



## 2019 US&R Training Series

### OVERVIEW

The National Disaster Search Dog Foundation (SDF), in conjunction with Instructors Teresa MacPherson and Deborah Burnett, are pleased to announce that we are opening the gates of our National Training Center (NTC) for a series of US&R Live Find team training weekends throughout 2019! These training weekends are an opportunity to work with your canine partner in a variety of real-world scenarios on 125 acres. You will receive quality one-on-one instruction delivered by Teresa MacPherson and Deborah Burnett, to include problem-solving and feedback. These two-day training weekends will be largely field-work, concentrating on disaster search that may include foundation training elements and wide area search scenarios, building and rubble search areas.

The description and objectives of each training weekend will vary (read below). Each time, we will be able to accommodate up to sixteen (16) canine teams on a first-come, first-served basis. In addition, up to ten (10) Observers may register for the full workshop in a hands-off capacity (no dogs), at a discounted rate. These training weekends are customized for and available to US&R Live Find canine teams only. Various levels of experience will be accommodated.

### PREREQUISITES

1. All dogs must be:
  - Under control and well-behaved;
  - Healthy;
  - Dog may not be in heat;
  - Non-aggressive;
  - Trained indication on LF.
2. Handlers must be affiliated with a recognized agency.

NOT required - Completion of Type II/FSA or Type I/CE certification(s).

### COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

**Course:** *Fun Hunts & Advanced Reward Systems*

**Course Dates:** February 16-17, 2019

**Registration Deadline:** February 1, 2019

**Hours:** 16

**Handler Participant Registration Fee:** \$450 per student

**Observer:** \$200 per student

**Optional Room & Board Fee:** \$155 includes 2 night's stay at SDF's Handler's Lodge and meals

We will kick off 2019 with a variety of "Fun Hunts" that will test each Handler's ability to safely navigate themselves and their canine partners through a variety of disaster scenarios designed by Teresa MacPherson and Deborah Burnett. As Instructors, Teresa and Deborah will observe and critique the teams' ability to locate live victims for rescue, and apply problem solving techniques. In addition, a portion of the weekend will focus on Advanced Reward Systems, once referred to as "Drive & Decoy" training. Handlers will learn how to develop and channel drive, as well as better motivate a variety of breeds, so as to get the most out of each Search Dog on their task force.

**Course: *Back to Basics***

**Course Dates:** June 29-30, 2019

**Registration Deadline:** June 14, 2019

**Hours:** 16

**Handler Participant Registration Fee:** \$450 per student

**Observer:** \$200 per student

**Optional Room & Board Fee:** \$155 includes 2 night's stay at SDF's Handler's Lodge and meals

This weekend will focus on strengthening training skills that are the bedrock of Search Dog work! Training elements from the FEMA Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA) / SUS&R Type II test will be folded in to help both green teams preparing to test and seasoned teams who could use a refresher, as well as those who may need help in specific areas. The stronger the foundation, the better the team! In addition, a portion of the weekend will focus on Advanced Reward Systems, once referred to as "Drive & Decoy" training. Handlers will learn how to develop and channel drive, as well as better motivate a variety of breeds, so as to get the most out of each Search Dog on their task force.

**Course: *Ready for Certification!***

**Course Dates:** September 28-29, 2019

**Registration Deadline:** September 13, 2019

**Hours:** 16

**Handler Participant Registration Fee:** \$450 per student

**Observer:** \$200 per student

**Optional Room & Board Fee:** \$155 includes 2 night's stay at SDF's Handler's Lodge and meals

Get ready to put all your hard work to the test! This phase will concentrate on bridging the gap from FSA to the CE. Focus will be given to building the search team's confidence by highlighting search skills and putting energy into problem solving. Instructors will observe, offer feedback and really focus the weekend's training elements on the needs of the individual search teams.

**Course: *Beyond Certification – Deployment-readiness***

**Course Dates:** December 7-8, 2019

**Registration Deadline:** November 22, 2019

**Hours:** 16

**Handler Participant Registration Fee:** \$450 per student

**Observer:** \$200 per student

**Optional Room & Board Fee:** \$155 includes 2 night's stay at SDF's Handler's Lodge and meals

Start changing the way you train! How you and your canine partner search on deployment is different from how you train to pass the CE/Type I. We will take you out of the Test Box! We will be focusing on deployment-readiness exercises utilizing many of the disaster props at the NTC to give search teams exposure to as many different deployment scenarios as time allows. Instructors will observe, offer feedback and help you get to that next level of *Search!*

**PAYMENT**

Credit card payments are the preferred method of payment to reserve the Handler's place in this workshop and the Handler will be emailed a link once their completed registration form has been received. Handlers can pay the registration fee and for a bed in SDF's Handlers' Lodge at same time through this link.

Registration forms should be submitted electronically, by fax, or by standard mail. Electronic submissions should be sent to: [kate@searchdogfoundation.org](mailto:kate@searchdogfoundation.org) or by fax: (805) 640-1848

Checks may be mailed payable to:                      Search Dog Foundation  
6800 Wheeler Canyon Road  
Santa Paula, CA 93060

**CANCELLATION/REFUND POLICY**

If Handler chooses to cancel their registration for this HRD workshop, please notify Kate Horwick in writing (e-mail, letter). Cancellations received no later than 30 days before the first day of the HRD workshop will receive a refund of 50% of the paid registration fee plus a full refund of lodging fee if a spot was reserved in SDF's Handlers' Lodge. Cancellations received no later than 14 days before the first day of the HRD workshop will receive a refund of 25% of the paid registration fee plus a full refund of lodging fee if a spot was reserved in SDF's Handlers' Lodge. NO refunds will be issued for cancellations received less than 7 days before the first day of the HRD workshop.

EXCEPTIONS: 1) Handler is deploying as a member of Task Force 2) Handler is a firefighter and is being assigned to a strike team or other *required* work-related duty.

If there are any questions about this policy, please contact Kate Horwick *before* registering for this workshop.

**LODGING:** There are two options for lodging – either in SDF's Handlers' Lodge at the NTC or a local hotel of Handler's choosing – at Handler's cost.

SDF's Handlers' Lodge – Two (2) large barrack-style dormitories containing ten (10) beds each are available to the first handlers to complete the payment process to reserve their bed. There will be a men's and a women's dorm room, which means there is a maximum of ten (10) beds available to each. The Lodge includes separate bathing facilities, a large kitchen, living area, and laundry room. The cost is \$40 per night and Handlers may reserve a bed for a minimum of one (1) night and maximum of three (3) nights. Beds will be reserved on a first-come, first-served basis and are considered reserved when the fee has been paid. Handlers are permitted to house their canines in the Lodge with them.

There are many hotels and motels in Santa Paula and Ventura to choose from if Handler would prefer. Individuals not staying at the Handlers' Lodge are responsible for locating their own alternate accommodations.

**MEALS:** SDF will provide lunches each day of the course. Meal plan available.

**Logistical Information:** Will be provided to registrants prior to workshop.

**Airports**

Los Angeles International (LAX) / Burbank (BUR) / Santa Barbara (SBA)

**Course Location**

SDF National Training Center, 6800 Wheeler Canyon Rd., Santa Paula, CA 93060 (Phone: 888-4K9-HERO)

**IMPORTANT:** There is limited-to-no cell phone service available on Wheeler Canyon Road. Cell phones and internet service are spotty at the National Training Center unless at the main buildings, so prepare accordingly. Class will begin daily at 0800 (PST) and conclude at 1700 (PST).



# 2019 Course Registration

Search Dog Foundation  
Weekend Training  
Santa Paula, CA

CIRCLE TRAINING SESSION YOU WISH TO PARTICIPATE IN:

February 16-17

June 29-30

September 28-29

December 7-8

HANDLER NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

EMERGENCY CONTACT: \_\_\_\_\_

EMERGENCY CONTACT PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

TF AFFILIATION/DEPARTMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

TASK FORCE/DEPT SUPERVISOR: \_\_\_\_\_

TASK FORCE/DEPT SUPERVISOR PHONE/EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

CANINE NAME \_\_\_\_\_ AGE \_\_\_\_\_ CERTIFICATION DATE \_\_\_\_\_

ALLERGIES/ MEDICAL PROBLEMS WE SHOULD BE AWARE OF: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

LIST ANY DIETARY RESTRICTIONS \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

NIGHTS AT SDF'S HANDLERS' LODGE: \_\_\_\_\_

Participant Registration Fee: \$450      Observer Registration Fee: \$200  
Optional Room & Board Fee: \$155 (includes 2 nights in Handler's Lodge & meals)

CHECK #: \_\_\_\_\_      AMOUNT: \_\_\_\_\_

P.O. #: \_\_\_\_\_      AMOUNT: \_\_\_\_\_

ONLINE CREDIT CARD PAYMENT:      AMOUNT: \_\_\_\_\_