

Working Dog Forum Notes -2022

Updates from the NCA Working Dog Committee

The WDC reported that we are currently working on regulations updates. The Draft Test regulations were approved at the May NCA board meeting and will go into effect in July, 2022. It is important to note that while the regulations have undergone a “clean up” of redundant or unclear wording, no actual exercises have changed. The rewrite will hopefully make it easier to read through the regulations for all. These regulations will be posted to the website in June – one copy posted will contain all the “redlining” and changes, a second “clean” copy will also be posted for people to download in a readable format. Water regulations will be edited in a similar fashion this fall.

Plans that the WDC continues to be working on – more ways to support clubs, training videos, secretary zoom calls, continuing to improve the online entry process so that clubs can use it from start to totally finished test submissions, continued communications to members and judges through Working Dog News

Suggestions from attendees which the committee will take under advisement:

Substitute Handler for Freight Hauls

Loved the interactivity on database and online system

- Transfer of data to catalog

- Export to excel is very handy – but could only download once?

- Full outline of steps that give secretaries the directions

- Examples of the Perfect” catalog – at least a template of the things all included in the catalog would be helpful

- Freight haul piece of paper on freight haul example/template

- Checklist for the transfer of secretary duties

- Need help for new people who are taking over the job of secretary and committee so they can feel confident in the start

- Some don't export to excel well enough – some secretaries didn't get the export out – could it be a browser or Apple vs PC issue? Safari??

Website – harder to find regulations – can they be front and center

Land Work seminars – basics of retrieve, etc before they come to the lake

Revive the “old” NCA Water Work manual – redo based on current regulations, do in videos and in print for members to utilize – it is still great for basics, perhaps update it and put on website – gives beginners a great framework for starting out on water work.

Look at the underwater retrieve article size so that current products can be used.

Water regs – clarification is needed for when the dog is allowed to pee on the beach – some can, some can't look at the divisions for consistency

Single retrieve article and tow a boat article need clarifications - all descriptions for both need to be made more clear for acceptable items (ex: firehose)

Dog beaches the boat – line is taught – clarify when the boat scrapes or when the line is taught and what beached means

Margaret Clayton volunteered for additional proofreading (Thank you Margaret!)

Suggestion also for including an AKC scent work trial in upcoming national event. Cherrie Brown, Ron Horn and Jean Cobbin volunteered to lend their support, expertise and time to helping with a scent work trial.

Two new celebrations were started at the National this year, that the WDC will continue as annual awards. First, two Lovett Awards were presented by Great Lakes Newf Club by Jenny Zabloutney. The awards were presented to those who successfully qualified in all three performance events this year. Two honorees were recognized. Congratulations to the first recipients!

Dru Kappe

Alex Haluska

Also, ribbons were presented to all attendees of the forum who qualified for a leg in either Rally, Obedience or Draft during the National. Congratulations one and all!

Please continue to reach out to the WDC with questions, clarifications and suggestions!