



# Meet the Judges

## National Gun Dog Championship



**Aaron McAfee**

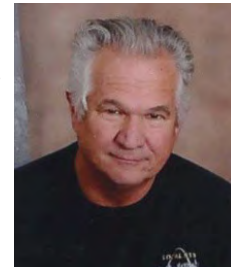
I started field trialing in the early 90's after I decided I needed more to do with my dogs than hunt them 3 months out of the year. I have owned three dogs that have won championships and I handled all three to at least one of their titles. I also placed a dog second in the National Walking Futurity.

I have judged numerous championship level events. The ones that come to mind are the Pointer and Setter Region 5 All Age, Illinois Open Shooting Dog CH, National Amateur pheasant CH, NGSPA Region 5, NGSPA Ohio Championship, NGSPA Region 4, and the American Field Vizsla Open Championship. I have also judged the Pointer & Setter horseback futurity twice which is a prestigious trial as well.

I'm very excited for this opportunity to judge some great bird dogs. Thanks for inviting me

Thank you for this opportunity to judge outstanding bird dogs. I have been hunting with Brittanys and Vizslas for many decades. My love now is Vizslas and I have trained them to compete at field trials on the National level. I also compete in hunt tests to bring new people into our sport. I also compete in conformation.

I mainly field trial in the Midwest area. I very much enjoy hunting with my dogs whenever I can. I have judged over 375 stakes including championships and National Specialties. I enjoy the competitive drive they have to be the best of the best.



**Rodney Albin**

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## National Amateur Gun Dog Championship



**Justin Allen**

Twenty years ago, Denny and Linda Keeton changed my life forever. They invited my wife, Stephanie, and me to a field trial at Killdeer Plains. I became infected with the field trial flu, and it still runs deep in my veins. I dove into the deep end of the pool, so to speak, and learned all I could from as many people as I could. I planted birds for so many braces at Killdeer Plains and Indian Creek, I thought my rear end would be worn off. We soon got our very first puppy, which we trained and handled to our first DC/AFC, spoiling us forever. If I only knew then what I have accumulated now, Captain may have gained even more titles and notoriety. What he did do, however, was introduce us to a complex sport full of amazing people who have grown into an extended family. He took me places I never dreamed of going, and he shaped my life in ways I cannot even begin to explain. Some of those people I have met have helped me to become the trainer/handler/breeder I am today. What he gave me was an education, a new extended family, and a brain full of priceless memories. My education is not over, and with each new person I meet, I try to take away something and file it away for future use. My dogs have led me to AKC and American Field national events all over the country. We have campaigned at horseback and walking events at the local, regional, and national level and have gotten the opportunity to hunt wild grouse, pheasants, Hungarian partridge, quail, and woodcock. I love watching and working with bird dogs. I love a masterful performance from a handler and dog team. I thank you for inviting me to judge your National Championship, and I look forward to some amazing performances!

I have always had a deep passion and interest in God's wonderful creation. I have always been an avid outdoorsman and deeply interested in animal husbandry and farming. I had a dual childhood of growing up in the big city of Chicago and splitting my time in the Northwoods of Wisconsin. Much of my family was dairy farmers, and I was blessed to have an uncle who was an outstanding professional dog trainer and breeder of security/guard dogs after the Vietnam War. He raised and trained Dobermans, Rottweilers, and German Shepherd, and I spent many weekends every year at his kennel. This planted the seed for me, which ultimately led me to leave the restaurant industry after many years and build a boarding, breeding, and now training facility. I began ruffed grouse and woodcock hunting in northern Wisconsin as a young boy, and later, while attending Iowa State University, I began pheasant hunting. My first dogs were beagles, GSP's and English pointers. Two years after graduating from college, I bought my first Vizsla and attended my first horseback field trial. From that day on, I knew it would be a sport that would not only change my life and career but also be a part of my life for the rest of my life. After seven years in the restaurant industry, I built a Boarding and breeding facility. I worked at both for another 2-3 years before leaving the restaurant industry to operate Shiloh Kennels and Stables full-time. It's been 30 years now, field trialing, 20 as an amateur and 10 now as a pro.

Vizslas are my main breed, but I occasionally breed GSP's, English Pointers, and Tennessee walking horses, and have had the fortune of owning a few friendly Brittany's. I have served and continue to serve in numerous leadership roles for AKC and AF/UKC clubs, and I believe each of us owes a debt of gratitude to those who paved the way to build and continue the traditions of this great sport, and it's our responsibility to teach and mentor others for the future. It has been a blessing to have served on the National Vizsla Association board for 25 years and to have had their support, which has allowed me to start and chair the NVA National Quail Championship for 20 years, the NVA Sharptail for 8 years, and now the NVA Continental All Breed classic in its second year. I chaired the Region 19 ASD Championship for 8 years and have been blessed to judge many different breed regional and national shooting dog and all-age championships over the years, and this is my second time being able to join you all to watch some of the best Brittany's in the country. It is my honor to serve as one of your judges for the 2025 National Amateur Gun Dog Championship. Thank you for the opportunity to judge your Championship. Good luck to all in your goal for the coveted title of National Amateur Gun Dog Champion.



**Rob Tomczak**