



Master National Retriever Club

Jack Combs – Past President

After nine years as a Board of Director, I was honored to serve as President of the Master National Retriever Club for the 2019 event.



My primary responsibility as President is this year's Master National in Cheraw, SC. I along with the Master National Board am committed to developing solutions to issues associated with our unprecedented growth over the past eight years. We have doubled the number of flights and nearly tripled the number of dogs entered. In Corning, CA in 2010 we had three flights and 360 dogs. This year we expect six or seven flights with an anticipated entry of 925+ dogs. To manage this growth we must develop a new model for event staffing

and Board management of the event.

The Master National annual event provides an opportunity for owners to continue to train their Master Hunters and to continue to test the merits of their retrievers. In so doing we are continuing to develop our dogs and to build best training practices along the way. The Master National is a venue where amateurs and professionals alike can participate at the highest levels. While we embraced our tremendous growth and popularity, we remain committed to maintaining this Premiere National Hunt Test retriever event.

After 35 years, I recently retired from teaching Public Policy and Social Science Research Methods at Brown University in Providence, RI. Many of the skills I imparted to my students I apply to the MNRC by way of analysis and forecasting.

With the help and mentoring of many friends along the way, I have trained and handled four Standard Poodles to Master Hunter titles. In 2009 in Texas, my Poodle Ten became the 1st and only Poodle to Qualify at the Master National. Ten also passed in 2012 in Alabama. Her pups, Dime and Smoke competed in their first Master National event in 2018.

Mia and I split our time now between Wickford, Rhode Island and Georgia/Florida. I am a member of the Tallahassee Hunting Retriever Club, Fall Line Retriever Club and Wire Grass Retriever Club.