

**Amateur  
Field Trial  
Clubs Of America  
Incorporated**

By Laws  
And  
Running Rules  
1999

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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 such other persons as may become our associates 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, and 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 judgement 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 carrying on propaganda or otherwise attempting 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 education purposes, or for the prevention of

cruelty to children or animals, no part of the net earnings of which inures to the benefit of any private shareholder or individual and no substantial part of the activities of which is carrying on propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation.

FIFTH: The board of Trustees shall have the power to make, alter, change and amend the by-laws 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 I**

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, and any person, partnership, corporation or association of good character and standing shall be eligible to membership upon compliance 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, and not until, their application for membership is approved by the President and Secretary of the corporation and said application is approved by at least three active member clubs from the region from which the application comes. There shall be the following classifications of membership in the corporation, viz:

(a) ACTIVE MEMBERS shall be those clubs contributing \$50.00 or more per year 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) SUSTAINING MEMBERS shall be those contributing \$25.00 or more per year to the corporation. They shall not be entitled to vote in the corporation.

(c) HONORARY MEMBERS shall be persons deemed by the membership of the corporation to be of great national or international reknown in the field of ornithology, or particularly interested in the restoration and perpetuation of Wild Upland Game Birds on the North American Continent or in field trials generally. Honorary members may be elected posthumously. All honorary members of the corporation shall be elected by a two-thirds vote of the membership of the Board of Trustees and shall not be entitled to vote as honorary members of the corporation.

Section 2. Within the meaning of these By-Laws and Running Rules, the term "member" shall be in all cases mean a field trial club as a unit that is an active 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 him at least ten days before a hearing thereon.

(b) A hearing be 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 May 31.

### **Special Meetings of Membership**

Section 1. Special meetings 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 his last know address, giving the time, place, and purpose of the meeting, as provided in the call, and by additionally advertising said call for a period of one week in "The American Field".

### **Quorum**

Section 3. At all meetings of the members of this corporation, fifteen active 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 his 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 members of this corporation. In addition a Trustee at Large, to represent the breed clubs, shall be elected.

### **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 his successor is duly elected and qualified.

(a) Should any vacancies on the Board of Trustees occur between Annual Membership and the vacancies be caused by 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 his place. The unexpired 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 does not attend two consecutive Annual Trustees Meetings, unless with proper reason satisfactory to the Board of Trustees, shall be subject to replacement by action of the Board of Trustees at the annual Board of Trustees Meeting. Said Trustee shall be replaced with an Acting Trustee, and this shall be accomplished in the same manner as 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.

### **Quorum and Proxies**

Section 3. Six 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**

Section 4. Regular annual meetings of the Board of Trustees shall be held each year following annual meeting of the active members, and 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 and until his respective successor shall be duly elected and qualified. The term of the President shall be limited to two consecutive terms. The Board of Trustees shall also elect a proper Secretary-Treasurer, to 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 by air mail or telegram, 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. 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 his decision or vote with the Secretary; and 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 meeting attended by the members of the Board in person. The secretary shall make and keep a permanent record of all questions submitted by mail and of the vote of the Board members thereon. The said Secretary shall submit to each member of the Board all arguments or evidence advanced for and against the question submitted to said Board by mail.

### **General Powers**

Section 7. The management of all the 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 the Officers**

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

- (a) Be the executive officer of this corporation.
- (b) Preside at all annual and special meetings of the membership 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 and to the annual meeting of the members. Said committee shall be appointed at least 30 days prior to annual meeting.
- (d) Appoint a nominating committee to fill the expired terms of Trustees and/or replacement of 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 he may deem expedient.
- (g) Interpret the By-Laws and Running Rules when requested to do so, or deems expedient.
- (h) Be an ex-officio member of all committees.
- (i) Have such other and further powers and duties as may be conferred on him 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 the absence or disability of the latter. 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 Presidents 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 and the Board of Trustees.

**Secretary-Treasurer**

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

- (a) Perform his 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 his decision when such matters entail corporation policy and activities.
- (d) Attend and keep the minutes of all annual and special meetings of the membership, and of all annual and special meetings of the Board of Trustees.
- (e) Attend such trials and events as directed by the President.
- (f) Keep a record of all member clubs, including the name and address of the President and Secretary, and preserve all letters and other documents of interest.

(g) Carry on the general correspondence of the corporation, and notify members of their election, suspension, expulsion or other penalty that may be provided for 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) Have general charge of the records, certificates of eligibility and books of the corporation, and upon the election of his successor, deliver all of the same to his successor.

(j) Have custody of all the funds and securities of the corporation which shall come into his hands, and have power to endorse on behalf of the corporation all checks, drafts, and other commercial paper to the credit of the corporation in a bank approved by a majority of the Board of Trustees, which bank must be a member of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation; or may, with the consent of a majority of the Board of Trustees, 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, or for the disbursement of its funds.

(l) Keep a full and accurate account of all moneys received or paid out by him on behalf of the corporation, and upon the election of his successor, deliver all records, books, or accounts and funds to his successor.

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

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

(o) Make all of his books, records, correspondence and similar materials pertaining to the corporation at any and all reasonable times, open to the inspection and examination of the President, and Vice President, any member or members of the Board of Trustees of the corporation.

### **Salary and Allowances**

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

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **Regions and Their Organizations**

Section 1. The Board of Trustees shall divide the country geographically into designated regions. The boundaries of these regions may be changed from time to time at the discretion of the Board. The present regions are as follows:

Region No. 1: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Brunswick, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont and Nova Scotia.

Region No. 2: Delaware, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania.

Region No. 3: District of Columbia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia.

- Region No. 4: Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, West Virginia.
- Region No. 5: Illinois and Missouri.
- Region No. 6: Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee.
- Region No. 7: Texas, Mexico.
- Region No. 8: Colorado, Oklahoma.
- Region No. 9: Idaho, Montana, Utah, Wyoming.
- Region No. 10: British Columbia, Oregon, Washington.
- Region No. 11: California and Nevada.
- Region No. 12: Arizona and New Mexico.
- Region No. 13: Ontario and Quebec.
- Region No. 14: Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba.
- Region No. 15: Japan.
- Region No. 16: Alabama, Florida, and Georgia.
- Region No. 17: Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska.
- Region No. 18: Hawaii.
- Region No. 19: North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota and Wisconsin.

Section 2. The following procedures are set up:

(a) Whenever in a duly constituted region there are fewer than five members, the members of such a region may align themselves with the closest regional organization that they choose to join until such time as their region may qualify as an organization by having five members.

(b) Any state or states may petition the Board of Trustees for realignment into a different region than they are not allocated to, providing the majority of the members in said state or states express the desire for realignment.

(c) When any new region is duly constituted by action of the Trustees, the President shall appoint a committee of three to be responsible for organizing the said new region. He shall do the same in the case of reactivating any region.

### **Regional Organizations**

Section 3. The regions as constituted by the Board of Trustees shall be organized by the active members within that region. A minimum of five members shall be required in order that a region may be recognized as actively functioning. It is the intent of this corporation that after a region has been organized, the members shall, so far as possible, and consistent with the following regulations, assume all direction and responsibility in the management and holding of stakes and other business affairs within said respective regions.

(a) The securing of sanction, supervision, and general overseeing of these regional events shall be under the direction of a president or chairman, to be selected annually in each region at a meeting called within said region for said purpose.

(b) At the annual meeting of the members 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. All regional Championships shall be sanctioned by this corporation when applied for by said regional organization.

(c) The respective regional President or Chairman and the member, or members of the Board of Trustees resident in any one of the respective regions 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 shall be the duty of the President or Chairman of the respective regions and a Trustee residing in the respective regions to be present personally at each Championship event within their region, for the purpose of seeing 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 have the power to appoint, in writing, a qualified person to act in his place.

(f) 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 from any member club, regional organization, or Breed Championship the privilege of awarding any championship for good cause.

## 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).

(b) The By-Laws may also be amended at any annual meeting of the active members of this corporation, or at any special meeting called for that purpose, by a two-thirds vote of said active members present or voting by proxy.

## **Effective Date**

Section 2. These By-Laws shall be effective from and after the first day of June 18, 1994, and all existing By-Laws shall be and the same hereby repealed.

**Attest:**

**Linda Hunt, Secretary**

## 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 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 American Field" bearing publication date of at least fourteen days before the trials are to be run; and entry blanks with complete description of each stake shall be available to owners and handlers at least six days before the date of the drawing.

## **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 1 of each year for dogs whelped on or after June 1 of the year preceding.

(b) Derby Stakes: From July 1 to December 1 in each year of 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 amateurs 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 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 birdfield. 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, than such dog losing its bracedmate, 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 braces, the bracedmates 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 rule 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 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. Birdfields, 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 birdfield.

### 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 for the year in which the trial is held, in the sum of \$50.00; 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, was made, giving such information as may be required by the Secretary of this corporation; and

(g) That in stakes with three or fewer 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) That after July 1, 1972, winner's certificates will not be issued by this corporation

for wins in amateur or 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 American Field Publishing Company if said dogs are handled by an amateur who is associated with a member, 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 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.

Section 2. Drawings 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 his dog shall be subject to being barred from competition in member club trials.

Section 4. Objectional 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, and in no circumstances will they be permitted to be kenneled or transported near other starters.

(c) Objections to entries will be given consideration by the Stake Manager prior to the running.

Section 5. The judges shall be in general charge of the running of the dogs and how the same shall be handled, subject only to the Rules and Regulations for Field Trials of this corporation.

After the first series has been completed, if the judges shall deem a second or additional series necessary, they may call the dogs wanted in whatever manner or order and for the length of time they may deem expedient.

### **Handlers**

Section 6. A dog must be handled by his amateur owner, or a member of his family who is an amateur, or he 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 so drawn shall change place with the next dog to be handled by another handler.

(c) Any person under suspension by this corporation, or any person barred from competition in trials by this corporation, shall not be permitted to handle or scout a dog.

(d) A Handler, in order to compete in regional and national championships must have at some time qualified a dog by winning an AFTCA win certificate.

(e) This corporation recognizes bird dog field trialing as an amateur competitive sporting event and further recognizes that handler as an integral part of these events.

(f) No amateur shall handle more than two (2) dogs not solely owned by him or some member of his immediate family in any amateur stake. Should this occur all dogs handled by his handler, in this stake, shall be disqualified.

## **Conduct 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 the Rules and Regulations for Field Trials of this corporation; and should any such regulation be disregarded, the judges shall have authority to disqualify such handler and/or his dogs, or they may leave the matter to the Stake Manager for his action.

(a) The judges are expected to prescribe and rigidly enforce a strict rule upon the interference of handler, scout or dog with the braced mate's 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 his 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, to the satisfaction 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 his 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 other than by an amateur shall be permitted.

(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) No scouting is permitted in a Shooting Dog Stake, except that a person, with the permission of a judge, may be designated to go and see if a dog is on point at a specific location. Scout shall in no way handle dog.

## **Handling Dogs**

Section 11. During the running of a heat, no dog in competition therein shall be removed from the grounds for an appreciable length of time, 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 for communication or to in any manner influence the dog's action during the handling of a dog in competition in a field trial is forbidden.

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

### **Field Marshal**

Section 12. One or more Field Marshals shall be appointed by the Stake Manager, and the Field Marshal or Marshals 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 dog, while in competition, 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, in the opinion of the judge, demonstrates conclusively that he refuses to back his brace mate.

### **Blank Ammunition**

Section 15. The use of live ammunition is banned in all trials held by members and in all Amateur Championships sanctioned by the corporation.

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

Section 16. Any person entering a dog in, handling a dog in, or attending 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 but in no more than thirty (30) days following the incident. The president of the host club shall, upon receipt of the complaint, schedule a hearing of the complaint by the club membership at a duly called meeting of the membership. The host club shall provide the accused and the accuser ten (10) days' notice of the

scheduled member club 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 thereon. 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 do so with a copy of the finding being sent to the accused within ten (10) days of such finding.

Said next higher affiliated organization shall follow the procedure as outlined hereinbefore for the member club for processing the 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 member club resides before it may be forwarded to the AFTCA Board of Trustees.

The President of the AFTCA shall, upon receipt of a complaint, schedule a hearing before the Board of Trustees at a duly scheduled meeting to decide the merits of the complaint. A copy of the complaint, the findings of all previous organizations and notice of 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 at any point in time as may be deemed fit, and 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 hereinbefore 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 member club of any complaint not satisfy either the accused or the accuser, that party may file a written appeal within thirty (30) days to the secretary of the next higher affiliated organization (association, state organization or regional organization). Such organization shall immediately notify the accused and the accuser of receipt of said appeal and shall request in writing all details as shall pertain. The president of such next higher organization shall, upon receipt of such appeal schedule a hearing of the appeal at a duly scheduled meeting of the membership, giving at least ten (10) days' notice to the parties concerned of the time and location of the hearing. The majority of the membership of such 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 as established by the member club. Findings of such next higher affiliated organization shall be provided in writing to the accused and the accuser 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 at a duly scheduled meeting 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 accused and the accuser 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 findings 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 findings. The AFTCA Board of Trustees shall be the final appeal for all complaints generated within the corporation.

During the appeal process, the findings of the next lower affiliated organization shall remain in effect until such findings 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 received or has received, either directly or indirectly, compensation for training or handling dogs, including handling of dogs on a plantation or shooting preserve, or any person who as an amateur handles a dog not solely owned and registered in his name, or in the name of a member of his immediate family, upon being awarded a placement for such dogs performance shall waive payment or any division of the cash purse, or shall henceforth lose amateur status. The funds waived shall remain the property of the Club.

Provided however this amended By Law shall not apply to any co-owned dog registered in the Field Dog Stud Book on or before March 1, 1992.

### **Professionalism**

Section 2. Any active member of this corporation is empowered, upon consideration of evidence deemed sufficient, to declare any person who has actually handled a dog or dogs in stakes fostered by an active member, to be a professional and to disqualify his dog or dogs, or to bar him from handling in said stake as an amateur.

Section 3. Any active member of this corporation or any individual member thereof may file a written complaint with the Secretary of this corporation 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 and the event in which the person alleged to be a professional handled, 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.

(b) If, in the opinion of the secretary, 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 him, and the Secretary shall fix a time in which the accused may file a written answer to the charge and provide evidence thereon, the accuser shall be given the same opportunity to substantiate his complaint.

(c) Upon expiration of the time so fixed by the Secretary, he shall submit copies of the complaint, the answer thereto, and all evidence submitted to him by either party, to each member of the Board of Trustees for their decision, and the Secretary shall also submit therewith any explanation or comment which he may desire. If a majority of the Board of Trustees shall find in favor of the accused, his amateur standing shall remain unimpaired; but if the Board of Trustees shall find and decide that the accused is or was a professional handler, the person so accused shall be barred of and 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 was admittedly a professional or who has been declared a professional by this corporation, and any person who has been barred from competition in an amateur event because of the charge of professionalism, or any person who has been embarrassed by unsupported charges of professionalism, even though he may not have been barred from competition in an amateur event, may, provided he has not, for a period of three years, violated either the letter or spirit of the definition contained in Section 1 of this Article, 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 his status may be definitely established. Such individual must accompany the request with a statement and evidence supporting his claim that he is an amateur, as defined by these Regulations and shall prove his 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 which barred him, 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 find that the petitioner is entitled to amateur status, petitioner shall be declared to be an amateur and the Secretary shall notify him 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; thus, 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 Dog Champion," etc.

### **Rewards to Winners**

Section 3. The rewards to go with the title of Regional Champion and Runner-Up must be trophies. Money as a reward is prohibited, and no sanction may be issued by any regional group which proposed a cash reward.

### **Declaring Champion**

Section 4. It is not mandatory that a champion or runner-up be named, 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 three courses must be used in any regional event. There must be no birdfields 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, but must be liberated in widely separated areas of the courses to simulate natural conditions (see Article IV, Section 1, (d) and (3) for liberating birds.

### **Length of Heats**

Section 6. The first-series heats must be at least one hour in length; 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 event until shot over when birds are flushed to his point or as directed by the judges. Shot to be fired by handler of pointing dog only, with gun of not less than .32 caliber.

### **Eligibility**

Section 8. Dogs and handlers to be eligible for the All-Age Championships, shall have a winner's certificate from this Corporation for a win in a derby or an all-age event. Dogs and handlers to be eligible for the Regional Shooting Dog Championship and the Regional Walking Shooting Dog Championship 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 hereafter 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 so-called birdfields, 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, not more than three of which shall be liberated on the birdfield, and the balance in at least two widely separated locations on the course.

(d) No bird shall be dizzied or its physical powers otherwise be impaired, and, 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 birdfield, but 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 clearly 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) A National Amateur Quail Championship
- (b) A National Amateur Pheasant Championship
- (c) A National Amateur Invitational Championship
- (d) A National Amateur Chicken Championship
- (e) A National Amateur Shooting Dog Championship
- (f) A National Amateur Pheasant Shooting Dog Championship
- (g) A National Amateur Grouse Championship
- (h) A National Chukar Championship
- (i) An 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. For qualification in the National Amateur Quail Championships, dog shall have previously won a place, under an amateur handler, in a one- hour, multiple-course all-age stake, or a first place win in a one-course or thirty-minute all-age stake duly held by an active member of this corporation in accordance with its Regulations; or winner or runner-up in a Regional All-Age Championship sanctioned by this corporation.

Section 3. For Qualification in a National Amateur Pheasant Championship, a National Amateur Chicken Championship, 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, duly held by an active member of this corporation in accordance with its Regulations, and hold a win certificate issued by this Corporation 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 held by an active member of this corporation, in accordance with its Regulations.

Section 5. For Qualification in a National Amateur Pheasant Shooting Dog Championship, a National Amateur Chukar Shooting Dog Championship, a National Amateur Walking Shooting Dog Championship and 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, in accordance with its regulations.

Section 6. For qualifications in a National Amateur Grouse Championship and in 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 1<sup>st</sup> place dog times number of dogs drawn; 2 points, 2<sup>nd</sup> place times number of dogs drawn; 1 point, 3<sup>rd</sup> place times number of dogs drawn.

In a stake where qualifying series, and at least an hour final series, is run the winners receive 75% of the above listed points based on 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.

The previous year's winner, only, 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.

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

### **Championships**

Section 9. The National Amateur Quail Championships, The National Amateur Pheasant Championships, The National Amateur Chicken Championship, The National Amateur Invitational Championship, The National Amateur Chukar Championships, The National Amateur Shooting Dog Championships, The National Amateur Pheasant Shooting Dog Championship, The National Amateur Grouse Championships and The International Amateur Woodcock Championship, The National Amateur Chukar Shooting Dog Championships, 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 the 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 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 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 of the National Amateur Pheasant Champion 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 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 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. For qualification in 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. A championship trophy will be presented to the owner of the champion in each stake, each year, to remain in his possession until the time of the running of the next such championship stake, when it must be returned in good condition to the Secretary of this corporation. The corporation will cause the name of the dog, the name of the owner, and the year of the win to be engraved on each championship trophy each year.

(a) In addition to the regular championship trophies, the outright award of a suitable trophy of value shall go to the owner of the respective champions, each year. If the judges declare a runner-up, his owner shall also be awarded a suitable trophy to commemorate the win.

(b) 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 Dog Championship; The Tom McNeal Trophy in the National Amateur Derby Championship; The J. Frank "Tobe" Stallings Trophy in the National Amateur Invitational Championship, all presently in competition.

(c) All trophies, other than the Brook Week's Memorial Trophy and the Chimes Mississippi Jack Trophy, which are perpetual trophies and cannot be retired, 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. Each National Amateur Championship Stake shall be judged by two or more judges.

(a) The Grounds Committee appointed by the President to plan the running of each 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 previous year, to maintain continuity of judging standards.

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

## **Entry Fees and Starting Fees**

Section 14. The nominating, starting, and post-entry fees in all championship stakes run by this corporation shall be fixed from time to time by the Board of Trustees, provided that post-entry may be made up to the time of drawing upon additional payment to be fixed by the Board of Trustees, and provided, further, that 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 without payment of post-entry fees.

## **Entry Blanks**

Section 15. The Secretary shall send entry blanks in advance to all owners who the Secretary anticipates may 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 his 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 name, breed, age, color markings, sex, and stud book number; the name of the owner of the entry, 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 him.

## **Stakes 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 arising, not determined by the Rules and Regulations for Field Trials of the corporation and not within the jurisdiction of the judges, shall be determined by the Stake Manager, and his decision shall be final unless reviewed by the Board of Trustees. In such event, 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 if in attendance and unable to serve as Stake Manager, than in his absence or inability to serve, the ranking Vice President in attendance shall be the Stake Manager. If the President or none of the Vice Presidents are in attendance, then the President may appoint another 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 his 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 his return during the attendance of the stake if, in his judgement, such person has been guilty of conduct unbecoming a

gentleman or has in any manner interfered with the running of the stake, and 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 his point or as directed by a judge. The shot shall be fired by the handler of the pointing dog only, with a gun of not less than .32 caliber.

## **ARTICLE VI THE NATIONAL SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP**

The National Amateur Free-for-All Shooting Dog Championship is an Amateur Free-for-All Championship 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.

## **ARTICLE VII BREED CHAMPIONSHIPS**

For recognition of a Breed Championship 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 \$200.00 annually.

## ARTICLE VIII

The undersigned Secretary of this corporation hereby certifies that the above and foregoing By-Laws, Running Rules and Regulations for the Amateur Field Trials of America, Inc., were duly adopted by unanimous vote of the Board of Trustees at Selma, in the State of Alabama, at a regular meeting of said corporation in March, 1972, and that at said time and place all prior existing By-Laws, Running Rules and Regulations for Field Trials of said corporation were expressly repealed; that such now constitutes the accepted By-Laws, Running Rules and Regulations for Field Trials for this Corporation.

WITNESS my hand this Thirteenth day of June, 1999.

(Ms) Linda Hunt  
Secretary-Treasurer

## ADDENDUM

### **“ACCEPTED GUIDELINES FOR USE OF TRACING COLLARS IN SANCTIONED AFTCA FIELD TRIAL STAKES’**

The sole purpose of using a tracking collar in a field trial is to assist the handler in finding a dog that may be lost or which is deemed no longer in judgement.

Use of these collars in recognized field trial stakes is at the discretion of the club.

The rules for the use of a tracking collar in all recognized stakes are as follows.

(a) The radio transmitter placed on the dog is to weigh no more than five (5) ozs.

(b) If a handler elects to use the transmitting collar on his or her dog, only one other Collar is permitted to be on the dog.

(c) The hand-held locating receiver shall be kept in the possession of the judges and/or their designees.

(d) The hand-held locating receiver can only be used after the dog is determined to be out of judgment.

(e) The use of the tracking collar is elective and for no reason should the running of a stake be held up due to the lack of available equipment.

(f) Each club shall inform the judges of the rules and the use to ensure uniform practice.

(g) Any person using a locating receiver to locate a dog currently in judgement, and prior to official authorization of its use by one of the judges, shall disqualify the dog in that stake and the offenders shall be disqualified from field trials.

(h) Provided the dog starts a heat with a tracking collar in place, removal of the tracking collar disqualifies the dog.