

Minnesota Hunting Spaniel Association Training Day and Working Ability Test

When: June 3rd 2018 Starting at 8:00am and ending Approx. 6:00pm

Where: Long Pond Elk Farm, Princeton MN 10940 293rd Ave Princeton, MN 55371 (Approx. 3.5 Miles east of Highway 169)

What? First and foremost a lot of fun! We will conduct a training session in the morning, training will consist of fieldwork, we will run it like a hunt test, and there will be gunners, mentors and birds! Chukar will be available for purchase for \$8.00 each and you may purchase as many as you like. We typically plant 2-3 in the field at a time, for each dog and take turns running dogs in the field. There is also water available for you to do water work while you wait to train in the field. You will also have space to work on Dead Bird, Blinds or whatever else you would like to work on with your dog(s). We will complete the training day at approx. 12:00 pm and go directly to the working ability test. At the conclusion of the test we will give awards and end for the day.

LUNCH WILL BE AVAILABLE THIS YEAR!! We will be grilling burgers! Lunch is available for 2 bucks and gets you a burger, a beverage(water or Soda) and chips!

ALSO, REMEMBER BLAZE ORANGE IS REQUIRED...just like a hunt test.

So, what is a working dog test anyway? Working Ability Tests, are sponsored by the respective breed parent clubs, So, the English Springer Spaniel Field Trial Association for Springers, The clumber spaniel club of America for Clumbers, and so on. They started as a way to 'test' the hunting and field ability of dogs that did not Field Trial (Remember there where was no such thing as Spaniel Hunt Tests until the early 90's) So if you had a spaniel breed (Airedale's too!) and you did not want to enter Field Trials you really had no option to prove or test your dog's ability. So, each breed club designed the test standard and gave the permission to their member clubs to give the test and then enter the results in the parent club records. So, what about the AKC? And what are the Titles? Ok, first and foremost the working dog testing is NOT an AKC thing, it's a Breed club thing, and as such the AKC does not recognize or keep track of working tests passed or titles/awards one. Well, if its not AKC recognized why would I do? Well, mostly because it's fun! You get quality time with your dog(s) and hey they love birds, right? Second reason is if you pass, you get a really nice ribbon from the MHSA, third reason is you do get a title if you pass! Whoa, wait I

thought you said AKC doesn't recognize the test?? Well, sort of. If you pass you will be given the title WORKING DOG(WD), or WORKING DOG EXCELLENT(WDX) (more on the diff in a minute) and a certificate from your respective parent club, BUT your dog's official AKC record will NOT have the title! But I've seen it on hunt test premiums and other places? Well, yeah, you have, The AKC does not control what you list on an entry nor do they really care (as long as you're not 'padding' your dog's tittles !) So, feel free to use it if you want! It is a BREED CLUB Title not an AKC title, it will NOT be part of your Dogs AKC registration or Pedigree!

More FAQ? Do I have to do the working test can I just show up for the morning training? Yep How much are the Chukars? 8 bucks How much is the working dog test? 35 bucks Does my dog have to be 'steady' to take the test? Nope What does the test consist of?

The test consists of a 'land' series and a 'water' series, the test is Very very similar to a Junior Hunter AKC Hunt Test Stake. Each Breed club has slightly different rules, BUT if you think Junior Hunter and train for that, your dog will pass!

What's the difference between WD and WDX? WORKING DOG and WORKING DOG EXCELLENT. To receive the WDX the dog must exhibit EXCELLENT ability in the field and MUST be line steady (no restraint at the water) Think Junior hunter and Junior hunter with all 10's.

I'm still confused? I'll post links to (very) detailed info at the end contained on the breed club web sites

I have an (a) (English Springer Spaniel, Welsh Springer Spaniel, English Cocker Spaniel, Clumber Spaniel, Airedale Terrier, Field Spaniel, American Cocker Spaniel, Boykin Spaniel?) can I participate in your test? Yep, hope to see you there

I have a (lab, Brittany, shitzu etc) can I participate in the Test? Nope, but you are more than welcome to come to the training day, but We ARE a spaniel club :)

Who's the Judge? Mr. Jim Lynch

Do I have to do training or can I just do the test? You can do one or both or either or neither, (but we'd love to see you there)

Who should I ask if I still want more info? aarongmoore@gmail.com

Links: Springer Info <http://www.essfta.org/field-hunting/working-certificate-tests-wd-wdx/> Clumber/ American Cocker/ Welsh Springer/Field Spaniel info <http://www.asc-cockerspaniel.org/index.php/shows/events/working-certificate.html?showall=1> English Cocker Spaniel working test Info <http://www.ecsca.info/index.php/breed-info/events> Boykins <http://boykinspaniel.org/pages/bss-sanctioned-hunt-test-info--rules/upland-hunt-test-info-and-forms>