

FIELD

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National Champion



GAME SURGE

Dr. Fred Corder, Owner/Handler | Photo by Jamie Evans

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ON THE COVER

CH. LIGHTNING FLASH REMINGTON

#F1687367 • English Setter Male • Sire: Denco's Crockett Again • Dam: Arctic Tundra Bird Dog
Brian Dix, Owner & Handler

"Going into the trial, coming off a championship win with a strong performance, I had high hopes. When the draw came out, I was braced with a forward, strong-running dog and thought we may have trouble hanging on to them."

— Brian Dix with Lightning Flash Remington, first in the Braeval Cover Dog Classic

2027 NATIONAL OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP

A List of Qualifying Trials

By Heather Klinck, Secretary | Union Springs, Alabama

The 2027 National Open Shooting Dog Championship will begin Monday, February 1, 2027. As per the Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors held on February 1, 2026, a placement in one of the following one-hour Open Shooting Dog stakes will qualify a dog to run in the 2027 Championship. The placement must occur in the 24 months preceding the drawing for the 2027 National Open Shooting Dog Championship.

If a stake is held twice in a 12-month period, only the first will qualify for 2027; the second will qualify for 2028.

All trial information can be found at www.nationalopenshootingdog.com

- Alabama ODS Championship
- AG Preserve Classic
- All-America OSD Championship
- Arizona OSD Championship
- Arkansas OSD Championship
- Atlantic Coast OSD Championship
- Bama Quail Classic
- Bear Pond OSD Classic
- Big Sky OSD Championship
- California Bird Dog Championship*
- California Chukar OSD Classic
- California OSD Championship
- CanAm OSD Classic
- Carolina Celebration OSD Classic
- Cedar Valley OSD Classic
- Conecuh Station OSD Classic
- Dakota OSD Classic (ND Pointing Dog Club)
- Dixie OSD Classic
- Eastern OSD Championship
- Egyptian OSD Championship
- Farmer Sportsman DeLuca Classic
- Fleetwood OSD Classic
- Garden State OSD Championship
- Garden State OSD Classic
- Georgia OSD Championship
- Gulf Coast OSD Championship
- Henry Banks Sr. OSD Classic
- Idaho OSD Championship
- Illinois OSD Championship
- Indiana OSD Championship
- Indiantown Gap Keystone OSD Classic
- Inez C. Smith OSD Classic
- International Endurance OSD Championship
- Jayhawk OSD Championship
- Jockey Hollow Imperial OSD Classic
- Kelly's Rebel Maggie OSD Classic (NV)
- Kentucky OSD Championship
- Keystone OSD Championship
- Leon Shiver OSD Classic
- Lone Star OSD Classic
- MF Ferguson OSD Classic
- Masters OSD Championship
- McLean OSD Classic
- McMinnville FTC OSD Classic
- Michigan OSD Championship
- Middle Atlantic OSD Championship
- Midwest OSD Championship
- Mississippi OSD Championship
- Missouri OSD Championship
- Montana OSD Championship
- National Chukar OSD Championship
- National OSD Championship
- National Pheasant OSD Championship
- National Prairie Chicken OSD Championship
- New England OSD Championship
- North Carolina OSD Championship
- Northeastern OSD Championship
- Northwest Chukar OSD Championship
- Oklahoma OSD Championship
- Oklahoma OSD Classic
- Oregon OSD Championship
- Ozark OSD Championship
- Pacific Coast OSD Championship
- Pacific Northwest OSD Championship
- Razorback OSD Classic
- SBHA National OSD Classic
- Sharptail OSD Classic
- South Carolina OSD Championship
- South Dakota Classic*
- Southeastern OSD Championship
- Southern Comfort FTC
- Southwest Missouri OSD Championship
- Sunflower State OSD Championship
- Swamp Fox OSD Classic
- Tennessee OSD Championship
- Tennessee Valley FTC
- Texas OSD Championship
- United States SD Invitational Championship
- West Coast OSD Championship
- Western OSD Championship

**Beginning with the 2026-2027 season stake.*

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ONTARIO GROUSE CHAMPIONSHIP

Hypointe Monarch Express Named Champion; Grouse Hill Princess, Runner-up

By David A. Fletcher | Philipsburg, Pennsylvania | March 30, 2026

The Ontario Grouse Dog Championship held its 34th renewal over the Black Moshannon State Forest grounds near Philipsburg, Pennsylvania, March 30—a four-day titular event featuring an entry of 30 pointers and 22 setters. The Venango Club, sponsors of the Ontario Grouse Dog Championship, also ran their long-standing Venango Derby with an entry of 13 pointers and seven setters.

Thirty-four years ago, Canadian field trialers Tim Tufts, Bill McClure, Dan Mansell, and Jack Clark wanted something a little better than the released-bird one-course trials then in existence in their native Ontario, and they began a wild bird grouse and woodcock event that became the Ontario Grouse Championship. Scribe was invited to judge a beginning event, joined the Club, and with his close relationship with William F. Brown, American Field Editor and owner, helped the Ontario club secure a Grouse Championship. The event was held at the Copeland Forest near Barrie, Ontario, for several years, but the supporting group of trialers waned among the Ontario Club members, and a helping hand was offered by the Pennsylvania and New York Grouse Clubs to run on their venues. Tim Tufts managed the Ontario Club for many renewals, basically on his own, and his demise several years ago left the championship in the Venango Club's hands.

The team staging this 34th renewal is headed by Joe Cammisa, Secretary; Steve Chiappini, Treasurer; your scribe as President, along with Dr. Tim Perschke and Eric Munden as Club Directors, but some of the hardest workers at this event were Jeff Keller, marshaling nearly every brace, and Dick Brenneman working diligently with the road crossings and gallery move-ups.



Ontario Open Grouse Championship (l-r): Bill Bonnetti (judge), Russ Fazio with Hypointe Monarch Express, Eric Munden (Ontario Director), Scott Forman with Grouse Hill Princess, Joe Cammisa (Ontario Secretary), and Larry Guild (judge).

Our thanks for the support of Purina and Greg Blair. They are perennially helping the Venango Club. Lunches were again catered for the gallery tailgates under the management of the Cammisa and Munden team. Scribe was Dave Fletcher, with wonderful help from judge Bill Bonnetti.

The Winners and Others

The new champion, Hypointe Monarch Express, a 3-year-old pointer female, was handled by her owner Russ Fazio, of Lower Burrell, Pennsylvania. Performance-wise, "Tess" was highly rated by the judges as a very smooth-gaited, consistently forward hunter that listened to her handler, stayed to the course objectives, and finished strongly. Her bird work was stylish, her woodcock well located, and her manners at flush well done. This is Tess's 15th placement and her first championship. Her record shows eight Derby wins in Cover Dog events and a first in the USC Futurity. As an adult, Tess has added three Shooting Dog placements, one All-Age win, and a runner-up title in the USC Amateur Invitational Championship.

Runner-up was Grouse Hill Princess, a setter female handled by Scott Forman for owner John Capocci of Richfield, Connecticut. Princess was very focused on hunting, moving ahead to every good-looking covert. Her range was comfortable but not in any way restricted, and when she showed, was right out front. Princess stood nicely on a woodcock at 48, all in perfect order for the flush, and logged an unproductive at 52. This was her first runner-up title after 12 wins as a youngster, in Puppy and Derby stakes, many of which came in the Michigan Grousewoods.

This was not a stake of multiple performances that would rate championship accolades, yet it was a stake with a host of good hunting cover dogs. One thing that could possibly have been a factor was that it was nesting season, and many hens were possibly on the nest incubating eggs, and not out on the course. A bird count of the four days of Championship running disclosed only three grouse, one where the bell had stopped, and before getting to the dog, the bird flew, and the remaining two grouse seen by the gallery, wild flushed. Judges did

give complimentary comments on several dogs; among them were Ralphy's Chasehill Rip, handled by Brian Ralph; Mia Star, handled by Robert Ecker; One Acre Wood Flash, handled by Bill Rector; Millers Dusty Version, handled by Dave Hughes; and bracemate Higby Arcade Fire, handled by John Stolgitis.

The Running

Weather was cooperative with this five-day trial. No rain or wind, but during the late afternoon of the second day, heat became a problem with the stamina of the competing dogs.

Chasehill Snoop Dog (Stolgitis)-Backwoods Dine & Dash (Hughes). Snoop was blessed with a super gait, lots of determination to hunt the full hour, but was birdless. Dine & Dash was a trifle moderate in range at times, but had a great woodcock find and kept hunting until the hour ended.

Timberdoodle Farms Sal (M. Forman)-Debs Jane (Ecker). Sal hunted well, a bit erratic in pattern, and was taken up after two unproductives. Jane, shortly after the breakaway, established point but moved on and was also leashed.

Super Storm Cliff (Dubriske)-Doodle Ridge Elroy (Mueller). Cliff hunted well but suffered a pair of unproductives and was taken up. Elroy also had an unproductive at 40, but the tracker was a necessity at the 50-minute mark.

Mulberry Fields Molly (Hughes)-Mohawk Mill Miss You (Stolgitis). Both were a treat to the eye in motion and hunted hard. Molly scored nicely on a woodcock at 26 but had two unproductive stands in the following minutes. Miss You accomplished two backs but was not able to find a bird.

Blue Ribbon River (Ecker)-Hitail Roxy Afield (Fazio). Heat was a factor in the final braces on Monday. Neither dog seemed to let the hot conditions bother their attention to hunting. Both went to good-looking places and handled well. Late in the hour, River made some wide flings and had some short absences. Roxy

hunted well, attractive in motion and scored nicely on woodcock at 45. She finished the hour hunting with determination.

Tucker (Short)-Double Deuce Jack (Hughes). Tucker, from the breakaway, headed for the far places and was not near the gallery. Jack hunted, took good edges, but suffered unproductives and was taken up.

Grouse Hill Mac (S. Forman)-Lucy's Pride (Dubriske). Both dogs hunted well; Mac taken up on a pair of unproductives, and Pride still looking hard for birds at the hour mark but was birdless.

Saddled Up Sadie (Hughes)-Resin (M. Forman). Sadie pointed a grouse at the 15-minute mark. It flew during the relocation, and Sadie stopped to flush. Resin had an unproductive at 37, but his hunting effort was good the full hour.

One Acre Wood Bandit (Rector)-Grouse Trails Bathilda (McKellop). Both hunted the course in great fashion, but they were birdless.

War Bird Farm Girl (Ecker)-Fireside Sally Forth (Dubriske). Despite the handler's effort, Girl got out of touch and never got to where the gallery could witness her hunting effort. Sally Forth was hunting hard at bell-hearing range, then slowed her effort later. She scored a nice Woodcock find at the 28-minute mark.

Miller's Hopped Up Version (Hughes)-Hypointe Monarch Express (Fazio). Express had a smooth gait and a happy tail as she took edge after edge, working forwardly with plenty of desire to find a bird. At 32, she absolutely nailed a woodcock, lots of style and intensity on point, manners at flush, and she had that bird perfectly located. Her finish at 60 minutes was strong and ongoing, just like she started. Hopped Up hunted every minute, handled, and logged a back of bracemate.

Buck of Piney Woods (Ecker)-Ryn (Keller). Temperatures had been climbing all afternoon, and this brace, the last brace of the day, was the hottest hour of the day. Both hunted

well, especially the first half hour, but both were taken up before the 60-minute mark.

Mia Star (Ecker)-Ralphy's Chasehill Rip (Ralph). Initial brace of Tuesday. An exceptionally good brace of dogs. They hunted hard, each scoring separately on woodcock with pointing style and good manners. They may have made the judge's "carried" list.

Mohawk Mill Fired Up (Stolgitis)-Double Deuce Zeke (Hughes). Fired Up had a pair of great woodcock finds and an hour of great hunting. Zeke had a good woodcock find almost on the breakaway with plenty of style and manners, and a stronger finish would likely have helped his cause.

Anna Lake Sami (Forman)-Glassilaun Parabellum (Ecker). Both started well and took good cover edges. Sami logged a nice woodcock find at 46. Parabellum likely was not putting his best effort forth and was taken up.

Chasehill Wicked Wilma (Stolgitis)-Miller's Special Upgrade (Hughes). At 19, Wilma's bell stopped. A grouse was observed flying from the area, and after an unproductive at 10, Upgrade filled the hour with some creditable hunting.

Mooselook Texas Star (Dubriske)-Ironstone's Shenanigans (Ecker). Star ripped a toenail early and was taken up bleeding. Shenanigans was honest with his hunting but not reaching with spectacular casts.

Chasehill Poison Ivy (Stolgitis)-Grouse Hill Rock (Ecker). Both hunted the full hour fringing the good cover, but neither found a bird.

Grouse Trails Little Bud (McKellop)-One Acre Wood Flash (Rector). This brace was a treat to the eye, both superbly gaited and hitting the cover with lots of purpose. Both had unproductive stands.

Backwoods Wild Fire Blaze (Hughes)-Pool Brook Dobby (Dubriske). Their hunting moves were excellent. Blaze had an unproductive at 15, and his finish

was strong. Dobby was taken up early, perhaps not his best effort this time down.

Mohawk Mill Good Advice (Stolgitis)-Gracie Star (Ecker). The former turned in a very good hunting effort, but she cast to the far side of a swampy region and was gone an interval. Gracie Star was taken up early before the swampy terrain. Coming out on a leash, a wild grouse flushed nearby.

Highlander's High Voltage (Hughes)-Niantic River Ana (Dubriske). It was enjoyable watching this pair edge good-looking places. Ana logged two unproductives and was taken up. Voltage had a back and finished well.

Sammy The Rock Star (Ecker)-Grouse Trails Black Knight (McKellop). Star started well but was leashed at halftime. Knight was wide, strong afoot, but got behind at times, slow to come up.

Millers Dusty Version (Hughes)-Higby Arcade Fire (Stolgitis). Judges commented on this brace that the pair could not have done any better in a search for birds. They did hunt the course superbly. Both were birdless, but a wild flushing grouse came up near time.

Mojo's Winston Joy (Hughes)-Grouse Hill Rambo (Ecker). Joy stood on point at 30, but nothing could be flushed. She had a second stand at 59 but moved a bit at flush, stopping at command. Rambo also suffered an unproductive at 10, but finished the hour hunting.

Princess (S. Forman)-Grouse Trails Warrior Cat (McKellop). Princess hunted the cover edges from the opening whistle, and her progression was to the birdy-looking places. She pointed a woodcock at 48, displaying great style and manners. Four minutes later she stood again, a good-looking place,

but a relocation failed to produce a bird. Cat also took the good edges and worked forwardly, finishing the hour with lots of steam left. Cat was birdless.

Philipsburg, Pa., March 30

Judges: Bill Bonnetti and Larry Guild

ONTARIO GROUSE CHAMPIONSHIP

[One-Hour Heats] - 30 Pointers and 22 Setters

Winner-HYPOINTE MONARCH EXPRESS, F1704239, pointer female, by Springflow's Backcountry P-Apple Annie's Sweet Delight. Russ Fazio, owner and handler.

Runner-Up-GROUSE HILL PRINCESS, F1702135, setter female, by Grouse Hill Bullet Proof-Spata Setters Sally. Giovanni Capocci, owner; Scott Forman, handler.

VENANGO FIELD TRIAL CLUB

Judges: Eric Munden and Krysta Munden

OPEN DERBY - 13 Pointers and 7 Setters

1st-CHASEHILL BETT YOUR BUNZ, F1713924, pointer female, by Daddy's Little Boy Butch-Mohawk Mill Double E. William & Karen McFadden, owners; John Stolgitis, handler.

2d-GROUSE HILL PATCH, F1710162, pointer female, by Grouse Hill Rambo-All On. Michael Capocci, owner; Marc Forman, handler.

3d-WATCH ME WHIP, F1711113, pointer male, by Cash Van Pioneer Scouts Man-Anna Van Frutchey Ranch. Timothy Perschke, owner; Mark Hughes, handler.

GRAND NATIONAL GROUSE & WOODCOCK INV'L CHAMPIONSHIP

Resin Named Champion; Mohawk Mill Good Advice, Runner-up

By Jessica Hollister | Philipsburg, Pennsylvania | April 8, 2026

The 2026 renewal of the Grand National Invitational Grouse and Woodcock Championship proved to be an enjoyable and competitive week in the woods, as well as showmanship of hard work. The Invitational began a day prior to the running, April 7, when handlers, judges, and all were welcomed for a dinner sponsored and provided by Eric and Lindsey Saetre in honor of last year's runner-up champion, Northwoods Cedar. Dinner was prepared by John Stolgitis, which included mussels, as well as delicious sides. This year's Grand National Invitational Grouse and Woodcock Championship was held at the beautiful Black Moshannon State Forest in central Pennsylvania. The land is a diverse landscape, offering perfect cover for birds and wildlife, a mix of northern hardwood forests, conifer stands, and wetland habitats, which is what



Grand National Grouse and Woodcock Invitational Championship (front, l-r): Marc Forman with Resin and Bill McFadden and Lindsey Saetre with Mohawk Mill Good Advice. (Second row, l-r): Craig Merlington (judge), Jeff Keller, Tom Fruchey (GNG President), Joe Cammis (GNG Invitational Secretary), Eric Munden (judge), John Stolgitis, and Tim Kaufman.

makes it such classic grouse and woodcock country and the location for this year's Championship. I have been honored to report on the events I witnessed this year. While it

indeed was hard work, I am grateful to be part of this year's Grand National Invitational Grouse and Woodcock Championship.

The Running

Brace 1, 7:48 a.m.: The championship started under chilly conditions with frost still covering the ground. The first brace of the championship was led off with Chasehill Snoop Dog handled by John Stolgitis, and Northwoods Cedar handled by Eric Saetre. Chasehill Snoop Dog established a wide, forward race early, holding the front with a confident application. After an initial stand at 20, where Snoop went still, Stolgitis went into flush; however, after looking, no bird was found. Snoop continued with purpose, and after searching for 10 more minutes, his bell went silent. In went Stolgitis to flush; a woodcock was located, rewarding persistence with a bird and a nice run. Northwoods Cedar worked at a closer pace at times before reaching out to a wide front run. The cold temperatures caused both dogs' bells to freeze, adding a layer of challenge for handlers and the gallery to locate dogs, yet both dogs and trainers handled and worked the conditions commendably and quickly.

Brace 2, 9:06 a.m.: As temperatures rose and frost thawed across the terrain, the first day's braces continued. The second brace was sent off with Ralphy's Chasehill Rip and Stan The Man, handled both by Brian Ralph and Tom Fruchey. Ralphy's Chasehill Rip delivered a strong, forward race, showing intent and responsiveness while extending nicely to the front. Stan The Man held a closer but forward run, seemingly enjoying his run through the cover. Stan's bell went silent during the brace; however, despite search from Fruchey, no bird was found. Both dogs worked through the course smoothly, covering objectives well, though birds proved elusive despite a thorough effort from both sides.

Brace 3, 10:26 a.m.: As the morning continued and weather slowly became warmer, the third brace of the day announced by Jeff Keller was off with handlers Tammy Chaffee and Richard Hollister. This brace showed consistent effort from

both competitors. Springpond Rockin Sidney, handled by Tammy Chaffee, had a put-together, forward race and was located on point by Chaffee, demonstrating composure, though a bird could not be produced here. Back Creek Lucy, handled by Richard Hollister, delivered a balanced performance, mixing check-ins with wide forward casts. Lucy moved forward nicely, while hitting all necessary objectives through the course. Sidney maintained a strong drive, while both dogs covered the course effectively.

Brace 4, 11:41 a.m.: The day continued to the final brace before lunch. Handlers John Stolgitis and Tammy Chaffee with Mohawk Mill Good Advice and Snyder's Fireside Ed rushed to the course. Good Advice performed a polished race, moving forward with reach and purpose. At 35, Good Advice's bell went silent. Stolgitis swiftly produced a woodcock during the flush. Good Advice held point with excellent manners and was backed appropriately by Fireside Ed, highlighting a well-trained and composed performance by both dogs. Snyder's Fireside Ed ran with intent through the course and added a productive woodcock find in the brace at 24. Ed went still, and Chaffee went into search. After moments of looking, Chaffee went to reposition, unsprung a woodcock with slight movement, and fired her gun. Both dogs went on to finish the brace strong.

Brace 5, 1:07 p.m.: After a short lunch provided by Steve Snyder in honor of last year's champion, Snyder's Fireside Ed, the gallery and handlers were quick to get back to the field. Mohawk Mill Miss You, handled by John Stolgitis, ran a strong, forward race, making effective casts through the cover. Lake Effect Ali, handled by Tim Kaufman, worked diligently as the day began to warm, showing determination and continuing to push forward. Both dogs shared a stand early in the brace, at 15, with Lake Effect Ali taking the lead with good manners; however, after a search

from Kaufman, no bird was found. Both dogs went on to finish the hour strong, actively searching through the grounds

Brace 6, 2:29 p.m.: The second-to-last brace of the day continued with Chasehill Poison Ivy and Resin. Led by John Stolgitis and Marc Forman, it proved to be an exciting brace to follow. Poison Ivy started with a forward, energetic race, showing speed and intent before being disconnected from the handler at around the 15-minute mark. Continuing with the brace, Resin, handled by Marc Forman, delivered a solid performance. Running to the front with purpose, Resin actively searched the cover and handled it well throughout. Resin had a stand at 25, with no bird put to flight despite best search efforts from Forman. Resin finished the brace strongly with a well-earned woodcock find at the 40-minute mark. Resin's bell went silent, and the handler went into search, displaying excellent manners and composure while on point, an effort that would prove significant as the trial progressed.

Brace 7, 4:04 p.m.: The final brace of the evening concluded with Jordan Pharris handling Birdogn True Confidence and Mark Hughes handling Millers Dusty Version. Birdogn True Confidence maintained a forward race, making strong casts and responding well to handling. Millers Dusty Version, handled by Mark Hughes, matched his bracemate with a hard-hunting, forward effort, consistently applying herself in all the right areas. While both dogs actively searched to the front and wide, no birds could be unveiled.

The day concluded with a warm and welcoming dinner of smoked brisket, ribs, and mac and cheese at the cabin, generously supported by Purina and prepared by Bonfire BBQ, with announcements recognizing the day's efforts by Joe Cammisa. The dog of the day was awarded to Resin, handled by Marc Forman, by judges Craig Merlington and Eric Munden. After cleaning up and

congratulations, everyone headed home, excited for what the next two days will have in store.

Brace 1, 7:49 a.m.: The next day began just after the sun had risen, and while not as chilly as the day prior, the morning started out with a chill. Once again, with the brace announced by Jeff Keller, the dogs were set loose in hopes of finding a bird, with Tammy Chaffee handling Snyder's Fireside Ed and John Stolgitis handling Mohawk Mill Miss You. Both led off on a comfortable note with Mohawk Mill Miss You, hunting forward at a steady pace, actively searching through cover. Miss You's bell went silent, and Stolgitis was unable to raise a bird for her. Snyder's Fireside Ed delivered a reliable effort, consistently working to stay engaged and forward.

Brace 2, 9:06 a.m.: As the day continued, temperatures wasted no time in rising. Chasehill Poison Ivy was set to be the bracemate on this course, but handler Stolgitis elected not to run. Lake Effect Ali, handled by Tim Kaufman, worked attentively, making thoughtful casts and responding well to commands. A standstill at the 40-minute mark demonstrated composure during point, yet despite Kaufman's best efforts, no bird was located.

Brace 3, 10:26 a.m.: The third brace of the day with Resin handled by Marc Forman and Birdogn True Confidence handled by Jordan Pharris continues. Resin continued to show excellent form as the day prior and actively searched to the front, looking through cover. Resin was able to show excellent application with two well-handled stands; throughout his run, however, each time despite Forman's searches, no bird was produced. However, Resin held a steady, beautiful point. Birdogn True Confidence delivered a wide, forward race and showed steadiness when backing, reflecting strong training and composure. Both dogs finished strong with beautiful runs despite the lack of birds.

Brace 4, 11:45 a.m.: The Invitational's fourth brace of the

day was with Millers Dusty Version and Springpond Rockin Sidney just before noon. Millers Dusty Version produced one of the more memorable efforts of the day, locating a woodcock deep off trail at 30 and demonstrating confidence and bird sense. Handler, judge, and I rushed over to watch the beautiful and well-mannered find, where she was rewarded with a woodcock. After this find, she continued to search far and wide. While searching deep, she became too far from the gallery. At about 10, before the end of her run, her handler called for the tracking collar and found her standing point on a woodcock. Even though she was no longer in contention, Dusty displayed a strong, eventful performance, with a strong potential future. Springpond Rockin Sidney continued through the brace and went still at the 40-minute mark. Chaffee went into flush, and after constant looking from both dog and handler, they were able to achieve a woodcock find. Sidney showed a composed find, with determination, and was able to finish the brace strongly.

Brace 5, 1:16 p.m.: After once again a speedy cookout, provided by Steve Snyder in honor of last year's champion, the event wasted no time getting back into action. Chasehill Snoop Dog, handled by John Stolgitis, and Ralph's Chasehill Rip, handled by Brian Ralph, turned in similar, high-quality races for the fifth brace of the day. Both held forward, energetic, and well-handled runs, covering ground with purpose even as birds remained scarce. It was magnificent to watch both dogs dash through the course with ease and with similar wide front runs.

Brace 6, 2:33 p.m.: The temperatures continued to rise, and it was very hot for these final braces, yet the dogs breezed by and managed outstandingly. Back Creek Lucy, handled by Richard Hollister, and Northwoods Cedar, handled by Eric Saetre, were set off for the sixth brace of the evening. Back Creek Lucy handled the warmer conditions well, mixing closer efforts

of search with extended casts while maintaining a forward presence and finishing strong. Once again hitting her marks and searching with intent, despite the lack of birds. Northwoods Cedar started at a measured pace through the rising heat before expanding into a wider race, demonstrating adaptability and perseverance through the heat. At the 15, Cedar's bell went silent, and once again handler, judge, and I darted into watch the point. While Saetre actively searched, Cedar performed still and well manners; however, no bird was found. Cedar continued to a wide run and, later in the brace, slightly disconnected from the gallery and handler.

Brace 7, Final Brace: The last brace of the day was set with Stan The Man handled by Tom Fruchey, and Mohawk Mill Good Advice, handled by John Stolgitis. Both dogs displayed a steady forward race and were well matched as a pair. Good Advice held an early stand at the 10-minute mark. Good Advice held a solid, composed form, while Stan The Man held the back. After searching from Stolgitis, and no bird was located, both dogs continued on to finish the brace with forward, wide runs.

Callback Announcements

Following the day's running, participants gathered once again to enjoy a barbecue dinner generously provided by The Grand National Club and prepared by Joe Cammisa and Brian Ralph. The evening concluded with Joe Cammisa announcing the Dog of the Day, awarded to Springpond Rockin Sidney, and the callbacks for the last day of the championship.

The selected callbacks were Springpond Rockin Sidney, handled by Tammy Chaffee, and Mohawk Mill Good Advice, handled by John Stolgitis, for the first brace. The second brace was announced for Resin, handled by Marc Forman, and Snyder's Fireside Ed, handled by Tammy Chaffee, with Ralph's Chasehill Rip and Chasehill Snoop Dog for reserve. On April 10, the



Grand National Grouse and Woodcock Invitational Championship Competitors (front, l-r): Joe Cammisa, John Stolgitis, Brian Ralph, Mark Hughes, Steve Graham, Tammy Chaffee, Craig Merlington (judge), Bill McFadden, Rich Hollister, and Owen Cuomo. (Second row, l-r): Marc Forman, Brian Ralph, Eric Saetre, Jordan Pharris, Tom Fruchey, Roger Johnson, Leeann Parnell, Tim Kauffman, and Eric Munden (judge).

finalists were invited back for one more chance to prove their strength to the judges.

Brace 1, 7:59 a.m.: The final first brace of the championship was sent off with two top contestants, who, over the course of two days, impressed the judges with their abilities. Springpond Rockin Sidney and Mohawk Mill Good Advice were off, with both dogs beginning at a closer range as they settled into the course. Around the 10-minute mark, Good Advice came to a composed point, though no bird was found despite a search from Stolgitis. Good Advice displayed stunning form and proper manner during the point; however, with no reward. As the brace developed, both dogs moved forward with purpose, covering ground in a steady manner. Near the 50-minute mark, both dogs stood on point, with Good Advice taking the lead. Both showed good manners, though again no bird could be located. Finishing with a consistent,

polished effort, both Sidney and Good Advice continued to work diligently alongside the remainder of the brace, hitting all the necessary cover.

Brace 2, 9:24 a.m.: The final and anticipated brace of the championship had arrived with Snyder's Fireside Ed and Resin. Both dogs broke away with Resin quickly establishing a strong forward race. Snyder's Fireside Ed worked hard and diligently as he worked through the cover in search of a bird, with a wide run. Showing excellent handling and responsiveness, Resin maintained position to the front while actively searching the cover with intent. At approximately 30, Resin's bell fell silent, and he was found standing with exceptional style and confidence. The handler flushed a woodcock in great time, and Resin remained steady, displaying outstanding manners on the bird. This well-executed find, combined with a consistent and

forward performance, helped secure Resin's place as the 2026 Champion. Fireside Ed contributed a steady effort, with intent, working through the course with determination alongside a great performance from his brace mate.

The 2026 championship was marked by strong performances and the ability of both dogs and handlers to adapt to changing conditions. With the support of dedicated sponsors such as Greg Blair, Purina, Garmin, Patrick Bowman, Eric Munden, and Steve Snyder, and the efforts of all involved, the event once again highlighted the tradition and excellence of grouse and woodcock field trial competition.

The day ended with two braces as the judges had made their final decisions, not needing to see any more. After Tom Fruchey recognized 2026 judges Craig Merlington and Eric Munden, the final was announced. Joe Cammisa announced the 2026 winners—Mohawk Mill Good Advice, handled by John Stolgitis and owned by Bill McFadden, as runner-up, and Resin, handled by Marc Forman and owned by Kevin Lahoda, as the 2026 Grand National Grouse & Woodcock Champion. Both dogs showed an outstanding performance with beautiful form throughout the three days of hard hunting.

Philipsburg, Pa., April 8

Judges: Craig Merlington and Eric Munden
GRAND NATIONAL GROUSE AND WOODCOCK
INVITATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats
on Consecutive days; One-Hour Finals]
– 8 Pointers and 6 Setters

Winner-RESIN, F1696519, setter male, by Ponderosa Mac-Hunter's Flight Risk. Kevin Lahoda, owner; Marc Forman, handler.

Runner-Up-MOHAWK MILL GOOD ADVICE, F1685480, pointer male, by Stoney Run's Buddy-Hirollins Fancy Lady. William & Karen McFadden, owners; John Stolgitis, handler.

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GRAND NATIONAL PUPPY CLASSIC

Seldom Rest Louie Wins 77th Running

By Thor Kain | Philipsburg, Pennsylvania | April 10, 2026

The Grand National Grouse and Woodcock Invitational Championship concluded on April 10, and immediately following the announcement of winners, the Grand National Puppy Classic commenced. This year's running took place on the scenic Black Moshannon State Forest near Philipsburg, Pennsylvania. Neither trial could run without the tremendous amount of work Jeff Keller has put into making this a top-notch place to run a grouse trail. Many thanks to Jeff and his crew for all their work.

Sixteen puppies were entered from litters nominated for the Grouse Futurity. The breeders in the grouse dog community take great pride in their breedings, and the Grouse Futurity is thankful for all of their support. Judging this year's event were Doug McMillen and John McKellop. Both men have bred, developed, and won many championships with their dogs and are sought-after as judges for their extensive knowledge and fair decisions. On behalf of all the members of the Grand National Grouse Dog Club, thank you, Doug and John, for your dedication to grouse trials and your time spent judging.

It was warm and dry when the first brace cut loose, and for many of these puppies, it was the warmest weather they'd been in since early fall. Seldom Rest Louie (PM), bred by the Minards, owned and handled by Brian Ralph, took home first-place honors. Louie hammered to the front, and every time he got big,



77th Grand National Puppy Classic (back row, l-r): John McKellop (judge) and Doug McMillen (judge). (Front row, l-r): Brian Ralph with Seldom Rest Louie, John Stolgitis with Chasehill Little Boy Bingo, Robert Ecker with Sunrise Double Barrell Star, and Owen Comeau with Chasehill Little Lucey.

he'd show up exactly where you'd want him to. He was lucky enough to have a beautiful find on a woodcock and a big finish to cap off his exciting performance. The red ribbon went to Chasehill Little Boy Bingo (PM). Bingo is owned by Erin Stolgitis and bred and handled by her dad, John Stolgitis. He ran the limits of the course with ground-scorching speed. The more the brace went on, the stronger he got, and it took a little work to get wrangled after time. His strong performance impressed all who watched, and the judges agreed. Sunrise Double Barrell Star (ESM) earned third place with his exciting performance. He had speed, style, and mature application to the course. He was expertly handled by Robert Ecker, bred by Steve McKalko, and owned by long-time grouse dog enthusiast, Dr. George Najor. Rounding out the placements was Chasehill Little Lucey (PF), bred

by John Stolgitis, owned and handled by Owen Comeau. She earned the fourth-place ribbon with her fancy running style and forward application.

Thank you to Greg Blair and Purina for their continued support of Grand National events. Also, a big thank you to OnX for their support. Hope to see everyone in the fall at the Grouse Futurity.

Philipsburg, Pa., April 10

Judges: John McKellop and Doug McMillen

77TH GRAND NATIONAL PUPPY CLASSIC

- 8 Pointers and 8 Setters

1st-SELDOM REST LOUIE, F1722001, pointer male, by Ralph's Chasehill Rip-Hfive's Unsweetened Brandy. Brian Ralph, owner and handler.

2d-CHASEHILL LITTLE BOY BINGO, F1723080, pointer male, by Daddy's Little Boy Butch-Mohawk Mill Double E. Erin Stolgitis, owner; John Stolgitis, handler.

3d-SUNRISE DOUBLE BARRELL STAR, F1721031, setter male, by Sunrise Star-Mia Star. George Najor, owner; Robert Ecker, handler.

4th-CHASEHILL LITTLE LUCEY, F1723083, pointer female, by Daddy's Little Boy Butch-Mohawk Mill Double E. Owen Comeau, owner and handler.



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REGION 13 (AFTCA) AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP

Calico's Over The Top Named Champion; Alliwood's Shady Street, Runner-up

By William Branham | Ionia, Michigan | April 11, 2026



Region 13 Amateur Shooting Dog Championship (l-r): Alex Smith with Calico's Over The Top and Adam DeLude with Alliwood's Shady Street, joined by participants.

The Region 13 Amateur Shooting Dog Championship ran at the Ionia Field Trial Grounds. We had a great entry for the championship this year; a lot of guys came from out of town, which was great. I need to thank everyone who helped me with putting on the trial, especially the judges Ron Sposita and Charlie Fenech, who

gave their undivided attention to each brace. Need to thank Ron Williams for driving the dog wagon, Dick Lipski for seeding the courses every morning and every brace during the trial, and the guys who rode braces and marshaled braces. Thank you all.

The winner, Calico's Over The Top,

handled by Alex Smith, ran in the seventh brace and ran a fantastic forward race with multiple bird work.

The runner-up, Alliwood's Shady Street, handled by Adam DeLude, ran in the first brace and had a very nice, easy-running forward race with great bird work. Congratulations to both winner and runner-up.

Also need to thank Purina for their generous support of our Region 13 Championship; it is always greatly appreciated.

Thank you to the AFTCA for allowing us to hold the Region 13. Thank you again to all that entered and for all the help.

Ionia, Mich., April 11

Judges: Charlie Fenech and Ron Sposita

REGION 13 AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG

CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats] – 22 Entries

Winner-CALICO'S OVER THE TOP, F1692315, pointer male, by Dominator's Rebel Heir-Calico's Country Strong. Calico Kennels & Alex & Tiffani Smith, owners; Alex Smith, handler.

Runner-Up-ALLIWOOD'S SHADY STREET, F1706020, pointer male, by Touch's Grey Street-Alliwood's Shady Shay. Adam DeLude, owner and handler.

MICHIGAN OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP

Mohawk Mill Patriot Named Champion; Miller's Extreme Heat, Runner-up

By Jim Cipponeri | Ionia, Michigan | April 13, 2026

The Michigan Shooting Dog Championship held a successful but challenging renewal, beginning April 13 and concluding April 19, at the Ionia Recreation Area. The course was in pristine condition thanks to the efforts of the Ionia Field Trial Committee members. Extensive haying and brush hogging were accomplished at a level that surpassed previous years, helped along by the acquisition of a new/used John Deere tractor and a large-scale upgrade in course management and farmer input.



Ron Williams, Derby judge, cook, and dog wagon driver.

This championship dates back to 1977 and has consistently been attended by both professional and amateur handlers since its inception.

Shawn Kinkelaar has been attending for over 35 years, and the Tracy and Basilone names have appeared on entry forms since the 1980s. The Club appreciates their continued support and looks forward to their participation in years to come! Amateurs Allen Dunbar, Jeff Haggis, and Jim Cipponeri had dogs entered as well.

Unfortunately, our longtime secretary/treasurer, Joe Guzman, was not in attendance, but he has contributed in many ways while now residing in northern Michigan. Hopefully, we will see him at future

Association of Michigan trials. Connie Cipponeri and Joe organized and coordinated the drawing and clerical responsibilities. Ron Williams was everywhere, manning the dog wagon and keeping things moving at each breakaway site. Mary Stevens provided doughnuts and refreshments until she was summoned back home due to the tempestuous weather conditions in Traverse City. Jeff Haggis came over from London, Canada, and not only competed but made sure the birds were watered and fed every day. He and Richard Lipski were in charge of bird planting responsibilities and deployment.

The Club was fortunate to secure the services of two fine gentlemen with years of bird dog knowledge, both as competitors and judges. Jim Stevens and Adam DeLude take their judging assignments seriously and are also pleasant to be around. Their decisions were appropriate and well-received. Their input on course layout and quail distribution was appreciated, as the extreme flooding caused major alterations to course conveyance during the running.

The 2026 Michigan Shooting Dog Champion Mohawk Mill Patriot ran in the last brace of the second day's running. He has a strong, attractive gate going and is pleasing to the eye. He started out his first part of the brace having three perfectly performed backs until his bracemate suffered an infraction and was leashed. Patriot was able to showcase his talent alone, and indeed he did! He took in all the edges he had the opportunity to



Michigan Open Shooting Dog Championship: Jim Cipponeri, Jeff Haggis, Matt Basilone with Mohawk Mill Patriot, Adam DeLude (judge), Mike Tracy, Bo Brewer with Miller's Extreme Heat, Jim Stevens (judge), and Ron Williams.

traverse, doing so independently and exhibiting superb communication with his handler. His five finds were precise in location and well off his nose, high and tight at both ends. The last encounter was after a short absence to the front at the bottom of Heart Attack Hill, where, at pickup, the judges knew they had witnessed a stellar performance that would be difficult to beat. Patriot is owned by Ed and Megan McCay and was scouted by Ed.

Runner-up Miller's Extreme Heat ("Doll"), pointer female, had four picture-perfect finds and a lengthy pinpoint relocation on a small running covey. Her powerful, athletic running style was even more impressive considering the heavy downpour of rain that lasted the entire hour. Her communication with her handler was evident from start to finish, and the style on her game was impeccable.

She has been a consistent winner since her derby season, when she won the Purina Top Derby of the Year Award. She is a multiple and runner-up champion for her proud owners, Kristen and Joe McHugh of Pavo, Georgia.

Ionis, Mich., April 13

Judges: Adam DeLude and Jim Stevens

MICHIGAN OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats]

– 37 Pointers and 5 Setters

Winner-MOHAWK MILL PATRIOT, F1703194, pointer male, by Indian Creek Spur-Hirollins Fantasy Girl. Ed & Megan McCay, owners; Matt Basilone, handler.

Runner-Up-MILLER'S EXTREME HEAT, F1685698, pointer female, by Just Irresistible-Miller's Bring The Heat. Kristen & Joe McHugh, owners; Mike Tracy, handler.

Judges: Andrea Cerofolini and Ron Williams

OPEN DERBY CLASSIC – 8 Pointers and 1 Setter

1st-PEEK A BULL, F1712607, pointer female, by Bully Rock-Sandspur Belle. Ernie & Karen Saniga, owners; Mike Tracy, handler.

2d-SILVER W HOT PINK, F1719740, pointer female, by Miller's Blindsider-Silver W Thunderbolt's Boom. Debbie Ozner, owner; Shawn Kinkelaar, handler.

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NORTH COUNTRY OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP

Lake Effect Ali Named Champion; Northwoods Homer, Runner-up

By Jeremy Moore | Augusta, Wisconsin | April 16, 2026



North Country Open Shooting Dog Championship (l-r): Chris Bye (judge), Tim Kaufman with Lake Effect Ali, Mitch Anderson with Northwoods Homer, and Alex Anderson (judge).

The Chippewa Valley Grouse Dog Association hosted the North Country Shooting Dog Championship over the expansive Eau Claire County Forest grounds, drawing a competitive field of 42 entries, with 41 dogs taking to the line. Judges Alex Anderson and Chris Bye handled their duties on foot, logging many miles alongside dogs and handlers in a trial that demanded endurance, determination, and composure.

The four-day-long championship will be remembered for both its dramatic weather and deeply competitive field. The running began under two days of unseasonably warm temperatures nearing 80 degrees before severe storms with rain, hail, and a confirmed tornado swept through the region. In stark contrast, the following days brought sharply cooler conditions, with cold winds and even light snowfall greeting the early Sunday morning braces. Through it all, the grounds held strong, and birds were available, with both grouse and woodcock contacts recorded consistently throughout the stakes.

Rarely have I seen a field of dogs defined by such exceptional depth

and competition. Several dogs produced performances worthy of admirable recognition before the final decisions were rendered. But at its conclusion, the champion prefix was both earned and awarded to Lake Effect Ali, handled and owned by Tim Kaufman, with Ed Graddy assisting. Northwoods Homer, handled and owned by Mitchell Anderson and scouted by Josh Matel, was named runner-up champion following his thrilling performance.

We would be remiss if we didn't thank some of the critical elements that made the North Country Shooting Dog Championship a success. Thanks to Roger King and Denny Baumann, long-time stalwarts of the club and endlessly gracious and supportive, who provided lunches, helped move trucks, assisted with road marshaling duties, and generally kept the trial moving behind the scenes. Their assistance can't be overstated! Additionally, Jeremy Moore and Josh Matel walked nearly every championship brace, keeping law and order, serving as field marshals. Their knowledge of the courses, coupled with a consistently watchful eye, was immeasurably helpful in making this trial a success and ensuring all

competitors and spectators made it out of the woods in one piece. Rod Lein was kind enough to bring doughnuts and coffee on a couple of the mornings, which was very much appreciated, especially by the judges, who needed their caffeine fix mid-morning! We would also like to thank Scott Roberts, whose Tree Town Ranch Leather Works provided two beautiful leather leashes for the champion and runner-up. Finally, we would like to thank OnX for their continued support and Purina for their commitment to making these bird dog games possible, including providing several bags of dog food to the winners.

The Running

Brace 1 paired Blue Sugar ("Lilly"), handled by Ryan Hough, with Grouse Trails Northern Thunder ("Reggie"), owned by Brian Stichter and handled by Rod Lein. Lilly's effort concluded at 50 after a lost bell and her handler's request for the locator. Reggie maintained a forward race to finish. Two grouse were foot-flushed during the hour just off the gallery, and drumming was heard across the course.

Brace 2 saw Ruffed Country Sweet Lily, handled by Jordan Pharris, and Meridith Grade Corky, owned by Dennis Keysor and handled by Tammy Chaffee. Lily was credited with a stylish limb find on a grouse at 26 following a strong search effort from her scout. Corky later showed at 30, with a stop-and-relocate. An infraction tempered Lily's run after moving with a wild flushed woodcock and the inability to stop to flush cleanly. One final wild flushed grouse came at 35, adding interest.

Brace 3 featured Northwoods Cedar, owned by Eric and Lindsey Saetre, and Over The Hill Morgan, owned by Robert Zielke and handled by Rod Lein. Running the highline in warm conditions, the pair produced

two-pointed woodcock contacts between road crossings. Morgan carded another clean woodcock find at 40. Both dogs continued searching wide through the remainder of the hour.

Brace 4 brought out Clover Valley's Millie, owned by Jerry Furnish and handled by Jordan Pharris, with Snyder's Big Nose Kate, owned by Steve Snyder and handled by Tammy Chaffee. Both dogs handled the heat with determination, showing forward, workmanlike races without bird contact.

Brace 5 matched Northwoods Sir Gordon, owned by Ben McKean and handled by Ryan Hough, with OPA Johnny Ringo, owned and handled by Paul Bukovich. "Gordie" was picked up after being found standing with early movement after a flush attempt. Ringo continued forward, later coming to a stop in a young cut before a bird less infraction also ended his bid.

Brace 6 saw Planet Queen ("Rhonda"), handled by Scott Anderson, on the crash course running in the hottest temps of the day. After a long, hard, and driving race, she was found standing at 53 by her scout, Ryan Hough. Her handler plowed his way through brambles and blackberry canes, evident by the blood streaming from his forearms afterward, producing a woodcock cleanly and finishing in good order. It should be noted that the challenging conditions did not affect the race and determination of Rhonda, who has a knack for always coming up with a bird.

Brace 7 paired Snyder's Sadie, owned by Steve Snyder and handled by Tammy Chaffee, with Blind Faith ("Cece"), owned by Ben Fleischacker and handled by Jordan Pharris. Cece flew through the cover with remarkable speed and maintained a forward race but went birdless. After a lengthy, quiet stretch through mid-course, there was late action, which included a grouse flush near the final swamp edge. Sadie finished with a point at 58, producing a woodcock at time following a short relocation.

Brace 8 featured North Slopes Allie, handled by James (Ed) Graddy, and Northwoods Cedar Edge ("Enni"), handled by Lindsey Saetre. The brace ran smoothly through the early going. Just shy of the last road crossing, both bells fell silent, and the two were found pointing a woodcock. Enni provided the highlight with a well-timed pointed grouse find at the close and perfect manners to finish the brace.

Brace 9 saw Snyder's Fireside Ed, owned by Steve Snyder and handled by Tammy Chaffee, with Paco Northwoods, handled by Josh Matel. Both dogs delivered strong, forward races, covering ground effectively, though birds were not contacted.

Brace 10 paired Grouse Trails Black Knight, handled by John McKellop, with Woods R Callin Apollo, handled by William Frahm. Both ran with strength. Knight made game but failed to maintain manners and was set down early. Apollo continued without bird work, and the handler requested the tracker shortly before time.

Brace 11 featured Grouse Trails Little Bud, handled by John McKellop, and Moss Meadow Distant Belle, handled by Bert Benshoof. Bud recorded two unproductive stands early and was leashed. Belle showed a controlled application before her handler opted to pick up as approaching storms moved in.

After a few-hour delay, Brace 12, the final brace of the day, proved one of the trial's highlights, featuring Big Big Energy ("Lotto"), handled by Jordan Pharris, and eventual Runner-Up Champion Northwoods Homer, handled by Mitchell Anderson. The pair drove hard to the front. At 45, both were found standing in a young aspen cut where a grouse was produced, both dogs steady. Homer with the find and Lotto with the honor. Homer added a second find at 48 with a well-handled woodcock, displaying exceptional manners. Lotto contributed again at 58 with a fantastic grouse contact, steady and standing tall through Pharris's shot. Homer's consistency,

finish, and polished bird work secured runner-up honors.

Brace 13 matched Little Hawk, handled by Paul Cook, with Fireside Sally Forth, owned by David Phillips and handled by Tammy Chaffee. Little Hawk showed reach early, and the tracker was called for at the halfway point road crossing. Sally was found standing at 37 but could not produce after a lengthy relocation. Sally completed the hour at the final road crossing.

Brace 14 saw Grouse Trails Bathilda ("Tillie"), handled by John McKellop, with Christys Kaylee Girl, handled by Christy Helmes. Tillie impressed with animated groundwork and had a nice stand on a grouse at 29. Kaylee also caught the judges' eyes with her speed, pop, and unwavering tenacity. At 47, Kaylee was found standing with Tillie honoring, and a well-mannered woodcock was produced. Both finished strongly.

Brace 15 featured Northwoods Rip Roy, handled by Greg Johnson, with BBS Doc, handled by Paul Bukovich. Doc ranged wide early. A shot was heard at 22 after a woodcock was pointed and produced. Doc later showed briefly to stand before continuing forward. Both dogs hunted hard through the hour.

Brace 16 delivered a strong bird-finding performance with Clover Valley's Mulak ("Mack"), handled by Jerry Furnish, and Springpond Rockin Sidney, owned by Leeann Parnell and handled by Tammy Chaffee. Sidney opened with a woodcock find at 12. The pair went on to produce multiple well-handled woodcock finds at 46 and 54, both dogs backing with style and maintaining composure throughout an impressive effort.

Brace 17 paired Kasida ("Z"), handled by Paul Cook, with Grouse Trails Warrior Cat ("Kitty"), handled by John McKellop. Both dogs hunted forward and to the limits of the bell. A late stand by Kitty resulted in an unproductive relocation.

Brace 18 saw Northwoods Fallset

Hope, owned by Mark Fouts and handled by Josh Matel, with I'm Easy Money, owned and handled by Kyle Peterson. After an early joint stand and a lengthy search for the dogs, no bird was produced, and both dogs hunted on. Hope's bell was lost on the backside of the course, and she was found standing tall, but again, no bird produced. Shortly after, her bell fell silent just off the course, and a woodcock was flushed with a shot at 54. She then added another contact near time but took a small hop with the bird, ending a determined performance.

Brace 19 featured Little Rolling Baby Momma, handled by Jeremy Moore, with Meredith Grade Penny, owned by Dennis Keysor and handled by Tammy Chaffee. Momma showed a strong forward race, while Penny hunted methodically. After a very lengthy search for Penny (whose coat was a perfect camouflage for the skiff of snow and the abundant light brown foliage that morning), a grouse was eventually located, and the dog was credited with a find at 49. Momma hunted wide and forward but finished without any bird contacts.

Brace 20 reported running with Single Note Run ("Petra"), handled by Paul Cook, and Clover Valley's Evans ("Evy"), handled by Jerry Furnish. Early action saw Evy stop at 12, but no bird was ever produced after a lengthy relocation with flushing attempts in a very likely location. Late in the brace, both dogs came to attention near a road crossing. Each handler attempted to flush on both sides of the course, and Evy's handler produced a woodcock, but the temptation was just too much for the young dog, and a short hop before stopping was more than could be allowed. Cook found his dog and relocated to no avail.

Brace 21 proved to be exciting. Lake Effect Ali, owned and handled by Tim Kaufman, was braced with Hypointe Sharpshooter ("Zeke"),



Open Derby (l-r): Brent Sittlow (judge), John McKellop with Grouse Trails Ginger Sunshine, Roberta Scherf, Chris Bye with Northwoods Peregrine, Mitch Anderson with Aspen's Edge Dwight, and Keenan Foley (judge).

owned by Nick Mellon and handled by Tammy Chaffee. Zeke and Ali proved their mettle as they drove forward on the High Line course. For much of the brace, likely cover was sparse, but the dogs never lost focus. After the final road crossing, the dogs made their way into thick cover. Shortly thereafter, point was called, and Ali was found standing on a well-executed woodcock find. Zeke had also made his way into the thick cover and appeared to have stopped, but proved more difficult to find. He would ultimately finish the hour without bird work to his credit, but it was an impressive showing, nonetheless. Knowing that dogs had finished clean with grouse finds, Kaufman was determined to move Ali on as quickly as possible. She did not disappoint. With just minutes to go, Ali was sent forward again and was found standing at 58. As the handler and judge approached the dog, three grouse erupted around her, and her manners remained impeccable despite the commotion. At that point, it was clear a champion had been named.

Augusta, Wis., April 16
Judges: Alex Anderson and Chris Bye
NORTH COUNTRY OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats]
– 9 Pointers, 31 Setters, and 1 Brittany
Winner-LAKE EFFECT ALI, F1688438, setter female, by Northern Lights Sirius-Lake Effect Tilly. Tim Kaufman, owner and handler.
Runner-Up-NORTHWOODS HOMER, F1701801, setter male, by Snyder's Pioneer Scout-Northwoods Cedar. Mitchell Anderson, owner and handler.

Derby Stake

By Brent Sittlow

Thirteen braces of competitive derbies were brought to the line over two days of running. Continuous 30-minute courses were used to test each contestant's desire, will, application, and bird-finding ability. Judging the stake were club members Brent Sittlow from Hudson, Wisconsin, and Keenan Foley from Stevens Point, Wisconsin.

By far and away, the clear winner of this stake was Grouse Trails Ginger Sunshine (McKellop), who competed on the first day. She ran the northern portion of the Gasline course. Ginger was flashy, forward, and had a perfectly broke grouse find along the river edge that could have won many a championship. Beautiful style punctuated the effort.

Northwoods Peregrine (Chris Bye) jumped up into second place from the last brace of the stake. Peregrine was also on a portion of the Gasline course, but on day two. She ran with a snappy and forward application, showing good potential as a shooting dog. Contact with a woodcock helped her cause.

Rounding out the placements was Aspen's Edge Dwight (Mitch Anderson), who came off the Wilson Park course on the first day of the stake. There were numerous dogs in the stake with good independent application, but Dwight's was just a hair more refined in the judges' eyes.

Judges: Keenan Foley and Brent Sittlow
OPEN DERBY

– 10 Pointers, 15 Setters, and 1 Irish Setter
1st-GROUSE TRAILS GINGER SUNSHINE, F1712855, pointer female, by Ralph's Chasehill Rip-Grouse Trails Firestorm. John McKellop, owner and handler.
2d-NORTHWOODS PEREGRINE, F1723767, setter female, by Cold Creek Hank-Northwoods Stardust. Roberta Scherf & Christopher Bye, owners; Chris Bye, handler.
3d-ASPEN'S EDGE DWIGHT, F1723290, setter male, by Northwoods Homer-North Star Ash. Mitchell Anderson, owner and handler.

BRAEVAL COVER DOG CLASSIC

Lightning Flash Remington Wins 2026 Running

By Jamie Welsh | Ellenburg, New York | April 17, 2026



Brian Dix with Lightning Flash Remington, Trevor London with Paucek's Up For Adventure, and Bill McFadden with Chasehill Snoop Dog.

Gregor McCluskey's relentless pursuit of developing amateur field trial events was once again on display in Ellenburg Center the weekend of April 17. McCluskey's efforts to bring in sponsors left each handler walking away with the feeling of incredible support and growing interest in the field trial game. All handlers and field trial enthusiasts who attended saw the intentional efforts to push the sport forward in a positive way and were welcomed to a great trial, with the McCluskey family and Bill McFadden hosting a wonderful event at McFadden's grounds.

Good things come as a result of partnership, and this trial is no different. Bill McFadden, a longtime patron of the field trial community and successful amateur field trialer, is the owner of the Panther Trust Field Trial Grounds, and he has graciously worked with McCluskey as he strives to create a premier venue for wild bird field trials in the Northeast. Bill's vision for these grounds is both a testament to his passion for and commitment to the sport of field trialing. The appreciation of this group of amateur handlers was on display, all of whom

expressed gratitude for the work that Bill has done and the willingness to share it with the field trial community. When McFadden purchased the property from Bruce Bennett, a longtime supporter of conservation efforts focused on grouse and woodcock and an avid upland hunter, Bruce's vision for conservation and longevity found a perfect match. As these grounds mature, they will host many championships and field trials.

With entries ranging from Canada, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Maine, New York, New Hampshire, and Vermont, the strength of the field was impressive. Judges John Malone and John Olfson were put to the test to parse between nine dogs with work to determine their placements.

"When time was called, I knew Remington had laid down a solid performance. I was extremely happy to see him put it all together once again. No matter how the placements went, I was leaving happy with my dog."
— Brian Dix, two-time BraeVal Cover Dog Classic winner, owner and handler of Lightning Flash Remington.

The unique support of this trial by sponsors continues to make it a marquee amateur event. Thank you to Inukshuk, Stone Creek, Bertucci, Muller Chokes, The Upland Almanac, Galazan, Warner Sporting Dogs, MPE, and Jonas Brothers (Pepi Family) Taxidermy. Your support was felt and supported a very strong amateur field.

Birds proved abundant, and our totals by day were:

- Day 1: 10 grouse/4 woodcock.
- Day 2: 11 grouse (only two worked), one woodcock.

The Winners

Brian Dix's Lightning Flash Remington returned to claim his second BraeVal Cover Dog Classic title with an impressive performance late in the trial's opening day. Braced with Lanny Dellinger's snappy setter "Maggie," the pair broke away gracefully and with determination to outpace each other to the front. Early in the brace, Dellinger moved ahead when Remington established 60 yards in at 7. Handler, judge, and reporter moved into the cover to locate the standing dog. A grouse flush was called by the handler and witnessed by the reporter. The shot fired. The standing dog collared

and let loose prior to returning to the course, given the nature of the young hardwood whips. Dix walked briskly to get back through the gallery and to the front when Remington's bell stopped again at 22 in a deep hollow of open hardwoods and ferns. After some effort and the utilization of scout, Doug Dix, Remington was located standing well over 100 yards off the course. No bird was produced, and the handler watered his dog and elected to move the dog on. Upon returning to the course, Remington made a hard move into another set of young hardwood growth where his bell stopped with one final solid clang before silence fell. The find was recorded at 27 with a large grouse erupting from the cover, and Remington remaining resolute with impeccable manners and no letdown. Dellinger was far to the front, and scout, reporter, judge, and handler managed the dog into a trail intersection where Remington made a significant cast into likely cover, producing nothing. The dog returned, still looking strong, and moved to the front as the brace entered its final minutes. Once again, the bell stopped, and Remington was found standing by the reporter and handler with judge behind to witness a produced woodcock at 44—another commanding performance from a deserving champion.

“Off the breakaway cast, they went out of bell range; they both checked back shortly after, which brought relief. On his second stop, I knew he was deep, but was happy to hear my scout (Dad) call point.
— Handler Brian Dix.”

“Ellie,” a spritely 5-year-old setter female, owned by Trevor London, arrived from Maine for her first running of the BraeVal Cover Dog Classic. Braced with Connor McCluskey's big-going Red setter in the third brace of the first day, the two dogs broke away nicely, each showing an affinity for the front. With “Skye” ranging to the edges,



Handler Trevor London working toward Ellie on her second find during Brace 3 of the BraeVal Cover Dog Classic, running on the Bertucci Field Watch Course.

London's dog settled into a solid, slightly less ranging race. Producing her first bird at 15, she was found standing, spotted by the reporter and handler nearly simultaneously. Judge and handler worked to the front of the dog, producing a beautiful red-phased grouse that crossed the trail nicely right to left. Ellie's manners were those of a polished bird dog, unflinching and with no letdown. She opened up through the middle part of the course, applying herself nicely and testing the limits of her bell to the front. The course flows behind the original “On The Wing” Grouse Camp and moves into a nice hillside of mixed young growth hardwood, before ascending a short hill and working to cross Bigelow Road. London's dog established again at 30 this time in an opening around a series of old apple trees. London and Judge John Olsson headed toward the dog, with the reporter lagging behind to observe. A woodcock whistled as London moved to the dog's right, shot fired, all in order. Ellie returned to the course and moved on, passing a standing Skye that had not been located, but was standing a grouse that flushed with the presence of the gallery, another unjust break for the big running exciting dog under McCluskey's whistle. Ellie would stop once more, producing an unproductive on a stonewall that looked promising but failed to deliver.

Bill McFadden's multiple Cover Dog Champion and runner-up champion, Chasehill Snoop Dog, was in the sixth brace of the first day. With conditions warming, the

dogs in the afternoon braces faced a stern test. “Snoop,” a well-built liver and white pointer male, was braced with a big going and well-gaited liver masked and all white pointer male, Wild Apple Paskungameh Peat. Both dogs broke away and sought cover quickly, applying themselves to casts that drew them through likely cover and to edges. Handling nicely at range, the brace worked through soggy paths before working steeply uphill. Each dog showed nicely through the challenging uphill and entering the open hardwoods, and both dogs exhibited an ability to handle at range for their handlers. As the course descended, Snoop worked in while his bracemate stayed on the edge. Snoop's move produced for him. At 35, Snoop's bell stopped shortly off the logging road in a nice area of young growth. McFadden worked to the dog; a large grouse erupted downhill from the dog. Shot fired, all in order. McFadden collared the dog, bringing him back to the course and sending him on. Each dog hit likely objectives and pushed to the front despite the warm conditions; neither dog showed any sign of relenting in their efforts and search, demonstrating a nice combination of heart and grit.

“Bill McFadden's outstanding grounds, coupled with the people, dogs, and Gregor's attention to detail, made the BraeVal Classic a great experience. My brace with Connor on the Bertucci Course was fun. Both dogs had a strong forward race. Ellie pointed a grouse in a mixed wood seep and had her second point, on a woodcock, under the apple trees after the road crossing. I'm looking forward to returning next spring.
— Trevor London, on the grounds and Ellie's performance.”

The Hard Luck Dog

At every trial, there is a dog that catches the judges' and the gallery's eye through a strong performance combined with tough luck. In

recognition of this, the judges and trial organizers felt that it would be worthy to honor a dog whose performance warranted recognition through the effort and class of the race, combined with the missed opportunity or bad luck that can easily come a dog's way in a field trial. At this year's trial, BraeVal Skye was recognized for showing a class race with the misfortune of being seen standing shortly after the gallery caused a bird to flush for her and not being called on point—a tough moment of luck and timing through no fault of Skye's in an otherwise strong performance.

The Running

Brace 1, Stone Creek Course: "Callie" (Dellinger) and "Belle" (Green).

A cool, damp morning on April 17 welcomed the start of the 2026 BraeVal Cover Dog Classic. Lanny Dellinger returned Callie, his recently titled champion setter, to the trial and was braced with Brad Green's 11-year-old pointer, Belle. While not matching Callie's power off the line, Belle did not lack for enthusiasm entering the cover. Callie worked wide across the opening cover before heading on a large cast to the left, drawing her handler and judge away from the course and separating the handlers early in the brace. Belle suffered a breach of manners and failed to stop to flush at 16. Dellinger requested his tracker at 40.

Brace 2, Inukshuk Professional Dog Food Course: "Dot" (Theroux), tri-colored English setter female, and "Tilly" (Dix), lemon and white female pointer.

After a strong breakaway through dense young growth, Dot and Tilly made big casts to the front seeking likely cover. Both bells came to a stop at 10 in an area where a grouse had been. Dot stood with Tilly backing nicely from a distance as handler Dave Theroux made every effort to flush for his dog before deciding to move the dog on. Dix collared his dog and moved her back toward the course. The newly routed course



Lanny Dellinger and Brad Green.

opens up through a dense thicket of young maple and works along an old field edge populated with stonewalls and conifers, before turning to the left into a series of clear cuts interspersed between older growth conifer stands. Both dogs applied themselves well, with Dot showing a nice race, perhaps slightly within Tilly's bell. Dot was located standing in early successional growth, with a characteristic style. A strong effort to flush was made, but no bird was produced. Tilly recorded a nice piece of woodcock work at 34 in a dense section of young hardwood whips. She stood nicely and was released, making another cast into heavy conifers, where her bell stopped, and scout sent to look. Before long, her bell moved again, and Dix worked to get her back to the course. As the course worked into another transitional area, Dot began to exhibit signs of being birdy again. She cast and worked 100-125 yards to the front with her bell coming to a stop 50-60 yards off the course in thick cover. She was found standing, and this time the grouse cooperated, flushing loudly. All in order, the dog was collared and moved on, finishing



Handler Doug Dix walking to backing Mohawk Mill Dreamer ("Tilly") in the second brace of the BraeVal Cover Dog Classic, running on the Inukshuk Course.

her race to the front. With solid race and sound bird work in this brace, a strong bar was set for the remaining field.

Brace 3, Bertucci Field Watches Course: "Ellie" (London), tri-colored female setter, and "Skye" (McCluskey), Irish setter female.

The Bertucci course also featured modifications for this year's trial, establishing several longer stretches through cover and opening up nicely the combination of the two prior courses. Working away to the corner of an old orchard and a series of stone walls, off the breakaway, the course turns back through alders and sections of small patch cuts. Offering fantastic habitat diversity, the course produced the runner-up (see winners).

Brace 4, Upland Almanac Course: "Dude" (Arkley), orange and white setter, and "Sunray" (Hayes), tri-colored female setter.

The Upland Almanac Course works back toward the barn and field trial hub, mirroring the route of the Inukshuk course but in reverse. These two very nice setters broke away with strength and power for the gallery. It was not to be either dog's day as Hayes' Ray ran a respectable but birdless race and Arkley's reliable Dude got caught up behind after a wonderful edge run through beautiful cover early in the brace. Arkley got him around after some work, but with no birds to show for his effort, Dude ended his day working to the front with Hayes's young female setter.

Brace 5, Muller Choke and Galazan Course: Hayes: "Frank" (Hayes) and "FAFO" (Dix).

The second of Kelly Hayes's entries to this trial, Frank, the 2025 winner, once again demonstrated his merit as a bird dog. Paired with a hard-charging pointer out of Hog Hill lines under the whistle of Brian Dix, Frank stretched nicely during the brace. Dix's dog unfortunately got out around a swamp to the front, and after an unproductive early in the brace at 10, Dix elected to call for the tracker at 25, ending FAFO's day

early. Frank worked a nice grouse 35 yards off the course in a young cut, which flushed, giving the gallery a nice view at 27. Frank continued on to finish his brace, working nicely with handler Hayes.

Brace 6, MPE/Warner Sporting Course: Snoop Dog (McFadden) and Peat (Welsh). See winners.

Brace 7, Jonas Brothers Pepi Family Taxidermy Course: Maggie (Dellinger) and Remington (Dix). See winners.

Brace 8, Stone Creek Course: "Bluey" (Joyal) and Northern Gold (David Miotto).

Joyal's first of two lemon and white pointer entries in this year's BraeVal Cover Dog Classic, Bluey, demonstrated her power and range early in the brace. Miotto's larger and well-built pointer male of Hifive lineage demonstrated a similar range to Joyal's lighter and more light-footed female. Each dog searched likely objectives and ranged hard to the front, often out of bell range for the handlers. In the final minute of the brace, Northern Gold went on point, giving the gallery a nice view of the dog. Unfortunately, no bird was produced despite walking up two grouse and one woodcock on the course.

Brace 9, Inukshuk Course: Hifive's Sweet Basil (Rizza) and "Murphy" (Sumple).

Returning to the Inukshuk course, handlers, dogs, judges, reporter, and gallery amassed for another walk. Sumple's young female setter appeared spritely from the beginning. Rizza's pointer female, in her second run at the BraeVal event, hit the



Gallery on the fifth brace of the BraeVal Cover Dog Classic, running on the Muller Choke and Galazan Course.

course hard before settling into a more moderate pace. It appeared that there would be action early in the brace as Sumple sent scout Jamie Leitch into thick cover in search of Murphy, who Leitch called point on, but the dog moved with no bird flushing before the handler and judge could get to her. Dogs worked together to the course's left before showing again to the front around 15. At 22, Basil's bell stopped. Rizza headed into cover with several small conifers. Roughly 25 yards off the course, Basil could be seen standing. During the flushing attempt, a grouse got up, the dog held, and the handler worked back to collect the dog before releasing her on. Still struggling to show much bottom and ended her run with an unproductive in thick conifer cover, standing nicely through an extended flushing attempt at time. Murphy ended her run with snap and nicely to the front.

Brace 10, Bertucci Course: "Jane" (Kennedy) and "Wilma" (McFadden).

From the start of the brace, both dogs demonstrated a desire to seek cover and range. With minimal direction from their handlers, the dogs demonstrated their ability to

stay with and to the front. Early in the brace, a pair of grouse moved from an area adorned with old apple trees, and a third was seen by the gallery, offering a nice display for all to see, while the dogs were far to the left and ahead. Neither dog's effort dampened as the weather warmed, and both dogs worked hard, digging deep into cover in hopes of finding a bird. Unfortunately, none were produced. Both dogs showed nice race and fitting conditioning.

Brace 11, Upland Almanac: "Ronnie" (Dix) and "Rory" (McCluskey).

Breaking away through young growth of mixed birch and into a beautiful stream crossing with edges of conifer, the Upland Almanac Course offers opportunity from the breakaway. Rory, a big running male Irish setter with flowing gait and plenty of power, made a big opening cast to the edge, testing the limits of bell range immediately. Ronnie commenced with power but slightly more contact. Quickly after crossing the bridge, the course turns to the right into conifers before working through several small clear cuts. Just off the course, as the gallery worked through the course, Ronnie's bell stopped, and a grouse erupted. Dix fired quickly, whoa'ed the dog, and recorded a stop-to-flush with manners becoming of a young dog. At 12, Rory was found resolutely standing to the left edge of the course. An extended flushing attempt was made, and after three minutes of effort and only slight wavering, the dog was cautiously released, making a quick survey of the area, producing nothing. Rory moved hard to the front. Both dogs finished with a nice



Steve Sumple and Eric Rizza.



Deb Kennedy and Frank Joyal.



Kelly Hays and Bob Arkley.

race, effort, and application, but no further bird work.

Brace 12, Muller Choke and Galazan: "Ray" (Arkley) and "Pearl" (McFadden).

Both dogs had a nice start in mixed hardwood. Throughout the brace, each dog exhibited a desire to stay to the front, with Pearl pushing the edge a little more than Ray. Each dog smartly headed to objectives, applying themselves nicely. At 12, Arkley called on scout Brian Dix, but the dog was heard quickly to the front. As the course continued to

work through good cover, both dogs ran nicely with minimal direction from their handlers, crossing in front and displaying a nice level of independence.

Brace 13: "Peedee" (Joyal) and "McKeachie" (Kennedy).

With two scratches, due to challenging conditions, the final brace featured Frank Joyal's smooth-running female pointer Peedee and Deb Kennedy's gritty older female setter McKeachie. The uphill course and warm conditions were a stern test. Joyal's younger pointer moved

through the demanding course with a flowing gate and nice purpose between objectives. McKeachie showed her heart and grit throughout, but despite her determination, no birds were willing to cooperate.

Ellensburg, N. Y., April 17

Judges: John Malone and John Olfson

BRAEVAL COVER DOG CLASSIC

– 12 Pointers, 14 Setters, and 2 Irish Setters

1st-LIGHTNING FLASH REMINGTON, F1687367, setter male, by Denco's Crockett Again-Arctic Tundra Bird Dog. Brian Dix, owner and handler.

2d-PAUCEK'S UP FOR ADVENTURE, F1693887, setter female, by Long Gone Studly-Paucek's Black Pearl. Trevor London, owner and handler.

3d-CHASEHILL SNOOP DOG, F1703110, pointer male, by Panola Bacon-Chasehill Little Izzy. William & Karen McFadden, owners.

NATIONAL WALKING SHOOTING DOG FUTURITY

Mohawk Mill Ritzy Lady Wins 36th Running

By Dave Park | Houtzdale, Pennsylvania | April 17, 2026

This year marked the 36th running of the National Walking Shooting Dog Futurity. President Norm Meeder, Vice President Joe Cammisa, Secretary/Treasurer Krysta Munden, and I, the stake manager, would like to thank all who participated and helped make this trial a success. I would like to mention a couple of people who continually support this field trial: Deb Fazenbaker, who does a fantastic job of putting together a program book filled with this field trial's history, and, of course, Greg Blair for Purina's continued support. We had a total of 14 litter nominations, with derbies from 13 of those litters participating. April weather in the central Pennsylvania mountains can be quite challenging, and this year showcased it all over three days of running, from temperatures in the mid-80s to the low 40s, wind gusts well over 30 miles per hour, to rain, sleet, and even some snow! This weather challenged dogs, handlers, and judges alike, but there were plenty of desirable performances put down over the three days of running.

The Gene Uhlman Puppy Classic kicked the weekend off with some really entertaining and powerful performances, giving judges Sarah



36th National Walking Shooting Dog Futurity winners joined by participants.

Gomes and Dave Park plenty to consider. Three dogs separated themselves from the rest of the field. Backcountry Remi for owner/handler Chris Catanzarite, BK Main Attraction for owner/handler Brooke Lanning, and Charm City Mac for handler Robert Ecker all ran very strong, independent, and very well applied races to garner their three placements. The second of the companion stakes was the Open Shooting Dog, which also saw many dogs give strong performances over a plethora of varying weather conditions. Judges Paul Tipping

and Brian Ralph named Hypointe Monarch Express the winner for owner/handler Russ Fazio, who ran a strong forward race with two well-placed finds. Miller's Hopped Up Version and Millers Dusty Version also offered strong performances for handler Mark Hughes to take second and third, respectively.

[The following is a brace-by-brace synopsis of the National Walking Shooting Dog Futurity from reporter Joe Cammisa.]

The Running

Brace 1, 12:45: Santee River

Minuteman and Evan's Full Throttle. Minuteman stopped on the roadway between fields at 16; Stop-to-flush, Full Throttle came in and backed. Both dogs ran deep off the breakaway and ran a wide race, covering side to side. Pointed at 17, and a bird was produced with Minuteman backing. Full Throttle shortened some at 23 with both finishing.

Brace 2, 12:54: Mohawk Mill Thunder Struck and Grouse Hill Buddy. Buddy was standing deep in the pines at 8 with all in order, moved on to 12 for more of the same with this second find, and then suffered an unproductive at 18 on the hillside after the woods. Buddy made a very nice big cast at the end. Thunder Struck was picked up by the handler at 8.

Brace 3, 1:39, 67 degrees: Suemac's Southern Ambush and Double Deuce Dillan Oats. Nice breakaway by both at 7. Ambush was pointing with Oats backing, and a bird was produced. At 23, a bump by Ambush resulted in her then stopping and pointing the bird; the handler flushed and fired. Oats suffered an unproductive at 10 and was backing at 23.

Brace 4, 2:15: Mohawk Mill Ritzy Lady and Caliber Peak Apple of My Rye—Lady, the more independent of the two, "Sprout" the fancier. After a nice breakaway, the two split while hunting their own piece of ground. At 13, Lady made game, and all was in order. At 16, both were on a big cast after the woods crossing. Both had their moments.

Brace 5, 2:53, 67 degrees, warm and dry: Watch Me Whip and Grouse Hill Patch. Whip, the more independent, enjoyed a great breakaway with his bracemate Patch. Both took the breakaway to the limits. Both stayed with forward wide casts. Whip was watered at 10 and continued the wide race until the end,

hunting hard. Patch had stopped at 11 and then started up on her own with no bird contact. Both had no bird contact but finished as strong as they started.

Brace 6, 3:31: Hitail Rolling Dixie and Hifive's Winged Reserve. A nice breakaway by both, with Reserve being the more independent. Dixie struck gold at 10 and went on a merry chase at 15. She finished her bid with a nice medium race. Reserve caught scent at 15, stopped, pointed, but suffered an unproductive. Reserve matched the bracemate with a nice medium race.

Brace 7, 4:06: Santee River Postman and Cerulean Stone. Very nice breakaway with a big race. Worked well with the handler and pointed at 24 with all in order. Shortened after the find. Stone went on his own hunting spree with a deep breakaway and found just before the woods at 10 on the left, suffering an unproductive. Additionally, he suffered one more at 20. Stone backed tall and proud at 24.

Brace 8, 8:27: Seldom Rest Pork Chop and Heartbreaker Bud Light. Pork Chop and Bud took off to the races in the cool morning air. Pork Chop hung to the right and dropped deep into the woods, making it difficult to stay in contact with his handler. He was picked up by the handler at 10. Bud went on to do a very nice job, settling in on two finds, one at 10 and another at 15. Smartly handling both, he continued to hunt hard. At 23, he suffered an unproductive—the black mark on his resume.

Brace 9, 9:03: Grouse Hill Dixie and Outlaws Cashn Out. Both were off to a good start and maybe were a little too enthusiastic, as at 10, both were on a happy chase. Cash was up by the handler at 16, but Dixie stayed in the game, pointing at 20 and looking very good on her bird. With all in order, she was moved on

and finished strong.

Brace 10, 9:40: Cotton Joe On Fire and Smoke Rise Rock. A very deep and wide breakaway started off the brace with Joe on the same merry chase at 12 as the two dogs in the previous hour. Rock was up by the handler at 14, and at 18, Joe was standing, the bird flushed, and all was in order. Joe was moved on and suffered an unproductive at 21.

The judges for the Futurity were Chris Catanzarite and Eric Munden, both well accomplished, and we were very fortunate to have these two in the saddle judging dogs. We cannot thank them enough.

Houtzdale, Pa., April 17

Judges: Chris Catanzarite and Eric Munden 36TH NATIONAL WALKING SHOOTING DOG FUTURITY – 19 Pointers and 1 Setter

1st-MOHAWK MILL RITZY LADY, F1716175, pointer female, by Rocky River Halo-Mohawk Mill Lady Justice. J. D. Waters & Caren Mansfield, owners; Tony Bingham, handler.

2d-EVAN'S FULL THROTTLE, F1713964, pointer female, by Double Deuce Zeke-Braggabull. Evan Smith, owner; Mark Hughes, handler.

3d-MOHAWK MILL THUNDER STRUCK, F1716171, pointer male, by Rocky River Halo-Mohawk Mill Lady Justice. Daryl & Vicki Grantham, owners; Tony Bingham, handler.

4th-HEARTBREAK BUD LIGHT, F1710620, pointer male, by Toth's Tornado Reloaded-Grouse Trails Warrior Cat. Thomas Butts, owner; Mark Hughes, handler.

Judges: Sarah Gomes and Dave Park

GENE UHLMAN PUPPY CLASSIC – 11 Entries

1st-BACKCOUNTRY REMI, F1724439, pointer female, by Springflow's Backcountry P-Apple Annie's Sweet Delight. Chris Catanzarite, owner and handler.

2d-BK MAIN ATTRACTION, F1724180, pointer female, by BK Real McCoy-B K Lapaloma Blanca. Brooke Lanning & Eric Clink, owners; Brooke Lanning, handler.

3d-CHARM CITY MAC, F1721991, pointer male, by Hifive's Sonny Side Up-Hifive's Top Shelf. Michael McIntyre, owner; Robert Ecker, handler.

Judges: Brian Ralph and Paul Tipping

OPEN SHOOTING DOG

– 22 Pointers, 3 Setters, and 3 Irish Setters

1st-HYPOINTE MONARCH EXPRESS, F1704239, pointer female, by Springflow's Backcountry P-Apple Annie's Sweet Delight. Russell Fazio, owner and handler.

2d-MILLER'S HOPPED UP VERSION, F1695106, pointer female, by Miller's Upgraded Version-Miller's Special Edition. Carlos Escalante, owner; Mark Hughes, handler.

3d-MILLERS DUSTY VERSION, F1706290, pointer female, by Miller's Upgraded Version-Miller's Special Edition. Mike Husenits, owner and handler.

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NORTHWEST FIELD ASSOCIATION

Spring Trial

By Lorrie Bohl | Hankinson, North Dakota | May 1, 2026

The Northwest Field Association held its 2026 Spring field trial on May 1–2 at the Sheyenne National Grassland South Unit near Hankinson, North Dakota. Part of the larger Sheyenne National Grassland conservation area, the South Unit is comprised of rolling sandhills, mixed grass prairie, and scattered oak woodlands. The area's open terrain and natural cover provide a unique setting for field trials, allowing dogs ample opportunity to demonstrate range, bird-finding ability, and style.

North Dakota weather can be unpredictable at any time of year, especially in the spring. This year, Mother Nature smiled on the event, and the weekend weather was overall mild, making for comfortable days outdoors and in the saddle.

This year's trial showcased the efficiency and flexibility of the organizers and participants before it even began. The National Forest Service finished a scheduled burn of land sections adjacent to the field trial grounds just as trialers began arriving. The presence of smoke and smoldering earth compelled the group to use an alternative base camp to await the start of the trial. On Friday morning, camp was efficiently relocated to its usual location, with handlers and dogs eager to run under the clear blue sky.

Handlers from across the region come to this trial to compete at a high level, but the opportunity to connect with fellow trialers brings people back year after year. Following Friday's running, participants gathered at The Church Bar in Hankinson for a Judges' Dinner. On Saturday night, the group reconvened at the Black Pelican Bar & Grille in Wyndmere for an outstanding prime rib dinner, where stories from the weekend—and years gone by—were shared among friends. Both gatherings were a testament to the strong sense of



Open All-Age (front, l-r): Jean LaNasa with Hotdish, Keith Anderson with Ready or Not, and Frank LaNasa with Warbird. (Rear): Nik Zewers, L. J. Lundstrom, Katherine Gove, Todd Manns, and Lorrie Bohl.

community and lasting friendships that are the heart of our sport.

The trial was chaired by Nik Zewers, whose hard work and dedication were instrumental in the success. Organizing a field trial requires balancing countless details and overcoming unexpected challenges. Nik managed it all with grace, good humor, and steady leadership, keeping the trial running smoothly from start to finish. Nik even found time during the weekend to trim a horse for a fellow club member, a testament to his generosity and willingness to lend a hand wherever needed. The Association is deeply grateful for his efforts and commitment to the club.

The Northwest Field Association extends its sincere appreciation to the judges, many volunteers, National Forest Service Manager Aaron Gaither, and participants who contributed to a successful event.

The Northwest Field Association would also like to thank Purina for its generous sponsorship of the trial.

Open All-Age

Judges Scott Jordan and Bruce Mueller presided over a strong field of all-age competitors.

Hotdish ("Dolly"), handled by Frank LaNasa, won the performance with a forward race, quality bird work, and consistency throughout the course, earning top honors in a competitive field.

Ready or Not ("Rosie"), handled by Keith Anderson, secured second place, while Warbird ("Joe"), handled by Frank LaNasa, placed third.

Open All-Age Derby

Judges Todd Manns and Emily Spolyar evaluated an exciting group of young all-age prospects.

Tate Island Nation ("Tate"), handled by Scott Jordan, with a stylish race and maturity, earned first place among a talented derby field.

High Speed Come Apart ("Crew"), handled by Scott Hadley, placed second, while Lil Miss Silver ("Babe"), handled by Frank LaNasa, placed third.

Open Shooting Dog

Judges L. J. Lundstrom and Ben Fleischacker observed a quality shooting dog stake marked by strong ground races and productive bird work.

BK Marshall ("Kane"), handled



Open Derby (front, l-r): Scott Jordan with Tate Island: Nation, Scott Hadley with High Speed Come Apart, and Jean LaNasa with Lil Miss Silver. (Rear): Ben Fleischacker, L. J. Lundstrom, Keith Anderson, Todd Manns (judge), Lorrie Bohl, Frank LaNasa, and Nik Zewers.

by John Zeman, balanced race, responsiveness, and effective bird work, securing the top placement.

Ready or Not ("Rosie"), handled by Keith Anderson, placed second, while "FYN," handled by Todd Manns, placed third.

Open Shooting Dog Derby

Judge Ben Fleischacker and Keith Anderson evaluated the young shooting dog derby contenders.

"Rosie," handled by Bruce Mueller, earned first place with a confident and polished performance, multiple finds, and an impressive back.

In second was Silver Confidence ("Coop"), handled by Frank LaNasa, and "Sage," handled by Scott Hadley, placed third.

Congratulations to all winners and participants, and thank you to everyone who contributed their time



Open Shooting Dog (front, l-r): Ben Fleischacker (judge) with BK Marshall, Keith Anderson with Ready or Not, and Todd Manns with Kinni Creek Fyn. (Rear): Nik Zewers, L. J. Lundstrom (judge), Bruce Mueller, Andie Miller, Scott Jordan, and Lorrie Bohl.

and effort to the event.

The Northwest Field Association looks forward to welcoming members and friends back for future trials and continued success in the field.

Hankinson, N. D., May 1

Judges: Scott Jordan and Bruce Mueller
OPEN ALL-AGE – 6 Pointers

1st-HOTDISH, F1702480, pointer female, by True Confidence-My Lucky Day. Frank & Jean LaNasa, owners; Frank LaNasa, handler.

2d-READY OR NOT, F1708651, pointer female, by Seranoa's Valley Below-Affinity. Keith Anderson, owner and handler.

3d-WARBIRD, F1705326, pointer male, by True Confidence-Red Sunshine. Frank LaNasa, owner and handler.

Judges: Todd Manns and Emily Spolyar
OPEN DERBY – 11 Pointers

1st-TATE ISLAND NATION, F1716100, pointer male, by Haney's All In-Pearl Jam Nation. Scott Jordan, owner and handler.

2d-HIGH SPEED COME APART, F1727403, pointer male, by Elhew Sinbad-Aim High Elhew Hadley. Scott Hadley, owner and handler.

3d-LIL MISS SILVER, F1724703, pointer female, by Haney's Silver Dollar-Lil Miss Confidence. Frank LaNasa, owner and handler.



Open Derby (front, l-r): Nik Zewers with Cold Creek Wild Rose, Jean LaNasa with Silver Confidence, and Scott Hadley with High Expectations. (Rear): Ben Fleischacker (judge), L. J. Lundstrom, Todd Manns, Bruce Mueller, Frank LaNasa, Scott Jordan, Andie Miller, and Lorrie Bohl.

Judges: Ben Fleischacker and L. J. Lundstrom
OPEN SHOOTING DOG – 12 Pointers

1st-BK MARSHALL, F1699760, pointer male, by B K Bonafide Stallion-B K Hirollins Wild. John Zeman, owner and handler.

2d-READY OR NOT, F1708651, pointer female, by Seranoa's Valley Below-Affinity. Keith Anderson, owner and handler.

3d-KINNI CREEK FYN, F1685067, pointer male, by Dominator's Rebel Heir-Bar P Fizz. Todd Manns, owner and handler.

Judges: Keith Anderson and Ben Fleischacker
OPEN DERBY – 11 Pointers

1st-COLD CREEK WILD ROSE, F1720408, pointer female, by Nomads Uncle Sam-Cold Creek Spectacle. Bruce Mueller, owner and handler.

2d-SILVER CONFIDENCE, F1724700, pointer male, by Haney's Silver Dollar-Lil Miss Confidence. Frank LaNasa, owner and handler.

3d-HIGH EXPECTATIONS, F1712180, pointer female, by Miller's Blindsider-Hadley's Honky Tonk Song. Scott Hadley, owner; Matt Griffin, handler.

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PUBLISHED BY THE UNITED KENNEL CLUB®

U.S. COMPLETE NORTHEAST REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Chasehill Poison Ivy Named Champion; Little Miss Margaret, Runner-up

By Bill Bonnetti | Exeter, Rhode Island | May 4, 2026

This year's renewal of the U.S. Complete Shooting Dog Association Northeast Regional Championship was held May 4-5 at the Arcadia Wildlife Management Area in Exeter, Rhode Island. We had pleasant mid-spring weather conditions throughout the trial. The field trial grounds, which are maintained by the State, had been mowed prior to the spring field trial season, thus affording us opportunities to see a dog farther out on certain parts of the course. Judges for the Championship were Joe Cammisa of Butler, Pennsylvania, and Mitch Swierczynski of Griswold, Connecticut. Both gentlemen are well-accomplished field trialers, club officials, and judges. We were very fortunate to secure them as judges.

Not only as your scribe but also as the trial chairman, I would like to thank my wife, Jayne, for everything she does to help me put these events on. More than one New England field trialer has been heard saying, "The only reason they come to our trials is for Jaynie's cooking and hospitality." I would also like to personally thank a few other people: Bob Fleury and his grandson, Brady, for their help and support in bringing their generator for the well and their side-by-side for our usage, as well as Rich Giuliano, who attended the event to help plant birds.

Many thanks to our U.S. Complete corporate sponsors, Purina and Garmin, who provide generous support to all of our Regional and National Championships. Without their commitment and dedication to field trials, we would not be capable



U. S. Complete Northeast Regional Championship (l-r): Joe Cammisa (judge), John Stolgitis with Chasehill Poison Ivy, Bill Bonnetti (chairman), Tim Cavanaugh with Little Miss Margaret, and Mitch Swierczynski (judge).

of continuing with this tremendous, wholesome sport.

The runner-up champion, Little Miss Margaret, would come out of the first day of running. This liver and white pointer female, owned and handled by Tim Cavanaugh, is no stranger to the winners' circle. Margaret was braced with Cape Point Lucky Strike, a black and white setter male, who, according to the judges, was being carried behind Margaret up until the next-to-last brace of the trial, when the winner would ultimately emerge. Both dogs were strong and forward, scoring three nice finds each, Margaret just really showing a lot of "pizazz" on this day.

The winner, Chasehill Poison Ivy, also no stranger to the winners'

circle, a liver and white pointer female and a littermate to the runner-up, as previously stated, would run on day two, in the next to last brace of the trial. Ivy was handled by her trainer, John Stolgitis. She was strong and forward, tallying five finds, finishing her hour, going away and "scorching" the ground.

We want to congratulate the winners and thank everyone for their continued support. We can't wait to see everyone there next year!

Exeter, R. I., May 4

Judges: Joe Cammisa and Mitch Swierczynski
U. S. COMPLETE NORTHEAST REGIONAL
CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats]

- 12 Pointers, 4 Setters, and 1 Irish Setter

Winner-CHASEHILL POISON IVY, F1694453, pointer female, by Panola Bacon-Chasehill Little Izzy. William & Karen McFadden, owners; John Stolgitis, handler.
Runner-Up-LITTLE MISS MARGARET, F1693526, pointer female, by Panola Bacon-Chasehill Little Izzy. Timothy Cavanaugh, owner and handler.

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SEPTEMBER

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Deadline: September 5

NOVEMBER

Deadline: October 5

For more information, please email gsmith@ukcdogs.com

MINNESOTA GROUSE DOG ASSOCIATION

Spring Quail Trial

By Kyle Peterson | Milaca, Minnesota | May 16, 2026



Open Shooting Dog (front, l-r): Paul Cook with Palometa's Hemingway, Holden Baker with Baker's Beignet, and Tim Callahan with Tim's Setter Meg, joined by participants.

The weekend of May 16-17 marked the last trial for the Minnesota Grouse Dog Association's spring season. This weekend is our traditional qualifying trial held at the Four Brooks WMA near Milaca, Minnesota. The weekend not only offers dogs and handlers an opportunity to qualify but also serves as a great opportunity for us all to spend one last weekend together, celebrating a very successful spring trial season. This trial weekend, the MGDA really focuses on bringing everyone together. From people who have been trialing for years to brand-new folks wanting to learn more about trials to kids getting to enjoy all things dogs and trials.

A highlight of the weekend is our annual Youth stake. Held at the end of the Open Shooting Dog and Open Derby stakes, this event has grown to be a highly anticipated stake. This year, 13 youth participants signed up to run. After the draw, participants took to the main field course, where all could pull up a chair and watch our future trialers handle their own dog on planted quail. Judge Katie Cook watched over the event from her horse as the handlers helped guide their dogs from bird to bird.

The excitement and enthusiasm the kids show during this really make the event a lot of fun and give us all hope that the future of this sport is in good hands!

MGDA would like to thank A. J. Kalupa and Jeremy Moore for chairing this trial. The countless hours put into pulling off this trial are greatly appreciated by all. We would also like to recognize all those who stepped up to judge the stakes. Ben Berg and Jerry Furnish judged our Saturday Open Shooting Dog stake. Jordan Pharris and Chris Bye presided over the Saturday Open Derby. On Sunday morning, Josh Matel and A. J. Kalupa judged our final Open Derby stake. A huge thank you to all of them for the miles they walked and the attention they gave to each dog entered! Dogbone Hunter was gracious in donating gifts for the judges' hard work, and we greatly appreciate that as well!

We would also like to thank OnX and Purina, with Greg Blair, for their support for this and all our trials. Purina donated very nice gear bags filled with dog-related gear, which were given to each of our youth stake handlers! Jeremy Moore from Dogbone Hunter also provided prizes

for the kids. Between ribbons and gear, the kids could not have been more excited to dig through the bags and see the great swag! Thank you again, Purina and Dogbone Hunter!

On to the results...

Saturday Open Shooting Dog

Earning first place was "Ernie." Owned by Hayden Dobbs and handled by Paul Cook, Ernie ran a strong forward race, hunting all available cover and had two well-spaced finds, all in order. Ernie ran with a lofty carriage and looked beautiful on point.

Second place was given to "Ben," a Brittany owned and handled by Holden Baker. Judges said Ben was methodical in cover and ran hard in the open. Ben had three well-mannered finds and was staunch on point.

Claiming third place was "Meg," owned by Tim and Deb Callahan and handled by Tim. Meg had three finds, all in order, and a stop-to-flush. She was an easy handle and had a strong motor with an efficient gate from beginning to end.

Saturday Open Derby

"Andi" set the tone early with an eye-catching 500-yard cast to the edge of cover to the joy of the gallery and judges. Settling into the zone within a few minutes, Andi was impressive as she kept a strong pace with a focused ground application. With an industrious find in difficult cover at the 15-minute mark, Andi continued to run strong to the front until time was called.

"Slim" capped off the derby stake with a run that delighted the judges with his application. Hitting edge cover at the limit of his bell, Slim was never out of contact with his handler and was unique (within the stake) in his ground game and search, notable for a dog just hitting his first year.



Saturday Open Derby (front, l-r): Jeremy and Lillian Moore with Aspens Edge Moore Than Dandy, Holden Baker with Bakers Clover Valley Slim, and Steve Snyder with Snyder's Rita, joined by participants.

Reaching far, he always found the front and finished with ease.

With perhaps the most mature run of the stake, "Rita" confidently hit all the objectives throughout her brace and pulled her experienced handler through the course. Despite the warming air and dry wind, Rita stayed far to the front and ran stronger at the end than at the breakaway, a testament to her efficient gate, experience, and conditioning.

Sunday Open Derby

The weather changed dramatically overnight, and Sunday morning offered much cooler temperatures and windy conditions for the morning Derby stake.

Coming in first was Casey Wagner's "Rebel." Rebel took advantage of the cool temperatures, ran through the course very deliberately, and produced several

finds, much to the judges' pleasure.

Second place went to "Presley," handled by Nick Sisterman. Presley went on point early in the stake and from there opened up, going from bird to bird. Her intense pointing style and ability to run stronger and stronger as the brace went on impressed everyone who watched.

In third place was "Crush," handled by Jordan Pharris. The young male pointer floated across the course with an easy, efficient gate that made it look easy. He handled well for Pharris, and the judges took note of this and awarded him a placement.

Milaca, Minn., May 16

**Judges: Ben Berg and Jerry Furnish
OPEN SHOOTING DOG**

- 1 Pointer, 8 Setters, and 2 German Shorthairs

1st-PALOMETA'S HEMINGWAY, F1703720, setter male, by Woodville's Yukon Cornelius-Kasida. Hayden Dobbins, owner; Paul Cook, handler.

2d-BAKER'S BEIGNET, F1721401, Brittany male, by Riverbend's Tied Us Down-Riverbend's Annie Get Your Gun. Holden Baker, owner and handler.

3d-TIM'S SETTER MEG, F1705309, setter female, by Rebellious Fearless Fred-Lake Effect Ali. Tim & Deb Callahan, owners; Tim Callahan, handler.



Youth Stake participants.



Sunday Open Derby (front, l-r): Casey Wagner with Switchgrass Beccas Lil Rebel, Nick Sisterman and Marit Waters with Double Deuce Dolly's Dynasty, and Jordan Pharris with Orange Crush, joined by participants.

Judges: Chris Bye and Jordan Pharris

OPEN DERBY - 10 Entries

1st-ASPENS EDGE MOORE THAN DANDY, F1723295, setter female, by Northwoods Homer-North Star Ash. Jeremy Moore, owner and handler.

2d-BAKERS CLOVER VALLEY SLIM, F1724087, setter male, by Northwoods Sir Gordon-Clover Valley's Millie. Holden & Carley Baker, owners; Holden Baker, handler.

3d-SNYDER'S RITA, F1711244, setter female, by Ponderosa Mac-Eldridge's Beauty and Beast. Steven Snyder, owner and handler.

OPEN DERBY - 10 Entries

1st-SWITCHGRASS BECCAS LIL REBEL, F1716380, setter male, by Switchgrass Cash Daddy-Switchgrass Magic Jasmine. Casey Wagner, owner and handler.

2d-DOUBLE DEUCE DOLLY'S DYNASTY, F1713587, pointer female, by Cal Peak Hundredth Meridian-Double Deuce Sage. Nick Sisterman, owner and handler.

3d-ORANGE CRUSH, F1724274, pointer male, by Southern Breeze-Birdogn True Confidence. Jordan Pharris, owner and handler.

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NAZARETH FIELD TRIAL CLUB

First Amateur Trial

By Tiffani Henderson | Weatherly, Pennsylvania | May 16, 2026



Amateur Shooting Dog (l-r): Shane Knarr (judge), Brayden Smith with Calico's Over The Top, Ernie Saniga with Bull Finch, Alex Smith with Southbound Hot Dog Homer, Jeff Currier (judge), and Matt Newman.

The Nazareth Field Trial Club held its first amateur trial on May 16 at the Freeland Kennel Club outside of Weatherly, Pennsylvania. The weather could not have cooperated any better for the middle of May. The morning was cool and wet, perfect for scenting conditions. The grounds were in great shape this year, with the club members doing a lot of work to get them opened up. The dogs were able to stretch out along the edges while still being forced to hunt the many objectives. The grounds are a great place to run dogs, and we thank the club for letting us use them.

We had great help in putting on this event. Birds were plentiful on the course thanks to potential newcomer Matt Newman. Lunch was provided for everyone by Tiffani Smith and Sheila Hart. Most importantly, judges Dave McKay and Alex Smith judged the Derby, while Shane Knarr and

Jeff Currier judged the Shooting Dog. Thank you all for your time and effort; we could not have done this without you. A big thank you to Purina and Lion Country Supply for sponsoring us; we could not have done it without you.

First place in the Amateur Derby was Southbound Priscilla, owned and handled by Larry King. Priscilla had three nice finds and a back with



Amateur Derby (l-r): Jeff Currier, Larry King with Southbound Priscilla, Ernie Saniga with Bull Jangles, Darren Boyer with Bud, Alex Smith (judge), and Slate Newman.

a beautiful race. She handled the course perfectly for Larry. Second was Bull Jangles, handled by Ernie Saniga and owned by Ernie and Karen Saniga. Jangles had two nice derby finds with a nice forward race.

First place in the Amateur Shooting Dog stake was Calico's Over The Top, handled by Brayden Smith. At just 10 years old, Brayden handled his dog like a veteran, scoring four finds and a back. Over The Top's race was to the front and always under the control of his handler. Second place went to Bull Finch. Ernie Saniga handled Finch perfectly to three finds. Her race was snappy and always up front. Southbound Hotdog Homer took third place. Owned by Linda Casey and handled by Alex Smith, Hotdog had three finds and an unproductive. Hotdog and Finch were braced together, complementing each other nicely.

Weatherly, Pa., May 16

Judges: Dave McKay and Alex Smith

AMATEUR DERBY – 6 Pointers

1st-SOUTHBOUND PRISCILLA, F1715114, pointer female, by Haney's All In-Calico's Guns N Roses. Larry King, owner and handler.

2d-BULL JANGLES, F1713962, pointer male, by Double Deuce Zeke-Braggabull. Ernie & Karen Saniga, owners; Ernie Saniga, handler.

Judges: Jeffrey A. Currier and Shane Knarr

AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG – 11 Pointers

1st-CALICO'S OVER THE TOP, F1692315, pointer male, by Dominator's Rebel Heir-Calico's Country Strong. Calico Kennels, Alex & Tiffani Smith, owners; Brayden Smith, handler.

2d-BULL FINCH, F1686091, pointer female, by Dominator's Rebel Heir-Bullerina. Ernie & Karen Saniga, owners; Ernie Saniga, handler.

3d-SOUTHBOUND HOT DOG HOMER, F1714695, pointer male, by Erin's Redrum-Calico's Country Strong. Linda Witte Casey, owner; Alex Smith, handler.

SUBMITTING A WRITE-UP & FORMS?

Please submit all information to: dwellmann@ukcdogs.com

[Please note that results received well after the trial (60 days) cannot be assured that the trial will receive coverage in a printed issue.]

A NOTE TO OUR READERS

When the *UKC® Field Newsletter* was introduced in 2022, its purpose was simple: to provide a consistent, reliable home for the reporting, recognition, and day-to-day pulse of the prestigious American Field pointing dog field trial community.

Month after month, these pages have carried trial results, standings, Hall of Fame honors, and club announcements, serving as both a record of accomplishment and a connection point for participants across North America.

That mission remains as important as ever. But how we deliver that information continues to evolve.

With that in mind, we will be retiring the print edition of the *UKC® Field Newsletter*, with the **December 2026 issue serving as our final printed edition**. While our delivery is changing, the content you rely on is not going away. **Trial reports, results and standings, and a calendar of club event announcements will continue to be published and updated regularly on the American Field website** as they always have, ensuring faster access and broader availability for the entire sporting dog community.

We are grateful to the clubs, reporters, and readers who have supported this newsletter and contributed to its pages over the past several years. This publication has played an important role in documenting the work and dedication of field trialers nationwide, and that legacy will continue in its next chapter.

We will share additional details later this year regarding subscription transitions for customers whose terms extend into 2027.

Thank you for being part of the *UKC® Field Newsletter*
and for supporting the American Field legacy.

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Field Trials

EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA FIELD TRIAL ASSOCIATION

ROGER BOSER • Phone: (717) 881-9768 • Email: Rogerboser@aol.com

2025-26 Dog of the Year Award Winners

The Eastern Pennsylvania Field Trial Association meeting and awards will take place on the evening of Saturday, September 5, at the Lehigh Valley field trial.

TOP COMBINED SHOOTING DOG

Miller's Flowers and Lace (PF) • Allen Linder, Owner • George Tracy, Handler

OPEN SHOOTING DOG

Wr: Miller's Promotional Upgrade (PM)

Harold Ray & Jack & Fran Miller, Owners

Doug Ray, Handler

R-U: Faithful (PF)

Roger & Susan Duerksen, Owners

Mike Tracy, Handler

AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG

Wr: The Secret (PM)

Joe Lordi, Owner & Handler

R-U: Calico's Over The Top (PM)

Calico Kennels & Alex Smith, Owners

Alex Smith, Handler

OPEN DERBY

Wr: Hightailing Pink (PF)

Kevin Joyce, Owner

Mike Tracy, Handler

R-U: Bully Budd (PM)

Ernie & Karen Saniga, Owners

Mike Tracy, Handler

AMATEUR DERBY

Wr: Bull Jangles (PM)

Ernie & Karen Saniga, Owners

Ernie Saniga, Handler

R-U: Southbound Priscilla (PF)

Larry King, Owner & Handler

2026 Fall Field Trial Schedule

Aug. 28.....Nazareth FTC	Sept. 19.....National Pheasant OSD Chmp.
Sept. 5.....Lehigh Valley P&S Club	Sept. 28.....National Shooting Dog Futurity
Sept. 11.....York P&S Club	

BLACK ASH WILD BIRD DOG CLUB

Member AFTCA • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

AUGUST 8, 2026 • STARTS 7:00 A.M.

— *Fall Walking Trial* —

Grounds: S.G.L. #69, located at the 90-degree bend of Maple Hill Road, approx. 30 minutes east of Meadville, PA. **Drawing:** Thursday, August 6, 7:00 p.m., at the home of John McKellop.

***OPEN PUPPY**Entry Fee: \$30.00
***OPEN DERBY**Entry Fee: \$40.00
***OPEN SHOOTING DOG QUALIFIER**Entry Fee: \$50.00
***OPEN SHOOTING DOG**Entry Fee: \$50.00

**Ribbons & Certificates*

Judges: To be announced

Phone entries to: JOHN MCKELLOP—(814) 795-7691

Entries are accepted with the understanding that the club, its officers and members and landowners are not responsible and cannot be held liable for accidents involving anyone attending the trial, their horses, dogs, or equipment.

BEAVERTON GROUSE DOG CLUB

Member AFTCA and AMFTC • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

— On behalf of the Association of Michigan Field Trial Clubs —

August 15, 2026 • Starts 7:00 a.m.

Gladwin Field Trial Grounds, Meredith, MI

••• *Summer Qualifying Trial* •••

Drawing: Wednesday, August 12, 7:00 p.m.

OPEN SHOOTING DOG QUALIFIER (30 Min.)Entry Fee: \$50.00

Multiple courses on native grouse and woodcock.

Judges: Frank Ilijanic and Brent Peters

Entries to: KEN MOSS

Call or text: (989) 330-0430

NATIONAL BRITTANY OPEN GROUSE CHAMPIONSHIP ASSOCIATION

Member AFTCA & AMFTC • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

— On behalf of the Association of Michigan Field Trial Clubs, Inc. —

August 22-23, 2026 • Starts at 7:00 a.m. each day

Gladwin Field Trial Area, Meredith, MI

Native grouse and woodcock. Multiple courses. Rustic camping on the grounds. **Motels (nearby):** Northwoods Motel, 5800 N M-30, Gladwin, MI 48624—(989) 426-4021. Lunches available on the grounds. No training on any part of the Gladwin Field Trial Area. Approved retrieval collars allowed but not provided by the club. **NO OPEN BARREL GUNS ALLOWED.** **Entries Close & Drawing:** Tuesday, August 18, 7:00 p.m., at the home of Kenny DeLong.

(Sat.) OPEN SHOOTING DOG (30 Min.)—Qualifier; Rosettes\$55.00
***OPEN DERBY (30 Min.)—Qualifier; Rosettes**\$55.00

*May start Saturday afternoon, but no later than Sunday morning.

****JUNIOR HANDLER (10-15 Min.)—Open to youth handlers 14 and under**FREE

**To be held at lunchbreak Sunday. Released quail at the bird field.

(Sun.) AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG (30 Min.)—Rosettes\$55.00

Judges: OSD—Kenny DeLong and Amy Gauthier; OD—Josh Bambach and Denise Peters;

Junior Handler—Tammi Savage and Deb Nihart; ASD—Christy Helmes and Neal Minard.

Entries to: KENNY DeLONG, 1450 Shady Ln., Greenville, MI 48838

Phone: (616) 894-7447 • Email: birddawgger@hotmail.com

NBOGCA will host the Restricted Breed Cover Dog Championship, Saturday, October 3, in conjunction with our Fall Field Trial, October 1-4, at the Gladwin Field Trial Area.

LAKE STATES FIELD TRIAL CLUB

— On behalf of the Association of Michigan Field Trial Clubs, Inc. —

Member AFTCA & AMFTC • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!
 UKC/American Field requirements regarding electronic devices will be enforced!

AUGUST 8-9, 2026 • STARTS 7:00 A.M.

GLADWIN FIELD TRIAL AREA, MEREDITH, MI

Drawing: Tuesday, August 4, 7:00 p.m., by Hunt Secretary and certified Wednesday, August 5, by club president Lonnie Rademacher and secretary/treasurer Denise Peters.

(Sat.) OPEN SHOOTING DOG QUALIFIER (30 Min.)—Multiple Courses ... \$55.00

(Sun.) MIKE GROSTIC AMATEUR

SHOOTING DOG MEMORIAL (30 Min.)—Multiple Courses..... \$55.00

Rotating Amateur Trophy and Ribbons will be awarded.

Judges: OSD—To be announced; ASD—Frank Ilijanic and Marc Forman.



Enter at: www.huntsecretary.com

Email entries to: HELENA LARKIN

Email: AKCdiv@huntsecretary.com • Phone: (936) 852-2080

All other questions may be directed to:

Lonnie Rademacher, President • Phone: (517) 303-9616

-or- Denise Peters, Secretary/Treasurer • Phone: (269) 209-1255

Entrants and spectators participate at their own risk. LSFTC and/or its officers are not responsible for injury or accidents.



MOHEGAN BIRD DOG CLUB

Member USCSA & AFTCA • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

AUGUST 21-22, 2026 • STARTS 8:00 A.M.

Grounds: Freeland Kennel Club (GPS: 258 S. Stagecoach Rd., Weatherly, PA 18255). To be run on native and liberated game birds. **Drawing:** Wednesday, August 19, 3:00 p.m., at Midnight Kennel.

(Fri.) OPEN PUPPY—Ribbons\$40.00

OPEN DERBY—Ribbons\$60.00

(Sat.) *RICHARD WARTERS OPEN DERBY CLASSIC\$60.00

**Awards/Ribbons and Rotating Trophy*

AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG—Ribbons\$60.00

Judges: Jon Ferdinand, Joe Vinsky, Pedja Kazic, and Shane Knarr.



Entries to: ROBERT ECKER • (570) 778-3009 • [Text Only]

Club members and landowners not responsible for accidents.

NEW ENGLAND BIRD DOG CLUB

Member AFTCA & ANFTC • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

AUGUST 29-30, 2026 • STARTS 7:30 A.M.

GLOVER FARM WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA,

FERRY RD., DUMMER, NH

Trial is held in cooperation with the

NH Fish and Game Department and the Glover Family.

Drawing: Thursday, August 27, 7:00 p.m. (EDT),

at the home of Kelly Hays, Columbia, NH.

(Sat.) OPEN PUPPY\$25.00

OPEN DERBY\$35.00

OPEN SHOOTING DOG\$35.00

OPEN RESTRICTED DERBY\$35.00

(Sun.) OPEN GUN DOG—Unrecognized; Judgment ceases at flush .. \$25.00

OPEN SHOOTING DOG\$35.00

OPEN DERBY\$35.00

OPEN RESTRICTED SHOOTING DOG—If time permits\$35.00

Judges: To be announced

Entries to: KELLY HAYS, Trial Chairperson • Columbia, NH

Phone/Text: (802) 782-1097 • Email: mymagicgardner@yahoo.com

SOUTHWESTERN CHAMPIONSHIP

"Where Legends Are Made"

Additional \$10,000 Purse

Begins Wednesday, September 2, 2026, 7:30 A.M. (CST)

The Johnson Ranches, Trail City, SD



Stakes & Order of Running:

JOHN SEAWRIGHT MEMORIAL OPEN DERBY (30-Minute Heats) • Entry Fee: \$150.00

Purse: 60% of entry fees divided 50-30-20

SOUTHWESTERN CHAMPIONSHIP (One-Hour Heats) • Entry Fee: \$350.00

Purse: 60% of entry fees divided 70-30; Runner-up named at judges' discretion.

ADDITIONAL AWARDS:

\$1,000 TO TOP AMATEUR ALL-AGE & \$1,000 TO TOP AMATEUR DERBY

Judges: Dr. Kirk Loftin, Azle, TX, And Sherri Tangsrud, Macks Creek, MO • **Reporter:** Claudia McNamee • Chattahoochee Hills, GA

Entry Deadline & Drawing: Saturday, August 29, 12 Noon (CST).

Text entries to: CLAUDIA McNAMEE—(914) 646-5812

Accommodations: Mobridge Kountry Inn, Mobridge, SD—Phone: (605) 845-7215 • Country Cabins, Mobridge, SD—Phone: (605) 848-2752

Grounds & National Championship Requirement Fee of \$50/dog for Championship and \$25/dog for Derby are included in entry fees listed. Not included in Purse.

GARLAND PRIDDY, President • Phone: (601) 259-1515

KATHY PRIDDY, Secretary/Treasurer • Phone: (601) 940-4563

Directors: Lee Phillips, Luke Eisenhart, Claudia McNamee, Tom Shenker, Judd Carlton

JIM CIPPONERI, Region 13 President

Denise Peters, Region 13 Secretary

Running in the Woods

REGION 13 (AFTCA)

**AMATEUR WALKING SHOOTING DOG
CHAMPIONSHIP**

**Friday, September 25, 2026
Starts 8:00 a.m.**



**Gladwin Field Trial Area,
Meredith, MI**

Hosted by the Michigan Amateur Field Trial Club

— On behalf of the Association of Michigan Field Trial Clubs, Inc. —

Member AFTCA & AMFTC • Blank Ammo & Solid Barrel Guns Only!

Entry Fee: \$125.00 • One-Hour Braces • Champion to be named on native grouse or woodcock

Rosettes and custom plaques to Champion and Runner-up Champion

Judges: Mark Hughes, Clearfield, PA, and Christie Helmes, Ionia, MI • **Stakes Manager:** Richard Hollister

(Sat.) AMATEUR PUPPY (20 Min.)—Start time to be announced; Single course; Rosettes \$35.00

(Sun.) AMATEUR DERBY (30 Min.)—Start time to be announced; Multiple courses; Rosettes & AFTCA Win Certificates \$45.00

Judges: AP—Bill Darr, Grand Ledge, MI, and Tom Vanecek, Saint Charles, MI; AD—Rachel Butler, Traunuk, MI, and one to be announced.

Entries Close: Sunday, September 20, 9:00 p.m. (EDT). **Drawing:** Monday, September 21, 9:00 p.m. (EDT), at the home of Richard Hollister.

Championship Qualification: A recognized placement in an Amateur Derby or Amateur Shooting Dog stake. For all AFTCA-sanctioned events, you must be an individual AFTCA member to enter your dog. Use of retrieval collars is allowed in all stakes under strict compliance of AFTCA Guidelines. Lunches available each day on the grounds.

Entries to: RICHARD HOLLISTER, MAFTC Vice President • Phone: (989) 390-7805 • Email: dunroven1@hotmail.com

Bob Wheelock, MAFTC President [bobwheelock@comcast.net] • Eric Naus, MAFTC 2nd Vice President • Ann Naus, MAFTC Secretary/Treasurer • MAFTC Directors: Rob Ellis, Chris Jaeger, Kit Foster

Entries are accepted with the understanding that the AFTCA, Region 13, their members and landowners are not in any way responsible and cannot be held liable for any damages to persons, horses, dogs, or equipment incurred while participating or attending.

Amateur Field Trial Clubs of America

www.aftca.org

Piper Huffman, Secretary
Phone: (662) 223-0126
Email: piper.huffman@aim.com

American Bird Hunters Association

www.facebook.com/trialabha/

Ronnie Rogers, President
Phone: (865) 712-9229
Email: esetter34@yahoo.com

National Bird Hunters Association

www.nbhadoop.org

Ken Sauer, President
Phone: (281) 960-2508
Email: kfsauer@sbcglobal.net
Tim Penn, Secretary
Phone: (660) 341-1165
Email: tpennhwy6@gmail.com

National German Shorthaired Pointer Association

www.ngspa.org

Natalie Inderman, Secretary
Phone: (806) 777-2769
Email: Nataliealicia@gmail.com

National Red Setter Field Trial Club

www.nrsftc.com

Ed Liermann
Phone: (414) 625-0715
Email: eal1886@aol.com

National Vizsla Association

www.thenva.org

Todd Meyer
Phone: (414) 531-9390
Email: Tmeyer2243@wi.rr.com

Southern Bird Hunters Association

www.southernbirdhunters.org

Marty Robinson, President
Phone: (770) 862-6568
Georgia Casey, Treasurer
Phone: (618) 638-2952

U.S. Complete Shooting Dog Association

www.uscomplete.org

Bill Bonnetti, President
Phone: (508) 648-0598
Email: bonnetti-william@comcast.net
Dean Avillion, Vice President
Phone: (570) 956-0744
Email: hrkpointer@yahoo.com
Jameson Crandall, Secretary/Treasurer
Phone: (804) 577-3788
Email: jameson.crandall@gmail.com

FUTURITIES
Grand National Grouse Futurity

Thor Kain
Phone: (570) 702-6670
Email: TKain63@gmail.com

Midwest Vizsla Futurity

Andrea Northwood
Phone: (608) 220-4151
Email: anorthwood13@gmail.com

National Bird Hunters Assn. Futurity

Jim Ogle
Phone: (417) 388-0734
Email: jojosenglishsetters@gmail.com

National German Shorthaired Pointer Assn.

Jeff Wallace, Futurity Manager
Phone: (641) 891-9513
Email: jeffwallace@iowatelecom.net

National Red Setter Futurity

James Inbody
Phone: (330) 306-8065
Email: BonasaHunter72@aol.com

National Shooting Dog Futurity

Mark Hughes
Phone: (814) 591-3540
Email: mdh275@gmail.com

National Walking Shooting Dog Futurity

Krysta Munden
Phone: (724) 840-8400
Email: krystamunden@gmail.com

New England Shooting Dog Futurity

Margaret C. Drew
Phone: (910) 206-0079
Email: margaret drew39@gmail.com

North American Woodcock Futurity

Joe Dahl
Phone: (207) 478-3063
Email: JosephDahl@aol.com

Southern Bird Hunters Assn. Futurity

Bruce Mercer
Phone: (470) 345-6369
Email: mercerbruce@hotmail.com

U.S. Complete Shooting Dog Assn. Futurity

Verlene Stephenson
Phone: (252) 589-1521
Email: verlene_stephenson@ncsu.edu

United States Quail Shooting Dog Futurity

Margaret C. Drew
Phone: (910) 206-0079
Email: bmdrew@windstream.net

RECOGNIZED FIELD TRIALS
Black Ash Wild Bird Dog Club

August 8 / Guys Mills, PA
Contact: John McKellop
Phone: (814) 795-7691

Lake States Field Trial Club

August 8 / Meredith, MI
Contact: Helena Larkin
Phone: (936) 852-2080
Email: AKCdiv@huntsecretary.com

Beaverton Grouse Dog Club

August 15 / Meredith, MI
Contact: Ken Moss
Phone: (989) 330-0430

National Brittany Open Grouse Championship Association

August 22 / Meredith, MI
Contact: Kenny DeLong
Phone: (616) 894-7447
Email: birddawgger@hotmail.com

New England Bird Dog Club

August 29 / Dummer, NH
Contact: Kelly Hays
Phone: (802) 782-1097
Email: mymagicgardner@yahoo.com

NGSPA Sharptail Championships

September 1 / Baker, MT
Contact: Brandon Blum
Phone: (480) 734-1259

Southwestern Championship

September 2 / Trail City, SD
Contact: Garland Priddy
Phone: (601) 259-1515

Mortlach Field Trial Club

September 10 / Mortlach, SK
Contact: Brenda Ochosky
Phone: (306) 229-6581

Northeastern Grouse & Woodcock Championship

September 25 / Frankfort, ME
Contact: Jon Cullen
Phone: (207) 991-7039
Email: Jonathancullen7@gmail.com

Region 13 (AFTCA) Amateur Walking Shooting Dog Championship

September 25 / Meredith, MI
Contact: Richard Hollister
Phone: (989) 390-7805
Email: dunroven1@hotmail.com

CanAm Open Shooting Dog Classic

October 1 / Ontario, OR
Contact: Bill Owen
Phone: (805) 886-7339

Holler Point Field Trial Club

October 1 / Abilene, KS
Contact: Diane Shoemaker
Phone: (816) 309-4773

NVA National Quail Championships & Derby Classic

October 24 / Cutler, IL
Contact: Matt Rogers
Phone: (614) 216-5006

Conecuh Station Open Shooting Dog Classic

November 2 / Union Springs, AL
Contact: Lisa Littell
Phone: (334) 649-0076
Email: lisa.littell@jinkscrow.com

Region 17 (AFTCA) Amateur All-Age Championship

November 5 / Abilene, KS
Contact: Diane Shoemaker
Phone: (816) 309-4773

Alabama Open Shooting Dog Championship

November 30 / Union Springs, AL
Contact: Lisa Littell
Phone: (334) 649-0076
Email: lisa.littell@jinkscrow.com

Conecuh Station Field Trial Club

December 10 / Union Springs, AL
Contact: Lisa Littell
Phone: (334) 649-0076
Email: lisa.littell@jinkscrow.com

ABHA TRIALS

[No trials scheduled]

NBHA TRIALS
NBHA Sharptail Championship

October 20 / Danbury, WI
Contact: Helena Larkin
Phone: (936) 852-2080
Email: AKCdiv@huntsecretary.com

SBHA TRIALS

[No trials scheduled]

USCSDA TRIALS
Mohegan Bird Dog Club

August 21 / Weatherly, PA
Contact: Robert Ecker
Phone: (570) 778-3009

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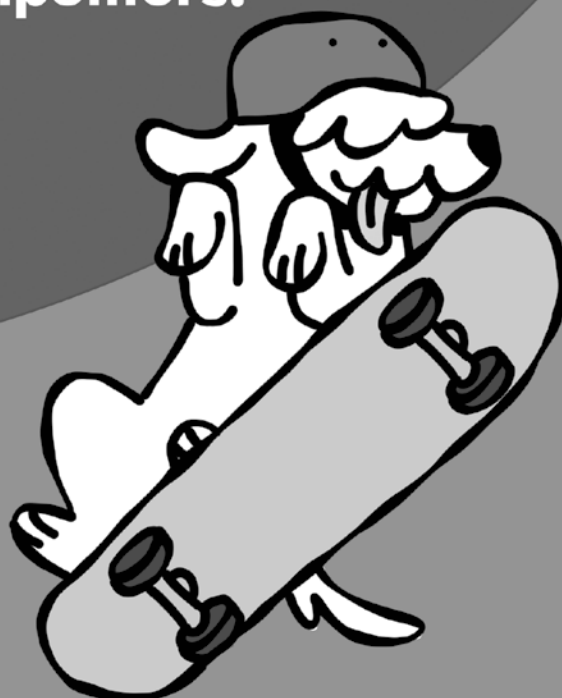
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