

NATIONAL RED SETTER FIELD TRIAL CLUB, INC.

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December 16, 1969

TO: MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NATIONAL RED
SETTER FIELD TRIAL CLUB

Since my last letter much has happened in the club and a number of matters have arisen on which I would like the opinion of each board member.

Our fall trial at Kildeer Plains turned out to be a huge success in all respects including financially. It appears that there will be a profit of about \$250. The entries in each stake were high and the quality was likewise high -- particularly in the Puppy and Derby stakes. In fact Cliff Bean who was one of the Puppy judges commented that this had been the finest field of puppies he'd ever seen at the Nationals. Due to the large entry at the trial, some stakes had to be run concurrently. In spite of this, much rushing was still necessary to complete the trial in two days. Because of these factors the officers and the trial chairman for our next trial, Jim Flythe, decided in favor of holding a three day trial. The spring trial will be run at South Hills, Va., March 20, 21, and 22.

As most of you gentlemen are probably aware, a topic that has often arisen over the past years has been the possibility of instituting a Red Setter futurity. For reasons which I'll state I presently highly advocate we do so. Our club presently is in the midst of a surge of enthusiastic growth due probably primarily to the remarkable enthusiasm being stimulated by the Flushing Whip under Larry Crum's fine editorship. I had

always felt that the most vital unifying and growth stimulating tool of the club was the Whip. The changes that have occurred in the club over the past several years have certainly borne this out. We have had a remarkable growth in membership from new members and the return of former members who have again picked up the enthusiasm of this game or as Herm David would call it "The Purest Challenge in Sportsdom." Unfortunately some former members who became alienated several years ago due to differences of opinion on several matters pertaining to the unfortunate trial cancellation, still are determined to go their independent way in spite of efforts on the part of club officials to conciliate these differences. Presently our membership is at the highest level it has ever been. More well bred litters and more excellent young prospects are present than ever before. The high quality and large numbers of Puppies and Derbies at our last trial certainly bears this out. The basic purpose of a futurity is to create interest and incentive to breed good field prospects. This is fully borne out by the huge success of existing futurities. All instituted futurities, new or old, are improving yearly. I feel we now have the numbers and quality of dogs to institute a futurity. I propose we start a futurity program with litter enrollment to begin with bitches bred after Oct. 30, 1970. Thus, the first futurity running would be more than two years from that date. I propose a new structure for our two-trial a year program.

I suggest we continue with our present stake structure for the fall trials (Championship, Puppy, Derby, and Am. Shtg. Dog) and for the spring trial conduct the National Red Setter Futurity (the first to be run spring, 1973) Puppy, Open Shooting Dog Classic, and Am. Shtg. Dog. I propose the futurity standards of judging and nominating rules be basically those of the U. S. Quail Shooting Dog Futurity. These standards are based on the class shooting dog concept which is our adopted standard.

I feel that in a sense we are at a crossroads with regard to achieving the goals we have set for our club. We are getting enough good young dogs to hold a class futurity, and if we are ever to adopt a futurity now is the time to do it. This should serve to develop further enthusiasm that will sustain and increase our current high wave of enthusiasm. Are you gentlemen in favor of adopting a futurity? Any comments and ideas will be appreciated.

Over the past half year the Field Dog Stud Book has been including a copy of our club brochure at no cost when sending out all Irish Setter registration papers. This program has been a large source of new members, and by all indications is a huge success. Bill Brown has been most cooperative, and his comments indicate that he will continue this program for us. The cost of printing the brochures appears to have been well worthwhile.

Presently our supply of decals and shoulder patches of the club emblem is exhausted. Certain revisions of the emblem have been suggested recently, and it was decided to make certain revisions -- namely, raising the tail carriage and presenting a figure that exhibits the intensity of pointing to a greater degree. A business friend of David Hasinger who is a retired artist is being contact regarding creating a new club emblem.

In the past year, interest has developed regarding having a club pin in either gold, silver, or brass. This could be placed on sale for members and could also be used as a club gift and for awards. Joe Hamilton has done some research on costs involved in getting such pins. The cost of having a die made would be about \$195. The cost per pin would be about \$2. We could probably sell the pins for \$4 or \$5. Thus our cost for having the die made should be adequately covered. Do you gentlemen feel we should enter into this endeavor?

In my last letter I suggested we create a token salary of \$25 annually for the secretary-treasurer. It was approved

by majority vote; however, Joe Hamilton declined acceptance, so the office shall remain non-salaried and be a labor of love.

A new system of computing points for the Duke trophy will go into effect with next year's award. It has been printed in the Whip. The proposal of adopting a structure whereby local clubs would become regional clubs is still not off the ground. All known existing clubs were contacted about three months ago, but only about one-third have responded. Those responding were the newest clubs. They all accepted the proposals. Until more response is received, the matter will have to remain tabled.

Please send prompt replies regarding the matters proposed and also include any other comments you may have.

I wish you all a very happy holiday season.

Sincerely,

Dr. Roger W. Boser

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President, NRSFTC