

**AMATEUR FIELD TRIAL CLUBS OF AMERICA**  
**INCORPORATED**

By Laws  
and  
Running Rules

**2023**

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## **CORPORATE CHARTER**

### **KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:**

That we, the undersigned, all citizens of the United States, John P. Wenchel, a citizen of the District of Columbia, Muriel S. Paul, a citizen of the District of Columbia, John A. Rush, a citizen of the State of Florida, all being of full age, do hereby associate ourselves and successors as a body politic and corporate, under and by virtue of Title 29, Chapter 6, of the Code of District of Columbia.

**FIRST:** The name or title by which this association shall be known in law is  
AMATEUR FIELD TRIAL CLUBS OF AMERICA, INC.

**SECOND:** The term for which the association is organized is perpetual

**THIRD:** The particular business and objects of the corporation are:

To restore and perpetuate wild Upland Game Birds on the North American Continent; to promote, carry on, conduct and foster research, education, training and publication in ornithological sciences, to make studies with reference to the enhancement of knowledge concerning Upland Game Birds of the North American continent; to establish, promote, assist, contribute to or otherwise encourage the study of conservation, restoration and management of Upland Game Birds and their habitats; and in connection therewith to grant scholarships, prizes, and rewards; to promote, encourage, acquire or maintain refuges for Upland Game Birds and to foster and increase interest in and knowledge of Upland Game Birds and their conservation and restoration by promoting, regulating, controlling, advising and conducting field trials on Upland Game Birds.

The association is authorized to take and hold by bequest, devise, gift, purchase or lease absolutely or in trust for any of its purposes, any property, real or personal, without limitation as to amount or value, to transfer and convey the same and to invest and reinvest the principal and income thereof and to deal with and expand the principal and income of the corporation in such manner as in the judgment of the trustees will best promote its objects; and in order properly to prosecute the objects and purposes set forth, the corporation shall have full power and authority to purchase, lease, and otherwise acquire, hold, mortgage, convey and otherwise dispose of all kinds of property, both real and personal, and generally to perform all acts which may be deemed necessary for the proper and successful prosecution of the objects and purposes for which it is created.

**FOURTH:** The corporation shall have no capital stock and is not organized for profit and no part of its net earnings shall inure to the benefit of any member or individual; and no member, director, officer, or employee of the corporation shall receive or be lawfully entitled to receive any profit of any kind from the operation thereof except reasonable compensation for services actually rendered in effecting one or more of its purposes and no substantial part of the activities of the corporation shall be to carry on propaganda or otherwise to attempt to influence legislation.

In the event of the dissolution and liquidation of the corporation, none of its property or

funds shall inure to the benefit of any member or individual but shall be transferred and paid over to some organization designated by the trustees, and which shall qualify as a corporation, association, fund or foundation organized and operated exclusively for religious, charitable, scientific, literary, or educational purposes, or for the prevention of cruelty to children or animals, and no part of the net earnings of which shall inure to the benefit of any private shareholder or individual and no substantial part of the activity of which is to carry on propaganda or otherwise attempt to influence legislation.

FIFTH: The Board of Trustees shall have the power to make, alter, change and amend the bylaws for the government of the Corporation.

SIXTH: The property of the officers, trustees and members of this corporation shall not be subject to, or chargeable with, the payment of any debts or obligations of the corporation, to any extent whatsoever.

SEVENTH: The number of its trustees, directors, or managers for the first year of its existence shall be fifteen.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hand and seals.

Dated this 20<sup>th</sup> day of February, 1948.

## CHAPTER 1

### BY-LAWS

#### ARTICLE 1

The name of this organization, incorporated under the laws of the District of Columbia, shall be “AMATEUR FIELD TRIAL CLUBS OF AMERICA, INC.”

The purpose of the organization shall be as set out in its charter.

#### ARTICLE II

##### Membership

Section 1. The membership of this corporation shall be unlimited in number. Any person, partnership, corporation or association of good character and standing shall be eligible to membership by complying with the requirements set forth by the Board of Trustees and agreeing to be bound by the Regulations and By-Laws of this corporation. When their application for membership is approved by the President and Secretary of the corporation, and the dues are paid, they are admitted to membership. There shall be the following classifications of membership in the corporation, viz:

(a) ACTIVE CLUB MEMBERS shall be those clubs paying dues in an amount decided by the Board of Trustees to the corporation and engaged in fostering and increasing interest in and knowledge of Upland Game Birds and their conservation and restoration by promoting, regulating, controlling, supervising, and conducting field trials on Upland Game Birds.

(b) INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS shall be those persons paying dues in the amount decided by the Board of Trustees to the corporation and engaged in fostering and increasing interest in the knowledge of Upland Game Birds and their restoration by promoting, conducting, sponsoring and participating in field trials on Upland Game Birds. An individual membership fee must be paid to participate in any AFTCA sponsored events excluding youth trials. A participant is defined as the handler and owner of the dog in competition. If this dog is co-owned all owners must have an individual membership. If the dog's registration with the Field Dog Stun Book is a kennel, it must purchase an individual membership to qualify the dog to run. Individuals members in good standing shall be entitled:

- (i) to receive win certificates from this Corporation for qualified placements earned by them on dogs handled by them as amateurs in field trials recognized by this corporation
- (ii) to have access to the AFTCA website and dog placement records maintained by this Corporation

(c) HONORARY MEMBERS shall be persons deemed by the membership of the corporation to be of great national or international renown in the field or ornithology, or who is particularly interested in the restoration and perpetuation of Wild Upland Game Birds on the North

America Continent or in field trials generally. Honorary members may be elected posthumously. All honorary members of the corporation shall not be entitled to vote as honorary members of the corporation.

Section 2. Within the meaning of these Bylaws and Running Rules, the term “member” shall in all cases mean a field trial club as a unit that is an active club member of this corporation.

### **ARTICLE III**

#### **Expelling or Suspending Members**

Section 1. Any member of this corporation or individual associated with such member or anyone in attendance at an event sponsored by a member club may be expelled, or penalized by a majority vote of the Board of Trustees for any cause deemed sufficient by them, provided:

(a) Such member or individual be furnished in writing a specification of charges against them at least ten days before a hearing thereon.

(b) A hearing is had upon such charges, the member charged to be notified of the time and place thereof and given an opportunity to be present and present evidence thereon.

(c) The board of Trustees may delegate the right to hear evidence upon such charges and report said evidence to said Board for action.

### **ARTICLE IV**

#### **ANNUAL AND SPECIAL MEETINGS OF MEMBERSHIP**

##### **Annual Meeting of Membership**

Section 1. The annual meeting of the members of this corporation shall be held in June or July, with date and time determined by the President at least 90 days in advance. The fiscal year shall end on June 30.

##### **Special Meeting of Membership**

Section 2. Special meeting of the members of this corporation may be held upon the call of the President or by a majority of the members of the Board of Trustees. Such call shall be in writing and shall state the time, place and purpose of the special meeting; and shall be filed with the Secretary of the corporation at least 20 days prior to such meeting, and the Secretary shall immediately send a notice in writing to each member, by mail, at its last known address, giving the time, place, and purpose of the meeting, as provided in the call, and by additionally advertising said call in one issue of the “The United Kennel Club / American Field.”

## **Quorum**

Section 3. At all meetings of the members of this corporation, fifteen active club members shall constitute a quorum

## **Order of Business**

Section 4. Unless this regulation is suspended by a majority of the members, the order of business of all meetings of the members shall be as follows:

1. Reading of the minutes of the last preceding members meeting.
2. Reading of reports and statements.
3. Unfinished business.
4. New or miscellaneous business.
5. Election of Trustees, if in order, at the meeting in question.
6. Adjournment.

## **Voting at Annual and Special Meetings of The Membership**

Section 5. At all annual and special meetings of the membership of this corporation, each active member shall be entitled to one vote and may be represented by its President or Secretary, or by a proxy in writing executed by the President or Secretary of such active member; provided, that if the President or Secretary of any active member shall execute a proxy, to different persons, the person holding the proxy executed by the President of such active member shall be entitled to represent such member at any annual or special meeting of the membership. Provided, further, that neither the Secretary-Treasurer of this corporation nor any paid employee of this corporation may vote any proxy. Proxies issued to or in the name of any such employee may be cast by the President of this corporation, or, in their absence, by the ranking Vice President, present and acting.

All proxies must be returned to the Association Secretary two weeks prior to the annual meeting. These proxies should indicate the person to vote the proxy and, if the club desires, the choice of nominee. The proxies are to be tabulated and verified by the secretary and turned over to the president of the AFTCA twenty-four hours prior to the annual meeting. Any proxies received after the date of two weeks prior to the annual meeting will be null and void.

## ARTICLE V

### Trustees

Section 1. A Board of Trustees shall be elected by the active membership of this corporation. They shall draw no salary. The Board of Trustees shall be representative of the number of regions, and constituted of individuals associated with one or more active club members of this corporation.

#### Election or Appointment of Trustees

Section 2. The election of Trustees shall be held at each annual meeting of the members by a majority of the active members present and voting in person or by proxy. Each Trustee shall be elected for a period of three years or until their successor is duly elected and qualified.

(a) Should any vacancies on the Board of Trustees occur between Annual Membership because of death, resignation, or otherwise, the President of the region in which this Trustee or these Trustees resided shall serve as Acting Trustee until the next regular Annual Membership Meeting. Should said regional President not desire to serve or be unable to serve, then the Secretary of that region shall serve in their place. The un-expired terms caused by the vacancies shall be filled by a majority vote of the membership at the next Annual Membership Meeting.

(b) Any Trustee who misses two consecutive Annual Trustee Meetings, (unless excused by the Board of Trustees), shall be subject to replacement at the annual Board of Trustees Meeting. Said Trustee shall be replaced with an Acting Trustee in the manner outlined in ARTICLE V, Section 2 (a).

(c) The names of the Trustees whose terms of office expire at the next Annual Meeting shall be sent to the member clubs of each region not later than 90 days before the next Annual Membership Meeting. The regions, through their member clubs, shall recommend names of individuals who they feel will and are able to properly represent their and other regions on the Board of Trustees. Said recommendations shall be sent to the secretary of the Corporation within 30 days prior to the Annual Membership Meeting, and the Secretary shall send these recommendations to the Nominating Committee appointed by the President of the Corporation. Said Committee shall give careful consideration to these recommendations.

(e) The number of Trustees in a Region shall be determined by the number of member clubs in the Region. Regions with 5 to 20 clubs shall have one Trustee; Regions with 21 to 50 clubs shall have two Trustees and Regions with 51 or more shall have three Trustees.

(f) If a Region does not maintain the required numbers of clubs to maintain that number of Trustees, Region officers will be apprised of the situation. The Region may request a two-year extension in the matter if they feel they may be able to increase the number of club to the required number.



### **Quorum and Proxies**

Section 3. Twelve members of the board of Trustees shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. No member of the Board of Trustees shall ever vote at a regular or called meeting by proxy.

### **Annual Meetings of the Board of Trustees**

Section 4. Regular annual meetings of the Board of Trustees shall be held each year following annual meeting of the active club membership. At each such meeting the Board of Trustees shall elect from their number a President and Three Vice Presidents. They shall draw no salary. Each such officer shall hold office for a term of one year or until their respective successor shall be duly elected and qualified. The President shall be limited to two consecutive terms. The Board of Trustees shall also elect a Secretary Treasurer who shall hold office at the will of said Board.

### **Special Meetings**

Section 5. Special meetings of the Board of Trustees may be called at any time by the President or by a majority vote of the Board of Trustees. Such call shall be in writing, filed with the Secretary, and shall state the time, place and purpose of the meeting. The Secretary shall give notice of such meeting and the substance of the call, to each member of the Board electronically or by mail, dispatched at least ten days before said meeting. If all Trustees waive notice of a special meeting, no notice of such meeting shall be required.

### **Questions May Be Submitted By Mail**

Section 6. A vote by mail may be called at any time by the President or by a majority vote by the Board of Trustees. All matters which may be determined by the Board of Trustees, and any question, motion or resolution upon which the President or Secretary may desire the decision of the Board when not in session, may be submitted to each member of the Board in writing by mail and each member of the Board shall, within ten days thereafter, file their decision or vote with the Secretary. A majority vote, except as set forth in ARTICLE IX, of the members of the Board shall determine all matters and questions so submitted, with the same force and effect as if determined at a called or regular Board Meeting. The Secretary shall make and keep a permanent record of all questions submitted by mail and of the vote. The Secretary shall send to the Board all arguments or evidence advanced for and against the question submitted.

### **General Powers**

Section 7. The management of all business and affairs of this corporation subject to its By Laws, shall be, and the same is hereby vested in the Board of Trustees.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **Duties of Officers**

Section 1. The President, in addition to the other powers conferred upon them in these By Laws, shall:

- (a) Be the executive officer of this corporation.
- (b) Preside at all annual and special meetings of the member clubs and at all annual and special meetings of the Board of Trustees.
- (c) Appoint a committee to audit the Treasurer's records, and such committee shall report at the annual meeting of the members. Said committee shall be appointed a least 30 days prior to annual meeting.
- (d) Appoint a nominating committee to fill the expired terms of Trustees and to replace any Trustee who has resigned or who is unable to continue in office. Said committee shall be appointed at least 90 days prior to the Annual Membership meeting.
- (e) Appoint a nominating committee to fill the expired terms of the officers of the Board of Trustees. Said committee shall be appointed at least 30 days prior to the Annual Trustees Meeting.
- (f) Appoint such other committees as he deems necessary and delegate such power and authority to such committees as they may deem expedient.
- (g) Interpret the By-Laws and Running Rules when necessary.
- (h) Be an ex-officio member of all committees.
- (i) Have such other and further powers and duties as may be conferred on them from time to time by the Board of Trustees.

### **Vice Presidents**

Section 2. The First Vice President shall perform all the duties of the President in case of their absence or disability. If both the President and the First Vice President are absent or disabled, the Second Vice President shall perform all the duties of the President. Should the President and both the First and Second Vice President be absent or disabled, the Third Vice President shall perform all the duties of the President. The Vice Presidents shall severally have such other duties and powers as may be conferred upon them by the President or the Board of Trustees.

### **Secretary-Treasurer**

Section 3. The Secretary-Treasurer, in addition to such other duties and powers as conferred upon them by the Board of Trustees, shall:

- (a) Perform their duties under the direction of the President and assist the President in administering the affairs of this corporation.
- (b) Keep the President informed of the activities of the Secretary's office.
- (c) Refer matters to the President for their decision when such matters entail corporation policy and activities.
- (d) Attend and keep the minutes of all annual and special meetings of the club membership,

and of all annual and special meetings of the Board of Trustees.

(e) Attend the Field Trials and events as directed by the President.

(f) Keep a record of all individual members and member clubs, including the name and address of all individual members the President and Secretary, and preserve all letters and other documents pertaining to the corporation.

(g) Carry on the general correspondence of the corporation, and notify members of their election, suspension, expulsion or other penalty that may be imposed by the Board of Trustees.

(h) Send copies of the By-Laws and Running Rules to the newly elected active members, and to each newly elected member of the Board of Trustees.

(i) Maintain the records, certificates of eligibility and books of the corporation, and deliver all of the same to their successor.

(j) Maintain and account for of all the funds and securities of the corporation which shall come into their possession and endorse all checks, drafts, and other commercial paper to the credit of the corporation. With the consent of a majority of the Board of Trustees, the Secretary may invest surplus funds of the corporation in United States Government or other satisfactory securities.

(k) Sign all receipts and vouchers on behalf of the corporation, and sign all checks or drafts for the payment of bills or expenses of the corporation.

(l) Keep a full and accurate account of all money received or paid out by them on behalf of the corporation, and deliver all records, books, accounts and funds to their successor.

(m) Perform such other acts incident to the position of Treasurer of Secretary as may be delegated to them by the President or the Board of Trustees.

(n) Give bond for the faithful discharge of their duties, and account for the funds that shall come into their possession in such manner as the Board of Trustees may require.

(o) Make all of their books, records, correspondence and similar materials pertaining to the corporation available for inspection by the President, any Vice President, or any member of the Board of Trustees.

### **Salary and Allowances**

Section 4. The Secretary-Treasurer shall receive a salary for their services, the amount thereof to be fixed by the Board of Trustees. In addition, the Board of Trustees may pay to them an allowance, in such amount as it deems proper, for expenses, office maintenance and clerical and stenographic help.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **Regions and Their Organizations**

Section 1. The Board of Trustees have designed geographic regions which may be changed from time to time at the discretion of the Board. The regions are (as of June 2007):

Region 1: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Brunswick, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont, Nova Scotia

Region 2: Delaware, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania

Region 3: District of Columbia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia

Region 4: Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio, West Virginia

Region 5: Illinois, Missouri

Region 6: Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee Region 7: Texas, Mexico

Region 8: Colorado, Oklahoma

Region 9: Idaho, Utah, Wyoming

Region 10: British Columbia, Oregon, Washington

Region 11: Arizona, California, Nevada, New Mexico

Region 13: Michigan, Ontario, Quebec

Region 14: Montana, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba

Region 15: Japan

Region 16: Alabama, Florida, Georgia Region 17: Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska

Region 19: North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin

Section 2. The following procedures are set up:

(a) When there are fewer than five member clubs in a constituted region, the member in such a region may align themselves with the closest regional organization that they choose to join until such time as their region may qualify for reactivation by having five members.

(b) Any state may petition the Board of Trustees for realignment into a different region than the one to which they are allocated if the majority of the members in said state vote for such realignment.

(c) When any new region is newly constituted or reactivated, the President shall appoint a committee of three to be responsible for organizing the region.

### **Regional Organizations**

Section 3. The regions shall be organized by the active club members within each region. A minimum of five members shall be required for a region to be recognized as active. After a region has been organized, the members shall assume all direction and responsibility for the management and holding of stakes and other business affairs within their region.

(a) The securing of sanctions, supervision, and general overseeing of these regional events shall be under the direction of a President or Chairman who is to be selected annually in each region

at a meeting called within said region for that purpose.

(b) At the annual meeting of the member clubs of each region, or as soon thereafter as possible, the date and location for the regional All-Age and the regional Shooting Dog Championships shall be chosen and this information forwarded to the AFTCA Secretary with a request for a sanction. All regional championships must be sanctioned by this Corporation when applied for by said regional organization in order for wins to be recognized.

(c) The regional President or Chairman and the member (or members) of the Board of Trustees from the region shall be responsible for seeing that the annual meeting of the members of the region is properly called and held, and that the operation of the region is consistent with the By-Laws and Running Rules of the Corporation.

(d) It is the duty of the President or Chairman of the region or a Trustee of the region to be present personally at each Championship event within their region, and to insure that the rules of this Corporation are complied with and the stakes run on a basis consistent with an event of this caliber. In the event said President, Chairman or Trustee is unable to attend the running of the regional championship, the President or Chairman shall appoint, in writing, a qualified person to act in their place.

(e) It shall be the duty of the President or Secretary of the region to see that the list of officers, dates for trials, and any other pertinent information about the region be sent to the office of the Secretary-Treasurer of the Corporation.

## **ARTICLE VIII**

### **Authority to Conduct Field Trials**

In order to foster and increase interest in and knowledge of Upland Game Birds and their conservation and restoration, the Board of Trustees of this corporation may promote and conduct field trials and may adopt rules and regulations for the control and supervision of field trials.

This Association reserves unto itself the right to withdraw, for good cause, from any member club, regional organization, or Breed Championship the privilege of awarding any championship.

## **ARTICLE IX**

### **Amendments**

#### **Section 1. Amendments:**

(a) The By-Laws of this Corporation may be amended by the Board of Trustees, by a two-thirds vote of the Trustees voting at any annual meeting, or at any special meeting called for that purpose, or by a vote taken of the members of the Board of Trustees by mail as herein elsewhere provided (ARTICLE V, Section 6); which states that a majority vote by the Board of Trustees shall decide all other matters.

(b) The By-Laws may also be amended at any annual meeting of the active member clubs of this Corporation, or at any special meeting called for that purpose, by a two-thirds vote of said active member clubs present or voting by proxy. Running rules may be amended by a majority vote of the Board of Trustees.

## CHAPTER 2

### **MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR FIELD TRIALS FOR ALL POINTING BREEDS**

Section 1. Wins will not be recognized and recorded unless the trial/or each stake in which such win is made conforms to the following conditions as adopted by Amateur Field Trial Clubs of America, Inc., the United Kennel Club / American Field Publishing Company, and The Field Dog Stud Book:

Section 2. The name of the club, place, and date of the trial, and the Secretary's name and address must be announced in an issue of "The United Kennel Club / American Field" bearing publication date of at least fourteen days before the trials are to be run.

### **RECOGNIZED STAKES**

Section 3. Recognized stakes are:

(a) Puppy Stakes: From January 1 to July 1 in each year for dogs whelped on or after January 1 of the year preceding. From July 1 to December 31 of each year for dogs whelped on or after June 1 of the year preceding.

(b) Derby Stakes: From July 1 to December 31 in each year for dogs whelped on or after January 1 of the year preceding, and from January 1 to July 1 in each year for dogs whelped on or after January 1 of two years preceding.

(c) All-Age Stakes: For dogs of any age. An "open stake" is one in which there are no limitations with respect to either dogs or handlers. An "amateur stake" is one in which all handlers are amateur as defined in Chapter 3, Article II, Section 1, RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR FIELD TRIALS.

(d) Winners in Members and Gun Dog or Shooting Dog stakes shall be recorded and win certificates issued, but winners of children's, ladies', brace, and other stakes not conforming to the definitions contained under this Section will not be recognized.

(e) Championships, Winner's Stakes and Futurities: Wins will be recorded only in such amateur events of the above character as are recognized by the Amateur Field Trial Clubs of America, Inc. and in such open events as are recognized by the United Kennel Club / American Field Publishing Company and the Field Dog Stud Book.

Section 4. The minimum length of heats for all stakes other than Puppy Stakes shall be thirty minutes, on the basis of the time that an average brace takes to negotiate the course. In the case of one-course trials, no more than eight minutes of the thirty shall be spent in the bird field.

Minimum length of heats for Puppy Stakes shall be fifteen minutes.

Section 5. A stake must be drawn by lot and numbered in the order drawn, in a convenient and approved place open to the public not later than the night before the day the stake is due to run.

Section 6. Dogs shall not be substituted after the draw.

Section 7. All braces shall be run as drawn except with the prior consent of the judges and handlers, which consent must not be given for the purpose of accommodating owners handlers or dogs that are not available when reached in the regular order of the draw.

(a) Should there be a bye in the stake, the judges may, at their discretion, order it to be run alone or with a dog selected by them for the purpose. Provided, however, that if a dog from any regularly drawn full brace should be withdrawn, fail to appear or be disqualified, the bye dog shall be named by the judges to run with the dog remaining in that particular brace, the bye moved up to fill the vacancy caused by the absent dog. In the event there is no bye, then such dog losing its brace-mate, as previously contemplated, must be run in its regular order of drawing, either alone or with a dog as a running mate that is satisfactory to the judges. In the event that there be two withdrawals from different brace, the brace-mate of such withdrawn dogs may be run together where the first vacancy occurs, or in their regular order, at the discretion of the judges. This same rules applies if there be four or any even number of dogs withdrawn from the stake.

(b) All stakes should be so arranged that if at all possible, no more than one bye dog is drawn or run. Except where there is an uneven number of starters in a stake, no bye should ordinarily occur. For example, in the event the drawing by lot has two dogs handled by the same person remaining as the last in the stake, the bracing is rearranged with the last previous available dog drawn not so handled, changing places with the first drawn of the final two dogs.

Section 8. No entry shall be accepted after the stake is drawn.

Section 9. No more than one brace of dogs shall run on a course, or any part of a course at the same time, irrespective of whether the dogs are in the same stake or in different stakes.

Section 10. Stakes shall be run only on recognized game birds whose flight has not been impaired by caging, hobbling, wing clipping, brailing, or in any other manner.

Section 11. Bitches in season shall not be permitted to run in one-course trials. In multiple-course trials, they may start only if, in the opinion of the judges, it can be accomplished under conditions which will insure absolute fairness to other entries.

Section 12. Wins will not be recorded, or if recorded, will be cancelled if made at a trial or in a stake not conforming to the above requirements.

Section 13. It is recommended that courses contain sufficient bird cover and suitable objectives to induce intelligent searching by the dogs. Bird fields, if used, should be of adequate size

to permit a dog to hunt without excessive hacking, and with cover sufficient to hold birds. A variety of cover and objectives is desirable. Five (5) acres is suggested as a minimum area for a bird field.

Section 14. The judge and reporter of a major field trial which overlaps another trial in which such judge or reporter wished to compete may be held out of the drawing until the trial being judged is complete. 24 hours of traveling may be allowed after completion of the trial being judged. The rule is not mandatory and the decision as whatever to follow procedure rests solely with the field trial draw committee, President and Secretary.



## CHAPTER 3

### **RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR FIELD TRIALS**

#### **ARTICLE 1**

Section 1. This Corporation shall record the winners in stakes sponsored by active members of the Corporation when handled by amateurs, and shall issue certificates, signed by the President and Secretary of this Corporation, to owners of such winning dogs, provided, however:

- (a) The dog is registered with the FDSB at the time of such placement.
- (b) The sponsoring member shall have paid to this Corporation membership dues as determined by the Board for the year in which the trial is held (\$100.00 as of June 2012); and
- (c) The sponsoring member shall have received a license from the corporation for such trial; and
- (d) The member conforms to the “Minimum Requirements” as set out herein in Chapter 2, in conducting said trial; and
- (e) The member appoints a Stake Manager to oversee the running of the trial; and
- (f) The sponsoring member certifies the winner, or winners of its stakes to the Secretary of this Corporation within thirty days after the close of the trials at which said win, or wins, was made, giving such information as may be required by the Secretary of this Corporation; and
- (g) That in stakes with minimum of three dogs competing, one win certificate will be issued. In stakes with four or five dogs competing, two placements only will be recognized. In stakes with six or more dogs competing, three placements, with no division of any place, will be recognized; and
- (h) Winner’s certificates will not be issued by this Corporation for wins in open stakes where a cash purse is accepted by the handler, owner or owner’s agent of a dog awarded a placement; and
- (i) That win certificates will be issued by this Corporation except as noted in (h) of this Section for dogs and handlers winning placements in open stakes recognized by The United Kennel Club / American Field Publishing Company if said dogs are handled by an amateur who is associated with a member club, and any scout used by the amateur handler during the running is also an amateur. Within the meaning of this Section, an “All-Age Stake” shall include Open All-Age Championships and Open
- (j) Money or cash purse awards are prohibited in all amateur stakes.
- (k) All-Age Stakes. A “Shooting Dog Stake” shall include Open Shooting Dog Championships and Open Shooting Dog Stakes. A “Derby Stake” shall include all Open Derby Championships, Open Derby Stakes and recognized Futurities, provided that the club is a member of the AFTCA.

Section 2. Drawing will be for order of running only and not for any particular course. A dog or handler that is absent from the place at which he is to start may be disqualified at the discretion of the judges. The duty to have a dog at the time and place where he is to start rests solely upon the owner or handler.

Section 3. Any owner who refuses to pay an entry fee for their dog shall be subject to being barred from competition in member club trials.

Section 4. Objectionable entries will not be allowed to start if the following conditions prevail:

- (a) Dogs afflicted with any disease which the Stake Manager may regard as contagious will not be permitted to start or to be handled in close proximity to other entries.
- (b) Bitches in season will not be permitted to start unless, in the opinion of the judges, it can be accomplished under conditions which insure absolute fairness to other entries. Under no circumstance will they be permitted to be kenneled or transported near other starters.
- (c) Objections to entries will be considered by the Stake Manager prior to the running.

Section 5. The judges shall be in charge of the running and handling of the dogs, subject only to the Rules and Regulations for Field Trials of this Corporation.

If the judges deem a second or additional series to be necessary, after the first series has been completed, they may call the dogs wanted in whatever manner or order and for the length of time they deem necessary.

### **Handlers**

Section 6. A dog must be handled by its amateur owner, or it may be handled by any other amateur handler.

- (a) An individual handler must be designated at the time of the drawing, and such handler, if present and physically able to handle or scout, must handle the dog as drawn.
- (b) If two dogs handled by the same handler should be drawn in the same brace, the second dog drawn shall change place with the next dog to be handled by another handler.
- (c) Any person under suspension or barred from competition in trials by this Corporation shall not be permitted to handle or scout a dog.
- (d) To compete in regional and national championships a handler must have at some time qualified a dog by winning an AFTCA win certificate.
- (e) This corporation recognizes bird dog field trailing as an amateur competitive sporting event and further recognizes a handler is an integral part of these events.
- (f) No amateur shall handle more than two (2) dogs not solely owned by them or some member of their immediate family in any amateur stake. Should this occur, all dogs handled by this handler in this stake shall be disqualified.

### **Penalty for Misconduct of Handlers**

Section 7. All handlers must conform to any and all regulations and rules and directions of the judges which do not conflict with Rules and Regulations for Field Trials of this Corporation. Should any such regulation be disregarded, the judges shall have authority to disqualify such handler and/or their dogs, or they may leave the matter to the Stake Manager for their action.

(a) The judges are expected to direct and rigidly enforce the prohibition of the interference by a handler, scout or dog with the bracemates' dog.

(b) Handlers shall be at liberty to inquire of the judges at any time as to any regulations within their province or of the Stake Manager concerning any rule beyond the jurisdiction of the judges.

### **Complaints**

Section 8. A handler may make a verbal complaint to either the judges or the Stake Manager concerning the conduct of their opponent, provided that such complaint be made promptly upon the alleged commission of the offense, thus affording proper official opportunity of observing the immediate situation.

### **Impugning Judges**

Section 9. Any person who has, in the opinion of the Stake Manager, impugned the action of a judge officiating at any stake, or who has otherwise annoyed such official in connection with or because of their official action in connection with the trial either during or after the running of a trial, may be barred from further participation in or attendance at such trial by the Stake Manager, and such disbarment may be made permanent by subsequent action of the Board of Trustees.

### **Scouting**

Section 10. No scouting shall be permitted except by another amateur.

(a) It shall be illegal for anyone to scout for a handler unless permission of the judges has first been obtained. Lagging behind the field trial party for the purpose of locating dogs shall constitute scouting to the same extent as leaving the field trial party to go in any other direction.

### **Scouting in Shooting Dog Stakes**

(b) Scouting is permitted in Shooting Dog Stakes provided permission from the judges has first been obtained. The Scout should return to the gallery immediately upon completion of

their mission and not act as an outrider. Shooting dogs should handle and excess scouting shall be regarded as a fault.

### **Handling Dogs**

Section 11. During the running of a heat no dog in competition shall be removed from the ground for an appreciable length of time or placed on a leash or worked otherwise than in the accepted manner of handling by voice, whistle or signal.

(a) The use of any electronic device to communicate to or influence the dog's action in competition in a field trial is forbidden.

(b) Any handler violating this Section may be barred from further participation or attendance at such trial by the Stake Manager and the dog shall be disqualified.

### **Field Marshall**

Section 12. One Field Marshal or more shall be appointed by the Stake Manager, and the Field Marshall or Marshalls shall have the full authority to control the movement of the gallery or other spectators. The Field Marshall shall prevent interference with the judges, handlers and dogs.

### **Instructions to Handlers**

Section 13. No one other than the handler of a dog may give a competing dog any command or direction except with the permission of the judges.

### **Backing**

Section 14. In an All-Age or Shooting Dog Stake, it is mandatory that a judge order a dog up if that dog demonstrates conclusively that it is refused to back its braced mate.

### **Ammunition**

Section 15. The use of open barrel .410 bore shotguns using ½ load specified safety blank ammunition in lieu of solid barrel blank pistols at AFTCA sanctioned trials is permitted. At the discretion of land owners and hosts pistols may be required.

(a) Only specified safety blanks used in re-enactment events and endorsed by AFTCA governance may be used. (1/2 load Grey) safety blanks emit no solid material from the barrel. Judges may ask for verification of such prior to breakaway.

(b) Shotguns (.410 bore) must be fired in a prescribed manner, i.e., skyward and away from the direction of the gallery and judges, or the dog and handler may be disqualified from the stake at the discretion of the judges.

(c) The barrel of the shotgun should never be used for flushing by the handler, thus minimizing

(d) any foreign materials from entering the open barrel. The gun should be held in a skyward position and never pointed toward the gallery or judges. Failure to comply could result in a dog or handler being disqualified in that stake.

(e) Proven, intentional use of live ammunition will result in immediate barring of the handler from any further competition until the case has been reviewed and decided by the Board of Trustees of the AFTCA.

(f) Clubs at their discretion may provide specified safety blank ammunition to be used. The source for approved safety blanks ammunition shall be posed on the AFTCA website.

### **Conduct Detrimental to Field Trials**

Section 16. Any person entering and handling a dog in a field trial held by an active member of this Corporation or the Corporation itself, or any member club, its officers or members found acting in a manner contrary to good sportsmanship and detrimental to the best interests of field trials generally, or not conducting its trial within the Minimum Requirements for Field Trials, may be reprimanded, penalized, or barred from any or all functions of a member club and/or the Corporation.

Any individual observing such misconduct shall immediately notify the offending party and attempt to resolve the problem on the spot. Should the parties involved be unable to resolve the problem on the spot, the conflict shall immediately be presented to an officer of the host club or stake manager as conditions warrant. Should the officer or stake manager be unable to resolve the problem in a manner acceptable to all concerned, a formal, written complaint may be made.

(a) Complaint. Any individual or active member club may file a formal, written complaint regarding unresolved misconduct. The procedure to be followed in filing a complaint shall be as follows:

A formal, written complaint shall be presented to the host active member club by the accuser as soon as possible and no more than thirty (30) days following the incident. The president of the host club shall, upon receipt of the complaint, schedule a hearing on the complaint by the club membership at a called meeting of the membership. The host club shall provide the accused and the accuser ten (10) days' notice of the membership meeting and the time and location of the meeting. The accused and the accuser shall be given the opportunity to be present at the membership meeting and to present evidence. The accused will be permitted, if he/she chooses, to have an attorney present and/or to participate in this hearing.

Should the majority of the member club membership find the complaint to be true, the accused may be reprimanded, penalized or barred as the membership shall decide. Such reprimand, penalty or disbarment shall apply only to the functions of the member club.

Should the member club membership decide the complaint warrants consideration over and beyond the functions of the member club, the membership may instruct its secretary to file a

formal, written complaint with its next higher affiliated organization (association, state organization or regional organization). The secretary shall send the accused a copy of the filing within ten (10) days.

The next higher affiliated organization shall follow the same procedure as a member club for processing a complaint. All findings of the next higher affiliated organization relative to the complaint shall apply only to member clubs of said organization. Such procedure shall be followed until the complaint has been processed through the region in which the club member resides before it may be forwarded to the AFTCA Board of Trustees.

Upon receipt of a complaint, the President of the AFTCA shall set a hearing before the Board of Trustees to decide the merits of the complaint. A copy of the complaint, the findings of all previous organizations, and notice of the time and place of the hearing shall be provided to the accused and the accuser at least ten (10) days prior to the hearing. If the majority of the Board of Trustees shall find that the complaint is true, the accused may be reprimanded, penalized or barred from any function of the Corporation.

The AFTCA President or the Board of Trustees may hear or delegate the right to hear evidence upon any complaint. The Board of Trustees may act upon such evidence as deemed appropriate, provided, however, that the accused be given proper notification and the opportunity to defend as herein before described. The AFTCA Board of Trustees shall be the final authority on all complaints generated within the organization.

(b) Appeal of Complaint. Should the resolution by a club member of any complaint not satisfy the accused or the accuser, either party may file a written appeal within thirty (30) days to the secretary of the next higher affiliated organization (association, stake organization or regional organization). Upon receipt of the appeal that organization shall request input and information from each party. The organization President shall schedule a hearing on the appeal at a meeting of the membership, and give ten (10) days' notice to the parties of the time and location of the hearing. The majority of the membership of such next higher affiliated organization shall decide the merits of the appeal and may abolish, decrease or increase the reprimand, penalty or disbarment or reverse the findings of the member club. Findings of such next higher affiliated organization shall be provided in writing to the accuser and the accused within ten (10) days of such findings. Such procedure shall be followed for the appeal of a complaint until the appeal has been processed through the region in which the member club resides before it may be appealed to the AFTCA Board of Trustees.

The President of the AFTCA shall, upon receipt of an appeal, schedule a hearing before the Board of Trustees to decide the merits of the appeal. A copy of the appeal, the findings of all previous organizations and notice of the time and place of the hearing shall be provided to the accuser and the accused at least ten (10) days prior to the hearing. A majority of the Board of Trustees shall decide the merits of the appeal and may abolish, decrease or increase the reprimand, penalty or disbarment or reverse the finding as established by the region. The AFTCA shall provide the accused and the accuser the results of its findings in writing within ten (10) days of the finding.

The AFTCA Board of Trustees shall be the final appeal for all complaints generated within the Corporation.

During the appeal process, the finding of the next lower affiliated organization shall remain in effect until such finding by the next higher affiliated organization shall modify this finding.

(c) Nothing contained within this amendment shall be construed to be in conflict or supersede any article contained in the By-Laws and Running Rules other than the article noted above.

## **ARTICLE II**

### **Definition of Professional and Amateur**

Section 1. Any person who receives or has received, either directly or indirectly, compensation for training or handling dogs (including handling of dogs on a plantation or shooting preserve) other than their own or those of an immediate family member, is not an amateur. Any amateur who handles a dog not solely owned and registered in their name or in the name of a member of their immediate family, who is awarded a placement for such dog's performance shall waive payment or any division of the cash purse or shall lose their amateur status. The funds waived shall remain the property of the Club.

### **Professionalism**

Section 2. Any active club member of this Corporation is empowered, upon consideration of evidence deemed sufficient, to declare any person who handled a dog or dogs in stakes of an active club member, to be a professional and to disqualify their dog or dogs, or to bar them from handling in any club stake as an amateur.

Section 3. Any active club member or any individual member may file a written complaint with the Secretary of this corporation alleging that a professional handler has handled, or attempted to handle, a dog or dogs in an amateur field trial event.

(a) The complaint shall state:

1. The name and the address of the person alleged to be a professional.
2. The time, place, name of the member club and the event in which the person alleged to be a professional handler, or attempted to handle, in an amateur event.
3. A concise statement of the events upon which the complaint relies as proof to establish such person is a professional handler.
4. Name and address of club or individual making the complaint must be included.

(b) If, in the opinion of the Secretary of the Corporation, such complaint has merit, he shall

submit the same, and all evidence thereof, to the Board of Trustees, whose decision thereon shall be final. Before submitting such complaint to the Board of Trustees, the Secretary shall notify the accused, in writing, of the nature of the charge against them, and the Secretary shall fix a time in which the accused may file a written answer to the charge and their complaint provide evidence thereon. The accuser shall be given the same opportunity to substantiate their complaint.

(c) Upon expiration of the time fixed by the Secretary, they shall submit copies of the complaint the answer, and all evidence submitted to them by either party to each member of the Board of Trustees for their decision. The Secretary shall also submit any explanation or comment which they may desire. If a majority of the Board of Trustees shall find in favor of the accused, their amateur standing shall remain unimpaired. If the Board of Trustees decides that the accused is a professional handler, the accused shall be barred from handling any dog in competition in any amateur event in any stake sponsored by an active member of this corporation, and no certificate of win made by a dog handled by such a person shall be issued by this corporation. The Secretary shall notify both the accused and the accusing party in writing of the decision of the Board of Trustees.

#### **Reinstatement to Amateur Status**

Section 4. Any person who is an admitted professional; or who has been declared to be a professional by this Corporation; or any person who has been barred from competition in amateur events because of professionalism; if they have not violated either the letter or spirit of Section 1 of this Article for three (3) years, may qualify as an amateur handler in the following manner:

(a) Such individual may request, in writing, a hearing by the Board of Trustees, so that their status may be definitely established. Such individual must accompany the request with a statement and evidence supporting their claim that they are an amateur, as defined by these Regulations and shall prove their claim in the manner and procedure set forth in Section 3 of this Article.

(b) If such a request is filed by an individual who has been barred from competition in an amateur event, the Secretary shall notify the President and Secretary of the active member club which barred them, and request that they provide, in proper form for presentation to the Board of Trustees, evidence on which their action was based.

(c) If a majority of the Board of Trustees finds that the petitioner is entitled to amateur status, petitioner shall be declared to be an amateur and the Secretary shall notify them and other interested parties of the Board's decision.



## **ARTICLE III**

### **Regional Championships**

Section 1. Regional All-Age, Regional Shooting Dog and Regional Walking Shooting Dog Championships may be sanctioned by the Board of Trustees of this corporation in such sections of the country as the Board may, in its discretion, deem advisable.

#### **Title Awards**

Section 2. The title awarded the dog winning these regional events shall be descriptive of the region in which the stake was held. The winner of an event in Region 1 would be designated "Region 1 Amateur Champion," or "Region 1 Amateur Shooting Dog Champion" or "Region 1 Amateur Walking Shooting Dog Champion," etc.

#### **Reward to Winners**

Section 3. The rewards to go with the title of Regional Champion and Runner-Up must be trophies or tack, or equipment, etc.

#### **Declaring Champion**

Section 4. It is not mandatory that a champion or runner-up be named in a Regional Championship Stake, but is left to the discretion of the judges. This corporation will award the winner and the runner-up, if one is designated, in such regional event a certificate commemorative of the win.

#### **Courses and Game**

Section 5. All regional events must be held on a succession of courses under natural conditions except as otherwise specifically designated in these Regulations under the heading "One-Course Championships."

(a) Except as provided under One-Course Championships, at least multiple courses must be used in any regional event. There must be no bird fields on these courses and the courses should be so arranged that no brace of dogs will have to cover the same ground a second time in the same heat.

(b) Supplemental birds may be liberated on the course, in widely separated areas of the courses so as to simulate natural conditions (see Article IV, Section 1, (d) and (g) for liberating birds.

## **Length of Heats**

Section 6. The first-series heats must be at least one hour in length and there may be as many additional series and for as long a time as the judges may deem necessary.

## **Champions Must Be Shot Over**

Section 7. No dog shall be declared a winner or runner-up in a regional championship unless shot over when birds are flushed to their point or as directed by the judges. The shot is to be fired only by the handler of the pointing dog with a gun of not less than .32 caliber. Shotgun (209) primers and #2 (Brown) .22 caliber Power Loads may be used in lieu of .32 caliber.

## **Eligibility**

Section 8. To be eligible for the All-Age Championships dogs and handlers shall have a winner's certificate from this Corporation for a win in a derby or an all-age event. To be eligible for the Regional Shooting Dog Championship and the Regional Walking Shooting Dog Championship, dogs and handlers must have a winner's certificate from this corporation for a win in a shooting dog or derby event.

## **ARTICLE IV**

### **One-Course Regional Championships**

Section 1. One-course championships may be sanctioned in Regions 1 and 2 and such other regions from time to time as may be determined by the Board of Trustees. The same regulations shall apply to one-course championships as to other regional events, except as follows:

- (a) All dogs shall be run over the same course.
- (b) At least three birds (pheasant, quail, Hungarian, or Chukar partridges) must be liberated for each brace of dogs. No more than one-third of the birds liberated for each brace may be liberated in the bird fields, and the remaining two-thirds are to be liberated in at least two other well-separated locations on the course.
- (c) No fewer than nine birds shall be liberated before the first brace is put down. No more than three shall be liberated in the bird field. The balance shall be placed in at least two widely separated locations on the course.
- (d) No bird shall be dizzied or its physical powers otherwise impaired. So far as possible, birds shall be liberated with a minimum of handling.
- (e) Birds for the next brace shall be liberated within ten minutes after the field trial party has passed each point of liberation so that all birds will be out a minimum of fifty minutes before being handled by dogs.
- (f) It is recommended that the single course be sufficiently large and the running so arranged

that no one brace of dogs will have to cover the same ground a second time in the same heat.

(g) The course shall not end in a bird field. The last ten minutes of the running shall be in open country where birds are not liberated during the running of the stake, to enable the judges in the closing minutes of the heat to better estimate the stamina of the dogs.

Section 2. The winner of a one-course event shall be designated as a “One-Course Champion.”

## ARTICLE V

### NATIONAL AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP STAKES

Section 1. This corporation shall hold each year,

- (a) National Amateur Quail Championship
- (b) National Amateur Pheasant Championship
- (c) National Amateur Invitational Championship
- (d) National Amateur Chicken Championship
- (e) National Amateur Shooting Dog Championship
- (f) National Amateur Pheasant Shooting Dog Championship
- (g) National Amateur Grouse Championship
- (h) National Amateur Chukar Championship
- (i) International Amateur Woodcock Championship
- (j) National Amateur Chukar Shooting Dog Championship
- (k) National Amateur Walking Shooting Dog Championship
- (l) National Amateur Prairie Chicken Shooting Dog Championship
- (m) National Amateur Shooting Dog Invitational Championship
- (n) National Amateur Derby Championship
- (o) National Amateur Shooting Dog Derby Championship

(p) Such other championships as the Board of Trustees may determine for dogs of all pointing breeds, registered or eligible for registration, regardless of previous wins, that have qualified as follows:

Section 2. To qualify for the National Amateur Quail Championship, a dog shall have previously won a place under an amateur handler in a one-hour multiple-course all-age stake, or a placement win in a one-course or thirty-minute all-age stake held by an active member club of this Corporation in accordance with its Regulations; or be the winner or runner-up in a Regional All-Age Championship, including the National Amateur Derby Championship sanctioned by this Corporation.

Section 3. To qualify for a National Amateur Pheasant Championship, a National Amateur Chicken Championship or a National Amateur Chukar Championship, a dog shall have previously won a place, under an amateur handler, in a derby, all-age or Regional All-Age Championship Stake, held by an active member club in accordance with its Regulations, and holds a win certificate for that placement.

Section 4. For qualification in a National Amateur Shooting Dog Championship, a dog shall have won a place under an amateur handler in a Shooting Dog Stake or placed in the National Amateur Shooting Dog Derby Championship held by an active member of this corporation, in accordance with its Regulations.

Section 5. To qualify for a National Amateur Pheasant Shooting Dog Championship, a National Amateur Chukar Shooting Dog Championship, a National Amateur Walking Shooting Dog Championship or a National Amateur Prairie Chicken Shooting Dog Championship, a dog shall have won a place, under an amateur handler, in a Shooting Dog Stake or a Derby Stake held by an active member club of this corporation, and hold a winner's certificate for the placement.

Section 6. To qualify for a National Amateur Grouse Championship or an International Amateur Woodcock Championship a dog shall have won a place, under an amateur handler, in a shooting dog stake, or a derby stake, or an all-age stake held by an active member of this Corporation, in accordance with its Regulations.

Section 7. Eligibility for the National Amateur Invitational Championships are based on a point system as follows:

Points will be awarded as follows: 3 points for 1st place dog times the number of dogs drawn; 2 points for 2nd place dog times number of dogs drawn; 1 point for 3rd place dog times the number of dogs drawn.

Bonus points shall be awarded as follows:

All Regional Championships: 25 points to the champion; 10 points to the runner-up.

All National Amateur Championships: 30 points to the champion; 15 points to the runner-up.

National Amateur Free-For-All: 75 points to the champion; 50 to the runner-up.

National Amateur Quail Championship: 100 points to the champion; 50 to the runner-up.

Only the previous year's winner is automatically qualified for the following year's event.

Previous year's runner-up in the Invitational shall receive a total of 75 points.

A gun of not less than .32 caliber shall be used in one-hour invitational qualifying stakes. Shotgun (209) primers and #2 (Brown) .22 caliber Power Loads may be used in lieu of .32 caliber.

Section 8. Gun Dog Stakes and Shooting Dog Stakes shall be considered one and the same.

## **Championships**

Section 9. The National Amateur Quail Championship, The National Amateur Pheasant Championship, The National Amateur Chicken Championship, The National Amateur Invitational Championship, The National Amateur Chukar Championship, The National Amateur Shooting Dog Championship, The National Amateur Pheasant Shooting Dog Championship, The National Amateur Grouse Championship, The International Amateur Woodcock Championship, The National Amateur Chukar Shooting Dog Championship, The National Amateur Walking Shooting Dog Championship, The National Amateur Shooting Dog Invitational Championship, the National Amateur Derby Championship, The National Amateur Shooting Dog Derby Championship and the National Amateur Prairie Chicken Shooting Dog Championship shall be held annually at a place and date to be determined by the action of the President of this corporation.

The winner of first place in the National Amateur Quail Championship Stake shall be declared the National Amateur Quail Champion of America for that year. The winner of the National Amateur Chicken Championship shall be declared the National Amateur Chicken Champion for that year. The winner of the National Amateur Invitational Championship shall be declared the National Amateur Invitational Champion for that year. The winner of the National Amateur Chukar Championship shall be declared the National Amateur Chukar Champion for that year. The winner of the National Amateur Shooting Dog Championship shall be declared the National Amateur Shooting Dog Champion for that year. The winner of the National Amateur Pheasant Shooting Dog Championship shall be declared the National Amateur Pheasant Shooting Dog Champion for that year. The winner of the National Amateur Grouse Championship shall be declared the National Amateur Grouse Champion for that year. The winner of the International Amateur Woodcock Championship shall be declared the International Amateur Woodcock Champion for that year. The winner of the National Amateur Chukar Shooting Dog Championship shall be declared the National Amateur Chukar Shooting Dog Champion for that year. The winner of the National Amateur Walking Shooting Dog Championship shall be declared the National Amateur Walking Shooting Dog Champion for that year. The winner of the National Amateur Pheasant Championship shall be declared the National Amateur Pheasant Champion for that year. The winner of the National Amateur Prairie Chicken Championship shall be declared the National Amateur Prairie Chicken Champion for that year. The winner of the National Amateur Shooting Dog Invitational shall be declared the National Amateur Shooting Dog Invitational Champion for that year.

The winner of the National Amateur Derby Championship shall be declared the National Amateur Derby Champion for that year. The winner of the National Amateur Shooting Dog Derby Championship shall be declared the National Amateur Shooting Dog Derby Champion for that year.

Section 10. A champion must be declared in all National Amateur Championships. The naming of a runner-up in all the championships is optional with the judges.

Section 11. To qualify to enter the National Amateur Championship Stakes, the handler shall have previously won a placement in an AFTCA trial and hold a certificate for that placement.

### **Trophies**

Section 12. The outright award of a suitable trophy shall go the owner of the champion, each year. If the judges declare a runner-up, their owner shall also be awarded a suitable trophy to commemorate the win.

*The following trophies are currently awarded:*

(a) The Hawfield Trophy and the Championship Trophy in the National Amateur Quail Championship; The George C. Olive Trophy in the National Amateur Shooting Dog Championship; The John R. (Jack) Stuart Trophy in the National Amateur Grouse Championship; The Miss Leslie Anderson Trophy in the International Amateur Woodcock Championship; The Gus Lurus Memorial Trophy in the National Amateur Chukar Championship; The Gary Gaertner Trophy in the National Amateur Chukar Shooting Dog Championship; The James V. Carter Trophy in the National Amateur Walking Shooting Dog Championship; The Tom McNeal Trophy in the National Amateur Derby Championship and The J. Frank "Tobe" Stallings Trophy in the National Amateur Invitational Championship. The Tom Honecker Memorial Trophy be delivered to and displayed to participants at each running of the National Amateur Pheasant Championship by the secretary of the AFTC . That this trophy in the interval times between each subsequent running of the National Amateur Pheasant Championship be displayed at the Bird dog Museum in Grand Junction, Tennessee. The Brook Week's Memorial Trophy and the Chimes Mississippi Jack Trophy, are perpetual trophies and cannot be retired

(b). All other trophies that are now or may be in the future offered for competition, shall, upon being won three times by the same owner, become the property of said owner.

### **Judges**

Section 13. Two or more judges shall judge each National Amateur Championship Stake.

(a) The Grounds Committee appointed by the President to plan the running of such championships shall submit a list of judges to the President. The President shall make the final selection of judges. It is suggested that the judging assignments be rotated, i.e., that one or more judges be carried over from the previous year, to maintain continuity of judging standards.

(b) The names of the judges for all National Amateur Championships shall, if possible, be announced at least thirty days prior to the running of the stake. If any announced judge becomes unable to serve or fails to appear, a substitute judge shall be named by (in order) the President or the Grounds Committee, or the officers of the corporation, or the Stake Manager.

## **Entry Fees and Starting Fees**

Section 14. Entry fees in all championship stakes run by this Corporation shall be fixed from time to time by the Board of Trustees. Dogs which qualify in trials held by active members of this corporation between the date of the closing of entries of the respective National Amateur Championships and the time of the drawing thereof, may be entered and drawn.

## **Entry Blanks**

Section 15. The Secretary shall make entry blanks available in advance to all owners who enter a dog in the respective championships sponsored by this Corporation.

(a) The owner of any and all dogs to be entered in any championship stake sponsored by this Corporation must have their entries in the hands of the Secretary on or before the advertised closing date.

(b) All entries in Championship stakes are required to show the serial number of the win certificate of the dog and handler entered. The dog entered must be described by registered name, breed, age, color markings, sex, studbook number, the name of the owner and such other information as may be required by the Secretary of this Corporation.

(c) The Secretary of this Corporation is authorized to refuse to accept the entry of any dog in any championship stake sponsored by this Corporation unless and until the information herein set out is supplied to them.

## **Stake Manager**

Section 15. The entire conduct of the running of each championship stake, subject to the Rules and Regulations for Field Trials of the corporation, and subject also to the jurisdiction of the judges, shall be vested in the Stake Manager. All questions not answered by the Rules and Regulations for Field Trials of the Corporation and not within the jurisdiction of the judges, shall be ruled on by the Stake Manager. Their decision shall be final until reviewed by the Board of Trustees. The decision of the Board of Trustees shall be final.

(a) The President of the Corporation shall be the Stake Manager for all Championships sponsored by this Corporation. Should the President not attend a Championship, or be in attendance but unable to serve as Stake Manager, then the ranking Vice President in attendance shall be the Stake Manager. If the President nor none of the Vice Presidents are in attendance, then the President may appoint any other Trustee who will be in attendance to serve as Stake Manager. Should none of the Vice Presidents be in attendance and should the President not appoint a Stake Manager to serve in their place, then the Secretary of the corporation shall designate a Stake Manager.

(b) The Stake Manager is empowered to order any person in attendance at the trial removed from the field trial grounds and to prevent their return during the stake if, in their judgment, such person has been guilty of conduct unbecoming a gentleman/woman or has in any manner interfered with the running of the stake. Any such person may be permanently barred from attending future trials of this Corporation by subsequent action of the Board of Trustees.

## **Length of Heats**

Section 17. In the National Amateur Quail Championship, the first-series heats shall be one and one-half hours in length.

(a) In the National Amateur Pheasant Championship, The National Amateur Chicken Championship, The National Amateur Chukar Championship, The National Amateur Invitational Championship, The National Amateur Shooting Dog Championship, The National Amateur Grouse Championship, The International Amateur Woodcock Championship, The National Amateur Shooting Dog Invitational Championship, The National Amateur Prairie Chicken Shooting Dog Championship, The National Amateur Derby Championship, The National Amateur Shooting Dog Derby Championship, The National Amateur Chukar Shooting Dog Championship, The National Amateur Pheasant Shooting Dog Championship, and the National Amateur Walking Shooting Dog Championship, the first series heats shall be one hour in length.

(b) In each stake, the judges may run as many additional series as they deem necessary, and the time of running therein shall be determined solely by the judges.

## **Shooting**

Section 18. No dog shall be placed in a National Amateur Championship Stake until shot over when birds are flushed to their point or as directed by a judge. Only the handler of the pointing dog may fire the shot from a gun of not less than .32 caliber. Shotgun (209) primers and #2 (Brown) .22 caliber Power Loads may be used in lieu of .32 caliber.



## **ARTICLE VI**

### **THE NATIONAL AMATEUR FREE-FOR-ALL SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP**

The National Amateur Free-for-All Shooting Dog Championship is an Amateur Free-for-All Championship sanctioned by the AFTCA to be run by the National Free-for-All Shooting Dog Championship Association at Union Springs, Alabama. Dogs are qualified for the championship finals in a preliminary qualifying series. The National Amateur Free-for-All Championship Association shall provide a full and complete report to the AFTCA or its representative annually.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **BREED CHAMPIONSHIPS AND OTHERS**

For recognition of a Breed Championship and others where a parent organization represents the breed and its regions for approval to hold an Amateur Championship, the parent organization will accept conduct of the event as approved by the Board of Trustees of the Amateur Field Trial Clubs of America. Fee for the recognition of such championship event will be an amount determined by the Board of Trustees (\$200.00 annually as of June 2002). The AFTCA may grant amateur Championships for National Field Trial organizations and their regions as the board of trustees deem necessary.

## **ARTICLE VIII**

### **ELECTRONIC RECOVERY, TRACKING AND COMMUNICATION DEVICES RULES**

THE sole purpose of using the retrieval/recovery device in a field trial is to assist the handler in finding a dog that may be lost or which is deemed no longer in judgment.

The rules for the use of a dog recovery unit in all recognized stakes are as follows:

1. The collar and receiver are to be used as received from the manufacturer. No modifications are to be made to the collar other than a name identification plate affixed. The collar must have a flat surface against the dog's neck. All components, including collar, are not to exceed nine (9) ounces.
2. Neither the handler nor the scout may carry a receiver while they are showing their dog in competition. All of their receivers are to be given to the judges or a person designated by the host club
3. ALL receivers in the gallery, including those in the possession of the host club's designee, are to be

turned OFF. (No one in the gallery shall “track” dogs while under judgment).

4. No Outside communication — No one shall communicate in any manner with the handler, scout, judges or gallery members with any information obtained through use of a recovery device while dogs are under judgment.

5. A receiver may only be activated once judgment has concluded. If a dog is gone at time, that dog is still under judgment until such time as the judges indicate otherwise or the handler requests the receiver unit.

6. If a dog is lost from a previous brace, the handler or designee may use the receiving unit during the succeeding brace solely for the purpose of locating the lost dog. Once the dog is located the receiver is to be turned off.

7. The use of a recovery device is at the discretion of the host club. It is the handler’s responsibility, if they choose to use one, to furnish the device. The running of the stake shall not be held up due to the lack of a recovery device

8. While competing, a dog shall wear no more than two collars. If a handler elects to use a recovery unit, the collar shall remain on during the entire time the dog is under judgment. Removal of a recovery collar during competition will result in disqualification of that dog.

9. Companion collar shall be no more than 2 inches in width and not more than 5oz in weight, used as received from the manufacturer without alteration. The only addition is that of an identification name plate.

10. It is the responsibility of the handler to give the judge or club designee the receiver unit in the OFF position. A violation shall be the disqualification of the offending handler from the stake (handler’s remaining dogs in that stake may be run by a handler of their choosing should they elect to do so, but the violating handler cannot participate in any way in the remainder of that stake and the dog in that brace cannot be considered for a placement in that stake).

11. It is the responsibility of the host club to report in writing all violations of these rules to the United Kennel Club / American Field/Field Dog Stud Book. Failure to report violations can result in suspension of club’s ability to host Field Dog Stud Book recognized events.

12. Any person using a receiver to locate a dog currently under judgment and prior to its use by the host club’s designee shall disqualify that dog in the stake, and the offenders shall be disqualified from field trials.

The undersigned Secretary of this corporation hereby certifies that the above and foregoing By-Laws, Running Rules and Regulations for the Field Trials of the Amateur Field Trial Clubs of America, Inc., were duly adopted by vote of the Board of Trustees, at a regular meeting of said Corporation should be done at the next regular meeting of Trustees in 2017.

WITNESS my hand this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_.

(Ms.) Piper Huffman  
Secretary-Treasurer

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