

Chairman's Report SC Hunt March 25 – 27, 2022

Tokeena Beagle Club pen B.

Friday 3/25/22 – Setup and practice day, temperature in low 50's and partly cloudy. Rain the previous day made scenting conditions very good. The pond at the end of drainage run was full. A number of rabbits were Tally Ho'd during practice and expectations for a good hunt were high.

One hound was injured with foreign object in eye, which did not become obvious until that evening. Hound was taken to Veterinarian and was absent at roll call on Saturday and Sunday. Owner expects a full recovery by end of week.

We had one PLE on Friday. Lexi owned by Les and Betty White from Nashville, TN was taken through the Novice Learning Experience "training" by Mary Fluke.

Saturday 3/26/2022 – Weather was cool and slightly windy in AM, low 40's. Roger Mayer was early and got the coffee and tea started, his new shop light lit up the shed. Coady Eagan (hospitality) brought two dozen doughnuts and had several choices of beverages for all participants.

Morning announcements were made by Chairman, Paul Urban and roll call was at 7:30 AM with three hounds being absent. The random draw for running order was held with RUN 1 going to hounds owned by Ruth Hoffman, Bobbe Jackson and Coady Egan. After a computer software glitch cause some stress to the Secretary and Chairman, the first run was started on time with temporary Judge's Score Sheets.

Robert Sweeney and Paul Urban came up with a work around to the software problem. Data entry into the spreadsheet went smoothly after the work around was applied.

The first pack of 5 hounds came off the field with 5 Q's recorded, an excellent start which lifted everyone's expectations for the day's outcome. The second pack of 4 hounds had 4 Q's, but qualifying became harder after temperatures warmed slightly into the 50's and the WIND really got STRONG with 30 MPH gusts. The overall Q rate was good with 23 Q's out of 30 hounds started, including a HIT for Lexi who is now Hunting Certified.

We had an excellent raffle and want to thank everyone who donated items and who purchased raffle tickets, we had total income of \$300.00 which helps defray hunt expenses.

Lunch was delivered to the field by Subway, thanks to Mary Fluke taking the lunch and dinner choice sheets to the vendors on Friday. Dinners were delivered to the Microtel meeting room by The Pompous Pig and were enjoyed by all. An informal club meeting was conducted by President Mary Fluke with questions about how to get other club members more involved in club activities.

Sunday 3/27/2022 – The weather was again cool in the AM but with less wind, thank you **Mother Nature**.

Announcements were made and a thank you given to Roger for setup, Coady for hospitably, Robert Sweeney for Chief Marshal, Ruth Hoffman for Secretary, Carole Urban for raffle, Judges – Roger Mayer, Jill Fitzgerald, Vickie Willmann, Tony Childs, Kevin Macdonald, Coady Egan, Michael Edwards and Nick Reading. Also, a thank you to all who volunteered for marshaling.

Before the draw we had to consolidate 2 packs into 1 pack because a hound went into heat. So, for the day we only had 6 runs, I can't remember another hunt with 6 runs in a day! The random draw for running order was held with RUN 1 going to hounds owned by Jill Fitzgerald and Sharon Kimble. We had another good day overall, with 24 hounds qualifying out of 26 hounds started.

I believe that this hunt will be remembered for being the windiest hunt ever in SC, besting the National in 2017 when we were chased off the Tokeena C field by lightning and a possible tornado.

Hope to see you all at our next SC hunt in December 2022.

Paul Urban

Chairman SC March 2022