# Official NACSW™ NW1, L2E, and L1I Trials

March 6-7, 2021

### TRIAL LOCATION:

Howard County Conservancy 10520 Old Frederick Rd Woodstock, MD 21163

It is not appropriate to contact or 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 contact or visits risk the host losing the opportunity to use the location again in the future.

#### **Trial Host:**

Jennifer Moczulski, Red Huskies

**NW1:** Saturday, March 6, 2021 **L2E**: Sunday a.m., March 7, 2021 **L1I:** Sunday p.m., March 7, 2021

## **Certifying Official:**

Linda Grskovich

#### Judges:

Saturday: Walt Feno, TBD

Sunday: Walt Feno, Linda Grskovich

## **Entry Cost:**

NW1: \$160 per dog and handler team L2E: \$100 per dog and handler team L1I: \$85 per dog handler team

#### Number of Entries:

NW1: 25 entries L2E: 25 entries L1I: 25 entries

One dog per handler per level. Entry limits may increase before the trial. In this case, spots will be offered in order from the wait list.

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 <a href="COVID-19">COVID-19</a> <a href="Event Guidelines">Event Guidelines</a> 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:

All attendees must comply with Maryland's travel advisory at the time of the trial.

All attendees may be subject to a contactless temperature check at time of check in.

All attendees will be required to wear face masks **at all times** outside their vehicles, to include all search areas, potty areas, and restrooms.

Competitors will be parked by a parking volunteer with at least one parking spot between another competitor. Competitors must remain in/at their vehicles at all times except for using the restrooms, pottying/walking your dog, announcements, staging, using warm up/recovery boxes, running your dog, and picking up end of the day materials. Running of vehicles is permitted. All attendees are asked to bring their own hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes. Briefings will be posted on the NACSW Virtual Walk Through page and announced over the PA system in the competitor parking area.

Specific COVID-19 information will be included in your final details information that will be emailed 1 week before the trial weekend. Updates may be made up to and including the day of the trial, as local county, state, and trial site policies are changing continuously.

# TRIAL ENTRY INFORMATION

#### Trial Entry Open and Closing

- The draw period for the trial will open on Thursday, January 28, 2021 at 12:00 PM noon
  Eastern Time. Entries will be awarded by random draw of all entries received between
  12:00 PM noon Eastern Time on Thursday, January 28, 2021 and 12:00 PM noon
  Eastern Time on Saturday, January 30, 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 12:00 PM noon Eastern Time on March 2, 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 3 days to complete your payment via Stripe or postmark your mail to confirm your
  space in the trial.

#### **Entry Method**

All entries will be on-line via the link provided to the NACSW™ trial entry 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 <a href="two-wood-entropy-color: blue trial">WonderWoman@redhuskies.com</a> to let you know if your entry has been given a space in the trial.

# **Entry Requirements & Selection**

## A Qualified Entry is one that meets all the following criteria:

- 1. Complete the online trial entry 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 NW1 Dog has not yet earned a NW1 title level.
- 7. Qualified entry for Level 2 Dog has earned the Level 1 title for exteriors element but has not yet earned the Level 2 title for exteriors element.
- 8. Qualified entry for Level 1 Dog has not earned the Level 1 title for interiors element.

# Trial spaces will be determined 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@nacsw.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 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 entries fill.
- For Exhibit Only Dogs (FEO): Dogs running FEO are not eligible to receive titles or earn placement ribbons. FEO results will not be included in the posted trial results.
  - o If space remains after all qualified entries are accommodated on Wednesday, February 24, 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 Sunday, February 28, 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 end of day on Wednesday, February 3, 2021. You will then have 3 days to complete your payment via Stripe, PayPal or postmark your mail to confirm your space in the trial. Stripe payment link will be provided in the confirmation email. PayPal info is as follows: Paypal or credit card through the Paypal site - no Paypal account required. Please check "Sending money to a friend" to eliminate fees for both parties. If there is a PayPal fee, you will incur the fee, and submit total payment as the trial fee plus the PayPal fee. Stripe or PayPal preferred but personal checks or money orders also accepted and should be mailed to:

Jennifer Moczulski 3174 Elmmede Road Ellicott City, MD 21042

If you have a spam blocker on your email account, please configure it to allow email from <u>WonderWoman@redhuskies.com</u> in order to ensure delivery of confirmation and information about this trial.

A waiting list for alternates will be started as soon as entries fill. Alternates will be contacted when a space opens. 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

The following cancellation policy applies:

- For cancellation of entries before 11:59 PM Eastern Time on February 18, 2021: full
  refund minus \$25 processing fee will be issued if host can and does fill your space with a
  Qualified Entry. Please note: Due to time constraints, the host may opt to not fill
  cancelled spaces and no refund will be issued.
- No refunds will be issued for cancellations after 11:59 PM Eastern Time on February 18,
   2021 or at any time if host cannot or does not fill your space with a Qualified Entry.
- No refunds will be issued for cancellations during the last 72 hours before the event or for no-shows.
- Please note: There are no exceptions to the above cancellation policy due to changes in travel restrictions that affect your plans due to COVID-19.

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 <a href="WonderWoman@redhuskies.com">WonderWoman@redhuskies.com</a> within 48 hours of earning your title and at least 72 hours before the trial you are registered for to 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 <u>WonderWoman@redhuskies.com</u>. Refunds will be processed after the trial has concluded.

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

Modeled after real-life detection work, NACSW 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 should familiarize themselves with potential regional risks and health concerns that may affect themselves or their dogs. Handlers agree that they are entering this trial at their own risk.

#### Site Specific Conditions

This trial location is a nature center, deep off a main road, surrounded by woods including public hiking trails. Members of the public may begin or end their trail hike at the parking lot of the nature center, and trails for hiking are open year round. It is reasonable to assume there may be dogs with any hikers, however, the county has leash laws requiring dogs to be on leash. The small main parking lot is paved and will be reserved for covering line of sight, volunteers, and competitors that need assistance. Competitor parking will be in the grass field on the right of the road entering the property, in front of the Nature Center. There will be no parking in the fields on the left. Additional parking may be alongside the property road, and will also be used in the event of a large amount of snow accumulation in the fields. Due to line of sight concerns and allowing room for COVID safety, parking spaces will be spaced out, which may create a long walk up the road or field to search areas. The facility will do its best to clear any snow during inclement weather on the paved road and parking lot, and to some extent in the grass parking field. However, in inclement weather, the field may be muddy or snowy. There is no shade in the competitor parking lot. There is a wide spread out potty area in the parking area, on both sides of the road (both left and right fields).

There should be indoor restrooms available at this site. If there is not, there will be port-a-potties in the parking lot. If trial logistics allow, the main restroom will be in the Nature Center building. Search areas and pathways to/from search areas may require you to navigate grass, gravel roads, stone pathways, dirt pathways in the woods and mild terrain in hilly, wooded areas. There

may be stairways to/from search or staging areas, and there may be steps entering or within search areas. Interior floors may have carpet or sealed concrete flooring that could be slippery. There are very limited restaurants within the immediate area of this trial location and competitors should bring their own lunch and water. Due to COVID there will be no indoor hospitality and no congregating of any kind, including in the parking lot. Since this trial takes place during winter, competitors should be prepared for cold conditions in the parking lot (see running cars in parking lot below). Due to unforeseen conditions, such as weather or change in the availability of areas at the location, the expected search areas, parking, and pathways to the search areas may be modified at the last minute.

#### **Reactive Dog Parking:**

There will be reactive dog parking at this trial for those who wish to park in this area. There will be a reactive dog potty area, however this may be a smaller area or longer walk. There will not be separate warm up boxes.

#### **Unentered Dogs**

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.

#### **RV Parking:**

This trial location has ample RV parking for competitors and volunteers, during the day ONLY. RVs must be fully self-contained (the facility does not provide water, electricity, gas or sewage dump). To reserve an RV space for the trial you will need to contact the host after you receive a confirmation that you have received a space in the trial. Please email <a href="WonderWoman@redhuskies.com">WonderWoman@redhuskies.com</a> to reserve RV space. No overnight RV parking is allowed at this trial location. There are other sites, campgrounds, and RV parks that allow overnight RV parking with some offering possible water, electricity, sewage, etc. It is the competitor/volunteer's responsibility to reserve a space with the host for daytime parking and to make other (overnight) arrangements for their RV outside of trial hours.

# Running Vehicles or Generators in the Parking Lot:

There is ample parking at this location and running your vehicles or generators in the parking lot is allowed at this trial. We ask that you show consideration for fellow competitors parked near you, remain away from staging areas, warm up boxes and parking lot numbers. There may be a separate parking area for those needing to run generators due to exhaust and noise. March weather in Maryland is unpredictable but typically cold. You may wish to run your vehicle to keep warm.

Due to unforeseen conditions, such as weather or change in the 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 and Directions:**

There are close hotels to the trial location.

# 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.
- 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 <a href="WonderWoman@redhuskies.com">WonderWoman@redhuskies.com</a> so plans can be made for the dog.

# OTHER INFORMATION

#### Rules:

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

# **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 agree that the NACSW™, Red Huskies 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.

## Videotaping and Photography

At the host's discretion, a photographer and/or video service may be present during the trial to offer photos and/or videos for sale to the competitors.

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

broadcast or photography of such event.

# Volunteering:

Volunteer sign up website: SignUp Genius - Woodstock, MD March 2021

Volunteers may bring unentered dogs but they must remain in the volunteer's vehicle during the trial day, except for potty/relief breaks. Please contact the host if you will need to make other arrangements for crating your dog. Not all accommodations can be made. There will be no indoor hospitality area or separate restroom area for volunteers.

## Questions:

All trial related questions, contact Jennifer Moczulski at WonderWoman@redhuskies.com