

**Chapter NR 17****DOG TRIALS AND TRAINING**

NR 17.001 Definitions  
NR 17.01 Dog trials

NR 17.02 Dog training

(Sections 23.09 and 29.255, Wis. Stats.)

**NR 17.001 Definitions.** (1) Definitions of this chapter.

(a) "Department" means the state of Wisconsin department of natural resources.

(b) "Department lands" means lands under the management and control of the department.

(c) "Association" means the Wisconsin association of field trail clubs (WAFTC).

(d) "Regional trials" means AKC licensed or American field sanctioned trial in a region of the United States comprising more than one state.

(e) "Championship trial" means annual trial for a particular breed or breeds in which the champion of the year is determined.

(f) "Classic" means similar to a championship trial, which includes trials run on wild game birds of particular species (i.e., quail classic, prairie chicken classic, etc.).

(g) "Dog trial (field trial)" means any organized competitive field event involving sporting dog breeds which is sanctioned, licensed or recognized by a local, state, regional or national dog organization.

(h) "Dog training" means the activity of teaching a dog to retrieve, point, flush, and/or track game for the purpose of hunting or dog trial competition.

**History:** Cr. Register, July, 1977, No. 259, eff. 1-1-78.

**NR 17.01 Dog trials.** (1) A permit to conduct dog trials shall be obtained from the department for dog trials on department lands or on other lands when game birds or animals obtained from licensed game farms are used or shot as part of the dog trial. The administrative fee for a dog trial permit is \$10 and must be submitted with the application. Any permit issued under this section shall be exhibited to any authorized agent of the department on demand.

(2) No permit will be issued for field trials using captive reared birds or animals on any lands where the department determines that adverse effects to native wildlife may result from the release of such captive reared stock.

(3) Applications and fees for such permits shall be made to the department by February 1 for trials held prior to July 31, and by July 1 for trials held prior to December 31. Thereafter, applications for open dates will be on a first-come, first-serve basis and must be submitted at least 10 days prior to the date of the trial.

Register, July, 1977, No. 259

(4) The permittee shall have in possession at the time of the trial a receipt issued by the licensed game farm from which the game used at such trial was obtained. All game farm birds or animals so obtained and used, which are no longer alive, shall either be buried or consumed. If the birds or animals are to be removed and consumed, it shall be tagged with tags obtained from the department.

(5) Game birds and animals furnished by the department shall be used only on department lands and shall not be shot at such dog trials.

(6) Species of birds or animals to be stocked, used or shot at dog trials shall be listed on the permit and are subject to approval by the department. Such permit will serve in lieu of a stocking permit.

(7) Three classes of field trial grounds are established.

(a) *Class 1 field trial grounds.* Those areas on department properties where dog trials are a major recreational pursuit. Dog trials and training will be allowed throughout the year except where conflicts occur during hunting seasons. Class 1 field trial grounds are located on the following department properties:

1. Bong recreation area;
2. Kettle Moraine state forest, southern unit (Ottawa grounds);
3. Mazomanie wildlife area;
4. Greenwood wildlife area;
5. Pine Island wildlife area;
6. Deansville wildlife area.

(b) *Class 2 field trial grounds.* Those areas on department properties where dog trials are permitted as a compatible, but not major, recreational pursuit. No trials will be conducted on these properties from April 15 through July 31. Class 2 field trial grounds are located on the following department properties:

1. Douglas county grouse area (Solon Springs);
2. Sandhill wildlife area;
3. Grand River wildlife area;
4. White River wildlife area;
5. Buena Vista wildlife area;
6. Sherry-Carson wildlife area;
7. Kettle Moraine state forest, southern unit (Eagle grounds).

(c) *Class 3 field trial grounds.* Those areas on department properties where dog trials are permitted as a compatible, but not major, recreational pursuit. Horses will be limited on these properties to those periods of the year when conditions are such that soil and vegetation will not be harmed. Class 3 field trial grounds are located on the following department properties:

1. Brillion wildlife area;
2. Kettle Moraine state forest, northern unit;

3. Horicon wildlife area;

4. Eldorado.

(d) Spring trials will not be permitted on any area used as prairie grouse dancing/booming grounds.

(8) The use of horses for field trials is permitted under the following circumstances:

(a) On class 1 field trial grounds, horse use in excess of 10 per brace is permitted.

(b) On class 2 and class 3 field trial grounds up to 10 horses are permitted for each brace, including handlers, owners, judges, bird planters and field marshals.

(c) For regional trials, championship trials and classics held on class 2 and class 3 field trial grounds, horse use in excess of 10 per brace may be permitted providing the grounds to be used are large enough to support 4 or more one-hour courses and the soils and vegetation will not be harmed by heavy horse use.

(d) On any field trial grounds, if excessive damage occurs to soil or vegetation from horse use, the department may impose limits on horse use.

(e) In all cases, horses will be used only for the actual brace. No pleasure horseback riding is allowed.

(9) Camping is allowed on field trial grounds only if facilities are specifically designated. Overnight parking is permitted by self-contained camp units in parking areas associated with the field trial grounds. Permits will be required and must be obtained from the department 5 days before the trial date. Only field trial participants are eligible.

(10) Dog trial permits on department lands may be cancelled prior to the trial date due to emergencies (i.e., flood, high fire danger). Reasonable attempts will then be made to designate an alternate site or return the fee.

(11) If any rules on the dog trial permit are violated the permit may be revoked. No fees collected by the department will be returned.

**History:** Cr. Register, July, 1977, No. 259, eff. 1-1-78.

**NR 17.02 Dog training.** (1) Except during the open season, it shall be unlawful for any person to train hunting dogs by using or shooting game birds and game animals obtained from licensed game farms on any lands, unless they have first obtained a permit from the department.

(2) The administrative fee for a dog training permit is \$5 and shall be submitted with the application.

(3) Dog training permits: (a) Shall be effective from date of issuance to the end of the calendar year;

(b) Shall specify the legal description of the land where such training shall take place;

(c) When game birds or animals obtained from licensed game farms are to be used or shot, the lands covered by the permit shall not exceed 40 acres per parcel and parcels must be noncontiguous;

(d) Shall be nontransferable;

(e) Shall authorize the training of hunting dogs only, and shall not authorize the conducting or operation of commercial or organized shoots;

(f) Shall be exhibited to any authorized agent of the department upon demand.

(4) The use of horses for dog training is not permitted on department lands except on class 1 field trial grounds and on lands posted open for such use pursuant to the conditions of section NR 17.01 (8) (d).

(5) Applications for such permits shall be made on forms furnished by the department. The permittee may have in possession during the effective term of the permit live game birds or game animals obtained from a licensed game farm.

(6) Game birds and game animals possessed under authority of a game farm license may be used at any time without a permit for laying a track or creating scent for training hunting dogs when such game birds or animals are kept under control by leash or shackling.

(7) With the exception of class 1 field trial grounds, no such permit shall be issued to include lands where, in the opinion of the department, such dog training would be injurious to wild game populations.

(8) Dog training permits will not be valid on department lands from April 15 to July 31. On department lands used for public hunting purposes all dogs must be on a leash no longer than 8 feet and under the control of the owner, from April 15 through July 31. This subsection does not apply to class 1 field trial grounds or lands posted open for dog training.

(9) The permittee shall have in possession at the time of training a receipt issued by the licensed game farm from which the game was obtained. All game farm birds or animals so obtained and used shall be tagged by the game farm where purchased, regardless if obtained from this state or another state.

(10) Such permits may be revoked or cancelled by the department at any time with due cause submitted in writing. No fees collected by the department will be returned.

**History:** Cr. Register, July, 1977, No. 259, eff. 1-1-78.