Official NACSW™

Elite Premier/L3I/NW2/NW3
February 13th,14th,15th, 2026

Trial Location:
Temple Adas Shalom
8 N Earlton Rd Ext, Havre De Grace, MD 21078

It is not appropriate to contact or visit the event location prior to the event date, nor should training take place on event grounds once an event is approved/announced. Our locations are real life search environments where people work, go to school, etc. Pre-event contact or visits risk the host losing the opportunity to use the location again in the future.

Trial Host:
Firezone GS
Trial Host Contact Info: Marina Raukhverger firezonegs@yahoo.com

Elite Premier – Friday, February 13, 2026
L3I – Saturday AM, February 14, 2026
NW2 – Saturday PM, February 14, 2026
NW3 – Sunday, February 15, 2026

There are no Breed Specific Legislation (BSL) requirements in this location.

Certifying Official: Jessica Miller

Judges
Friday: Mike McNerney and Sandy Banthem
Saturday and Sunday: Mary Ellen Grady and Sandy Banthem

Entry Cost
Elite Premier: $225 per dog and handler team
NW3: $215 per dog and handler team
L3I: $145 per dog and handler team
NW2: $200 per dog and handler team

Number of Entries
Elite Premier: 30 entries
NW3: 38 entries
L3I: 22 entries
NW2: 20 Entries

TRIAL ENTRY INFORMATION

Trial Entry Open and Closing

The draw period for the trial will open on **Monday, December 29, 2025**, at 12:00 PM EST. Entries will be awarded by random draw of all entries received between **12:00 PM EST, December 29, 2025, and 12:00 PM EST, December 31, 2025.**

Trial entry will close at the end of the draw if the trial and wait list are deemed full. If the trial and wait list are not full, the trial will remain open for entries until they are deemed full or the day of the trial.

We will not be taking payment until you are given a space in the trial. If you are given a space in the trial, you will receive information on how to submit payment.

Entry Method

All entries will be on-line via the link provided to the NACSW trial entry form. Paper and phone entries will not be accepted. Completing the form is not a guarantee of entry. You will receive confirmation from firezonegs@yahoo.com to let you know if your entry has been given a space in the trial.

Entry Requirements & Selection

A Qualified Entry is one that meets all the following criteria:

1. Complete the on-line trial entry during the draw period listed above.
2. The Handler is a NACSW member in good standing for the 2025-2026 membership year (8/1/25-7/31/26).
3. Dog is registered and in good standing with the NACSW.
4. Dogs participating in a trial must be at least one year of age.
5. The Dog has achieved the prior title level and ORT title (passed all 3 odors) at least 14 days before the trial opens for entries. This applies to all levels.
6. Qualified entry for NW3 – Dog has earned a NW2 title and has not yet earned the NW3 Elite title level.
7. Qualified entry for Elite Premier – Dog has earned the ELT CH title.
8. Qualified Entry for L3I – Dog has earned L2I title.
9. Qualified entry for NW2 – Dog has earned a NW1 title level and has not yet earned a NW2 title.

Trial spaces will be determined in the following manner:

- Spaces will be awarded by a random draw of all Qualified Entries received during the draw period listed above.

- Once the trial opens for entry, if you are having technical difficulties entering during the 48 hour draw period, please email trialentry@nacsw.net prior to the end of the draw period. For any other questions that are not related to the trial entry system, contact the Trial Host.

- No dog will be given a space in more than one trial of the same level and type at a single event.

- You may enter multiple dogs for entry in the draw. However, only one dog/handler per title level will be accepted into the trial. Entry will go to the dog selected in the draw – you may not swap to an alternate dog. If multiple dogs are selected in the draw, you may select which dog you wish to enter. Once a dog has been entered as a second dog/handler entry, you may not swap handlers after the draw to change the entry to a first dog/handler unless the trial is not full.

- If a trial level is not full after the draw of Qualified Entries, then there will be a Secondary Draw of any entries received that did not meet the ORT title or title requirements. These entries will be accepted pending completion of the requirements. **Note:** dogs must earn their ORT title and prior title level at least 3 days prior to the trial date to be eligible to compete. If the required title or ORT title is earned less than 14 days prior to the event, it is the handler's responsibility to notify the Trial Host that the requirement has been completed.

- If the trial level and wait list are not full after all entries received during the draw period have been processed, entries will continue to be accepted in the order they are received until the trial and wait list are deemed full.

- For Exhibit Only Dogs (FEO): Dogs running FEO are not eligible to receive titles or earn placement ribbons. FEO results will not be included in the posted trial results.
  If space remains after all qualified entries are accommodated on January 24, 2026, then we will offer spaces for those who wish to run a dog For Exhibition Only (FEO). Second dog/handler FEO entries on the same day will be offered spaces after January 20, 2026.
- The trial host of an event has the right to refuse entry of any handler or dog for just cause as approved by the National Trial Committee. Just cause includes lack of adherence to NACSW rules and guidelines and the policies outlined in each event entry premium.

- Some trial entries may be given priority entry based on contributions to the organization and the trial process.

Notification

You will be notified via e-mail of the results of the random draw by **12:00 PM EST Wednesday, January 7, 2026.**

If you have a spam blocker on your email account, please configure it to allow email from **firezonegs@yahoo.com** in order to ensure delivery of confirmation and information about this trial.

You will then have three (3) days from notification to complete your payment to confirm your space in the trial. Trial payments are payable via Venmo or PayPal through the PayPal site - no PayPal account required.
If you use "Friends and Family" it will eliminate fees for both parties. If you select "Goods and Services" you must add extra to cover the PayPal fees. If there is a PayPal fee, you will incur the fee and submit total payment as the trial fee plus the PayPal fee.

A waiting list for alternates will be started as soon as entries are filled. Alternates will be contacted when a space opens.

Depending on last minute trial logistics, we may opt to not fill all canceled spaces.

Be sure you read and understand the guidelines for this event before entering. By submitting a registration for this NACSW event, you acknowledge that you have read, understand, and accept the policies and liability information of NACSW.

CANCELLATION POLICY

The following cancellation policy applies:
● For cancellation of entries before **12:00 PM EST Friday January 23, 2026** – Full refund

minus a $25 processing fee.
● For cancellation of entries between **12:00 PM EST Friday, January 23, 2026**, and before **12:00 PM EST Monday, February 9, 2026** – Full refund minus $25 processing fee if the host fills your space. No refund will be issued if the host doesn't fill your space. If the space is filled with a discounted or free entry, you will receive a refund dependent on the income from the replacement entry.
● For cancellation of entries after **12:00 PM EST Monday, February 9, 2025** – 50% of the trial entry fee will be refunded if the host fills your space. No refund will be issued if the host doesn't fill your space. If the space is filled with a discounted or free entry, you will receive a refund dependent on the income from the replacement entry.
If you earn the title that makes you no longer eligible for the level you are entered, then you must contact the trial host to cancel your entry and will be subject to the published cancellation policy. You may opt to change your entry to an FEO entry in this case and will be placed on the FEO waitlist and only receive a space in the trial if the host is accepting FEO entries.

All cancellations must be emailed to the Trial Host Contact.
For cancellations that meet the above guidelines, refunds will be issued within 30 days of the request and no later than 14 days after the event date. Entry fees shall not be refunded if a dog or handler is absent, disqualified, or excused by the NACSW official or judge.

This cancellation and refund policy applies to handlers that must withdraw for any reason including but not limited to injury, illness, emergency, and personal or work-related reasons.

If the event cannot take place or be completed by reason of fire, civil disturbances, an Act of God, public emergency, or any other cause beyond the control of the event organizers, then the event host will make their best effort to provide partial refunds after recouping their expenses.

LOCATION DETAILS

ADA Site Specific Conditions

This trial location is a Temple and a Pre School. To get to the search areas, competitors may have to to travel up or down few steps.
Please be prepared for you and your canine partner to deal with all of these varying environmental challenges. Handlers should familiarize themselves with potential regional risks and health concerns that may affect themselves or their dogs. Handlers agree that they are entering this event at their own risk.

Trial Conditions

Modeled after real-life detection work, NACSW trials are held in many different locations, with a variety of terrain, under varying weather conditions. Dogs and handlers need to be able to safely negotiate a variety of surfaces, including, but not limited to, tile, linoleum, carpeting, gravel, asphalt, uneven surfaces, and slippery footing. Handlers should be prepared to deal with a variety of weather conditions, including heat, cold, rain and snow. Trials frequently require covering extensive distances to get to and from the parking area to each of the search areas and generally require that this be done across natural, uneven surfaces. Handlers should be prepared for the physical demands and must be able to navigate the terrain with their dog accordingly. Participants should expect to spend most of the day outside or in their vehicles as there are rarely indoor crating options at trials. Please be prepared for you and your canine partner to deal with all of these varying environmental

challenges. Handlers should familiarize themselves with potential regional risks and health concerns that may affect themselves or their dogs. Handlers agree that they are entering this trial at their own risk. ***Due to unforeseen conditions, such as weather or change in availability of areas at the location, the details below may need to be modified at the last minute.***

Parking
The parking lot is paved.

RV Parking
RV Parking is allowed.

Running Vehicles or Generators in the Parking Lot
Running your vehicles in the parking lot is allowed at this event as long as you have permission from your neighbors.

Reactive Dog Parking
There will be reactive dog parking area at this trial for those who wish to park in this area. There will be a reactive dog potty area, however this may be a smaller area or longer walk. There will not be separate warm up boxes. Due to unforeseen conditions, such as weather or change in availability of areas at the location, this policy may be modified at the last minute.

Unentered Dogs
Unentered dogs must remain in the competitor's vehicle during the trial day. Unentered dogs should not be allowed to "play," exercise, or train on the trial grounds.
Due to unforeseen conditions, such as weather or change in availability of areas at the location, this policy may be modified at the last minute.

Facility/Site Prohibitive Restrictions (e.g. smoking, firearms, alcohol, drugs, video)
There is no smoking, firearms, alcohol or drugs allowed at this location.

DOG INFORMATION

Dog Policies

- All dogs must be on a 6' leash at all times when not searching. NO flexi-leashes while not participating in a competition search.
- Dogs that need space from dogs may wear a red bandana, provided by the dog's handler, to help signal others that the dog needs extra space from other dogs.
- Dogs will be toileted in designated areas and handlers must pick-up and dispose of waste.
- Dogs and handlers must stay in designated areas to avoid contaminating search space, interrupting a search, or from viewing any part of the searching.
- Handlers should expect to keep their dogs confined in a crate or vehicle when not searching. The logistics of an event typically do not allow for dogs to hang out on leash in between searches. Handlers should plan to provide their own shade using canopies or shade cloths.
- Refer to Location Details (above) for information on unentered dogs.

Females in Season

Females in season will be allowed to run wearing "pants" at the end of each search after all other dogs have been judged. Handlers with females in season should park and toilet their dogs away from the other dogs if the location logistics permit. Handlers must email firezonegs@yahoo.com so plans can be made for the dog.

OTHER INFORMATION

COVID-19 Information

Event attendees are required to adhere to the NACSW **COVID-19 Event Guidelines and Rules**
In addition to those guidelines the following changes and guidelines are in effect for this event due to COVID-19.
If there are any significant changes or updates after the draw period, entrants will be notified via email. Handlers are responsible for staying up to date on any jurisdictional requirements for their home location as well as the event location including any travel guidance. There are currently no travel or mask restrictions for this area.

Rules

Complete rules are available at www.NACSW.net. It is the responsibility of each handler to read and understand the current NACSW Rule book prior to participating in a NACSW event.

Liability

By registering for the event, the handler hereby assumes all risks of and responsibility for accidents and/or injury to her/himself, damage to her/his property and/or to others/the property of others resulting from the actions of her/his dog. The handler expressly agrees that the NACSW, Firezone GS, Marina Raukhverger, Temple Adas Shalom, their assignees and/or any other person or persons of said groups shall not be held liable personally, individually or collectively, under any circumstances, for injury to her/himself and/or for loss of or damage to property, whether due to uncontrolled dogs, negligence of any member of said groups, and/or any other cause or causes. The handler also agrees to assume all financial liability that may be incurred by the NACSW, Firezone GS, Marina Raukhverger, Temple Adas Shalom, their assignees and/or any other person or persons of said groups due to the actions of themselves and/or their dogs regardless of the cause.

Sportsmanship

All handlers and spectators are expected to follow the rules of the NACSW and demonstrate good sportsmanship. This includes making sure the hide placements are unknown to the handler prior to searching and kept secret from other handlers. Please do not discuss hide placement or any details of a dog's performance that may provide information or clues to other handlers or may be overheard.

NACSW Results

Results for each search and overall will be posted after all searches are completed and scores are verified for you to record your results for your own records. It is your responsibility to ensure your scores are accurate prior to leaving trial grounds. If a discrepancy cannot be verified at the trial, you may be instructed to submit a score card review request. It is not the responsibility of the host or NACSW to return score sheets that are left behind or to mail ribbons that are not picked up.

Spectators

Spectators may not photograph or video searches. Spectators are reminded that the hide placements must neither be discussed nor should they speak with any handlers about what they saw until after the event is complete. No dogs will be allowed in the spectator area. No unentered dogs with spectators are allowed at the event. An adult accompanying a minor must be present during the searches. Everyone at the site must sign the waiver provided by the host and comply with all event requirements. Handlers are not allowed to watch the searches at any time.

Videotaping and Photography

If the site allows public video to be taken, handlers may wear visible head or chest cameras to record their searches. You will not be allowed extra time at the start line to get your camera functioning.

Please be sure it is ready to go prior to arriving at the search area. Videos may not be made public until the completion +of the event day.

At the host's discretion, a photographer and/or video service may be present during the event to offer photos and/or videos for sale to the handlers.

There is no photography or video allowed by spectators or volunteers.

At the host's discretion, a photographer and/or video service may be present during the event to offer photos and/or videos for sale to the handlers. Details will be available in the final details letter and at check-in.

As a condition of your entry, you agree to allow NACSW, or their agents, to video you and your dog during the entirety of the NACSW event. These videos are the property of NACSW. All handlers, through entry at any NACSW event, waive any and all rights relative to video broadcast or photography of such event.

Volunteering
Handlers can volunteer for any trial that they are not running in during a trial weekend. If you are available and not running in the trial level, you are welcome to volunteer. If you know of someone who would like to volunteer, please go to https://www.firezonegiantschnauzers.com/nose-work-trials, and choose the volunteer button to sign up.
You can also contact firezonegs@yahoo.com with any questions. Your time and efforts are GREATLY appreciated!

Emergency Veterinary Hospital
Animal Emergency Hospital
Address: 722 Baltimore Pike, Bel Air, MD 21014
Phone: (410) 420-7297

Open 24 hours

Questions
For all trial related questions, please contact Marina Raukhverger at firezonegs@yahoo.com