

2017 American Brittany Club All-Age Derby Classic
Mike Poehler - Reporter

Dr. Robert Rankin and Kent Patterson had a beautiful day in Booneville to adjudicate the top 12 All-Age Derbies from across the country. We awoke to a light frost, blue skies and sunshine; the temperature hit a high of 70 degrees after mid-day. These 3, hour courses require a dog to make a lot of decisions to avoid and overcome traps and some punishing cover. Vines and Trip Briars can really sap a dogs' energy and missed turns can take their toll on dog and handler alike.

Our winner, **JWB Artic Cat** came from brace 1 with **Tommy Tracy** handling. Kimmy broke away fast on course 1, making nice moves throughout the hour. She shortened up some about midway and then stretched again after her first find at 37 min. She continued on at speed adding her second find before the double gates at 42 min. From there, she swung the outer edge along the river and stayed on the edges until pick-up at the bridge.

Runner-up was **Treasure States Tooney Tribute** from brace 4 handled by **Ed Tillson**. Tooney broke away from course 1 strong with her application and pattern growing through the first 30 min. She carried the edges around both fields prior to the double gates and up to the pond to get a drink. Tooney went wide to the river edge past the double gates taking a diagonal to pick-up the woods edge away from the river and carried it across the front to her only find at 50 min. From there she continued to take the left edges around through the gap of the bridge field continuing on the right edge to the river for a drink. The judges noted that she continued to grow throughout the hour.

Judges Honorable Mention went to **Wiyanna** from brace 6 and handled by **Terry Gowin**. Annie was fast and hunting from breakaway on course 3 and continued to grow through the first 30 min. having her only find at 28 min. on the right edge of the middle mot just past the Pavilion field. After her find, entering the bowl field past the Pavilion, Annie took the right edge, across the middle to the mot of trees and milo across the front and clockwise towards the beaver pond field. Her pattern was good, but her speed had gradually slowed as time expired.

Brace 1: JWB Artic Cat – Tommy Tracy and High Lonesome Bowden Hill – Jim Hammet (Kimmy is detailed above) **Bo** had difficulty getting lined-out early and was sticky in spots until his find at 37 min. He pointed beautifully on the tree line dividing the fields near the ponds prior to the double gates, up near 109. From there Bo's pattern improved and he took the river edge from the double gates forward to the bridge leading to course 2.

Brace 2: Tejas One and Only – Vic Carrington and She's Outta Control – Scott Johnson Uno and **Jessie** broke away fast on course 2 with Jessie hanging the right edge at breakaway and staying forward on the outside for the first two fields. Her

pattern was very consistent and pleasing. She had bird contact at 42 min. just prior to entering the Parish Field after the Fish Hook section and had slowed some near the end of her hour. **Uno** broke away fast, heading for the left edge and got hung up a few times on Vic before the old bride. Past the old bridge, Uno dug in deep and vanished. Vic called for his tracker before the entry into the Fish Hook section of the Parish Field.

Brace 3: SKF Willy's Miss Mollie – Bob Burchett and SKF Jr's Straight Shooter – Matt Harris Mollie and Colt broke away on course 3 taking awhile to get lined-out. **Mollie** was at medium range at first and grew in speed and pattern as the hour continue. **Colt** was similar in his approach with bird contact at 8 min. and a period of indecision; both dogs made a big move swinging the right edge deep and wide in the field leading around to the beaver pond. Both dogs were fluid and well patterned as time expired.

Brace 4: Treasure States Tooney Tribute – Ed Tillson and JT Copper Buckaroo – Paul Doiron Tooney (detailed above) and **Buck** broke away on course 1 with speed and strength yet had difficulty getting lined-out. After the double gates Buck's pattern really improved, digging left to the river's edge and coming diagonally to take the woods edge across the front and stayed on the left edges hunting around the tree islands leading to the bridge and turned east up the chute back along the river until time was called to finish his hour without bird contact.

Brace 5: Tejas Blazing Sun – Vic Carington and Wingford Once In A Blue Moon – Bob Burchett This pair broke away on course 2 with **Blue** immediately taking the right edge, growing in speed and application while swinging the entire edge of the second field in a fluid move to her first find at 10 min. She continued hanging the right edge with speed and fluidity across the front where she pointed again at 14 min. right by the old bridge. Blue continued making nice moves through the Fish Hook area and upon exit, worked the outside edge of the Parish Field to a NP along Old 109. Blue finished her hour hunting hard. **Blaze** broke away hunting fast to the left side of the course making his handler work some to keep him lined-out. He had a find at 10 min. separate from his bracemate and continued to work the left edge from there forward to the old bridge where he had bird contact at 14 min. Blaze really stretched in the Parish Field to the road and tree motts on the left completing that move into the Fish Hook; he had slowed some as the hour came to an end.

Brace 6: Sniksoh Patty Ann – Bob Burchett and Wiyanna – Terry Gowin These girls broke away on course 3, Wiyanna (detailed above) and **Patty** ran with incredible speed and hunted hard having bird contact at 10 min. Working the available cover on a course that's initially tight, she swung the left edge of the Pavilion field where she had a beautiful near broke find on a large covey in the big mot on the left at 22 min. Making nice moves to and through the Beaver Pond area, she slowed as the hour came to it's close. The judges noted this brace could have altered the placements with a stronger finish.