

# ABC National Championship Judges



**Ken Chenoweth**

My passion for bird dogs started back in 1974 when I purchased my first German Shorthaired Pointer. By the early 80's I was training a few dogs for the public and by the mid 80's I had judged some of the local trials.

As my passion and experience grew I began to accept more and more judging assignments. Since that time I have had the fortune of judging several National events for the Vizsla Club of America, the National Red Setter Championship, the American Brittany Club Gun Dog Championship, and the American Brittany Club National Championship. I have judged several regional championships including the Rocky Mountain Championship, Missouri Open Shooting Dog Championship, Hawkeye Shooting Dog Championship, and Missouri Amateur Shooting Dog Classic. I have also had the fortune of judging several Brittany Championships like the Prairie States Championship and Iowa Gun Dog Classic.

Besides being busy spending time in the saddle judging, I have had the opportunity of finishing several Field Champions, Amateur Champions, and Regional Champions.

I am looking forward to watching fine All-Age dogs from across the country at the American Brittany Club National Championship.



**Rick Smith**

I started professional training & field trialing Brittanys in fall of 1969. I have competed in the ABC National Open Brittany Championship from 1969 to 1980, where I handled the 1971 winner Pacolet Cheyenne Sam, 1976 winner Senator TJ, 1978 winner Perry's Rustic Prince, and 1974 Runner-up Jacolet's Wandering Star. I handled the winner of 7 United States Open Brittany Championships, trained two National Amateur Brittany Champions (1973 Brandy's Bullet & 1976 Perry's Rustic Prince), trained or handled 4 members of the Brittany Field Trial Hall of Fame (Brandy's Bullet, Perry's Rustic Prince, Jacolet's Wandering Star, Pacolet Cheyenne Sam).

I was the breeder of National Champion Hi-Proof Rum Runner, who is also a member of the Brittany Field Trial Hall of Fame.

I am the Chairman of Brittany Field Trial Hall of Fame since 2009, was a Board of Director of the Brittany Field Trial hall of Fame from 1996 to 2008, Competitor, Director, Contributing Director to the United States Open Brittany Championship Association since 1970, Awarded a Founders Perpetual Membership to the National Bird Dog Foundation, Awarded a Life Patron Membership to the National Bird Dog Foundation, and Gold Level Contributor to the Brittany Field Trial Hall of Fame Building Fund.

I've been writing Bird Dog Training articles for Pointing Dog Journal since 2001, conducting the Smith Bird Dog Training Seminars with my cousin Ronnie Smith since 1996 (started by my father Delmar Smith over 50 years ago).

Past Judging assignments include: United States Open Brittany Championship (1985, 1992, 1995, scheduled to judge the 2012 50th running of the United States Open Brittany Championship), 1997 Pacific Coast Open Shooting Dog Championship, 1999 United States Shooting Dog Invitational Championship, 2000 National German Wirehaired Pointer Championship, 2000 National German Wirehaired Pointer Field Futurity.



**John Ravidou**

John Ravidou was raised on a dairy farm in New York State, received his sociology degree from Bucknell University in Lewisburg, PA, in 1965 and obtained his Masters Degree in Sociology from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI, in 1967. John obtained his first bird dog in 1963 and in 1973 established Uodibar Kennel & Stable in Cambridge, WI, which he relocated to Hondo, Texas, in 1979.

Since 1973 John has handled the winner of the NGSPA National Championship (American Field) on four occasions and gone runner up in this event on three different occasions. He has also handled dogs to the NGSPA National Shooting Dog Championship on five occasions and gone runner up in this event on one occasion. Over his career, dogs in John's string have won 47 American Field one hour championships and claimed the runner up spot 37 times.

In German Shorthaired Pointer Club of America (American Kennel Club) competition, John has finished over 80 AKC Field Champions, won five National Gun Dog Championships and gone runner up in this event on three occasions. He has won the AKC National All Breed Gun Dog Championship twice and gone runner up in this event on two occasions. Uodibar's Boss Man, owned by John, is the number two all time leading sire of Shorthair field dogs. Uodibar's Boss Man and National Field Champion Uodibar's Koonas are both GSPCA Hall of Fame honorees.

John has judged numerous field trials for several different pointing breeds, served as President for both the German Shorthaired Pointer Club of America and the National German Shorthaired Pointer Association, as well as served on the Board of Directors of the Bird Dog Foundation.

John is the recipient of the NGSPA's prestigious McGinnis Award, was awarded an Honorary Life Membership in the German Shorthaired Pointer Club of America, and was the 2005 recipient of the AKC Lifetime Achievement Award which honors those individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the sport of purebred dogs on a national level.

And the 2011

# ABC National Amateur Championship Judges



**Mike Aldrich**

For years I hunted over other peoples pointing dogs and in 1966 decided to buy my own. It would be a GSP and shortly after joined the local club. That led to helping with field trials where I decided I needed a dog to compete with. In 1973 I ran my first dog in a trial and was hooked. I started judging in 1975 and since have judged stakes at 100 plus AKC trials including Nationals for GSPs, GWPs, Vizslas, English Setters, the AKC Pointing Breed Gun Dog Championship on two occasions and the 2010 ABC National Amateur All Age Championship. In addition I have judged AF Championships for Pointers/Setters, GSPs, Brittanys, and Weimaraners. I have always enjoyed watching pointing dogs at work and have learned from watching others handle dogs.

I trained and handled my first dog to his Field Championship in the early 80's. I entered him in the Nationals and did well but needed more dog to be competitive. Since then I have won two NGSPA National Amateur Championships with two different dogs and other Championships with other dogs.

In 2000 I went to work for the AKC Performance Events Department as a Field Rep. This was a great job but after 8 ½ years decided it was time to get back in the game. I am honored to be asked back to judge this year's championship and will ride hard and focus on choosing the best dog to represent your breed as the National Amateur Champion.



**Rich Barber**

I've always had at least one bird dog around for as long as I can remember thanks to my uncle. He was a GSP breeder in the late 60's, early 70's and got me started training dogs. In 1983 I started training on my own for friends and other hunters who didn't have the time or knowledge to do it themselves. I did it for the enjoyment and challenge of taking all the different dogs from scratch and turning them into a well-mannered hunting companion. Then I learned about field trials and it was all over, I was hooked! I started running in local weekend trials but before I knew it I was traveling 6-20 hours to run my dogs and others in hour championships. At that point, it was time to turn this hobby into a profession.

I've trained and/or handled dogs on every game bird species and terrain from the Dakotas to Maryland and down to S. Georgia where I have my winter camp on a 3000 acre quail plantation. On these grounds I've developed and finished many AKC field champions and national caliber hour champions not to mention numerous hunting dogs. I have worked with just about every pointing breed except the rare ones and I learned long ago it doesn't matter what breed they are, a bird dog is a bird dog.

I've judged regional trials, classics, NGPDA National Amateur Championship, and the Brittany National Amateur Championship. Show me a good bird dog that runs the country like it should be run and I've had a good day.

The bottom line is a bird dog is a bird dog and the good ones usually shine through. I look forward to returning this year to judge the National Amateur Championship.



**Chris Rider**

My wife Kim and I still reside in southwestern Pennsylvania. We have 3 daughters and 5 granddaughters. Field trailing has been a large part of my life and that of my families. We have spent many weekends together enjoying the sport.

Judging is something that should be taken very seriously, but more importantly, must be enjoyed. I have been honored to judge the following trials, from California to New York on all types of terrain.

These include:

- The Brittany Gun Dog National Championship in Michigan, 3 times
- The Brittany All Age National Championship in Arkansas, 3 times
- The National Free for All Championship in Alabama
- The National Futurity Run Off, 2 times
- The Michigan All Age Championship
- Vizsla Championship in California
- The Southern Open All Age Championship
- The AKC Nationals in Reno Nevada
- The Irish Setter Nationals in Arkansas
- The Irish Setter Quail Classic in Ohio
- American Field Futurities
- Many American Field Pointer & Setter Championships
- Countless weekend trials, retrieving and non-retrieving, horseback and walking.

I've served as Chairman of the Pennsylvania Brittany Club, and also served on the committee to choose judges for our National Championship.

I enjoy going to the different areas of the country and meeting new people. I am sure this will be another rewarding experience.

I look forward to the opportunity to Judge this ABC Nationals.