

Judi James



Judi James is one of the founders of the Pacific NW Scent Work Club. Judi is a lifelong Oregon resident and dog nut. Judi is retired from Oregon state service as a Risk Manager and dedicates much time and effort to hosting well run AKC dog sport events.

Judi has raised, trained, and exhibited dogs since the 1960s starting in 4-H. Judi and her dogs have accumulated many advanced obedience, rally, agility, and Scent Work titles and more than 25 owner-handled AKC championships. Judi is an AKC Breeder of Merit and continues to raise, train and show English Springer Spaniels. Judi is also a Certified Training Partner with the Karen Pryor Academy of Animal Behavior and Training (KPA-CPA) and operated My Dogs Gym in Salem for a decade offering classes in several dog sports including scent work.

Judi was licensed to judge AKC obedience in 1996 eventually adding rally plus, conformation, junior showmanship and Scent Work to her license. While gradually retiring out of judging, Judi continues to fill in as a Scent Work judge occasionally. Judi has chaired and provided secretary services AKC events for several all breed and specialty clubs over the years.



Judi also has a long time interest in scent work starting with her pre-teen bird hunting with her father and their golden retrievers Dandy & Robbie. Robbie was Judi's 4-H project. Judi moved on as an adult to raising Keeshonden and earned a Utility Dog title on Cascadia Primitive. Utility competition included two scent work exercises at the time – the Seek Back where the dog finds a handler scented glove dropped in the ring and Scent Discrimination where the dog finds handler scented articles in a pile that also has articles scented by the judge. When NASCW began offering nose work competitions in 2006 Judi began training first her Keeshond Mia, then English Springer Spaniel Emmy for this new sport. Emmy earned her NW1 title but we were never successful in getting into a level 2 event. When AKC started its Scent Work Program Judi and Emmy began competing there and earned their overall Excellent title in all 5 elements before Emmy needed to retire.

Judi now has two young Springers beginning their Scent Work careers in AKC events. Rose is competing in Advanced now. Happy is still learning the game and we hope will be competing in late 2026.

