



# ETRC Upcoming Events

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW FOR ETRC'S UPCOMING EVENTS!

1. November 9, 2022: Wed, 6:30 p.m, Board meeting, 254 Babbs Road, Lenoir City, TN 37771 Members are welcome to attend, sandwiches & snacks provided.
2. February 25, 2023, Saturday: Awards Banquet, Elections, General Business Meeting. Bearden Banquet Hall, Knoxville, 6 p.m.
3. April 1-2, 2023, Saturday & Sunday: Spring Hunt Test, Hiwassee WMA. **NEW DATES!**

## Photo of the Month



We are thankful that our 2022 Hunt Test Season, with 5 AKC Hunt Tests, is successfully concluded. Congratulations to everyone who qualified at any of our tests, and thanks to everyone whose work made all these tests possible!

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## Report on ETRC's Fall Hunt Test, October 22-23, 2022

Ken Campbell's Lucky 7 Ranch, Sweetwater TN

Our big fall Hunt Test was held over the October 22-23 weekend at Ken Campbell's beautiful Lucky 7 Ranch in Sweetwater, TN. We had one series of Master and double Junior / Senior tests.

In Master, we had 65 dogs entered, with 3 scratches. 37 dogs passed, and 25 did not. Judges were Allen Dillard and David Murphy; the second series was a 9-minute barnburner. ETRC members whose dogs passed were:

- ◆ Rader's Charley Belle MH, owned and handled by Jeff Rader;
- ◆ Blythe Ferry's Indy Dos MH, owned by Donna Smith, handled by pro member Brian Caldwell;
- ◆ Tennessee Cinnamon Fireball MH, bred, owned & handled by Alan Bruhin;
- ◆ Ringtail Headhunter, owned & handled by Brian Caldwell. (Brian handled several other non-member owned client dogs to ribbons as well.)
- ◆ RSR's Double J MH, owned & handled by Jeremy Majors;
- ◆ Fowl Mouth's Million Dollar Maggie, owned by Cory & Hunter Smith and handled by Cory.



Above — Corry Smith & Maggie;  
Left—Master test setup  
Below—Peter Torok and Kaypesh



In Senior, we had 13 entries with one scratch on Saturday under judges Kathleen and Alan Luthy. Thanks especially to Alan, who had to fill in as a judge at the last moment. Only 4 dogs passed — must have been a tough test — and one of those was ETRC's own Fern Hill Kepes Arany Sugar (Kaypesh) with owner / handler Peter Torok. With this pass, Kaypesh earned her Senior Hunter title — and with this title, also earned the Outstanding Sire title for her sire, AFC Top-brass Hawk's Red Wing MH CCA WCX and now OS!

At Sunday's Senior test, there were 13 entries, 2 scratches, and only 3 passes. None were ETRC member dogs. The judging team for Sunday was Lisa Vencille and J. Michael Evans, who also was a last minute replacement for a judge who notified us that he wasn't coming on Friday night.





## Fall Hunt Test Report, Continued

Saturday's Junior stake had 18 entries, with one scratch and 13 passes. The judging team on Saturday were Lisa Vencille and Mike Evans. ETRC members with passing dogs were:

- ◆ RoddyDogs Winston Churchill, owned by Tom Gavin and handled by Kayden Preston.
- ◆ Chandler's Lucy Lou, owned by new member Matthew Tipton, and handled by Matthew or Ryan Stamey.
- ◆ Cadron Ridge's Hunting Birds in the Snow and Rayne, owned and handled by Janet Summers;
- ◆ Razor's Coal Cotton, owned and handled by Michael Smith.

Sunday's Junior stake, judged by Kathleen and Allen Luthy, saw 20 entries, 1 scratch, and 16 passes. The same four ETRC member dogs and handlers passed a second time on Sunday.

Congratulations to everyone who participated and particularly those who passed. Thanks to the judges, the workers, and especially a final big THANK YOU to Ken Campbell for letting us use his property one last time before its sale is finalized. Ken has been wonderful to ETRC and his support is much appreciated.

## November Master-Only Hunt Test Report

Brian Caldwell's farm, 11/1-2/22

Our fifth and final hunt test of the year was held November 1 and 2, a midweek Master Only hunt test with one flight. Brian Caldwell provided the land and four professional bird technicians, the weather was absolutely perfect, and everything went smooth as glass — except we had another last minute



judging change. One of our judges fell sick on her way to us and had to go to an emergency clinic in a location far from her home. Best wishes for a speedy recovery! Luckily for us, Mike Evans agreed to scratch his dog Ivy yet again, in order to fill in for us as a judge.

60 dogs entered, 7 scratched (including Miss Ivy!), and of the 53 dogs that came to the line, 38 passed. The picture to the left shows the last series setup. ETRC members whose dogs qualified were:

- ◆ Blythe Ferry's Indy Dos MH, owned by Mike and Donna Smith, handled by Brian Caldwell while Donna recovers from recent hip surgery;
- ◆ Tennessee Cinnamon Fireball MH, bred, owned and handled by Alan Bruhin;
- ◆ Lick Creek On The Money MH, owned by Lisa and Mike Vencille and handled by Mike;
- ◆ Ringtail Headhunter, owned and handled by Brian Caldwell;
- ◆ RSR's Double J MH, owned and handled by Jeremy Majors.

Thanks to everyone who came out to play; thanks again to Brian for hosting us for the third time this season; thanks to the judges, all the people who helped plan the test, locate judges, set up the test, marshal, run errands, fix lunches, handle the paperwork, buy supplies etc. etc. etc. We have put on so many tests in the last two years it seems like we have this down to somewhat of an art — but it still takes a lot of time and effort from a lot of people. THANKS EVERYONE for giving us all the opportunity to participate in this sport that we all enjoy!

## A Genetic Test for Cruciate Ligament Rupture Risk in the Labrador Retriever

By Sharon Albright, DVM, CCRT  
Manager of Communications & Veterinary Outreach, AKC Canine Health Foundation

*Editor's Note: This article was reprinted from the AKC Health Foundation Discoveries newsletter for Fall 2022.*

Cruciate ligament rupture is one of the most common orthopedic diagnoses in small animal clinical practice. It is like an ACL rupture in humans. In dogs, the cruciate ligament tissue frays little by little over time. Continued activity, joint instability, and inflammation eventually lead to complete tearing of the ligament. Surgery to stabilize the stifle (knee) joint is the recommended treatment and it is estimated that more than \$1 billion is spent on surgical and medical management of canine cruciate ligament rupture in the United States each year.<sup>1</sup> Dogs can often return to full activity following surgical repair and rehabilitation therapy, but it is a long and expensive journey.

Certain breeds, such as the Labrador Retriever, Rottweiler, and Newfoundland are at higher risk of cruciate ligament rupture, indicating a genetic influence on disease development. But which genes are involved and how much impact do they have on an individual dog's risk of cruciate ligament rupture? Investigators at the University of Wisconsin set out to answer these questions with funding from the AKC Canine Health Foundation (CHF).

Analyzing genetic data from just over 1,000 Labrador Retrievers, investigators found that the heritability of cruciate ligament rupture in Labs is estimated at 0.62. This means that 62% of the risk comes from genetic factors, with the remaining 38% resulting from environmental factors. Specific environmental factors that influence risk of cruciate ligament rupture are poorly understood.

There are many genes with thousands of variants that influence risk of cruciate ligament rupture in Labrador Retrievers. While this seems overwhelming, investigators have been able to develop a genetic test that predicts whether a Labrador is at high risk for the disease.

"It's important to understand that this test is predictive for disease risk," says Principal Investigator Dr. Peter Muir. "Cruciate ligament rupture is a common complex disease. This test determines an individual dog's risk of the disease, which is not the same as genotyping for a simple dominant or recessive trait." -continued Test results will be either 'predicted to be a case,' meaning the dog has genetic markers that predict it will likely develop cruciate ligament rupture, or 'predicted to be a control,' meaning that it is unlikely to develop the disease. Predictive accuracy in the reference population used to develop the test was 98%.

"If a dog receives the 'high genetic risk' result, it is highly likely that dog will develop a cruciate ligament rupture in its lifetime," Dr. Muir says. "But that risk could be reduced by personalized veterinary care once we better understand the relevant environmental risk factors that we can modify."

Owners of low-risk dogs must remember that their dogs still have a chance of developing cruciate ligament rupture because of environmental risk factors. In this regard, body condition is likely important.

How can breeders use this test? Because a large number of genetic variants influence risk of cruciate ligament rupture in the Labrador Retriever, breeding two low-risk dogs could produce high-risk puppies and vice versa. However, over time, the incidence of cruciate ligament rupture in this breed should decline if we continue to breed low-risk to low-risk dogs.

The genetic risk test for cruciate ligament rupture in Labrador Retrievers is an exciting development. It is one of the first genetic tests available for a canine complex disease. Results can inform breeding strategies to decrease the incidence of the disease in future generations of Labrador Retrievers. Owners of high-risk dogs can prioritize personalized care with their veterinarian to minimize modifiable environmental risk. While Labrador Retrievers continue playing and working without interruption, CHF will continue to find and fund ground-breaking studies like this to help all dogs live longer, healthier lives.

For more information about cruciate ligament rupture genetic test availability, visit [www.vetmed.wisc.edu/lab/corl/canine-genetic-testing/](http://www.vetmed.wisc.edu/lab/corl/canine-genetic-testing/).

1. Wilke VL, Robinson DA, Evans RB, Rothschild MF, Conzemius MG. Estimate of the annual economic impact of treatment of cranial cruciate ligament injury in dogs in the United States. J Am Vet Med Assoc. 2005 Nov 15;227(10):1604-7.

## Youth Program



2018 Award Recipients, Cade & Ivan Chambers

The Luthenauer Young Handler program is entering its sixth year. Kids who are interested in working in retriever sports are encouraged to join; check out the website for rules and an application form at [http://www.etrclub.org/etrclub\\_youth\\_program.htm](http://www.etrclub.org/etrclub_youth_program.htm).

There is no application fee; if the applicant is not already part of a family membership, their membership fee will be paid for by the Luthenauer fund. The program will reimburse AKC Hunt test fees and any fees for other ETRC events such as club trials.

Yearly awards include a perpetual trophy along with a plaque to keep, and participation award for everyone in the program.

## ETRC Membership

Membership in ETRC is a bargain! The cost is \$25 for a single person or a family (one vote). Both new member and renewal forms are available online at <http://www.etrclub.org/join.htm> — just cut and paste the link, print it off, and send it along with your check to:

**Karen Edwards, Secretary /Treasurer, 254 Babbs Road, Lenoir City, TN 37771.**

Membership includes electronic copies of the newsletter, special announcements, eligibility to attend all ETRC Sponsored events, and consideration for end of the year awards. Don't miss out on the opportunity to make friends with like-minded dog people and learn more about our favorite sport. We are one of the most active Retriever clubs in the country — and have another great year lined up in 2022 with 5 AKC hunt tests, club trials, seminars, training days, and more.

The membership year runs from March 1 to February 28/29th; people who join after November 1 are also paid up for the following year.

## Newsletter Info

The ETRC newsletter is published monthly, as close to the 1st of the month as we can get it together. Send us your test results, new titles, litter info, new dogs, dog-related jobs and services, death notices, interesting articles, and any brags you care to share, along with pictures! Deadline is the 26th of the month but we can sometimes sneak something in a little late.... Send items to: Karen Edwards ([edwardskc@gmail.com](mailto:edwardskc@gmail.com)).

Numbering System: When I first took over the newsletter, I just continued on with the volume # from the last issue, then upped it by one every year. But, it makes no sense, and doesn't reflect how many years of newsletters we have anyway. So beginning with the January 2020 issue, the volume number is the last two digits of the year, in Roman numeral format — so this is now Volume XXII (for 2022).