



Working Dog News

SUPPORTING TRAINERS,
HANDLERS, JUDGES AND
REGIONAL CLUBS.

4th Quarter 2025



From sunny California and the rain-soaked northwest, across the plains to the snowy northeast, Newfoundlands and their people have been celebrating the season by participating in tree pulls. We've gathered just a sampling from these heartwarming scenes to share some Christmas joy with all of you - with all best wishes for Yuletide from all of us at the NCA.

UPCOMING EVENTS

See what's happening
for [Working Dogs](#).

Year-End Wrap Up

The NCA appreciates so much how many people it takes to put on a Working Event. To provide feedback to the host club in a timely manner, we are asking all entrants to complete evaluations. Our online evaluation will record your responses anonymously, but if you want to share your name, please do so. Thank you for upholding the traditions of our wonderful working dogs!

[DRAFT TEST EVALUATIONS](#)

[WATER TEST EVALUATIONS](#)

Regional Club Insurance Update

If your Regional Club requires insurance for club-owned boats or related equipment and are having difficulty finding coverage for damage or theft (not liability) you can reach out to The Leonard Insurance Group, 2103 E Darby Road, Havertown, PA 19083 (610) 789-9600, scullerjon@lionline.com. Thanks to David Hartmann of PONC for doing the legwork to find this coverage option.



Our Dogs. Our Children. Our Future.

Our Newfoundlands have such a wonderful and rich heritage. Saviors of the people in high seas - the protector of Peter Pan and Wendy - and Best Buds to children all over.

As we consider that heritage, the new Stewards of the Children policy enacted by the NCA makes complete sense and should be a small step that could indeed mean soooo much. Read the full details of the NCA policy [here](#):

Please email a PDF copy of your certificate of completion to workingdog@ncadogs.org for recording purposes.

Important Notice for all Regional Clubs submitting applications for Working Events for 2026!

All applications for events MUST now include the certificate of one of the committee members to be a complete application!

Forms have been updated on the website to note that on applications. Also, there is now a link to this training information in “common forms” for events on the event toolkit.

The WDC thanks you for your cooperation in this important project!

Stewards of Children® - Darkness to Light

FEATURED ARTICLES

CHECK OUT THESE RESOURCES FROM FELLOW TRAINERS



Anyone can learn from an experienced draft person or literature how to fit draft equipment correctly, but do you know why it should fit that way? The most important reasons why it should fit correctly are efficiency, the use of energy exerted by the dog, and comfort for the dog.

[READ MORE](#)



“Give it a name”. If you want your Newf to do something and to do it consistently, you must give the command a name. In addition to “naming” the command, the handler must use the same terminology consistently for your Newf to learn exactly what you want them to do for you.

[READ MORE](#)



Keeping things safe and healthy can ensure a successful tree pull event. To provide balance, consider using a 4-wheeled wagon or a 2-wheels cart specifically designed for tree pulls.

Here are cart plans provided by Dave Supko and Mark Fernald.

[READ MORE](#)



The Hidden Forces of Draft Work

The forces of physics can get very complicated when they are all acting on a vehicle and dog at the same time. But applying the basic principles of physics to your selection of draft equipment is imperative when deciding which is going to be easier for your dog to pull under various circumstances.

[Read More](#)

How To Build A Draft Dog by Roger Powell

Black bears are strong. I know. During 15 years of research on wild black bears, I have seen them dismember big logs searching for large beetle larvae and I have seen them toss aside logs (big logs) and huge stumps because they were in the way. What does this have to do with Newfoundland lands as draft dogs?

[Read More](#)

At the end of the year, it's a great time to reflect on what gives you joy. And what gives your dog joy! Whether it is working in NCA events, AKC events, Therapy Work, and just cuddling on the couch with the humans in their lives, our Newfs give us such joy each and every day. All of us on the Working Dog Committee wish for you the opportunities for finding your joy with your newfie! Hope your holidays are memories that you will cherish always. - - the NCA Working Dog Committee

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