



Helper Program

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REVISION HISTORY

VERSION	DATE	DESCRIPTION	PRIME
1.0	02/21/2004	Initial Draft	L. Roetemeyer
2.0	06/24/2004	Revised Format and Organization, Revised Content based on Comments from Executive Board	D. Vander Linde
3.0	09/24/2004	Added Table of Contents, Corrected Appendix A to include Section Numbers, Prepared for Printing	D. Vander Linde
4.0	11/04/2004	Approved at General Board Meeting in Nashville, TN	D. Vander Linde
5.0	01/31/2005	Revised Section 16.2.3 to reflect Helper Tryouts at the Event Revised Appendix A to Reference USCA Trial Rule Book Helper Regulations Added Technical Description of Back Transport and Side Transport to Appendix A Changed Classification Participation Requirements in Section 10.1	D. Vander Linde
6.0	11/06/2006	Revised Section 16 to reflect Helper Pre-Selection with Final Assignment at the Event Revisions Approved at General Board Meeting in Gadsden, AL	D. Vander Linde
7.0	08/01/2008	Revised Sections 3, 7, 8, 9.1, 9.3, 10.2, 12.1, 13.1, 13.2, 13.3, 15.3 Added Sections 9.3, 10.4, 16.5 Removed Sections 14.3 Revised Appendices C, D and G (Appendix H prior to removal of Appendix F) Removed Appendix F (Trial Helper Record Book) Revisions Approved by Executive Board	D. Vander Linde
8.0	05/10/2012	Changed USA to USCA throughout document Revised for new 2012 Trial Rules throughout document Revised Section 4 – Revised to reflect seven (7) or eight (8) members on Helper Committee Revised Section 6.B – Changed to Yearly Reports from Quarterly Reports Added Section 6.L – Added Issuance of Helper Waivers Added Section 6.M – Added manage Helper Program Database Revised Section 10.4 – Changed Evaluation Results to be sent to Helper Program Director Revised Section 10.4 – Changed Evaluation Results to be sent to Helper Program Director Added Section 12.5 – Event Helper Waiver to allow use of an Unclassified Helper under “special” circumstances Revised Section 15.1.A and G – Added exemption possibility for Teaching Helper Applicants located in remote geographical regions (e.g., Alaska, Hawaii and Guam) Added Section 16.1.2, 16.2.2 and 16.4.2 - Included Sieger Show as a National Event covered by the Helper Program. Revised Section 16.3 – Added that Pre-Selected Helpers shall provide a dog for use in the Helper Tryout at a National Event Revised Section 17.1 – Added stadium passes for Helper Committee Members working the Event Revised Section 17.2 – Incorporated E-Ballot #9-11 (Increase Expense Reimbursement for Helpers at USCA National Events) Added Section 19 – Included USCA-GSDCA WUSV Qualification Trial Helper Process Added Section 20 – Added USCA Helper pre-requisites to participate in AWDF Championship	D. Vander Linde

VERSION	DATE	DESCRIPTION	PRIME
		Revised Appendix C – Implemented new Seminar and/or Evaluation Participation and Results Form	

SECTION 1: PURPOSE

The purpose of the Helper Program is to educate and increase the number of Trial Helpers that can properly and safely execute the Protection Exercises performed at UScA Events.

SECTION 2: OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Helper Program are presented below.

- A. Provide “standardized” education.
- B. Increase the number of Trial Helpers in the United Schutzhund Clubs of America (UScA).
- C. Promote Membership involvement and participation through ongoing Helper education.
- D. Facilitate UScA objectives of preserving the German Shepherd Dog (GSD) as outlined in UScA’s Bylaws.
- E. Address the interests of the UScA Membership as they relate to Helpers and Trial helperwork.

SECTION 3: DEFINITIONS

<u>Term</u>	<u>Definition</u>
Event	UScA-Sanctioned Event.
Helper	Trial Helper in a UScA-Sanctioned Event.
Judge	Presiding Judge at a UScA-Sanctioned Event.
National Event	GSD-National Championship, UScA Working Dog Championship, UScA Sieger Show
WUSV Qualification Trial	United States of America (UScA-GSDCA) WUSV Qualification Trial
Office	UScA Office
Regional Event	Regional Championship
Teaching Helper	UScA Teaching Helper
UScA-Sanctioned	Official Event of UScA
AWDF	American Working Dog Federation

SECTION 4: HELPER COMMITTEE

Appointed by the President, the Helper Committee shall consist of a minimum of seven (7) Members but not more than eight (8) as follows: UScA President, UScA Director of Judges, Helper Program Director, two (2) UScA Teaching Helpers and two (2) or three (3) UScA Members (may be UScA Teaching Helpers) the President deems necessary to execute the objectives of the Helper Program and represent UScA’s Member’s interests as they relate to Helpers and Trial helperwork.

SECTION 5: HELPER COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

The Helper Committee is responsible to assist the Helper Program Director in the development, implementation and management of the Helper Program. In addition to these responsibilities, the Helper Committee shall act in an advisory role and provide support and assistance to Helpers that have been selected to perform helperwork at an Event.

SECTION 6: HELPER PROGRAM DIRECTOR

The responsibilities of the Helper Program Director are presented below.

- A. Preside over the Helper Committee.
- B. Provide the Executive Board with detailed yearly reports that outline current activities, Helper Program progress, Helper status and recommendations for Program enhancements.
- C. Provide general information for the UScA Magazine, website and newsletter.
- D. Development, written evaluations and oversight of Teaching Helpers.
- E. Modify the Helper Program Curriculum as required to ensure the Curriculum includes the exercises and instruction necessary to develop Trial Helpers that can properly and safely execute the Protection Exercises described in the United Schutzhund Clubs of America Official Rule Book for all Working Dog Evaluations, those required for UScA Breed Surveys, and the UScA Sieger Show.

- F. Provide educational materials (e.g., books, videos, etc.) to Regional Training Directors and Teaching Helpers.
- G. Provide assistance to Regional Training Directors in selecting Teaching Helpers and scheduling Helper Seminars in Regions.
- H. Make recommendations to the Helper Committee for the selection of Classified Trial Helpers for National Events and the USCA-GSDCA WUSV Qualification Trial.
- I. Organize a Helper College each year.
- J. Approve Guest (e.g., SV) Teaching Helpers for participation in Helper Colleges.
- K. Attend the General Board Meeting each year.
- L. Issue Helper Waivers, as approved by the Helper Committee, for Events where a Classified Helper is not available.
- M. Manage the Helper Program Database

SECTION 7: ROLE OF REGIONAL TRAINING DIRECTORS

Duties: To promote proper and safe training for Trial Helpers, Training Helpers and Handlers throughout their Region by the use of Required Educational Seminars and Organized Fun Matches. The Regional Training Director will receive direction from the Helper Committee with regard to the required educational Teaching Helper Program. (USCA Regional Policy).

The Regional Training Director's duties are an integral part of the educational process at the Region and Club Level. Since these duties include training for Helpers, communication between Regional Training Directors and the Helper Program Director is essential.

The Regional Training Director shall be the Regional Liaison to the Helper Program Director and shall:

- N. solicit Regional Clubs and the Region's Members to determine the needs of Regionally-Sponsored Helper Seminars; and
- O. administer one (1) Regionally-Sponsored Helper Seminar per year.

SECTION 8: HELPER PROGRAM CURRICULUM

The Helper Program Curriculum includes by reference the Helper Regulations presented in the latest release of the United Schutzhund Clubs of America Official Rule Book for all Working Dog Evaluations. The Helper Regulations contained therein describe in detail the "Pre-requisites for the employment as Helper in Phase C" and the "Regulations governing the conduct of Trial Helpers", including detailed instruction on how the Protection Exercises are to be performed during an Event. The Curriculum also includes Technical Instruction to develop a Helper's skills (e.g., mechanics, ability to take direction, body positioning, equipment positioning, balance, timing, awareness, presence, attitude, etc.) to enable him/her to properly and safely comply with the Helper Regulations. The Technical Instruction is presented in moderate detail in text, as shown in Appendix A and to exacting detail in video, as presented in Appendix B. Proper equipment for the Trial Helper is also included as part of the Curriculum.

*To meet the Helper Program objective of "standardized" education, the Helper Program Curriculum does **not** include instruction to develop a Helper's knowledge as a Training Helper, since the philosophies of how to train dogs in protection vary drastically, and thus are not "standard". The teaching of training helperwork to Helpers is the responsibility of Regional Training Directors through the required Educational Seminars as discussed in Section 7. The Helper Program Curriculum will be taught by Teaching Helpers at Regional or Local Helpers Seminars and the Helper College. Deviations from the Curriculum are not permitted.*

SECTION 9: HELPER SEMINARS AND COLLEGE

Section 9.1: Helper Seminars

The purpose of Helper Seminars is to educate and develop Helpers that can properly and safely execute the Protection Exercises described in the United Schutzhund Clubs of America Official Rule Book for all Working Dog Evaluations and those required for Breed Surveys and the Sieger Show. Helper Seminars provide any Helper who has been issued a Trial Helper Record Book the opportunity to receive one-on-one instruction and improve their Trial helperwork. Helpers are encouraged to participate in a Helper Seminar prior to participating in a Helper Evaluation. Helper Seminars are presided over by a Teaching Helper(s) who teach the Helper Program Curriculum.

Each Helper who participates in a Helper Seminar should bring a dog for use during the Seminar.

Section 9.2: Helper College

Every year in conjunction with the GSD-National Championship a Helper College will be conducted by the Helper Committee. The purpose of a Helper College is to provide a forum to discuss helperwork to be performed at Events, teach and demonstrate safe and proper helperwork, review and revise the Helper Program to better serve the interests of USCA's Members and provide the opportunity for Guest Teaching Helpers to assist in Helper education. Participation in the Helper College is open to Helpers that have been issued a Trial Helper Record Book, Regional Training Directors and Judges.

Topics to be discussed during a Helper College include, but are not limited to, the following.

- A. Appropriate testing of dogs in Events.
- B. Safety, being in control and selflessness by the Trial Helper.
- C. Developing a better understanding of the temperament and drives of the dogs being worked during an Event.
- D. Importance of the Helper's role in assisting the Judge to evaluate the dogs entered in the Event.

The Helper Program Curriculum will be taught to Helpers during the Helper College. "The Standard" for proper Trial helperwork will be demonstrated by Members of the Helper Committee or Teaching Helpers.

The Helper College will be organized by the Helper Program Director or a Member of the Helper Committee. The venue for the Helper College shall: (i) be a different field than the location for the GSD-National Championship; and (ii) be provided by the Host of the Championship. The purpose of this location restriction is to avoid interference with the practice of Competitors entered in the Championship. The Helper College shall be completed prior to the start of the Championship. Prior notice of the location, date and time of the Helper College shall be posted on the Event website for the GSD-National Championship.

Section 9.3: Helper Seminar and College Documentation

Helper Seminars shall be sanctioned by USCA and hosted by a Local Club and/or Region. To host a Helper Seminar, the Local Club and/or Region shall complete an Event Authorization Form. Helper Seminars are separate events from Helper Evaluations. Helper Seminars may be held prior to (e.g., the day or morning before) a Helper Evaluation.

The Trial Helper Record Book and the Helper Program Database are the official record of the owning Helper's Seminar Attendance, and therefore, participation in the Helper Program. Each Helper who participates in a Helper Seminar should bring a dog for use during the Seminar.

The Presiding Teaching Helper(s) for a Helper Seminar or College shall complete the Helper Seminar and Evaluation Participation/Results Form presented in Appendix C and submit it to the Helper Program Director within seven (7) days of completion of the Seminar.

SECTION 10: HELPER EVALUATION

Helper Evaluations serve as a vital instrument to meet the objectives of the Helper Program. Helper Evaluations are a test of a Helper's attainment, or lack thereof, of the skills necessary to properly and safely perform the Protection Exercises for an Event. Helper Evaluations provide the Helper Committee, and therefore the Membership of USCA, with the mechanism to identify Helpers that need further development, and should therefore attend a USCA-Sanctioned Helper Seminar prior to performing helperwork in a Club Trial or, on the other hand, have shown advanced abilities and should be considered for Regional and National Events. Helper Evaluations shall:

- A. take an honest consideration of the Helper's ability on the day of the Evaluation and on the dog utilized;
- B. be sanctioned by USCA;
- C. be presided over by a Teaching Helper(s); and
- D. be hosted by a Local Club, Region and/or USCA.

The results of Helper Evaluations are the Classification of Trial Helpers. The Trial Helper Record Book and the Helper Program Database are the official record of the owning Helper's Evaluation History, and therefore, advancement through

the Helper Program. Thus, Helper Evaluations are part of the education process, testing Helpers and providing them with the opportunity to receive constructive comments about their performance during simulated Trial conditions.

Helper Evaluations are separate events from Helper Seminars. Helper Seminars may be held prior to (e.g., the day or morning before) the Helper Evaluation. Helpers under evaluation are not to receive instruction from the Presiding Teaching Helper during their Evaluation other than an explanation or clarification of the Evaluation Criteria and Exercises or direction necessary to participate in the Evaluation. The purpose of this requirement is to keep the Evaluation impartial.

Section 10.1: Helper Evaluation Participation

All Helpers who currently have been issued a Blue Helper Book, hereinafter referred to as a “Old Helper Book”, must be evaluated within two (2) years of this Program becoming effective (November 4, 2004) to continue their eligibility to perform helperwork at any Event.

Prior to participating in a Helper Evaluation, the Helper who is requesting the Evaluation must:

- A. present the Presiding Teaching Helper with their UScA Membership Card, which shows that they are a current Member of UScA;
- B. present the Presiding Teaching Helper with their Trial Helper Record Book; and
- C. present the necessary documents to prove that they meet the prerequisites for the Classification that they desire to be evaluated at.

Each Helper who participates in a Helper Evaluation should bring a dog for use during the Evaluation.

Section 10.2: Helper Evaluation Criteria, Exercises and Form

Helper Evaluations will be based on the Helper’s performance of the Protection Exercises for IPO 3, which will be performed under simulated Trial conditions, including but not limited to: field setup, distances/directions for the Protection Exercises, and direction by the Protection Judge. The Evaluation will consider numerous aspects of the Helper’s performance of the front half and back half exercises; including, but not limited to the following.

- A. Is the Helper under control at all times?
- B. Does the Helper’s performance reflect that the safety of the dog, Judge and him/her self is paramount?
- C. Does the Helper know the Protection Exercises for all Levels (e.g., IPO 1 through 3)?
- D. Does the Helper take/follow direction from the Protection Judge?

In addition to the above, the Evaluation will also consider if the Helper knows the Attack-on-Handler Exercise, which is to be performed as part of UScA Breed Surveys and the UScA Sieger Show.

The Exercises that a Helper will be evaluated on are shown on the Helper Evaluation Form presented in Appendix C. The Helper will receive a Pass/Fail Grade for each Exercise that they perform.

In addition to the above, Helpers will be required to take a Written Examination as part of their Evaluation. The Written Examination will test a Helper’s basic knowledge of the Protection Exercises, the Attack-on-Handler Exercise, proper presentation of the dog for evaluation by the Protection Judge, the role of the Trial Helper in ensuring the safety of the dog, Judge and him/her self during an Event, and the Helper’s knowledge of the Helper Program. The Written Examination is presented in Appendix D.

Section 10.3: Helper Evaluation Grading

The Grading of Helpers can only occur by a UScA Teaching Helper during a Helper Evaluation. The Grades for each Exercise are presented below.

Pass – Procedurally correct, is under control while performing the Exercise, takes direction from the Judge while performing the Exercise, and performs the Exercise in a manner that is safe for the dog, Judge and him/her self.

Fail – Not procedurally correct (e.g., feeding the dog the sleeve during the escape bite), out or lack of control (e.g., inability to drive dog and place stick hits at proper interval), does not take

direction from the Judge while performing the Exercise or unsafe (e.g., endangerment of dog and self) while performing the Exercise or improper presentation of the dog to the Judge.

Section 10.4: Helper Evaluation Documentation

The Trial Helper Record Book and the Helper Program Database are the official record of the owning Helper's Evaluation History, and therefore, advancement through the Helper Program. The Presiding Teaching Helper for a Helper Evaluation shall complete the Helper Seminar and Evaluation Participation form presented in Appendix C and submit it to the Helper Program Director within seven (7) days of completion of the Seminar and/or Evaluation.

SECTION 11: PERFORMANCE EVALUATION BY JUDGE

The Judge at an Event has the unique opportunity to evaluate the performance of a Helper under actual trial conditions. The Helper Program takes advantage of this unique opportunity by requiring the Judge to rate and comment on the Helper's execution of the Protection Exercises in an Event. The Rating and Comments from the Judge are entered in the Helper's Trial Helper Record Book, which is the official record of the owning Helper's Performance Evaluation History.

Performance Evaluations by Judges provide the Helper Committee, and therefore the Membership of UScA, with the mechanism to identify Helpers that perform proper and safe Trial helperwork, or those that do not, and therefore need further education and development. Thus, Performance Evaluations by Judges are part of the Helper education process and a vital instrument to meet the objectives of the Helper Program.

Section 11.1: Performance Evaluation Criteria

The Rating and Comments by the Judge shall take an honest consideration of the Helper's performance on the day of the Trial and not be based on a Helper's past performance(s) or reputation. The Judge shall, at a minimum, evaluate the following aspects of the Helper's performance.

- A. Is the Helper's performance consistent and impartial?
- B. Is the Helper under control at all times?
- C. Does the Helper's performance reflect that the safety of the dog, Judge and him/her self is paramount?
- D. Does the Helper properly execute the Protection Exercises of the VDH Trial Regulations for all Levels (e.g., IPO 1 through 3) and/or the Attack-on-Handler Exercise, which is to be performed as part of Breed Surveys and the Sieger Show?
- E. Does the Helper take/follow direction from the Judge?
- F. Does the Helper know the Handler's responsibilities during the execution of the Protection Exercises in the circumstance the Helper is required to assist the Handler?

Section 11.2: Performance Evaluation Ratings

The Ratings available for use by the Judge are based on the following definition of the Rating "Good", and are presented below.

Excellent – Well above "The Standard".

Very Good – Above "The Standard".

"GOOD" = **"The Standard"** – *Defines correct and safe helperwork for what the Judge considers essential to be able to properly evaluate a dog's performance.*

Unsatisfactory – Below "The Standard".

Section 11.3: Performance Evaluation Comments

The Comments rendered by the Judge should be of a constructive nature and offer the Helper specific suggestions on how to improve their performance. In the event the Judge issues the Helper an Unsatisfactory Rating, the Judge shall note in the Comment Section of the Helper's Trial Helper Record Book "Improper Performance" and state the specific action(s) that warranted the Unsatisfactory Rating. In the event the Judge removes a Helper from an Event, the Judge shall note in the Comment Section of the Helper's Trial Helper Record Book "Removed from Trial" and state the reason as one of the following: "Improper Performance", "Unsportsmanlike Conduct" or "Improper Performance and Unsportsmanlike Conduct".

Section 11.4: Trial Secretary and Trial Paperwork

The Trial Secretary for any Event shall record, at the location(s) specified on the Trial Paperwork, the Rating issued by the Judge for the Helper(s) of the Event.

SECTION 12: HELPER CLASSIFICATIONS

Section 12.1: Helper Classification Definitions

The Classifications for Helpers and the associated requirements to attain the Classification are described below. The Classifications must be advanced through sequentially except Teaching Helper, whose requirements are described in detail in Sections 14 and 15.

Entry Level – The Entry Level Classification is for all Helpers that have been issued a Trial Helper Record Book and do not meet the requirements for the remaining Classifications. Entry Level Helpers shall attain Basic Level Classification before being permitted to participate as a Trial Helper in an Event.

Basic Level – The Basic Level Classification is for Helpers that have attended at least one (1) Helper Seminar, successfully passed the Written Examination and have received a Grade of Pass on all the Exercises during their Helper Evaluation.

Club Level – The Club Level Classification is for Helpers that have met the following requirements.

- Participated in at least one (1) Helper Seminar.
- Received a Grade of Pass on all the Exercises during their Helper Evaluation.
- Performed Trial helperwork in at least:
 - one (1) Club Trial working at least twelve (12) dogs (IPO 1 to 3, IPO 1 to 3, DPO 1 and 2, or SchH A) with a minimum Rating of Good from the Judge; or
 - two (2) Club Trials working at least six (6) dogs (IPO 1 to 3, IPO 1 to 3, DPO 1 and 2, or SchH A) with minimum Ratings of Very Good or Excellent from two (2) different Judges.

Regional Level - The Regional Level Classification is for Helpers that have met the following requirements.

- Participated in at least two (2) Helper Seminars.
- Received a Grade of Pass on all the Exercises during their Helper Evaluation.
- Performed Trial helperwork in at least ten (10) Club Trials, or six (6) Club Trials and one (1) Regional IPO Championship, with minimum Ratings of Good from the Judges.
- Worked at least forty (40) dogs (IPO 1 to 3, IPO 1 to 3, DPO 1 and 2, or SchH A) in Trials.

National Level - The National Level Classification is for Helpers that have met the following requirements.

- Participated in at least three (3) Helper Seminars.
- Received a Grade of Pass on all the Exercises during their Helper Evaluation.
- Performed Trial helperwork in at least fifteen (15) Club Trials and two (2) Regional IPO Championship, or twelve (12) Club Trials, one (1) Regional IPO Championship and one (1) National IPO Championship, with minimum Ratings of Good from the Judges.
- Worked at least eighty (80) dogs (IPO 1 to 3, IPO 1 to 3, DPO 1 and 2, or IPO A) in Trials.

Teaching Helper - The Teaching Helper Classification is for Helpers that have met the requirements described in Sections 14 and 15.

Note: For the purpose of meeting the requirements described above, SchH 1 through 3 from the “Old Helper Book” (Section 13.5) are equivalent to IPO titles.

Section 12.2: Helper Utilization

Helpers who have attained a Classification may perform the duties of a Helper in an Event as presented below.

Helper Utilization Matrix

Event Type	Helper Classification					
	Entry	Basic	Club	Regional	National	Teaching
Club	-	Permitted	Permitted	Permitted	Permitted	Permitted
Regional	-	-	Permitted	Permitted	Permitted	Permitted
National	-	-	-	Permitted	Permitted	Permitted

Section 12.3: Helper Classification Maintenance

The results of Helper Evaluations are the Classification of Helpers. The result of the Performance Evaluations by Judges is the identification of Helpers who perform proper and safe helperwork, or those that do not. Once a Helper has attained Basic or Club Level Classification, he/she must continue to perform proper and safe helperwork in Events, must be re-evaluated once every four (4) years and must receive a Passing Grade on each Exercise during their Helper Re-evaluation in order to maintain Basic or Club Level Classification. Once a Helper has attained Regional or National Level Classification, he/she must continue to perform proper and safe helperwork in Events, must be re-evaluated at least once every two (2) years and receive a Passing Grade on each Exercise during their semi-annual Helper Re-evaluation in order to maintain their current Classification. If a Helper does not meet these requirements, he/she will have their Trial Helper Privileges withdrawn (i.e., their name will no longer be shown on the Helper List on the UScA website).

Section 12.3.1: Unsatisfactory Rating from Judge

Upon receipt of the Trial Paperwork by the UScA Office, the UScA Office will inform the Helper Program Director of the name and Trial Helper Record Book Number of the Helper who received an Unsatisfactory Rating from the Judge. The Helper Program Director will then contact the Helper in writing and inform the Helper that their Helper Privileges (i.e., Trial Helper Record Book) have been suspended until the time the Helper attends a Helper Seminar and is then re-evaluated at their present Classification during a Helper Evaluation.

Section 12.3.2: Failing Grade(s) during Helper Evaluation

Any Helper who receives a Fail Grade on an Exercise during their Helper Evaluation will not be classified at the Helper Classification that they requested. Any Helper that is above the Entry Level Classification and receives two (2) or more Fail Grades during their Helper Evaluation will be required to attend a Helper Seminar prior to requesting re-evaluation to remain at their current Classification.

Section 12.4: Disciplinary Action

Any Helper may have their Trial Helper Privileges (i.e., Trial Helper Record Book) suspended or terminated by the Helper Committee. The causes for disciplinary action include improper or unsportsmanlike conduct, failure to take direction from the Judge while performing helperwork during an Event, or conduct, which in the opinion of the Helper Committee, is detrimental to UScA. Any Helper whose conduct or helperwork is questioned will be given the opportunity to present his/her case to the Helper Committee. Should the Helper Committee find that the Helper’s conduct or helperwork warrants disciplinary action(s), the Helper Committee will file charges with UScA’s Board of Inquiry (BOI). Disciplinary action(s) will not take effect until the findings from the BOI’s investigation are issued.

Section 12.5: Event Helper Waiver

If the host club of an Event encounters the circumstance where it MUST use an unclassified Helper in the Event, the host club can contact the Helper Program Director and request consideration for issuance of a Trial Helper Waiver for the Event. When requesting a Trial Helper Waiver, the host club MUST provide their official UScA club name, name of the presiding Judge(s), dates of the Event, name of the Helper, the Helper’s Trial Helper Record Book Number, and the Trial Helper’s UScA Membership Number with expiration date. If the Helper does not have a Trial Helper Record Book, he/she MUST attain one for the Trial Helper Waiver to be considered.

Since the safety and knowledge of the Helper has not been evaluated under the UScA Helper Program, final approval to allow the Helper to participate in the Event resides with the presiding Judge. If the Helper is approved to participate in the Event, the presiding Judge's Rating and Evaluation of the Helper's work during the Event should be recorded on the Event paperwork. The Helper **MUST** also meet all the requirements of the Helper Program prior to performing helperwork in a future Event.

SECTION 13: TRIAL HELPER RECORD BOOK

The Trial Helper Record Book is a record of Helper participation in Helper Seminars, Helper Evaluations, Trials, and Breed Surveys, and indicates the level of achievement the Helper has obtained through the Helper Program and as a Trial Helper. The Helper Program Director, a Member of the Helper Committee, a Teaching Helper, a Trial Secretary, Judge or Member of the BOI may review the contents of the Trial Helper Record Book. However, the contents may not be discussed with the others without permission of the individual Helper who the Trial Helper Record Book was issued to. Helpers that wish to actively participate in **any** Event where helperwork will be performed **shall** possess a Trial Helper Record Book.

Section 13.1: Trial Helper Record Book Prerequisites

To obtain a Trial Helper Record Book, one must meet the following prerequisites.

- A. Be a current Member of UScA in good standing.
- B. Be a minimum of 18 years of age or have parental or legal guardian consent in the form of a signature in the Helper Book and a signed consent form presented at all UScA events.
- C. Complete a Trial Helper Record Book Application Form.
- D. Sign a Helper Release Form stating that the undersigned understands and acknowledges that Trial helperwork, and helperwork in general, may be physically strenuous and dangerous, and that they are in good health and accept all the risks and liabilities with regard to their own safety and health while performing helperwork at an Event. The Helper Release Form is presented in Appendix E.

Section 13.2: Trial Helper Record Book Obtainment

Trial Helper Record Books are issued by the UScA Office. To request a Trial Helper Record Book, Applicants must meet the prerequisites listed above and submit one (1) copy of each of the following to the UScA Office along with the applicable registration fee.

- A. UScA Membership Card;
- B. Proof of Age;
- C. Completed Trial Helper Record Book Application Form; and
- D. Signed Helper Release Form.

Section 13.3: Trial Helper Record Book Description

The Trial Helper Record Book contains three (3) Sections as described below.

- A. Section I – Name of Helper, UScA Membership Number of Helper, date Book was issued, Name of Issuer of Book and Book Number. Description of the objectives of the Helper Program and the six (6) Classification Levels for Helpers.
- B. Section II – Record of the Helper Seminars that the Helper has participated in.
- C. Section III – Record of the Helper Evaluations that the Helper has participated in.
- D. Section IV – Record of the Events (i.e., Trials and/or Breed Surveys) that the Helper has performed helperwork in, including the type (IPO 1 to 3, IPO 1 to 3, DPO 1 and 2 or SchH A) and quantity of dogs worked.

Section 13.4: Trial Helper Record Book Utilization

The Trial Helper Record Book and a Current UScA Membership Card shall be presented to the Trial Secretary before performing helperwork at any Event, or to the Presiding UScA Teaching Helper before participating in any Helper Seminar or Evaluation. Upon completion of participation in any of the aforementioned, the Trial Secretary or Presiding Teaching Helper, as applicable, will complete the appropriate Sections in the Trial Helper Record Book regarding location, dates, and name of the Event, and the number of dogs worked. **Only** the Helper Program Director and Teaching Helpers may make entries into Sections I and II of the Trial Helper Record Book. **Only** Judges may make entries into Section III. From Section III of the Trial Helper Record Book, the Trial Secretary for any Event shall record, at the location(s) specified on the Trial Paperwork, the Rating and Comments issued by the Judge for the Helper(s) of the Event.

Section 13.5: “Old” Helper Books

Helpers who have been issued an “Old Helper Book” by the UScA Office shall contact the UScA Office and request a new Trial Helper Record Book prior to participating in their Initial Helper Evaluation. During the Helper’s Initial Helper Evaluation, the Helper shall present their “Old Helper Book” to the Presiding Teaching Helper as documentation of attaining the requirements to be evaluated at the requested Classification. Once the Helper has completed their Initial Helper Evaluation, the Helper’s “Old Helper Book” will no longer be accepted at Events and will be marked on the inside front cover with “Obsolete” and signed by the Presiding Teaching Helper. Two (2) years after the effective date of this Program (November 4, 2004), only Trial Helper Record Books, which contain the Classification of the Helper, will be accepted at Events.

SECTION 14: ROLE OF USCA TEACHING HELPER

The primary purpose of a Teaching Helper is to educate and develop Classified Trial Helpers that can properly and safely execute the Protection Exercises performed at an Event.

Section 14.1: Teaching Helper Responsibilities

- A. Teach at Helper Seminars (Section 9) using approved Helper Program Curriculum (Section 8).
- B. Classify Helpers in accordance with Section 10, Helper Evaluation.
- C. Conduct a minimum of one (1) Helper Seminar every two (2) years.
- D. Conduct a minimum of two (2) Helper Evaluations every two (2) years.
- E. File a Report to the Helper Program Director of Official Activities (i.e., Helper Evaluations, Seminars, Apprenticeships, etc.).
- F. Promote camaraderie and sportsmanship.

Section 14.2: Maintaining Teaching Helper Classification

- A. Maintain UScA Membership.
- B. Attend and participate in a minimum of one (1) Helper College every four (4) years and / or participate in or on a UScA Helper event (i.e., Helper selection for events, member of the Helper Committee).
- C. Conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner at all times and adhere to the UScA Code of Ethics.
- D. Shall not advertise their Teaching Helper Classification solely for personal or monetary gain.
- E. Complete the Teaching Helper Responsibilities presented in Section 14.1.

Failure to meet the above requirements will result in reclassification of the Teaching Helper to the Classification that they were last evaluated at prior to applying to become a Teaching Helper.

SECTION 15: APPRENTICE TEACHING HELPER

The purpose of an apprenticeship for Teaching Helpers is to ascertain if the Applicant possesses above-average ability in the areas of leadership and teaching skills and to assist the Applicant with understanding the Role of the Teaching Helper (Section 14) in the Helper Program.

Section 15.1: Apprentice Teaching Helper Prerequisites

- A. Have attained at least Regional Helper Classification. (Note: The Helper Committee may make an exception to this requirement if the Applicant is located in a remote geographical region (e.g., Alaska, Hawaii, Guam) and has showed exceptional abilities in the areas of leadership, teaching skills, and knowledge of Event helperwork).
- B. Met the requirements of Section 12.3, Helper Classification Maintenance.
- C. Have handled, owned and trained at least one dog to IPO 3. (Note: The Helper Committee may make an exception to this requirement if the Applicant is currently training a dog towards that goal and has showed extensive and exceptional abilities in the areas of leadership, teaching skills, and knowledge of Event helperwork).
- D. Be an active Trial Helper and Training Helper in a Local Club.
- E. Be a Member in good standing of UScA for a minimum of three (3) years.
- F. Have attended a minimum of two (2) Helper Seminars within a 2-year period and one (1) Helper College prior to applying to be an Apprentice Teaching Helper. (Note: The Helper Committee

may make an exception to this requirement if the Applicant is located in a remote geographical region (e.g., Alaska, Hawaii, Guam) and has showed exceptional abilities in the areas of leadership, teaching skills, and knowledge of Event helperwork).

Section 15.2: Apprentice Teaching Helper Application

Only those persons who demonstrate high standards of personal conduct, good sportsmanship, a sound mastery of the basics of Schutzhund and Trial helperwork, a willingness to teach people one-to-one and intelligently promote the sport of Schutzhund will be considered. The Applicant shall submit the following items to their Regional Training Director to declare their intentions to become an Apprentice Teaching Helper.

- A. A Letter of Recommendation from the Applicant's Local Club signed by two (2) Club Officers.
- B. Two (2) additional Letters of Recommendation from any two (2) of the following:
 - a. UScA Regional Training Director;
 - b. UScA Judge;
 - c. Member of the UScA Executive Board; or
 - d. UScA Teaching Helper.
- C. A completed Teaching Helper Application (Appendix F), including: copies of the Applicant's Trial Helper Record Book and written proof of meeting the prerequisites listed above.
- D. After review by the Helper Committee, and if accepted for apprenticeship, the Applicant will be placed on the Apprentice Teaching Helper List by the Helper Program Director and is therefore permitted to begin his/her apprenticeship.

The Applicant's Regional Training Director shall acquaint him/her self with the Applicant. The Regional Training Director shall forward all of the above information along with the Applicant's Application to the Helper Program Director within thirty (30) days of receipt of the items. The Helper Program Director shall confirm that the Applicant has met the requirements of Sections 15.1 and 15.2. The Helper Program Director shall distribute the items submitted by the Applicant to the Helper Committee for review. The Helper Committee shall review the items submitted by the Applicant and either approve or disprove the Applicant to be placed on the Apprentice Teaching Helper List. The latter shall be performed within sixty (60) days of receipt of the items by the Helper Program Director. The Helper Program Director shall inform the Applicant and the Applicant's Regional Training Director of the approval or rejection of the Applicant as an Apprentice Teaching Helper within ninety (90) days of receipt of the items by the Regional Training Director.

Section 15.3: Teaching Helper Apprenticeship Process

Once the Helper Committee approves the Teaching Helper Applicant for apprenticeship, the Apprentice shall become familiar with all facets of the Helper Program. The Apprentice shall apprentice with three (3) different Teaching Helpers at a minimum of one (1) Helper Seminar, one (1) Helper College and two (2) Helper Evaluations. The Apprentice Teaching Helper will be encouraged to teach during the Seminars and evaluate during the Evaluations. The Apprentice Teaching Helper shall perform the following activities.

- A. Receive permission from the Presiding Teaching Helper prior to apprenticing at a Helper Seminar or Helper Evaluation.
- B. The Apprentice Teaching Helper must complete the apprenticeship process within two (2) years of their placement on the Apprentice Teaching Helper List.

If the Helper Committee rejects the Teaching Helper Applicant for apprenticeship, the Helper Program Director shall inform the Applicant and the Applicant's Regional Training Director of the reason(s) why the Applicant was rejected. Rejected Applicants shall wait ninety (90) days prior to resubmitting their Teaching Helper Application for reconsideration.

SECTION 16: NATIONAL EVENTS

Helper selection for National Events will be performed using the Pre-Selection Process described below.

Section 16.1: Helper Pre-Selection

Section 16.1.1: Helper Pre-Selection GSD-National Championship and Working Dog Championship

All Helpers that: (i) are a current Member of UScA and in good standing for a period of more than one (1) year at the time of the Event; (ii) have attained Regional, National or Teaching Helper Level Classification; and (iii) have not received an Unsatisfactory Rating from a Judge, are eligible for pre-selection for a National Event. Helpers who meet these requirements should contact the Helper Program Director via email a minimum of four (4) months prior to the Event

stating his/her desire to participate in a forthcoming National Event. The Helper Committee will then review the qualifications of the Helpers and based on the results of the review recommend a slate of Helpers for the Event to the Executive Board for approval approximately three (3) months prior to the Event. Upon approval by the Executive Board, the Helper Committee will contact and confirm the Pre-Selected Helpers for the Event.

Section 16.1.2: Helper Pre-Selection Sieger Show

All Helpers that: (i) are a current Member of UScA and in good standing for a period of more than one (1) year at the time of the Event; (ii) have attained Regional, National or Teaching Helper Level Classification; and (iii) have not received an Unsatisfactory Rating from a Judge, are eligible for pre-selection for a Sieger Show. Helpers who meet these requirements should contact the Helper Program Director via email a minimum of four (4) months prior to the Sieger Show stating his/her desire to participate in the Event. The Helper Committee will then review the qualifications of the Helpers and based on the results of the review recommend a slate of Helpers for the Sieger Show to the Breed Advisory Committee approximately three (3) months prior to the Event. Upon approval by the Breed Advisory Committee, the Helper Committee will then submit the Breed Advisory Committee recommended slate of Helpers for the Sieger Show to the Executive Board for approval approximately two (2) months prior to the Event. Upon approval by the Executive Board, the Helper Committee will contact and confirm the Pre-Selected Helpers for the Sieger Show.

Section 16.2: Helper Quantity and Helper Final Assignment

Section 16.2.1: Helper Quantity and Final Assignment GSD-National Championship and Working Dog Championship

Four (4) Helpers will be pre-selected for the GSD-National Championship and three (3) Helpers will be pre-selected for the Working Dog Championship. Final assignment [i.e., IPO 1, 2 or 3, Front-Half, Back-Half and Alternate(s)] of the Helpers will be performed by a minimum of three (3) Members of the Helper Committee during a Helper Tryout at the Event. The Helper Tryout may not be conducted more than two (2) days prior to the Event. Should the Helper Committee not be able to fulfill this obligation, the Helper Committee may delegate two (2) of the required three (3) positions to people they deem capable of performing this role, such as, a UScA Teaching Helper, Executive Board Member or UScA Judge, excluding the Protection Judge for the Event.

Section 16.2.2: Helper Final Assignment Sieger Show

Two (2) Helpers will be pre-selected for the Sieger Show. Final assignment (i.e., Attack-on-Handler or Attack-on-the-Dog-Out-of-Motion) of the Helpers will be performed by the UScA Director of Judges, or his/her delegate, at the Sieger Show.

Section 16.3: Helper Selection Criteria, Exercises, Form for GSD-National Championship, Working Dog Championship and Sieger Show

Helper selection will be based on the Helper's performance of either the Protection Exercises for IPO 3 or the Attack-on-Handler and Attack-on-the-Dog-Out-of-Motion Exercises as appropriate for the National Event. The Exercises will be performed under simulated trial conditions, including but not limited to: field setup, distances/directions for the Escape or Attack on Handler, Re-Attacks with Drives, Long Attack and direction by the Judge. The Evaluation will consider numerous aspects of the Helper's performance; including, but not limited to the following.

- A. Is the Helper under control at all times?
- B. Does the Helper's performance reflect that the safety of the dog, Judge and him/her self is paramount?
- C. Does the Helper know the Protection Exercises?
- D. Does the Helper take/follow direction from the Protection Judge?
- E. Does the Helper perform equally with a dog that he/she is familiar with and one that he/she is unfamiliar with?

Each tryout is divided into an Initial Evaluation and a Final Selection. During the Initial Evaluation, the Helper may use a dog with which he/she is familiar with. During the Final Selection, the Helper must use a dog with which he/she is unfamiliar with. Helpers **shall** provide a dog for use in the tryout at the GSD-National Championship and Working Dog Championship and the dog shall be made available for use to all participants in the tryout.

The exercises that a Helper will be evaluated on are shown on the Helper Tryout Form presented in Appendix G. The Helper will receive a score for each Exercise that they perform. A score of zero (0) on any Exercise will result in immediate disqualification from the Tryout. No exceptions will be made to these criteria. The front-half and back-half Exercises will be subtotaled separately. The total score (i.e., sum of the subtotals) will be used to identify the four (4) best

Helper performances. The subtotals will then be used to distinguish the two (2) Helpers who perform the front-half or back-half Exercises better and to determine the alternate Helper(s).

Section 16.4: Helper Restrictions

Section 16.4.1: Helper Restrictions for GSD-National Championship and Working Dog Championship

The Helpers pre-selected **shall not** work dogs entered in the GSD-National Championship and Working Dog Championship after the close of entries for the Event and **shall not** derive personal income from being selected as a Helper for the Event. Any violation of these restrictions will be considered unsportsmanlike conduct and will result in suspension of the Helper's Trial Helper Privileges (i.e., Trial Helper Record Book) as described in Section 12.4.

Section 16.4.2: Helper Restrictions for Sieger Show

The Helper Restrictions for the Helpers pre-selected to perform the helperwork in the Sieger Show are presented below for years 2012 and beyond. The Helper Restrictions per year will be posted on the USCA and Sieger Show websites. The Helpers pre-selected **shall not** derive personal income from being selected as a Helper for the Event. Any violation of the below restrictions by the Helpers selected for the Event will be considered unsportsmanlike conduct and will result in suspension of the Helper's Trial Helper Privileges (i.e., Trial Helper Record Book) as described in Section 12.4.

2012 and 2013 Sieger Shows

1. Dogs entered in the Sieger Show can practice on the two (2) Helpers selected for the Event.
2. Practice on the Helpers shall be in accordance with the online practice schedule of one practice slot per dog per Helper for the Event. Enforcement of the practice schedule will be performed at the Event by a member of the Breed Advisory Committee. The practice schedule will be strictly enforced and no makeup times will be allowed.

2014, 2015 and 2016 Sieger Shows

1. Dogs entered in the Sieger Show can practice on one (1) of the Helpers selected for the Event, not both.
2. Practice on the Helpers shall be in accordance with the online practice schedule of one practice slot per dog for the Event. Enforcement of the practice schedule will be performed at the Event by a member of the Breed Advisory Committee. The practice schedule will be strictly enforced and no makeup times will be allowed.

2017 Sieger Show

1. The Helpers pre-selected **shall not** work dogs entered in the Sieger Show after the close of entries for the Event.
2. Dogs entered in the Sieger Show can practice on their own Helper at the Event. Practice shall be in accordance with the online practice schedule of one practice slot per dog for the Event. Enforcement of the practice schedule will be performed at the Event by a member of the Breed Advisory Committee. The practice schedule will be strictly enforced and no makeup times will be allowed.

Section 16.5: Removal from Event

Helperwork performed during at a National Event must be consistent with the Helper Program. If in the opinion of the Helper Committee a Helper is not performing helperwork at a National Event in accordance with the Helper Program, the Helper Committee may remove the Helper from his/her assignment regardless of the Presiding Protection Judge's wishes.

SECTION 17: EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT

Section 17.1: Helper Seminars and Helper Evaluations

Teaching Helpers shall be provided per diem and reimbursement of expenses for Helper Seminars and Helper Evaluations they conduct. The per diem and reimbursement shall be made by the Host Region and/or Club. The per diem rate and reimbursable expenses will be the same as those outlined in the Judges Program. The Host Club for National Events shall provide a stadium pass for each Helper Committee Member in attendance at the Event.

Section 17.2: Expense Reimbursement

Travel and hotel accommodations for the Helpers selected for a National Event will be the responsibility of the Event Host, and shall include: roundtrip transportation (e.g., airfare, rental car, or driving, which shall be reimbursed at the

current year's Federal Mileage Rate), accommodations and meals. The maximum reimbursement amount per Helper is \$750 per Event based on receipts provided [E-Ballot #9-11(Increase Expense Reimbursement for Helpers at USCA National Events)]. The Host Club shall also provide two (2) banquet tickets and a two (2) stadium passes for each Helper for the Event.

SECTION 18: AWARDS

The Helper Committee will acknowledge those USCA Members whose past efforts have played a vital role in building a strong foundation for safe and proper helperwork in USCA. Those Members will be recognized and awarded with the Classification of Teaching Helper Emeritus.

Other individual or group awards on a Regional and/or National Level may be developed by the Helper Committee in the future. The purpose of these awards will be to recognize Helpers who have shown outstanding advancement in and/or service to the Helper Program.

SECTION 19: USCA-GSDCA WUSV QUALIFICATION TRIAL

The Selection Process for USCA Helpers for the USCA-GSDCA WUSV Qualification Trial shall be in accordance with "Qualification Trial protocol for the selection of the USA WUSV World Championship Team_Final", dated January 26, 2011 approved by the USCA Executive Board (EB). Helper selection for the USCA-GSDCA WUSV Qualification Trial will be performed using the Pre-Selection Process described below.

Section 19.1: Helper Pre-Selection

All Helpers that: (i) are a current Member of USCA in good standing for a period of more than one (1) year; (ii) have attained Regional, National or Teaching Helper Level Classification; and (iii) have not received an Unsatisfactory Rating from a Judge, are eligible for pre-selection for a National Event. Helpers who meet these requirements should contact the Helper Program Director via email a minimum of four (4) months prior to the Event stating his/her desire to participate in a forthcoming National Event. The Helper Committee will then review the qualifications of the Helpers and based on the results of the review recommend a Helper(s) to meet the requirements specified in *"Qualification Trial protocol for the selection of the USA WUSV World Championship Team_Final", dated January 26, 2011 approved by the USCA Executive Board (EB)*, which are: (i) a Primary Helper and Alternate Helper in odd-numbered years (e.g., 2011); and (ii) a Primary Helper in even-numbered years (e.g., 2012) for the Event to the Executive Board for approval approximately three (3) months prior to the Event. Upon approval by the Executive Board, the Helper Committee will contact and confirm the Pre-Selected Helpers for the USCA-GSDCA WUSV Qualification Trial.

Section 19.2: Helper Final Assignment

Final assignment (i.e., IPO3 Front-Half or Back-Half) of the Helpers will be performed by the Judges for the Event during a Helper Tryout at the USCA-GSDCA WUSV Qualification Trial. The Helper Tryout will **only** be between the Primary Helper pre-selected by USCA and the Primary Helper pre-selected by GSDCA (i.e., the Alternate Helper **shall not** participate in the Helper Tryout).

Section 19.3: Restrictions

The USCA Helper(s) pre-selected **shall not** work dogs entered in the USCA-GSDCA WUSV Qualification Trial Event after completion of the Helper Tryout and **shall not** derive personal income from being selected as a Helper for a the Event. Any violation of these restrictions will be considered unsportsmanlike conduct and will result in suspension of the Helper's Trial Helper Privileges (i.e., Trial Helper Record Book) as described in Section 12.4.

SECTION 20: AMERICAN WORKIGN DOG FEDERATION (AWDF) CHAMPIONSHIP

All Helpers that: (i) are a current Member of USCA and in good standing for a period of more than one (1) year at the time of the AWDF Championship; (ii) have attained Regional, National or Teaching Helper Level Classification; and (iii) have not received an Unsatisfactory Rating from a Judge, are permitted to submit their Trial Helper Record Book to the AWDF Helper Selection Committee for consideration to perform the helperwork at the AWDF Championship. If a Helper does not meet the pre-requisites presented above, he/she **shall not** submit their Trial Helper Record Book for consideration.

APPENDIX A: HELPER PROGRAM CURRICULUM - TEXT

HELPER PROGRAM CURRICULUM – TEXT

Section I: Helper Regulations

The Helper Regulations that govern Trial Helpers during Events are presented in the latest release of the United Schutzhund Clubs of America Official Rule Book for all Working Dog Evaluations, and are herein by reference.

Section II: Technical Instruction for the Exercise “Prevention of an Escape Attempt by the Helper”

The Helper is called out of the blind by the Handler and moves to a designated position (marked escape position) at a normal pace. This position must allow the Handler to put his dog in a down at the sleeve side of the Helper at a distance of approximately 5 paces. In order for the Handler to position his dog correctly, the direction of the impending escape must be recognizable for the Handler.

Upon a signal from the Judge the Helper makes an escape attempt at a quick and energetic pace in a straight line without running exaggeratedly and out of control. The sleeve itself is not put into motion; the dog should have an optimal opportunity to make the bite. The Helper is not permitted to turn towards the dog during the escape attempt, but he may keep the dog in his field of vision. The Helper may not pull the sleeve away from the dog. Once the dog has gripped the sleeve, the Helper continues to run in a straight line and while moving pulls the sleeve close to his body.

To perform this exercise in accordance with the above-described guideline several technical pieces warrant closer examination.

The Helper's start position is a crucial part of the exercise. In order to perform a fast running start, the foot position of the Helper has to allow him to burst into his escape run without further adjustment. That means the Helper has to be comfortable with the width of his stance, the set up of his feet, and the position of his upper body and arms. There is little time to make adjustments between the start of the escape and the point of impact of the dog. So if the start position is not correct, the exercise will be difficult to perform.

The sleeve may not be set in motion during the escape; therefore its position should be already set in the start position. The sleeve should be at the side of the body; the Helper's hand inside the sleeve should be forward enough that it is in front of the hipbone. The arm should be held at an angle slightly greater than 90 degrees with the elbow behind the hip of the Helper. The bite bar should be angled downwards and slightly backwards so it faces the dog. If the Helper sets his sleeve arm up as if he is attempting to put his hand in his pants pocket it should approximate the correct position.

The speed of the escape determines the level of control the Helper will have during this exercise. Speed and stride length during this exercise causes Helpers the most difficulties. Helpers who run too close to their maximum speed will surely lose balance upon the impact of the dog. Helpers who run too slowly commonly have the dogs knock the sleeve arm forward, which often leads to tripping and loss of balance. Many Helpers also vary the speed by slowing down as the dog grips the sleeve, which either leads to the dog knocking the sleeve ahead of the Helper's body causing tripping and loss of balance, or the dog suddenly drops his weight to stop the Helper causing the Helper to lose his forward direction and his balance. Slowing down to handle the dog's impact is a very natural thing to do, and therefore very common. But it is technically one of the worst things a Helper can do in that exercise.

The Helper should control his speed by bursting into the escape at a pace that still allows him some degree of acceleration during his run without having to go beyond his own limits.

In order for the dog to catch the Helper he has to run faster than the Helper until the moment he grips the sleeve. Therefore, there will always be a moment at which one side of the Helper's body experiences a weight and speed change. Expecting this speed change and being prepared for it allows the Helper to maintain control during the exercise.

The Helper runs quickly but at less than maximum speed, then at the moment the dog grips the sleeve he accelerates slightly to balance out the impact the dog has on his body during the run. This helps maintain speed, direction, and control

over not only his own body but also the additional weight of the dog, which is now attached to the body of the Helper. During this slight acceleration the Helper pulls the sleeve (now with the dog attached) close to his body and ensures that his hand inside the sleeve stays in front and pressed against his own hip. This enables the Helper to use his entire body to hold and move the dog, not only his arm.

Of course running speed cannot be discussed without mentioning stride length. It is natural for Helpers to lengthen their stride when running fast. Yet again, what comes natural is not ideal in the performance of this exercise. The Helper should concentrate on keeping his stride length very short. The legs should move quickly and give the appearance of pumping pistons. This gives the Helper the ability to maintain his balance and move even heavy dogs along without losing control. It also avoids the danger of having the dog's legs get between his own as he runs and tripping.

Throughout the exercise the Helper has to work with power and be in control not only of his own body, but also the dog. Power does not always have to equal strength. Power can come from proper application of technique as well. Helpers who learn how to use their own body to control the dog can exert sufficient power to perform this exercise correctly.

During the portion of the escape when the dog is on the sleeve, the Helper has to ensure that his body alignment is such that the strongest parts of his body are opposing the weight and force of the dog. This means, shoulder and back to lift the dog; midsection and hips to anchor the dog's weight; and the legs to push forward. Each Helper has to learn how to align his body to allow the proper power transfer. It requires that shoulders and hips face the direction of the escape. Turning towards the dog, or taking large strides which turn the hip will not allow that. The weight of the dog is on the shoulder and back. The pulling force of the dog is against the hips. The only motor driving the Helper and the dog forward are his legs. So a slight body lean may be necessary to line legs, hip, back, and shoulder up in such a way as to effectively oppose the dog's efforts.

The escape is the first exercise during which the dog grips the Helper, ensuring proper set up, correct running speed and stride length, and how to properly control the dog with power allows the Helper to perform this exercise safely in accordance with Trial Regulations.

Section III: Technical Instruction for the Exercise "Driving a Dog"

Driving a dog is required during all attack exercises on the dog. These exercises are "Attack on the Dog During the Guarding Phase", "Attack on the Dog out of Motion", and "Attack on the Dog out of the Back Transport". During the exercise "Attack on the Dog During the Guarding Phase" two stick hits are performed, during all other drives the stick is used to threaten the dog. The drive itself is referred to in the Trial rules as the "pressure phase", the term "to drive" in German is "bedrängen", which means pushing, crowding, pressuring. It is important for Helpers to understand what the intent of the action really is.

During all drives the Helper has to place the dog alongside his body and he has to perform the drive in a straight line, and in a manner that allows the Judge to observe the dog, his behavior during the pressure phase, his grip behavior, and the subsequent release and guarding phase. Driving the dog towards the Handler is not permitted.

To perform a drive correctly the Helper has to ensure that his drive has the following elements.

- A. Physical control over the dog.
- B. Physical and psychological pressure and confrontation against the dog.
- C. Sustained threat and dominance against the dog throughout the drive.
- D. Correct use of the soft stick during the drive and especially when placing the stick hits.
- E. Speed while it plays a role is not a required element. The Helper should never give up control, power, and confrontation for speed. It is also not the duty of the Helper to go to extremes to pressure dogs or to use the stick in a manner intended to injure any dog. A drive should be a controlled exercise during which a controlled degree of pressure is exerted over the dog for evaluation purposes.

There are three technical forms of driving. Helpers may have one preferred style and technique but should always be familiar with all three techniques in order to perform their duty correctly with all dogs. The three driving techniques are: (i) the running drive; (ii) the step-skip drive; and (iii) the power-skip drive. The major differences between the drives are footwork and sleeve position.

The Running Drive

The running drive requires the Helper to be able to hold the dog on the sleeve high enough so the sleeve is held approximately across the Helper's chest and close to his body. It is not necessary to lift a dog into that position. The dynamic motion of a catch during an attack or the momentum of the dog during an attack from the guarding phase allows the Helper to bring the sleeve to that level. The Helper should use his shoulder and back muscles to hold the sleeve in that position during the drive. It is very difficult and tiring to try to lift a dog into that position before a drive. So the Helper should learn the technique to place the dog into that position.

The Helper has to maintain a square shoulder position against the dog in order to exert proper confrontation and threat. The body of the dog is placed along the side of the Helper's body opposite to his sleeve arm. The Helper has to take care to control the dog's body enough to keep him from interfering with his leg action.

The Helper's legs move in a running motion as the name implies, however the run has to be performed in such a manner that the steps are kept short, the cross over distance of his thighs is minimal, and that the knee action is high and short like pumping pistons. This will allow more pushing power, more control, and minimize loss of balance and tripping.

The Helper's hips should be facing the same direction as his shoulders to ensure straight power transfer from the legs into the upper body in order to move the dog.

The Helper has to be able to maintain visual contact with the dog not only to know where the dog is at all times, but also to exert psychological pressure on the dog and aim correctly with the stick. The stick and stick arm should always be kept over the head and shoulders of the dog to maintain continuous threat. The only dominance that is exerted against the dog during this drive is the keeping the dog off the ground and some psychological dominance through eye contact.

This drive suits fast, athletic Helpers well as long as they make certain they can provide all the required elements in the drive. Simply running along side a dog, or running while pulling a dog along behind is not correct and does not allow the Judge to assess the dog's behavior under sustained pressure.

The Step-Skip Drive

The step-skip drive gives the Helper slightly more physical control over the dog and allows him to show a great degree of dominance and threat against the dog during the entire performance. The sleeve is held across the body of the Helper near the bottom of his rib cage. Most dogs are not far off the ground. The Helper is slightly bent over the top of the dog exerting threat and dominance against the dog with maximum ability to show the dog the stick. It also allows for great accuracy during stick hits. The sleeve is held close to the body by the Helper's mid-section thereby using the Helper's own weight and momentum against the dog. The weight of the dog is held on the back and shoulders of the Helper. The foot and leg movement during this drive is crucial. The Helper uses the leg on the side he carries the sleeve on as his lead leg and this leg stays in the lead throughout the entire drive. Since the dog is not completely lifted off the ground, the back leg of the Helper has to perform two functions. It lifts the body of the Helper and with it the dog's weight upwards while it propels the body of the Helper and the attached dog forward. The lead leg merely steers the drive and provides stability.

The hip should be slightly turned so the side of the lead leg leads and the side of the back leg is turned slightly backwards. By maintaining this turn of the hip, the Helper ensures that the power generated by the back leg is transferred forwards and upwards in a straight line into the midsection of the Helper, which pushes against the dog. The Helper's legs provide the power and motor to the drive and alignment is very important. If the Helper crosses his legs during this drive and by doing so moves his hip, he will lose a lot of his power and control.

The skipping action is performed in rapid succession creating a powerful and controlled drive. The upper body as described faces the dog and creates threat and dominance against him. The stick should be kept above the dog's head and shoulders so it is visible and threatening to the dog throughout the drive.

This drive allows for very good control and exertion of pressure on the dog. The movements are very controlled and can be performed by any Helper. This drive lacks some of the speed of the running drive and may be difficult with some fast dogs that try to outrun the Helper to escape his pressure.

The Power-Skip Drive

This drive is a power drive and is to be used for dogs that are extremely difficult to drive and control. There is no other way to describe it than to say that the dog is literally pushed along despite all his efforts to stop the Helper. The sleeve position for this drive is very low, directly against the hip of the Helper. The front and lead leg is bent; the back leg has to push in a direct line against the hip that has the sleeve held against it.

The Helper has his upper body over the dog, he has to use his entire upper body to control the weight of the dog from side to side to ensure that the sleeve stays lined up with the lead leg hip. The lead leg has to be set low in a way that allows most of the force generated by the extension of the back leg to be going forward against the hip that has the sleeve against it. With strong powerful forward pushes, the dog is moved one step at a time. This looks much like the lunges of a speed skater, but only one leg is used to do the driving forward.

The stick and stick arm should provide threat directly over the head and shoulders of the dog. Emphasis during this drive is to ensure that the dog despite his efforts to stop the Helper from physically controlling him does not succeed and feels physically controlled by the Helper. Every Helper should learn to perform this drive to ensure that he can pressure even the most difficult dogs with all elements of a drive, including physical control.

Note: Driving a dog is one of the most important functions of a Trial Helper in aiding the Judge in his assessment of the dog. Helpers need to ensure they can drive all dogs safely and have all required elements in each drive. No matter which style of driving a Helper prefers, some dogs will make things difficult for him. Driving is not about speed, appearance, or style; it is about applying the necessary pressure on each dog to allow the Judge to make his evaluation. And in order to do this job effectively, all Helpers should make the effort to familiarize themselves with all three drives.

Section IV: Technical Instruction for Catching a Dog in the Exercise “Attack on the Dog Out of Motion”

After the Helper reaches the centerline, he attacks the Handler and dog frontally, by running directly toward them while trying to chase the dog away through yelling and by making threatening gestures with the soft stick. In order to not reduce the attack speed, the initial running pace should not be too exaggerated. It is better to begin the attack at a more moderate speed and if possible to accelerate somewhat than to begin too fast and out of control and have to slow down. Shortly before the dog is caught the Helper should reduce the length of his strides so that he has the opportunity to position himself optimally for the catch.

The Helper should hold the sleeve at his side up until the moment he offers it during the catch itself. Then he must hold the sleeve in such a way that he provides enough elasticity so that he does not jam the dog. That means the sleeve should be held somewhat away from the body so that the force of the dog can be absorbed slightly by letting it give a bit. The Helper should pay attention that the sleeve is not offered too low to dogs that jump very early and attack high. That way he can avoid flinging the dog upward, which so often leads to spinal injuries.

According to the Trial Regulations the dog should be caught without the Helper coming to a halt. A better description is to say that the Helper should not be coming to a standstill **before** the actual catch. In order to have an optimal opportunity to grip, the dog has to have a target point at which he can aim. That means that the target point should not change for the dog once he leaves the ground. Which in turn means that **at** or **after** the point at which the dog launches the sleeve should no longer be moving. This is only possible if the Helper stands still for a fraction of a second. It is after all physically impossible for a dog to change direction once he has left the ground. The exact point of the catch is defined as follows: the exact point in time at which the dog launches or reaches up to make contact with the sleeve is the moment of the catch. Exactly at this point in time the Helper **must** be standing still for a fraction of a second. Therefore it is also important to take short strides before the catch so the Helper can optimally control his body positioning.

The Helper has to position himself in such a way that he is standing in a forward stepping position. It is very important to pay attention that during a right catch the right leg is set back and the left leg is set forward and during a left catch the left leg is set back and the right leg is set forward. It does not matter whether the Helper wears a right or left sleeve, the leg position has to be adhered to as described above. This leg positioning allows the Helper's body to twist to the right or to the left at the moment of contact in such a way as to catch and intercept the momentum of the dog without losing his balance and without the dog colliding hard into the Helper. The Helper merely lets a twisting motion of his hip with a slight body turn happen, which is caused by the momentum of the dog.

If the sleeve is held in an elastic manner as described above and positioned in a way that the re-direction of the dog's momentum can be steered in a controlled way, then the Helper can catch the dog with the necessary hip twist, place him along his side (in the pocket) and go straight into the drive. What does that look like?

A dog that comes at the Helper without slowing down and then only reaches up to grip the sleeve bumps the Helper during the grip in a way that the slightly turned hip (right or left, set up through the forward stepping position and leg

positioning) twists backwards. This hip twist causes the body of the Helper to turn so that the body axis of the Helper acts like a hinge to steer the momentum of the dog. As soon as the momentum is caught in a way that the Helper can dictate the direction he can take the dog, he places the dog along his side (in the pocket) and goes into the drive.

A dog that jumps very high should be offered a higher target. The catch is performed as above where the dog causes the Helper to twist as he makes contact. However, with the target set higher the Helper gives himself the opportunity to “pull the dog out of the air” and to steer the dog’s momentum downwards as well as twisting with him. Therefore the Helper can direct the momentum of the dog during his twisting motion downwards, set the dog on the ground, and can go straight into the drive out of this catch as well.

This catching technique allows the Helper to attack a dog frontally and to stay on the same path at all times without stepping around the dog, evading the dog, or lessening the attack speed. It also allows the Helper to control the direction of the drive, which is also advantageous for consistent Helperwork.

Section V: Breed Survey and Sieger Show Exercise “Attack on Handler”

The attack on Handler is just that, the Handler not the dog. The Helper should wait out of sight in the blind. Under no circumstances can the Helper attack before the Judge’s command, even if the dog breaks from the Handler out of control for the blind. When called or signaled to attack, the Helper will come out of the blind and attack in the general direction of the Handler with a threatening posture and a high stick. The protective sleeve is to be carried in front of the Helper close to the body. Any additional movement of the sleeve is to be avoided. Once the dog has a grip, the Helper places the dog, out of motion to the side and the pressure phase begins in a straight direction. The Helper must drive all the dogs in the same direction. Therefore, the Judge must position himself/herself in such a manner that it is possible to observe and evaluate how the dog acts while attacking, during the pressure phase, evaluate the grip, the release and the guarding phase. Driving the dog towards the Handler is not permitted. The hits with the soft stick are to be placed on the dog’s shoulders and the area of the withers. The intensity of the stick hits has to be the same for all the dogs. The first hit is applied after 4-5 paces, the second hit after 4-5 more paces during the pressure phase. After the second stick hit additional pressure without stick hits is to be demonstrated. **Note:** If the dog should fail to bite during the attack, the Helper must continue to attack until stopped by command of the Judge. Stopping of this exercise is presented above in Section I, B, h. For additional technical reference regarding this exercise refer to Section III, Driving. For additional technical reference regarding this exercise refer to Section IV, Catching.

APPENDIX B: HELPER PROGRAM CURRICULUM - VIDEO

HELPER PROGRAM CURRICULUM – VIDEO

The Helper Program Curriculum Video is available by download from the UScA Website, or on a DVD from the UScA Office. The Video provides examples of the correct execution of the Protection Exercises contained in the United Schutzhund Clubs of America Official Rule Book for all Working Dog Evaluations. The Video also provides examples of incorrect execution of the Protections Exercises to clearly demonstrate the performance that would receive a Failing Grade during a Helper Evaluation.

APPENDIX C: HELPER SEMINAR AND EVALUATION PARTICIPATION/RESULTS FORM

United Schutzhund Clubs of America - Helper Seminar and Evaluation Participation/Results									
CLUB NAME – DATE OF EVENT									
Teaching Helper(s)									
a)	First Name	b)	Last Name	c)	Current Classification	d)	Cumulative # of Dogs Worked (from Helper Book)		
e)	Home Phone #	f)	Cell Phone #	g)	USA Member #	h)	Membership Exp. Date	i)	Helper Book #
j)	Address			k)	City, State, Zip				
l)	Seminar Attendance (Yes/No)	m)	Classification Sought	n)	Classification Participation (Yes/No)	o)	Meets Minimum Classification Requirements (Yes/No)		
p)	Written Test (Pass/Fail)	q)	Proper Equipment (Pass/Fail)	r)	Accepts Instruction (Pass/Fail)	s)	Safe Work (Pass/Fail)	t)	Under Control (Pass/Fail)
u)	Hold and Bark	v)	Escape	w)	Re-Attack/Drive	x)	Back Transport	y)	Courage Test
Helper No. 1									
a)		b)		c)		d)			
e)		f)		g)		h)		i)	
j)				k)					
l)		m)		n)		o)			
p)		q)		r)		s)		t)	
u)		v)		w)		x)		y)	
Helper No. 2									
a)		b)		c)		d)			
e)		f)		g)		h)		i)	
j)				k)					
l)		m)		n)		o)			
p)		q)		r)		s)		t)	
u)		v)		w)		x)		y)	
Helper No. 3									
a)		b)		c)		d)			
e)		f)		g)		h)		i)	
j)				k)					
l)		m)		n)		o)			
p)		q)		r)		s)		t)	
u)		v)		w)		x)		y)	
Helper No. 4									
a)		b)		c)		d)			
e)		f)		g)		h)		i)	
j)				k)					
l)		m)		n)		o)			
p)		q)		r)		s)		t)	
u)		v)		w)		x)		y)	
Teaching Helper Signature:									
Date Signed:									
Submit completed form to the Helper Program Director within seven (7) days of the completion of the Event.									

GRADES:

Pass – Procedurally correct with the VDH Trial Regulations, is under control while performing the Exercise, takes direction from the Judge while performing the Exercise, and performs the Exercise in a manner that is safe for the dog, Judge and him/her self.

Fail – Not procedurally correct with VDH Trial Regulations (e.g., feeding the dog the sleeve during the escape bite), out or lack of control (e.g., inability to drive dog and place stick hits at proper interval), does not take direction from the Judge while performing the Exercise or unsafe (e.g., endangerment of dog and self) while performing the Exercise or improper presentation of the dog to the Judge.

APPENDIX D: HELPER EVALUATION WRITTEN EXAMINATION

HELPER EVALUATION WRITTEN EXAMINATION

Helper Name: _____

UScA Helper Book #: _____

Date:

Location:

Teaching Helper(s):

Helper Evaluation Written Exam will include twenty or more questions that will be changed periodically by the National Helper Committee.

1. The correct arm to be used during a trial is
 - a. the arm that you have trained with
 - b. an soft arm
 - c. an arm with a bite bar and hard surface
 - d. only a new arm and cover

2. In a trial only helpers that are right handed (sleeve on the left arm) may do helper work.
True False

3. What type of stick or whip may be used in a trial?
 - a. any whip
 - b. a rattan / reed stick
 - c. a soft padded stick
 - d. the helpers choice

4. If the dog does not stay in the blind it is OK for the helper to make slight attraction / noise to help the dog in a trial.
True False

5. When the helper is called out of the blind he/she should
 - a. walk out to the escape position, keeping an eye on the dog
 - b. walk out to the escape position with his back to the dog
 - c. walk out to the escape position and move the arms and stick in a excited manner

6. If the dog attempts to grip the helper somewhere other than the sleeve it is OK for the helper to defend himself using the sleeve
True False

7. On trial day the helper's job is to
 - a. help the handler and dog by providing safe and consistent work
 - b. help the club by working the dogs in the trial
 - c. help the judge, evaluate the dog by providing safe and consistent work

8. A trial helper should always do he/her best to safely and consistently and with good sportsmanship work all dogs in a trial
True False

9. A protection Jacket is required to do helper work in all UScA Trials
True False

10. In what level(s) does the helper run out of the blind for the long grip?

- a. IPO 1 b. IPO 2 c. IPO 3 d. All levels

11. The position for the sleeve in an attack position is the same as the out (lock up) position.
True False
12. The angle of the sleeve arm on the lock up for the out should be approximately 90 degrees.
True False
13. The stick should be in clear sight of the dog at all times.
True False
14. On the escape grip, the helper should:
a. run slow so that all dogs can make the grip
b. run quickly in an effort to escape while giving the dog a clear target for the grip
c. hide the sleeve from the dog's view in an effort to prevent them from gripping
15. During the escape exercise, the sleeve is not to be moved around once the helper starts his escape?
True False
16. During the escape exercise, the helper should make a strong threat by using the stick.
True False
17. On the reattack the helper should lock up in the out position immediately after the second stick hit.
True False
18. During the rear transport the stick and sleeve should be visible to the dog at all times.
True False
19. On the attack of the handler out of the back transport, the helper should turn into the dog with his sleeve side leading the move into the handler and dog's path.
True False
20. The helper does NOT have to follow the handler's instructions during the disarming of the helper?
True False
21. During the "hold and bark" and all the "stopping of exercises", the soft stick is to be held?
a. Up in the air over the dog.
b. Tucked under your arm.
c. Down and across the front of your leg.
d. Downward and invisible to the dog.
22. Where is it permissible to strike the dog with the soft stick while driving the dog?
a. Anywhere you can reach.
b. On the dog's shoulders and in the wither area.
c. Up and down the side of the dog, from shoulders to hips.
d. Anywhere but on the dog's head.
23. During the "escape exercise", the helper is allowed to keep the dog in his/her field of vision, but without turning toward the dog?
True False
24. During the "back transport", the helper is to carry the sleeve and the soft stick?
a. Swinging at the helpers side.
b. Stick and sleeve held down at your side.
c. Sleeve held neutral or in front of the helpers body, without swinging the arm and the stick held out of the dogs sight.

d. Sleeve and stick held across the back of the helpers body.

25. During the “bark and hold” phase, the helper must stay completely still even if the dog circles around behind the helper?

True False

26. When stopping an exercise, the helper should make sure he/she locks up for the out with his/her back towards the judge?

True False

27. According to the trial rules, while the helper is advancing on the dog in the “courage test” it is correct procedure to yell and make threatening motions with the stick?

True False

28. If the dog comes off the sleeve during a drive or the long bite, what should the helper do?

- a. Run the other way.
- b. Continue to pressure the dog, until the judge orders him to stop.
- c. Stop and wait for the judge to give more instructions.
- d. None of the above.

29. Can a handler control the helpers speed during the “back transport”?

True False

30. For the courage test, do you?

- a. Walk out to the center line and then turn and run.
- b. Skip out to the center line and then turn and run.
- c. Walk out with a mask on and then turn and run
- d. None of the above.

31. Should the helper set the dog up to be facing the handlers approach for all of the out and approach exercises?

True False

32. Where do the stick hits occur in the IPO 3 routine?

- a. During the escape and re-attack exercise.
- b. During the re-attack after the escape.
- c. During the re-attack after the first drive of the courage test.
- d. Both B and C.

33. There are 4 total stick hits in the SchH 1 routine?

True False

34. If the second stick hit does not strike the dog hard enough, you can give the dog a third stick hit?

True False

35. If the dog goes behind you during the “bark and hold”, what should you do?

- a. Ask the judge what to do.
- b. You may turn slowly with the dog, without any sudden movements.
- c. You attack the dog and get him back on the sleeve for another out.
- d. Ask the handler what to do to get him the most points.

36. What should the helper do if the dog tries to engage the Judge during the “courage test”?

- a. Do everything you can to get the dog’s attention and intercept (catch) the dog.
- b. Yell to the Judge to look out!
- c. Wait for the judge to tell you what to do.
- d. The dog will stop, so wait for the judge to have the courage test redone.

37. Are there stick hits during the attack on handler (breed survey, Sieger show) exercise?
- Yes
 - No
 - Depends on what the handler wants.
 - None of the above.
38. The handler is allowed to keep his hand on the helper during the “side transport”?
- True False
39. Should the helper move the sleeve around during the “side or back transport”?
- Yes
 - No, unless the Judge specifically instructs him to do so.
 - None of the above.
40. Which direction should the helper come out of the blind during the “attack on handler” exercise as part of a breed survey and the USA Sieger show?
- Around the blind leading with the stick hand.
 - Around the blind leading with the sleeve hand.
 - None, the attack on handler is no longer part of the exercises for the above Events.
 - Straight forward.
41. During the re-attack on the dog, what should the direction of the helper’s attack be in order to properly pressure the dog and to get him into the “pocket”?
- Directly side ways to where the dog is standing.
 - The helper is to attack the dog frontally, by driving the dog forward.
 - Pop the sleeve and jump backwards and wait for the dog to take a bite.
 - Either A or C are correct, it depends on where the dog is located.
42. The helper’s overall job during a trial is to work for?
- The Judge and only the Judge.
 - The handler and the Judge.
 - The helper is on his own and it is up to him to make a dog pass or fail.
 - None of the above.
43. The helper should make sure that the Judge knows how well the dog griped during the protection routine?
- By telling him about every dog.
 - By showing him the sleeve after every dog.
 - Only if the Judge asks the helper his opinion or what happened.
 - None of the above.
44. The helper will determine whether or not the dog in a particular exercise has been taken the correct distance for that particular exercise according to the rulse?
- True False
45. It is permissible to use only one helper in a local trial, regardless of the number of dogs entered?
- True False
46. It is correct trial procedure for the helper to drive the dog back towards the handler?
- True False
47. If the dog comes into the “find blind” and bites the sleeve, it is the helper’s job to?
- Slip the sleeve to the dog for a do over.
 - Hit the dog with the padded stick to get him to stop.
 - The helper may not react with any defensive movements.
 - Go right into a attack on the dog and drive him out of the blind.

48. The Judge determines the duration of the pressure phases?
True False
49. Which sentence describes what happens in the “Attack out of the back transport”?
a. The helper makes a dynamic turn and runs energetically towards the handler.
b. The soft stick is utilized by making threatening movements above the sleeve.
c. The sleeve is to be carried in front of the helper, close to the body.
d. All of the above occur.
50. While catching the dog during the “attack out of the back transport”, is it a correct method of catching the dog to swerve extremely to one side or the other before the dog engages?
True False
51. How long MUST the helper wait before attacking to dog after the Guarding Phase?
a. Attack immediately after the out.
b. 2 seconds
c. 3 seconds
d. 5 seconds
e. None of the above.
52. Which of these is not correct to do during the catch of the dog during the “courage test”?
a. Swerving to one side or the other before the dog engages.
b. Running around the dog before he engages.
c. Offering the sleeve (presenting the sleeve) after the dog engages.
d. All of the above is incorrect.
53. Dogs that do not release during the “out” may not be influenced by the helper through body posture or movement of the soft stick.
True False
54. What is the correct timing of the stick hits during the driving of the dog?
a. Any time the helper feels like hitting the dog.
b. First after 4 to 5 paces and the second after another 4 to 5 more paces.
c. When the Judge tells him to hit the dog.
d. None of the above.
55. The helper is to stop the pressure phase at the instruction of the Judge?
True False
56. Is this a correct statement? The helper must wear for his personal safety, protective pants, protective jacket, sleeve, cup, correct shoes for the type and conditions of the field, and gloves if necessary?
True False
57. Is it correct to say that the helper can determine if he/she should wear a protective jacket?
True False
58. Is it permitted to use a helper that lives in the same household as one of the handlers?
True False
59. During the “escape” the helper must not pull the sleeve away when the dog is attempting to make a grip on the sleeve?
True False
60. During the “re-attack” the helper needs to move?
a. The stick first.

- b. The sleeve first.
- c. His body into the dog first.
- d. Both B and C.

61. During the “back transport” the helper must move at the same pace for all the dogs?

True False

62. Stopping the attack (during the pressure phase) by the helper independently if the dog shows an insufficient ability to cope with pressure, etc. is prohibited?

True False

63. During the “stopping exercises” (lock up for the out) the protection sleeve is should remain in the same position as it was during the previous exercises.

True False

64. During the “stopping exercises” (lock up for the out) the soft stick is to be kept?

- a. Across the helpers leg.
- b. Any where the helper wants to keep it.
- c. Pointing straight down along the helper’s leg or invisible to the dog, behind the helpers leg.
- d. All of the above.

65. During the “escape exercise” the helper may keep the dog in his/ her field of vision, but is not allowed to turn towards the dog with his body.

True False

66. Under the USCA helper program, it is ok to?

- a. Work a trial without a helper book.
- b. Work a national trial if the helper is authorized to work only a club level trial.
- c. Work any trial you wish to, if you are a USA member.
- d. None of the above

67. During the “courage test” it is OK, to smack your protection pants as you are running from the blind towards the center of the field or as you are turning the centerline corner?

True False

68. Is it OK, to make verbal noises while driving the dog?

True False

69. During the Guarding Phase, is the correct position of the sleeve the same as it was during the Release Phase?

True False

70. During the Release Phase, is the correct position of the sleeve the same as it was during the Transition Phase?

True False

71. Is the sleeve to move when going from the Guarding Phase to the Open Phase during a re-attackDuring the Release Phase, is the correct position of the sleeve the same as it was during the Transition Phase?

True False

Helper Classification

Below are the Classifications for Helpers and the associated requirements to attain the Classification are described below. The Classifications must be advanced through sequentially except Teaching Helper, whose requirements are described in detail in Helper Program. Read the below and then sign your Written Examination

Entry Level – The Entry Level Classification is for all Helpers that have been issued a Trial Helper Record Book and do not meet the requirements for the remaining Classifications. Entry Level Helpers shall attain Basic Level Classification before being permitted to participate as a Trial Helper in an Event.

Basic Level – The Basic Level Classification is for Helpers that have attended at least one (1) Helper Seminar, successfully passed the Written Examination and have received a Grade of Pass on all the Exercises during their Helper Evaluation.

Club Level – The Club Level Classification is for Helpers that have met the following requirements.

- Participated in at least one (1) Helper Seminar.
- Received a Grade of Pass on all the Exercises during their Helper Evaluation.
- Performed Trial helperwork in at least:
 - one (1) Club Trial working at least twelve (12) dogs (IPO 1 to 3, IPO 1 to 3, DPO 1 and 2, or SchH A) with a minimum Rating of Good from the Judge; or
 - two (2) Club Trials working at least six (6) dogs (IPO 1 to 3, IPO 1 to 3, DPO 1 and 2, or SchH A) with minimum Ratings of Very Good or Excellent from two (2) different Judges.
-

Regional Level - The Regional Level Classification is for Helpers that have met the following requirements.

- Participated in at least two (2) Helper Seminars.
- Received a Grade of Pass on all the Exercises during their Helper Evaluation.
- Performed Trial helperwork in at least ten (10) Club Trials, or six (6) Club Trials and one (1) Regional IPO Championship, with minimum Ratings of Good from the Judges.
- Worked at least forty (40) dogs (IPO 1 to 3, IPO 1 to 3, DPO 1 and 2, or SchH A) in Trials.

National Level - The National Level Classification is for Helpers that have met the following requirements.

- Participated in at least three (3) Helper Seminars.
- Received a Grade of Pass on all the Exercises during their Helper Evaluation.
- Performed Trial helperwork in at least fifteen (15) Club Trials and two (2) Regional IPO Championship, or twelve (12) Club Trials, one (1) Regional IPO Championship and one (1) National IPO Championship, with minimum Ratings of Good from the Judges.
- Worked at least eighty (80) dogs (IPO 1 to 3, IPO 1 to 3, DPO 1 and 2, or SchH A) in Trials.

Teaching Helper - The Teaching Helper Classification is for Helpers that have met the requirements described in Helper Program.

Note: For the purpose of meeting the requirements described above, SchH 1 through 3 from the “Old Helper Book” (Section 13.5) are equivalent to IPO titles.

Helper Utilization

Helpers who have attained a Classification may perform the duties of a Helper in an Event as presented below.

Helper Utilization Matrix

Event Type	Helper Classification					
	Entry	Basic	Club	Regional	National	Teaching
Club	-	Permitted	Permitted	Permitted	Permitted	Permitted
Regional	-	-	Permitted	Permitted	Permitted	Permitted
National	-	-	-	Permitted	Permitted	Permitted

I have read the foregoing, I understand it, and testify that I meet the requirements for the classification I am requested to be evaluated for.

Name (Please Print)

Date

Signature

UScA Teaching Helper

Signature and Date

<u>Question</u>	<u>Answer</u>	<u>Question</u>	<u>Answer</u>	<u>Question</u>	<u>Answer</u>	<u>Question</u>	<u>Answer</u>
1	C	21	D	41	B	61	T
2	F	22	B	42	A	62	F
3	C	23	T	43	C	63	T
4	F	24	C	44	F	64	C
5	A	25	F	45	F	65	T
6	T	26	F	46	F	66	D
7	C	27	T	47	C	67	F
8	T	28	B	48	T	68	F
9	T	29	F	49	D	69	T
10	D	30	D	50	F	70	T
11	T	31	F	51	D	71	F
12	T	32	D	52	D		
13	F	33	F	53	T		
14	B	34	F	54	B		
15	F	35	B	55	T		
16	F	36	A	56	T		
17	F	37	A	57	F		
18	F	38	F	58	T		
19	T	39	B	59	T		
20	F	40	B	60	A		

APPENDIX E: HELPER RELEASE FORM

**WAIVER
INFORMED CONSENT AND RELEASE FORM**

I wish to participate/view the United Schutzhund Clubs of America Helper Program/Seminar (hereinafter referred to as the “program”) and to use the equipment, facilities and services (hereinafter collectively referred to as the “facilities”) made available by the program. I agree that my participation/viewing of the program and the use of the facilities are and will at all times be at my own risk. I will be responsible for my actions, the actions of any minor(s) under my supervision and for any animal(s) that I choose to handle in the program.

I hereby agree to accept all risks associated with the use of the facilities made available to me as a participant/viewer of the program and that the United Schutzhund Clubs of America, the Helper Committee, Official Teaching Helpers, _____(Region?/Local Club?, etc.) have made no guarantees or representations as to the quality and suitability of the facilities for any purpose. I acknowledge that I will seek medical advice from a doctor regarding my participation/viewing of the program or use of any facilities. I agree to report any signs or symptoms of distress or abnormalities to the United Schutzhund Clubs of America, the Helper Committee, Official Teaching Helpers, _____ (Region/Local Club, etc.) and hereby consent to the administration of any resuscitation measures deemed advisable by such person.

In consideration for my participation/viewing of the program and use of the facilities, I, for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns, do hereby release and forever discharge the United Schutzhund Clubs of America, the Helper Committee, Official Teaching Helpers, _____ (Region/Local Club, etc.) their employees, agents, successors and assigns, from all manner of actions, causes of actions, claims, demands or damages whatsoever which may have arisen or may in the future arise for or by reason of any damage, loss or injury to property or person (including death) which I have sustained or which I may in the future sustain, as a consequence of my participation/viewing of the program or use of the facilities.

I have read the foregoing, and I understand it. Any questions which have arisen or occurred to me have been answered to my satisfaction.

Date

Name (Please Print)

Witness

Signature

APPENDIX F: TEACHING HELPER APPLICATION

UScA TEACHING HELPER APPLICATION

Name:

Address:

Email address:

Phone number:

Region and Club:

UScA Membership:

Other Dog Club Memberships:

Training Experience:

Training Influences (people you have trained with that you credit MOST with teaching you about training and helperwork):

Trial Helper Experience

Local Level:

Regional Level:

National Experience:

Club Training Helper Experience:

Helpers Trained:

Other UScA experience:

Why do I want to be a UScA Teaching Helper?

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

