

National English Springer Spaniel Field Trial Association 2016 Annual Meeting

Minutes of the Annual Meeting held at the Deer Creek Lodge and Conference Center in Mount Sterling, OH on December 5, 2016 at 4 p.m.

Roll Call and Determination of Quorum

A roll call was taken. Delegates for fifty clubs were present which constitutes a quorum.

Acceptance of Minutes of the 2015 Annual Meeting

Motion

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the 2015 meeting as published and distributed be approved.

Motion approved

Presidents Message

Mark Gebert welcomed the delegates to Mount Sterling and said that more information about the field trial would be given at the end of the meeting.

Acceptance of the Treasurer's Report

Motion

It was moved and seconded that the Treasurer's 2015 report as published and distributed be approved.

Motion approved

Election of Officers

Jeff Brooks gave the report for the nominating committee. He referred to a report that was posted on essft.com and is attached to this report. The committee, comprised of Steve Beyer, Chair, Jeff Brooks, John Leininger, John Hall and Don Mock accepted proposals from clubs in the Rocky Mountain Region which will hold the National Open Championship in 2019. Based on the review of those proposals they selected their nominee for Second Vice President. With respect to the recommendation for First

Vice President it was requested by Gary Wilson and Mike Wallace that they each be able to make a proposal which would be voted upon by the delegates. They requested that the proposal which receives the highest number of votes would determine the nominee for first vice president.

Gary Wilson gave a slide show outlining his proposal to hold the 2018 NOC in the Finger Lakes region of New York. Gary has been working closely with the National Forest personnel to ensure that grounds are the best possible for spaniel activities. There is a world class hotel available for lodging and hospitality events. The one stipulation is that there would not be access to the grounds after November 16 except for a water test. This would mean that the trial would need to start on November 12 or it would be Gary's preference to start on November 13. This would require that the last closing period would be only eight days before the trial if the trials on week 44 are included for entry. It might be possible to find alternate grounds for a fifth series after November 16 if necessary.

There was discussion about the proposal:

Weather—Average highs in the 40's

Jim Keller- Last year we asked that trials not begin before November 15 because it was felt that club trials were being held too early in the year in order to qualify. Why do we think we should change this now?

Gary Wilson- Initially trials were held when the weather was optimal in the region of the trial. We are now having more trials and more clubs and it has pushed clubs to hold trials in unacceptable weather conditions. Perhaps the real issue is that we should only have trials when it is acceptable in a region and not feel forced to have trials.

Mike Wallace- While we are focusing on November 15 we should really be focusing on the conditions for the dogs. We need to have cooler weather for trials.

Gary Wilson- Clubs can hold trials after Nationals and perhaps they should do so.

Ray Wunderlich- Is this the only property that Gary has available or are there other properties in the region which would not be subject to the same date restrictions.

Gary also talked about the shuttle situation in the region.

Dan Murray- Would a shuttle be available in the gallery for a handicapped spectator?

Gary Wilson- We could work with the forest service to determine what accommodation could be met.

Gary Riddle- He is concerned that we would be putting pressure on the trial to finish in four days to accommodate the date restrictions. He has a problem with that .

Gary Wilson- He could probably find other private grounds to hold the fifth series if the trial went into a fifth day.

Mhari Peschel- Every trial in the last five years has gone to a fifth day.

Mike Wallace gave his presentation which was a verbal one. The trial would be held in Cambridge Maryland starting December 8, 2018. The hotel accommodations would be a Holiday Inn Express. The weather is generally a high in the 40's . It was pointed out that the weather in Cambridge the last time a National was held there was very unusual for the area.

Gary Breitbarth- What about the weather for travel.

Mark Hairfield- The later date would allow some trials to be held later.

Mike Wallace- He likes a break between the last trials and the Nationals

Gary Wilson- Feels the weather is probably better in New York

Jeff Brooks called for a vote

New York 25

Maryland 25

Jeff requested that the motion for the nomination of the First Vice President be tabled until later in the meeting.

Jeff made a motion to elect the remaining slate by acclamation:

President

Dean Koehler

Second Vice President

Don Bramwell

Secretary/Treasurer

Mhari Peschel

It was seconded . **Motion approved.**

Announcement of Judges for the 2017 National Open Championship

Mark Gebert announced that the judges for the 2017 National Open would be Chad Betts and Skip Smith.

Member Club Dues for 2017

Motion

It was moved and seconded that member club dues for 2017 be \$75.00 per club.

Motion unanimously approved

Presentation of Location for the 2017 National Open Championship

Dean Koehler gave a presentation to hold the 2017 National Open Championship in the Austin, Minnesota region beginning November 13, 2017. There were slides of the grounds which have not been used for field trials before. The headquarters would be the Holiday Inn.

Dean Reinke- How could you put forth a proposal which goes against the date restrictions passed at last years meetings.

Dean Koehler- We kept with our original proposal which was made before those restrictions.

Dean Reinke- You had a year to make modifications and you didn't.

Dean Koehler- We could move to the 15th if we had too but would prefer the earlier date.

Dean presented his budget which includes formulas for different entry numbers. He was assuming a 2 point qualification and an entry of 135 dogs. That would support an entry fee of 225.35

It was asked if the entry were smaller what would the entry fee be. Dean responded that if it were 125 dogs it would \$235.00 per entry. The fee could be adjusted based on the point requirement passed by the delegates.

It was moved and seconded to accept the proposal made by Dean Koehler with the revised start date for the trial being November 15, 2017 in the Austin Minnesota area. Motion Approved.

Qualification for the 2017 National Open

It was stated that the current number of points for qualification is 3 points.

Brent Lemaster moved that the point qualification be 2 points. It was seconded by Kathy Nestor.

Dean Reinke stated that Tom Meyer had said that the only growth in the spaniel sport in this year was in the Open stake and that it was likely because dogs needed to earn three points rather than two for qualification.

Bill Boeckman noted that it was important to have new people involved in the sport and that one way to do that was to have a lower point qualification and allow them to participate in the National.

It was also mentioned that we had just changed to the three point qualification last year and we should give it a few years to see how it works before we change it again.

A vote was called 23 in favor of two points 27 against Motion failed.

Dean Reinke moved that the qualification be three points . Motion seconded.

34 yes 12 no Motion approved.

Gary Wilson moved that the entry fee be \$235.00 Motion seconded and approved.

Time for Annual Meeting for 2017

The time and place of the annual meeting will be 4:00 p.m. on November 14, 2017 at the Holiday Inn (trial headquarters).

Other Business

1. The archive committee is requesting \$1,000.00 from the NESSFTA to help with the expense of scanning National Catalogs which can then be put on the Foundation website and viewed by all. The contribution will be matched by the National Amateur and the National Specialty.
It was moved and seconded to approve the contribution. Motion Passed.
2. The parent club has requested that the NESSFTA contribute \$2,500.00 to the AKC Canine Health Foundation Tick Borne Disease initiative. This amount is in addition to amounts donated by the Parent Club and the National Amateur.
IT was moved and seconded to approve the contribution. Motion Passed
3. Dean Reinke suggested that a committee be formed with a representative from the National Open, National Amateur and Parent Club to develop a policy or a mission statement with respect to accommodations that can be made to handicapped spectators. He recommended that Dan Murray be the representative from the NESSFTA.

Bring Tabled Motion back for a vote regarding the First Vice President

A revote was taken with respect to the two proposals for the 2018 National Open Championship. In favor of Gary Wilson's proposal 23 Against 27

It was then moved and seconded that Mike Wallace be elected First Vice President by acclamation. Motion passed.

Field Trial Chairman's Presentation

Brent Lemaster gave directions to the grounds and said that maps would be available. The trial will start at 8:00 a.m. The grounds are approximately 15 minutes from the lodge. .

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

Motion unanimously approved.