

Tracking Mini Workshop

Following the Tracking test there will be a mini workshop offered by Vincent Ramirez, BSCA member and AKC tracking Judge. There will be only 5 working spots offered and unlimited auditing spots. Vincent has provided a Questionnaire (visit Seminars page on BSCA Specialty web site to complete the form online) that you must return to him if you are interested in filling one of these 5 spots. He will then choose the participants to fill the spots based on the information provided.

An additional \$10 will be charged for those chosen for the Working spot at this Mini Workshop. The Auditing portion of this Mini clinic is open to non-Belgian Sheepdog owners.

The questionnaire is available on the BSCA Specialty web site under Seminars. It will be available for online completion and will be automatically e-mailed to Vincent Ramirez. It must be received by the event closing date of April 10.

From Vincent Ramirez –Mini Tracking Workshop

I want handlers and their canine companions to experience the positive of tracking. Tracking builds trust in the dog, tracking builds the dog's confidence and it gives the handler another opportunity to place their hands on the dog with praise. I am comfortable teaching elder retired obedience dogs and young puppies alike. My first tracking dog and I were just looking for something to do after years of competitive obedience. Belgian Sheepdog Turbo UD TDX was the perfect instructor passing his TDX just 10 months after his TD at 13.5 years of age. I treasure that time spent working scent with Turbo and have with each dog since. My second tracking dog was started young to become a Champion Tracker June 25, 2000. CT Twister and I stepped away from AKC for the next four years training with USAR NETF-1. With Twister at my side we completed the FEMA USAR Canine Search Specialist Course at Camp Murray, WA September 14, 2001. Training with top SAR handlers and their dogs in difficult if not hostile environments, gave me a welcomed perspective of training in drive and teaching with motivation.

Next were Belgian Tervurens CH CT CoCo Puff, CH OTCH CT Amy and recently CH CT Danya and CH CT Bragger UD. I am currently working two Tervuren in TD/TDX and one Belgian Sheepdog in VST. To date six TD's, seven TDX's, and five VST's / Champion Trackers. I love these dogs and respect their abilities. These titles are theirs not mine.

The TD/TDX method that I use with my dogs is the same that I use for VST. At this mini workshop I look forward to working with fellow Belgian tracking teams problem solving tracking issues. Please note that this is not a full length tracking seminar, just a one afternoon mini workshop.

Five teams will be given brief oversight, unlimited auditors. You are encouraged to bring a notebook, pen/pencil, a chair, crate, tracking harness, tracking line, tracking articles, training treats, tracking flags. Prepare for weather. Show up with an open mind, negative energy not allowed.

Vincent Ramirez / Bucyrus, KS