3rd Annual Ratter 'Raiser Barn Hunt Trial

hosted by City Sniffers Rat Hunt Club

A Division of City Sniffers Dog Sports LLC

Permission has been granted by the **Barn Hunt Association, LLC** to hold this Barn Hunt Trial under BHA rules and regulations. Open to all breeds and mixed breeds of all sizes, at least six months of age.

CLICK HERE TO ENTER ONLINE via SECRETERRIER

(Register for a new User account using the same email as your Barnhunt.com account)

Entries Open 8/3/2026 ~ Close 9/23/2026

October 2-4, 2026

8 AM start

3 Days – 2 Judges – 2 Rings

Location (do not send entries to this address!):

City Sniffers Springfield, 800 N MacArthur Blvd, Springfield, IL 62702

2 trials offered each day in I/N/O/S/M, Line Drive, and Crazy 8s.

NEW: Double Entry per trial IS allowed – enter up to 4 Standard runs on same day.*

Move-ups allowed all three days both trial to trial and day to day, with the exception that Senior may only be able to move up to Master between days.

Entry Fees: Instinct ($16), Novice ($27), Open ($27), Senior ($29), Master ($31), CZ8 ($29), Line Drive ($16). Add $5 per run for Late/DoS entries.

***NEW*: Online entry only – NO manual/mailed entries.**

Judges:

Liz Hawkins, BHAJ-164A, Fort Dodge, IA

James Shear, BHAJ-189A, Baraboo, WI

Megan Renner, BHAJ-340A, Chicago, IL (RBJ only)

Line Drive Judge(s): TBD, any qualified person may be used to judge Line Drive

Entries accepted ONLINE ONLY on a first come/first served basis. Initial email confirmations will be sent for all entries. Late and Day of Show (DoS) entries should enter online ***before*** traveling to the trial location. Runs added ***during*** the Day of Show will be accepted only up to judging limits. Final confirmation letters may not be sent for Day of Show entries. Judges are limited to 8 hours of judging and a maximum run value, which requires Clubs to limit entries accordingly.

Trial Chairperson/Secretary: Megan Renner, info@citysniffers.org, 773-232-0203 (phone only, no texts)
Event Committee: Deb Auer, Kelly Bandelow, Debbie Bishop, Linda Hinsman, Elizabeth Houchin

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are very important to any Barn Hunt Event. We want everyone to have a pleasant experience in Barn Hunt while at the same time running the event efficiently and smoothly. We will make sure that you have enough time to walk your dog before you run AND that you are instructed on how to do a job so that it is fun.

ENTRY INFORMATION

Dogs must have a Barn Hunt Association registration number: register for a $32 per dog lifetime fee at https://www.barnhunt.com/register.html. Exhibitors are responsible for complete and accurate information on entry forms; incomplete or inaccurate entries cannot be processed. **Always check your confirmation!**

All entries must be accompanied by full entry fees to be valid. Entries are now ONLINE ONLY: no mailed, phone, email, or drop-off entries.

Entry Limits & Wait List: Entry will be closed when judging limits are reached. Entries received after that point will be waitlisted. If any entries are withdrawn, waitlisted entries will be taken in the order received. Any prepaid waitlisted entry not accepted into the trial will be refunded.

Withdrawals & Refunds: Competitors who withdraw prior to the pre-entry closing date will receive a refund of all entry fees, minus any non-refundable credit card transaction fees (if applicable). Competitors who withdraw after the pre-entry closing date receive a refund only if the trial is full with a waitlist and a new entry replaces the withdrawn entry. Entry fees will not be refunded in the event that a dog and/or owner/handler is absent or disqualified, excused, or barred from competition by action of the Event Committee. No entry fee will be refunded if the trial cannot open or be completed by reasons of riots, civil disturbances, fire, acts of God, public emergency, an act of a public enemy, or any other cause beyond the control of the Event Committee.

***Double Entry per Trial**: **What does it mean?**
Clubs can offer up to two Trials per day. Currently, you can enter both Instinct and Novice during the same Trial until you get your Novice title. Other than that, you choose ONE regular class to enter per trial. e.g. you enter Open A in both Trial 1 and Trial 2, running your dog twice that day. This change does not apply to Crazy 8s or to Line Drive.

With the new option, you can enter twice in each TRIAL, running your dog 4 times in one day. **However, you cannot enter the same class/level twice in the same Trial, and your dog must actually be eligible to enter the classes/levels you choose.** Here are your options for entry:

Novice B + Open A
Novice B + Senior A
Novice B + Master A

Novice B + Open B
Novice B + Senior B
Novice B + Master B

Open B + Senior A
Open B + Master A

Open B + Senior B
Open B + Master B

Senior B + Master A
Senior B + Master B

Judging Assignments & Class Running Order

FRIDAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY	
J. Shear – Ring 1	**L. Hawkins – Ring 2**	**L. Hawkins – Ring 1**	**J. Shear – Ring 2**	**J. Shear – Ring 1**	**L. Hawkins – Ring 2**
CZ8 T1	Instinct T1/T2	CZ8 T1	Instinct T1/T2	CZ8 T1	Instinct T1/T2
Master T1	Novice T1/T2	Master T1	Novice T1/T2	Master T1	Novice T1/T2
Master T2	Open T1/T2	Master T2	Open T1/T2	Master T2	Open T1/T2
CZ8 T2	Senior T1/T2	CZ8 T2	Senior T1/T2	CZ8 T2	Senior T1/T2

Line Drive will be played in a separate, fenced ring and may be run on or off leash. Line Drive start time will fall between the end of the first CZ8 trial and the start of the first Senior trial.

Any Judge of Record at this Event may be used in any ring. Qualifying scores will show Judge who designed the Course.

ENTER ONLINE HERE

SITE INFORMATION

Trial grounds will consist of the entire building and surrounding parking lots and sidewalks of the City Sniffers building @ 800 N MacArthur Blvd. FIREARMS ARE NOT ALLOWED OUTSIDE OF YOUR CAR. Smoking and/or vaping are not allowed on trial grounds.

The rings are inside a heated building with floors of rubber matting over hardwood. The blinds are 20' x 10' tents inside the building. Up to six competitors per blind for Instinct/Novice/Open; up to five per blind for Senior/Master. There IS ample heated indoor crating space; competitors may also crate out of their cars in designated parking areas.

The building will open one hour before judging start time and close one hour after the last dog runs.

Directions: From SR-97, turn north on MacArthur Blvd. You'll pass Duncan Park and the Linde building on the right, then look for the big red brick building also on the right. The entrance doors to the City Sniffers space are on the, south, east, and north sides of the building – the front door (west side) of building is NOT in use!

PLEASE REVIEW PARKING MAP TO BE SENT WITH FINAL CONFIRMATION. There IS sufficient space for RV parking, however, electrical hookup is not available at this time. Please email info@citysniffers.org if considering bringing an RV.

Dog exercise areas: Designated potty areas are the green areas in front (west side) of the building and the large lot on the north side of the building. Please pick up after your dog and dispose of waste in appropriate containers outside the building. Any exhibitor failing to follow these rules may be excused without benefit of refund if the Event Committee deems the exhibitor to be in violation of this requirement per BHA regulations.

EXHIBITOR INFORMATION

Check-in begins one hour before posted start time (see page 1 of this document); general & judge briefings held 15 minutes before posted start time. *Please check the event on Secreterrier to see if a particular day is full ***before*** considering DoS entry. Late/DoS entries must be submitted online via Secreterrier!

Further details will be emailed to all competitors after the trial closes and the actual number of entries in each class is known. Dogs will not run in any particular height order. Multiple dogs being handled by the same person will be

separated into different blinds. Judge of Record and Event Official dogs may be judged prior to the official start time or as the first/last blind(s) of a Trial.

Barn Hunt LLC Rules can be obtained online in the form of a PDF file at https://www.barnhunt.com/barnhuntrules.html. Exhibitors are responsible for knowing the rules.

Collars and Leashes: Electronic collars, bark collars, head halters, uncovered prong collars, muzzles, and flexi/retractable leashes are not allowed on event grounds. Dogs may not be brought to the line in any disallowed collar – please consult the rulebook. Dogs MUST run "naked," without a collar/harness. Dogs should be brought to the ring with collars/harnesses that can be easily and quickly removed and replaced. All dogs must be on leash at all times except when in the ring; at no time can dogs be tied out or otherwise left attached to anything other than a human.

Bitches in Season (BiS): BIS are eligible for entry but will be required to be kept separately from all other dogs and will run with panties on in a separate blind at the end of any classes entered. Entry fees for bitches that come into season will be refunded if you wish to withdraw before the closing date. After the closing date, entry fees will not be refunded. If bringing a bitch in season, please inform the Trial Secretary prior to the trial and inform all exhibitors at the judge's briefing. ***Remember your dog must wear panties at all times at the show site (except when being taken out to potty.)*** We will direct you to the BiS potty area, please come to the Trial Secretary's table before unloading your dog.

Awards: Brown flat ribbons will be awarded for qualifying runs in all regular classes and Line Drive. Instinct Title ribbons are brown flat ribbons and will be awarded for a dog's first qualifying Instinct run. Special brown flat ribbons will be awarded to dogs with a positive score in Crazy 8s or a qualifying run in Line Drive. Placement ribbons will be awarded for 1st thru 4th place, as required by the rulebook for A vs. B classes (see Competitor Rulebook, p 24-25). High in Class rosettes will be awarded to all A level classes and the Master B (Champion) Level; High in Class rosettes will also be awarded to the Novice/Open/Senior B level classes IF there are ***at least three dogs*** that compete in the B class that day. New Title awards will be given to dogs with 3 qualifiers in Novice A, Open A, and Senior A; dogs with 5 qualifiers in Master A; and dogs with 10 qualifiers in Line Drive or Novice B, Open B, Senior B, and Master B/Champion Levels. New Title awards for regular classes will be rosettes, larger rosettes will be awarded for a RATCH. New Title awards for Crazy 8s will be neck medallions. Specialty awards may also be offered at this event.

It is expressly understood that exhibitors alone are responsible for the behavior of their dog(s) and/or children. Any exhibitor whose dog(s) and/or children create unnecessary disturbances or repeatedly engage in unsafe or disruptive behavior may, at the discretion of the Event Committee, be asked to leave with no refund of any fees paid.

The safety of the dogs is our primary concern. By entering this trial, exhibitors acknowledge that they are familiar with the rules and regulations of this sport, and that their dogs are familiar with and able to perform all obstacles safely.

What does the event name, “Ratter ‘Raiser”, mean??

This trial will be our third annual fundRAISER to benefit research into canine health topics. Each year we poll competitors to determine the top three organizations/university funds to receive that year’s donations. All proceeds from ratter ‘raiser activities are then donated proportionately according to poll results.

Ratter 'Raiser Fundraising Activities – Please join in to raise money for canine health issues!

Nominate Donation Recipients: Have a particular charitable organization or university research fund (focused on canine health topics) that you'd like to nominate as a donation recipient? Please use this form to submit your ideas. We'll vote onsite at the trial for the top three.

Raffles: Separate raffles will be held each day of the trial, and raffle donations are gratefully appreciated! Individual items or baskets, gift certificates for other dog events/products/services, or whatever your imagination cooks up – all possibilities are welcome. If you're willing to approach another organization or company about offering a donation, that could also be a great contribution to the cause. Please use this form to submit donations and/or outreach plans.

Thank you for your participation!

Emergency Information: Pet

Animal Emergency Clinic of Springfield: 821 S Durkin Dr, Springfield IL, 62704
(217) 698-0870 https://aecspringfield.com/

Emergency Information: Human

HSHS St. John’s Hospital: 800 E Carpenter St, Springfield IL	(217) 544-6464
Memorial Medical Center: 701 N 1st St, Springfield IL	(217) 788-3000

Pet-Friendly Hotels – please call to verify any pet policy details noted below

Candlewood Suites Springfield IL (an IHG Hotel)
2501 Sunrise Dr, Springfield IL 62703 (217) 522-5100
https://www.ihg.com/candlewood/hotels/us/en/springfield/spiwx/hoteldetail
*All pets allowed; $150 pet fee per stay

Drury Inn & Suites Springfield, IL
3180 S Dirksen Pkwy, Springfield, IL 62703 (217) 529-3900
https://www.druryhotels.com/locations/springfield-il/drury-inn-and-suites-springfield-il
*Daily fee of $50 per room plus tax. Limit of two pets per room with a combined weight of 80 pounds.

Hampton Inn & Suites Springfield-Southwest
2300 Chuckwagon Dr, Springfield, IL 62711 (217) 793-7670
https://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/spiilhx-hampton-suites-springfield-southwest/
*1-4 night stay $50; 5+ night stay $75; 2 pets max; dog or cat only

La Quinta Inn & Suites by Wyndham Springfield, IL
1121 Lejune Dr, Springfield IL 62703 (217) 697-5686
https://www.wyndhamhotels.com/laquinta/springfield-illinois/la-quinta-springfield-il/overview
*Please call to verify pet policies & fees.

Microtel Inn & Suites by Wyndham Springfield, IL
2636 Sunrise Dr, Springfield IL 62703 (217) 718-6842
https://www.wyndhamhotels.com/microtel/springfield-illinois/microtel-inn-suites-springfield-il/overview
*Please call to verify pet policies & fees.

Quality Inn & Suites Springfield Southwest near I-72
3442 Freedom Drive, Springfield, IL 62704 (217) 787-2250
https://www.choicehotels.com/illinois/springfield/quality-inn-hotels/il083
*Pet charge of $10 plus tax per pet per night. A maximum of 2 pets per room.

Red Roof Inn Springfield IL
3200 Singer Ave, Springfield IL 62703 (217) 753-4302
https://www.redroof.com/property/il/springfield/rri040
*Pets stay free, 1 pet allowed max 80 pounds.

Residence Inn (by Marriott) Springfield South
2915 Stanford Ave, Springfield IL 62703 (217) 527-1100
https://www.marriott.com/en-us/hotels/spiri-residence-inn-springfield-south/overview/
*Non-refundable cleaning charge of $150 per room per stay applies; maximum pet weight: 75 pounds