



# HIGHLAND CHAPTER

# 2015 FUN TRIAL



**Saturday, June 6th, 2015**  
**Tails-A-Waggin' Acres Hunting Preserve**  
20434 60th Ave, Marion, MI 49665

Top 4 Pointing Dogs and Top 4 Flushers  
Will be Invited to the  
RGS Michigan Gun Dog of the Year Trial

2015 RGS State of Michigan GDOY Trial  
September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Location- TBD

### Trial Information

8:00 AM Start Time (rain or shine)

Cost: \$60 per dog

- You must be a RGS member to participate (sign-up day of event available)
- **Pointing** dog and **Flushing** dog divisions run on same course same judges
- Limited to first 34 entries (regardless of division)
- Three Chukar per dog will be set out each brace
- Lunch for one included with entry fee. Additional lunches may be purchased.
- Only #7.5 size shot or smaller may be used
- Females in heat will be ran in the last brace
- No alcoholic beverages permitted on grounds
- All dogs must be leashed/staked out when not competing
- Hunter orange must be worn & a valid hunting license is required
- Once Draw is made changes will only be permitted at Trial Chair's discretion

All entries must be received **no later** than May 30, 2015  
To: Sandy Misaras, 404 West 38 Rd- Boon, MI 49618 (231) 920-0418  
Or email [smisaras2003@yahoo.com](mailto:smisaras2003@yahoo.com)

Drawing will take place Tuesday, June 2nd, 2015 and posted on –  
[www.facebook.com/MichiganRuffedGrouseSocietyGunDogTrialSeries](http://www.facebook.com/MichiganRuffedGrouseSocietyGunDogTrialSeries)

----- ENTRY FORM (Cut and Mail) -----

*Entry Fee \$60 (make checks payable to Ruffed Grouse Society)*

OWNER/HANDLER \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF DOG (1) \_\_\_\_\_ M F BREED \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF DOG (2) \_\_\_\_\_ M F BREED \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER OF ADDITIONAL LUNCHES \_\_\_\_\_

I SUBMIT \$ \_\_\_\_\_ FOR ENTRY FEE(S) (\$60 per dog)

# Fun Trial Guidelines

## **Safety**

Please keep this in mind throughout the day – Please Practice Safe Gun Handling.

Do not hesitate to call a “safety” if the bird flushes towards the gallery, judges, the other handler or a dog. Listen for the judges, who will call “safety” if the shot is not safe.

## **Running**

Most trials run dogs in braces (two at a time) on the same course.

Please be respectful of the other dog and handler.

You may only shoot (3) birds

- Your dog is only judged on two bird contacts
- The judges may direct you to continue hunting for a 3<sup>rd</sup> bird if they did not have adequate opportunity to judge retrieving (due to a safety being called)
- A missed bird is not a safety (it will hurt your dog’s chances if you miss)
- There is no incentive to rush through the course in a race to find all the birds. Again, please show respect for your brace mate.

Please collar/leash your dog if you think it may interfere with a brace mate’s retrieve

## **Judging**

The judges will evaluate entries in the following categories:

### **Response to Handler (Obedience)**

The dog needs to respond enthusiastically and quickly to the handlers commands.

### **Ground Coverage**

The dog should cover ground efficiently and with purpose.

It should utilize the best hunting pattern for the conditions presented and search out likely places where gamebirds inhabit.

### **Bird Finds**

Pointing dogs should locate birds from an appropriate distance and remain staunch on point.

Flushing dogs should accurately locate the bird and aggressively put it in the air.

Dogs do not need to remain steady after the bird takes flight, or the shot. There is no reward for steadiness after the shot. Handlers should do everything in their power to avoid brace mate interference.

### **Retrieves**

The dog should locate the downed bird quickly and accurately.

The dog should return the bird immediately to the handler and release the bird cleanly.

## **Minimum Entry Requirements for RGS Fun Trials**

1. **Are all RGS chapters required to maintain the same standards for their events?**  
No, Chapters can have variations with trial rules and judging as long as the minimum entry requirements are met to send the top four gun dog placements to the Ruffed Grouse Society's "Michigan Gun Dog of the Year Trial."
2. **Who is allowed to compete?**  
You must be a current RGS Member to be a handler or gunner. Participants can be signed up for active membership status the day of the trial. Youth 17 years of age and younger may handle a dog, but must have a designated adult gunner.
3. **How many dogs can a participant register for a trial?**  
Only two dogs can be registered per person, per division (pointing & flushing). If the trial is not full, more than two dogs may be entered at the trial manager's discretion. Only two dogs, per division, can qualify for the Gun Dog of the Year Trial.
4. **Can a dog place in more than one regional trial?**  
No, once a dog has placed in one of the top four placements at any trial, it cannot place again for that year. You may run your already qualified dog at other regional trials if room permits. The dog would be scored by the judges, but not used in the placements. All dogs that had placed in the previous year's trials are again eligible to compete the following year.
5. **What dogs would not be allowed to participate?**  
We will accept dogs with titles. Open to all.
6. **Can I use an electronic training collar at a trial?**  
We will allow all electronic training devices.
7. **Can I use a bell, beeper collar or tracking collar?**  
Yes, these are all permitted.  
Collars must be functional.
8. **What could I be disqualified for at a trial or future events?**  
Any participant that acts in an abusive manner toward his dog, a judge or another participant will be immediately disqualified and removed from the event. Any participant that shows unsafe gun conduct will be immediately disqualified and removed from the event. Any dog showing repeated aggressive behavior will be disqualified and removed from the field.
9. **All judges' and trial managers' decisions are FINAL.**