

2026 DelMarVa Water Trials

Hosted by the DelMarVa Portuguese Water Dog Club

Saturday, September 26 & Sunday, September 27



DelMarVa Portuguese Water Dog Club

Camp Pecometh
136 Bookers Wharf Road
Centreville, Maryland 21617

All levels offered on both days

JUDGE
Alan Reisdorf
Athens, Georgia

Entries open on July 27 at 8am and close September 4 at 11:59pm ET

To Enter the Water Trial

We're using Perfdog.com to accept all entries. Enter online and pay with a credit card.
Fees per entry are \$47 plus a \$3 PerfDog fee to be paid by the competitor.

Officers and Directors of the Portuguese Water Dog Club of America

President.....Michele Wolford
Vice President.....Jill Roudebush
Recording Secretary.....Meg DeFore
Corresponding Secretary.....Cindy Miner
Treasurer.....John Ellery

Directors: Jan Allred, Julie Conger, Zac Crump, Annie Smith-Jones, Kathy Souza

Officers and Directors of the DelMarVa Portuguese Water Dog Club

PresidentLisa Mullikin
Vice PresidentLouann Tracy
Secretary.....Mary Sebera
Treasurer.....Cindy Miner

Directors: Tracey Dearborn, Audrey Hiebler, Diana Schaub

DelMarVa Water Trial Committee

Water Trial Chair.....Louann Tracy
Water Trial Secretary.....Mary Sebera
Chief Stewards.....Peter Paige & Cindy Miner

Tracey Dearborn, Carol Mattingley, Sally Merz, Jenny Mobley, Diana Schaub, Kelsey Wood

General Trial Questions should be directed to Louann Tracy, Trial Chair oakhillpwd@gmail.com

Entry Questions should be directed to Mary Sebera, Trial Secretary mcsebera@aol.com

NOTICE TO EXHIBITORS

The Water Trial will be held in accordance with the most recent provisions of the PWDCA Water Trial Manual. Participants are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the regulations. Copies of the Manual may be downloaded from the PWDCA website www.pwdca.org.

Eligibility: PWDCA sanctioned water trials are open only to purebred Portuguese Water Dogs registered with the AKC or foreign registry or with AKC PAL/ILP (Purebred Alternate Listing/Indefinite Listing Privilege) numbers. On the day of the water trial(s), the dog must be eligible to compete in events sanctioned by the

Kennel Club in which the dog is registered (AKC, CKC). Additionally, on the day of the water trial(s), the handler of the entered dog must also be in good standing and able to compete in events sanctioned by the Kennel Club in which the dog is registered. All dogs must be in good health and in proper condition for the test level in which they are entered.

The minimum age for water trial participants is 9 years. Participants between the ages of 9 and 18 must have a parent or legal guardian present at the site while they participate. Neither a judge nor any member of his/her immediate family or household nor any dog owned by a judge or any such family or household member shall be eligible to compete at a trial where the judge is officiating or performing as an observer or provisional judging assignment. "Competing" shall include acting as a substitute steward. Family and household members may serve as club stewards at trials officiated by those judges.

A dog must be at least six months of age on the day of the trial to enter the Junior Water Dog level and one year of age to enter the Apprentice level and above, unless the dog has successfully passed the Junior level. A dog may enter the Apprentice Water Dog titling level without having a Junior Water Dog Title if it is at least 12 months of age on the day of the trial. A dog must have earned an Apprentice Water Dog title in order to be eligible to enter the Working Water Dog level. A dog must have earned a Working Water Dog title (Working Water Dog Excellent is an optional title but is not required) to be eligible to enter the Courier Water Dog level. A dog must have earned a Courier Water Dog Excellent title to be eligible to enter the Master level. No dog may be entered more than once at the same test level at a trial.

AN OWNER OR HANDLER MUST NOTIFY THE TRIAL SECRETARY IF A DOG EARNS A WATER TITLE OR CERTIFICATE AFTER THE DOG HAS BEEN ENTERED IN THIS WATER TRIAL

Acceptance of Entries: The host club has the right to refuse any entry for any cause that they deem to be sufficient. A waiting list will be maintained and competitors notified if time and space are available for their entry.

Entry Dates and Information: Entries open on July 27 at 8am ET and close on September 4 at 11:59pm ET. Properly completed entries will be accepted in the order received. A dog may compete only once per trial. Fees per entry are \$47 plus a \$3 PerfDog fee to be paid by the competitor.

All levels will be judged at the trial on both days. Entries will be limited to 35 dogs or 8 hours of judging per day. Any entries over the limits when the trial closes will be put on a waiting list and will be entered as time and space permit in the order received.

All entries MUST be made through PerfDog.com. Online entries will be accepted only if they are properly completed and the appropriate fees have been paid. ACCEPTABLE ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE CLOSING DATE, September 4, 2026 at 11:59pm. After this time, entries may not be accepted or substituted. Entries may NOT be mailed, hand delivered, faxed, or telephoned.

Refunds: Fees for entries and any extras (meals, parking, etc.) include a Processing Fee to be paid by the competitor. Entries and extras may be canceled or changed online prior to close of entry, with refunds (less the \$3 processing fee per entry) available to keep as PerfDog credit, refund to credit card, or mail via check (less a \$3 Check Fee). Entries and extras may be cancelled after the closing date, but no refunds will be given. Please inform the secretary if you would like to cancel your entry so that your spot can be voided and so it may be offered to someone on the waiting list. Contact the secretary with any other changes to your entry after the closing date. Entry fees shall not be refunded if the dog is absent, excused by a veterinarian or judge, barred from competition by the action of the Trial Committee or if the Trial is cancelled due to extreme weather etc.

Entry Priority: Both regular and non-regular entries will be accepted for the water trial. Regular entries will be accepted first, with non-regular entries accepted on a space-available basis in the order received. Non-regular entries include For Exhibition Only entries.

Waiting List: After 35 teams or 8 hours of judging time have been initially allocated on each day, the remaining entries will be put on a waiting list in the order they were received. A waiting list will be maintained for each day of judging. The waiting list entries will be given judging time if a confirmed entry is withdrawn or if time permits.

Change of Entry Level before Trial Closing Date: If a dog entered in a title level earns that title at another PWDCA water trial before this trial, the dog may be moved up to the next level. The change must be reported to the trial secretary by email, who will change it in the owner's PerfDog entry account.

Move-ups after Trial Closing Date: Move-up requests after closing but before the trial must be sent as an email request to the trial secretary. Day-of-trial move-ups and move-ups from Saturday to Sunday will be accepted if time permits. To move up during the trial weekend, the secretary must be notified by email by the end of the day before the change. Move-ups will be judged at the end of their level. To ensure inclusion in the catalog, move-ups must be received no later than the closing date, September 4.

Order of Judging and Judging Program: The test level of judging on Saturday will run Master - Junior. On Sunday, judging will run Junior - Master. Judging will proceed in catalog order, except for bitches in season who will be judged after all other dogs have been judged. After the closing date, a judging program containing the days' event schedules, and the order of judging of teams will be emailed to each entrant. The initial judge's briefing will take place at approximately at 8:30am on both Saturday and Sunday.

Bitches in Season: Bitches in season will be judged after all other dogs have been judged. The owner or handler of any such bitch must notify the trial secretary of the bitch's condition before the start of the day's judging. Handlers may not bring bitches in season to the test area or the surrounding area until they are instructed to do so by the judge or the judge's designee.

Substitute Stewards: A handler may use his/her own steward. This "substitute steward" must be named in Perfdog. If the substitute steward is not entered in the Water Trial, s/he must submit a separate Participation Agreement, which will be available as an "extra" in Perfdog until the close of entries. Any request for a change in substitute steward must be approved by the trial secretary and judge prior to the start of judging of a team's test level. A handler is allowed one substitute steward when competing at the Courier or Master level. A substitute steward is allowed for the Timed Swim at the Junior and Apprentice levels. Substitute stewards must be familiar with and conduct themselves according to the applicable provisions of the Water Trial Manual.

Registration/Equipment Check: Exhibitors may use their own equipment if approved after inspection by the judge or judge's designee. Equipment will also be available from the host club. Equipment check begins at approximately 8am on Saturday and Sunday and will be available half an hour before the Judge's briefing for each level. Please have your equipment checked as soon as possible.

PFD and Footwear: Any person in the test site must wear a USCG-approved life vest and closed-toe footwear.

Site Rules and Conditions: Dogs must be kept on leash or confined to crates at all times, except when participating in a warm-up session in the test area or while being judged. The test area will be clearly marked, as will areas for spectators and crating area for dogs. Only the dog competing will be allowed in the test area. Dogs not in the test area must be on leash or crated and controlled at all times. Participants are responsible for picking up after their dogs.

Dog Aggression DelMarVa PWD Club will follow the guidelines set forth by chapter 5 of the current Water Trial Manual.

What to Bring: USCG-approved life vest and closed-toe protective footwear are mandatory. Also bring dog crates, towels, foul weather gear, sun protection, trial equipment, leash, water dish, dog food, poop bags, human food, snacks, and bags to remove your garbage from the site. The site has indoor restroom facilities. Chairs and shade devices are highly recommended as there is little natural shade at the site.

Practice Day

A Practice Day will be held at the trial site on Friday, September 25 from 11am – 3pm. A fee of \$10 cash will be charged for 15 minutes of practice time. The fee will be collected at the site. A sign-up will be sent to competitors after the trial entries close.

Hospitality

Lunches will be available on Saturday and Sunday by advance purchase. The lunches will be delivered to the trial site at approximately 12 noon. The lunch break will be at the judge's discretion. A group dinner is being planned for Saturday night. More information will follow when plans are complete.

Please pay for meals in the "extras" section of your Perfdog entry account. You may also purchase a meal for a guest. The deadline for purchasing meals is September 4, the date that entries close.

Additional Events

The annual meeting of the DelMarVa Portuguese Water Dog Club will be held at lunchtime on Sunday. In addition to reports and discussion of old and new business, the membership will vote on the slate of officers proposed by the Nominating Committee. All members are encouraged to attend; you do not need to be entered in the trial to participate in the meeting. Please submit any agenda items to Lisa Mullikin lmulliki@gmail.com.

A raffle will also be held at lunchtime on Sunday. Please consider supporting our Club by donating to the raffle! You may bring your donations to the water trial site on Friday, Saturday and Sunday morning. Please get in touch with Robin Valliant rvalliantj@aol.com if you have any questions.

Veterinarian

Vidavet, 300 South Ridge Ave., Middletown, Delaware 19709 302-676-8432

Volunteers

Water trials depend on volunteers to be successful! Volunteers do everything from site set-up/take down, rowing, stewarding and much more. All experience levels are wanted and needed. Please volunteer so that our trial runs smoothly! Volunteers who are competing will have already completed the required participation agreement; volunteers who are not competing can complete it in the “extras” section of Perfdog at no cost. A sign-up will be sent in advance of the trial. Please contact Peter Paige repete@paige2.com for more information about volunteering.

Accommodations

Comfort Inn

150 Scheeler Road, Chestertown, Maryland 21620
410-778-0778

A block of rooms has been reserved for us at a reduced rate. To reserve, you may use the link <https://www.choicehotels.com/reservations/groups/NW00K8> or call the hotel directly at 410 778-0778 using Portuguese Water Dog Trial as the code name. Per our contract, a \$25 pet fee will be charged for the entire stay (not each night). Rooms will be released to the general public on August 26.

Red Roof Inn

160 Scheeler Road, Chestertown, Maryland 21620
410 810-0555

The River Inn at Rolphs Marina

1008 Rolphs Wharf Rd, Chestertown, Maryland 21620
410-778-6389
Small B&B. Ask for Sandy.

Best Western Inn (Kent Narrows)

3101 Main Street, Grasonville, Maryland 21638
410-827-6767

Other Hotels in the area can be found at www.bringfido.com.

RV Accommodations

Duck Neck Campground 500 Double Point Rd, Chestertown. 410 343-9072. Full hook-up
Camp Pecometh occasionally allows overnight parking at the trial site, but there are no hook-ups. Please get in touch with Amy Myers at 410 556-6900 or amy@pecometh.org.

Directions to the Site

Our site is located at Camp Pecometh, 136 Bookers Wharf Road, near Centreville, Maryland.

From Highway 95: take either Rte. 896 south or Rte. 213 south until they become Rte. 301 south. Continue on 301 south. Turn right at Rte. 300 Sudlersville Road. Turn left on Rte. 213 Church Hill Road. From Rte. 213, turn right onto Island Creek Road and continue to the dead end. This is Land's End Road. Turn left. There are 2 entrances to Camp Pecometh: take the second right, which is Bookers Wharf Road. Continue straight down to the river. Look for yellow DelMarVa signs, which will be placed near the Camp for guidance.

From Annapolis and Bay Bridge: take Rte. 301 north at the split where highways 50 and 301 divide. Take the exit for Rte. 213 north toward Chestertown. Travel through Centerville. From Rte. 213, turn left on Island Creek Road and continue to the dead end. This is Land's End Road. Turn left. There are 2 entrances to Camp Pecometh: take the second right, which is Bookers Wharf Road. Continue straight down to the river. Look for yellow DelMarVa signs, which will be placed near the Camp for guidance.