

NACSW Virtual Skills Assessment Day!

October 26, 2024

During the pandemic, NACSW created fun, challenging scenarios for teams to earn virtual titles. The Skills Assessments proved popular, so NACSW has continued the program.

We at Gentle Touch want to offer our Nose Work community the opportunity to do these assessments and earn points toward their VSA titles. (ORT not required!)

Each level (1, 2, 3) consists of 4 timed searches where the dog searching must demonstrate their proficiency at the particular skill. These searches are videoed on your own phone, along with a photo of each search set up. Videos and photos are submitted through the NACSW portal. *(NACSW charges \$25 per 4 skill submission). You can submit them yourself, or for an extra \$10, we can help you do it. You must be a current member of NACSW and be able to log in to the portal, plus be able to upload to Google Drive or Dropbox. Videos will be judged by NACSW staff within 30 days.

Multiple Dogs: Handlers know the locations of the hides in Skills Achievement Challenges, so a handler may run multiple dogs in the same Challenges. Dogs may be run on the same setups.

Video Taping: Videos will need to meet specified parameters for each search in a given Skills Achievement Challenge. The videos will need to be uploaded to a specified site and links/access provided as directed during submission. Please refer to the details provided for each Skills Achievement Challenge for specific submission requirements.

Skills Achievement Titles

NSA1 (Nose Work Skills Achievement 1)
NSA2 (Nose Work Skills Achievement 2)
NSA3 (Nose Work Skills Achievement 3)
NSAM (Nose Work Skills Achievement Master)

Each Skills Achievement Title is achieved by earning the designated minimum number of points for a given Skills Achievement Challenge and by completing all skills at a minimum of Level 1. Each Skills Achievement Challenge will have a total of 120 possible points.

- NSA1 requires a minimum of 40 points.
- NSA2 requires a minimum of 70 points.
- NSA3 requires a minimum of 100 points.
- NSAM requires 120 points.

A team may achieve each Skills Achievement Title multiple times. They may opt to add the number of times the title has been achieved after the NSAX designation i.e., NSA1x2, NSAMx3,

etc.

Further information on the VSAs can be found here: <https://www.nacsw.net/challenges>

Please read the descriptions of searches beforehand.

Level 1- Virtual Skills Assessment- 10/26/24

- 1) Containers with Distractions
- 2) Suspended Hide
- 3) Sourcing: Table Hide
- 4) Multiple Hide Search on a Natural Surface.

Fee: Level 1 Skill Day: \$25
Additional Submission Help: \$10