

American Pointer Club
Western Gun Dog Classic
May 27, 2011

In the face of a serious equine disease, EHV-1 outbreak (EHV-1 is not transmissible to people, but is a serious equine disease spread by direct horse-to-horse contact that can cause respiratory and neurological problems, and even result in death), and new travel requirements for horses entering Colorado, our entry was much less than anticipated. In spite of the fact that we lost 6-8 out of state entries, we were still able to enjoy a hotly-contested Gun Dog Classic with a strong field including several Field Champions and the reigning National Field Champion, all vying for the win. The grounds were in great shape having received 6 inches of rain over the last 3 weeks; the scenting conditions were wonderful; and the cover was just right. Rudy Budin, the gracious and affable ranch owner, was on hand as we arrived insuring that our every need was met. Rudy has been a good friend of Colorado field trials and the Colorado Pointer Club in particular, for the last 10 + years. The courses that were used for the Classic are in the main pasture at the Budin Ranch following Pawnee Creek. The one hour creek course runs along the dry Pawnee Creek bed, dotted with small ponds for the 5 miles that we use for out and back 1 hour courses.

This year's winner of the American Pointer Club Western Gun Dog Classic came from the second brace: FC Suka's Smooth (Jenny) owned and handled by Steve Bailey. Jenny ran a smooth forward gun dog race with 3 evenly spaced finds, all handled with perfect manners and style and intensity to burn. Pressing the winner was After Further Review (Bo), handled by Ben Garcia for owners Tracy and Jack Haines. A good forward gun dog application, coupled with 5 good pieces of bird work earned him the runner up spot. Third place went to Mach One's White Lightenin' (Hooch), owned by Jane and Eric Cook, and handled by Eric. Fourth was awarded to FC Flying Dutchman (Dutch), handled by Steve Bailey and owned by Steve Bailey and Spero Manson.

Judges for this year's renewal were Debby Freidus from Connecticut and Greg Sand from Kansas. They were attentive and afforded the handlers every opportunity to show their charges to their fullest. Their decisions were well received by all. The warm May afternoon was spent with everyone in camp recounting the running, telling stories and enjoying pizza and beer. Next year's Classic will be held in conjunction with the PANE weekend trial. You are encouraged to attend. We guarantee you will have a good time and see some of the best the AKC Pointers in the country.

<u>Dogs entered</u>	<u>Handlers</u>
CH Paladen's No More Mr. Nice Guy	Ben Garcia
FC Flying Dutchman	Steve Bailey
FC/AFC Just Wait Bess	Tracy Haines
FC Suka's Smooth	Steve Bailey
After Further Review	Ben Garcia
NFC/NAFC/FC/AFC Just Big	Scott Wilson
I Get Around	Steve Bailey
MachOne's White Lightenin'	Eric Cook
Front Range Cajun	Ben Garcia

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(People in the photo of the winners - standing in the back, left to right: Andi Christensen, Tracy Haines, and Adam Cunningham; in the front Mary DeVos With 1st Place FC/AFC Suka's Smooth (Jenny), Ben Garcia with 2nd Place After Further Review (Bo), and Steve Bailey with 4th Place FC Flying Dutchman (Dutch)).



1st place winner



2nd place

- Submitted by Jack Haines