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## LET'S GO!

### ***Message from Chapter President Pete Aplikowski***

The time of year that all of us versatile dog enthusiasts have been waiting for is fast approaching! The snow is all but gone and the ice on the ponds is melting, and our Training and Testing Season will soon be upon us. This will be a LONG email to all of our chapter members to get people up to speed about what to expect in the coming season.

We strive to make sure every member gets what they need from the chapter's resources, but please remember that all of us on the board and our training leaders, test secretaries and coordinators are all volunteers. You will get the most out of your membership by being proactive and asking for and seeking out the help you need. ***Due to the size of our membership, most of our training takes place in small groups that are not published on our calendar.*** We will support everyone's activities with access to grounds, birds, and the more complex equipment as necessary. If you need help or do not know where to get it, we suggest you attend one of our Introductory days to Training coming up in April. (see below for more info). PLEASE also reach out to us directly if you need help:

[President@mnavhda.org](mailto:President@mnavhda.org)

[Training@mnavhda.org](mailto:Training@mnavhda.org)

[Testing@mnavhda.org](mailto:Testing@mnavhda.org)

We are finding that email communications are becoming more inconsistent and unreliable, so if you have reached out and are not getting a response, pick up the phone and call or text me at 651-485-0055 and I will make sure we get you and your dog taken care of.



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Pete". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

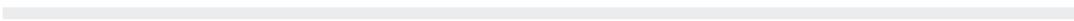
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## Intro to Training Days

(click buttons below for more detailed info)

FOUR BROOKS-Thursday  
April 23rd at 6:00pm

KEYSTONE WOODS-  
Saturday April 25th at  
12:00pm NOON



# Grounds Passes

We utilize THREE different [Training Grounds](#), and you are required to have a pass to be on the grounds for training.

**Keystone Woods**-Passes will be sold through our website starting in early April. Training is anticipated to start April 15th and goes through August 31st. *More info will be released soon-Stay tuned!*

**Four Brooks**-Passes are available now through our website. [BUY NOW](#)

**Iron Range Retriever Club**- [See Info here](#)

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## NEED HELP!

### BIRD PEN RELOCATION at KEYSTONE

We are relocating our bird pens off the old Kelley Farms property to a new private land location adjacent to Keystone in the coming weeks so we can be ready to take bird deliveries by the start of training. If you can help please contact our Director of Training Keith Larson [Training@mnavhda.org](mailto:Training@mnavhda.org).



# WORK DAY AT FOUR BROOKS

Please join us **Saturday April 11th** at Four Brooks for a work day to improve the grounds for our upcoming season. Meet at **9:00am** in the NORTH parking lot. [More details here!](#)



# NATURAL ABILITY TEST

## VIRTUAL HANDLER'S CLINIC

Follow the link below to watch a video recording of the Virtual Clinic that was held via ZOOM. Lots of good info shared and questions and answers covered here like:

- Four Brooks Grounds Information
- What to Expect on Test Day
- Need for Volunteers
- Handling Tips for Field, Track, Water
- Explanation of the NA Scorecard and Prize Levels

WATCH HERE!



WATER	TRACK	FIELD	TEST	SCORE	POINTS
	4	4	Use of Nose 4 3 3	4	6 24
		3	* Scent 4 3 2	3	5 15
2			Water 3 3 3	2	5 10
		4	Pointing 3 3 2	4	4 16
	4		Tracking 3 2 1	4	2 8
2	4	3	* Dislike to Work 4 3 2	3	4 12
3	4	3	Cooperation 3 2 1	3	2 6



PRIZE CLASSIFICATION III TOTAL 91  
JUDGE'S NAME

# VOLUNTEERS!

## WE NEED YOUR HELP

We cannot hold our Tests and Events without Volunteers. For a dog and handler to be able to run in a test, someone else has to give up their time to make that happen. With a chapter our size, it can be easy to assume that there is always someone else volunteering and that we have plenty of help. THIS IS NOT TRUE! Volunteering is a great way to

learn about NAVHDA tests and meet people and see a variety of dogs. Please follow the link below and fill out the form for what and when you can help us with. No experience is necessary, and even partial day jobs like picking up judges at the MSP airport or shuttling trailers back and forth to Four Brooks are very helpful.



[VOLUNTEER HERE!](#)

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# TESTING UPDATES

## Minnesota Chapter of NAVHDA Tests 2026

May 9-10 Natural Ability-FULL with wait list

June 27-28 NA, GDT, UT-FULL with wait list

Aug 15-16 NA, GDT, UT-Limited NA spots only remaining!

Aug 22-23 GDT, UT-FULL with wait list

Sept 12-13 Natural Ability-*OPENS for entries Saturday May 2nd*



[FULL 2026 TESTING INFO HERE](#)

# NAVHDA AIMS & RULES

UPDATES from the NAVHDA International Office

**NAVHDA International recently send out this communication to share with our members about updates to the AIMS, Programs and Test Rules:**

The revised Aims & Rules book is now available online. While only clarifications were made, the following sections are the ones recommended for review. Please pass these on to your chapter members.

2.5 Judges and Judging

2.14 Gunners

3.6 Cooperation

3.8 Retrieving

5 The NAVHDA Advanced Tests

6.3 Steadiness by Blind

6.4 Retrieve of Duck

6.7 Steadiness on Game

6.8 Retrieve of Shot Bird

6.9 Retrieve of Dragged Game

7.2 Search for Duck

7.6 Retrieve of Duck

8.6 Honor by Blind

[VIEW AIMS & RULES ONLINE HERE](#)

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## OTHER TESTING OPPORTUNITIES

NAVHDA and the Minnesota Chapter is just one outlet for getting versatile dogs evaluated and tested. With our tests filling, you might also consider some of the following:

[Minnesota Northwoods NAVHDA Chapter July 31st, Aug 1st & 2nd](#) at Pine Ridge Grouse Camp-Remer, MN, offering NA, GDT, UT.

[Minnesota Affiliate of the Versatile Hunting Dog Federation](#) June 6th and 7th at Four Brooks, offering HAE, AHAE and PE.

[United Kennel Club Hunt Test and Field Trial and Conformation Event-The Land O Lakes Cup](#), hosted by Korthals Griffon Unites States-June 13th & 14th at Four Brooks, offering TAN, WRT, GUN SOLO, OPEN SOLO, OPEN BRACE and a Griffon Conformation Specialist from Quebec will be doing Conformation/Structure Evaluations.



## Korthals Griffon-US

*Learn more about this new Wirehaired Pointing Griffon Club and the UKC test/trial system in this podcast.*

[Apple Podcasts](#)

[Spotify](#)

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### **Minnesota Chapter of the North American Versatile Hunting Dog Association, Inc.**

#### **Mission Statement:**

The Minnesota Chapter of NAVHDA is a family focused organization dedicated to promoting NAVHDA principles and assisting members to train and test their dogs in accordance with the NAVHDA AIMS Programs Test Rules. In doing so, we believe members can develop their versatile dogs into the hunting partners they will enjoy for years to come



You received this email because you or a family member registered on our website when joining or renewing an annual chapter membership.

[Unsubscribe](#)