



Classic Trial and One Game

Sunday, May 17, 2026

Trial Affiliate: Groovy Pooch, LLC

Trial Location

ERIE COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL
8500 Oliver Road, Erie, PA 16509

No smoking/vaping at this facility or on the grounds.
The trial will be held indoors and outdoors

Closing Date: Sunday, May 10, 2026 [3 pm, EST]

Entries accepted in order received

[Limit of 125 runs per judge]

ONLINE Entry ONLY at <http://www.uscaninescentsports.com/>

Please email our secretary once you have entered or if you are having issues with entering through the website.

ENTRY FEE: \$25 per class, No Day of Show Entries

Classes being offered: {1 round each}

[Not Nested]

- Novice: Interior, Exterior, Container, Vehicle
- Intermediate: Interior, Exterior, Container, Vehicle
- Advanced: Interior, Exterior, Container, Vehicle
- Senior: Interior, Exterior, Container, Vehicle
- Master: Interior, Exterior, Container, Vehicle
- Game: Copycat

CRATING: Car crating only in the parking lot. There is no shade.

FOOD: Snacks and water will be provided. Please bring your own lunch.

CLASS SCHEDULE & JUDGE ASSIGNMENTS

The class schedule and judging assignments will be determined after the closing date.

We will run all Novice and Intermediate classes, then the Game.

Advanced, Senior, and Master level classes will follow.

Check In starts at 8:15 a.m. Briefing will be at 8:45 a.m.

**Nose2Tail – Canine Event Photography (Melissa Levier),
will be taking photos of the searches.**

Website: www.nose2tailfun.com Facebook: @Nose2tailPhotos

JUDGES and CHIEF SEARCH DESIGNERS

Natalie Duberow and Katara Peters

TRIAL CHAIR: Sharon Miller Email: groovypoochtrials@gmail.com

TRIAL Secretary: Sharon Miller Email: groovypoochtrials@gmail.com

18948 Bockman Hollow Road, Saegertown, PA 16433 (814) 282-1859

For information about the organization, please email United States Canine Scent Sports at info@USCanineScentSports.com

Steps for Joining USCSS™, Registering Dog and Entering this Trial

1. All competitors must become a member of USCSS™, which is **FREE!** Competitors may join here: <http://members.uscaninescentsports.com/signup>
2. Competitors must then register their dog(s) through the USCSS™ website. Each registration includes a one-time \$25.00 fee. Competitors may register their dogs here: <http://members.uscaninescentsports.com/login> Competitors will then receive the 1st email confirmation email from USCSS with details regarding their entry. They will then receive a 2nd email confirmation with PAYMENT DETAILS from the Trial Secretary groovypoochtrials@gmail.com including instructions on how to submit payment for their entry.
3. Payments will be sent directly to the Trial Secretary, not USCSS™. The confirmation email will specify WHERE to mail payment and waivers. Competitors should note that their spot in the trial will only be held once payment is made. Please make checks payable to **Katara Peters and mail with the Waivers to Sharon Miller, 18948 Bockman Hollow Road, Saegertown, PA 16433**. Both must be received *within 5 days AFTER date of Entry Confirmation* email from the trial secretary. If not received on time, the competitor falls to the bottom of the entry list. [There is NO on-line payment option]

Important – please read!

It is the Competitor's responsibility to be familiar with the Rules and Regulations for USCSS.
[USCSS-Rules-Ver.-3.1.](#)

Any individual attending this trial, whether handling a dog or not, must sign liability waivers for both Groovy Pooch and the Erie County Technical School. Waivers are provided at the end of this premium.

This is a CLASSIC Trial. You must qualify in all 4 Classic elements, (Interior, Exterior, Container, Vehicle) at the same level to earn a title. All qualifying runs go toward your element title.

Games Title: same as element title, earn 3 qualifying scores to earn your game title.

If you have any questions, after checking the rule book contact the Trial Secretary for additional clarification.

AWARDS:

Qualifying Ribbon: A qualifying ribbon will be given at the end of your run.

1st-4th place per class: Novice A, Novice B, Intermediate, Advanced, Senior, Game

Classic Title Ribbons: You must qualify in all four classic elements to receive level title.

HIGH in Trial (level): one per level that has more than one entry - you must enter all **5** classes [each element at the same level plus both games] to be eligible. Novice A & B will not be separated for this title.

2nd - 4th Place Overall in Trial Awards - one per level that has more than one entry - you must enter all **5** classes to be eligible. Novice A & B will not be separated for this title.

Element Title: If you earn your third qualifying run in any element.

Variable Title: If you earn qualifying runs that finish out your Variable Title.

Ribbons will not be mailed.

Potty Area: There will be a designated area to use. **CLEAN UP AFTER YOUR DOG!** Dispose of waste in appropriate containers. Do NOT let your dog pee on buildings, landscaping, sidewalks, asphalt or we have to touch!

SAFETY, COLLARS & LEASHES: **Flexi/retractable leads are ONLY permitted during a search.** All dogs must be on a 6' or shorter leash when not participating in a search. Dogs MUST be switched over to a 6' length or shorter leash when outside of the search area. Choke chains, prong collars or halti/head collars are NOT permitted during searches.

Leashes of any length may be used while the dog is participating in a search.

EVERY dog MUST maintain a minimum of 6' distance from all other dogs at ALL TIMES.

ELIGIBLE DOGS: The following dogs are eligible to compete in USCSS™ events:

- Dogs 6-months of age or older
- Dogs of any breed, purebred or mixed breed
- Blind, deaf or dogs with amputations or who use ambulatory carts

Bitches in season, but they must wear pants and be kept separate from all other dogs and will be run at the end of their class/trial. If bringing a bitch in season, **please inform the trial secretary prior to the trial** and inform all exhibitors at the judge's briefing.

REACTIVE DOGS: Groovy Pooch accepts the entries of reactive dogs in USCSS trials.

- Reactive dogs will be run first or last in the trial and all other dogs must be crated while the reactive dogs are preparing for the search. A 10-minute break will be given after the reactive dogs have run and are again crated to give the other teams time to prepare for their runs.
- USCSS™ suggests that reactive dogs wear red bandanas.

REFUNDS & EVENT CANCELLATION:

- No refunds allowed after the pre-entry closing date except in the case of injured dogs **(Veterinary note required)**.
- Refund will be 50% and those seeking a refund must request by 8:30 am on the day of the trial. Vet note must be received by Monday after trial and can be sent to the Trial Secretary. Entry fees will not be refunded unless the vet letter is received.
- No refund in the event that a dog is absent, disqualified, excused or barred from competition on the day of the event.
- Every attempt will be made to hold this event as scheduled. In the event of an “act of God” such as flood or fire, or civil disturbances or any other causes beyond the control of the organizing committee, the event may be canceled. We will make every attempt to contact entrants and inform them of the cancellation.

VETERINARIAN: [Hours: 24 hours]
Northwest PA Pet Emergency Center
429 West 38th Street, Erie, PA 16508
(814)866-5920

VOLUNTEERS: Every trial relies on great volunteers to run smoothly and efficiently. THANK YOU in advance for volunteering! Email: groovypoochtrials@gmail.com if you're willing to help.

Release of Liability (Waiver)



Owner's Name: _____

Handler's Name (if different from owner): _____

Dog's Name: _____

Please mail Groovy Pooch & Erie County Technical School waivers with payment to:
Sharon Miller, 18948 Bockman Hollow Road, Saegertown, PA 16433

I certify that I am the actual owner of the dog, or that I am the duly authorized agent of the actual owner whose name I have entered above. In consideration of entering this United States Canine Scent Sports (USCSS) trial, I (we) agree to abide by the rules and regulations of United States Canine Scent Sports (USCSS) in effect at the time of this event, and by any additional rules and regulations appearing in the rule book dated September 2023 for this event, and further agree to be bound by this liability waiver for all dogs in my care at this event, entered or not. I (we) certify and represent that the dog entered is not a hazard (dog or human aggressive) to persons or other dogs. This entry is submitted for acceptance on the foregoing representation and Agreement. I (we) agree to conduct myself (ourselves) in accordance with all United States Canine Scent Sports (USCSS) Rules and Regulations and to abide by any decisions made in accord with them. I (we) agree that the organization holding this event has the right to refuse this entry for cause which the organization shall deem sufficient. I (we) agree to hold United States Canine Scent Sports (USCSS), Groovy Pooch, their members, directors, governors, officers, agents, or event secretary and Erie County Technical School directly or indirectly to any person or thing by the act of this dog while in or about the event premises or grounds or near any entrance thereto, and I (we) personally assume all responsibility and liability for any such claim; and I (we) further agree to hold the aforementioned parties harmless from any claim for loss, injury or damage to this dog. Additionally, I (we) hereby assume the sole responsibility for and agree to indemnify, defend and save the aforementioned parties harmless from any and all loss and expense (including legal fees) by reason of the liability imposed by law upon any of the aforementioned parties for damage because of bodily injuries, including death at any time resulting there from, sustained by any person or persons, including myself (ourselves), or on account of damage to property, arising out of or in consequence of my (our) participation in this event, however such injuries, death or property damage may be caused, and whether or not the same may have been caused or may be alleged to have been caused by the negligence of the aforementioned parties or any of their employees, agents, or any other persons.

In consideration of this entry, I hereby grant to United States Canine Scent Sports (USCSS), Groovy Pooch, and Erie County Technical School, all rights and permissions to use or appropriate my dog and I in photographs or videos, for the promotion of scent sports trials.

Owner's Signature: _____ Date _____

Handler's Signature: _____ Date _____
(if different than owner)

Emergency Contact

Name & Phone Number: _____ Date _____

**ERIE COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL PARTICIPANT
RELEASE, WAIVER, AND INDEMNIFICATION**

I, _____ (Print Name), age _____, desire to participate voluntarily in the United States Canine Scent Sports Dog Competition being held on the campus of the Erie County Technical School ("Technical School"), located at 8500 Oliver Road, Erie, PA 16509, on May 17, 2026. I understand that the Technical School is not a sponsor, nor does the Technical School endorse or control such activity.

I UNDERSTAND THAT I AM BEING ASKED TO READ EACH OF THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS CAREFULLY. I UNDERSTAND THAT IF I WISH TO DISCUSS ANY OF THE TERMS CONTAINED IN THIS AGREEMENT THAT I MAY CONTACT THE TECHNICAL SCHOOL DIRECTOR OR THE POINT OF CONTACT FOR THE UNITED STATES CANINE SCENT SPORTS DOG COMPETITION.

Assumption of the Risk:

I understand that competitive activity with canines in various terrains and environments can be hazardous walking through grounds which could be wet and muddy, in and around vehicles, and in and around buildings while handling a search dog carries with it certain inherent risks that cannot be eliminated regardless of the care taken to avoid injuries and/or illness. I further understand that participating in activities such as handling a canine and engaging in search operations which include but are not limited to minor injury, such as bruises, contusions, pulled muscles, sprained ankles, broken bones, concussion, dog bites, scratches and catastrophic injuries such as paralysis and death.

I acknowledge that I have been advised to have health and accident insurance in effect and that no such coverage is provided for me by the Technical School. I further acknowledge that I have been advised to have property insurance in effect as no such coverage is provided for me by the Technical School.

Hold Harmless, Indemnity and Release:

In consideration of the Technical School not sponsoring, endorsing or controlling the United States Canine Scent Sports Competition and recognizing my voluntary participations in these activities, I for myself, spouse, heirs, personal representatives, estate or assigns, agree to defend, hold harmless, indemnify and release the Erie County Technical School and their officers, employees, agents and volunteers from and against any and all claims, demands, actions or causes of action of any sort on account of damage to personal property, personal injury or death which may result from my participation in the above listed activity. **I understand that by agreeing to this clause I am releasing claims and giving up substantial rights, including my right to sue.**

Signature of Participant: _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian (if applicable): _____