

WORKING TRIALS CLASSIC NATIONAL CONVENORS REPORT OCTOBER 2017

Working Trials Classic suffered great loss in the passing of 3 highly esteemed judges and their loss has filtered down through all the disciplines. Their legacy is not forgotten, and their knowledge, enthusiasm and passion for sharing will be remembered for many years.

This year we saw the passing of:

Nic Claasen – EC&Border – 04.02.2017

Liz Hayward – EC&Border – 18.03.2017

Aily Hopewell – KZN – 04.05.2017

On a happier note, I would like to congratulate all the handlers and their dogs who have achieved titles of Champion & Grand Champion over the past year. Your hard work has paid off.

Then I would like to mention an outstanding achievement of One Woman and Her Dog... Mrs Trina Richardson and her Border Collie – BLUECHIP.

In 2016 in Cape Town, they obtained the title KUSA Nat. Tracker Dog III & KUSA Nat. Police Dog.
In 2017 in Port Elizabeth, they obtained the title KUSA Nat. Tracker Dog III & KUSA Nat. Police Dog.

To my knowledge this has never been achieved before – truly an outstanding accomplishment. Well done Mrs Richardson.

WORKING TRIALS REPORT – KWA-ZULU NATAL – courtesy of Di Turner

Unfortunately Working Trials in KZN has ceased to exist. A few interested people keep asking for shows, but at this stage nobody is prepared to run them as there are very few people who would compete. Off the top of my head I would say there are about three or four competitors, with a couple of dogs each.

Going through the judges list, as far as I can work out I am the only judge in the province, (and also one of the competitors). There are three judges, Peter Wickham, Jeanette Pickford and GM Smith who can Judge CD and need a TD I appointment, but unfortunately they are all lapsed.

Natal Rottweiler Club are having a CD Test at their open show in October, which I am judging, so hopefully we will be able to gauge if there are some interested people around and maybe get something going again.

From the above, let's hope that the "phoenix can rise from the ashes" and once again KZN will be on the map with Working Trials.

Status of Judges in KwaZulu Natal is as follows:

Ints	Surname	Level	Status
D	Turner	TDIII	Current
G	Smith	TD1 N-C	Lapsed
J	Pickford	TD1 N-C	Cancelled membership
P	Wickham	TDII	Lapsed
A	Hopewell	Deceased	

WORKING TRIALS REPORT – WESTERN CAPE – courtesy of Vincent Fry

This year got off to a bad start with 2 Non Champ Wt's being cancelled due to the heat & dry snakey conditions.

Beg CD & CD was held at several Obedience Shows (4). CD was only put on at 2 Champ Trials together with Tracker Dog. The entries were very small – 2-4 entries. We have a large Beginner CD group but it is taking time to get to the 10 minutes out of sight.

5 Champ trials have been put on this year. We had to change venue again this year as the farmer had seeded "our field". The new field is somewhat smaller but sufficient.

No new TD Champions have been made up this past year. Just the 4 oldies that were made up prior to this year who are still competing. One dog Quando has obtained 16 TD3 qualifications – all of which are Ex so he will hopefully gain his Grand Champion Title once the new ruling is in force.

WUD – Three Champ Trials have been organised for this year with only 2-3 dogs participating. One handler has now gained 2 qualifications.

Judges: - 2 Licensed Judges V Fry & A Brooke

R Davis passed his second TD2 LJ appointment & completed his first TD2 official judging appointment in TD2.

G Land has yet to do her 2nd LJ appointment in TD2

There are 2 new CD judges that have passed the exams and done several CD appointments this year. J Twell & K Pohl.

We held 2 TT competitions this year with 17 tracks for this last one of the year!

We presume that the Nationals will be held in Gauteng in 2018 so we would like the Nationals to be held in the WC in 2019.

We hope that there will not be so many constant changes to the rules this coming year.

Thanks go to Rita Cook for her dedication to Working Trials.

Status of judges in Western Cape is as follows

Ints	Surname	Level	Status	
A	Brooke	TDIII	Current	
V	Fry	Fully Licensed	Current	
R	Davis	TDII	Current	
G	Land	TDI	Current	Needs to judge her second solo TD2 appointment
J	Twell	CD	Current	
K	Pohl	CD	Current	
F	Powrie	CD	Current	Last judged in 2015

WORKING TRIALS REPORT

EASTERN CAPE & BORDER – courtesy of Dr. Charles Hayward & Sam Lee-Angel

We had 26 Working Trials (Classic) /TT/WUD shows during 2017. They were well supported. Entries on average, Beginner CD x 5, CD x 3, WUD x 7, TT1 x 3, TT2 x 5, TT3 x 4, TT4 x 1, TT5 x 1. Extra shows were the Nationals: PD x 1, TD3 x 14, TT5 x 2, WUD x 9

KUSA Ch show: TD3 x 12; TD2 x 4, TD1 x 1, WUD x 10, CD x 1, TT2 x 5

EC

Status of judges in Eastern Cape and Border is as follows: From Dr. C Hayward/E Angell

Ints	Surname	Level	Status	Remarks
J	Machard	CD	Current	
I	Judd	CD	Current	Eligible to LJ TD1
J	Chandler	TD3	Current	
R A	Classen	TD3	Current	
W	Westra	TD3	Current	
E	Angell	TD3	Current	
D	Schoombie	CD	LAPSED	
S	Wantenaar	CD	LAPSED	
R	Shortland	CD	Current	Passed entrance exam. Needs to judge solo
L	Esterhuysen	CD	Current	Eligible for LJ at TDI Level

Here I must Congratulate Eastern Province and Border Working Trials and Obedience Sub-Committee on the biggest ever KUSA National event for Working Trials Classic, WUD and TT, together with the

KUSA Championship Show. Well done to you all on the standard of the Show. I was privileged to be there as a competitor for both of the events and was amazed such smooth running of the Show(s).

To all of Committee who choreographed the whole weekend, kudo's to you all. You have a fantastic 'TEAM'. I hope you will all continue to work together in the years to come. The weather, well, as written by an unknown author....Whether the weather be cold; Or whether the weather be hot; We'll weather the weather; Whatever the weather; Whether we like it or not!

And on that note... Once again, congratulations.

GAUTENG – status of judges – taken from the KUSA website.

Ini	Surname	Level	Status	
G	Baigrie	CD	Current	
SJ	Chuter	PD	Current	
RM	Cook	PD	Current	
A	Fry	TD2	Lapsed	No longer judging – moved to Western Cape
D	Gerber	CD	Current	
E	Jammy	PD	Lapsed	last judged 2013 – no longer judging
C	King	TDII	Current	
TE	Kruger	THIS IS A GUNDOG JUDGE – NOT A WORKING TRIALS CLASSIC JUDGE – Yet still reflected as a WTClassic judge when searching on KUSA website for Working Trials judges.		
CE	Kruger	CD	Current	Last judged in 2011
RW	Muller	CD	Current	Does not want to pursue beyond this point at this stage
C	Patterson-Abrolat	PD	Current	Fully Licensed
MD	Pietersma	TDII	Current	Has completed her first TDIII LJ appointment
MD	Pietersma	WUD	Current	
C	Richardson	TDIII	Current	Looking to pursue PD License
EC	Ryan	TDII	Current	Hopefully will pursue TDIII & WUD
R	Strange	PD	Current	Last judged in 2013
Y	Taentzer	CD	Current	Does not want to pursue beyond this point
SF	Woodiwiss	TDII	Current	Last judged WTC in 2012

Gauteng – Report back – DOGS PC – courtesy Mrs Patterson-Abrolat

Mrs Patterson-Abrolat completed her PD Learner Judging appointments and had her reports passed. We congratulate her and welcome a new judge in the PD Stakes.

There was an agreement between DOGS PC and NAPC to host training sessions for TD2 judges to become WUD judges Mrs M Pietersma completed her 2 workshops for Working Utility Dog and has been awarded her judges license for this discipline – we congratulate her and welcome a new judge in the WUD stakes – Mr Ryan, due to work commitments has not been able to attend at this stage. We trust he will be able to do this in the near future.

Mrs Richardson is still pursuing her PD LJ appointments – unfortunately at this time, there are only two dogs in this stake and one of them is hers. We are ever hopeful that a TDII handler and dog will move into this stake.

There was also an agreement between DOGS PC and NAPC to host and an aspirant judges training course was offered on 27th November 2016. This was very successful and the DOGS PC representative, Mrs C Patterson-Abrolat ran this course and the examination afterwards. The two aspirant judges, Mr G Baigrie and Mr D Gerber successfully passed their examination and have both completed their two learner judging appointments on 9th April and 4th June respectively, their cards were endorsed and they have been added to the judges list. Mr Gerber will have judged his first solo appointment for Companion Dog on 3rd September and Mr Baigrie will judge his first solo appointment on 11th January 2018.

NAPC – report back

Between clubs domiciled with DOGS PC and NAPC, and the assistance of Transvaal Working Trials Sub Committee, Gauteng host 12 Working Trials Classic shows per annum and 2 TT shows (which we hope will increase in the future). Some of the folk which serve on the NWTrSC are the same folk who serve on the Provincial Sub Committees, as well as Transvaal Working Trials Sub Committee... a good number of them are Judges as well. Kudos to them for their hard work and sacrifice.

Provincial Council Sub Committees

Land is always at a premium and the various sub committees work hard to have a working relationship with the land owners in order for Trials to take place. I applaud all those involved in flying the flag high for this discipline.

The various sub committees are working hard at promoting Working Trials Classic and the WUD stake.

However, it is sad to see and hear of the ongoing “politics” with personality clashes rife in the provinces. We are all in this together and if we insist on severing links in chains, the damage will be irreparable. It is our “job” to encourage “new kids on the block” as they will be “those who come after us – our legacy”. Let’s encourage them, show them the ropes, when they fall, be there to pick them up, it is not a death sentence, it is a stumble and can be rectified. I have every faith in all the Provinces to work towards promoting the world of Working Trials Classic, which, according to me, is the greatest discipline of all, **everything** is unknown. In fact the only certainty is the **unknown**.

My resignation at Provincial level on the Sub Committee has been submitted and, as this is my last year on the NAPC Sub-Committee representing Working Trials Classic; and as National convenor, I must say that over the years it has been an honour to work with the folk representing the Provinces, which they do admirably. Don’t become discouraged work together for the good of the sport – grow the sport, don’t let it die, it truly is a wonderful sport.

In closing, it has been a wonderful journey over the years, a journey which has taught me so much and your confidence in me and support of me has been truly amazing and I would like to thank you all for the part you have played in taking Working Trials Classic to the next level. I wish my successor every success and trust you will all support him or her the way you did me.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rita Cook', with a large, stylized initial 'R'.

Rita Cook
National Convener 2017