

BRAINERD KENNEL CLUB NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2017



First time in harness

BKC IS MOVING THIS SPRING!

A new dog training facility, Full Tilt Dog Training, is opening just west of co. 18, on Hwy 210 west of Brainerd. The facility will be managed by Loretta Mueller, agility instructor, and Donna Niggler. BKC will be holding its spring classes there, following the winter classes at Hunt's Point. We're very excited about the move! It will be a fully matted facility, with plenty of parking, and storage and bathroom facilities.

The club is buying the obedience equipment and ring barriers from the Wills to transfer to the new site.

Several other clubs will be renting time at the facility for flyball, agility, nosework and other areas of dog training . Some private ring time will be available. Loretta and Donna will be holding an open house in January, at which all the venues will have booths to acquaint people with their activities.

We hope everybody will come out to see the new facility!

WINTER CLASSES at Hunt's Point

Winter classes start on Jan 8.

- 6:30 Novice/Companion Dog - Colleen Adrian
- 6:30 Advanced Puppy - Pam Landers/Peggy Wills
- 7:45 Puppy - Pat & Judy Cunningham
- 7:45 Beginner - Kip Dixon

Tentative classes for spring: Puppy, Beginner, Therapy Dog.

*******ANNUAL MEETING*******

BKC Annual Meeting Monday, Dec. 11, at the Arrowwood Lodge in Baxter. We have a lot to discuss. We will vote on new board members, give out the Peter Petrikat award for service to the club, and acknowledge titles earned.

The menu items follow. Please choose your preference and let Peggy Wills know by Dec. 4; e-mail pjwills@tds.net) ph. 218 820 6594.

- | | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------|--------------------------|--------|
| Pan Fried Walleye Dinner | \$13.25 | Baxter Burger with Fries | \$9.50 |
| Chicken Alfredo with Fettuccini | \$13 | Pot Roast | \$12 |

NOTE: If you have completed a title or titles this year, please let Colleen Adrian know, so she can make your certificate. E-mail coria@tds.net.

COMPETITION NEWS

Carole Jennings and Timber – earned their novice nosework title.

Susan Voss and Robbie – earned their graduate novice title in obedience in September.

Colleen Adrian and Journey – Journey was highest scoring dog in Rally Combined at the Sioux Falls shows. At the Miniature American Shepherd National Specialty she:

* finished her CD by qualifying in Novice B Obedience two times, taking a 2nd and first place.

*She qualified three times out of four in Rally, taking one second place, one third place, and one fourth place in advanced and excellent.

* She was the high scoring Novice dog all levels, all trials combined.

*She participated in and received two qualifying ribbons for "Most Versatile MAS" and "Ultimate MAS"

*She qualified for the first leg of the herding instinct test.



John Hess and Sancho (Havenese/Poodle) – achieved their CGC

Pam Landers and Simi (Ch K-Way's Artemis WSX UWP) – achieved the first leg of the American Herding Breed Association Herding Certification Test, and first leg in lure coursing at the Samoyed Club of America National Specialty. She finished 3 working events at the SCA National show for her Iron Troika award (herding, lure coursing and weight pull). Simi earned her United Kennel Club United Weight Pull title this summer.

Pam Landers and Leia (Ch Dble Helix Somewhere In Time CA OA NAJ WSX UWP) – took second place in the Working Bitch conformation class at the Samoyed Club of America National Specialty. She finished three

working events at the SCA National show for her Iron Troika award (agility, lure coursing and herding). Leia earned her United Kennel Club United Weight Pull title this summer.

Pam Landers and Winter (Grch Ch Prairie Isle High Plains Winter CA NAP OAP WSXM) – finished the Samoyed Club of America Master Working Samoyed Degree earning 5000 points in carting, weight pull, pack hiking and herding.



FUN THINGS TO DO WITH YOUR DOGS

Drafting and Carting with Your Dogs (excerpted from AKC)

Drafting and carting are sports that are open to all breeds of dogs, including mixed-breeds. Pulling carts to help transport items was a task that many dogs were — and still are — trained to do to help around farms. Dogs like to pull – and this gives them an acceptable way to use their instincts.

Several BKC club members compete in drafting with their dogs. They may be willing to advise anyone who wants to try it out



Basic Exercises: common exercises in Carting and Drafting tests.

These exercises will vary, and will increase in level of difficulty. Some of the tests are performed in an enclosed roped-off area, but others may not be. Many tests are held in open public parks with the common distractions of public places on a busy weekend.

Obedience Routines:

Often these require a heeling pattern, a recall, and a stay. Some clubs judge this in the same ring as part of the Drafting maneuvering exercises and some do it in a group in a separate ring before the maneuvering exercises. The stay exercise is generally with the dog attached to the cart, Some stays will be on-leash, and some will be off-leash from across the ring. Some levels require out-of-sight stays.

Harnessing, Hitching, Equipment Check:

The judge checks the equipment at the start of the test, without the dog. Before the test, the cart and weight are brought to a designated spot near the ring for the judge to inspect and approve. The collar, leash, and weight are put inside the cart for the judge to review. The judge can ask any questions of the handler at that time.

The judge watches the dog being harnessed and hitched to the cart. The judge will then walk around the cart to confirm the harness is properly fitted, and the connection to the cart is correct. Most of the time, the maneuvering exercises in the ring will then follow for that dog.

Maneuvering Exercises: Common exercises inside the maneuvering course. Some tests have weight in the cart during these exercises, and some do not.

90 Degree Left and Right Turns

Circle Left and Circle Right

Halts

Fast, Normal and Slow Speeds

Backing up a minimum of a few feet, usually 3 to 6 feet

Different types of distractions outside the ring like sounds and moving objects

Going through gates of different sizes, widths and heights

Serpentines around cones or high stakes like poles or posts

Figure 8 around objects like trees or cones

Loading and unloading of lightweight objects like baskets or backpacks with another human

Freight Haul:

Once the maneuvering exercises are completed by all dogs in that group, they perform a long-distance freight haul. These are usually performed in groups with other dogs and handlers in a line. The dog is pulling the full designated weight in the cart. Specific rules apply to these freight hauls that handlers must follow. For instance, the handlers cannot pass each other without approval by a judge or a steward. Depending on the location of the test, some freight hauls will be in, out and around suburban neighborhoods or more rural locations and hiking trails. Some tests require a distance of a half-mile, while others require a full mile or longer. Please read the rules and regulations of each club and test to determine exactly what exercises will be used.

EQUIPMENT

CART: There is so much variation in carts, even just for tests.

For tests, generally two-wheeled carts are used since they are lighter and easier to move on less agreeable surfaces like grass, gravel or dirt. Since the cart's weight will be in addition to the weight required to pull in the test, which is set inside the cart, most people try to get a lighter weight cart so it does not add to the weight the dog must pull in the test.

Weight in the Cart:

A common type of weight used in tests is barbell weights that have the hole in the middle. The weights go over a stationary pole in the middle of the cart. Good practice substitutes are bags of bird seed and ankle weights enclosed in a nylon sports bag. This prevents the weight from moving and shifting in the cart since they are inside the bag.

The weight required to pull for each test will be different for each club and the level of difficulty being entered. Some Beginner levels can require 20 to 25 pounds or even 40 or more. The more Advanced or Intermediate levels will be higher. The requirements will be clearly stated in the Rules and Regulations for each club

SAMPLE TITLES

NDD - Novice Draft Dog: Individual Dog On Leash

DD - Draft Dog Individual: Dog Off-Leash

NBDD - Novice Brace Draft Dog: Brace of Dogs On Leash

BDD - Brace Draft Dog: Brace of Dogs Off-Leash

TDD - Team Draft Dog: Team of Dogs (possibly more than 2 dogs) Off-Leash

CS - Carting Started: Individual Dog On Leash

CI - Carting Intermediate: Individual Dog Off-Leash

CX - Carting Excellent - Dog: Handler sits in cart

CST - Carting Started Team: Two or More Dogs On Leash

CIT - Carting Intermediate Team: Two or More Dogs Off-Leash

CXT - Carting Excellent Team: Two or More Dogs – Handler sits in cart

Previous training:

Carting and Drafting is not a sport for a beginner handler or dog. It requires a solid foundation in basic obedience in a show or ring environment where there are a lot of distractions.

Your dog should have some experience wearing a harness, such as for weight pull or tracking. Drafting harness are custom-made for the dog and should fit very snugly to the body, and the dog should be accustomed to standing still while the harness is put on and removed, since this is often a part of many tests.

If your dog has had previous training in weight pull, it will be accustomed to being attached to a cart that moves when the dog does.

Your dog should have a good Leave cue, and good focus and attention, since you must have the dog's full attention, both physically and mentally, while pulling a cart.

Urinating or defecating while pulling a cart is an automatic disqualification while in a test, even in a freight haul.

The dog must pay attention to the obstacles on the course without leaving the ring to smell some bushes or visit another obstacle, person or animal.

Touching or crashing into objects and obstacles in a test is a disqualification and is considered unsafe.

The single-most important command for a drafting dog know is Halt or Stop. If anything happens at any time where immediate control must be established, that single word can save the test or the practice. An uncontrolled dog pulling a cart with a lot of weight in it can be a disaster.

Conditioning:

Any dog that will be pulling a cart should be in excellent physical shape. The dog should have very good muscle tone and be in good weight. The dog must be able to handle pulling a full cart up and down hills at both slow and top speeds while remaining under complete control for changes of direction or speed.

Practice:

As with any other sport, practice is essential. However, since these tests are set in real life situations and not inside enclosed buildings, the practice should mirror the test. Local drafting or carting groups hold their practices in public places. Dogs need experience working around other dogs, especially on a freight haul where there will be dogs in front of, and behind them in a single line. Good places to practice are college campuses, since there are a lot of other people and many natural obstacles, like poles, trees, hills, grass, concrete, sidewalks and squirrels. Weekends are the best times since you will have more freedom, and often parking is free. Large public parks are good if the park doesn't allow off-leash dogs. Its hard to focus on practicing while dodging uncontrolled dogs.

Entering Drafting and Carting Tests

Yahoo! has a Carting group. Even though it is very low volume, occasionally news of tests is posted. A Dog Carting group on Facebook is active with a variety of carting and drafting posts from all over the US and Canada. The third way to find tests is to check the breed parent club websites. Many tests are hosted by local clubs.

The entry forms are standard simple AKC forms. Questions can be directed to the test secretary.

Below is a list of the clubs that currently offer carting and drafting tests. Its separated into the groups that openly state they allow all breeds and mixed-breeds and the clubs that state "AKC Registered Dogs Only". The handler must contact the secretary to ask if mixed-breeds or non-AKC breeds are allowed. The host club commonly gives preference for the open spots to its own breed over others, including mixed-breeds. The remaining spots will be given out to purebreds and mixed breeds equally.

This list of clubs and their requirements is subject to change.

These groups allow all breeds and mixed breeds, though preference is given to their own breed:

American Bouvier des Flandres

http://www.bouvier.org/pdf/ABdFC_Carting_Regulations_Rev_January_2013.pdf

Bernese Mountain Dog

http://www.bmdca.org/breed_education/pdf/09_bernese_activities_draft.pdf

Greater Swiss Mountain Dog

<http://www.gsmdca.org/activities/drafting/>

American Working Collie Association

<http://www.awca.net/progs.htm>

Rottweiler

<http://www.amrottclub.org/sites/default/files/public/ARC%20Carting%20Rules.pdf>

Some clubs do allow “AKC registered dogs,” but state that, “other breeds” can enter at the option of the club giving the test and given to their own breed.

St. Bernard http://www.saintbernardclub.org/2008Redesign/Performance/perf_draft.htm

Great Pyrenees

<http://gpcaonline.org/competitions.htm>

Mastiff

<http://mastiff.org/DRAFTTESTPAGE.htm>

Leonburger

<http://www.leonbergerclubofamerica.info/publication/lca-drafting-regulations-2009/>

Newfoundland

<http://www.ncanews.org/working/draft/index.htm>

(see section 22 in Chapter One: “Entries of Other Breeds”)

For more information or questions about this article, contact Jackie at jackie@thesocialpet.com

Please let me know what opportunities are available for me to be active with the Brainerd Kennel Club.

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____ Phone _____

E-mail: bkcdogs@hotmail.com or pamlan@tds.net



\

\