

Overview

The North American Sport Dog Association (NASDA) was formed in 2016 to demonstrate the breadth of these olfactory abilities. Trials are designed to resemble both historic working and competitive field work as closely as possible. NASDA Working Dog Trials offer an opportunity for all dogs to engage in scent games previously open to only a select few breeds and working dogs. Competing teams can get titles and championships that showcase their merits and abilities within hunt and search situations.

At the end of each year, NASDA recognizes the achievements of teams at the highest level by inviting them to our Championship series in Trailing & Locating, Urban Locating, Lost Item Recovery and Shed Dog. Invitations are given based on a team's performance for the calendar year.

There are three championship events offered by NASDA: Showcase, Regional and Invitational. These events work together in concert to both celebrate teams at their individual level but recognize a national champion in each of the four sports as well as versatility.



North American Sport Dog Association
Rules Applying to 2024 Championship Events

Showcase

The NASDA Showcase is an opportunity for teams to celebrate the accomplishments of their breed or team. It also serves as a last chance qualifier for the Invitational. It is always held the two days prior to the Invitational at the same venue.

Showcase Eligibility

Teams meeting the following criteria are eligible to compete in the Showcase:

- Best of Breed Winner: Received a Best of Breed 1-5 for the qualifying period.
- Showcase Qualifier: Received a #26 - 50 invite to the Showcase for the qualifying period.
- Showcase Versatility Dog: Received a #26- 50 invite to the Showcase for the qualifying period.

Dogs must compete in the highest level they qualified in, regardless of what level they are currently competing in.

Event Format

All levels of competition within a sport compete on the same course in each round. All searches will be blind. Handlers are limited to one dog per competition round. Additional handlers may be used to handle dogs owned by the same person.

Advancing to the Invitational from the Showcase

Teams compete in their class against other Showcase Qualifiers in two rounds of competition per event. The Top 20 percent from each class calculated on the combined scores will earn a free invite to compete in the first two rounds of the Invitational. For example, if there are 20 competitors in a class, the top four (4) qualifying dogs will advance to the Invitational. If there are 5 dogs in a class, the top qualifying dog (1) will advance to the Invitational.

Competing in the Regional

Showcase qualifiers are eligible to compete in the Regional Championship event for those activities. Please see the Regional Championship rules for additional information.

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Lost Item Recovery

Hides may be inaccessible at all levels in each round. At least 3 distraction items will be present each round. There is no minimum / maximum distance between the hide and the start line.

- Round 1: Handler Odor – 2 Items, Elevated up to 24”
- Round 2: Non-Handler Odor – 2 Items, Elevated up to 24”, Handler makes the call

Shed Dog

- Round 1 & 2: Single shed retrieve within 24” of the handler.
- Dogs may compete on leash at the discretion of the handler.

Trailing & Locating

Hides may be inaccessible at all levels in each round. At least three distractions will be present in each round. There is no minimum / maximum distance between the hide and the start line.

- Round 1 & 2: Elevated up to 48”
- Dogs may compete on leash at the discretion of the handler.

Urban Locating

Hides may be inaccessible at all levels in each round. At least three distractions will be present in each round. There is no minimum / maximum distance between the hide and the start line.

- Round 1: Elevated up to 48”, Judge makes the call
- Round 2: Elevated up to 48”, Handler makes the call

Regional Championship

The Regional Championship is an opportunity to celebrate the accomplishments of teams throughout North America with the understanding that for many reasons, teams may not be able to cross international borders to compete. When the Invitational is hosted in the US, a Regional Championship will be offered in Canada and vice versa.

Regional Eligibility

Any dog eligible to compete in the Showcase or Invitational are eligible to compete in the Regional.

Note: Dogs entering the Regional are not eligible to compete in the same sport/level at the Invitational except when a bye is won. Dogs may choose to compete in the Regional in one sport and compete at the Invitational in a different sport. Versatility invitees must pick ONE of the two events for all four sports.

Event Format

Showcase and Invitational qualifiers compete together in all levels and classes. All levels of competition within a sport compete on the same course in each round. All searches will be blind. Handlers are limited to one dog per competition round. Additional handlers may be used to handle dogs owned by the same person.

Round 1 and Round 2:

Teams compete in their class against other invitees in two rounds of competition. Placements for first through fourth will be awarded in each class based on the combined score from each round. These teams will advance to the Regional Semifinal.

Semifinal: The top two (2) scoring teams from each class in the Semifinal Round will continue to the Regional Championship round. In the event the no teams qualify within a class level, the judging panel will select two (2) dogs to advance based on Round 1 / Round 2 of the Regional and lowest number of deductions and / or type of deductions earned prior to not qualifying in the semifinal round.

Regional Championship: The semifinal winners from each level will compete with each other on a single course. The top scoring team in the championship round will be crowned the Regional Champion.

Lost Item Recovery

Hides may be inaccessible at all levels in each round. At least 3 distraction items will be present each round. There is no minimum / maximum distance between the hide and the start line.

- Round 1: Handler Odor – 2 Items, Elevated up to 24”
- Round 2: Non-Handler Odor – 2 Items, Elevated up to 24”, Handler makes the call
- Semifinals: Random Draw for odor, 1-5 hides, Elevated up to 36”
- Championship Round: Non-Handler Odor, 4 search areas, 1-8 hides, areas may be blank,

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Elevated up to 36". Handler must call the find or finish for each search area.

Shed Dog

- Round 1 & 2: Single shed retrieve within 24" of the handler.
- Semifinals: 1 – 3 sheds determined by random draw for the class, Retrieve to Hand
- Championship Round: 0-4 sheds determined by random draw for the class, Retrieve to Hand
- Dogs must run off lead in the Semifinals and Championship Round.

Trailing & Locating

Hides may be inaccessible at all levels in each round. At least three distractions will be present in each round. There is no minimum / maximum distance between the hide and the start line.

- Round 1 & 2: Elevated up to 48"
- Semifinals: Elevated up to 72"
- Championship Round: Elevated up to 96", One search area. Area may be blank. Handler must call the find or finish.
- Dogs must run off lead in the Semifinals and Championship Round.

Urban Locating

Hides may be inaccessible at all levels in each round. At least three distractions will be present in each round. There is no minimum / maximum distance between the hide and the start line.

- Round 1: Elevated up to 48", Judge makes the call
- Round 2: Elevated up to 48", Handler makes the call
- Semifinals: Elevated up to 72", Judge makes the call
- Championship Round: 3 search areas (1,000 – 1,500 per area). Each area may be blank. Elevated up to 108". Handler must call the find or finish for each search area.

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Advancing to the Invitational

First through Fourth Place in each level based on Round 1 & Round 2 will receive a bye into the semi-final round of the Invitational for the same year. The Regional Champion in each sport receives a bye to compete in the final round of the Invitational the same year. The versatility champion is eligible to compete in the final round of all four sports at the Invitational.

Regional Champion Titles

The winner of each sport will receive the title of US or Canadian Regional Champion for that sport.

Lost Item Recovery
RLICH

Shed Dog
RSDCH

Trailing & Locating
RTLCH

Urban Locating
RULCH

Versatility
RVCH

The Versatility Championship is awarded to the dog who:

- Competes in all four sports over the course of the Showcase and / or Invitational
- Qualify in at least three areas
- Highest combined points then fastest combined time overall

Invitational Championship

The Invitational Championship is the pinnacle of NASDA competition, celebrating the versatility of all dogs and their handlers at the highest level.

Invitational Eligibility

Teams meeting the following criteria are eligible to compete in the Invitational:

- Teams placing in the Top 25 in a class within the qualifying period
- First through Fourth Place in a class at the Regional of the same year*
- Regional Champion for the sport for the same year**
- Top 25 Versatility Dogs
- Showcase Top 20% in a class

Dogs must compete in the highest level they qualified in, regardless of what level they are currently competing in.

* Dogs with a regional placement compete in the semi-final round of that class at the Invitational

** The Regional Champion competes in the final round only for that class

Event Format

All levels of competition within a sport compete on the same course in each round. All searches will be blind. Handlers are limited to one dog per competition round. Additional handlers may be used to handle dogs owned by the same person.

Round 1 and Round 2:

Teams compete in their class against other invitees in two rounds of competition. Placements for first through fourth will be awarded in each class based on the combined score from each round. These teams will advance to the Semifinal.

Semifinals: The top four placing teams in each class from Round 1 and Round 2 will compete in the semifinals alongside the four (4) regional bye dogs. The top two (2) scoring teams from each class in the Semifinal Round will continue to the Championship round. In the event no teams qualify within a class level, the judging panel will select two (2) dogs to advance based on Round 1 / Round 2 of the Invitational or Regional and lowest number of deductions and / or type of deductions earned prior to not qualifying in the semi-final round.

Championships: The semi-final winners from each level will compete with each other on a single course. The top scoring team in the championship round will be crowned the National Champion.

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Lost Item Recovery

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- Round 2: Non-Handler Odor – 2 Items, Elevated up to 24", Handler makes the call
- Semifinals: Random Draw for odor, 1-5 hides, Elevated up to 36"
- Championship Round: Non-Handler Odor, 4 search areas, 1-8 hides, areas may be blank, Elevated up to 36". Handler must call the find or finish for each search area.

Shed Dog

- Round 1 & 2: Single shed retrieve within 24" of the handler.
- Semifinals: 1 – 3 sheds determined by random draw for the class, Retrieve to Hand
- Championship Round: 0-4 sheds determined by random draw for the class, Retrieve to Hand
- Dogs must run off lead in the Semifinals and Championship Round.

Trailing & Locating

Hides may be inaccessible at all levels in each round. At least three distractions will be present in each round. There is no minimum / maximum distance between the hide and the start line.

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- Semifinals: Elevated up to 72"
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- Dogs must run off lead in the Semifinals and Championship Round.

Urban Locating

Hides may be inaccessible at all levels in each round. At least three distractions will be present in each round. There is no minimum / maximum distance between the hide and the start line.

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- Championship Round: 3 search areas (1,000 – 1,500 per area). Each area may be blank. Elevated up to 108". Handler must call the find or finish for each search area.

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National Champion Titles

The winner of the championship round will be awarded the following title:

Lost Item Recovery
NLICH

Shed Dog
NSDCH

Trailing & Locating
NTLCH

Urban Locating
NULCH

Versatility
NVCH

The Versatility Championship is awarded to the dog who:

- Competes in all four sports over the course of the Showcase and / or Invitational
- Qualify in at least three areas
- Highest combined points then fastest combined time overall