



MN NAVHDA CHAPTER NEWS

August 2011

www.mnnavhda.com

Pheasant Championship – by Joe Dolejsi

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Our NAVHDA Chapter ran its 33rd annual Pheasant Championship on July 16th at the Major Avenue Hunt Club, near Glencro, Minnesota. The weather forecast was calling for temperatures in the 90's and very high humidity. The first brace entered the field with an overcast sky and the temperature in the low 70's. This year only ten teams entered the championship. With the small field of contestants, the contest was completed by noon. The skies remained overcast for all but the last brace keeping the temperature from rising only to the low 80's, sparing all involved miserably hot conditions.

The fields were well vegetated and as equal in cover as one could ask for. This summer's growing conditions provided cover that held the planted birds but was not so tall as to prevent viewing of the dogs.

Only one teams bagged six birds in the allowed 30 minute period. Running the first brace, Joe Dolejsi, Dewey and Joe's grandson Jake came out of the field with their 6 birds, using 6 shots and completed the task in less than 22 minutes. This performance netted the first place team \$346.50 in prize money. The second place team of Joe Raia, Chuck and Joe's son Vinny bagged 5 pheasants and earned \$148.50 in prize money while the next five teams were awarded gifts from the prize table. This year's completion was as competitive as ever. One team bagged 6 birds, seven teams bagged 5 birds and two teams bagged four birds. The differential from first to last was only two birds.



At this year's championship, 66 pheasants were released for 10 teams. Forty nine birds were harvested. This is a 4.9 bird average per team, which is an all time high average on Major Avenue grounds. Last year the harvested bird, per team average was 3.7. In 2001, twenty-four teams harvested 100 birds for a 4.2 bird per team average, which had been the previous high harvest ratio for our Pheasant Championship on Major Avenue grounds.

One interesting and encouraging sidelight to this year's event was the fact that three young participants, each of whom had spent years as bird planters for our Pheasant Championship, stepped up to partner with their fathers at this year's running. Jake Karr, Colton Busse and Vinny Raia all exhibited excellent standards of safety and marksmanship.

Thanks to all those who entered their dogs in our Chapter fund-raiser. In addition, thanks are in order to Jerry Martin of Major Avenue Hunt Club for allowing us access to his wonderful grounds and clubhouse. Hard to believe but this is the twentieth consecutive year that this contest has been held there.

Thanks are in order for the workers who make this event possible. They did a terrific job.

Score Keeper and Marshall: Deb Letcher

Driver: Deb Letcher

Water Tub Steward: Mark Reinert

Bird Planters: Greg White, Nate Karr, Wayne Starkson, Scott Anderson, Bob Ferris, Wolfie Smith

Judges: Terry Petro, Bryce Adams, Mitch Lindberg and Randy Nygaard

****RESULTS OF THE RUNNING****

PLACE	HANDLER / PARTNER	DOG	BREED
First	Joe Dolejsi/ Jake Goergen	Dewey	PT
Second	Joe Raia/Vinnie Raia	Chuck	GSP
Third	Joe Dolejsi/Jake Goergen	Willhe	PT
Fourth	Joel McVinne/Jeff Paulus	Magz	GWP
Fifth	Brian Karr/Mike Busse	Gauge	VIZ
Sixth	Brian Thomas/Jake Goergen	Cutter	GSP

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Every year our Chapter By-Laws require that four of the eight board positions go up for re-election. The four board members up for re-election this year are: Mindy Brown, Bryce Adams, Ross Mortensen and Bob Brearey.

The Nominating Committee, appointed by the President, will produce a list of Board candidates. In addition, members wishing to run for the Board of Directors or those wishing to nominate an individual to run for the Board are asked to submit their name or the name of the person being nominated to Len Kindem at 715-426-6532 or lendianne2@hotmail.com.

Open nominations close on August 31st.

The election rules (from the MN NAVHDA By-Laws) include:

- Chapter members 18 years or older may vote at the Annual Meeting, provided dues are current.
- Board Directors are elected to two-year terms.
- Half of the Board of Directors will be elected each year by mail in September. Terms start October 1st.
- The President will appoint a Nominating Committee. The results of the Nominating Committee search will be published in the August newsletter.
- Nominations will be accepted from members up until September 1st.
- Appointed posts are indefinite, at the discretion of the President.

The MN NAVHDA Board of Directors approved the following slate of candidates for this year's election; Deb Letcher, Valerie Anderson, Bryan Thomas, Bryce Adams and Bob Brearey, all of whom have consented to run.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

August 2011

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EVENT DATES	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
August 6 th & 7 th	Virginia Training Weekend FULL	MN Iron Range Retriever Club Virginia, MN	Joe Dolejsi
August 20 th , 21 st	NA, UPT, UP – Wait List only	MN Iron Range Retriever Club Virginia, MN	Jan Paavola
August 31 st	NOMINATIONS DUE FOR ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS		Len Kindem
Sept 3 rd , 4 th	NA– Openings	Four Brooks	Bob Brearey
Sept 3 rd , 4 th	NA, UPT, UP – Openings	Kelly Farms, Hugo MN	Ross Mortenson

NAVHDA ON FACEBOOK:

Did you know that NAVHDA INTERNATIONAL now has a Facebook page? If you are on Facebook check their page!

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Navhda-International/222638561083514>

The link too hard to copy over? Just do a search on Facebook for **NAVHDA International**

MONTHLY CHAPTER MEETINGS – ALL MEMBERS WELCOME

Meetings are typically held at 7pm on the *third Tuesday of every month.*

Come join us at the **American Legion Rosetown Memorial Post 542 in Roseville, MN (651-483-3535)**

The next meeting is August 16th!



The Mock Test 2011, at Bill Jensen's farm. Photo credit to Diana Wise

Do you have photos to share? Email your photo and story to Vince Steffens @ vmsteff@gmail.com to share your photo or stories in the newsletter!