

MHSA News

Published by the Minnesota Hunting Spaniel Association

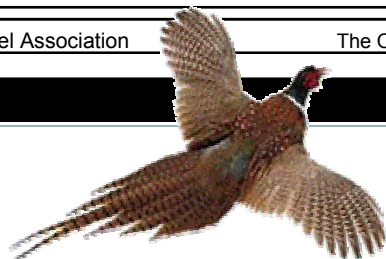
The Only American Kennel Club Licensed All Spaniel Hunting Dog Club

October 2010

Volume 20 Number 9



Officers &
Board of
Directors



From the President ...

What's So Bad About Handling on Retrieves?

Opinions vary about how one should evaluate a dog in a field trial that is handled on a retrieve. Some judges appreciate good, clean handling that leads to a prompt retrieve, while some judges are so extreme as to severely penalize, or even eliminate, dogs that are handled at all. So how should handling be viewed?

The publication "The Conduct and Judging of Spaniel Field Trials" states that:

*"The purpose of a spaniel field trial is to demonstrate the performance of a properly trained spaniel in the field. **The performance should not differ from that in any ordinary day's shooting**, except that in the trials a dog should do his work in a more nearly perfect way."* (emphasis mine)

In an ordinary day of hunting a hunter would never send a dog to retrieve a bird and then let it roam far away from the location of the fall (unless it was apparent that the dog was trailing a wounded bird). Yet I've seen dogs in field trials allowed to wander aimlessly a hundred yards or more off the mark while the handler makes no effort at all to get the dog back where it needs to be to complete the retrieve. This is contradictory to the field trial guidelines as it is clearly NOT what one would do in an ordinary day's shooting.

Obviously, the very best thing that can happen on a retrieve is that the dog goes directly to the fall and quickly retrieves the shot bird. However, if the dog is not able to "button" the retrieve, I believe that the standards clearly call for the handler to direct (handle) the dog so as to hasten the retrieve rather than allowing the dog to search unproductively, even if the dog might eventually find the bird on its own.

Apparently some handlers and judges falsely assume that if they saw where the bird fell, then the dog can too. But the dog's vision perspective is obviously much closer to the ground, as well as potentially obscured by deep grass or other cover, or by the curvature of a hill. Due to this disadvantage, dogs often have a fairly reliable line (direction) that they can take to a fall, but they have a less precise idea of the distance to the fall. As a result, even a skilled marking dog can head off in the correct direction and miss the mark by even a foot upwind and end up running far past the fall. A persistent retriever will eventually search the ground in wider and wider circles until it finds the bird, but I would argue that the best move for the handler to take once any degree of wandering away from the fall begins is to stop the dog and cast it so that it ends up downwind of the bird where it can use its nose to its advantage. That is a much quicker way to get the bird into the bag, and is certainly what a wild bird hunter would do to get the bird in hand and continue with the hunt.

Quoting again from "The Conduct and Judging of Spaniel Field Trials: *"A dog which marks the fall of a bird, uses the wind, follows a strong runner which has been wounded, **and will take direction from his handler** is of great value."*

How these standards have ever come to be interpreted as "Handling on a retrieve is bad" is beyond me.

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Saturday September 11th 2010

Junior Hunter

Aircraft Whomping Willow Of North Valley

Airedale Terrier o/h Matt Nordahl

Bright Sand Orion Augustus

American Water Spaniel o/h Charlie Schlater

Glenhurst's Lasher, Rowan's Revenant

English Springer Spaniel o/h Nathan Reinhardt

J-Mars British Invasion Ringo TD

English Cocker Spaniel o/h Linda Lenzen

Marshwings Molly

English Springer Spaniel o/h Byron Quinn

Razr's Edge Lady Windsor "Winnie"

English Cocker Spaniel o/h C Blasing

Rhydderch Rowdy Rex

English Cocker Spaniel o/h F Lucas

Topguns Summer Storm II

English Springer Spaniel o/h Nancy Bata

MHSA Fall 2010

Hunt Test Results

Congratulations
to all
the qualifiers

Senior Hunter

Cheryls Copper Cady Girl

English Cocker Spaniel o- Cheryl Holzmer o/h Curt Poquette

J-Mars Skeet Shooter Of Canterbury

English Cocker Spaniel o/h Gregg Eide

J-Mars Woods And Field

English Cocker Spaniel o/h Hundson Nichols

Norstrans Nordic Raider

English Springer Spaniel o/h E Smith/S Smith

Piper Of Stonewalker

English Springer Spaniel o- Heidi Reinhardt o/h Nathan Reinhardt

Master Hunter

Harvest Moon's Sizzlin' Bacon *TITLE!*

English Springer Spaniel o- Lori Koehler o/h Dean Koehler

Razr's Kung Foo SH OA AXJ NF

English Cocker Spaniel o- Amy Edstrom h- Brett Edstrom

Sunday September 12th 2010

Junior Hunter

Aircraft Whomping Willow Of North Valley

Airedale Terrier o/h Matt Nordahl

Glenhurst's Lasher, Rowan's Revenant

English Springer Spaniel o/h Nathan Reinhardt

J-Mars British Invasion Ringo TD

English Cocker Spaniel o/h Linda Lenzen

Marshwings Molly

English Springer Spaniel o/h Byron Quinn

Razr's Edge Lady Windsor "Winnie"

English Cocker Spaniel o/h C Blasing

Rhydderch Rowdy Rex

English Cocker Spaniel o/h F Lucas

Topguns Summer Storm II

English Springer Spaniel o/h Nancy Bata

Senior Hunter

Blue Towers Zooming Zoey JH

English Springer Spaniel o- K Breske o/h Randy Breske

Cheryls Copper Cady Girl

English Cocker Spaniel o- Cheryl Holzmer o/h Curt Poquette

Fallen Wing's John Henry

English Cocker Spaniel o- Linda Simon o/h Nadine Kohn

J-Mars Skeet Shooter Of Canterbury

English Cocker Spaniel o/h Gregg Eide

J-Mars Woods And Field

English Cocker Spaniel o/h Hudson Nichols

Piper Of Stonewalker

English Springer Spaniel o- Heidi Reinhardt o/h Nathan Reinhardt

Topguns Vinewood Hott Summer Dayz CD JH NA NAJ

English Springer Spaniel o- Patty Salzwedel o/h Kathy Patregnani

Master Hunter

Harvest Moon's Sizzlin' Bacon

English Springer Spaniel o- Lori Koehler o/h Dean Koehler

Razr's Kung Foo SH OAAXJ NF

English Cocker Spaniel o- Amy Edstrom h- Brett Edstrom

FC Mallowdale York Of Cidwr SH

English Cocker Spaniel o- Kim Wiley o/h Behtann Wiley



MINNESOTA HUNTING SPANIEL ASSOCIATION

For the flushing spaniel . . . and it's family

The Minnesota Hunting Spaniel Association is an American Kennel Club licensed non-profit club organized to:

- PROVIDE: Information and education for members and the public on care, breeding, training and ability testing for purebred flushing spaniels.
- PROMOTE: Family activities and participation for owners of purebred flushing spaniels.
- CONDUCT: Training programs, hunting tests, working trials and related events to promote our breeds' abilities
- ENCOURAGE: Sportsmanship in all dog events and activities

The MHSAA is dedicated to the: American Cocker Spaniel, American Water Spaniel, Boykin Spaniel, Clumber Spaniel, English Cocker Spaniel, English Springer Spaniel, Field Spaniel, Sussex Spaniel, and Welsh Springer Spaniel.

General Membership meetings are held in the Twin Cities area. Meetings are open to all family members, guests and interested individuals. Each meeting provides an educational or informative topic as well as the opportunity for fellowship and socializing.

Regular annual events include: Club picnics, training days, holiday parties, awards banquet and election, working trials, field trails, fun trials, working dog tests and hunting tests.

We join with other dog clubs to sponsor events of interest to spaniel owners and other breed fanciers. We work with community and social service agencies to provide special services and activities to benefit animals and people.

Many of our club members are very knowledgeable in dog care, training and breeding and are willing to assist other dog owners.

The \$35.00 annual membership is for an individual or family.

Membership Application / Renewal Form

New Membership Renewal Membership year: _____

Family Name: _____ First Name(s): _____

Home Address: _____

Home Ph: _____ Work Ph: _____ Cell/Other Ph: _____

Email address: _____

Number of Dogs in Household: _____ Breed(s): _____

What are you goals with the club? Hunting _____ Hunt Tests _____ Field Trials _____ Other _____

What skills could you contribute to the club? _____

Date: _____ Signature: _____

Mail Application with \$35.00 Membership Fee to:
Heidi Reinhardt, Membership Chair
406 East 5th St, New Richmond, WI 54017

Fun Trial Photos

By: Gregg Eide



Fall Hunt Test Photos

By: Gregg Eide





Minnesota Hunting Spaniel Association Board Meeting

October 2010 Minutes

Tuesday, October 5th at 7 PM at Granite City Brewing in Eagan (3330 Pilot Knob Road)

1. CALL TO ORDER and ROLL CALL (establish quorum)

Kim Wiley Present

Jim Lynch Present

Brett Edstrom Not Present

Art Fowler Present

Nathan Reinhardt Present

Bill Dunaski Present

Kevin Rutherford Not Present

Kathy Patregnani Not Present

Dean Koehler Present

Also Present: Curt Poquette

Meeting called to order at 7:15PM.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Moved and approved with the addition of new business related to 2010 Cocker National Trial.

3. SECRETARY'S REPORT – Nothing to report.

4. TREASURER'S REPORT – Financial Statement produced showing a balance of 8427.25 with issued items that had not cleared yet which would leave a final balance of \$7626.00

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS – Nothing to report.

6. 2010 CLUB EVENTS -

September 11-12 (Sat-Sun) – AKC Spaniel Hunt Test, Major Avenue, Glencoe, MN

Chair: Nadine Kohn, Secretary: Heidi Reinhardt – This event created a net profit of \$1770 for the club. Many thanks to Nadine and Heidi for their efforts.

October 15-17 (Fri-Sun) – AKC Cocker Spaniel Field Trial, Little Moran Hunting Club, Staples, MN

Chair: Kim Wiley, Secretary: Bethann Wiley

UPDATE - January, date TBD - Awards Banquet/Membership Meeting/Elections

Chair: Kathy Patregnani, Co-chair: Bethann Wiley

7. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Club Merchandise. Kathy Patregnani now handling club merchandise. Great job displaying and selling at the hunt test!

B. Club Discussion List/Group

Nadine Kohn and Bethann Wiley have established a Yahoo Group for the club.

C. MHSAs Board Meeting schedule has been revised - constitutional amendment passed at the MHSAs Summer Membership Meeting. (Board meetings will be held in January, February, March, April, June, August, October and December)

D. Awards Banquet Chair - Kathy Patregnani and Bethann Wiley have volunteered to Chair the Awards Banquet

E. Nominating Committee and slate of board members – A nominating committee consisting of Bethann Wiley (chair), Heidi Reinhart and Dean Koehler have come up with the following slate of officers and board members:

President – Dean Koehler (returning); Vice President – Bethann Wiley;

Secretary – Nate Reinhardt (returning); Treasurer – Lynn Lynch;

Board Members – Kathy Patregnani (returning), Hudson Nichols,

Curt Poquette, Scott Lichty, Chris Dartt

Please Note: Pursuant to Article V, Section 4: Nominations, Subsection 3:

Additional nominations may be made by any member. The proposer shall present to the Secretary a written statement from the proposed candidate signifying his/her willingness to be a candidate before January 1st. No person may be a candidate for more than one position.

F. The club needs to vote on the constitutional amendment for the streamlined membership process at the January membership meeting.

8. NEW BUSINESS –

2010 Cocker National Championship – Motion made to provide a gift basket in the club’s name, not to exceed \$100 in value for the purpose of a donation to the raffle at the 2010 National Trial. Moved, seconded and passed.

2010 Cocker National Championship – Motion made to publish a full color advertisement in the 2010 Cocker National Trial Catalog for the 2011 National Cocker Trial which will be hosted by the MHSAs and held in Minnesota. The cost of the advertisement is approximately \$150.00. Moved, seconded and passed.

9. NEW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

10. PRESIDENT’S REPORT

11. ADJOURNMENT

Next board meeting will be Tuesday, December 7th, 7 PM at Granite City Brewing in Eagan.

(Dean Koehler will not be present -Nat’l ESS Amateur begins Dec. 8)