

Sporting Detection Dogs Association Newsletter

SDDA Gazette

Summer Edition, July 2024

National Cup Challenge 2024



The Winners, NCC Rankings, Photos and much more!

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President's Message

Karin Apfel

Greetings fellow detection fans!

At long last, here is a new newsletter! Things were just too busy for the newsletter “staff” before the National Challenge Cup to put something together. I say “staff” because it is just two of us and the talented graphic artist Stav and I could not quite coordinate because she has a busy job and family life, and I was pretty much 24/7 working on Nationals.

Due to the delay, you get a bunch of additional material in this one though with a focus on safety. Let's Play Safely is aimed mainly at hosts and judges about ensuring that our search areas are safe for dog and handler. Thanks to judge Lou-Anne Lambert for sharing ideas gained through her experiences and education. Judge Kelly Ladouceur has also written a helpful guide focused on safety, this time with regard to ensuring that space sensitive dogs do not cause harm to officials or competitors. The responsibility to keep everyone safe lies with all of us: hosts, judges and handlers. Finally, in the same vein, we have some advice on the prevention and treatment of heat stroke in dogs. Handlers too should be watching their hydration and avoid too much sun during summer trials.

We also have an article for new competitors to determine if they and their dog are ready to enter a trial. Or, maybe they already tried once and weren't quite ready, so we have some ideas about things to work on. And, to answer one of the more frequent questions asked on social media and by email, a summary of our judging process was put together by Victoria Vidal-Ribas. Our judges are some of the most respected in the country so the process is not a simple or easy one. Many of our judges are recruited by the Canadian Kennel Club as well as private detection companies looking for handlers and trainers.

Lastly, here is the wrap up for the National Challenge Cup. Given the event occurred a bit earlier in the year than the first NCC in 2019, the Maritime weather was thankfully moderate with only one rainy deluge on Sunday morning.

Searches were delayed by an hour to wait out the brief monsoon because each search station had both indoor and outdoor search areas and some of the outdoor ones were floating away.

Saturday night was the catered dinner and our speaker Robin Greubel gave a fabulous presentation on when our dogs should be alerting at a distance from the hide and how to teach that. Robin was released from SAR deployment in New Mexico only a day or two before the NCC, so we were all biting our nails hoping she would make it!

As planned, each Level searched all the areas under all 6 judges throughout the weekend. Challenges (hence the name!) included the Cadet teams searching containers in the woods, vehicles on a hill and searching multiple rooms, each with one hide. Time wasn't the most determining factor in the rankings, but efficient searching paid off with more hides found! Master Level meant multiple distractors and some buried hides in the horseshoe pits that may have been new for some of them! Pro Level was challenged with pizza crust, left over hamburger and several elevated hides including one in a tree, one under a dartboard high on a wall and one on a hydro pole. It was only required that the dogs find the hides although if there was some grey area in the locating of the hide itself, the judges could assign partial points for those hides so the team could continue to search. False alerts did mean the team had to move onto the next search and were assigned the full time allowed.

By the end of Sunday morning the cream had risen to the top and the rankings determined which of the top six dogs in each Level were able to move onto the Finals. In the finals, all dogs returned to starting with zero points, so every position was up for grabs! Each Level had a different search area so anyone who wasn't in those finals could observe them. That proved to be a huge hit and each finalist, regardless of hides found, was given an enthusiastic round of applause after their search. After a second tie-breaking round of Finals on containers, the three champions were crowned. Despite a disappointingly low number of Maritimers competing, the Cadet Level winner was from Nova Scotia!

PRESIDENT ■ FROM PG 2



Ashley McGuinness maintained her impressive lead throughout the competition and she and her dog Witch took home the Cadet Championship trophy (well, it will be sent to them after their names are immortalized on the perpetual cup).

Master Level was handily won by our own Chelsea Dujardin and her Dalmation Liv with fellow Quebecer Andréa Bossé and her GSD Maze took home the top prize in Pro Level. Second and third in Cadet went to Insta-star Taco the Dachshund with Aaron Sampson and Debbie Martin and Kit Kat, respectively. Second and third in Master were Nelly Benabou and Sprout and Jayde with Ann Maclean. In Pro, second went to Jane Book and Style, and third to yours truly and my “little” rescue Rottie, Kilo. The SDDA and I personally would like to congratulate everyone who took part in the event. The challenges were real and searches were amazingly creative and fun! I hope to see most of you next year when the NCC moves west.

I would also like to thank just some of the people who gave their sweat and tears to make this event happen. Gratitude goes out to Doug and Cathy Teeft who

managed to secure an amazing venue and host a crazy number of competitors for several days. The amount of planning they undertook was amazing! The six judges who were up early every day prepping and placing hides in their distant search areas (the property is 26 acres!). We so appreciate you Pando Stepanis, Paul Dyer, John Mairs, Marina Skoreiko, Christina Legien and Bev Owocki! All the volunteers who gave their time and effort in timing and making sure competitors knew when they were up and where to go; we absolutely couldn't have done it without you! And, a special mention goes to Terri Pitts and Richard Greenall who were my right hands and often my left as well in making sure all the crazy changes and hold-ups were resolved and also Eric Jansen who flew out nearly last minute to make sure our brand new scoring system would work flawlessly. I am endlessly grateful to all of you!

Now please enjoy some of the memories captured in film by photographers Tina Sawicki and Ashley McGuinness starting on page 12!

2025 NCC Application

Would you like to have the National Challenge Cup held closer to you? Consider hosting! If you have access to a great facility that has tons of interesting indoor and outdoor spaces to hold simultaneous searches with easy access to on site or nearby accommodations we want to hear from you! Preference will be given to locations west of Ontario. Fill out this form by September 15th for a chance to host the most exciting scent detection event of the year!

<https://forms.gle/zDJC7LC8su5WGUKs8>

NCC Rankings

These rankings reflect the scores BEFORE Finals were held

2024 SDDA Nationals - CADET Level

Dog ID	Handler	Call Name	Accum. Points	Accum. Time	Accum. Rank
5341	McGuiness, Ashley	Witch - All-Canadian	121	12:16.1	1
2712	Sampson, Aaron	Taco - Dachshund (Miniature Smooth)	100	10:29.8	2
4439	Benabou, Nelly	Leaf - Retriever (Nova Scotia Duck Tolling)	100	15:57.8	3
5211	Rose, Beth	Cinna - Rottweiler	89	15:23.1	4
4874	Foster, Kathleen	Xander - Berger Allemand	89	17:41.0	5
4927	Martin, Debbie	Kit Kat - Mastiff	61	15:34.5	6
5234	Paquet Lajoie, Andrée-anne	ONYX - Vizsla (Smooth)	58	15:46.0	7
4146	Armour, Kate	Edward - Old English Sheepdog	54	20:29.7	8
4330	Burns, Heather	Rider - Cairn Terrier	50	19:01.8	9
4718	Fougere, Chantal	Mabel - All-American	25	24:00.0	10

2024 SDDA Nationals - PRO Level

Dog ID	Handler	Call Name	Accum. Points	Accum. Time	Accum. Rank
3736	Bossé, Andréa	Maze - German Shepherd Dog	148	21:31.3	1
1503	Rogers, Rose	Matilda - Retriever (Nova Scotia Duck Tolling)	142	19:31.0	2
1942	Apfel, Karin	Kilo - Rottweiler	140	18:39.8	3
860	Book, Jane	Style - Border Collie	121	20:23.9	4
3005	Sawicki, Tina	Piper - All-Canadian	117	20:08.9	5
2561	Armour, Kate	Harley - Soft-Coated Wheaten Terrier	110	20:31.6	6
2775	Laberge-Richard, Laurie	Xena - Retriever (Labrador)	99	21:09.5	7
3131	Samson, Annick	Margot - German Shepherd Dog	91	20:47.6	8
4629	MacLean, Ann	Lauchie - Border Collie	75	22:26.1	9
1360	Dujardin, Chelsea	Knox - All-Canadian	66	23:00.0	10
2879	Rose-Nadeau, Emrick	Anke - Berger Allemand	65	22:45.8	11
3497	Gagnon, Kim	Volk - German Shepherd Dog	63	21:44.1	12
2989	McGuiness, Ashley	Bendigo - Australian Koolie	60	21:20.5	13
2205	Farrell, Judy	Piper - Miniature American Shepherd	37	23:00.0	14

2024 SDDA Nationals - MASTER Level

Dog ID	Handler	Call Name	Accum. Points	Accum. Time	Accum. Rank
4072	Ferguson, Yvonne	Raya - German Shepherd Dog	175	19:59.1	1
4579	Benabou, Nelly	Sprout - All-Canadian	156	21:59.9	2
3731	Dujardin, Chelsea	Liv - Dalmatian	131	20:13.2	3
2794	Book, Jane	Steele - Australian Shepherd	131	20:19.8	4
4455	MacLean, Ann	Jayde - Border Collie	125	22:54.2	5
1628	Yost, Sue	Soxx - All-Canadian	103	21:40.3	6
3598	Robinson, Tanya	Mallie - Spanish Water Dog	103	21:54.4	7
3746	Forton, Barb	River - Retriever (Nova Scotia Duck Tolling)	100	20:46.0	8
3450	Audette, Eryn	Monte - All-Canadian	100	22:40.5	9
2747	Greenall, Richard	FREYA - Bulldog (American)	98	22:11.3	10
4420	Paquet Lajoie, Andrée-anne	Rosie - Retriever (Golden)	94	22:39.6	11
3207	Farrell, Judy	Sky - Australian Shepherd	84	21:24.3	12
4488	Bradford, Miqueilia	Grail - German Shepherd Dog	84	22:46.2	13
2988	McGuiness, Ashley	Lulu - Borzoi	74	21:46.8	14
3395	Prudhomme, Jane	Kali - Retriever (Labrador)	68	21:44.9	15
3541	Noble, Patricia	Georgie - Parson Russell Terrier	64	23:21.1	16
4981	Guillet, Colleen	Zoe - Dalmatian	60	22:04.5	17
4457	Larson, Erinn	Rowen - Xoloitzcuintli (Miniature & Standard)	57	21:59.6	18
4733	Davison, Michelle	Rumour - Greyhound	41	24:00.0	19
5218	Korta, Dominika	Tala - Doberman Pinscher	38	22:50.7	20
4661	McCarron, Jennifer	Ronja - German Shepherd Dog	38	24:00.0	21

2024 SDDA Nationals - MASTER Level

Dog ID	Handler	Call Name	Accum. Points	Accum. Time	Accum. Rank
4421	Donoghue-Silva, Samantha	Molly - Retriever (Golden)	30	24:00.0	22
4329	Burns, Heather	Wheeler - Cairn Terrier	22	24:00.0	23
3130	Samson, Annick	Marley - German Shepherd Dog	19	24:00.0	24
4717	Fougere, Chantal	Watson - All-American	10	24:00.0	25
4494	Daigneault, Robin	Dory - Border Collie	8	20:00.0	26

Newsletter Submissions

If you would like to submit an article or other item to the SDDA newsletter, please reach out to karin@SDDA.ca. Send a word document WITHOUT any formatting.

Low resolution photos are welcome as jpegs.

We do not publish any sales for products or animals.

Are you ready to Trial?

By Victoria Vidal-Ribas
Amateur sport dog handler

Ready, Set, GO!

How do you know when you and your dog are ready to start trialing?

So here you are with your great teammate. You've attended scent classes and practiced diligently. You've shared experiences and stories with your fellow scent students. You've watched scent videos and attended webinars. And, very importantly, you've got your trial collar or harness and leash. How do you know when you are both ready to trial?

Before we get into that, though, do you know how trial entries work? If you are a registered participant with the SDDA, you will receive emails with trial announcements. Follow the links to the website event listings and scroll down to the Premium List link. All the information including the entry form to the trial will be there. Alternatively, anyone not receiving RP emails can go directly to the SDDA event page: <https://www.sdda.ca/civicrm/current-events/>

Now, back to our scheduled programming....Alas, there is no checklist for trial readiness, but here are a few considerations.

Are you sure that your dog understands their job and is obedient to odour? In other words, is your dog able to bypass environmental distractions and seek out wintergreen?

Does your dog know that getting as close to the strongest source of odour (usually the actual hide) is important or are they simply changing their behaviour when finding the edges of an odour pool?

Do you understand your job in a trial environment and are you comfortable doing your job? At the Started Level, your main job is to support your partner and make sure they are in the right emotional state to work.



When you and your dog are in sync and working well in new environments, the rosettes will follow! (Judge Marina Skoreiko and competitor Souha Ezzedeen) PHOTO BY: KARIN APFEL

Are you ready to handle a trial environment? Trials can be busy places and your stress will likely go up. If possible, test your trial nerves at a Designated Odour Test or fun match before entering a trial.

Is your dog comfortable working in a new environment with different flooring, search spaces and people? This last one may be the most important question. See above.

Trial readiness isn't only about taking some classes and having success in class. Trials should be a happy experience for you both as a team. An immature dog or one who is still working through environmental worries may not have fun. That can be tough on both of you. Set yourselves up for future success by entering when you are sure you both will have a good time, pass or no pass.

If you and your dog have your basics down and you can approach a trial as an experience and a way to learn then yes! You are trial ready!

ALL DOGS CAN PLAY?

Taking a closer look at competing in SDDA with and around dogs needing accommodations

By Kristina Sveinson

The SDDA has long been known as a scent organization that challenges handler and dog to work together through a strong bond of trust, to navigate searches which mimic the work of professional teams in a safe, fun environment. On the SDDA homepage you'll find we welcome "all" dogs, as competition is set up for 1:1 searches, making our sport an option for dogs who may not easily fit in at other sport venues. This is achieved by a mix of host planning and communication, judge awareness and accommodation, and owner responsibility. Below are the many ways to help everyone set up dogs for a positive trial experience.

The Premium List

Hosts putting together an event create the premium list. This document must contain the trial dates, judge(s), trial approval # and should outline the details of a trial for competitor information. Hosts consider their venue flow and will disclose in the premium venue considerations for all competitors, such as stairs, tight staging areas, limited space, slippery floors, etc. Competitors who are entering a dog who has sensitivities or needs space should pay close attention to these details and use the information to direct their trial entry. If you have venue questions you should reach out to the host ahead of trial entry to help you decide if this trial is right for you.

The Competitor Package

Hosts will compile information for all participants into a competitor package and distribute this information approximately one week prior to the event. This document should reiterate the important points from the premium, as well as disclosing the number of entries per level, estimated times for check-in/walk through, parking specifications and any other ground rules. This should also be reiterated on the day of the event before runs begin in the briefing.

The Run Order

Hosts can design their run order to accommodate extra space for dogs who need it, this might include running them last. Competitors should disclose the needs of their dog to the host well ahead of the trial to allow this to be part of their planning.

At an SDDA Trial

Competitors should work with the host and volunteers to ensure the needs of their dog are met. Pay close attention to the staging instructions and speak up if additional accommodation is needed. All competitors should be avoiding passing dogs in close proximity, both with and without your dog. Remember that working dogs can be amped up, you should not stare at them, push past them to enter/exit a venue, and you should avoid on leash interactions. Keep distance when pottying and survey your path to and from your vehicle as you queue up for your runs. Above all, advocate for your dog, if you see someone approaching and they aren't giving you the space you need, or not paying attention to their dog, raise your voice and speak up for what you need. You should also be aware of potential triggers and try your best to avoid them.

Handlers Be Aware

Like any conscientious organization, the SDDA wants to ensure the safety of all competitors whether on two or four legs, as well as providing clear guidance for their judges and hosts. Everyone participating in SDDA sport detection should be familiar with the Rule Book, where the governing principles can be found. The SDDA has defined the job of the handler in the case of every dog on site, whether competing or not (Rulebook v5 General Guidelines Pg 4/5). Consequences for not abiding by these parameters can be found on page 11 under the NQs and Elimination sections.

ALL DOGS ■ FROM PG 6

You are responsible for keeping yourself and your dog safe at an event. Trials are not dog socialization time; do not pet or make eye contact with a competitor's dog unless specifically invited to by the owner. Another key thing is to be present and observant at the walk through. Walk throughs are provided for your information and staging/entry/exit guidelines should be covered. Know where dogs will be entering and exiting the space, this is not somewhere you should be congregating to visit or potty your dog. When rewarding your partner after a search, keep on moving out of the area as a courtesy to the next team and the host's schedule.

Who ensures these guidelines are followed?

While safety is everyone's responsibility, there is always an avenue to take when self regulation isn't enough. Hosts who put on an SDDA trial are expected to know the rules and uphold them, including the difficult task of dismissing a competitor if the need arises. At every SDDA trial event the SDDA judge is the presiding authority representing the expectations of the organization. The judge can have any person on site removed for breach of rules, dog aggression or conflict.

Defining aggression and reactivity

Let's start with reactivity, as in my opinion, this word is widely misinterpreted. Reactivity describes a wide range of dog behaviors from fearful, timid behaviors to over excited, bubbly personalities, and includes dogs who display intimidating barking, lunging and threatening behaviors. All of these dogs CAN be welcomed at an SDDA event, but they are ONLY permitted when the handler is exhibiting good control of the dog.

Aggression Is defined in the rule book as an instance where a bite occurs. The same care and attention used across the spectrum of reactivity need to be used in the case of aggression. Further to that if your dog has the potential of being a risk to others, you have the duty and responsibility to honestly assess if a trial is the place for your dog. If you are not capable of advocating for your dog and maintaining control to ensure the safety of the trial officials, judge, other competitors and their dogs, then your dog is not ready to be at a trial.

What happens after an incident?

Despite everyone's best efforts, incidents may occur. It's important to remember to document those instances whether they are a near miss or something more severe. The SDDA facilitates reporting through the Incident Form, soon to be formatted for web submission. Hosts and judges should confer at an event when an issue arises and ensure they are maintaining a safe environment for all.

Reporting doesn't mean further action will ensue, it's simply a tool to help advise or document the decisions made. If an Ombuds complaint ensues, a report helps capture the event while it's fresh for all. It can also tell the organization where it can improve communication of expectations, how a host can improve trial management and ongoing guidelines to facilitate safe participation for all.

At the end of the day, in order for the SDDA to remain a safe, fun, and inclusive environment for all people and dogs, we require awareness and responsibility from all parties involved in a trial. Knowing your responsibilities based on the role you play, is key. Making a trial experience great for everyone is how we can all make trials a place where virtually all dogs can play!

LET'S PLAY SAFE!

By Lou-Anne Lambert

As trials ramp up at even a greater speed these days, a lot of handlers are looking for new and novel search locations and areas to help develop their team's breadth and depth of scent detection skills. I encourage hosts and judges to be aware of potential hazards when preparing search areas and for handlers to be observant in their walk-throughs for risk factors. Granted no search area needs to be or will be absolutely pristine; however, I believe the environment should be safe for all concerned.

The environmental factors I consider have been learned from my mentor, trainers, trial hosts, readings and first-hand experience as a judge and handler. I would like to share, what I look for to remove or adjust, before judging or playing in search areas.

Interior Search Areas

- Rat / mouse traps - bait
- Essential oil diffuser or plugins (air fresheners)
- Cleaning chemicals, toilet bowl chemicals, brushes and plungers
- Cables and extension cords around computers, lamps, etc.
- Blind cords
- Breakable décor (vases, figurines, art, etc.)
- Unsteady / tippy objects
- Sharp objects
- Paper shredders (unplug)
- Industrial equipment - nail guns, power saws (unplug)
- Kitchen appliances (unplug)
- Floor contamination - any chemical, oil, etc.
- Water spills, ice
- Stairs (handrails?/ surface type?)
- Room flow (adjusting furniture, items for dog and handler to move about, without having to move objects)

PLAY SAFE! ■ FROM PG 8

Lastly check quickly for:

- Chewing gum: Stuck under items (school desk, church pews, conference tables)
- Desk Drawers: Spearmint gum or Spearmint tobacco wrappers
- Office garbage cans (for food)

Exterior Search Areas

- Rodent or bird carcasses
- Garbage (tins, chicken bones, bottles)
- Broken glass
- Drug Debris (needles, pills, roach clips...I had to ask a friend!)
- Lumber scraps, wooden pallets (nails, staples, broken ends)
- Noxious weeds (stinging nettle, poison ivy)
- Insect mounds (ants, wasps)
- Avoid common petroleum products (motor oil, gasoline, keosene, propane, diesel) (ideally note out of play)
- Surface traction: Stair surfaces (grates) think paws (avoid or cover)
- Gopher / Rabbit holes, hidden dips in longer grass, tree roots (tripping hazards)

In the majority of instances above, items can either be removed, flagged, blocked off.

Hot Days

Vehicles: Be cautious about using vehicles on hot days, particularly dark coloured ones.

Pavement: when the surface is at 125°F (51.6 C), burnt paws can happen in 60 seconds and even faster when hotter. That would mean that asphalt is too hot to walk on for your dog on an 85°F (29.4 C) day.

“Decide what to do about any hazards you identify. Maybe you can make them safe by laying them down, making them steady, or removing them from the area. Where they cannot be made safe, decide whether to still search the area and avoid the hazard, or not search the area at all.”

Detector Dog - A Talking Scent Work Manual (Mackinnon 2017)

Trial Hosting Application Tips

By Amy Dufour

With a substantial increase in the number of trials across the country comes a balancing act for the few of us that manage the workload behind the scenes and I thought it might be helpful to share some of the processes that happen while you are eagerly planning all the logistics of running your trial to help reduce the amount of time you end up waiting to hear back from us.

Trial Approvals

When choosing a date for your trial, review the event calendar on the webpage. Are there any other trials being held within a two- or three-hour drive of your location. If your date is not flexible, consider chatting with the host of that trial to see if they believe they will easily fill or if you could offer different levels. This information should be shared with us so we don't have to do the same which can result in substantial delays. In the case of trial conflicts, the first trial applied for is given precedence.

Does your venue have enough space for what you are offering? Have you sent the judge videos or photos or site plans and have they approved it? If a venue seems insufficient for what is being offered, we will check with the judge and/or may ask for more details. When filling out the trial application it is best to be as descriptive as possible. Room sizes, the type of floor, is the building accessible? Will parking be an issue? All of this information, particularly for new venue spaces is helpful for a quick turnaround.

Trial Premiums

There is only availability to upload a single file in your event space on the website. If you are using a paper entry form, it should be the last page of your premium all in the same document. Premiums should be sent as a PDF file for review and should ideally be named **<date><Location><trial number>**. If you have multiple trial numbers, you can use just the first number for the first trial. As an example, if you are hosting a trial on July 1, 2024 in Toronto, Ontario with trial number 4321, you would name your file.

July12024_TorontoON_4321

For accessibility, your premium should be in a font that is easy to read like Arial or Calibri and should be a minimum 12-point font.

Information that should be easy to find and located on the first page are things like: host and secretary name and contact info, location, date with levels offered, the RP opening date, the general opening date, and the closing date. Having this information on the first page makes it easy for us to find and confirm the dates and get your premium uploaded and sent to RPs.

Timing

There are times, especially in the summer, when it takes longer than usual to review premiums. Give yourself three weeks, when practical, to get your premium in and approved. We don't recommend sending it in more than three months ahead of your trial date. There have been several times over the last few months where hosts got their trial premiums in months ahead of time and then had major changes to their trial which takes time to re-approve and then update the website. If you are asking for a tight turn around (less than 7 days) please flag it in your email to us and we will do our best to accommodate you.

General Correspondence

When emailing in about your trial, whether it's a change, or submitting your premium, or your order for your trial supplies, it is very helpful if you include at the top of your email your trial date, location, and the first trial number. It makes it much easier to quickly locate your event.

Here is a quick reference for Hosts regarding what to send to which email: General trial application queries, change requests and Premium Lists go to info@SDDA.ca. For trial supply orders or questions use orders@SDDA.ca

Is there something that would be helpful for you as a trial host? If you have a great idea, please share it with me at amy@sdda.ca. Please remember that we also have a host Facebook page which has lots of useful information as well. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/731413500264617>

Preventing and Treating Heat Stroke

With information from Cornell University Canine Health Center



Overview

Heatstroke is a life-threatening condition that occurs when the body's temperature rises too high and cannot be cooled effectively. This can cause severe damage to body organs and can result in death.

Causes

Heatstroke occurs from exposure to hot or humid environments, or from overly strenuous exercise. Unlike humans, dogs only have sweat glands on their paws and must rely on panting to cool down.

The normal body temperature for a dog is between 38 and 39 degrees Celsius (100.5 and 102.5 Fahrenheit). Heatstroke results when the dog cannot regulate their body temperature, and it rises to 40.5 degrees (105 Fahrenheit) or higher.

Dogs are most at risk for heatstroke during the summer months if exercising in hot and humid weather, if left outside without adequate shade and water, and if they are left alone in a car — where the temperature can increase rapidly.

Clinical signs include heavy panting, red or bluish gums, weakness, staggering, drooling excessively, vomiting, bloody diarrhea, seizures, collapse. If elevated body temperatures are prolonged, they will cause damage to every organ in the body. Heat stroke commonly leads to acute kidney injury, blood clotting issues and shock.

Treatment

Heatstroke is a medical emergency and requires intensive critical care. Owners should start cooling their dog immediately — by wetting the dog with water and/or placing ice packs in the groin and armpit areas, and moving them to the shade with a fan in front of them. Once on the way to the vet, place them directly in front of the car's air conditioning.

Vet Treatments

Treatment involves safely and immediately cooling the pet and seeking intensive care at a veterinary hospital. The vet will attempt some or all of the following: active cooling, IV fluids, oxygen, electrolytes and glucose, antibiotics and medications to protect the gut, pain medications, and anti-seizure medications. Additional medications may be needed based on the individual and their underlying conditions.

Outcome

Heatstroke can cause widespread organ damage; and unfortunately, many do not survive. The prognosis depends on how high the body temperature gets and how long it remains elevated. Chances of survival improve with early recognition of heatstroke, intensive treatment and supportive care. However, patients that survive are at a greater risk of heatstroke again in the future.

Prevention

Never leave your dog in a closed car unattended. Avoid strenuous exercise during hot and humid weather. Provide free access to shade and water while outside. Remain indoors during periods of extreme heat and humidity. When at a competition with your dog, provide sun screens, offer water frequently and keep fans blowing on the resting dog. Cooling coats and mats can offer temporary cooling but check them frequently as they can also overheat the dog over time.

DOGS AT HIGHER RISK

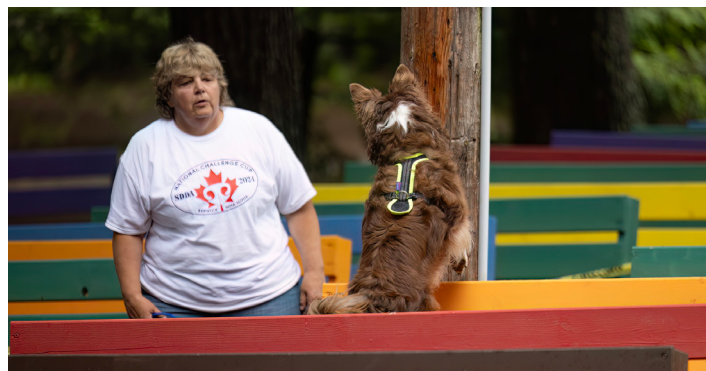
- Brachycephalic breeds (Pugs, Bulldogs, etc.)
- Elderly
- Overweight
- Thick-coated or dark-coated dogs
- Respiratory or cardiac disorders (e.g., laryngeal paralysis, heart disease)

PRO Level

Rank	Callname	Handler	Rank	Callname	Handler
1	Maze	Andréa Bossé	4	Piper	Tina Sawicki
2	Style	Jane Book	5	Harley	Harley Kate Armour
3	Kilo	Karin Apfel	6	Matilda	Matilda Rose Rogers



THIS PHOTO BY: EMRICK ROSE-NADEAU



ALL OTHER PHOTOS BY: TINA SAWICKI

MASTER Level

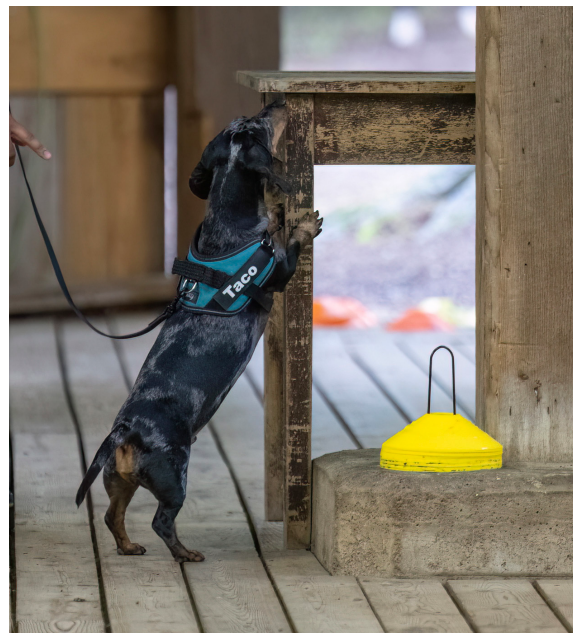
Rank	Callname	Handler	Rank	Callname	Handler
1	Liv	Chelsea Dujardin	4	Steele	Jane Book
2	Sprout	Nelly Benabou	5	Soxx	Sue Yost
3	Jayde	Ann Maclean	6	Raya	Yvonne Ferguson



PHOTOS BY: TINA SAWICKI

CADET Level

Rank	Callname	Handler	Rank	Callname	Handler
1	Witch	Ashley McGuiness	4	Leaf	Nelly Benabou
2	Taco	Aaron Sampson	5	Cinna	Beth Rose
3	KitKat	Debbie Martin	6	Xander	Kathleen Foster





PHOTOS BY: TINA SAWICKI

Paying It Forward - Fire and Ice Scentsations

By Russ Fox



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT Maryrose McIntyre, Debra McPherson, Chris Hansen and Jane Rocchio. PHOTO BY: RUSS FOX

I recently had the pleasure of being invited to judge a local trial located in Kemptville, a small town just south of Ottawa, Ontario. The event was held on a Friday afternoon on an extremely hot and humid day, so of course it had the theme of “Christmas in July”. The event was held on a private property that was donated by the owner to the organizers. Because this was a fund-raiser, I donated my judging fee as well. Everything was set on my arrival; containers were out, and the exterior search area set up all for my review and changes. Despite the heat the event went without any hiccups, there were successes and some challenges but over all a great trial.

After the completion of the trial, I learned that the organizing club “Fire and Ice Scentsations” had raised \$1,185.00 from this trial and donated to a local community group (Seniors community Services).

After hearing this I started to ask more questions about the club and its beginnings. The club’s core members (Chris Hansen, Debra McPherson, Jane Rocchio and Maryrose McIntyre) started helping local Ottawa scent clubs in 2021. With the challenges of Covid restrictions, hosting events took careful planning. This group of scent enthusiasts figured out a working formula and implemented it. During this period the group realized many individuals and organizations were struggling financially so they began hosting their own trials as well, donating the proceeds to various needy local organizations.

With their selfless commitment and work they raised almost \$12,000.00 last year, all for local community groups in need. I was honoured to be a part of Fire and Ice Scentsations “Christ-mas in July” and look forward to supporting their ongoing charitable work.

D.O.T. Results

Dog	Handler	Odor
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January 5, 2024

Qunite Canine – Belleville, ON

Raya	Yvonne Ferguson	T
Spirit	John Martin	WPT
Abli	Andrea Woods	P
Zoe	Colleen Guillet	T
Skylar	Norma Broadbear	WP
Axil	Colleen Phillips	W
Callie	Chris Wells	W
Marsea	Victoria Winter	W
Ruby	Linda Middleton	WP
Mabel	Amy Young	WP
Ruby	Paige Summers	WP
Tisza	Lois Brown	WP
Riley	Jane Prudhomme	WP

February 25, 2024

Purple Dog School – Grande Prairie, AB

Polar	V. Downing	P
Kenobe	T. Brooks	W
Pip	J. Kennedy	W
Ellie Mae	K. Cumming	WPT
Nugget	A. Su	W
Nika	A. Kozyra	P

May 6, 2024

Sniff & Tell Scent Detection – Lethbridge, AB

Belle	Stephanie Bodnarchuk	WPT
Bert	Racheal Enns	WPT
Ripley	Dani Miller	PT
Lizzie	Maxine Brooks	WPT
Thor	Kin Friesen	WPT
Nori	Winona	WPT
Ziggie	Karla Wright	WT
Piper	Margo Russell	W

Dog	Handler	Odor
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July 19, 2024

Qunite Canine – Belleville, ON

George	Angel Foley	W
Marsea	Victoria Winter	WP
Lyric	Kate Caslick	W
Mystic	Kate Caslick	W
Paladin	Kate Caslick	T
Axil	Colleen Phillips	PT
Roxy	Pam Grandy	W
Rosie	Susan Boyle	WP
Dani	Colleen Hewgill	WP
Riley	Jane Prudhomme	T
Sophie	Jane Parsons	W
Alexia	Joanne Lukashal	T



Aug 4, 2024 – Kemptville, Ontario
Aug 10, 2024 – Pembroke, Ontario
Aug 11, 2024 – Kingston , Ontario
Aug 16, 2024 – Kemptville, Ontario
Aug 17, 18, 2024 – Innisfil, Ontario

* For details please visit our website

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