



HUNTING DOG & HUNTING DOG EXCELLENT STAKES
&
INTRO TO BIRDS

Saturday, June 17th, 8:00am
Flaherty Field Trial Area,
Tromley Road, East Windsor, CT

Open to Vizslas Only (6 mos or older)

FOR ALL THREE EVENTS:

Entries for all three activities will be limited to the number of dogs that can be comfortably run before 12noon in an effort to avoid the heat of the afternoon.

Bitches in season may only compete in the Hunting Dog Excellent stake and will be drawn in the final braces; bitches in season will be drawn for the final braces of the Introduction to Birds. Bitches in season must be identified ahead of time along with the other entry information.

Entries:

To enter, please e-mail Andrew Campbell at <arj.campbell@gmail.com> with your dog's registered name, call name, and which stake you wish to enter. Entries are due before 9:00pm, Wednesday, June 14th; the drawing will be sent out before 12noon on Thursday, June 15th; *payment will be taken on the day of the event, but must be made before your dog runs.*

Hunting Dog Competition:

The criteria for BOTH stakes are: the dog must be a companion to a foot hunter, must work in a forward pattern, independent of its handler but of common mind. It must handle kindly. It must seek objectives likely to hold game. It must work within reasonable range to be effective to find and shoot game. It must demonstrate enthusiasm for its mission. It must find game. Judges are instructed to recognize the productivity of a dog, not only in quantity but in quality of finds (that is, not just birds in plain site, but the ones that have truly taken cover in the most wonderful of hiding places!) Intensity of purpose is to be rewarded as well as *style*.

Dogs may enter one or the other, but not both competitions.

Also, "professionals" may enter and handle their own dogs as long as they are not "field"

professionals. That is, individuals may be professional conformation handlers or obedience trainers or may operate kennels, but may not be professional trainers for any field event, AKC or otherwise.

Amateurs may handle one dog that they do not own, in addition to their own dog(s). Amateurs may enter as many dogs as they wish as long as they are owned or co-owned by the handler.

Hunting Dog Stake (HD): 20 minutes \$40

Judges: Paul Shirley, Tracy Faber

Entry and Performance Criteria: in HD, *judgment ceases at the flush*. So the HD dog is expected to be steady only until that point. If the dog chases the flushed bird, it is not a mark down or a disqualification. Dogs who have a Senior Hunter title, a Master Hunter title, a Field Championship or an Amateur Field Championship OR a first place in a field trial gun dog (broke dog) stake MAY NOT ENTER the Hunting Dog competition.

Hunting Dog Excellent Stake (HDE): 30 minutes: \$45

Judges: Don Bristol, Stephanie Ellars

Entry and Performance Criteria: in HDE, the dog is expected to show a more finished performance, including a retrieve. The HDE dog must be steady to wing and shot: the dog may not break at the flush, and may not chase the bird when a shot is fired. Unlike a senior or master hunter hunt test evaluation, the HDE dog is NOT REQUIRED to demonstrate an honor (back), but must do so if the opportunity presents itself. In other words, the dog may not ignore or “blink” its standing brace mate. There is no penalty or mark down if the dog does not encounter an opportunity to back (honor.) Further, the honoring dog may be collared during the honor, once the honor is established. Likewise, any dog who has “stood” its bird through the firing of the pistol may be collared (controlled by the hand of the handler) away from the find and forward on the course. The HDE contestant must also retrieve a shot bird on the course in the designated shooting area.

Prizes:

Ribbons will be awarded for 1st through 4th and the winners of each stake will have their names engraved on the respective trophy.

Introduction to Birds: \$40

This is intended for newcomers to fieldwork, both human and canine -- and provides an opportunity to introduce you and your dog to birdwork and to give you a glimpse of what your vizsla might be capable of. Each dog will go out by itself, the dog and owner accompanied by an experienced handler -- the emphasis being on giving inexperienced dog the chance to use its nose and discover the magic of quail. There will be no gunfire.

If time permits, there may be a few opportunities for more experienced dogs to run in a mock Junior Hunter brace, ie. with two dogs running together and handlers firing blank pistols. If you are interested in this latter option, please indicate this when you submit an entry request.

