

Iowa Brittany Club
Spring Field Trial
April 4-8, 2008

The Iowa Brittany Club held its annual spring field trial at the Union County Bird Dog Ranch at Thayer, Iowa from April 4th through April 8th, 2008. Handlers and dogs enjoyed seasonable weather for the most of the 5-day event, although heavy rains the day before the trial started left the grounds somewhat wet in places. The good Iowa wind helped dry out the course over the course of the trial, however, so the condition of the grounds was not a factor in the final placements. The dogs seemed to enjoy the cooler temperatures; in fact, the only time bird work was slack was when the temperature climbed above normal Saturday afternoon. Birds were abundant and scenting conditions generally good for the 138 dogs that competed. Open Puppy was won by Stars Minnie Pearl, owned by Mark Ritter and handled by Bruce Heiter. Open Derby went to Primetime Outlaw Johnny, owned by Justin Kalina and handled by Stan Truksa. The Open All Age winner was DC Starlight's Blazing Sirius, owned by Tom Thomas and handled by Bob Burchett and Amateur All Age was captured by FC/AFC Kinwashkly Dakota Molester, owned and handled by Ken Seivert. Open Gun Dog went to DC Ricochet Hemi Baracuda, owned by Julie and Mickey Condron and handled by Bob Burchett, and Amateur Gun Dog was won by Git-R-Done, owned by Mark Ritter and handled by Bruce Heiter.

As is our practice, the Club held its independent Specialty show on Friday night in nearby Creston, IA. Many dogs entered in the field trial were also entered in the show, and several placed in both events making them eligible for the Dual Dog Award. This year's winner of that award was DC Ricochet Hemi Baracuda, owned by Mickey and Julie Condron of Batavia, Illinois. Buck was 2nd in Field Trial class at the show, handled by Julie, placed 4th in Amateur Gun Dog, handled by Mickey, and won the Open Gun Dog, handled by Bob Burchett at the trial. Congratulations to all.

Following the weekend stakes, we held the inaugural running of the Ed Powell Memorial Open Limited Gun Dog stake. This hour event was conducted over a two-day period on the combined all age and gun dog courses. It is our plan to offer this stake each spring. A rotating trophy has been donated by Julie Condron and will be engraved with the name of each year's winner, owner, and handler. This year's winner is Ruffwood's Algonquin Indigo, owned by George and Sherri Harrison of Ontario, Canada, and handled by Bob Burchett. A detailed write-up of this stake is given below.

The Iowa Brittany Club wishes to thank all the judges, participants, and helpers at this trial. Everyone involved is critical to being able to hold a quality event.