



Hosting a PSD Trial

Thank you for your interest in hosting a PSD trial. We try to make trials as easy as possible to host. It's rewarding but it's still a lot of work. If you are thinking about hosting, here are some things to consider:

Secure a location: A training center, church, school, camp, National Guard facility, barn, warehouse, etc. will all work when hosting a PSD trial. Think about parking spots, bathrooms, and accessibility. You can manufacture decent sight lines with creative use of tarps and E-Z ups. If you are offering an Exterior search, an area where dogs don't regularly use to pee is obviously preferred.

Trial Committee: Is recommended and includes trial chair, trial host(s), trial secretary, volunteer coordinator, and mentors.

Trial Secretary: A trial needs an organized and patient person to answer pre-trial questions, design run orders, help competitors sign up for the correct classes, prepare score sheets, and manage the trial day including answering questions, entering scores, preparing ribbons throughout the day, moving competitors up, tracking down the judge for clarifications, answering more questions, and then answering the same question again. PSD has a cloud based entry and result interface. No software is required for purchase. Familiarity with computers and the ability to figure computer things out is important. A laptop or two, Internet access, and a printer make the trial day go much more smoothly.

Volunteers: There's no need for someone to give up their day to volunteer-although how awesome is that when someone does!! Trial hosts may decide to split classes; with this split, it is easier to have a pool of volunteers. We do recommend having a volunteer coordinator and volunteer mentor. A volunteer coordinator is key to help people sign up and make sure the judges have the volunteers they need, and that competitors have gate stewards and traffic control to make a great trial experience. A volunteer mentor is available to help answer site-specific questions that day and to take some of the load off the trial secretary.

Donations: PSD is a non-profit. We expect to receive a 501c3 designation shortly. We would love for clubs to choose a local charity to support at each trial and encourage competitors and spectators to donate items, time, or money. Many times, hosts choose a local rescue or shelter to support.

Cost of hosting a PSD trial: We try and keep trial fees low to help support local clubs. PSD fees are \$25 per trial and \$2 a run. A lead judge is paid, at minimum, travel expenses plus \$150. A per run fee in addition is encouraged. For 2016, PSD is picking up the travel costs of lead judges so get your application in as soon as possible to hold a date.

There are no minimum fees for a trial secretary.

Ribbons: PSD can supply clubs with ribbons at cost; clubs only pay for ribbons used and shipping those unused ribbons back to the host. A typical Novice 150 search trial can expect to spend \$90-\$120 on ribbons.

We want clubs to create a trial in the spirit of PSD where dogs and handlers are celebrated. Part of our mission is to make scent work widely known as an amazing activity available to all kinds of dogs and their people at any age. Having more scent work trials available to more people encourages owner interest in learning and playing with their dog. More interest in dog sports means more dogs get to play and enjoy the benefit of a deeper relationship with their owner.

If you would like more specific information on hosting a trial or want to bounce around an idea, please send an email to info@performancescentdogs.com