

2001 - FLOYD WILSON

June 2001

hosted by Brisbane Sporting Dog Club Inc

Tracking often seems to be the forgotten phase of Schutzhund in Australia. In the past, very few competitors have been able to present a dog that can consistently and reliably put in V Rated tracking performances.

Unfortunately for us, a quick glance at the score sheets from any World Championship or National Championship in Europe or the USA, will show that at the top levels of competition, a near perfect (99/100) tracking phase is essential to give a competitor any chance at all of being in the top ten, let alone on the podium!

So in our quest to improve our tracking skills, and therefore our Trial results, we looked to Mr. Floyd Wilson for tuition. Floyd is a very experienced competitor and judge, being renowned worldwide for his repeated successes, particularly in the Schutzhund Tracking Phase and the advanced tracking levels of FH and FHII.

Floyd is a man that Handles, Owns and Trains his own dogs from puppyhood through to the top levels of competition and as a USA Judge, he is adamant that Schutzhund competitors should show a complete picture, from the time they walk onto the field till they leave the field. Attention to every small detail is an important facet of this presentation.

The seminar began with a theory session, including discussion about what Schutzhund is to us and what we hope to achieve. We then moved on to a step by step introduction to Tracking the Floyd Wilson way. From starting puppies, through the intermediate steps, right through to the proofing stage. We were shown many structured teaching/training techniques which provide the dog with specific challenges yet every chance to succeed.

Floyd rightly says that to be truly successful, the dog must be able to track in virtually any weather and over virtually any terrain, he encouraged us to track on many varied surfaces, at different times of the day and in different types of weather

Finally, I think all attendees took away with them a clear set of strategies to help them improve their skill set when it comes to the very important tracking phase.

Thank You Floyd.