



Report of the 2011 BOTC TD and TDX Trials

BOTC held its 9th TD test and 4th TDX test on May 8 in So. Hero, Vermont. After several weeks of rain and record Lake Champlain flooding, test weekend offered a vast improvement and even some sunshine. Fields, although soggy in spots, were in excellent condition. Entries far exceeded the 4 TD tracks and 3 TDX tracks which were offered.

T1 was drawn by Loyalville's Northstar Niya, a German Shepherd Dog owned by Louise Hartman of Lambertville, NJ. This dog worked well to the end and her glove. Track T2 was drawn by Tuckerfield Ledgeland Boy Sea, a Pembroke Welsh Corgi owned by Stuart and Karen Westerfield of Walpole, MS. This dog turned in another great performance to the glove for his TD Title. Track T3 was run by a Pyrenean Shepherd owned by Sue Snyder of Hughesville, PA. This dog went right to work, showing great effort and dedication to the track. An incorrect turn near the end of the track resulted in an off track call. So very close!! Track T4 was run by another Pembroke Welsh Corgi, Sippiwisset Cat A Marandville, a young bitch owned by Elizabeth Chase and Julie Clough of Monson, MA. Another determined dog that was all business and on track to her glove and new title.

The TDX followed with some excellent handlers and dogs who we feel certain will earn their TDX titles in the near future. Unfortunately, it was not to happen today. TDX1 track went to Esmond's Will of Steel, a Rottweiler owned by Lucy Newton of Bondville, Vt. TDX2 was run by a Golden Retriever, CH Ginger-Run Saqwish Golden Pine Mac owned by Pamela Fuller and Nancy Kelly of Hamilton, NY. This run was a heartbreaker with the dog going off track on its turn in the woods, only 55 yards from the finish article. TDX3 was run by an English Cocker, Carey-on Twisby handled by Emily McDermott of Amherst, MA. Something far more tempting than our excellent tracklayer drew this dog off track. Alternate 1 was present and ran the Alternate TDX track. This was a nice working Golden Retriever, Goldseeker's Wish Upon a Star, owned by Doris Viguers of Bernardston, MA. The turn in the woods for this dog unfortunately was not as enticing as the pond of water.

Don Denette and Maxine Holmes were co-chairs this year and Carol Dubuque served as Secretary. A special thank you for these individuals who have never served in these positions previously. They kept everyone well fed and hydrated, as well as making things flow nicely. A special thank you to Lynda Morgan for an excellent pre-test dinner hosted at her home which was extremely well attended. Hospitality chairs HilaireThomas and Jean Hodgkins, along with Veronica Metevier, Maxine and Don organized and served us all weekend. Trackers do love to eat!! Chief Tracklayers Lynne Mayo, Sheila Lewonski and Maria Germano, had excellent tracklayers including Dorothy Schroeder, Mardi Trendle, Sharon Ressiguie, Elaine Thomas, Don Denette, Amanda Ochoa and Jill Cuccia (two newbies who got their first experience as a tracklayer). Judges Ilene Morgan and Ray Desmarais plotted interesting and doable tracks.

Lynda Morgan took her judges test to become a new TD judge. Since an AKC Field Representative was present, we also had guest Jane Jonas here from Denver, Colorado who took her TDX test, becoming a new TDX judge. Congratulations to newly approved judges Lynda and Jane.

This well run tracking event draws lots of out-of-state exhibitors who not only rave about our excellent tracks, judges, hospitality but also about the beautiful views and the friendliness of the people involved with the test and the surrounding community. It takes an Army to make Events happen. BOTC is blessed to have such an Army. Thanks everyone.