

Entries close at 7:00 p.m. (PST), Wednesday, March 4, 2026, after which time entries cannot be accepted, canceled, or altered, except as specifically allowed in the current BMDCA Draft Test Regulations.

To Enter Online: Pay Entry fee online https://sierrawestbmdc.org/2026_Draft_Test.html and email the completed Entry Form and Weight Certificate (if required) to **Ann Ghiorso**, Draft Test Secretary, anndghiorso@gmail.com.

To Enter By Mail: Make checks payable to **SWBMDC** and mail fee with Entry Form and weight certificate (if required) to: **Ann Ghiorso**, Draft Test Secretary, **815 Sea Spray Lane, #216, Foster City, CA 94404**. If sending by overnight, registered or certified mail, envelopes must be released without a signature. Signature required entries MAY NOT be accepted.

Premium List **Bernese Mountain Club of America Draft Tests**



Hosted by
Sierra West Bernese Mountain Dog Club
<https://sierrawestbmdc.org/events.html>
The 35th and 36th Independent Draft Tests

Mesenhimer Ranch
7013 Dusty Lane, Modesto, CA 95357

Saturday, March 14, 2026 and Sunday March 15, 2026

Judges: Patti Davieau and James Maxwell

This Is An All Eligible Dogs Draft Test
These tests are held in accordance with the January 2023 BMDCA Draft Test Regulations



Officers of the Sierra West Bernese Mountain Dog Club

President Annette deBoer
Vice President Karen Heitkamp
Treasurer Hank Gnesa
Secretary Robin Paloma
599 Conrad Court
Manteca, CA 95336
Board of Directors Jill Gnesa, Bill Poulos, Ann Ghiorso,
Nick Hengeveld, and Rich Paloma

Draft Test(s) Committee

Draft Test Chair: Karen Heitkamp

Draft Test Secretary: Ann Ghiorso
815 Sea Spray Lane, #216
Foster City, CA 94404
(650) 393-0750
anndghiorso@gmail.com

Committee Members: Annette deBoer, Nick Hengeveld, and Bill Poulos

Draft Test Judges – Patti Davieau and James Maxwell

Location and Driving Directions/Parking

Mesenhimer Ranch
7013 Dusty Lane, Modesto, CA 95357
<https://tinyurl.com/2026-SWBMDC-Draft-Directions>
Please follow the signs for the designated parking area(s)

Schedule

- We will be utilizing a “self-check-in” the morning of the Draft Test. Please look for your team’s name and park your cart in the designated cart parking area. Your numbers, catalog, and other materials will be in this space.
- Check-in and equipment check times to be determined after the close of entries. You will be notified via email.
- Course walkthrough to follow equipment check.
- Judging to begin as soon as possible after the walkthrough.
- Lunch break at judges’ discretion.
- Awards will be presented at the conclusion of the Draft Test.

Weather

The normal high in March averages 68.2 degrees and the normal low averages 45.2 degrees. As it is spring, there could be a slight chance of rain (but we welcome rain in California). It’s best to dress in layers.

Veterinarian (On-Call)

Standiford Veterinary Center
1520 Standiford Ave., Modesto, CA 95350, (209) 577-3481

Spectators

We welcome spectators! Unentered dogs may also be present but must be leashed or crated and under control at all times. Please show courtesy to the working dogs by keeping all dogs at a reasonable distance from the ring, and do not allow them to foul the freight haul. Remember to always pick up after your dogs.

Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America Draft Test Purpose

The Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America Draft Tests are a series of exercises designed to develop and demonstrate the natural abilities of purebred Bernese Mountain Dogs in a working capacity involving hauling. The Bernese Mountain Dog has historically functioned as a draft dog in various capacities, and performance of these exercises is intended to demonstrate skills resulting from both inherent ability and training which are applicable to realistic work situations.

Efficiency in accomplishment of tasks is essential. It is also desirable that the dog evidence willingness and enjoyment of his work in a combination of controlled teamwork with his handler and natural independence.

Regulations

Draft Test Regulations: Entrants are responsible for obtaining the BMDCA Draft Test Regulations (revised as of January 2023) and being familiar with them.

<https://www.bmdca.org/draft>

(listed under "Draft Regulations & General Resources")

Waiver of Rights

Animals in Distress: The Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America, Inc. reserves the right to remove any animal in distress from a parked vehicle or crate, and all persons attending these dog events hereby waive any claim for damages against the clubs for such removal. The Club regards the health, safety and life of any dog on the show grounds to be paramount to other property or privacy rights. We will attempt to reach the responsible party but cannot guarantee contact will be made before action is taken.

Awards

The following prizes are offered by Sierra West Bernese Mountain Dog Club unless otherwise noted: Each passing team will receive a selected award and rosette. All entrants will receive ring favors. There will be special recognition for the oldest qualifying Bernese Mountain Dog and the oldest qualifying dog of all other breeds.

Hotel Information

Please ask about pet policy.

Quinta Inn & Suites Ripon

1524 W. Colony Rd., Ripon, CA 95366, (209) 382-8132



La Quinta Inn & Suites North Modesto

4909 Sisk Rd., Salida, CA 95368, (209) 418-7127

Residence Inn by Marriott Modesto North

2901 Healthcare Way, Modesto, CA 95356, (209) 382-8850

Camping

French Camp RV Park

3919 French Camp Rd.,
Manteca, CA 95336, (209) 234-1544
www.frenchcamp.com

Caswell State Park

28000 South Austin Road
Ripon, CA 95366, (209) 826-1197
<https://reservcalifornia.com/>



Refreshments & Lunch

Saturday Breakfast	Sunday Breakfast
Complimentary continental breakfast and Oatmeal Coffee and juice will also be available	Complimentary continental breakfast and "Build Your Own Bagel" Coffee and juice will also be available

Saturday's Lunch - \$12	Saturday's Dinner - \$25	Sunday's Lunch - \$12
<p>Street Tacos – Pork or Chicken <u>or</u> Roasted Veggie & Cheese Quesadilla Served with Chips and Salsa Water & Soft Drinks Dessert</p> 	<p>Tri-Tip <u>or</u> Salmon Served with Mac N Cheese, Salad and Bread Water & Soft Drinks Dessert</p> 	<p>Corned Beef and Cabbage With Irish Soda Bread <u>or</u> Grilled Cheese Water & Soft Drinks Dessert</p> 

MEAL RESERVATION FORM
(meal reservations can also be made online and paid via PayPal)

Saturday Lunch (March 14, 2026)
Street Tacos or Cheese Quesadilla

Name	Pork Taco	Chicken Taco	Cheese Quesadilla	Cost \$12
Total				

Saturday Dinner - following conclusion of Draft Test (March 14, 2026)
Tri-Tip, Salmon, or Mac N Cheese

Name	Tri-Tip	Salmon	Cost \$25
Total			

Sunday Lunch (March 15, 2026)
Corned Beef or Grilled Cheese

Name	Corned Beef	Grilled Cheese	Cost \$12
Total			

Name of Individual Submitting Form: _____

Meal reservations can be paid by check or via PayPal. Please make meal reservations by **Monday, March 9, 2026**.

If paying by check and sending in the form by mail, the check should be payable to SWBMDC and sent to Ann Ghiorso, Draft Test Secretary, 815 Sea Spray Lane, #216, Foster City, CA 94404.

If making meal reservations by PayPal, go to the Events page on SWBMDC's website and click on the applicable links - <https://sierrawestbmdc.org/events.html>.

Class Entry Details

- There will be a limit of **24** entries per test.
- Entry fees **\$35** for each single dog team and **\$50** for a brace team
- A separate entry form must be filled out for each dog of a brace team and then submitted together. Even though two entry forms are required for each brace team, each brace team will be counted as one entry in the Draft Test entry limit.
- If more than **24** entries are received, they will be prioritized per the following order:
 1. Untitled BMD's in the entered class
 2. Titled BMD's without Advanced/Master titles in the entered class
 3. Titled BMDs with Advanced/Master titles in the entered class
 4. Untitled other dogs in the entered class
 5. Titled other dogs without Advanced/Master titles in the entered class
 6. Titled other dogs with Advanced/Master titles in the entered class
- *Note: For brace teams, the dog with the lowest level title in the entered class determines the team's priority. If a brace has a BMD and a non-BMD, it is considered a "BMD team" for the above.*
- *Note that "titled" means titled in the entered class.*
- Running Order: A separate random draw to determine the running order for each class for each test.
- Entrants must notify the Draft Test Secretary if a dog has earned a title in the entered class, including if the title is earned after the entry has been submitted.

Attention Exhibitors

- The following classes will be offered: Novice, Brace Novice, Open and Brace Open.
- Handlers must provide their own rigs, harnesses, and tie downs or other means of securing a load on their particular draft rig.
- Handlers must bring their own weight. Weight will be verified via scale at the test site.
- Entered dogs must be 24 months' old or older on the day of the Draft Test.
- Bitches in season are not permitted to compete.
- Refunds will be given for bitches in season or injured dogs with a vet certification required at the discretion of the Club.
- The two dogs of a brace team need not be owned by the same person or by the handler.
- Unentered dogs may be present but, like entered dogs that are not in the ring, must be leashed or crated and under control at all times.
- Please remember to be responsible dog owners and pick up after your dog(s).

Weight Certificates

Each Open or Open Brace entry shall include the DWC weight certificate or a certificate that includes the same information that is contained in the DWC WC (available on the BMDCA website) and be signed and dated within 60 days prior to each Draft Test date. The handler is solely responsible for having a valid Weight Certificate. An incorrect Weight Certificate may result in the loss of any qualifying runs.

<https://www.bmdca.org/draft>

(listed under "Draft Regulations & General Resources")



Entries and Payment

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- After which time entries cannot be accepted, canceled or altered, except as specifically allowed in the current BMDCA Draft Test regulations.

To Enter Online:

1. Pay Entry fee: https://sierrawestbmdc.org/2026_Draft_Test.html
 - Single Dog Team \$35
 - Brace Dog Team \$50
2. Complete Entry Form for each dog/class entered
 - Please type entry form
 - One form per dog/class entered
Multiple days for the same class can all be marked on one entry form
3. Weight Certificate if applicable for class entered
4. Email Completed Entry Form and weight certificate (if required) to:
Ann Ghiors, Draft Test Secretary
anndghiorso@gmail.com
5. Entrants will receive confirmation of entry via e-mail
6. Entries will not be processed until all forms and payment are submitted

Entries By Mail:

1. Make checks payable to SWBMDC
 - a. Single Dog Team \$35
 - b. Brace Dog Team \$50
2. Complete Entry Form for each dog/class entered
 - Please type entry form
 - One form per dog/class entered.
Multiple days for the same class can all be marked on one entry form
3. Weight Certificate if applicable for class entered
4. Mail Completed Entry Forms & Fees to
Ann Ghiors, Draft Test Secretary
815 Sea Spray Lane, #216
Foster City, CA 94404
 - If sending by overnight, registered or certified mail, envelopes must be released without a signature.
Signature required entries MAY NOT be accepted.
5. Entrants will receive confirmation of entry via e-mail. You may email the Draft Test Secretary to learn the status of receipt of the entry. All entries must be received before the closing date and time.
6. Entries will not be processed until all forms and payment are submitted.

SIERRA WEST BERNESE MOUNTAIN DOG CLUB DRAFT TESTS 2026 ENTRY FORM

Mesenhimer Ranch, 7013 Dusty Lane, Modesto, CA 95357

Saturday, March 14, 2026 and Sunday March 15, 2026

Entry fees: \$35 per team \$50 per brace team

Close of Entries

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- Entrants will receive confirmation of entry via e-mail.
- One form per dog/class entered. Multiple days for the same class can all be marked on one entry form.
- Entries will not be processed until all forms and payment are submitted.**

Please type or print clearly

Breed:					Sex: <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
Class:	<input type="checkbox"/> Novice	<input type="checkbox"/> Brace Novice:	<input type="checkbox"/> Dog 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Dog 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Open	<input type="checkbox"/> Brace Open: <input type="checkbox"/> Dog 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Dog 2
<input type="checkbox"/> Open Weight Certificate Enclosed		In Entered Class Dog Is: <input type="checkbox"/> Titled <input type="checkbox"/> Advanced Titled			In Entered Class: <input type="checkbox"/> Dog Could Earn Advanced Title
<input type="checkbox"/> Test 100 - Sat., March 14, 2026		<input type="checkbox"/> Test 200 - Sun., March 15, 2026			
Registered Name (please include titles)					
Call Name			Berner-Garde # (required)		
Date of Birth			DNA # (Nationals Only)		
Registration #			<input type="checkbox"/> American Kennel Club <input type="checkbox"/> Canadian Kennel Club		
Breeder					
Sire					
Dam					
Actual Owner(s)					
Owners Address					
City			State	Zip	
Telephone		E-mail			
Name of Participant					
I have read, understand, and agree to the Entry Agreement.				 <input type="checkbox"/>	Date
Check Box:					
SUBMITTING THIS FORM CONSTITUTES YOUR AGREEMENT TO THE TERMS OF THE ENTRY AGREEMENT					

ENTRY AGREEMENT

I understand that the club holding this event has the right to refuse this entry. I agree that I am solely responsible for the actions of myself and the dog ("the dog") that accompanies me in relationship to this entry.

In consideration of the acceptance of my entry and the opportunity to participate in this event, I agree to **HOLD HARMLESS and INDEMNIFY** the following listed parties from any claim for loss, damage or injury alleged to have been caused directly or indirectly by my actions or by the actions of the dog in relationship to this event : the Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America (BMDCA) and the event-giving club, their members, officers, and agents; the owner and/or leaser of the premises; any provider of services at this event; any employees or volunteers of the parties listed here, and any BMDCA Draft Judge judging at this event. I personally assume **all responsibility and liability** for any such claim. I agree to be responsible for any loss and expense (including legal fees) incurred by any of the listed parties based on claims related in any way to my participation or the actions of the dog in relationship to this event, whether the claims are made by third parties or by myself.

Additionally, I agree to assume the sole responsibility for any loss, damage, or injury (including death) to myself or to the dog in relationship to this event. I agree to **RELEASE, INDEMNIFY and promise not to sue** the parties listed above for any such loss, damage or injury to myself or the dog, regardless of the cause, and whether or not the loss, damage or injury may have been caused by the negligence of the listed parties.

I AGREE THAT ANY CAUSE OF ACTION, CONTROVERSY OR CLAIM ARISING OUT OF OR RELATED TO THE ENTRY, EXHIBITION OR ATTENDANCE AT THE EVENT SHALL BE SETTLED BY ARBITRATION PURSUANT TO THE APPLICABLE RULES OF THE AMERICAN ARBITRATION ASSOCIATION. HOWEVER, PRIOR TO ARBITRATION ALL APPLICABLE BMDCA BYLAWS, RULES, REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES MUST FIRST BE FOLLOWED AS SET FORTH IN THE BMDCA CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS, RULES, REGULATIONS, PUBLISHED POLICIES AND GUIDELINES.

In consideration of the acceptance of this entry, I agree to abide by rules and regulations of the Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America (BMDCA) in effect at the time of this BMDCA Draft Test and by any additional rules appearing in the premium list for this event. I certify and represent that the dog entered is not a hazard to persons or other dogs. I also certify that all the information I provide with this entry is true and correct. This entry is submitted for acceptance on the foregoing representation and Agreement. I agree to conduct myself in accordance with all such Rules and Regulations (including all provisions applying to discipline) and to abide by any decisions made in accord with them.

BERNESE MOUNTAIN DOG CLUB OF AMERICA
DRAFT TEST WEIGHT CERTIFICATE

NAME OF VET CLINIC: _____

OWNER/HANDLER NAME: _____

DOG'S CALL NAME: _____

VET CLINIC TO FILL IN BY HAND:

I verify on _____ : _____ : Weighed _____ lbs.
(date) (dog's call name) (insert weight)

(Signature of Vet Clinic employee witnessing weight of dog)

(Position of Vet Clinician)

(Print name of Vet employee signing this form)

(Clinic Phone #)

Please provide **Vet Clinic Stamp** below, with name and address of the Clinic, OR have the information above printed/provided on the Vet Clinic's letterhead.

VET STAMP HERE: