuca's Fox On The Run. Standing (l-r): Gina Bosio (judge), Jim Rose, and Tom Griffin (judge).**



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**REGION 11 (AFTCA) AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP**  
***Pride N Joy Named Champion; G R B's Dirty White Boy, Runner-up***  
**By Tom Griffin | Valley Springs, California | March 7, 2026**



**Region 11 Amateur Shooting Dog Championship (front row): Tom Griffin with Pride N Joy and Gina Bosio with G R B's Dirty White Boy. (Back row): Steve Cosgrove (judge) and Aaron Faucet (judge).**

The West Valley Bird Dog Club hosted Region 11 AFTCA's Amateur Shooting Dog Championship over the March 7-8 weekend at the Moonlight Ranch near Valley Springs, California. The championship followed West Valley's series of open and amateur 30-minute stakes. These beautiful trial grounds, the main house, and the bunk house are made available by the exceptional generosity of the owner, Lynn Stinson. Thank you, Lynn, for your steadfast support of the West Valley Bird Dog Club and Region 11.

Tom Griffin's 4-year-old pointer male, Pride N Joy, was named champion. "Lite" ran a fast-forward race with three stylish finds. Gina Bosio's German Shorthair G R B's Dirty White Boy's four finds took runner-up honors. "LB" and Lite were braced together. After casting off from camp, both dogs made big moves through the cattle gate. After

LB's initial find, his application and range were more conservative than the winner's.

Aaron Faucet from Reno, Nevada, and Steve Cosgrove from Modesto, California, judged the championship. Their decision was well received. The Club and Region officers greatly appreciate their expertise and time in the saddle.

**Region 11's Amateur Shooting**



**Paul Rose Open Derby (l-r): Terry Erickson with Horizons Katie, Jarry Walton with Rocking J's Chip, and Ed Mayhew with Tuca's Fox On The Run. Standing (l-r): Gina Bosio (judge), Jim Rose, and Tom Griffin (judge).**

Dog Derby followed the conclusion of the championship. This was a very competitive stake with multiple performances worthy of recognition and a placement. Jarry Walton's Rocking J's Chip was named the winner, and Ed Mayhew garnered second and third place with The Tusalota Gypsy and Tusalotas Dux.

Patti and Jim Rose took care of the hospitality at the drawing, dinners, and lunches, and put on a great barbecue rib dinner on Saturday night. For many years, Lynn Stinson had generously provided a truck to be used as the dog wagon for the Moonlight trials. That was not an option this year, and Jim Rose met that challenge by building a dog wagon that could be hitched to an ATV. This rig will be available for all to use as long as trials continue to be run at Moonlight Ranch. Jamie Marks handled the dog truck driver duties all weekend.

This year marked the passing of another stalwart of the Moonlight Ranch field trial scene. Jan Corbitt succumbed to pancreatic cancer on April 23, 2025. For 15+ years, she was an integral part of the field trials held on the Ranch. As Jim Rose commented at the Saturday night diner when offering a toast to Jan Corbitt and Ron Bader, "You never knew how many roles she played and tasks she took on until you had to pick them up." Her passing was preceded several years earlier by that of her partner, Ron Bader. Ron spent countless hours operating bulldozers and tractors to create the courses that are the hallmark of this venue. For nearly two decades, these two were the force that created these trial grounds, and the heart and soul that kept this venue thriving as public and private trial grounds in the Region were disappearing.

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No trial report is complete without recognizing and thanking Purina for its ongoing support. Support for judges' gifts and dog food for the winners is just the tip of the iceberg of all Purina does for the sport.

Valley Springs, Cal., March 7  
Judges: Aaron Faucet and Steve Cosgrove  
**REGION 11 AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats]**  
– 7 Pointers, 3 Setters, and 2 German Shorthairs  
Winner-PRIDE N JOY, F1703602, pointer male, by Quickmarksman's Ace-Sweet Child O Mine. Tom Griffin, owner and handler.  
Runner-Up-G R B'S DIRTY WHITE BOY, F1696446, German Shorthair male, by M V's Pretty Boy Floyd-D C R's Mojo Justice. Gina Bosio, owner and handler.

Judges: Gina Bosio and Tom Griffin  
**REGION 11 AMATEUR DERBY**  
– 4 Pointers and 2 Setters  
1st-ROCKING J'S CHIP, F1720767, pointer male, by Brock Force-Sleepless Money Maiden. Jarry Walton, owner and handler.  
2d-THE TUCALOTA GYPSY. [Placement Voided].  
3d-TUCALOTAS DAX, F1711952, pointer male, by Tucalota's Rebel Rush-Paladela's Shadow Rose. Ed Mayhew, owner and handler.

## JAYHAWK OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP

### *Touch's Steely Dan Named Champion; Haneys Juggernaut, Runner-up*

By David Taylor | Elk City, Kansas | March 17, 2026

The venue for the Jayhawk Open Shooting Dog Championship was the Westfall Ranch, located in the Flint Hills of southeast Kansas. The trial normally begins 24 hours after the Midwest Championship concludes. Weather conditions caused an extra day's delay. Snow, high wind, and freezing temperatures set the trial back. The members of the club appreciate Mr. Westfall for allowing the use of his property to host the trial. The Midwest, Jayhawk, and Sunflower Championships annually host their trials on these grounds. Bill has been a longtime supporter of local clubs, open and amateur championships, major circuit championships, and the National Championship at Ames.

Lynn Oxendine and T. J. Hidalgo judged the Championship, and Virgil Moore and Luke Topp judged the Derby. All four of these gentlemen have won championships, and the club was fortunate to obtain their services.

The judges named Touch's Steely Dan champion. "Dan" was handled by Virgil Moore for owner John Van Horn Jr. Dan ran on Course 1 and

ran a forward race, going to all the appropriate objectives. He stood stylishly at 25 and displayed perfect manners for Moore to flush his birds. He finished the hour reaching to the front.

Haneys Juggernaut was named runner-up. Shawn Kinkelaar handled Juggernaut for owner Chris Cagle. Juggernaut ran a forward race throughout the hour. He pointed a wild covey at 44 on the side hill in the big pasture. His manners at flush were beyond reproach. The weather changed for the derby with temperatures reaching near 90 degrees.

The Derby placements were based on race. This year's Purina Top Shooting Dog Derby, Silver W Hot Pink, placed first. Pink is owned by Debbie Ozner and was handled by Shawn Kinkelaar. Hale's Southern Rock placed second and was handled by Curtis Teare. Third in the Derby was Up Town Girl Mondo, owned by Jay McKenzie and handled by Harold Gearhart.

Thanks to Purina for furnishing feed to the winners and access to the Purina Store for awards. Jay McKenzie, Luke Topp, and Walley

Olson provided ATVs to assist in the running of the trial. Club president and trial chairman Randy Wilson prepares for the trial and runs a very successful one. Not only does he keep the trial running smoothly, but he also plans and prepares three meals a day for those in attendance. Harold Gearhart, Luke Topp, Garvin Collins, Walley Olson, and Trip Olson make up the rest of a great team.

Elk City, Kan., March 17  
Judges: T. J. Hidalgo and Lynn Oxendine  
**JAYHAWK OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats]**  
– 27 Pointers and 2 Setters  
Winner-TOUCH'S STEELY DAN, F1694320, pointer male, by Touch's Smooth Rider-Touch's White Assault. John Van Horn, Jr., owner; Virgil Moore, handler.  
Runner-Up-HANEYS JUGGERNAUT, F1716275, pointer male, by Pleasant Run Samuel-Pleasant Run Sally. Chris Cagle, owner; Shawn Kinkelaar, handler.

Judges: Virgil Moore and Luke Topp  
**OPEN DERBY – 11 Pointers and 1 Setter**  
1st-SILVER W HOT PINK, F1719740, pointer female, by Miller's Blindsider-Silver W Thunderbolt's Boom. Debbie Ozner, owner; Shawn Kinkelaar & Debbie Ozner, handlers.  
2d-HALE'S SOUTHERN ROCK, F1710928, pointer female, by Game Surge-Hale's High Kick. Jeffrey Hale, owner; Curtis Teare, handler.  
3d-UP TOWN GIRL MONDO, F1716652, pointer female, by I'm Gallant-Open Range Adeline. Jay McKenzie, owner; Harold Gearhart, handler.



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# GRAND VALLEY BIRD DOG CLUB

## Spring Trial

By Jim Cipponeri | Ionia, Michigan | March 21, 2026

**W**e had an excellent turnout for the first trial of the season. Unfortunately, one of our mainstays, Rich Hollister from Dunroven Kennels, was unable to attend due to a prior commitment. We really had to scramble for judges who could supply their own horses, and several horseback trialers stepped up as needed.

The weather on Saturday was decent for early March, but it turned extremely wet and windy on Sunday afternoon, and as a result, the Amateur Horseback Shooting Dog was canceled. The Walking Puppy and Derby had large entries and were very competitive, and even those that didn't place showed future adult potential.

The Munden family traveled here from Pennsylvania and had a fantastic weekend in the winners' circle. Wildland Wild Man took home the blue in both the Open and Amateur U. S. Complete Shooting Dog stakes! Mark Hughes placed second with Backwoods Wild Fire Blaze, and Scott Chaffee garnered third with Hypointe Sharpshooter.

The Club would like to acknowledge its appreciation to judges Bill Branham, Tom Vanecek,

Kelsey Hajek, Brett Massengill, and Chris Helms. Mike Brown picked up and delivered birds, which is a huge weight off the chairman's obligations. Connie Cipponeri conducted the drawing, and Rob Ellis and Steve McKalko assisted with bird planting.

Ionia, Mich., March 21

Judges: Bill Branham and Kelsey Hajek

**OPEN SHOOTING DOG – 4 Pointers and 2 Setters**

1st-DARRS MURPHY BROWN, F1702398, setter male, by Ponderosa Mac-Springpond's Autumn Adeline. William R. Darr, owner and handler.

2d-BAD RIVER RYLAND, F1687379, setter female, by T's Gunslinger-T's Unjaded. Tom F. Vanecek, owner and handler.

Judges: Jim Cipponeri and Brett Massengill  
**OPEN PUPPY**

– 3 Pointers, 4 Setters, and 1 Brittany

1st-CHRISTY'S SMOKING EMBER, F1722296, setter female, by Dun Rovens Drifter-Dunrovens Midnight Eve. Christy Helmes, owner and handler.

2d-PHOENIX RISING, F1721339, setter male, by Boatright's Maverick-Outcast Siren Song. Brian Coleman, owner and handler.

3d-COUNTRY GIRL, F1720939, pointer female, by The Treasure Chest-Mohawk Mill For Real. Les Bressler, owner; Christy Helmes, handler.

Judges: Kelsey Hajek and Tom Vanecek  
**OPEN SHOOTING DOG**

– 14 Pointers, 6 Setters, and 1 Brittany

1st-WILDLAND WILD MAN, F1695981, pointer male, by Double Deuce Zeke-Beaver Meadow Rose. Eric Munden, owner; Krysta Munden, handler.

2d-BACKWOODS WILD FIRE BLAZE, F1691395, pointer male, by Erin's Wild Justice-Hollywood Hot'n'tot. Justin Mason, owner; Mark Hughes, handler.

3d-HYPOINTE SHARPSHOOTER, F1706315, setter male, by Dun Rovens Zip-Castle Rock's Autumn Breeze. Nicholas Mellon Jr., owner; Scott Chaffee, handler.

Judges: Bill Branham and Tom Vanecek  
**OPEN DERBY – 10 Pointers and 5 Setters**

1st-HEARTBREAKER BUD LIGHT, F1710620, pointer male, by Toth's Tornado Reloaded-Grouse Trails Warrior Cat. Thomas Butts, owner; Mark Hughes, handler.

2d-SUNRISE LEA STAR, F1721028, setter female, by Sunrise Star-Mia Star. Steven McKalko, owner and handler.

3d-COUNTRY GIRL, F1720939, pointer female, by The Treasure Chest-Mohawk Mill For Real. Lance Bressler, owner; Christy Helmes, handler.

Judges: Kelsey Hajek and Tom Vanecek  
**AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG**

– 7 Pointers, 3 Setters, and 1 Brittany

1st-WILDLAND WILD MAN, F1695981, pointer male, by Double Deuce Zeke-Beaver Meadow Rose. Eric Munden, owner; Krysta Munden, handler.

2d-WILDLAND HEART BREAKER, F1705669, pointer female, by Miller's Heat Seeker-Wildland Warrior. Eric & Krysta Munden, owners; Krysta Munden, handler.

3d-WILD LAND WARRIOR, F1676947, pointer female, by Erin's War Creek-Suemac's Coventry. Eric Munden, owner and handler.

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

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# NGSPA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

## 73rd Running

By Anthony Rusciano | Grovespring, Missouri | March 28, 2026

The 73rd running of the National German Shorthaired Pointer Association (NGSPA) National Championships commenced on Saturday, March 28, 2026, at the Sportsmen's Field Trial Association Grounds in Grovespring, Missouri. With over 225 entries, this year's Nationals once again set the standard as the premier GSP event in the country, drawing top competitors and showcasing the very best our sport has to offer. We were especially pleased to welcome several new participants this year and look forward to their continued involvement.

From start to finish, the Championship reflected the strength, depth, and continued growth of NGSPA competition. While a few weather interruptions required minor adjustments, the event maintained its momentum and ran efficiently due to the coordination of the National Field Trial Committee and the dedication of our stake managers. The grounds provided excellent cover, and the quail proved strong and challenging, creating a fair and demanding test that rewarded true performance, endurance, and consistency.

This event continues to thrive because of the unwavering support of our sponsors. We extend our sincere appreciation to Purina Pro Plan, SportDOG, Garmin, and Dogs Unlimited for their continued investment in our championships



**Dogs of the Year Awards:** Mark Wasserman, Dan DiMambro, Katelyn Macke, Abraham Macke, Kirk Loftin, Sherri Tangsrud, and Anthony Rusciano.



**NGSPA National Amateur Shooting Dog Championship.** Aaron McAfee (judge), David Russell (judge), Anthony Rusciano, Abraham Macke, Dan DiMambro, David O'Brien, and Helmut Schoen. (Kneeling): Katelyn Macke with Macke's Jim Bob and Chris Young with Monkeyshines Callme The Breeze.

and in the future of field trials. Their support, along with the generosity of our dog wagon and social hour sponsors, enhances not only the competition but the overall experience for everyone in attendance.

Hospitality remains a cornerstone of the Nationals experience. We are grateful to Shelia Davis for her outstanding catering efforts throughout the week, and to Rich Robertson for delivering a memorable steak dinner. We also extend our appreciation to Becky Dynkiewicz for her attentiveness in the kitchen and her ability to turn leftovers into a full-course meal for attendees. Each evening, participants gathered at the clubhouse, reinforcing the camaraderie and tradition that define our sport. We also thank our many dinner sponsors (2025 winners) for creating an atmosphere that made these moments off the field just as meaningful as those in competition.

We would like to recognize NGSPA President Keith Richardson for his continued leadership and commitment to advancing the organization. Under the direction of the NGSPA Board, the National Championships continue to

evolve—growing in structure, competitiveness, and national recognition. That progress is the result of a shared vision and the collective efforts of many dedicated individuals.

A special acknowledgment goes to our stake managers, whose tireless work ensured each stake was run smoothly and professionally. Their preparation, communication, and attention to detail are essential to the success of this event. We also extend our appreciation to the National Field Trial Committee, especially Field Trial Secretary Lori Rezzardi, whose organization and precision behind the scenes kept every detail on track.

We are equally grateful to our



**Open Handler of the Year Award:** Keith Richardson, Dan DiMambro, and Terry Trzcinski.

judges, whose role is central to the integrity of our sport. Their time, experience, and commitment to fairness are critical in evaluating the high level of competition presented at the Nationals.

We were pleased to have Purina representative Terry Trzcinski in attendance on Saturday evening to present the Purina Handler of the Year awards to Dan DiMambro (Open) and Kirk Loftin (Amateur). Following the Handler of the Year awards, we presented the Dog of the Year awards to: Chicoree's Riden High Trixie (All-Age), owned by Rondal Alexander (accepting the award was handler Dan DiMambro); Macke's Jim Bob (Open Shooting Dog), owned by Abraham and Katelyn Macke; and Uodibar's Robbi Jo (Amateur Shooting Dog), owned by Sherri Tangsrud. Congratulations to all.

As we close out another successful Championship, we encourage continued involvement from our community. The strength of this event depends not only on competitors but also on volunteers willing to contribute their time and effort. Whether in the field, at the clubhouse, or behind the scenes, every role plays a part in maintaining the standard of excellence that defines the NGSPA Nationals.

On behalf of co-chairman Mark Wasserman and myself, we extend our sincere thanks to everyone who participated, supported, and traveled to Grovespring. Your dedication is what makes this event what it is today.

The 73rd NGSPA National Championships set a new benchmark, and we look forward to building on that success in 2027.

### **50th NGSPA National Amateur Shooting Dog Championship**

*By Dan DiMambro*

The NGSPA National Amateur Shooting Dog Championship drew a competitive field of amateur handlers and shooting dogs, each tested over a course demanding a forward race, endurance, and precise execution on



**NGSPA National Amateur All-Age Championship:** Sarah Hayes (judge), Brandon Blum, Robin Lambourn, Anthony Rusciano, Dayna Rusciano, and Chris Young. (Kneeling): Mark Wasserman with B M B's Freeloader and Kirk Loftin with High Standing Cuttin Edge.

game. Presiding over the stake were judges David Russell and Aaron McAfee, tasked with sorting through a strong group of contenders.

Rising to the top was Macke's Jim Bob ("Jim"), owned by Abraham and Katelyn Macke and handled by Abe Macke. Jim Bob delivered a strong, forward race, consistently showing to the front with purpose and control. He was credited with finds at approximately 10 and 36, both handled in order. His performance was marked by a smooth, intelligent application and a clean finish, separating him from the field and earning him the National Championship.

Runner-up honors went to Monkeyshines Callme The Breezy ("Breezy"), owned and handled by Helmut Schoen. Breezy turned in a consistent effort, carding finds at 25, 35, and 40. She maintained a steady presence through much of the hour and handled her bird work with composure. A marked lapse late in the brace proved costly, but her overall body of work secured the runner-up position.

Several other dogs delivered noteworthy efforts. Snowy River's Power Punch, handled by Mark Verdoorn, put together a productive hour with multiple finds and a strong finish. Nike's Frozen Arrow, handled by Larry Metter, impressed with a classy, well-applied race and multiple finds. Two Ponds Blanco Roux, handled by Hank Lewis, remained competitive deep into the hour before coming up late. B D K's

Sam I Am, handled by David O'Brien and Bomer, notched multiple finds but was hindered by late bird work issues. Chisholm Creek's Speak Easy, handled by Mark Wasserman, also showed early promise.

The Championship once again highlighted the depth and competitiveness of the amateur shooting dog ranks, with both placements reflecting the level of preparation and execution required to win at the national level.

The club extends its appreciation to judges Russell and McAfee for their time and consideration, and to fellow stake manager David O'Brien for his efforts in helping see the stake through.

Grovespring, Mo., March 28

Judges: Aaron McAfee and David Russell

**NGSPA NATIONAL AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats]**

– 56 German Shorthairs

Winner-MACKE'S JIM BOB, F1703274, German Shorthair male, by Riden High Rudy-Cuttin Wilds Space Cowgirl. Abraham Macke, owner and handler. Runner-Up-MONKEYSHINES CALLME THE BREEZE, F1699127, German Shorthair female, by Riden High Rudy-Cuttin Wilds Space Cowgirl. Helmut Schoen, owner and handler.

### **6th NGSPA National Amateur All-Age Championship**

*By Chris Young*

The NGSPA National Amateur All-Age Championship unfolded over two days of running, bringing together a talented field of handlers and bird dogs. With three braces running each morning and afternoon, the Championship tested consistency, bird work, and forward application across changing conditions and a demanding course.

*Day 1: Setting the Bar*

The Championship opened with Brace 1, where both "Joey" and "Knight" showed early ambition. Joey broke away with a forward race that at times stretched toward all-age application before settling into a shooting dog pattern. He recorded a find but was picked up after two unproductives. Knight complemented the brace with a determined shooting dog effort, also recording a find before being picked up after two unproductives.

Brace 2 saw “Zoe” handle the course with a composed shooting dog race, but two unproductives led to her being picked up. Her bracemate, “Trip,” made an impressive breakaway showing strong all-age drive but failed to show to the front, resulting in an early tracker call.

Brace 3 proved highly impactful. “Rocky” delivered a powerful performance with a strong forward application and four finds through the middle of the hour. He finished in a controlled manner, completing a well-rounded and memorable bid. “Jet” supported the brace with two finds and an honor, showing resilience despite some inconsistency.

The afternoon braces continued to test the field. In Brace 4, “Tater” made an eye-catching breakaway and was quickly seen under a bird, showing early promise before being picked up. “Nakia” followed with a nice performance, recording five finds, though her forward consistency in her lines proved challenging at times.

Brace 5 featured two stylish all-age efforts. “Junior” put together a nice, consistent forward, classy on his game, recording a divided find and a non-productive while consistently presenting himself well. “Hewey” matched that effort with two finds, one of them divided, and a non-productive, maintaining a strong presence and connection throughout the hour.

Day 1 concluded with Brace 6, where “Mikey” broke away with strength and reach, showing a big race early and recording a find. After becoming somewhat lateral, he regained his forward push before his bid ended at Sycamore Bottom, and the handler elected to pull the tracker. “Winnie” worked into a steady shooting dog pattern after an uneven start, handling the course methodically before the handler elected to pick up late in the hour near camp.

#### Day 2: Championship Push

Day 2 started with Brace 7 in the



**NGSPA National Futurity:** Keith and Bobbi Richardson, Dan DiMambro, Chris Meyer (judge), Sarah Hayes (judge), Joe Orndorff, and Kirk Loftin. (Kneeling): Rich Robertson with MSPW A Need For Speed, Cindy Orndorff with All N's Southern Justice, and Sherry Tangsrud with Uodibar's Lonestar God of War.

morning, where the field continued to be tested. “Squink” showed inconsistency early and was ultimately picked up after failing to honor. His bracemate broke away with a strong forward cast and was later found standing during relocation, but an issue during the process resulted in the handler electing to pick up.

In Brace 8, “Rebel” recorded a find during his time on the ground but had a shortened outing, with the handler electing to pick up. His bracemate, “Ace,” was scratched.

Brace 9 saw “Becks” record a find but struggle to establish consistency on the ground, leading to an early pickup. “Robbie” was scratched.

In Brace 10, “Jackson” opened with a big, impressive cast and showed strong forward application early. After working through some heavier cover and briefly getting sticky, he regained his stride before being lost late in the hour, with the handler pulling the tracker.

“Sam” was lost shortly after the breakaway, ending his bid early.

Brace 11 brought a strong performance from “Woody,” who made a big opening cast and demonstrated consistent bird work, being found standing to the front and again at time. His effort showed persistence and bird sense throughout the hour, which earned him the National Amateur All-Age Runner-up Champion.

“Nova” complemented the

brace with a steady shooting dog performance, recording two finds and an honor while maintaining a consistent and composed presence.

Over two days, the Championship proved to be a true test of both dog and handler. The course rewarded forward application, clean bird work, and consistency.

Congratulations to champion Hewey, handled by Brandon Blum, and runner-up Woody, handled by Dayna Rusciano.

**Judges:** Sarah Hayes and Chris Meyer  
**NGSPA NATIONAL AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats] – 22 German Shorthairs**  
*Winner-B M B'S FREELOADER, F1678664, German Shorthair male, by B M B's Free Ride-Hightailing Saddle's Mandolin. Brandon & Jennifer Blum, owners; Brandon Blum, handler.*  
*Runner-Up-HIGH STANDING CUTTIN EDGE, F1675198, German Shorthair male, by Slick's Cuttin Wild-C L K's Point Me The Way. Anthony & Dayna Rusciano, owners; Dayna Rusciano, handler.*

### **67th NGSPA National Futurity**

*By Harvey Franco*

The 67th running of the NGSPA National Futurity delivered a memorable performance from Brace 10A and 10B, where two exceptional young competitors rose above the field in a display of speed, style, and determination.

The 2026 first-place Futurity winner, MSPW A Need For Speed (“Needa”), a young female owned by Keith and Bobbi Richardson and handled by Dan DiMambro, broke away with explosive energy and immediately set the tone. At her side was a proven contender, second-place All N's Southern Justice (“Mugsey”), owned by LaCinda Orndorff and handled by Jody Orndorff. From the outset, it was clear this brace would be something special.

Both dogs surged into Course 3 with purpose, showing impressive stride and forward application. Their runs mirrored one another—aggressive, intelligent, and driven—as each worked to outpace the other to the next objective. Scouts moved quickly, handlers pressed forward, and anticipation built as both dogs disappeared momentarily, only to reappear, driving ahead and

maintaining command of the course.

At the five-minute mark, Needa capitalized on her momentum, pinning down game and producing a single quail in strong, clean flight. It was a polished piece of work that underscored her natural ability and composure. Just two minutes later, Mugsey answered with authority. Found on point at 7, he delivered a stylish, broke find that matched the intensity of the moment.

As the brace unfolded, both dogs continued to distinguish themselves with independent hunting and forward patterning. Their separation from the pack became unmistakable. Then, at 17, Mugsey once again demonstrated his class, standing tall on point and producing game with an impeccable, broke performance.

In the end, it was a showcase of two outstanding Futurity contenders. Both Needa and Mugsey finished strong, forward, and convincing—clearly securing first and second placements in this prestigious renewal of the National Futurity.

Third-place competitor Uodibar's Lonestar God of War ("Ares"), owned by Kirk Loftin and handled by Dan DiMambro, delivered a notable performance. Breaking away past Horse Killer Hill and heading toward Sycamore Bottom, Ares quickly made game contact through a strip of cover that opened into the next clearing.

Ares continued moving forward, briefly disappearing from view before being sighted again near the double barns, skillfully maneuvering through the thicket. His handler successfully rounded him up at the four-way crossing, allowing Ares to continue his course.

After review, the judges awarded Ares third place for his performance in the 69th running of the NGSPA National Futurity.



**NGSPA National Championship: Steve Auxier (judge), Keith Richardson, Kirk Loftin, Bobbi Richardson, Gailen Cooper, Sherri Tangsrud with Stoney Hill's Pinnacle Dee, and Rich Robertson with Twin Creeks Running Rocky.**

#### NGSPA NATIONAL FUTURITY – 31 German Shorthairs

1st- 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.

2d-ALL N'S SOUTHERN JUSTICE, F1730702, German Shorthair male, by All N's Cuttin A Blue Streak-All N's Southern Comfort. Joe Orndorff, owner and handler.

3d-UODIBAR'S LONESTAR GOD OF WAR, F1723003, German Shorthair male, by Uodibar's Lover Boy-Stoney Hill's Light It Up. Kirk Loftin, owner; Dan DiMambro, handler.

#### 73rd NGSPA National All-Age Championship

By Keith Richardson, Co-Stake  
Manager

The 73rd running of the NGSPA National Championship was a successful event where participants enjoyed their time, exhibited notable sportsmanship, and were met with near-perfect weather. We received approximately 2 inches of rain over a seven-hour period late one evening and were surprised to find the courses and creek crossings nearly dry the following day. We drew 41 dogs and had 41 starters. Last year, we drew 42 dogs but had a few scratches.

Attendance typically declines following the Futurity, and the National Championship has fewer people available to assist. We are especially thankful to those who gave their time to ensure a successful event. Unlike past years, dinner was served at the clubhouse every night. A special thank you to Becky Dynkiewicz, who put together a wonderful dinner with the help of Bobbi and Keith Richardson. One evening featured a surprise 60th Anniversary dinner celebration

for Keith and Bobbi Richardson, conceived by Sherri Tangsrud with Becky's outstanding support. The clubhouse was beautifully decorated, complete with champagne, a nicely decorated cheesecake, and an excellent meal. The final evening featured a delicious fajita dinner, courtesy of last year's winner, David O'Brien.

There was a record number of bird finds thanks to the diligence and hard work of our bird planters, Anthony Rusciano and Rich Robertson, who have developed a strong understanding of the best planting locations over the years. The important task of running the dog wagon was handled by Anthony Rusciano, Rich Robertson, David O'Brien, and Joe and LaCinda Orndorff. Bobbi Richardson drove the Polaris, which was frequently used for transporting dogs. We also thank Helmut Schoen, who marshaled the first day until everyone became comfortable with the course.

We extend our appreciation to our judges, Steve Auxier (Lincoln, Nebraska) and Gailen Cooper (Hazlehurst, Mississippi), who spent four days in the saddle evaluating our dogs—a selfless commitment to the sport. A huge thank you goes to our sponsors—Purina Pro Plan, SportDOG, Garmin, and Dogs Unlimited—who are vital to the success of this National Championship. Purina contributed product and hosted a fantastic steak dinner, and their nutrition program is used by many of our top competitors.

#### The Running

Stoney Hill's Pinnacle Dee ("Dee"), handled by Kirk Loftin and owned by Larry and Kirk Loftin, was named champion. Dee ran in Brace 14B and recorded her first find at 12 before Horse Killer Hill, followed shortly by a back. She demonstrated a strong race with excellent style and intensity on her birds, paired with an attractive, fast gait. Dee hunted the cover without relying on the roads and was found standing at time. She required little handling, no hacking, and minimal scouting.

Twin Creeks Running Rocky ("Rocky"), handled by Kirk Loftin and owned by Larry and Kirk Loftin, was named runner-up. Rocky ran in Brace 20A on Course 1 and recorded six finds. His first find came on the big line before the road crossing. At 18, he was located on the left side of Davis Bottom and brought around to the right side, where he was found pointed at 23. His next find was produced on the backside of the Island Field at 37. He finished in the field at the top of Horse Killer Hill with finds at 53 and 60. The judges noted his style on birds and his ability to complete his work without aggressive scouting. The champion displayed a faster gait.

### **Other Notable Performances**

(Carried by the judges for an extended time)

Brace 4A – P W Ben There Done That ("Ben"), handled by Rich Robertson Jr. and owned by Keith and Bobbi Richardson, recorded three finds at 20, 28, and 50. He disappeared to the front and was found standing with classic style, including two "dug up" finds. He ran a big all-age race, consistently to the front, finishing strong. Judges noted that he marked flight.

Brace 8A – BMB's Supernova ("Nova"), handled by Brandon Blum and owned by Brandon and Jennifer Blum. Nova was carried for a considerable time and recorded four finds at 5, 22, 32, and 43. She maintained a good forward race, with all finds well to the front. No scouting was required, and judges commented she appeared to be on "autopilot." Her finds often came after being out of sight and then found standing. Her style was very good, though her finish was not as strong as the rest of her race.

Brace 12B – High Standing Cuttin Edge ("Woody"), handled by Dan DiMambro and owned by Anthony and Dayna Rusciano, recorded finds at 14, 28, and 59. His finds were often pointed from a distance, demonstrating a superior nose. He showed excellent style and strong

application to the course, running a big all-age race and finished, found standing at time.

### **The Rest of the Dogs**

Brace 1A – Ream's Winnie ("Winnie"), handled by Brandon Blum and owned by Kaitlyn Ream, had two finds, marked on the second, and was picked up early. Brace 1B – Slaterock's Mountain Heart ("Rommel"), handled by Dan DiMambro and owned by James Dynkiewicz, had two finds, was gone a long time, and the tracker was requested.

Brace 2A – P W Race To The Front ("Raycee"), handled by Rich Robertson Jr. and owned by Keith and Bobbi Richardson, was gone from cast off. Brace 2B – Uodibar BDK's Code of Honor ("Cody"), handled by Keith Gulledge and owned by Brooks and Mary Carmichael, had one UP, two finds, and the handler picked up.

Brace 3A – P W That Was Then This Is Now ("Nova"), handled by Rich Robertson Jr. and owned by Keith and Bobbi Richardson, had two finds and a big race, but was lost at 58. Brace 3B – Heafner's Brilliant Brutus ("Brutus"), handled by Jason King and owned by William Heafner, had two finds, a back and a UP, but his run was not all-age.

Brace 4A – Ben was covered above. Brace 4B – Red Oaks Sunshine Von Heidbrink ("Sonny"), handled and owned by Jason King, had a divided find, two UPs, and the handler picked up.

Brace 5A – Prairie Wind Lily In The Field ("Lily"), handled by Dan DiMambro and owned by Keith Richardson and Bobbi Richardson, had one find and failed to back. Brace 5B – Fannie's Game Over Dude ("Junior"), handled by Keith Gulledge and owned by David O'Brien, had two finds and a back but made too much use of the roads.

Brace 6A – Hi-Tailyn Skye ("Skye"), handled and owned by Scott Bodenstab, had two finds, and the handler picked up. Brace 6B –

Monkeyshines Callme The Breeze ("Breeze"), owned by Helmut Schoen and handled by Dan DiMambro, had a back, and then the handler picked up.

Brace 7A – Quijano's W D Forty Rusty ("Rusty"), owned by David Quijano and handled by Josh Nieman, had four finds, but two were divided. He had a back at time. He was forward but was hurt by his divided finds. Brace 7B – Uodibar's Robbi Jo ("Robbi"), handled by Kirk Loftin and owned by Sherri Tangsrud, had a back and four finds with two being divided. She had a good finish, but checked in too much.

Brace 8A – Nova was covered above. Brace 8B – In-Country's Apache ("Patch"), handled by Dan DiMambro and owned by Chris Young, was picked up by the handler.

Brace 9A – B M B's Freeloader ("Hewey"), handled and owned by Brandon Blum, had four finds, but they were right off the path. He had a good race. Brace 9B – P W The Real Deal ("Deal"), handled by Rich Robertson Jr. and owned by Keith and Bobbi Richardson, had two finds, a back and a UP.

Brace 10A – A O Tripps To Win ("Tripp"), handled by Josh Nieman and owned by Alan Davison, was picked up. Brace 10B – Outbak's How You Doin ("Joey"), handed and owned by Larry Bradley, had a back one find and was picked up due to heat.

Brace 11A – Hi Tailyn Nakia ("Nakia"), handled and owned by Scott Bodenstab, was picked up. Brace 11B – H C K's Clowns Last Straw ("Jet"), handled and owned by Sam Hare, was picked up.

Brace 12A – Red Oaks Lucifers Lucky Lucy ("Lucy"), handled and owned by Jason King, was picked up. Brace 12B – Woody was covered above.

Brace 13A: Hongo's Layla ("Layla"), handled by Joe Orndorff and owned by Kathleen Malone, was picked up. Brace 13B: Heafner's Hi-Tailyn Pistol ("Pistol"), handled by

Jason King and owned by William Heafner, was also picked up.

Brace 14A: B D K's Molly's Game ("Molly"), handled by Keith Gullede and owned by Brooks Mary Carmichael, had two finds, one UP and a moderate race. Brace 14B: Dee was named champion and reported above.

Brace 15A: Lambourn's Surface Air Missile ("Sam"), handled by Josh Nieman and owned by Robin Lambourn, was picked up. Brace 15B: Stoney Hill's NK Deadman's Hand (Ace), handled and owned by Kirk Loftin, was also picked up.

Brace 16A: AO Llano Action Jackson ("Jackson"), handled by Josh Nieman and owned by Alan Davison, was picked up. Brace 16B: Uodibar's Back In The Game ("Dakota"), handled and owned by Kirk Loftin, was also picked up.

Brace 17A: Chicoree's Riden High Trixie ("Trixie"), handled by Dan DiMambro and owned by Rondal Alexander, had two finds, and the tracker was requested. Brace 17B: B D K's Fire Chief ("Chief"), handled by Keith Gullede and owned by Jake Phipps, had three finds but made too much use of the roads.

Brace 18A: Snowy Rivers So Far So ("Sophie"), handled by Kirk Loftin and owned by Mike Kindler, was picked up. Brace 18B: P W Lightning Bolt (Bolt), handled by Rich Robertson Jr. and owned by Keith and Bobbi Richardson, was picked up. Brace 19A: Heafner's Hi-Tailyn Gunner ("Gunner"), handled by Jason King and owned by William Heafner, was also picked up.

Brace 19B: Texas Hot Potato ("Tater"), handled by Keith Gullede and owned by Kirk and Terry Bomer, went with a bird. Brace 20A: Rocky was named runner-up and covered above.

Brace 20B: Texas Preacher Man ("Mikey"), handled by Keith Gullede and owned by Kirk and Terry Bomer, had a find and a back, but was picked up.

Brace 21A: Heafner's Hi-Tailyn



**NGSPA National Open Shooting Dog Championship: John Bonner (judge), Mark Wasserman, Keith Gullede, Andy Daugherty, and Alex Jacocks (judge). (Kneeling): Robbi Gullede with O B's Stick In The Mud and Rich Robertson with P W Evolution's Recreation.**

Bullet ("Bullet"), handled by Jason King and owned by William Heafner, had a find and went with a bird on the second. Brace 22B was a bye.

### **General Comments by the Judges**

There were plenty of birds by which to judge the dogs, which had not always been their experience on these grounds. They were impressed with the excellent sportsmanship displayed.

by the competitors. The trial was well organized, and there was a lot of camaraderie and people helping out. All in all, they felt the National Championship was a class event.

**Judges: Steve Auxier and Gailen Cooper  
NGSPA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP**

**[One-Hour Heats] – 41 German Shorthairs**

*Winner-STONEY HILL'S PINNACLE DEE, F1694168, German Shorthair female, by Twin Creeks Running Ruger-P J Wildfire's Little Lexi. Larry & Kirk Loftin, owners; Kirk Loftin, handler.*

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

### **56th National Shooting Dog Championship**

*By Alex Jacocks and Mark Wasserman*

The 56th running of the National Shooting Dog Championship proved to be another outstanding display of talent, determination, and top-tier competition, drawing a strong field of 46 exceptional dogs from across the country. Judged by Alex Jacocks and John Bonner, the stake was conducted with a high standard of professionalism befitting a national championship.

The trial faced early challenges, as weather played a role, with rain delays cutting into a half-day of running on day two. Despite this setback, the stake maintained its momentum, and the grounds ultimately provided fair and competitive conditions. The quail held well, offering ample opportunity for dogs to demonstrate their abilities, and the overall quality of performances throughout the field made for difficult and thoughtful decisions by the judges.

Taking top honors as champion was O B's Stick in the Mud ("Stick"), owned by David O'Brien and expertly handled by Keith Gullede. Stick delivered a commanding and forward race that immediately set him apart from the field. Covering ground with purpose and intelligence, he maintained consistent application throughout his hour. Six outstanding finds highlighted his performance, each handled with precision and style. While his race was expansive, it remained completely under control, requiring minimal scouting by Robbi Gullede, a testament to both his training and natural ability. His bird work was flawless from start to finish, marked by intensity, composure, and impeccable manners. It was a performance worthy of a national title.

Earning the runner-up position was P W Evolution's Recreation, owned by Keith and Bobbi Richardson, and handled by Richie Robertson. Known as "Spike," this dog put together a strong and polished performance featuring a forward, well-balanced race complemented by four excellent finds and two stylish backs. His work on birds was consistently sharp, demonstrating textbook manners and composure under pressure. The judges noted his intensity on point. Spike's effort stood out in a highly competitive field and earned him well-deserved recognition as runner-up.

Several other dogs turned in noteworthy performances, keeping them firmly in contention and contributing to the depth and quality

of this championship. Among those were: Snowy Rivers Power Punch, owned by Harlan Higginbotham and handled by Chase Verdoorn; Mack's Jax Black Label, owned by Katelyn Macke and handled by Dan DiMambro; and P P P's Hammerin' Hollywood, owned by Jake Phipps and handled by Josh Nieman. Each of these contenders delivered high-caliber performances, showcasing the strength and competitiveness of

today's shooting dog field.

In summary, the 56th National Shooting Dog Championship was a true testament to the excellence of the sport. From challenging weather conditions to a deep and talented field, the event highlighted the dedication of owners, handlers, and dogs alike. Performances throughout the stake reflected the continued advancement and quality of shooting dogs nationwide, leaving no doubt

that the future of the sport remains strong.

**Judges: John Bonner and Alex Jacocks**  
**NGSPA NATIONAL OPEN SHOOTING DOG**  
**CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats]**  
**- 47 German Shorthairs**

*Winner-O B'S STICK IN THE MUD, F1687879, German Shorthair male, by B D K's Sam I Am-B D K Allie's Miss Sassy Pants. David O'Brien, owner; Keith Gullede, 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 Jr., handler.*

## INDIANTOWN GAP BIRD DOG CLUB

### *Spring Championships and Classics Series*

**By Ernie Saniga | Petersburg, Pennsylvania | April 6, 2026**

**T**he Indiantown Gap spring trial was run April 6-12, 2026. Four stakes were offered. In order, they were the Keystone Open Shooting Dog Championship, the Keystone Yankee Open Derby Classic, the Indiantown Gap Amateur Shooting Dog Classic, and the Region 2 Amateur Shooting Dog Championship.

Judges were Lane and Darcy Hodges for the open stakes. The Amateur Classic was judged by Darren Boyer and Allen Welch. Bart Hastings and Stacy Goodie rode for the Region 2 Championship. All placements were well received.

Greg Strausbaugh is the field trial chairman, selects the judges, is the ground crew chairman, and bird planter for many of the stakes. He is helped in the latter tasks by Ted Foust. Ted and George Tracy plant the birds in the amateur stakes; Mary Tracy runs the kitchen, and this reporter is the secretary. Retired Penn State Professor Art Hower is the overseer, not a small contribution.

Free dinners and cocktail parties preceded public drawings for all stakes on April 5. Ted Foust and Bill and Muriel Primm funded a dinner in Huntingdon on Wednesday in honor of their 2025 champion, R Q's Saddle. Summerhill Kennels, Karen Saniga, Sheila Cassidy, and R. B. and Brigit Powell provided dinners at the clubhouse. The Powells sang



**Keystone Open Shooting Dog Championship: Aidan Tracy with Waybetter Rebel and Mike Tracy with Faithful, joined by participants.**

and played music for us one night.

Winner of the Keystone Championship was pointer Waybetter Rebel, owned by Bill and Muriel Primm, Allen Linder and Madison McDonald. The 6-year-old is on quite a roll, having annexed runner-up at The Masters, winner of the Carolina Celebration at the Clarendon Plantation, and winner of the Inez Smith Classic at the Smith Plantation. Four in a row in stiff competition is noteworthy. Here, Mike Tracy showed him running these edges with intelligence, scoring first at 25 across from the sycamores

near the old bridge, again at 35 after a big swinging move, and then at 40, 45, and 55, finishing with aplomb. Class on the ground and on game was the icing on the cake.

Runner-up was the Duerksen pointer female, Faithful, also handled by Mike Tracy. She scored first at 11, then, catching the front, swapped ends together with her bracemate a few minutes later. A big cast at 30 found her nose up with birds in front of her. A stop-and-flush at 40 was followed by finds at 46 and 56, with a strong finish.



**Keystone Yankee Open Derby Classic:** Peek A Bull with Aidan Tracy, Bully Budd with Mike Tracy, and Mark Janiec with Sunset Creek Uptown Girl, joined by participants.



**Indiantown Gap Amateur Shooting Dog Classic:** Joe Lordi with The Secret, Sheila Cassidy with Calico's Over The Top, and Mark Janiec with Miller's Flowers and Lace, joined by participants.



**Region 2 (AFTCA) All-Age Championship:** Chris Catanzarite with the trophy, Allen Welch with Backcountry Bruiser, and Mark Janiec with Miller's Flowers and Lace, joined by participants.

Mike Tracy won first and second in the Keystone Yankee Derby Classic with littermate pointers Peek A Bull and Bully Budd. They are owned by this reporter and his wife, Karen. George Tracy was third with Sunset Creek Uptown Girl, owned by Mark and Karen Janiec. All owners rode. Peek A Bull scored four times in a race that was good early, good in the middle, and strong at the end. Ditto for Bully Budd, not quite as wide in the middle, also with four finds adding a stop to flush. Uptown Girl was medium throughout, scoring a find and a divided find in a snappy race. All had high, and finished work on game.

Interestingly, the first two are by the Saniga-Primm pointer, Ch. Bully Rock x Todd Montgomery's Sandspur Belle, while the third dog is by Doug McMillen's Ch. Double Deuce Zeke x the Hughes' R-U Ch. Braggabull, the latter a littermate to Ch. Bully Rock.

Joe Lordi won the Indiantown Gap Amateur Classic with his pointer male, The Secret. Secret was on the string of Jeanette Tracy and was given to Joe to campaign when Jeanette opened a boarding kennel. He is a former Keystone champion. Secret ran a very strong race, stuck like glue to these edges, and notched three good finds handled with high, tight style to win the stake.

Second went to Alex Smith's pointer, Calico's Over The Top. The pointer ran a fine race with a good finish, scored three nice finds, and also had a nonproductive.

Miller's Flowers and Lace was third, handled by Mark Janiec, in a smooth race and polished work on her multiple finds.

The Region 2 Amateur All-Age Championship was won by Chris Catanzarite's pointer, Backcountry Bruiser, coming 10 years old. Chris noted that this is the dog's 10th championship. Here, he ran like a young dog, filling these big edges and spacing six finds with high style and finished manners. A strong finish capped the fine performance. Runner-up went to Miller's Flowers and Lace, the Allen Linder and Madison McDonald pointer female from the George Tracy string. The pretty female was handled by Mark Janiec to a swinging race with five good finds, an unproductive, and a back.

Petersburg, Pa., April 6

Judges: Darcy Hodges and Lane Hodges

**KEYSTONE OPEN SHOOTING DOG**

**CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats] – 27 Pointers and 2 Setters**

Winner-WAYBETTER REBEL, F1689139, pointer male, by Dominator's Rebel Heir-Calico's Country Strong. Bill & Muriel Primm & Allen Linder, owners; Mike Tracy, handler.

Runner-Up-FAITHFUL, F1684597, pointer female, by Waybetter Rocky-Steel City Karen. Dr. Roger & Susan Duerksen, owners; Mike Tracy, handler.

**KEYSTONE YANKEE OPEN DERBY CLASSIC**

– 8 Pointers

1st-PEEK A BULL, F1712607, pointer female, by Bully Rock-Sandspur Belle. Ernie & Karen Saniga, owners; Mike Tracy, handler.

2d-BULLY BUDD, F1712603, pointer male, by Bully Rock-Sandspur Belle. Ernie & Karen Saniga, owners; Mike Tracy, handler.

3d-SUNSET CREEK UPTOWN GIRL, F1713966, pointer female, by Double Deuce Zeke-Braggabull. Mark Janiec, owner; George Tracy, handler.

Judges: Darren Boyer and Allen Welch

**INDIANTOWN GAP AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG**

**CLASSIC [One-Hour Heats]**

– 16 Pointers and 2 German Shorthairs

1st-THE SECRET, F1686192, pointer male, by Waybetter Rocky-Ladywood's Keepsake. Joseph E. Lordi, owner and handler.

2d-CALICO'S OVER THE TOP, F1692315, pointer male, by Dominator's Rebel Heir-Calico's Country Strong. Alex & Tiffani Smith, owners; Alex Smith, handler.

3d-MILLER'S FLOWERS AND LACE, F1696283, pointer female, by Miller's Upgraded Version-Miller's Special Edition. Allen R. Linder, owner; Mark Janiec, handler.

Judges: Stacey Goodie and Bart Hastings

**REGION 2 AMATEUR ALL-AGE CHAMPIONSHIP**

**[One-Hour Heats] – 12 Pointers**

Winner-BACKCOUNTRY BRUISER, F1672645, pointer male, by Erin's War Creek-Backcountry Tornado. Chris Catanzarite, owner and handler.

Runner-Up-MILLER'S FLOWERS AND LACE, F1696283, pointer female, by Miller's Upgraded Version-Miller's Special Edition. Allen R. Linder, owner; Mark Janiec, handler.

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# WINNETT CHAMPIONSHIPS & CLASSICS

## A Prairie Masterpiece

By Brad McCardle | Winnett, Montana | April 8, 2026

The rolling country of the historic King Ranch near Winnett, Montana, once again played host to a memorable week of western field trialing. Beneath a vast and shifting Montana sky, a dedicated gallery of handlers, scouts, and judges gathered for six days of high-caliber competition. Nature seemed to smile upon the event this year; the mornings broke crisp and clear, warming steadily to provide both favorable scenting conditions for the dogs and pleasant hours in the saddle for the gallery.

### The Grounds & Habitat

The venue itself was a standout participant in the week's success. The King Ranch stands as a premier example of well-cared-for sage prairie habitat, where the balance of grazing and conservation creates an ideal environment for upland birds. The diversity of the habitat was on full display as all four upland species—Sharptail Grouse, Sage Hen, Hungarian Partridge, and Pheasant—were moved during the week.

The trial utilized six distinct courses each day, meticulously laid out to test a dog's stamina and application. The running followed a consistent rhythm of four courses in the morning followed by two in the afternoon, ensuring every brace had fresh, challenging country to explore.

The expansive landscape occasionally provided some lighthearted moments for the gallery. In the heat of the all-age stakes, as dogs reached for the furthest ridges, more than one handler was heard calling out a "point" or a "Deep in there" on what turned out to be a Pronghorn Antelope. The speed and white rumps of the local speed-goats proved to be convincing decoys, leading to a few eye rolls and sheepish grins when a high-rolling "pointer" suddenly took off at 50 mph



*Big Sky Open Shooting Dog Championship (front row): Dezasterous Silver Bandit with Gordy Jones and Lucky Man with Andrew Baisley, joined by participants.*

on spindly legs.

### Big Sky Open Shooting Dog Championship

The week commenced with the Big Sky Open Shooting Dog Championship. Under the watchful eyes of judges John Todd and Austin Turley, the field was tested against the expansive, undulating terrain.

Emerging from the pack was Dezasterous Silver Bandit, owned by Robbie Thompson and handled by Brian Gingrich. Running on the final course of the day (Course 6), Bandit's performance was a clinic in shooting dog excellence; he hit the heavy cover with purpose, maintaining a polished, forward race that never lost its edge despite the late-day heat. The exclamation point on his performance came toward the end of his hour, where Bandit carded a masterful find on a small group of Sharptails. His intense composure and impeccable manners on this late-race game earned him the title of Champion.

Runner-up honors went to Lucky Man ("Tommy"), handled by Ryan Mulcahy. Appearing on the morning's opening course (Course 1), Tommy turned in a pleasing and consistent

race that kept the judges' eyes fixed on him from start to finish. His performance was highlighted by a solid find on Sharptails at the 25-minute mark, followed later in the hour by a mannerly stop-to-flush, securing his place under strong consideration.

Winnett, Mont., April 8

Judges: John Todd and Austin Turley

**BIG SKY OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP**  
[One-Hour Heats] – 19 Entries

Winner-DEZASTEROUS SILVER BANDIT, F1709966, pointer male, by Haney's Silver Dollar-Bandit's Hill Lady, Robert Thompson, owner; Brian Gingrich, handler.

Runner-Up-LUCKY MAN, F1695973, pointer male, by Wild Billy's Circus Story-My Lucky Day, Ryan Mulcahy & Jessica Vandembush, owners; Ryan Mulcahy, handler.

### Region 14 Amateur All-Age Championship

As the stakes rose, the Region 14 Amateur All-Age Championship took center stage. Judges Ryan Jones and Ryan Mulcahy rode attentively, looking for a dog that could truly "crack the horizon" while remaining in tune with its handler.

The title was claimed by Costas ("Bob"), a powerful pointer male handled by Gordy Jones with Mike Robbins scouting. Bob impressed the judges with a forward and calculated race that utilized every



**Region 14 (AFTCA) Amateur All-Age Championship (front row): Costas with Mike and Sophia Robbins, and Touch's Crush with Keith Anderson. (Behind): Courtney Bastion (Purina rep), Jerone Boggs, Ryan Jones, Andrew Baisley, Gordy Jones, Ryan Mulcahy (judge), Brian Gingrich (judge), Brad McCardle, Michelle Turley, Austin Turley, Chris Perkins, Jeanette Heise, Dave Noel, and Lou Qualtiere.**

inch of the King Ranch's coulees. His intelligent application and polished bird work left no doubt in the judges' minds. Notably, Bob was one of the few elite dogs to display the stamina and mental toughness required to compete in all three one-hour stakes during the week.

Standing as runner-up was Touch's Crush, handled by Chris Perkins with Keith Anderson scouting. Crush displayed a stylish, relentless drive and a consistency that made him a formidable contender until the final whistle.

**Judges: Ryan Jones and Ryan Mulcahy**  
**REGION 14 AMATEUR ALL-AGE CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats] – 22 Pointers and 1 Setter**  
*Winner-COSTAS, F1698042, pointer male, by Dominator's Rebel Heir-Searchin For A Rainbow. Gordon Jones, owner and handler.*  
*Runner-Up-TOUCH'S CRUSH, F1703552, pointer male, by Touch's Smooth Rider-Touch's Wildwood Flower. Keith A. Wright, owner; Chris Perkins, handler.*

### **Broomhill Open All-Age Classic**

The week's finale, the Broomhill Open All-Age Classic, concluded the broke dog stakes. Judges Ryan Jones of Calgary, Alberta, and Nick Schade of Salmon, Idaho, selected a deserving slate of winners from a strong field of all-age dogs. Jones and Schade rode attentively across the Sage flats and buttes to evaluate the field over demanding all-age country. Costas returned to the winners' circle, proving his dominance. Handled again by Gordy Jones, Bob put on a masterclass of range and intelligence, navigating the prairie with a veteran's grace.



**Broomhill Open All-Age Classic (front row): Costas with Mike Robbins, LBF Beast of Burden with Brad McCardle, and Black Rocks Snow Goose with Chris Perkins. (Behind): Jeanette Heise, Lou Qualtiere, Brian Gingrich, Gordy Jones, Ryan Jones (judge), Sophia Robbins, Dave Noel, Austin Turley, Andrew Baisley, Nick Schade (judge), and Ryan Mulcahy.**

His Broomhill performance was highlighted by a standout find on a single Sage Hen at the 20-minute mark, where he showed great character, capping off a truly remarkable week of work.

Second place was awarded to LBF Beast of Burden, a pointer male handled by Brad McCardle, with Keith Anderson scouting. Beast of Burden delivered a performance marked by quality bird work, carding two finds and a stop-to-flush on Sharptails. While his race was lateral at times, he finished strong and to the front, punctuated by a final find and an impressive finish going away at time.

Third went to Black Rocks Snow Goose, a pointer male handled by Chris Perkins with Brad McCardle scouting. Snow Goose made some impressive all-age moves throughout his hour. His bid was punctuated by a find at the 30-minute mark on a pair of Hungarian Partridge, where he displayed exceptional class and style while pointed.

**Judges: Ryan Jones and Nick Schade**  
**BROOMHILL OPEN ALL-AGE CLASSIC [One-Hour Heats]**  
 – 14 Pointers, 1 Setter, and 1 German Shorthair  
*1st-COSTAS, F1698042, pointer male, by Dominator's Rebel Heir-Searchin For A Rainbow. Gordon Jones, owner and handler.*  
*2d-LBF BEAST OF BURDEN, F1708785, pointer male, by LBF Up In Smoke-West Mountain Speed Wave. Brad McCardle, owner and handler.*  
*3d-BLACK ROCKS SNOW GOOSE, F1706706, pointer male, by Miller's Speed Dial-Yale's Sunny Hill Dot. Nick Cummins, owner; Chris Perkins, handler.*



**Open Shooting Dog Derby (front row): Lucky Copper Fiddle with Ryan Mulcahy, Em Rebel Eye with Ryan Jones, and Cash Silver Confidence with Andrew Baisley. (Standing): Lou Qualtiere, Jeanette Heise, and Austin Turley.**

**Judges: Jeanette Heise and Austin Turley**  
**OPEN DERBY – 11 Pointers and 1 Setter**  
*1st-LUCKY COPPER FIDDLE, F1721052, pointer male, by Lucky Man-Nevadas Copper Fiddle. Ryan Mulcahy, owner and handler.*  
*2d-EM REBEL EYE, TL078073, pointer male, by Nevada's Copper Jim-Fight's Barlane Doll. Ryan Jones, owner and handler.*  
*3d-CASH SILVER CONFIDENCE, F1724701, pointer male, by Haney's Silver Dollar-Lil Miss Confidence. David Hernandez, owner; Ryan Mulcahy, handler.*

**Judges: Keith Anderson and Lou Qualtiere**  
**OPEN DERBY – 7 Pointers and 1 Setter**  
*1st-EM ONE CHANCE FANCY, F1730244, pointer female, by The Alberta Clipper-EM One Hit Wonder. Ryan Jones, owner and handler.*  
*2d-RED MESA'S FAMILY TRADITION, F1720184, pointer male, by Boumeester's Evangelist-Upfront's Blinding Light. Brian Gingrich, owner and handler.*  
*3d-TOUCH'S COWBOY'S WORK, F1720957, pointer male, by Touch's Grey Street-Intentional. Austin Turley, owner and handler.*

### **A Community of Stewardship**

An event of this magnitude is a symphony of moving parts. The clubs extend their deepest gratitude to trial chairmen Keith Anderson and Austin Turley for their tireless coordination.

The heart of the trial remains the King Ranch. The King family deserves special recognition as exceptional stewards of these historic grounds. Their continued commitment to bird habitat and the preservation of the sage prairie ecosystem provides participants with one of the finest venues in the country.

Additional appreciation is extended to our tireless dog wagon drivers, Michelle Turley, Lou Qualtiere, and Jeanette Heise, along with the community of Winnett and the PUNCHY PAINT COFFEE SHOP for their

outstanding hospitality. Finally, heartfelt thanks are extended to our sponsors: Purina, SportDOG, Nutri-Source/Tuffy's, Dogtra, and Central Feed Grilling Company for their unwavering support of the sporting dog community. Thank you as well to those who came from throughout the West and North of the border to support what is likely the premier wild bird trial grounds the West currently offers.



**Open All-Age Derby (front row): One Chance Fancy with Ryan Jones, Red Mesa's Family Tradition with Brian Gingrich, and Touch's A Cowboy's Work with Austin Turley. (Standing): Lou Qualtiere, Jeanette Heise, Keith Anderson, and Andrew Baisley.**

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## MINNESOTA GROUSE DOG ASSOCIATION

### Second Spring Trial

By Ryan Hough | Mora, Minnesota | April 10, 2026

It is always a win when weather and course conditions allow the Minnesota Grouse Dog Association to host both scheduled spring cover dog trials. For many years, the grounds have not been suitable to host any trials due to late thaws, unexpected spring snowstorms, or flooded woods.

With the second spring trial weekend falling on the same week as the Grand National Invitational Championship, a more manageable entry of 25 shooting dogs, 19 derbies, and nine puppies would compete over the three-day event.

As with any field trial, quality judges in cover dog stakes are of the utmost importance. Judges with extensive experience hunting ruffed grouse and woodcock understand the intricacies and challenges that these wily birds bring to the equation. The MGDA was extremely lucky to have Rich Boumeester and Neil Anderson as shooting dog judges. Both men have extensive experience developing and competing with high-level dogs and have found success at the highest levels.

In a spring shooting dog stake, it is not always possible to place three quality performances on grouse, but this weekend afforded the judges that opportunity.



**Open Shooting Dog (front): Ben McKean, Ryan Hough with Northwoods Sir Gordon, Scott Anderson with Planet Queen, and Kyle Peterson with I'm Easy Money. (Behind): Rich Boumeester (judge) and Neil Anderson (judge).**

Finishing in third place was I'm Easy Money, owned and handled by Kyle Peterson of Harris, Minnesota.

"Easy" is a 5-year-old male setter who won both the Open and Amateur Derby of the Year for the 2022-2023 seasons. Easy also had an unforgettable, five-find performance during a spring stake at the Minnesota grounds in scoring 2025, in which he was awarded first place.

Easy was drawn on the Arctic course and laid down a wide-reaching forward race, with a nice find on a pair of grouse about 40 minutes into his brace. With both

birds flown in clear view of the gallery and judges, with all in order, it was an impressive hour.

Coming in second place was Ch. Planet Queen, a female setter owned and handled by Scott Anderson of Scandia, Minnesota. "Rhonda" has been consistently performing at a very high level, recently winning the Region 19 Amateur Walking Championship, as well as the Don Didcoct Memorial Classic.

Rhonda was also drawn to run on the Arctic course and dug hard for the entire hour with a flashy, relentless search. Rhonda fell off



**Open Derby:** Lindsey Peterson (judge), Chris Bye with Northwoods Peregrine, Josh Matel with Aspens Edge Dottie, Ed Graddy (judge), Roger King with Rib River Best Bet, and Bert Benshoof.



**Open Puppy (front):** Mitch Anderson with Aspen's Edge Dwight, Jeremy Moore with Aspens Edge Moore Than Dandy, and Carly Anderson with Aspen's Edge Pam. (Behind): Bert Benshoof, Josh Matel (judge), and Nick Sisterman (judge).

her bell around the 30-minute mark. Shortly after Scott dispatched his scout to work a low-lying stand of young aspen, point was called. With her brace mate backing, the handler was able to put a grouse in the air, which flushed high and back over both dogs. With manners intact, Rhonda was led back to the course and finished the brace strong and to the front.

Coming in first place was Ch. Northwoods Sir Gordon, a male setter owned by Ben McKean (Minnetrista, Minnesota) and handled by Ryan Hough (St. Bonifacius, Minnesota). "Gordy" has found success in many venues during his eight-year career, yet had not been trialed in more than two years. From winning liberated quail stakes in the Dakotas, earning shooting dog placements off horseback on the major circuit, to multiple championship wins in wild bird stakes.

Gordy spent the first third of his brace forward and out of sight, checking in once or twice. At about the 20-minute mark, when Gordy was passing by in full sight of the gallery, a grouse flushed from downwind, and he snapped to an intense stop-to-flush. With all in order, the dog was cast forward. About 10 minutes later, Gordy's bell halted, and handler and scout ducked into the left of the course to begin their search in heavy cover. Point was called by the gallery just a couple of minutes later, and Gordy was found on point to the front with his brace mate backing.

As handlers and judges

approached, a grouse erupted from a blowdown in front of both dogs, with all in order. Within about 10 minutes, Gordy again fell off his bell, and an eagle-eyed judge was able to spot him standing less than 70 yards to the right of the course. After a thorough flushing attempt, as the handler approached the dog, a woodcock blew out from just a few feet away. As the shot rang out over a staunch dog, Gordy was again led back to the course and cast off.

Around the 45-minute mark, Gordy took a deep cast to the right of the course, working a swamp edge. He was far enough away that it was difficult to determine if his bell faded off or came to a hard stop. After an exhausting search by the handler and judge, scout Scott Anderson put forth a superhuman effort to continue working the swamp edge, where he was able to locate Gordy standing high on both ends, facing a swamp. As the handler and judge approached, a grouse burst up over the swamp, and the shot was fired with all in order.

Gordy ran big and forward for the remainder of the hour, finishing as strong as tolerable in a cover dog stake. He was recovered about 14 minutes after time, having crossed the road forward, hunting a likely cover.

The Derby kicked off on Saturday afternoon after the shooting dogs had finished their use of the west courses. Judges Ed Graddy (Rochester, Minnesota) and Lindsey Peterson (Colfax, Wisconsin) had the pleasure of assessing 19 very capable young bird dogs in prime grouse and woodcock habitat. After the conclusion of the running, three dogs stood out from the rest, although all showed strong potential.

Coming in third place was Rib River Best Bet, owned and handled by Roger King of Wausau, Wisconsin.

"Betty," a female pointer, had a strong, electric race. Her fleet-footed running style and high cracking tail made it difficult to take your eyes off her.

Second place was claimed by Aspen's Edge Dottie, a female setter owned and handled by Josh Matel of Bemidji, Minnesota. "Dottie" had a wide-ranging and fast ground pattern, staying in likely cover and scoring on a woodcock.

Coming in first place was Northwoods Peregrine, a puppy-aged female setter owned and handled by Chris Bye of River Falls, Wisconsin. "Poppy" was a pleasure to watch on the ground and quite stylish on the move. She has a natural handle and a great woods radar, requiring little effort to put her where you want her. She consistently stays in likely cover to the front. Poppy scored with a nice grouse find. At the time of this writing, Poppy has been named the 2025-26 MN/WI Cover Dog Derby of the Year for both the open and amateur divisions.

The Open Puppy stake, run on a single course, was judged by Nick Sisterman of Bayport, Minnesota, and Josh Matel of Bemidji, Minnesota.

**Mora, Minn., April 10**

**Judges: Rich Boumeester and Neil Anderson**  
**OPEN SHOOTING DOG [One-Hour Heats]**

**- 4 Pointers, 18 Setters, and 2 Brittanys**

1st-NORTHWOODS SIR GORDON, F1674314, setter male, by Erin's Prometheus-Northwoods Carly Simon. Ben McKean, owner; Ryan Hough, handler.

2d-PLANET QUEEN, F1702708, setter female, by Rufus Del Fuego-Stumbo's Scarlet. Scott Anderson, owner and handler.

3d-I'M EASY MONEY, F1693862, setter male, by Jetwood-I'm Blue Who. Kyle Peterson, owner and handler.

Judges: Ed Graddy and Lindsey Peterson

OPEN DERBY – 5 Pointers and 13 Setters

1st-NORTHWOODS PEREGRINE, F1723767, setter female, by Cold Creek Hank-Northwoods Stardust. Roberta Scherf & Christopher Bye, owners; Chris Bye, handler.

2d-ASPEN'S EDGE DOTTIE, setter female, unreg. Josh Matel, owner and handler.

3d-RIB RIVER BEST BET, F1710626, pointer female, by Toth's Tornado Reloaded-Grouse Trails Warrior Cat. Roger King, owner and handler.

Judges: Josh Matel and Nick Sisterman

OPEN PUPPY – 3 Pointers and 5 Setters

1st-ASPEN'S EDGE DWIGHT, F1723290, setter male, by Northwoods Homer-North Star Ash. Mitchell Anderson, owner and handler.

2d-ASPEN'S EDGE MOORE THAN DANDY, F1723295, setter female, by Northwoods Homer-North Star Ash. Jeremy Moore, owner; Jeremy Moore, handler.

3d-ASPEN'S EDGE PAM, F1723292, setter female, by Northwoods Homer-North Star Ash. Mitchell Anderson, owner and handler.

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## MOOSE RIVER GROUSE CLASSIC

### Northwoods Cedar Edge Wins 2026 Running

By Greg Johnson | Moose Junction, Wisconsin | April 24, 2026

This year's Moose Classic was well attended and a fun way to end our spring season. Untimely rains before the event made for wet courses, but great scenting conditions, and birds were plentiful. In all, 59 dogs were run, and great sportsmanship was witnessed all weekend long.

The Moose River Grouse Dog Club would also like to thank the following for another successful event: Judges Ben Brettingen, Joe Landowski, Jerry Kolter, Mitch Anderson, Lindsey Saetre, and Rachel Furnish; To all club members who helped clear courses, helped with prep work leading up to the trial, and those who helped during the trial, including Tucker Johnson, Greg Johnson, Bill Frahm, Hunter Frahm, Tim Kaufman, Brad Holt, Jeff Marek, Colin and Walker Peterson, Sig Degitz, Eric and Lindsey Saetre and Ben Mergens; Douglas County Forestry Department for their cooperation in allowing us to hold our event on county forest land; Purina for sponsoring and providing awards; Trent Sprague at Moose Junction Lounge for the wonderful lunches, fantastic campground facilities, and a great place to serve as our trial headquarters; and to everyone who participated and entered dogs, the Moose River Grouse Dog Club is extremely grateful. Congratulations to all placed winners.



Moose Classic Open Shooting Dog: Ben Brettingen (judge), Mark Fouts, and Josh Matel with Northwoods Fallset Hope, Ed Graddy with North Slopes Allie, Joe Landowski (judge), Lindsey Saetre with Northwoods Cedar Edge, and Eric Saetre (co-owner) with the Moose Classic Trophy.

### Classic Results—As seen by judge Ben Brettingen

The Moose River Classic remains a highly anticipated renewal for both Minnesota and Wisconsin clubs, due in large part to the club's hospitality and the consistently bird-rich grounds. This year's running drew a strong entry across all three stakes, with approximately 60 dogs competing.

The Shooting Dog stake proved especially competitive, with 10 dogs recording bird work, a testament to both the quality of the grounds and the caliber of the entries. Judges are not often presented with that volume of productive performances, which made for a particularly challenging decision. Morning conditions throughout the trial were favorable:

cool, damp starts gave way to warmer afternoons, which seemed to limit bird movement. Sunday brought a change, with cloud cover and overnight rain producing improved scenting conditions and more active birds. Judge Joe Landowski summed it up well, stating, "It's fun to judge a trial where there are so many quality bird dogs, and dogs that can consistently find and handle their birds."

In first place was Northwoods Cedar Edge ("Enni"), a setter female owned and handled by Lindsey Saetre.

Sunday morning broke over northwest Wisconsin with 38-degree temperatures and a steady cold drizzle, making for a damp 8 a.m. breakaway. Enni's bracemate was

scratched, leaving her to negotiate the Beaver Dam course alone.

From the outset, the classy tri-colored setter demonstrated a forward, intelligent race, showing consistently to the front at the outer edge of bell range. She required little to no handling from Saetre, maintaining a polished and connected effort throughout. Judge Joe Landowski remarked on her performance, noting her “unique ability to always show to the front with extremely little handling,” adding that “it made for one of the nicest races I’ve watched.”

At approximately 40, Enni made a strong move along the edge of a swamp, eventually carrying her bell out of earshot. With nearly 2 inches of rain having fallen over the weekend, the ground was saturated, but Saetre pressed through the alder bottom to locate Enni standing stylishly, facing into a blowdown. The bird was produced cleanly, and Enni handled the situation with composure and precision.

Judges were unanimous in their praise of Enni’s natural forward application and her keen ability to remain connected with her handler. As Judge Ben Brettingen noted, “It was difficult to even nit-pick a fault in her performance.”

A standout effort secured Enni the top placement in this year’s Moose River Classic.

In second place was North Slopes Allie (“Allie”), a setter female owned and handled by Ed Graddy.

Allie has been no stranger to the podium this spring, and her Sunday effort proved worthy of a second-place finish. The snappy orange and white setter broke away on the Spruce Course and quickly made strong moves to the front.

As her race developed, Allie settled into a purposeful pattern, applying herself to likely objectives with intelligence and consistency. Her application was impressive throughout, clearly illustrating her bird-finding ability. Midway through the brace, she crossed a snowmobile

trail and came to a solid point. A bird was produced, and Allie stood statuesque through flush.

With approximately 12 minutes remaining, she moved into a pocket of cover some 75 yards off course and again came to point. A bird was observed running some 15 feet off her nose. The bird ultimately produced well out in front after an exhaustive effort, but Allie remained steady and composed throughout the entire sequence.

It was a mature and composed performance that reflected both her experience and her proven ability to locate and handle birds, earning her a second-place finish.

In third was Northwoods Fallset Hope (“Hope”), a pointer female owned by Mark Fouts and handled by Josh Matel.

Hope broke away on New Course, and her snappy speed was immediately evident. The petite pointer showed a light, effortless way of going, gliding to the front with a fluid, ground-covering stride while maintaining a consistent forward presence.

She hunted with purpose, reaching for objectives and showing good judgment in her application, never straying far from the course while continuing to hit the edges with intent. Matel handled her with a quiet hand, allowing her to show on her own terms, requiring little in the way of handling.

At 42, her bell fell silent, prompting Matel to turn toward the judges with a knowing smile. She was found to the left of the course, standing with a poker-straight tail and striking composure. Matel moved in confidently and produced a grouse cleanly, with Hope remaining steady throughout.

Hope’s animated race, forward application, and stylish finish earned her the third placement in the Moose River Classic.

### ***Derby Results—As seen by judges Jerry Kolter and Mitch Anderson***

“The Derby stake was extremely

competitive, with several dogs exhibiting the potential to win in future trials. None of the dogs had derby-level work on birds; all placements were earned on race.” – Kolter

“This Derby stake featured a promising group of young dogs. While bird contact was limited, the field was evaluated on application, forward race, and overall potential. Throughout the stake, several dogs demonstrated the potential to find success at the next level.” – Anderson

In first place was Caterpillar The Great (“Pillar”), a pointer male owned and handled by Jordan Pharris.

“His light handle and determined hunting effort through punishing cover put him on top. He wasn’t done at the end either, taking a few minutes to round him up at time.” – Kolter

“During the brace, he showed great forward race and consistent application throughout the course. Pillar hunted with purpose, showed excellent use of the ground, and maintained the right balance of independence while staying responsive. The effort was steady, confident, and convincing from start to finish.” – Anderson

In second place was Kenzie’s Cookies & Cream (“CC”), a pointer female owned and handled by Brian Vander Maazen.

“This was a competitive and well-earned placement from CC, who covered ground effectively while remaining engaged over the course. The dog showed good range and forward movement, with a great flow to the brace.” – Anderson

“Kenzie’s Cookies & Cream is a classy moving dog who also handled easily, hitting likely objectives as they were presented. She finished strong to the front.” – Kolter

In third was Northwoods Tyler (“Tyler”), a pointer male owned and handled by Josh Matel.

“Tyler placed third with his lofty carriage and smooth hunting effort.



**Open Derby:** Northwoods Tyler with Josh Matel, Mitch Anderson (judge), Kenzie's Cookies & Cream with Brian Vander Maazen, Jerry Kolter (judge), and Caterpillar The Great with Jordan Pharris.

He hunted close in the young cut and moved out in the mature timber.” – Kolter

“Tyler turned in a solid effort, handling the course with determination. The race showed good range and forward progress, paired with good application. Though slightly less consistent, the dog showed persistence and a genuine desire to hunt.” – Anderson

Honorable Mention went to Clover Valley's Nothing But Grace (“Gracie”), a setter female owned and handled by Jordan Pharris, and Northwoods Mick (“Mickey”), a setter male owned and handled by Jordan Pharris.

“Both dogs caught the attention of the judges as well.” – Kolter

**Puppy Results—As seen by judges Lindsey Saetre and Rachel Furnish**

In first place was Aspens Edge More Than Dandy (“Andi”), a setter female owned and handled by Lillian Moore. Andi had a strong forward run, hitting objectives and responding to handler Moore with enthusiasm. \*At 7 years old, Lillian is well on her way to a stellar career as a cover dog handler. Well done, Lillian!

In second place was Layla at First Light (“Layla”), a setter female owned and handled by Andy Kuehnel. Layla moved gracefully, stayed out, and hit all the appropriate cover, needing minimal handling.

In third was Lake Effect Sage (“Sage”), a setter female owned and handled by Tim Kaufman. Sage hunted in cover with intensity and was quick to respond to handler Kaufman.

*\*Reporter's note*

**Moose Junction, Wis., April 24**

**Judges: Ben Brettingen and Joe Landowski  
OPEN SHOOTING DOG CLASSIC**

**[One-Hour Heats] – 9 Pointers and 25 Setters**

1st-NORTHWOODS CEDAR EDGE, F1703153, setter female, by Snyder's Pioneer Scout-Northwoods Cedar. Eric & Lindsey Saetre, owners; Lindsey Saetre, handler.

2d-NORTH SLOPES ALLIE, F1683547, setter female, by A Keystone Kid-Signature Ridge Cody. Ed Graddy, owner and handler.

3d-NORTHWOODS FALLSET HOPE, F1694804, pointer female, by True Confidence-Northwoods Comet. Mark Fouts, owner; Josh Matel, handler.



**Open Puppy:** Rachel Furnish (judge), Lake Effect Sage with Tim Kaufman, Aspens Edge More Than Dandy with Lillian Moore, Jeremy Moore (co-owner), and Lindsey Saetre (judge). [Not pictured: Layla at First Light].

**Judges: Mitch Anderson and Jerry Kolter**

**OPEN DERBY**

**– 7 Pointers, 10 Setters, and 1 Irish Setter**

1st-CATERPILLAR THE GREAT, F1724273, pointer male, by Southern Breeze-Birdogn True Confidence. Jordan Pharris, owner and handler.

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

3d-NORTHWOODS TYLER, F1712151, pointer male, by Miller's Upgraded Version-Northwoods Comet. Josh Matel, owner and handler.

**Judges: Rachel Furnish and Lindsey Saetre**

**OPEN PUPPY – 2 Pointers and 6 Setters**

1st-ASPENS EDGE MOORE THAN DANDY, F1723295, setter female, by Northwoods Homer-North Star Ash. Jeremy Moore, owner and handler.

2d-LAYLA AT FIRST LIGHT, F1727915, setter female, by Kuehnel's Rough Ryder-Kuehnel's Spice. Andy Kuehnel, owner and handler.

3d-LAKE EFFECT SAGE, F1726268, setter female, by Moss Meadow Seeker-Lake Effect Ali. Tim Kaufman, owner and handler.

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# NATIONAL BRITTANY OPEN GROUSE CHAMPIONSHIP ASSN.

## Spring Cover Dog Trial

By Kenny DeLong | Meredith, Michigan | April 24, 2026



*Jack Plyler Open Derby Classic (back row): Lonnie Rademacher (judge) and Bruce Barlow (judge). (Front): Rich Hollister with Dunroven Hippie Girl, Tom Fruchey with Fire-up Chip, and Ken Moss with Moss Meadow Searcher.*

Our Spring trial was run Friday through Sunday, April 24-26, with great weather and enthusiastic participation. Eighty-two class bird dogs competed in four different stakes over 15 half-hour courses in one of the premier grouse and woodcock venues in the country. As always, we would like to thank Greg Blair and Purina for their ongoing support; the Hollister family for their reliable horses and fine wrangling; our great, attentive, and insightful judges; all those who helped out marshaling, contributing and serving food, moving vehicles (and people); and of course, everyone who entered dogs. It was great to see old friends and new faces!

Friday and Saturday saw Open Shooting Dog judges Dave Heavlin and Mike Brown scrutinizing 43 very competitive canines handling plenty of birds. Lonnie Rademacher's setter "Otto" rearranged Friday's standings with a strong Saturday performance on Course 1, featuring a nice grouse find. Two dogs from early braces on Friday morning had already impressed the judges—Bruce Minard's pointer male "Sunny" took second, and Ken Moss's well-known setter male "Seeker" took third.

These dogs ran on Courses 4 and 5, respectively, both carding quality woodcock finds.

The Open Puppy ran Saturday morning on the single course. Judges Tom Fruchey and Paula Giulitto liked Kenny DeLong's diminutive but fancy and energetic female pointer, "Mercy," for her strong, forward, and responsive race that hit all the likely cover for the top spot. Also putting down impressive performances were two setter males, Banditos Whatsup Doc in second place, and John Clough's "Will" with the yellow ribbon.

The Jack Plyler Open Derby Classic was judged by Lonnie Rademacher and Bruce Barlow. We drew 21 dogs and began Saturday afternoon, but it was Sunday morning



*Lunch break at "The Tubes." Food and fellowship.*

on the upper courses that produced the winners. Pro Rich Hollister handled the precocious setter Dunroven Hippie Girl to a nice grouse find on Course 15 and first place. Second and third went to setter male bracemates (and littermates!), "Chip" (Tom Fruchey) and "Searcher" (Ken Moss), who traded points and backs on woodcock early on Course 14.

The Restricted Breed Open Shooting Dog featured Irish setters and Brittany's midday Sunday on Courses 6 through 9. Kenny DeLong's veteran Brittany male, "Shooter," put down a strong forward race and demonstrated his experience with multiple relocations before finally pinning a running grouse—a performance good for the blue. Eric Naus brought 3-year-old Brittany "Cooper" over from Canada to find a woodcock on Course 8, taking second. Pro Christy Helmes guided her liver Britt, "Kaylee," to a stick a doodle on Course 9, rounding out the placements.

We give great thanks to God and to all those who helped make this a great trial—club members, volunteers, handlers, judges, and, of course, dogs and birds! Healthy competition, plenty of good food, and lots of fellowship and field trial banter were evident throughout the three-day weekend. We look forward to seeing everyone (including kids!) at our Summer trial on August 22-23, featuring a Junior Handler stake on Sunday.

Meredith, Mich., April 24

Judges: Mike Brown and Dave Heavlin

**OPEN SHOOTING DOG – 10 Pointers, 29 Setters, 2 Brittany's, and 2 Irish Setters**

*1st-SPRINGPOND'S ADDY'S BOY, F1699904, setter male, by Ponderosa Mac-Springpond's Autumn Adeline. Lonnie Rademacher, owner and handler.*

*2d-HIFIVE'S SONNY SIDE UP, F1716406, pointer male, by Titanium's Hammer-Hifive's Allisin. Robert Minard, owner; Neal Minard, handler.*

*3d-MOSS MEADOW SEEKER, F1676726, setter male, by Moss Meadow Rambler-Moss Meadow Maggie. Ken Moss, owner and handler.*



**Open Puppy (back row): Tammi Jo Savage and Paula Giulitto (judge). (Front): Kenny DeLong with Lucy's Just Have Mercy and John Clough with Clough's Outcast Will.**

**Judges: Tom Fruchey and Paul Giulitto  
OPEN PUPPY – 3 Pointers and 4 Setters**

1st-LUCY'S JUST HAVE MERCY, F1723542, pointer female, by Highbanks Final Justice-Highbanks Diamond Lucy. Ken DeLong, owner and handler.  
2d-BANDITOS WHATSUP DOC, F1722732, setter male, by Gross Hill Bullet Proof-Shady Hills Panda Bear. Michael Bandos, owner and handler.  
3d-CLOUGH'S OUTCAST WILL, F1721337, setter male, by Boatright's Maverick-Outcast Siren Song. John Clough, owner and handler.



**Restricted Breed Open Shooting Dog (back row): Deb Nihart (judge), Tammi Jo Savage, Josh Bambach, Bob Ackerman, Max Bambach, Chuck Langstaff, Marc Forman (judge...hiding), and Amy Gauthier. (Front): Kenny DeLong with K Del's Eagle Magnum Hotshot, Eric Naus with Glenrae's Cooper Too, and Christy Helmes with Christys Kaylee Girl.**

**Judges: Lonnie Rademacher and Bruce Barlow  
JACK PLYLER OPEN DERBY CLASSIC – 12 Pointers, 8 Setters, and 1 Brittany**

1st-DUNROVEN HIPPIE GIRL, F1713542, setter female, by Dun Rovens Drifter-Dunrovens Midnight Eve. Richard Hollister, owner and handler.  
2d-FIRE-UP CHIP, F1709322, setter male, by Moss Meadow Seeker-Tupelo Honey. Tom Fruchey, owner and handler.  
3d-MOSS MEADOW SEARCHER, F1709320, setter male, by Moss Meadow Seeker-Tupelo Honey. Ken Moss, owner and handler.

**Judges: Marc Forman and Deb Nihart  
OPEN RESTRICTED BREED SHOOTING DOG – 6 Brittansys and 2 Irish Setters**

1st-K DEL'S EAGLE MAGNUM HOTSHOT, F1685770, Brittany male, by Magnum High Velocity-K Del's Eagle's Chance To Soar. Kenric J. DeLong, owner and handler.  
2d-GLENRAE'S COOPER TOO, F1705703, Brittany male, by Anchor's Lucky Numbers-Maddie May Dogwood. Herman Naus, owner and handler.  
3d-CHRISTYS KAYLEE GIRL, R331522, Brittany female, by Bailey's Ramblin Rusty-Bailey's Lil Cody Wink. Christy Helmes, owner and handler.

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

**CORRECTION/CLARIFICATION**

A portion of the New England Shooting Dog Futurity report appearing in the June issue on pages 60-61 was not submitted for publishing. Below is a description of the winners; the full report by Margaret C. Drew is now available at [www.americanfield.com](http://www.americanfield.com).

**The Winners**

Grabbing the top was Dunn's Step N' Out. He originated from a litter between Touch's Malcom Story and Treeline's Sunflower and was purchased by Will Dunn. George Tracy is his trainer and handler. Dunn's Step N' Out had a powerful gait with strong forward casts taking him through all the right bird spots. Approaching the pond, he was found standing tall and proud for the handler to flush. He remained solid even as the handler praised him before handing him off to the scout to be returned to hunting, up the left area and across the lower part of Fox Hill, as he circled forward and was next seen at the top of Tobacco Hill. He briskly checked the left edge of the fields below the clubhouse and was well to the front when time was called.

Second went to Bryant's Silver Lining from the litter Haney's Silver Dollar x Haney's High Price Penny. He is owned by Mark Janiec, and Muriel and Bill Primm. Mike Tracy is the trainer and handler. Bryant's Silver Lining ran a well-

gaited race with strong forward casts. Near the first culvert, he was found standing at 14, which required a well-handled relocation before he stood again for flush and shot. In his 30 minutes, he had two more finds, all handled well and precisely indicated. Silver Lining's attack of the course and his intensity on point gave him a competition advantage.

Third was awarded to a pointer female owned and bred by Ernie and Karen Saniga. Peek A Bull, from the litter Bully Rock x Sandspur Belle, was handled by Mike Tracy. Peek A Bull laid out at a medium range, classy moving and erectly solid for her finds at 5 approaching the pond and after briskly skirting the edge of the woods, crossed to the front and soon was standing in the tree island area. After disappearing up the long hill, she was found standing at the top of Tobacco Barn Hill. At this 18-minute time, she was once again backed by her bracemate. Down the hill through the heavier grasses she marched, and we saw her cross the culvert before she disappeared up the next cut. It was 25 minutes when we reached the fields below the clubhouse to find Peek A Bull backing her bracemate as the handler flushed a pair of quail—her 30 minutes finished at the entrance to the powerlines into the Deerborn area.

Fourth recognition went to Erin's Standing Ovation from Erin's Hidden

Shamrock x Erin's Princess Rene, owned by Joe Cincotta. The trainer and handler was Doug Ray. Erin's Standing Ovation's performance was solid and consistent from beginning to end as he rolled onward and outward around the course at a medium range. At 12, he was found standing on tippy-toes for a good find with his bracemate, providing a little temptation which he did not respond to. At 20, at the top of Tobacco Hill, he stood for the handler to produce birds before releasing Ovation to hunt. By 23, he once again stanchied up for more quail. He was soon seen sailing down the wooded edge, crossing the second culvert well in front of his handler, and not be seen again until we found him standing below the clubhouse for a fourth and final find. He finished near the opening to "deerborn."

**East Windsor, Conn., April 24**

**Judges: Thor Kain and John Stolgitis  
90TH NEW ENGLAND SHOOTING DOG  
FUTURITY**

**– 19 Pointers and 5 Setters**

1st-DUNN'S STEP N' OUT, F1708353, pointer male, by Touch's Malcolm Story-Treeline's Sunflower. William Dunn, owner; George Tracy, handler.  
2d-BRYANT'S SILVER LINING, F1710183, pointer male, by Haney's Silver Dollar-Haney's High Price Penny. Kenton Bryant, owner; Mike Tracy, handler.  
3d-PEEK A BULL, F1712607, pointer female, by Bully Rock-Sandspur Belle. Ernie Saniga & Karen Saniga, owners; Mike Tracy, handler.  
4th-ERIN'S STANDING OVATION, F1716694, setter male, by Erin's Hidden Shamrock-Erin's Princess Rene. Joe Cincotta, owner; Doug Ray, handler.

# U.S. COMPLETE GREAT LAKES REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

***Backwoods Wild Fire Blaze Named Champion; Ash Creektug, Runner-up***

**By David A. Fletcher | Milford, Michigan | April 25, 2026**



**U. S. Complete Great Lakes Regional Shooting Dog Championship (l-r): Rich Hollister (judge), Mark Hughes (handler) with Backwoods Wild Fire Blaze, Brian Wood, John Hall (judge), Steve McKalko with Ash Creektug, and Jim Cipponeri.**

**T**he U. S. Complete Great Lakes Regional Open Walking Shooting Dog Championship was staged over the highly regarded Highland Recreation Area near Milford, Michigan, April 26-27. The Championship entry consisted of 28 dogs, 15 pointers and 12 setters, and a lone Brittany. The Open Walking Derby had six starters.

The Grand Valley Bird Dog Club may hold a record for hosting this prime event. Their history shows they have passed the 10-year mark as trial host. The grounds are ideal for a walking championship, and this year, held perfect cover for both the competing dogs and the quail that were liberated. The Michigan DNR's prairie grass restoration areas on the grounds provided an ideal height of grass cover for quail to rest in, fly from easily, and the competing dogs searched the areas unhampered. The grass was about 10 inches high. Later in the year, this cover has to be mowed for the dogs to move through it. Club members bring their personal equipment and mow the courses. The courses are blessed with areas of small bush cover, and dogs have great edges to hunt.

The mechanics of the trial begin with the drawing, conducted by Club President Jim Cipponeri and his wife Connie at their home. Securing judges, laying out the course, and tending to all the things that need attention throughout the two days is also the President's chore, things such as liberation of birds and gallery marshaling. Helping with bird release were Tom Vanecek and Ron Sposita. Reporting was Dave Fletcher with information from judge Rich Hollister. At 92, this scribe does not ride anymore to follow the running, and a judge's help is essential for the report to be accurately written. Saturday lunch was provided by Ron Sposita—a delicious blend of sausage, peppers, onions, and pasta. Brian Wood got the dogs to the line and announced each brace as it was turned loose. The weather was good until the ninth brace of the Championship, Friday afternoon, when a thunderstorm rolled in with lightning, and horseback riding was curtailed.

Championship judges were Rich Hollister and John Hall, both very experienced at pointing dog field trials and excellent horsemen. Mounts were provided for the judges

by Rich Hollister. Again, our thanks go to Greg Blair and Purina for their continuing support.

## ***The Winners and Others***

"Blaze's" performance was wonderfully well done, as described in the brace-by-brace account. It was his first championship over a seven-year career. This will be his last field trial entry, for the 7-year-old has recorded many wins formerly under the handling of his owner, Justin Mason. More placements were earned for the Mason dog under the handling of Mark Hughes. Serious injuries at times curtailed the dog's competition in field trials.

"Tug," a powerful running male setter, handled by Robert Ecker, also tore up the course with some great hunting and many limb moves. Jerry Burke, Tug's owner, bred the litter Tug was in and used the well-known Sterlingworth Jack as the sire. Tug has placed several times as a puppy and derby, and this was his first win of a runner-up championship.

## ***The Running***

Friday was an overcast and cool day at the morning breakaway, but late in the afternoon it warmed in excess, and it was almost too hot for the dogs. Thunder and lightning brought the running to a halt at the finish of the ninth brace.

Long Island Ice (Ecker)-Millers Dusty Version (Hughes). Both went away hard in this initial brace, but as they went on, both widened to the course limits, and handling was at a premium. Later in the hour, both were leashed.

Warrior Zeke (Hughes)-Kaylee (Helms). Both raced ahead when turned loose, the latter the only Brittany entry in the stake. With a half dozen finds in his hour, Zeke was too busy finding birds to reach and hit the far places. Kaylee missed a back and was taken up.

Gracie Ballroom Star (Ecker)-Meridith Grade Corky (Chaffee). Both hunted hard, and both were taken up early, Star for handling issues and Corky for missing a back.

Saddle Up Sadie (Hughes)-Ash CreekTug (Ecker). Both hunted in a determined fashion. Tug in motion looked great, lofty and beautifully gaited, and went hard to the edges of the course. On a beautiful cast, Tug scored a stylish and well-mannered limb find. Sadie hunted with resolve but was taken up before time.

Double Deuce Jack (Hughes)-Mia Star (Ecker). Jack had all the style, pace, range, purpose, and pattern one could demand from a bird dog as well as four mannerly finds. The final eight minutes of his effort were a letdown and may have cost the dog a placement. Handler Ecker called for the tracker for Star.

Double Deuce Zeke (Hughes)-Firewood Sally Forth (Chaffee). The afternoon heat arrived for this brace, and both dogs were affected. Sally Forth's effort was not wide but included a nice find and hard hunting. Zeke showed the effect of the heat and was taken up.

Sarge (Ecker)-Hypointe Monarch Express (Fazio). The heat was intense, and both dogs, like others, showed the effect with their hunting. Neither had a find, Sarge leashed and Express resting momentarily at times.

Suemac's Wicked Heat (Hughes)-Glassilaun Parabellum (Ecker). This pair hunted and went to the good-looking cover, but both overall efforts were not quite challenging for a placement. Both were taken up short of the hour.

Grouse Hill Rock (Ecker)-Backwoods Wild Fire Blaze (Hughes). Blaze put down the best hunting effort seen so far in this stake by a sizable margin. His pace, style in motion, and on point were top-notch. His four finds were perfect. Rock hunted purposely but missed a back and was leashed. Rain and lightning flashes forced the end of running and the end of contestants on horseback for the day.

Saturday morning was again overcast, and the temperature was again proper for running dogs. Brief showers featured the morning running.

Miller's Hopped Up Version (Hughes)-Buck of Piney Woods (Ecker). The former hunted well, kept in touch, and had a good find. Buck had a lack of manners around birds. Both dogs were taken up.

Hypointe Sharpshooter (Chaffee)-Ironstone's Shenanigans (Ecker). Shenanigans started well, reached good cover, and had a stylish and well-mannered find, but after the bird work shortened up, he lost some of his punch. Shenanigans hunted well...backed his bracedmate nicely but moved on the back and was taken up.

Penny (Ellis)-Sammy The Rock Star (Ecker). Penny hunted at moderate range and logged two perfect bird finds. Sammy hunted beautifully, had a great initial find from all aspects, but on a second find, misbehaved to end his challenge for a placement.

Ralph's Chasehill Rip (Chaffee)-Tupelo Honey (Wheelock). This pair took to hunting the cover in great fashion from the breakaway. They

shared a divided find early...all in order, but on individual second finds, steps, and movement on point by both dogs was their downfall.

Hitail Roxy Afield (Fazio)-Apple Annie's Sweet Delight (Hughes). Roxy showed great effort in hunting the cover and reached well. Her bird work was not without flaw, with a spin and steps. Delight hunted well, had a good first find, but on a second bird, the appropriate wording was likely "ripped it like a puppy."

Milford, Mich., April 25

Judges: John Hall and Rich Hollister

**U. S. COMPLETE GREAT LAKES REGIONAL  
OPEN WALKING SHOOTING DOG  
CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats]**

- 5 Pointers, 12 Setters, and 1 Brittany

*Winner-BACKWOODS WILD FIRE BLAZE, F1691395, pointer male by Erin's Wild Justice-Hollywood Hot'n'tot. Justin Mason, owner; Mark Hughes, handler.*

*Runner-Up-ASH CREEKTUG, F1700419, setter male by Ash Creek Domino-Ash Creek Cloe. Gerard Burke, owner; Robert Ecker, handler.*

**Open Walking Derby**

"Dixie," the winner, had a quail point the judges termed "a nice broke find." Dixie was forward and pleasant to the eye as she went. "Odin" sped and cracked his tail, hitting the front nicely, finishing strongly. "Sassafras" had speed and energy to burn, but was birdless.

Judges: Bill Branham and Jim Cipponeri  
**OPEN WALKING DERBY**

- 4 Pointers, 4 Setters, and 1 Brittany

*1st-HITAIL ROLLING DIXIE. F1714644, pointer female by Hifives Rolling Stone-Speed Dialing Kaia. Russell Fazio, owner and handler.*

*2d-AUSABLE JUNCTION ODIN, F1711112, setter male by Cash Van Pioneer Scouts Man-Anna Van Frutchey Ranch. Steve McKalko, owner and handler.*

*3d-GLASSILAUN HR SASSAFRASS, F1711093, pointer female, by Hirollins Gone And Doneit-Hirollins Jammin Jade. James Nee, owner, Robert Ecker, handler.*

**SUBMIT YOUR HALL OF FAME ENDORSEMENTS**

The Field Trial Hall of Fame was established in 1954 to honor excellence in performance and contributions to our sport. Since that time, deserving dogs and worthy field trial personalities have been elected and honored.

There are two time-honored categories of candidates:

- Distinguished bird dogs that are no longer living.
- Persons, deceased or if living, of at least 64 years of age, who have made outstanding contributions to the field trial sport.

To endorse your candidate for the 2026 Hall of Fame, visit [www.americanfield.com/hall-of-fame](http://www.americanfield.com/hall-of-fame).

# NEW ENGLAND OPEN SHOOTING DOG & REGION 11 (AFTCA) AMATEUR ALL-AGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

By John Olson | East Windsor, Connecticut | April 27, 2026



*New England Open Championship (l-r): Bill Bonnetti, Tom Tracy, Matt Basilone, Ed McCay with Mohawk Mill Gangster, Tony Bingham, George Tracy with Miller's Heat Seeker, Amilcar Pereira, Mary Tracy, and Robert "Lefty" Henry.*

**T**he 97th New England Open Championship commenced Monday, April 27, at 8 a.m. in cool overcast conditions. The New Britain Field Trial Club and the Association of New England Field Trial Clubs host the Championship. It is the first of three consecutive events that we promote as "New England's Spring Fling Triple Header."

In 1927, the Massachusetts Fish and Game Association conceived the idea of having the New England Bird Dog Championship. After attempts in 1927 and 1928 to produce a champion (no champion declared), our present-day association, the Association of New England Field Trial Clubs, was formed to conduct the championship in 1929. However, no champion was declared, primarily due to the first heavy snow and plummeting temperature. Finally, the 1930 running produced an outstanding winner when Miss Magpie of Ware, a white and black pointer female, owned by Augustus B. Field, handled by L. B. Chapman, delivered a flawless 1 ½-hour race, with six stylish grouse finds to become the first New England Bird Dog Champion.

Beginning in 1934 and through 1949, the New England Bird Dog Championship was held on Hall of Famer (1959), W. Lee White's farm, also known as "Championship Game Preserve."

Lee White's Pinch Street homestead in Scotland, Connecticut, held grouse and woodcock, as well as wild quail and pheasant.

In the early years, there seemed to be a division between the traditional, close-hunting New England grouse dogs and the more wide-ranging Southern type of dog. Initially, qualifying stakes were held for the respective different type dogs. Eventually, a compromise was reached, stabilizing standards. Stabilizing resulted in the field trial dog we know today, which proved to be a better bird finder than the traditional dog.

In 1967, the event settled in at Hall of Famer (1987), Harry Townshend's Ragged Hill Farm in Pomfret, Connecticut, where it thrived for 47 years.

In 1972, for the first time in the history of the event, the Directors conceded to allow the limited use of horses by the handlers, and this

move brought in a record entry at that time of 51 dogs. Hall of Famer Harold Ray (2006) won with the Hall of Fame setter Tomoka (1974).

After Harry's passing, the event moved to its present location, the Dr. John E. Flaherty Field Trial Area in East Windsor, Connecticut.

Judges Robert "Lefty" Henry of Jacksonville, North Carolina, and Tony Bingham of Shelby, North Carolina, named pointer male Mohawk Mill Gangster champion and pointer male Miller's Heat Seeker runner-up champion. Both dogs have earned multiple championships. Matt Basilone handled Gangster, who ran a huge race with four finds, always classy on point, exhibiting snappy moves. Especially the move rimming the edge all the way around, Dearborn always hunting. To me, this was the winning move that separated the champion from the runner-up. Congratulations to owners Ed and Megan McCay.

Heat Seeker ran an extreme forward race, while still handling nicely for George Tracy, producing several finds. Muriel and Bill Primm, together with Dennis Hood and the Millers, are the owners of Heat Seeker.

Many thanks to 2025 Champion Miller's Special Cinderella owners Muriel and Bill Primm for hosting the handlers' dinner.

We thank Greg Blair and Purina for their continued support. We are proud to award Pro Plan Sport to the winners. We all appreciate Purina's support for all sporting breeds; they are second to none.

The source of the event history mentioned came from a publication Gene Casale provided: the 50th Golden Anniversary New England Bird Dog Championship, written by Frank E. Foss.

East Windsor, Conn., April 27  
Judges: Tony Bingham and Robert Henry  
NEW ENGLAND OPEN SHOOTING DOG  
CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats]

– 29 Pointers and 4 Setters

Winner-MOHAWK MILL GANGSTER, F1685479, pointer male, by Mohawk Mill Pirate's Legacy-Katie Lee's Wild Side. Edward & Megan McCay, owners; Matt Basilone, handler.

Runner-Up-MILLER'S HEAT SEEKER, F1674886, pointer male, by Just Irresistible-Miller's Bring The Heat. Dennis Hood & Bill & Muriel Primm, owners; George Tracy, handler.

### Region 1 Amateur All-Age Championship

The Region 1 Amateur All-Age Championship commenced Saturday, April 25, in East Windsor, Connecticut, at the Dr. John E. Flaherty Field Trial Area, with judges John Stolgitis and Doug Ray mounted and ready for action. John and Doug are experienced pointing dog handlers and judges with a great deal of championship experience. We are most appreciative that they accepted the assignment.

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



Region 1 Amateur All-Age Championship (l-r): Bill Bonnetti, Mary Tracy, Joe Lordi, Wendy Tracy, Bob Verderosa with Waybetter Bobby, John Stolgitis, Ed McCay, Marcus Ramseur with Mohawk Mill Patriot, Matt Basilone, Doug Ray, Zaynah Tracy, George Tracy, and Gary Tavares.

We are thankful and appreciate this continued joint effort.

Pointer male Waybetter Bobby was named champion. Owned and handled by Robert Verderosa, Bobby ran a dream race for any handler, requiring little handling. This exceptional dog led his handler around the course, making bold moves along the outer edges, hunted his way all the way around, producing several classy finds. I've seen him several times, and I remember one of his classy early performances when he was campaigned by Janette Tracy. We named him first, and I knew he had a bright future.

Pointer male Mohawk Mill Patriot was named runner-up champion. He is owned by Ed and Megan McCay and was handled by Ed. He ran a true all-age race, making snappy moves, hunting, taking edges, and was very classy on point.

Greg Blair and Purina provided Pro Plan Sport to the winners. Thanks again, and we appreciate the ongoing support.

Many thanks to Jane Fogerty and John Stolgitis for preparing all the delicious meals throughout the entire Spring Fling Triple Header.

Many thanks to our association President and Region 1 Trustee, Eli Richardson, for providing his three fine walking horses— Mosses, Smokie, and Shadow—for the entire time. They were very helpful.

Thanks to all participants, and we look forward to seeing everyone next year.

Judges: Doug Ray and John Stolgitis  
REGION 1 AMATEUR ALL-AGE CHAMPIONSHIP  
[One-Hour Heats] – 17 Pointers and 2 Setters

Winner-WAYBETTER BOBBY, F1682880, pointer male, by Waybetter Rocky-Nehawka Amazin Sue. Robert Verderosa, owner and handler.

Runner-Up-MOHAWK MILL PATRIOT, F1703194, pointer male, by Indian Creek Spur-Hirollins Fantasy Girl. Edward & Megan McCay, owners; Edward McCay, handler.

## NGSPA REGION 4 CHAMPIONSHIPS

### Championship Series Held in Ionia

By Dan DiMambro | Ionia, Michigan | May 3, 2026

The NGSPA Region 4 Championship kicked off on May 3 at the outstanding grounds in Ionia, once again showcasing why this event remains one of the longest-running and most respected championships in the NGSPA circuit. With excellent grounds, favorable conditions, and strong competition, handlers and owners from across the Midwest gathered to compete in a championship that continues to carry deep tradition and importance within the breed.

The Open Shooting Dog and Amateur Shooting Dog stakes were

judged by Charlie Fenech and Mike Northwood, while Hank Lewis and Charlie Fenech judged the Open All-Age stake. The club extends sincere appreciation to all three judges for their time, attention, and dedication throughout the championship. Their efforts, professionalism, and understanding of the game helped ensure fair evaluations and quality championships.

The Open All-Age Championship produced two outstanding performances. Champion honors went to Monkeyshines Callme The Breeze, owned by Helmut Schoen and handled by Dan DiMambro.

“Breezy” delivered a powerful all-age performance, showing the independence, drive, and forward application expected of a championship all-age dog. She carded three well-spaced finds during a strong race that consistently hit the objectives and carried to the front with style and intensity.

Runner-up honors went to Stoney Hill's Pinnacle Dee, owned and handled by Kirk Loftin. Dee turned in an impressive effort of her own with a big race and four finds. Her performance demonstrated excellent bird work and consistency throughout the hour, making for a



**NGSPA Region 4 Open Shooting Dog Championship: Mike Northwood, Dan DiMambro, April DiMambro with Monkeyshines Callme The Breeze, Kirk Loftin, Sherri Tangsrud with Uodibar's Lnstr Pushin The Limits, Charlie Fenech, and Terry Trzcinski.**

highly competitive Open All-Age Championship.

The Open Shooting Dog Championship was also won by Monkeyshines Callme The Breeze, giving Breezy an outstanding performance at the Region 4 Championship. Breezy put together a polished and forward shooting dog race while carding an impressive six finds. She showed exceptional application, style on game, and composure throughout her hour to secure the championship title.

Runner-up in the Open Shooting Dog stake went to Uodibar's Lnstr Pushin the Limits, better known as "Hermes," owned by Sherri Tangsrud and handled by Kirk Loftin. Hermes delivered a strong shooting dog performance with a quality race and excellent bird work to earn runner-up honors in a competitive field.



**NGSPA Region 4 Open All-Age Championship: April DiMambro with Monkeyshines Callme The Breeze, Dan DiMambro, Kirk Loftin, Sherri Tangsrud with Stoney Hill's Pinnacle Dee, and Charlie Fenech.**

The Amateur Shooting Dog Championship produced another pair of quality performances. Champion honors went to Uodibar's Back In The Game, better known as "Dakota," owned and handled by Kirk Loftin. Dakota ran a strong, consistent shooting dog race, carding four finds. His performance displayed excellent application, style, and bird work throughout the championship hour, securing the title.

Runner-up honors went to Macke's Jax Black Label ("Jax"), owned and handled by Katelyn Macke. Jax also turned in an impressive performance with four finds and a quality race from start to finish. This championship marked the first time Katelyn handled her dog in a championship stake, making the accomplishment especially memorable and a tremendous showing for both dog and handler.

As always, the Region 4 Championship required tremendous preparation and behind-the-scenes support. From securing grounds and organizing logistics to handling horses, birds, meals, and day-to-day operations, events like this only continue because of the people willing to put in the work. A special thank you goes out to Andy Dynkiewicz and Becky Dynkiewicz for their continued support and hard work throughout the championship. The club would also like to recognize

Jen Goodall, Marc McKinley, Chris Young, Dick Lipski, Katelyn Macke, and Kirk Loftin for all of their help and contributions in making the event successful. Championships of this caliber simply do not happen without dedicated people willing to step up and help wherever needed.

The Ionia grounds once again proved to be exceptional. The courses offered a true shooting dog and all-age venue with objectives, bird work opportunities, and plenty of ground to separate the field. Handlers were able to showcase their dogs in conditions that rewarded application, intelligence, endurance, and class.

The Region 4 Championship committee would also like to extend a sincere thank you to Purina for their continued sponsorship and support of the NGSPA and horseback field trials. Terry Trzcinski was in attendance representing the company, and his support of the event and the sport was greatly appreciated by everyone involved. Purina's commitment to the breed and to field trials continues to help make events like this possible.

Most importantly, the Region 4 Championship committee would like to sincerely thank every owner, handler, scout, and participant who attended and supported the event. Continued participation is what keeps these championships alive and preserves the future of horseback field trials for generations to come. The support shown by those who continue to enter, travel, and compete does not go unnoticed.



**NGSPA Region 4 Amateur Shooting Dog Championship: Mike Northwood, Sherri Tangsrud with Uodibar's Back In The Game, Kirk Loftin, Chris Young with Macke's Jax Black Label, Katelyn Macke, Dan DiMambro, and Charlie Fenech.**

and is greatly appreciated.

The Region 4 Championship remains one of the premier NGSPA events in the country, and the club looks forward to building on that tradition for years to come.

Ionia, Mich., May 3

**Judges: Charlie Fenech and Mike Northwood**  
**NGSPA REGION 4 OPEN SHOOTING DOG**  
**CHAMPIONSHIP - 16 German Shorthairs**

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

*Runner-Up-UODIBAR'S LNSTR PUSHIN THE LIMITS, F1723001, German Shorthair male, by Uodibar's Lover Boy-Stoney Hill's Light It Up. Sherri L. Tangsrud, owner; Kirk Loftin, handler.*

**Judges: Charlie Fenech and Hank Lewis**  
**NGSPA REGION 4 OPEN ALL-AGE**

**CHAMPIONSHIP - 12 German Shorthairs**

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

*Runner-Up-STONEY HILL'S PINNACLE DEE, F1694168, German Shorthair female, by Twin Creeks Runing Ruger-P J Wildfire's Little Lexi. Dr. Kirk A. Loftin, owner and handler.*

**Judges: Charlie Fenech and Mike Northwood**

**NGSPA REGION 4 AMATEUR SHOOTING**  
**CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats]**  
**- 12 German Shorthairs**

*Winner-UODIBAR'S BACK IN THE GAME, F1719175, German Shorthair male, by Uodibar's Lover Boy-Stoney Hill's Light It Up. Dr. Kirk A. & Loftin, owners; Kirk Loftin, handler.*

*Runner-Up-MACKE'S JAX BLACK LABEL, F1708218, German Shorthair male, by Post Rock's Steady Trigger. Katelyn Macke, owner and handler.*

## **DON'T MISS THE NEXT PRINT DEADLINE**

The deadline for the August print issue is July 6!

## **NORTH DAKOTA POINTING DOG CLUB**

### ***Dakota Shooting Dog Classics & Derby***

**By Lance Schulz | Hankinson, North Dakota | May 8, 2026**

The North Dakota Pointing Dog Club proudly hosted the second running of the Dakota Shooting Dog Classics from May 8-10 on the picturesque Dakota Prairie National Grasslands near Hankinson, North Dakota. This event featured both Amateur and Open Shooting Dog stakes and marked the 10th consecutive year the NDPDC has held spring trials on these grounds.

We extend our sincere appreciation to our sponsors, whose generous support made this event possible. Purina supplied dog food for all placements, and SportDOG contributed training collars for the placing dog's owners.

The Hankinson Hills offer an exceptional setting for field trials. Originally shaped by an ancient river that once emptied into glacial Lake Agassiz, the landscape has been sculpted over time by wind and rain into a diverse and challenging course. Handlers and dogs navigated open prairie adjacent to rolling sand dunes, followed by shaded groves of oak, poplar, and cottonwood. Ferns softened the scenery as the course opened again into an expansive prairie, framed by distinct tree-lined



**Amateur Shooting Dog & Open Shooting Dog (front row): Ramblin Rivers Natural, Bill Stapleton, Ready or Not, Bruce Mueller, Upfront's County Seat, Lance Schulz. (Back row): Mary Sue Schalk (ASD judge), Nik Zewers, Keith Anderson, Dan Tang (OSD judge), Scott Hadley (ASD judge), L. J. Lundstrom (OSD judge), Scottie Schulz, Mason Schulz, and Tessa Schulz.**

edges. This terrain provides a unique and rewarding experience, allowing dogs to stretch out and search for objectives while handlers work the course's natural boundaries.

We would also like to recognize the hard work and dedication of our volunteers and judges. Field trials would not be possible without their time and commitment. Special thanks go to Keith Anderson, Paul Cook, Scott Hadley, James Kleve, L. J. Lundstrom, Todd Manns, Bruce

Mueller, Mark Pfeifer, Lance Schulz, Bill Stapleton, Mary Sue Schalk, and Nik Zewers for their contributions.

The weather was very accommodating for watching the dogs hunt in this unique topography. On Friday, the Amateur Shooting Dog stake was completed. Ramblin Rivers Natural, handled by Bill Stapleton, claimed first place with a powerful forward ground race that included five well-earned finds. Ready or Not, handled by Keith

Anderson, had a strong four-find performance, earning second place. Upfront's County Seat, handled by Lance Schulz, was awarded third place with her range at the edge of shooting dog distance and stylish manners around her game. That evening, participants gathered for a judge recognition dinner at The Black Pelican, a well-known local bar located near Wyndmere, North Dakota.

Saturday began with the Open Derby stake, where River Cane, handled by Nick Zewers, secured first place. Cold Creek Wild Rose, with Bruce Mueller, earned second, and L. J. Lundstrom's Sioux Wind Jammer finished in third. Following the Derby, we proceeded to run three braces of the Open Shooting Dog.

The Open Shooting Dog stake was completed Sunday afternoon. When the placements were announced, we questioned whether the judges' paper had been mistaken for the Amateur Shooting Dog placements, as the winners were identical! It is good to see four different people agree on the same dogs at different times of the day and in different course directions. Placements were Ramblin Rivers Natural, handled by



**Open Derby (front row):** River Cane with Nik Zewers, Cold Creek Wild Rose with Keith Anderson, and Sioux Wind Jammer with L. J. Lundstrom. **(Back row):** Tessa Schulz, Scottie Schulz, Mason Schulz, Lance Schulz, Scott Hadley (judge), Bruce Mueller, Dan Tang (judge), and Bill Stapleton.

Bill Stapleton; Ready or Not, handled by Keith Anderson; and Upfront's County Seat, handled by Lance Schulz. This stake was a National Open Shooting Dog qualifier and an Amateur Shooting Dog Invitational Points Trial. Congratulations to Ready or Not for qualifying for the 2027 and 2028 National Open Shooting Dog Championship.

In closing, congratulations to all participants and winners. The success of this event reflects the hard work of the handlers, volunteers, judges, and sponsors who make it all possible. We look forward to many more successful events on these outstanding grounds.

Hankinson, N. D., May 8

**Judges: Scott Hadley and Mary Sue Schalk**  
**AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG CLASSIC**

**[One-Hour Heats] – 12 Pointers**

1st-RAMBLIN RIVERS NATURAL, F1688693, pointer male, by Chelsea's Thunder Bolt-Upfront's Southern Star. William Stapleton, owner and handler.

2d-READY OR NOT, F1708651, pointer female, by Seranoa's Valley Below-Affinity. Keith Anderson, owner and handler.

3d-UPFRONT'S COUNTY SEAT, F1705554, pointer female, by Chelsea's Thunder Bolt-Upfront's Southern Star. Lance & Marcie Schulz, owners; Lance Schulz, handler.

**Judges: Scott Hadley and Daniel Tang**

**OPEN DERBY – 6 Pointers and 2 Setters**

1st-RIVER CANE, F1709513, pointer male, by Northern Confidence-Red Sunshine. Nik Zewers, owner and handler.

2d-COLD CREEK WILD ROSE, F1720408, pointer female, by Nomads Uncle Sam-Cold Creek Spectacle. Bruce Mueller, owner and handler.

3d-SIOUX WIND JAMMER, unreg., setter male, by Erin's Wild Atlantic Way-Stumbo's Scarlett. L. J. Lundstrom, owner and handler.

**Judges: L. J. Lundstrom and Daniel Tang**

**OPEN SHOOTING DOG CLASSIC**

**[One-Hour Heats] – 14 Pointers and 2 Setters**

1st-RAMBLIN RIVERS NATURAL, F1688693, pointer male, by Chelsea's Thunder Bolt-Upfront's Southern Star. William Stapleton, owner and handler.

2d-READY OR NOT, F1708651, pointer female, by Seranoa's Valley Below-Affinity. Keith Anderson, owner and handler.

3d-UPFRONT'S COUNTY SEAT, F1705554, pointer female, by Chelsea's Thunder Bolt-Upfront's Southern Star. Lance & Marcie Schulz, owners; Lance Schulz, handler.

## WOLVERINE FIELD TRIAL CLUB

### **Millers Dusty Version Wins Dave Fletcher Open Walking Shooting Dog Classic**

**By David A. Fletcher | Highland, Michigan | May 8, 2026**

**M**other's Day weekend has always been the spring trial date for Michigan's Wolverine Club; this year, with a total entry of 61 dogs, it came on May 8-10. Three walking and two horseback stakes were offered: Open Walking Puppy, Open Walking Derby, and the Dave Fletcher Open Walking Shooting Dog Classic, with 28 entries, this season its 17th running, along with Open and Amateur Horseback Shooting Dog stakes. The event featured great weather, no rain or strong wind to hinder scenting, an entirely pleasant weekend, and trial completion came Saturday, leaving

Sunday, Mother's Day, for family matters. Many handlers related that the cover this spring season was ideal. The Michigan DNR's Prairie Grass Restoration Program's spring grasses were about 10 inches high, ideal for the liberated Bobwhites to rest in, and easy for them to take flight from. The relatively low cover was also ideal for handlers to see their dogs easily, and not too thick for the dogs to search. As always, there is the grounds' brushy edge cover that the dogs instinctively follow.

The team that makes this important spring event in Michigan run

smoothly consists of President Jim Cipponeri, who lays out the courses, does the drawing with help from his wife Connie, liberates quail, and tends to every feature of the trial that needs attention. Secretary/Treasurer Dave Fletcher prepares the ad, collects entry fees, writes the checks, furnishes running order sheets, and serves as trial reporter. He also sends the initial brace of the Dave Fletcher Open Walking Shooting Dog stake away with judge introductions, a bit of history of the stake, and best wishes for this year's 17th event. Bird releasing was accomplished by "every year" helpers such as Paul

Tutro, Tom Vanecek, Bill Branham, Jim Cipponeri, and Evan Toutant. Paul Tutro also brings donuts each morning and also furnished some of the judges' horses. Rich Hollister brings his rental horses, exceptionally good mounts for field trial judges. Brian Wood got the dogs and handlers to the starting line and read the names of the dogs being turned loose in each brace. Rob Ellis helped by taking pictures of each stake's winning group.

Judges for the Fletcher Classic were Bruce Barlow and Dave Heavlin, with Bruce having a management position with the Michigan DNR at the Gladwin Field Trial Area near Meredith, Michigan. He has also competed his dogs in cover dog events over the past decade. His partner was Dave Heavlin of the Clare, Michigan area, who has also been developing his field trial dogs and competing in the Michigan field trials, both open country and Cover Dog. The judging ranks also featured Evan Toutant, Christy Helmes, Paul Tutro, Ron Sposita, Bill Branham, and Mike Zack. Another thank you to Greg Blair and the Purina organization. Their help each season is highly appreciated.

### Open Walking Puppy

"Babe," an attractive pointer female, topped the stake with a great hunting effort, handled by Christy Helmes. A close second came from "Mercy," also a pointer female handled by Ken DeLong. Mike Bandos took third with his setter, a dog with energy and purpose to his search. Every puppy in this stake had purpose to their search, and in most cases, eagerness to go with all the speed they could muster.

Highland, Mich., May 8

#### **OPEN WALKING PUPPY**

- 2 Pointers, 4 Setters, and 2 Brittanys

1st-BONITA BABE, F1719653, pointer female, by The Treasure Chest-Sinbad's Little Lady. Les Bressler, owner; Christy Helmes, handler.

2d-LUCY'S JUST HAVE MERCY, F1723542, pointer female, by Highbanks Final Justice-Highbanks Diamond Lucy. Kenric DeLong, owner and handler.

3d-BANDITOS WHATSUP DOC, F1722732, setter male, by Grouse Hill Bullet Proof-Shady Hills Panda Bear. Michael Bandos, owner and handler.



**Dave Fletcher Open Walking Shooting Dog Classic (from left): Dave Fletcher, Mark Hughes with Millers Dusty Version, Erik Munden, Krysta Munden with Wildland Wild Man, Dave Heavlin (judge), Robert Ellis with Ponderosa's Copper Penny, Bruce Barlow, and Brian Wood.**

### Open Walking Derby

"Ruby" was the winner for Frank Ilijanic, a nice moving pointer female. She had two great derby quail finds. Attractive in motion, Ruby hunted widely on the course and finished well. Second was "Juni," a pointer female handled by her owner, Steve McKalko. Juni was birdless, but hunted the course with great desire. Bud, a pointer male, took third place but his hunting effort stood out. There were many dogs in the stake that hunted hard without results. It may have been the gusting wind interfering with scenting.

Judges Ron Sposita and Christy Helmes  
**OPEN WALKING DERBY**

- 8 Pointers and 5 Setters

1st-NORTHWOODS WANDERLUST, F1722885, pointer female, by Confident Nation-Northwoods Comet. Frank Ilijanic, owner and handler.

2d-JUNI JONES, F1714645, pointer female, by Hiffives Rolling Stone-Speed Dialing Kaia. John Paul Jones, owner; Steve McKalko, handler.

3d-HEARTBREAKER BUD LIGHT, F1710620, pointer male, by Toth's Tornado Reloaded-Grouse Trails Warrior Cat. Thomas Butts, owner; Mark Hughes, handler.

### Dave Fletcher Open Walking Shooting Dog Classic

A quality stake with 18 entries made the running very interesting. Millers Dusty Version, a 4-year-old pointer male handled by Mark Hughes, was the winner, and from the initial breakaway, this dog served notice he was on a mission to win this stake. Good reaching casts to good-

looking cover; turns in his effort to the front of course were happening, and noticeable. His two finds were solidly done with style, good location of his birds, lofty in stance, and mannerly at flush. Dusty is owned by Mike Husenits, a very well-known owner, judge, and reporter of major trials.

Wildland Wild Man, a 5-year-old Pointer male owned by Eric Munden, took second place, handled by Krysta Munden. "Wayne" scored three finds and ran one of the better hunting efforts in the stake. This dog was always along the good cover edges and hunted eagerly every minute down. In third place, Robert Ellis handled Ponderosa's Copper Penny, a hard-going setter female. Penny hunted forwardly, going to one birdy edge every cast, and finished well. She pointed a dead quail during the brace. The final brace of the stake featured "Winston," a Hughes entry, and "Chuck," handled by Eric Munden. Both appeared to challenge for a placement, but Winston had a bit of an error on his second bird, and Chuck simply remained as a close challenger.

### The Running

A sunny morning, coolish to start, but in the mid-50s most of the day. Occasional wind gusts from all directions were likely the cause of relatively poor scenting.

"Penny" (Hughes) and "Stone"



**Open Walking Derby (from left): Frank Ilijanic with Northwoods Wanderlust, Brian Wood, Steve McKalko with Juni Jones, Dave Fletcher, and Mark Hughes with Heartbreaker Bud Light.**

(Hollister). Penny offered a good hunting effort, highlighted by a nice find, but on this occasion did not hold a lofty posture. Penny finished the heat hunting the edges up front. Stone gave the impression he could do a little more, and handler leashed his charge near halftime.

“Cece” (Munden) and “Stone” (McKalko). Cece hunted well from the breakaway but was taken up relatively early in the heat. Stone was a clever and hard-working hunting dog this time down, but could have reached a little more.

“Freedom” (DeLong) and “Dash” (Hughes). Freedom hunted with purpose but barked as he made his casts. He scored two finds, mannerly, but twitched a touch each time he though his quail was about to take wing. Dash put down a fine hunting effort, backed bracedmate, but was taken up near time.

“Gunner” (Toutant) and Mia Star (McKalko). Gunner, our first Britt of the day, was pleasant to the eye as he hit the far places and hunted hard. He also scored a mannerly quail find. Mia hunted extremely well, added a pair of quail finds, and handled easily. She was doing her best to challenge for a placement.

“Sadie” (Hughes) and “Cash” (Hollister). Handler Hughes called for the tracking collar at halftime. Cash was taken up near time.

“Wayne” (Munden) and “Kali” (Helmes). This stake’s second-place dog was handled by Krysta, the feminine side of the Munden family. Wayne hunted very well, logged

three finds, one with both dogs standing, and was fired over. Kali, another Britt, hunted in good form, reached to good places and finished well....birdless.

“Cricket” (Hughes) and “Jacob” (Najor). Cricket started well, yet handler elected to leash his charge early in the heat. Jacob looked good in motion and hunted well, but his quail find did not have his best posture on display this time down.

“Coach” (Hughes) and “Cooper” (Miotto). Not a vibrant brace for spectators. Both dogs were leashed before time.

“Nick” (Munden) and “Justice” (DeLong). Nick hunted the course in commendable fashion but was not screeching his way along the outer coverts. Cooper was also not pleasing handler and was leashed early.

“Penny” (Ellis) and “Blaze” (Hughes). Penny won this stake last season and this time down, again ran a great, hard-hunting race, always to good places. Penny pointed a dead bird before time. Blaze had a really good effort but came up lame late in the heat.

“Dusty” (Hughes) and “Eli” (Helmes). Dusty won this stake with superb edge hunting of the course and scored two stylish and mannerly finds. Eli, a Brittany, had an admirable hunting effort highlighted by two backs and also had an unproductive.

“Bandit” (Bandos) and “Shooter” (DeLong). Bandit did not reach to any extent and missed a backing opportunity. Shooter made some good-looking casts and pointed with his head tilted vertically...a bird in a tree.

“Hippie” (Hollister) and “Jack” (Hollister). Hippie hunted well and found a quail, but took this bird out. Leashed. Jack hunted one of the best heats in the stake. He had a nice find and an unproductive for his 30-minute effort.

“Winston” (Hughes) and “Chuck” (Munden). The former hunted from



**Open Walking Puppy (from left): Dave Fletcher, Christy Helmes with Bonita Babe, Mike Bandos with Banditos Whatsup Doc, and Brian Wood. [Not pictured: Ken DeLong and Lucy's Just Have Mercy].**

the breakaway, came around, and scored two nice quail finds. Winston moved a bit on point on his second find to dim his chances at a placement. Chuck made nice moves forward, looked good doing it, and scored a nice quail find. An enjoyable brace to end the stake.

**Judges: Dave Heavlin and Bruce Barlow**

**DAVE FLETCHER OPEN WALKING SHOOTING DOG CLASSIC**

**- 17 Pointers, 7 Setters, and 4 Brittanys**

*1st-MILLERS DUSTY VERSION, F1706290, pointer male, by Miller's Upgraded Version-Miller's Special Edition. Mike Husenits, owner; Mark Hughes, handler.*  
*2d-WILDLAND WILD MAN, F1695981, pointer male, by Double Deuce Zeke-Beaver Meadow Rose. Eric Munden, owner; Krysta Munden, handler*  
*3d-PONDEROSA'S COPPER PENNY, F1690593, setter female, by Ponderosa Mac-Eldridge's Beauty and Beast. Robert Ellis, owner and handler.*

### **Open and Amateur Horseback Shooting Dog Stakes**

In today’s field trial world, especially at smaller club events, horseback trainers are hard to find for the entry list. Keeping horses requires a barn, pasture, trailering, and saddlery equipment that the horseback man usually owns, and this is more difficult than it was a few years ago. This facet of horseback field trialing is fading badly. These two stakes each had six entries. The winning dogs performed well with very good ground searches and good bird work. They were well-mannered field trial bird dogs.

**Judges: Bill Branham and Mike Zack  
OPEN HORSEBACK SHOOTING DOG**

**- 6 Pointers and 1 Setter**

1st-HANEY'S HAMMERIN HANK, F1706891, by Haney's All In-Haney's Two Dozen Roses. Jim & Connie Cipponeri, owners; Jim Cipponeri, handler.

2d-DARRS MURPHY BROWN, F1702398, setter male, by Ponderosa Mac-Springpond's Autumn Adeline. William Darr, owner and handler.

3d-DUKE'S HOLD MY BEER, F1684677, by Sugarknoll War Paint-Sizzlin Julie. Ron Sposita, owner and handler.

**Judges: Bill Branham and Mike Zack  
AMATEUR HORSEBACK SHOOTING DOG**

**5 Pointers and 1 Setter**

1st-HANEY'S HAMMERIN HANK, F1706891, by Haney's All In-Haney's Two Dozen Roses. Jim & Connie Cipponeri, owners; Jim Cipponeri, handler.

2d-DARRS MURPHY BROWN, F1702398, setter male, by Ponderosa Mac-Springpond's Autumn Adeline. William Darr, owner and handler.

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**MAINE BIRD DOG CLUB**

**Annual Mother's Day Trial**

**By Deb Kennedy | Brownfield, Maine | May 9, 2026**

The Maine Bird Dog Club held its annual Mother's Day trial in Brownfield, Maine. The club wishes to thank Purina and all the participants who came out for the two days of events. Judging for us this year were Jon Cullen, Cal Richardson, Sam Jackson, Deb Kennedy, and Roy Hargreaves. We had a nice gathering of professional and amateur handlers, first-time trialers, and old timers. Bruce Burnell provided lunches, Kellie Short made sure the birds were planted, the judges, dogs, and handlers were on the line, and placements were awarded in a speedy fashion. One of the club's founders, Bob Paucek, came down for a day. It's always a treat to spend time with a man who has seen it and done it all when it comes to bird dogs and trialing. A force of nature, Bob continues to inch closer to his 100th birthday, now less than two years away. The rain held off for the most part, and even the biting insects, while making their presence known, kept their annoying ways to a minimum. Overall, it was a fun and relaxing event.



**Open Derby (l-r): Kellie Short with Paucek's Arabella, Deb Kennedy with Deb's Brio, and David Kritter with Lighthouse Point Ruby. (Standing, l-r): Roy Hargreaves (judge) and Cal Robinson (judge).**

**Brownfield, Me., May 9**

**Judges: Roy Hargreaves and Carl Robinson  
CLIFTON HALE GARFIELD WALL OPEN DERBY**

**CLASSIC - 3 Pointers and 5 Setters**

1st-PAUCEK'S ARABELLA, F1719098, setter female, by Paucek's Little Tommy Tucker-Hunter's Moon Blue Ivy. Kellie Short, owner and handler.

2d-DEB'S BRIO, F1713597, setter female, by Long Gone DeQuan-Deb's McKeachie Road. Deborah Kennedy, owner and handler.

3d-LIGHTHOUSE POINT RUBY, F1724073, setter female, by Musiccity's Victor's Al-Vw's Golden Grousy Girl. David & Holly Kritter, owners; Victor Forsyth, handler.

**Judges: Jon Cullen and Sam Jackson  
PETER MOONEY OPEN SHOOTING DOG**

**- 3 Pointers 9 Setters**

1st-CALAMY'S RESTLESS BREEZE, F1703920, setter female, by Erin's Full Throttle-Bo's Baby Lucy. Calvin C. Robinson, owner and handler.

2d-LIGHTNING FLASH DUDE, F1677504, setter male, by Lightning Flash Mick-Lightning Flash Charli. Styles Bridges, owner; Bob Arkley, handler.

**Judges: Sam Jackson and Deborah Kennedy  
BERNIE MURRAY AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG**

**- 2 Pointers and 9 Setters**

1st-PAUCEK'S LITTLE TOMMY TUCKER, F1679370, setter male, by Long Gone Wallace-Paucek's Hickory Roxy. Kellie Short, owner and handler.

2d-LIGHTNING FLASH DUDE, F1677504, setter male, by Lightning Flash Mick-Lightning Flash Charli. Styles Bridges, owner; Bob Arkley, handler.

3d-PAUCEK'S DORMIN, F1689478, setter female, by Deadwater Jake-Deadwater Wissah. Kellie Short, owner and handler.



**Lightning Flash Dude watches Bob Arkley flush.**



**Kellie released Dorie after the flush.**

**Judges: Roy Hargreaves and Carl Robinson  
AMATEUR DERBY – 4 Pointers and 4 Setters**

1st-DEB'S BRIO, F1713597, setter female, by Long Gone DeQuan-Deb's McKeachie Road. Deborah Kennedy, owner and handler.

2d-PAUCEK'S LITTLE TOMMY ODIN, F1712034, setter male, by Paucek's Little Tommy Tucker-Paucek's Dornin. Kellie Short, owner and handler.

3d-LIGHTHOUSE POINT RUBY, F1724073, setter female, by Musiccity's Victor's Al-Vw's Golden Grousy Girl. David & Holly Kritter, owners; David Kritter, handler.



**Open Shooting Dog: Cal Robinson with Calamy's Restless Breeze and Bob Arkley with Lightning Flash Dude. (Standing, l-r): Sam Jackson (judge) and Jon Cullen (judge).**

**REMINDER:**

**The August print deadline  
is July 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 [fieldnewsletter@ukcdogs.com](mailto:fieldnewsletter@ukcdogs.com)

## GREENSBURG POINTER & SETTER CLUB

### Annual Spring Trial

By Mike Husenits | Harrisville, Pennsylvania | May 11, 2026



**Open Shooting Dog (l-r): Nick Lasica and son, Mark Hughes with Miller's Special Upgrade, Justin Mason with Backwoods Dine & Dash, Sarah Gomes (judge), and Krysta Munden with Wildland Wild Man.**

The Greensburg Pointer & Setter Club held its annual spring trial on May 1-3 at the Oak Ridge Pointing Dog Club grounds located near Harrisville, Pennsylvania. The grounds consist of over 500 acres of typical scenic rolling hill country, mostly open grassland with autumn olive brush and locust groves surrounded by native hardwood forest land. The venue was previously surface-mined and reclaimed, and is now leased and maintained by the Oak Ridge club as a training and field trial venue.

Accolades for the success of this event go to Justin Mason and

Nick Lasica for organizing and implementing a plan that resulted in another successful Greensburg trial. These gentlemen handled the pre-trial arrangements, advertising, drawing, the judges' books, and event planning, and made sure the large entry was managed in an orderly fashion. Justin donated the use of his side-by-side vehicle for bird planting and use as the dog wagon.

The club provided food and refreshments thanks to Nick and Gianna Lasica and Kara and Justin Mason.

Weather conditions ranged from early-morning chills to pleasant

afternoons with warming, typical early-spring conditions.

Judging duties were handled by a panel of well-known, experienced arbiters. The club is thankful for their efforts. The Open Puppy, Open Derby, and Open Shooting Dog had Paula Giulitto, Sarah Gomes, and Chris Catanzarite sharing duties. Brandon Kreuer, Tyler Bowser, and Mark Hughes teamed for the Amateur stakes with Dustin Mason in the Gun Dog stake. Their decisions were all met with applause.

Purina and Greg Blair are to be commended for their continued sponsorship, providing dog food coupons for the winners. Purina has been part of the world of competitive dog events for the past 50 years, generously providing quality products and, in many cases, financial aid.

The Open Walking Puppy stake was loaded with youngsters that most likely will be seen in future winners' circles. All demonstrated the running appeal and drive necessary to be competitive. A slight difference in overall range and application is what separated the winners.

In the Open Walking Derby, Evan's Full Throttle captured the blue ribbon with a thrilling show of footwork and mature bird work. Second was Cerulean Stone, a classy front-running pointer, followed closely by

Outlaws Cashn Out. First and second were handled by Mark Hughes and Nick Lasica, with third handled by Nick Lasica.

First in the Open Walking Shooting Dog was the champion and multiple-time winning pointer female, Miller's Special Upgrade, on the merits of a far-flung, well-handled ground race and multiple polished finds. Young male pointer, Backwoods Dine & Dash, was second with well-handled finds; the difference being in overall handling response. Wildland Wild Man took third with polished bird work and a hard-driving forward race. First and second were handled by Mark Hughes, with Krysta Munden handling third.

The Amateur Walking Derby winner was Heartbreaker Bud Light on the merits of a far-flung ground race, plenty of eye-appeal, and advanced manners on birds for owner/handler Tom Butts. Second was Double Deuce Dillan Oats, a pointer male owned and handled by Doug McMillen, to a medium-range front-running ground race and more than acceptable work on liberated quail. Third was Millie Thyme Rye, a classy pointer female owned and handled by Joanna Sampson. Her effort was rewarded with solid bird work, but slightly less range than the other winners made the difference.

Backwoods Dine & Dash won first in the Amateur Walking Shooting Dog, making this his second placement of the weekend, with a solid, far-reaching ground race coupled with superior bird work, with Dash demonstrating exquisite style and polished manners. Double Deuce Jack nailed down second



**Amateur Shooting Dog (l-r): Backwoods Dine & Dash with Nick Lasica, Double Deuce Jack with Sarah Gomes, and CC Lenni Lenape with Al Fazenbaker.**

place with a mature forward ground race and multiple finds, with Jack showing exemplary manners. CC Lenni Lenape rounded out the placements for owner/handler Al Fazenbaker with a ground effort not quite as wide or aggressive as the other winners, which culminated with solid bird work for a well-earned placement.

The Open Gun Dog stake is offered to recognize superior bird dogs that perform best in bird field gunning situations. Handler Jim Thompson took first and second, with "Ravin" garnering the blue ribbon and "Echo" finishing second. Vizsla male Smooth As Tennessee nailed down third for the Moore family with a strong challenge to the higher-placed dogs.

Harrisville, Pa., May 11

Judges: Sarah Gomes and Paula Giulitto  
OPEN PUPPY

- 5 Pointers, 2 Setters, and 1 Brittany

1st-MEADOWINK'S QUICK SILVER, F1720595, setter male, by Dun Rovens Zip-Castle Rock's Autumn Breeze. William Yant, owner and handler.

2d-BACKCOUNTRY GATOR, F1724440, pointer female, by Springflow's Backcountry P-Apple Annie's Sweet Delight. Chris Catanzarite, owner; Reese Carroll, handler.

3d-CHRISTY'S SMOKING EMBER, F1722296, setter female, by Dun Rovens Drifter-Dunrovens Midnight Eve. Christy Helmes, owner and handler.

Judges: Chris Catanzarite and David Giulitto

OPEN DERBY - 6 Pointers and 4 Setters

1st-EVAN'S FULL THROTTLE, F1713964, pointer female, by Double Deuce Zeke-Braggabull. Evan Smith, owner; Mark Hughes, handler.

2d-CERULEAN STONE, F1714642, pointer male, by Hifives Rolling Stone-Speed Dialing Kaia. Tim & Sharon Perschke, owners; Mark Hughes, handler.

3d-OUTLAWS CASHN OUT, F1713963, pointer male, by Double Deuce Zeke-Braggabull. Nick Lasica, owner and handler.

Judges: Chris Catanzarite and Sarah Gomes

OPEN SHOOTING DOG

- 13 Pointers, 5 Setters, 2 Brittansys, and 3 Irish Setters

1st-MILLER'S SPECIAL UPGRADE, F1695107, pointer female, by Miller's Upgraded Version-Miller's Special Edition. Carlos Escalante, owner; Mark Hughes, handler.

2d-BACKWOODS DINE & DASH, F1718950, pointer male, by Springflow's Backcountry P-Apple Annie's Sweet Delight. Justin Mason, owner; Mark Hughes, handler.

3d-WILDLAND WILD MAN, F1695981, pointer male, by Double Deuce Zeke-Beaver Meadow Rose. Eric Munden, owner; Krysta Munden, handler.

Judges: Mark Hughes and Brandon Kreuer

AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG - 20 Entries

1st-BACKWOODS DINE & DASH, F1718950, pointer male, by Springflow's Backcountry P-Apple Annie's Sweet Delight. Justin Mason, owner and handler.

2d-DOUBLE DEUCE JACK, F1691404, pointer male, by Cal Peak Hundredth Meridian-Double Deuce Molly. Douglas E. McMillen Jr., owner and handler.

3d-CC LENNI LENAPE, F1705228, Irish setter male, by Silver Creek Wild Again-Roses Are Red. Al Fazenbaker, owner and handler.

Judges: Tyler Bowser and Brandon Kreuer

AMATEUR DERBY - 9 Entries

1st-HEARTBREAKER BUD LIGHT, F1710620, pointer male, by Toth's Tornado Reloaded-Grouse Trails Warrior Cat. Tom Butts, owner and handler.

2d-DOUBLE DEUCE DILLAN OATS, F1713581, pointer male, by Cal Peak Hundredth Meridian-Double Deuce Sage. Douglas E. McMillen Jr., owner and handler.

3d-MILLIE THYME RYE, F1713588, pointer female, by Cal Peak Hundredth Meridian-Double Deuce Sage. Joanna Sampson, owner and handler.

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## NORTHEAST OHIO FIELD TRIAL CLUB

### *Hypointe Monarch Express Wins Larry Sutter Memorial Amateur Shooting Dog*

By Mark Fernandez | Polk, Pennsylvania | May 15, 2026



*Larry Sutter Memorial Amateur Shooting Dog (l-r): Russ Fazio with Hypointe Monarch Express, Robert Ecker (judge), Doug McMillen with Double Deuce Miles, and Mark Fernandez with Dun Roven's Cody.*

**T**he Northeast Ohio Field Trial Club held its spring trial May 15-17, 2026, at the beautiful Pennsylvania Brittany Club grounds.

The Brittany Club was established in 1959 and moved to these grounds in Venango County in 1964. There are 184 well-groomed acres that consist of fields, woods, and brushy cover that make a great venue to show a hunting shooting dog. There is also a converted farmhouse with a well-sized kitchen and a large covered porch. This serves as a headquarters and gathering place. Additionally, there is a barn with a large quail pen, which makes holding and capturing quail very efficient.

This trial is dedicated to the memory of Larry Sutter. Larry was a dedicated field trialer who wanted to rekindle the Ohio walking field trial scene. He was the driving force behind the formation of this club dedicated to the walking handler and shooting dog. Unfortunately, Larry left us too soon, but three others picked up the baton, most notably Larry's wife, Paula Giulitto. Paula has been our spark plug, organizer, cheerleader, and problem solver. She put great effort into ensuring the trial ran smoothly, from handling the

paperwork and getting the dogs on the line to making sure everyone was well fed. Chris Jaeger is our resident mechanic, equipment transporter, and expert bird planter. Mark Fernandez is the side-by-side driver/reporter who fills in where needed.

The weather was variable, with Friday cool and sunny with low humidity. Saturday was warmer with clouds and some light rain in the afternoon. Sunday started foggy but soon turned sunny, hot, and humid, making afternoon bird-finding tough. The muddy spots on the course were in better shape this year, and the previous mowing made it easy to see the dogs.

We want to express our appreciation to Purina and the U. S. Complete Shooting Dog Association for their continued support. Also, we extend our thanks to those who stepped in to help. Joe Cammisa's wife contributed delicious homemade pastries for breakfast, and Don Knight helped with bird planting as well as lending the use of his 4-wheeler. We are also appreciative of the generosity of Russ Fazio, Nick Mellon, Paula Giulitto, and Chris Jaeger for the use of their side-by-sides and 4-wheelers. We were

fortunate to have secured a highly qualified group of judges who have many years of bird dog experience, both in hunting over their dogs as well as successfully competing with them. Joe Colglazier came in from Indiana and is well known in the cover dog world. Joe Cammisa has been active in all aspects of the field trial world for many years. Doug McMillen has developed and handled his dogs to multiple championships. Jeff Keller has been field trialing for seven years and, in 2022, began developing the Black Moshannon field trial area, which is now a high-quality, multi-course grouse/woodcock venue in Pennsylvania. The well-known Kevin Kline from Erie, Pennsylvania, has been involved with bird dog competition for many years, as has Mark Fernandez. Rich Hollister of Dun Roven Kennels and Robert Ecker of Midnight Kennels are well-known and respected professionals who elevated the quality of our judges. We sincerely thank all of our judges for donating their time and expertise. We started Friday morning with the Open Puppy. Joe Colglazier and Joe Cammisa evaluated an exciting group of young dogs. Taking first place was "Stormy," a setter female with Russ Fazio. She had an exciting, strong, and forward race with speed and snap. Second was awarded to Charm City Marlo, a pointer male handled by Robert Ecker. "Marlo" had a classy style running, stayed forward, and had some impressive casts. Third went to "Girl," a pointer female with Christy Helmes. She is fast and beautiful moving. She got behind early, but once she got going, she really put on a show.

Next up was the Open Shooting Dog with Joe Colglazier and Jeff Keller judging. The blue ribbon went to Double Deuce Zeke, a pointer male owned and handled by Doug McMillen. "Zeke" is a powerful

pointer who lays down a big forward race, always hunting the cover. He had four finds with impeccable style and manners. Second was "Rambo," a pointer male with Robert Ecker. It took Rambo a few minutes to get into high gear, but after that, it was game on, and he was fast and strong hunting to the front. He had two well-spaced finds complemented by two backs, all with style and perfect manners. Third went to "Zeke," an English setter male owned and handled by Nick Mellon. Zeke is a beautiful dog, moving and pointing, and runs with impressive speed. He had two finds, a back and an unproductive, coupled with a good race that shortened for a period near the mid-point.

Doug McMillen and Jeff Keller judged the Open Derby. The blue ribbon was awarded to Perfect Storm, an English setter female owned and handled by Russ Fazio. "Stormy" is another quality dog in Russ's string. She had a reaching forward race with two finds. The last was a limb find at 22, following which she showed off with a big finish. Second went to "Sprout," a pointer male owned and handled by Sarah Gomes, who traveled in from Ontario, Canada. Sprout had a consistent, more moderate forward race. He had three well-handled finds with good style. Third place went to "Hippie," an English setter female handled by Rich Hollister. Hippie was quick, fast, and snappy, and hit all the likely spots. She had two well-handled finds and is a picture on point.

Rich Hollister and Mark Fernandez judged the Shooting Dog Qualifier. First place went to "Ginger," a pointer female owned and handled by John McKellop. She was fancy moving and ran a moderate race with a solid hunting effort. She scored one well-executed find. Second was awarded to "Smokey," a Gordon setter male handled by Robert Ecker. He had a smooth, attractive gait and put together some nice casts with one find. Third place was withheld.

The 8th Annual Larry Sutter Amateur Shooting Dog Memorial

began on Sunday morning with a light fog slowly burning off. Rich Hollister and Robert Ecker were our judges. This event is the highlight of the trial and, as usual, saw a group of quality dogs competing to take home the coveted rotating trophy. This year's winner was a clear-cut choice with a "no doubt" performance. "Tess," a classy pointer female under the whistle of proud owner Russ Fazio, bested the field with a blazing breakaway and an exceptionally fast and upfront race. She had three perfect finds with one requiring a well-executed 20-yard relocation. She also sandwiched in two backs. Her last find was near the end, following which she showed her heels with a big edge running finish. The second-place dog was "Miles," a pointer male with owner Doug McMillen handling. Miles showed off his bird-finding ability by scoring five finds. He had an unproductive and was a little behind at the end. In third place was "Cody," a setter male owned and handled by Mark Fernandez. Cody had three finds and a back. He had a short absence early but finished with a solid race.

The Amateur Derby was our last event, and it was getting hot and humid with minimal breeze. Our judges were Kevin Kline and Doug McMillen. "Dixie," a pointer female owned and handled by Russ Fazio, took home the blue ribbon. She had an early unproductive but really turned it on with two later finds handled with exceptional style and manners. She ran steadily far to the front, her tail cracking, with no letdown in her application. Second place went to another Russ Fazio contestant, Perfect Storm, a setter female. She ran a steady, well-paced forward race, showing intelligence in how she attacked the cover. She was rewarded with a find near time. Third place went to "Milly," a pointer female owned and handled by Joanne Sampson. Milly had four finds and an unproductive with some inconsistency on the ground.

Once again, we want to extend a heartfelt "Thank You" to all the handlers, owners, judges,

participants, and sponsors who contributed to making the 8th Larry Sutter Amateur Shooting Dog Memorial Field Trial such a success. We look forward to seeing everyone here again next year!

Polk, Pa., May 15

**Judges: Joe Cammisa and Joe Colglazier**  
**OPEN PUPPY – 5 Pointers and 5 Setters**

1st-HITAIL PERFECT STORM, F1720599, setter female, by Dun Rovens Zip-Castle Rock's Autumn Breeze. Russ Fazio, owner and handler.

2d-CHARM CITY MARLO, F1721340, setter male, by Boatright's Maverick-Outcast Siren Song. Michael McIntyre, owner; Robert Ecker, handler.

3d-COUNTRY GIRL, F1720939, pointer female, by The Treasure Chest-Mohawk Mill For Real. Les Bressler, owner; Christie Helmes, handler.

**Judges: Joe Colglazier and Jeff Keller**

**OPEN SHOOTING DOG**

**– 9 Pointers, 10 Setters, 1 Brittany, and 1 Irish Setter**

1st-DOUBLE DEUCE ZEKE, F1673940, pointer male, by Double Deuce Peter-Funseeker's Holiday. Douglas E. McMillen Jr., owner and handler.

2d-GROUSE HILL RAMBO, F1696375, pointer male, by Bo of Piney Woods-Grouse Hill Prima. John Capocci, owner; Robert Ecker, handler.

3d-HYPOINTE SHARPSHOOTER, F1706315, setter male, by Dun Rovens Zip-Castle Rock's Autumn Breeze. Nicholas Mellon Jr., owner and handler.

**Judges: Jeff Keller and Doug McMillen**

**OPEN DERBY – 5 Pointers and 4 Setters**

1st-HITAIL PERFECT STORM, F1720599, setter female, by Dun Rovens Zip-Castle Rock's Autumn Breeze. Russell Fazio, owner and handler.

2d-CAL PEAK APPLE OF MY RYE, F1713584, pointer male, by Cal Peak Hundredth Meridian-Double Deuce Sage. Sarah Deline Gomes, owner and handler.

3d-DUNROVEN HIPPIE GIRL, F1713542, setter female, by Dun Rovens Drifter-Dunrovens Midnight Eve. Rich Hollister, owner and handler.

**Judges: Robert Ecker and Richard Hollister**

**LARRY SUTTER MEMORIAL**  
**AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG**

**– 8 Pointers, 3 Setters, 2 Brittanys, and 1 Irish Setter**

1st-HYPOINTE MONARCH EXPRESS, F1704239, pointer female, by Springflow's Backcountry P-Apple Annie's Sweet Delight. Russell Fazio, owner and handler.

2d-DOUBLE DEUCE MILES, F1691405, pointer male, by Double Deuce Zeke-Bucket List Bella. Douglas E. McMillen Jr., owner and handler.

3d-DUN ROVEN'S CODY, F1701977, setter male, by Dun Rovens Zip-Dun Rovens Soozee. Mark Fernandez, owner and handler.

**Judges: Kevin Kline and Doug McMillen**

**AMATEUR DERBY – 8 Pointers and 1 Setter**

1st-HITAIL ROLLING DIXIE, F1714644, pointer female, by Hifives Rolling Stone-Speed Dialing Kaia. Russell Fazio, owner and handler.

2d-HITAIL PERFECT STORM, F1720599, setter female, by Dun Rovens Zip-Castle Rock's Autumn Breeze. Russell Fazio, owner and handler.

3d-MILLIE THYME RYE, F1713588, pointer female, by Cal Peak Hundredth Meridian-Double Deuce Sage. Joanna Sampson, owner and handler.

# SUMMERHILL FIELD TRIAL CLUB

## Spring Trial At Tracy Training Grounds

By Ernie Saniga | Glenville, Pennsylvania | May 21, 2026



*Amateur Shooting Dog: Gunner and little Bear Boyer with Boyer's Running Buck Wild, Larry King with Gratitude, and Kevin Joyce with Hightailing Cindy, joined by participants.*

The Summerhill trial ran its spring trial on May 2 and 3 at the George Tracy training grounds near Glenville, Pennsylvania. It was unseasonably cold throughout the trial, but the sun was out, treating us to some beautiful views of rural Pennsylvania.

The Summerhill trial is indebted to the Southern Bird Hunters Association (SBHA) for their support; SBHA is headed by Marty Robinson. Eukanuba's support is massive as well: considerable amounts of dog food for all winners, plus boxes of goodies for all youth participants. We thank them.

Robert Ecker, a highly successful field trial trainer, judged all stakes. He was paired with Larry King for the Restricted Derby, Roger Dvorak for the Shooting Dog, and Dave McKay for the Derby. Thank you all for your contributions

Taydem Boyer and Ava Tracy judged the Youth stake, both with field trial bloodlines and graduates of our Youth stakes.

The Amateur Restricted Derby was won by Dunn's Step N' Out, the recent winner of the New England Futurity. Will Dunn's pointer male

had three finished finds and a strong forward race, handled well by Alex Smith. Second went to Mark Janiec's pointer male, Bryant's Sunset Silver Surfer. Surfer was handled by Joe Lordi to a fine race to the front with a nice back from 40 yards and a good find. Both dogs are off the Tracy strings.

Third went to Ben Dillard's setter female, Bozeann's Whisper. Placed on class, her race was impressive as well.

Kevin Joyce won the Amateur Shooting Dog with his pointer female, Hightailing Cindy. Cindy scored three times with style and manners and had a very good forward effort on the ground. Gratitude was second for Roger Boser. The Irish setter male had three finds with finished manners in a good race. Boyer's Running Buck Wild won third. The pointer male, handled by Gunner Boyer, hunted nicely forward and had three finds with perfect manners.

Winning the Amateur Derby stake was Bull Jangles. The pointer male was braced with the second-place dog, Southbound Priscilla, a pointer female handled by Larry King. The pair complemented each other, hunting independently forward

throughout. Priscilla scored early and Bull in the middle, both high and tight. With similar class, Nottingham's Imagine That was third in a good race and two stylish finds for Roger Dvorak.

### Youth Stake

The highlight of the trial was the Youth stake. While we had as many as 21 riders in the other stakes, the Youth stake doubled that, counting all the gallery-mounted and various side-by-sides.

The first handler, Liam, started with "Patch," a champion several times over, and one that likes to go. He had no trouble with the dog or the horse on this occasion, blowing the whistle and flushing and shooting quickly over the mannerly dog. George Tracy said he is going to teach Liam, who lives nearby, how to really ride a horse this summer.

Emilia ran female pointer champion "Sky" in the second brace, and the little girl was spot on with her handling and flushing over the dog's multiple finds. A little caution on firing the cap gun did not detract from a fine effort. Little Paisley ran "River" in the next brace, and it was just like we witnessed with Emilia. These little ladies have seen field trial action and know what to do in terms of blowing the whistle, saying "whoa," flushing, and shooting the cap gun. And the dogs, wearing a training collar, aren't about to make a mistake.

Little Brooklyn ran Ch. Woodie in the last brace. Jeanette Tracy scouted. Brooklyn rode her great-grandad George's horse, "Champ," to handle the famous dog, who is registered as Miller's Heat Seeker. The young girl did just fine, and the dog was perfect running in front of the horse he is used to seeing behind him. Muriel Primm, one of Woodie's owners, noted that "looks like we have a new handler for our field trial dogs."



**Amateur Restricted Derby:** Alex Smith with Dunn's Step N' Out, Joe Lordi with Bryant's Sunset Silver Surfer, and Ben Dillard with Bozeann's Whisper, joined by participants.



**Youth Stake:** Liam and Ava Tracy with "Patch," Dillon Shaeffer and Emilia with "Sky," Wendy Tracy and Brooklyn with "Woodie," and Jeannette Tracy and Paisley with "River," joined by participants.



**Amateur Derby:** Roger Dvorak with Nottingham's Imagine That, Larry King with Southbound Priscilla, and Ernie Saniga with Bull Jangles, joined by participants.

Glenville, Pa., May 21

Judges: Robert Ecker and Larry King  
SBHA AMATEUR RESTRICTED DERBY

– 5 Pointers and 1 Setter

1st-DUNN'S STEP N' OUT, F1708353, pointer male, by Touch's Malcolm Story-Treeline's Sunflower. Will Dunn, owner; Alex Smith, handler.

2d-BRYANT'S SUNSET SILVER SURFER, F1708719, pointer male, by Haney's Silver Dollar-Bluemound's Changed Up. Mark Janiec, owner; Joe Lordi Jr., handler.

3d-BOZEANN'S WHISPER, F1725396, setter female, by Bozeann's Roscoe-Dust Til Dawn. Ben Dillard, owner and handler.

Judges: Robert Ecker and Roger Dvorak  
SBHA AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG

– 17 Pointers and 2 Irish Setters

1st-HIGHTAILING CINDY, F1714947, pointer female, by Cheyenne Jack-Hightailing Maggie. Kevin Joyce, owner and handler.

2d-GRATITUDE, F1676458, Irish setter male, by Come Back Cutter-Come Back Doodle. Roger Boser, owner and handler.

3d-BOYER'S RUNNING BUCK WILD, F16933000, pointer male, by Chowan River C Rail-War Paint's Little Birdie. Stephen Boyer, owner; Gunner Boyer, handler.

Judges: Robert Ecker and Dave McKay  
SBHA AMATEUR DERBY

– 4 Pointers, 1 Setter, and 1 Irish Setter

1st-BULL JANGLES, F1713962, pointer male, by Double Deuce Zeke-Braggabull. Ernie & Karen Saniga, owners; Ernie Saniga, handler.

2d-SOUTHBOUND PRISCILLA, F1715114, pointer female, by Haney's All In-Calico's Guns N Roses. Larry King, owner and handler.

3d-NOTTINGHAM'S IMAGINE THAT, F1708990, pointer female, by Imagine-Mohawk Mill For Real. Roger Dvorak, owner and handler.

## ASSOCIATED FIELD TRIAL CLUBS OF CONNECTICUT & SPRUCE BROOK BIRD DOG CLUB

By Tom Tracy | East Windsor, Connecticut | May 22, 2026

**W**e want to start by thanking the Southern Bird Hunters Association and Eukanuba for sponsoring the trial again this year. They are a great asset and friend to field trials.

The trial was held on May 22-24, 2026, at the Dr. John Flaherty Field Trial grounds in East Windsor, Connecticut. The State of Connecticut did some early mowing on the course, which kept the cover down in some areas for a late spring trial. Thank you for your efforts.

A few days before the trial, we had temperatures in the high 80s and low 90s. At the start of the trial on Friday, we had much lower temperatures and sunshine to start with. Saturday morning was cloudy and pleasant, but by mid-afternoon, we had light rain that grew heavier and continued through Sunday.

At this time, I would like to thank the judges and all who helped to put this trial on. The judges for the Open All-Age were John Stolgitis and Gary Tavares; Open Restricted Shooting



**Open All-Age (front):** Mark Janiec with Southpoint's Hog Wild and Wendy Harman with Thunder Road. (Rear, l-r): Larry Marman, Joe Lordi, Ed McCay, Karen Janiec, John Stolgitis, George Tracy, Kevin and Maureen Joyce, Mary Tracy, Gary Tavares, Liz and Dave McKay, and Bill Bonnetti.

Dog were Alene Levasseur and Tom Tracy; Open Derby were John Stolgitis and Gary Tavares; Open Shooting Dog were Bill Bonnetti and Joe Lordi; and Amateur Shooting Dog were Tim Cavanaugh and Mitch Swierczynski. All decisions were well received. The following is a list

of people who all helped to put this trial on. Janey and Bill Bonnetti, John Stolgitis, Gary Tavares, Alene Levasseur, Gene Casale Jr., Amilcar Pereira, Steve Graham, and Tom Tracy.

On Thursday night, to welcome all the competitors and attendees,



**Open Restricted Shooting Dog (front):** Wendy Harman with Facebook Politician. (Rear, l-r): Karen and Mark Janiec, Joe Lordi, George Tracy, John Stolgitis, Mary Tracy, Gary Tavares, Maureen Joyce, Dave and Liz McKay, and Kevin Joyce.

John Stolgitis prepared a dinner of mussels, pasta salad, and barbecue chicken. Jayne and Bill Bonnetti provided breakfast (muffins, pastries, and coffee), lunch, and dinner for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Lunches: soup, sandwiches, barbecue ribs, chicken, salad, potato salad, and corn on the cob. Dinners were turkey with all the trimmings, shrimp scampi, clam chowder, pork roast, and all the sides. We cannot thank you enough for all your hard work. The meals were delicious.

On Saturday night, we celebrated Matt Basilone's birthday with his family and friends.

The Open All-Age stake started Friday morning under cool, sunny skies. Southpoint's Hog Wild, handled by Mark Janiec, was first with a strong race and two finds. Thunder Road, owned by Allen Linder and Bill and Muriel Primm, was a close second with a good forward race and two finds.



**Open Shooting Dog (front):** Wendy Harman with Calico's Sky's The Limit, Marcus Ramseur with Fort River's Lucky Charm, and Mark Janiec with Southpoint's Hog Wild. (Rear, l-r): Larry Harman, George and Mary Tracy, Ed McCay, Joe Lordi, Matt and Melissa Basilone, John Stolgitis, Gary Tavares, Bill Bonnetti, Karen Janiec, Maureen and Kevin Joyce, and Dave and Liz McKay.

The Open Restricted Shooting Dog was next, with Facebook Politician taking first place with three finds for George Tracy.

The Open Derby had six entries, all with good performances. She's A 10 was first, and Bluebar Index was second, both handled by George Tracy; both dogs looked good on the ground with excellent bird work. Tim Cavanaugh handled Little Miss Mildred for third place with a very similar race and bird work as the dogs placed above. Blue, handled by Tim Cavanaugh and owned by Stevie Graham, also performed well.

The Open Shooting Dog was the last of the open stakes. Joe Lordi and Bill Bonnetti, judges, had many good dogs to look at. Calico's Sky's The Limit was first with an outstanding race and four perfect finds. Second was Fort River's Lucky Charm, owned by Gary Tavares and handled by Matt Basilone. His performance was very close to the winner, with a strong race and three finds. Mark Janiec was third with Southpoint's Hog Wild, his second placement of the trial. Good job, Mark!

The one-hour Amateur Shooting Dog stake was the last stake of this trial; it was run under wet conditions, challenging dogs, handlers, and judges. The winner running Sunday morning was Cape Point Hidden Jewel, handled by Bill Bonnetti. She ran very well under tough conditions and had four finds. Second was Fort River's Lucky Charm, handled by Marcus Ramseur. He ran the last brace on Saturday under rainy conditions with a good race and four finds. We learned on Sunday morning that Fort River's Lucky Charm, handled by Marcus, won the English Setter Award for Amateur Shooting Dog. Congratulations, Marcus and Gary. Ed McCay was third with Mohawk Mill King Pen. He also ran on Sunday morning under very wet conditions. His race was strong and forward with multiple finds.

East Windsor, Conn., May 22 – One Course

Judges: John Stolgitis and Gary Tavares

**SBHA OPEN ALL-AGE – 4 Pointers**

1st-SOUTHPOINT'S HOG WILD, F1686800, pointer male, by Broken Halo-Backwoods Tennessee Honey. Mark Janiec, owner and handler.

2d-THUNDER ROAD, F1714744, pointer male, by Rentz's Hijacked-Dominator's Heir Kate. Allen Linder & Muriel Primm, owners; George Tracy, handler.



**Open Derby (front):** Larry Harman with She's A 10, Wendy Harman with Bluebar Index, and Tim Cavanaugh with Little Miss Mildred. (Rear, l-r): Mark and Karen Janiec, Marcus Ramseur, Joe Lordi, Ed McCay, George Tracy, John Stolgitis, Mary Tracy, Maureen and Kevin Joyce, Gary Tavares, Dave and Liz McKay, and Bill Bonnetti.

Judges: Alene LeVasseur and Tom Tracy

**OPEN RESTRICTED SHOOTING DOG**

– 4 Pointers and 2 Setters

1st-FACEBOOK POLITICIAN, F1711746, pointer male, by Erin's Perfect Storm-Erin's Little Faye. Amilcar Pereira, owner; George Tracy, handler.

Judges: John Stolgitis and Gary Tavares

**OPEN DERBY – 4 Pointers and 2 Setters**

1st-SHE'S A 10, F1722261, pointer female, by Bail Me Out-Osceola's Seminole Wind. Joe McHugh, owner; George Tracy, handler.

2d-BLUEBAR INDEX, F1724061, pointer female, by Miller's High Heat Index-Nemaha Snow Rebel. Dennis Hood, owner; George Tracy, handler.

3d-LITTLE MISS MILDRED, F1725085, pointer female, by Indian Creek Spur-Little Miss Margaret. Tim Cavanaugh, owner and handler.

Judges: Bill Bonnetti and Joe Lordi

**OPEN SHOOTING DOG**

– 14 Pointers and 3 Setters

1st-CALICO'S SKY'S THE LIMIT, F1692352, pointer male, by Dominator's Rebel Heir-Calico's Country Strong. William & Muriel Primm & Allen Linder, owners; George Tracy, handler.

2d-FORT RIVER'S LUCKY CHARM, F1681132, setter male, by Mohawk Mill Lucky Charm-Fort River Jackie. Gary Tavares, owner; Matt Basilone, handler.

3d-SOUTHPOINT'S HOG WILD, F1686800, pointer male, by Broken Halo-Backwoods Tennessee Honey. Mark Janiec, owner and handler.



**Amateur Shooting Dog (front):** Bill Bonnetti with Cape Point Hidden Jewel, Marcus Ramseur with Fort River's Lucky Charm, and Ed McCay with Mohawk Mill King Pen. (Rear, l-r): Tim Cavanaugh (judge), Alene LeVasseur, Mitch Swierczynski (judge), Matt Basilone, Daniel Jarrell, Sophia Ramseur, Melisa Basilone, and Gary Tavares.

Judges: Tim Cavanaugh and Mitch Swierczynski  
AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG [One-Hour Heats]  
– 12 Pointers and 2 Setters

1st-CAPE POINT HIDDEN JEWEL, F1679987,  
pointer female, by Daddy's Little Boy Butch-Porter  
Meadow Bette. Bill & Brad Bonnetti, owners; Bill  
Bonnetti, handler.

2d-FORT RIVER'S LUCKY CHARM, F1681132,  
setter male, by Mohawk Mill Lucky Charm-Fort River  
Jackie. Gary Tavares, owner; Mark Ramseur, handler.

3d-MOHAWK MILL KING PEN, F1703198, pointer  
male, by Mohawk Mill Big Stuff-Mohawk Mill Dolly.  
Megan & Ed McCay, owners; Ed McKay, handler.



## A NOTE TO OUR READERS

**W**hen the *UKC® Field Newsletter* was introduced in 2022, its purpose was simple: to provide a consistent, reliable home for the reporting, recognition, and day-to-day pulse of the prestigious American Field pointing dog field trial community.


Month after month, these pages have carried trial results, standings, Hall of Fame honors, and club announcements, serving as both a record of accomplishment and a connection point for participants across North America.

That mission remains as important as ever. But how we deliver that information continues to evolve.

With that in mind, we will be retiring the print edition of the *UKC® Field Newsletter*, with the **December 2026 issue serving as our final printed edition.** While our delivery is changing, the content you rely on is not going away. **Trial reports, results and standings, and a calendar of club event announcements will continue to be published and updated regularly on the American Field website** as they always have, ensuring faster access and broader availability for the entire sporting dog community.

We are grateful to the clubs, reporters, and readers who have supported this newsletter and contributed to its pages over the past several years. This publication has played an important role in documenting the work and dedication of field trialers nationwide, and that legacy will continue in its next chapter.

We will share additional details later this year regarding subscription transitions for customers whose terms extend into 2027.



Thank you for being part of the *UKC® Field Newsletter*  
and for supporting the American Field legacy.

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# NATIONAL FIELD TRIAL CHAMPION ASSOCIATION (NFTCA), INC

## Standards of Qualifications for the 128th Running of the National Championship beginning February 8, 2027

— Check #4 to make sure the event you attend is listed as a “Qualifying Trial” —

1. A maximum of 42 dogs will be accepted for the running of the 2027 National Championship. Past National Champions are qualified for life and will take precedence for entry into the event. Preference will be given to dogs with a first-place win in a qualifying event in their lifetime, and that appear on the Joe Hurdle Award List. If more than 42 dogs meet this criterion, they will be chosen in descending order of points. If fewer than 42 dogs meet this criterion, the NFTCA will extend an invitation to dogs on the Joe Hurdle Award List in descending order until the field is full. The champion and runner-up from each of the six 2026 Derby Championship qualifying events will have their Joe Hurdle Points applied to the 2027 list.

2. All entries qualified as of December 31, 2026, must be submitted in writing with full particulars, accompanied by the nominating fee, DNA, and Registration

Certificate to the Ames Office by February 1, 2027. Dogs qualifying after the December 31, 2026, deadline must have their entries in before the Drawing on February 5, 2027. There is no provision for a dog that is qualified by the December 31, 2026, deadline to “re-qualify” for the 2027 National between January 1, 2027, and February 5, 2027.

3. All entries must be registered in the *UKC/American Field Dog Stud Book*, and all wins entered in the permanent files of *UKC/American Field*. Entries may be made only in the name of the owner(s) of record in the *UKC/American Field Dog Stud Book*, and a copy of the **Registration Certificate** must be submitted with all entries, as well as an approved and accepted **DNA Certificate** on file with *UKC/American Field* and a photocopy of the same **DNA Certificate and Registration Certificate** must be submitted with the official nomination form.

4. The following trials, when conducted on a minimum of three individual one-hour courses for a minimum scheduled period of one hour per brace in either first or second series, are designated as Qualifying Trials for the 2027 National Championship:

- Alabama Open All-Age Championship
- Alberta Classic
- All-America Derby Championship
- All-America Prairie Championship
- All-America Quail Championship
- American Derby Invitational Championship
- American Quail Classic Open All-Age
- Benton County (MS) Open All-Age
- Bill Andrews Open All-Age (Central Carolina FTC)
- Black Belt (AL) Open All-Age Classic
- Broomhill Open All-Age Classic
- Buck-Tuck Open All-Age Classic
- Cajun Classic
- California Chukar Championship
- California Open Championship
- California Quail Championship
- Cascade Open All-Age Championship
- Cecil Proctor Open All-Age
- Continental Derby Championship
- Continental Open All-Age Championship
- D. E. Hawthorne Open All-Age Border Classic
- Dixie Open All-Age
- Georgia Derby Championship
- Georgia Quail Championship
- Larry Smith Heartland Open All-Age
- Hell Creek (MS) Open All-Age
- High Desert Open All-Age Classic
- Hobart Ames Memorial Open All-Age Classic
- International Pheasant Championship
- Kansas Prairie Open All-Age Classic (Jayhawk OA-A)
- Kentucky Lake Open All-Age
- Kentucky Open All-Age Championship
- Kentucky Quail Classic
- Lee County (GA) FTA Open All-Age
- Lynn Taylor Open All-Age (Carroll County FTC [TN])
- Manitoba Open All-Age Classic
- Masters Open Quail Championship\*
- Mid-America Open All-Age Championship
- Mississippi Open All-Age Championship
- Missouri Open All-Age
- Missouri Open Championship
- National Chukar All-Age Championship
- National Derby Championship
- National Free-For-All Championship
- National Pheasant Championship
- North Carolina FTA Open All-Age
- North Carolina Open Quail Championship
- North Dakota Open All-Age Classic
- Northwest Chukar Open All-Age Championship
- Oklahoma Open Championship
- Pacific Coast Derby Championship
- Pacific Coast Open Championship
- Pelican State Open All-Age
- Prairie Open All-Age
- Quail Championship Invitational
- Region 8 Preston Trimble Memorial Open All-Age Championship
- Rend Lake Open All-Age
- Robin Gates Quail Classic
- Southeastern Quail Championship
- Southern Field Trial Championship
- Southern Pines Open All-Age Classic
- Southland Open All-Age Championship
- Southwestern Championship (Central Arkansas FTA)
- Stillwater Open All-Age
- Sunflower Open All-Age Classic
- Sunshine (FL) FTC Open All-Age Classic
- Tar Heel Open Championship
- United States Chicken Championship (Northern States)
- United States Open Championship
- West Tennessee Open All-Age
- Western Open All-Age Championship
- Win Ingersoll Memorial Inola Open All-Age

Entries in open events must not be restricted due to time limitations. All Qualifying Trials **MUST** include the names of the judges in their initial advertisement. **REPLACEMENT OF ANNOUNCED JUDGES MUST BE EXPLAINED IN WRITING TO THE SECRETARY, NFTCA, Inc. Failure to comply with this requirement will IMMEDIATELY DISQUALIFY the event as a Qualifying Stake for the National Championship.** It is **recommended** that all Qualifying Stakes have a minimum of 15 entries.

5. Qualifying Trials will be reviewed annually for eligibility.

6. Qualifying Trials as designated above that are **NOT** conducted, for whatever reason, during the time February 8, 2025, to February 7, 2026, **must send written notification to the Secretary, NFTCA, to retain “Qualifying Status.”** A copy of the “FORM FOR ESSENTIAL DATA,” recognizing the official winners and judges submitted to the *UKC/American Field*, must also be submitted to the Secretary, NFTCA.

7. Clubs sponsoring Qualifying Trials as designated above and desire to **RELOCATE** their running grounds, **OR experience a substantial change in officers and directors, must formally petition the NFTCA for continuation of their qualification status prior to actual relocation or running of their event.** Forms to expedite this process are available from the Secretary, NFTCA.

8. Clubs which are not included in the above and approved list of Qualifying Trials and desire to conduct a qualifying event for the 2027 National Championship may request an Application Form from the Secretary, NFTCA, Inc., P.O. Box 389, Grand Junction, TN 38039, or call (901) 878-1067.

9. “Qualifying Certificates” **must be purchased before a Qualifying Trial conducts their event for the 2027 National Championship.** **Cost for the 2027 “Qualifying Certificate” is \$200.00** and may be purchased from the Secretary, NFTCA, P.O. Box 389, Grand Junction, TN 38039. **Clubs not purchasing “Qualifying Certificates” may be dropped from the list of qualifying events for the 2027 National Championship.**

10. To facilitate an increase in the Purse of the National Championship and to fund the many activities that makes **THE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP** the premier bird dog event in North America, All Clubs hosting National Championship qualifying events will be required to collect a “Participation Fee” of \$20/dog starting in the 2013/2014 Field Trial Year (beginning August, 2013 and forward). This “Participation Fee” is **“over and above”** each Club’s **“normal”** entry fee and is not to be included in the club’s purse. Each club will then forward a check to the Secretary of the NFTCA. Example: a 40-dog stake x \$20/dog = \$800 sent to the Secretary, NFTCA. Clubs NOT submitting their surcharge funds will immediately be disqualified.

Email: [mbackus@amesplantation.org](mailto:mbackus@amesplantation.org)

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**Amateur Field Trial Clubs of America**

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**American Bird Hunters Association**

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**National Bird Hunters Association**

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**National Red Setter Field Trial Club**

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**Southern Bird Hunters Association**

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**National Shooting Dog Futurity**

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**National Walking Shooting Dog Futurity**

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**New England Shooting Dog Futurity**

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**North American Woodcock Futurity**

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Margaret C. Drew  
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[No trials scheduled]

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**NBHA TRIALS**

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**SBHA TRIALS**

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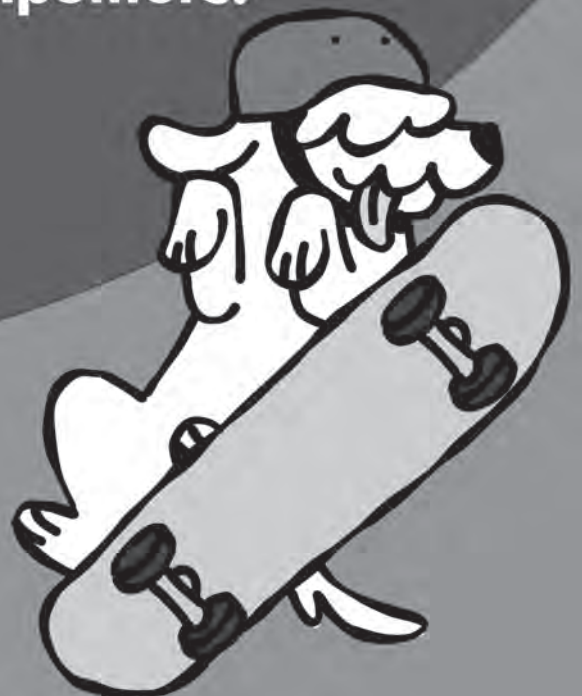
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Introducing our new Application Status Check tool! It's a simple, self-service way to see the status of any registration applications you have submitted and their completion date(s) if available. While it's not a tracking service, it does provide quick, basic updates on the status of your application so you can confirm these details without waiting on hold. It's an easy way to get peace of mind faster than a phone call.

**Registration Type\***

- Transfer
- Single Registration
- Litter

This form is used to request the processing status of an application that has already been submitted to United Kennel Club (UKC), including a Transfer of Ownership, Single Registration, or Litter Registration. Using the information you provide, UKC will attempt to locate the matching application and send the current status to the email address entered on this form.

This form is for status updates only. It does not submit a new application, make corrections or updates to an existing application, or transfer ownership. The information provided in response to this request is for informational purposes only and cannot be used as official UKC registration paperwork or proof of ownership.

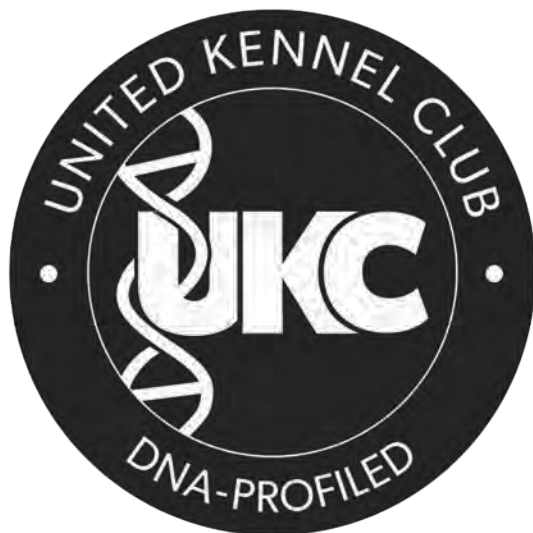
**A quick and easy tool to confirm  
your registration application status,  
without having to wait on hold.**



[ukcdogs.com/registration-status-check](https://ukcdogs.com/registration-status-check)



**8:30 AM - 5:00 PM ET  
MONDAY - FRIDAY**



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The **DNA Kit & Profile** makes it simple to establish and record your dog's official DNA identification with the **United Kennel Club (UKC)** and **UC Davis Veterinary Genetics Laboratory (VGL)**.

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- Partnership with UC Davis Veterinary Genetics Laboratory (VGL)
- Includes 3 test swabs per kit
- Certificate of DNA Analysis provided upon completion
- Easy sample collection and return envelope
- Required for certain breeding, registration, and event records with UKC
- Reliable and secure testing process

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Or visit: [shop.ukcdogs.com/dna-kit-profile](https://shop.ukcdogs.com/dna-kit-profile)



# 2026 DOG WHELPING CALENDAR



Courtesy of the United Kennel Club®

A bitch bred on the date indicated by the large figure will be due to whelp on the date shown immediately below. Dates are based on the normal gestation period of 63 days: variations of two or three days either way are not unusual.

JANUARY '26						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 3-5	2 3-6	3 3-7
4 3-8	5 3-9	6 3-10	7 3-11	8 3-12	9 3-13	10 3-14
11 3-15	12 3-16	13 3-17	14 3-18	15 3-19	16 3-20	17 3-21
18 3-22	19 3-23	20 3-24	21 3-25	22 3-26	23 3-27	24 3-28
25 3-29	26 3-30	27 3-31	28 4-1	29 4-2	30 4-3	31 4-4

FEBRUARY '26						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 4-5	2 4-6	3 4-7	4 4-8	5 4-9	6 4-10	7 4-11
8 4-12	9 4-13	10 4-14	11 4-15	12 4-16	13 4-17	14 4-18
15 4-19	16 4-20	17 4-21	18 4-22	19 4-23	20 4-24	21 4-25
22 4-26	23 4-27	24 4-28	25 4-29	26 4-30	27 5-1	28 5-2

MARCH '26						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 5-3	2 5-4	3 5-5	4 5-6	5 5-7	6 5-8	7 5-9
8 5-10	9 5-11	10 5-12	11 5-13	12 5-14	13 5-15	14 5-16
15 5-17	16 5-18	17 5-19	18 5-20	19 5-21	20 5-22	21 5-23
22 5-24	23 5-25	24 5-26	25 5-27	26 5-28	27 5-29	28 5-30
29 5-31	30 6-1	31 6-2				

APRIL '26						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 6-3	2 6-4	3 6-5	4 6-6
5 6-7	6 6-8	7 6-9	8 6-10	9 6-11	10 6-12	11 6-13
12 6-14	13 6-15	14 6-16	15 6-17	16 6-18	17 6-19	18 6-20
19 6-21	20 6-22	21 6-23	22 6-24	23 6-25	24 6-26	25 6-27
26 6-28	27 6-29	28 6-30	29 7-1	30 7-2		

MAY '26						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 7-3	2 7-4
3 7-5	4 7-6	5 7-7	6 7-8	7 7-9	8 7-10	9 7-11
10 7-12	11 7-13	12 7-14	13 7-15	14 7-16	15 7-17	16 7-18
17 7-19	18 7-20	19 7-21	20 7-22	21 7-23	22 7-24	23 7-25
24 7-26	25 7-27	26 7-28	27 7-29	28 7-30	29 7-31	30 8-1
31 8-2						

JUNE '26						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 8-3	2 8-4	3 8-5	4 8-6	5 8-7	6 8-8
7 8-9	8 8-10	9 8-11	10 8-12	11 8-13	12 8-14	13 8-15
14 8-16	15 8-17	16 8-18	17 8-19	18 8-20	19 8-21	20 8-22
21 8-23	22 8-24	23 8-25	24 8-26	25 8-27	26 8-28	27 8-29
28 8-30	29 8-31	30 9-1				

JULY '26						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 9-2	2 9-3	3 9-4	4 9-5
5 9-6	6 9-7	7 9-8	8 9-9	9 9-10	10 9-11	11 9-12
12 9-13	13 9-14	14 9-15	15 9-16	16 9-17	17 9-18	18 9-19
19 9-20	20 9-21	21 9-22	22 9-23	23 9-24	24 9-25	25 9-26
26 9-27	27 9-28	28 9-29	29 9-30	30 10-1	31 10-2	

AUGUST '26						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 10-3
2 10-4	3 10-5	4 10-6	5 10-7	6 10-8	7 10-9	8 10-10
9 10-11	10 10-12	11 10-13	12 10-14	13 10-15	14 10-15	15 10-16
16 10-17	17 10-18	18 10-19	19 10-20	20 10-21	21 10-22	22 10-23
23 10-24	24 10-25	25 10-26	26 10-27	27 10-28	28 10-29	29 10-30
30 10-31	31 11-1					

SEPTEMBER '26						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 11-2	2 11-3	3 11-4	4 11-5	5 11-6
6 11-7	7 11-8	8 11-9	9 11-10	10 11-11	11 11-12	12 11-13
13 11-14	14 11-15	15 11-16	16 11-17	17 11-18	18 11-19	19 11-20
20 11-21	21 11-22	22 11-23	23 11-24	24 11-25	25 11-26	26 11-27
27 11-28	28 11-29	29 11-30	30 12-1			

OCTOBER '26						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 12-2	2 12-3	3 12-4
4 12-5	5 12-6	6 12-7	7 12-8	8 12-9	9 12-10	10 12-11
11 12-12	12 12-13	13 12-14	14 12-15	15 12-16	16 12-17	17 12-18
18 12-19	19 12-20	20 12-21	21 12-22	22 12-23	23 12-24	24 12-25
25 12-26	26 12-27	27 12-28	28 12-29	29 12-30	30 12-31	31 1-1

NOVEMBER '26						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 1-2	2 1-3	3 1-4	4 1-5	5 1-6	6 1-7	7 1-8
8 1-9	9 1-10	10 1-11	11 1-12	12 1-13	13 1-14	14 1-15
15 1-16	16 1-17	17 1-18	18 1-19	19 1-20	20 1-21	21 1-22
22 1-23	23 1-24	24 1-25	25 1-26	26 1-27	27 1-28	28 1-29
29 1-30	30 1-31					

DECEMBER '26						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 2-1	2 2-2	3 2-3	4 2-4	5 2-5
6 2-6	7 2-7	8 2-8	9 2-9	10 2-10	11 2-11	12 2-12
13 2-13	14 2-14	15 2-15	16 2-16	17 2-17	18 2-18	19 2-19
20 2-20	21 2-21	22 2-22	23 2-23	24 2-24	25 2-25	26 2-26
27 2-27	28 3-1	29 3-2	30 3-3	31 3-4		

UPCOMING PRINT DEADLINES

AD RATES

August Issue.....July 5  
 September Issue ..... August 5  
 October Issue .....September 5  
 November Issue ..... October 5  
 December Issue .....November 5

*\*Please submit ads prior to the deadline date to allow time for revisions and approvals.*

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

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