

Field Trial Management System©

Overview

www.fieldtrial.info

Background

Owning, training, working and trialling dogs has increased dramatically over the past 50 years and shows no signs of diminishing in popularity. The consequence is that the demand on Field Trial Clubs and Societies is increasing; membership lists run into the hundreds, an owner can be a member of 30, 40 or more Clubs and applicants to run in a Trial can well exceed 150. Whilst the conduct of Trials is 'regulated' by the Kennel Club, it falls to a Field Trial Secretary to administer and manage the process of organising and running a Trial from start to finish. In addition there is the responsibility of managing membership lists, subscription renewals, standing orders, etc. Many have taken advantage of modern technology using office automation to help them; some (but not all) Clubs have their own web sites but the task of keeping them up to date is clearly challenging as many are out of date.

Some Clubs place their Schedules on their web site and provide downloadable Entry Forms. The problem faced by a Field Trialler who belongs to 40 Clubs is to try to remember how they are to receive Schedules which could be by post, by email or from the web site depending on the Club's preference, or a combination of all three methods.

So with modern technology and the power of the Internet, the Field Trial Management System© was conceived and born. It was born out of need and necessity and not simply because if it is a computer it must be better. Some Clubs might use the system, some will continue with their current manual systems – but here is a choice.

How does FTMS© help?

FTMS concentrates all the information required to manage Trials and Working Tests on one system via one web site. It also helps with the administration of members and subscriptions.

- **Improved member service**
 - Automated email reminder service for:
 - New Trial
 - Draw Closing date
 - Result of Draw
 - Enter a Trial on-line
 - View the outcome of the Draw on-line
 - See the results on-line
 - No waiting for the post.
- **More effective planning.**
 - Real-time Calendar showing all Trials from all Clubs
- **Reduced costs and increased revenues.**
 - Reduction in postage and stationary costs
 - Significant reduction in administration effort
 - Cuts wastage and helps the environment
- **More effective management**
 - No missing emails or 'lost' phone calls
 - Freedom for members to access information when and where they like – on the move or at home.
 - Global presence 24/7

What is the Field Trial Management System©?

To put it simply FTMS© is an on-line management system that guides a Field Trial Secretary through the process of setting up a Trial and guides a member through the process of entering and (hopefully) running in the Trial. So the benefits are as follows:

- Members. A person need only be on the system once thus preventing duplication across all Clubs. So if a person's details change, then that information is available across the system.
- Dogs. The system contains an extensive database of dogs and parentage, qualifications and prefixes. This means that when entering a dog into a Trial, the details of that dog are immediately accessible.
- Clubs. Clubs and Ft Secretary contact details are always available, in one place.
- Judges. A list of Judges is always available.
- Owners. Details are entered once and once only.
- 'One stop shopping' No need to trawl through 120 web sites – Trials are all displayed in one place.
- Enter a Trial on-line – no paper and no postage (or getting lost in the post).

How is FTMS© technically administered and supported?

- FTMS© is hosted behind the latest Cisco firewalls and is accessed via a web browser.
This not only enables the user to access the system from any computer with an Internet connection but also removes the need for any local dedicated IT resources (web sites, hardware, staff, etc.)
- Data security is enhanced by the use of User names and Passwords. Each user name has an associated privilege level, which allows access to specific data only.
- Access security
- The 'Help' menu gives the user rapid access to the:
 - User Guide
 - Systems support

How much does FTMS cost?

There are real costs attached to hosting, supporting and managing the system, which need to be recovered in order to underpin the future of FTMS.

For a Club to join there is no charge to use FTMS.

Members who wish to register for access to the system will be charged an annual subscription.

Sign up now!

The FTMS system is run for and by Clubs, Societies and its members. It does not replace a Club's web site but complements it. Although incorporating strict access rules the ethos of the system is to allow Clubs and Members to add and maintain their own information without the constraints and bureaucracy of any central administration. The modules are written to comply with all Kennel Club regulations - in fact because the system guides the user through a number of procedures it makes adherence to the rules easier.

Your Club and your Members will benefit from the FTMS system. Why not call me now or simply register for access to the site.

The FTMS system is a low cost alternative whose main benefits are:

- ✓ Powerful, fast and efficient communication tool and medium
- ✓ The most environmentally friendly way to run an organisation
- ✓ Very inexpensive way to reach your members and interact with them
- ✓ Office cost savings
- ✓ Freedom for members to access information where & when they like
- ✓ Global presence 24/7

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