Southern California Portuguese Water Dog Club

26th Annual Water Trials

Saturday, September 12, 2026
Sunday, September 13, 2026

Open Practice on Friday, September 11 ($5 fee for unentered dogs)

Castaic Lake Recreation Area, Castaic, California
Hours: 7:00am-6pm

Judge: Suzanne Malick, Beaverton, OR

Entries Open Tuesday, August 4, 2026 ***Entries close Tuesday, August 25, 2026***

Meal reservations close August 28

Water Trial Secretary
Susan Cucura
H20trials@gmail.com

OFFICERS OF THE PORTUGUESE WATER DOG CLUB OF AMERICA, INC.

President .....Michele Wolford
Vice President .....Jill Roudebush
Recording Secretary..... Meg DeFore
Corresponding Secretary..... Cindy Miner
Treasurer .....John Ellery
Directors: Jan Allred, Julie Conger, Zac Crump, Annie Smith-Jones, Kathy Souza

OFFICERS OF THE SOUTERN CALIFORNIA PORTUGUESE WATER DOG CLUB

President..... Mary Baum
Vice President..... Pam Francis
Secretary..... Laura Leyda
Treasurer..... John Cucura
Director ..... Lin McClure

TRIAL COMMITTEE

Trial Chairperson: Eric Cantlay

Members: Mary Baum, John Cucura, Nancy Gills, Ellen Leyda, Laura Leyda, Mollie Tobin

Trial Secretary:
Susan Cucura
13230 Lake Street, Los Angeles, CA 90066
310-508-7634
H20trials@gmail.com

DIRECTIONS TO CASTAIC LAKE

Travelling South on Hwy 5: Take Lake Hughes Road exit. Turn left and proceed to Lake Hughes Road. Turn left onto Lake Hughes Road. At the first stop sign, turn left on Ridge Route Road. At the next stop sign turn right on Castaic Lake Road and right into the park entrance.

Travelling North on Hwy 5: Take Lake Hughes Road exit. Turn right on Lake Hughes Road. At the first stop sign, turn left on Ridge Route Road. At the next stop sign turn right on Castaic Lake Road and right into the park entrance.

Once in Castaic Lake Park: Follow the road to Paradise Cove. Park and unload in the small parking lot in Paradise Cove. Water Trial site is at Paradise Cove.

OPENING DATE/CLOSING DATE

Opening Date: Tuesday, August 4, 2026 Closing Date: Tuesday, August 25, 2026

ORDER OF JUDGING

Saturday, September 12, 2026: Junior to Master Sunday, September 13, 2026: Master to Junior

TOTAL ENTRY LIMITS

Entries will be limited to 35 teams or 8 hours of judging per day.
NOTE: The Water Trial Committee reserves the right to lower the number of teams for each trial should the make-up of the levels for that day exceed 8 hours of judging.

Entry Fees: Entry fee is $60. Entries may be mailed to the Trial Secretary's address or entry form may be emailed to h20trials@gmail.com with payment sent via PayPal to scpwdc@gmail.com. Entry will not be accepted until payment is received.

Entries will be first come, first served. If entries exceed the limits, dogs will be placed on a waiting list and owner will be notified as space becomes available**.** Entries of the same dog in more than one class will **only** be accepted if the trial doesn't fill and all dogs have been allocated at least one spot at one level. If the trial doesn't fill, second entries will be filled from first received forward.

For-Exhibit or Non-Regular Entries: For-exhibit or non-regular entries will be accepted after all regular entries are accommodated**.**

Day-of-Trials Entries: If entry limits are not reached by the closing date, day-of trial entries will be accepted from 7:30am-8am on a first come, first serve basis with an additional fee of $5 per entry, and as space and time are available**.**

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE FOR SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

Saturday	**Sunday**
7:00am Site set up	Site set up
7:30am Equipment check for Junior and Apprentice levels	Equipment check for Master, Courier and Working levels
7:45am Judge's briefing for Junior level followed by judging	Judge's briefing for Master level followed by judging
Judge's briefing for Apprentice level followed by judging	Judge's briefing for Courier level followed by judging
Equipment check for Working, Courier and Versatility levels	Judge's briefing for Working level followed by judging
Judge's briefing for Working level followed by judging	Equipment check for Apprentice and Junior levels
Judge's briefing for Courier level followed by judging	Judge's briefing for Apprentice level followed by judging
Judge's briefing for Master level followed by judging	Judge's briefing for Junior level followed by judging
TBD 5:30-6pm-ish Dinner (See page 6 for details)	Site take down

***Breaks and lunch will be taken at the discretion of the judge.
Following the completion of judging, awards will be presented and photos taken.

NOTICE TO ALL PARTICIPANTS

Equipment: Participants may use their own equipment if approved after inspection by the judge or designee. Additional or substitute equipment will be provided by the SCPWDC.

PFD and Footwear: USCG-approved life vests/PFDs, as well as closed-toed protective footwear, must be worn by all participants in accordance with the current PWDCA Water Trial Manual. Dogs are required to wear an appropriate harness.

Age Minimum: Minimum age for human participants is 9 years old. Participants aged 9 through 17 years (i.e. younger than 18) must have a parent or legal guardian present at the trial site while they participate. Minimum age of dogs is six months old. Dogs six months old and under one year, must earn a Junior Water Dog title before entering at the Apprentice level.

Awards: Dogs that successfully pass all required exercises in their test level receive a rosette ribbon from the SCPWDC and the applicable certificate or title from the PWDCA.

Rules and Regulations: The trial will be held in accordance with the most current provisions as set by the PWDCA Water Trial Manual. Each participant is responsible for familiarizing themselves with said regulations. A copy of the Water Trial Manual may be downloaded from www.pwdca.org

Refunds: Entry fees shall not be refunded in the event the dog is absent, excused by a veterinarian or judge, or barred from competition by action of the Trial Committee. If it is impossible to open or complete the trial because of riots, civil disturbance or other acts of God beyond the control of the Trial Committee, no refund of entry fees will be made.

Bitches in Season: BIS will be allowed to compete at the end of the last regular event of the day and shall not be brought to the competition or surrounding areas until all judging has been completed. The handler is required to be present at the judge's briefing for the level entered. Please ask at check-in where BIS are to be crated.

Substitute Stewards: A participant may use his/her own steward as provided by the current Water Trial Manual. The substitute steward must be named on the entry form and must sign the Agreement on the entry form. Requests for any change in steward must be approved by the Trial Secretary and judge. Substitute stewards must conduct themselves according to the PWDCA Water Trial Manual.

Day-of-Trial Move-ups: Day-of-trial move-ups will be considered at the discretion of the judge and water trial committee and are not to exceed the total 35 teams per day or 8 hours of judging limit. Day of Trial Move-ups will take place on a space available basis and team will work after the last regularly scheduled dog at the new level. Day-of-trial move ups will be excused after the first exercise failed. Requests for move-ups must be submitted in writing to the Trial Secretary prior to the start of judge's briefing for the new level. A $20 move-up fee will be charged. DOT move-ups will only be considered on Saturday.

Move-ups from Saturday to Sunday will be allowed. Requests must be made in writing to the Trial Secretary by 6pm on Saturday.

Failure Policy: All pre-entries will be allowed to complete all tests within the pre-entered test level and with the time limits allowed by the Water Trial Manual. Day-of-Trial move-ups will be excused after the first exercise failed.

Alcohol: Castaic Lake does not allow alcohol in the park and no alcohol is to be consumed at our trial area. Do not bring alcoholic beverages into the park.

HOTEL INFORMATION

LA Quinta Inn and Suites Santa Clarita/Stevenson Ranch **661-286-1111**
25201 The Old Road, Stevenson Ranch, CA 91381**.**
Online: **https://groups.wyndhamhotels.com/housing/pwd-castaic-event-wae1g0sk**

Or call and ask for the "PWD Group Block" rate of $178/room.

Residence Inn Stevenson Ranch **661-290-2800**
25320 The Old Road, Santa Clarita, CA 91381

RV'S / CAMPGROUNDS

Castaic Lake RV Park **661-257-3340**
31540 Ridge Route Road
Castaic, CA
Full hook-up RV sites
http://www.castaiclakervpark.com

VETERINARIAN ON CALL

Hasley Canyon Pet Hospital
29629 The Old Road, Castaic, CA 91321
661-291-1121
Open 9am-4pm on Saturday, closed Sundays

Santa Clarita Animal Urgent Care and Wellness Center
18597 Soledad Canyon Rd, Santa Clarita, CA 91351
661-367-8037
A full-service emergency facility opened 4pm-11pm daily

Veg ER for Pets
25820 The Old Rd H, Stevenson Ranch, CA 91381
661-509-3115
24-hour emergency vet

LUNCHES AND DINNERS

Friday Night Get-Together at the La Quinta Stevenson Ranch - $22 per person
We will bring in Mexican fare so everyone can have a shower and relax after practice without worrying about dinner. Bring your own beverage. We will meet on the patio outside of the breakfast room.

Saturday Night Dinner - $32 per person
We have a delicious Barbeque planned for Saturday evening following the trial. Wood Ranch will be catering our feast with baby back ribs, chicken and all the fixins'. A surprise dessert and a drink are included.

Box Lunches - $17 per person
We will be ordering lunches from Urbane Café. They will be delivered to the lake. Choose from sandwiches: **Club** (roasted turkey, Applewood-smoked bacon, avocado, cheddar cheese, sliced tomato, green leaf lettuce, herb aioli), **So Cal** (roasted chicken, avocado, pepper jack cheese, green leaf lettuce, tomatillo salsa, chipotle aioli), **The Californian Veggie** (house marinated artichoke hearts, avocado, sundried tomatoes, mozzarella cheese, green leaf lettuce, herb aioli) – all sandwiches come with chips. Or salads: **The Café** (roasted chicken, mixed greens, avocado, crumbled goat cheese, pears, pecans, balsamic vinaigrette, fresh baked focaccia) or **Power Veggie** (chopped salad mix, corn & black bean salsa, Follow Your Heart feta cheese, pecans, garbanzo beans, edamame, roasted sweet potatoes, balsamic vinaigrette, fresh baked focaccia).

Name(s) _____Phone _____

Friday Dinner ($22/person) **#_____** **$_____**

Saturday Barbeque Dinner ($32/person) **#_____** **$_____**

Saturday Lunch ($17/person) **$_____**
- **Turkey Club Sandwich** **#_____**
- **So Cal Chicken Sandwich** **#_____**
- **The Californian Veggie Sandwich** **#_____**
- **The Café Salad** **#_____**
- **Power Veggie Salad** **#_____**

Sunday Lunch ($17/person) **$_____**
- **Turkey Club Sandwich** **#_____**
- **So Cal Chicken Sandwich** **#_____**
- **The Californian Veggie Sandwich** **#_____**
- **The Café Salad** **#_____**
- **Power Veggie Salad** **#_____**

Total: **$_____**

Send meal order with check payable **to SCPWDC** to**:** Susan Cucura,13230 Lake Street, Los Angeles, CA 90066. If you wish to pay via PayPal, send to: scpwdc@gmail.com

Deadline for meal orders – August 28

WATER TRIAL VOLUNTEER FORM

Castaic Lake Recreation Area
Saturday, September 12, 2026 • Sunday, September 13, 2026
Hosted by the Southern California Portuguese Water Dog Club, Inc.

Water trials are great fun. But they can only take place with the help of dedicated volunteers. We need your help! Please fill out the form below and send it to: Susan Cucura, 13230 Lake Street, Los Angeles, CA 90066. Or you may email Susan at pwdcucs@gmail.com

If you are entering the trials, please indicate which class or classes you are entering. Include classes in which you are substitute stewarding.

Saturday	☐	Junior	☐	Apprentice	☐	Working	☐	Courier	☐ Master
Sunday	☐	Master	☐	Courier	☐	Working	☐	Apprentice	☐ Junior

Name(s)_____

Phone_____Email_____

Do you have water trial experience? Briefly explain. (Don't worry if you don't!)

_____

_____

Here are some of the tasks for which we may need volunteers. Please check the ones you are interested in helping with. Don't worry if you don't understand the jobs involved. Someone will help you.

☐ Land Steward	☐ Grounds set-up	☐ People check-in
☐ Boat Steward	☐ Grounds clean-up	☐ Ice pick up Sat/Sun mornings
☐ Gate Steward	☐ Equipment check-in	☐ Hospitality (Lunch)
☐ Raffle		☐ Hospitality (Dinner)

☐ I'd like to help wherever I'm needed

I have read and agree to be bound by the agreement printed on the entry form as well as the stipulations contained in the premium list, plus any directive received from any official involved in staging the event.

Signature of volunteer*_____Date_____

*If the volunteer named herein is under 18 years of age, this form must be signed and acknowledged by his/her legal guardian.