

2022 Desert Mountain Solms
September 24-25
by Madison Losee

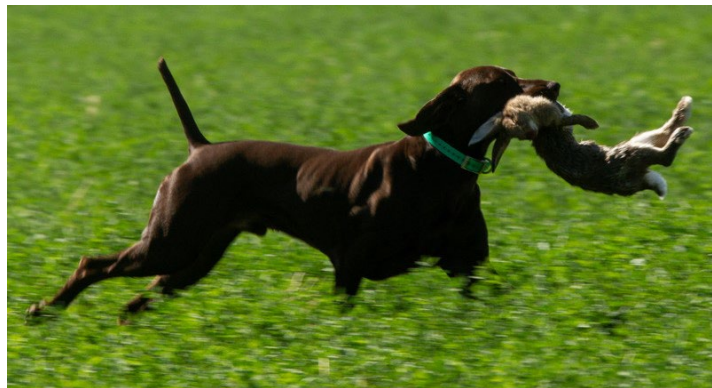


The Desert Mountain Solms was held in Benson, Utah this year at the very nice grounds of *Muddy Road Outfitters*. It was unseasonably warm for

Northern Utah in September but the dogs overcame this and performed extremely well. The judges and grounds made for a great experience for the many first time handlers. We could not have asked for a more fair and thorough group of judges as they did an excellent job maintaining a fair test throughout and keeping the handlers and gallery involved and educated through each step of the test.

It was the first Solms I have been to that so many dogs not only passed, but passed with Prize 1s. Around every turn, the dogs kept pulling through. At the end of day one we had 5 dogs with a prize one score and one dog with no prize. Unfortunately, day 2 did not fare so well. We had just one dog running which after running the field work nearly perfect, failed to return with the rabbit.

I would like to extend our gratitude to Jeff Martin and Thorsten Bäte. They took considerable time out of their schedules to travel from Canada and Germany respectively and brought a vast knowledge to the test that led to the creation of a testing environment that was very transparent and made clear each and every task that the dogs and handlers were asked to perform.



What made it all come together was the immense group of helpers who volunteered their time to assist in making the 2022 Desert Mountain Solms come together and flow smoothly. I can't thank them all enough for the help they offered and showing up to put together a memorable Solms.