



## PNW Chapter Northern Group Training

Thank you for showing interest in the Pacific Northwest Chapter of NAVHDA Northern Group Training. The mission of the training group is to prepare your dog from foundation level to the finished level hunting dog. We train our dogs for NAVHDA hunt tests from Natural Ability through Invitational. Training for these tests ensures you will have a pleasurable experience in the field with your versatile dog. The structure of the training groups will be split up into 2 categories. One group will be foundational level training aimed at teaching you to get your dog to Stop when you say whoa, sit and stay until released, polished heeling, and a reliable finished retrieve. Getting all the foundation in place before anything else is the most important thing you will do with your dog. The next level group will be finished level training. This is aimed at teaching you to train your dog to be steady on birds both in the field and in the water, to honor another dog at the blind and on point, to properly search a marsh for crippled waterfowl and multiple levels of marking. We will put all of these things together to prepare for Utility Testing and Invitational Testing. The cost for the training groups is \$50.00 non-refundable. This covers the maintenance of training equipment and administrative costs associated with putting the groups on.

**Foundational Training:** You will start with your dog at this group. The dog and handler must make it through this group in order to attend the finished level group. We have this in place to ensure the success of you and your dog as you progress through the process of training your dog. The location of the group will vary depending on the task being worked. The progressive nature of this group will require handlers to stay on pace with the groups progress on the subjects. In order to accomplish this you must work every day with your dog at home and receive the next steps instructions during the group meet up. If you fall behind the core group's progress you will have a hard time keeping current and likely not be successful in finishing the program. There will be minimal bird contact in this group as it is primarily focused on obedience. Having the foundation in place before bird work is an important step to having a lasting successfully trained finished gundog.

**Finished Training:** You will move to this group when you have demonstrated your dog's ability to stop on command, sit and stay in place until released, and reliably retrieve to hand a single marked retrieve. This group is for those aiming for the NAVHDA Utility test and Invitational test. The location will vary depending on what is currently being worked on. In this group you will put to use all the obedience and foundational level training you did in this previous group. You will be putting all the pieces of the puzzle together. All bird costs associated with killing birds is in addition to the group standard fee. Some folks have homing pigeons to use and those will cost \$1.00 per bird use as long as the bird is not harmed in the process.