



May 2025 — July 2025

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We held the CCTC Tracking Workshop held by **Laura McKay** on June 1/25.

Thank You Laura for doing the workshop, and to **Jasmine Evans** for getting it all started and to **Maryke Warwick** for taking in the entries and fees!

We had 7 working spots and 5 auditors. With great weather ,we started indoors at the Canlan Centre and finished outdoors getting the dogs tracking on vegetation and on hard surface.

Laura had great handouts for everyone, she should write a book.

It would be a Best Seller !









CCTC Club Members' Brags..

"Nash"

GCH UKC CA UWP HELLWIGG'S FIRE-STORM PCD SDIN SDN RN RI RA CGN CRN TT VN, GSCC VS

Nash can now add CRN (CARO Rally Novice) to his name. Last Q needed was a perfect score in a Virtual Trial judged by Jade Robertson Zwingli. Hosted by Quinte Canine with Shelly Lyck and Andrea Giffen setting up courses and video taping the runs.

Owned by **Adrienne King-Almey**



"Aurum"

MBPIG MRBIS UKC/AKC/CKC CH Boru's Legend of El Dorado SDIN CGN ITD IBAR NBAR S ITL SDN VA ABRH

On May 24th & 25th 2025, Aurum had a great weekend at the Ottawa Kennel Club winning a Group 2nd and a Group 4th in Conformation and also passing three trials in RATS Canada to earn him his Brush Advanced Title !! (ABRH)

Owned by **Jasmine Evans**



CCTC Club Members' Brags..



“Conasauga Copper Lily & Reynard’s Folly Sterling”

These 2 dogs brought their “A” game to the YJRT trials this past weekend .

Lily- Racing Champion on Sat. Reserve Racing Champion on Sunday.

Lure Champion both Sat and Sunday.

Nosework Champion- level 1 & 2 on Saturday. Trail & Locate-Reserve Champion

Reserve Super Earth-Champion Sterling -GTG Reserve champion-Sat & Sun

-Super Earth-Reserve Champion-Sat & Sun Ball Toss Champion

-Lure-1st place-Sat & Sun Nosework Champion Sun Level 1,

Reserve-level 2 Plus many other successes for these two throughout the weekend.

Thankyou to everyone who volunteered to make this such a wonderful trial.

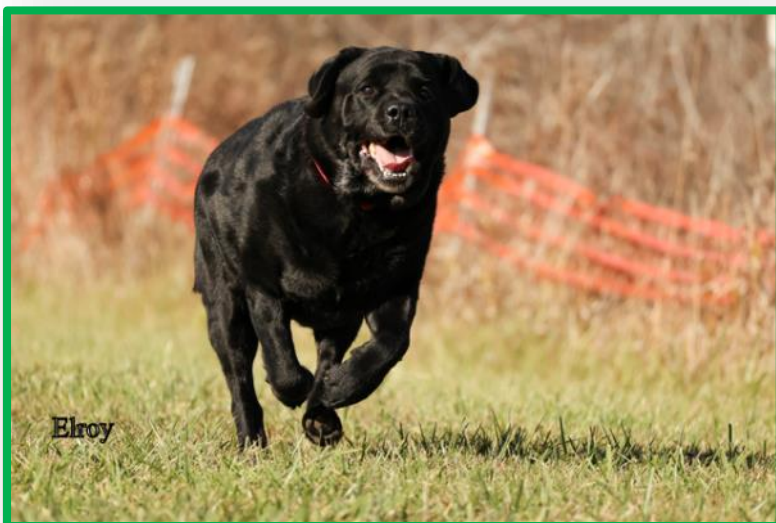
Owned by **Lynda Rupay & Tricia Budrow.**



June 7/25 Spent a very hot day at a great UKC trial put on by Elgin Dog Sports.

Congratulations to my two little heroes. Sterling completes his HD Excellent Supreme title, 2 HD Master successes, 2 x HITs and earning one more leg towards his Handler Discrimination Championship. Lily also earned 4 qualifying scores towards her championship titles.

CCTC Club Members' Brags..



"Elroy"

RBIS MBISS MBOSS MBVIG MBPISS BPIS
UKC CH. U-RO-3 AHD SN GCHB. OTCH.
Castlegar Elroy At Autumwynd CGN RM HIC
SX TD UTD SDI SDC SDX SDM TT
VSI AKC RN NTD VNS

It's been a while since Elroy was out getting more titles so since the Veteran Sprinter title was added with the CKC, we went and got a Veteran Sprinter Novice Title (VNS)

On May 2/25, He didn't run very fast like he used to but still earned the points needed. He was so happy and excited to be chasing the lure

He hadn't been well and on Prednisone but needed to exercise to rebuild the muscle loss.

Owned by **Marie-P Babin**



"Keely"

BPISS MBPIG U-NN AN SC MC CKC GCH.
Castlegar Elliquin On An Even Keel RN SDN NS

On May 18/25. Keely earned her Novice Sprinter Title (NS)

Owned by **Maryke Warwick**



"Nash"

GCH UKC CA UWP HELLWIGG'S FIRESTORM PCD SDIN SDN
RN RI RA CGN CRN TT VN, GSCC VS CAE

Nash got to do his favorite thing today; Lure Coursing! Two runs needed for his Coursing Aptitude Excellent Title (CAE)

Owned by **Adrienne Almey**



CCTC Club Members' Brag,

“Conasauga Copper Lily”

Lily and I had a great time at Oxford Dog sports ABIDS Country Rat Race trials this weekend. Lily earned her CRR “Scout” title plus 2 Q’s towards her Scout Champion level. She also earned 2 “Q’s” towards her “Huntsman ” title.

Thank you to everyone involved in organizing these well run, lively and engaging trials. Lily and I loved it

Owned by **Lynda Rupay & Tricia Budrow**



Reynard’s Folly Solana

Solana and myself spent a pleasant weekend participating in our first Country Rat Race. Saturday we entered the 1st Official Title event Scouts. Dogs who Q twice will earn the Title. The track length is between 200/ 300 feet, there are up to 1/3 turns, hides are ground level, they may be hidden and teams have up to 5 minutes to locate one rat. Solana was successful. Sunday we again passed 2 Scout levels which we used has a warm up, plus they go towards a Championship. Huntsman is the next level, 3Q’s are required, track is 300 / 500 feet, 2 rats are hidden, there is 1 false hide, up to 5 turns. Hides may also be elevated 2 feet above ground. Solana was again successful in the 2 trials.

Owned by **Anne Whan**

“Solana”

Despite extremely high temperatures Saturday Reynard’s Folly Solana completed a vehicle search towards her Advanced Championship, 2. superior container searches towards the Superior Championship plus took a high in class on her first double pass in Excellent and Master Handler Discrimination.

Owned by **Anne Whan**

CCTC Club Members' Brags..



“Keely”

BPISS MBPIG U-NN AN SC MC CKC GCH. Castlegar Elliquin On An Even Keel RA SDN NS

At the Erie Shores Rally Trials, on June 7/25

Keely passed in Rally to finish her Rally Advanced title (RA) , under Judge Katherine Darbyshire.

Owned by **Maryke Warwick**



“Piper”

BPIS U-NN AE AC AV SE SV MV MI MC CKC CH Elliquin's Pipin' Aboard CD RN TD SX SDC SDI SDX SDM VA CGN HIC

Piper placed first in her Veteran's class of 10 and over under Judge Jennifer Horley Cameron. Piper won a dog bed and it was so nice all the Veterans got a medallion.

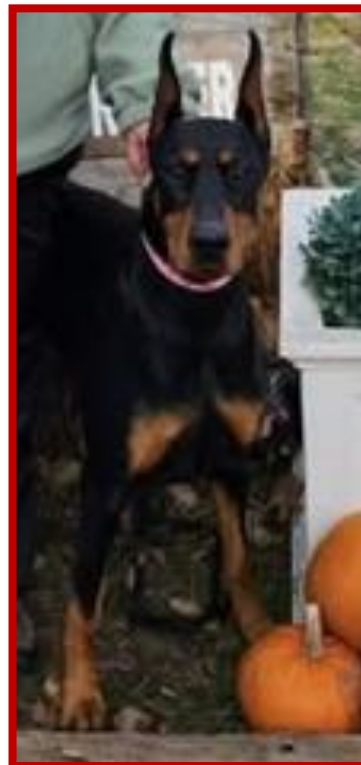
Owned by **Maryke Warwick**

“Farrah”

Farrah Legendale N KO's Forever Farrah NS NN

Farrah had a fun weekend of UKC SCENT TRIAL on June 7-8/25 with Elgin Dog Sports Club. She earned her Novice Interior Title (NI) and her Novice Exterior Title (NE) to finish her Novice Nosework Title (NN)

Owned by **Deb Dorken**



CCTC Club Members' Brags.



“Hobbes, Willi & Dream”

The gang had a fun start to the year, playing in agility, sprinter, and lure coursing, and added a few titles too!

Hobbes (JRT) earned his Veteran Sprinter title at the Ontario Lure Coursing Association trial in May, and his Lure Chasing Instinct title at the Lake Country Lure Coursers trial also in May. He is now ATChC Cairnbrae Hobbes Bronze Award of Merit, ExSc Silver, AGNJV, JTV, ME, VS, LCI

Also at OLCA, Willi (ShepherdX Husky) earned her Novice Sprinter title, adding a couple of letters to her name, Willi ADC, AGDC, NS

Catching up is Dream, (Whippet) who earned his Novice Sprinter at OLCA, his Agility Dog of Canada title at the K9 Klubhouse trial in June, and won two Best of Breed and one Best in Field awards at the Northern Azawakh Association's ASFA lure trial in May. Getting his first letters, he is Hyflyte A Good Omen ADC, NS

Owned by **Sue Godbehere**





CCTC Club Members' Brags.

"Zach"

BPIG UKC NN AC AE SI CH. Vomgussaroff Victory Lap SX SDN RN CGN

On June 15/25 **Zach** had a fun morning at the Red Barn. He earned his Sprinter Excellent Title (**SX**) He is now turning his attention to Scent Work and Obedience.

On June 22/25 Zach earned his (**CGN**) Title at the NYOC Trial.

Owned by **Eileen Fisher**



"Piper"

BPIS U-NN AE AC AV SE SV MV MI MC CKC CH Elliquin's Pipin' Aboard CD RA TD SX SDC SDI SDX SDM VA CGN HIC

Piper earned her Rally Advance Title (RA) at the NYOC Trial June 21/25

Owned by **Maryke Warwick**



"Levon"

BPISS MBPIG UKC CH URO-1 NN AV SE GCH. Castlegar Autumwynd He Shall Be Levon RI RA PCD CD SDIN AS VE TD SDE SDC CGN DMWYD ATD NTD-M

Levon earned his 1st and 2nd leg towards his **CD** on June 8/25 at Erie Shore and finished with a 3rd and an extra 4th leg at the NYOC Trial June 21/25 for the title.

On June 22/25, **Levon** finished his Rally Advanced Title (**RA**) at NYOC

Owned by **Marie-P Babin**



CCTC Club Members' Brags,

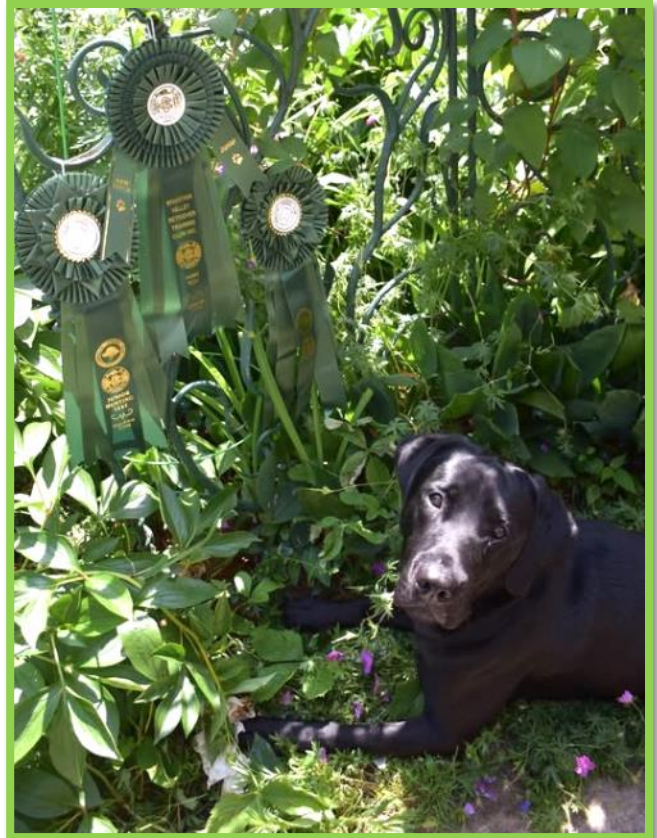
"Myles"

Hawthorn's Myles to Go TD WC SDN JH

Myles finished his Junior Hunter Title (**JH**) June 21, 2025 at the MVRTC JH test (Judges Gary Charchalis & Steve Payton). His first two passes were at the LOC JH tests.

On May 24 (Judges Andy Mikolaiczuk and Gary Charchalis) and May 25, 2025 (Judges Pat Van Bregt and Wendy Hunter). Thanks to both clubs, all the volunteers and the judges for these tests. Best of luck to all the entrants today, including Myles mother, Evie, sisters, Nessie and Mako, and brother, Boo!. The heat must be brutal today.

Owned by **Laura McKay**



"Keely"

BPISS MBPIG U-NN AN SC MC CKC GCH. Castlegar Elliquin On An Even Keel RA SDN NS PCD CGN

Keely earned her pre-Novice Title (**PCD**) on June 22/25 at the NYOC Trial and then earned her Canine Good Neighbour Title (**CGN**)

Owned by **Maryke Warwick**



CCTC Club Members' Brags.

"Onslow"

GCHB GCHEX BIS Boru's Surrealism TD CGN

On June 14, 2025 **Onslow** won the Bloodhound National Specialty..he 2025 Canadian Bloodhound National held at the Orono Show under Judge Sean Shields.

Owned by **Marianne Loughlin**



"Zach"

BPIG UKC NN AN SI CH. Vomgussaroff Victory Lap SDN RN SX CGN

Zach earned his UKC Advanced Exterior Title (**AE**) which also earned his Advanced Nosework Title (**AN**) on July 6/25

Owned by **Eileen Fisher**



"Ella Mae"

FC (AKC) Gabriella Mae von Lowenherz TD, JE, RATO, SX, CAP, VA, NTL, CHBRH and MBAR.

Ella Mae had a grand time at the Whippet Club of Eastern Canada's trial on July 9/25. She earned her Veteran Novice Sprinter title (**VNS**) in two runs!

Owned by **Pamela Burns**

Article written by Club member and Tracking Judge Laura McKay

Starts, Restarts and Restarts from an Intermediate Article

Why are starts and restarts important?

A significant number of dogs fail tracking tests because of a poor start. Some fail immediately by going sufficiently far in the wrong direction right off the start pad. Others fail to imprint sufficiently on the track layer's scent at the start and fail because they wander off the track on the first leg or at the first turn. They may continue in the same direction, apparently without noticing that they are no longer on the track and have lost the scent. Some dogs bolt off the start in the wrong direction initially and then search for the track when they reach the end of the tracking line. Even if they are successful in finding the track, they have needlessly wasted energy looking around for the track at the start. Dogs can also restart poorly from an indication of an intermediate article and waste time and effort looking for the track again. The less energy the dog uses up needlessly, the more likely they are to finish the track and pass. The start is one place on every track at every level that you know the track layer has stood.

Dogs have trouble at the start for a variety of reasons.

- 1-The dog is too eager to start and rushes off the start pad without imprinting sufficiently on the track layer's scent or the dog has not learned how to find the path away from the start pad efficiently.
- 2-The handler rushes the dog off the start before the dog is calm and focused. Sometimes handlers are nervous at tests or may feel pressure to get started quickly. Don't allow yourself to be pressured into rushing off the scent pad too quickly. You paid your entry fee and you are entitled to a minute or two at the scent pad to compose your dog and yourself until you are satisfied that you are both ready to track. As a judge, I would far prefer to let the team take a couple of extra minutes at the start than to have them fail right off the start pad.
- 3-The scent pad may have been contaminated by another person or animal, so the dog is confused about which scent he is expected to follow. This is the fault of the club and/or the judge or maybe no one and typically is only a problem in urban tests. Ideally, club officials should know what the typical foot traffic patterns are for each urban site so they can advise the judge where to avoid putting a start pad. Judges need to think about what parts of a test site are likely to be contaminated. Start pads are more likely to be contaminated the closer they are to a vehicular access. People tend to take the shortest route from A to B, so think about where people may be coming from and going to at your tracking site. With novice dogs, avoid putting a start or a turn at a place that is likely to be contaminated. Fortunately, the CKC rules now allow a start article that has been scented by the track layer in urban tests. Dogs can be trained to take scent from a start article and use that to distinguish between different track layers that may have crossed the start pad of a track. For experienced dogs, you can use your knowledge of traffic patterns to train for contaminated starts or turns once your dog learns to take scent from the start article.
- 4-The dog has learned to rely on his handler to follow him as soon as he heads in the right direction from the start. In a test, the handler may hesitate because she is unsure of the direction of the track. The dog reads that hesitation as a 'wrong direction' and wanders aimlessly waiting for confirmation from the handler or else quits.

What is a good start/restart?

Ideally, you want your dog to imprint sufficiently on the scent on the start pad (and/or the start article). The dog should then leave the scent pad in the direction of the first leg, with a minimum of casting about. Experienced dogs may come up to the scent pad actively checking for the exit as they approach the start and investigate the scent pad. Once they are calm and focused, they may start off in the correct direction without any casting.

Restarts from articles should be similarly calm and without excessive casting. The dog should leave the place where the article has been found with the same focus as they leave the start pad.

The Start Routine

A start routine is the series of steps that you do leading up to your command to begin tracking. The start routine should be the same every time you track so that your dog knows what is expected. A start routine can also help the handler to overcome nervousness in a test. Initially, when teaching a novice dog, your start routine is less formal and mostly focused on getting the dog interested in the scent at the start pad. As the dog begins to understand the ‘rules’ of the ‘game’, you can begin to introduce a more formal start routine.

Your start routine should include where/when the dog is harnessed, what you say to the dog prior to giving your ‘Track’ command and every other thing that you need to do with your dog to get him calm and focused on the track. Think about what will work best for you as a start routine.

As an example, my start routine is as follows:

1-I get my dog out of the vehicle with the tracking line attached to his flat collar. I hang the harness around my neck. I have my tracking line and harness with me as I approach the start.

2-I ask my dog for a ‘field heel’ to within a few meters of the start flag. (A field heel is the dog walking beside me without the strict position requirements that I would expect in a formal obedience heel.) I want to keep my dog from wasting energy trying to find the track all the way from the car to the start pad. In a test you may have to walk in several hundred meters from the parking area to the start. You don’t want the dog wasting energy trying to find the track all that distance. Note that when training a novice dog, we like to see them pulling to the start as it indicates enthusiasm for tracking. Later in his training we can contain that enthusiasm until we are close to the start pad.

3-When we are several meters from the start, I command my dog to “Look for it”. My dog is then free to go forward, find the start pad and take the scent of the track layer.

4-When my dog finds the scent pad I say “Yes, that’s it” to tell my dog that he has found the scent I want it to follow. In training, I often put a few small food drops on the scent pad to encourage the dog to sniff the scent pad thoroughly. Once my dogs are in the habit of investigating the scent pad for food, I will leave food off the scent pad sometimes and reward the dog with food drops and/or praise as it is sniffing the scent pad.

5-I allow the dog to thoroughly investigate the scent pad. Meanwhile, I begin to harness the dog and attach the tracking line to the harness. The process of allowing my dogs to sniff and then harnessing means that we are hovering over the scent pad for 45 seconds or more. Dogs probably don’t need that length of time to take the scent of the track layer sufficiently, but as I am harnessing my dogs I notice them looking for the exit off the scent pad while they are being harnessed.

6-When I see that my dog is finished sniffing the scent pad, I command him to lie down at the start and watch for body language that indicates that my dog is reasonably calm and focused on tracking. High drive dogs may want to start tracking right away, but that may not be the same thing as being focused on the track. Wait until your dog indicates that it is thinking about the track scent and then immediately give the ‘Track’ command as a reward for achieving that calm and focused state. I once waited 2 full minutes for my over-eager dog to focus at the start. She spent that time looking back at me with a ‘let’s-get-going’ look on her face. She wasn’t focused at that point, but as soon as she turned her head and put her nose down on the scent pad I gave the command to track. The two dogs that I have now will just crouch when I command them to lie down, but they are both clearly focused on the track, so I give the ‘Track’ command. Note that the down command is not enforced to the same extent as it would be at an obedience trial. I merely want to see that my dogs are ready to track.

7-I allow the tracking line to feed out through my hands until I am convinced that my dog is locked on the track. In a test, I may look up briefly and try to find a landmark that is in line with my dog’s path.

Your start routine doesn't have to be like mine. Do what works for you and make it into a routine that you follow each time you train. Many handlers prefer to harness their dogs before the start, perhaps even at their vehicle. It is of utmost importance that the dog has sufficient time to take the track layer's scent at the start. **Never rush a dog off the scent pad.** Wait until the dog tells you that it is ready to move forward. Don't fight the dog over going down. Focus is more important and if your dog starts well from a sit or a stand then don't worry about getting a formal down. You are allowed to point to the ground at the start in a test. I seldom do because my dogs generally find the scent without me pointing.

Many high drive dogs will want to do a 'flying start' (aka a tactical start) at the start pad. A flying start is one where the dog doesn't stop at the start but tracks right across the scent pad from several meters before the start. A flying start often works for TD tests and in early stages of training. It can cause difficulty at the other levels of tracking tests (UTD, UTDX and TDX) where the direction of the first leg is unknown to the handler. You may be approaching the start at an angle without knowing it. A dog that is used to flying starts may continue in the same direction that it approached the start flag and, hence, move away from the track immediately after starting.

In a test you are allowed to restart your dog once if you believe that it hasn't taken the scent properly (rule 10.5.1b). You can only restart your dog if the dog has not gone past the 30 m flag (in a TD test) or more than 5 m from the start (for a TDX) or more than 10 m from the start (for UTD and UTDX). If a restart is necessary under these conditions, you don't need to re-harness your dog, but otherwise the restart can follow the same routine as a start from the start pad would. You can use a verbal command and/or point at the ground.

For restarts at articles, the routine can be much simpler, but it's still important to wait for your dog to be calm and focused before you allow them to continue on the track. You can't point to the ground for a restart from an intermediate article.

How to improve starts and restarts

- 1-** Develop a workable routine that suits you and your dog and stick with it in training and testing. Wait for focus before releasing your dog.
- 2-** Reward almost every start and restart. In training, I will have a food drop or article 10-30 m past almost every start or restart from an article.
- 3-** If the novice dog is still casting excessively at starts/restarts, restrict the distance the dog can cast by shortening the line, only releasing more line as the dog finds and connects to the track.
- 4-** Once a dog understands how to start, you can approach start pads from different angles so that the track doesn't always go in the same direction as the approach to the start pad. The Start Drill is a more formal method to develop efficient starts and teach the dog to find the track regardless of the direction of approach to the start pad.

