

Sept. 2019 –Nov. 2019

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CCTC TD & TDX Test

Held on Sept.29, 2019

Judged by Marie-P Babin as our original judge

Mary-Anne Boulet has had an injury.

Pamela Burns has begun her apprenticeship on becoming a tracking judge

We had 2 TD and 1 TDX dog entered but one TD dog was pulled from the test.

Sadly, we had no passes but so close for the TD dog who missed the article..

The TDX dog took the 3rd leg too short and went off track.



L to R....Tracklayers; Sandy Brodie who was also the test secretary, Eileen Fisher and Maryke Warwick who was also the cross track person.



Judge Marie-P Babin with Club Member Pamela Burns who did her first apprenticeship to become a tracking judge.

Oct. 20, 2019 Urban Test Judge Marie-P Babin

We had 2 UTD and 3 UTDX dogs entered.

The weather was perfect, light wind, partly cloudy and 9*.

We had 3 UTD entered but one had to pull from the test. We also had 3 UTDX dogs entered.

Our 1st UTD dog was a "**Daniel**" Black Std. Poodle 2 1/2 year old male owned by Club member **Wendy McCullough** of Kingston On. TL-Anne
Signet Double O Seven TDX RN CGN UTD (Passed)

2nd UTD dog was an English Springer Spaniel 7 1/2 year old male

Waltz Across Texas TD UTD (Passed) TL-Steve

Owned by Debbie Mayheu, Ed Presnall of Michigan & David Swartwood **handled by Debbie.**

The three UTDX didn't pass this time but very close on some. Best of luck to them in the future.



**CCTC TD & TDX Test held on Nov.3, 2019
Judged by Sandy Briggs.....We had 4 TD & 2 TDX**



Plotting day in the rain and a chill in the air

Our tracklayers with Judge Sandy Briggs.

In front Stephanie McMahon then L to R are Steve Hill, judge Sandy Briggs, Maryke Warwick, Vivien Brennen, Wendy McCullough, Lynda Rupay & Anne Whan.

I hope they warmed up and dried off at the Halibut House after plotting. all the tracks !

Today under Judge Sandy Briggs of Powassan On. CCTC Test on Nov.3, 2019 windy and about 3* We had 4 TD dogs and 3 TDX dogs entered in Bowmanville.

We had 1 TD pass and one TDX dog pass. The dogs that didn't pass all failed at a corner some on the 1st one and one on the very last corner of a TDX..

The happy passes were two Belgian Shepherd Dogs (Groenendaels)

TD Pass; Groguard Grafiti TD (2 year old male) owned by **Tracy Bithell** of Cambridge On. Tracklayer Lynda Rupay.

TDX Pass; Spitfire's Gotta Run Cruzn O' Belsha CGN CD RE AGN AGNJ TDX (11 year old Female) Owned by **Janice Mulrooney** of Yarker On. Tracklayer Wendy McCullough

Congratulations to the passing teams..

Watch out Spring Tests, the others are coming back 😊

Thank you to all our tracklayers and also to Bev Wiggins for the use of the office for the HQ so we have a warm and dry place for the draw and the Pot Luck lunch !!



Tracy Bithell



Janice Mulrooney

CCTC Members' brags.....



Have Ewe Herd ??

Your Club Executive's Retrievers have been herding sheep !!!!

L to R; Marie-P Babin & Elroy, Eileen Fisher & Kara , Maryke Warwick & Piper
 "Elroy" UKC CH. U-RO3 GCH. Castlegar Elroy At Autumwynd CGN RM CDX AKC RN NTD HIC
 "Kara" U-RO1 Goldencol's Karamel Delight WC TD PCD RA CGN CD NTD HIC NS
 "Piper" BPIS Ch Elliquin's Pipin' Aboard TD RN PCD CD CGN HIC

Yes, all three dogs passed the **Herding Instinct Certificate** Test on Aug. 25, 2019
 and really enjoyed doing so. The dogs figured it all out by themselves..



"Kara"

U-RO1 Goldencol's Karamel Delight
 WC TD PCD RA CGN CD NTD HIC NS

"Kara" earned her Sprinter Novice Dog Title
 Aug. 29, 2019 at the Cornwall Dog Show.
 Owned by **Eileen Fisher.**



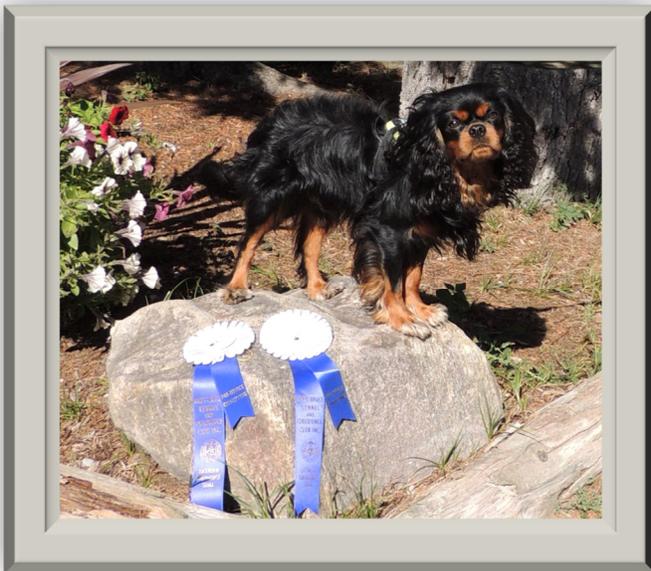
CCTC Members' brags.....



“Sterling”

U-RO1 Reynard's Folly Sterling SPOT, CGN, PCD, CD, RN, RI, RA, CA, S, CRN, NTD, ITD, JRTCA RO1, JRTCA PNO

“Sterling” successfully achieved his “Sprinter” title today clocking in with a time of 42.34 km/hr. Definitely his favourite sport. Owned by **Lynda Rupay and Patricia Budrow**. Handled by **Lynda**



“Sydney”

Buddington's Down Under NS PCD CGN RN

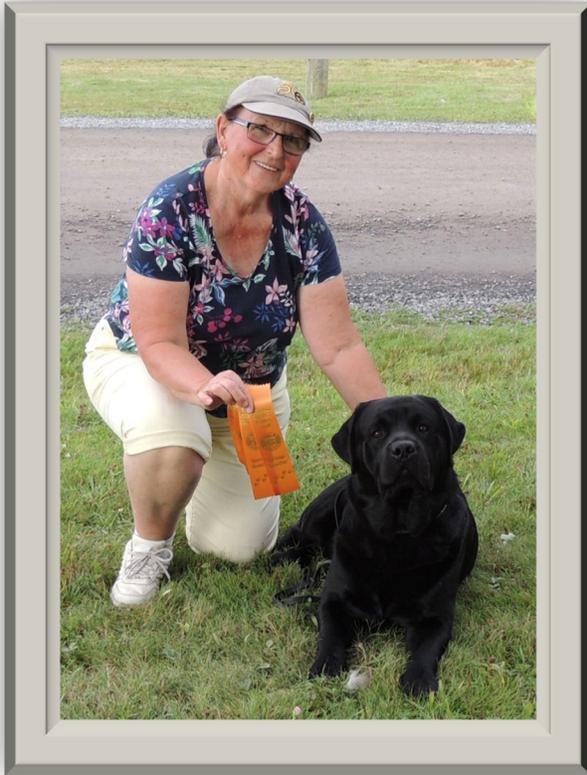
“Sydney” earned his **PCD** September 14, 2019 at the Grey Bruce Trial

Nov. 9/19 Sydney also earned his **RN** at the Georgina KC Trial

Owned by **Anne Whan**



More CCTC Members' Brags.....



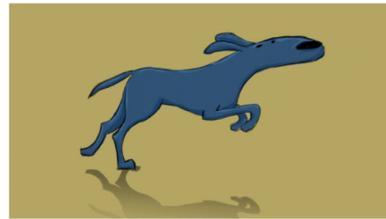
“Elroy”

UKC CH. U-RO3 GCH. Castlegar Elroy
At Autumwynd CGN RM CDX NS HIC
AKC RN N-TD

“Elroy” earned his **Rally Master** Title Aug.1/19
and then his **CDX** Sept. 14, 2019

Then on Oct. 27/19 **Elroy** earned his Novice
Sprinter Title..

Owned by **Marie-P Babin**



“Vanna”

Realta's Starry Night Vanna Gogh
JH CGN RN WC AKC CD RA SH NTD WC
“Vanna” earned her Working Certificate Title
Aug.24, 2019

Owned by **Susan Rickwood & Marg Schneider**
Handled by **Susan**

With thanks to judges Margot Nielson and CCTC member,
Laura McKay and the Labrador Owners Club

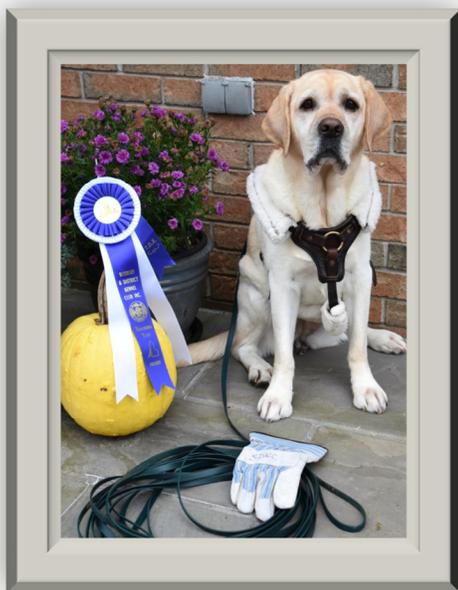


More CCTC Members' Brags.....



“Daniel”

Wendy McCullough earned a UTD on her Std Poodle **“Daniel”** on Oct. 21, 2019.
Signet Double O Seven TDX RN CGN UTD



“Cassie”

Pinebank Sundance of Santosha RN WC TDX
“Cassie” passed her TDX tracking test on Oct. 5/19 at Sudbury and District KC **Sandy Briggs** judging.
Owned by Club member and judge **Laura McKay**

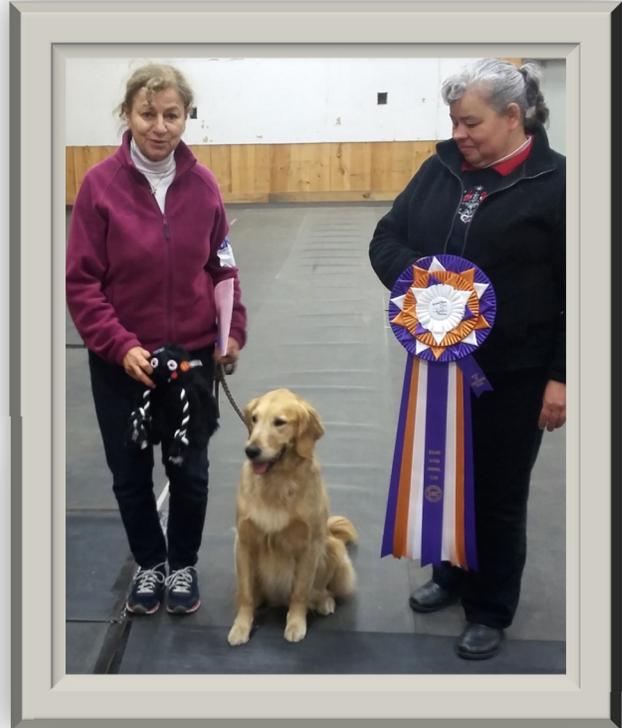
More CCTC Members' brags.....

"Roadie"

MOTCH, UKC-UD U-RO3 Thistletoon On The Road Again, RE, AGI, AIJ, AKC UD, NA, NAJ, RN, ADC, SGDC, NAMBR CD. RM AAC- JT AADC

"Roadie" got her **UKC UD** in 4 trials Oct.26-27, 2019 with a **HIT** plus her **U-RO3** in 3 straight.

Owned by **Irene Mullan**

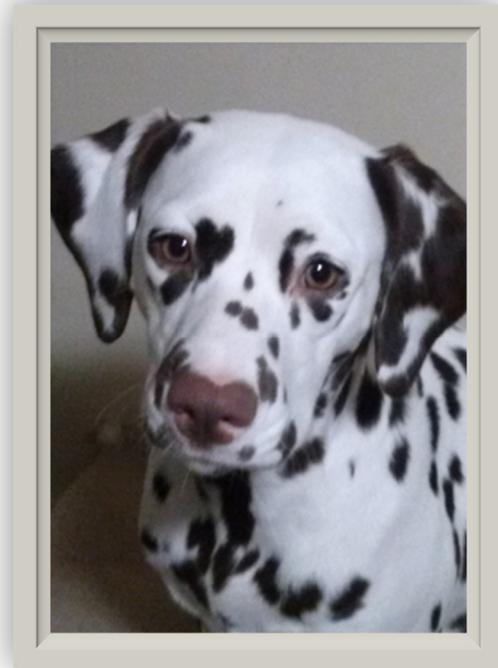


"Zina"

Batik Simply Amazing PCD CD RN AKC RN CD

"Zina" earned her **CD** in July plus her **AKC CD** September 2019 in 1 weekend all in 3 straight

Owned by **Irene Mullan**



"Beep"

Batik A Hint of Blarney PCD

"Beep" earned her PCD

Owned by **Irene Mullan**

Cranberry Orange Shortbread Cookies

1/2 cup dried cranberries Craisins or just cranberries.
3/4 cups sugar divided
2 1/2 cups all purpose flour - spooned and leveled not scooped
1 cup butter cubed (and cold)
1 tsp almond extract
zest of 1 orange
1 to 2 tbsp of fresh orange juice optional
additional sugar to coat cookies before baking if desired
Instructions
Line a baking sheet with parchment paper and set aside.



Combine cranberries and 1/4 cup of sugar in a food processor and process just until the cranberries are broken down into smaller pieces. Set aside.
Combine flour and remaining sugar in a large bowl.
Use a pastry cutter to cut in butter. You want very fine crumbs.
Stir in extract, cranberries and sugar mixture, orange zest and orange juice (optional).
Use your hands to knead the dough until it comes together and forms a ball. Work the dough until it comes together.
Shape dough into a log about two inches in a diameter and wrap in plastic wrap. Refrigerate for two hours or up to 72 hours.
Preheat oven to 325F.
Cut slices of cookie dough about 1/4 inch thick.
Place about a half a cup of sugar in a bowl and coat the cookie slices with sugar.
Place cookies on baking sheet and bake for 12 to 15 minutes or just until cookies are set. Do not over bake. I pull mine at 12 minutes.
Let cookies cool for several minutes on baking sheet before removing to cooling rack. Let cool completely.
Store in airtight container for 3 days or freeze for up to 3 months

Ingredients
2 cups flour
1 cup canned pumpkin
1/2 cup peanut butter

Pumpkin & Peanut Butter Dog Treats

Instructions
Preheat your oven to 375 F.
Mix the pumpkin & peanut butter together in a large bowl.
Stir in the flour and combine the mixture into a dough.
Roll out the dough onto a floured surface.
Cut into shapes with your favorite cookie cutter.
Place treats onto an ungreased baking sheet, about a half inch apart.
Bake for 12 minutes in the preheated oven.

PUMPKIN &
PEANUT BUTTER
DOG TREATS



Gone But Never Forgotten...



At the Rainbow Bridge

“Streak”

FC Streak von Lowenherz CD RN ME TDX UTD

July 9 2004—Sept. 9, 2019

Field Champion Streak von Lowenherz CD, RN, ME, TDX, UTD. Thank you while I pay tribute to this wonderful Wirehaired Dachshund. Streak was never one to seek attention and was very camera shy so it was difficult to find a picture of him smiling. Streak gave his all while working and was quite an accomplished wee man. Winner of the 2005 Dachshund Club of America Annual Field Trial, he defeated 83 starting dogs and with that win, secured his place in DCA history. One of Canada's pioneering earthdogs, Streak competed in some of Canada's first earthdog tests and helped pave the way for this performance event to grow in our country. He was also one of Canada's first Master Earthdogs. Streak, also known as the "Ratinator" in earthdog circles loved his earthwork more than anything else except maybe for tracking. Most of all he was my protector and wee beautiful boy. Streak man you are loved and missed.

By Pamela Burns

CROSS COUNTRY TRACKING CLUB 2019 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND POTLUCK DINNER



The 24th Annual General Meeting of the Cross Country Tracking Club will be held at Eileen Fisher's home on Friday December 13th 2019 Dinner at 7:00 pm and the meeting will start at 8:30 pm.



Annual Potluck Dinner and General Meeting

With the popularity of this location, we are pleased to offer you the same great atmosphere and potluck dinner again this year. 7:00 Dinner-8:30 Meeting Hope to see you on Dec 13th 2019 please RSVP to Maryke maryke5024@gmail.com

Directions to Eileen's home 53 Walkerton Dr. Markham 905-294-7016

Going north on McCowan turn right on to Southdale last street before Hwy 7.
Turn right on Walkerton 1st street after turning off McCowan
follow round to 53 on right side.

If coming along Hwy 7 turn south on McCowan and turn left on to Southdale the first
after Hwy 7 then right on to Walkerton the 1st street after turning off
McCowan follow round to 53 on right side.



Water Issues

By Rosemary Janoch

From time to time, readers will suggest a topic for me to discuss and the topic in this issue is due to an inquiry from a Canadian tracking friend, Marcia Halliday, who asked what she might expect in the way of water difficulties while training her current TDX hopeful. The idea caught me off guard since I have never really given the topic much thought. Well, thanks to Marcia, I will address the topic of water in three stages: water as an obstacle; water as a weather consideration; and drinking water.

When teaching a tracking dog to deal with a water obstacle, keep in mind that there are many types of water. There is still or stagnant water which you should be careful to not let your dog drink from. There is running water that will move the scent downstream from any crossing you made. There are ponds which come with a variety of distractions including frogs that hop into the water as your dog passes by, water snakes that slither here and there, waterfowl that honk, land, take off, and may even swim inquisitively toward you and your dog, and the ever popular issue of goose poop which dogs apparently regard as a delicacy. There are rain puddles which can range from quite small and easy for you and your dog to splash through to quite large and intimidating enough that your dog will try to go around it rather than through it.

When teaching a dog to cross a water obstacle such as a stream, teach it the same way you would teach any other TDX obstacle the dog would need to cross. Start with a straight on approach so that the crossing is done at a 90 degree angle with a food reward or an article reward placed shortly after the crossing. The approach can be slightly angled for the next lesson and then at a more extreme angle for the dog that needs to be challenged. To prevent your dog from simply blasting across any stream he sees, occasionally head straight for a stream and then make a turn just before it. Be sure to turn right one time and left the next time to prevent your dog from becoming pattern trained. For the same reason, you should cross the stream and immediately put a turn after the crossing also. Again be sure to turn both to the left and the right. For an extra challenge, find a stream deep in the woods and let your dog work with two problems at the same time.

When handling a stream crossing you should wait for the dog to commit to the track on the far side of the stream before moving forward yourself. I learned this lesson back in the old days when barbed wire fences were common and having a TDX track go through one was almost expected. Managing one of those three strand fences is quite an issue so I was told to always get my dog safely through to the other side if he indicated he wanted to search there. I would then handle my line from one side of the fence while my dog searched on the other side of the fence. When I saw him give me that wonderful “head snap” and begin to pull into his harness I would give my “wait” command and work my way through the fence to get on his side. Then we would move on together. I would do the same thing at a stream crossing. After letting my dog go to the other side I would wait to see if he found the track before crossing the stream myself. This will save you from splashing across water ankle deep to only have to come back through the stream if your dog doesn’t find the track on the other side. It also allows you to use your “wait” command so that you can negotiate the stream and slippery rocks safely without having the dog pull you off balance.

Dogs should be taught to go directly through a large puddle if the track goes through the puddle. Do not allow the dog to go around it and here's a reason why. Judges often lay tracks with the idea that articles should be easy to find. If they are putting an article in the woods, for instance, they might look for a small clearing to drop the article. If vegetation is heavy, a dry creek bed makes a great spot to drop an article since the dog and handler are unlikely to miss it. If rain moves in that night, however, the article might now be placed in or near a significant puddle. Letting your dog run around one side of the puddle or the other just might cause you to fail to find an article. You don't need a dry stream bed either, as I have seen puddles in an open field eight or ten feet in width after a heavy rain. If you permit your dog to go around it, you are gambling that there is no article directly on the other side. I hate to gamble so I train the issue instead. In training put an article on the far edge of the puddle and shorten up your lead so the dog doesn't have the option of going around. Praise and reward your dog for going through it. Now partially submerge the article and repeat the training exercise. Praise and reward again. Finally, prepare your dog for the worse case scenario where the article is actually hidden in the puddle of water. Yes, your dog can do this. Cadaver dogs find bodies under water all the time and some of those bodies are quite deep. You are only asking your dog to find a wallet or glove at the bottom of a two inch deep puddle. Trust me on this...your dog can do it.

When training water obstacles you need to keep safety and common sense in mind. I once put in a winter track for my TDX trainee through a frozen marshy area where I thought the cattails sticking up through the snow would be an interesting scenting challenge for him. When I returned three hours later to run the track, my dog walked on top of the frozen surface but the morning sun had warmed it enough that it would no longer hold my weight. When my leg went into ice cold water up to my knee, I hastily called my dog back to me and got out of there.

If you are working a VST dog, lay tracks around water retention ponds as these are frequently found in business parks and present you with an opportunity to work around geese and the highly prized goose poop. Be sure to walk along the raised dikes that surround many of those ponds.

Now let's deal with the topic of water as a weather issue. Track on a foggy day when the scent of the track is widely dispersed and seems to hang in the air. Try to keep your dog close to the track in foggy conditions and teach him to not be distracted by the air scenting opportunities. Keep the quartering to a minimum. Track early in the day so that your dog is well acquainted with dew. Then be sure he can track later in the day when there is no dew at all.

Tracking in the rain has never been a favorite pastime of mine but for those of you that want to increase your chances of passing at a test, you and your dog need to be prepared for rain. If you find your dog simply stands there in his harness and refuses to track in the rain you should solve the problem like you would solve an article problem. Remove the issue from the tracking field and solve it elsewhere. I would start by simply walking him in the rain and let him do his business outside. If he really hates the rain you might be out there for quite some time so be sure you are dressed appropriately. Put your rain gear on and try to enjoy the exercise while you wait him out. When your dog will finally do his business in the rain without complaint, you should try to get a "work ethic" going with your dog. Ask your dog to perform some simple obedience exercises like heeling, retrieving a dumbbell, or doing a sit stay. When your dog can do simple obedience exercises outside in the rain it is time to move back to the tracking field and lay a simple track in a light drizzle to see if your dog will now track for you. If yes, try a heavier rain the next time the opportunity presents itself. If no, then increase the work ethic at home with more challenging obedience exercises like a drop on recall in the rain or utility hand signals. Keep safety in mind when working in the rain, however, and never be out there in lightning or extreme wind.

Lastly I would like to address drinking water. Most trackers know that fresh water should be offered to the dog before and after a track. If needed, water can be offered to the dog during the track as well but be sure that giving the dog water has been practiced during your training tracks. While training your TDX or VST dog give him the opportunity to take a sip of water when he stops to indicate an article. Even a TD dog on much shorter and fresher tracks should be given the chance to drink water during a few of his training tracks. If the day of the test happens to be hot and dry you can now be confident that offering your dog water during the track will not confuse him or distract him. Don't allow your dog to water himself during a track, however, by drinking from a pond or stagnant puddle. It would be better to stop your tracking and offer him fresh drinking water from your bag.

Stopping for a drink of water can also be used to permit the dog to have a short mental break when you see he is struggling with the track. Stopping the dog's movement, putting him into a sit, getting your bowl and water out of your bag, pouring him a drink, letting him take a lap or two, emptying the bowl and putting it back into your bag, and then finally giving your dog the command to "go find" just gave your dog five minutes to relax and take a mental time out. You would be surprised to learn how much this helps a dog to refocus on the task at hand.

Water can be poured on the dog before or after tracking to cool him off. It is most effective if you get the water on his tummy and on the inside of his back legs.

Plain drinking water can also be used to help a beginning VST dog find his track on a hard surface. Bring a spray bottle when laying a VST track and when you are on a long stretch of asphalt or concrete stop every few steps, spray the water on the ground ahead of you and just walk through it. If you want to give your beginner dog even more help bend over and put a hand print in the water. Continue putting more footprints or hand prints in the water as you walk across the non-vegetated surface. An experienced VST dog doesn't need this, of course, but I have found it helps a beginner. The water might be gone by the time you run the track but the little hand prints and footprints will still be there. Spray bottles of water can also be used to give water to your dog but be sure he is accustomed to this method, rather than drinking from a bowl, before you use it on a track.

I would like to leave you with one final thought while I am on this topic of water. You should remember that scent itself behaves very much like water. It will flow downhill when you lay a track on the side of a hill. It will pool in small depressions which is why some dogs struggle with ditches and ravines and why many VST dogs are drawn to storm sewers and drains. If you see your dog struggling on a track ask yourself...what would water do?...and you may understand the problem your dog is working out.