

2018
National German Shorthaired Pointer Association
National Championships
Preview # 1

**With sadness and regret I share the news of “Rick’s”
loss to the Field Trial Community:**



Richard "Rick" Dodge

Wilder, ID — Richard “Rick” Dodge, 72, longtime trustee of the National German Shorthaired Pointer Association Board of Trustees, and an active member of the German Shorthaired Pointer Club of Idaho, passed away October 18.

“Rick” Dodge was born October 29, 1944, in Boise, Ida., the son of Richard “Dick” and Tressa (Lewis) Dodge.

When Dick wasn’t selling cars, he coached his wife and children in competitive rifle shooting where Rick excelled to a national level as a teenager.

After high school Rick attended the University of Idaho before joining the Army in February, 1966. He met his wife, Linda (Edwards) Dodge, while attending helicopter flight school in Fort Wolters, Tex. Rick and Linda were married on the eve of his graduation from advanced flight training in Fort Rucker, Ala.

Following a short honeymoon, Rick flew Shark Gunships and Medevacs during his first tour in Vietnam. Upon his return he was sent to Fort Belvoir, Va., until 1970 when he returned to Vietnam to fly heavy-transport crane helicopters. The next decade included several aviation assignments before heading to Goepingen, Germany in 1980.

In December, 1983, Rick and Linda’s daughter Tressa was born in Fort Worth, Tex., before he reported to Joint Forces training in Norfolk, Va. In 1984, they moved to Fort Ord, Cal., where Rick commanded the Air Traffic Control Battalion for the 7th Infantry Division. Returning to Fort Hood, Tex., in 1988, Rick commanded the Aviation Battalion of the 6th Cavalry Brigade. In 1992, the family moved to Izmir, Turkey where Colonel Dodge served a prominent position with NATO Joint Forces for more than two years before returning to the United States.

While in Fort Lewis, Wash., in 1995, Rick Dodge retired from the Army after nearly thirty years of military service.

He was awarded several military honors during his career including:

Defense Superior Service Medal, Distinguished Flying Cross, Bronze Star Medal with

Combat Distinguished Device “V”, Bronze Star Medal, Meritor Service Medal, Air Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Valoroußs Unit Award, National Defense, Master Army Aviator Badge and the Legion of Merit.

Rick spent his retirement back home with his extended family, first in Boise, then in 2002 he moved to Wilder, Ida.

He enjoyed sports throughout his life, working on classic cars, and several other hobbies. Much of his time was spent with his beloved dogs and friends with the German Shorthaired Pointer Club of Idaho. He also served on the National German Shorthaired Pointer Association Board of Trustees for the past decade.

Rick was blessed with good dogs, great horses, the best of friends, and a loving family. He leaves behind his wife of fifty years, Linda Dodge; daughter Tressa Dodge; granddaughter Kara Dodge; a sister and aunt; nieces and nephews.

A service is scheduled for October 30 at Summers Funeral Home, Boise Chapel. Rick was to be laid to rest at the Idaho State Veterans Cemetery.

Greetings From The NGSPA Board of Trustees (BOT):

The purpose of this preview is to give all of you a quick look at how things are shaping up for the National Championships in 2018, to give you a heads up on changes that were made at the BOT meeting in June and to encourage all of you to let us know if you have ideas to make the Nationals better.

WHEN: The 2018 NGSPA National Championships will start at 8:00 AM, Saturday, February 24, 2018 with the National Amateur Championship, followed by the NGSPA Futurity, the National Championship, and will conclude with the National Shooting Dog Championship. Drawing for the Amateur Championship will take place at approximately 6:00 PM on Friday, February 23, 2018. The Championships will take approximately 12 to 14 days total running time – Amateur 3-4 days, Futurity 2 days, National Championship 2 days, and the Shooting Dog 4-5 days.

WHERE: As usual, the National Championships will be held on the Blue Mountain Conservation area just outside Booneville, Arkansas.

JUDGES: National Amateur Shooting Dog Championship:

Dr. Pat McInteer

Chuck Cooper

National Championship and 2018 Futurity:

Mike Jackson

John Russell

National Open Shooting Dog Championship:

Harold Woodward

Greg Sand

2017 ENTRY FEES:

National Amateur Championship - \$200.00 (includes a \$25.00 Grounds Fee).

National Championship - \$225.00 (includes a \$25.00 Grounds Fee).

NGSPA Futurity - \$175.00 (includes a \$25.00 Grounds Fee).

National Shooting Dog Championship - \$225.00 (includes a \$25.00 Grounds Fee).

Recent Changes Adopted by the NGSPA Board of Trustees Affecting the Running of the 2018 National Championships:

DRAWING FOR THE 2018 NATIONAL AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP: In 2017, the NGSPA Board of Trustees (BOT) responded to suggestions heard at the 2016 Delegates Meeting and tried having the National Amateur Championship drawing for running order in mid-February rather than the evening prior the running. At the June 2017 BOT Summer meeting that policy change was reviewed and it was decided to revert to the traditional policy of having the drawing the evening prior to the running. The decision was based on negative comments received by the BOT out weighing any perceived advantages.

Since the stakes will be run sequentially, and exact starting dates for the remainder of the stakes can't be accurately predicted, the drawing for all other stakes will be held the evening prior to the running.

TRUSTEE ASSIGNMENTS: Tradition dictates that one BOT duty is to help organize and run the National Championships and in addition select Trustees are task with specific responsibilities. For the 2018 Nationals, the following individuals volunteered for the listed responsibilities:

Joe Amatulli and Kirk Bomer will be assisting me, as Field Trial Chairman, taking on specific duties as they arise.

Stake Manager Duties were assigned as follows: Amateur Shooting Dog – Chris Streitenberger, Futurity – James Messer and Harvey Franko (Harvey is not currently on the BOT but continues to volunteer – his help is appreciated!), All Age – Art Armbrust and Joe Amatulli, Open Shooting Dog – Dan Dimambro and Mike Aldrich

After discussion, and, at the National Field Trial Chairman's suggestion, the BOT voted to allot up to \$1000.00 for a scribe for the 2018 Nationals. The move to pay a scribe was made to improve the timelines and add consistency to the Nationals Field Trial Report. Several names were mentioned as possible "Scribes" but, in the end, Trustee Chris Streitenberger agreed to take on the job for his fuel cost. Chris has done a great job handling the Amateur Nationals write-up for the past number of years and I am sure he will fill the "Scribe" position admirably!

SUGGESTIONS: The BOT takes the running of the National Championships very seriously and is doing everything they can to make the Championships a success, but, in the end, the Championships belong to the participants. If you have suggestions, we welcome them.

UPCOMING PREVIEWS: I will be sending out two (possibly 3) more 2018 NGSPA National Championship Previews. If you didn't receive this one directly and want to receive them in the future, let me know and I will add you to the mailing list. Conversely, if you don't want to receive them, tell me at dr-crabbs@gmail.com

On Behalf of the NGSPA Board of Trustees,
Dean Crabbs,
Chairman,
2018 NGSPA National Championships
dr-crabbs@gmail.com
Cell Phone: 208-739-0644