

## THE JUDGING OF THE ABC FIELD FUTURITY

ABC Futurity Field stakes (All-Age and Gun Dog) are run under the rules of the American Brittany Club Futurity Program. There should be four money placements awarded in each stake. Braces should be 30 minutes, and it is at the judges' discretion if a second series or callbacks are needed. Placements should be awarded to the "Best Dogs" in the stake.

Finding birds on the course should be a primary objective. The decisions of the judges shall be final in all matters relating to the field trial performance of all the dogs.

### ALL- AGE (Optional Horseback)

All-Age futurity dogs shall be judged as to their potential for developing into Champion All Age Brittanys. The All-Age dog is a free spirit and fills up all the available country (plus a little more) in a bold and sometimes reckless manner, yet ultimately acknowledges the control exerted by his handler and courses to the front in such a pattern as to maintain periodic suitable contact with the handler. The judges should examine the total performance of the dog with range being kept foremost in mind. Range is the essential ingredient of an All-Age dog and it should take precedence over and not be compromised for a shorter performance no matter how immaculate the bird work of the latter. The dog must respond to the handler but shall not be penalized for being more independent than an adult dog. A dog that handles at the extreme edges of the course shall be preferred over one that needs a scout to keep him on course, but both shall be preferred over a dog that does not have sufficient range for an All-Age dog. The All-Age dog shall hunt the forward limits of the course with intelligence, eagerness, and desire with the obvious intention of finding birds. When birds are located, the dog should point birds staunchly and with style. No extra credit shall be given for steadiness to wing and shot, but they shall be judged for their intelligence in finding and pointing birds in an unfinished All-Age manner.

### GUN DOG (Foot Handled Only/Scout Optional Horseback)

Gun Dog futurity dogs shall be judged as to their potential for developing into Champion Gun Dog Brittanys. They shall exhibit a keen desire to hunt, a bold attractive style, intelligence in seeking objectives, eagerness and desire with the obvious intention of finding birds. When birds are located, the dog should point birds staunchly and with style. No extra credit shall be given for steadiness to wing and shot, but they shall be judged for their intelligence and consistency of application in finding and pointing birds in an unfinished Gun Dog manner, indicating their future potential as a high class Gun Dog. Throughout the brace, a Gun Dog must adjust his pace and range to prevailing cover conditions. When the cover is heavy and tight, he will naturally hunt closer. When the cover "opens up" he should naturally adjust to the opportunity to hunt more distant, inviting objectives that may be productive. Natural adaptability is the mark of a superb bird dog, and excessive calling or hacking by the handler to accomplish satisfactory ranging - either closer or wider - is detracting from the dog's performance. The dog must cover adequate ground but should never range out of sight for a length of time that would detract from its usefulness as a class Gun Dog.

## THE JUDGING OF THE ABC SHOW FUTURITY

Show classes shall be divided by sex, and there are three groups of classes: Senior (dogs whelped January - April), Intermediate (dogs whelped May - August), and Junior (dogs whelped September - December). There are 6 money placements awarded at the Futurity Show. The top 3 males and top 3 females are awarded First Money, Second Money, and Third Money in that order. First Money Male and First Money Female then compete for Best in Futurity and Best of Opposite Sex in Futurity. Equal consideration is to be given to each of the classes regarding money placements, and then for Best in Futurity and Best of Opposite in Futurity realizing that the more youthful dogs will be less mature, and provided those points of immaturity are normal and appropriate for the breed at that time in development, they should not be penalized. Judges are not to anticipate what the dogs will look like in the future. Instead they are asked to judge the Futurity to the best of their ability, following the current published American Brittany breed standard, EXCEPT no dogs are to be measured at the Futurity Show. The judge should be instructed not to penalize dogs for being in field condition as many of the entries are entered in both the field and the show events. The decision of the judge is final in all matters pertaining to the show procedure and presentation of all dogs.

### ABC FUTURITY DUAL AWARD

The dual futurity winner in each section will receive 5% of the gross purse for that section, divided 2/3 to the owner and 1/3 to the breeder. For a dog to be eligible for a sectional futurity Dual Dog Award, points must be won in both the show and the field futurity events, by defeating dogs. The point schedule is set by the ABC Board of Directors and found in the ABC Policy Book.

