

MHSA News

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From the President ...

Welcome to a new year with MHSA. I hope everyone is looking forward to a year full of activities, fun and training! Speaking of training, we have a Judging Seminar coming up February 17th. MHSA strives to provide training opportunities, not only for our dogs, but ourselves as well! MHSA is also having our first AKC Sanctioned Cocker Field Trial February 24th & 25th. This event will be loaded with opportunities for fun, learning, and good fellowship with friends!

Please watch the MHSA News Letter for important news and information. You also may want to visit us on the web at www.mnhuntingspaniel.org. Our web site features the latest up to date information as well as a calendar of upcoming events. A special thanks to Doug Scurr as our "web master"! I hope everyone will take full advantage of all that MHSA membership has to offer.

We encourage all members, new and old, to give us your ideas for events, activities, seminars and training opportunities that you would like MHSA to sponsor. After all, this is your club and we depend on your input to make these decisions. I would also like to mention that the activities we have don't just happen. They are the result of a lot of planning and preparation by fellow club members. Your participation is greatly needed and appreciated! Just because "you don't know how" or "have never done it", doesn't mean you can't participate. I have personally been a Marshal, bird planter, and performed various other duties at MHSA events, all for the very first time. Even though I didn't have a clue, other members helped and guided me. It was a great learning experience, and if I can do it, anyone can!! Thank you all for making MHSA a great club!

Best Regards,
Michael Bury

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Minnesota Hunting Spaniel Association Annual Banquet

January 20, 2007

For those of you who made it to the banquet, thanks so much. I hope you all had a great time! For those who weren't able to make it . . . we do hope to see you next year!



As last year, the banquet and the Oak Inn Golf Club was a hit. The banquet room was just right to fill our needs. The food was spectacular and the raffle was impressive – thank you to all those who donated! We also had a very full awards presentation table!

One of the games tested our knowledge of last year's club activities by asking "How many birds did the MHSA use at combined 2006 events?" For those of you who didn't make the banquet, the answer was an astounding 1380 birds!

Another of the games tested your ability to use YOUR nose. The "Name That Smell" game consisted of 15 jars containing scents that in some way or another relate to our beloved hobby in the field. It turned out to be much more difficult than originally expected. Two members tied with the most smells identified correctly . . . 5.

Let's leave the scent work to the dogs!!

There were twice as many awards earned in 2006 than 2005 – Truly a testament to our hardworking members and their dogs!

I wish I could list them all here. Two notable awards included the MHSA Outstanding Achievement Award which went to CH MACH Ramblewood Crystal Clear CDX SH WDX "Brooke" is owned by Tracy & Patty Salzwedel. The Roettger Ridge Novice Team of the Year Award went to Kristyna Gergen and her dog, Buddy's Masked Zorro.



*Congratulations and Best Wishes for
continued success in 2007!*

MHSB Board Meeting Minutes

Applebee's in Roseville – 6:30pm
December 5, 2006

Present: Matt Priske, Jim Lynch, Mike Bury, Dick Bend, Jon Pidde, Mike Monson and Heidi Reinhardt

Absent: Bethanne Roettger, Brad Schindler, Dave Hofstadter

Called to order by Mark, second by Matt at 6:55pm

I. President's report – Nothing new at this time.

II. Secretary's report – Nothing new at this time.

III. Treasure's report- \$3335.53

IV. Committee reports-

A. Club training committee-

Volunteers will be asked for at banquet.

Possibility of rotating sites for training around metro area.

Need more information regarding permits, regulations, and fees involved in holding training on other sites. The possibility of club members hosting training will be brought up at banquet.

VI Unfinished Business-

A. Trauma Kits:

Unanimous decision to give Leeann the ok to get info and offer kits to the club. And look into purchasing a quantity to have on hand for field events.

Dr. Smith accepted offer to present information to club on basic first aid. She needs a date and time, possibly for March.

B. Rally Title and Club awards.

Tabled for further discussion. When that discussion happens the purpose of the "Outstanding Achievement Award" should be defined. Possible idea is to create 2 awards, one for Outstanding Achievement and one for Most titles in a year. The Outstanding achievement award could be done on a weighted system similar to what the parent clubs do. Possibly an Awards Committee will be created to research this.

After exhaustive brainstorming, club decided to present the possibility of splitting the award. Creating an award for field events and one for performance events. Members have recognized that many club members have specific event tracks for their dogs, and are concerned about giving all dogs a chance at each award.

Bethanne was not present at the meeting, but offered her ideas on introducing a weighted system similar to the parent club. This will be up for further discussion at the January meeting.

C. Andrew Smith website-

Web site was researched by Heidi and Leanne. No valuable information pertaining to spaniels was found, club unanimously decides not to provide a reciprocal link on MHSB website.

D. AKC Hunt Test Judging Seminar- February 17th, 2007 Location TBA

E. Newsletter-

The current newsletter editor Luanne has realized that we are mailing the newsletter to many members with internet access. It is costing the club \$125.00/year in postage. Mixed comments on pulling it off the website and sending it via email to members only Leanne will contact those currently getting it mailed to see if she can send it via email to reduce postage costs

VII. New Business-

A. Member Benefits

The board would like to clarify benefits of belonging to MHSB. Since newsletter and all club events are made public on website. The possibility of publishing the newsletter exclusively for members, and providing a secure log in on website for members to check out info on club events. A calendar to club activities will still remain public to generate interest.

B. New members to vote in at banquet:

Gary & Cyndi Muessing

Mark & Shelia Mensen (Membership dues paid at MHSB Fall Hunt Test, unanimous decision from board to extend membership dues into 2007 for this member.)

Arthur Fowler

Michael Davis

Motion to adjourn: Heidi

Meeting adjourned at 7:05pm

These changes were posted in the AKC November 2006 Board meeting minutes on the AKC's website (http://www.akc.org/pdfs/about/board_minutes/1106.pdf). Please look them over carefully and note that changes to the performance guidelines went into effect on February 1, 2007 and **will apply at the upcoming spring hunt tests in May**. The changes made to judging eligibility will be effective July 1, 2007.

***Taken from the AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
(November 13-14, 2006)***

Performance Events

William Speck, and Karen Reuter, AKC staff, participated in this portion of the meeting by video conference.

Spaniel Hunting Tests

The Board considered a number of proposals submitted by the Spaniel Hunting Test Advisory Committee, as follows:

- Chapter 1, Section 6 establishes qualifications for Judge's eligibility as well as defining the role of Apprentice judges.
- Chapter 1, Section 7 emphasizes that all Judges must know the hunting style of the various Spaniel breeds.
- Part II of the Guidelines for Spaniel Hunting Tests is removed as it is covered in Chapter 1, Section 6 of the regulations.
- Part II of the Guidelines for Spaniel Hunting Tests re-emphasizes that Judges must know the hunting style of each Spaniel breed.
- Chapter 3, Section 5 clarifies gun handling and type of gun(s) to be used as well as defining minimum age of gunners.
- Chapter 4, Section 3 clarifies response to a whistle and verbal command.
- Chapter 5, Section 5 is a clarification to ensure the flush is being scored in accordance with the breed's overall hunting style.
- Chapter 5, Section 7 clarifies procedure to be used to demonstrate a retrieve for dogs not having the opportunity to retrieve on course as well as allowing the use of a live flyer.
- Chapter 5, Sections 10, 11 and 12 establishes distance of water retrieve.
- Chapter 5, Section 11, new paragraph, reiterates the dog cannot receive a qualifying score when a recast is required.
- Chapter 5, Section 12 is a clarification of a "water blind" and "hunt dead".
- Chapter 5, Section 12 reiterates that a Master dog requiring a recast on a mark, hunt dead or water blind cannot receive a qualifying score.
- • Part III of the Guidelines for Spaniel Hunting Tests establishes water retrieve distance at the Senior level and at the Master level.
- Part III of the Guidelines for Spaniel Hunting Tests is a clarification of Master and Senior requirements.
- Part IV (B) of the Guidelines for Spaniel Hunting Tests provides for a definition of a recast and penalty for same as well as clarification of flushing ability.
- Part IV (C) of the Guidelines for Spaniel Hunting Tests reiterates flushing style for the various types of Spaniels and penalty for refusal to flush.
- Part V (B) of the Guidelines for Spaniel Hunting Tests is removing redundant paragraph.

Following a motion by Dr. Battaglia, seconded by Dr. Davies, it was VOTED (unanimously) to approve the following, effective February 1, 2007, except for the judging requirements which would become effective July 1, 2007:

CHAPTER 1
REGULATIONS FOR AKC HUNTING TESTS FOR SPANIELS
GENERAL REGULATIONS

Chapter 1

Section 6. Judges' Eligibility And Approval.

Anyone in good standing with The American Kennel Club may be approved to Judge a Hunting Test, but extensive background experience in handling, working and hunting with Spaniels in the field is essential. Beginning July 1, 2007 all new Judges must meet the following requirements. For continued eligibility current Judges must meet these requirements as of July 1, 2011.

~~Approval to Judge a licensed or member club Hunting Test shall be subject to the qualification requirements that might be in force at the time.~~

A Hunting Test Judges Panel form, containing the names and addresses of the proposed Judges together with their assignments, must be submitted to AKC at least three (3) months in advance of the event. Fines may be imposed for late submission of the Judges Panel. The judging pair must have a combined point total of eight (8) points at the level assigned to be Judged or higher. One point to be awarded for each completed judging assignment at the level being Judged.

At the Master test level and each division thereof, one Judge shall have qualified a dog or dogs (5) times at the Master level. At the Senior and Junior test levels and each division thereof, one Judge shall have qualified a dog or dogs four (4) times either at the level being Judged or at a higher test level. Monitoring the qualifications of the Judges is the responsibility of the event-giving club.

Judges must have apprenticed successfully two times at each level under different Judges in licensed hunting tests. For an apprenticeship to count toward judging eligibility there must be a minimum of five dogs starting at the test level being apprenticed on that day. Approved Judges must be willing to work with an apprentice and must be advised prior to the beginning of the event of the club's plan to assign an apprentice Judge. Apprentice Judges must observe and score the dog work and be party to discussions between the Judges, however their scores will not be considered when determining the dogs that qualify. An apprentice must serve through the duration of the test level, and is subject to the same constraints as the approved Judges.

A dog is not eligible to be entered in a Test (Junior, Senior or Master) at a licensed or member Hunting Test if a Judge or Apprentice Judge of that Test or any member of his family has owned, sold, held under lease, boarded, trained or handled the dog within one year of the starting date of the Hunting Test.

For purposes of this Section, the words "any member of his family" shall include a spouse, a sibling, a parent or a child, whether natural or adopted, of the Judge in question; but shall not extend to other blood or legal relationships.

Neither the Hunting Test Secretary nor any member of the Hunting Test Committee will be approved to be published in the premium list as a Judge of an event where they serve in that capacity.

Each Test level (Junior, Senior and Master) or division of a Test level shall be judged by two Judges.

Judges or Apprentice Judges shall not enter the Test level or a division of the Test level that they are judging, but may enter different Test level(s) provided there is no interference with the judging assignment.

~~After January 1, 2000, Attendance at an AKC Spaniel Hunting Test seminar, within five years of the beginning date of the event to be judged is mandatory.~~

Section 7, Paragraph 2. Judges' Responsibility. ~~A Judge of a~~ Hunting Test Judge must be familiar with all Rules, and Regulations and Standards of Performance pertaining to the type and level of testing of Test being conducted and is responsible for judging in compliance with same. Judges shall also be thoroughly familiar with the applicable Standards and shall be responsible for judging in compliance with the Rules, Regulations and Standards. Judges must be thoroughly familiar with each breed's "working style description" and Judge in strict accordance with such description.

REGULATIONS FOR AKC HUNTING TESTS FOR SPANIELS
GUIDELINES FOR SPANIEL HUNTING TESTS
COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

Part II

Judges' Selection and Responsibilities

Basic Qualifications. Delete Section.

In addition to other qualification requirements that might be in force, prospective Judges must be in "good standing" with the AKC. This means that a proposed Judge cannot be approved if he or she stands suspended from AKC privileges.

Nonetheless, selection should be based upon a person's background in trials or tests, hunting experience, knowledge of the Regulations and familiarity with the Spaniel breeds. Two novice Judges should never be teamed in any test. Ideally, there should be two experienced Judges for each test, or at least an experienced Judge should work with a less experienced Judge.

A regular program of sanctioned tests is a good means of educating and developing Judges. Additionally, "apprentice Judges" may be used at licensed events. If the approved Judges have no objection, an apprentice can observe and score the dog work, be party to the Judges' discussions, but has no authority in the official scores. Generally an apprentice should serve through the duration of the test level, and should be subject to the same constraints as the approved Judges (Chapter 1, Section 6).

Judges' Selection and Responsibilities

Basic Qualifications

Committees must remember that because of the nature of hunting, it is not possible to precisely regulate judging for every situation that can occur. For this reason, experience is a critical factor in the selection of the Judges.

Committees must also remember that their Judges must know the hunting characteristics of the breeds they are judging, and be completely familiar with the Regulations, performance standards and the requirements of the test level they will be judging. After January 1, 2000, attendance at an AKC Spaniel Hunting Test seminar, within five years of the beginning date of the event to be Judged is mandatory.

GUIDELINES FOR SPANIEL HUNTING TESTS
COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

Part II

Paragraph 3. Judges' Responsibilities. Judges must also remember that various Spaniels perform differently. Some breeds are not as large and fast as others, but they were developed for the same purpose – to find, flush and retrieve birds. The manner in which they do it varies, but a dog's performance must meet the standard to qualify. Some breeds may not cover as much ground as rapidly as others but they must find, flush and retrieve birds and do so in a pleasing and efficient manner. Regardless of the breed, a useful hunting pattern is still a useful hunting pattern. The key is efficient accomplishment ... a dog must perform efficiently for the handler in covering ground, finding, flushing and retrieving game. Judges must be familiar with each breed's overall hunting style description and Judge in accordance with such description.

Chapter 3

Section 5, Paragraph 3. Guns. In Senior and Master Hunting Tests the handler must carry an empty shotgun. If the shotgun being carried is functional, it must be a breaking type shotgun; if the handler's shotgun is non-functional, it may be of any type. ~~When a game bird is flushed,~~ Whether on land or water, the handler must shoulder the empty shotgun and, with both hands on the gun, follow the flight of the bird as if a shot were to be fired. ~~If the handler is to carry a functional shotgun, it must be a breaking type shotgun; if the handler's shotgun is non-functional, it may be any type of shotgun.~~ Handlers must follow safe gun handling practices at all times. Failure to handle the gun as previously described during a land flush or at the water, or handling the gun in an

unsafe manner must be severely penalized, even to the point of disqualification under trained abilities. Handlers at the Junior level are not to be required to handle a gun at any time during any part of the testing.

Section 5, Paragraph 5. Guns. There shall be no more than two Official Guns per dog in any testing category, and Judges shall have complete authority over the gunners and all shooting. The Guns represent the handler and must attempt to follow the handler's movements. All gunners must be 21 years of age or older.

REGULATIONS FOR AKC HUNTING TESTS FOR SPANIELS STANDARDS OF PERFORMANCE

Chapter 4

Section 3. Master Hunting Dog. A Master hunting dog must show all of the attributes of Senior hunting dogs, but must also give a finished performance and demonstrate clearly that it deserves to be qualified as such. It must be under the handler's control at all times, and must handle kindly, with an absolute minimum of noise and hacking by the handler. A Master hunting dog must show a keen enthusiasm to hunt, must have a bold and attractive manner of running, and must demonstrate not only intelligence in seeking objectives, but also excellent ability to find game. The dog must hunt for its handler at all times at a suitable gun range, showing a fine Spaniel pattern and experienced hunting independence. The dog must locate game, flush well and must be absolutely steady to wing and shot without excessive handling in both land and water testing. A Master dog may show steadiness to wing and shot by response to a whistle or verbal command provided that neither is excessive. Intelligent use of the wind and terrain in locating game, accurate nose, and intensity are essential. After the shot, a Master hunting dog must positively demonstrate its steadiness to wing and shot. The handler shall not command or signal the dog to retrieve until steadiness has been demonstrated.

REGULATIONS FOR AKC HUNTING TESTS FOR SPANIELS TEST REQUIREMENTS AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR JUDGES

Chapter 5

Section 1, Number 3. Flushing Ability (boldness). (Produces birds with the appropriate hunting style).

Section 5, Paragraph 1. ~~The Flushing Spaniel should be rated highest for a bold flush. However, a soft flush or momentary stopping is acceptable if the dog, within a very brief period, forces the bird into flight. The primary consideration is that the flush should produce birds for the gun. Spaniels have a broad range of hunting styles. The flush should be in accordance with the breed's overall hunting style. Each type of flush is of equal value, provided that it is consistent with the breed's overall hunting style description (see Judges' Responsibility, Chapter 1, Section 7).~~

Section 7. In all testing levels on land, if flushed birds are missed or cannot be shot safely, dead birds should be thrown and a shotgun fired for the dog to make its retrieve(s) in order that Retrieving Ability may be evaluated. At Junior and Senior levels, after demonstrating the ability to find and flush, if a bird cannot be shot after the flush, a live bird should be thrown and shot at an appropriate distance to demonstrate marking and retrieving ability. At the Master level, after demonstrating steadiness to flush and shot, if a bird is unable to be shot or is missed, a live bird should be thrown and shot to demonstrate marking and retrieving ability. If a dog has flushed two birds but cannot make a retrieve because birds could not be shot, the Judges should direct that a live bird be thrown and shot at an appropriate distance for the dog to make a retrieve. In this situation, only one retrieve is necessary; the dog is scored on how it retrieves that bird.

Live fliers are ~~prohibited~~ permitted in all water testing. Fresh (recently killed) birds ~~must~~ may be used for each retrieve from water.

Section 10, Paragraph 1. The Junior hunting dog must find, flush, and have an opportunity to retrieve two birds on land. In addition, one bird must be retrieved from water ~~at a distance of approximately 20 yards with a shot fired, with a shot fired.~~ The retrieve should not normally exceed a distance of twenty-five yards nor should it be shortened by more than five yards. Distances over water should not exceed those normally encountered in hunting.

Section 11, Paragraph 1. A Senior hunting dog must find, flush and retrieve two birds to hand on land. In addition the dog must be line-steady at water and retrieve one bird to hand from water ~~at a distance of approximately 30 yards with a shot fired.~~ The retrieve should not normally exceed a distance of thirty-five yards nor should it be shortened by more than five yards. (Distances over water should not exceed those normally encountered in hunting.) ~~A Senior hunting dog must also exhibit ability to “hunt dead” on a land blind of approximately 20 yards distance.~~ A Senior hunting dog must also exhibit the ability to complete a “hunt dead” situation on land. The distance should be at least thirty-five yards but should not normally exceed a distance of forty yards. A dog that takes the most direct line to the general area of the fallen bird shall be scored the highest.

Section 11, New Paragraph 2. Senior dogs requiring a “recast” as defined in the “Guidelines for Spaniel Hunting Tests”, Part IV (B), to execute the hunt dead will not receive a qualifying score.

Section 12. A Master hunting dog must find, flush and retrieve two birds to hand on land; it must be line-steady at water and retrieve one bird to hand from water at a distance of at least 30 yards with a shot fired shot. The distance should be at least forty yards but should not normally exceed forty-five yards.

In addition, a Master hunting dog must be tested on a blind water retrieve water blind (a shot is not fired) at a distance of approximately 30 yards, and must also exhibit the ability to “hunt dead” on a land blind of approximately 40 yards distance The “water blind” in the Master is defined as a test designed to exhibit a dog’s ability to take not only a line across a body of water but also to take direction at a long distance across a body of water. Further, a dog that obediently stops on command, then looks back and takes direction from the handler, should be scored highly as this is the intent of this test. The water blind should not normally exceed forty yards but shall be at least thirty yards in distance.

The Master dog must also exhibit the ability to “hunt dead” on land at a distance of at least fifty-five yards but should not normally exceed sixty yards. A dog that takes the most direct line to the general area of the fallen bird shall be scored the highest.

Master dogs requiring a “recast” as defined in the “Guidelines for Spaniel Hunting Test”, Part IV (B) to complete either the marked retrieve, the hunt dead or the water blind shall not receive a qualifying score.

A Master hunting dog must positively demonstrate its steadiness to wing and shot, and the handler shall not command or signal the dog to retrieve until steadiness has been demonstrated.

Distances should not exceed those normally encountered in hunting.

REGULATIONS FOR AKC HUNTING TESTS FOR SPANIELS GUIDELINES FOR SPANIEL HUNTING TESTS STANDARDS OF PERFORMANCE TEST ELEMENT REQUIREMENTS

Part III

Senior Test Elements. A dog must also be line steady at water and retrieve one bird to hand from water ~~from a distance of approximately 30 yards with a shot fired. A Senior dog must also “hunt dead,” on a land blind of approximately 20 yards.~~ with a shot fired at a distance which should not normally exceed thirty-five yards but no less than thirty yards. A Senior dog must also complete a “hunt dead” on land at a distance that does not normally exceed forty yards but is at least thirty-five yards.

In the hunt dead test, a dead bird is placed in cover at a spot unseen to the dog and handler. No shot is fired to alert the dog to the location. This can be described as a situation where another hunter at a distance has a bird down (unseen to your dog) at a distance of approximately ~~20~~ thirty-five to forty yards, and needs your dog to find it. You send your dog into the general vicinity of the downed bird, but cannot direct the dog to the bird because you do not know exactly where it is.

Master Test Elements. It must also be line steady at water and retrieve one bird to hand from water at a distance ~~of at least 30 yards with a shot fired.~~ which should not normally exceed forty-five yards but is at least forty yards.

A Master hunting dog must also be tested on a blind water retrieve (a shot is not fired) at a distance of approximately 30 to 40 yards, and must also “hunt dead” on a land blind of approximately 40 yards, at a distance of approximately 55 to 60 yards, which should be completed in no more than about five minutes. A Master dog must be steady to wing and shot, and is never sent to retrieve until steadiness is demonstrated. In the blind water retrieve, the bird and the bird thrower should not be visible to the dog. Dogs can be handled on blinds.

Part III

B. Additional Judging Considerations.

5. Flushed Birds/Trapped Birds. ~~Dogs at all levels~~ Senior and Master dogs must flush and retrieve two (2) birds to hand. The degree of tolerance in scoring is ~~greater~~ lower for Senior and Master than Junior.

Part IV

B. Ability Categories, Disqualifying Traits.

Recast. A recast occurs when a dog is sent to make a retrieve, but stops within a short distance of the castaway point or goes to the area of the downed bird and then returns or is recalled to the handler’s side. The dog is then realigned and sent again to make the retrieve.

Senior dogs requiring a recast on the execution of the hunt dead, or Master dogs requiring a recast on either the water mark, hunt dead or the water blind shall not receive a qualifying score.

B. Ability Categories, Disqualifying Traits, Number 3. Flushing Ability (boldness). (produces birds with the appropriate hunting style).

C. General Considerations, Paragraph 1. ~~If some occurrence causes an unfair test of a dog's abilities, the Judges are empowered to exercise their discretion in determining how to handle the situation. They may decide whether or not it is necessary to re-run the dog unless there are extremely unusual circumstances. For example, a re-run may be justified if the Judges believe that all of the birds have left an area where the dog has hunted, but a dog that has obviously not hunted should never be given a second chance under more favorable circumstances. The Regulations state that the primary consideration is that the flush should produce birds for the gunner. The various Spaniel breeds have a broad range of hunting styles. Each type of flush is of equal value provided that it is consistent and in accordance with the breed’s overall “hunting style description”.~~

Part V

Critical Elements. B. Bird Planting.

~~If a dog has flushed two birds but cannot make a retrieve because birds could not be shot, the Judges can direct that a shot bird be thrown for the dog to make a retrieve. The gunner will fire a shot just before the bird is thrown so the dog can see the bird falling. In this situation, only one retrieve is necessary; the dog is graded on how it retrieves that bird.~~

AKC Sanctioned Cocker Field Trial

In order to acquire the appropriate licensing for the MHSa to hold spaniel field trials, we must first hold two qualifying sanctioned field trials. The board has approved a proposal for our club to pursue this licensing so that the MHSa may be able to hold trials in the future, if it so chooses.

The first of these AKC Sanctioned Field Trials will be held in February of this year. Plans are well underway, but there is still plenty of work to be done. If you would like to help out in anyway or would simply like to learn more, please contact Nadine Kohn at n_kohn@earthlink.net.

Currently, the sanctioned field trial is set for February 24, 2007 and is open to Cocker and English Cocker Spaniels.

The committee consists of:

Nadine Kohn – Field Trial Chair
Leanne Schmitz – Field Trial Secretary
Bethann Roettger – Head Marshal
Brad Schindler – Game Steward
Tony Roettger – Steward of the Beat

The judges will be: Craig Chilstrom and Tom Radde.

The grounds will be at Major Ave. Hunt Club in Glencoe, MN.



HUNT TEST NEWS



Spring

Plans for the upcoming Spring Hunt Tests are now well underway. The Spring Hunt Test Committee consists of:

Chair - Nadine Kohn

Secretary - Leanne Schmitz

Committee Members - Richard Bend, Heidi Lund, Linda Simon, Jon Pidde

Judges have been set and premiums will be available soon. Watch the newsletter and club website for more info.

Fall

Please start thinking about whether you are willing and able to serve on the Committee for the Fall Hunt Tests. Due to the regulations changes, especially concerning judging eligibility, planning for the fall tests should start early.

Anyone willing and able to help out at the hunts is more than welcome.

Are you interested in . . .

- ✎ Serving on the committee?
- ✎ Marshalling?
- ✎ Bird Planting?
- ✎ Organizing the raffle?
- ✎ Organizing the BBQ?
- ✎ Shadowing the secretary or chair?
- ✎ Maybe you have a suggestion for judges?
- ✎ Apprenticing?

If you would like to help in any capacity, please a board member.

Stuffed Pheasant Marsala

Pheasant breasts are butterflied and filled with a cheese & bread crumb mixture, then browned, baked, and served with a marsala-cream mushroom sauce.

Ingredients:

Cheese Stuffing

- 1/2 cup smoked provolone or gouda cheese
- 8 ounces shredded mozzarella cheese
- 1/4 cup grated parmesan cheese
- 1/2 cup bread crumbs
- 1 teaspoon fresh garlic, minced
- 1/4 teaspoon crushed red pepper
- 2 Tablespoons sun-dried tomato flakes, if in oil, drain first
- 1/3 cup sour cream
- 1/2 teaspoon salt and pepper

Pheasant

- 2 lbs. skinless, boneless pheasant breasts
- 4 oz. cooking oil
- 2 C. flour
- Salt & pepper to taste

Sauce

- 1 small onion, chopped
- 6 C. button mushrooms, thinly sliced
- 24 oz. Marsala wine
- 8 oz. heavy whipping cream

Preheat oven to 350° F. **STUFFING:** Combine all cheese stuffing ingredients in a bowl. **PHEASANT:** Butterfly thickest section to create two lobes - pound until 1/4"-1/2" thick. Place pounded pheasant breasts on a plate and place desired amount of stuffing on one half of pheasant breast. Gently press stuffing down and fold over other side of pheasant breast. Preheat a large sauté pan on stove top; add the 4 oz oil; heat oil until shimmering. Place approximately 2 cups flour in a shallow dish or bowl and season it to taste with salt and pepper. Dredge pheasant in flour and shake off excess flour. Place stuffed pheasant breasts in sauté pan with the preheated oil. Cook each side until golden. When pheasant is seared on both sides remove from sauté pan and place in a baking pan and into the oven for 10-20 minutes. Bake until juices run clear and stuffing and centers reach a temperature of at least 165° F. **SAUCE:** Add the onions to the sauté pan; stir with metal spatula. After 2 minutes add the mushrooms, sauté mixture until onions are translucent. Deglaze sauté pan with the Marsala wine - make sure to incorporate particles from bottom of pan. Bring wine to a simmer and add heavy cream. Cook sauce until reduced by half. Spoon over pheasant breasts. Serves 4.



Membership Renewals are now overdue



Membership Application / Renewal Form

√ **one:** _____ New Membership _____ Renewal Membership year: **2007** _____

Family Name: _____ First Name(s): _____

Home Address: _____

Home Ph: _____ Work Ph: _____ Other Ph: _____

Email address: _____

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

Date: _____ Signature: _____

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

Upcoming 2007 MHSA Events

Feb. 17 – ~~AKC Spaniel Hunting Test Seminar~~ - Postponed

Feb. 24 – AKC Sanctioned Cocker Field Trial


May 12 & 13 – MHSA Spring Hunt Tests

May 19 & 20 – MHSA hosted ECSCA Cocker Field Trial

June 23 – MHSA Working Dog Test

Sept. 8 & 9 – MHSA Fall Hunt Tests

More to come . . . !!



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