



Holly Jolly Hunt Happy Ratters Trial

Hosted by City Sniffers Rat Hunt Club
A Division of City Sniffers Dog Sports Training

Open to all breeds and mixed breeds of all sizes, at least six months of age.

December 6-7, 2025

8 am start, play up to 6 runs per day

Event Location (do not send entries to this address!):

Flint Creek Dogs, 27011 W Wilmot Rd, Antioch, IL 60002

Hunt for rats in tubes in an “urban” setting – no straw! Classes are run back to back in two sets: three in the morning and three in the afternoon. Less time waiting in the blind!

Regular/Standard Classes:

3 Trials: offering Ratter (\$20), Happy Ratter (\$20), Expert (\$22), Champion (\$22), and Extraordinaire/Extreme (\$24) Levels.

Note: Dogs with a Barn Hunt Association Novice (RATN) title or higher, may begin trialing at the Happy Ratter Level if they prefer. Dogs with a Barn Hunt Association Open (RATO) title or higher may begin trialing at the Expert Level if preferred. This is optional: they may also start at a lower level. There is no “grandfathering” for Games Classes, however – all dogs must start at the beginning level in each game and work their way up.

Games Classes:

- Saturday: 1 Trial each of Silent Hunt (\$18-22), Box A Rat (\$20-22), Dump Hunter (\$18) & Infestation (\$24)
- Sunday: 1 Trial each of Earn a Rat (\$22), Ultimate Distance (\$18), Rat Race (\$20), Rat Trap (\$18-22) & A-Maze-ing Rat (\$18)

Late entries (after 11/26) add \$3 per run; Day of Show entries add \$5 per run All move-ups allowed.

Judges:

Elisha Edge, St. Louis, MO
Megan Renner, Chicago, IL
Additional judges TBA as needed

Class Running Order

	AM Set ("T1" in Secreterrier)	PM Set ("T2" in Secreterrier)
DAY 1 – SATURDAY		
Ring 1	Standard	Standard
Ring 2	Silent Hunt	Dump Hunter
Ring 3	Box A Rat	Infestation
DAY 2 – SUNDAY		
Ring 1	Standard	Earn A Rat
Ring 2	Ult. Distance	Rat Trap
Ring 3	Rat Race	A-MAZE-ing Rat

Pre-Entry pricing ends **Wednesday, November 26, 2025.**

Entries accepted online only via Secreterrier, on a first come/first served basis. Late/DoS entries and added runs allowed after closing date only IF trial is not full.

[CLICK HERE TO ENTER ONLINE](#)

Trial Chair/Secretary: Megan Renner, info@citysniffers.org, 773-232-0203

First time entering at Happy Ratters Trial??

Please watch this video first to guide your navigation of the Secreterrier entry form:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l_W778eoGZU

ENTRY INFORMATION

Entries are accepted online only– no mail, drop-off, phone, OR email entries. Dogs must have a Happy Ratters registration number: register for a \$22 per dog lifetime fee at <https://www.happyratters.com/newdog-registration/>.

Exhibitors are responsible for complete & accurate information on entry forms. **Always check your confirmation!**

Entry Limits & Wait List: Entry will be closed when judging limits are reached. Entries received after that point will be waitlisted. If any entries are withdrawn, waitlisted entries will be processed in the order received. Any prepaid waitlisted entry not accepted into the trial will be refunded.

Withdrawals & Refunds: Competitors who withdraw prior to the pre-entry closing date will receive a refund of all entry fees, minus any non-refundable credit card transaction fees (if applicable). There are no refunds for entries withdrawn after the pre-entry closing date, regardless of reason. Entry fees will not be refunded in the event that a dog and/or owner/handler is absent or disqualified, excused, or barred from competition by action of the Event Committee. No entry fee will be refunded if the trial cannot open or be completed by reasons of riots, civil disturbances, fire, acts of God, public emergency, an act of a public enemy, or any other cause beyond the control of the Event Committee.

SITE INFORMATION

Trial grounds will consist of all buildings and surrounding parking lots, green areas, and driveways/sidewalks of the Flint Creek Dogs facility @ 27011 W Wilmot Rd, Antioch, IL 60002. FIREARMS ARE NOT ALLOWED OUTSIDE OF YOUR CAR. Smoking and/or vaping are not allowed on trial grounds.

The blinds and rings are inside a climate controlled building with foam matted flooring. There is indoor crating space; competitors may also crate out of their cars in designated parking areas.

The building will open one hour before judging start time and close one hour after the last dog runs.

Directions: Map your best driving route here: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/k2LwpfCbc2uuk2KFA>

Parking: There is ample space in gravel parking areas around the buildings.

Dog exercise areas: Please pick up after your dog and dispose of waste in appropriate containers outside the buildings. Do not allow your dogs to pee on the buildings or the house! Any exhibitor failing to follow these rules may be excused without benefit of refund if the Event Committee deems the exhibitor to be in violation of this requirement per Happy Ratters regulations.

EXHIBITOR INFORMATION

Check-in begins at 7:15 AM each day; general & judge briefings will start at 7:45 AM. Further details will be emailed to all competitors after trial closes and actual number of entries in each class is known. Dogs will not run in any particular height order. Multiple dogs handled by same person will be separated into different blinds. Judge of Record and Event Official dogs may be judged prior to official start time or as first and/or last blind(s) of a class.

Happy Ratters Rules can be obtained online in the form of a PDF file at <http://www.happyratters.com/rules/>. Exhibitors are responsible for knowing the rules.

Awards: Ribbons will be awarded for all qualifying runs, placements, and titles, as well as the following special awards:

- Judge's Choice: One team chosen per trial day by the panel of judges.
- Perfect Sniff Day: Teams earning 100+ points in all six runs of a trial day.
- Fastest Hunt of the Day: Team with the fastest run time of a trial day.
- Sloth: 100+ point runs completed in last 1-3 seconds or less of max course time—quantity varies.
- IDOT BBB "Bridge & Burrow Bonus": Team with the most B&Bs performed during the course of a Standard run.

Fun Facts about Happy Ratters – see class and game descriptions listed below

- Treats are allowed in the ring (faults for dropped treats = points off, not an NQ). Food, (silent) toys, petting and/or verbal praise are also allowed and encouraged.
- Points are cumulative from the start of that dog's runs in that particular level. Don't need perfect run to Q and earn points – see rules for each level.
- For Regular/Standard Happy Ratters classes, dogs with a BHA Novice title or higher, may begin trialing at the Happy Ratter Level if they prefer, and dogs with a BHA Open (RATO) title or higher may begin trialing at the Expert Level if preferred. Alternately, they may also start at a lower level.
 - **Ratter:** 1 rat, Time: 2:30
 - **Happy Ratter:** 2 rats, Time: 3:00
 - **Expert:** 3 rats, Time: 3:30
 - **Champion:** 4 rats, Time: 4:00
 - **Extraordinaire/Extreme:** 1-5 rats (unknown #), Time: 4:30
- For Games classes, all dogs start at beginning level in each and work their way up. No litter tubes!
 - **A-MAZE-ing Rat:** NEW GAME! Xpens provide ~ 3 ft wide corridor to hunt through a maze
 - ***NEW* Box A Rat:** course of multiple layers of boxes (5 levels: increasing rats)
 - **Dump Hunter:** handler stays behind distance line (always 1 rat; distance increases w/ levels)
 - **Earn A Rat:** must perform Bridge or Burrow to earn right to hunt each rat (3 rats; Time: 2:30)
 - **Infestation:** bonus points if call "Finish" correctly (unknown # of rats 2-6; Time: 3:30)
 - **Rat Race:** game of speed, find each rat in 30-35 seconds (4 rats)
 - **Rat Trap:** course has tubes hidden in bags; only empty & rat tubes (5 levels: increasing rats)
 - ***NEW* Road Rage Rat:** course of many wheeled items; each has a tube but only one is rat
 - **Silent Hunt:** handler stays still/silent, judge calls the find (3 levels: # of rats matches level)
 - **Ultimate Distance:** handler stays *seated* behind distance line (always 1 rat; distance increases w/ levels)

Collars and Leashes: Prong, choke, pinch, and/or electric collars are not allowed in the staging area or on the way from staging area to the ring. Flexi/retractable leashes are not allowed inside the building. Dogs **MUST** run "naked," without a leash, collar, or harness. Dogs should be brought to the ring with collars/harnesses that can be easily and quickly removed and replaced. All dogs must be on leash at all times except when in the ring or secured in their car or crate.

Bitches in Season (BiS): BiS are eligible for entry but will be required to be kept separately from all other dogs and will run with panties on in a separate blind at the end of any classes entered. If bringing a bitch in season, please inform info@citysniffers.org prior to the trial and inform all exhibitors at the judge's briefing. ***Remember your dog must wear panties at all times at the show site (except when being taken out to potty.)*** We will direct you to the BiS potty area, please come to the Trial Secretary's table before unloading your dog.

It is expressly understood that exhibitors alone are responsible for the behavior of their dog(s) and/or children. Any exhibitor whose dog(s) and/or children create unnecessary disturbances or repeatedly engage in unsafe or disruptive behavior may, at the discretion of the Event Committee, be asked to leave with no refund of any fees paid.

The safety of the dogs is our primary concern. By entering this trial, exhibitors acknowledge that they are familiar with the rules and regulations of this sport, and that their dogs are familiar with and able to perform all obstacles safely.

[CLICK HERE TO ENTER ONLINE](#)

Emergency Information

Premier Veterinary Group - Mundelein

1385 Townline Rd
Mundelein, IL 60060
Phone: (815) 900-9635

WVRC – Racine/Kenosha

1123 58th Ave
Somers, WI 53144
Phone: (262) 883-8250

Pet-Friendly Hotels – please call to verify pet policy details

Comfort Inn Gurnee near Six Flags

6080 Gurnee Mills Cir E
Gurnee, IL 60031
Phone: (847) 855-8866

Comfort Inn & Suites Kenosha-Pleasant Prairie

7206 122nd Ave
Kenosha, WI 53142
Phone: (262) 857-3450

Comfort Suites Grayslake near Libertyville North

1775 East Belvidere Rd
Grayslake, IL 60030
Phone: (847) 223-5050

Days Inn by Wyndham Pleasant Prairie Kenosha

7540 118th Ave
Pleasant Prairie, WI 53158
Phone: (262) 857-7911

La Quinta Inn & Suites by Wyndham Chicago Gurnee

5688 Northridge Rd
Gurnee, IL 60031
Phone: (847) 662-7600