

## Press Release

Be sure to mark Saturday, September 10, 2011 on your calendar and plan to attend the Manitowoc County Kennel Club's Annual Hunting Dog Expo. This is the thirteenth year of this popular event where the average hunting dog owner can come and play six different sporting dog games in one locale. Hunting Dog Expo 2011 is open to all field breeds and their owners to prepare for the upcoming hunting season. The Expo is held on some of the finest dog training grounds in the Midwest. The kennel club grounds are nestled up against the Manitowoc River near the rural community of Valders, WI and conveniently located between Milwaukee, Green Bay, and the Fox Valley (see the event's web site [http://www.mc-kc.com/html/hunt\\_expo.html](http://www.mc-kc.com/html/hunt_expo.html) for information and a map). The facility has four technical ponds and several large fields to host the event. The grounds are west of Valders off of Highway 151 and Quarry road (turn north).

The 2011 Expo is featuring a new and exciting addition for the more experienced retriever/handler teams – The MCKC Cup. This inaugural event within the Expo consists of two series – marks and blind(s) each series – and is limited to 25 owner-handler dog teams. One series will be a Master Hunt test; the second series will be a field trial Qualifying test. Both series will be governed by AKC rules for Field Trials and Hunting Tests. Judging to determine three placements (first through third place) over the course of both series and will be consistent with judging for field trials. The first three places will receive, in addition to plaques, prize money (\$150 for first place; \$100 for second place; \$50 for third place). All entrants will receive a ball cap from Avery Outdoors. For a premium and entry form please see [http://www.mc-kc.com/html/hunt\\_expo.html](http://www.mc-kc.com/html/hunt_expo.html). The entry deadline is August 26, 2011

Like previous Hunting Dog Expo's the sporting dog games are the real attraction for handlers and their dogs. Those games range from flushing a live game bird to single and multiple retrieves on both land and water. Some games are set-up to simulate an average day in the field. Other games test specific skills including retrieving game to hand. Attendees of the day's event can run every game once or concentrate on specific games. All games can be attempted and run as many times as they wish. Pre-registration for the sporting dog games is not necessary to participate. However, Early Bird ticket packages are available at a discount. For more information contact Jeff Mueller at (920) 960-3660, or visit the Expo web site.

The Expo will again feature the popular dock jump event. The dock jump tests the dog's distance jumping ability over one of the Club's ponds. The dock jump is free to all visitors of the Expo. There is no purchase required to participate.

Hunting Dog Expo has been featured in such publications as The Retriever Journal, Wisconsin Outdoor Journal, and Wisconsin Outdoor News. The highlight of the day is the presentation of the David G. Meisner Memorial Trophy to the day's most successful gun dog. Dogs and their handlers participating in the variety of fun, simulated hunting scenarios and games, held throughout the day, will determine this.

Participants have numerous opportunities at door prizes, raffle prizes, awards, and silent auction items thanks to the generosity of supporters such as Purina, Tri-tronics, Avery Outdoors and totalretriever.com.

The gates to the event open at 8:00 AM and the sporting dog games run from 9:00 AM through 4:00 PM. Attendees are encouraged to bring their family, proper seasonal attire and rain gear, water for their dogs, a camera, and lawn chairs. Concessions will be available on the grounds.