



**RATS! Canada Sanctioned Trial
Hosted by GTG Rat Sports**

Event # 26-002-RC

Friday Nov 27th to Sunday Nov 29th, 2026

5 trials over 3 days.



**Registration opens Monday, Oct 26th at 7:00 PM / Closing date: November 16th at 11:59 PM,
or when trial is full.**

Registration is ONLINE ONLY through dogshow.ca



<https://dogshow.ca/en/Events/6226/GTG-Rat-Sports-RATS!-CANADA>

GAMES OFFERED: Barn Ratting, Brush Hunt, Team Relay, Go to Ground

LEVELS OFFERED: Novice, Advanced, Master, Champion, Excellent

Not all games and all levels will be offered for each trial. Games and Levels will be offered as follows:

FRIDAY – Barn Ratting Excellent Level Only, Brush Hunting Excellent Level Only, Team Relay, Go to Ground

SATURDAY TRIAL 1 – Barn Ratting all levels, Brush Hunt all levels, Go to Ground, Team Relay

SATURDAY TRIAL 2 - Barn Ratting all levels, Brush Hunt all levels, Team Relay

SUNDAY TRIAL 1 - Barn Ratting Novice to Champion, Brush Hunt Novice to Champion

SUNDAY TRIAL 2 - Barn Ratting Novice to Champion, Brush Hunt Novice to Champion

Competitors are not permitted to compete in the Regular stream and Expert stream in the same game, in the same trial.

Entry fees: \$30 per run for Novice to Champion

\$35 per run for Excellent

\$15 per run per dog for Team Relay

Judges: Dale MacMillan, Colleen Fowler, Alice Forsyth

*The above are sanctioned events under RATS! Canada rules and regulations.
A [RATS! Canada Dog ID](#) is required to compete.*

Contact Information for trial:

Colleen Fowler

gtgtrialsecretary@gmail.com

RATS! Canada Dog ID Request: <https://www.ratscanadadogsports.com/register.html>

RATS! Canada general inquiries: Marie-Claire Guindon ratscanadadogsports@gmail.com

**Rules for all RATS! Canada games can be found on the Web site at
<http://www.ratscanada.com>**

RAT CARE AND SAFETY

RATS! Canada is committed to the humane treatment of rats used at all RATS! Canada events. Rats are rotated out as necessary based on weather conditions and other factors. Rats are chosen and trained specifically for the sport. Tubes used are built for dog AND rat safety according to specific rat care rules. Rats will not be harmed in any way during or at the end of the trial; they are returning home to be as cared for and loved as dogs can be. Please [report to RATS! Canada any concerns](#) or unacceptable treatment you witness in any rat sport event so we can follow through.

Volunteering

Trials can't happen without the help of volunteers. Our volunteer coordinator will be sending out a form for anyone who is able to help. We will make sure anyone helping will also have ample time to run their dogs and not feel stressed. No experience necessary, we will train you.

Trial Information

This limited entry sanctioned trial is held under RATS! Canada rules and regulations. All events are RATS! Canada recognized and approved. Rules and regulations are available on the RATS! Canada Web site. A hard copy will be available at the secretary's table for consultation during the event. All dogs must be kept in a

crate or on a leash when not in the ring. Any dog engaging in aggressive behavior at any time will be required to leave trial venue. In such cases, no refund of fees will be paid.

PLEASE NOTE:

- Barn Ratting, Brush Hunt, and Team Relay are open to any breed or mixed breeds of dog. Go to Ground is open to any breed or mixed breeds of dog who measures 15" or less at the withers.
- Running order will be made up in advance. You are expected to be present at ringside, or nearby, during the time when your class or event is being offered. If you are not present when your dog is called, you will be bumped to the end of the running order and will miss your turn if you are not available by the time volunteers are ready to build the ring for the next event. The ring will close, and the judge will leave at the announced time. It will not be possible to credit the missed run for another event or day.
- Participants are expected to check in and attend the general briefing for their class(es).
- If you run more than one dog in the same class, we will try to allow for at least 2 other dogs between each dog in the running order, so that you have time to reward your dog and get the next dog ready. Depending on how many entries there are in the class, this may not always be possible.
- Choke, prong or electric collars are NOT permitted anywhere on the property. Basket muzzles are permitted.
- A dog eliminating in the ring is cause for disqualification. Belly bands and diapers are permitted. A **\$15 fee will be charged to the handler for each soiled bale** that must be removed from the ring.
- Bitches in season (BIS) will be permitted but notice must be given to event Secretary at least 2 days prior to the trial so that running orders can be adjusted. **BIS must wear a diaper to compete.**
- Know the rules of each game prior to stepping into the ring, the judge will not answer rule questions in the ring. Full rules and information can be found on the RATS! Canada website, <https://www.ratscanadadogsports.com>
- Your dog must be able to wait in the blind area for Barn Ratting with up to 4 other handlers and dogs. Your dog must also be able to work with judges and volunteers standing close to the ring while your dog is working.
- Spectators will be permitted if space allows. Spectators who are not entered in the trial are not permitted to bring dogs to the event. Trial participants who want to watch cannot bring their dogs into the trial room.
- When left unattended, dogs must be secured in a fully enclosed dog crate or a closed vehicle without the ability to jump out windows, etc. Open x-pens and tethering are NOT permitted.

Entries and Closing Date

Entries must be received by November 16th at 11:59 PM or will be subject to a late registration fee and space availability. Only electronic entries through dogshow.ca will be accepted.

Any changes to entries, including cancellations, will be accepted until the closing date. Changes must be made to the Secretary by e-mail. A \$5.00 administration fee will be withheld from all refunds. Cancellations

received after the closing date will not be eligible for a refund of fees unless accompanied by a veterinary certificate.

Move-ups will be permitted before or during the trial if you have a previously registered spot in the next trial. **Any move-ups must be written on the form made available at the trial prior to the start of the next trial. Move-ups cannot be processed once the next trial begins.**

What Group Do I Enter My Dog In?

Once you have chosen a breed group for your mixed breed dog, this group must remain the same throughout your dog's competitive career.

Group 1: Sporting Dogs (ex: Pointer, Retriever, Spaniel, Setter)

Group 2: Hounds (ex: Beagle, Dachshund, Whippet)

Group 3: Working (ex: Bernese Mountain Dog, Doberman, Portuguese Water)

Group 4: Terriers (ex: Jack Russell, Border, Fox, Skye, Welsh)

Group 5: Toys (ex: Chihuahua, Cavalier King Charles, Papillion, Yorkie)

Group 6: Non-Sporting (ex: Chow Chow, Dalmatian, Poodles (mini / standard)

Group 7: Herding (ex: Australian Shepherd, Cattle Dog, Border Collie, Belgians)

If you do not see your breed here, please go to <http://www.ckc.ca/en/Events/CKC-Breed-Standards>

Puppies must be at least 3 months of age to compete.

Check-In

Friday -	Check-in opens at 4:30 PM Briefing 5:00 PM – all competitors must be present. First dog in the ring 5 minutes after briefing ends.
Morning trial, Saturday & Sunday -	Check-in opens at 8:30 AM Briefing 9:00 AM – all competitors must be present. First dog in the ring 5 minutes after briefing ends.
Lunch for Judges and all-day volunteers -	There will be a 30-minute break after the last dog of trial 1 finishes running.
Afternoon trial, Saturday & Sunday -	Check in will begin at noon Briefing will begin after judges have had lunch First dog in the ring 5 minutes after briefing ends.

Awards

Dogs will be judged in their specific breed group as determined by the Canadian Kennel Club (CKC). For the mixed breeds, the owner chooses the most representative group depending on their dog's attributes. A judge may reassign your dog if the choice of breed is considered truly unfitting.

Dogs that qualify will receive a flat Q ribbon for each Qualifying run.

INSTINCT TITLE: The Barn Ratting or Brush Hunt Instinct Title will be granted to novice dogs who qualify in one of their first two runs ever in each discipline. Dogs earning the Instinct Title will receive a rosette.

TITLES: Dogs achieving a title will receive a rosette.

CKC Title Recognition: Effective January 1st, 2024, RATS! Canada Titles (except Go to Ground), will be recognized by the Canadian Kennel Club (CKC). **This title is NOT recorded for you automatically.** You will need to submit a form and make payment to the CKC to have these titles registered. The form can be found here: <https://www.ckc.ca/en/Files/Forms/Shows-Trials/Exhibitors>, scroll down until you find the RATS! Canada Title Application Form.

Trial Grounds

The trials will be held indoors in a heated space.

There is running water and washroom on site.

Please pick up after your dog as well as after yourself.

DIRECTIONS AND PARKING

The facility is located at the Lawrencetown Community Centre, 3657 Lawrencetown Rd, Lawrencetown, NS B2Z 1P9

There is ample parking on the grounds.

Notice to Competitors

Competitors, through submission of entry, acknowledge that they are knowledgeable of RATS! Canada rules and regulations including but not limited to the following rules regarding entry:

- **All dogs must be registered with RATS! Canada to compete for qualifying legs and placements. It is your responsibility to obtain a [RATS! Canada Dog ID number](#), prior to entering the trial.**
- This trial is open to all dogs being at least 3 months of age, including purebred and non-purebred, except dogs with injuries or illnesses which may cause the dog pain or great discomfort, or dogs exhibiting signs of aggression that threaten the safety of other dogs or humans.
- Bitches in season (BIS) will be eligible to compete at this event, but notice must be given to event Secretary at least 2 days prior to the trial so that running orders can be adjusted. BIS must wear a diaper to compete.
- Physically challenged dogs are allowed and encouraged to compete. The dogs must not show evidence of being in pain or discomfort. The judge shall excuse any dog that shows evidence of pain or discomfort.
- A dog eliminating in the ring is cause for disqualification! **A \$15 fee per bale will be charged to the handler for each soiled bale.** Belly bands and diapers are permitted in the ring. We will have both available at the trial for \$3.00 each.
- Physically challenged handlers are allowed. Physically challenged owner/handlers shall provide the judge with a written description of how they intend to work with their dog. The modification must be approximate to the best of the handler's ability. The judge must approve and initial the modifications and attach the written description to the score sheet.
- Safety shall always be of foremost consideration. Handlers, through entering this event, accept full responsibility for themselves and the actions of their dog(s). Dogs showing aggression towards anyone, including their own handlers, will be excused from the trial, without refunds.
- The organizing committee may refuse any entry or access for any reason.

In addition,

- THERE SHALL BE NO REFUND without a veterinary certificate for entries withdrawn after the closing date or in the event a dog and/or handler are dismissed from competition, regardless of reason for such dismissal.
- The trial will take place indoors. There will be no refunds for weather-related cancellations. Please allow yourself adequate time to get to the trial location.
- All dogs shall be presented at ringside in a flat buckle or snap collar, plain harness, or properly fitted martingale (limited slip) collar. Choke collars, prong collars, or shock collars are NOT allowed anywhere on the property. A properly fitted martingale collar should be barely larger than the circumference of the dog's neck when fully tightened.
- Upon successful completion of an exercise, the owner may choose to BRIEFLY pet or touch the dog as a reward, but no treats, toys or accessories can be used in the ring.
- Dogs must always remain under control whether on or off leash while on show grounds, including when a rat tube is found. Careless, excessive biting, pawing or shaking will lead to disqualification.
- You must pick up after your dog and yourself.
- ***Have fun!***

GENERAL AGREEMENT / WAIVER

I (we) agree that GTG Rat Sports (the hosting club), and/or RATS! Canada has the right to refuse this entry for any cause, which the organizing committee alone shall deem to be sufficient. In consideration of the acceptance of this entry, of the holding of the event, and of the opportunity to have the dog participate and/or to be judged, I (we) agree to hold the organizing committee, the hosting club, RATS! Canada, including their members, officers, directors, agents and employees, sponsors of the event, and owners of the premises upon which the event is held and their employees, harmless from any claim for loss or injury that may be alleged to have been caused directly or indirectly to any person or thing by the act of this dog while in or upon the event premises or grounds or near any entrance thereto, and I (we) personally assume all responsibility and liability for any such claim. I (we) further agree to hold the aforementioned parties harmless from any claim for loss of this dog by disappearance, theft, death or otherwise, and from any claim for damage or injury to the dog, whether such loss, disappearance, appearance, theft, damage, or injury be caused or alleged to be caused by the negligence of the parties aforementioned, or by the negligence of any other person, or any other cause or causes. I (we) hereby assume the sole responsibility for and agree to indemnify and save the aforementioned parties harmless from any and all loss and expense (including legal fees) by reason of the liability imposed by law upon any of the aforementioned parties for damage because of bodily injuries, including death resulting at any time therefore, sustained by any person or persons, including myself (ourselves), or on account of damage to property arising out of or in consequence of my (our) participation in this event, howsoever such injuries, death, or damage to property may be caused, and whether or not the same may have been caused or may have been alleged to have been caused by negligence of the aforementioned parties or any of their employees or agents or any other persons.

I (we) further acknowledge that I (we) have read, understand, and will abide by the Official RATS! Canada Rules and Regulations, and the provisions for entry as set forth in the Schedule of which this entry form is a part. I (we) acknowledge and represent that the information supplied by me (us) herein is correct to the best of my (our) knowledge; if any portion of this information is found to be invalid or insufficient to establish the validity of my (our) entry, such finding shall render my (our) entry invalid in its entirety, for which there shall be no refund of fees paid. Further, I (we) represent that I am (we are) the owner(s) of the dog listed hereon, or that I (we) am (are) a family member of the dog's owner as stated and allowed in the RATS! Canada rules, and that I (we) shall hold the hosting club and RATS! Canada, including their officers, directors, employees and agents and their sponsors, harmless from any liability or claim made by dog's owner.

Further, I (we) hereby grant to RATS! Canada, their representatives, agents, and assigns, all rights and permissions to broadcast, telecast, cablecast, transmission, or distribution in any format or media now known or hereafter to become known. I (we) hereby release RATS! Canada, the hosting club, their representatives, agents, and assigns from any claim or cause of action for invasion of the rights of privacy, right of personality, or any similar right.

All video, broadcast, and telecast rights for this event are the exclusive property of the trial host(s).

When you fill out the online registration form you are acknowledging consent to this waiver. You cannot register without accepting the conditions under which this trial will run.

