

2006 GUN DOG CHAMPIONSHIPS

Wayne Warners, Ionia grounds dates' coordinator, recently advised that we will be able to schedule the Ionia grounds for the period of Oct. 23 thru Nov.3rd, 2006. This will enable ABC to schedule our Open and Amateur Championships in consecutive weeks. It appears to have several advantages which include reduced travel expense, less time off from work, simplify getting commitments for workers, etc., and eliminate the weather concerns of early May. Further, this will give ABC priority on this time period for future years.

Several concerns have been raised which include conflict with regional club trials and hour stakes; trainers concerns about missing weekend trials; conflict with fall hunting season [some key workers prefer to not give up two weeks of prime fall hunting and being close to the All Age Nationals [some folks would find it hard to be off work for a total of four weeks in such a short period of time].

Incidentally, regarding 2005; we have been able to schedule the grounds for Sat. Oct 29th and Sun. Oct. 30th, 2005 prior to this years Amateur Championship, which will allow us to move in after 12:00 noon on Sat.

A tentative schedule could be to start the Open on Tues. the 24th 2006 [we could move in on Monday, travel from other trials etc.] run to conclusion and start the Amateur and run to conclusion.

This will be on the agenda for the Annual Board of Directors meeting for their decision.

Please discuss this with your friends and let your Directors know how you feel about it. Obviously there are several pros and cons which will need to be considered carefully by the BOD.

Ron Zook, President

September 7, 2005