



New Handlers Clinic

Introductions

Speakers – Introduction of speakers

Participants – Name, Dog's Age, Goals of this class? Pro Trainer? Force Fetched?

Why we are here today?

Begin our journey in to the Hunt Test world (*There is not an end goal, it is a journey*)

Calm fears and myths about AKC Hunt Tests

Definitions

See attached sheet when a term comes up in discussion

What is a Hunt Test?

The purpose of a Hunting Test for Retrievers is to test the merits of and evaluate the abilities of Retrievers in the field in order to determine their suitability and ability as hunting companions.

JH Title Requirements

In order to be recorded as a Junior Hunter, a dog must be registered with the AKC, and must have a record of having acquired Qualifying scores in the Junior Hunting Test at four (4) AKC licensed or member club Hunting Tests.

How is a Hunt Test Scored?

Marking (memory)

Style

Perseverance (courage & hunting)

Trainability (steadiness, control, response & delivery)

1. Each ability (Marking, Style, Perseverance and Trainability) is scored for each of the four (4) single marks under "Marking Series."
2. When all marks are completed, the "Average" score for each ability is calculated and posted. If any ability averages below five, (5) the dog cannot qualify.
3. If all abilities average five (5) or higher, they are carried over to the "Average Score for All Series" column, totaled to reach "Total Scores," and then divided by four (4) to determine whether or not the dog qualifies. The "Overall Average" must be seven (7) or higher to qualify.

How do you practice for a Hunt Test?

(Simple answer is you don't) You train concepts.

Each concept should be repeated in at least 3 locations.

Positions needed to hold a Hunt Test

Hunt Test Chair

Hunt Test Secretary

Marshal

Stakes Chair

Bird Boys

Gun Captain

Bird Steward

Cook/Bird Cleaner

Top 10 List

See attached sheet

The "DO NOT" List

Release dog before judge calls your number

Pick up bird from ground

Test - ("Train" concepts)

Only use bumpers

Throw birds/bumpers yourself all the time

Use intimidation

Out to the field