

Morse Brook Farm Novice Trial
226 Kurkul Rd
Westminster, VT 05346
July 26 and July 27th, 2025
2 Novice, Pro-Novice and Ranch
NEBCA Sanctioned

Judge: Maria Amodei

Trial Manager: Liz Shaw farfetchfarm@gmail.com 802-376-6280

Start Time: 7:30 am Saturday and Sunday (try to beat the heat!)

Entries Open: June 1st and close June 30th or when trial fills. Entries postmarked before June 1st will be accepted and treated as June 1st entries. Checks will be cashed and no refunds will be made after July 15, 2025. Number of dogs per handler will be limited to two per class. Receipt of a hard copy of the completed entry form and fees constitute an entry. Fees from cancelled entries will be returned or torn up provided notification of cancellation is made on or before July 15, 2025. If applicable a waitlist will be maintained. All fees must be in US dollars.

Trial Sheep: Cheviot/Perendale/Romney farm flock/ewes. They are light and wily and know the trial field. About half are yearlings. The remainder will be slightly cranky recently weaned ewes. They are pressure sensitive. If your dog backs off they will generally slow down. But they will run if they feel threatened. Handlers are encouraged to retire and use remaining time to help their dogs if things get out of hand.

Field: The trial field has undulating hills. Ranch dogs will not be able to see their sheep at all times. And an outrun to the left requires going up a steep hill. Novice and Pro Novice dogs will have some slope but not steep hills. There is a stream by the field. There is a lot of pressure off to the barn area. This is NOT the spooky field to the left as you drive in where the sheep were spooked for Novice and ProNovice a few years ago! This is the hilly field to the right as you drive in where we had nice trials in 21 and 22 and the judging clinics. There will be a small handlers' tent and a porta-potti available but bring your own shade. There won't be much near the field.

Weather Cancellations: Unfortunately the reality of July is that hot/stormy weather can interfere with a trial. In the event that the trial is cancelled because of weather, your entry fee will be refunded. If temperatures are predicted over 90 degrees we reserve the right to cancel for the welfare of the sheep. We will make every effort to cancel at least 48 hours in advance.

Ribbons to 5th place and token prizes. Champion and Reserve Champion in each class.
Potluck dinner on Saturday night

General Rules: We are a working farm. Please have your rabies certificate for your dog available. Please keep your dogs on leash except on the trial field when running your dog. Please respect this rule. We have 5 livestock guardian dogs who do not love strangers!! There may be farm equipment moving about as well as other livestock grazing nearby. There are woods hiking opportunities on leash. The trial field has public roads on two sides. Please pick up after your dogs. There will likely be a fenced area available for an off leash romp.

Camping/RVparking: There is unlimited tent camping but very limited level dry spots for campers/trailers. If things dry out we may have additional spaces but at the moment it is soggy! **You MUST email** Liz (farfetchfarm@gmail.com) ASAP to check and see if we can accommodate your camper/tent. There is a KOA campground about 20 minutes away in East Dummerston. <https://koa.com/campgrounds/brattleboro/>

Hotels:

The closest dog friendly inn is The Putney Inn. <http://putneyinn.com/> about 20 minutes south of us. I have heard good things about them.

There are a number of Pet Friendly accommodations in Brattleboro on Putney Rd about 25/30 minutes away including: Motel 6, Colonial Motel, Quality Inn. A nice list is at: https://www.bringfido.com/lodging/city/brattleboro_vt_us/ Please double check with the hotels about numbers of dogs/dog fees etc.

Volunteer Opportunities:

It is expected that everyone will pitch in with some volunteer job. On your entry form please indicate what you are willing to do or if there is a particular job you would like to learn about. I particularly need some help setting the trial field on Thursday the 24th or Friday the 25th. If you can make it at all, please let me know!

You will be assigned a job on the run order.

Set up Thursday/Friday

Scribing

Set up on Saturday morning

Score Runner

Exhaust

Hospitality/Managing Handlers Table

Breakdown on Sunday

Pen

Setout