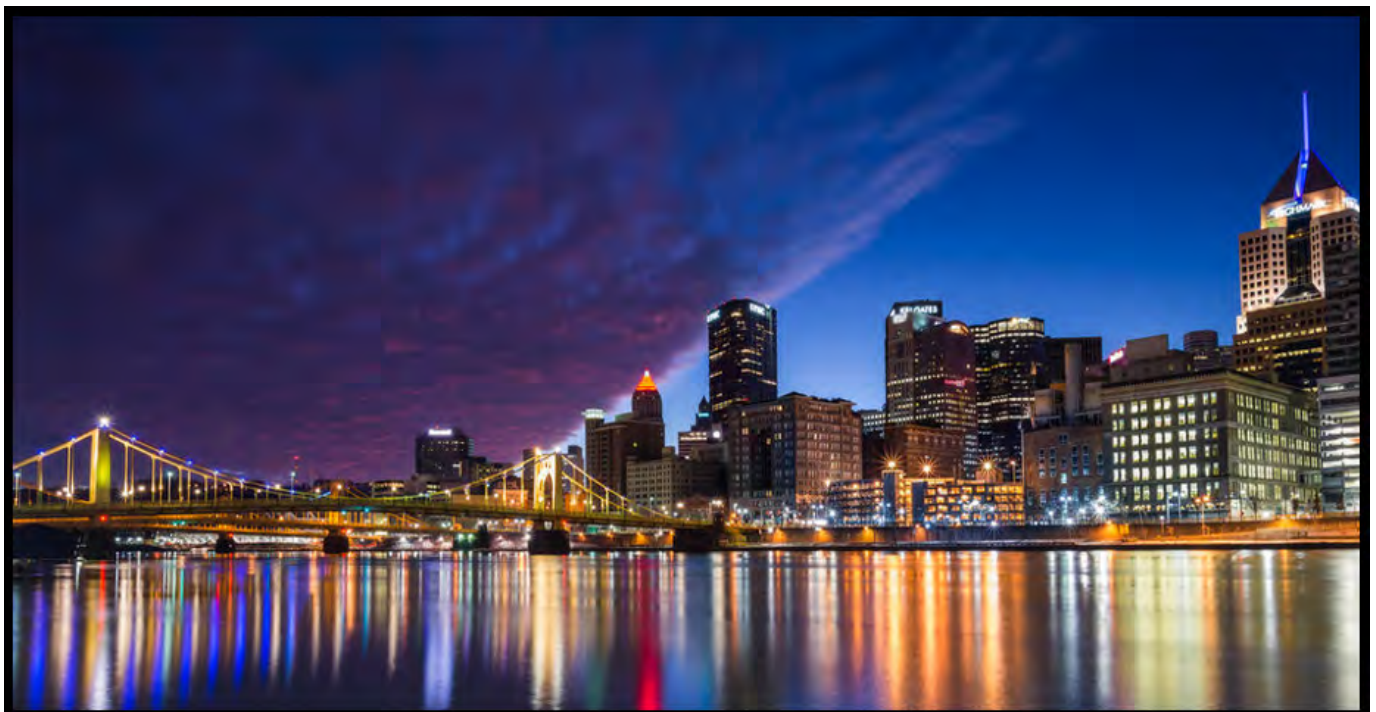




**HCNA Fall 2023
Specialty Show, Temperament Test
and Annual Meeting
October 06-08, 2023
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania**

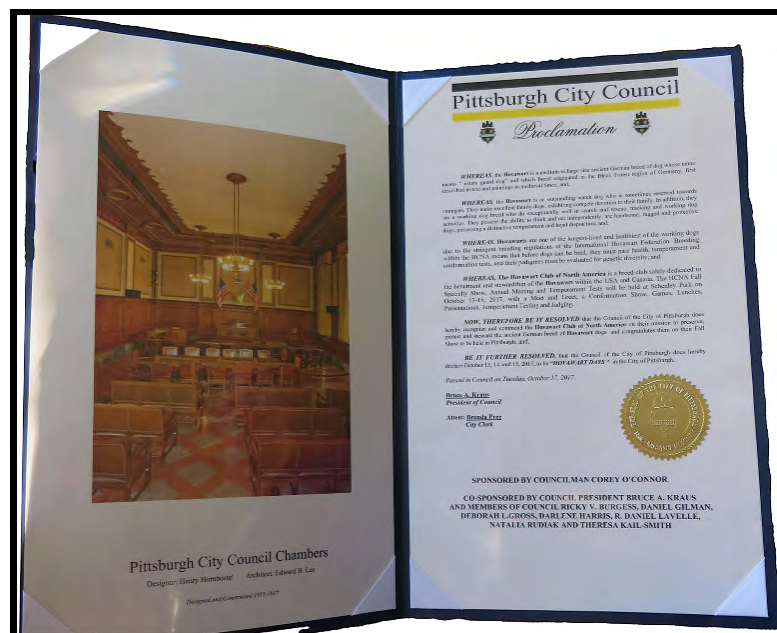
We cordially invite you to our Fall Specialty Shows and Temperament Test event. We want to encourage all our members to meet other families and their hovis and to learn more about our breed. We hope to see some of our young hovis attend and get the opportunity to assess their conformation and character. We will be there to help you make your first specialty show experience a positive one, for you and your dog!



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

We will also welcome visitors, supporters, and everyone interested in learning about this wonderful breed. If you are visiting without showing a dog, registering is unnecessary. The show is free, except for showing or evaluating your dog's temperament (see attached registration forms).

We are excited to return to Pittsburgh after our first visit to this fantastic city in 2017, which welcomed us and our dogs like celebrities. At that visit, October 13 to 15 were proclaimed "The Hovawart Days" by the Pittsburgh City Council and signed by the President of the Council, Mr. Bruce Kraus. We are sure you will all have a great time at one of its most beautiful parks, Schenley Park, in the Oakland district. Oakland is Pittsburgh's academic and healthcare center and one of the city's major cultural centers. We will order from Burgh's famous Primanti Brothers Sandwiches for Saturday's lunch, a must-have when you visit this city.



Matthew Douthat, Wayne Wyant, and Pittsburgh's Councilman Corey O'Connor.

We hope you will join other Hovawart enthusiasts for this event this fall.

Our Judge: Marco Mummeshohl

We are very pleased to announce that Marco Mummeshohl will be our Conformation and Temperament Test Specialty Judge.

Marco has had hovawarts since he was 10 years of age. His first dog was Aron vom Neandertal. Since Aron came into Marco's life, the Hovawart adventure began for him. Marco trained Aron for IGP sport until the end of his life in 2011. Marco felt a great void which led him to realize that once you get a Hovawart, you always return to the Hovawart. He was then determined to become a hovawart breeder.

His second hovawart was a blond female from the same line as Aron. She is Maike vom Büssemfeld, alive and part of Marco's hovawart family.



Shortly after Maike joined the Mummersshohl's pack, Marco fell in love with another Hovawart female, Anni von Prichsenstadt. Marco trained with Anni and Maike in Brüggen, Germany. They completed all the required tests by the RZV, the leading hovawart club in Germany, to be approved for breeding.

In 2013 his kennel, Pferdebach, was established. It only took one year, and their A-litter was produced. Maike vom Büssemfeld was the mother of the Pferdebach's first litter and five subsequent litters. From Maike's 2nd litter, they kept a third female called Carlotta vom Pferdebach, who produced three litters in the Pferdebach kennel. Marco has added two females for the second-generation breeding program of the vom Pferdebach kennel. These dogs are Greta and Kessy. Greta has produced three litters, and Kessy one.



From left to right, Greta, Maike, Carlota, Kessy, and Greta's puppies from their 11'th litter.

As preserving the breed is very important to Marco, he became a breeding judge for Hovawarts. He believes that Hovawart's looks are unique. In 2015, he started his training to become a judge. Thanks to the great team of judges, he quickly completed all the necessary qualifications.

Since 2017 he has judged at many conformation shows and breeding events in Germany and other European countries. Marco is judging in Canada this summer and will have his first event with the HCNA this fall. We are sure this will not be the last time we are honored by his visit and expertise.

The Venue

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

The show will take place in Pittsburgh, PA, at the Prospect Shelter within Shenley Park, Prospect Dr., Pittsburgh, PA 15217.



Prospect Shelter Area, Schenley Park
Pittsburgh, PA
Saturday and Sunday



The figure above shows the exact location of the Prospect Shelter area within Schenley Park. Directions to the Park from the Hampton Inn Pittsburgh University/Medical Center (our hotel) are to follow the Boulevard of the Allies. Then, follow Panther Hollow Rd to Hobart Street until you reach Prospect Drive. We can park on Prospect Drive in front of the shelter.

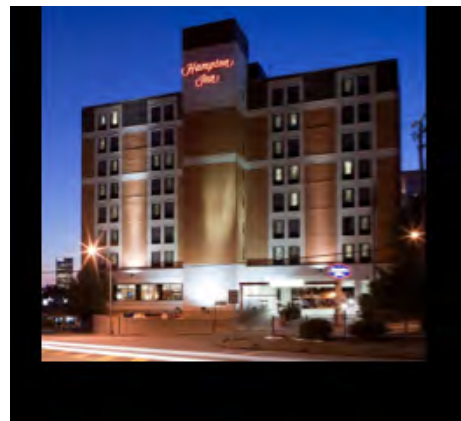
If you need to contact our hosts, Wayne Wyant or Marie Medvitz you can call: 412-708-1592 or email them at: mamedvitz@aol.com.

The Show Schedule

Friday October 06, 2023

Meet and Greet

7 pm Hampton Inn Pittsburgh-Univ./Medical Center
We'll gather at the Cafeteria Area
3315 Hamlet St., Pittsburgh, PA



Saturday, October 07, 2023

Conformation show
Prospect Shelter Area, Schenley Park
Prospect Dr.
Pittsburgh, PA 15213
Google coordinates: 40.431306, -79.935111



8:30 am Registration
9:00 am Conformation Show
12:00 pm Lunch (Prinati Brothers)
1:00 pm Conformation Show (cont.)

Tests will continue until all dogs are evaluated.

3:00 pm Presentation by Marco Mummeshohl Hampton
Inn Pittsburgh

7:00 pm Club Annual Meeting and Dinner
Buca di Beppo Pittsburgh - Station Square
3 Station Square
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
(412)471-9463



Sunday, October 08, 2023

Prospect Shelter Area, Schenley Park
Prospect Dr.
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

9:00 am Registration

9:30 am Temperament test*



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.

The temperament test is an opportunity for the club to assess Hovawart-specific characteristics to determine the breeding eligibility of our dogs. This will be interesting to everyone, and it will require volunteers. Even if your pup is not participating, we would like you to help us all out. Though the test is ultimately for breeding suitability, and even if you think that you are not interested in breeding, by enrolling in the test, you will learn about your dog's reactions to different situations. The results will be informative for us, you, and your breeder.

Accommodations:

We have secured a block of 20 'dog-friendly rooms at the Hampton Inn Pittsburgh- University/Medical Center at a special rate for the group.

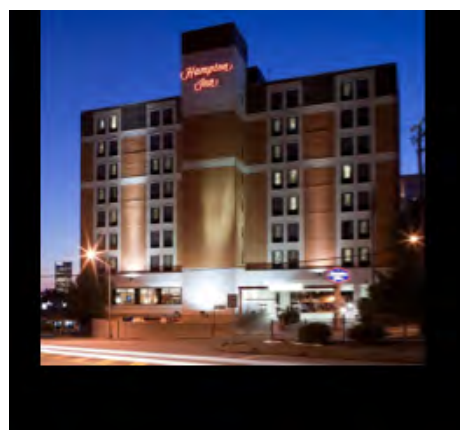
The cost for these rooms is \$179 per night. This rate includes a hot breakfast buffet (6 am – 10 am), free 24-hour coffee, decaf, hot tea, and hot chocolate, free in-room Wi-Fi, free access to their fitness facilities, and free shuttle service within a 3-mile radius (7 am - 10 pm).

In addition, there is a one-time charge of \$75 pet fee and self-parking - \$25.00 per night.

You can call the hotel at 412-681-1000 to reserve your rooms. You must mention that you are part of the Hovawart Dog Show group.

*** Note: Reservations should be made before 9/08/23. After that, reservations will be taken on a space-available basis only.**

There are certainly other hotels. In addition, there are Airbnb <https://www.airbnb.com/> and VRBO rentals available <https://www.vrbo.com/>.



Hampton Inn Pittsburgh-University/
Medical Center
3315 Hamlet St., Pittsburgh, PA

Remember to bring

For yourself:

- 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.
- Bring your own food and snacks. Water and poop bags will be available.

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 “Fall Show Registration.” 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 Matthew Douthat 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.

What else to know:

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:

Hosts:

Wayne Wyant and Marie Medvitz
Phone: 412-708-1592
email: mamedvitz@aol.com

Show Committee:

Matthew Douthat: president@hovawartclub.org
Elisabeth Arévalo: breeding@hovawartclub.org



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.

