



National Shoot-To-Retrieve Field Trial Association, Inc.
25 W. Marion Street, Danville, IN 46122
Phone: (317) 839-4059 Fax: (317) 839-4197
Email: office@nstra.org

Attention Trial Chairman:

Enclosed in this packet, you will find the following items:

- Trial Chairman Information
- Field Marshal Responsibilities
- Bird Handler Policy
- Official Trial Entry Form with Release
- Release Form
- Bad Language Poster
- Purina Information
- Official Protest
- Form Membership
- Forms
- Permanent ATV
- Variance List
- Membership
- Roster
- Trial Cards
- Purina Coupons

This packet has some changes from the previous packets we sent out so please read through the information carefully. Nothing in this packet supersedes the information found in the NSTRA Rule book. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the NSTRA office.

Please note It is the responsibility of the trial chairmen to ensure that all participants and officials at your trial are members in good standing before the trial dates. Any member that is not in good standing at the time of the trial will forfeit any and all placements received.

Thank you,
NSTRA Office

TRIAL CHAIRMEN:

Please review the following information and adhere to all conditions contained therein.

- Please make sure that all participants are members of NSTRA with current dues. You may check your region members on the roster sent with this packet. Out-of-the-region members can be verified with a telephone call or e-mail to the office.
- Current members that are suspended: No Suspended Members at this Time
- Be sure all your judges and field marshals are current on their memberships and certificates. Judges within your region will be listed on your membership roster. Out of region judges and all field marshals can be verified with a telephone call or e-mail to the office.
- **Please check that all dogs in your trial are fully registered in the system. Just because they are in the system does not mean they are registered. Make sure they have a registration number with their registered name in the system. Also, once your trial has been drawn be sure to check the "Details" tab to see if you have any expired members in your trial. This will include any co-owners of dogs even if they are not running in the trial themselves. Both unregistered dogs and expired members will keep your trial from being approved.**
- Be careful to dispose of birds properly after the trial is over.
- All recognized trials must use game birds for bird release. All birds used in a sanctioned trial must be the same species of game bird for each individual trial.
- **Please send quality dog photos to the office so we can send them to our sponsors to use in their publications.**
- Please try to include our sponsor banners in any pictures sent into the office for publication in the magazine.
- Dog, handlers, and gunners must remain behind a blind while birds are being released for their brace.
- Enclosed please find a trial entry form with release adopted by NSTRA. While this form will not completely release your region, club and those involved in holding your trial, such as the provider of the horses, 4-wheelers, land, etc., from any liability should an injury and legal action occur, it will help if you are faced with that type of situation. All entrants should fill out and sign a trial entry form for each entry. You may make copies, or this form is available on our website at nstra.org.
- If you do not use the above trial entry form, then use the enclosed release form. The elected officers advise each chairman to have this posted, possibly in the blind, or in the hands of the field marshal. A clipboard hung up in the blind with the release form and a signature page is a good way to make sure everyone has signed.
- The release is to be signed by every trial participant, the judges and the bird planter. If the bird planter is a minor, you should have a release signed by his/her parents on file.
- NSTRA national does not provide insurance for your field trials. Please make sure that your trial is covered by your regional insurance or by individual trial insurance. A list of companies that provide this is available from the NSTRA office.
- NSTRA has been notified by several regions that the language being used at many trials is offensive to the gallery. The enclosed "Bad Language" poster should be posted at all field trials near the score sheets, so everyone is aware of the consequences of offensive language.

Bird Handler Policy

The role of the bird handler is as important as the judge, field marshal or trial chairman. They have the position of ensuring whether the trial runs smoothly, or one that is in complete disorder. It is a time consuming position that requires attentiveness to the trial and preparation.

The bird handler should be ready to plant the birds two minutes before the end of the brace currently being run. The objective of a bird planter is not to see how fast the planter can place the birds on the field as if running a race, or to try and deceive the handler and/or dog by placing objects other than the bird in the field and planting birds so they cannot be found. The purpose of NSTRA is for the dogs to be scored on birds found; thus winning by the highest score obtained for the work done, not winning by bird build-up.

When placing the birds in the field the handler should:

- Evenly distribute the birds in bounds using the entire field.
 - Avoid placing birds directly on the boundary lines.
 - Release the birds in a different location for each brace.
- Take caution while planting the birds to ensure they do not fly off or that you do not applying too much pressure causing death.
- At no time, can objects such as bird feathers, pine cones, walnuts or anything be used in place of or in addition to the bird be placed in the field by the bird handler.

Per NSTRA Recognized Field Trial Rules – Rule 8.21:

8.21 A dog may be entered in a field trial that the owner is judging, however, the owner shall not judge his/her own dog (i.e. the judges do not switch dogs during the brace). 10/13 While judging a field trial, a judge is not permitted to handle a dog in the field he is judging or in the opposing field(s). 3/10 **Bird handlers will not be able to own or handle any dogs in the same field in which they plant birds. 7/08**

Anyone not adhering to the guidelines of bird handling should not be asked to plant again.

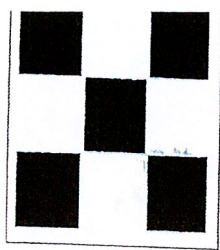
NSTRA FIELD MARSHAL RESPONSIBILITIES

The following applies to all NSTRA field marshals regardless of the level of the trial:

- Along with the judges, establish definite boundaries for the field trial.
- Be responsible for enforcing trial rules and receiving complaints from participants.
- Ensure that standby dogs are available when the need arises.
- Ensure that the bird field has been cleaned prior to the start of the trial.
- Ensure that dog owners or handlers running more than one dog do in fact run the dog drawn in the brace specified.
- In the case of entry cancellations, determine what option to use to fill the vacancy.
- Ensure that the bird handler is prepared to release birds for each upcoming brace and that he or she has the correct number of birds for the specified brace.
- Ensure that the bird handler is wearing gloves at all times when birds are being handled.
- Ensure that dog and handlers and gunners are behind a blind prior to birds being released for their brace.
- Check all vests before handler/gunner leave the blind.
- While participants are in the blind, advise them of any special instructions regarding boundaries, safety shooting zones, running in the field, etc.
- At least one judge and/or the field marshal should observe the bird handler releasing the birds.
- Ensure that all participants, including judges, are wearing blaze orange prior to entering the bird field.
- Ensure that no more than six people, including judges, enter the bird field at one time.
- During each brace, be observant of the activities on the field and advise the judges of any activity taking place which they may not be able to see, such as a participant running in the field, helping the judge to locate a marked bird, location of lost dogs, etc.
- Collect all dead birds from the judges and ensure that they are disposed of properly.
- Have all participants sign the official score card within twenty-five minutes after completion of their brace.
- Unless under protest, post brace scores after participants have signed score cards or after twenty-five minutes has elapsed since completion of each brace, whichever occurs first.
- If it is determined that a participant has consumed an alcoholic beverage prior to their brace, make a determination as to allowing the participant to have a gunner or have their dog scratched.

To ensure an enjoyable experience for all participants, judges, bird handlers, and field marshals, please limit your comments to positive remarks. Negative feedback needs to be addressed to the trial chairman, not the crowd.

NO bad language. We've come to run our dogs, not our mouths.



PURINA®

Effective Oct. 1st, 2002, Purina is our official dog food sponsor. We continue to be very proud and excited to be associated with a company of this caliber. Purina will be very active throughout the country supporting NSTRA. Many of you will see Purina reps visit your local trials. If you have a chance, take the time to visit with them and let them know we all appreciate the time, effort and support they are giving to our organization.

Please remember, Purina is our official dog food sponsor and there is to be no other dog food, distributor, or salesman present at a NSTRA function. Each region has been sent Purina banners and they are to be displayed during the events and included in photos that are forwarded for publication in magazines.

BE SURE TO HAVE THE BANNER OR A BAG OF DOG FOOD IN YOUR PICTURES OR THEY MAY NOT BE INCLUDED IN THE NSTRA MAGAZINE.

MEMBERSHIP IN NSTRA

To participate in NSTRA events you must be a member. This includes entering a dog, handling a dog, shooting for another handler, bird planting, judging and performing Field Marshal duties. The minimum age to handle a dog is 10 years of age and to gun, either for yourself or another, you must be 16 years of age. Members under 18 years of age must hold a current Hunters Safety Course card. Membership is a privilege, and you must obey all NSTRA rules and regulations. In addition to a current rule's booklet, members receive our bimonthly magazine, a numbered membership card, NSTRA patch and a window decal. Regular members are entitled to vote in all elections of officers and on all proposed rule revisions.

NSTRA Membership Application

Annual Dues: \$75, Annual Canadian Resident Dues: \$55 (U.S. Funds)

Annual Associate Dues: \$20 (must be the spouse or child under 18 years of age of a Regular Member)

Name: _____ Region: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (_____) E-mail Address: _____

I hereby apply for membership in the National Shoot To Retrieve Field Trial Association,
and agree to obey all NSTRA rules and by-laws.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please return this form with payment to:

NSTRA
25 W Marion St
Danville, IN 46122
office@nstra.org

Method of Payment: Check enclosed Credit Card: _____

Exp Date: _____ CID: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____



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OFFICIAL PROTEST FORM

TRIAL WHERE ACTION OCCURRED: _____ DATE: _____

RULE/RULES VIOLATED: _____

SUMMARY OF PROTEST: _____

SIGNATURE OF PROTESTER: _____

NSTRA MEMBER NUMBER: _____

REGIONAL REVIEW:

REGIONAL BOARD DECISION: _____

DATE PROTEST RECEIVED: _____ DATE OF REGIONAL ACTION: _____

NOTIFICATION SENT: _____ BY: _____

REGION PRESIDENT/CHAIRMAN

NATIONAL BOARD REVIEW:

NATIONAL BOARD DECISION _____

DATE PROTEST RECEIVED: _____ DATE OF NATIONAL ACTION: _____

NOTIFICATION SENT: _____ PROTESTER: _____

DATED: _____ BY: _____

NATIONAL BOARD CHAIRMAN PRESIDENT



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OFFICIAL GRIEVANCE FORM
(APRIL 2017)

Date of Submission: _____

Member name and membership number: _____

Date or Dates of Occurrence(s): _____

** If multiple occurrences, list all dates (nothing more than one year old).*

Statement of Grievance: (you may attach additional pages as necessary.)

Please be specific. Include all relevant information including the exact harm or violation to you others, dates, individual(s) names, rules or by-lm11 references, etc. Attach any pertinent documentation. Only testimony by individuals with first-hand knowledge may be considered.

Office Use Only.

Date of Receipt _____ (initial grievance)

_____ (other)

_____ (other)

Plan of Action _____

BOD packet sent _____

BOD Voting Results _____

Final Notification _____

ATV Variance List
Revised 11/04/2023.

Date Granted	Last Name	First Name	Member Number	Region
04/22/15	Gordon	George	16808	AL
04/26/17	Swafford	Russell	19911	AL
10/22/16	Hyde	Jerry	20688	AR
10/29/20	Mosier	LO	20322	AR
04/23/08	Potter	Jimmy	4640	AR
04/23/08	Smith	Gary	18777	AR
10/19/20	Taffora	Ray	3010	AZ
04/27/16	White	Mike	21887	AZ
10/29/20	Rathbun	Leroy	14995	BSR
04/27/16	D'Andrea	Sam	20477	CC
04/23/14	Perreault	Claude	10663	CC
04/23/14	Vodden	Glenn	17866	CC
04/24/18	Smith	Roger	56734	DX
10/29/20	Barker	Mike	17633	EC
04/22/20	Harris	Michael	20092	EC
04/25/12	Hurst	Mitchell	4680	GA
02/19/08	Dobersch	Mark	L129	GA
04/24/18	Gunnyon	Ricky	451	GA
10/24/12	Jones	Woody	10265	GA
04/24/18	Miles	Dan	21299	GA
10/25/23	Stapleton	Bob (Robert)	7891	GA
10/24/18	Saineghi	Pete	18525	GCT
10/29/20	Clark	Robert (Bobby)	L67	GCT
10/27/10	Ahring	Jim	19922	IL
10/29/20	Becker	Ron	12713	IL
10/22/03	Bertinetti	Rick	4871	IL
10/26/11	Greeling	Allen	C62	IL
04/27/16	Hampleman	Kevin	18202	IL
04/24/13	Hampton	Daniel	18725	IL
10/29/20	Huels	Ron	12713	IL
10/26/23	Kroeschel	James	9186	IL
04/26/17	Reynolds	Dean	19982	IL
04/23/14	Skowronski	Joseph	19876	IL
04/27/16	McPike	E.L. (Ace)	L37	IL
10/22/16	Brock	Richard	19906	IN
04/25/12	Jackson	Joe	9958	IN
04/22/20	Parient	Roger	15530	IN
04/21/21	Moore	Jeff	L15	KY
04/22/15	Collett	McKinely (Ken)	15909	KY
10/27/21	Hall	Jake	14723	MK
04/24/18	Snyder	Stanley	4917	MK
10/22/16	Stinnett	Barry	13254	MS
10/24/12	Sharp	Milton	C47	MSM
04/27/16	Hergenrader	L e o	13614	MW
10/27/21	Incontro	Robert	6225	MW
10/24/18	Prenosil	Terry	4821	MW
10/24/12	Hervey	Cindy	1040	NCN
10/25/23	Hervey	John	7513	NCN
04/26/17	Bennett	Andy	21039	NI
10/26/23	Bodzianowski	Howard	582	NI
04/24/19	Caven	Davy	L89	NW
04/22/09	Johnson	Linda	16183	NW
04/27/16	Youmans	Jerry	L220	NW
04/24/18	Farrell	Dave	13343	OH
10/22/08	Mahoney	Jim	L62	OH
04/26/17	Tangeman	Randy	9850	RM
04/24/18	McCroly	Pat	287	SC
04/24/18	Porter	Mike	3331	SC
04/25/12	Harrell	Jerry	11442	SCR
10/23/19	Lee	Paige	5659	SCR
10/25/23	Waterman	Dick (George)	6414	VA
10/26/11	Femling	Art	C68	WI
10/27/15	Lemmenes	Dewey	16456	WI



OFFICIAL TRIAL ENTRY FOR

Trial Name: _____ Date: _____

Dog's Registered Name: _____ Registered # _____

Breed: _____ Sex _____ Call Name: _____ Whelp Date: _____ Owner's Region: _____

Sire: _____ Dam: _____

Owner: _____, NSTRA #: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Handler: _____ NSTRA #: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Please provide an e-mail address for further trial information. _____

**SEND ALL ENTRY FORMS AND FEE DIRECTLY TO TRIAL CHAIRMAN. (Entry form may be duplicated.)
NSTRA CLUBS ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ACCIDENTS THAT MAY OCCUR DURING TRIALS,**

RELEASE executed on this, the _____ day of _____, 20____, by (wrangler) _____ {local club},
The National Shoot-to-Retrieve Field Trial Association, Inc., and _____ {landowner}, herein referred to as releasors.

In consideration of being permitted to participate in organized bird dog field trial activities of the shoot-to-retrieve variety, conducted by releasors, for themselves, their spouses, if any, their legal representatives, heirs, and assigns, releasors hereby release, waive and discharge releasees, their officers and members, and each of them individually, their officers and employees, referred to as releasees, from all liability to the releasors, their spouses, if any, their legal representatives, heirs and assigns, for any and all loss or damage, and any claim for damages resulting therefrom, on account of injury to releasor's person or property, even injury resulting in death of releasors, where caused by the negligence of releasees or otherwise while the releasors are competing, observing, or for any purpose participating in the aforesaid field trial.

Releasors agree to indemnify the releasees and each of them from any loss, liability, damage or cost they may incur due to the presence of releasors in or upon the field trial grounds whether, caused by the negligence of the releasees or otherwise.

Releasors hereby acknowledge that they know and appreciate the danger in competing where live ammunition is used. The officials, and in particular the judges, know that horses are animals and, as such, are susceptible to becoming excited or to otherwise attempt to dislodge their riders. Releasor further acknowledge that there is no liability insurance on this event and in the event of injury because of the negligence of anyone, they must look to themselves for compensation and not to releasees.

Releasors hereby assume full responsibility for the risk of bodily injury, death or property damage due to the negligence of releasees or otherwise while in or upon the field grounds or while adjacent thereto and while competing, officiating in, working or for any purpose participating in said bird dog field trial.

Releasors expressly agree that this release, waiver, and indemnity agreement is intended to be as broad and inclusive as permitted by the laws of the State of, and that if any portion thereof is held invalid it is agreed that the balance shall, notwithstanding continue in full legal force and effect.

In witness whereof, releasors have executed this release at _____ the day and year first above written.

Signature

RELEASE

RELEASE executed on this, the _____ day of _____, 20__, by (wrangler), _____, (local club), The National Shoot-to-Retrieve Field Trial Association, Inc., and (landowner), herein referred to as releases.

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