

Top Dog Trial Briefing February 27 – March 1, 2026

ATTENTION!!!! DOGS MUST BE ON LEASH AT ALL TIMES! This is a working stable and there are horses in many areas. To keep having access to this facility we must be aware of this. Dogs are only allowed off leash at the warm up jump and in the ring. Dogs **MUST** remain on leash unless they are crated/penned or at the warm up jump or in the ring.

THE TRIAL IS FULL ALL 3 DAYS, so please be timely to get to the line and then again out of the ring after your run. Our goal is to keep everyone safe and have fun with our dogs. I want to thank everyone for attending and most importantly, for the patience and kindness that will be needed. Gratitude will get you through the day!

The equipment will arrive at the arena Friday at 11:30 am for set up. All help in setting up is appreciated. When you arrive at the trial, **PLEASE LEAVE ALL CRATING MATERIALS OUTSIDE** until the spacing is marked. Thank you for your patience while we set up. The areas along the walls are reserved for Top Dog Members and workers dedicated to specific tasks. The balance of space is not assigned.

If you are unhappy with something and feel that it needs attention or is questionable, contact Chris at pappypaws@gmail.com with the heading of TOP DOG TRIAL question or call at 360 561-0696 to leave a message. You can also just look for the lady with the drover hat to find me.

DURING THE TRIAL

Top Dog Theatre presents our double feature “Top Dog Days of Agility” and “Flight of the Agility Hounds.” Be prepared to walk the red carpet dressed as your favorite movie character.

All classes will be given a 5 minute walk thru. When we split small and tall, they get 5 minutes each – walk walk/run run. If not split it will be 5 minutes walk, then 5 minutes until the first dog of the class. We use Gate Boxes and find it works great! Please enter the box when the next dog enters the ring. Enter the ring at the obstacle that the judge/timer indicates. Run your dog. At the end of the run go into the box for your leash. Leash up and mask up if needed. No dog can get to your dog. The dog at the line does not need to wait for you to leash up. **NO FOOD IN THE GATE BOXES!**

PARKING

See William Edmark for Parking questions. The spaces in front of the building are reserved for disabled parking and persons assigned to unload trial necessities. Do not block in RVs! **Unless you are camping in the paddock area, please keep your vehicle on the hard surfaces. No parking on the grassy areas.** Thanks for cooperating. **For the campers: You know we all love horses and we want to continue to be able to hold trials at this location. The Flying M, for liability reasons, has a sign-up only allowing boarders access to the horse stalls. They also have cameras installed. People who violate this rule will be asked to leave the trial premises.**

HOSPITALITY

There will be food available – yay! The Snack Shack will be open Saturday and Sunday. Food will be served upstairs. Coffee, tea, muffins, cookies, hotdogs, and tacos are generally available. Please see “Volunteers & Raffle” section for food ticket details.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Without them there would be no trial. Thank them.

- Trial Secretary – Sherry Bodin – Cheryl Parker will score. Please see the section on results.
- Trial Chair Extraordinaire – Chris Edmark. She covers all our bases and does so much behind the scenes.
- Chief Course Builder – Jim Morrissey with Becky Hutfilz & Keith Martin. Any help is appreciated!
- Chief Ring Stewart– Laura Pietila. Please sign up on the volunteer board!
- Equipment Hauler – David Hamilton
- Timers – Jean Hodgson
- Parking – William Edmark and chairperson support
- Raffle – Meghan Walker
- Awards – Rachel Dagovitz

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A MESSAGE FROM THE TRIAL SECRETARY

We will NOT be using Agility Gate. MyDogEntry also has a Run Order program that we will be using. I will be sending out more information on this in the coming week.

COURSE MAPS

The course maps for the next day will be available through My Dog Entry. I will not be emailing them as they will be posted on the website at 6pm the day before.

MEASURING

Measuring will be available all weekend. Be sure to get measured before your first run. We have a lot of measurements to get done over the weekend, so please be patient with the judge and other competitors. Height cards with an actual measurement, from another Agility Venue (AKC and USDAA), may now be used in lieu of a measurement at a CPE trial.

PHOTOGRAPHER

Nina Sage will be on site offering photos from runs. She usually has a show special and other pictures available from past trials she has shot. <https://ninasphotography.zenfolio.com/>

VOLUNTEERS & RAFFLE

We will be giving worker tickets for those that are able to help. Course building, bar setting, leash running, timing, scribing, or any other job that helps move the trial along is eligible. Write your name on the ticket and drop it in to a sack. There will be a nice spread of items and we will have a raffle on both Saturday and Sunday. There is also a planned end of day raffle on Sunday for those who work the last class and help pack up.

The first time you work Saturday and Sunday, you will receive a coupon worth \$6.00 toward your order at the Snack Shack upstairs. They will not make change for the coupon. There is coffee, muffins, and cookies available on the self serve (honor system) at the base of the stairs.

DOUBLE DIGIT DOGS

Laura Pietila is in charge of Double Digit Dogs. Please visit the board and recognize our wonderful friends who are still able to play who are over the age of 10!

SCORES, RESULTS AND RIBBONS

Double check all your results! Questions about your scores, please see the score table first. Be nice. Questions that cannot be resolved there, need to be discussed with the judge. Be very, very nice to the judge. Results will be uploaded to My Dog Entry and sent at the end of the trial and will be in a binder at the trial. Ribbons will be available. Stickers will be in a pouch with your name on it on the wall. Please be patient it may take a while to load them. Pouches will be in alphabetical order. A \$.25 donation will be made to Old Dog Haven for people who do not take ribbons. Place your name in the jar at the Ribbon table.

HIGH IN TRIAL!!!

A new addition to Top Dog trials! We will be doing a High in Trial by each level (1, 2, 3, 5, & C) with the jump height categories (Regular/Veteran/Enthusiast/Specialist) combined. We will be awarding HIT after the FullHouse on Sunday. The tie breaker will be fastest qualifying run in Jackpot Sunday morning.

CRATING

We are allowing crating in the building. Along the walls is reserved for committee. **AS ALWAYS, NO SETTING UP CRATING SPACES UNTIL THE ARENA IS SETUP AND READY TO GO ON FRIDAY.**

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WEEKEND SCHEDULE

Friday – setup starts at 11:30 am, no formal check in, walk-thru will begin at 1:30 pm, first dog on the line at 2 pm.

Saturday & Sunday – no formal check-in, walk-thru will begin at 7:30am, first dog on the line at 8am.

Our judge has informed us of the following schedule for the weekend.

Friday February 27	Saturday February 28	Sunday March 1
Tall to Small	Small to Tall	Tall to Small
Standard L5C Standard L5C R2 Standard L3 Standard L3 R2 Standard L2 Standard L2 R2 Standard L1 Standard L1 R2	FullHouse – All Levels Standard L5C Standard L23 Standard L1 Snooker L12 Snooker L35C Jumpers L35C Jumpers L12 Colors L35C Colors L12	Jackpot L35C Jackpot L12 Standard L5C Standard L23 Standard L1 FullHouse – All Levels Colors L12 Colors L35C Wildcard L12 Wildcard L35C

Glad you will join us!!! See you all there.

Chris Edmark

Trial Chair (please don't sit on me)

&

Sherry Bodin

Trial Secretary