

ETRC Upcoming Events

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW FOR ETRC'S UPCOMING EVENTS!

1. September 15, Sunday: club trial, picnic, summer business meeting, Lucky 7 Ranch
2. October 19-20, Saturday—Sunday: Fall Test, Lucky 7 Ranch, 2 JH, 2 SH, Master
3. November 12-13, Tuesday—Wednesday: Midweek Master Only Hunt Test, Brian Caldwell's
4. February 22, 2025 — Saturday: Annual Awards Banquet & Business Meeting / elections, Bearden Banquet Hall, Knoxville, Tn



Photo of the Month



EAST TENNESSEE RETRIEVER CLUB, INC. WWW.ETRCCLUB.ORG

ETRC Newsletter

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President's Message

J. Michael Evans, ETRC President

I hope everyone had a safe and fun Independence Day! As I write this, it appears we are finally getting some much needed rain and a small break from the stifling heat. However, please continue to remain vigilant during your training, as the humidity and heat can seriously injure you and/or your four legged family member.

As we roll into August, please pencil in the date of our Club Trial coming up on Sunday, September 15 — all of the information is listed in this newsletter. Whether you're a new member, an old hand or just someone who would like to visit and see what we're all about, we'd love to have you! If you have any questions feel free to call me at anytime or reach out to an existing member for information.

On a side note, Neuse River Retriever Club in Kingston, NC is having a judges seminar on August 24, 2024 that will cover various topics. Those topics include the purpose of hunting tests, scoring, judges' responsibilities, and more. Regardless of whether you're a seasoned judge, a new judge or just starting out handling a dog, this seminar is the perfect opportunity for you. The knowledge gained is invaluable!

Continue having a great summer and I look forward to seeing everyone at the Club Trial.



Club Trial with Live Flyers Sunday, 9/15/24



Everyone is invited to our next Club Trial which will feature live flyers. **IN ORDER TO GET YOUR FLYERS, YOU MUST RSVP BEFORE AUGUST 31 so we know how many to order.**

Live flyers will be available for Junior, Advanced Junior, Senior, and Master stakes. Dokkens will be used in the Singles Classic stake. Live flyers will also not be used for puppy stakes, but you may request use of dead ducks if you want.

Each club member will be able to order, at no cost to them, ONE OR TWO LIVE FLYERS, one for up to two dogs they plan to enter. Entries are free for the first two stakes entered. After that, additional entries will be \$10 each (puppy stakes \$5). If you want more than two live flyers, you may also request up to two more at a cost of \$10 each.

Considering that ducks now cost between \$18—\$20, this is a terrific opportunity for members to get some live flyer practice at an extraordinarily good price.

Non-members are welcome to come, but will only be allowed to use dead ducks. Entry fees for each stake will be \$10 per dog (\$5 per puppy in the puppy stakes)

People who do not RSVP before the August 31 deadline are still invited and encouraged to come, but will be limited to dead ducks, dokkens and automatic launcher bumpers.

IF YOU ARE A COMPETENT GUNNER, we encourage you to bring along your gun; ETRC will supply 12-ga ammo and we can swap out shooting the live flyers for each other.

Club Trial rules are included in this newsletter on the following pages.

This is not only a club trial, but is also our late summer Business Meeting and we will need a quorum to conduct business. To encourage people to stay for the business meeting, free lunch will be provided. We anticipate that the business meeting will start around 2 p.m. and will last for about an hour. We plan to be completed with everything by about 4:00 p.m.

DATE & TIME: Sunday, September 15, 2024. 9:00 a.m. (judges, gunners, and people to help set up should plan to be there at 8:00 a.m.) Please report to the sign up desk as soon as you get there.

LOCATION: Lucky 7 Ranch, 6720 Erie Road, Sweetwater, TN. BE AWARE that some GPS services may take you to the wrong place, around the back of the farm where there is no entrance. Alternatively, use the address 6979 Erie Road, which is right across the street from the L7 Farm entrance.

RAIN DATE: Sunday, September 22, same time and place. A go-no-go weather decision will be sent out via email on Saturday, September 14 by 5:00 p.m.

**FOR LIVE FLYERS, RSVP BEFORE 8/31/24 TO KAREN EDWARDS,
EDWARDSKC@GMAIL.COM OR TEXT 865-300-7607**

**RSVP NOT REQUIRED IF YOU DON'T WANT A LIVE FLYER, BUT IS
REQUESTED BY FRIDAY, 9/13/24, FOR PLANNING PURPOSES!**

ETRC Club Trial Rules

These are quoted from Roberta Williams' email to Carol Stone March 12, 2009, as modified by changes made during the 2017 rules revisions for Gun Dog and Puppy of the Year. New information on Master, Senior, Junior, and Advanced Junior stakes were added for completeness in 2020.

In-Club Rules for SINGLES CLASSIC stake:

- Two (2) Single long marks. Marks are at least 100 to 200 yards subject to the judges' placement. The dog that runs the straightest line OUT to pick up the bird wins the stake. The line BACK to the judges is not scored. Judges should draw the line taken by the dog on the judge's score sheets and grade the retrieve on a 1 to 10 basis with 10 being the best.
- Judges should draw accurate diagrams of the retrieves because several dogs may be in competition for the placements and First Place.
- Entered dogs must be steady on the line and cannot break. Young dogs may be run and held by the buckle collar or lead but no ribbons are awarded. One judge should call "DOG" to release the dog at the line.
- All dogs must deliver to hand without touching the dog. The handler should then hand the duck to the judges.
- Dogs are placed First Place, Second Place, Third Place, Fourth Place, and JAMs. A JAM is a Judges Award of Merit where the dog completes the retrieve but does not place First, Second, Third, or Fourth. Green club ribbons are awarded for completions; colored placement ribbons are awarded for first through fourth place.
- No points are awarded for Singles Classic towards Gun Dog or Puppy of the Year Awards.

In-Club Rules for PUPPY STAKES:

- There are two separate classifications of the puppy stakes. Junior puppies are from ten weeks through six months (27 weeks of age). Senior Puppies are from seven months to one year (28 weeks to first birthday). Junior puppies should be run first so as not to confuse them with scents and other factors. Junior marks are two (2) singles thrown in the lowest cut grass available at 20 to 30 yards. Senior marks are extended out to 50 to 60 yards or more.
- Judges are strongly encouraged to set up different marking tests for the Junior and Senior puppy tests. A water mark should be included in the Senior puppy stake. Lack of suitable grounds, cold weather, and time may prohibit this suggestion but all efforts should be made to adhere to it.
- A running line is established by the judges using a stick or marker to start the dogs from. Handlers may hold Junior puppies any way they want until one of the judges says the word "DOG" to release the pup. Judges should release the pup to retrieve as soon as the bumper or bird hits the ground. The puppies are judged on the straightest line OUT and BACK because the hardest thing is to get the puppies back to the handler.
- Puppies must get the bumper or bird back across the line to earn placements or points. Junior or Senior puppies do not have to deliver to hand. Judges should draw diagrams on the judge's score sheet so as to grade the puppies' performance.
- Bird technicians should stand quietly and still after throwing. The judges may ask the bird tech to help the puppy find the bumper or bird after the puppy has gotten out of the area of the fall.
- Placements of First, Second, Third, Fourth Place and JAMs (Judges Award of Merit) ribbons are awarded for each division. Points for Puppy of the Year are as specified in the current rules for that award.

In-Club Rules for MASTER, SENIOR, JUNIOR and ADVANCED JUNIOR stakes:

- All stakes may be run on a single setup, or on separate setups. Factors in deciding how many and which setups to use will be made based on availability of land and water and number / qualifications of member judges.
- Master Stakes will include at least one series that involves both land and water if at all possible. Two series may be used, any combination of land and water, if space and time permit. At least one triple mark and master-level blinds will be included in the Master setup.
- Senior stakes will include at least one series that involves both land and water if at all possible. Two series may be used, with one land and one water, if space and time permit. At least one double mark and two blinds will be included in the Senior setup.
- Advanced Junior stakes will include at least one series that involves both land and water if at all possible. Two series may be used, with one land and one water, if space and time permit. Advanced Junior marks are doubles, but there are no blinds.
- Junior stakes will include at least one series that involves both land and water if at all possible. Two series may be used, with one land and one water, if space and time permit. At least two single marks will be included in the Junior setup, but no blinds.
- No points are awarded for Advanced Junior stakes towards Gun Dog or Puppy of the Year Awards.
- Green club ribbons are awarded for completions.

Use of Training Devices

No electronic collars or other training devices are permitted if the dog is being presented for completion ribbons or awards points. However, a handler may declare the dog is being presented for training only and will be allowed to run the stake and be judged for information and advice for improvement.



Member Announcements, News, & Brags

New Junior Hunter



Congratulations to **Nate's High Flying Wren JH**, who earned her Junior title at 14 months old at the ETRC Quad JH / SH test with owner Nate Lamping handling.

Wren is out of FC AFC Seaside's Troublesome Fowl Pursuits QA2, John Broucek's Percy dog.

Wren also won 1st place Junior Puppy at ETRC's Fall Club Trial last year at 4 months old, and 1st place senior puppy this year at the Spring Club Trial. At that same trial, she also received a pass in the Junior Hunter stakes at 11 months old.

Black Labrador Retriever Puppies for Sale

JJ (MH) x Delta (SH): Male pups available. 6 weeks old 7/13/24. This is a repeat breeding from last year. The pups in the first litter are doing awesome in training. Contact Jeremy Majors (423) 285-7255 for information and availability.

SIRE:

FC AFC Seaside's Gorgeous George (BLK)

RSR's Double J MH MNH

HRCH Riley Creek Troublesome Eye Candy MH (CHOC)

DAM:

Troublesome whiskey Bent MH (BLK)

Mud Creeks Delta SH

Callie-dog The Hunter (BLK)

Full Pedigree and clearance information is available online at HuntingLabPedigree.com; enter the dogs' names in the search box to bring up their pages.



Member Announcement/Brags, Con't.

Gunner G1 Intermediate Crates For Sale



Bruce Fox has two Gunner G1 dog crates for sale. These are the heavy duty, double walled crates that are the only travel crates that got a 5 star rating in crash tests. The double walls make them cooler, and the attached battery-powered fan provides extra comfort at hunt tests or out in the field. They are in excellent condition. Intermediate size, 23" wide, 34" long, 28.5" tall.

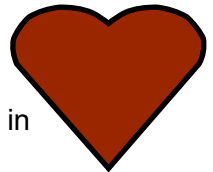
New, these crates cost \$1125 each with fans, plus shipping. Bruce is asking \$1,000 each and will consider reasonable offers.

He also has another large crate for sale, from Petsmart. Call him to inquire. Contact him via text at 865-548-3807 or email at bruce@foxlawtn.com.



Kudos and Thanks!

Our Chief Marshal, Donna Smith, wants to extend special thanks to Janet Summers, Nate Lamping and Zack Pry for stepping up to help as Site Marshals for the Quad JH /SH test in June. All three of them were brand new to marshaling, agreed to serve and did a great job! Thanks again for your help and we hope we can rope you in again at future tests! Much appreciated —



Minutes from the ETRC Board Meeting, Tuesday, 7/2/24

Present from the Board: J. Michael Evans, Alan Bruhin, Mike Smith, Karen Edwards, Jim Pearce, Michele Fletcher, Jeff Rader, Kyle Griffin, Lois Luthenauer, Luke McCoy

Absent, Excused: Bob Smith

Others Members Present: Chief Marshal Donna Smith

A quorum is 50% of the Board. Therefore, a quorum of the Board was met with 10 people present. The meeting was called to order at 6:43 p.m.

Officer's and AKC Delegate's Reports

President's Report: None.

Secretary's Report. Karen Edwards.

- ◆ **Minutes:** Last meeting was 3/10/24; minutes approved by a majority of Board members and sent to the club website. Alan moved that we dispense with reading the minutes out loud, and vote formal approval. Lois seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
- ◆ **Membership:** Membership at the end of December 2023 was 58. Membership as of today for 2024 is 60, with 6 not yet renewed (1 says he will renew soon) plus another new member whose forms are in the mail.
- ◆ **Correspondence:** Completed annual report for State of Tennessee (\$20 filing charge) and E-postcard tax filing. Both were due by July 1. More on this below.

Treasurer's Report: Current balance is \$47,335.25. See YTD register report.

AKC Delegate's report: Michele had nothing to report.

Old Business

1. **Discuss spring testing season.** Financial information, comments, concerns, things we could do better, how to improve etc. All went well, we managed to pull it off. Concerns and issues are being raised as separate issues below.
2. **Revisit Dates of Fall Events:** Master National is in Paducah, KY 9/21-10/2/24. Who from the board is going (workers), do we need to adjust any dates for our fall events? Alan and Mike Evans are qualified but are not planning to go. Jeff did not indicate that he was planning to go. Our first hunt test is nearly three weeks after the MN ends so we should be full of pros who are already trying to qualify for next year. No change needed.
3. **Club Trial, Sunday 9/15/24.** After some discussion, we decided on the following format for the Fall Club Trial:
 - ◆ Contact Andrew Goddard, a prospective member we met at the June 11-12 test, who raises ducks and lives about 60 miles from Sweetwater in Northeast Tennessee. He can provide ducks at ~ \$18 per plus delivery fees; if he is coming to any particular event, he will deliver them for free. Good possibility for getting ducks for our Master Only tests in the times when we might otherwise have to pen the extras over at Cory's. Talk with Andrew about live flyers for our club trial on September 15. Mike Evans will call him.
 - ◆ Post a prominent article in the August newsletter and on the Facebook page advertising the Club Trial with live flyers and the details: begin at 9 a.m., last until approximately 4 p.m. to get everything done that needs to get done.
 - ◆ Members who want live flyers MUST RSVP by the end of August. They will get two free entries and up to two free live flyers (one for each of two dogs entered). Members may request more live flyers at \$10 per duck, plus the \$10 per stake entered for more than the two free stakes.
 - ◆ Live flyers are available at all stakes levels.
 - ◆ Members who do not RSVP are still welcome to come, and will get two free entries but will be using dead ducks.
 - ◆ Members who can serve as gunners are encouraged to bring along their guns and take turns serving as gunners for other members.
 - ◆ This event will be held at Lucky 7.
 - ◆ Bird techs? We did not discuss getting bird techs for this event but it would be nice to have some others rather than using club members if possible.
 - ◆ Non members are welcome to come but will have to pay the standard rates for entries and will only get dead ducks.
 - ◆ Food for the picnic was not discussed and will have to be decided upon later. In the past, we

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have sometimes made this potluck, sometimes the club has provided sandwich fixings, and last time we ordered pizzas.

- ◆ This event will also include a business meeting.

4. Hunt Test 10/19-20: S-S, 2 JH, 2 SH, one or 2 MH flights.

- ◆ Judges Tracy Davis, Steve Davis for one flight Master. Judges for JH / SH: Mike Smith is working to identify judges and has called many but not gotten many positive responses. He has two pinned down but is still looking for another one.
- ◆ 2 flights master? We discussed and decided to keep it simple and just have one flight of Master. We discussed possibly having a 100 dog flight and starting on Friday; that would allow more dogs to enter but would require finding workers available for an extra day which is not all that easy.
- ◆ Will be at Lucky 7.
- ◆ Ducks: Plan to use Buettner for this test.
- ◆ Bird Techs: Wildlife Society? Alan will contact them in September once school is back in session. We will be paying them \$100 a person this year.

5. Hunt Test 11/12-13, Midweek Master:

- ◆ Judges: Mike Greer. The second judge, Rocky Jones, has withdrawn and Alan is still looking for another judge.
- ◆ Location: Brian Caldwell's – Brian has been contacted and is willing for us to use his place.
- ◆ Ducks: we will consider contracting with Andrew Goddard if Kiley can't provide them without us having to store them at Cory's.
- ◆ Bird Techs – Brian / Bob will arrange?

6. Facebook: We have definitely gotten some new members from this route. Alan said there is nothing much to report, he's posting things from time to time.

7. Winter Awards Banquet: Reservations made for Saturday, Feb 22, 2025 at Bearden Banquet Hall. Paid \$250 deposit in April. Nothing to do until December with the awards calls.

New Business:

1. New Members:

- ◆ Matt & Katie Neil. He works for Cigna Group. Address 8234 Trout Lily Drive, Ooltewah, TN 37363. matthewJNeil10@gmail.com, (423)618-9081. Has a 2-year old Labrador, interested in hunt tests, dog training, club trials. Will volunteer for 'whatever is needed.' Sponsors: Kile Griffin, Donna Smith.
- ◆ James "Ryan" and Briana Troup: self employed. 304 Royal Oaks Drive NE, Cleveland, TN 37323. [TheTroupFam@gmail.com\(423\)943-8977](mailto:TheTroupFam@gmail.com(423)943-8977). Volunteers for training committee, test/training grounds search, Raffle/fundraising, duck wrangler/assistant, Board of Directors, Club Officer, Gunner, Marshalling, Awards Committee, Judging at club trials, Hunt Test Chariman, Training Supplies, Ribbons Handler. Interested in Hunt tests, field trials, dog training, club trials, judging/judging clinics, breeding, and is a member of NRA and Ducks Unlimited. Has 2 young black labs, was at our Quad test and earned a number of JH ribbons. Sponsors: J. Michael Evans, Alan Bruhin
- ◆ Zachary & Tyra Pry: he's a truck driver. 447 Mountain Gap Road, Thorn Hill, TN 37881. Waylonharley3@gmail.com. 865-469-4215. Volunteers for hunt test set-up, bird tech / coordinator. Interested in AKC hunt tests, field trials, hunter's safety course for his wife, dog training, club trials. Has an SHR 2-year old black lab. Sponsors: Donna Smith, Lois Luthenauer
- ◆ Dennis & Nora Wilcox, Facilities Manager, 107 Sioux Ct., Hendersonville, TN 37075, den-

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nisRWilcox@gmail.com, cell 615-414-8273. Requests Mike and Donna Smith as sponsors, has 4 labs of various ages, is a judge of HT and FT, interested in hunt tests, field trials, dog training, club trials. Sponsors: Mike and Donna Smith.

Lois moved we accept these people into membership on first reading; Alan seconded; the vote was unanimous. There was some discussion about sponsor responsibilities which include contacting the member, inviting them to contact you back for any questions, and then also calling and inviting them to events.

2. **Fees for Fall Tests and onward:** Do we want to raise our fees for hunt tests? Many other clubs ask for more than we are currently charging -- \$80/ \$90 / \$100. Alan moved that we raise our rates by \$10 per stake starting in January 2025, to \$90/ \$100 / \$110. This motion was seconded by Mike Smith. Discussion ensued:
 - ◆ Hunt Test income / expenses show that we are doing fine with our JH/SH tests, but it is the MH only single-flight tests that are running close to the margin for breaking even. However, the general consensus is that we don't want to do another Quad JH/SH test next year which is exhausting even though it brings in a ton of money and participants. This would mean that we have to drop one or two MH only tests, but the general consensus was that that's OK too.
 - ◆ Some concern was expressed about the chilling effect this might have on JH/SH entries and getting new people involved in the sport.
 - ◆ It was also mentioned that raising the rates by \$10 for each stake meant that JH and SH participants were paying \$20 more per weekend.

The vote was taken and passed, so that we will raise each stake by \$10 next year.

3. **Ribbon Mailing Fees:** We have been charging \$5 to mail ribbons. To send one ribbon now costs around \$6 in postage first class (going up again as of July 14) and the padded envelopes cost around \$.75 each. Karen moved that we go up to \$10 and that includes up to 3 ribbons; an additional \$5 for up to two more, and we won't mail more than that. Jim seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
4. **Club Tee Shirts:** we need a new place to store them, they are too unavailable at Cory's and take up too much room in the trailer. We do eventually make money on them; notice that on the expense records provided, we made the most in the years when we had two tests at Hiwassee, and when we bring them to the club trials they also do well. Still, over the last four years, we netted \$1157.14. Not a huge moneymaker, but they more than pay their own way. We sell them at a pretty low margin and the point is that they are for us and others to advertise the club, not that we make a large profit on them. Discussion of what to do about Tees/hats did not result in any resolution. No one is willing to take them on. Lois agreed that she or her son will pick up the shirts at Cory's from the trailers and will go through and do an inventory and throw out all the ones that are faded, have melted logos, etc. We will discuss this further at a later meeting.
5. **Update on Shuler / Osteen dog venture:** Mike Osteen is moving down to work at the new facility. The farm is 125 acres in Loudon County, don't know where; they are planning to put in four ponds and are in contract discussions for getting this done. Heath has paid his membership for the next 4 years; Jon and Mike each took a membership form and said they intend to join but haven't yet. They are thinking that their place would be good for running hunt tests and this is part of their proposed business model. Also, they are planning to offer training classes for people and dogs there.
6. **Taxes.** In order to use the postcard tax filing, we are supposed to have 'revenue' of less than \$50k a year over the past three years. We were OK until this year. For next year, we definitely won't meeting the criteria for using the simple form. Karen stated that she is not capable or willing

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to do real taxes for the club, which means we will either need to reduce our revenue by putting on fewer tests, or we will need to hire an accountant to do taxes for us. We would need to do some price shopping and see what we can find. Taxes are due before July 15 each year for us so we have some time but need to make sure not to let this fall in the cracks. The general consensus was agreement that we need to hire an accountant to do our taxes for next year. Karen agreed to ask her accountant if he would take us on, and will report back at a later meeting. This will probably cost around \$1000.

7. **Jason Jackson information:** Jason is the TWRA manager for Hiwassee. He no longer lives on the WMA and most of the work there is done by the fisheries people; he usually only comes once a month to check up on things. However, he came every day of our test, mowed for us where we needed him to, and was generally super helpful in putting on the Quad. M. Michael suggested that we talk about giving him some kind of thank you gift. Alan moved that we give him two gift cards of \$50 each for restaurants in the Cleveland area. Mike Smith seconded the motion, which passed. Mike Smith volunteered to get the cards, he and J. Michael will decide how and when to present these to him.
8. **Canine Field Triage:** J. Michael talked with Dr. Monica Webb, who is a DVM who specializes in working dogs. She has a presentation with slides and a dummy dog, which might be a good thing to have as a program at one of our events. Lois suggested we do this at our banquet next February, maybe instead of the door prizes – having this at an indoors event is much easier to control (weather, audio-visual equipment etc.) than at most of our events, and we can give her a great meal as well. This was agreed on and J. Michael will contact her to make the arrangements.
9. **Bird Tech Coordinator:** We have had some issues this year, particularly at our Quad test, with having sufficient numbers of bird techs for us not to have our elderly club members out in the blinds for hours on end. The Wildlife society has been pretty good and reliable, but not so much this spring. We discussed that we need to have our big tests when school is in session – i.e., have our big spring test at Lucky 7 instead of Hiwassee in early May, and have a Master-only at Hiwassee in the June time slot. Alan will get back in touch with the wildlife coordinator Robert Brewer in September after school is in session to try to line up more help for our October test.
10. **Ribbon Order:** We had so many entries in our Quad that we are running short of both JH and SH ribbons. Only have 38 Junior and 62 Senior ribbons. Definitely won't have enough JH ribbons for the fall test, and we MIGHT have enough SH but it's too close to count on. Karen ordered 100 of each on 7/1/24 for delivery on 9/7/24. Cost will be \$1,453.48; it's on her personal credit card and will pay back with a check when the charge shows up. Good news is, this is actually \$.08 less per ribbon than the last time we ordered ribbons in February. Alan moved that the board authorize Karen to order ribbons whenever needed without prior approval. Lois seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Any other new business?

1. **Photography Setup:** Alan moved that we buy a banner and some stakes that can be set up at our tests – with logo and the name of the club – that people can use to take pictures in front of. Some clubs bring along hay bales, pumpkins etc. – but just a banner would make a nice backdrop and not cost too much. Michele seconded the motion, and agreed to look into getting such a banner in about a 3' x 6' size or thereabouts. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjourn: There being no other new business, Jim moved that we adjourn. Mike Smith seconded the motion which then passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

LETTER FROM AKC Concerning Importation of Dogs to the United States

On August 1, 2024, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will implement new restrictions and requirements for the entry of dogs into the U.S. Anyone planning to bring a dog into the U.S. in the near future should familiarize themselves with upcoming import policy changes.

The American Kennel Club (AKC) recognizes the serious health threats posed by the recent, continuing import of unhealthy dogs using fraudulent veterinary/import paperwork, and supports CDC's intention of protecting the public from serious health risks.

However, AKC remains concerned that banning the import of all dogs younger than six months is overly burdensome and will have a disproportionate impact on the entry/importation of low-risk, personally-owned dogs, including those that regularly cross the U.S.-Canadian border for canine events, veterinary care, and breeder collaboration.

What You Can Do

AKC is pleased that some members of Congress, as well as other responsible sporting dog organizations, share this concern and are asking **CDC to delay implementation of this rule for at least six months, so that possible exceptions for low-risk, personally-owned dogs may be considered.**

If you have concerns about the new import rule, we encourage you to **contact your members of the U.S. House and Senate, and the CDC. Respectfully express your concerns and ask for a delay in implementing the new rule so that concerns relating to personally-owned, low-risk canine imports/entry can be addressed.**

Congressional outreach is particularly valuable if you live in states that are close to the U.S./Canada border, as many of these members are in direct contact with the CDC regarding this issue.

- Share messages in personalized, individual emails, calls, or letters in which you represent your own situation or that of your club.
- Tell your story about how it negatively impacts you and your colleagues, events, etc., as responsible dog enthusiasts.
- Ask the CDC to work with the American Kennel Club and other organizations that represent responsible dog owners to consider exceptions for personally-owned dogs that can affirmatively demonstrate little risk of canine rabies.

Other points you may wish to include:

- The final rule disregards the difference in risk profiles for personally-owned pets and dogs intended for transfer.
- The proposed rule for comment included exceptions, potentially reducing comment, but the final rule provided no exceptions.
- There is little risk from fully vaccinated puppies from low-risk countries entering the U.S. at four months of age.

For additional information, please review:

- AKC one-page fact sheet: [Understanding CDC's New Rule for Bringing Dogs into the United States \(double sided\)](#)
- AKC four-page fact sheet: [Understanding CDC's New Rule for Bringing Dogs into the United States](#)
- AKC's July 17, 2024, [joint letter with the Canadian Kennel Club](#) to CDC, regarding dog imports.

AKC Import Rules Letter, Con't.

To find out who represents you in Congress, visit: www.akcgr.org/officials/

To contact the CDC for specific inquiries or to express concerns, call (404) 498-1600 or email cdcanimalimports@cdc.gov. More information about the rule is available at www.cdc.gov/dogtravel.

If you can, please also share your messages and any responses with the AKC Government Relations team at doglaw@akc.org. We will use these messages for reference as we continue to reach out directly to Members of Congress and the CDC.

Your respectful outreach can lay a foundation for cooperation between responsible dog owners and government agencies to protect both public health and canine travel.

UPDATE AS OF JULY 23

<https://www.akc.org/legislative-alerts/cdc-revises-requirements-importing-dogs-older-6-months-low-risk-countries/>

Yesterday (July 22, 2024), the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) provided an update to related to new CDC requirements effective August 1 for importing or traveling into the United States with a dog older than 6 months of age.

The revisions to the rule no longer require an additional rabies vaccination form certified by a USDA-accredited veterinarian or an official government veterinarian in the exporting country. Instead, for dogs entering the U.S. from low-risk or dog-maintained rabies virus variant (DMRVV)-free countries like Canada, the revised rule simplifies entry by requiring one form—the CDC Dog Import Form—that does not have to be endorsed by a veterinarian. This form requires the dog's microchip number, a picture, and an attestation that the dog has not been in a high-risk country in the past six months.

Additionally, instead of making travelers update this form for every entry, it will now be valid for six months. However, CDC will continue to require all dogs entering the U.S. to be at least six-months old and be microchipped.

As stated in the update: *"To provide greater flexibility to the requirements for dogs coming from dog rabies-free or low-risk countries, when the rule goes into effect on August 1, 2024..., dogs that have spent the prior six months only in dog rabies-free or low-risk rabies countries will be able to enter the United States with a CDC Import Form online submission receipt as acceptable documentation.*

This form can be filled out the day of travel and the receipt can be shown to airlines and border officials as a printed copy or by phone. The receipt will be good for travel into the U.S. for six months from the date of issuance, including multiple entries.

All dogs entering the United States must have a microchip and be over six months of age."

The online CDC Dog Import Form, and other information regarding bringing dogs into the United States from low-risk countries may be found on the CDC website.

AKC continues to be concerned with the disproportionate impacts the new rule will have on low-risk importations for dogs between 4 and 6 months of age. ***We urge you to send respectful comments to CDC and your members of Congress regarding this issue.*** Read AKC's previous alert for talking points and more information on how to contact them regarding this issue.

For questions and concerns regarding the new CDC rule, contact CDC directly: (404) 498-1600 or cdcanimalimports@cdc.gov.

AKC Import Rules Letter, Con't.

UPDATE AS OF JULY 26

July 26, 2024

https://www.akcgr.org/blogpost_CDCsampleletter/

On August 1, 2024, new regulations from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) will go into effect regarding the importation of dogs and cats into the United States.

The new rules have been received with great concern about the impacts they will have on low-risk importations, particularly on fanciers and breeders who regularly cross the U.S.-Canadian border. While the CDC did announce this week some revisions regarding bringing dogs over 6 months of age into the U.S. from low-risk countries, AKC continues to be concerned with the disproportionate impacts the new rule will have on low-risk importations for dogs between 4 and 6 months of age.

AKC has been working with numerous groups and communicating with the CDC to address concerns. ***However, the most important thing that fanciers and breeders can be doing is to contact the CDC and members of Congress to respectfully share your concerns.***

To assist with this, AKC is offering a new sample letter that can be personalized and sent to help you communicate on this issue. We encourage you to use this letter, and share it with your fellow club members and breeders, to ask the CDC and Congress to consider the implications of the regulation on responsible dog owners and personally-owned dogs.

Where to send your letter:

CDC: cdcanimalimports@cdc.gov.

Members of Congress: Use the tool in the AKC Legislative Action Center to type in your address and get the names and contact information for your Senators and Member of Congress.

AKC Government Relations will continue to provide updates as they are available. For questions and more information on the regulation, contact CDC directly at (404) 498-1600 or cdcanimalimports@cdc.gov.

Editor's Note: *The programs used to put together this newsletter do not support links. To see the info, you will have to type the links into your browser.*

Youth Program

2022 Award Recipient, Bella Martin



The Luthenauer Young Handler program was established as a memorial to ETRC member Kevin Luthenauer. The program is supported by generous contributions from family and friends to encourage youth participation in retriever sports. Kids who are interested in applying are encouraged to join; check out the website for rules and an application form at http://www.etrclub.org/etrclub_youth_program.htm.

There is no application fee; if the applicant is not already part of a family membership, their membership fee will be paid for by the Luthenauer fund. The program will reimburse AKC Hunt test fees and any fees for other ETRC events such as club trials.

Yearly awards include a perpetual trophy along with a plaque to keep, and participation awards for everyone in the program.

ETRC Membership Information

Membership in ETRC is a bargain! The cost is \$25 for a single person or a family (one vote). Both new member and renewal forms are available online at <http://www.etrclub.org/join.htm> — just cut and paste the link, print it off, and send it along with your check to:

Karen Edwards, Secretary /Treasurer, 254 Babbs Road, Lenoir City, TN 37771.

Membership includes electronic copies of the newsletter, special announcements, eligibility to attend all ETRC Sponsored events, and consideration for end of the year awards. Don't miss out on the opportunity to make friends with like-minded dog people and learn more about our favorite sport. We are one of the most active Retriever clubs in the country — and have another great year planned in 2024 with 6 AKC hunt tests, club trials, seminars, training days, and more.

The membership year runs from March 1 to February 28/29th; people who join after November 1 are also paid up for the following year.

Newsletter / Facebook / Website Info

NEWSLETTER: The ETRC newsletter is published monthly, usually on the 1st of the month. Send us your test results, new titles, litter info, new dogs, dog-related jobs, items and services, death notices, interesting articles, and any brags you care to share, along with pictures! Deadline is the 26th of the month but we can sometimes sneak something in a little late.... Send items to: Karen Edwards (edwardskc@gmail.com).

Numbering System: beginning with the January 2020 issue, the volume number is the last two digits of the year, in Roman numeral format — so this is Volume XXIV (for 2024). Newsletters are archived on the club Website, www.etrclub.org.

FACEBOOK: we now have a Facebook page! Either post on it yourself, or send pics and info to our moderator, Alan Bruhin, at wbruhin1@retiree.utk.edu.

WEBSITE: Updated recently to add a security certificate so no more pesky 'danger/warning!' notices. A repository of current & past information. Send material for the website to webmaster Karen Edwards (edwardskc@gmail.com).