



Dan Danforth of Bow River Retrievers - Retriever Training Workshop

The Saskatoon Retriever Club is pleased to be hosting Dan Danforth from Bow River Retrievers for a four (4) day retriever training workshop, **May 17 – 20, 2024**. Open to **Senior/Master and Quali/Open levels**, this seminar is designed to help you and your retriever to get ready for the 2024 field season. Sound foundation/basics and line mechanics create good field habits.

When: Friday May 17* – Monday May 20, 2024 (May long weekend)

*Mandatory attendance required on Friday

Where: Saskatoon Retriever Club, Bradwell SK (Map Link: <https://saskatoonretriever.ca/map>)

The Plan:

- Revisit basics and fundamentals
- Drills to reconnect you and your dog (and provides conditioning)
- Training set ups – all dogs will run but in a way that fits their training level.
- Handling tips
- Please note, dogs will be selected to run drills and training setups based on where they are in their training and to provide the best learning experience for everyone attending.

Format:

Day 1: Discussion & Demonstration (Classroom session – no field work)

- 1:00 to 5:00 pm

Day 2: Morning Drills & Afternoon Set Ups

- 8:30 to 4:30 or so pm

Day 3: Morning Drills & Afternoon Set Ups

- 8:30 to 4:30 or so pm

Day 4: Morning Drills & Afternoon Set Up

- 8:30 to 3:00 pm

What to bring: Bring a lawn chair, notebook and pen/pencil, sunscreen, rain gear, waterproof boots, clothing for spending the day outdoors, snacks, lunch, and drinks.

Cost: Working Spot (limit 10): \$480 per team

Requirement: dogs must have completed force fetch** training

Observers/Auditors (unlimited): \$50 per person per day

Registration

Completed registration forms can be emailed to saskatoonretrieverclub@gmail.com or sent via snail mail to:

Jesse Vanhouwe
526 Dubois Manor
Saskatoon, SK S7V 0R2

Note: If greater than 10 dogs register for a working spot, the organizers will select 10 dogs from the received applicants with the goal of creating the best learning experience for all attending. An individual may handle more than one dog if Working Spots are available.

Payment Info: Payment can be made by e-Transfer to saskatoonretrieverclub@gmail.com. Please make payment by **April 27th, 2024**.

BBQ Supper: We will have a BBQ Friday, Saturday, and Sunday evening. Cost is \$15 per plate each evening.

Camping:

Camping is available for \$10 per night or \$15 for electrified sites.

Accommodations:

Home Inn & Suites (32 minutes from Club Grounds)

<https://www.homeinnsaskatoonsouth.ca/>

Local: 306-657-4663

Toll-Free Reservations: 1-844-657-4600

When booking, reference Saskatoon Retriever Club's Corporate Rate

Limited pet friendly rooms

****Force Fetch Definition:**

Also referred to as Force Retrieve or Conditioned Retrieve.

"Force fetching is the procedure whereby the dog is trained to pick up an object on command. Force fetching is usually started at six to eight months of age after the permanent teeth are in. The most immediate benefit from force fetching is that you can require the dog to deliver properly to hand. A more significant reason exists for force fetching your dog, however. Force fetch teaches your dog to **retrieve under pressure and to learn to control or master the pressure**. This makes force fetch the foundation for most modern training programs that require a dog to run blinds and handle." Mike Lardy

Questions: email saskatoonretrieverclub@gmail.com

Dan Danforth

Born and raised in Calgary, now living near Irricana, Dan is a true Alberta outdoorsman. His love for the sport of retrievers has taken him across Canada and the US, training, competing, judging, and enjoying the outdoors with fellow retriever enthusiasts. Dan has earned MH, QFTR and FTCH titles on multiple dogs and is a 4X National Retriever Championship Finalist. Over the years, Dan has shared in the success of the many others he has mentored, helping them to reach their goals. Dan's knowledge of how to train retrievers and how to teach people provides a special approach which brings out the best in the dogs and their handlers, creating a team. Having competed at a high level of the retriever game, Dan never forgets where his retriever journey began; being pulled out of a boat by his first retriever at his first hunt test.

