

Sand Hills State Park Pack Trials
March 19, 20 – 2022
Host: Lauren Sill
Certifier: Patti Morgan

The first pack trials hosted in Kansas since 2016 were held over spring break in Hutchinson, KS at Sand Hills State Park. There were 4 ranches represented from Kansas and Oklahoma and 12 llamas participated. The weather cooperated (mid 40's in the morning and warming up to 70's by the time we finished), light winds and sunny. All levels were offered, but only basic was held.

The option of mileage to compensate for elevation was used. We were required to walk 4 miles each day as the elevation was a mere 50-100' of gain. Because of the ongoing drought, there was no water or mud, so deep sand was readily available. We also had duck unders, weaving through tight spaces, two bridges (a different one each day), picking one's way (different both days).

Those participating from Kansas were: Nathan, Christina, Christian and Malachi Abel (Liberal, KS); Jeff, Jenn, Belle and Dash Hancock (Manhattan, KS); Patti Morgan (Arkansas City, KS); Jane Queal (Pratt, KS); and Lauren Sill (Hutchinson, KS). And from Oklahoma: Betty Hollman (Turpin, OK).

Five of the llamas were participation only – being too young or unavailable birth date information.

Those llamas completing a basic level (BPL) were: RM Dusty handled by Jane Q and owned by Patti Morgan and Chip handled and owned by Lauren Sill.

Two basic pack strings also completed the courses: RM Armond and True Friends Delilah (Abel/Hollman) handled by Christian Abel and Sabre and True Friends Samson (Abel/Hollman) handled by Malachi Abel.

Jon Von Jovi (Abel/Hollman) finished one basic level – handled by Nathan Abel.



Malachi Abel with his basic pack string posing!



Day 1 Group photo



the Hancock's packing up for the first day



Dusty in the deep sand.



RM Armond on tie out.