

**Official NACSW™
K9 Nose Work® Elite and NW3 Trials
March 20th & 21st, 2021**

TRIAL LOCATION:

Skelton 4-H Educational Conference Center
775 Hermitage Road,
Wirtz, Virginia 24184

Please Note: It is not appropriate to visit the trial location prior to the trial date, nor should training take place on trial grounds once an event is approved/announced. Our locations are real life search environments where people work, go to school, etc. Pre-trial visits risk the host losing the opportunity to use the location again in the future.

TRIAL HOST:

Ann Hogg/Canny K9 Companions LLC

Elite: Saturday March 20th, 2021

NW3: Sunday March 21st, 2021

Certifying Official:

Jacy Kelley

Judges:

Walter Feno

Tony Gravley

Elite: \$175 per dog and handler team

NW3: \$165 per dog and handler team

PLEASE NOTE: We are required to pay \$20/day for each person that comes on site each day. If you have someone accompanying you, they will be required to pay the \$20 at check in.

Host will pay this fee for volunteers

Payable to CannyK9Companions via check or money order

Number of Entries:

Elite: 28

NW3:30

One dog per handler per level.

NACSW is requiring that all attendees adhere to social distancing - maintaining 6' of distance - at all trials until further notice even if your jurisdiction has relaxed their requirements or recommendations. Social Distancing requirements at an event are MANDATORY. There is *no option* to mutually consent to be closer together than 6'. Please be respectful that your proximity or request for proximity may make others uncomfortable. Please review the document [COVID-19 Event Guidelines](#) that is located in Google docs and was emailed to the membership on 5/8/2020.

In addition to those guidelines the following changes and guidelines are in effect for this trial due to COVID-19.

The entry limits for the NW3 trial have been reduced to 30 due to the current Covid-19 group gathering restrictions in VA.

In addition to those guidelines the following changes and guidelines are in effect for this trial due to COVID-19.

(note: Anyone found violating these rules will be asked to leave immediately without any refund).

1. Everyone on grounds will be wearing a mask when out of their car.
2. All cars will be parked 8-10 feet apart if at all possible.
3. People will stay 8-10 feet apart.
4. Only four dogs will be allowed out to potty at one time. This will be STRICTLY enforced.
5. There will be no walk throughs (walk through video will be available on <https://walkthrough.nacsw.net/> where possible)
6. There will be one quick briefing in the parking lot with everyone spread out. If you have hearing loss, let me know and you will be allowed to stand closer (But still not closer than 6 feet). If that will not work for you, we can brief you individually. Most of the briefing will be shared in writing the night before the trial.
7. Bathrooms will have to be disinfected regularly. We will have disinfecting spray for those using the bathroom to spray before they touch anything. We feel it is better for the person coming in to clean to their satisfaction than trust that the person before you cleaned thoroughly after themselves. Volunteers will also be disinfecting the space regularly.
8. Participants will not touch each other's dogs, share chairs, or anything else unless they have traveled to the site together in one car.

If there are any changes or updates that information will be included in your final details information that will be emailed 1-2 weeks before the trial weekend

Registration Entry and Closing:

- The draw period for the trial will open on Thursday, February 11th , 2021 12 Noon EST. Entries will be awarded by random draw of all entries received 12 Noon EST February 11th, 2021 and 12 Noon EST February 13th, 2021
- Trial entry will close at the end of the draw if the trial and wait list are deemed full. If the trial and wait list are not full, the trial will remain open for entries until they are deemed full or on the closing date which is 12 Noon EST on March 5th, 2021
- We will not be taking payment until you are given a space in the trial. If you are given a space in the trial, you will receive information on how to submit payment. You will then have 5 days to complete your payment to confirm your space in the trial.

Registration Method:

All registration will be on-line via the link provided to the NACSW™ trial registration form. Paper and phone entries will not be accepted. Completing the form is not a guarantee of entry. You will receive an auto-response email confirming that we received your trial entry after registration - this email does not confirm your space in the trial. There will be a separate confirmation from info@cannyk9companions.com to let you know if your entry has been given a space in the trial.

Entry Method:

A Qualified Entry is one that meets all of the following criteria

1. Complete the on-line trial entry during the draw period listed above
2. The Handler is a NACSW™ member for the 2020-2021 membership year (8/1/20- 7/ 31/21).
3. The Dog is registered with the NACSW™
4. Dogs participating in a trial must be at least one year of age.
5. The Dog has passed the appropriate ORT and prior title level at least 14 days before the trial opens for entries.
6. Qualified entry for NW3 – Dog has earned an NW2 and has not yet earned the NW3 Elite title level.
7. Qualified entry for Elite – Dog has earned a NW3 Elite title and has not yet earned an ELT-CH title.

Trial spaces will be awarded in the following manner:

- Spaces will be awarded by a random draw of all Qualified Entries received during the draw period listed above.
- In the event that you are having technical difficulties with the entry system, please email trialEntry@nacswnet.net prior to the end of the draw period.
- No Dog will be given a space in more than one trial of the same level at a single event.

- You may enter multiple dogs for entry in the draw. However, only one dog/handler per title level will be accepted into the trial. Entry will go to the dog/handler selected in the draw – you may not swap to an alternate dog. If multiple dogs are selected in the draw, you may select which dog you wish to enter. Once a dog has been entered as a second dog/handler entry, you may not swap handlers after the draw to change the entry to a first dog/handler unless the trial is not full
- If a trial level is not full after the draw of Qualified Entries, then there will be a Secondary Draw of any entries received that did not meet the ORT or title requirements. These entries will be accepted pending completion of the requirements. **Note:** Dogs must earn the appropriate ORT and prior title level at least 3 days prior to the trial date to be eligible to compete. If the required title or ORT is earned less than 14 days prior to the event, it is the competitor's responsibility to notify the host that the requirement has been completed.
- After all entries received during the draw period are processed, if the trial level is still not full, entries will continue to be accepted in the order they are received through the closing date or when the entries fill.
- If space remains after all qualified entries are accommodated on Tuesday February 16th, 2021 then we will offer spaces for those who wish to run a dog For Exhibition Only (FEO). Second dog/handler FEO entries on the same day will be offered spaces after March 2nd, 2021.
- The trial host of an event has the right to refuse entry of any competitor or dog for just cause as approved by the National Trial Committee. Just cause includes lack of adherence to NACSW™ rules and guidelines and the policies outlined in each event entry premium.
- Some trial entries may be given priority entry based on contributions to the organization and the trial process.

You will be notified via e-mail of the results of the random draw by 12 noon (EST) February 17th, 2021.

If you have spam blocker on your email account , please configure it to allow email from info@cannyk9companions.com in order to ensure delivery of confirmation and information about this trial.

You will then have 5 working days to complete your payment to confirm your space in the trial. Trial payments are payable to Ann Hogg by check, PayPal or credit card. PayPal and credit card are paid through the PayPal site – PayPal account is required. A link to PayPal will be supplied in your confirmation email

A waiting list for alternates will be started as soon as entries fill.

Alternates will be contacted when a space opens up.

Depending on last minute trial logistics, we may opt to not fill all canceled spaces.

NACSW™ reserves the right to cancel a trial if minimum entry numbers are not met.

Be sure you read and understand the guidelines for this trial before entering. By submitting a registration for this NACSW™ Trial, you acknowledge that you have read, understand, and accept the policies and liability information of NACSW™.

Cancellation Policy:

Refunds

The following cancellation policy applies

For cancellation of entries on or before 12 noon EST February 27th, 2021 – Full refund minus a \$25 processing fee. For cancellation of entries after 12 noon EST February 27th, 2021 – no refunds will be issued unless the space is filled in which case a refund will be issued minus a \$25 processing fee. Except for titles earned and properly notified as stated below full refund minus a \$25 processing fee.

Due to time constraints, host may opt to not fill cancelled spaces and no refund will be issued.

If you earn the title for the level you are entering after the refund period has ended then you must contact the trial host at info@cannyk9companions.com let them know you are no longer eligible. If you contact the host within 48 hours of titling and at least 72 hours before their trial and (1) they are unable to fill your space then you won't be given a refund but will be allowed to keep your space in the trial and run your dog FEO or (2) they are able to fill your space then a refund will be issued minus the processing fee listed in the cancellation policy. If you fail to contact the host within 48 hours of earning your title and at least 72 hours before the trial you are registered for then you will forfeit your space, you will not be allowed to run as FEO, and no refund will be issued.

All cancellations must be emailed to info@cannyk9companions.com

Entry fees shall not be refunded if a dog or handler is absent, disqualified, or excused by the NACSW™ official or judge.

This cancellation and refund policy applies to competitors that must withdraw for any reason including but not limited to injury, illness, emergency, and personal or work-related reasons.

If the trial cannot take place or be completed by reason of fire, civil disturbances, an Act of God, public emergency, or any other cause beyond the control of the trial organizers, then the trial host will make their best effort to provide partial refunds after recouping their expenses.

LOCATION DETAILS

Trial Conditions

Modeled after real-life detection work, K9 Nose Work® trials are held in many different locations, with a variety of terrain, under varying weather conditions. Dogs and handlers need to be able to safely negotiate a variety of surfaces, including, but not limited to, tile, linoleum, carpeting, gravel, asphalt, uneven surfaces, and slippery footing. Handlers should be prepared

to deal with a variety of weather conditions, including heat, cold, rain and snow. Trials frequently require covering extensive distances to get to and from the parking area to each of the search areas and generally require that this be done across natural, uneven surfaces. Handlers should be prepared for the physical demands and must be able to navigate the terrain with their dog accordingly. Participants should expect to spend most of the day outside or in their vehicles as there are rarely indoor crating options at trials. Please be prepared for you and your canine partner to deal with all of these varying environmental challenges. Handlers agree that they are entering this trial at their own risk.

Site Specific Conditions

Some of search areas will be close to the parking lot, there will be some that require walking to on paved roads and some search areas will require driving to. Due to unforeseen conditions, such as weather or change in availability of areas at the location the expected search areas and pathways may be modified at the last minute and this may require longer walks on gravel and grass with some inclines.

Parking is in a paved lot but with no shade.

Bathrooms will be inside.

Reactive Dog Parking

We will park reactive dogs at one end of the parking lot but there still may not be much space between vehicles. We will have a separate potty area for reactive dogs.

Unentered Dogs

Unentered dogs must remain in the competitor's vehicle during the day. There will be ample potty areas, but unentered dogs should not be allowed to "play", exercise, or train on the trial grounds.

RV Parking

There is no room for RV parking at this trial

Running Vehicles or Generators in the Parking Lot

As vehicles will be spaced out you will be able to run your vehicle for short periods if necessary.

Due to unforeseen conditions, such as weather or change in availability of areas at the location, this policy may be modified at the last minute.

Smoking

Smoking is not allowed on this trial site, including the use of e-cigarettes

Hotels

We hope to be able to offer hotel accommodation on-site. The fee for one night will include a buffet style dinner, breakfast, and bagged lunch. No pet fees. Room rate and more information will be sent following the draw.

DOG INFORMATION

Dog Policies

- All dogs must be on a 6' leash at all times when not being tested. NO flexi-leashes while not participating in a competition search.
- Reactive and/or spatially challenged dogs should wear a red bandana (to be provided by the dog's handler) to help signal others that the dog needs extra space from other dogs.
- Dogs will be toileted in designated areas and handlers must pick-up and dispose of waste.
- Dogs and handlers must stay in designated areas to avoid contaminating testing space, interrupting a test, or from viewing any part of the testing.
- Unentered dogs must remain in the competitor's vehicle during the trial day. There will be ample potty areas, but unentered dogs should not be allowed to "play", exercise, or train on the trial grounds.
- Competitors should expect to keep their dogs confined in a crate or vehicle when not competing. The logistics of a trial typically do not allow for dogs to hang out on leash in between searches. Competitors should plan to provide their own shade using canopies or shade cloths.

Females in Season:

Will be allowed to run wearing "pants" at the very end of the running orders after all other dogs have been judged. Females in season will be parked and pottied in areas separate from the other dogs while at the trial if the location logistics permit. Handlers must contact Ann Hogg at info@cannyk9companions.com so plans can be made for the dog.

OTHER INFORMATION

Rules

Complete rules are available at www.NACSW.net. **It is the responsibility of each competitor to read and understand the current NACSW™ Rule book prior to participating in a NACSW™ event.**

Liability

By registering for the trial, the competitor hereby assumes all risks of, and responsibility for, accidents and/or damage to her/himself or to her/his property or to others, resulting from the actions of her/his dog. The competitor expressly agrees that the NACSW™, Ann Hogg/CannyK9Companions LLC and its assignees or any other person, or persons, of said groups, shall not be held liable personally, or collectively, under any circumstances, for injury, and/or damage to her/himself, for loss or injury to property, whether due to uncontrolled dogs or negligence of any member of said groups, or any other cause, or causes. The competitor also agrees to assume all financial liability that may be incurred by the NACSW™ due to the actions of themselves or their dogs regardless of the cause.

Sportsmanship

All competitors/handlers and spectators are expected to follow the rules of the NACSW™ and demonstrate good sportsmanship. This includes making sure the hide placements are unknown to the handler prior to testing and kept secret from other competitors. Please do not discuss hide placement or any details of a dog's performance that may provide information or clues to other handlers or may be overheard

NACSW™ Results:

Results for each search and overall will be posted after all searches are completed and scores are verified for you to record your results for your own records. It is your responsibility to ensure your scores are accurate prior to leaving trial grounds. In the event that a discrepancy cannot be verified at the trial, you may be instructed to submit a score card review request. It is not the responsibility of the host or NACSW to return score sheets that are left behind or to mail ribbons that are not picked up.

Spectators

To minimize the number of people on site, anyone not volunteering, competing, or officiating should stay home except in the case where someone **requires** support to travel to the event. Spectating is currently not allowed. An adult accompanying a minor must be present during the searches. Everyone at the trial site must sign the waiver provided by the host and comply with all event requirements.

Anyone accompanying you MUST check-in at registration and pay the \$20 fee.

Videotaping and Photography:

As a condition of your entry, you agree to allow NACSW™, or their agents, to video you and your dog, during the entirety of the NACSW™ event. These videos are the property of NACSW™. All competitors, through entry at any NACSW™ event, waive any and all rights relative to video broadcast or photography of such event.

Questions:

All trial related questions, contact the trial secretary Ann Hogg at:

info@cannyk9companions.com