

Gun Captain's Responsibilities, Before the Test

Recruit live gunners. The number needed depends on the type of test, but live gunners are required for both Saturday and Sunday of the test weekend. For the fall, when a WC/WCX is also run on Sunday, an extra set of live gunners is needed for one of the WCX marks. After the WCX land (15 to 20 dogs), the live gunners are free to gun elsewhere. The Junior Hunter stake typically has one live flyer mark (Saturday), the Senior Hunter stake, one or two (Sunday), and Master Hunter, two or three (Saturday and Sunday).

Live gunners must be licensed in the state in which they reside, and must provide their own 12 gauge shotgun. The club provides ammunition. Gunners must have their license with them on the day of the test, and should be dressed in hunting gear, camouflage, or dark clothing. If they own them, have the gunners bring waders. They may or may not be needed.

For AKC Hunt Tests, all live gunners must have viewed the AKC gun safety film.

A week or so before the test, confirm their commitment with each gunner. Let them know what time, where, and to whom to report on test day. A week or so before the test, confirm their commitment with each gunner. Let them know what time, where, and to whom to report on test day. Make sure they know to wear dark camouflage hunting gear or dark clothing, and to bring a chair.

A week or so before the test, coordinate with the Chairman and Game Steward to determine if gunners are required prior to the start of the test to gun for fresh killed birds for the various stakes.

Get modest gifts for the gunners. Coordinate with the Club Treasurer for reimbursement.

Gun Captain's Responsibilities, Day of the Test

Arrive at the test site an hour before the start of the test. Coordinate with the Chairman as to which stakes will need live gunners for the first series. Receive the gunners and the live bird throwers as they arrive, ask to see gunners' hunting licenses, and give a safety briefing. Assign gunners to assist in producing fresh killed birds, if necessary, and assign gunners to stakes with live flyer marks in the first series.

Assist in equipment allocation for the live gunners and live bird throwers, including live ammunition and ear protection.

Throughout the day, coordinate with the Chairman to assure gunners are available as the series change in the various stakes, assigning live flyer gunners as required.

Present gifts to gunners at the end of their assignment.

Make certain that all unused live ammunition is accounted for and returned to the test headquarters area. Make sure that all other equipment and supplies in support of the live gun stations is returned to test headquarters area.

Gun Captain's Responsibilities, After the Test

Send thank you notes to the gunners who supported the test.

Update this Job Description to add anything important that was missing or should be clarified.