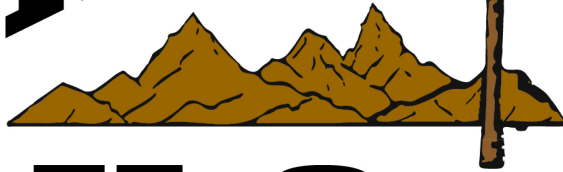


**27th ANNUAL
SIERRA**



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**K-9
TRIALS**



**Tulare County
Sheriff's Office
K-9 Unit**



**Visalia Police
Department
K-9 Unit**

**MARCH 16TH & MARCH 17TH, 2012
PLAZA PARK RACEWAY – VISALIA, CA**

**** Greetings ****

The Sierra K-9 Association welcomes your attendance and participation in the *Twenty-Seventh Annual Sierra K-9 Trials*. The trial is open to all full-time law enforcement and military handlers.

The trials will be on Saturday March 17th, 2012 from 0730 to 1600 hours at Plaza Park Raceway (Plaza Drive and Highway 198, Visalia, CA).

The Sierra K-9 Association will host a welcome barbecue at Plaza Park Raceway on Friday, March 16th, 2012 at 1800 hours.

Come early and join us at this traditional barbecue and watch the narcotics & evidence dogs.

HOST: Sierra K-9 Association
(Canine handlers from the Tulare County Sheriff's Department and Visalia Police Department)

DATE/TIME: Friday, March 16th, 2012

1200 hours – Narcotic/Explosive/Evidence Detection handlers meeting
1230 hours – Narcotic/ Explosive/ Evidence Detection Dog Competition
1800 hours – Welcome barbecue & Narcotic/Explosive Awards

Saturday, March 17th, 2012

0600 – 0700 Obstacle Course and Field Orientation
0700 – 0730 Judge/Handler Meeting
0730 – 1630 Competition
1830 – 2100 Awards Banquet at Optimal Aviation hanger (w/of Plaza Park Raceway)

ENTRY FEE: Refer to Enclosed Entry Form

DEADLINE: Friday, March 16th 2012
(We must have your entry and banquet reservations by this date)

On site registration will be available the day of the trial. Entries received after the deadline will be accepted, but may not be listed in the program. Please mail or fax your entry forms so they will be received by the deadline.

BANQUET: Saturday, March 17th 2012
Optimal Aviation (9520 Hanger Drive, Visalia) south of the fire station
1830 – 1900 No Host Cocktail Hour
1900 – 2000 Dinner
2000 – 2200 Awards Ceremony / Door Prizes

Take advantage of this banquet to renew old friendships and to start new ones. Department trainers, administrators, and interested friends and relatives of entrants are invited to attend the trial and banquet. Admission to the trial is free and open to the public. You may purchase tickets to the Banquet Dinner for your guest by completing the banquet portion of the entry form accordingly and mailing your check as directed.

INFORMATION: Sgt. James Andrews, Visalia P.D.
(559) 713 – 4161 [Office]
(559) 804 - 6541 [Cell Phone]
Email: jandrews@ci.visalia.ca.us

Sgt. Manuel Cavazos, T.C.S.O.
(559) 685-2666 [Office]
(559) 972-3354 [Cell Phone]
Email: mcavazos@co.tulare.ca.us

Friday
March 17th, 2012
1230 HRS

DETECTION PHASES

NARCOTICS DETECTION

This will be restricted to one or more of the following narcotic groups:

MARIJUANA
COCAINE
HEROINE / OPIUM
METHAMPHETAMINE / "ICE"

The drugs may be hidden in boxes, briefcases or the outside of the vehicles or trailers. You shall advise the judges of the type of alert you expect. The teams will be judged on the correct deployment, intensity of search, strong indication and handler recognition. False alert, defecating or urinating will result in loss of points or disqualification.

100 Points per Judge

EXPLOSIVES DETECTION

The explosive substances may be hidden in boxes, briefcases or the outside of the vehicles or trailers. You shall advise the judges of the type of alert you expect. The teams will be judged on the correct deployment, intensity of search, strong indication and handler recognition. False alert, defecating or urinating will result in loss of points or disqualification.

100 Points per Judge

EVIDENCE DETECTION

Evidence (articles) will be located in an open secured area. You shall advise the judges of the type of alert you expect. The teams will be judged on the correct deployment, intensity of search, strong indication and handler recognition. False alert, defecating or urinating will result in loss of points or disqualification.

100 Points per Judge

Saturday
March 17th, 2012
0730 HRS

PATROL DIVISION

This will consist of the following:

SEARCH
OBEDIENCE

AGILITY
PROTECTION

SEARCH

This phase will consist of various types of “*containers*” to be searched. The “*containers*” to be searched may include such items as search boxes, dumpsters, fruit bins, vehicles, etc. The search may be an indoor building search, an outdoor area search, or both. All dogs will be sent from the same starting point, but you may work your dog in accordance with your department policy or training. Working closely with your dog or sending your dog and watching and directing him from a distance are both acceptable methods. The dog will be judged on drive, interest, control, ability to locate the scent, aggressiveness in the alert, and handler errors. When you feel your dog has located the hiding place you will notify the judges by raising one hand and pointing with the other to the hiding place. False alert, defecating, or urinating will result in loss of points and/or disqualification. Other aspects and details of the Search Phase will be discussed on the date of the Trial during the Handler’s Meeting. The time limit will be determined by the Judges and/or the Trial Master.

OBEDIENCE

This phase will consist of an off-lead heeling course that will be called by the steward. It will consist of all types of turns at either a normal, fast, or slow pace; in motion sits and/or downs; and halts, heels, etc. There will also be hand commands/signals where the handler will leave his dog at a designated point and a series of sits, downs, etc. will be demonstrated. There may be a sit and/or down on the recall. The judges must be made aware of the type of finish prior to the recall. The K-9 and handler will be judged on control, correctness of response, and a K-9’s willingness to work. Second commands and/or signals will result in the appropriate point reduction.

AGILITY

The agility course may be performed either in a fluid manner or static (with sits before each obstacle). Either way, handler’s control of the dog should be demonstrated. Only two attempts of each obstacle may be attempted, with the second attempt counting for half points. Hand signals simultaneously given with verbal commands are allowed. The handler should not be ahead of his dog when approaching any obstacle. The teams will be judged on the K-9’s ability

to negotiate the obstacles with out hesitation. Any additional instructions will be given by the judge(s)/trial master on the date of the trial

Note: Obedience and agility will be run simultaneously: i.e.: While one team is competing in obedience, another will be competing in agility on an adjacent part of the field.

PROTECTION

The man work sequences will be announced the day of the trial. We will provide all agitators, back up officers, and protection equipment. You will also be expected to take reasonable measures to protect the agitator(s) in case of lost footing, equipment failure, etc. The events may consist of realistic scenarios that K-9 teams would encounter on the street. Equipment to be used may include muzzles, body suits, and hard or soft sleeves. The teams will be judged on a willing, cooperative, and controlled K-9 that is eager to apprehend and demonstrate a strong engagement with the suspect agitator(s).

SUMMARY

All entrants must state **OPEN** or **NOVICE** division before the trial. There will be Novice trophies for Novice entrants who have two (2) trials or less.

Entrants can sign-up on for a **Team Trophy**. This **Team Trophy** is awarded to a team of two K9/Handler teams, who combine for the highest combined score. All entrants with two (2) or more K9/Handler teams from the same department are eligible for these trophies. If a K9/Handler team does not have a 2nd K9/Handler team from his/her Agency participating in the Trial, they are eligible to sign-up with another K9/Handler team from a different Agency under the same circumstance. Your order in the competition will be determined by drawing.

Handler/K-9 teams entered shall be full-time working K-9 teams. During the day, other than while competing, all dogs shall be on-lead, staked securely, kenneled, or secured appropriately in an equipped vehicle. Any dogs getting loose for reasons other than an equipment failure, such as a broken chain, window, etc., will be disqualified. **SAFETY IS TOP PRIORITY.**

During the competition, no shake chains, keys, balls, food, etc. will be carried for control of your dog. You will carry your lead at the direction of the steward during the Obedience phase of the Trial. Variations in departmental training will be considered and should be brought up during the judge/handler meeting.

The judges will have the option of repeating any phase of the competition and may stop and/or disallow any phase of competition to any team deemed to be unfit or unsafe to compete or continue with the competition.

Because we encourage members of the public to attend and enjoy the competition of our trial, it is important that all competitors and associates act accordingly and in a way that demonstrates an atmosphere of professionalism. Should any handler, trainer, or team associate become disruptive, he/she may be asked to leave. If a problematic situation should continue, the disruptive party may be disqualified, and/or cause the disqualification of their respective K-9 team(s).

Note: Wear department authorized duty uniforms or jumpsuits during the competition.

A concession stand will be in operation throughout the day. Although there is shaded parking nearby, there is limited shaded parking in the immediate area around the trial field(s). There will be a designated exercise area for “breaking” your dogs. Please make every effort to utilize this area for purposes of “breaking” your K-9 partner. There will be a veterinarian available at the trial site.

LODGING

Rooms will be available at The Holiday Inn, Visalia, at a special rate ***See Below**. You should deal directly with the hotel when making these reservations and identify yourself as a Sierra K-9 Trial participant in order to redeem this special rate.

*Sierra K-9 has reserved a block of rooms at a discounted/special rate for Handler/K-9 Teams, however this discounted rate will only apply to those limited block of rooms reserved. The key to taking advantage of these discounted/reserved rooms is that they are limited, and are available on a first come, first serve basis. If you have any questions, please contact the hotel directly, or a member of Sierra K-9.

The Holiday Inn
9000 West Airport Drive
Visalia, CA 93291
(559) 651-5000

**Highway 99 to Eastbound Highway 198
East on Highway 198 and exit Plaza Drive
South on Plaza Drive to Airport Drive
Right on Airport Drive
Holiday Inn is on your right-hand side**

**Plaza Park is directly South and East of the Holiday Inn
All venues are within walking distance from the Holiday Inn**

RETURN ENTRY FROM TO:

SIERRA K-9 ASSOCIATION
C/O Tulare County Deputy Sheriff's Association 1616 W. Mineral King Suite C
Visalia, CA 93291

Or

Fax: (559) 757-2914
Attn: Sgt. Manuel Cavazos

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO COPY AND DISTRIBUTE THIS ENTRY PACKET TO K-9 TEAMS MEETING THE ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

ENTRY FORM

Please fill in the blanks and return along with the entry fee no later than **Friday March 17th, 2012.**

A Release of Liability form is required.

DEPARTMENT OR AGENCY

OFFICER AND RANK

DOG'S NAME/SEX/AGE/BREED

YEARS OF SERVICE AS A TEAM

The awards and trophies will be presented in two (2) separate classes. Please indicate your experience in competitions by checking the appropriate class. Novice handlers and dogs will compete along with open class handlers and dogs.

Please put and "X" next to the Class you desire to compete in and next to Narcotics or Evidence, if you plan to compete in either of those phases.

_____ OPEN CLASS
(Experienced handlers with (3) or more competitions with the same dog.)

_____ NOVICE CLASS
(Limited to handlers and dogs with (2) trials or less, this trial counting as their 2nd Trial, with the same dog.)

_____ Narcotics Search

_____ Evidence Search

A brief summary of the handler and dog, including years in the agency, arrests, hobbies, or any unusual stories regarding the K-9 team, will be greatly appreciated. Please include something or the announcers may take liberties with blank forms.

1. \$70.00 Entry Fee Enclosed [Includes (2) Saturday Night Banquet tickets]
2. \$80.00 Narcotic/Explosives & Street Competition [Includes (2) Saturday Night Banquet tickets]
3. \$60.00 Narcotic/Explosives and/or Evidence Detection Only
4. \$_____ enclosed for ____ additional Saturday Night Banquet tickets, \$20 per person

*Only two (2) Saturday Night Banquet tickets are included. You must purchase additional tickets for additional guest. ***We will be collecting banquet tickets at the front door this year.**

GENERAL RELEASE OF LIABILITY

For and in consideration of the granting of permission to participate in the *2012 SIERRA K-9 TRIALS*, being held in and around the City of Visalia, California, on March 16th, 2012 through March 17th, 2012, the undersigned on behalf of himself, his heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns, hereby fully releases and discharges the City of Visalia, County of Tulare, Sierra K-9 Association and it's members, agents, employees and servants, assigns and successors from all rights, claims, actions, and/or liabilities for damages which said undersigned and his above mentioned successors now have or may hereafter the signing of this agreement have, against the aforementioned City of Visalia, County of Tulare, Sierra K-9 Association, etc., and their successors arising out of any bodily injury of any sort of nature suffered by the undersigned, by reason of his voluntary participation in any of the activities of the *2012 SIERRA K-9 TRIALS*.

The undersigned has read this General Release of Liability and fully understands and acknowledges the significance of said General Release of Liability and hereby assumes full responsibility for any injuries, damages or losses that he/she may incur from the above mentioned participation in any activities of the *2012 SIERRA K-9 TRIALS*.

This release is freely and voluntarily executed by the undersigned and the undersigned in executing this General Release of Liability does not rely on any inducements, promises and/or representations made by the City of Visalia, County of Tulare, Sierra K-9 Association, the *SIERRA K-9 TRIALS* and/or its members, agents, employees, or servants.

Signature of Participant

Date

Printed Name of Participant

READ CAREFULLY BEFORE SIGNING