



Shenango

Chapter Of

NAVHDA



TRAINING DAY POLICY

Effective February 1, 2021

Training Day Policies

Training days are designed to help each chapter member train his or her own dog. They are not designed for someone else to train your dog. At each training day, experienced members will be available for you to request help and advice if you would like to request/require support. These members are not there to train your dog for you so please come prepared to work and to help out as needed. The procedure to attend one of the Shenango training days is as follows:

1. If you want to attend a training day you are not required to call first unless you want to train your dog on birds provided by the Chapter. If you do, call the designated bird contact by 9:00 PM on the Wednesday before the training day. Training birds must be ordered at this time. We will do our best to fill your order, there are no guarantees. Members are encouraged to email the training director regarding participation in a training day
2. The chapter reserves the right to limit or modify the bird orders. The chapter will not accept orders for more birds than can be used at a single training session unless **training director** determines he has the ability to make an exception.
3. Birds will be available at cost plus a small handling fee. If you are not able to attend, you will still be responsible for the cost of the birds unless another participant is willing to purchase them. The electronic payment option is available.
4. You should plan on bringing a carrier for any field birds that you may have ordered.
5. Birds will be divided up at the start of the clinic.
6. All payments (Checks Preferred) are due at the start of the training day. The electronic payment option is available.
7. All training day participants **MUST** wear at a minimum a hunter orange hat while in the field. Additional hunter orange in the form of a vest or jacket is highly recommended.
8. **Members taking part in the formal training day program will take priority on training ground usage.**
9. Nonmembers will be allowed two free training days. After this the guest must join both the Shenango Chapter and NAVHDA International if he or she wishes to participate again.
10. Shooting at SHENANGO events is an honor reserved for regular active members. While on the grounds, all shooting, will be limited to regular active members in good standing of the Shenango Chapter. Under no circumstances may a guest, visitor, or nonmember shoot at any Shenango event. If you are not eligible to shoot, you must find an eligible shooter. Please contact the training director for assistance.
11. **All shooting must be conducted using factory ammunition. The use of handloads or re-manufactured ammunition is strictly prohibited.**
12. Training days are not an extension of your hunting season. No extended field or duck searches are permitted. Keep your field and water sessions short and productive.
13. All regular active members in good standing will be limited to two dogs. All nonmembers will be limited to one dog if members are waiting.
14. All policies regarding the use of the Shenango Training Grounds apply to all Chapter events. Please respect our chapter and grounds!

Please review the information below.

Traits of a Test Gunner

They must be at least 18 years of age and all gunners born after 1975 must have successfully completed a state/provincial firearms safety course.

They must be alert, calm, level-headed and responsible. There are a lot of people in the area at a test. The safety of the participants and spectators, as well as the dogs, is of paramount importance.

They must be accustomed to shooting over pointing dogs and realize that it is the dog's performance that is under judgment. The gunner's role is to assist the dog through timely and safe shooting.

They must understand the rules of the test and be capable of accepting instructions. There are times when safety dictates a bird "not" be shot even though the rules require a shot to be fired to test for steadiness. There are other times when Judges make requests of the gunner regarding shooting or positioning to ensure a correct and fair judgment. These requests must be followed efficiently.

They must be physically capable of walking on rough ground at a reasonably fast pace. They must possess the physical agility to put them into the best position to shoot safely without interfering with the performance of the dog.

They must concentrate on their task and take it seriously even if the dog or handler is having a bad day. All dogs and handlers must be treated with the same consideration and respect

They must be a good shot with a "break-open" gun on birds, not just on clay pigeons, and they must be knowledgeable enough to hold their fire until the bird is at a suitable distance to allow a clean shot and a good retrieve.

They must be a good sportsperson in every sense of the word; from the time they arrive at the test until their last contact with test participants. The gunner must have considerable self-control.

Under no circumstance may a gunner consume any alcohol or mind-altering substance.

They should not comment on the dog/handler performance to any party after leaving the field. They should not repeat anything heard or offer personal opinions.

All persons in the field must wear one of the following or a combination of the following blaze orange garments: hat, vest, or jacket

Please read the portions of pages 6 and 24-25 in the NAVHDA Aims, Programs, Test Rules book dealing with guns, gunning and safety.