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SPRING POINTING TEST – SATURDAY 14th April, 2018

9 for 9.30 am start

To be held at The Grove Shoot, Grove Barns, Wormingford, nr Colchester, Essex CO6 3AJ by kind permission of The Grove Shoot

Judges – SUZI BURTON (2996) and HARRIET LAMPART

**Entries Close Saturday 7th April 2018 (emails accepted)**

**Entry Form**

Registered Name of Dog …………………………………………………………………………….

Breed …………………………………………. DOB ………………………………………………..

Sex Dog/Bitch *delete as applicable*  Breeder…………………………………………….

Sire ……………………………………………. Dam ……………………………………………….

Class entered Junior/Adult *delete as applicable*

Owner ……………………………………………………………………………………………………

Address …………………………………………………………………………………………………

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………….

Telephone Number …………………………………… Mobile ……………………………………

E-mail …………………………………………………………………………………………………...

Handler (if different from owner) ………………………………………………………………….

**Entry Fees**

N&SHPRFT Club members £15 per dog Non-members £18 per dog

*Please make cheques payable to Norfolk & Suffolk HPR FT Club.* BACs payment will be accepted using reference SPT and your surname. Bank details Barclays account number 00838047 sort code 20-85-93. *No entries will be accepted without full payment. Please send completed entry forms and payment to:*

*Jo Gosling, Field Trial Secretary, Wind Jama, 2 Beverley Avenue, WEST MERSEA, Essex CO5 8EU*

*norfolkandsuffolkhprevents@gmail.com*

**NORFOLK & SUFFOLK HPR FIELD TRIAL CLUB**

**Spring Pointing Guidelines**

The emphasis of these tests is to be on the natural working ability of the dog on open ground assessing ground treatment, hunting and pointing with an element of steadiness. Spring Pointing Tests are an evaluation of potential in a pointing dog. Dogs to be run and graded as individuals, not in competition with other dogs.

**Categories**

The Tests are judged in two categories:

JUNIOR – For dogs over 6 months of age and under two years of age on the 1st January in the year of the pointing test, to be judged on partridge and pheasant, ground game to be judged for steadiness only.

ADULT – For dogs over two years of age on 1st of January in the year of the pointing test to be judged on partridge only, with all other game to be judged for steadiness only.

**Basic Requirements**

 Each dog shall be run singly into wind, to quarter a beat on open ground.

 Each dog shall be run for a minimum of 10 minutes before being considered for a grading. Each dog will be allowed 1 minute to settle unless out of control.

 Dogs are required to hunt, point, hold game and flush on command.

 Judging emphasis to be on the natural ability of the dog in the following order of priority:

 Ground Treatment: Game Finding: Pointing: Steadiness.

 Each dog graded to be given a verbal critique by the Judges and an Assessment Certificate at the end of the day.

**Assessments**

The ideal pattern is when the dog is searching for game and is completely in tune with the handler. The dog should hunt with drive, purpose and with good pace, ranging wide always turning into the wind and covering its ground with style. All game birds on its beat should be pointed and all other game honoured.

**Credits**

Good ground treatment/regular pattern – Turning into the wind – Natural ability to hunt without intervention – Game finding - \*Good pace - \*Correct head carriage (\*when considering these aspects the judges must take into account the individual style of the different breeds.) – Steadiness to flush – Quiet handling.

**Faults**

Stickiness on point – Persistent False pointing – Persistent pointing of ‘larks’ – Persistently casting back on the wind – Unsteadiness – Catching healthy game.

**Elimination Faults**

Out of Control

Failure to Hunt or Point

Not covering sufficient ground

Chasing Game

Deliberately Flushing Game without pointing

Missing game birds on the beat

Whining or barking.

**Assessment of EXCELLENT**

The dog must work to the ideal pattern and exhibit all credits.

**Assessment of VERY GOOD**

The dog must be close to the ideal pattern without any persistent faults.

**Assessment of GOOD**

The work must be of a good standard showing natural aptitude but without high quality.

**Judging Notes:**

* Dog to quarter with its nose on the wind with correct head carriage, enabling it to make contact with game scent.
* Quartering and turning on each flank into wind.
* Spending little or no time on ground or residual scent, giving only an indication of its presence.
* Positive indication of game, ideally holding until handler is in close contact and working forward with determination to final point. With correct head carriage the dog should directly flush, not losing contact and not foot scenting the game.
* Positive flush of game with dog steady. Game not to be chased in flight but exuberance quickly brought under control may be allowed for junior dogs.
* A grading can be considered if birds flush off the dog’s point on their own accord when the handler is not in close contact.
* Dogs which complete the card in their first run and are graded will not be required to run again. Only dogs of sufficient standard, which have not obtained a grading in their first run, are to be considered for a second run. Judges should not be tempted to run a dog a second time to try and upgrade it if they have been able to give it a grading on its first run.