

The Massachusetts Sheep and Woolcraft Fair Sheep Dog Trials, May 26 to 28, 2017

Judges: Friday Novice and ProNovice – George Northrop, Saturday and Sunday Bernie and Barbara Armata

Trial Managers: Kate Collins & George Northrop - 978-249-4407; george01368@yahoo.com

Trial Committee: Wendy Warner - 413-743-4733; farmgirl.4@hotmail.com

Denise Leonard - 413-773-5232; dleonard@schoolph.umass.edu

Send entries and entry inquiries to Denise Leonard, 389 Adams Road, Greenfield, MA 01301, dleonard@schoolph.umass.edu

The Massachusetts Sheep and Woolcraft Fair is happy to host two 1-day Novice and Open Trials over a three day period, May 26 and 28, sanctioned by the Northeast Border Collie Association and the USBCHA. The trial is tentatively scheduled start at noon and to run two classes each of Novice/Novice and Pronovice on May 26. Ranch - USBCHA Nursery and Open will run once each day May 27 and 28.

Handlers are limited to two dogs per open or novice class. No dogs will be able to run in both ranch and open. Please send a separate check for USBCHA Nursery.

The USBCHA Nursery Class will run if minimum of 5 eligible dogs are entered. Please note the Ranch and USBCHA Nursery class will be run together. If you want to enter both ranch and Nursery, you will get one run or you can enter PN and Nursery with the PN runs on Friday and the Nursery runs on Saturday and Sunday. Fees for a dog entered in both ranch and Nursery will be \$34 for the Ranch class plus an additional \$10 for the Nursery class. Otherwise Ranch will be \$34 and Nursery will be \$32.

Classes will be run according to the current NEBCA Novice Guidelines.

All handlers are invited, at the end of the trial on Saturday, to the NEBCA meeting followed by a Pot Luck Supper.

In order for the trial to run smoothly, we will need the help of all handlers. Please volunteer for one of the following work areas: set-up of fencing, take down of fencing, sheep pen, setting out sheep, exhausting sheep, announcing to the public, scribing for the judge and secretarial duties.

2017 Novice Whistle Challenge

The MA Sheep and Woolcraft Sheep Dog trial will participate in the 2017 Novice Whistle Challenge, designed for the Novice Handlers participating in the 2017 Trial Season. The intent is to encourage the novice handlers to introduce the use of the whistle during their training and demonstrate the appropriate use while running in a trial. This is intended to be fun, encourage some new learning either independently or with an instructor and provide a bit of a challenge for all.

Handler Criteria

There will be a challenge in each of the novice classes for those handlers who have not run in open or in any level above the current class in which they are running. The challenge will be introducing the appropriate use of the whistle during the run at a trial.

- For the NN handler who has never run in any upper level class the handler who uses the stop whistle the appropriately during their run will be recognized.
- For the PN handler who has never run in any upper level class the handler who uses the stop whistle and a flank whistle appropriately will be recognized.

- For the Ranch handler who has never run in any upper level class including nursery who uses the stop, and 2 flank whistles appropriately during their run will be recognized.

Rules and Regulations

1. There will be a limit of 2 dogs per handler, regardless of ownership, per class. Third dogs will be accepted on a space available basis. Please send a separate check for any third dogs and for USBCHA Nursery dogs. Dogs may **not** run in ranch and open.
2. Entry fees: US Funds. Open class - \$49/dog; Novice and ProNovice - \$32/dog; Ranch - \$34/dog. USBCHA Nursery \$32/dog. Ranch and USBCA Nursery \$44 – please send separate check for the Nursery portion. Note dogs can run in Pronovice and Nursery, but if they are running at the ranch level and nursery, you only get one run. Entries open **April 3, 2017** and close (must be postmarked) on **April 29, 2017**. Entries mailed earlier will be treated as being received on the opening date. Entries will be accepted until the closing date, or until classes fill. Running orders will be drawn by May 10th. **Receipt of completed entry forms and fee constitute entry. No emailed entries will be accepted. Entry fee from cancelled entries will be returned provided notification of cancellation is made before Wednesday, May 10th.**
3. Ribbons will be awarded in all classes (except USBCHA Nursery). The top 10 winners in the Open class will receive prize money.
4. Any damage done to the sheep by the dog, on or off the course, will be the responsibility of the handler.
5. Unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated.
6. Dogs will be under control at all times. Handlers are asked NOT to walk their dogs in the vendor and sheep barn area. Handlers are asked to clean up after their dogs.
7. No puppies will be displayed for sale.

Massachusetts Sheep and Woolcraft Fair Sheep Dog Trial Entry Blank

May 26, 27 and 28, 2017

All Handlers will be expected to volunteer in some manner.

Please indicate what job(s) you are willing to do:

- Fence set up
- Fence take-down
- Sheep pen
- Sheep Set-out
- Announcing
- Scribing
- Secretarial

Handlers name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email: _____

Entry fees: US Funds. Open class - \$49/dog. Novice and ProNovice - \$32/dog. Ranch - \$34/dog.

USBCHA Nursery - \$32/dog. USBCHA Nursery -Ranch fee - \$44/dog – send a separate check for the Nursery portion. Camper/Tent Fee (for the weekend) \$10.00. No hook-ups available.

Dogs name	Age	Sex	Class	Long Road Eligible*	Day	Fee

Camper/Tent (please check) \$10 for the weekend Yes _____ No _____ Fee _____

Payment must accompany entry form. Total Enclosed: _____

Checks payable to: MA Sheep & Woolcraft Fair (MSWCF). Send separate check(s) third dogs and USBCHA nursery dogs.

*You and your dog are long road award eligible if you have owned and trained the dog yourself from the age 6 months. Taking lessons does not disqualify you, but sending the dog for training does.

Please specify if dog is owned by a person other than the handler.

Participant in the 2017 Novice Whistle Challenge _____ Yes

I agree not to hold the organizers of this trial, the Massachusetts Sheep and Woolcraft Fair, or the Hillside Agricultural Society, responsible for any injury or damage to myself, my property, or my dog(s). I also agree to be responsible for the actions of myself and of my dog(s), on or off the trial field or property.

Signed _____ Date: _____

Entries open April 3, 2017 and close April 29, 2017, (postmark) or when classes are filled. Send completed entries to:

Denise Leonard, 389 Adams Road, Greenfield, MA 01301.