

**VDD/GNA ATLANTIC CHAPTER  
2018 ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA  
Middletown PA  
20 May 2018  
11am-4pm**

- A. Call to Order
  - 1. Roll call of Board officers
  - 2. Membership attendance sign-in
  - 3. Alterations to Agenda
  
- B. Approval of Minutes from 2017 Annual Chapter Meeting
  
- C. Old Business
  - 1. Finalize 2018 test & event schedule
  
- D. New Business
  - 1. Amend Operations Protocols – invalidate RR sections
  - 2. Determine date and host region for 2019 Chapter meeting
  - 3. Preliminary 2019 test schedule
  - 4. AC/GLC Armbruster
  - 5. VDD/GNA AGM motions – see GNA Newsletter
  - 6. AC motions – see following pages
  
- E. Adjourn meeting

## Motion 1 – submitted by Joe Lowry

Over the past two years, the Atlantic Chapter members have been extremely generous with not only their time, but financially, in support of the DelSea Beagle Club. That club has undergone significant issues with aging membership and a significant financial drain when most of their funds were embezzled by their treasurer. This club is now the only location that the NJ VJP has to do the rabbit portion of the VJP, as all other areas we previously utilized have been lost to development. My discussions with the Board of the beagle club has been an effort to attain the use of their property for limited training days. Due to the fact our dogs push the rabbits much faster than the beagles, they don't want the main property used other than the test days. This is certainly understandable.

Last Summer, we had a huge turnout of volunteers who assisted their efforts to replace/repair the existing fence and install hot wire to keep predators out and clean up the downed trees around the fence. We also cut down the entire field to a height that would allow much better cover for rabbit reproduction and visibility enhancement for testing.

We tested there this weekend and the grounds were spectacular. Every dog that needed it was provided with up to 5 tracking opportunities and most had a sight chase. 3 dogs received a laut designation that were in the VJP and 4 other dogs received the same designation at the test site. This is very significant with the new rule of a sight/scent laut designation for a Performance Breeding. I know that VERY few venues in the U.S. can offer this opportunity during a test. Hundreds of rabbits were produced, with every track being seen by all 3 judges.

My point in all this is that we simply can not let these testing grounds get away from us. For the past eight months or so, I have been working with member of their Board to try to find a way to expand the VDD/GNA Atlantic Chapter testing/training opportunities. They approached me a few weeks ago and we followed up this discussion at the end of testing on Sunday. **They are proposing the following:**

- The rights side of the property became overgrown over the past couple years and is not currently in use.
- It consists of approximately 3 acres of ground, which is currently fenced, but the fence is in poor repair in spots.
- They want our manpower to finish clearing the property (cutting small trees), clearing the fences of debris, repairing the fence where needed, installing fence posts and hot wire.
- Assist them with bi-annual maintenance of the entire property.
- They will assist with rabbit stocking efforts on our side of the property.
- We pay for materials for these repairs. (They have some materials left over from the Summer project that they will donate like posts, hot wire and insulators)
- We (GNA-AC) get year-round use of that side of the property for training.
- We still have access to the current property for the VJP.
- There will be no yearly charge to us from the Beagle Club.

**Here is my proposal to the AC Board:**

- This opportunity could be a life-saver for the AC as a venue for training.
- Any breeder or member could use the property for their training days or personal training whenever they wish.
- We hold a significant gun raffle to finance the effort.
- It is possible a request could be made to have the AC "front" the funds for repairs pending completion of the raffle.
- We host a yearly raffle of some type specifically targeted at maintaining funding for repairs.
- We had approximately 20 volunteers at the test each day without solicitation.
- We have more than enough willing volunteers to complete the work.
- We have a member who has access to equipment to drive the posts. This is a \$4 per post savings.
- We have a member who owns a fence company who has offered to get us material at a discount.
- I will coordinate the efforts to see this through and to maintain the work parties as needed.

I want this effort to be an Atlantic Chapter training grounds for the use of it's members. I believe this is an opportunity that can benefit the Chapter and it's members for many years. Therefore, I wish to make a formal motion to this Board that this proposal be discussed and voted upon.

**Motion 2 – submitted by Roger Smith**

Move that,

At NJ Training Days, whether at field or water, only owners/trainers of the dog being trained/handled may be in possession of an uncased shotgun. The largest ammo that may be in possession is 7.5 lead in the field and 6 steel at the water. Reloaded ammunition or reloaded blanks are never permitted. The handler must have and display a current NJ Hunting License, wear blaze, be using a break-action shotgun (GNA requirement), which he/she legally owns (not borrowed, for safety/familiarity and liability reasons), and that is the only shotgun which may be uncased and present within about 60 yards of the area of the dog's work. There will be no switching of "handlers" to get around the obvious intent of this provision. Only the dog's owner/handler may shoot with his/her shotgun. At the water, in keeping with the provisions of the VZPO, each incident of live duck work must be completed within 15 minutes and sight chases must be terminated as soon as possible. For any given summer's Training Days, live ducks may be released only if the dog has previously that (or a previous) summer passed a gunfire sensitivity test and blind retrieve from cover, or passed a VGP or HZP. In keeping with 1/1/18 VZPO Section 14.A.(1) (b), dogs are limited to a maximum of three live ducks per summer.

Similarly, should any drive hunts be practiced, all the above regulations shall be followed and only commercially produced 12 ga. blanks may be on the handler's person during that phase. Only the handled dog's owner/handler may fire a shotgun.

In the field or for drive hunts blank guns may be used.