



DPCNA NEWS

DRENTSCHE PATRIJSHOND CLUB OF NORTH AMERICA

President’s Message

JOHN HOW

Dear Membership,

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Submissions to DPCNA News

Please consider submitting something to a future issue of our newsletter. We welcome articles, stories, hunting reports, announcements, recipes, photos, and more! Email Jesse at jesse.egbert@gmail.com with questions or submissions.

Annual Meeting Date

Our next DPCNA Annual Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday October 10th at 8:00 PM EST/5:00 PM PST. A Zoom link will be emailed before the meeting.

I hope this newsletter finds you healthy and enjoying the early summer weather with your dogs. The board received a member petition to update several governing documents; additionally, the board has been improving internal processes to be more accountable and transparent to membership.

The members, who are listed below*, submitted a petition to update our bylaws to be in alignment with AKC best practices as well as to be responsive to members’ comments about board-related processes. The petitioners also proposed updating our breed standard to align with other international Drent clubs that use the Federation Cynologique Internationale (FCI) as the judging standard for the breed. Lastly, the petitioners requested an updated Code of Ethics.

A bylaw committee formed by the Board vetted each request and worked with the petitions on several items to try to achieve consensus. As a member, you should have all received a recent email to vote on these petitions. Please read each proposed change carefully and exercise your membership right to vote on all three items.

As for process improvements, we have improved our club’s website to begin accepting online membership payments again. We’ve cleaned up and revised information on several pages; and we will conduct a refresh of the website to provide additional information, links, and other items we’ve heard members want to see posted such as recipes and training links.

Additionally, the board will be holding bi-monthly meetings starting in August; they are always open to membership. These meetings will be held on the first week of each even-numbered month (August, October, December, February, April, June) starting at 8 PM EST/5 PM PST. We have also formalized the annual meeting to occur in October of each year, which will align with the board meeting for that month.

Thank you all for those of who have participated in our annual meeting this past spring as well as for your continued involvement with the club. The board recognizes that members have had limited access and involvement from the board during 2022 and 2023; as such, we have reduced the membership fee to \$10 for single memberships and \$25 for family memberships for the remainder of 2023. Beginning January 1, 2024 membership fees will align with the provisions in the proposed bylaws.

Have a wonderful summer and keep your pups safe during extreme heat.



*Petitioning Members: Clay Cade; Rob Giberson; Estie Giberson; Marc Gorelnik; Matt Herndon; Lauren Janson; Melissa Junior; Kurt Krasne; Ron Lewis; Kaylah Locklear; Daniel Locklear; Jack Lusk; Jim Millington; Garland Moore; Candace Myers; Christa Roemkens; Jimmy Warren; Jon Wellinger

An Introduction to Scentwork

ELLIE OVRUM

Our girl Iris (Duck Creek's Two Gun Red Coastal Wonder CGCA TKI LAM100 SWA) has been training for AKC Scentwork since she was four months old, and started competing at 18 months old last October. Since then, she has been rocketing through the AKC Scentwork curriculum. In seven months, she has earned **27 qualifying scores, with eight top-4 finishes, sixteen top-10 finishes, and one High in Trial** (a highly coveted title for the best and fastest out of ALL dogs competing at each level). While the only title that shows up in her registered name today is "SWA" for Scentwork Overall Advanced, it has superseded 9 other Scentwork titles (SEN SIN SCN SBN SWN SIA SCA SBA SEA). She is now well on her way into the Excellent difficulty level, with qualifying scores in Interior and Container and more to come as soon as we get to the next trial!

While the hard work and training we've put in together is certainly a big factor in our success, much of it is her natural talent. The same instincts that help Drents work cooperatively with their boss to search out and find birds transfer beautifully to scentwork games. While the effort is dog-driven, success rides heavily on the ability of the dog and handler to communicate effectively. And the stronger our bond, the better we can communicate, and the better we can communicate, the stronger our bond. Surprisingly, Iris is the first and only Drent to compete and title in AKC Scentwork. I hope she doesn't hold that title for long, and with that, I'd like to share some tips on how to get started in Scentwork!

Get Started

The best way to get started is to take a class - **I highly, highly recommend Nosework 101 from FenziDogSportsAcademy.com**. It's a six-week class that runs every two months – you can audit it, like we did, for \$65 and do it at your own pace with access to all the class materials for a year (or more!). They also offer “gold” and “silver” options which provide direct access to the instructor for one on one feedback during the six weeks.

NW101 does an excellent job of breaking down the process of introducing your dog to a target odor and building up in small steps towards basic searching. It also touches on the basics of odor storage and handling, appropriate gear for the dog and handler, the basic structures of AKC Scentwork and NACSW, how to best handle your dog to set them up for success, and more.



Iris at 18 months old practicing Scentwork Containers at a boatyard.

FDSA also offers a full series of scentwork/nosework classes for continued learning. I truly can not recommend this program enough as a way to get started with scentwork, particularly if you may compete. Solid foundations will take you far.

That said, if you want to play around with some scentwork-adjacent games at home, it's much simpler to get started than you think.

Food & Toy Games

Since all Drents like food, try simply hiding a couple treats or handfuls of their dinner around your house. Start easy - leave the goodies somewhere your dog can easily see them when they walk into the room. Then gradually make it harder – put treats behind, on, or under furniture or objects (that you don't mind potentially getting knocked over!) when your dog isn't looking, and send them in to find. Then take it outside, in your backyard, or on a hike. Use a consistent verbal cue – “find it!” perhaps – and your Drent will soon recognize that your cue means there is something yummy for them to sniff out and find.

A similar process works for toy searches. A favorite toy or ball can be used in place of food, in the same process as above. To level it up, try having your dog sit, wait, and watch while a ball is being thrown into cover. Then release them to search, and when they find it, ask for a retrieve to hand. This is basically a mark and retrieve drill, which is also useful for learning to mark the location of and retrieve a downed bird.

All of these skills are transferrable to competition scentwork – while the source may be different, your dog will learn scent dynamics and how to problem solve to get to what they want.

Basics of AKC Scentwork

AKC offered its first scentwork trial in 2017, and it has **quickly become the fastest growing AKC sport**. AKC Scentwork breaks up competition into 4 “elements” and currently offers 5 “levels” of difficulty.

The four AKC elements are Exterior, Interior, Container, and Buried. Exterior and Interior are self-explanatory – searches in outdoor areas and indoor areas, respectively. Container searches start with simple cardboard boxes but quickly turn into any kind of box, bag, or item wherein a target odor can be enclosed. Buried is based primarily on search and rescue dogs who may have to detect remains underground or underwater – it’s simulated by filling buckets with sand or water, and placing the target odor at the bottom (and placebos in water, to discourage searching by sight)



Iris with her High in Trial ribbon.

All four elements have four levels of difficulty in AKC – Novice, Advanced, Excellent, and Master. Difficulty is increased by the size of the search area, the different kinds of scents a dog needs to recognize, the number of hides placed (known or even unknown to the handler), and more. Through the Master level, teams run each element separately at whatever level they are qualified for. It takes 3 qualifying scores (find all hides within a time limit with no disqualifying faults) to earn an element title at each level, and once all 4 element titles have been earned, an “overall level” title is earned.

At the top difficulty level – Detective class – a judge can choose to use any combination of the four elements, placing between 5 and 10 hides over a very large indoor-outdoor search area. The handler does not know how many hides there are or how they might be hidden, and must make a call at some point before the time limit is up that they believe their dog has found everything there is to be found. In order to earn the Scentwork Detective title, a dog-handler team must earn 10 separate qualifying scores.

Closing

Iris and I have a little ways to go before we are qualified to run Detective level searches, but I have observed many Detective runs, and the skill of dog-handler teams is jaw-dropping. Our goal is to be the first – but hopefully not the last! – Drentsche Patrijshond to earn a SWD (Scentwork Detective) title.

Iris and I have a little ways to go before we are qualified to run Detective level searches, but I have observed many Detective

In the meantime, I am working towards qualifying to teach scentwork for my local obedience club. The more I learn, the better handler I can be for Iris! **Please feel free to reach out with questions – I would be delighted to support other Drents interested in learning scentwork!**

Silver Bay Kennel Club and Meet the Drent

MARC GORELNIK

A great showing by Drents at the annual Silver Bay Kennel Club Open Show this February in Del Mar, California. The Open Shows, held for breeds not yet fully recognized by the American Kennel Club, are held alongside the much larger “All Breed” show for recognized breeds. In addition, there was a “Pet Expo” where booth space was provided for clubs to introduce their breeds to show attendees.

The DPCNA had a “Meet the Drents” booth with banners, posters, brochures, the Dutch flag, and a video presentation. Best of all, were all the Drents that populated the booth along with their dedicated owners. Ellie

Ovrom was there with Iris, Darrell and Jaime Gonzales with Boots, Rob and Estie Giberson with Gracie, Jon Wellinger with Maddie, and me with Sam. Kurt Krasne came by the show with his two Drents but didn’t make it to the booth.



Video link: <https://youtu.be/USrgrwXB3Vo>



The video displayed at the booth included still and video images contributed by Drent owners in the Netherlands, Belgium, Denmark, Sweden and the United States. The presentation included basic information about the Drent as well the breed history, scent work, and hunt training. We were able to introduce the Drent to many attendees with the dogs acting as stellar ambassadors.

Then, there was the Open Show. Actually, there were six shows, two each on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. There were two groups in each show: Foundation Stock Service (FSS) and Miscellaneous. The FSS class had seven breeds and 21 dogs competing including three Drents. (Sunday’s shows were a bit smaller.) The three Drents were Ellie’s Iris, Darrell and Jaime’s Boots and my Sam.

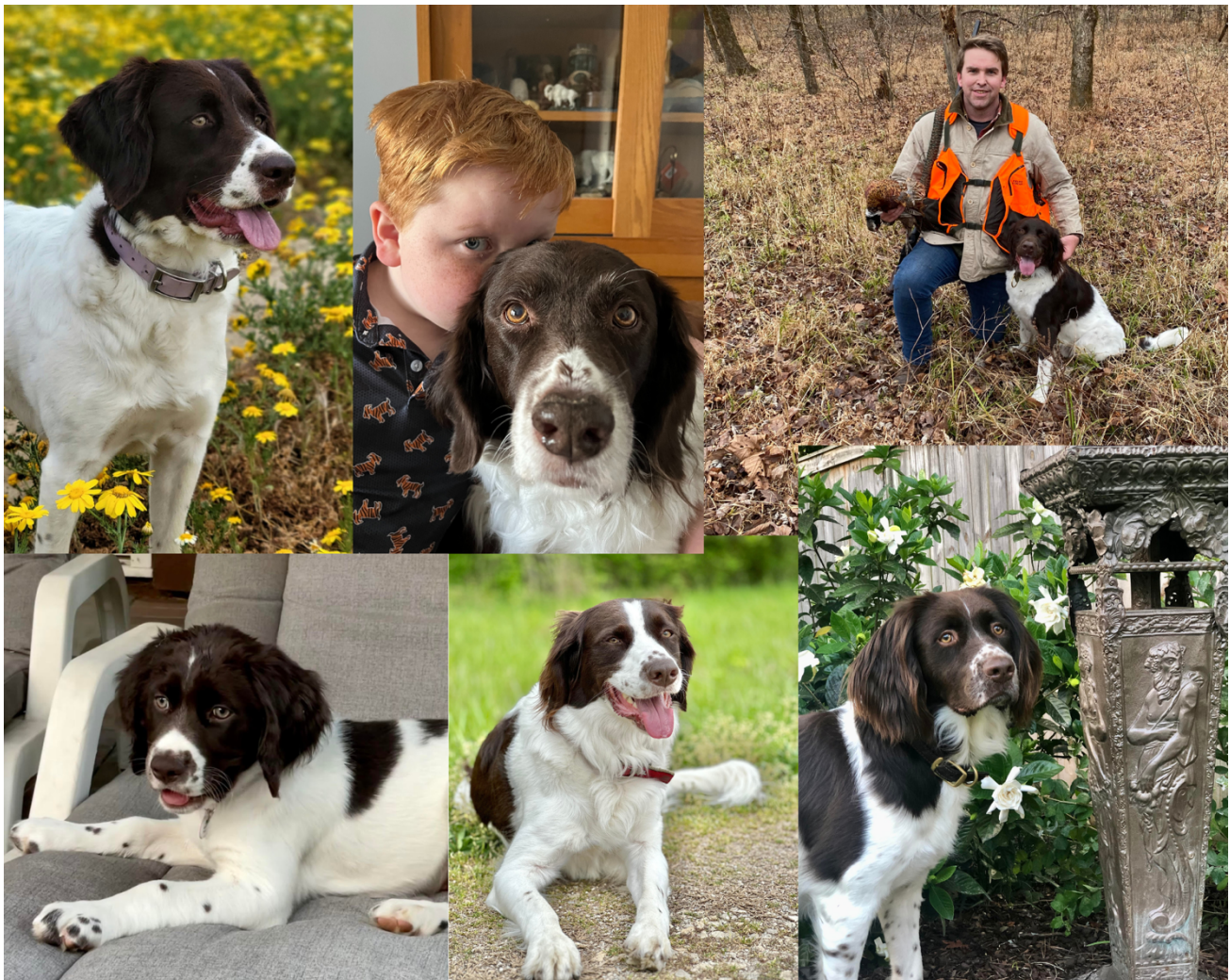
Boots is a lovely dog and did very well for his first show. But he’s only a year old and has some maturing to do. Sam took best male Drent in each show. Iris has developed very nicely since the 2022 Silver Bay Open Show and showed very well, but Sam took Best of Breed in each of the shows with Iris taking Best of Opposite Sex.

Sam then competed against the best of each of the other breeds in the FSS group. Sam won Best of FSS Group in three of the six open shows,

finishing second twice and third once. The Best of FSS then competes against the Best of Miscellaneous for Best of Open Show. Unfortunately, Sam went 0 for 3 in those head to head contests.

Sam earned enough points to earn a Certificate of Merit, the very first Drent to reach this milestone. In fact, he almost earned enough points for his second Certificate of Merit. It was a successful outing for the Drent, both in the Open Shows and at the Pet Expo.

Showing your Drent in AKC Open Shows is a great way to promote the breed, work with your dog, and have some fun. Some training is essential, but it is available in most places. (Search for “conformation training.”) Drents are beautiful dogs and they show well.



A Ticking Time Bomb

KAYLAH LOCKLEAR

It's summertime and all of us are outside with our dogs at one point or another enjoying the longer days while they last. Also outside, taking advantage of the warmer seasons are those pesky bugs!

One that we should be giving a bit more attention to is the insidious tick. While some are near smaller than a freckle they can carry devastating diseases for both us and our pups. While the veterinarian has probably given us some lecture on keeping up with oral and topical preventatives, generally there is silence from our doctors. But we should be just as cautious if not more so! Especially those of us that enjoy hiking and hunting.



Unfortunately, tick borne illnesses are on the rise with the rapid growth and spread of tick species across the US and Canada. Lyme's disease and Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever used to be designated to only certain geographical pockets. This is now untrue and if you are experiencing symptoms please don't delay testing and treatment based on outdated information. The same is applicable for your children and pets! Don't wait to familiarize yourself with symptoms typical for people and dogs, and if the symptom isn't typical don't discount it either. Prompt treatment is the best way to avoid chronic and additional symptoms that can be life altering. Another sinister lesser known condition transmitted by our crawling foes is Alpha Gal Syndrome, an allergy to the alpha gal

carbohydrate existing in mammals, apart from humans. It is acquired by being bit by a tick that has feasted on a host animal prior to attaching to a person. That unlucky individual then becomes sensitized to the sugar and develops reactions against anything containing it. This can be as minimal as beef, pork and lamb or as extreme as needing to avoid medications, lotions and even cane sugar that's been processed in bone char. The good news is, fortunately for those of us that hunt or fish, poultry and fish are still on the menu if you find yourself diagnosed.

If anyone gets bitten by the writing bug and has an itch to share a recipe from their bird hunting adventures it would be greatly appreciated by this AGS sufferer!

P.S. Remember to check thoroughly for those little brown dots, the only ticks we want to see on our Drents are spikkels!



What is an AKC Open Show?

MARC GORELNIK

Owners have been parading their dogs around the show ring since the mid-1800's. Then like now, judges would evaluate the dogs according to their conformation to the breed standard. I imagine shows have changed over the years, but the core routine is likely similar. Dogs of a breed are divided into classes and by gender. The best of each class is chosen, males and females separately. The best of each class then competes, again males and females separately, yielding the best male and best female. These two then compete for Best of Breed.

There are three principal organizers of dog shows in the United States: the American Kennel Club (AKC), the United Kennel Club (UKC), and the International All Breed Canine Association (IACBA). The AKC is far and away the larger organization with the most conformation shows. However, there's a hitch when it comes to showing the Drent at an AKC show.

Only fully recognized breeds may compete in an AKC "All Breed" show. This eliminates the Drent because our breed is not yet fully recognized. The Drent is listed in AKC's Foundation Stock Service (FSS) along with many other "rare" breeds. Fortunately, AKC sometimes offers "Open Shows" for these rare breeds that have not yet reached full AKC recognition. This includes FSS breeds and Miscellaneous breeds. (Miscellaneous status applies to breeds that have made progress towards full recognition.)



In an Open Show, like in an All Breed Show, each breed is evaluated and a Best of Breed is chosen. The best of the FSS breeds then compete for Best of FSS and the best of the Miscellaneous breeds compete for Best of Miscellaneous. These two dogs then compete for Best of Open Show.

At each stage in the Open Show (i.e., Best of Breed, Best of FSS, and Best of FSS) a dog can win points towards an AKC Certificate of Merit, a counterpart to the AKC "champion" that may be awarded only to fully recognized breeds.

The Drent is evaluated according to its breed standard. This is almost certainly the first time an Open Show judge has seen a Drent. Conscientious judges will have downloaded and studied the Drent breed standard available on the AKC website.

More information on AKC Open Shows is available at <https://www.akc.org/sports/conformation/fss-open-show/>.

Adventures in Clay Shooting

JACK LUSK

Recently I have taken on the hobby of shooting clay pigeons. While not specifically Drent related it can be considered hunting related. Now before I get too far into it there are a number of different types of clay shooting. The most common being the ones I'm sure most of us have done. Getting your own thrower and clays, getting friends together and having a friendly competition. Some of the sanctioned sports are Trap, Skeet, Sporting Clays, Super Sporting Clays, and Five Stand and more. These take place at a gun club or shotgun range. Each one has its own challenges and rewards. I won't go into most as I'm still new to the game but want to talk about Sporting Clays and Five Stand.



Five stand has as the name implies has five different stands in a line next to each other and you shoot five different birds at each stand for a grand total of twenty five birds per round. one single bird followed by a report pair. Which is one bird thrown with a second bird thrown as soon as the shot at the first bird happens. The last pair is what they call a true pair. Which is both birds thrown at the same time.



Sporting clays has a number of different stations, usually around fifteen to eighteen located in different geographic locations. Usually within a short walk. Each station gives you different bird presentations and challenges. You shoot three to four pairs of birds at each station consisting of true pairs or report pairs. Totaling one hundred birds for a round.

Shooting has been very therapeutic for me as I lost my hunting partner Loki a little over a year ago. I am still able to get out and shoot year-round, and have my partner Odyn with me. Although he doesn't hunt he has a blast on the range. I am still not very

good at the sport but continually improve. I am planning to enter a couple local competitions this year. My favorite part of the sport is good or bad everyone is having fun. It is also a great way to stay on top of your shooting. I should have done that a long time ago to avoid the look of shame from Loki. HaHaHa!!! What I have heard from some good dog trainers it can be a great way to introduce pups to gun shots if done correctly. Obviously while others are shooting of course. It also can teach the dog that not every shot ends in a bird retrieve. If shooting clays is something that interests you, I would recommend finding your local shotgun range and give them a call. I can be a blast for non-hunters too.

Dog Treat Recipe—*Frosty Cups (homemade dog ice cream)*

KATHRYN KEEN

- 1 ripe banana
- 1 C. natural creamy peanut butter (make sure it does not contain xylitol which is toxic to dogs)
- 1 C. plain Greek yogurt (make sure no sweeteners)

Optional add in: pumpkin puree/sweet potato

Mix all the ingredients until well blended.
Divide into plastic containers or ice cube molds.
Freeze for at least 2 hours.
Let your pup enjoy, they are great on these warm summer days!

Notes: I prefer creamy peanut butter with peanuts and salt as the only ingredients. I purchased reusable plastic containers from Walmart with screw on lids, good for travel or even summer walks as a high reward treat to keep your pup cool. If using a plastic container, hold the container for your dog, do not give unsupervised.

