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GERMAN SHORTHAIRED POINTER CLUB OF  
NORTHERN SAC VALLEY

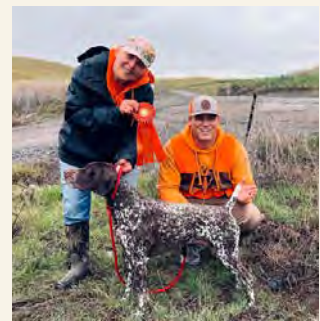
# NEWSLETTER

## HUNT TEST AND FIELD TRIAL RECAP



From the desk of Rebekah Riensche - The Spring 2023 German Shorthaired Pointer Club of Northern Sacramento Valley is in the books! Thanks to Grace Waymire for being Best Secretary Ever-you kept everything on track and scores coming out super fast....YOU ROCK!! Many Thanks to our Judges Jim Simmons, Derrick Mullin, Dave Michaels and Esteri Hinman for being awesome with all our handlers and their dogs. Thanks Jim and Laola Simmons for helping set up the grounds and helping with take down-you two have been so supportive the whole time from the planning stages throughout whole HT.

Thanks to our Awesome gunners David Riensche, Brian Mathis and Kyle Tetlow for rocking the SH/MH field in less than ideal conditions with all the rain and mud - you are all super appreciated. Thanks to our line marshals Ricardo Vyhmeister and Dina Walls for keeping all our competitors on track. TEAM ORANGE YOU ALL ROCKED in so many ways this weekend; Carol Chadwick , Alex and Dino Cristiani, Annika Pelascini, John and Karen Robison, Michele Brown, Patrick Vanier, Sarah Riensche and Tim without all your help and support this would have NOT happened!!!! The super rainy and muddy Hunt Test was a success thanks to all of our wonderful judges, gunners, volunteers and secretary. This newbie HT Chair Appreciates You All So Much! Without you ALL, this would not have been the successful

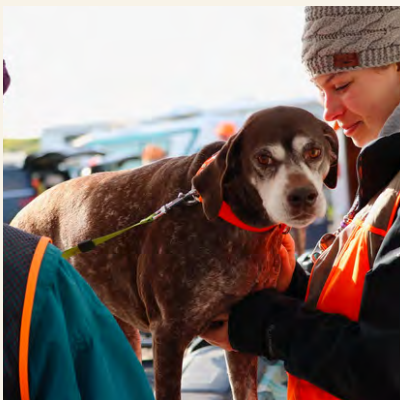


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## WALKING FIELD TRIAL RECAP....

In the case of our GSPC of NSV field trial...it also took the blessing of TWO miracles to make this weekend happen Miracle #1 required Jim Simmons and Derrick Mullin pleading our case to use ATVs in rain soaked California to keep our judges safe and no injury to horses!! Miracle #2 was the glorious sunshine (and very cold winds) that made it a great weekend to run our dogs!!! We are so lucky to have Cindy Smullen serve as our WFT Secretary and wrangle the paperwork, judges books and bracing sheets!! You SO ROCK, Cindy! Huge thanks to Laola Simmons , Rebekah Riensche, Catherine and Dave Michaels for the assist getting the grounds set up on Friday!!! We are lucky to have a wonderful panel of hard working judges who helped make the trial a success: Derrick Mullin, Dave Michaels, Aaron Fawcett and Roy Smith, you guys are the BEST!!! Ray Solander kept us well fed and lots of hot coffee to fuel the day!! Brian Mathis, David Riensche and William Nitto handled the bird field and gunning in windy conditions with their usual skill and professionalism!!! To my AMAZING team of volunteers who helped all weekend to make things run smoothly...we could not do this without your dedication!!! Dino Cristiani, Alex Cristiani , Michele Brown helped plant the Derby fields and the remarkable Dina Walls served as line marshall to keep the braces moving both days!!! My heartfelt thanks to all the exhibitors for your support and HUGE Congratulations to all those who took home lots of ribbons!!! Special thanks to Jim Simmons for providing ATVs for our judges!! I am an event chair who is blessed with the miracle of a awesome team & committee.



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**AKC HUNT TEST / FIELD TRIAL SEMINAR**

Anyone who is interested in learning more about hunt tests and field trials are invited to attend one or both seminars. This is a requirement to become an AKC judge, but you do not need to be a judge or intend on being a judge to attend. The cost will be approximately \$75 per person, per seminar, and will include lunch each day. Stay tuned for details.



## 2023 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS



FIELD EVENTS



COMPANIONS



PARTNERSHIP

- WOOFSTOCK JUNE 9-10, 2023, SOLANO COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
- FUN DAYS JULY 8-9, 2023, HASTINGS ISLAND
- AKC HUNT TEST AND FIELD TRIAL SEMINAR, AUGUST 5-6, 2023, AMERICAN LEGION HALL, SACRAMENTO
- FALL SPECIALTY LATE OCTOBER, 2023, DIXON MAY COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
- WALKING FIELD TRIAL DECEMBER 2-3, 2023, QUAIL POINT

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## AKC FIT DOG

Now more than ever, fitness is important for both dogs and people. The most commonly recommended exercise to improve fitness is walking. Walking is considered a safe activity that improves muscular strength, circulation, memory, weight loss, increases energy, helps with sleep, and reduces stress. The American Heart Association recommends walking a minimum of 150 minutes per week. Participation in the AKC FIT DOG program will bring health benefits to both you and your dog.

If you walk with your dog on a regular basis, join the ranks of AKC FIT DOG and get your free (5-3/4 inches) FIT DOG logo car magnet. The AKC FIT DOG magnet proudly declares to the world that you are committed to your dog's health and fitness through regular exercise.

## SLATE OF EVENTS FOR FUN DAYS

TENTATIVE SLATE OF EVENTS FOR OUR JULY EVENT

MOCK HUNT TEST/FIELD TRIAL

NORCAL GSP RESCUE TABLE

RAFFLE TABLE

50/50 RAFFLE

CHUKAR SHOOT

INTRODUCTION TO GUNS CLASS

CHAIRPERSON - NICOLE PRUDHEL

### Election of Officers – 2023 – Noted below

President - Cindy Smullen - [runningdesire@aol.com](mailto:runningdesire@aol.com)

Vice President - Chuck Ramage - [cramage72@outlook.com](mailto:cramage72@outlook.com)

Secretary - Nicole Prudhel - [nprudhel@gmail.com](mailto:nprudhel@gmail.com)

Treasurer - Lynn Pettinato - [dlpettinato@surewest.net](mailto:dlpettinato@surewest.net)

Directors

Grace Waymire - [gwaymire@lto1.com](mailto:gwaymire@lto1.com)

Ola Simmons - [olanjim@gmail.com](mailto:olanjim@gmail.com)

Dina Walls - [yippeio1@aol.com](mailto:yippeio1@aol.com)

Rebekah Riensche - [re.riensche@gmail.com](mailto:re.riensche@gmail.com)

Dave Riensche - [driensche@ebparks.org](mailto:driensche@ebparks.org)

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NEXT BOARD MEETING – MAY 9 – 7PM VIA ZOOM

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## THE ANATOMY OF SUCCESSFUL DOG CLUB LEADERSHIP

From AKC Leadership Board

I'll start with the fact that the thoughts expressed here are my views alone and not representing any club or organization.

Several All-Breed and Breed clubs are just coming out of elections for Board members, while others are heading into the selection process.

I've had a few weeks in front of my computer, and following many of these processes got me thinking about the ingredients of successful dog club leadership.

In the immortal words of Oprah Winfrey, this is "what I know for sure" - the foundation of a successful dog club is strong, visionary leadership partnered with active, engaged members, all united around a common goal. Sounds easy, right?

Having served in roles ranging from Member to President and everything in between for several Breed and All-Breed Clubs has provided me insight into the best and the worst in club politics.

Over the years, I've tried to define the attributes of clubs that experience continued growth and engagement. At the same time, I've observed what to avoid from clubs consistently embroiled in dysfunction, litigation, and all-out war.

Never mistake that a dog club is, first and foremost, a business. A business constructed for the greater good of the entire membership. It is not a social club, not a resume builder, and it's not a place for self-directed personal agendas.

So what makes effective club leadership? Some food for thought when evaluating future candidates:

### The Past Predicts The Future -

Professional job recruiters and virtually all hiring managers will tell you that the most significant predictor of future success in a new role is how well someone has performed in past or current positions. It's why "behavioral-based" interview questions are so important. Suppose someone is challenged to meet basic requirements, lacks self-starting initiative, requires constant direction, or cannot move past the status quo to successfully deliver new solutions. In that case, it is naïve to believe this individual will excel in an expanded role with greater responsibility. It simply sets the individual and the club up for almost inevitable failure.

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## THE ANATOMY OF SUCCESSFUL DOG CLUB LEADERSHIP

### Personal vs. Business Success -

I've seen resumes for dog club positions comprised mainly of personal accolades — thousands of champions, winners worldwide, top-performing everything, etc. Does this represent a passion for the breed and one's individual goal achievement — absolutely! Does this equate to success as an engaged business leader within a complex organization? Not necessarily.

Some of the most successful club leaders I've seen didn't have long tenures in a breed or a string of awards to boast about. But instead, they brought tangible skills that translate to success in most business settings.

Skill sets that are extremely valuable to clubs today include finance and accounting, IT/technical, legal/contract review, compliance, web services, marketing/advertising, etc. The most valuable attributes, however, are emotional intelligence and strong interpersonal skills.

We've all had relationships falter in the dog world. But if someone has a track record of failed personal/business dealings, it might call to question how they can effectively represent the views of a large and diverse membership without bias. Can they effectively work with other club leaders to ensure consistent progress versus constant stalemates?

Conversely, popularity does not always equate to success as a leader. While noble, striving to make everyone happy is virtually impossible in dog clubs. The time spent appeasing individual objectives will distract from strategic goals and actions that benefit the greater good. The best candidates are those willing to make difficult and sometimes unpopular decisions, but always for the well-being and sustainability of the club.

### Promises, Promises -

Election season is often rife with gaslighting — an extraordinary ability to convince the masses that the challenges that exist are someone else's fault, often crafting narratives for problems that don't really exist, all while deftly diverting attention away from one's own less-than-stellar track record.

Catchy taglines meant to inspire and an equal amount of mud-slinging all make watching the political process both equally addictive and tiring.

"Together, we are going to change the world!" Sounds great. But why? What's wrong with the world, and exactly how will we change it?

I love aspirational thinkers. But as the saying goes, "a goal without a plan is just a dream."

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## THE ANATOMY OF SUCCESSFUL DOG CLUB LEADERSHIP

Tell me exactly what we are solving for and why. Then provide tangible, actionable ways you are going to tackle this. What are the resources needed, and where are they coming from? Who is accountable for defining milestones, and who is responsible when things get off course?

I'm all for warm, fuzzy, feel-good messages, but my long-term bet is on the actual strategy.

### SELFLESSNESS (In capital letters!)

From the outside, it might appear there is some perceived status from being on the Board of a dog club and that the time investment is just a couple of hours for once-per-month meetings. Not so.

So if being on a Board means a decent time commitment and consistent work, why would anyone want to do it? Selflessness - the ability to prioritize the needs of the many while working toward a common goal, and an overwhelming desire to be a part of something bigger than yourself.

We all have personal responsibilities — home, business, family, friends, etc., and the older I get, the more I appreciate self-focus. And these are volunteer positions we are talking about after all. But when I look at candidates, I look to those who have prioritized balancing personal responsibility with service - volunteering for committees, supporting club initiatives, attending club meetings, working at the club's show(s), etc. Without that, they will likely struggle with effectively executing a club's more extensive operations and strategic goals.



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## THE ANATOMY OF SUCCESSFUL DOG CLUB LEADERSHIP

The election process can be an incredible display of democracy in action that ensures the growth and longevity of a club. But it can also be a confusing time, full of tension and uncertainty.

As much as possible, emotions and personal relationships should be set aside, and everyone should be vetted against the same standard of expectation and performance.

Go beyond the resume and campaign pitch, ask the difficult questions, and look for a history of tangible results.

If this club were your own business, and its success depended on sustainability, growth, and member engagement, ask who you would want to manage its day-to-day operations and long-term strategic plan.

Me? I've never been a high-risk better, so I'm handing the keys to the person with a track record of stepping up when nobody else would (selfless service), with a consistent history of seeing solutions through from concept to delivery, and with a detailed plan of execution for the future.

