

An Intro Experience

Monique Plinck shares her experiences at NOMAD's Intro Only trial.

Sunday, February 16th, this agility old schooler accompanied a student and friend, Casey Coughlin, to her very first USDAA trial at Wildwood Farm in Waterbury Center, Vermont. I also enjoyed the experience with my 15-month-old Papillon, who is not yet eligible to compete in regular classes.

Lisa Barrett from NOMAD (Northern Magic Agility Dogs) says this was the club's second year of offering four Intro trials during the winter. "Our next one is Sunday, March 9, in Waterbury Center, Vermont. These trials give both new and seasoned competitors a chance to trial under relaxed, supportive conditions. Handlers can choose to train in the ring with a toy, or run for a Q and a rosette. The dogs get practice at being measured, and they learn to cope with the trial atmosphere at a very small, comfortable trial," says Barrett.

Running an Intro trial is not complicated, according to Barrett. She says, "This is the second winter that NOMAD has scheduled four half-day Intro trials. Intro trials are fairly simple for the sponsoring club. NOMAD holds our Intro Trials at the indoor horse area where the club practices during the winter. Our equipment is already there, so it's fairly easy to hold these trials. We offer all four Intro classes: Standard, Gamblers, Snooker and Jumpers. We have only 14 parking spaces, so we ask everyone to carpool and we limit our entries to 80 runs. We were delighted to have Monique Plinck drive all the way from Connecticut for our little half-day trial."

Kit Erskine has been the judge at all of NOMAD's Intro Only trials this winter. He designs great courses and creates a friendly, supportive atmosphere. You can see the courses he designed here.

This Intro Only trial was special to me as I love the NOMAD group of agility folks for their laid back and supportive attitudes. I really enjoyed having four Intro Only classes offered with an assurance of being finished by 1:00 PM. NOMAD allowed us to enter each class as FEO (For Exhibition Only) or as a competition class. Even up to the start line you could opt to bring in a toy and run as FEO. That flexibility was great for dogs that needed more encouragement, feedback, and/or proofing. It was a perfect time to bring my young Papillon, Tush, to his first trial. It was lower key but still professional. And so so much fun!

My friend Casey enjoyed the trial as well. She says, "As a person just getting into agility and feeling overwhelmed with the variety of rules, regulations, and agility nuances faced when trying to enter an event, the Intro trial held by NOMAD was an amazing way to get the feel of a trial without the pressure of an actual competition. The event staff was extremely welcoming, friendly, and easy going, which allowed me to be successfully briefed on rules of games which I had previously never played! The low pressure atmosphere also allowed me to focus completely on my dog and explore his reactions to trial stressors. I chose to run FEO for the entire day and was happy to not be worrying about earning a Q. I noticed a huge variety of skill levels in other teams competing but everyone was united by the fact that we were all working on something. What made the day for me was, after completing the jumpers course with no hiccups (finally!), everyone present took notice and supported our efforts with a great applause. That is a moment that will stick with me for years to come."

NOMAD, your encouragement to cheer on fellow competitors and your taking the time to announce FEO and qualifying placements after each class reminded me why I love this sport and what it's all about. Loved it!



Members of NOMAD, plus Monique and Tush. From left to right, standing: Carla Dunbar, Lynne von Trapp, Kit Erskine, Monique Plinck and Tush, Judy Kessler, Lisa Barrett, Jennifer Hammond. Kneeling: John Marcus, Kathy Trybus

Photo courtesy of Casey Coughlin.

New Members

Kelley Trombley

2938 Quaker Village Rd.
Weybridge, VT 05753
545-2808 (h)
377-5615 (w)

Kelley@therunningdog.net

Working member

committees: demo, seminar, USDAA,
NADAC

would like an agility buddy

Dog: **Isadora**, a 2 y.o. female, spayed
Chihuahua

Peter Neville

599 Ave. Venise Ouest

Venise-en-Quebec

QC, JoJ2K0, Canada

Peterkneville1@gmail.com

514-457-9277(h) 514-924-6113 (w)

Working member

Would like an agility buddy

Interested in equipment, demo and
practice committees

Dog: **Mylo**, a 2 y.o. male, neutered Puli,
does all equipment except weaves

Amanda Shyne Seminar

April 12, 13, 14, 2014
at Wildwood Barn

Saturday, April 12th is for Intermedi-
ate Teams; Sunday April 13th is for Masters
Teams; Monday April 14th is for Novice
Teams. 9:00 to 5:00 each day.

The Closing Date is February 28th.
As of this post, all classes are filled. If
interested in participating please send
an entry to Billie Marsh to be put on the
waiting list; there are no club members
currently on the waiting list. Details on
this seminar are contained in the December
2013 newsletter.

Updates concerning this seminar will
be made to the Yahoo Elist and individual
emails to the participants.

As always, Nomad members may audit
for free, without your dogs if possible.

Questions? Please contact Billie
Marsh. marshb@westelcom.com



FALCON

December 1, 2001 – January 24, 2014

They say that dogs leave paw prints on our heart.

But I know that isn't true

Because inside my heart is all of you.

I am more than sad worse than blue

Sometimes I close my eyes and hold onto you.

I want to feel your head against my knee.

In the morning it is your face I want to see.

Even though I know I will see you over there

Losing you is more than I can bear.

I miss you more than anyone knows.

So at times I will keep my eyes firmly closed

And hold you tight inside my heart.

In this way we will never part.



Stonycreek's Falcon NAC NJC TG-N TN-N OAC TG-O EAC

USDAA Trial

Due to circumstances beyond
our control, NOMAD's June 13-15,
2014, USDAA trial will have to be
moved from the Trapp Family Lodge
to Topnotch Meadow on the Moun-
tain Road in Stowe. It's a level field
bordered by a large stream, with a
beautiful view of Mt. Mansfield, the
site of previous USDAA trials and
current NADAC trials. We'll be back
at the Trapp Family Lodge Wedding
Meadow in 2015. We are very disap-
pointed to have to make the change.
Thank you for understanding.

The closest motels are The
Mountaineer and The Innsbruck Inn.
All motels are within 10 minutes of
the site.

Save the date!

**NOMAD NADAC trial, Aug. 16-17,
2014, at the Topnotch Meadow
Field, Stowe, VT.**

NOMAD's Steering Committee

Contact them if you have questions or suggestions.

President: Lisa Marcus, lisamarcus@comcast.net

Vice-President: Judy Frey, rjfrey2@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Linda Ladd, vtladds@comcast.net

Secretary: Sarah Albert, sarah@vtlink.net

Members at Large

Joanne Lawton, joanelawton@aol.com

Marty Abair, corgitown@yahoo.com

Roberta Dumas, ilvcallie@comcast.net

<http://nomadagility.com>

BRAGS

Feb. 1, American K9 Country, AKC, Amherst, NH,
Tartan Gordon Setter Club, Judge Ken Fairchild

Jill Viggiani and Strummer

20"

Master Standard _____ Q

Master JWW _____ Q

QQ #20 MACH2



Feb. 9, NADAC, Gulf Coast Chihuahua Club, Vancleave, MS

**Virginia Bestoff and Delilah
got their NATCH**



Feb. 2, BARK USDAA Manchester, NH

Lynne von Trapp and Brill

Advanced Snooker _____ 1st & Q

TITLE

Steeplechase Rd. 1 _____ 3rd and Q

Steeplechase Rd. 2 _____ 4th and Q

February 23, American K9 Country, AKC,
Amherst, NH

Kelley Trombley and Izzy

8"

Novice A Standard _____ 1st and Q

JWW Novice A _____ 1st and Q



Course Practice, Sequence/Course Practice, and Seminars at Wildwood Barn

March – April, 2014

Course = one dog at a time.

Sequences/course practice = multiple dogs in the ring for sequences followed by one dog at a time for course practice or vice versa, facilitator's choice.

Novice days: The first Saturday of each month is Novice practice for both time slot. Lowered contacts and channel weaves will be used. Courses will be at the Novice level.

	9:00-11:30	11:30-1:30
March		
1	Course	Sequences/course practice
8	Course	Sequences/course practice
15	Course	Sequences/course practice
22	Course	Sequences/course practice
29	Course	Sequences/course practice
April		
5	Course	Sequences/course practice
12-14	Seminars with Amanda Shyne	

Note: First session attendees, please have a few people remain at the barn to help put equipment away in the event the second session has low attendance.

Cost for course practice and sequences/course practice is \$10/team. If you are running two dogs it is \$20, unless you are splitting your time between the two dogs, then you may pay for just one.

MARCH PRACTICE

Wednesday Schedule

12:30 – 3:00 PM

Don Denette	one dog
Maxine Holmes	one dog
Pam Patunoff	one dog
Ann Ramsay	one dog
Lynne von Trapp	one dog
Caroline McKinney	one dog

3:00 – 5:00 PM

Sarah Albert	one dog
Randi Barrett	one dog
Kate Carter	one dog
Roberta Dumas	one dog
Judy Frey	one dog
Nicki Houghton	two dogs
Patti McMahon	one dog

5:00 – 7:00 PM

Kit Erskine	
Jen Hammond	one dog
Dale Healy	one dog

Thursday Schedule

9:00 – 11:30 AM

Lisa Barrett	one dog
Abby Bruce	one dog
Judy Kessler	one dog
Pam Patunoff	one dog
Lynne von Trapp	one dog



RHYMES WITH ORANGE BY HILARY PRICE