

**2010 BTCA Performance Committee  
Proposed Silverwood Weekend Activities/Events**

**Agility Trial**

The survey results are in, and they look very encouraging for a Silverwood Agility Trial. We have a total of 22 standard Bull Terrier teams who are planning on entering, and 7 Miniature Bull Terrier teams who are planning on entering, for a total of 29 projected entries.

In addition, we had an extraordinary 33 respondents who are interested in volunteering at the trial.

Here is the spreadsheet for the projected costs and income from the agility trial. We have confirmed the cost and availability of the facility and the equipment.

**Cost/Income for Silverwood 2010 Agility Trial - all figures are estimates**

Facility Rental \$500.00

Equipment Rental \$600.00

Judge \$200.00

Trophies/Ribbons

**Expenses** \$1,300.00

Sponsorships \$600.00

Entry Fees (28 Runs) \$560.00

**Income** \$1,160.00

We already have the sponsorships lined up, and the projected entry fees are very conservative (assuming only 50% of survey respondents attend), given the response we have had. We have confirmed all the costs and availability with the facility (sports dome adjacent to the hotel) and Max 200 (our equipment provider). The Performance Committee will not be asking the BTCA to contribute any money towards the trial.

The Performance Committee feels, with this kind of interest, we should have a trial. Because of the number of events and workshops the PC is planning on Friday (see below) We are asking for a Thursday afternoon time slot for the agility trial.

**Rally and Obedience Events**

We will be holding a Rally and Obedience trial. We would like to hold this even on Friday Morning as in years past.

**CGC and TDI Testing**

We will be offering CGC and TDI Testing. Time and location TBD, depending on the other events

**Workshops**

The Performance Committee would like to offer some in-depth for the workshops on Friday, after the Rally/Obedience events. In the past, our workshops have been fun try-it sessions, but have not really given the participants the tools they need to continue on and feel confident about training performance sports. With that in mind, we plan on offering the following on Friday. Participants would attend the first "Basics" seminar and, if they wish, would be able to attend one other one hour seminar of their choosing:

1. One and a half hour seminar - **Pigs Fly Basics and intro to Free Shaping**. This would be a condensed version of the four hour "When Pigs Fly" seminar. There would be a PowerPoint presentation followed by a free shaping session. First, students would free shape an experienced dog belonging to one of us, and then they would try the same behavior with their own dog. Working with an experienced dog gives people a sense of confidence and makes it much easier for them to train their own dogs.

Attendance of this seminar, either as a participant or an auditor, would be a prerequisite to attending one of the other sessions.

2. One hour session - **Attention and Show Handling** - Mary has volunteered to do this - she will have to get back to us on limits.

3. One hour session - **Agility** - I will run this seminar and Kathy Riley has offered to help me. Participation would be limited to ten working teams.

Note: Time constraints will probably dictate that these two seminars run concurrently.

4. If interest is high, we could also run a one hour **Heeling/Obedience** seminar following the agility seminar

We thought we might charge \$25 for the Basics and Free Shaping seminar plus *one* of the other segments. We would limit it to 20 working teams and unlimited auditors.

In addition to these "formal" seminars, Line Farr has generously offered to have a "**Train Your Dog**" Booth at Silverwood. Line is going to get back to us with the exact agenda, but she will be offering mini-seminars on pet obedience and tricks throughout the weekend. These seminars would be stand alone, and the participants would not have to have attended the Basics and Free Shaping session.

We think this is a super way to involve as many owners as possible in our activities, and would be a great service to the membership!

**Silverwood - Performance Table for Pittsburgh**

Organizer & Trainer - Line Farr

**Activities**

\* Demo / Training for Bull Terriers and their Owners: Behaviors for Happy Home Life

\* Training Handouts

- \* CGC & Therapy Materials
- \* Picture Books and / or Displays - Performance, Therapy, CGC dogs
- \* Resource materials (books, dvds, etc) if space

#### Location

An area that has some space around it for demos and is fairly "near the action," so that

- \* working with a dog and owner can work as a private lesson and as a demo for passersby without crowding
- \* I can set up something like a grooming table to act as a kitchen counter as well as 2 chairs that are not trapped in a narrow space behind a table. (see behaviors)
- \* depending on space, I might be able to work with 1-3 dogs at a time - continuous demo as I move from dog to dog plus time for handlers to practice with trainer assistance
- \* I'll put some hours into this, so I'd like to not feel isolated!

#### Training & Demo Behaviors

- \* Puppy Zen, Off & Leave It: This links to the article that is coming out in Barks - teaching your bully to leave food
- \* Mat Training: Teaching your bully to lie on a mat while the owner works at the kitchen counter, when sitting (eating, working at computer)
- \* Wait: Waiting when a door, gate or crate door is opened without bolting through
- \* Dress Yourself: Teach your bully to put on his collar and leash!
- \* Tricks: Fun tricks for bullies
- \* Other behaviors might include things on the CCG or TDI tests. (Off / Leave It is part of the TDI test.)

#### Dogs & Handlers, Scheduling, Fees

There will be some (possibly most) pre-registration for space.

Will look for a way to accommodate walk-ins while still making good use of the space and time. Dogs must be comfortable in the environment - this is not the time or space to be working with reactive dogs with fear or aggression issues. There will be a fee to offset costs for the space and materials, reasonable to encourage participation.

#### Hours

Mostly on Friday & Saturday, possibly some on Thursday night or Sunday morning. Not continuous, but will be regular and the schedule will be easy to find. When training and demos are not happening, the table may be staffed by Performance Committee members, but the displays will be self-serve and always accessible.