



2022 ABC Open Walking Gun Dog National Championship

Reporter: Bobbi Sigmund



L-R: Lisa Pollock, chair, Eddie Manifold, Vickie Manifold with NMR Labyrinth Late Nite Summer Skye, Rebecca Walters, John Bell with Spring Hills Red Hot Performance, Sue Lehosky, Bobbi Sigmund reporter, Joanne Perry, judge, John Kipp with Kip's Bay Flat Out Ride Run-N Annie, John Perry, judge Richard Johnson with Alder Zerandipity, Terry Tuczynski, Purina Rep

The 2022 American Brittany Club's Open Walking Gun Dog National Championship was held at the Ionia State Recreation Area in Michigan on October 25 to conclusion. Weather was good running dogs on the first day, rainy on the second day, and cooler on the final day. We appreciate the time and effort of our judges John and Joanne Perry, who spent time in the saddle to determine that NMR Labyrinth Nite Summer Skye, handled by Eddie Manifold, would be the new Open Walking Gun Dog National Winner. Runner-up went to Spring Hills Red Hot Performance, handled by John Bell, 3rd place was Kip's Bay Flat Out Ridge Run-N-Annie run by John Kipp, and handled by Richard Johnson, Alder Zerandipity was awarded 4th place.

Bird work started early with Gunnar going on point at 2, with Ren coming in for a nice back. All was good. Both dogs raced forward on course. At 6 Gunnar spun around on point, but took a few more steps than the judges liked and was called up. Ren moved around the course at a brisk pace. Coming around the corner a bird was seen flying out of the tree line with Ren in hot pursuit at the 13-minute mark.

The American Brittany Club wishes to express our deepest appreciation to our corporate sponsors, Nestle-Purina and to Garmin, for their continuing support of our sporting dog field events.

Brace 1: Bark River Fresh Water Pearl (Pearl) – Jeff Stanton and Red Granite's Henry Will Be A Star (Henry) – Bob Bakas. Both dogs raced briskly away at the breakaway with Pearl moving to the right side along the tree line with a find at 7. All good. Pearl continued her race forward. Henry running a good race went on point, but had a breach of manners to be picked up at 36.

Brace 2: Magnum High Velocity Top Gun (Gunnar) – Vince Anderson and Sigbrit's Evil Side of The Road (Ren)- Eddie Manifold.





Brace 3: Romance's Life of Riley (Riley) – Julie Romence and Parker de L'Etoile du Nord (Parker) – Robert White. Riley was wide ranging and independent in her race. Her first point at 13 was a non-productive. At 36 Riley had another find and all was good. At the start of the orchard, Riley waited a long time for her handler to flush and again all was good. Around the 58-minute mark Riley was up from a delayed chase. Parker's first find was along the tree line before the orchard. After a relocation then flush by Rob, Parker had good manners on his bird. In the middle of the orchard Parker had a non-productive. At 54 at the end of the orchard, Parker had his 3rd find with good manners again.

Brace 4: Over Under Reign the Field (Reign) – Al Cropek and Atos (Atos) – Jackie Hutwagner. Both dogs broke away strong with Atos having his first find in the thick cover on Hires field at 15. Reign came upon Atos on point, stopped, released herself, then backed again to be picked up at that point. Atos had good manners on his bird and was sent forward. After going through Hires field at the opening in the cut Atos went on point at 32, all in order. At the 59-minute mark, Atos was found on point, ending up with a non-productive. He finished going away to the front.

Brace 5: Cedar Glen Disruptin' the Peace (Colt) – Bill Jones and Bantam'n Dr. Jac's Shooter (Shooter) – Mike Magnuson. The brace started with both Colt and Shooter having a stop to flush at the 23-minute mark. Hitting some edges and running a good race Shooter pointed at 39, but took enough steps to be picked up by the judges. Colt backed his bracemate at 39 then was sent forward making some nice moves along the edges. He was really digging in some thick areas and in the middle of the orchard went on point which ended up being non-productive. Moving forward Colt had his final find at 57 with good bird manners.

Brace 6: Dogwood's Moose (Moose) – Christopher Logan and LaPat's Cody (Cody) – Al Cropek. Moose and Cody started out strong on the course. At the 6-minute mark Moose went on point on the right side. Right after point was called, Cody was called back to his handler. Unfortunately, Cody had a health issue and he collapsed. CPR was started and he was revived. Many thanks to Samantha Gauthier and Cindy Cropek for their heroic actions on course. Cody was rushed to the vet where he miraculously recovered. He was retired and lived another few weeks with his owners before succumbing to his heart condition. Our deepest condolences. Moose with all in good order with his bird work, he was sent forward on the course to have his 2nd find along the corn row at 25 with good manners. Running through Hires field and hitting the edges strong, Moose was awarded with his 3rd find at 50. Moving forward Moose finished going away on the course.

Brace 7: Jolly's Christmas Holly (Holly) – Dan Jolly and It's 5 O'clock Somewhere (Cooper) – Rebecca Walters. The brace started with light rain and slightly breezy weather conditions. Downhill from the

breakaway both dogs had a find at 9 minutes with Holly having good manners and sent on. Cooper's find at 9 was to the far-right side of the breakaway all was good. Cooper had his 2nd find at 15 along the curve, sent forward on the course to come across his bracemate on point and was picked up when he failed to back. Holly on point at 21 in Hires field; all good. Another find for Holly at 39 with good manners. Just before the Boy Scout Bridge at 54 Holly is found standing tall, bird flushed, and all is good. Holly sent over the Boy Scout Bridge and slammed on point at 56 with again good bird manners. Going forward on the course Holly finished strong at the top of cardiac hill.

Brace 8: Kozy's Rocky Mountain Gambler (Eli) – Al Cropek and Hall's Baby Girl Madelyn (Maddie) – Shaun Hall. With light rain and wind the brace started with Eli going on point at 4 with good bird manners. Released to go forward Eli stopped to back Maddie who was on point at 5 along the tree line. Both dogs were released forward. Eli pointed at 14 with Maddie now the backing dog. Eli relocated himself, as the handler went in for the flush, and Eli relocated again resulting in being picked up. Maddie going forward on the course had an intense point at 19, manners all good. Moving quickly into the next tree line, Maddie went in, a bird popped up, Maddie then grabbed the bird to end her race for the day.

Brace 9: Pretty Blue Eye A Sweet Touch of Charlie B (Charlie) – Bob Bakas and NMR Labyrinth Nite Summer Skye (Skye) – Eddie Manifold. Brace 9 started with light rain and now sloppy conditions for the dogs and their handlers. At the 6-minute mark Charlie brought his handler a live bird and was picked up. Skye now alone on the course made the most of this advantage with her first find on an edge at 19. Going forward with good manners after the flush, Skye's 2nd find was at 22 down the treeline. Released to go forward quickly Skye had her 3rd find at 27 at the beginning of the orchard. All is good and going forward in the middle of



orchard at 30 Skye was found on point again. Again, all is good. Going forward and hunting hard resulted in another find just outside the orchard at 35. Bird manners very nice. Racing to the front quickly, and working hard, Skye's 6th find at 50 with all good. Released back on the course, Skye racing ahead working some heavy cover on an edge, resulted in her 7th find of a nice covey again with very nice bird manners. Skye finished going away on the course showing us of how a bird dog does it right.

Brace 10: Nalko des Sentier du Ramier (Nalko) – Clint LaFary and Dogwood's Benelli (Benny) -Todd Parmenter. Both dogs were eager to be released and ran forward on the course quickly. Benny went on point at the 5-minute mark, as the bird was flushed a breach of manners occurred and was picked up. Nalko going forward at 8, a bird came up and the chase was on which ended the brace.

Brace 11: Miss Behavin' (Ivy) – Al Cropek and Magnum High Velocity (Gauge) – Vince Anderson. Released just before the Hires



field, both dogs ran the edges through the field very nicely. Gauge went point at the end of the field at 16, good manners were seen. At the 17-minute mark, Ivy went on point, a covey was flushed, and a breach of manners occurred on Ivy's part. Gauge was then released to go back on the course, went back to the same hedgerow of his last point and was picked up for delayed of chase.

Brace 12: Starlight's Mercury Out Ryder (Ryder) – Teresa Richmond and Burning Glen Cover Girl (Lucy) – Mike Mercanti. Ryder and Lucy started on the course fast with Lucy having a find at 10 and Ryder backing his bracemate nicely. All is good and both dogs sent forward. At 20 Lucy went on point ending up with a non-productive. Then quickly on point at 24, with a second non-productive Lucy's run ended. Ryder was sent forward on course with a nice find at 18 just before the Boy Scout Bridge. Released back on the course Ryder at 35 pointed very intensely, with all in order. Ryder another point at 40 all is good, then running fast at 45 Ryder bumped a bird to end his race.

Brace 13: Saradac's Dangeroud Diamon Caper (Caper) – Lisa Pollock and Kip's Bay Fat Out Ridge Run-N Annie (Annie) – John Kipp. Cap and Annie raced forward quickly. At the 7-minute mark Cap brought her handler a bird to end her race. Annie continuing the course had a stop to flush at 26 on the right side of Hires field with the bird lifting on it's own. Just before the Boy Scout Bridge at 38 Annie had her 2nd stop to flush. She ran forward quickly at the end of the bottom of the tree line. On the backside Annie had an intensive point at 48 with good manners. Released Annie raced back on course going forward.

Brace 14: Ramblin Gamblin' Willie (Willie) – Al Cropek and Ace's One Eyed Jack (Jackson) – Donna Janulis. Willie and Jackson released and went quickly on the course with Willie going on point on the right side high on the Derby course at 5 with Jackson backing on a gentle whoa. All good manners for both dogs. Racing forward both went through the cut with Willie moving down the line for a point on the right side at 15. Jackson moving down the line on the left side also going on point at 15. Again, good manners for both dogs. At the 28-minute mark Willie went on point, Jackson backed his bracemate, released himself to go on the course and was picked up. Willie on point, was relocated, ending with a non-productive. Moving on the course at 34 Willie stopped, was relocated twice, bird located and all in order. Running quickly on the course just before the dyke, Willie had an intense very stylish point at 47 with good manners. Released Willie finished the brace strong.

Brace 15: Spring Hills Red Hot Performance (Red) – John Bell and Jolly's Runnin Rylee (Rylee) – Dan Jolly. Red and Rylee quickly raced on the course with Red going on point at the start of the orchard at the 3-minute mark. The bird was deep in the cover, but finally flushed and Red had good manners. In the middle of the orchard Red had his second

find, all good. Racing forward just after the orchard at 12 Red swung around on a very stylish point for his 3rd find. Rylee had her first find at 24 with good bird manners. Racing forward Rylee came across Red on point at 28-minute mark and backed nicely. All was good for both dogs and racing back on the course going strong. Rylee on the right side had her 2nd find; all good. At the same time at 45 on the far-left side, Red had a stop to flush. Going forward on the course quickly and hunting hard Red had an impressive covey find at 55 for his last bird contact for the day. Upon release Red raced forward going strong to the end. At 57 Rylee had her last find with a nice stylish point, good bird manners, released back on the course until time was called.

Brace 16: Alder Zerandipity (Zera) – Richard Johnson and Hall's Baby Girl Sophie (Sophie) – Shaun Hall. Last brace of the day both dogs running forward quickly on the course. At 5 Sophie went on point, bird was flushed, Sophie moved a bit too much for the judges and was picked up. Zera moved quickly along the course and went on point at 11. She was relocated twice, but no bird was produced. Going forward at 19 Zera went on point and was sent on after good bird manners. At 33 Zera had a very nice stop to flush. Sent forward at 33 Zera had a covey find with good manners. Released again on the course, rimming the entire Hires field, Zera was rewarded with a find at 45. Racing forward at 48, on the left edge of the high plateau before the Boy Scout Bridge, Zera slammed on point. Bird flushed, all good manners. Zera moved quickly on course having her final find at 55 just before the Boy Scout Bridge. Zera finished her brace strong.

ABC National Open Walking Gun Dog Championship (32S) Grand Open Limited Gun Dog

J: John Perry & Joanna Perry

- 1- GCH/CH NMR LABYRINTH A LATE NITE SUMMER SKYE SH (B), by GCH/CH Labyrinth N Illusion Slippery When Wet JH x CH VCM Call Me Sassie Sue MH; o Vickie Manifold & Nickie Redick, h Eddie Manifold
- 2- DC/NAGDC/GAFC/AFC SPRING HILLS RED HOT PERFORMANCE (D), by Spring Hills High Performance x DC Spring Hills Salida Del Prado; o/h John Bell
- 3- FC/AFC KIP'S BAY FLAT OUT RIDGE RUN-N ANNIE (B), by NFC/GFC/FC/AFC Roustabout's Flat Out x GFC/FC/AFC Kip's Bay Dark N'Stormy Miss Maddy CGC; o John & Travis Kipp, h John Kipp
- 4- FC/AFC ALDER ZERANDIPITY (D), by DC/AFC Grand Junction Jo x NAFC/FC/AFC High Hopes Little Ann; o/h Richard Johnson

