

"Basic Three Bird (Chukar or Quail) Challenge Rules"

- Open, Novice, Women & Youth -

1. **SCORED FINDS** (Points or Flushes): Fifteen (15) points will be awarded for a find. Pointing dogs must establish a point and hold for a minimum of three (3) seconds. Handler must cause flush not dog. A flush occurs when bird leaves resting place (walks, runs or flies). Flushing dogs must flush the bird in order to qualify. Dog must have a scored find to receive any score.
2. **RETRIEVE:** Fifteen (15) points will be awarded per retrieve. Dog must deliver bird to within one large step of the handler. A clean kill must be made in order to receive full point credit on retrieve. A clean kill is defined as a shot bird; one whose flight pattern changes abruptly, legs drop or feathers are dislodged after the shot. Un-shot birds retrieved to handler will receive ten (10) points. Judge will make final determination.
3. **BAGGED BIRD:** Ten (10) points awarded for bag bird. All Birds shot or retrieved to handler will count as a bagged bird. Handler must pick up birds not retrieved which will also count as a bagged bird.
4. **TIME:** There will be a maximum of Three (3) birds planted per run and each run will be for fifteen (15) minutes. The first run in each field will be a four (4) bird plant. Your run ends once three birds have been taken, time expires when the last bird is in hand or you shoot your 5th shell. If dog is on point or flushing the bird, you are allowed an extra one minute to complete the work. Pointing dogs may not be relocated during the extra minute.
5. **BONUS POINTS:** Handler must have perfect score to receive bonus points (all birds must be shot). Shot includes being a dropped leg or feathers from bird. Two (2) bonus points will be awarded per shot not taken. Example: If shooter shot three times to harvest their three birds, they would be awarded four (4) bonus points. Shot size no larger than # 7. One (1) bonus point will be awarded for each minute remaining in run provided all three (3) birds are taken in accordance to rules 1, 2 & 3 above. Partial minutes will be rounded up to the next minute.
6. **GENERAL RULES:**
 - a. **Calling Safety:** A safety may be called by handler or judge for any unsafe condition. A complete score will be credited on all safeties. One shot will be charged on each safety. Care must be taken to flush the bird away from the dog and not toward the judge or gallery. Judge has the final decision. No shot size larger than # 7. **If Safety is called on last bird, time stops when dog is collared.**
 - b. **No Shooting Birds on Ground w/out judge's permission (both pointers & flushers):** Pointers - if the bird will not fly, a safety shall be called. Full score will be awarded. Flushers - birds are allowed to be scooped. Handlers may pick up birds and throw them if they can be caught. **Handlers may shoot a bird on the ground once the judge has given you approval to do so!**
 - c. **No Running in Fields:** Defined as having one foot on the ground at all times.
 - d. **Blaze Orange:** Vest or cap must be worn by all entrants, judges, bird planters, photographers or anyone in the field.
 - e. **Gun Safety:** Guns will be on safe until the shot is presented. They can be loaded at start gate.
 - f. **Gunner Rule:** You may choose to have a gunner. After the shot, the gunner shall move to stand behind handler during the retrieve.
 - g. **Dog & Bird Work Boundary:** All finds and flushes must be performed in bounds (dog & bird), except dog may go out of bounds to retrieve bird. **Pointing Dogs:** If bird walks out of bounds after it is pointed in bounds, handler may proceed to flush bird. Judge must confirm. If a bird is flushed, the find will be scored and rules 2 & 3 above shall apply. Judges need to be on top of the work.
 - h. **Marked Bird:** (Wild Flush/Bumped Bird) is not counted as a bird contact and may be pursued immediately provided the bird stays in bounds. Most important! Time is not stopped if flush was your last bird. Once bird is pointed or flushed by dog (flushing division only) it is considered scored upon.
 - i. **Leaving Field:** At the end of your brace, please leash your dog immediately and leave the field at the nearest boundary so that we can continue the next brace.
 - j. **Tie Breaker:** First tie breaker will be the total time of the run and second tie breaker will be time of first find.
7. **NOVICE, WOMEN & YOUTH DIVISION RULES:** All rules remain the same with the following exceptions:
 - a. Dogs can be on a check cord and a helper is allowed in field.
 - b. Judge will instruct participants on rules and help with handling of dog.
8. **PRIZES:** Will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers. Each division will have a Club Championship held at end of trial season. 1st, 2nd and 3rd placements will qualify. 4th placements may qualify to complete championship field.

Note: Fields may be cleaned by all participants and volunteers once the trial is completed in all fields.