



# Field Trials Newsletter

Spring 2024

## The Kennel Club Any Variety Spaniel (Excluding Spaniel [Cocker]) Championship report

By Kate Broers

The 93rd Kennel Club Any Variety Spaniel [Excluding Spaniel (Cocker)] Championship was held on Monday 15 – Wednesday 17 January 2024 at Warden Hill Farm in the North Pennines by kind permission of landowner Robert Morley.

Warden Hill Farm was purchased by the Morley family in May of 1924, and the family were delighted to be able to celebrate the Estate's centenary year by holding The Kennel Club's Any Variety Spaniel Championship. Bought by current owner Mr Robert Morley's father, the working farm comprises of 750 acres of rich grazing across areas of the North Pennines, and

currently hosts both cattle and sheep stock across the hills and valleys of the stunning landscape.

The farm is situated in the North Pennines, an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and the land is protected to conserve and enhance its historic beauty. The area supports a healthy population of black grouse, a red listed native species which requires a complex variety of different habitats for survival and the Estate's careful grazing programme supports this eye catching and rare bird.

The Kennel Club were particularly indebted to Robert, his family and son in law Jimmy Brough for hosting the Championship this year after the original venue was unable to hold the event due to significant storm damage at the end of 2023. The family were extremely accommodating in assisting with all arrangements of the event, working in conjunction with the Spaniel Championship Working Party.



Warden Hill Farm in the North Pennines  
© ARC Photography

## A round-up from the editor

Welcome to the spring 2024 edition of the Field Trials Newsletter.

We hope that competitors, judges and societies all had a successful 2023/24 season! As we all prepare for the season ahead, this edition of the field trials newsletter takes a look back at The Kennel Club trials and championships that have taken place in the 2023/24 season. Also included is a report from the training days for Pointers and Setters, which highlights the use of Emblehope & Burngrange Estate and the experience handlers gain from training on moorland.

As well as these jam packed reports, you will also find our usual features and updates for judges and societies!

If you have any questions relating to The Kennel Club's field trials, please contact Kate Broers at the following email address: [ft.secretary@thekennelclub.org.uk](mailto:ft.secretary@thekennelclub.org.uk)

If you have any queries relating to field trials or have general questions relating to licences, judges etc, please email the team at [gundogs@thekennelclub.org.uk](mailto:gundogs@thekennelclub.org.uk)

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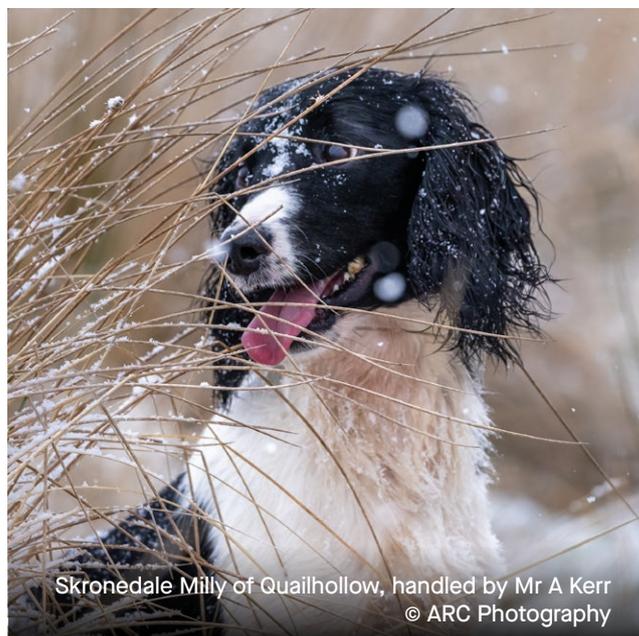
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#### Day one

The Championship began on Monday 15 January as the country was experiencing a particularly harsh cold snap and once the morning announcements were made at the meet field, the 55 competitors as well as judges, guns and spectators pulled on their warmest clothing and set off to the running ground. The judges; Gary Smith and Ivan Wilson lining out on the right next to a small burn, and Dave Rayner and Jeff Rayner taking their positions on the left higher up the paddock. The opening rush filled allotments were inhabited by a wild pheasant population and the gallery were held back to create the best conditions for the dogs and game.

The dense clumps of rushes lent themselves to concealing game and the opening two dogs were unfortunately unable to locate a hen pheasant which had tucked in tightly to the side of the beck. FTCh Broomfield Sarafina owned and handled by Eddie Scott had a good first run, hunting the ground with style, and



Skronedale Milly of Quailhollow, handled by Mr A Kerr  
© ARC Photography

making neat work on a hen bird retrieve. Running on the opposite side, Skronedale Milly of Quailhollow, owned and handled by Adam Kerr had a flush on a rabbit which was shot and completed. Simon Dixon was next in on the left with FTCh Dawsonlee Maddy, the bitch hunting through the green grass field which was interspersed with rushy tussocks and being rewarded with a flush and retrieve on a woodcock. The area also proved fruitful for Ronan Gorman's Commonshall Mayfly, producing a cock pheasant which was nicely collected.

The icy wind was blowing strongly into the faces of the handlers and spectators as Mick Walsh's FTCh Rytex Reo of Hollydrive flushed a cock pheasant straight off the lead which was efficiently picked. The dog was hunted on, showing his steadiness as a parliament of short-eared owls lifted from the cover, and secured another flush and retrieve, which completed his run. As midday approached the judges and competitors were all grateful of the lunch break which gave an opportunity to defrost slightly in the vehicles.



Judge Mr I Wilson and handler Mr S Dixon  
© ARC Photography

After lunch the working line took their places in the largest of the allotments, once again bordered by traditional stone walls and with a small beck running along its boundary. The gallery was brought down to the running line and as the dogs set off across the ground the spectators watched on eagerly. The game distribution was excellent with all dogs getting the opportunity for a find, and whilst some dogs ended their Championship hopes early, the mood was buoyant as the judges worked their way through the card.

The day one gun team was comprised of Jimmy Brough, Richard Claydon, Colin Scott, and Colin Smith. The talented team worked extremely hard in extraordinarily difficult weather conditions; the biting cold and bright sunshine made for challenging shooting, but the team were certainly up to the task.

Steve Tyson's Dawsonlee Oddesy was sent over the dry-stone wall to pick a hen pheasant which was well hit on the right, completing their first run.

Eddie Scott's second dog in this season's Championship was Broomfield Jackie and the dog hunted the cover smoothly, flushing a pheasant which sailed away over the hill, but as the dog was called back into line, she was sent for a blind retrieve on a loose bird which was efficiently picked.

The working line travelled out of the allotment and onto grass covered scars, the steep hills of the stunning landscape proving profitable as Championship newcomer Alan Clouston and FTCh Meikleburn Dark Island had two retrieves over the crest of the hill. Orrin Ingram's FTCh Rytex Rapeds was back to defend her 2023 Championship title, this year handled by Simon Dixon, one of four Championship qualifiers handled by the experienced gundog trainer. The black and white bitch was rewarded for her hunting efforts with a cock pheasant flush and retrieve.

Steve Blackwell's Broomfield Humbolt was sent for a loose pheasant which was nicely retrieved, and when the dog on the opposite side failed on a retrieve, Broomfield Humbolt was brought over to the right and picked, completing her first Championship run with the eye wipe.

As the line made their way back into the large allotment Tom Tanner's Rosebay Blue took her place under the judges. As one of the youngest dogs in the Championship at just under two years old the pairing had done exceedingly well to qualify for this year's event, achieving a tidy flush and retrieve on their first run. Flaxdale West, owned and handled by David Cairns ran well on the left, achieving a flush and retrieve on a hen bird completing their run. Raymond Wilson's FTCh Saxonvale Bo hunted the headwind well, covering her gun line and demonstrating her steadiness on a shot rabbit that was neatly retrieved. Skitters Waggy, owned and handled by Barry Faley was next in on the left, making swift work in locating a tightly tucked pheasant and retrieving the hen bird tidily to hand. Tina Nicholas' FTCh Roman Lucy of Spanbella, handled by Steve Brewer had a neat run, flushing and retrieving a cock pheasant. The bitch was followed by FTCh Severnbirch Bella the first of three qualified dogs owned and handled by Aubrey Ladyman, who had a flush and retrieve on a rabbit before being brought across to the left to pick a hare which had been failed on by the other side, the eye wipe completing Aubrey's first run.

William Johnstone and Jon Bailey were the final handlers in for the day as the winter sun began to sink behind the dramatic hilltops of the North Pennines. A flushed rabbit was rapidly retrieved by Jon Bailey's FTCh Churchview Cortinio, swiftly followed by a flush on a pheasant which was pricked by the far-right gun, landing in front of the watching gallery. Cortinio was sent but couldn't locate the hen and Bill Johnstone's Kenxtwen Sweet Topaz was brought over to try from the other side without success. The judges all thoroughly searched the area but also failed to find the bird leaving the picker up Martin Ford the last task of the day as the weary judges and competitors made their way back to the vehicles.



The gallery © ARC Photography

## Day two

Bill Johnstone and Jon Bailey took their places in line at the start of day two of the Championship to continue their runs from the previous day. Kenxtwen Sweet Topaz completed her run with a flush and retrieve on a cock pheasant, and FTCh Churchview Cortinio completed his run with a flush and retrieve on a woodcock.

The new area of high ground above the Morley Farm proved fruitful as David Massey's FTCh Borransfell Moneypenny made an efficient job of a flush and retrieve on a cock bird taking shelter in the rushes. Kevin Richardson's Willowsaul Whirr was hunted across the rush filled shallow gully and as the left were changing dogs a loose hare was shot and Whirr was brought across to pick the leggy lepus, completing their run.

As the dogs were called swiftly through to the running line the waiting competitors hurried to gather at the number board in anticipation of their run. Mark Clifford's Belvden Yarnold handled by Mark Colclough was brought in for their first run, joining Terry Siwek's FTCh Shiveck Primat, both dogs completing their runs as light flurries of snow began dusting all those in attendance. Louis Rice's FTCh Sliabh Aoife had a successful innings, the Irish qualified dog picking a flushed rabbit completing their run and bringing Kim Stewart and FTCh Broomfield Vera at Taykimoor in on the right-hand side. The little bitch had a tidy run, flushing a cock pheasant which was neatly picked, followed by a nice flush and retrieve on a rabbit, bringing the partnership's first run to a close. The second of Mark Clifford's dogs was the final first-round dog on the right, FTCh Gorsebay Rue picking a cock bird and completing their run.

Aubrey Ladyman's FTCh Rosebay Meadow was brought in as the last dog on the left, the bitch flushing a hen pheasant as she came off the lead. She was hunted on, flushing another hen bird off her nose which was eventually downed by the far gun, creating an 80 yard retrieve which was executed with style and with very little handling from Aubrey, much to the admiration of the watching gallery. The stewards had done a fantastic job in organising the dogs and handlers, and the second round followed smoothly on, with the first of the second-round dogs being brought into line as the competitors set off into the next allotment.

Eddie Scott and FTCh Broomfield Sarafina were first in on the left-hand side under judges Dave Rayner and Jeff Rayner, with Menewa Daisy, owned and handled by Steve Bates on the right under judges Gary Smith and Ivan Wilson. As the gallery peered over the bordering wall,

both sides of the line completed their runs with a rabbit flush and retrieve for each dog. Gary Wilson's Skronedale Sabina of Lisnalinchy and Adam Kerr's Skroendale Milly of Quailhollow completed their second runs, bringing Simon Dixon and FTCh Dawsonlee Maddy and Mick Walsh's FTCh Rytex Reo of Hollydrive into line, Reo completing his run with a flushed rabbit which bolted out and was well shot by the left-hand gun. The gun team spread out across the rushy gully and Shiveck Sovereign of Craigs court, handled by Craig Killpack had a flush and retrieve on a cock pheasant which was sitting tightly in the snow-covered tussocks.

As the judges, guns and stewards moved out of the allotment Simon Dixon's FTCh Dawsonlee Maddy completed her run with a tidy flush and retrieve on a hare, followed by Commonshall Mayfly, owned and handled by Ronan Gorman; the partnership achieving two consecutive flushes on cock pheasants which completed their second run.

Last year's winner, Orrin Ingram's FTCh Rytex Rapeds was next in on the right and Steve Tyson's Dawsonlee Odyssey on the left as the line worked their way back to the vehicles, the last of the beat still yielding game, Rapeds flushing a rabbit which was well shot and retrieved and Odyssey also completed her run, bringing the High Lot ground to a close.

The Championship party travelled back into the rush filled allotment which had proved so successful for day one of the event. David Cairn's Flaxdale West and Eddie Scott's Broomfield Jackie started the new beat, Flaxdale West flushing a cock pheasant straight off the lead which unfortunately was not picked, giving Broomfield Jackie the opportunity for an eye wipe which the dog efficiently accomplished. Raymond Wilson's FTCh Saxonvale Bo, Barry Faley's Skitters Waggy and Alan Clouston's FTCh Meikleburn Dark Island all completed their second run, each dog achieving a flush and retrieve on three cock pheasants which were hunkered down against the winter weather. Tom Tanner and Rosebay Blue made neat work of a flush and retrieve on a hen pheasant and Bill Johnstone's Kenxtwen Sweet Topaz also stylishly completed her second Championship run.

The judges and guns worked their way uphill across the allotment, the dogs hunting the cover thoroughly in search of the concealed game, David Massey's FTCh Borransfell Moneypenny getting a long run under the right-hand judges and achieving three finds for her efforts. One of only ten male dogs competing in this season's event; Jon Bailey's FTCh Churchview Cortinio had a flush and retrieve straight off the lead and was briefly hunted on and completed, bringing Kevin Richardson's Willowsaul Whirr and Mark Clifford's Belvden Yarnold to draw the second day of the Championship to a close.

## Day three

Day three of the event started bright and clear and just seven dogs remained to be seen by the judges to complete their Championship runs. The large allotment that had been the setting for day one and the close of day two was once again the running ground for the final day and the convoy of 4x4 vehicles trundled their way to the top side of the paddock as the judges and guns lined out for the last time.



Tailorsdrift Fidelis handled by Mr J Atkinson  
© ARC Photography

Finishing the runs they had begun the previous day, Kevin Richardson's Willowsaul Whirr and Mark Clifford's Belvden Yarnold completed their Championships successfully. Terry Siwek and FTCh Shiveck Primat bolted a hare from its scrape which was well shot, the little bitch retrieving the animal efficiently. Aubrey Ladyman's FTCh Rosebay Meadow was the final dog in on the right, the dog hunting hard through the scattered mosaic of thick rush beds and grazed grassland and was compensated for her endeavours with a flush and retrieve on a hen pheasant.

The gallery had excellent viewing as Louis Rice's FTCh Sliabh Aoife was hunted up the hill through a reed bed gully, the dog showing her quality with a nice flush on a cock bird which was picked, completing their run. FTCh Broomfield Vera at Taykimoor owned and handled by Kim Stewart flushed and picked a hen pheasant straight off the lead followed by a woodcock which evaded several barrels before towering down 30 yards from the dog. The little bitch was handled to the fall and picked the migratory wading bird and completed her run. The last dog of the event, Mark Clifford's Gorsebay Rue brought the second round to a close with a flush and retrieve on a hen pheasant, the allotment once again proving its quality as a spaniel trialling ground with eight finds from a mere 500 yards of cover.

The judges reviewed their books and following their discussions it was announced that three dogs would be called for a runoff. Simon Dixon's FTCh Dawsonlee Maddy, Ronan Gorman's Commonshall Mayfly and Aubrey Ladyman's FTCh Rosebay Meadow took it in turns to hunt along the final beat of the Championship with the watching crowd in hushed anticipation. The three dogs' hunting pattern was studied again by the judges and the Championship was concluded.

### Presentation and Awards

The presentation was made by Chairman of the Working Party Jon Kean and the spectators gathered round the impressive display of trophies which are awarded to the various award winners of the Championship. As the awards were read out in reverse order the excitement was palpable as competitors and spectators alike applauded those who had done well over the course of the three days.

The winner of the Championship was announced as FTCh Rosebay Meadow - known at home as Bella, a three-year-old English Springer Spaniel from Milton Keynes owned and handled by Aubrey Ladyman.

Following the Championship Aubrey said *"FTCh Rosebay Meadow, known as Bella, was bred by myself in 2020. Her dam, FTCh Walkers Winkle is one of the nicest*

*bitches I've had and her sire is FTCh Hollydrive Bert. Bella is an absolute pleasure to have around the kennels and loves to train, she is loyal, has great game finding ability and is stylish and hard hunting with good gun sense. Bella was made up in four runs which demonstrates what a quality bitch she is. I would like to thank The Kennel Club Working Party for doing such a great job in rearranging a successful Championship at such short notice. I was very proud to be announced the winner and Guns' choice after three days of tough weather conditions, and I look forward to competing again in the future."*

We would like to thank all those involved in the Championship, The Kennel Club for funding and organising the event, the Spaniel Championship Working Party for all their hard work, the guns for shooting so well over the dogs and to the volunteers without whom we would not be able to successfully run the event.

Thanks must also go to our sponsors, Skinner's, Sporting Saint and the British Association for Shooting and Conservation (BASC). We would also like to thank ACME whistles for providing an engraved whistle to the winning handler. Skinner's give an awful lot to the world of working dogs and are passionate about providing the best nutrition for our gundog needs. Sporting Saint are one of the UK's leading suppliers of gundog training equipment and BASC work to promote and protect sporting shooting and the well-being of the countryside. All our sponsors are greatly appreciated, and we would not be able to run these events without their generous support.

Ben Skinner, Director of Skinner's, said *"Skinner's were delighted to attend the AV Spaniel Championship, and despite the circumstances the Estate provided excellent ground on which to demonstrate the capabilities of the competing dogs and handlers alike. We are immensely proud to sponsor these premier gundog events and it is a pleasure working in partnership with The Kennel Club. Well done to all those who qualified and competed."*

Gerald Hunston, BASC's gamekeeping and working dog advisor, said *"BASC was delighted to support this year's AV spaniel Championship. It was impressive to see the standard of the dogs and their handlers at the top of their game competing against each other, especially in such adverse weather conditions. On behalf of BASC I would like to thank the competitors and everyone involved in the organisation of the event and congratulate the winners on their well-deserved success."*

Ben McFarlane from ACME Whistles said *"ACME Whistles are proud to play our small part in making The Kennel Club AV Spaniel Championship what it is. By supporting the event and the wider community associated to it, ACME brings our wealth of heritage, experience and expertise, aspects that any winner of the Championship has in abundance."*

Thanks must finally go to our host the Morley Family, in particular Robert and his son in law Jimmy Brough and his keeping team for hosting the Championship on this very special family-run Estate and for allowing the Championship to go ahead.

The judges for the competition did a fantastic job of distinguishing between the dogs over the course of the three days despite the challenging weather conditions.



The judges; Gary Smith, Ivan Wilson, Dave Rayner and Jeff Rayner © ARC Photography

Judge Dave Rayner said “I would like to thank The Kennel Club and any club that nominated me to judge this season’s AV Championship. What a venue! Mr Morley and his team certainly pulled off one of the best trials I have ever had the pleasure of judging. Although it was extremely cold, with frozen rushes, and a fairly heavy fall of snow on the second day, it was superb, and my type of shooting. I don’t remember seeing any game running on throughout the three days we were there. It appeared to be totally natural and wild game. The dogs had to work the ground for their game, some were lucky, and found fairly quickly, others had to work a little harder. The guns were excellent and in extremely cold conditions. With a mixed bag of rabbits, hare, woodcock, pheasants and the odd flush on a short-eared owl or two certainly made a varied Championship. The dogs were fantastic, and an absolute joy to watch. It’s always a pleasure watching the best spaniels in the country and probably the world. The eventual winner was particularly outstanding.”

**The results of the Championship are as follows:**

**1st place and Guns’ Choice – FTCh Rosebay Meadow,**

owned and handled by Mr A Ladyman

**2nd place – FTCh Dawsonlee Maddy,**

owned and handled by Mr S Dixon

**3rd place - Commonshall Mayfly,**

owned and handled by Mr R Gorman

**4th place – FTCh Borransfell Moneypenny,**

owned and handled by Mr D Massey



Winner of the Championship, FTCh Rosebay Meadow and Mr A Ladyman © ARC Photography

**Diploma of Merits awarded:**

**FTCh Broomfield Sarafina,**

owned and handled by Mr E Scott

**Menewa Daisy,**

owned and handled by Mr S Bates

**Skronedale Milly of Quailhollow,**

owned and handled by Mr A Kerr

**FTCh Rytex Reo of Hollydrive,**

owned and handled by Mr M Walsh

**Dawsonlee Oddesy,**

owned and handled by Mr S Tyson

**FTCh Rytex Rapeds,**

owned by Mr O Ingram, handled by Mr S Dixon

**Broomfield Jackie,**

owned and handled by Mr E Scott

**FTCh Meikleburn Dark Island,**

owned and handled by Mr A Clouston

**Broomfield Humboldt,**

owned and handled by Mr S Blackwell

**FTCh Saxonvale Bo,**

owned and handled by Mr R Wilson

**Skitters Waggy,**

owned and handled by Mr B Faley

**Rosebay Blue,**

owned and handled by Mr T Tanner

**Kenxtwen Sweet Topaz,**

owned and handled by Mr B Johnstone

**FTCh Churchview Cortinio,**

owned and handled by Mr J Bailey

**FTCh Shiveck Primat,**

owned and handled by Miss T Siwek

**Int FTCh Sliabh Aoife,**

owned and handled by Mr L Rice

**FTCh Broomfield Vera at Taykimoor,**

owned and handled by Ms K Stewart

**Gorsebay Rue,**

owned and handled by Mr M Clifford

The T.J Greatorex Memorial Trophy, which recognises the dog placed highest in the awards whose handler was also competing in the Championship for the first time, was awarded to FTCh Meikleburn Dark Island, owned and handled by Mr A Clouston, while the Thomas Gaunt Trophy, which is given to the Best Dog in the Championship was awarded to FTCh Churchview Cortinio, owned and handled by Mr J Bailey.



# The Kennel Club Cocker Spaniel Championship report

By Kate Broers

The Cocker Spaniel Championship was held on Friday 5 and Saturday 6 January 2024 at The Kennel Club's Emblehope & Burngrange Estate in Northumberland.

FTCh Endashaw Desire, a two-year old Cocker Spaniel from Hereford has won the 93rd Kennel Club Cocker Spaniel Championship, sponsored by Skinner's, Sporting Saint Gundog Equipment Suppliers and the British Association for Shooting and Conservation (BASC).

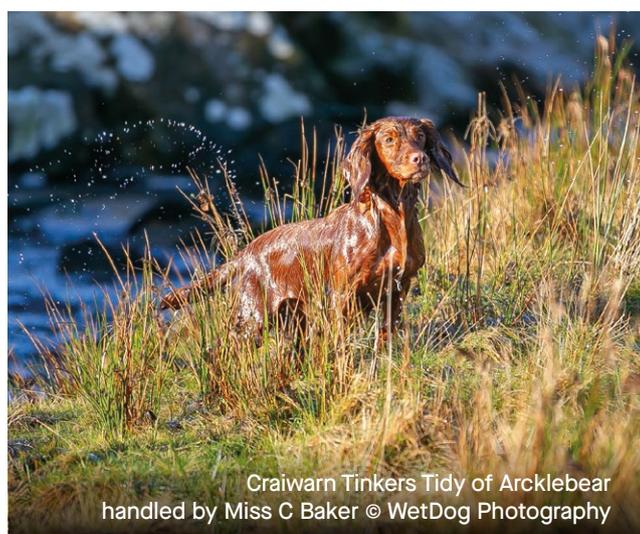


The judges; L-R Gareth Davies, Nick Gregory, Jeremy Davies and Paul Rawlings © WetDog Photography



FTCh Endashaw Desire and Mr G Lockyer © WetDog Photography

The Championship was a great success and thanks must go to all who were involved in the planning, preparation and running of the event. Head Game Keeper Raymond Holt prepared the ground wonderfully, which was an impressive setting of bracken filled grassland on the edge of the spectacular Kielder Forest. The Estate was the ideal setting for the dogs and handlers to demonstrate their skills.



Craiwarn Tinkers Tidy of Arcklebear handled by Miss C Baker © WetDog Photography

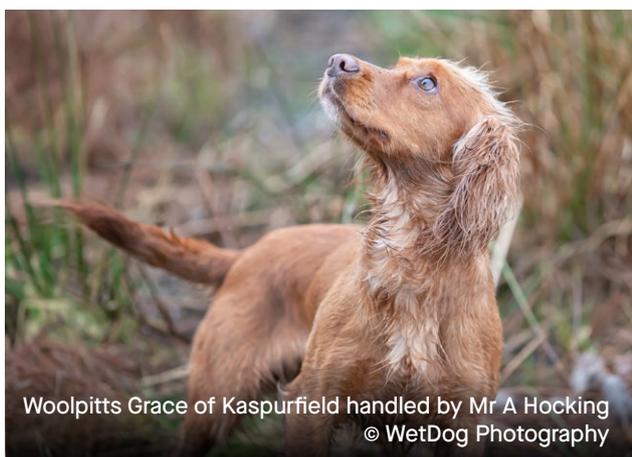
Thanks must also go to the judges; Gareth Davies, Jeremy Davies, Nick Gregory and Paul Rawlings for their time and expertise when judging the dogs. They handled the two days with patience, understanding and skill.

Finally, we would also like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to our sponsors, Skinner's, Sporting Saint Gundog Equipment Suppliers and BASC. Skinner's give an awful lot to the world of working dogs and are passionate about providing the best nutrition for our gundog needs. Sporting Saint are one of the UK's leading suppliers of gundog training equipment and BASC work to promote and protect sporting shooting and the well-being of the countryside. All our sponsors are greatly appreciated, and we would not be able to run these events without their generous support.

Judge, Paul Rawlings, added *"I was honoured to be part of the judging team and we were able to test every competing spaniel fully for their hunting, game-finding and retrieving ability. The award winners were outstanding and fully deserved such high recognition."*

Owned and handled by Gavin Lockyer, winning spaniel FTCh Endashaw Desire - known at home as Ria - was awarded first place in the competition, which saw 40 talented Cocker Spaniels tested on their natural working ability.

Speaking about their win, Gavin said: *"I am absolutely delighted to win the Cocker Spaniel Championship with Ria, and to have had the opportunity to compete against the best Cocker Spaniels in the country. Ria's a great all-round dog and I've really enjoyed competing with her. I was extremely proud of her performance over the two days and would like to thank all those involved in the organisation and the running of the Cocker Spaniel Championship. I would also like to thank everyone who has helped me along the way."*



Woolpitts Grace of Kaspurfield handled by Mr A Hocking © WetDog Photography

A more detailed report on the Cocker Spaniel Championship will follow in the summer field trials newsletter.

**The Results of the Championship are as follows:**

**1st place – FTCh Endashaw Desire,**  
owned and handled by Mr G Lockyer

**2nd place – Popsheath Abbie,**  
owned and handled by, Mr A Myers

**3rd place – FTCh Tiptopjack Firebug,**  
owned by Mr N Partiss, handled by Mr I Openshaw

**4th place – Breckmarsh Jana,**  
owned and handled by Mr L Cooper



Winner of the Championship, FTCh Endashaw Desire and Mr G Lockyer © WetDog Photography

**Diplomas of Merits awarded:**

**Wolferton Candy,**  
owned by HM The King, handled by Mr I Openshaw

**Mallowdale Jaffa,**  
owned and handled by Mr M Walsh

**Heathcroft Flynn of Tarncrag,**  
owned and handled by Ms F Ardley

**FTCh Delphaven Gina of Smallbrooks,**  
owned and handled by Mr G Marson (also Gun's Choice)

**FTCh Mallowdale Flair of Endashaw,**  
owned by Mr S Dixon, handled by Mr I Openshaw

**Delphaven Fern,**  
owned and handled by Mr Chris Slater

**Int FTCh Clentohill Jessie Jay,**  
owned and handled by Mr D Kelly

**Woolpitts Lossie,**  
owned and handled by Mr M Deacon

**FTCh Heathcroft Flora,**  
owned by Mr G Stubbings, handled by Mr J Walton

**FTCh Baildonmoor Bielsa,**  
owned and handled by Mr P Deal

**FTCh Woolpitts Shin of Poolgreen,** owned and handled by Mr W Clulee

**FTCh Uplands Bluebell of Badgerford,** owned by Mr P Lewis, handled by Mr Will Clulee

## The Kennel Club Any Variety HPR Championship report

By Kate Broers

The Kennel Club Hunt, Point and Retrieve (HPR) Championship was held at The Kennel Club's Emblehope and Burngrange Estate in Northumberland on Friday 17 and Saturday 18 November 2023. The 21st Championship was sponsored by Skinner's and Sporting Saint Gundog Equipment Suppliers, and The Kennel Club is most appreciative of their generous support.



Emblehope and Burngrange Estate © The Kennel Club / WetDog Photography



Emblehope and Burngrange Estate © The Kennel Club / WetDog Photography

The HPR Championship was the first gundog championship to be held at the spectacular northern estate and The Kennel Club were extremely grateful to Head Keeper Raymond Holt and his wife for their time and efforts in preparing the ground and game.

### Day One

The first day of the Championship began crisp and clear with a stunning sunrise over the Northumberland hills as the handlers and owners gathered in the Alan Rountree Cabin for the morning briefing. The atmosphere was of quiet excitement, and the 27 competitors, spectators and officials quickly moved into vehicles and set off to the starting point. There was a very slight breeze which made scenting conditions quite challenging for the dogs as judges Mr Mark Firmin and Ms Theo Gould cast their expert eyes over the opening competitors.



Judges Mark Firmin and Theo Gould  
© The Kennel Club / WetDog Photography

Mr R Akopov's German Wirehaired Pointer (GWP) FTCh Bruno Von Schwarzenberg pointed nicely in the rushes, the dog, handled by Rory Major, flushing a cock pheasant which was shot over a high stone wall and sailed out of reach down the gully. Mr and Mrs Webster's German Shorthaired Pointer (GSP) Deepthatch Rocket, handled by Ruth Webster, made a tidy job of his first run, hunting his beat steadily and being rewarded with a flush and a retrieve on a hen pheasant.

The line moved higher up the hill as an atmospheric light mist descended as Finbarr O'Sullivan's black GSP came into line. The dog covered the ground nicely, coming on to point on residual scent from a running bird. Last year's Championship winner Jim Bird's FTCh Sutchest Braun Gino did a lovely piece of work, the German Shorthaired Pointer dog setting off with drive and purpose beautifully in tune with his handler, but unfortunately the patchy scent in the high altitude meant the run was blank.

Mr and Mrs Parr's FTCh Bonario Fagiana was next up to take her place under the judges. The first ever Bracco Italiano to have been made up to a field trial champion, she demonstrated the powerful and stylish hunting style of this ancient breed as she worked through the waist high bracken. The Bracco was followed by Steve Kimberley's German Longhaired Pointer, Wamilanghaar Point Blanc of Caldera. The racy dog showed his capability and skill in a heavily populated area of bracken, using the wind and keeping his focus on a cock pheasant. He demonstrated his experience and talent in relocating his position to create a steady, positive point on the bird which was produced on command and was tidily retrieved.

The first of Louise Holmes' two qualified dogs, German Wirehaired Pointer Moorranner Isla at Gilleyfield had a lovely run on the crest of the bracken filled gully and was rewarded for her effort with a point and flush on a partridge, completing her run. Mrs J Gosling's German Shorthaired Pointer handled by Rory Major hunted nicely through the rushes, and clearly indicated the presence of game pulling the gun team forward with her. She was worked on by her handler and a cock pheasant lifted and was well shot by the waiting guns. Emma Hinchliff's German Shorthaired Pointer Ch Goosepoint Gloster Grebe was next under the judges and the powerful dog took

off across his beat with some pace. One of several full champion dogs running in the event having been awarded titles in both breed classes and field trials. The dog was keenly aware of the game tucked into the bracken and took some handling, but he covered his guns well and competed his first round run.

The high pressure of the event took its toll on the championship competitors and unfortunately a number of dogs were lost over the next few runs.

Large Munsterlander Ch Raycris the Temptress, owned by Mrs C Ogle and Dr R Suchett-Kaye and handled by Rory Major was next under judges Mark and Theo. Rory, handling four entries for this year's event, let the black and white dog work her beat and she made a stylish point on a covey of partridge which lifted, a single bird was shot and was tidily retrieved.



Mrs C Ogle and Dr R Suchett-Kaye's Large Munsterlander  
Ch Raycris the Temptress handled by Rory Major  
© The Kennel Club / WetDog Photography

The direction of the light wind continued to fluctuate which was not easy for the dogs to work, however Paul Nixon handled German Shorthaired Pointer FTCh Quintana Cloud Berry beautifully, as she did a stunning job of tracking a cock bird downwind and flushing on command. Unfortunately, the bird escaped the gun team, much to the disappointment of the bitch, judging by the incredulous look on her face as she watched the pheasant sail off into the woodland. The dog was hunted on to a covey of partridge where she made a stylish job of a point and retrieve.

## Day Two

Judges Mark Firmin and Theo Gould had brought eleven dogs through to the second day of the championship and the handlers and dogs were keen to get the day started. Unfortunately, the conditions were not as favourable as the previous day, with gentle drizzle and higher winds buffeting the Northumberland Estate. Mr R Akopov's FTCh Bruno Von Schwarzenberg, handled by Rory Major was first under the judges and the dog set off across the white marshy grassland in front of the watching gallery. The dog indicated the presence of game on the beat but unfortunately didn't fully acknowledge with a point, and his championship was over when a tightly tucked hen pheasant lifted in front of the right-hand gun. Ruth Webster's Deepthatch Rocket followed, but the dog's ground coverage was not as consistent as in his previous performance, and the scent conditions proved difficult for the dog. The scenting also proved a challenge for Finbarr

O'Sullivan's German Shorthaired Pointer Clonadoran King, and the dog was too keen to pull off his beat to the right, and the Irish competitor's championship hopes were over. Jim Bird's FTCh Sutchest Braun Gino was next to be seen and the dog set off with his usual pace and style, he was extremely responsive to the whistle and covered his gun line beautifully. Having had a blank run the day before, the partnership were keen to prove themselves on game, but unfortunately the worsening weather conditions meant the birds were wisely choosing to sit elsewhere.

The working line of judges and guns moved to new ground, and Alan Parr and his Bracco FTCh Bonario Fagiana hunted across the white grass and on to a bracken covered outcrop. The back wind was challenging for the bitch and she didn't manage to make it around the wind before a covey of birds lifted from the thick cover, alas, ending their day.



Bracco Italiano FTCh Bonario Fagiana owned by Mr and Mrs A Parr and handled by Alan Parr © The Kennel Club / WetDog Photography

Steve Kimberley's German Longhaired Pointer Wamilanghaar Point Blanc of Caldera set off with drive and purpose, the athletic dog being quietly handled to work the back wind in a very accomplished manner. The light grassland cover was not concealing any game, but the dog worked out any residual scent with skill and the run was successful despite being blank.

A brisk walk to new ground warmed the gallery and everyone watched as Louise Holmes' Moonrunner Isla at Gilleyfield flushed a cock pheasant which was tucked under a fence. The bird nearly escaped the guns and came down on the track, running hard. The dog was handled to the fall and picked and retrieved the lively pheasant. Jo Gosling's Warrendown Black Pearl at Ganniyem was steady and methodical as she worked her beat, coming on to a lovely staunch point on a tightly nestled partridge. The dog held her point beautifully as she waited for handler Rory Major to make contact, flushed and neatly retrieved the shot bird.

Emma Hinchliff's Ch Goosepoint Gloster Grebe took in a wide area of ground, showing his athleticism as he leapt easily over the stock fencing bordering his beat. Unfortunately, his headstrong style was too much for the judges and he was called up. Mrs C Ogle and Dr R Suchett-Kaye's Ch Raycris the Temptress hunted nicely across the white grass and spike rushes, pulling forward onto a

cock pheasant that lifted away from the gun team. The dog was hunted on, but a bird lifted after the dog, and her championship hopes were over. The final dog of the second round was Mr and Mrs Nixon's FTCh Quintana Cloud Berry and she covered the ground beautifully, hunting for some time across the open paddock and down to the rushing river running through the bottom of the gully. Unfortunately her run was blank despite her best efforts.

Three dogs were called through to a third round to complete their card and following this the judges agreed they had seen enough, and the Championship was brought to close.

## Awards

The Championship was a great success, and The Kennel Club would like to thank all those who were involved in the planning, preparation and running of the event. The Emblehope Estate is a perfect setting for these hunting dogs with plenty of open ground which gave each dog an opportunity to show itself to its best. The gun team shot well over the two days and thanks must go to these experienced guns for taking the time to shoot over the dogs.

The judges Mark Firmin and Theo Gould handled the two days with patience, understanding and skill.

Following the event Mark and Theo said *"To be invited to judge the HPR Championship is a great privilege, and to hold it at The Kennel Club's own estate was fantastic. The winner, Wamilanghaar Point Blanc of Caldera, demonstrated his experience and skill, giving an extremely talented performance in his ground treatment, hunting, pointing, and retrieving. An accomplished and workmanlike dog that put himself forward as our winner."*

Championship winner Steve Kimberley said *"I am absolutely delighted to win the HPR Championship with Cracker. I was extremely proud of his performance over the two days of the Championship."*

Congratulations to all those who qualified for the Championship, and well done to those in the awards.



Steve Kimberley, Headkeeper Raymond Holt and Wamilanghaar Point Blanc of Caldera © The Kennel Club / WetDog Photography

## The results of the Championship are as follows:

### 1st place - Wamilanghaar Point Blanc of Caldera,

(German Longhaired Pointer) owned and handled by Mr Kimberley

### 2nd place - Warrendown Black Pearl at Ganniyem,

(German Shorthaired Pointer) owned by Mrs J C Gosling, handled by Mr R Major

### 3rd place – not awarded

### 4th place and Guns' Choice - FTCh Sutchest Braun Gino,

(German Shorthaired Pointer) owned and handled by Mr J Bird

## Diploma of Merits awarded:

Moorrinner Isla at Gilleyfield, (German Wirehaired Pointer) owned and handled by Ms L Holmes

FTCh Quintana Cloud Berry, (German Shorthaired Pointer) owned by Mr and Mrs P M Nixon, handled by Mr P Nixon

## The International Gundog League Any Variety Retriever Championship report

By Barbara Kuen and Clare Wood

The 2023 International Gundog League Retriever Championship was held at Queensberry Estate on Monday 27 November – Wednesday 29 November.

It was a wonderful event, thanks in no small part, to the warm hospitality of His Grace, The Duke of Buccleuch, and the Queensberry Estate Team. His Grace was a charming and generous host, welcoming everyone so warmly in his speech on the morning of the first day, joining the line to watch proceedings and inviting all to a Champagne reception at the Castle that evening, an impressive end to an already memorable day.



The judges, L-R Steve Richardson, Greig Paterson, Nigel Carville and Mike Rolland © ARC Photography

And memorable it was! Throughout that day and the rest of the Championship the dogs were stretched by judges Nigel Carville and Mike Rolland on the right and Greig Paterson and Steve Richardson on the left. The ground was demanding, steep with numerous horizons so that dogs were frequently hunting out of sight to pick on the

white grass and rushes of the hill and bracken banks. This was ground that allowed the judges to find what they were looking for, a dog that required the least handling and made a difficult find look simple and easy.

Head Keeper and Steward of the Beat Rab Clark and his expert team worked tirelessly throughout the Championship to ensure that the game was produced, and an accurate team of guns put the game on the ground.

From the beginning, it was a long Championship line stretching over Garroch and then Locherben so that often one end of the line could not see the other. Simon Capstick's FTCh Gunnerspeg Apollo running at no. 4 was first to be given the opportunity to pick behind his partner dog and successfully did so, a partridge shot off the end of the line over a brow.

Roddy Forbes and Millbuies Gilbert of Carnochway looked smart when they were brought over from the right hand side of the line and picked quickly behind the left hand dog on a partridge shot in the middle of the line that they would not have marked because of the lie of the hill.

John Halsted and Buccleuch Favour were taken over to the right hand side of the line to be successfully tried on a rabbit that the right hand dogs had failed to locate.

Billy Steel Snr's FTCh Ash Lightning of Leadburn impressed when he held his dog to pick over a brow behind the first two dogs tried. Unfortunately, he was one of two dogs then put out of the trial by Declan Boyle who skilfully held FTCh Jake of Blackburn in the fall area just out of sight over the brow and persevered to pick. That same dog caught the eye with its hunting style on a dry run, the last attempt of the day by the four dogs in line, on a partridge that had most probably washed away down a small, hidden burn.

Enterkin provided a spectacular backdrop for the second day. A huge, steep gully with areas of white grass and bracken and fences that required the dogs to take them boldly and hold their line to the retrieve. Often the bird required would be over a brow and the forward judges provided the necessary help to the handlers.

Rab Clark, who was also shooting at the trial, and his team continued to present birds to the guns exactly as required.

Louie Robertson's FTCh Mitforton Onour made a good start on a delayed long mark about 120 yards behind the line and down into the gully. One cast and the dog made the area and hunted to pick. On their next retrieve the dog had to hold an area of rushes but persevered to pick behind the first dog tried that had not made the area.

David Lisett and FTCh Buccleuch Bowhill of Sandringham began their campaign on the right hand side of the line; their first retrieve, a jump over the fence down the gully and back through some bushes and a neat handle into the area to pick. For their second retrieve they were sent after the first dog tried, again over the fence and to the area in one cast where there was only a small window but with a couple of handles the bird was picked.

Vikki Stanley's Craigmaddie Nevis showing its marking ability in the second round, going straight to the fall to pick.

Kirsty Cousins and FTCh Westerkames Rigline of Brogdenview earned the first applause of the championship when they picked, seemingly effortlessly, behind the first three dogs that had worked hard but unsuccessfully to locate the hen pheasant tucked into the bracken towards the top of the bank.

Philip Dyson's FTCh Copperbirch Chanel of Tallamelie showed its game finding ability in the second round, first picking quickly over a brow in the bracken behind the first dog tried and then locating a wounded partridge in the bracken that had been shot behind the line close to the fence.

Louie Robertson and Mitforton Onour again impressed with a retrieve over a brow up the hill and into thistles along the fence line. The dog worked and held its line through the thistles some 25 yards before locating the cock pheasant that the first dog tried and failed to pick.

David Lisett continued to catch the eye with a retrieve across the shoulder of the hill and into the bracken. FTCh Buccleuch Bowhill of Sandringham reached the fall in one cast and held tight to the area to pick the first of two birds shot in that area. He was then sent back and disappeared into the bracken to pick the second of the two birds which was a little to the right of the first and came back at pace.

Scott Marland's Jaycote Game Brooke showed her game finding ability by quickly picking another bird over a brow with minimal assistance for her third round retrieve.

Lee Hartis and Kentwone Columbine of Leacaz was the second dog tried on a pheasant that had hit the top of a bank and then rolled into a gully. The dog located the fall and then took the line down the bank to pick.

David Logan and FTCh Craigmaddie Mufasa of Bishopbrae efficiently picked a bird in the rushes that the first dog had not been able to locate. David was always easy to spot in his blue cotton shirt sleeves with the rest of us dressed in warm coats!



David Logan sends FTCh Craigmaddie Mufasa of Bishopbrae © ARC Photography



Dogs and handlers through to day 3 © ARC Photography

Scud Law provided a dramatic setting for the third day. The retrieves were to be long and exacting, down and up the hill, requiring precision to reach the fall in one cast and the difficulty exacerbated by the light conditions. For the right hand side, dogs sent to the left would find it difficult to pick out their handlers and for handlers on the left hand side the problem they encountered was seeing their dogs on the opposite hill when looking straight into the sun. The judges tried to minimize the problem for dogs and handlers, moving them whenever possible to improve the sending conditions.

Sadly, Michael Corr and Ir FTCh Ringbarn Fletching who had been going well, failed to pick in the fourth round giving an opportunity for Simon Capstick and FTCh Gunnerspeg Apollo which was taken.

David Latham and FTCh Meadowlark Big Rock Fendawood, who had also to that point impressed, failed to pick their retrieve on the opposite hill but Vikki Stanley and Cragmaddie Nevis were able to locate the bird.



Victoria Stanley sends Cragmaddie Nevis © ARC Photography

John Halsted and Cheesecake Artillery of Chatsworth successfully contended with the difficult light conditions to efficiently pick from the right hand side across to the left. The dog looking back would not have seen the handler.

David Logan's Craigmaddie Mufasa of Bishopbrae brought Jayne Coley and Kilpen Hightcap of Waterford's campaign to an end, another long retrieve just above the track on the opposite hill.

David Latham and FTCh Fendawood Harold then ended the Championship hopes of both Kirsty Cousins with FTCh Westerkames Rigline of Brogdenview and Lee Hartis with Kentwone Columbine of Leacaz. Both dogs had been looking in contention until FTCh Fendawood Harold settled to pick a partridge on which they had both been tried that had been shot just behind a feeder close to the burn at the bottom of the hill.

Declan Boyle fought to pick his next retrieve, high up on the hill on the opposite side, but unfortunately did not and Sarah Miles coming behind with Texacali Praline of Meonvalley made a smart job of getting to the area and quickly located the bird.

FTCh Buccleuch Bowhill of Sandringham was then sent in one cast to almost the top of the hill from the opposite bank. David Lisett quietly held his dog in the area and settled it to pick the bird.

After seven retrieves, the remaining dogs were taken through to a partridge drive. The judges brought each dog forward for one retrieve after which they discussed the final placings. At the end of which all were in agreement that they had found a worthy winner.

Thanks must go to the judges Nigel Carville, Greig Paterson, Stephen Richardson and Mike Rolland.

David Lisett, handling FT Ch Buccleuch Bowhill of Sandringham, owned by His Majesty King Charles III, was a very worthy winner.



David Lisett is presented with the Retriever Trials Championship Challenge Cup by the Earl of Dalkeith © ARC Photography

**The results of the Championship are as follows:**

**1st place – FTCh Buccleuch Bowhill of Sandringham,**

owned by His Majesty King Charles III and handled by David Lisett, also awarded the Retriever Trials Championship Challenge Cup, The Lady Auckland Memorial Salver, The Hiwood Challenge Trophy, The Lorna Countess Howe Memorial Trophy and the IGL President’s Trophy.

**2nd place - FTCh Mitforton Onour,**

owned and handled by Louie Robertson, also awarded the FTCh Ulstaire Style Challenge Trophy

**3rd place - FTCh Craigmaddie Mufasa of Bishopbrae,**

owned and handled by David Logan, also awarded the Lorna Countess Howe Memorial Trophy for the best dog entered by an owner resident in Scotland.

**4th place - Texacali Praline of Meonvalley,**

owned and handled by Sarah Miles

**Diplomas of Merits:**

**FTCh Gunnerspeg Apollo,**

owned and handled by Simon Capstick

**Cheesecake Artillery of Chatsworth,**

owned by the Duchess of Devonshire and handled by John Halsted

**FTCh Copperbirch Chanel of Tallamelie,**

owned and handled by Philip Dyson

**FTCh Fendawood Harold,**

owned and handled by David Latham

**Jaycote Game Brooke,**

owned and handled by Scott Marland

**Craigmaddie Nevis,**

owned and handled by Victoria Stanley

**The Kennel Club All Aged Any Variety Spaniel (Except Spaniel [Cocker] and Spaniel [English Springer]) trial**

The Kennel Club All Aged Any Variety Spaniel (Except Spaniel [Cocker] and Spaniel [English Springer]) Field Trial was held on Monday 29 January 2024 at Witham on the Hill by kind permission of Mr P Neill and sponsored by Sporting Saint.

The excellent ground gave every dog the opportunity for a flush and retrieve. Lovely to see these lesser known breeds working in cover and rewarded for their efforts.

Thanks to judges Martin Deacon and Martyn Elliot for their sympathetic handling of the day. Thank you to all the handlers who supported the trial and well done to all in the awards.



The judges, Martin Deacon and Martyn Elliot. © The Kennel Club



Dogs competing at Witham on the Hill.  
© The Kennel Club

The awards are as follows:

**1st place – Parkforth Rock N Roll,**  
Spaniel (Clumber) handled by Mr A Parker

**2nd place - Huddleston Dear Prudence,**  
Spaniel (Clumber) handled by Mr C Oldham

**CoM – Parkforth Sky Rocket,**  
Spaniel (Clumber) handled by Mr N Stock



The prize winning dogs.  
© The Kennel Club

## The Kennel Club Gundog Working Test 2024

We are pleased to confirm that The Kennel Club Gundog Working Tests will once again be held at Capesthorne Hall, Cheshire on Thursday 6 June – Sunday 9 June 2024.

The schedule of events is as follows:

**Thursday 6 June:**  
**Field Trial Training day for Retrievers, Spaniels and HPRs**

Some of the UK’s top handlers will be running the training day which aims to further the skills required to compete in field trials.

Retriever Trainers:  
Keith Broomfield, David Lisett, John Halsted and Billy Steel

Spaniel Trainers:  
Aubrey Ladyman and Eddie Scott

HPR Trainers:  
Rob Irvine, Eddie Kania and Shaun Patterson

**Friday 7 June:**

The Kennel Club Gundog Team Challenge (for Retrievers, Spaniels and HPRs) \*information below

**Saturday 8 June:**

**Open 40 Dog Retriever Working Test (Day 1)**

**Novice Spaniel Working Test**

**Novice HPR Working Test**

**Sunday 9 June:**

**Open 40 Dog Retriever Working Test (Day 2)**

**Novice Retriever Working Test**

**Open Spaniel Working Test**

**Open HPR Working Test**

**\*The Kennel Club Gundog Team Challenge**

- Each team must consist of two Retrievers, two Spaniels and one HPR breed. All dogs must be Kennel Club registered from the Retriever, Spaniel or HPR sub-group
- One dog per handler
- The test will be set to an open standard, but no qualification will be required of the dogs for entry, or for preference in the draw
- Teams can be made from any arrangement of handlers, for e.g. shooting teams, gamekeepers, county teams, club teams, friendship groups, internationals, or training groups
- Entries will only be accepted from complete teams, not individual handlers

The Working Tests are available to enter via [www.fossedata.co.uk](http://www.fossedata.co.uk)

Closing date: 10 May 2024

If you have any questions regarding the Gundog Working Tests, please email the team at [FT.secretary@thekennelclub.org.uk](mailto:FT.secretary@thekennelclub.org.uk)



Retriever Working Test  
© WetDog Photography / The Kennel Club

## Pointers and Setters training day at Emblehope

By Tilly Thomas

A 2-day training session for Setters and Pointers was held at The Kennel Club Emblehope and Burngrange Estate on Wednesday 20 and Thursday 21 September 2023, kindly hosted by Head Gamekeeper Raymond Holt and aided by his lovely wife Anne.

The training days were organised jointly by Notts Setter Group and East Anglian Setter and Pointer training group, with Dean Sayer and Tilly Thomas. The aim was to give a small group of selected members the opportunity to train on moorland and practice steadiness to game etc. We wanted members who showed enthusiasm and had progressed to a standard where they would benefit the most, but did not have any opportunity to run on moorland.

We gathered first thing in the purpose built Alan Rountree Memorial Lodge, so well designed, with ample parking, a fenced off exercise area, plenty of seating, a mini kitchen and well-appointed toilets. After a quick brief we all set off up to the higher ground with both Headkeeper Raymond and his wife Anne accompanying to take us to the best areas, the weather wasn't kind at times but that goes with the territory and we were all togged up to keep dry. We had to walk out a fair way to be able

to run the dogs back into the wind, splitting into two groups. We had plenty of space and freedom to go where we pleased and the dogs all soon settled into some excellent quartering. We ended up on the top of a hill and came back down onto some mixed ground of heather and pasture. Here we had a good showing of grouse, giving most dogs the opportunity to find. Just invaluable experience for both dog and handler. We stopped for lunch at the most welcome lodge and then some of the handlers walked out with Raymond, with dogs on leads or lines to introduce their dogs to game on the lower ground. With a plentiful supply of pheasants and partridge providing excellent training opportunities, for pointing, roding in and steadiness to flush. What an excellent facility this is!

On the 2nd day, we did much the same, with much improved dogs and handlers. Honing skills on quartering and handling on moorland first then taking the dogs down on to game with lines if needed. Handlers found they were learning to read their dogs and dogs were learning all about their nose!

Everyone was so pleased with the progress made and went home, full of enthusiasm and hopefully will continue to enjoy working their dogs.

We can't thank Raymond and Anne and The Kennel Club enough for enabling us to have this facility and we are already planning next years!



Dogs and handlers at Emblehope & Burngrange Estate  
© The Kennel Club

## Working Gundog Certificate

Congratulations to the following handlers and their dogs who have achieved the Working Gundog Certificate on dummies.

### SCARSDALE ROCKET

Spaniel (Cocker), Miss L Pope

### LEADBURN EAMON

Retriever (Labrador), Mrs V Kirby

### BOBBY BROWN

Spaniel (English Springer), Mr S Brown

### SKYBROOK ROCK ME

Retriever (Flat Coated), Mrs S Jenkinson

### THURWHITT CHIQUITITA

Retriever (Flat Coated), Mrs S Hurstfield

### TALLAMELIE SPARKLY RING AT JOLLYBROW

Retriever (Labrador), Mr S Burns

### TALLAMELIE BRIDESMAID AT JOLLYBROW

Retriever (Labrador), Mrs C Burns

### SATINBAZE CRACKSMAN FOR BLACKTOFT (A.I.)

Retriever (Flat Coated), Ms H Fox

### LAURENBAR MEADOW BUTTERCUP OF FLOWDOWNSTER

Retriever (Labrador), Mrs A Flower

### TEALCREEK SWEET TALKIN

Retriever (Golden), Ms J Thomas

### BERRYMEADE COEUR BLIMEY AT BUSHEYHALL

Retriever (Golden), Ms K Williams

### GAYTONWOOD BROWN EYED GIRL AT CORBIELODGE

Retriever (Golden), Ms S Carlyle

### WARRENTOR SECOND TO NONE

Retriever (Golden), Miss K Clunie

### DAIRYCOTT CANNA

Retriever (Golden), Ms S Pepper

### LEACAMOR GLENSAUGH SURI

Retriever (Golden), Ms N Charles

### CHINNORDALE COMET

Retriever (Golden), Mr B Davies

### KAYZAELLE KARAMEL KOOKIE

Retriever (Golden), Mrs L Furbank

### LLROSHTE ASTON BAY

Retriever (Labrador), Mrs K Green

### FIG LONDON

Retriever (Golden), Mr R Banks

### CONVALLICH SAFFRON

Retriever (Golden), Dr D Butler

### TEALCREEK GALE FORCE

Retriever (Golden), Dr M Hamilton

### BILSDALE GRACIE

Retriever (Labrador), Ms S Watts

### CUANDOR SUPERSTITION

Spaniel (English Springer), Miss A McCarthy

### SHORK'S HOMECOMING DE LA VALLEE DE CHEVRE (IMP FRA)

Retriever (Labrador), Mrs K Leith-Ross

### KENTWONE CADIZ

Retriever (Labrador), Mrs H Cripps

### GLENTURRET LUCKY CHARM

Retriever (Flat Coated), Mr A Durrant

### SWIFTBROOK ARTEMIS

Retriever (Labrador), Mrs P Davies

### KENTWONE PEONY GLOW

Retriever (Labrador), Mr E Hopkin

### GEORGE WAUN FACH

Crossbreed, Mr F Bowes

### PRESELIEDGE ROSE

Spaniel (English Springer), Mrs D Dunfee

### BOY BACH TAFF

Spaniel (English Springer), Mr P Amor

### TREFALDWYN QUIP

Retriever (Labrador), Mr S Meadham

### CWMFELIN HEIDI

German Wirehaired Pointer, Mr R Thomas

### TRANQUIL TILLEY

Retriever (Labrador), Mr G D Morgan

### CHADSMYNYDD GIN

Spaniel (English Springer), Miss A L Millward

### SYNCERUS SPITFIRE OF BRYNAMBOR

Spaniel (English Springer), Miss A L Millward

### BRIMBLEWORTH GIRL GONE WILD

Spaniel (English Springer), Miss A L Millward

### KENTWONE SERONTINA

Spaniel (English Springer), Mr C Rees

### KENTWONE PALENDULA

Spaniel (English Springer), Mr C Rees

### KENTWONE GLORIOSO

Spaniel (English Springer), Mr C Rees

### EKKOLANDER PERSEPHONE RED AT LERITON

Large Munsterlander, Ms C Simpson

### MILLBRADEN DOROTEJA

Retriever (Labrador), Mrs D Bratton

### MARSTONMOOR RED ELIZABETH

Retriever (Labrador), Mrs K Lauderdale-Cheel

### WESTFIND RAVENS LEGACY

Retriever (Labrador), Mrs K Morgan

### BROOMECE DASH OF GOLD

Retriever (Labrador), Mrs B Osborne

Congratulations to the following handlers and their dogs who have achieved the Working Gundog Certificate on game.

#### **LIGHTBRINGER SELENE**

Retriever (Labrador), Mrs T J Parker

#### **BASOS BRAVE**

Spaniel (Cocker), Miss K Sunley-Jones

#### **AGENT QUILLIAM**

Crossbreed, Mrs N Filler

#### **KENTWONE POPPYLAND**

Retriever (Labrador), Mrs E Gingell

#### **DELFLUSH TATTINGER**

Retriever (Labrador), Mr A S White

#### **SUSSEXOAK CLUEDO BY QUINCEGROVE**

Spaniel (English Springer), Mrs V L Payne

#### **QUINCEGROVE EXIT MUSIC**

Spaniel (English Springer), Mrs V L Payne

#### **LEOSPRING MAGNOLIA**

Retriever (Labrador), Mrs J Venturi-Rose

#### **CRAIWARN JINX**

Spaniel (English Springer), Mr T Austin

#### **PROSPECTSWAY DRYNACHAN**

Spaniel (English Springer), Miss B Pratley

#### **OAK RUFF BOY**

Spaniel (English Springer), Mr C Durack

#### **IVYS BLACK PANTHER**

Spaniel (Cocker), Mr G Fantom

#### **VERSTONE SEACLAD BRYGID AT CEDARLILY**

Spaniel (Cocker), Miss J Hrycak

#### **STARSHOT CRYSTAL**

Spaniel (Cocker), Ms G Vlahovic

#### **PURSLEY PRUNUS AVIUM**

Spaniel (Cocker), Dr C Priestley

#### **TANGLEBELLS WILDFLOWER**

Spaniel (English Springer), Mrs H C Merrett

#### **ZANDAWNS TRESADY**

Retriever (Labrador), Ms C J Jenkins

## Applications for permission to hold field trials

Societies wishing to register their views on the following applications should do so electronically, stating reasons for supporting or objecting to the applications. Please note that all letters should be sent by email to [gundogs@thekennelclub.org.uk](mailto:gundogs@thekennelclub.org.uk)

The applications will be considered at the next available Field Trials Committee meeting and therefore responses must be with The Kennel Club by 17 June 2024.

#### **North Antrim Gundog Club**

1 day Open AV Retriever Stake

#### **South Western Golden Retriever Club**

1 day Open AV Retriever Stake

#### **Ulster Select AV Retriever Club**

1 day Open AV Retriever Stake

#### **Mid Ulster Gundog Association**

2 day Open AV Retriever Stake

## Kennel Club Field Trial Panel Judges List

The following judges have been added to the official panels of Field Trial Judges:

#### **RETRIEVERS "A"**

Mr Craig Perry (3550)

#### **RETRIEVERS "B"**

Mr Jim Collins (3377)

Mr Kelvin Nettleingham (2993)

Mr Stewart North (2761)

Mr Stanley Payne (3321)

#### **SPANIELS "A"**

Mrs Janice Cunningham (2995)

Mr Aubrey Ladyman (2775)

#### **SPANIELS "B"**

Mr Andrew Barr (3961)

Mr Steve Newman (3771)

#### **HPR "A"**

Mr Simon Kirby (3770)

#### **HPR "B"**

Mrs Louise Holmes (3885)

Mr Alan Parr (3788)

#### **POINTER & SETTERS "B"**

Miss Madeline Raynor (3802)

Mrs Barbara Smith (3653)

## Field Trials Committee objection outcomes

At its meeting in February 2024 the Field Trials Committee imposed the following:

#### **Breach of Regulation J4.c.(4) and J6.c - Cambridgeshire Field Trials Society - regarding the Spaniel schedule**

The society issued with a warning to abide by the J regulations in future.

#### **Breach of Regulation J4.c.(4) and J6.c - Western Counties & South Wales Spaniel Club**

The society issued with a warning to abide by the J regulations in future.

**Breach of Regulation J4.c.(4) and J6.c - Working Clumber Spaniel Society**

The society issued with a warning to abide by the J regulations in future.

**Breach of Regulation J4.a.(1) - Lothian & Borders Gundog Association**

The society issued with a warning to abide by the J regulations in future.

**Breach of Regulation J8.b.(13) – Lincolnshire Gundog Society – 2 Day Open AV Retriever Trial – 18 & 19 October 2023 - Mrs J Coley impugned the judges decision**

Mrs J Coley issued with a warning about her future conduct at trials.

never be before completion of the second round as all dogs must be seen by both pairs of judges. Some things to consider would be the number of dogs left in the trial and whether they are balanced odds and evens.

A Panel judges should use their own judgement and discretion to assess each situation on its own merits in order to make appropriate decisions, provided they can be justified within the terms of the J Regulations. The usual trial procedure is two retrieves in the first round and one in the second round, although this will be for the judges to decide. There are circumstances where a trial may benefit from a different procedure due to various factors, such as shortage of game or, in the case of ‘odds and evens’, an imbalance between the two sides (judges could decide to have an even number of retrieves for first and second rounds e.g. one retrieve first round and one retrieve second round, or 2 and 2).

**Guidance on running odds and evens trials.**

Following the amendment to Regulation J(B)3 and Regulation J(B)3.(d), the following guidance has been put together on the correct procedure for running in odds and evens trials.

The odds and evens system should not be used ‘on a whim’ but should only be used where there are compelling reasons to do so. It is best suited to driven stakes, usually where there may be difficult terrain such as a river or valley between the two sides. The trial would then run more quickly and smoothly using this system, as judges would not have to wait for dogs to be fed into line from the centre.

The Chief Steward should make sure all dogs that have finished their first round go to the other side for their second round as soon as there is an opportunity. i.e. do not remain with their first round judges or wait in the centre.

If both dogs on one side have been tried and fail on a retrieve, using the odds and evens system the judge should continue to try dogs on their own side (and not bring dogs over from the other side). This is because the system is often used in situations where there are difficulties in moving dogs between the sides. The Judges should have two dogs in line and the next two dogs nearby, still on the lead.

If a handler is running 2 dogs and one is an odd numbered dog and the other an even numbered dog, both dogs should be run on the side of the lowest numbered dog. All the dogs on that side will be run in numerical order. This may cause an ‘imbalance’ between the two sides, but the A Panel judges should be able to manage the trial accordingly. Often there is an imbalance due to lack of game on one side and this is managed by the judges.

Where a trial is being judged on the odds and evens system, the point at which the order of running may revert to the order of the draw would depend on circumstances applying at the time and would be at the discretion of the Judges. Generally, this would be in the third round. It must

**Championship levy payments**

This is a notice to remind societies that championship levy payments are due by **30 September 2024**.

Societies will shortly receive an invoice for the 2024-25 season, which will include all the relevant information on how to make payment via bank transfer.

If you have any queries or have not received an invoice by 30 June 2024, please contact [gundogs@thekennelclub.org.uk](mailto:gundogs@thekennelclub.org.uk)

**Not Currently Active policy for field trial judges**

The Not Currently Active policy has been amended by the Field Trials Committee. The policy is now as follows:

**Not Currently Active (NCA) Field Trial Judges**

Panel Judges who have not fulfilled a judging appointment within the previous seven years will be considered to be ‘not currently active’, and under such circumstances a query from the office will be triggered. Notification of a NCA judge may be raised by the judge themselves, a society or on receipt of a marked card where the judge has officiated.

Where a judge is deemed to be ‘not currently active’, the judge will be contacted by the office for evidence of their involvement in field trials and/or working tests since their last appointment. Such information will be considered by the Field Trials Committee which will decide for which panel (if any) the judge should be approved, or if he/she will be required to pass the J Regulations examination.

**Note:** Where a judge has already passed the J Regulations examination but was considered to be ‘not currently active’, he/she may be required to pass it again, as there may have been significant changes in the intervening period.

## Field Trial Secretaries' Seminar

The Kennel Club Field Trial Secretaries' Seminar focuses on providing essential knowledge and understanding for the management, organisation and stewarding of field trials and gundog working tests.

The seminar is primarily designed for those who are newly appointed field trial or gundog working test secretaries. Club officials and current field trial or gundog working test secretaries will also benefit from the very latest information.

Non-field trial secretaries can also attend, and we welcome anyone who has an interest.

Refreshments and a finger buffet lunch are included.

### The Kennel Club Field Trial Secretaries' Seminar

**Date:** Saturday 11 May 2024

**Time:** 9am – 3.30pm

**Venue:** Meeting Room A, The Kennel Club Building, Stoneleigh Park, Coventry, Warwickshire CV8 2LZ

**Price:** £60

To book your place, please visit <https://www.thekennelclub.org.uk/events-and-activities/field-trials-and-working-gundogs/field-trial-secretary-information/#>

For more information, please email our field trials team – [ft.secretary@thekennelclub.org.uk](mailto:ft.secretary@thekennelclub.org.uk)

they must have attended a Kennel Club Judges' Training Programme seminar on The Kennel Club J Regulations for the appropriate sub-group and have passed the examination.

As part of the training programme, The Kennel Club has a number of Approved Presenters for each sub-group, who are responsible for delivering each seminar and conducting the examination.

The Kennel Club is now inviting applications from interested parties who would like to be considered for the position. Any candidates interested in applying need to be a field trial Panel judge for the relevant sub-group.

Applicants will be invited to attend an assessment, which will be held at The Kennel Club London office later in the year, where you will be required to undertake a short presentation from the relevant sub-group script, followed by an interview.

For those that are interested, please email a short CV with details of any relevant experience with presenting, teaching and your involvement with field trials to [gundogs@thekennelclub.org.uk](mailto:gundogs@thekennelclub.org.uk)

## Field trial application form and licences

We wish to remind field trial secretaries to use the online field trials application form where possible.

The online form can be found here - [Field trial licence application form | Forms | The Kennel Club](#)

If you are logged in using your personal log in, the club should appear in the 'Please select your club' drop down after a few seconds.'

You can also access the online form by logging in to your online account directly on The Kennel Club website using your personal details and switching to your club account.

Once you are logged in to your club account, and we have received payment, you will find your licences in the 'show diary' section for you to view. Please ensure this is in your account before the date of your trial.

If you have any issues, or the club name is not appearing once you have logged in on the website, please contact the team at [gundogs@thekennelclub.org.uk](mailto:gundogs@thekennelclub.org.uk)

## New approved presenters needed for judges training programme

The Kennel Club is requesting for anyone interested in becoming an Approved Presenter for the J Regulation seminars to get in touch.

This programme has been created to manage the understanding of the J Regulations for field trial judges, societies and competitors. This is done through seminars for each of the four sub-groups followed by a multiple choice exam. Before a judge can be added to a panel,

## Find a Club

The Kennel Club has announced that its new and improved 'Find a Club' service is now available online. The new service includes a list of field trials clubs and the purpose of the service is to enable new dog owners to find local clubs in their area.

The Find a Club service can be found here:

[thekennelclub.org.uk/findaclub](https://www.thekennelclub.org.uk/findaclub)

Please ensure that you have reviewed your club information. Any amendments, including secretary details, can be updated via your online account.

The image shows a promotional graphic for the 'Find a Club' service. At the top, it features the Kennel Club logo and the text 'Looking for a club in your area? Visit Find a Club'. Below this is a screenshot of a laptop displaying the 'Find a Club' web interface, which includes a search bar and a list of clubs. At the bottom of the graphic, it says 'Visit thekennelclub.org.uk/FAC'.

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**As a centre of excellence for working dogs, the estate also welcomes the full range of working dog activities including:**

- Field trials including Pointer and Setter Spring Stakes
- Gundog working tests
- Gundog training days
- Live game training days
- Pointing tests
- Working trials
- Bloodhound trials
- Activity training days
- Shooting and gundog activities



Book your training activities with the Emblehope Estate:  
[thekennelclub.org.uk/emblehope](http://thekennelclub.org.uk/emblehope) | [emblehope@thekennelclub.org.uk](mailto:emblehope@thekennelclub.org.uk)  
01296 318 540 ext 290