

# **Year of Induction 2022**

## **Category – Prominent Persons**



***Elio Colasimone***

### **Club Activities**

A love of the outdoors while growing up in rural Queensland helped shape a lifetime passion for hunting and fishing for Elio.

A chance exposure to the German Shorthaired Pointer gundog breed led to being drawn to like-minded hunters using the same or other gundog breeds and eventually into the world of gundog sports in general.

He became a founding member of the **Wide Bay Working Gundog Club**.

Roles undertaken amongst many included:- Club President, Vice President, Treasurer and Training Coordinator. As per the norm it involved the miscellaneous procuring of game for trials, attending to equipment, organising blanks, managing events, aligning access to properties and participating in the coordination of Spaniel Retriever Field Trials, Utility Gundog Field Trials and Retrieving Trials that the club ran.

### **Trial- Judging/Stewarding/Managing**

Elio has been involved in multiple Pointing Breed/ Spaniel/Retriever and Retrieving Trials as a either competitor, trial manager, gunner, judge and in various stewarding roles or in whatever capacity was needed on the day both in Australia and overseas.

Elio has judged many trials from Novice upwards including State and National Championships in both Utility Field Trials and Retrieving Trials.

**In Field:** He has managed, stewarded and gunned at All Pointing Breeds, Spaniel/Retriever and Utility Gundog Field Trials. He has judged UD Field Trials up to State Championships in QLD, NSW, VICTORIA and three Nationals -one in Qld and two Nationals which were held in Victoria. He also judged Field Trials overseas in Argentina.

**In Retrieving:** He has judged/managed/stewarded at trials up to Championship level and judged State Championships in- QLD, NSW, VICTORIA, SA and WA and a National in QLD.

He helped coordinate the 2015 National Retrieving Championship held in the Bundaberg area and organised the grounds for the very first Utility Field Trial State Championship held in Qld.

### **Owner/Breeding**

Elio has bred a string of titled German Shorthaired Pointers at his SAETTA Kennel including:

**FT. CH. SAETTA ARKO**  
**NAT. FT. & RT CH SAETTA ALTO**  
**FT. & RT. CH. SAETTA ABRAHAM**  
**FT. CH. SAETTA BANDITO**  
**FT. CH. SAETTA CASSANDRA**  
**FT. CH. SAETTA CHLOE**  
**RT. CH. & FT. CH SAETTA DEAN**  
**NAT. FT. CH. SAETTA DEL PIERO.**

Two of the dogs he bred and handled were deemed as being worthy of being inducted into the ANKCs Field and Retrieving 'Hall of Fame'

**Nat. FT CH & RT CH Saetta Alto CM (Inducted 2002) ,**  
**Nat. FT CH (2000/2004) Saetta Del Piero RRD (Inducted 2010)**

### **Handling/Trial History**

To date he has personally titled seven gundogs including winning five UD Field Trial State Championships and three UD Field Trial National Championships.

**Dogs owned and handled by Elio that gained titles include:**

**FT CH Bulkuru Ruby CM (Qld State UD FT Championships 84/85/87),**  
**Nat. FT CH & RT CH Saetta Alto CM ( UD FT National 90 – Qld UD FT State 94/95) ,**  
**FT CH Saetta Chloe**  
**Nat FT CH (2000/2004) Saetta Del Piero CM**  
**RT CH Macropus Don.,**  
**RT CH Yorifeld Quartz,**  
**FT CH Yorifeld Topaz.**

A keen hunter he has mixed with folk using all manner of breeds of gundogs in recreational hunts. His greatest satisfaction was winning five UD FT State Championships and three UD FT Nationals with dogs that were being used for everyday hunting.

### **Other**

Elio has been a member of the Qld RAFT and assisted at National RAFT level for a number of years fulfilling relevant review roles.

He overviews the induction, training, development, and elevation of working gundog ANKC judges in Qld. At a personal and social level he has mentored a range of people with various breeds in preparing their dogs to get the best out of them for general gundog work.

Elio played a key role in the drawing up and establishment of the Rules for a new gundog discipline introduced in 2019-the **All Pointing Breeds Field Trials** and the tweaking of **Utility Field Trial** rules to cope with the loss of game seasons in WA, NSW, the ACT and Qld.

He represented Dogs Qld on the ministerial appointed Duck and Quail Management Committee that oversaw the implementation of the Duck and Quail harvest periods in Qld and was a volunteer 'Quail Identification' tester for the Department of the Environment.

Elio and his dogs were involved in helping to put together one of the first – DVD/VIDEOS produced in Australia aimed at gundog enthusiasts–' **Working Gundogs in Australia**'.

He has published a training manual for handlers of All Purpose Gundogs —'A **Practical Guide To Preparing Utility Gundogs for Hunting and Competition – A Training Program**' for recreational hunters and triallers and written gundog articles for magazines such as '**Feather and Fur**'.

He has also assisted the ANKC National RAFT by re-designing the application templates and sitting on the selection panel for the **Field and Retrieving Hall of Fame** for a number of years.

**Author: Mr. Don Nicol**