

April 2024

To all ABDA members,

To encourage and improve safety awareness for club members and their dogs, ABDA board has approved a mini clinic to support those interested in learning more about becoming an approved gunner for AKC / ABDA hunt tests. Safety is paramount in all activities hosted by the club. Our tests for Flushers and Pointers require the discharge of firearms to dispatch live birds. This must always be done safely and done in a manner not to be perceived negatively by those that are not involved in what we do.

To qualify as a potential Gunner for a Flushing dog event. Individuals must meet the following:

- Completed a State of Alaska or equivalent gun safety or hunter safety course.
- Must have viewed the AKC Gun Safety Guidelines Video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DzL9mHXKmjl>,
- and Must have read the ABDA Guide to Gunning Spaniel Hunt Tests. which is on the ABDA website.

This mini clinic is designed as a team building event to determine interest and expose participants to what is expected at an ABDA hunt test.

Participants will include individuals who are part of our current gun team and have shot as gunners over the last two years, as well as those interested in joining our gun team. The clinic will be open to an estimated 10-15 participants, and they must be ABDA members.

The clinic is scheduled for 9:00 AM Saturday, May 11, 2024 and will take place at Birchwood Recreation & Shooting Park. If participants are not members of the Birchwood Shooting Park, a \$10 guest fee is required and will be paid when you register with the cashier. All participants will be required to sign a waiver to shoot at the range. The clinic will be held outdoors at one of the 5 stand ranges so dress appropriately. These efforts to facilitate our program were graciously arranged by our acting Gun Captain, Mike Kasterin. This event is not built around shooting a round of 5-stand, but it will give everyone a chance break some clay targets provided by ABDA. Mike will begin with a safety briefing and will be there to answer questions.

**Please contact Mike directly to sign up for the clinic.**

*Michael Kasterin*

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