

Merrimack Valley Chapter NAVHDA
Member Information Packet
WWW.MVNAVHDA.ORG

Introduction

The Merrimack Valley Chapter of NAVHDA is based in Londonderry, NH. The Chapter meets for formal scheduled training during the period of April-September at Sharps Farm in Hopkinton, NH or Cox Farm in Lee, NH. We have scheduled Test dates in May and September at one of these locations. October through December there will be no training it is hunting season after all. January through April there is the possibility of indoor training clinics, information on these clinics will available in the chapter newsletter.

Meeting Site and Times

For all Formal Training Clinics and Tests, The meeting site will be at Sharps Farm or Cox Farm follow the signs. Each Clinic will start promptly at 8:00am. It is strongly advised that you arrive at the training site at least one ½ hour before the clinic starts to check in. Our test site is the same location. Tests start times will be posted and you need to be at the test site at least one ½ hour before testing starts for check in. Training days and Tests are rain or shine so come prepared.

These training days are designed to help train you to train your dog. Training days are not designed for someone else to train your dog for you. There will be experienced people on hand who can answer your questions and show you different methods to train. Please come prepared to train and to help out with work as needed.

All of our test & training days are listed below and on our calendar. We will ask that pre-registration be made in advance for training days. At the time you do register, you will need to tell us what you would like for birds. We will have your birds there for you. The cost per Quail is \$6 per bird, Chukar \$9 per bird, Pheasant \$11 per bird, Ducks \$12 per bird. You are responsible to the Chapter for the cost of birds you order even if you do not attend. For Chapter members there will be a \$5 registration fee plus the cost of the birds that you use. For non-members there will be a \$20 fee plus bird cost. Pheasant and Duck's will not be available unless they are pre ordered for training days and paid for in advance on average we will have 50 Quail and 10+ Chukar available each training day.

Directions

Directions to Sharps farm and Cox farm are listed on the website.

Training days

At Cox Farm April 12th

At Sharps Farm June 7th July 12th Aug 9th Aug 23rd

Merrimack Valley Training Rules

The training is for members of the Merrimack Valley Chapter of NAVHDA; guests who will be working with a dog are invited but will pay a **\$20** fee to the chapter for that day plus bird costs. A guest working a dog may only attend one training day per year unless they join the chapter.

Birds will be paid for before training starts and it is the responsibility of the trainer to have the necessary carrier to hold their birds.

Birds may not be shot before or after any scheduled training session or test dates. Birds may only be shot during scheduled training by a **chapter-designated gunner** who is not the handler and only under controlled situations.

All your trash and dead birds must be removed at the end of the day

No Alcoholic beverages are permitted

An item of **Hunter Orange** must be worn during training sessions (Hat, Vest or Shirt)

Keep in mind that we share these grounds with others please be aware of their rights to access and respect their presence.

Remember Safety First

Handlers will only be allowed to use a **BLANK** gun while training or they may have a GUNNER accompany and shoot birds for them.

The training sessions is not an extension of your hunting season remember that others are using the fields also so please keep your training timely and productive.

Chapter members are allowed to train 2 dogs per session, Guest are allowed to train 1 dog

For a \$5 cost per person, the Chapter will offer a lunch or you can bring your own.

Please respect the land we are using park where directed and do not drive on wet areas we are guests using the land.

Merrimack Valley Chapter Training Equipment Checklist

This is a short equipment checklist for you and your dog

Consider that training takes place once a month and that you may have had to travel quite some distance to attend, it can be very frustrating to arrive and find you left a needed piece of your training gear at home. Therefore, the following equipment checklist will help to remind you of the gear you will want to bring to be ready to go. The chapter will not be in a position to provide you with missing gear. So at a minimum you should consider bringing the following.

For the Handler

- An item of Hunter Orange (i.e. hat vest t shirt)
- Blank pistol and blanks
- Plastic Garbage bag for your trash
- Tick and Bug Spray
- Rain Gear
- Wader or hip boots
- Bird cage or bag
- Money for birds and Lunch
- First Aid kit for you
- Folding chair
- Water
- Sunscreen

For your Dog

- Water, Food and Bowl
- Crate or Tie out stake
- Collar (regular and/or E collar)
- Leash and Check cords
- Retrieving Dummies
- First Aid kit for dog
- Treats

Extra Water!!!

Optional Equipment

You may want to bring along some optional equipment, as there will be no guarantee that someone else from the chapter will have these items

- Kayak/Canoe with paddles and life vests
- Heeling stakes
- Decoys
- Bird Launcher

If you have any unanswered questions please contact one of the officers of the chapter.