

Southern Berkshire Golden Retriever Club



Field training sessions for 2010

In an effort to organize and be more productive with our training sessions there are some changes, and a revised format for this year's training sessions. First of all, a Field Committee has been formed. The Committee consists of Dawn Terrill, Todd Davis, and Arline Buchanan. Each of the scheduled training days will be divided into two sessions. The morning session will be for dog / handler teams that are ready for advanced concepts. The afternoon session will be for those dog and handler teams who are new to the sport and/or those who would benefit by a more individualized approach in training their dogs to the highest level possible. The field committee is willing to discuss with each handler the pros and cons of being involved in each session. It is the hope of the Committee that our membership will take advantage of these sessions which will be geared to help prepare both the handler and dog for hunting, hunt tests, WC/X, and field trials.

General Information that applies to all participants and both sessions:

As a lot of time and effort will be going into the planning of and preparation for these training sessions, **it is both helpful and important that all participants arrive on time.** All participants should be prepared to help with the placement of equipment and birds in the field as well as be present to hear the session coordinator's explanation of concepts and suggested ways to run the setup.

In addition to the Club's equipment (wingers, holding blinds, popper guns, etc.), it will be very helpful if handlers are prepared by bringing as many of the following items as possible: water for themselves and their dog, lunch, chair, white & dark jacket, whistle, ear protection, blank pistol, radio, rain gear, boots, umbrella, and a 30 – 50 ft. long line if they have a young dog.

All club members should be prepared to help dispose of dead birds at the end of the training session (so be sure to add "plastic bag" to your list of things to bring).

Fees: Member \$7.00 Non-member \$10.00 Flyer \$10.00

Pre-registration will be required for all training sessions by the Tuesday before the session. Any member who does not pre-register and shows up will not be allowed to run. A confirmation email will go out 2 days prior to the training session, confirming registration and listing the assigned group and work assignment.

PLEASE REGISTER!!! Do not put anyone in an awkward position...this will be enforced.

Reminders will be emailed out to the entire club the week before the upcoming session.

Information for Morning Session Participants:

Sessions will start at 8:30 a.m. All participants in the morning session should arrive by 8:00 a.m. and be prepared to help with the placement of equipment and birds in the field as well as be present to hear the session coordinator's explanation of concepts and suggested ways to run the setup.

Large sessions will be divided into 2 groups. Members will be assigned to a group. The size and makeup of the group will be determined by the coordinator. Each person is expected to work in the session in which he runs his dog/s. An email will go out 2 days prior to the session letting members know what group they are in and what the running and working order will be. It is the hope of the Field Committee that time will allow for 2 setups. The morning session will be concluded before 2:00 p.m.

Flyers will be ordered for some of the sessions. They will be for advanced dogs only. If a member requests a flyer, and does not come to the session, that member is still required to pay the cost of the flyer.

Morning session participants will be encouraged to help with the afternoon session.

Information for Afternoon Session Participants:

Sessions will start at 2:00 p.m. Participants should plan to arrive by 12 p.m. and plan to stay until 4 p.m. Arriving a couple of hours ahead of time will allow the handlers time to watch a little of the morning session as well as to allow plenty of time to air and get their dog acclimated to the field training environment.

All sessions will include presentation of information, demonstration, and work for the dog/handler team. The group instruction and actual dog / handler activity will be tailored to those dog and handler teams who are participating. Although it is not necessary, to receive the optimum benefit from these club sessions, it is the Committee's hope that those who participate in these afternoon sessions will be interested in attending all sessions.

Session participants will have opportunity to indicate their interest in the following:

Evaluating their dog for field training (includes bidability, sensitivity, natural retrieving ability, desire for the bird, overall drive, physical condition, water aptitude, prior training)

Explanation of Obedience training and how it relates to field training in what is called Yard Work. This is basic training that involves, heel, sit, come, go, hold, and fetch.

Field work – teaching marking concepts, beginning handling drills in preparation for blind retrieves.

The Committee is open to addressing other training issues and/or problems that interested members may have.