

ISLE OF WIGHT GUNDOG CLUB

NEWS UPDATE

SEPTEMBER 2020

Dear Members,

Due to the current situation the Club has not been able to hold its Annual General Meeting which would have taken place in May and as Chairman, I felt it was only appropriate to keep you informed on what is happening within the Club.

I fully appreciate that the last few months have been a very difficult time for everyone with so much uncertainty as to what the way forward is going to be, for us and many other clubs. As I have previously mentioned all our events have been cancelled until next year and even then we are not sure what the situation will be.

Sadly, at present there is no working training and until we can find a way to do this safely for both trainers and members it will remain so. Whilst keeping you up-to-date I need to advise members that the Field Trial Secretary position is once again vacant and needs to be filled. I appreciate that little is happening but hopefully we can find a way to hold Tests and a Field Trial next year.

Prior to the latest restrictions the Show side held a Match on the 13th September for Members at Bouldner, Nr. Yarmouth. This was organised by Shirley Stables and Sharon Baxendale with Carol Turner as Judge and my thanks go to them for a really well organised and safe event. It was so good to see members enjoying their passion for showing and also some new members attending an event for the first time. This event was free to members as the Executive Committee felt it was a way forward and to say thank you for their continued support.

Shirley and Sharon have also arranged some show training at the same venue on Sunday afternoons for five members plus the trainer. These sessions have to be pre booked through Shirley and comply with covid guidelines. Once again, no charge is being made, and I am very grateful to them both for **giving** up their time to run these sessions.

Whilst mentioning show training, I should advise all show members that Binstead Community Centre have written to the Club informing us that they will no longer accept any form of dog training at the centre, the reason being the cost of cleaning after use due to Covid. **We** therefore, find ourselves now having to find an alternative venue for training and monthly matches for when we are able to recommence our Thursday evening event. If anyone has any ideas of where we could be accommodated, please contact either Shirley or myself.

The Club is also looking to purchase a container for the storage of all Equipment. At present, there are a number of members with garages, sheds and rooms full of items and these needs to be centralised with working and show trainers having access to it. The purchasing is not an issue, the problem is we need a small area for it to be sited either on some land or yard and I am hoping that

maybe someone out there might be able to help. I would be very happy to discuss this further should you be able to assist.

To enable the Club to put on events etc. it requires the support and commitment of members, and the Executive Committee would very much welcome anyone who feels that they could assist on either the working or show sub-committees.

I very much hope that the next time I send news it will be more encouraging; however, until that time please take care and look after one another.

Ann Gallin

Chairman – Isle of Wight Gundog Club