



# COMMON SCENTS

NEWSLETTER OF THE  
LENAPE TRACKING CLUB OF CENTRAL NEW JERSEY, INC

3<sup>RD</sup> QUARTER 2025

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Hello everyone!

I hope all the Lenape club members had a wonderful relaxing summer!! 🌴☀️

FALL IS HERE!!! 🍁

Tracking is happening right now in full force. Lots of tests are available. Folks are out in the fields training, testing, and earning their tracking titles. I want to personally wish everyone lots of luck at all their trials.

In other news...

Lenape TC just held our TD test on 10/5 and we are currently accepting volunteers to support our TDX test on 11/2. All types of help are needed. Please contact Gina DeAlmeida 908.963.9552 if you want to help.

The club is also starting a search for someone to update & maintain the Lenape Tracking Club website. We want to try & get this new person in place for the new year. If you have anyone to suggest, please get in touch with Ben Hoyle.

Well, I'm looking forward to hearing from everyone about their tracking adventures & new titles.

Gina DeAlmeida

### Upcoming Events 2025

- TDX Nov 2<sup>nd</sup> 2025  
@ Finn Park
- VST Apr 12, 2026  
@ Brookdale CC

\*\*\*\*Don't forget Lenape  
Tracking Club offers Worker  
Draw at every test\*\*\*\*  
  
Submit your worker credits  
with Entry.

## Lenape Board

President- Gina DeAlmeida  
 Vice-President - Anna Burbank  
 Treasurer - Ben Hoyle  
 Secretary - Janet Kelly

### Board of Directors

Peg Forte

Donna Hess

Rosemary Laubach

Monique Buzzarté

Anne Rosenberg

### Additional Assignments

Membership - Janet Doerer

Newsletter – Benjamin Hoyle

Trial Secretary - Anna Burbank

Trial prep/Equipment/Ribbons/etc. - Gina DeAlmeida

The Lenape Tracking Club of Central New Jersey was founded in June 1975, for the purpose of assisting people in the training of their dogs in tracking, to encourage sportsmanlike competition in tracking tests, and to sponsor educational programs of interest to tracking enthusiasts.

Tracking demonstrates a dog's ability to recognize and follow human scent, a skill that is useful in the service of mankind.

## Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's Report as of 09/30/2025

This report covers the period from April 1, 2025 to September 30, 2025. As of the end of September, the balance in the check accounts was \$14,579.79. The Tracklayer Certification program had 8 participants. Net proceeds from this event were \$125.00.

Benjamin T. Hoyle  
 Treasurer

## Lenape News

**Tracking Dog Test** The 35<sup>th</sup> annual Tracking Dog Test was held at Finn Park in Pittstown New Jersey on Sunday, October 5<sup>th</sup>. We were a bit disappointed that of the 8 tracks offered, only 3 were taken. It was a cool start to the day, but temperatures were climbing quickly as the morning wore on, so these 3 dogs got the best part of the day. It

was exciting to see two of our three entries pass their test. Both dogs demonstrated strong tracking ability through their tracks from start flag to the glove at the end. Track 1 was taken by German Shepherd Dog, Adler Vom Hous E-Vazquez CDX BN GN RM NF CA DCAT ACT2J SIN SEN DSA DJ AS HDM CGC TKA FITG FTI owned by Suzanne Boland. He wasted no time at the start flag and worked his track with enthusiasm.



Track 2 was taken by All American Dog, Luv Furever's There's No Place Like Home FCAT2 SCN SEN SBN SHDN CGC TKN owned by Christy Wrede. This girl worked her track meticulously. At corners she gave clear indications that she was working her turns and she always found the right direction.



Our 3<sup>rd</sup> track was taken by Dachshund, Reynard's Dance 'Til Dawn at Folklore MW RA CGC TKI owned by Sheila Foran. This little girl had a great start, easily finding her track and working her way through to her first turn, which she executed well. Eventually she went off track and got the whistle. She'll get here title before long without a doubt.



Here are a few candid photos from the TD test. Enjoy and hope to see many of you at the upcoming TDX test on November 2<sup>nd</sup> at Finn Park. If you haven't volunteered at a test for a while, we'd love to see you and reconnect.



**Web Master Needed!!!** For many years our member, Pat Etchells, has expertly volunteered to manage our web site, [lenapetrackingclub.org](http://lenapetrackingclub.org). Pat relocated to the west coast a while back, but her ties to LTC have remained strong and she has enjoyed staying connected. Pat feels that for personal reasons she is ready to relinquish this work to another club member. If this volunteer position would be of interest to you, please reach out to Ben Hoyle, [hoylebt@gmail.com](mailto:hoylebt@gmail.com), to discuss this further. This position does not require a huge time commitment but serves the important function of periodically keeping our web site updated. Some computer skills are necessary.

I hope that you will take some time to review some of the past issues of **Common Scents**. Our club was very active in its beginning years as it worked to build membership, teach interested people about tracking and other topics related to tracking, nose work, and general canine subjects. Since this is our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year, I will be lifting some past articles and include them in this and future issues.

If you have any photos of past LTC events, please send me a scanned copy to [hoylebt@gmail.com](mailto:hoylebt@gmail.com). You can also send me the photo itself, and I will return it to you. I'm hoping to showcase some of our past in the coming issues.

Just a reminder of the **Common Scents deadlines** and publication dates through 2025. Send all brags, member profiles, and information to be published in the newsletter to: Ben Hoyle at [hoylebt@gmail.com](mailto:hoylebt@gmail.com).

<b>Newsletter</b>	<b>Deadlines</b>	<b>Published</b>
4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter 2025	December 15th	January 2026

The above dates are approximate. The newsletter will be quarterly unless there is need to produce more frequently. It will cover the club's main events: the Tracklayer Certification, VST, TD and TDX. The above are dates that brags/memorials and any other information for the newsletter should be received by the editor.

## **New Members:**

Welcome goes out to our newest member, **Cynthia Blemaster**. Cynthia attended our Tracklayer Certification program in August was kindly served as a flag carrier at the TD Test on October 5. Cynthia has a Doberman Pincer, and she is keen to learn more about tracking. She currently trains in obedience. Welcome Cynthia!

Do you know someone who is interested in tracking or may want to become more involved in tracking? We would like to hear from them. They can complete a membership application found at [Lenapetrackingclub.org](http://Lenapetrackingclub.org) and send to the Membership Director, Janet Doerer.

**Membership Director:** Janet Doerer  
 5 Woodland Way  
 White House Station, NJ 08889-3661  
 E-Mail: [jdoerer@gmail.com](mailto:jdoerer@gmail.com)  
 Phone: (908) 303-5544

## **AKC National Tracking Invitational**

This year marks the 11<sup>th</sup> AKC National Tracking Invitational to be held October 11 and 12 at Branched Oak State Recreation Area in Raymond Nebraska. Judges for this event are Rita Crawford of California, Stephanie Crawford of New York, Lois Leidahl-Marsh of Illinois, and Jan Wesson of Washington. This prestigious event is by invitation only and celebrates those dogs who have earned the Champion Tracker title between 2014 and 2025. To earn the CT title, a dog must have passed the TD or TDU, TDX, and VST tests.

This special event has a limit of 12 entrants. Tracks for the test are modifications of the tracks used in standard tracking tests. The tracks will be aged between 2 & 4 hours; there will be 5 – 7 turns on the track; track length will be 600-800 yards; a total of 4 articles will be used, including cloth for the start article, plastic, metal and leather; cross-tracks will not be plotted although natural cross-tracks may be present; there will be 2 obstacles, and the surfaces will be variable terrain, cover and surfaces as available.

Each track will offer different scenting challenges, such as vehicles, pedestrian, and animal traffic, woods, water and/or non-vegetated surfaces.

This year in addition to the 12 dogs that were selected by random draw, there are a total of 29 alternates entered. Each day 2 of the judges a team of 6 dogs will each tackle their track determined at the morning draw. Let's hope the weather on test days is perfect for tracking and best of luck to all those attending!

## Lenape Brags:

**Tammy Snyder** Brick and Splash have been very busy with Rally and Scent work. We have been racking up legs and titles.

Since July Splash has earned her Advanced Buried title, which finished her Overall Advanced title (title in each of the 4 elements, Interior, Exterior, Buried, and Containers). She has started showing at the Excellent level, earning her first Exc. Container leg, as well as her first 2 Excellent Exterior legs. In Rally she has earned 3 Rally Master legs (8/10), and 3 more RAE legs (6/10), with her recent trial earning her a High Triple. Lastly, Splash earned her Golden Retriever Club of America Working Certificate, WC on 9/13. With the GRCCNY group. Emeline's Swimming Up Stream CDX BN RE TDX AX AXJ JH WC SWA VCD2 CGC FITB.

Brick finished his overall Novice Scent work title and is working his way through Advanced and Excellent. Since July he has earned 2 advanced exterior legs, and 1 Excellent container leg. In Rally he has earned 3 Rally Master legs (7/10), and 3 RAE legs (8/10), with 3 High Combined and 2 High Triple awards in that time. AKC GCH CH UKC CH Wllslands Let It be Lasting



Foundation CDX BN RE TDX NAP NJP CI DN SWN SCA SIA VCD1 CGC TT TKN FITB CRC Platinum Award, ARC V VX awards.

We have some busy weekends coming up in Rally and Scent Work. Pictures included are from a local scent work trial.

**Ben Hoyle** is happy to share that Sky earned his 3<sup>rd</sup> UD leg on August 31 at the Morris Hill DTC trial held at Top Dog. It is believed, although unconfirmed, that Sky is only the 2<sup>nd</sup> Clumber male to earn the UD title.



While his performance that day was not his best, sometimes the only thing that matters is the green ribbon. The day before at the Dauphin Dog Training Club trial, he missed his down signal but qualified on everything else. We are contemplating continuing on to see if he can earn his UDX, but we still have some work to do.

Sky was entered in the American Bloodhound Club national tracking test sponsored by the Colonial Bolldhound Club, held in Carlisle Pennsylvania on September 28<sup>th</sup>. There were only 2 VST tracks offered, and we were lucky enough to be selected. It was great seeing some familiar faces, including our own Janet Kelly with her Basset Hound, Raphael. While we were lucky

enough to get into the test, luck was not on our side for the test. We drew the 1<sup>st</sup> track and by the time we started, it was over 80 degrees and the sun had evaporated any moisture and scent on the track. I'm guessing the heat was an issue for Sky, but he made some atypical errors, but I'm sure there were other factors as well. He did track well at times and did a beautiful MOT. As always, some good insights for training to prepare for future tests.

**Anne Rosenberg** writes to share that her Wirehaired Dachshunds were entered at the Yankee Golden Retriever Club



Tracking Dog Urban test on August 9<sup>th</sup> in Durham New Hampshire. Sly earned his TDU and Little would have if his handler had backed up instead of turning around!!



**Janet Doerer** proudly announces that Mickey (Neverland Sorcerer's Apprentice HT, CGC, TKN, FTN) had his first obedience show today. He showed in Novice in CDSP. He did great earning first place in both trial 1 and 2 and getting a HIT (High In Trial) in Trial 2. Off to a great start. He turns 2 on Oct 1. I am very proud of my man.



**Donna Hess** writes to let us know that she has a new puppy! An Australian Shepherd named Summer who is now going on 6 months. Her name was chosen because she joined Donna on the first day of summer. She is sooooo smart, and is mastering the basics of obedience, nose work and agility. Perhaps some tracking soon as the weather cools off!!!



*He is your friend, your defender, your dog. You are his life, his love his leader. He will be yours, faithful and true to the last beat of his heart. You owe it to him to be worthy of such devotion.*

*Unknown*

From Oct 2002 Common Scents

**You Ought to Know:** those of us who enjoy tracking with our dogs have discovered that working in fields and heavy brush has its risks: in particular ticks. I'm sure we all have experienced occasions when we finished a training session or volunteered as a track layer for a test that we find the little buggers crawling somewhere on us or our dogs. It seems, although I am unaware of any hard proof, that our warmer winters are one of the reasons why tick populations are on the rise. Here are a few tidbits about ticks and the illnesses they carry. As always, consult with your veterinarian about preventatives and treatment options.

According to the AKC Canine Health Foundation, thousands of dogs are infected annually with dangerous tick-transmitted diseases. Ticks are parasites that attach themselves to dogs, feed on blood and transmit diseases directly into the dog's system. Major tick-borne diseases transmitted to dogs in the United States include:

- **Lyme disease**, which comes from the deer tick, can cause stiffness, lameness, swollen joints, loss of appetite, fever and fatigue. Your dog may not show signs of the disease until several months after infected.
- **Canine Ehrlichiosis**, found worldwide, is the most common and one of the most dangerous tick-borne disease organisms known to infect dogs. Caused by the brown dog tick, symptoms may not surface for months after transmission, and can include fever, loss of appetite, depression, weight loss, runny eyes and nose, nose bleeds and swollen limbs.
- **Canine Anaplasmosis**, also called dog fever or dog tick fever, is transmitted from the deer tick. Symptoms are similar to other tick diseases including fever, loss of appetite, stiff joints and lethargy, but also can include vomiting, diarrhea. In extreme cases, dogs may suffer seizures.
- **Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever**, comes from the American dog tick, the wood tick and the lone star tick. Symptoms include fever, stiffness, neurological problems and skin lesions. Typically the illness lasts about two weeks, but serious cases could result in death.
- **Canine Babesiosis**, is typically transmitted by the American dog tick and the brown dog tick. Causing anemia, symptoms may also include pale gums, weakness and vomiting.
- **Canine Bartonellosis**, comes from the brown dog tick. Symptoms are intermittent lameness and fever. Left untreated, this disease can result in heart or liver disease.
- **Canine Hepatozoonosis**, is thought to be transmitted by the brown dog tick and Gulf Coast ticks. Your dog can be infected if he eats one of these disease-carrying ticks. Symptoms are fever, runny eyes and nose, muscle pain and diarrhea with the presence of blood.

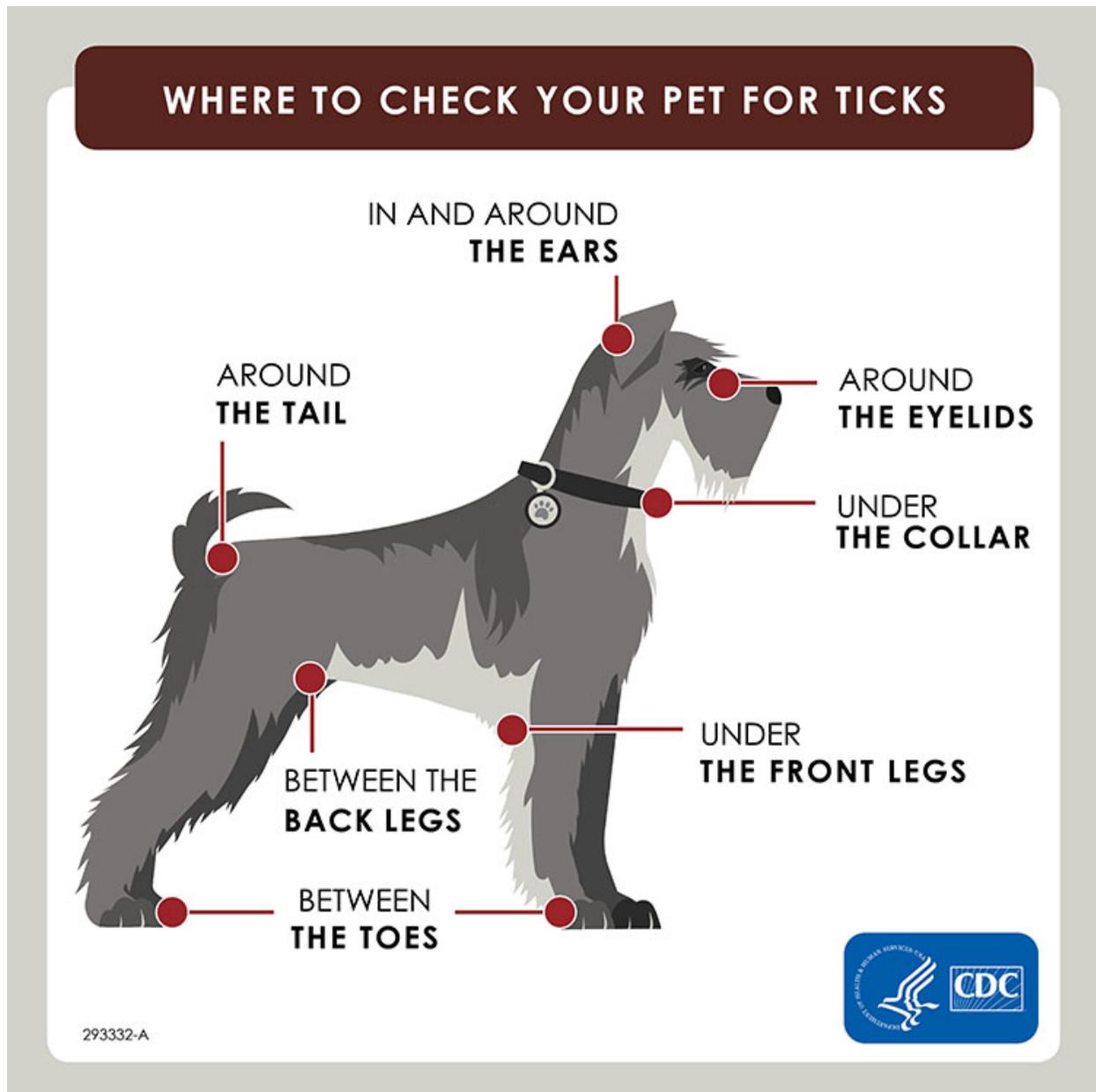
## **Treatment**

The key to curing tick-borne disease is early diagnosis and treatment. Several broad-spectrum antibiotics to treat tick-borne disease are generally effective, especially in the early stages of the disease. Since antibiotics don't differentiate "good" from "bad" bacteria, antibiotic treatment destroys beneficial bacteria, along with disease-causing organisms. You may therefore want to give your dog probiotics to avoid the

development of gastrointestinal problems. Be sure to follow the treatment plan recommended by your veterinarian.

## **Prevention**

- The broad spectrum of possible symptoms associated with tick-borne diseases in dogs (including no symptoms) makes annual screening for tick disease a vital component of your pet's annual veterinary exam. Tests are fast, with results while you wait.
- Numerous products and medications to prevent ticks on your dog are available both over the counter and from your veterinarian. Some veterinarians suggest a tick collar and and/or a preventative vaccination. No method offers 100 percent protection.
- Field dogs are especially vulnerable to tick-borne diseases because of time spent in tick-infested environments. Owners should therefore be diligent about applying topical or systemic tick-control treatments before outings.
- If the worst happens and you see scores of ticks crawling the walls inside your house, call a professional exterminator and move out for a while to let them work and allow the chemicals time to dissipate before you move back in.
- If you live in an environment with a high tick population, success has been reported with dry ice tick traps. Inexpensive and easy to construct, you need a Styrofoam-covered ice bucket or small cooler, a tool to punch holes in the Styrofoam, up to two pounds of dry ice, a piece of ply board or heavy cardboard, and masking tape. Begin by punching four tiny holes in the Styrofoam container to allow the carbon dioxide vapors from the dry ice to draw ticks. Place the container on the ply board or heavy cardboard. Place strips of masking tape to cover the board with the sticky side of the tape facing up. Add dry ice to the container, cover, and place the trap in a tick prone area. Ticks will begin moving toward the carbon dioxide emitting dry ice and become trapped on the masking tape.
- Check your dog for ticks daily during tick season: spring, summer and fall, or year-round in warmer climates. Brush your fingers through his fur, applying enough pressure to feel any small bumps. If you feel a bump, pull the fur apart to identify it. An embedded tick will vary in size, from a pinhead to a grape. Ticks are usually black or dark brown. Depending on the size and location of the tick, its legs may also be visible. Tick-borne disease can be transmitted within 3 – 6 hours of a tick bite.
- If you find a tick, consider bringing your dog to a veterinary clinic where a veterinarian or technician can remove the tick safely and show you how it's done. Removing embedded ticks is a delicate operation, because a piece might break off and remain in your dog's skin if removal is done improperly. Ticks should be removed promptly to avoid infection.



## Prognosis

Tick-borne disease can rebound rapidly if your dog's treatment only succeeded in suppressing, rather than killing ticks. Since recurring tick diseases are harder to control or eradicate, don't relax too soon if your dog recovers. A dog in recovery may appear to be doing well and eager to get back to everything you once did together, but that doesn't mean that his body is ready for it yet. When your dog has been sick, he needs time to recover and rebuild strength. To further protect your dog, remain vigilant with regular blood work to detect recurrences. Finally, to make an informed decision about protecting your dog from tick-borne disease, talk to your veterinarian about the best

tick-control approach for your dog. To access more resources and learn about CHF's Tick Borne-Disease initiative, visit: [www.akcCHF.org/ticks](http://www.akcCHF.org/ticks) (<https://www.akcCHF.org/ticks>).

**From the Archives:** here is an article from the January/February 1985 issue of Common Scents. Still applies very much to today!

The following article is reprinted by permission of the author from "GONE TRACKIN", the Palo Alto Foothills Tracking Association Dec. 1984. The author is a Tracking Judge and Tracking exhibitor. Part II will appear in the future. Thank you, Shirley Hammond.

### **DEAR TDX HOPEFUL**

by Shirley Hammond

Recently the editor of PAFTA's newsletter 'GONE TRACKIN' asked me to write a short article on common errors, noted in tests, of handlers and dogs from the Judge's viewpoint.

I put my JUDGE'S HAT on, took pen in hand and with all good intentions began reviewing all the Advanced Tracks and TDX tracks I could recall since 1974.

Well, here I go out on a limb! The most significant factor occurring, time after time, is the "Handler NOT reading the dog"!

Okay! Calm down! This is not a cop out! Handler not reading the dog covers a multitude of situations and conditions.

Let me share a situation:

SCENARIO. This tracking team completed a 10-week TD training course. They did a nice job on the certification track. They entered, and got in, the first test in March. Passed with flying colors.

Now on to bigger and better things! Started training the very next week for a May TDX test. The dog had been working 2-hour aged tracks and had been doing 1000 paces in preparation for TD test.

IS THIS A REASONABLE GOAL? The handler readily admitted this was pushing a bit, but she could answer YES to the following check list by the time the TDX entries came out:

1. The dog could track well on 3-1/2 hour old tracks.
2. Starts well from a single stake .
3. Seems to have good concentration and motivation on 1500+ pace tracks. Happy tracker!
4. Seldom commits to crosstracks.
5. Good article recognition.

6. Worked well through major obstacles such as roads, trees, and fences. Had even worked short legs across plowed ground.

The rationale became: My dog is a good, motivated, happy tracker and can perform all the above well -- if WE draw a good track-- We have Just as good a chance to pass as anyone.

Well, the team didn't pass! WHY? In the final analysis the handler left two important factors to CHANCE and GOOD LUCK.

You guessed it! READING THE DOG and EXPERIENCE.

The handler had a good tracking dog, but, because of this the handler had very little experience in seeing the dog work out very difficult problems. They encountered a problem (5 f t high mustard plants in bloom) that they had not included in the training. The handler knew the dog was frustrated, that was evident. Reading the dog with understanding so you can become an active helping member of the team requires EXPERIENCE.

Let me slip on my TRAINER'S HAT at this point and share some of my training philosophy, a lot of it was gained while wearing the EXHIBITOR'S HAT!

EXPERIENCE is gained through carefully designed tracks to give the dog and handler as wide a variety of cover, articles, obstacles, and strange situations as you can dream up. Imagination should know no bounds. BELIEVE ME judges have great imaginations!

The tracking team in our scenario had the basics, but there remained much work to be accomplished before entering a test.

Therein lies the problem that we all encounter with too many entries in too few TDX tests!

A.K.C. has tried to solve the problem of getting into a test by the lottery method. I feel the BLAME for creating this problem lies with you and me, the tracking enthusiasts who are so gung-ho and anxious to get into a test, that we trust to chance and good luck. We need to analyze our training program. Make plans for increasing the dog's physical endurance, design training tracks that challenge both handler and dog and build experience. IT TAKES TIME AND HARD WORK TO EARN A TDX! That's the challenge A.K.C. designed into the test. The goal is to produce an EXCELLENT TRACKING DOG --- not a dog that can pass with good luck.

## Upcoming tests

<b>Oct. 12, 2025</b>	Tracking Club of Massachusetts, WestboroughMA	TDU
<b>Oct. 15, 2025</b>	Burlington County Kennel Club, Mt. Laurel, NJ	VST
<b>Oct. 19, 2025</b>	Hyattsville Dog Training Club, Elkton, MD	TD/TDX
<b>Oct. 26, 2025</b>	Hudson Valley Tracking Club, Milan, NY	TDX
<b>Nov. 2, 2025</b>	Lenape Tracking Club, Pittstown, NJ	TDX
<b>Nov. 2, 2025</b>	Greater Pittsburgh Tracking Club, Eighty Four, PA	TD/TDX
<b>Nov. 9, 2025</b>	Buckeye Tracking Club, Chardon, OH	TDX/VST
<b>Nov. 9, 2025</b>	Potomac Valley Golden Retriever Club, Leesburg, VA	TD/TDX
<b>Nov. 9, 2025</b>	Tracking Club of Massachusetts, Westborough, MA	VST
<b>Nov. 16, 2025</b>	Hudson Valley Tracking Club, Albany, NY	VST
<b>Nov. 16, 2025</b>	DelBay Herding Club, Coatsville, PA	TDU
<b>Nov. 23, 2025</b>	Tracking Club of Vermont, Castleton, VT	VST
<b>Nov. 30, 2025</b>	Oriole Dog Training Club, Baltimore, MD	VST
<b>Dec. 7, 2025</b>	Mattaponi Kennel Club, Leesburg, VA	TD/TDX
<b>Jan. 4, 2026</b>	Richmond Dog Obedience Club, Hamden Sydney, VA	VST



*Gina and Toro TDX track CRC Rottweiler Specialty.*

## Contact Us

**Lenape Tracking Club of Central New Jersey**

**[Lenapetrackingclub.org](http://Lenapetrackingclub.org)**