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#### **Sheriff Bob Gualtieri**

#### **Pinellas County Sheriff's Office**

"Leading The Way For A Safer Pinellas"

February 2, 2020

Greetings,

Welcome to the 2020 United States Police Canine Association (USPCA) Region One Field Trials!

The Pinellas County Sheriff's Office is honored to host the USPCA Region One Field Trials this week. We are looking forward to seeing canine teams from across the region showcase their skills and prove their talents.

The upcoming events will test the skills and training of each competing canine team in specific areas, including agility and obedience, box search, and apprehension with gunfire. We're not only proud of the hard work these teams put into this competition, but also the sacrifices they make every day to protect and serve.

As the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office welcomes both competitors and visitors to Pinellas County, we thank you for supporting law enforcement and your community. Our hope is that this week's competition is a worthwhile experience for you both personally and professionally.

Sincerely,

Sheriff Bob Gualtieri Pinellas County, Florida

-34 Hr

BG/mhw

#### **United States Police Canine Association**

TISTOR

The United States Police Canine Association (USPCA) became the largest and oldest active organization of its kind - "Ever Striving for the Betterment of all Police K-9" - in August of 1971 when two existing associations, the Police K-9 Association and the United States K-9 Association, merged.

The original Florida Police K-9 Association, formed in 1964, was later changed to the Police K-9 Association in order to include other interested departments that were outside the section of the country established by the Police K-9 Association.

It didn't take long before the members of these two organizations realized that strength was in unity and that their basic goals and objectives were the same. Therefore, the present association was formed. Membership is spreading throughout the United States, Canada, and with the armed forces throughout the world.

The USPCA meets twice a year. Once in the summer, where new ideas and training methods are discussed, and again at the National Police Dog Trials. These trials bring together the best trained dogs in the world and are judged by a panel of current and retired law enforcement officers. Great strides in the standardization of training methods have been made through these trials.

## **Objectives and Purposes**

 To unite all law enforcement agencies utilizing the services of the canine as an aid in the prevention and detection of crime

2. To promote friendship and brotherhood between all those interested in the training and utilization of the canine in police work.3. To establish minimum working standards and improve the abilities of the canine in police work, thereby rendering better service to the community

- 4. To establish and maintain a legal assistance fund for acts resulting in civil suits from the use of police trained canines
- 5. To coordinate the exchange of any advanced training techniques for the utilization of police dogs
- To improve the image of the working police dog through improved public service in the prevention and detection of crime
- 7. To aid and assist those law enforcement agencies making application for information concerning the establishment of canine sections within their respective departments



## **5** Phases of Certification

#### **1** OBEDIENCE

Obedience consists of 3 exercises:

- 1. **Heeling Control** tests how well the K-9 stays by his handler's side through various pace changes and turns.
- 2. **Walking Control** tests the K-9's reactions to commands given while the team is moving.
- 3. **Distance Control** tests the K-9's response to hand and voice commands from a minimum of 50 feet away.

The team must score a minimum of 70% of 120 points to continue.

## **2** AGILITY

Agility consists of 5 exercises:

- 1. Hurdles The K-9 must jump four hurdles 4' wide, 3' high, spaced 16' apart.
- 2. **Broad-jump** tests the K-9's ability to jump a distance of 6' across.
- 3. **Catwalk** tests the K-9's ability to climb a 6' ladder, cross a catwalk, stomp midway and finally dismount and return to the handlers' side.
- 4. **Crawl** tests the K-9's ability to crawl on command under an object 18" high and 8' long.
  - 5. **A-Frame** must be scaled by K-9 on command and then he must return to heel position.







### **3** SUSPECT SEARCH

In the Suspect Search, the K-9 has four minutes to search six boxes and indicate which one contains the suspect. All of the boxes are contaminated with human scent prior to the search.



## **4** ARTICLE SEARCH

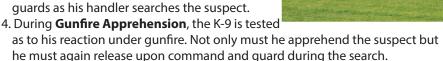
In the Article Search, the K-9 has three minutes to search a 30' x 30' square of 12" high grass locating and retrieving two articles. The articles range in size from one key on a single key ring to a handgun.



## **5** CRIMINAL APPREHENSION

Criminal Apprehension consists of five events:

- 1. In **False Start**, the suspect runs away from the K-9 and the dog must not move.
- 2. In **Recall**, the K-9 is sent after the suspect, but is called back after traveling 20 yards.
- 3. In **Straight Apprehension**, the K-9 apprehends the suspect, releases upon command, then guards as his handler searches the suspect.



5. During the end of this search, the **Handler Protection** test occurs when the suspect assaults the handler and the K-9 reacts again apprehending the suspect. The team must score 70% of 340 points to receive certification.

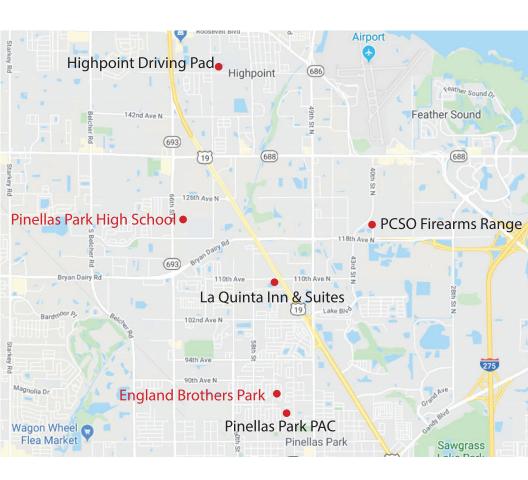


To qualify to compete in the National K-9 Competition, a team must score 560 points of the possible 700 points.









<b>Location</b>	<b>Activity/Trial Event</b>
<b>La Quinta Inn &amp; Suites</b> 5000 Lake Boulevard Clearwater, FL	Registration Competitor's Meeting Hospitality
<b>England Brothers Park</b> 5010 81st Avenue North Pinellas Park, FL	Agility & Obedience Box Search Apprehension
PCSO Firearms Range 3410 118th Avenue North Clearwater, FL	Vehicle and Room Search Explosive ORT Testing Detector Certification
<b>Highpoint Driving Pad</b> 6101 150th Avenue North Clearwater, FL	Article Search
Pinellas Park High School 6305 118th Avenue North Largo, FL	Public Demonstration
Pinellas Park Performing Arts Center 4951 78th Avenue North Pinellas Park, FL	Awards Brunch

See schedule insert for dates and times.

Trial events at England Brothers Park and the public demonstration at Pinellas Park High School are open to the public.



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- Jennifer M. Burns, M.D. (Physical Medicine / Interventional Pain Medicine)
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## Congrats from the Sun Coast PBA!

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SCLEC is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting the survivors of fallen officers, supporting critically injured officers, and giving back to the communities that we police.



Clearwaterkennelclub.com Email reignmakersams@aol.com

#### **Club Meetings**

The Clearwater Kennel Club meets the third Tuesday of the month at various locations. Please contact reignmakersams@aol.com for the next meeting location. Education programs often start the agenda. Meetings generally last for about an hour starting at 7:30pm and cover current issues and future plans for the Club's various ac-tivities.

Membership is \$25.00 per year. Prior to submitting an application, prospective club members need to attend 2 consecutive meeting. After attending the second meeting, the prospective club member' can submit an application. The application is then voted on during the next meeting.

As you can see, the Clearwater Kennel Club is a multifaceted organization. If you not only love your own dog, but also your breed and dogs in general and want to network with a dedi-cated group of like-minded people, the Clearwa-ter Kennel Club may just be something that will interest you or a family member. Please contact us today so you can be a part of this organization that enjoys our community and giving back to what makes it great!



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