

# Introduction to Barn Hunt Pop-Up Mini-Workshop

*Sunday February 1, 2026 from 11 am - 2 pm*

OPE! Dog Sports 3840 WI-60 Slinger, WI

**Interested in Barn Hunt but don't know how to get started?  
Join us for this Intro Workshop!**

- **Introduction to the Rats:** Dogs are introduced to the rats. The introduction will progress from the dog seeing and smelling the rat in a wire cage, to smelling in a competition PVC tube. Rats are never loose, and you won't have to touch a rat!
- **Understanding the Rules:** Handlers will learn the basics, including specific procedures for trials. Reading the Competitor Rulebook before the workshop is encouraged!  
<https://barnhunt.com/barnhuntrules.html>
- **Course Elements:** Dogs will practice climbing on straw bales and going through an 18-inch wide tunnel made of straw bales.
- **Rat Wrangling:** Handlers will receive instruction on how to properly handle the rat tubes as a handler and potentially as a "rat wrangler" (volunteer).
- **First Hunt:** The dog will get to apply its new skills in a barn hunt ring to locate the tube containing the rat!
- **Trial Expectations:** We will discuss how to enter an official trial, what to bring, and general etiquette for a trial environment.

## **What to Bring to the Workshop**

- Your dog on a 6-foot leash (no retractable leashes). Dogs of any age may participate!
- A slip/martingale type leash.
- Water and a water dish for your dog.
- A crate or a quiet place for your dog to rest during discussions. Disruptive dogs may be asked to wait in a car.
- High-value, small treats or a quiet toy.

**Working spots are limited to 10 dog/handler teams - \$30 each**

[Register online today to save your spot!](#)

<https://www.4pawsinaction.com/ope-events>

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