**Boykin Spaniel Society**

**Upland Roustabout**

**Official rules and regulations**

revised May 2016

**1. Competitors:** Teams consist of one hunter/ handler and one dog. Handlers unfamiliar with firearms (and therefore presumed unsafe) may request a shooter (their choice) accompany them in the field. Judges will allow designated shooters on a case by case basis. “I don’t shoot very well” is not grounds to request a shooter. The roustabout is a competition to test a dog **and** the hunters abilities as they work together. Missing birds is part of a day afield. The first competitor will have 4 birds set of any mixture and the standard bird set will be 3 birds set for remainder of the tournament. Time limit for each event will be approx. 12 minutes but may be adjusted before any competitors run to help with time constraints. Teams must register prior to their run and no handler shall run back to back. All birds shot must be carried by the hunter and not dropped in the field. Birds will be counted in the field at the end of each run to ensure correct count.

**2. Disqualification:** Teams may be disqualified for the following: shooting a bird on the ground, shooting more than the allowed set, shooting a non-designated species, unsafe or reckless use of a firearm, being under the influence of alcohol or drugs, abusing the officials, excessive use of foul language, mistreatment of a dog, poor sportsmanship, a dog that is completely out of control, communicating with spectators while in the field.

**3. Guns:** All guns must be 12 gauge or smaller. No shells over 2 3/4 inch. A gun malfunction shall be considered bad luck. It is the option of the hunter to get another gun, but they cannot appoint someone else to enter the field in their place. Hunters will be limited to 6 shells.

**4. Safety:** Hunters are responsible for safe use of firearms at all times and are required to wear at least one article of orange clothing. A safety may be requested in the event that a obstruction (such as a judge, vehicle, gallery or building) makes taking a shot dangerous. A bird for which a safety has been awarded shall be scored in full and a shell forfeited. A requested safety may be denied for the following reasons: In the judges opinion, the hunter had a clear shot and failed to take it, the bird was shot at before or after the safety was requested, or the bird relocated in bounds.

**5. Stocking:** Teams must remain in the holding blind or out of sight of fields while it is being stocked for that run. Failure to do so will result in a disqualification. The first stocking of the day will have 1 more bird than the standard set placed in the field. All birds left in the field will be considered luck of the draw as fields will not be flushed after each run. Judges shall watch the planting of fields. If they notice birds leaving the field after planting they shall instruct bird planters to plant 1 bird for every 1 seen departing.

**6. Out of bounds**: Dogs can be sent out of bounds. Birds may be located by the dog out of bounds and full credit will be given for bird work done by the dog out of bounds, retrieves count only if bird is brought back to hunters in bounds. Hunters may not go out of bounds for any reason. If a dog flushes a bird out of bounds the hunter may take a shot provided he remains in bounds.

**7. Spectators**: Spectators shall be limited to designated areas only. Spectators are not allowed to communicate with competitors in any way.

**8. Judges:** In any situation not specifically covered under the rules, the judge will be allowed to use common sense to arrive at a decision. Judges decisions are final, no appeals will be heard.

**9. Ties:** ties will be decided according to the time remaining and then the time the first bird is retrieved to hand.

**10. Scoring:** Clock stops only when the last bird is in hand. Time remaining will be rounded up or down to the nearest minute. If seconds are 30 or more, you round up. 29 or lower you round down. No more finds, qualified points, birds or retrieves shall be scored than the number of birds in the standard set. No scoring shall be awarded for work on non-designated species. Birds must be palatable. Birds destroyed by dog or gun shall be assessed a 10 point penalty. In the case of a multiple find, flush, or covey rise, scoring will not exceed the standard bird set. Once the handler signs his/her name to the official score sheet after the run, there will be no changes made to the scoring.

**11. Birds:** A bird bumped by a judge that comes down in-bounds will be hunted as if the bird flew on its own. If a bird bumped by a judge flies out of bounds, full points will be awarded for that bird. If a dead bird is found in the field and is still warm the judge will award full points as if the dog trapped the bird. If a dead bird is found and is cold no points will be awarded. All birds found dead must be inspected by the judge.

**12. Scoring:**

Birds in the bag...............25 points

find.....................................15 points

full retrieve........................15 points

Partial retrieve...................5 points

shells remaining..................10 points

minutes remaining................3 points

Seconds remaining...............tie breaker time bagged 1st bird:............tie breaker

**Definitions section:**

Bird in bag: 25 points will be awarded for each bird, up to the number of birds in the standard set, that is bagged during the run and in possession at the time of the in the field count at the end of each run. Any birds bagged but not in possession during the in the field count will not be awarded. If time remains on the clock hunters will be given an opportunity to “fill their limit”.

Flush: A find will be awarded when the dog traps, catches or in the judges opinion, causes a bird to take flight. In the case of a trap or catch, a shell will be forfeited.

Full retrieve: To receive credit for a full retrieve the hunter must remain stationary after the shot. They will be allowed one pivot foot but must not advance or retreat. Retrieves must be within a pivot foot step and can be picked up off of the ground or taken from the dogs mouth. Hunters may kneel down to accept the retrieve but may not lay down. Once the hunter moves for any reason, a full retrieve can no longer be awarded. Directing or handling the dog to the downed bird is fine but no objects can be thrown.

Partial retrieve: A partial retrieve will be awarded when a full retrieve can not be awarded and the dog finds the bird, picks it up and makes an attempt to bring it to the handler.

**BOYKIN SPANIEL SOCIETY**

*ROUSTABOUT SCORE SHEET*

Dog Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Handler:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

***Time first bird shot*** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Flushes 0 0 0 x 15** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Bagged Birds 0 0 0 x 25** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Full Retrieve 0 0 0 x 15** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Partial Retrieve 0 0 0 x 5** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Shells Left 0 0 0 x 10** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Minutes Left\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ x 3=** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 **SUB TOTAL** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Mutilated Birds 0 0 0 -10** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 **GRAND TOTAL** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Total Time Minutes\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Seconds\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Handler signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Judge Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Clock stops only when the last bird is in hand. Time rounded up or down to the nearest minute for scoring. If seconds are 30 or more round up. 29 or lower round down.