

Proposal to hold 2 concurrent specialties on Friday/Saturday June 5/6, 2026 (Sunflower Classic)

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I have multiple other members that have offered to step up and help to make this a success!

Location: Hutchinson, Kansas in conjunction with all-breed shows Wichita Kennel Club(5) and Hutchinson Kennel Club(6).

History/General Interest: This cluster of shows Thursday-Sunday offer's unique opportunities for Tollers. This request is for a concurrent specialty on both Friday and Saturday. Saturday would be the official date for the Sunflower Classic. 2026 will be 10 years since our first Sunflower Classic. The concurrent specialties would be a nice way to commemorate the

anniversary. Unfortunately, due to covid and a BYC being too close to the date we haven't had 10 supported entries in a row. Sweepstakes and Juniors will be offered on Saturday only. The two all-breed clubs do not charge our club to hold concurrent specialties. If the judge is chosen from the existing panel we will not be charged for a judge Friday. We will have to bring in a judge for the Saturday specialty but we are working on that currently with the Golden Club as they also are doing a concurrent specialty so we will split the judge cost. The Host clubs/chair have been wonderful to work with on this and are very excited to move this from a supported entry to specialty and are willing to work with us. We also plan to have another Toller Hunt Test on that Sunday to bring in even more interest. We will use the same location as 2024-pending approval. While Kansas doesn't have a large gathering of Tollers, Region 5 does and everyone that comes to this show really does enjoy it and comes back. With it being right in the middle of the United States this show is known to bring members from outside our region. This show usually brings in 5 to 4 pt majors! Even in 2025 when it was not a supported entry, we still had majors on the weekend!

In addition to back-to-back concurrent specialties Tollers would have many other activities to participate in. The Sunflower classic will offer the following (subject to change): obedience, rally, dock diving, 4-6 month puppy, health clinic, junior scholarships and adding fast cat in 2026.

Onofrio is working on a contract for us. I will send those figures over as soon as I receive them. Between fundraising, raffles and getting trophies sponsored I know we will come out ahead!

Proximity to National Specialty: The proposed Sunflower Classic in Hutchinson, Kansas is 120 days before and 1,002 miles apart from the 2027 National Specialty in Red Lodge, Montana.

Past Attendance: 2025 was not a supported entry but still pulled 23 toller entries and 3 pt majors. 2024 we had 30 toller entries and had 5 pts majors and 2023 we had 17 entries with 4 pt majors. I also want to mention we have had multiple members outside our region attend this cluster. I know many club members that want to see this become a specialty also! The concurrent specialties would be a nice way to commemorate the anniversary. Unfortunately, due to covid and a BYC being too close to the date we haven't had 10 supported entries in a row.

Selection of Judge: The all-breed clubs has provided a list of judges on their panel who are approved to judge tollers. We will choose from that panel for our Friday Specialty and there will be no judge's cost to our club. The judge's fee and travel expense will be paid by the all-breed clubs. For the Saturday Specialty we will have to bring in a judge and are currently working on that with the Golden Club as they are also holding a specialty also and we are trying to keep expenses low.

Amenities:

Space can be reserved for grooming; free grooming also has electrical.

Site has plenty of full hook up RV spots.

Entry Fee's for the specialties belong to NSDTRC. The Host club provides all the physical structures needed to hold the specialties (tents, tables, gates, ETC.) They also will provide a ring stewards for the specialties.

Hutchinson KS has many Air bnb's and Hotels that are dog friendly.

Sweeps and Non regular classes: Puppy, veterans, hunting sweeps, and junior showmanship would be offered on Saturday.

Board Action: To approve a Concurrent specialty to be held on June 5/6 2026 in conjunction with the Hutchinson Kennel Club and Wichita Kennel Club.