



AMERICAN  
KENNEL CLUB™

## Scent Work Department

November 2019

To: **All Clubs Licensed to Host Scent Work Events**

Subject: **Announcing New Sent Work Regionals and Future National Championship**

This communication is to inform your club the AKC Scent Work Program will offer five Regional Championships beginning in 2020 with a future National Championship to be held in 2021.

Scent Work Regional Championships are intended to provide exhibitors a prestigious Scent Work event to exhibit their dogs' skills without having to incur additional travel expenses by remaining closer to home. These five Regionals will take place from mid-March thru the end of November of next year. A Regional Championship will not count as part of the host club's limit of 12 trials per year. Clubs interested in hosting a regional are encouraged to apply using the [Regional Championship Event Application](#). The application deadline is **January 10, 2020**. Before applying, clubs should read the [Regional Championship Overview](#) to learn about the format and what considerations should be given for the planning of the event.

Each Regional will award the distinction of Regional Champion for each difficulty level in the Odor Search Division and Handler Discrimination Division after winning Championship Rounds. All qualifiers during the trial will be recorded on the dog's record and will work towards standard elite titles. These Regionals will pave the way for a National Championship to take place in 2021 where the overall winner will earn the distinction of Scent Work National Champion (SWNC) which will be a new prefix title. All details regarding the National Championship will be provided on the [Scent Work website](#) as they are confirmed and announced to Scent Work clubs.

The following additions to the *Regulations for Scent Work* will be added during the next printing.

### **Chapter 10, Section 10. Regional Championship Events.**

Scent Work Regional Championships will take place across different regions of the country as determined by the AKC Scent Work Department, hosted by local clubs as selected by the Department.

Dogs may be entered in any standard Scent Work class for which they are eligible. Dogs may not enter a class lower than the highest level for which they have earned a title within a particular element. Dogs that previously have won a Regional Championship may not enter another Regional Championship at the same difficulty level during same calendar year.

The format for Regionals will differ from typical Scent Work trials. One dog per level (Novice, Advanced, Excellent, Master) will be awarded first place based on its performance in a multi-element search. Details of the championship search will be determined on a yearly basis by the AKC Scent Work Department.

Regional Championships are not titling events; however, the winning dogs will be recognized with awards as the Scent Work Novice Regional Champion, Scent Work Advanced Regional Champion, Scent Work Excellent Regional Champion and Scent Work Master Regional Champion for their respective region. Regional Champions will also be determined from the Handler Discrimination Division, with one winning dog per difficulty level.

Qualifying scores earned will count towards standard titling. Regional Master Champions as well as dogs who placed 2<sup>nd</sup> thru 4th in the Master level at each Regional will automatically qualify for the following year's National Championship.

Details regarding Regional Championships will be published online at: [www.akc.org/scentwork](http://www.akc.org/scentwork).

### **Section 11. National Championship.**

A Scent Work National Championship shall be held annually at a time and location to be determined by the AKC Scent Work Department. The Scent Work National Championship shall consist of a championship class comprised of a varied combination of element challenges, all of which may be modified as determined by the AKC.

The overall winner of the Scent Work National Championship shall be entitled to be designated "Scent Work National Champion of 20\_\_" (SWNC). This title is a prefix title.

To be eligible to compete, dogs must meet the minimum qualifications as determined by the AKC during a qualifying period set each year. Dogs placing at a preceding year's Master Regional Championship Round will automatically be qualified to enter.

Details regarding the Scent Work National Championship will be published online at: [www.akc.org/scentwork](http://www.akc.org/scentwork)

This email is being sent to all presidents and secretaries of clubs licensed to hold Scent Work trials as well as our Scent Work judges. Please remember to keep your email address current so you can receive these announcements. Any changes made to the Regulations can be found on the Scent Work webpage called "Regulation Resources".

If you need to check or update your email address or if you have any questions or comments, please contact:

**AKC Scent Work Department**  
[scentwork@akc.org](mailto:scentwork@akc.org) or 919-816-3857

