2022 Covid -19 Competitors Protocol
The Joriad™ North American Truffle Dog Championship

We STRONGLY advise that everyone attending be fully vaccinated due to the unknowns of travel restrictions in Oregon in February. If you are not, you will need to provide OTF with a negative test result dated no more than 36 hours before attending.

Masks will be required at all times indoors, and outside if distancing isn’t possible.

Please be advised that all Oregon State and County Guidelines will be enforced during the training. Your safety is our number one concern.

Thank you, and good luck in the competition!

Rules begin on the next page.
Table of Contents

Introduction ............................................................................................................ 3
Contact Information .................................................................................................. 4
Process for Rules Modification ................................................................................ 5
Definition of Terms ................................................................................................... 5
Competition Format Overview ................................................................................ 6
Joriad™ Officials ..................................................................................................... 6
Disputes and Dispute Resolution ............................................................................. 7
Standards of Sportsmanship ...................................................................................... 7
Requirements and Eligibility .................................................................................... 7
Veterinary Care ........................................................................................................ 8
Practice Course ......................................................................................................... 9
Dog Rewards ............................................................................................................ 9
Dog Calls of Nature ................................................................................................. 9
Liability Waiver ........................................................................................................ 9
Exclusion of Participants ......................................................................................... 9
Collusion .................................................................................................................. 10
Retest Policy ........................................................................................................... 10
Competition Rules ................................................................................................... 11
Truffle Odor Recognition Trial (TORT) .................................................................. 11
Arena Hunt ............................................................................................................... 12
Field Hunt: Championship Finals ......................................................................... 14
Award Ceremony ....................................................................................................... 16
Award and Prize for the Winner of the Joriad™ ...................................................... 16
Introduction

As some of the most expensive and celebrated foods on Earth, truffles are avidly sought wherever they grow. The hunt is carried out surreptitiously; usually in isolation by harvesters seeking every advantage in what is by nature a competitive endeavor. Secrecy is essential to success, and contributes to a deep sense of mystique surrounding the hunt, but in parts of Southern Europe where truffles have grand cultural significance, to be recognized as a top truffle hunter carries a great deal of prestige.

Truffle hunting is a human-dog team effort, requiring natural rapport, and considerable knowledge and skill on the part of both partners. The Joriad™ is intended to test both handler and dog and the communication between them to determine which team outperforms the others under the authentic conditions of hunting truffles in the wild. As in the profession of truffle hunting, the fundamental challenge is to find the greatest number of truffles in a limited amount of time. On the part of the dog this requires sensitivity in recognizing the aromas of various truffle species, nuanced search technique, the ability to focus on the objective for long periods of time, and the ability to perform an unambiguous alert. For the human’s part, it requires dog training skill, a refined ability to read the dog’s body language in the field, and familiarity with truffle habits and habitat. It is also a physical challenge on the part of both partners, requiring endurance over natural terrain and through inclement weather.

Among truffle hunting competitions, the Joriad™ is unique in its emphasis on hunting multiple truffle species under authentic, unmodified natural conditions. In Oregon where the Joriad™ takes place, four celebrated truffle species are hunted commercially, in addition to frequent discovery of undescribed species with obvious culinary value. Over the course of the field component of the competition it is possible that contestants will find multiple truffle species, none of which will be hidden in advance.

As part of the Oregon Truffle Festival, the Joriad™ is a celebration of the mystique surrounding the art of truffle hunting, and a means to promote both North America’s unique truffle species, and the growing use of trained dogs to hunt them.

The name, Joriad™, is derived from Jory, Oregon’s official state soil, and represents Oregon at its very roots.
Contact Information

Oregon Truffle Festival
PO Box 5275
Eugene, OR 97405
www.oregontrufflefestival.com
(503) 296-5929

General Festival Inquiries:
Leslie Scott, General Manager
(541) 913-3841
leslie@truffletree.com

Participant contact:
Kristina Leipzig, Lead Organizer of the Joriad™
(503) 739-5755
OTFTruffledog@gmail.com
Process for Rules Modification

Because the Joriad™ is not modeled after any existing event, it is anticipated that the rules will require some degree of modification and refinement in its first few years up to and possibly during the event to ensure fairness of the competition foremost, but also to contend with logistical challenges, to address contingencies, or remedy oversights within the rules themselves. Rules revisions will be sent to Joriad™ contestants by email prior to the event, and will be tracked with a version number shown below the title of this document. Any necessary rule changes made up to a week before the event will be emailed to contestants. Any changes made immediately prior to the event will be announced during contestant briefing sessions. In the event of rules modifications during the competition, any necessary re-runs or modifications of protocol will be made at that time and announced over the P.A. system.

Definition of Terms

**Hide** – refers to an object meant to be buried in the Arena that may or may not carry truffle aroma or various distraction aromas.

**Target** – refers to a Hide that contains either white (Tuber oregonense) or black (Leucangium carthusianum) truffle aroma, either in the form of real truffles or in the form of an authentic truffle oil infused with the aroma of real truffles.

**Blank** – refers to a Hide that lacks any added aromas.

**Distractions** – refers to Hides scented with various distraction aromas, including, but not limited to: food, critter odors, environmental distractors, and dog odor.

**Collection** – in the Field Hunt, a collection is an actual truffle that the contestant collects by giving it to the referee.
Competition Format Overview

The Joriad™ consists of three distinct trials. The Truffle Odor Recognition Trial (TORT), tests basic proficiency at truffle aroma identification and recognition of the dog’s alert. Teams that demonstrate proficiency at identifying Targets containing truffle aroma will advance to the Arena Hunt.

The Arena Hunt is a timed competition to locate a predetermined number of Targets buried in the arena sand.

Top contestants from the Arena Hunt advance to the Field Hunt: Championship Final, a one hour hunt for truffles in the wild. The highest scoring team in the Field Hunt will win the Joriad™. Scores in the field hunt will be a simple count of the truffles collected, plus bonuses equivalent to one additional truffle for collection of two, three, or all four of the qualifying truffle species.

Joriad™ Officials

Lead Organizer – The Lead Organizer bears overall responsibility for planning and operations of Joriad™ events. The Lead Organizer will also serve as a Judge for the purposes of dispute resolution or rules modification.

Judges – Event Judges are responsible for interpreting and enforcing the Joriad™ rules, resolving disputes by majority vote, and they will have authority to modify the rules as necessary to ensure a fair competition and to remedy oversights. Modification of the rules during the event will require a consensus opinion among the judges. Judges are also responsible for officially acknowledging and authenticating alerts during the Arena trials.

Referees – Joriad™ referees will carry out necessary operational functions in the competition venues, including resetting Hides during the Arena Trials, facilitating contestant staging, accompanying teams in the Field Hunt, and keeping possession and count of Collections in the Field Hunt. They will also help to prevent rules violations in the Field Hunt, and if necessary, noting potential rules violations during the course of all events. One or more of the referees will serve as Time Keepers, announcing start and stop times at the Arena events, and recording the time for each contestant in the Arena Hunt.

Joriad™ Mycologist – The Joriad™ Mycologist is responsible for identification of truffle Collections and assignment of bonuses in the Field Hunt.
Disputes and Dispute Resolution

Disputes that arise during the course of Joriad™ events will be resolved by the event Judges in a majority vote. They will consider input from contestants, referees, and the organizers of the event. Resolutions reached by the judges will be final.

Standards of Sportsmanship

Exemplary sportsmanship is expected of all participants. Judges may excuse handlers from the competition for behavioral violations including, but not limited to: striking or kicking a dog, abusive language towards another competitor, judge, official or volunteer, and any form of cheating.

Requirements and Eligibility

Dog Requirements

- Dogs must be at least 10 months of age on day 1 of the event, current on all vaccinations required by law, and must appear healthy with no obvious impairments on the day of the event. Judges have the authority to dismiss a dog for failing to meet any of the above criteria.
- Each dog must be handled by only one person throughout the competition. No substitution of handlers will be permitted.
- Dogs must not have had prior involvement in the commercial harvest of truffles and must not be owned by someone who trains or handles truffle dogs professionally.
- Females in season and lactating females may not compete.
- Dogs may wear harnesses, collars, and gear that does not interfere with their own or others’ ability to participate in the competition. Event Judges will have the responsibility to decide whether particular pieces of equipment, gear, or apparel can be worn. All dogs must be on leash at all times during Joriad™ events when they are not contained within a vehicle.
- No Prong, choke, head halter, or electric collars may be worn in the search areas.
- Dogs traveling to and from the competition areas must be on leashes no more than 6 feet long. Leashes longer than this must be “gathered” to 6 feet or less.
• In the Arena and Field Hunt events leashes up to 20 feet long may be used. Contestants should be mindful of the fact that leashes of this length can become tangled in tree branches during the Field Hunt, and that dogs must be kept at least 20 feet away from any member of another team.
• For the sake of dog and handler safety, no string, fishing line, or thin Flexi leads are permitted. Event judges will have the authority to decide whether leashes present safety risks.
• Dogs must be non-aggressive to humans or other dogs. Aggressive behavior will be grounds for dismissal from the event.
• All dogs must be either kept in a vehicle or on leash at all times during Joriad™ events. Dogs on leash must be separated by at least four feet from other dogs when not competing, and by at least 20 feet during the competitions.

**Handler Requirements**

• Handlers must be at least 18 years of age on day 1 of the event.
• Handlers are limited to one dog during the competition. No substitute dogs will be permitted.
• The Joriad™ is limited to amateur truffle hunters, which excludes those who have prior involvement in the commercial harvest of truffles or who train truffle dogs professionally.
• Handlers must dress appropriately for rugged conditions and wet, cold weather, including closed toed shoes suitable for sloped and slippery outdoor conditions.
• Truffle hunting is an endeavor that takes place over extended periods of time in natural forest conditions with many obstacles, hazards, and conditions requiring unimpaired physical mobility and endurance. Handlers advancing to the Field Hunt: Championship Finals will need to navigate sloped and rough off-trail terrain and vegetation in January weather, which is usually wet and cold in Western Oregon. All contestants will be required to endure the same conditions. No exceptions will be made to accommodate contestants with physical limitations or who are not prepared for all-terrain, all-weather conditions.

**Veterinary Care**

No veterinarian will be present for Joriad™ events.
Practice Course
A TORT practice course will be established within the contestant staging area of the Arena.

Dog Rewards
Handlers may reward dogs by any means in Joriad™ competition events, including food treats, toys, etc., provided that they do not contaminate competition venues. Contestants will be required by referees and judges to immediately locate and collect any reward items that are dropped or left behind even at the cost of time.

Handlers are allowed and encouraged to carry and provide drinking water to the dog during the Field Hunt.

Dog Calls of Nature
Because dog etiquette is not relevant to the profession of truffle hunting, and coping with distraction is paramount, no penalties will be assigned for dog elimination either in the Arena or Field venues. However, Judges will require handlers to thoroughly clean up and remove dog waste eliminated within the Arena competition venue after completion of the individual trial. Tools will be provided. In the Field Hunt, handlers will be required to immediately bag solid waste and carry it with them for the remainder of the event.

Liability Waiver
Dog owners and handlers enter the Joriad™ at their own risk and agree to abide by all Joriad™ rules. All contestants will be required to sign a liability waiver and submit it to the Oregon Truffle Festival in advance of the competition by fax, emailed scan of the signed document, texted or emailed photo of the signed document, or physical delivery by USPS, UPS, Fedex, etc. Liability waiver forms will be sent to contestants by email after they register and pay to participate in the event. No liability waiver forms will be available or accepted at the competition venue. Contestants who have not submitted a signed liability waiver in advance will not be permitted to compete.

Exclusion of Participants
The Oregon Truffle Festival reserves the right to exclude at its own discretion with or without stated reasons any contestant or spectator from attending or participating in the Joriad™ competition. Excluded contestants or spectators who have already paid to attend or participate will receive a full refund.
Collusion
No person, including judges, referees, other staff, other contestants, or spectators may assist handlers by directing them toward or away from Hides or truffles. In the event of collusion, those responsible will be warned, and if necessary, expelled from the event by the judges or the Lead Organizer of the Joriad™.

Retest Policy
Under unforeseen circumstances beyond the control of contestants, the judges may, at their own discretion, permit teams to restart or retake either of the Arena trials. Time permitting, Judges may also choose to interrupt and restart the Field Hunt in the event of unforeseeable circumstances that seriously disadvantage one or more, but not all contestants, or in some way interfere with completion of the trial. In the event of a restart of the Field Hunt, all contestants will be required to restart and run the course concurrently.
Truffle Odor Recognition Trial (TORT)

The TORT is specifically for amateur teams to demonstrate their ability to locate and positively identify Targets among a larger number of Blanks within a limited time. Hides in the TORT will be buried in trays of sand arranged above ground, making the location of the Hides obvious. The challenge is for the dog to determine which of the trays contain Targets. The TORT is intended to be a simple and straightforward means of eliminating those teams with too little experience to perform well in subsequent trials.

1. A practice course will be set up in the contestant staging area. No practicing will be conducted within the arena trial venue.
2. Hides will be buried in trays arranged in a course spanning a portion of the arena.
3. Hides will be contained in plastic pouches or containers with openings for odors to escape.
4. Targets will contain either real Oregon truffles or cotton soaked with truffle oil made from Oregon truffles.
5. The number of Targets that teams will be required to locate will be announced during the contestant briefing.
6. Both black and white truffles or truffle aroma may be included among the Targets.
7. No Distractions will be included among the Hides.
8. The ordering of teams will be determined by random selection and will be posted at the event.
9. Each team will be given five minutes to correctly identify the Targets among the Hides.
10. Teams will start at a starting line, but are allowed to work back and forth along the course as necessary to locate the Targets.
11. Multiple courses may be set up in parallel and run simultaneously.
12. Hides will be rearranged by the referees between runs.
13. Dogs must be on leash.
14. Teams are allowed their choice of alerts, including digging for the Hide.
15. A Judge will accompany each Team in the Arena at a distance sufficient to avoid interfering with the trial.

16. Handlers must indicate an alert by raising one arm in the air, accompanied by a call of “truffle”. The arm must be held up until the judge verbally acknowledges the alert. The judge will then examine the hide to determine whether it is a Target or a Blank. The dog handler is not permitted to handle the Hides.

17. Teams are allowed to alert on one Blank. Additional alerts on Blanks will disqualify the team for advancement.

18. Failure to correctly identify the required number of Targets within the time limit will disqualify the team for advancement.

19. The start and stop signals will be announced by the Time Keeper.

20. In the TORT, alerts must be based solely on the Handler’s reading of the dog’s behavior. Handlers touching or sniffing the Hides themselves will be disqualified for advancement.

21. The Judge’s verbal acknowledgment of the alert will be considered valid even if it is given after the time limit signal.

22. All teams that successfully locate the required number of Targets within the five minute time limit will advance to the Arena Hunt.

23. If time permits given the number of contestants and their results, disqualified teams may be given a second chance to run the TORT and advance to the Arena Hunt if they successfully identify the required number of Targets on the second run.

**Arena Hunt**

The Arena Hunt tests the ability of teams to confidently locate hidden Targets among Blanks and Distractions within a relatively large area of the Arena floor. It emulates the search for truffles in the field, but on a smaller scale and at a faster pace. Contestants must locate the required number of Targets as quickly as they can. The 20% of contestants with the lowest times (with a minimum of five and a maximum of ten) will advance to the Field Hunt: Championship Finals.

1. The number of Targets that teams will be required to locate will be announced during the contestant briefing.

2. All Hides will be buried within the Arena sand.

3. Both black and white truffle aroma may be included among the Targets.

4. Blanks and Distractions may be included among the Hides.

5. The ordering of teams will be determined by random selection and will be posted at the event.
6. Dogs must be on leash.

7. Teams will start at a starting line, but are allowed to work freely throughout their designated portion of the course as necessary to locate the Targets.

8. A Judge will accompany each Team in the Arena at a distance sufficient to avoid interfering with the trial.

9. Teams must collect each Target as they find it. Upon collection of the final target, the contestant will announce the find by a call of “finished” combined with raising the Target in the air where it is clearly visible for confirmation. The Target must be held up until the Judge verbally acknowledges the find. Times will be based on the Judge’s verbal acknowledgment.

10. No penalty will be assigned for locating Blanks or Distractions other than the natural loss of time.

11. Adjacent courses may be in use simultaneously by different teams.

12. Teams must remain within their designated section of the Arena.

13. Digging for Hides on the part of either dog or handler is allowed. No digging on the part of the handler is allowed without a prior alert from the dog.

14. The required number of Targets must be located and announced prior to the conclusion of five minutes. In close calls, the Judge will determine whether the final Target was announced before or after the time limit signal. The Judge’s verbal acknowledgment of the final Target will be considered valid even if it is given after the time limit signal.

15. The time required for each team to locate the required number of Targets will be recorded by the Time Keepers based on the referee’s final acknowledgment confirming that the targets have been located.

16. The start and stop signals will be announced over the P.A. system by the Time Keeper.

17. Hides will be replaced by the referees between runs.

18. The 20% of contestants with the lowest times (with a minimum of five and a maximum of ten) will advance to the Field Hunt: Championship Finals.

19. In the event that fewer than five teams locate the required number of targets within the allotted time, then the five teams that find the greatest number of targets will advance to the Field Hunt. In the event of a tie that produces more than five finalists, the Judges may choose either to hold a runoff Arena Hunt, or to allow more than five teams to advance to the Field Hunt. This choice may be informed by time limitations and/or the number of referees available to assist with the Field Hunt.
Field Hunt: Championship Finals

The Field Hunt is an authentic hunt for truffles in the wild. No truffles, Targets, Distractions, or Blanks are hidden for this trial—no one knows where, how many, or what truffle species will be found. The task is to find the greatest number of truffles within a specified time limit, with bonuses for collection of two or more truffle species.

The Field Hunt will be held in natural truffle habitat with boundaries defined by natural features to the extent possible, and colored flagging where a part of the patch is designated off-limits. All Teams (a minimum of five and a maximum of ten) will work within the same defined area simultaneously.

Contestants should be aware that the distribution of truffles in natural truffle habitat is nearly always patchy and non-random. A major factor in the Joriad™, as in the profession of truffle hunting, is an understanding of those natural features associated with truffle patches, and effective search technique within and between productive patches. Search technique is a combination of skill and talent on the part of both members of the team, and effective search technique is often more important than the speed at which the team traverses the site.

The location of the Field Hunt venue will be announced only to finalists from the Arena Hunt. The Field Hunt is not a spectator event, and no one other than the competitors themselves, event staff, and others including members of the media specifically invited by event organizers will be permitted to attend. Uninvited spectators, media, guests, and ‘assistants’ accompanying contestants will be required to leave the site.

1. All teams will start and run the Field Hunt concurrently.
2. Dogs will be on-leash.
3. Teams will start at a starting line, but are allowed to search freely throughout the defined area once the start signal is given.
4. A referee will accompany each team, endeavoring to maintain a distance of approximately 10-20 feet from the dog.
5. Both members of a team must remain at least 20 feet away from either member of another team and referees accompanying other teams at all times.
6. In the absence of an alert from the dog, no raking, or other forms of random search is permitted.
7. When the dog does alert, digging is permitted both on the part of the dog and the handler.
8. Any digging tool meant to be used in one hand that is no more than 14 inches long is allowed.

9. The hole dug to locate a truffle may be no more than 18 inches in diameter. If the hole reaches that size without locating a truffle within it then it must be refilled and abandoned.

10. All Collections will be handed to the accompanying Referee for acknowledgment and safekeeping. The referee will maintain a tally of Collections and will have a container to hold them.

11. A maximum of one Collection is permitted per hole. The Referee will ensure that no more than one truffle is collected from a given hole even if multiple truffles are found while digging. (While ‘nests’ are a common and desirable aspect of truffle hunting, finding them is a product of luck rather than the skill that this competition is designed to assess.)

12. All holes must be refilled before moving on.

13. Collections may be made adjacent to previous collections provided that the dog alerts properly on the new spot. Referees will be instructed to watch for any attempt on the part of the handler to artificially direct the dog to alert in a place where the handler suspects that there may be truffles. It is permissible for the handler to direct the dog toward truffles that the handler sees, either on the soil surface, or within a rodent ‘dig’, and these truffles may be collected, provided first that the dog alerts on them.

14. Collections may be made adjacent to previous collections made by other teams.

15. To be counted as a Collection, the dimensions of individual truffles or truffle fragments must be sufficient to prevent them from falling unaided through the hole in a piece of paper made by a standard hole punch kept on-hand during the competition. This hole punch defines the minimum required dimensions to qualify as a Collection.

16. The Field Hunt score will be a simple count of the number of truffles found by each team with added bonuses for collection of 2 or more truffle species. A bonus equivalent to one additional truffle will be added to the total score for each additional truffle species collected. To be counted, Collections must be identified as one of the following: Tuber oregonense, Tuber gibbosum, Leucangium carthusianum, or Kalapuya brunnea. A maximum of three bonuses can be added to a team’s score if they happen to find all four species. The Oregon Truffle Festival utilizes truffle patches where all four species are known to exist, but for a single team to find more than two on a given day would be highly unusual.

17. Confirmation of truffle identity and assignment of bonuses will be carried out by the Joriad™ Mycologist after conclusion of the Field Hunt. Each truffle will be
examined to determine whether it is one of the four qualifying truffle species. Identifications will be carried out by a simple inspection of each Collection comparable to an inspection carried out by a buyer or chef without the use of any tools other than a knife to examine the appearance of truffle interiors. Collections that are not determined to be members of the four qualifying species will be rejected and will not count toward either the total count or the weight. Species determinations of the Joriad™ Mycologist will be considered valid and final.

18. No measures of quality, weight, or physical dimensions of the truffles other than the minimum size discussed above will factor into the score except in the event of a tie, in which case the team that amassed the greater weight of truffles will prevail.

19. Broken truffles will be counted as a single Collection. It will be the responsibility of the accompanying referee to maintain a tentative count and to retain the largest single piece of a broken truffle among the team’s other Collections. Smaller pieces will be kept separately by the referee to avoid contamination of the venue. In the event of a tie, the weight of the single largest broken piece will be included in the total, but no attempt will be made to reconstruct the original weight of broken truffles. Dogs will occasionally alert on truffle fragments left behind by rodents where they have consumed a truffle. These fragments cannot be counted as a Collection unless at least one of them exceeds the minimum required dimensions.

20. Upon the sounding of the Stop signal, the hunt is over and only those truffles that are either in the care of the referees, or are physically in the hands of the handlers will be counted. Truffles that are in the ground when the stop signal sounds will not be counted. In the event of close calls, it is the sole decision of the accompanying referee whether or not a collection is in the hand of the handler when the stop signal is given.

**Award Ceremony**

All Field Hunt: Championship Finals contestants are expected to attend the Award Ceremony following the competition. The Field Hunt results will be announced at the Award Ceremony.

**Award and Prize for the Winner of the Joriad™**

The top three finalists will be awarded trophies, and the winner of the Joriad™ will receive a $500 cash prize.