



National Shoot to Retrieve Field Trial Association, Inc.  
25 W. Marion St., Danville, Indiana 46122  
(317) 839-4059 (317) 839-4197 fax  
Email: [office@nstra.org](mailto:office@nstra.org) Website: [www.nstra.org](http://www.nstra.org)

Dear Region President,

Enclosed is your Regional Elimination packet. **Please read the entire packet thoroughly.** Most of your questions can be answered in this packet.

- Fill out the DOY form, High Point Vote form, and Board of Directors contact information form completely and legibly and return to the office.
- Please inform the winner of the Regional Elimination that they need to send a high-resolution picture of their dog, on point, no training collars, to the office. Make sure they do not edit the picture or reduce its size in any way. It can be e-mailed to [office@nstra.org](mailto:office@nstra.org). Deadline is August 11, 2024. NO EXCEPTIONS!!!
- Please double check to make sure that all dogs participating in your Regional Elimination are **qualified** to do so. Every year we have to adjust the DOY quota due to participation of non-qualified dogs.
- If an unqualified dog is allowed to run and takes a placement: They will not receive any Top Performance points and will forfeit any placements taken in either the Qualification or Final rounds.
- Each region is allowed one qualifying round that receives points. The Top 12 (or 16) and Top 6 rounds do not receive points.

- Exception: Regions that are running more than one field of qualification rounds will receive points for each of those fields. Top 12 (or 16) and Top 6 still do not receive points.
- When finishing your trial report please put final placements for all dogs

Included in your packet are the following:

- A list of all Champion Dogs for your region.
  - If any of these dogs are deceased, please notify us as soon as possible so that we can update our records.
  
- The Top Dog listing for your region.

There are 3 documents that you **MUST** return to the office!!! High Point Vote Form, Dog of the Year list and the Region Board of Directors Contact Information. All forms must be complete and legible. Your regional elimination trial will **NOT** be approved until we receive this information.

**This is the responsibility of the current president. Do not assume a new president will do this.**

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call or email the office. Regional Eliminations are an extension of the Dog of the Year trial, and we want to ensure that everyone's trial runs as smooth as possible. Thank you.

NSTRA National Office

Your qualification dates are  
\_\_\_\_\_ through  
\_\_\_\_\_.

Any dog that did not take a placement within these dates is not qualified for your Regional Elimination; 4<sup>th</sup> place dogs within these dates are only qualified as a paid dog to round out your entries, or a paid bye dog.

Champion dogs must compete in their home region.

**REQUIREMENTS!!**  
**REGIONAL ELIMINATION**  
**WRITE – UP**  
**OCTOBER – NOVEMBER NSTRA MAGAZINE**  
**DEADLINE – AUGUST 12, 2024**  
**NO EXCEPTIONS!!**

- **6 Picture Maximum**
  - **500 Words Maximum (Times New Roman Font)**
  - **ALL PICTURES MUST BE AT LEAST 1 MB/1,000 KB IN SIZE**
  - **DO NOT CROP OR EDIT IN ANY WAY-send in largest format possible**
  - **DO NOT EMBED THE PICTURE IN THE DOCUMENT – send as an attachment to [office@nstra.org](mailto:office@nstra.org)**
  - **IF YOU CAN ATTACH MORE THAN 3 PICTURES TO AN EMAIL THE PICTURES ARE TOO SMALL**
  - **PLEASE TELL US WHO IS IN THE PICTURE – WE DON'T KNOW EVERYONE**
- EXAMPLE:**
- Final six, left to right**  
**1<sup>st</sup>, John Smith/Abby; 2<sup>nd</sup> Susan Brown/Bubby; 3<sup>rd</sup>, Pat Anderson/Chuck; 4<sup>th</sup>, Scott Hunt/Daisy; 5<sup>th</sup>, Amy Peters/Ellie; 6<sup>th</sup>, Ron Wilson/Frankie**- **DO NOT SEND OUT OF FOCUS PICTURES. WE CAN NOT FIX THAT!**
- **WE CAN LIGHTEN, RECENTER OR CROP PICTURES**

## REGIONAL ELIMINATION TRIALS

As the region president, you are responsible for the Regional Elimination Trial. You will receive a packet with everything you need to hold your Regional Elimination approximately one month prior to the scheduled date. The following information is a guideline for holding your Regional Elimination.

### Region President Responsibilities:

1. Serve as chairman of the trial. A co-chairman may be named, but the trial is the responsibility of the Region President, from set-up to trial report.
2. Dates to qualify for the Regional Elimination shall be one week prior to the last year's Regional Elimination to two weeks prior to the current year's Regional Elimination date.
3. Determine, at a region membership meeting one year in advance what system your region will use to send dog to the Dog of the Year trial. You may choose from Regional Elimination placements, High Point or Alternating High Point. Detailed explanations of the choices can be found on the vote form. Notify the NSTRA office on forms provided, specifying which system will be used in determining dogs eligible to represent your region at the Dog of the Year Trial.
4. Determination of the High Point dog will be based only on the 3/2/1 point system and will include points earned in trial competition in home region plus those earned in Qualification trials for a Championship Trial. Points earned in the qualifying rounds of a Regional Championship trial DO count towards the region's high point competition. Points earned in the finals of above trials DO NOT count towards the region's high point.
5. Determine eligibility of dogs qualified for Regional Elimination
  - a. Those placing first, second or third and earning points for the placement, as in a full 24/32 dog trial. In a trial that earns less than 3 points, only pointed placements count.
  - b. The current Regional Champion (last year's winner) is automatically qualified for the next year's Regional Elimination trial regardless of point count. (BOD Oct 2013)
  - c. NSTRA Champions must run in their home region
  - d. Out of region dogs may participate as long as they have earned points within your region and have **NOT** received points in their home region or attained Championship status.
    - i. Dogs that receive points in their home region must compete in their home Regional Elimination.
  - e. Dogs may enter only ONE Regional Elimination trial per calendar year.
6. Notify owners/handlers of dogs eligible in and out of your region. Specify your Regional Elimination trial dates, entry fee and entry deadline plus drawing date.
7. After the deadline for entry, prepare for the drawing. Take the names of all **fourth-place dogs** and randomly draw (with owner's consent) for first, second, etc. standby dogs. These dogs can

only be used to even out your braces or replace dogs that withdraw after the trial is drawn due to illness or injury. They can place or win, providing the entry fee is paid.

8. If no paid standby dogs are available, a bye dog may be used to replace a last-minute withdrawal. The dog does not pay, cannot score or win and will not be included in computation for your region quota for Dog of the Year.
9. Notify all entrants of their drawing for the Regional Elimination immediately after the draw is complete. Be sure to include any information they may need including, but not limited to, trial dates and start times. All entries must be paid before competing.
10. To qualify for 2 or more fields of Regional Elimination Qualification Rounds, your region must have over 32 dogs eligible and entered to compete. Qualification Trials may be adjusted as to the number competing on each field or each day, as per the decision of your Region Board of Directors (ex: 20 dogs in Field A and 22 dogs in Field B; 20 dogs on Saturday and 22 dogs on Sunday). Regular trial points will be awarded for the Qualification Rounds pending the number of qualified entries run in each trial.
11. If you have 34-36 dogs and believe you can fit 17-18 braces in on one field in one day, you must have **prior approval from the National Officers** before drawing your Qualification Round. Approval is obtained by calling or emailing the National Office no later than 2 weeks in advance of your Regional Elimination.
12. For Regional Elimination Finals, first place points will be awarded based on the full number of dogs drawn and run in the full Regional Elimination, not on the number of dogs run on the final day (field). (32 dogs and above will receive 4/3/2/1 points, etc.)
13. Points are not awarded for any portion of the Semi-Final Rounds.
14. To qualify as a Regional Champion, you must run off the top 6 dogs, and then the final 2 dogs run for one hour with ten birds released. Your region must have at least 24 dogs in the Regional Elimination and have held at least 16 trials in the qualifying year.
15. Make every effort to get the best judges available. Most regions prefer getting out-of-state judges and making arrangements to send two or more of their region's best judges to assist the other region in their elimination. Your region is responsible for expenses of the judges: travel and room plus compensation as agreed to before the trial.
16. A good bird handler can make or break your elimination trial. Get the very best person for the job, even if it means an additional expense.
17. Have appropriate awards for first, second, third and fourth place finishing dogs. Make this presentation at an Awards Banquet if possible, and have it coincided with your annual region meeting. Special recognition/awards will give added enjoyment to your region meeting such as recognizing the High Point Dog (whether your region uses this system with regard to the Dog of the Year Trial), most improved handler and possibly most promising new handler or dog. A good meal, a relaxed atmosphere and some special awards will add greatly to the success of your Region Elimination Trial and your region in general.

### **Dog Of the Year:**

1. A dog that has qualified in a region for the DOY trial and is sold prior to the DOY trial may be run by the new owner in the current DOY trial. The records “go with the dog”, not the owner. This will count in the DOY quote from the region where the dog participated in the Regional Elimination (not a new region if the owner lives in a different region). However, the dog may not run in a second Regional Elimination and will be disqualified if it does.
2. DOY quotas are figured based on the number of qualified dogs that run in each Regional Elimination.
3. If a dog is sold prior to the Regional Elimination, the National Office must have a copy of the registration papers (front and back) showing the signatures of ownership transfer before the Regional Elimination. The dog will not be figured into a quota, nor will it receive any placements or points, until the new registration papers are received in the National Office showing the new owner’s name.

## **GUIDELINES FOR SETTING UP A BACKING SITUATION**

When a dog that is to be declared the winner of a Regional Elimination or a National Championship trial but has not demonstrated that it will back during the trial, a backing situation must be set up to give the dog one opportunity to prove that it will back. To do this the following guidelines are provided.

1. The designated Field Marshal has the overall responsibility for fulfilling the requirement.
2. The handler of the dog is permitted to select the breed of the pointing dog that will be used.
3. The field marshal should tell the bird handler where to release a bird for the pointing dog. This should be an area out of sight of the backing dog and away from the gallery area to avoid distractions.
4. One judge should accompany the pointing dog and its handler to the area where the bird was released. The other judge should accompany the backing dog to an area out of sight of where the pointing dog will be.
5. The pointing dog should be released so that it can point the target bird.
6. After the pointing dog is on point the other judge will release the backing whose handler will work the dog to the area of the pointing dog.
7. The backing dog will have one opportunity to back. If it fails in its first attempt, it cannot be declared the winner of the trial and the next dog in line would be declared the winner. If that dog did not have a back the above procedure would be followed again.





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Dear Region Presidents:

Please complete the information requested below and return as soon as your region has held your annual meeting and voted on this issue. We will keep this information on file in the office.

The \_\_\_\_\_ region held its annual meeting for 2025 on \_\_\_\_\_, 2024. At that time, **by a vote of region members present at**

**annual meeting**, it was decided that the \_\_\_\_\_ region will use one of the following for sending dogs to the 2024 Dog of the Year trial.

If your region chooses the use the High Point System, please check the appropriate selection below:

\_\_\_\_\_ Region Elimination Placements

\_\_\_\_\_ High Point - Region Elimination Winner/High Point Dog/Remaining Region Elimination Placements.

\_\_\_\_\_ Alternating High Point - Region Elimination Winner/High Point/ Region Elimination Placement/2<sup>nd</sup> High Point/etc.

**Please note:** No matter the system chosen; the region elimination **winner** is always the **first** dog qualified for the Dog of the Year trial. **NO OTHER SYSTEMS WILL BE ALLOWED.**

Region President: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Thank you,

NSTRA Office

**PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN FOR NSTRA RECORDS FOR 2024 DOY TRIAL**

THE \_\_\_\_\_ REGION WILL BE USING THE FOLLOWING SYSTEM FOR SENDING A DOG TO THE NSTRA DOG OF THE YEAR TRIAL:

\_\_\_\_\_ REGION ELIMINATION PLACEMENTS

\_\_\_\_\_ HIGH POINT

\_\_\_\_\_ ALTERNATING HIGH POINT

YOU WILL NEED TO LIST THE ELIGIBLE DOGS AND **HOW THEY WERE CHOSEN** TO COME TO THE DOG OF THE YEAR TRIAL. YOU SHOULD INCLUDE ALL DOGS THAT COMPETED IN YOUR REGIONAL ELIMINATION. IT IS **YOUR RESPONSIBILITY** – AS A REGION PRESIDENT - TO NOTIFY YOUR MEMBERS OF THEIR DOG STANDING AND ADVISE THEM TO SUBMIT THEIR ENTRY BY THE DEADLINE. THE OFFICE **WILL NOT** SEND OUT INVITATIONS.

**DOG REGISTERED NAME**

**OWNER**

**REGION ELIM. OR  
HIGH POINT PLACEMENT**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_
11. \_\_\_\_\_
12. \_\_\_\_\_
13. \_\_\_\_\_

- 14. \_\_\_\_\_
- 15. \_\_\_\_\_
- 16. \_\_\_\_\_
- 17. \_\_\_\_\_
- 18. \_\_\_\_\_
- 19. \_\_\_\_\_
- 20. \_\_\_\_\_
- 21. \_\_\_\_\_
- 22. \_\_\_\_\_
- 23. \_\_\_\_\_
- 24. \_\_\_\_\_

ACCORDING TO NSTRA RULES, **THIS INFORMATION MUST BE ON FILE PRIOR TO COMPUTING THE QUOTA FOR NUMBER OF DOGS TO BE SENT TO THE DOG OF THE YEAR TRIAL.**

\_\_\_\_\_ REGION ELIMINATION TRIAL HAD \_\_\_\_\_ DOGS DRAWN  
AND RUN ON \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ (YOUR COUNT SHOULD NOT INCLUDE STANDBYE OF  
BY DOGS.)

DATE: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ REGION

PRESTIDENT: \_\_\_\_\_

## Region BOD Contact Information

**President:** \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Publish (Y/N) \_\_\_\_\_

Dates of Term (MM/YY - MM/YY): \_\_\_\_\_

**Vice President:** \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Publish (Y/N) \_\_\_\_\_

Dates of Term (MM/YY - MM/YY): \_\_\_\_\_

**Secretary:** \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Publish (Y/N) \_\_\_\_\_

Dates of Term (MM/YY - MM/YY): \_\_\_\_\_

**Treasurer:** \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Publish (Y/N) \_\_\_\_\_

Dates of Term (MM/YY - MM/YY): \_\_\_\_\_

**BOD Member:** \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Publish (Y/N) \_\_\_\_\_

Dates of Term (MM/YY - MM/YY): \_\_\_\_\_

**BOD Member:** \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Publish (Y/N) \_\_\_\_\_

**BOD Member:** \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Publish (Y/N) \_\_\_\_\_

Dates of Term (MM/YY - MM/YY): \_\_\_\_\_

**BOD**

**Member:** \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Publish (Y/N) \_\_\_\_\_

Dates of Term (MM/YY - MM/YY): \_\_\_\_\_

# JUDGING SEMINAR REQUEST

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_ REGION: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF SEMINAR: \_\_\_\_\_

INSTRUCTOR: \_\_\_\_\_

LOCATION OF SEMINAR: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR REGISTRATION: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

X

\_\_\_\_\_  
Instructor Signature

OFFICE USE ONLY: (Initial by box)

Approved

Not Approved   
Date of Approval \_\_\_\_\_

11/28/2021

