

Breed Function

Because the Weimaraner is a breed that was bred to work for its master by finding, pointing, and retrieving birds as well as being an intelligent and affectionate dog, the uses are many:

A companion

- Naturally clean, short coated, easy to care for.
- Total devotion to their owners.
- Highly intelligent.
- Demanding.
- Strong willed.
- Devoted, responsive companion.

A personal hunting dog

- Many are used with minimal training and work ideally for the foot hunter. Contrary to the original ballyhoo years ago, the Weimaraner is not a superdog, does not walk on water, does not clear tall buildings in a single bound, but is a dog that does better if its instincts are helped by some training and does vary in its abilities from dog to dog.

A show dog

- Dog shows offer fun and challenge to many. The Weimaraner can provide its owner with many a pleasant day in quest of blue and purple ribbons and eventually the title of champion. He has also shown he can compete successfully with other breeds in competition for Group and Best in Show awards.

Obedience Trials

- Because the Weimaraner is intelligent and quick to learn, it makes an excellent obedience competition dog. AKC offers four increasingly difficult and meaningful titles, which can be earned: CD (Companion Dog), CDX (Companion Dog Excellent), UD (Utility Dog) and OTCH (Obedience Trial Champion). Many owners take themselves and their dogs to obedience school just so they can live together better—a good idea.

Rally Trials

- An AKC event, which is a less formal obedience-type activity with the goal of having fun with your dog. Three levels of competition are: Rally Novice, Rally Advanced and Rally Excellent, with titles for each. Rally Novice is all on-leash, making it a good step toward an obedience title.

Tracking Tests

- AKC also offers the titles of TD (Tracking Dog), TDX (Tracking Dog Excellent) VST (Variable Surface Tracker) and CT (Champion Tracker). Because the Weimaraner has excellent scenting ability they do well in this activity. They are being used for rescue work.

Agility Dog

- In 1996 AKC offered competition and titles in Agility; NA (Novice Agility), OA (Open Agility), AX (Agility Excellent) and MX (Agility Master). Since 1996 additional agility classes and titles have been added. The Weimaraner loves this athletic contest of jumps, tunnels, and balance, all performed off lead.

Guard Dog

- Although the well-bred Weimaraner's temperament is basically friendly, he will usually regard his master's family and possessions as his and with encouragement will bark on the approach of strangers. We do not recommend guard dog training for any breed unless the

owner is skilled in that activity since a guard-trained dog in unskilled hands is just like a loaded gun in a child's hands. Nevertheless, the mere proximity of a dog of the size and presence of the Weimaraner has often had a great discouraging effect on unwelcome people.

Field

- A field trial is a competition to determine the best and most spectacular hunting dog. They provide a great deal of enjoyment and challenge for many. Three classes of competition are Puppy, Derby, and All-Age. Puppy requires mostly instinct; derbies must show experience; and all-age dogs must be fully trained. AKC offers the title of Field Champion for those few who can earn it.
- The AKC also offers Hunting Tests with three levels of training: Junior Hunter, Senior Hunter and Master Hunter.
- The WCA offers three ratings: Novice Shooting Dog, Shooting Dog, and Shooting Dog Excellent. Each rating is more demanding. The NSD can be earned with relatively little training, while the SDX dog should be a candidate for the Field Champion title.

Retrieving

- The Weimaraner is a fine instinctive retriever and retrieving competitions are held in most parts of the country in the summer. AKC does not offer a champion title, but WCA offers three ratings similar to the field ratings. They are Novice Retrieving Dog, Retrieving Dog, and Retrieving Dog Excellent. Here again the NRD relies mostly on instinct, while the RDX requires a great deal of training and ability.

Junior Handling

- For those with children, AKC offers the challenge of competition to see who can learn and develop the skills to handle a dog in the show ring and present it to its best advantage. The WCA has an active Junior Program, recognizing juniors participating in show, field, obedience, tracking and agility events.

Versatile Ratings

- WCA offers seven Versatile Ratings, which require demonstration of excellence in at least three major areas, such as show, field, obedience, tracking, agility, retrieving, etc. The ratings recognize the versatility of this breed.

For more information on how to find a show or trial or get started, contact the WCA National Office.