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**2024 MAI in  
Carnation, WA  
June 9-16, 2024**

A look back at the 2023 MAI in Giddings, TX was another great success for club and all the amateur's entered into the event.

188 dogs were entered into the MAI with 93 in Flight A and 95 in Flight B. 36 dogs passed in Flight A and 51 dogs passed in Flight B. 385 dogs qualified for the 2023 MAI.

Special thank you to Dave Christianson the event chairman of the 2023 MAI. Dave truly worked on this event for over a year. This was one of the best organized events to date thanks to Dave.

Again, this year flight coordinators Jeff Bundy in Flight B and Boogie Lejeune in Flight A worked their tails off to ensure everything ran smoothly. A full week of pre-national setup and a full week of running each test required great organizational skills and a lot of desire to make the MAI a success for all. Thank you to all the committee members, board members, and contestants who help with the event.

The judges for each flight also put a challenging national together for the MAI in Giddings, TX. The property for the event was in fantastic condition for the event and a huge thank you to the Rodger and Kay Fuller.



Flight A judges Mike Collson and Richard Gravely along with Flight B judges Fred Collins and Patty Polish the bar high for fair and challenging tests. You can see all the diagram setups and videos on the blog page.



## MAH6

A new addition to the Master Amateur Retriever Club Hall of Fame to announce! The first MAH6 are listed on the website and are: Borderline's No Pick MH MAH6 owned by Sallie Sullivan, JT's Double Trouble Alter Ego MH MAH6 owned by Jace Tramontin, Stellar's Don't Rock The Juke Box MH MAH6 owned by Dede & Wayne Paterson.

## JOHN O. BLACKBIRD AWARD 2023

The 5<sup>th</sup> co-recipients of the John O. Blackbird Memorial Award were presented to two individuals this year. Sam Ferguson and Ellison Armfield. You can find a touching article on both on the Master Amateur web site.



## SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS

I am truly amazed of the generous support from our sponsors and to see some of our sponsors running in the event.

Please thank and support our sponsors: Purina, Avery, Garmin, Dogta, Kent Cartridge, Zinger Winer, Gerbino & Associates, Up Close Photo, EntryExpress, and Retriever News.

*Thank you!*  
... to our generous Sponsors!

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Photo by Leah Kowalski

MARC sincerely thanks you for all your contributions and support!





Start planning to attend the 2024 Master Amateur Invitational in Carnation, WA June 9-16. This event will help our northern members better prepare to run the MAI with a June event. The Board of Directors decided to drop the number of qualifications back to 4 passes.

**The Rainier Hunting Retriever Club Fall hunt test will be held on the 2024 MAI grounds in Carnation, WA August 12-13.**

New board members were elected at the MAI in Giddings, TX this year and include Doug McGuire Director for the West Central Region, Jace Tramontin VP for the Central Region. Anne Millane has accepted the position for Secretary.

Submitted by

Mike Heard

Communication Director