



## **Classic Trial and Games**

**Sunday, September 27, 2026**

Closing Date: Sunday, September 20, 2026 [3 pm, EDT]

### **Trial Location**

**Camp Hawthorne Ridge [Girl Scout Camp]  
7755 Hawthorne Ridge Road, Fairview, PA 16415**  
The trial will be held indoors and outdoors.

**Trial Affiliate: Groovy Pooch, LLC**



### **Classes offered {1 round each} [Not Nested]**

(Qualify in all four classic elements to receive level title)  
(Earn 3 qualifying scores in the game to earn your game title)

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  
Games ..... Copy Cat and Double Dog Dare

**Class Order & Running order will be determined after closing date.**

Check In starts at 8:15 a.m. Briefing will be at 8:45 a.m.  
First dog on the line at 9:00 a.m.

### **Trial Limited to 200 Runs**

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

**Entries accepted in order received**

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

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

### **TRIAL SECRETARY - Sharon Miller**

Email: [groovypoochtrials@gmail.com](mailto:groovypoochtrials@gmail.com)  
18948 Bockman Hollow Road, Saegertown, PA 16433 [814.282.1859]

TRIAL CHAIR: Sharon Miller      Email: [groovypoochtrials@gmail.com](mailto:groovypoochtrials@gmail.com)

### **JUDGES and CHIEF SEARCH DESIGNERS**

Judges: Patti Buchanan, Amy McArdele, Brook Phinney, Katara Peters

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

**PHOTOGRAPHER:** Melissa LeVier, Canine Event Photography [Nose2TailFun@yahoo.com, Facebook: Nose2TailPhotography – Canine Events] will be on-site taking pictures of searches.

**CRATING: Car crating only.** Please bring whatever you need to keep your dog safe and comfortable.

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

### **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>*

3. Competitors will then receive the 1st email confirmation email with details regarding their entry. They will then receive a 2nd email confirmation with PAYMENT DETAILS from the Trial Secretary [groovypoochtrials@gmail.com](mailto:groovypoochtrials@gmail.com) and instructions on how to submit payment for their entry. Payments will be sent directly to the Trial Secretary, not USCSS™. The confirmation email will specify WHERE to mail payment. Competitors should note that their spot in the trial will only be held once payment is made.

### **PAYMENTS & WAIVERS:**

- Checks made payable to **Katara Peters and mailed with the Groovy Pooch Waiver to Sharon Miller, 18948 Bockman Hollow Rd, 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.**

### **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.

**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 items we have to touch, or sidewalks and asphalt.

**Important – please read!**

For information about the organization, please email United States Canine Scent Sports at [info@USCanineScentSports.com](mailto:info@USCanineScentSports.com)

**It is the Competitor's responsibility to be familiar with the Rules and Regulations for USCSS.** USCSS-Rules-Ver.-3.1. [[POST-THIS-COPY-of-USCSS-Rules-3.1-Google-Docs.pdf](#)]

This is a CLASSIC Trial. You must qualify in all 4 Classic elements, (Interior, Exterior, Container, Vehicle) in 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 in each game 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 6 classes to be eligible. Novice A & Novice B are combined for this title.
- ❖ **2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> Place Overall in Trial Awards** - one per level that has more than one entry - you must enter all 6 classes to be eligible. Novice A & Novice B are combined 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.

**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.

**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. Martingale collars are acceptable.

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.

**NO SMOKING/VAPING:** At this facility or on the grounds.

#### **VETERINARIAN:**

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

## Release of Liability (Waiver)



Owner's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Handler's Name (if different from owner): \_\_\_\_\_

Dog's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail to: Sharon Miller, 18948 Bockman Hollow Rd, 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), Katara Peters, Groovy Pooch, their members, directors, governors, officers, agents, or event secretary and Camp Hawthorne Ridge and any provider of services that are necessary to hold this event and any employees or volunteers of the aforementioned parties harmless from any claim for loss or injury which may be alleged to have been caused 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 Camp Hawthorne Ridge, 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: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_