

2019 AKC Walking Gun Dog Championship

Union County Bird Dog Ranch

Thayer, IA

The 2019 AKC Walking Gun Dog Championship began on Saturday April 13, 2019. The Championship was contested over the rolling terrain of south-central Iowa at Union County Bird Dog Ranch, near Thayer Iowa. The Bird Dog Ranch is a privately held property that has been used for many years to host Brittany and other breed field trials. It also has been the host of several National and Regional Championships. Owner Linda Thomas, a Brittany enthusiast, and many members of the Iowa Brittany Club have put untold hours of work into improving the grounds making these dog trial grounds the best in the state!

This Championship was ran over a single course. The course used offers many distinctive edges and trees lines abound on the course. The ground cover consists of mainly warm season grasses, some areas of which have been mowed, and alfalfa fields. Much of the native grasses showed the effect of last winter's snowfall. The cover was just right for watching the dogs while allowing places to plant birds where they would stay.

Judges for this year's renewal are Kent Patterson and Andrew Campbell. This pair of gentlemen represent what I like to see in judges. Both men train and compete with their own dogs (quite successfully I might add), and also have the experience in evaluating bird dogs of all levels. We are quite fortunate to have them as our judges.

We would like to thank our sponsors for this event. Our long-time sponsors Purina, SportDog, and Dogs Unlimited represent the finest in their field. Their support makes this and numerous events possible. If you are looking to take your dog to the highest level these companies will help to achieve that goal. Offering the finest in feed, equipment, and supplies, we are very happy to have them on our team.

We would also like to thank Westminster Kennel Club for their generous donation of an engraved silver plate for the winner. Their support of the field sports is indicative of their aim to support many types of dog sports. The dog community is made stronger by supporting the dog sports and games that others enjoy.

Day 1

Saturday began cool with ice on most of the water buckets, the temperature in the low 30's. The skies were mainly clear with a light breeze from the south west. As the day progressed the temperature rose in to the lower 50's and the wind became stronger in the afternoon, in the 15 to 20 MPH range.

Brace 1)

A) Ubetcha White Diamonds Lizzy "Lizzy" Pointer (F) Handler Jon Hann

B) FC AFC Diamond C's Ruby Jewel "Ruby" Vizsla (F) Handler Chris Corliss

Released at 8 AM this pair quickly went to work. At 6 minutes each dog would record a find on were pointing separate birds of a scattered, feeding covey. Both dogs were mannerly. At 9 minutes Lizzy was found pointing along a feed strip. Ruby missed a chance to honor and was up. No bird was produced and Lizzy was taken on. She would again point game in a fence line. A relocation was required, the birds were then accurately pointed by the mannerly pointer. Her handler elected to pick her up at 15 minutes.



Lizzy



Ruby

Brace 2)

A) AFC Friedelshiem's Five Shot Venti "Mimi" GSP (F) Handler Barry Bollinger

B) FC WFK Peanut's Lil Patsy Datz "Patsy" GSP (F) Handler TK Smith

This pair of GSPs were released at 9:13. 3 minutes into the brace Patsy was found pointing with Mimi backing nicely, all in order. At 15 minutes both dogs were observed pointing separate birds of a feeding covey. Mimi would again be found pointing at the 20 minute mark with Patsy backing mannerly. Patsy would have another good find at 24 minutes on a small covey. The final piece of bird work occurred at 33 minutes where both dogs were found on point in a tree line. The final bird work came at 33 minutes when both dogs were found pointing separate birds. Mimi had her bird well located, Patsy required a lengthy relocation to pin her running bird. Both dogs finished the hour well.



Mimi



Patsy

Brace 3)

- A) Friedelshiem Atlantic Strom "Storm" GSP (F) Handler Brian Dietz
 - B) FC AFC VK's Twenty Gauge Gunnar "Gunnar" Vizsla (M) Sean VanKooten
- Gunnar would have a short day. He had a find at 11 minutes that would cause his effort to end. Storm had the course to his self and took advantage of the opportunity to show his high style and manners on 5 good finds at 15 minutes, 30 minutes, 38 minutes, 40 minutes, and at 46 minutes. He was credited with a feather find at 50 minutes and a nice stop to flush at time.



Storm



Gunnar

Brace 4)

A) NGDC GFC FC AFC Flappjacks Twisted Sister "Nova" GSP (F) Handler Jon Hann

B) FC AFC MWM Miss Elizabeth Bennett SH "Lizzy" GSP (F) Handler Kevin McCreight

The first brace of the afternoon was released at 1PM. The temperature had risen to 48 degrees with a slight breeze from the northwest under mostly clear skies.

Nova would be first to find birds with a find on a pair of quail at 6 minutes, Lizzy honoring. At 12 minutes, it was Lizzy who was found on point in a n old fence line with Nova backing. At 21 minutes, it was Nova pointing into a tree line with Lizzy again backing. The dogs would share a find at 35 minutes. At the 42-minute mark Nova had a nice find, Lizzy coming into back. The final piece of bird work to be recorded was a stop to flush by Nova. This stop to flush was noteworthy in that Nova was leaping one of the numerous ditches on the ground when a bird flushed wild from the ditch. On landing Nova stopped on a dime to honor the flight of the bird. That was something you do not see every day!



Nova



Lizzy

Brace 5)

A) FC Jude's Champaign Fenway "Pesky" English Setter (M) Handler Wayne James

B) Kinwashkly Ti in The Sky "Ti" Brittany (M) Handler Stuart Williams

Pesky was lost to judgement early in his brace, when found he was pointing but it was too late.

Ti had an early find on a pair of quail at the 3-minute mark. He again pointed birds at 23. His third find at 40 minutes would mark the end of his effort.



Pesky



Ti

Brace 6)

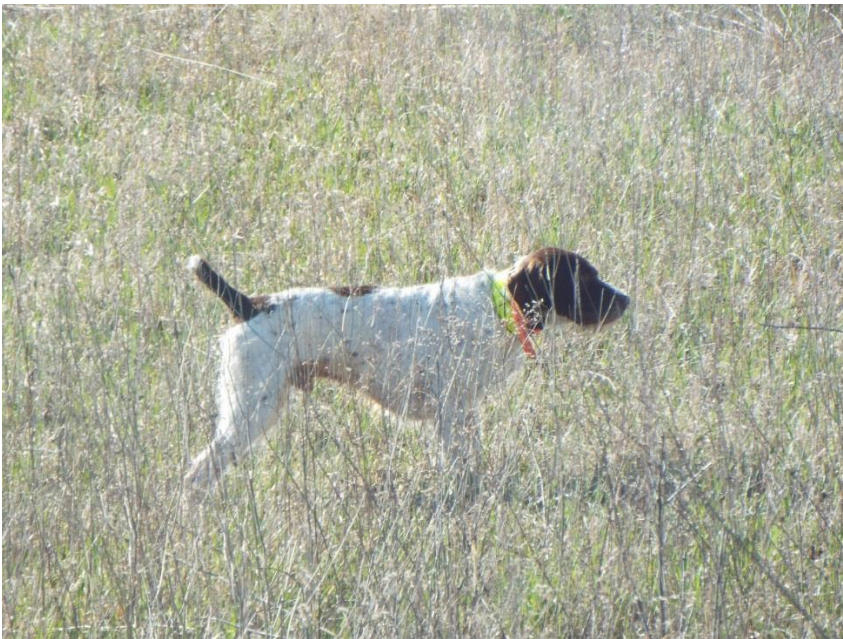
A) FC TKs First Class Traveler "Rowdy" GSP (M) Handler Jon Hann

B) DC Idawire King Ralph "Ralphie" GWP (M) Handler Tom Quesnell

Ralphie had a short day, he began with lots of gusto which carried him out of judgement early in the brace. Rowdy had an early find at 4 minutes followed by finds at 8 minutes, 19 minutes, 26 minutes, 34 minutes, and a final find in a feed strip at 53 minutes. Rowdy's find at 34 minutes was a very well-located limb find on birds that no dog had reached out to find earlier. He would finish the hour well.



Rowdy



Ralphie

POSTED DOGS DAY ONE

Dogs that are posted are being carried for placement and listed in the order they ran.

4A – Friedelshiems Atlantic Storm (Storm) – Brian Dietz

5A – NGDC GFC FC AFC Flappjacks Twisted Sister (Nova) -Jon Hann

5B – FC AFC MWM Miss Elisabeth Bennett SH (Lizzy) – Kevin McCreight

7A – FC TKs First Class Traveler (Rowdy) – Jon Hann



Day 2

Sunday dawned to clear skies which promised a warmer day than the day before. The temperature was 33 degrees with a stiff north wind which kept the morning feel like temperatures quite cool. As the day progressed the temperature did rise into the low 52's and the sun did feel warm but the wind persisted all day. It was very good weather for the dogs!

Brace 7)

- A) FC AFC Trinity's Million Dollar Baby "Baby" English Setter (F) Handler Wayne James
- B) DC AFC Snips Lady Mezi "Mezi" GSP (F) Handler John Michael Clay

Mezi had her running shoes on today, she broke away strongly, cruising the lines but was lost to judgement early in the hour. Baby took advantage of having the course to herself. She toured the country well taking advantage of the long tree lines. She was found pointing 6 times well-spaced finds ending her hour with a stop to flush at 56 minutes. She finished the hour well.



Baby



Mezi

Brace 8)

A) FC Blazin Liverhead Tip Topper "Topper" GSP (M) Handler Jon Hann

B) Double M's White on Rice "Odie" GSP (M) Handler Cliff Mesnard

This pair of competitors were fast and attractive on the ground while applying themselves well to the course. Odie recorded a good find at 20 minutes but was up at 34 minutes. Topper's strong race led to 5 good finds well-spaced throughout the hour, his first find a true limb find. He would also record a stop to flush at 34 minutes. He finished the hour strongly, using the wind and the course to his best advantage.



Topper



Odie

Brace 9)

A) WFK Gray's Gone By "Shady" GSP (F) Handler TK Smith

B) NGDC FC AFC Diamond C's Recon "Recon" Vizsla (M) Handler Chris Corliss

This was not Shady's day. She tried hard but her handler elected to pick her up at the 40-minute mark. Recon was very powerful on the ground. He would record an early non-productive, a stop to flush at 21 minutes and a good find at 57 minutes. He took some handler input to direct his strong race but finished the hour to the front.



Shady



Recon

Brace 10)

A) FC Rebel Rouser Ulysses' Bowie "Bowie" Vizsla (M) Handler Richard Coleman

B) DC AFC Odyssey's Perfect Traveler "Charlie" GSP (M) Handler Jon Hann

Bowie had a very strong race and impressed the judges with his application to the cover. He had a good find at 9 minutes, backed his brace mate at 21 minutes, then had a breach of manners at 35 minutes to end his effort. Charlie displayed a strong race throughout his hour, impressing with his strong finish. He would record finds quality finds at 9 minutes, 21 minutes, 31 minutes, and a stop to flush late in the hour.



Bowie



Charlie

Brace 11)

A) DC AFC Friedelshiem's Frieght Train Mason MH "Mason" GSP (M) Handler Barry Bollinger

B) FC AFC Southwind's Silent Stalker "Dexter" Vizsla (M) Handler Jon Hann

Dexter had a short day. He broke away well, impressing with his gait and way of going. He would back his brace mate at 12 minutes but was picked up at 25 minutes. Mason is a powerful dog that reached to places on the course that no other dog had reached. His race was extreme at times. He would have four good finds at 12, 25, 35, and 55. His first find produced a hawk with a quail in its talons, something you do not see every day. He displayed good manners and style on all his bird work. He was also credited with a feather find just before time.



Mason



Dexter

Brace 12)

A) Little Bit of Rust II “Jaycee” Brittany (M) Handler Stuart Williams

B) BYE

Jaycee ran alone as his brace mate was not on hand. Jaycee is a fun Brittany to watch. His gate is eye catching and very pleasing. He had a nice find at 10 minutes with good style and manners. At 27 minutes, he took a few steps on a flushed bird and was picked up.



Jaycee

Posted Dogs – Day 2

Nova (5A)

Baby (8A)

Topper (9A)

Charlie (11B)

Note – posted dogs are listed in the order they ran, any posted dog that is no longer in the placements are removed from the list. Today Storm (4A), Lizzy (5B), and Rowdy (7A) were removed from the list.

Day 3

Monday dawned with the skies thinly overcast, the temperature was 41 degrees with the wind blowing out of the south/southeast at 10 to 20 MPH (yes, the wind almost always blows in the Midwest). As the morning went on the skies cleared and remained partly cloudy for the remainder of the day. The afternoon temperatures rose to 69 degrees. The wind remained constant throughout the day. Humidity levels around 40%. The southerly winds were a problem for some dogs that preferred to hunt into the wind while the course went the other way. At times dogs were scenting birds from a long distance off.



Brace 13)

A) Blair's Witch Project "Guy" English Setter (M) Handler Greg Blair

B) Liverhead's Sizzlin Lizz "Liza" GSP (F) Handler Jon Hann

This pair of dogs began very strongly. Both dogs wanted to hunt into the wind. Guy ran a strong well directed race that led to a feather find at 11 minutes, a nice find at 19 in which he had to replace about 50 yards to pin the bird, and a final find at 30 minutes where again he was relocated to positively locate the bird. Blair also added a very nice back of his brace mate at 41 minutes. Liza ran a very strong race. She was found pointing by her scout at 8 minutes, had finds at 25 minutes, 33 minutes, a very attractive point at 41 minutes in which she was backed by her brace mate, and final find where the birds left as the handler approached. At time both dogs looked as if they were still fresh.



Guy



Liza - digging in for her birds

Brace 14)

A) Southwind's Citori Red Lightning "Tori" Vizsla (F) Handler Sean Van Kooten

B) FC Hot Shot's Reveille DS "Morgan" GSP (F) Handler Peggy Sieve

Morgan had a short day. She is fast on the ground and is the type of dog that goes to cover, hunts hard, and is in harmony with her handler. She would back her brace mate at 32 minutes but her handler elected to end her bid soon after that point. Tori began with a good find on a small covey at 4 minutes, she recorded a non-productive at 20 minutes, had a good find at 32 minutes, a stop to flush at 39 minutes, another good find at 48 minutes, and a final find at 53 minutes. Her final find required a relocation of close to 50 yards. Tori finished the hour well.



Tori



Morgan with a pretty back.

Braces 15)

A) FC Thomas Dixie "Dixie" Brittany (F) Handler Jim Carter

B) Perfection's Huckleberry "Huck" (M) Handler Jon Hann

This pair dogs hunted well for their hour. They went to cover and used the wind to their best advantage. At 20 minutes, they shared a find with good manners by both dogs. At 40 minutes Hunk was found pointing with Dixie backing nicely, again all in order. At 50 minutes, it was Dixie's turn to point game with Huck backing, Huck went on point at 53 minutes with Dixie backing which ultimately resulted in a non-productive for Huck. The final find came at 56 minutes with Dixie pointing and Huck backing the stylish Brittany. Both dogs finished the hour.



Dixie – digging into the cover for her birds.



Huck with Dixie honoring.

Brace 16)

- A) FC AFC Wired West True Grit "Duke" GWP (M) Handler Tom Quesnell
- B) NFC FC Eshod's Uprising "Ryder" GSP (M) Handler Wayne James

The sun was very bright with the temperature near 60 degrees and rising when this pair was let loose. The wind was constant in speed at around 20 MPH from the south/southeast. Duke had good finds at 5 minutes, 11 minutes, 35 minutes, and a final find at 39. He is very stylish on point and his manners were perfect on this day. His final 21 minutes were birdless but his drive impressed the judges with one remarking on the grit Duke displayed in attacking the course in throughout the hour. He finished the hour well. Ryder recorded a very good find at 20 minutes enduring a lengthy and difficult flushing effort. His winning style on display and his manners beyond reproach. His bid would end early when his handler elected to pick him up at 35 minutes.



Duke



Ryder

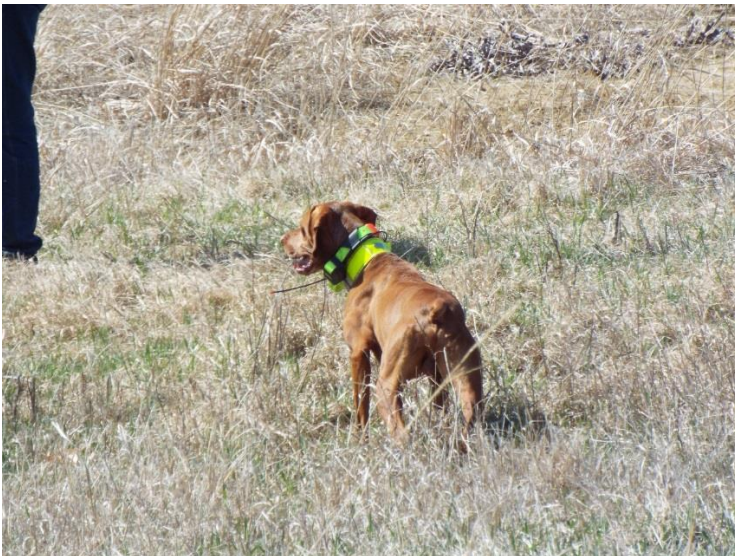
Brace 17)

- A) FC My Covert Operative "Pike" Pointer (M) Handler Jon Hann
- B) NGDC FC AFC Doc Holliday's Side By Side "Doc" Vizsla (M) Handler Sean Van Kooten

This brace featured a pair of dogs that were fast and well gaited making it a pleasure to watch. Both dogs were found pointing at 5 minutes on separate birds of a feeding covey. Pike's bird would require a relocation, good manner on display by both dogs. Doc would score next at 13 minutes with the pointer backing. Sent on Doc had a second find at 20 minutes, followed by a third at 27 minutes with Pike again backing the stylish Vizsla. 5 minutes Pike was found pointing with Doc backing. Pike is very stylish and attractive on his game, his good training on display. Doc was found at 40 minutes with his final find, all in order. At this point Pike's handler elected to call it a day. Doc added a non-productive on a pile of feathers at 56 minutes. He would finish the hour looking like he was ready for another hour. He ran a strong race.



Pike



Doc

Brace 18)

A) NFC FC AFC Touchstone's AC Nothing Personal "Otto" Weimaraner (M) Handler Anne Taguchi

B) FC AFC VK's Twenty Gauge XR "Deuce" Vizsla (M) Handler Sean Van Kooten

Released at 3:40, as the temperature reached near the high of 69 degrees this pair of bird dogs went strongly to the front. Each hunted hard for their time on the ground. Deuce had a dandy find at 30 but would record a pair of non-productives and was up early. Otto race was strong and forward. As the hour got towards the 45-minute mark and having no bird contacts to his credit, his handler elected to end Otto's effort early.



Otto



Deuce

Posted dogs Day 3

Doc 17 (B) was added to the board. The English Setter Baby was removed from the board.

Final Day

The final day of the championship began with a breath takingly beautiful sunrise. The sky was generally clear. The temperature was in the upper 40's, the wind was very light at around 5 MPH from the southeast. The humidity was around 50%. As the morning went on the temperature rose to 65 degrees by the start of the final brace.



Iowa sunrise (Picture by Sabrina Corliss)



PRO PLAN



Brace 19

- A) J&M Rodeo Romeo "Tuff" Brittany (M) Handler Jon Hann
- B) CH Diamond C's blast From the Past "Gabi" Vizsla (F) Handler Chris Corliss

This pair of dogs was released at 8:04 and went quickly to the likely cover. Gabi would score first with a good find at 8 minutes, the bird leaving of it own accord. Tuff was next to get on the books with a solid find at 12 minutes, Gabi backing nicely. Both dogs were touring the likely bird cover, impressing with their wise hunting patterns. Tuff would end his effort at 27 minutes. Gabi would join her brace mate on the dog wagon at 32 minutes.



Tuff



Gabi

Brace 20

A) Southwind Locked N Loaded VK's Kimber "Kimber" Vizsla (F) Sean Van Kooten

B) Chattahoochee "AJ" Brittany (M) Handler Jim Carter

AJ effort was short with his handler electing to pick him up at 12 minutes. Kimber, having the course to herself, took full advantage of the opportunity. She had an early find at 5 minutes in a location along the northwest creek crossing in a location most dogs did not reach. She added finds at 12, 34, 40, 43, and 50 minutes. She is well trained and has very good manners and style. Her race was strong, digging into the cover and finishing the hour well.



Kimber



AJ on point

Brace 21

- A) FC AFC Nothing But Trouble "Trouble" Brittany (M) handler Jim Carter
- B) BYE

Trouble ran a nice race. He would find game at 6, 11, 26, 30, and 51 minutes. He also had a non-productive at the 36-minute mark. He was forward throughout the hour and finished the hour well.



Trouble

DOGS
UNLIMITED
Make your good dog better.

Winners

American Kennel Club Pointing Breed Champion

DC AFC Odyssey's Perfect Traveler (GSP)

Owner - Charles Parietti

Handler – Jon Hann

2nd

FC Blazin Liverhead Tip Topper (GSP)

Owner – Peter Wilkin

Handler – Jon Hann

3rd

NGDC FC AFC Doc Holliday's Side by Side (Vizsla)

Owner - Sean Van Kooten

Handler – Sean Van Kooten

4th

NGDC GFC FC AFC Flappjacks Twisted Sister (GSP)

Owner – Clay Benton

Handler – Jon Hann



Winners

Judges Award of Merit

FC AFC Trinity's Million Dollar Baby (English Setter)

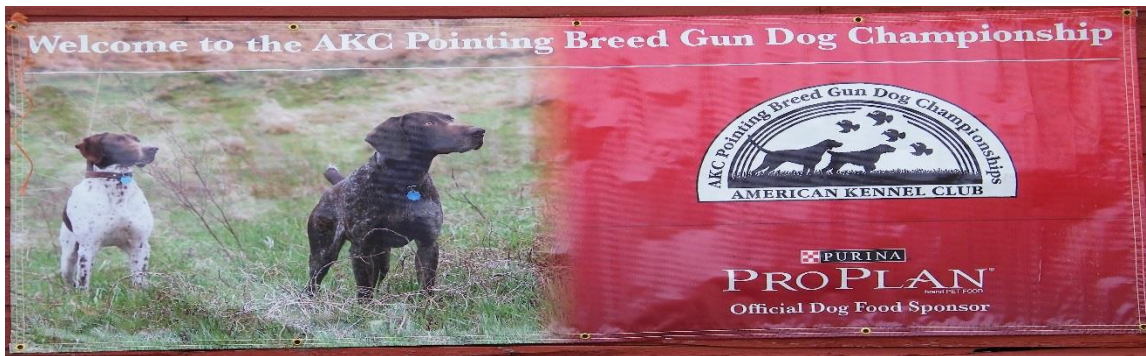
Owner – Wayne and Trish James

Handler – Wayne James

Southwind Locked N Loaded VK's Kimber (Vizsla)

Owner – Robyn and Sherwin van Kooten

Handler – Sean Van Kooten



Best of Breeds

Best Vizsla

NGDC FC AFC Doc Holliday's Side by Side

Owner - Sean Van Kooten

Handler – Sean Van Kooten

Best English Setter

FC AFC Trinity's Million Dollar Baby

Owner – Wayne and Trish James

Handler – Wayne James

Best Brittany

FC AFC Nothin' But Trouble

Owner – Jim Carter DMV and Drew Carter

Handler – Jim Carter DMV

Best German Short Haired Pointer

DC AFC Odyssey's Perfect Traveler (GSP)

Owner - Charles Parietti

Handler – Jon Hann

Best German Wire Hair Pointer

FC AFC Wired West True Grit

Owner – Tom Quesnell

Handler – Tom Quesnell

