

Clumber Hunting Style

Clumbers are slow moving spaniels that normally hunt at a trot, which they can maintain all day. They may be rather casual on barren fields, but should “come alive” when they hit bird scent. They should demonstrate excellent noses as they investigate the faintest scent thoroughly. Once on scent, they should be persistent as they “work it out” and show intense desire to catch the bird before it flushes. They often exhibit an English style, hesitation flush. Their water retrieving should be adequate for close decoy hunting. Their water entry is deliberate (carefully considered, unhurried) and their swimming speed is moderate. The Clumber Spaniel Hunting Style document is a valuable document for hunters, judges and owners and must be provided to judges before judging a WD/WDX test. This document is available on the Clumber Spaniel Club of America (CSCA) website and the American Kennel Club (AKC) website.

This form shall be used for any Clumber Spaniel entered in a WD/WDX test. When the test is completed, paperwork shall be mailed to the CSCA Field Chair or designate who will then mail a Certificate to the owner’s address.

In order to make tests available to as wide a number of flushing spaniel owners as possible, Working Tests may be offered by a club or a group of owners. Clubs or groups desiring to hold tests must obtain permission and approval from their Parent Club stating the date of the test, site, names for proposed judges, and type of birds. A person who is an approved Hunt Test judge or any person known to be familiar with the work of the flushing spaniels in the field may judge. It is common for all of the spaniel clubs to notify each other of upcoming tests, preferably 3 months in advance, so their members are aware of the test.

Entries for dogs being tested are to be entered on the Working Certificate forms. Each breed runs on their approved score sheet. Those breeds that do not have approved score sheets will run on the American Spaniel Club score sheet. Each Parent Club will receive the completed sheets and mail Certificates. Dogs are to be run singly, however, a minimum of three dogs must be entered and present to constitute an official testing.

Land Test-Live upland game, pigeons optional, should be planted on the course, two for each dog, at least 75 feet ahead of the starting line so that there is an opportunity for the dog to demonstrate ground coverage and hunting ability. Each breed has their own approved Hunting Style and should be judged accordingly. The manner in which the dog covers ground is less important than its ability to find game.

Water Test-A shot is fired into the air and, at the same time, a dead bird is thrown either from the shore or a boat to fall approximately 15 yards, which requires the dog to swim, not wade. A duck call or similar action may be utilized to assist with focusing the dog’s attention to the vicinity of the fall.

Gun safety rules must be in effect at all times. If for some reason the bird cannot be shot, or if a bird is missed, additional birds should be planted to allow sufficient judging. If a dog has sufficiently demonstrated that it can find game but said game cannot be shot, a dead bird may be thrown with a shot fired while the bird is in the air to enable the dog to make the retrieve.

Clumber Spaniel Club of America

WORKING CERTIFICATE TEST - SCORESHEET

Dog's Name: _____ Call Name: _____

AKC Registration Number: _____ Sex: _____ DOB: _____

Breed: _____ Owners: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Handler: _____ Test Offered By: _____

Date: _____ Chairman: _____

Test Location: _____

Judge(s): _____

SCORING

Failed	Satisfactory	Excellent	
_____	_____	_____	STEADY ON THE LINE. Dog sits unleashed with handler until ordered to seek game.
_____	_____	_____	QUARTERS EFFICIENTLY. Covers ground in a workmanlike manner within gun range, displaying scenting ability and use of wind. Typically a Clumber will not cover the entire field and should not be penalized for this.
_____	_____	_____	FINDS AND FLUSHES BIRD. Flushes without urging, a slight hesitation is characteristic.
_____	_____	_____	MARKS DOWNED BIRD. Need not mark exact spot, but must be able to be handled readily to the bird. The handler may move forward half way with judge's permission. A dog that marks and retrieves with its bird undamaged in a brisk and direct manner should be marked Excellent.
_____	_____	_____	RETRIEVES ON LAND. Finds and picks up bird returning to the handler. Close proximity (no more than two steps) is satisfactory. To receive an Excellent score, dog must retrieve to hand. Dog is scored on two birds.
_____	_____	_____	RETRIEVES FROM WATER. The dog should enter the water without excessive coaxing, swim to the bird and return with it. To achieve Excellent, the dog must be steady at the line. Minimum distance 15 yards.
_____	_____	_____	DOES NOT DISPLAY GUNSHYNESS.
_____	_____	_____	NOT QUALIFIED. Did not receive at least a satisfactory score in each area.
_____	_____	_____	WORKING DOG CERTIFICATE. Dog's performance would make a satisfactory companion hunter during a day in the field. Dog worked within gun range of handler, under reasonable control. Dog can find, flush, and retrieve birds from land or water, and does not display gunshyness or hard mouth.
_____	_____	_____	WORKING DOG EXCELLENT CERTIFICATE. Dog displayed all abilities for a Working Dog Certificate in an outstanding manner. Dog must deliver to hand on all retrieves.

Judges Signatures: _____

Date: _____