

NOMAD NEWS

Northern Magic Agility Dogs

Last call for 2010 membership renewals! Thanks to those who have already sent them in. So far, approximately 50% of the members have renewed. If you don't plan to renew, please email me privately and I will take you off the list. Thanks.
Nancy Dashnaw, Membership Committee
agilityzone@yahoo.com

DECEMBER

2009

SEND LETTERS AND ARTICLES FOR THE NEWS BY THE 25TH OF THE MONTH TO THE ADDRESS ON THE BACK, OR E-MAIL: MAYAMCK@PSHIFT.COM

Winter Practice News—REVISED AND UPDATED

Below you will find the official start/end times for winter class and practice and some other important reminders

A couple of things to remember.

- We have been granted use of the arena for an earlier start time this year which means horses and people may still be moving about when we arrive.
- If you arrive at the barn prior to 9:30, please leave your dog in the car. We would prefer that dogs not enter the arena until after you have helped with the ring setup.
- If you are registered for a class and can not make your class, it is up to you to find a replacement. The replacement should be at the appropriate level to match the class.
- If the weather is bad in the morning, at the prerogative of the instructor, class may be moved to the afternoon time slot (12:15 til 2) to allow the roads to clear/weather to break. If that occurs there will be no practice that day. Information will be posted to the NOMAD Agility list and the instructor will contact all class participants. It is up to you as a member to check the list before you come to practice to see if any cancellations have been posted. If you are not on the list, find a buddy who is who might be willing to keep you updated.
- Due to the varied nature of the class, if the December class does not fill with full registrations, the individual days will be opened for registration at the rate of \$15/class. Contact Kim Ingraham at paws4funvt@gmail.com if you are interested in registering for a single class.
- During Class months (November & December), the instructors are entitled to private ring time from 11:30 to noon. No one is allowed to remain in the arena during that time. You and your dogs must leave the barn after class, even if you are coming back for practice. Crates and other belongings may be left in the arena. Additionally, if you are arriving for practice, please do not enter the barn before noon, not even to drop off your crate. This time is solely for the benefit of the instructor.

- Practice fees are \$10/dog (exact change or check is appreciated). You may work multiple dogs but if working more than 1 dog spot at a time you must pay for the additional spot. Alternatively, if you choose to only work 1 dog per turn you may switch between dogs, between turns, at your discretion. This includes course run thru's (if allowed) at the end of practice.

- Everyone is needed to help with equipment setup and tear down. If you're coming for class, please plan to arrive promptly at 9:30 in order to help set up and stay to help the instructor move equipment if necessary after your class. Likewise, if you're coming for practice, please plan to arrive promptly at noon for setup and staying for tear down at the end of practice. We understand that sometimes you can't stay for both but planning at least one or the other is appreciated by all.

November & December Schedule:

- 9:30 – setup for class.
- 9:45–11:15 – Winter class (1½ hrs.)
- 11:30-12:00 - Instructor ONLY
- 12:00 - setup for practice
- 12:15–2:15 – Winter Practice (2 hrs.)
- 2:15 – put away equipment, out by 2:30

January & February

- 9:30 – setup for League
- 9:45–12:00 - Winter Agility League Match (2¼ hrs.)
- 12:00 - setup for practice
- 12:15 - 2:15 - winter practice (2 hrs.)
- 2:15 - put away equipment, out by 2:30

Please note that the time schedule changes for January/February due to League play. Start time for practice will remain the same. Thank you!

Your Winter Practice Committee
(reply to Kim I. - paws4funvt@gmail.com)



USDAA Nationals, Scottsdale AZ. Team Relay. Lisa Barrett and Lynne von Trapp are standing ready to time and scribe. More next month

BRAGS

Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

November 4, 2009

October 28; Pug Dog Club of America National specialty AKC agility trial; Clemmons, NC

Ashley Fischer and Reggie

8" Open Preferred Fast 1st, Q and OFP title

Ashley Fischer and Daphne

8" Open Preferred JWW _____ 1st and Q

Oct. 24/25 ASCA Westfield, MA

Lynne von Trapp and Swix

Open Jumpers _____ 1st & Q

Open Jumpers _____ 1st & Q and title

Open Standard _____ 1st & Q

Don't forget --when sending your brags for the newsletter please format as seen on this page and below:
Date, Club, Venue, Location
Your Name and Dogs Name
Class Placement & Q or not

<http://nomadagility.com/>

NOMAD's Steering Committee

Contact them if you have questions or suggestions.

President (11/09-11/11)

Kit Erskine _____ 586-9932

Vice-President (11/09-11/11)

Cynthia Gilliland _____ 295-2659

Treasurer (11/08 - 11/10)

Linda Ladd _____ 879-3461

Secretary (11/09 - 11/11)

Kim Ingraham _____ 4540191

Members at Large

Don Denette (11/08 - 11/10) _____ 872-8767

Judy Frey (11/09-11/10) _____ 893-8698

Roberta Dumas (11/09-11/10) _____ 899-1158

In attendance: Lynne von Trapp, Cynthia Gilliland, Kim Rubin, Kim Ingraham, Linda Ladd, and Don Denette

Meeting called to order at 6:47 P.M.

Budget Review

Linda provided a review of the various committee budgets.

The Equipment Committee has budgeted to purchase a break-away tire for \$250; a new dog walk top plank for \$40; a MAD agility USDAA broad jump composite for \$200; four sets of tunnel holders for \$220 (enough for two tunnels) and Contact-a-coat for the teeter (\$65) and the table (\$35). They have also budgeted \$400 for general maintenance and supplies.

The Membership Committee has a projected total membership income of \$3290, based on our 2009 membership levels (44 working members, 7 working families, 16 supporting members, 6 supporting family, 1 junior handler). The Demo Committee budget projects the costs of the Champlain Valley Fair Demo will be offset by the \$100 stipend from we receive from the Fair.

The Winter Practice and Classes Committee created a budget based on projections of attendance at league play, practice and classes. They project a net income from practices, league and classes of \$515. Ann Andrlé is scheduled to teach a seminar March 6 and 7, and we plan to have a Show and Go in March.

We will spend \$500 for a new order of BFZ T-shirts (for 3 dozen). They are quite popular. Linda will also add a line in the budget for supplies (trash bags, surveyor's tape and signage) so these supplies are not split among trials, seminars and Camp as we have done in the past.

The Seminar Committee has budgeted for a \$1950 subsidy from the club for Camp NOMAD. The spring seminar with Ann Andrlé is expected to produce a net income of \$15; and the fall seminar with Mary Jo Lavin is expected to produce a net income of \$40.

Our NADAC judge, Carol Daggett, asked that we take 10% off her NADAC judge's fee (\$64) and donate it to a dog related charity. We will add her contribu-

tion to it to the charitable contribution we make as a club. Kim Rubin will send her a letter and let her know where her contribution was sent.

Bylaw Changes Proxies

We have 51 proxies and we had needed 48.8 for the changes to pass. There were 2 No votes on Item 1 but we still have enough Yes votes to pass Item 1. The SC decided that since we had enough votes that making phone calls to those members who did not return their proxies was not the best use of the SC's time.

Winter lessons/league

We will have league play beginning in January. Teams will consist of teams of 3 to 4 dogs (and handlers) with at least one dog being a beginner/novice dog, one being an intermediate and another being an expert/masters dog. League play will cost \$90 for the season. Kim I. has created the registration form and information sheet and will put it on the list and in the newsletter.

December is a potpourri of classes (a different instructor and class each week). If we don't get a full entry into a class, we will allow someone to register after the fact.

Winter practice

A season pass for winter practice will cost \$150. Practices are again \$10 each (and for each dog unless someone wants to rotate their dogs in, using no more time than someone with one dog). The tentative winter practice schedule will be 12:30 to 2:30 with all equipment packed up and all humans and dogs out by 3 p.m.

Survey results/ Trials in 2010

Kim I. presented the results of the trial and camp survey. We had 41 members respond. There was not a big difference between the number of members who wanted a CPE trial over a NADAC trial. Only 5 more people said they would want to do CPE over NADAC (10% of the respondents). A large number of members were in favor of the USDAA trial.

The SC explored why the USDAA trial (\$2308) projected a much bigger profit

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NOMAD Fall Meeting Minutes

November 8, 2009

than the NADAC trial (\$25). Entry fees brought in by USDAA and NADAC are almost identical. Our trial secretary fees are \$1300 for NADAC; and we are renting the equipment for \$850 for that trial and pay for our trial secretary's hotel and entries. We do not rent equipment for USDAA and our trial secretary fees are \$650. If we want to make money perhaps NADAC isn't the way to go. But is money the only consideration? There is community outreach to consider as well as the needs and desires of the membership.

After a brief discussion regarding the merits of the trials, the SC determined that we would revisit the issue at the Fall Membership Meeting and leave it to the club as a whole to determine which trials we would host next year.

The USDAA trial is scheduled for June 12 and 13, 2009. The NADAC trial is scheduled for August 21 and 22, 2010.

Camp NOMAD 2010

The possible dates for Camp NOMAD are August 13, 14, and 15, 2010. The Seminar Committee will arrange the details.

Logowear

Kim I. will assemble some choices and get an email out to gauge the interest of the membership.

Audit due first quarter 2009

We need an Audit Committee for the audit which is due in the first quarter of 2010. Kim I. is willing to be on the committee and advise.

Nominating Committee

Kim R. moved to accept the slate from the Nominating Committee and the motion was seconded by Kim I. The motion passed unanimously

Meeting adjourned 8:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Rubin

Secretary

24 members in attendance and 3 proxies

Meeting called to order 2:04 P.M.

Approval of Spring Meeting Minutes

Carla Dunbar moved to approve the Spring Meeting Minutes and the motion was seconded by Michelle Force. The Spring Meeting Minutes were unanimously approved.

Budget Review

We've added a General Supplies line in the budget for signage, surveyor's tape and trash bags instead of splitting the cost of these items between trials and Camp. We are looking to finish out the year ahead by \$1300. We've been very successful with our BFZ t-shirts (and are placing a new order for 36 for \$496). We sell them for \$20 each, and we give away some at our trials for those who earn them at our trial.

There is an extra charge in office supplies. Linda wanted to let everyone know that \$288 of the budget is for an upgrade to our accounting software, which is necessary and will make Linda's life easier. We could budget it for this year since we are in the black or we can leave it in for next year.

Linda budgeted a \$200 increase for insurance, which is a conservative estimate. The USDAA trial chairs provided us with the budget for this year, and the numbers appear extremely reasonable and frugal. The judge's fees are zero because the judge wants to come to Stowe and stay at the TFL that she is offering to judge for free. We are only paying for her travel from Texas. It speaks to the whole club - we throw a nice party and treat judges well. The net profit for the trial is projected to be \$2300.

The NADAC trial chairs submitted two budgets. The net profit on the first trial budget is \$25. There was an alternative budget submitted with an eye to saving money and increasing the profit and includes reduced trial secretary fees if members will volunteer to perform the trial secretary work.

The Camp NOMAD budget includes a \$1950 subsidy by the club.

Income

Membership income is based on the number of members we have now (the budget does not assume an increase or decrease in membership levels or a change between working v. supporting memberships). These numbers represent very fairly what we are going to do. Our total projected income in the proposed 2010 budget \$36,275. Any money for 2010 memberships received in 2009 (October through December) are put in a separate account heading and do not get accounted until 2010.

Caroline moved to approve the budget as is (but with the caveat that we can amend portions of the budget as needed depending on the outcome of discussion regarding trials or other topics). Kit Erskine seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Bylaw Changes

All bylaws changes passed with 52 proxies (there were 3 no votes on change one but enough yes votes - 49 to pass). We needed 48.8 votes to pass each change.

The first change simply changed the requirement that dues must be paid upon notice from the treasurer. The new language states that dues are payable upon notice. Currently, the chair of the membership committee notifies members when their dues are due. The language was left unspecified so that in the future if another committee or member or SC member becomes the individual who notifies the membership that dues are due, the Bylaws do not need to be changed again.

The second change deletes the requirement that the Treasurer must receive the application for membership. Again, the Treasurer no longer accepts the membership applications. All applications are submitted to the membership committee and this change simply reflects that the club has spread out some responsibilities to other committees.

The third change has two components. The first component deletes the restriction on the Treasurer to only serv-

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ing a six year term. Instead, the Treasurer will not be bound by any term limits; although he or she will still need to be re-nominated and reelected every two years. This change was made because it is difficult to fill the Treasurer's position and it also takes some time before a new Treasurer gets "up to speed" with our accounting programs and methods and makes any changes he or she deems necessary. The second component of this change clarifies the language regarding re-nomination to the SC after a member has served for six consecutive years. The new language specifies that a member who has served six consecutive years on the SC may rejoin the SC after a one year hiatus. The intention of the rule is to allow and encourage people to join the SC, while not prohibiting a member who desires to serve (and perhaps in a position where there are few or no volunteers) from taking a seat on the SC even though he or she may have already served a six year term.

Surveys on trials and camps

Kim I. gave a report on the results from the survey on trials and Camp NOMAD. The results are as follows:

Trials

1. In which venues do you currently compete?

USDAA 73.2% 30 members
CPE 61.0% 25 members
NADAC 43.9% 18 members
AKC 43.9% 18 members
ASCA 12.2% 5 members
Other 4.9% 2 members
TDAA 2.4% 1 members
None 2.4% 1 members

2. How many trials should NOMAD host in 2010?

2 trials 65.9% 27 members
3 trials 29.3% 12 members
Other 4.9% 2 members

3. Which venues should our trials be?

USDAA 65.9% 27 members
CPE 58.5% 24 members
NADAC 46.3% 19 members
Don't Care 9.8% 4 members
Other 4.9% 2 members

4. Would you be willing to chair or take on another major job/trial committee?

Yes 65.8% 25
No 64.2% 13

5. Did you enter or work any 2009 trials?

NADAC

Entered 0.0% 0 members
Worked 17.9% 5 members
Both 64.3% 18 members
N/A 17.9% 5 members

USDAA

Entered 2.9% 1 members
Worked 11.8% 4 members
Both 73.5% 25 members
N/A 11.8% 4 members

6. Did you plan to enter or work any 2010 trials?

Enter
Yes 85.0% 34
No 2.5% 1
Undecided 12.5% 5
Work
Yes 82.1% 32
No 5.1% 2
Undecided 12.8% 5

Camp NOMAD

7. Did you attend in 2009?

Yes 70.0% 28 members
No 27.5% 11 members
N/A 2.5% 1 members

8. Should we have camp in 2010?

Yes 74.4% 29 members
No 5.1% 2 members
Undecided 20.5% 8 members

9. Would you attend in 2010?

Yes 68.4% 26 members
No 10.5% 4 members
Undecided 21.1% 8 members

10. Same instructors or someone new?

Same 52.5% 21 members
Doesn't Matter 32.5% 13 members
Different 15.0% 6 members

It appears there is no question about doing the USDAA trial. Accordingly, Lynne asked that we have a discussion about hosting a NADAC and/or CPE trials. Cynthia discussed the NADAC trial. She felt it was fun and successful, although it was difficult to get workers to commit to jobs. Cynthia felt she had to rely on a small group of people to do the work which was understandably frustrating for her. Cynthia also presented her second, modified budget. Her first budget was conservative and ensured we broke even. After suggestions from the SC seeking a NADAC budget with the largest profit we could reasonably project, Cynthia created the second budgets with a \$2100 projected profit. Extra revenue could be

created by dropping the package price for runs (\$360 based on last year's entries) and by having a club member perform trial secretary duties. Kim I. offered to help with trial secretary job to cut costs since we paid \$700 for Erin to do the TS work (and \$1 per run with a \$350 minimum). NADAC requires specialized equipment that we don't own and have to rent. The rental and trailer towing, and hotel and dog entries were included in the fee from Erin.

The club asked Cynthia if it was possible to negotiate Erin's rates if we let her know that the club is looking to make money on this trial. We would still have to rent equipment (a slatless dogwalk). It was noted that the Club began renting equipment from Erin in order to make hosting a trial easier on the club and therefore, the NADAC trial should not be penalized for incurring that extra expense. However, using Erin to bring equipment does not absolve the club from pitching in and helping out.

If the club wanted to host a CPE trial instead of a NADAC trial, we still would have to enlist the help of volunteers and there is the additional difficulty in finding a date that does not conflict with other nearby trials or with other NOMAD events. There was some concern about the cost of renting the site for the NADAC trial. However, it was noted that Topnotch is a huge draw for people to come watch and that is a plus in terms of outreach for the club (which we would not have if we moved to Kim I.'s field) Part of our mission as a 501c (3) corporation is outreach and teaching people about agility; and having a trial at Topnotch allows us to do that and let people see what we do and the sportsmanship we exhibit.

We should also keep in mind that profits are not going to be what they were 5 years ago because there are more venues and more trials than years ago. Someone suggested hosting a trial in February but it too expensive to rent indoor space, hard to find the space even if we could afford it (soccer leagues take so many weekends) and concerns about people not wanting to mail in non-refundable entry fees if there is the chance the weather would be poor and prohibit driving up here for a trial. The club was asked do we want to do 2 trials or 1? In August, we have Camp and the CV Fair demo. In addition, Kim's trial is Sept. 4 and 5. It's

important to remember that people have other obligations, and it's hard sometimes to volunteer.

After a vote by an overwhelming show of hands, the club decided to again host our NADAC trial.

Winter lessons/league play

We will have a potpourri of lessons for December. Cassy, Kim I., and Kit will each teach a class on a Saturday and the final class will be a Games class.

The Club will be hosting League play on Saturday mornings in January and February. The budget shows a projection of 12 people (3 teams of 4) but they'd love more. League Rules will be posted on the newsgroup and website. Registrations in by December 15, and teams will be finalized by December 20. Awards will be given the last week. There will be 3 MVPs (Most Valuable Pooch): one each for beginner, intermediate, and advanced. There will be team awards as well. You can come as a substitute if you can't commit to coming each week (and you don't have to come every week – although there are point bonuses for attendance.) Beginners can choose to skip an obstacle. No food or training in ring, but you can run on leash. The judge can let you go back on a piece of equipment.

League play takes the place of classes. There is practice after league play. The cost is \$90 for the season, and \$10 per dog for substitutes. Exact times to be determined and posted on the newsgroup and in the newsletter.

Charitable Giving

There was only one nomination: New England BC rescue. Carla nominated them and explained that they are a small but very active group. At end of September, they took in 7 BCs from a shelter. The club voted unanimously to give NEBC \$200 (to which we will add \$64 from our NADAC judge.)

Presentation of plaques

Jane Bronson and Beamer MACH 3
Fiona Roberston and Blaze ATCH
Cheryl French and Hattie C-ATCH
Virginia Bestoff and Ruby MACH
Maxine Holmes and Spritidancer C-ATCH
Lisanne Major and Sally ATCH

Nominating Committee

Ann Ramsay moved to accept the slate as presented and Michelle Force seconded the motion. The slate as presented:

President: Kit Erskine
Vice President: Cynthia Gilliland
Secretary Kim Ingraham
Member at Large: Roberta Dumas
Member at large: Judy Frey

The motion passed unanimously and to loud applause.

(Note: Don Denette is the third member at large, but his term is not up for renewal until next year).

Lynne stood to speak about the members of the SC with whom she has worked and commented how she noticed people are very much like their dogs.

Don Denette: One of his dogs is Joshi, a Shiba Inu. Steady as he goes, no fuss, thoughtful. Just point him in the right direction and he will do the job.

Cynthia Gilliland: She has Heather, Ivy and Rose, all Springer Spaniels. Like her dogs, Cynthia covers long distances with ease, which is important coming to a meeting from the Eastern part of the state. Calm interest and influence in everything she does, with flashes of brilliance. A good and productive SC member and an excellent Vice-president.

Roberta Dumas: Her dogs are Aussies. Callie best represents Roberta and I think Trio will grow to do the same. Quietly and efficiently gets the job done. Roberta rounds people up to do a job when necessary, but works very well on her own (when she built all the wing jumps, for example.)

Kim Ingraham: Like her dogs (shelties, rescue Aussie, mixed breed), Kim is a person of many talents. Super at multi-tasking. Baker of cakes. Provider of sweet goat's milk and chocolate cake at this week's SC meeting. Maker and tender of surveys. Formidable mind.

Linda Ladd: Sheltie personality like her dogs, Hannah and Kira. Looks for jobs to do. Nips at the heels of others to urge them along when necessary. Has that "what can I do for you now" attitude.

Kim Rubin: Dog is Aspen a chocolate lab. Focuses on one thing at a time and does that job extremely well. Kim has been a stellar secretary for 4 years. Her lawyerly mind is a huge asset to the club. Now needs to focus on her 3 year old human puppy Alexis.

Meeting adjourned at 4:10 P.M.
Respectfully submitted,
Kim Rubin, Secretary

TRAINING NOTES

PROOFING

by Carla Dunbar

Well, the trial season has started for this year and it sounds like many of our members are already having success. This may be beginners luck or maybe handlers have done a lot of what I try to do in my training (not always successfully I must say), and that is proofing.

This work is very useful in a start line stay, down contacts, down on the table, crossing behind on the contact obstacles, staying in the weaves until the end and other areas of agility. It means you require your dog to maintain a certain behavior regardless of what you are doing, where you are in relation to the dog, and distractions around you in the ring.

You must first decide on the criteria for each behavior and then ask the dog for the behavior with increasingly more difficult distractions presented to the dog and variations of where you will be on course while the behavior is maintained. Along with this you need to think about how you will mark the instance if the dog does not perform in the manner you expect. If you leave your dog in a stay and he breaks and starts the course and you continue the run, you might decide to do a running start the next time until you have a chance to proof it in practice.

I speak from great experience when I say that every time your criteria is not met in the ring you will have to work the behavior many more times in practice to bring the behavior back to 100%.

When you are practicing, even at home without much equipment, try moving farther away for your start line. Have a helper ask you to give your dogs name while you are in your lead out, or bend down to tie your shoe. These things may happen at a trial.

Can you be behind your dog and still have him get his contact? Can you be several feet away as you would be if you were behind a gamble line?

Always more practice "food for thought". Have fun.

NOMAD Agility League Rules

League Description: The 2010 league season will run from January 9th thru February 27th (8 weeks). A makeup week may be offered in March should a week be missed due to inclement weather. Each League match will consist of 1 standard run and 1 games run (2 runs per match) for each dog/handler present. League membership is open to all NOMAD members in good standing.

Purpose: To offer members the opportunity to simulate a competitive environment for the benefit of member training while having fun together.

Fees: \$90 per dog (checks payable to NOMAD and sent to the League Secretary)

Times: 9:30 a.m. setup
9:45 a.m. Standard course walkthrough
10:00 a.m. Standard run thrus
To be followed by Games course setup, walkthroughs & run
12:00 p.m. last run of the day

League Staff:

Judges (min. 2 volunteer judges per match)

League Site Leader will select courses from pool of courses and organize setup of same, manage the running of the league matches on site, set the scoring basis for each game.

League Secretary/Scorekeeper will coordinate weekly scoring and recording of scores. Track and post the accumulate team and individual scores for the League as well as provide scoring supplies.

Timer will time runs

Scribe will keep track of calls made by Judge

Ring Crew will reset bars, fluff chute, and help set courses

NOTE: All League participants are expected to volunteer in some capacity as timer, scribe or ring crew during League matches.

Anyone may act as a judge and the judge may run his/her own dog(s) at the match. Another member must serve as judge for the entire jump height so that the judge of the day may take his/her runs. The judge's decision is final and only the judge may assess faults to a run.

Team Structure:

Ideally teams shall be comprised of 3-4 members of varying competition levels: Beginner, Intermediate & Masters, with one member of each team representing a competition level. At minimum a team must have 3 members and contain 2 different levels of competition. Teams may be formed by membership or may be formed by draw. The League Coordinators/Winter Practice Committee reserves the right to add members to another already formed team in order to allow all NOMAD members to participate, in the event that there are not enough members to form a qualified team for any member who wishes to participate.

Dogs who have previously earned a qualifying agility title must initially enroll as an Intermediate/Advanced or Masters/Excellent dog (see qualifying title recommendations). Beginner/Novice level should be reserved for those dogs who have not yet earned a qualifying agility title.

Handlers will not be "forced" to register at a specific level, however are encouraged to exercise good sportsmanship in competing at the level of previous titles EARNED by that dog and handler team. It is entirely the handlers choice as to what level they register. Additionally, handlers may jump their dogs at whatever height they choose.

Qualifying Titles EARNED for **Intermediate:** CPE L2 or higher; AKC Novice or higher; USDAA Starters/Novice/P1 or higher; NADAC Novice or Higher.

Qualifying Titles EARNED for **Masters/Excellent:** CPE L4 or higher; AKC Open or higher; USDAA Advanced or higher; NADAC Open or Higher

Teams must come up with a name for their team for identification/scoring. While all members of a team will be allowed to compete at every League match, only the top two scores from each course (2 each from standard and games) will count towards team standings (4 possible per match). If only one team member is present, their scores shall count entirely towards the team's score. Individual results will count toward individual MVP standings regardless of whether those scores were counted toward the team standings.

Team signup should be returned to the League Secretary by the posted deadline for that season. Once all teams are finalized, anyone wishing to join an existing team may do so but no new teams will be formed. Once the league term begins, team memberships will be fixed for the duration of the league term - no one will be permitted to switch teams. However, substitutes will be allowed.

Substitutes (those who were not registered as part of a team initially) are any NOMAD dog/member who is not currently signed up on a team. They will be allowed to take the place of an absent dog at any match. Substitutes may do so for as many different teams as they want throughout the League season. Their scores may contribute to the benefit of the team they are substituting with but no individual standings will be maintained for substitutes and they are not eligible for MVP awards. There will be a separate fee for substitutes.

Match Structure:

Each match will offer 1 Standard class and 1 games class.

The courses will all be at the same level (intermediate).

Safety is priority one! All courses will be setup and adjusted for safe performance. A min. spacing of 15-18 feet is required for all approach and landings. All courses will be designed so that there is only one dog on the course at any given time (except as permitted in Pairs).

The judge may suggest a handler run part or all of a course again (after completion of their run) if they deem it to be in the best educational interest of the handler/dog (and the handler will not be charged in that case). An individual's score will not be affected either way by this.

A handler may elect to do a second chance ("Mulligan") run on any given course at the additional \$5 per run fee (time permitting). Mulligan runs will not count toward Team or MVP standings.

The Standard course will be designed for the Intermediate/Advanced level dog with 15-18 obstacles. Games may be from any venue and the appropriate rules for that venue will apply. Everyone will run the same courses at each League match.

Courses may or may not include all of the obstacles, and may or may not have the quantity of obstacles required under any one specific venue's rules every week. Over the course of the league term, all obstacles required for each level will be incorporated.

Exhibitor Guidelines:

All dogs and handlers participating in the league must be members of NOMAD.

All dogs in may wear a collar provided that it is a flat buckle collar with no attachments. Beginner handlers have the option of running on leash.

Beginner handlers/dogs may skip 1 obstacle on any course without penalty to their score if they claim the obstacle exemption at the start of their run.

Jump heights will be at the sole discretions of the handler. A full size dog walk will be used for all levels for all classes requiring a dog walk. The a-frame will normally be set between 5'3" - 5'6".

Everyone enrolled in the league is expected to help with equipment set-up and tear down, and/or ring steward jobs (If you want to play, you MUST help do something, or we won't get all of the jobs covered)

No food or toys may be taken onto the course.

Harsh handling either verbally or physically is not permitted. Good natured team support is encouraged!

The handler may not touch the dog or obstacle except for incidental contact.

Dogs fouling the ring will be eliminated. Dogs leaving the ring or stopping working may be excused at the sole discretion of the judge.

Scoring:

Course time will be started when the dog crosses the plane of the first obstacle and ended when the dog crosses the plane of the last obstacle – the table may be used to stop time in some games. If at all possible, the same timer should be used throughout a single jump height.

Beginner rated dogs may elect to skip 1 obstacle on any course without penalty to their score if they claim the obstacle exemption at the start of their run. Their failure to perform this obstacle will simply be ignored by the judge and will not adversely affect their score.

Scoring for team standings will be based on the two top runs out of the team members present in standard classes, AND games classes for that league match date (up to 4 scores per team per match). The lowest ranking score(s) will be thrown out. Only one score per handler (per course) will count (you cannot count both the first run AND the Mulligan run for the same handler (on the same course) as the 2 scores for your team from any given course.)

Points will be awarded to each team for attendance. Attendance points shall be earned at the following rate:

1 member = 3 points

2 members = 4 points

3 members = 6 points

Teams who maintain a presence at every match of the season shall be awarded a 10 point attendance bonus to their final team score. No points shall be awarded for attendance toward MVP scores.

If only one team member is present, their scores shall count entirely towards the team's score. If all team members are absent on a given team, that team will forfeit points for that week.

Scoring for games shall be based on the particular game and details will be explained the day of the match during briefing.

Scoring for Standard classes will be on a fault basis with the dog's run time used to break a tie.

5 faults: knocked bar (top bar only/no penalty for lower bar)
 jumping off table prior to end of count
 off course (corrected)

10 faults: Missed contact zones
 Leaving contact prior to beginning descent

20 faults: Failure to Perform Obstacle
 Failing to correct a missed entry or weave pole
 Off course (uncorrected)
 Handler contact (aiding dog)

Refusals are not penalized

Missed weave pole entry, or missed pole not penalized

Elimination: Dog fouling ring
 Harsh or abusive behavior/language
 Dog aggression
 Food or devices on course
 Poor sportsmanship

Individual scoring for standard class shall be based solely on faults with the dog's time used to break ties for placements. So a dog that earns 0 faults with a run time of 48.15 would win over a dog that earns 0 faults with a run time of 69.02. Equally, a dogs that earns 0 faults with a run time of say 50.15 would win over a dog with 5 faults that has a run time of 49.15.

Team Points will be awarded for standard classes as follows:

10 points for a Gold (0 faults)
6 points for a Silver (5.00 to 10.00 faults)
2 points for a Bronze (15.00 to 20.00 faults)

MVP scores will be computed by the same values as Team points and in addition individuals may also earn placement points as follows (applies to Standard & Games classes):

10 points for 1st place
9 points for 2nd place
8 points for 3rd place
7 points for 4th place
6 points for 5th place
and so on down to 1 point for 10th place

Only the highest two scores for the team (per course) will be counted for team scoring purposes. Individual points will still be accumulated by all participants (except substitutes) towards MVP standings.

Prizes & Awards:

In-League prizes will be awarded at the end of the league term to all members of the top three placing teams (team standings), and to the top single individual dog and handler in the MVP (Most Valuable Pooch) standings. For league match runs on any particular day no prizes will be offered.

The league secretary will maintain team and MVP standings. These will be available at each league event and updated weekly after the close of that week's meet.

At the end of the League term, ties between two or more teams (final team standings) may be resolved by a team relay Knockout game. Ties between individual dogs (final MVP standings) may be resolved by a regular Knockout round.

NOMAD AGILITY LEAGUE

League Description: The 2010 league season will run from January 9th thru February 27th (8 weeks). A makeup week may be offered in March should a week be missed due to inclement weather. Each League match will consist of 1 standard run and 1 games run (2 runs per match) for each dog/handler present. League membership is open to all NOMAD members in good standing.

Purpose: To offer members the opportunity to simulate a competitive environment for the benefit of member training while having fun together.

Fees: \$90 per dog (checks payable to NOMAD and sent to the League Secretary)

Times: 9:30 a.m. setup
9:45 a.m. Standard course walkthrough
10:00 a.m. Standard run thrus
To be followed by Games course setup, walkthroughs & runs
12:00 p.m. last run of the day

Everyone enrolled in the league is expected to help with equipment set-up and tear down, and/or ring steward jobs (If you want to play, you MUST help do something, or we won't get all of the jobs covered)

No food or toys may be taken onto the course. Harsh handling either verbally or physically is not permitted. Good natured team support is encouraged!

Teams must have 3 members and should contain members from each of the 3 levels. If you do not have your own team, we will draw one for you.

Beginner/Novice level should be reserved for those dogs who have not yet earned a qualifying agility **title**.

Handlers will not be "forced" to register at a specific level, however are encouraged to exercise good sportsmanship in competing at the level of previous titles EARNED by that dog and handler team. It is entirely the handlers choice as to what level they register. Additionally, handlers may jump their dogs at whatever height they choose, regardless of their level of competition. (See the League rules for a full description of qualifying titles earned for the Intermediate and Masters levels.)

Team signup should be returned to Kim Ingraham at paws4funvt@gmail.com no later than December 15th. All teams will be finalized by Dec. 20th. Anyone wishing to join an existing team after that date may do so but no new teams will be formed. Once the league term begins, team memberships will be fixed for the duration of the league term. No one will be permitted to switch team; however substitutes will be allowed.

Substitutes (those who were not registered as part of a team initially) may float among teams, however they are not eligible for MVP awards. Substitute fee is \$10/match per dog.

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NOMAD WINTER LEAGUE REGISTRATION FORM
(only 1 dog per registration form please)

Dog's Name: _____ Level: ___Beginner ___Intermediate ___Masters

Handler: _____

Team Members (please include preferred members name/dog/level) _____ Please find me a team

_____ Beginner ___Intermediate ___Masters

_____ Beginner ___Intermediate ___Masters

_____ Beginner ___Intermediate ___Masters

Please send registration form and League fee (\$90 per dog - payable to NOMAD) by regular mail to:

Kim Ingraham, PO Box 345, Plainfield, VT 05667

COMMITTEES

Contact one of the members or the chair if you wish to join a committee.

USDA TRIAL COMMITTEE

Kit Erskine Chair
Joanne Lawton
Lisa Barrett Chair
Marian Mumford
Caroline McKinney
David Meatyard
Karen Clark
Sara McDonald
Ann Ramsay
Sarah Albert
Michelle Force
Judy Frey
Cassy Lamothe
Betsy Nye
Carla Dunbar
Don Dennette
Maxine Holmes
Lynne von Trapp Major job
Judy Kessler
Kim I.
Billie Marsh

EQUIPMENT

Lisa Barrett
Marian Mumford
Kit Erskine
Roberta Dumas
Patty McMahon
David and Nancy Bryan

NADAC TRIAL COMMITTEE

Cynthia Gilliland co-chair
Caroline McKinney co-chair
Linda Ladd willing to co-chair
Kim I will co-secretary to train new one
Marian Mumford will train for chair
David Meatyard
Karen Clark
Sara McDonald (has answered Kim I's prayers!) will train for trial secretary
Kit Erskine Ring Manager
Mitzi Sinclair whatever you need
Michelle Force major job
Judy Frey
Roberta Dumas
Patty McMahon
Cheryl French
Colleen Schuster
Don Dennette
Maxine Holmes
Kim R Ring Manager for 1 day, maybe 2; workers' schedule; ribbons
Judy Kessler

WINTER CLASSES

Kit Erskine
Kim Ingraham

PRACTICE

Kit Erskine
Cassy Lamothe

DEMOS

Marian Mumford (Richmond 4th of July)
David Meatyard
Kit Erskine

MEMBERSHIP

Sara McDonald (don't worry, you won't be alone!)

JR HANDLER/OUTREACH

Kim Ingraham

SEMINARS

Caroline McKinney
Karen Clark
Lisa Barrett
Ann Ramsay
Sarah Albert
Kit Erskine
Mitzi Sinclair
Michelle Force
Judy Frey
Lynne von Trapp

NEW MEMBERS

David and Nancy Bryan

971 Cox Brook Road
Northfield, VT 054663
802-485-8946 (h)
802-47604146, ext. 44 (w)
dmbryan@tds.net
supporting family membership
dog: **Levi**, 3 1/2 y.o., male, Sheltie
equipment committee -- has design and machining background



Moxie Falls (Randi Barrett's partner) in "table" position

NOMAD COMING EVENTS CALENDAR

Compiled by Cheryl French as of 11/20/09

DECEMBER 2009

Dec. 27; **CPE**; Open to all dogs; All Dogs Gym, Manchester, NH; Classes: All Classes/All Levels; Limit: 350 runs; Closes: 12/4/09; Contact: Sue Fontaine; Email: miniassies5@comcast.net; Website: www.alldogsgym.com.

JANUARY 2010

Jan. 1-3; **USDAA**; Open to all dogs; BARK-NH!; Phanzone, Hampstead, NH; Closes: 12/11/09; Trial Secretary: Valori Duff, 252 Boynton St., Manchester, NH 03102; Website: www.USDAA.com

Jan. 1-3; **AKC**; Open to purebreds; Bearded Collie Club of America, Inc.; American K9 Country, Amherst, NH; Opens: 11/4/09; Closes: 12/12/09; Contact: Trial Secretary: Noreen Bennett, 1 West St., Belchertown, MA 01007, 413-283-4490; Email: noreen@pawprinttrials.com; Website: www.pawprinttrials.com.

Jan. 1-3; **CPE**; Open to all dogs; Agile Dogs Agility Training; High Goal Farm, Greenwich, NY; Classes: All Classes/All Levels; Limit: 375 runs per day; Opens: 10/27/09; Closes: 12/18/09; Contact: Margorie Stall, 518-794-0168; Email: marge@agiledogs.net; Website: www.agiledogs.net.

Jan. 16-17; **CPE**; Open to all dogs; All Dogs Gym, Manchester, NH; Limit: 400 runs on Sat., 350 runs on Sunday; Closes: 12/25/09; Contact: Sue Fontaine, 603-627-7322; Email: miniassies5@comcast.net; Website: www.alldogsgym.com.

Jan. 16-18; **AKC**; Open to purebreds; Southern Adirondack Agility Club; High Goal Farm, Greenwich, NY; Opens 11/18/09; Closes: 12/30/09; Contact: Trial Secretary: Noreen Bennett, 1 West St., Belchertown, MA 01007, 413-283-4490; Email: noreen@pawprinttrials.com; Website: www.pawprinttrials.com.

Jan. 23-24; **AKC**; Open to purebreds; American Bullmastiff Assoc., Inc., American K9 Country, Amherst, NH; Opens: 12/02/09; Closes: 1/2/10; Contact: Trial Secretary: Noreen Bennett, 1 West St., Belchertown, MA 01007, 413-283-4490; Email: noreen@pawprinttrials.com; Website: www.pawprinttrials.com.

Jan. 30-31; **USDAA**; Open to all dogs; Feel the Rush Agility; American K9 Country; Amherst, NH; Closes: 1/23/10; Trial Secretary: Kim Tees, PO Box, Raymond, ME 04071; Website: www.USDAA.com.

Jan. 30-31; **CPE**; Open to all dogs; Riverside K-9 LLC, Nashua, NH; Classes: All Classes/All Levels; Limit: 400 runs per day; Closes: 12/18/09; Contact: Valori Duff; Email: valwaussies@comcast.net; Website: www.riversidek9.com.

FEBRUARY 2010

Feb. 6-7; **AKC**; Open to purebreds; Tartan Gordon Setter Club, American K9 Country, Amherst, NH; Opens: 12/02/09; Closes: 1/16/10; Limit: 330 runs; Contact: Trial Secretary: Noreen Bennett, 1

West St., Belchertown, MA 01007, 413-283-4490; Email: noreen@pawprinttrials.com; Website: www.pawprinttrials.com.

Feb. 13-14; **AKC**; Open to purebreds; American Bullmastiff Assoc., Inc., American K9 Country, Amherst, NH; Opens: 12/16/09; Closes: 1/23/10; Limit: 330 runs; Contact: Trial Secretary: Noreen Bennett, 1 West St., Belchertown, MA 01007, 413-283-4490; Email: noreen@pawprinttrials.com; Website: www.pawprinttrials.com.

Feb. 13-14; **CPE**; Open to all dogs; All Dogs Gym, Manchester, NH; Classes: All Classes/All Levels; Limit: Sat 400, Sun 350; Closes: 1/22/10; Contact: Sue Fontaine, 603-627-7322; Email: miniassies5@comcast.net; Website: www.alldogsgym.com.

Feb. 20-21; **AKC**; Open to purebreds; Eastern English Springer Spaniel Club, American K9 Country, Amherst, NH; Opens: 12/16/09; Closes: 1/30/10; Limit: 330 runs; Contact: Trial Secretary: Noreen Bennett, 1 West St., Belchertown, MA 01007, 413-283-4490; Email: noreen@pawprinttrials.com; Website: www.pawprinttrials.com.

Feb. 19-21; **CPE**; Open to all dogs; Breeze Thru Agility, Brattleboro, VT; All Classes/All Levels; Limits: Fri 275 runs, Sat & Sun 375 runs; Contact: Val Reiner; Email: kritters@bcn.net; Website: www.breezethruagility.com or www.k9CPE.com.

Feb. 27-28; **CPE**; Open to all dogs; Riverside K-9 LLC, Nashua, NH; Classes: All Classes/All Levels; Limit: 400 runs per day; Opens: 1/5/10; Closes: 2/2/10; Contact: Valori Duff; Email: valwaussies@comcast.net; Website: www.riversidek9.com.

MARCH 2010

March 6-7; **AKC**; Open to purebreds; Southern Adirondack Agility Club, High Goal Farm, Greenwich, NY; Opens: 1/6/10; Closes: 2/13/10; Limit: 330 runs; Contact: Trial Secretary: Noreen Bennett, 1 West St., Belchertown, MA 01007, 413-283-4490; Email: noreen@pawprinttrials.com; Website: www.pawprinttrials.com.

March 6-7; **CPE**; Open to all dogs; Bo-Gee; Contact: Judy Davis; Email: tss@trialservices.com; Website: www.trialsecretary.com.

March 13-14; **AKC**; Open to purebreds; American Bullmastiff Assoc., Inc., American K9 Country, Amherst, NH; Opens: 1/6/10; Closes: 2/20/10; Limit: 330 runs; Contact: Trial Secretary: Noreen Bennett, 1 West St., Belchertown, MA 01007, 413-283-4490; Email: noreen@pawprinttrials.com; Website: www.pawprinttrials.com.

March 13-14; **CPE**; Open to all dogs; All Dogs Gym, Manchester, NH; Classes: All Classes/All Levels; Limit: Sat 400, Sun 350; Closes: 2/19/10; Contact: Sue Fontaine, 603-627-7322; Email: miniassies5@comcast.net; Website: www.alldogsgym.com.

March 20-21; **AKC**; Open to purebreds; Schenectady Dog Training Club Inc., High Goal Farm, Greenwich, NY; Opens: 1/27/10; Closes: 2/27/10; Limit: 330 runs; Contact: Trial Secretary: Noreen Bennett, 1 West St., Belchertown, MA 01007, 413-283-4490; Email: noreen@pawprinttrials.com; Website: www.pawprinttrials.com.

March 20-21; **USDAA**; Open to all dogs; All Dog's Agility, Manchester, NH; Limit: Unlimited; Contact: Judy Davis; Email: tss@trialservices.com; Website: www.trialsecretary.com and www.alldogsgym.com.

APRIL 2010

April 3-4; **AKC**; open to purebreds; American Eskimo Dog Club of America; Amherst, NH; Opens: 1/27/10; Closes: 3/13/10; Limit: 330 runs; Contact: Trial Secretary: Noreen Bennett, 1 West St., Belchertown, MA 01007, 413-283-4490; Email: noreen@pawprinttrials.com; Website: www.pawprinttrials.com.

April 10-11; **AKC**; open to purebreds; American Lhasa Apso Club Inc.; Amherst, NH; Opens: 2/17/10; Closes: 3/20/10; Limit: 330 runs; Contact: Trial Secretary: Noreen Bennett, 1 West St., Belchertown, MA 01007, 413-283-4490; Email: noreen@pawprinttrials.com; Website: www.pawprinttrials.com.

April 16-18; **CPE**; Open to all dogs; Breeze Thru Agility, Brattleboro, VT; All Classes/All Levels; Limits: Fri 275 runs, Sat & Sun 375 runs; Contact: Val Reiner; Email: kritters@bcn.net; Website: www.breezethruagility.com or www.k9CPE.com.

April 17-18; **USDAA**; Open to all dogs; BARK-NH!; Phanzone, Hampstead, NH; Closes: 3/30/10; Trial Secretary: Valori Duff, 252 Boynton St., Manchester, NH 03102; Website: www.USDAA.com

April 24-25; **NADAC**; Open to all dogs; Act-Up Agility Club, Wrentham Dev. Ctr., Wrentham, MA; Limit: 500 per day; Classes: All Classes/All Levels; Contact: Michelle Whall, 144 Lyman St., North Attleboro, MA 02760, 508-699-9276; Email: mick-eycw@aol.com; Website: www.actupagility.com.

April 24-25; **AKC**; open to purebreds; Burlington Obedience Training Club, The Field House, 166 Athletic Drive; Opens: 2/8/10; Closes: 4/10/10; Limit: 330 per day; Contact: Janet Induni, 43 Lost Nation Rd., Essex Jct., VT 05452, 802-879-6526; Email: jinduni@gmail.com; Website: www.botcvt.com.

The above listed events are in the following states within a reasonable driving distance for most of us: MA, ME, NH, NY and VT. Please note for some events full information is not yet available. Please contact Cheryl French (Cheryl.P.French@comcast.net) with any corrections of the events. Sources include www.cleanrun.com, www.akc.org, www.trialsecretary.com, www.pawprinttrials.com and various other sources.