

# Utah Derby

## April 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>

by John Heiner



Day #1

### 6 Moments that Define this Year's Derby and Kurzhaar Kulture

We recently wrapped up an incredible weekend at the Desert Mountain Region's Derby in Eagle Mountain, Utah. We had people visit from California, Nevada, Idaho, Utah, Wyoming, Arizona, Texas, South Carolina, and Maryland. I estimate over 50 people attended including observers, handlers, and judges. The crowd comprised past, current, and future DK owners who are

passionate about the breed and want to take part in the momentum that is building in Utah.

Congratulations to dogs and handlers on such a great 2 days. It is our hope that the energy of this Derby will propel each of you further to complete the next rounds of tests this fall!

### Derby 2021 Utah Test results:

Ada vom Preesterholt, D1, Fw: SG(J)  
Bentley vom Mountain View, D1 (4h Point), Fw: V  
Denali von den Sieben Sohnen, D1 (4h Search), Fw: SG  
Cina vom Golden Sun, D1, Fw: SG  
Lilly vom Canuck, D1, Fw: SG  
Basil vom Mountain View, D1 (4h Search), Fw: SG(J)  
Axel vom Mountain View, D2, Fw: SG  
Abby vom Bosque River, D1, Fw: V  
Astro vom Mountain View, D1, Fw: SG  
Cap vom Golden Sun, D1, Fw: SG  
Bronx vom Mountain View, D1 Fw: V  
Ash vom Preesterhold, D1, Fw: SG(J)  
Duke von den Sieben Sohnen, DQ1 (4h Search)  
Don Preuben Farben, D3

Now, I could walk you down memory lane recounting the moments of each day; however, I wont bore you with those fine details. What I will share with you is 6 moments from this year's Derby when Kurzhaar Kulture was front and center. But first, let's define Kurzhaar Kulture. There is a reason the DKGNA was established as a club

here in the US. At its core is a commitment to integrity in testing, quality in breeding, and welcoming in community. Building “Kulture” as we describe it here in Utah is as important to this movement as the breed itself.

### Here are 6 moments when Kurzhaar Kulture was on full display:

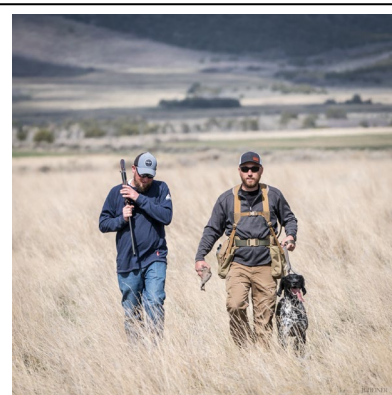


Alec Losse & Madison Hyde with Astro vom Mountain View D1, Fw: SG

**Madison Hyde:** If you have not met Madison and her fiancé Alec Losse, you have not met two of the most committed DKGNA members we have. Together they manage the social media presence of the Desert Mountain Region and DKGNA. Madison also manages graphic design and swag for these groups. You will often find Madison behind her Sony camera at events capturing many of the incredible shots you see circulate. You will see Alec serving the club as a mentor, gunner, or planting birds to name a few. What you may not know about Madison is she has taken the initiative to design and promote stickers that have generated

hundreds of dollars for the DKGNA. Visit TetonUpland on Etsy. She was not asked, she simply stepped up and found a way to uniquely build the DKGNA and our brand. At this year’s Derby, she generated over \$500 for the DKGNA. **Kurzhaar Kulture is stepping up, seeing a need, and filling it!**

**Trevor Gneiting:** I called Trevor last year and asked if he will fulfill two roles within the region. 1. Game Keeper 2. Training Day Coordinator. I am not sure I thought through that given the fact that Trevor would be preparing his own dog for Derby and Solms this year while trying to manage those roles. It was a lot to ask. Game has been tough to find here in Utah. Not only did Trevor secure a plan A on chukar, but he also secured a plan B in the case something went wrong. When conducting a test, always have plans A, B, and C. Well, something went wrong. Our plan A didn’t have the birds we paid for, for the event. There was a mix up in which weekend they were needed. The good news is our supplier made it happen with a rush trip to Colorado. That said, Trevor was running all over town picking up bird boxes and birds late into the night the day before the event. This was an event he was



Trevor Gneiting, Bentley vom Mountain View D1 (4h Point) Fw: V, Josh Morris (Gunner)

running his own pup in as well. **Kurzhaar Kulture is late nights and early mornings to make these events happen!**



Paul Kennedy and Coon vom Hochland

**Paul Kennedy:** Paul Kennedy joined as a spectator while picking up his vom Hochland “C” litter puppy “Coon” in Utah. He had come all the way from South Carolina. Not familiar with the group, it would have been easy and acceptable for Paul to sit on the sidelines, enjoy the event, and observe. We love it when visitors can come and do just that. That said, Paul had different plans. Paul was busy from start to finish planting birds, setting up the Zuchtschau tents and arena, packing equipment, and more. Paul, thanks for stepping up! The East

Coast is lucky to have you and Coon vom Hochland! **Kurzhaar Kulture is jumping in with two feet and getting involved.**

**Scott Jacob:** This event doesn’t happen without Scott Jacob. In fact, Scott may have just inadvertently volunteered himself for any test in the foreseeable future. If you want to run a great test – call Scott and pick his brain. Judge Francois Aldrich commented it was one of best run tests he has experienced in all his time judging. Scott has spent some time over in Germany attending and observing well run tests. What I love about Scott is his mindset. It’s not about doing what is required in order to hold a test, it’s about making the test even better then required. Scott thought through details like microphone systems so the judges could be heard to photography, signage, judge gifts, and branding. **Kurzhaar Kulture is doing things better then required.**



Scott Jacob, vom Adlertal



All attention on Francois as he read the days results

**Desert Mountain Membership:** We have worked hard to create an environment of inclusion for all. It’s not the good ole’ boys club of club’s past. We have young mothers handling dogs for the first time to youth handlers like Malia Jacob leading many of the club functions to redneck hunters that just like huntin.’ We have Mormons, Catholics, republicans, democrats, and more rednecks hunters that just like huntin.’ We have construction workers, doctors, welders, salespeople, politicians, executives,

mechanics, web developers, pilots and redneck hunters that just like huntin.’ It was awesome watching this diverse group welcome one another and mingle during the whole course of this year’s Derby. It’s a large group with diverse backgrounds but **Kurzhaar Kulture is creating an environment where we say “come one, come all!”**



Barret Fiss (Right), Bronx vom Mountain View D1, Fw: V, Dave Braithwaite (Left), Duke von den Sieben Sohnen, DQ1 (4h Search)

**Barrett Fiss:** We like to rally around our handlers. It’s awesome watching first time DK handlers learn and grow. Barrett didn’t miss a training day. He prepped hard. It’s no wonder he and his dog performed so well. We don’t need praise, that’s not the point of this mention. That said, Barret said it best on a recent social media post: “The first of many walk offs the test field. Grateful I was greeted by my biggest supporter, and one of my best friends, my dad. Huge congrats to everyone who got it done today. I know we have been thinking about today for a long time. Huge thanks to the DKGNA for making the move to Utah easy and making this place feel like home. Massive thank you to vom Mountain View (Jeffrey Tims) for sending this dog home with me, he’s incredible. Thanks to vom Hochland (Tyler Smith) for starting these lines, getting

this Utah Chapter moving and being one passionate DogFather. Thanks to von Wasungen (John Heiner) for the incredible photos and the borrowing of a bird launcher to train. Thanks to vom Adlertal (Scott Jacob) for coordinating and making this test run like steel on ice. Thanks to the Desert Mountain DK couple for the gear and being incredibly welcoming to this river bottom kid. Thanks to Trevor Gneiting for the securing of birds, running of training days, and just having bud’s littermate because it’s cool. Finally, the biggest thank you to Mel for being an incredible momma to this dog and always understanding the time required to train this dog. This group is different. I have never seen dog trainers be so supportive and want everyone to succeed like this group. This is a lot, but Ive been waiting for this since I was a kid. Solms here we come! **Kurzhaar Kulture is expressing gratitude to those that help us along the way!**

So, in the spirit of gratitude, we would be remiss to not thank so many more. Jorg Kaltenegger for helping with paperwork even when he was sick. Frank O’Leary for answering calls and questions day after day. All our additional field help including Brad Swenson, Tyler Smith and Jared Nowland. Malia Jacob for serving as scribe and assisting in the Zuchtschau. Tyler again for building the Zuchtschau arena and providing mentorship to so many. The list could go on. Most importantly a huge thanks to Francois Aldrich, Mark Peasley, and Shane Loveland. These judges are the best in the business, and they emulate what it means to have “integrity in testing.” Their



Judges Mark Peasley, Francois Aldrich, Shane Loveland (L-R)

knowledge and desire to teach is unmatched. Their effort to bring out the best in each dog sincere. Thank you judges!



Day #2

Now, next year's Derby in Utah is going to be huge. I suspect there won't be a DKGNA test of its size anywhere in the US in 2022. That doesn't make it any better than other tests. What it does do is get us excited. We are excited about Kurzhaar Kulture being built. We are excited about the momentum of this region. We are excited about the dogs we've imported and bred. We are excited about hunting behind our dogs. Things are good in Utah and the Desert Mountain

Region. As fellow members, we look forward to seeing the exact same thing happen all over the country. Remember Kurzhaar Kulture is whatever we make of it. It's not limited to these 6 examples. It is expecting the best out of us and our dogs. Go do it! Let's dominate the Deutsch Kurzhaar scene here in the US.

If you have interest in seeing a catalog of pictures of this event, please email me at [heinerjd@yahoo.com](mailto:heinerjd@yahoo.com)