

**American Herding Breed Association
Herding Trials
Saturday & Sunday March 28 & 29, 2026
Back Porch Herding, Inc.**

Hosted at
Middle Tree Farm
340 Old Cedar Rd
Pittsboro, NC 27312

Open to all eligible AHBA breeds as allowed by AHBA rules

Trial Site Hours – 7:30AM to one hour after trial is completed
These events will be held outdoors rain or shine

One of each level offered for each trial

**RLF geese (15 head)
HTAD (course 2) Sheep (4 head)
HTAD (course 2) ducks (4 head)
JHD sheep (3 head) JHD ducks (3 head)**

RLF geese classes are limited to 6 runs per day
HTAD sheep classes are limited to 8 runs per day
HTAD duck classes are limited to 15 runs per day
JHD sheep and duck classes are limited to 3 runs per day each

JUDGES:

**Saturday – Sandra Lindenmuth
Sunday – Claire Apple**

First handlers' meeting will begin at 9:00AM.

For more information: John Amsden 336 317-5638 johnamsden99@gmail.com

ENTRIES: No opening date, pre-entries must be received by **Monday, March 23rd, 2026**

FEES:

RLF geese \$45
HTAD sheep \$45
HTAD ducks \$45
JHD ducks \$35
JHD sheep \$35

Same day entries will be accepted 830AM – 9:00AM each day if space available.
Additional \$10.00 per class for entries or funds received after the **closing date of
Monday, March 23, 2026.**

Paypal options are available: use the "to friends or family" option (no fee) -or- add 3 percent to the total. Paypal account is johnamsden99@gmail.com. You can also fill out the entry form, take a picture of it and email it to johnamsden99@gmail.com

– or –

Make checks payable to Back Porch Herding mail along with completed AHBA entry form to:

John Amsden
1122 Red Lane Rd.
Pleasant Garden, NC 27313

There will be a \$25.00 service charge for any returned checks.

POLICIES:

- This trial shall be run under all AHBA rules and regulations. FMI: www.ahba-herding.org
- Use official AHBA entry form
- Each individual is responsible for any damage caused by himself, his family or his dog while in the trial arena or on the trial grounds.
- Livestock replacement costs are as follows: Ducks \$50.00, Geese \$75.00, sheep \$300.00

AHBA, Back Porch Herding, Middle tree Farm, Caroline Betts and all trial workers assume no responsibility for any accident or injury.

- Bitches in season will run last. They should be crated away from trial arenas when not competing.
- All dogs must be on leash when not competing.
- Entry confirmation will be sent by email; please be sure to include your email address.
- Trial committee will draw run order prior to the trial.
- Entry fees will only be refunded if request is received on or before pre-entry closing date (**March 23rd**).

AWARDS (available at trial only) - (including but not limited to)

- Green flat ribbons for all qualifying runs
- flat ribbons for 1st thru 4th (rosettes available for pictures)
- HIT rosette Reserve HIT Rosette
- New Title rosettes for any new title. Just let us know
- Herding Trial Champion rosettes also available if you complete your title with us!

Veterinarian: VSH of the Carolinas

6405 Tyron Rd, Cary, NC 27518 (919) 233-4911

Concessions: Light snacks will be provided. Please bring your own lunch.

Hotels:

La Quinta Inn & Suites Cary – 919-851-2850 (~35 minutes)
Holiday Inn Express Suites Sanford – 919-776-6600 (~35 minutes)
Red Roof Inn Chapel Hill UNC – 919-489-9421 (~35 minutes)
Motel 6 – Raleigh SW/Cary – 919-467-6171 (~40 minutes)
Roof Inn Raleigh NCSU – 919-469-3400 (~40 minutes)
Days Inn 1515 E 11th St, Siler City, NC 27344 (919) 663-2511 (~18 minutes)
Hampton Inn in Pittsboro. 919-542-4284 (~14 minutes)

please call to confirm

Camping

Jordan Lake <https://www.ncparks.gov/jordan-lake-state-recreation-area/camping> (-25 minutes)
they are open at this time of year – **please call to confirm** – gated campground – gate opens at 8:00 A.M.(to let you out)

DIRECTIONS TO TRIAL SITE

From Highway US 64 (traveling East)

from the junction of US 421 and US 64 for 8.9 mi. Turn right onto Alex Cockman rd. for 2.2 mi. Turn left on Alston Chp rd. for 1.8 mi. Turn left on Old Cedar Rd and travel 0.3 mi to end.

From US 64 (traveling West)

take exit 368 (bus 64) 3.5 mi. Turn left onto NC-87 S/NC-902 W .2 mi.
Turn right onto Old Goldston Rd 0.4 mi. Turn right onto Alston Chapel Rd 3.2 mi. Turn right onto Old Cedar Dr drive 0.3 mi to end.

From US 501 (traveling North)

Turn left onto N Carolina 87 Bypass/NC-87 0.7 mi. Turn left onto Old Goldston Rd 0.3 mi.
Turn left onto Alston Chapel Rd 3.2 mi. Turn right onto Old Cedar Dr 0.3 mi drive to end

From US 501 (traveling South)

At the traffic circle in Pittsboro, take the 1st exit onto US-64 BUS W 0.5 mi. turn left onto NC-87 S/NC-902 W 0.2 mi.
Turn right onto Old Goldston Rd 0.4 mi. Turn right onto Alston Chapel Rd 3.2 mi. Turn right onto Old Cedar Dr drive 0.3 mi to end.

From NC 87 (traveling South)

At the traffic circle in Pittsboro, take the 2nd exit and stay on NC-87 S 0.4 mi. Turn right onto Old Goldston Rd 0.4 mi.
Turn right onto Alston Chapel Rd 3.2 mi. Turn right onto Old Cedar Dr drive 0.3 mi to end.

Using a GPS works fine.

AHBA SANCTIONED HERDING TEST AND TRIAL NAME OF CLUB or PERSON(S) Sponsoring this Event: Back Porch Herding, Inc.
 Location: Middle Tree Farm 340 Old Cedar Rd. Pittsboro, NC 27312
 Dates of Event: Saturday and Sunday March 28 & 29, 2026 - Pre entries deadline Monday, March 23rd. Additional \$10.00 per class for entries or funds received after the closing date of, Monday, March 23rd.

Paypal options are available: use the "to friends or family" option (no fee) -or- add 3 percent to the total. Paypal account is johnamsden99@gmail.com. You can also fill out the entry form, take a picture of it and email it to johnamsden99@gmail.com

- or -

Make checks or money orders payable in US funds to: **Back Porch Herding**
 Send to the Trial Secretary **John Amsden 1122 Red Lane Rd. Pleasant Garden, NC 27313**

ELIGIBILITY

All dogs nine months of age or older are eligible to participate in Herding Trials and JHD. Dogs classified as Herding Dogs in AHBA are eligible for HERDING TEST (HCT) and may participate at six months of age or older. No dog may be entered in two classes on the same course with the same kind of stock under the same judge at any Test/Trial. Bitches in season shall run last.

IMPORTANT. READ THIS BEFORE SIGNING.

In consideration for participation in an event sanctioned by the American Herding Breed Association (AHBA), I agree to assume all responsibility for any claim, loss or damage, of whatever kind or nature, whether to person or property, which may be caused at or near this event, either directly or indirectly, by me or the dog or dogs I have entered in or brought to this event. I further agree that I will hold the AHBA, its officers, directors, agents and members, Back Porch Herding and Caroline Betts harmless and defend them from any and all liability for any injury, claim, damage or loss, of whatever kind or nature, whether to person or property, caused at or near this event, whether directly or indirectly, by me or any dog I have entered in or brought to this event. I agree to indemnify the AHBA, its officers, directors, agents and members for any loss, cost or expense including attorneys' fees and costs, to which the AHBA, its officers, directors, agents or members might be subject as a result of any claim, suit, loss or damage caused in any way by any act or negligence on my part or on the part of any dog or dogs I have entered in or brought to this event. I acknowledge that while the AHBA may provide sanctioning for this event with regard to the issuing of titles, it does not have and does not exercise control over the conduct of the event or those present.

I CERTIFY and represent that the dog or dogs I have entered in or brought to this event is/are not a hazard to other dogs, other animals, or to people.

I CERTIFY that I am the actual owner of the dog or that I am the duly authorized agent of the actual owners whose name I have entered. In consideration of the acceptance of this entry, I (we) agree to abide by the Rules and Regulations of the AHBA in effect at the time of this Herding Test or Trial or both, and further agree to be bound by the agreement printed above. The entry is submitted on the foregoing representation and agreement.

Signature of Owner &/or Agent: _____

Please enter one dog per Entry Form. **Please circle the trial and class and level you wish to enter.**

Saturday March 28, 2026

Stock: Geese	Class: RLF	Level: 1 2 3	Fee: \$45	0920
Stock: Sheep	Class: HTAD	Level: 1 2 3	Fee: \$45	0921
Stock: Ducks	Class: HTAD	Level: 1 2 3	Fee: \$45	0922
Stock: Sheep	Class: JHD		Fee: \$35	0923
Stock: Ducks	Class: JHD		Fee: \$35	0924

Sunday March 29, 2026

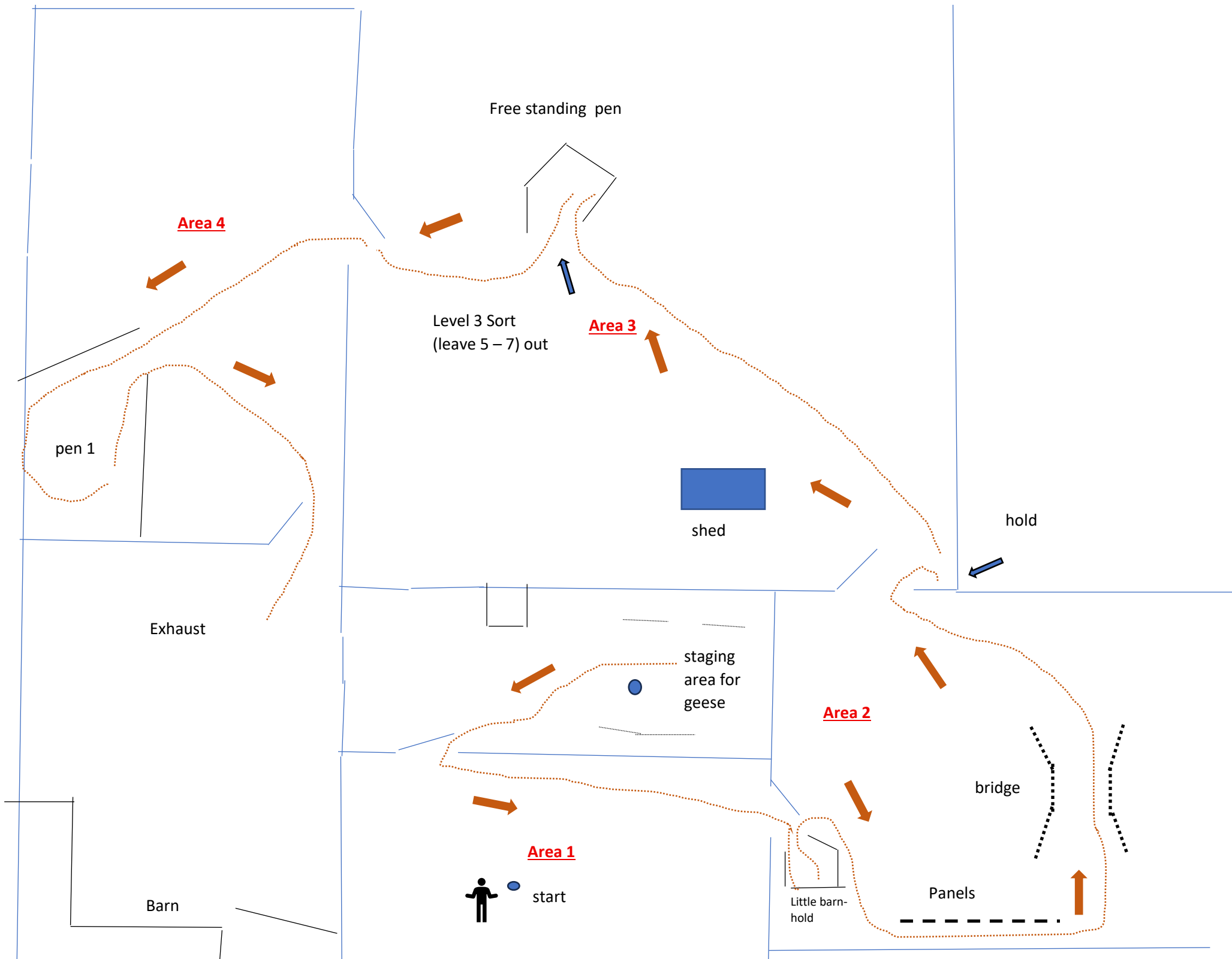
Stock: Geese	Class: RLF	Level: 1 2 3	Fee: \$45	0930
Stock: Sheep	Class: HTAD	Level: 1 2 3	Fee: \$45	0931
Stock: Ducks	Class: HTAD	Level: 1 2 3	Fee: \$45	0932
Stock: Sheep	Class: JHD		Fee: \$35	0933
Stock: Ducks	Class: JHD		Fee: \$35	0934

Total

NOTE: A dog must be entered in the name of the person(s) who actually owns it at the time entries are made for the Herding Test or Trial.

A Registration and Registration number or Tracking Number must be included.

Actual owner(s):			
Address:			
City:	State:	Zip:	Country:
Telephone:		Email:	
Agent's name (if applicable):		Telephone (Agent only):	
Email (Agent only):			
Full name of Dog:			
Registration Number OR Tracking Number:		Registry:	Date of Birth:
Place of Birth { <input type="checkbox"/> } USA	{ <input type="checkbox"/> } Canada	{ <input type="checkbox"/> } Other	
Breed:	Variety:	Sex:	
Breeder:			
Call Name:			



Middle Tree Farm rlf geese

** Handler may not move into any pen nor through any panels / obstacles **
All gates should be closed when course is completed

Geese are set out in “staging area”

Level 1 handler can move the dog half the distance between the gate and the stock-

And the handler can move within 15 feet of the stock

Level 2 handler and dog may step inside the gate where the stock are held

Level 3 handler and dog must stay at the post until geese are all in “area 1”
points

Geese are gathered – time starts when dog is released to gather

20 / 25

Geese are moved into “area 1. Level 1 and 2 handlers should close the gate.

Level 3 handler may leave it open.

geese are moved to far fence in “area 1”

10/10

geese are moved quietly through gate into “area 2” and directly into the
“little barn” and held. All handlers have the option to close the gate on the
“little barn” while they close the gate back to area 1.

geese are released from “little barn”

20/25

and are moved through “panels” and then moved across the “bridge”

level 1 handler may move with geese and next to, but not through obstacles

level 2 handler may move halfway from gate to obstacles

level 3 handler must stay corner of “little barn”

level 2 and 3 handlers may move with stock after all stock has entered the “bridge”.

geese are moved to and through gate to “area 3”. Once through the gate
the geese should be held in corner until gate is closed

10/10

geese are moved into “free standing pen”

10/10

All levels may move with geese

Level 1 and level 2 should close gate

Level 3 handler should do a gate sort which leaves 5 – 7 geese outside the pen
and then move those 5-7 through the gate into “area 4”.

All levels – then release geese from free standing pen

10/10

and then move the geese through the gate to “area 4” and into “Pen 1”

and close the gate to “pen 1”

Release geese from “pen1” and exhaust geese into exhaust area

10/10

Time ends when gate is closed

Level 1 & 2 90 points level 3 100 points

Tie breakers gather, move through panels and bridge, time

Time- 18 minutes