



HCNA Fall 2020 West Coast Specialty Show, Temperament Test and Annual Meeting

**October 09-11, 2020
Watsonville, California**

We would like to cordially invite you to our 2020 specialty show and temperament test event. The HCNA is excited to return to the West Coast this year. We will be back in Watsonville, California and we hope to see as many of our dogs and members as possible. We would like to especially encourage members with young dogs who have never attended a show to take this opportunity to meet other members and their hovawarts and to learn more about our breed. We will be there to help you make your first specialty show experience a positive one for you and your dog.



Our Judge: Tapio Eerola



Tapio awarding the Best in show and Best opposite Sex at the IHF Championship in Belgium, September 2019.

We are honored to have Tapio Eerola come from Finland to judge this show. Tapio is a long-time hovawart breeder and has owned a hovawart kennel (Hovarian Hovawarts) for several years. He is a vice president of the International Hovawart Federation, an IHF-approved judge, and an FCI all-breed judge approved to judge 344 different breeds.

Tapio judged the IHF World Championships in 2018 in Montélimar, France and 2019 in Corsendonk, Belgium. He is also the editor-in-chief of the Finnish Dog Club's magazine.



Our conformation shows are casual and family orientated. The judges spend plenty of time explaining all the characteristics of each individual dog. Importantly, you do not have to be a professional handler to show your dog at any of the HCNA shows. Just have fun

We welcome visitors, supporters, and everybody else interested in learning about this wonderful breed. If you are just visiting, without showing a dog, there is no need to register. The show is a free event, except for showing or having your dog's temperament evaluated (see attached registration forms).

We certainly hope that more than a few of you are considering breeding your hovawart. This will be a great opportunity for the club to evaluate our dogs, consider possible breeding opportunities, and learn where our club stands. But it is also a wonderful chance for many of our members to meet one another, see more hovawarts together than you may have ever seen, and reconfirm why we love them so much. Conformation is more than a beauty contest, and temperament testing is more than just a walk in the woods. These events really educate all of us on our breed, its health, its personality, and our continued efforts to keep this active working dog's pool as strong as possible. (Plus, they are really fun.)

We will be in Watsonville, California over the three-day weekend of October 9-11. We are very happy to return to the West Coast and hope to see many of you there. Of course, we are also very honored to have Tapio make this journey for us, too. We look forward to seeing all of you in October!

The Event

Note: A list of what to bring can be found at the end of this announcement.

Watsonville, California



The show will take place on the weekend of October 9 through 11 in Watsonville, CA, at Mari and Klaus Kloeppel's home located at 5295 Starr Way, Watsonville, CA 95076. If you need to contact them with any question, you can call them at: 831-761-8765 or email them at: mkkloeppel@earthlink.net.

The Show Schedule

Friday October 9, 2020

Meet and Greet at the Kloeppels' home

Time: 7:00 pm

5295 Starr Way

Watsonville, CA 95076

Google coordinates: 36°50'30.9"N, 121°43'25.8"W

Note: Please leave your four-legged friends at the hotel or in the car (the temperature will be nice) at the request of the hosts' dogs. Thanks.



Saturday, October 10, 2020

Conformation show
at the Kloepfels'

9:00 am Registration

9:30 am Conformation Show

12:00 pm Lunch

1:00 pm Conformation Show (cont.)

Tests will continue until all dogs are evaluated.



7:00 pm Club Annual Meeting and Dinner
The Whole Enchilada,
7902 Moss Landing Rd.
Moss Landing, CA 95039



Sunday, October 11, 2020

Temperament Test at the Kloeppels'

9:00 am Registration

9:30 am Temperament test*

12:00 pm Lunch on your own

Tests will continue until all dogs are evaluated.

* We encourage everyone to join in the tests. Even if your dog isn't being evaluated, we need volunteers for each test and watching the dogs work can be very rewarding.



Accommodations:

A couple of pet-friendly hotels are available near our hosts. Call for rates and pet fees. Be sure to make hotel reservations soon, this is a very touristic area.

Hotel	Cost/ night	Pet fee
Best Western Rose Garden Inn 740 Freedom Blvd, Watsonville, CA, 95076 866-573-4235	\$142.00	\$30 x pet x night
Sanctuary Beach Resort, Marina 3295 Dunes Rd, Marina, CA, 9393 817-983-0664	\$439.00	\$50 x pet x night
Monterey Tides Hotel 2600 Sand Dunes Dr, Monterey, CA, 93940 831-394-3321	\$240.00	\$50 x pet x stay

In addition, there is also an RV Park in Moss Landing, and of course, Airbnb and Vrbo are always an option. Check either <https://www.airbnb.com/> or <https://www.vrbo.com/>.

Remember to bring

For yourself:

- Bring your own food and snacks.
- Folding/camping chairs, you may want to sit around the ring.
- All-weather clothing – this is a rain or shine event!
- Printed copy of your registration to the show.

For your dog:

- Registration papers/pedigree of your dog.
- Proof of vaccination or titer test.
- Collar & leash (no prong/choke collar, halti or harness in the show ring)
- Crate (only if you have one)
- Food/treats for your dog. Water and poop bags will be available.

Registration:

The conformation show and temperament test are open to all Hovawarts with HCNA, FCI, CKC, and AKC papers. Hovawarts without approved papers are welcome to start in the spay/neuter class.

Please refer to the attached registration form for available classes. If you are unsure whether your dog's papers are eligible for participation in the official classes, do not hesitate to contact us at info@hovawartclub.org or any of the show committee members.

If you plan to attend, it is greatly appreciated if you register as far in advance as possible!

You have two choices to register for the event:

1. Sign up on-line – this is the most convenient way!

Just go to www.hovawartclub.org and click on “HCNA Fall Show.” You will be able to pay for registration through PayPal (it is a secure site). **Please note** you do not need a PayPal account to use this feature. You can simply use your Credit or Debit Card to pay.

2. You can fill out the attached registration form and mail it to Nancy Parella at the address provided on the forms, along with a check payable to “Hovawart Club of North America”.

Club membership is not required for participation. However; if you have allowed your membership to lapse, no problem, you will have an opportunity to renew when you register for the show.

Dogs have to be on leash and under control **at all times**.

Please be aware that not all dogs get along with each other, so keep some distance between dogs especially between males. Please make sure to keep your dog under control if you approach an area where other dogs are located. During the conformation evaluation and most importantly, during the temperament test, it is very important that all dogs are kept **away** from the evaluation area. We do not want the dogs being evaluated to be distracted and possibly fail because of other dogs.

If your female is in heat, she can still participate. Just let us know ahead of time.

Registration will take place the morning of the show. Judging will start as soon as everybody has completed their registration process.

Contact information for questions, concerns or suggestions:

California Hosts:

Mari and Klaus Kloeppel

Phone: 831-761-8765

email: mkkloeppel@earthlink.net

Show Committee:

Matthew Douthat: president@hovawartclub.org

Elisabeth Arévalo: breeding@hovawartclub.org

Klaus Kloeppel: mkkloeppel@earthlink.net

SPECIALTY SHOW FAQ

Q. Why Should I Attend an HCNA Show?

A. The HCNA strives to preserve and protect the hovawart by promoting the physical standard set by the F.C.I. while also promoting a temperament desired in the breed. Presenting your dog at an HCNA Show and participating in the temperament testing lets you, your dog's breeder, and the club know how well a certain dog meets those standards. This information is, naturally, very important for future breedings. Even if you have no intention of breeding your pet, participation in the event will give the club and your breeder important information about your hovawart and its litter, which in turn helps us determine what we should consider for future breeding approvals.

A proper hovawart is a well-balanced dog. It will have an appearance that matches our standard with the health and personality traits that we wish to promote. We want our dogs to be good pets, but we also want them to be true hovawarts. And while showing a dog may not be something you ever thought you would do, your breeder and their future puppy buyers will greatly appreciate your effort.

Additionally, attendance allows you to meet your fellow hovawart owners. We may be biased, but we think the HCNA has great members. It is likely you don't have other hovawart owners located close to you. Getting to know club members and meeting their dogs is enjoyable. Trust us: great and long-term friendships have begun at these shows.

Q. Does My Dog Need Any Special Training To Participate?

A. The short answer is no. The slightly longer answer is maybe a little obedience training wouldn't hurt. This is not Westminster. Nobody expects you or your dog to be experienced, much less expert, show-ring handlers. The HCNA goal is to promote the "whole dog" and there are no "show lines" in the HCNA. But you will be in a ring with other dogs and their owners, jogging in a circle, and allowing the judge to touch your dog – even its teeth. So it will help if some basic obedience and socialization is had. Everyone starts at the beginning, and everyone can do it.

Shows will have experienced members ready and willing to help you. Our judges, though highly experienced and qualified themselves, know they are here to judge the dog and not the owner.

Q. Does it Matter if My Dog is Spayed or Neutered?

A. As another indication of the club's goal to promote the overall health our dogs, we allow all our hovawarts to be shown. Some breed clubs don't. Spayed or neutered, the results will help the club and breeder. And we know many of our members have pets without any intention of breeding them. We want you to participate fully, as well. That said, a spayed or neutered dog cannot compete for best in show. Your dog won't care, though.

Q. Is My Dog Too Young To Compete?

A. No. We have nine different classes divided by age. The puppy class is from three to six months of age and the veteran class is for dogs eight years or older. Although old dogs can learn new tricks, we definitely encourage you to start as soon as you can make it to a show. You and your dog will only grow more comfortable with the event.

Q. What is the Appropriate Attire?

A. You should dress as comfortably as you want. Our shows almost always take place outside, and if jeans and sweatshirt feels right, then it is perfect. If you're more comfortable in formal wear, we won't turn you away, either.

The hovawart is a natural, working dog, and it should look that way in the ring. Certainly no special trimming is needed, but a good brushing is appropriate. Get those knots out, but keep the bows at home!

Q. One Last Pitch

A. We are an open and friendly group. If you think your dog will react to other dogs in the ring, let everyone know. If you think you can't perform, trust us: you can. Win or lose, it is a fun opportunity to learn about the dog you love so much and meet new friends.

