

Norwegian Elkhound: The Heart of It All

APRIL 19–25, 2027 • OHIO AGRICULTURE CENTER, OHIO EXPO CENTER

Hosted by the Norwegian Elkhound Club of Ohio (NECOH)
in conjunction with the Cardinal Cluster



THE OHIO AGRICULTURE CENTER AT THE OHIO EXPO CENTER — OUR HOME FOR NATIONAL WEEK.

Ohio has long called itself the Heart of It All. Next April, for one week, it will be the heart of the Elkhound world — and there is a great deal to look forward to.

Our home is the Ohio Agriculture Center, a brand-new building on the Ohio Expo Center grounds. Conformation, obedience, rally and scent work all take place under one roof, with reserved Elkhound grooming in the same hall — no hauling crates between buildings in the April weather.

A Full Week of Elkhounds

Competition opens Monday with all-breed agility at IncredIPAWS in nearby Pataskala. All-breed scent work follows on Tuesday at the Ohio Agriculture Center, with all four elements offered. All-breed obedience and rally run Wednesday and Thursday.

On the conformation side, NEAA supported entries bracket the week, with back-to-back regional specialties in the middle of it — the Norwegian Elkhound Club of Southeastern Michigan on Thursday, and NECOH's inaugural regional on Friday. National Sweepstakes for puppies and juniors follow Friday, and the National itself is Saturday.

A reminder: because the National is a concurrent specialty, altered dogs are eligible to compete as veterans.

Evenings and Education

The NEAA Annual Meeting is Wednesday afternoon, followed that evening by the Welcome Reception. Friday brings the Best of the Best celebration, held right at the Elkhound ring alongside Veteran Sweepstakes and National Junior Showmanship. Saturday closes with the Awards Banquet and judge's critique at The Ohio State University Faculty Club.

Thursday evening is something new: an *Utstilling*, a Norwegian-format show in which every entrant receives a written critique of their dog. It serves as the National's educational program for 2027 and is open to members at a nominal entry fee. The presenter will be announced once arrangements are complete. We are also working on an Elkhound night at a Columbus Clippers game downtown, pending release of the 2027 Minor League Baseball schedule.

Where to Stay

The Hilton Garden Inn Columbus – University Area, on Olentangy River Road, will serve as our host hotel — among the closest properties to the Expo Center, near the Ohio State campus, with meeting space for club functions.

Room block details, rates and booking instructions will be published as soon as they are final. Please watch for that announcement rather than booking on your own; the block is what protects our rate.

How You Can Help

Trophy and rosette sponsorships, along with the raffle and auction, are **coming soon**. Donation forms and instructions will be published once the National's pages are live on the NEAA website.

In the meantime, if you are considering a memorial or kennel dedication, or setting aside artwork or breed-related items for the raffle table, now is a good time to start. Questions are always welcome.

What to Expect, and When

- **Judges** — announced as contracts are returned and AKC approval is received.
- **Host hotel room block** — rates and booking link this fall.
- **Premium list and entries** — MB-F is the superintendent. The premium list will carry entry limits, fees and closing dates.
- **Schedule and times** — the full schedule of events, including specific event times, will be posted as available at the NEAA website.

The dates are firm: **April 19–25, 2027**. We hope you will spend the whole week with us in the Heart of It All.

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All events are subject to American Kennel Club approval. Schedule and program details are tentative and subject to change.