



## 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the ESSFTA National Amateur Championship Central Nebraska



It is a great honor to be hosting the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the English Springer Spaniel Field Trial Association National Amateur Championship in Central Nebraska. The training day will be November 26<sup>th</sup>. The Field Trial will start at 8 am on November 27<sup>th</sup> and will run to conclusion. This year's judges, Todd Stelzer and Jerry Barrett will have the honor of selecting the "best of the best". The event's headquarters is at the River's Edge Convention Center in Columbus Nebraska. The series work will be north of Silver Creek and southeast of Fullerton Nebraska. Coming together to create such a wonderful event requires a strong team. We are thrilled to have the three Nebraska Clubs, the National Guard, school groups such as Future Farmers of America, Economic Development groups, and the Rocky Mountain Interclub volunteering to work together for such a tremendous occasion. A big thank you to the Nebraska Tourism Commission for providing the event with a Community Impact grant.

The scope of the National Amateur is impressive, as it is one of the few remaining competitions that creates true hunting conditions over variable terrain and through all types of weather. Field trailers with their English Springer Spaniels qualify throughout the year by placing in local trials. The Owners/handlers can enter the Championship trial for \$325 per dog. The Championship Field Trial will focus on the English Springer Spaniels, judging their ability to find, flush and retrieve shot game during five land series and a water series over several days of competition. The Judges will invite the dog and handler to continue to participate in the progressing series work. At the conclusion of the first series, each judge selects the dogs from among those who have performed under them that they consider worthy of continuing in the stake and they are put down in sequence under the other judge. These procedures are followed through successive series until the judges are satisfied that they are prepared to make the awards. The Field Trial Team will keep the focus on the dogs and handlers as they stake the courses in amazing, safe upland grass terrain and plant great flying pheasants to elevate the competition.



The competition will be fierce as we hunt the beautiful upland game landscape. It's extraordinary to witness, and it helps to build an exciting social environment as well. This trial is not only a competition, but it is also a wonderful gathering of like-minded people. Each Club member brings their own exciting element, whether it be a raffle, a silent auction, or a big cook off. For this year's trial, there will be a lunch and dinner provided for all of the competition days except the last evening, Thursday, where dinner will be on your own. These prepared meals can be purchased through the premium purchase option which will become available closer to the event. Please expect a Welcome Party on the first evening with the exciting Calcutta, a Banquet with the auction event on the second evening and a President Party on the third day. The Ramada Hotel and connected to the River's Side Conference Center in Columbus, NE has a room block and we received permission for dogs to be in the room and on the premises. There is an airing area on the property and Pawnee Park is adjacent to the hotel.

We are in the fund raising stage. It is exciting to see people and businesses support the event. If you want to be a part of this group reach out to Cristy Joy | (402) 429-7150 | [cjoy@achi-etc.com](mailto:cjoy@achi-etc.com) We would love to talk with you about donation opportunities!!!!

The 60<sup>th</sup> ESSFTA National Amateur Championship in 2023 will be an exciting and fun social event! The Event Committee is going to make this 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary memorable. We will have activities at the field locations, the Headquarter Conference Center and at The Kingdom Hunting Lodge.

Please join us for a week of greatness!!!!

