

# NASDA Working Dog Trials

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## Hosted by

TLC Training and Consulting

Open to All Breeds and Mixed Breeds

## Strathmore Agriculture Society

22 Brent Blvd, Strathmore, AB T1P 1K1

Trial is held outdoors on uneven surfaces

All benching will be outdoor / out of vehicles

**July 24/25, 2021**


**6 Trials, 2 Days**

Limited Entries

Day of Entry available if capacity not reached

Move ups and lateral moves are allowed

Judges: Sheila Gibbons and Natasha Matthews

Classes Offered	Trailing & Locating Puppy Aptitude Test, Trailing & Locating I, Trailing & Locating II, Shed Dog I, Shed Dog II, Urban Locating Puppy Aptitude Test, Urban Locating I, Urban Locating II
Entries Close	<b>Pre-entries close July 15, 2021 midnight or when limit is reached</b> Entries accepted by email, mail or courier  Entry Limits: 8 hours of judging (approx. 100 runs per day)
Entry Fee	See fee schedule with Entry forms
	Permission has been granted by the North American Sport Dog Association for the holding of these working dog trials under the NASDA rules.

## Club Contact Information

Trial Chair: Sarah-Jane Petti

[sarahjane@chemies.com](mailto:sarahjane@chemies.com) (403) 990 -5853

**Dog Eligibility:**

- Dogs of any breed or mixed breed, 6 months of age or older on the date of the test may compete in Level 1 and above
- Dogs of any breed or mixed breed, older than 4 months of age but younger than 9 months of age may compete in Puppy Aptitude Test
- All dogs must be registered with NASDA to compete
- Deaf and/or blind dogs may compete in any event classes that are on leash
- Dogs with missing limbs or in wheelchairs are eligible to compete provided they have a veterinary note and do not appear to be in pain.
- Veterinary notes may be accepted by the judge as proof of soundness providing the dog does not appear to be visibly in pain.

**Dogs of any Dog Registration:**

Dogs must be registered with the North American Sport Dog Association. Registration is a one-time fee of \$10.00. You may register your dog online at <http://nasda.dog/registration/>. Registration may also be included with the entry form for the dog.

**Bitches in Season:**

Bitches in Season will be permitted to compete. Bitches in season must compete at the end of the class and wear britches. Please let the trial chair know a week prior to the trial if this occurs.

**Rules:**

Trial held under NASDA rules and regulations. For complete rules, visit [nasda.dog](http://nasda.dog)

**TLC Training and Consulting** reserves the right to remove any individual for any reason from the premises. Corrections, harsh training methods, abusive behavior towards dogs or people, and corrective equipment will not be tolerated. No refunds will be issued.

**Quarry:**

Gerbils will be used as quarry in order to comply with Alberta laws

**Awards:**

Awards will be handed out at the conclusion of the trial. Ribbons are awarded for qualifying score, Best of Breed and High in Class. New title ribbons will be awarded.

**Venue:**

Exhibitors will be crating in their vehicles.

The Strathmore Agriculture Society is located to multiple amenities, within a short drive (under 5 minutes), including restaurants, gas stations and hotels.

Porta-potties will be available for use by competitors on the trial site.

Camping is available at the trial site. For more information, please check:

<https://strathmoreag.com/parks-rentals>

**Refunds:**

No entries will be cancelled or refunded without a veterinarian's certificate.

### **Volunteers:**

Volunteer assistance will be required for time keeping, gate stewarding, and general assistance. Each time a person volunteers for a role (per round), they will receive a raffle ticket with a chance of winning a prize.

### **General Notice to Exhibitors:**

- Information about COVID protocols will be sent with information on parking and run orders approximately a week before the trial.
- Refunds will be mailed 7 days after the event.
- No refunds will be made for dogs that are dismissed on the day of the trial for having sutures, open wounds or are visibly lame. Judge's decision is final in these cases, even if a veterinary note is presented.
- No refunds will be made for cancellations after the closing date or entries which are absent, disqualified, excused or barred from competition by decision of the Trial Host.
- Exhibitors are responsible for complete, accurate and legible information on their entry forms.
- It is expressly understood that exhibitors alone are responsible for behavior of their dogs, children and/or guests. Any exhibitor whose dogs, children and/or guests repeatedly engage in unsafe or disruptive behavior may, at the discretion of the Trial Committee, be asked to leave the trial site. In such case, no refund on any entry will be made.
- All dogs must be penned, crated or on leash when not in the ring. All dogs must be under control when they leave the ring after their run. Any dog engaging in aggressive or out of control behavior when leaving the ring will be disqualified and/or required to leave the trial site. NO REFUND of fees will be paid.
- Exhibitors are responsible for being in the staging area when it is their turn to run.
- Please be courteous and pick up after your dog.
- All entries must be accompanied by entry fees to be valid. A declined payment or returned check does not constitute a valid entry. There will be a \$50 fee for any returned check or payment. Checks must be made payable to **TLC Training and Consulting**.
- **TLC Training and Consulting** reserves the right to refuse any entry without cause or explanation.

## Description of Classes:

### Trailing and Locating:

The purpose ... is to determine the abilities of all breeds of dogs to track, trail (follow), and locate a quarry above ground. Trials will be held in a natural hunting terrain. A successful Working Dog should work independently and at a distance from the handler.

Puppy Aptitude Test: <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1153972551433957>

Trail and Locate Level I: <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=536442843821858>

### Shed:

Searching for shed deer antlers is a growing pastime for whitetail deer hunters who are learning that the use of the canine greatly increases the odds of recovering shed antlers. A wide variety of dog breeds are successfully used for this purpose.

The purpose of NASDA Shed Dog events are to simulate this common field work. The fundamental feature of Shed Dog events are to show the ability of all breeds of dogs to locate and retrieve shed deer antlers.

### Urban Locating:

During the nineteenth century, the control of rats using terriers in urban areas was so prevalent it was turned into an amusement for gamblers at "rat pits" where dogs and quarry were set loose in pens and people bet on how many rodents the dog could dispatch. Rat catching was a full time occupation during that period. Modern activities exist which mimic the historic roots of dogs in the hunting field, including Earthdog, Brush Hunt, and Barn Hunt tests.

The purpose of the Urban level is to simulate the work done of both historic and modern urban hunting dogs. The fundamental features of the Urban Locating working tests are to show the dog's ability to locate a quarry in a decidedly human environment. The term "built environment" should be utilized here, and defined as any surroundings that are human-made or used for human activity. As such, appropriate environments may include urban parks, a street, a developed game space, a warehouse or a working barn as examples.

Urban Locating Level I: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0UY2dc-SBrw>

## General Rules (excerpt from rulebook):

### Equipment:

If competing on lead, dogs must wear a flat buckle or snap collar. Harnesses that are fixed – for example tracking or body harnesses are also permitted. Leashes should be long enough to provide adequate slack.

Martingale and slip collars may be used on the grounds but may not be utilized during an on-lead search. Head halters, prong collars, moving harnesses (such as "no-pull" harnesses) and any

harnesses that are designed to be correctional are not allowed. Electronic collars which provide vibration, shock, sound, or spray/chemical corrections are not permitted on trial grounds, however, GPS and location collars are permitted on course. Judges may request proof or to examine the collar should questions arise.

### **Special Equipment**

The dog should be comfortable with all special equipment and said equipment should not interfere with their ability to work. Note that there is a deduction for the dog "excessively fussing" with their equipment. Equipment should not interfere with the dogs' movement or the Judge's ability to evaluate the team's performance. If the handler must touch the dog to adjust the equipment then an additional deduction for touching the dog will be incurred.

The following dog equipment is permitted on grounds and while working:

- Boots / footwear
- Coats / jackets / sweaters
- Cooling coats
- Field guard / head net
- Goggles
- Locator collars (NO SHOCK, SPRAY or BUZZ)

Muzzles are permitted provided they meet the following requirements:

- Must be basket style
- Made of steel wire, plastic-coated steel wire, plastic, leather or biothane
- Must be properly fitted for the dog
- Must allow the dog to breathe freely.

The presence of a muzzle does not excuse a dog from any deductions or reprimands for misconduct or aggression.

### **Leash Requirements:**

Lines and leashes up to 30 feet in length of any material are permitted. Slip leashes are permitted to walk to the line but dogs must run on fixed equipment if running on lead. Flex-leashes are not permitted. All dogs must be leashed at the conclusion of the run to avoid deductions.

- Trail and locate / Shed Dog – leashes are optional at level I and II
- Urban Locating – leashes are required at all levels

### **Rewards:**

Dogs may be rewarded at all levels in the quarry area AFTER the judge verifies their success except where noted in the rules for each class. Rewards may include touch, praise, food and/or toys. These rewards must be presented without unduly disturbing or contaminating the search area.

Handlers are allowed to give verbal encouragement during the course without deduction providing it does not interfere with the search pattern of the dog. Handlers may provide a reward on course before completing their search for confidence or redirection purposes, but a food lure deduction of 5 points will be applied to their final score.

**Scoring:**

A qualifying score is earned when the dog correctly indicates the location of the quarry (and judge confirms it) within the allotted time and without exceeding the maximum number of deductions or committing a disqualifying deduction.

The perfect score is 25 points. 5 points will be deducted for any dog/handler team who enters or leaves the course off leash. Bonuses are awarded only to dogs achieving at least a minimum qualifying score of 20 points. High in Class bonus requires at least 3 competing dogs.

**Scoring:**

Placements are made by breed, first upon points in the class and any ties are to be sorted by the completed course time. Teams must earn the minimum qualifying score of 20 in order to receive bonus points. Any teams earning less than minimum qualifying points earn a NQ and do not keep their points.

**Level I and Level II**

A bonus of 5 points will be awarded to the highest scoring dog in each breed. Mixed breeds will be judged together. A bonus of 10 points will be awarded to the highest scoring dogs in the class.

**Fouling on Course:**

Dogs are permitted to foul on course without deduction providing that any solid waste is cleaned by the handler immediately. Time will not be stopped for the handler to clean up after their dog. A handler who fails to clean up after their dog, or who does not have proper equipment to do so, will be given a major deduction.

**Titles:**

Puppy Aptitude Tests – one qualifying score will earn a Puppy Aptitude Test title

Level I – 100 points total. Minimum qualifying score is 20 points.

Level II – 500 points total. Minimum qualifying score is 20 points. 400 points must be earned in Level II