Volume 20 Issue 2 June 2023 Editor: OPEN Newslettereditor@dfwtc.org





# President's Message

## I want to thank you all from the bottom of my heart for your help in putting on DFWTC's recent scent trials.

It would have been impossible for the club to put on these trials without your assistance. While there are always challenges associated with events that have multiple competitions running simultaneously, Camp Carter's booking error introduced a bit of "chaos" at least in the mind of your scent work neophyte trial chair (me). I really appreciate everyone's patience and adaptability as we had to rework things -- even demo dog assignments -- on the fly throughout the weekend.

I hope those of you who also participated in the trials enjoyed some successes over the weekend. Please give your dogs an extra pat and maybe a cookie on my behalf to compensate them for getting less than 100% of your time and attention during the trials.

Thanks again for volunteering!

Tracy Freeling,

Trial Chair & DFW Tracking President



Dunn's B&B

rack

## Upcoming Tests:

## Aug 27: TD/TDU/TDX/VST

Sullivan, MO Sue Boyd tsksboyd@hotmail.com

## Oct 8: VST

Denver, CO Tracy Griffith traceygriffith2@gmail.com

## Oct 8: VST

Overland Park, KS Chris Lero chrislero56@gmail.com

## Oct 15: TDU/VST

Sheridan, CO Lynn Kaemmerer msjseton@gmail.com

## Oct 29: TD/VST

Sullivan, MO Kathy Yardley fergley@hotmail.com

## Nov 5: TD/TDX

Houston, TX Kathy McLemore kathymclemore@msn.com

Nov 5: TD/TDX

Smithville, MO Pat Robinette pjrsts@aol.com

## DFWTC Meeting Minutes June 24, 2023—PUBLISHED

## DFW Tracking Club Meeting Minutes 6-24-23

Meeting was called to order by Tracy Freeling, President at 2:11 p.m.

### Attending:

Sarah H., Benita Z., David B., Dori P., Laurel H., Cindi T., Charlene D., Jeanine W., Tracy F., Tom H.

Minutes of the last meeting were approved by Tom and seconded by Benita.

### **Report of President:**

Tracy thanked all for coming to the meeting. Also thanked all who worked the scent trial. Discussed the necessity of moving the next scent trial next year due to conflicts. Many club members will be gone to Purina working the Dachshund Club Nationals.

### **Report of Secretary:**

Leslie McCracken was voted in unanimously as a new member of the tracking club. Bylaws and constitution will be emailed to Leslie.

### **Report of Treasurer:**

We have money, we spent money. Scent work trial made money.

## **Report of Committees:**

Judges Committee:

- Discussed problem of staffing for tests: Allison Platt is scheduled for the January test. Still need a second judge. Charlene has asked a few people, but no commitments to judge so far.
- The March Test has two judges. Linda Baschnagel and Inge Suchanek are scheduled to judge. We can't change the date as we are locked in due to other tests. Also cannot do the Grasslands in January due to hunting season.
- Discussed having judges committee hire judges through 2024. It was moved by Benita Z and seconded by Laurel H.

### **Budget Committee:**

• Charlene as Treasure chairs. Sarah H and Cindi T. will continue to serve on the budget committee. After June 30th, Charlene will send file.

#### Nominating Committee:

• Slate of nominations was discussed. No other nominations for board members were offered. New Officers will be accepted in August.

### **Old Business:**

- Scentwork Trial: Issues with Camp Carter were discussed. The issue with getting relocated at the last minute was a problem. Text issue was also discussed. Agility Gate was discussed and set aside as not appropriate. Also discussed using text system to advise stewards. People need to get where they need to be. Also discussed the fact there is no real need to change what we were doing. The passing out of scoresheets to competitors was not taken well. It worked better at the end of the day. Jeanine got many good emails regarding how the trial was run. There will always be unhappy people. Judging schedules were available for anyone who wanted one. Charlene talked to the Executive Director of Camp Carter. The ED stated that the issues should not have happened. Poor maintenance at Camp Carter was also discussed. They ended up letting us use the nature center for free and gave us a discount on other buildings A competitor's dog found a pill in one of the search areas. Also discussed doing a private rental of Camp Carter to avoid future conflicts with bookings. Price will be the determining factor. Decision was made to continue to look for other places to hold trials. Music City Mall is not an option. Club overall made a profit on trial since Charlene and Stephanie were free judges. Software usage was discussed. Jeanine has it on her computer and is the only person in the club who currently runs it. Laurel volunteered to learn it.
  - Newsletter: Still do not have a newsletter editor. No one volunteered.

## DFWTC Meeting Minutes March 12, 2023—PUBLISHED

#### New Business:

- Fall Classes: classes open for enrollment on 8/1/23. Classes run 9/23 to 11/18 with one week off for the tracking test. Cindi will email the club.
- Fall tests need committee: John G. will do hospitality. He said at an earlier meeting that the main firehouse would be undergoing construction due to problems with water leaks and the foundation. Tom H, Tracy F are committee members, Charlene is Chair.
  - January Test committee is Dori, Jeanine, Cindi, Tom and John G.
  - March Test committee: Tom suggested no March Test. Charlene has not yet submitted an application for that test. Concerns about airfare prices and burning at grasslands were discussed. Sarah H. reminded all that the Grasslands is on a 3 year burn cycle and the areas we use were burned. Will continue to be discussed at the August meeting.
  - Go Daddy is an ongoing issue. Contract is up in 2024. Email doesn't work and technical support is useless. Will look for alternatives.
  - Beginning Tracking Seminar—Discussed the possibility of a beginning tracking seminar run by Charlene. Need a place with plenty of space and bathrooms. Options discussed were the Resource Center (must talk to Bassett Club), Boy Scout Place on Basswood, Park Hill, Gateway Park. Discussion tabled until August Meeting. Jeanine will send out email to scent work people to gauge interest.

Next meeting will be August 19th at Charlene's House.

Charlene moved to adjourn the meeting and Tom H. seconded. Meeting adjourned at 3:35.

## AKC Tracking Statistics 2017-2021 by Sarah Helber

Each year the AKC publishes an Annual Statistics report showing statistics on events and titles achieved for the prior year. For tracking, the report details the number of events held (by type of test), the number of dogs competing (again by type of test) and also the number of titles achieved by the individual breeds for each title. The reports for years 2000 – 2021 can be found at <u>http://www.akc.org/events/statistics/</u> (although the data presented varied a bit in the early years).

The statistics for 2022 have not yet been published, so these tables include data from 2017 through 2021. It was an unusual timeframe because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Obviously the year 2020 was hit hard due to the pandemic – people were not congregating, nor were they travelling (including judges), and many sites were lost due for a variety of pandemic-related reasons. The year 2021 shows some recovery, although there were many uncertainties in the early months of 2021. It will be interesting to see how the next few years develop.

## Notes About the Data

Below is the data for the last five years with a column added for "% change" for each year. The data for 2022 has not yet been published. The three tables taken from the published AKC data show:

- Tracking Events a combined test would show as two (or three) events
- Tracking Titles Completed <u>presumably</u> includes all dogs passing (including those already having the title)
- Dogs Competing in Tracking Events not absent, but actually passing or failing

In addition to the three tables taken from the AKC statistics, I have added a fourth showing the pass rate. It is straight arithmetic - dividing "Tracking Titles Completed" by "Dogs Competing in Tracking Events.

A couple of items to note:

- ⇒ Each annual report shows the current and previous year. Where the "previous year" data differs from that published in the previous year report, I have used the most recent data. Presumably corrections were made.
- ⇒ Beginning in 2018 the AKC reported Lifetime Achievement Titles for dogs passing a test for which they already have a title. These are fee-paid, requested official titles that can be requested retroactively to 2000. The last time I published these statistics I excluded them from the numbers (there were only a total of 6 TD2's reported for 2017 and 2018). Since then, I have

### Nov 5: TD

Denver, CO Beth Elliot trinitycollies@comcast.net

## Nov 12: TDU/VST

Bedford, TX Charlene Dunn crdslabs@yahoo.com

## Nov 19: TD/TDU/TDX

Fort Worth, TX Judy Jackson jjblitzt@hotmail.com

## Nov 19: TDX

Denver, CO Lynn Kaemmerer badblackcorgi@gmail.com

### Nov 25: TD/TDX

Catoosa, OK Jane Wittstock intcinfo@juno.com

### Nov 26: VST

Albuquerque, NM Gloria Napper-Owen napperow@comcast.net rethought my approach, and have included them in the "titles earned" number. After all, they did pass. For those who want the details, the number of dogs reported as earning additional titles (and presumably paying for them) are: 2017 (1 TD2) 2018 (5 TD2) 2019 (11 TD2, 3 TD3, 1 TD4, 1 TDU2, 2 TDX2) 2020 (5 TD2, 2 TD3) 2021 (6 TD2)

Tracking Events										
	2017	2018		2019		2020		2021		
	No.	No.	% chg							
TD	152	151	-0.7%	130	-13.9%	89	-31.5%	127	42.7%	
TDU	45	45	0.0%	46	2.2%	25	-45.7%	40	60.0%	
TDX	136	133	-2.2%	127	-4.5%	76	-40.2%	117	53.9%	
VST	98	87	-11.2%	89	2.3%	27	-69.7%	63	133.3%	
Total	431	416	-3.5%	392	-5.8%	217	-44.6%	347	59.9%	

Tracking Titles Completed										
	2017	2018		2019		2020		2021		
	No.	No.	% chg	No.	% chg	No.	% chg	No.	% chg	
TD	316	266	-15.8%	264	-0.8%	195	-26.1%	264	35.4%	
TDU	54	48	-11.1%	51	6.3%	24	-52.9%	42	75.0%	
TDX	122	87	-28.7%	100	14.9%	63	-37.0%	96	52.4%	
VST	58	41	-29.3%	64	56.1%	20	-68.8%	55	175.0%	
СТ	54	35	-35.2%	62	77.1%	21	-66.1%	54	157.1%	
Total	604	477	-21.0%	541	13.4%	323	-40.3%	511	58.2%	

Dogs Competing in Tracking Events										
	2017	2018		2019		2020		2021		
	No.	No.	% chg							
TD	605	570	-5.8%	486	-14.7%	338	-30.5%	504	49.1%	
TDU	175	169	-3.4%	147	-13.0%	87	-40.8%	145	66.7%	
TDX	563	545	-3.2%	507	-7.0%	282	-44.4%	440	56.0%	
VST	494	401	-18.8%	405	1.0%	122	-69.9%	297	143.4%	
Total	1837	1685	-8.3%	1545	-8.3%	829	-46.3%	1386	67.2%	



Pass Rate (Titles divided by Dogs Competing)									
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021				
	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.				
TD	52.2%	46.7%	54.3%	57.7%	52.4%				
TDU	30.9%	28.4%	34.7%	27.6%	29.0%				
TDX	21.7%	16.0%	19.7%	22.3%	21.8%				
VST	11.7%	10.2%	15.8%	16.4%	18.5%				



## **AKC National Tracking Invitational**

The 10th AKC National Tracking Invitational will be held on September 9-10, 2023, at the beautiful Branched Oak State Recreation Area in Raymond, Nebraska and hosted by The Cornhusker Kennel Club and Nebraska Kennel Club. Event information and updates can be found on these sites:

2023 AKC NTI website 2023 AKC NTI Facebook Page AKC National Tracking Invitational website

The 2023 AKC National Tracking Invitational is a "by invitation" event limited to dogs who earned a Champion Tracker (CT) title between January 1, 2012 through June 30, 2023.

## Judges:

## **Contacts:**

Ilene Morgan, Grand Isle, Vermont Pia Paulsen, Malibu, California Jeanne L Ramirez, Bucyrus, Kansas Inge Suchanek, Milton, Wisconsin

Chairperson, Dian Quist (dgsdogs@yahoo.com) Event Secretary, Shelly Rehmeier (shellyrehmeier@cox.net) Volunteers, Sue Volkmer (ntivolunteers2023@gmail.com) Donations & Supporters, Christy Brandt (christy10156@yahoo.com) & Alycia Noble (alycia.e.noble@gmail.com) Merchandise, Ron Weaks (rweaks@centurylink.net) Website & Facebook, Joe Bradley (joeomarbradley@gmail.com) Photographers, TBD AKC Representative, Carol Ruthenberg (carol.ruthenberg.contractor@akc.org)

## **DFW Tracking Club congratulates the following** members who are eligible for the NTI:

Charlene Dunn-Maddie, All American

Cindi Todd—Deeks, Dachshund

Jean Maria Higginbotham—Temper & Zubie, Cocker Spaniels

Tom Hacholski—Dove & Scarlett, Dalmatians

## And to members who are no longer eligible:

Sarah Helber-Jordan, Belgian Tervuren

Cindi Todd & Charlene Dunn - Vegas, Dachshund

Tom Hacholski- Seeker & Sydney, Dalmatians

Jeanine Wilson-Shevy, Irish Setter

Karen Yates-Rosie, Labrador Retriever

Charlene Dunn-Charlie, Labrador Retriever



## **Open Position**

Newsletter Editor—No previous experience necessary, OTJ training is available. If interested please contact the current Board.

Fall Classes Registration opens August 1

## **Classes Run**

Sept 23–Nov 18





DFW Tracking Club extends their condolences to the families of

# **Vegas and Ripley**

Sending you love while your best friend crosses the rainbow bridge



## **Contact information:**

DFW Tracking Club C/O Cindi Todd 147 Cool Meadows Court Millsap, TX 76066

E-mail: info@dfwtc.org

Website: https://www.dfwtc.org

## DFW Tracking Club (DFWTC) was founded in August 2005.

The DFW Tracking Club encourages the training and competition of all breeds of canine companion animals for scent related activities, whether it is for fun, competition or for the potential life-saving value. It is the goal of the DFW Tracking Club to educate the dog-owning public about scent related activities for all breeds, and to encourage sportsmanlike behavior at all times, making the safety of the dogs, trainers, and handlers a priority. The DFW Tracking Club encourages dog owners to spend quality time with their dog(s) and to make friends with people who have similar interests.

The DFW Tracking Club is an AKC licensed club, and a 501(c) tax exempt organization.

For more information about the DFW Tracking Club, see the contact information to the left.