

TRACKFEST 2018
Summary Report

Trackfest 2018 was held April 13-15 at the lovely Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation Building at Arcadia Lake in Edmond, Oklahoma. Including UBT Board members, judges and instructors, 70 people from 17 states, Canada and Luxembourg were present at the event. The state with the most participants is no surprise – Oklahoma - but the state with the second most participants (7) was Michigan. California, Colorado, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Maine, Missouri, Mississippi, New Mexico, New York, Pennsylvania, Texas and Wisconsin were also represented.

The event started with the testing of 22 dogs (11 UBT I's, 9 UBT II's and 2 UBT III's) on Friday. The pass/fail results were:

UBT I 6 pass/5 fail = 55% pass rate

UBT II 7 pass/2 fail = 78% pass rate

UBT III 1 pass/1 fail = 50% pass rate

Congratulations to all!

Participants met at Alfredo's Mexican Restaurant for dinner on Friday night, and enjoyed the first ever Oklahoma/UBT BBQ buffet at Texlahoma BBQ on Saturday night. The Saturday night dinner entertainment was the UBT raffle fund-raiser which everyone enjoyed. Thank you for your donations and participation.

Presentations included the perennial favorite Hit Site Seminar, as well as Search Start, E-Collar and Handling demonstrations. Larry Gohlke presented an interesting segment on working with puppies, "Wired to Track", but the overwhelming favorite presentation was Dr. Wright's "You Are Your Dog's Medic" about first-aid in the field. The only negative comment about either presentation was that they didn't last long enough.

The hospitality of the Oklahoma Blood Trackers was much appreciated, and Jerry Gregston is to be commended for his superb organizational skills. Thank you!

Cheri Faust