



Guide For Hosting An AS Trial

American Schutzhund (AS) Trial Hosting Guide

A Handbook for Clubs

Introduction

Hosting an American Schutzhund (AS) trial is an opportunity to grow the sport, strengthen your club, and showcase working dogs at a high level. This guide provides a clear, step-by-step framework to ensure your event is organized, compliant, and successful.

1. Determine Your Trial Date

Select a proposed trial date and contact the National Director for judge and helper assignments.

2. Pre-Trial Requirements & Compliance

Club dues must be paid in full for the current trial season (beginning November 1; renewal opens September 15).

No events may be announced or held until dues are current.

Complete host trial application:

<https://psak9-as.org/host-event/>

Apply for award package and insurance.

Confirm your event is listed on the official calendar.

Download judge sheets and paperwork.

Create an entry form (Google Forms/JotForm).

Verify all participants have active memberships:

<https://psak9-as.org/membership-list/>

3. Launching Your Trial

Create a Facebook event page and invite participants.

Share updates, entry forms, and deadlines.

Share your event in the AS Member Group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/630791421053887>

Reach out directly to local clubs, handlers, and breeders to drive participation.

4. Scorebooks

Participants must order scorebooks at least two weeks prior.

No on-site pickup is available.

5. Judge & Helper Logistics

Arrange travel, accommodations, and transportation for judge and helper.

Confirm equipment needs.

6. Trial Equipment Checklist

General:

- Microchip reader (extra batteries)
- Starter pistol with blanks
- Neutral dog

Environmental Evaluation:

- Slippery surface
- Tight spaces
- Unstable surface
- Climbing
- Hunt drive
- Suspicion and recovery

Field Equipment:

- Long down flags
- Handler chair and tether point
- Blinds

Scent Detection (AS1–AS3): see rulebook

Obedience:

- Spray paint
- Jump, A-frame, dumbbells
- Starter pistol and blanks
- Group members with chairs

Protection:

- Six blinds
- Field markings

7. Final Preparation

Confirm awards and trophies.

Reconfirm travel plans.

Push final entries.

8. Trial Secretary

Must be an active AS member not competing.

Responsible for paperwork, membership verification, and scorebooks.

9. Trial Completion

Complete paperwork with judge.

Host awards ceremony.

10. Post-Trial

Submit all paperwork and fees within two weeks using provided envelope.

11. Additional Reminders

Ensure members review AS rulebook.

Use Americanschutzhund.org and YouTube for preparation.

Contact AS Member Liaison Kim Dooley for assistance.

Final Thoughts

Preparation, communication, and attention to detail are key to a successful trial.