



**THE UNITED SCHUTZHUND CLUBS OF AMERICA**  
***Working Dog Trial Rulebook***

Version 2.0  
8, 2019



***United Schutzhund Clubs of America (USCA)***

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***USCA Trial  
Rulebook***

***2019 International Utility Dog  
Regulations (IGP)***

***The following information / regulations are for use at all USCA Events effective 1/1/2020  
(USCA version: 2.0) the original content is taken from the FCI Utility Dog Regulations  
effective 1.1.2019 and edited for use in USCA Events***



# **THE UNITED SCHUTZHUND CLUBS OF AMERICA**

## ***Working Dog Trial Rulebook***

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United Schutzhund Clubs of America (USCA) is a full member of the WUSV and promotes maintaining the working heritage of the German Shepherd Dog through the use of Working Dog Trials, Breed Surveys and Shows. USCA promotes the use of humane, approved methods of training and handling all breeds of dog for show and working dog trials.

For more than thirty five years USCA has been the largest German Shepherd Dog and working dog sport organization in the United States. USCA continues to support and provide organized clubs, events, education (Judges Programs, Helper and Track Layer Programs) to its membership hosting club to championship level events for all breeds of working dogs.

Titles awarded at USCA Events are world recognized.

### **Preamble (From FCI)**

For more than 35.000 years, the dog has been the companion of mankind. Through the domestication of the dog, a close social relationship was formed with mankind and is in some respects dependent on him. With this comes a certain responsibility on the part of man to ensure the well-being of the dog.

When it comes to training the physical as well as the psychological health of the dog is top priority. It is imperative then that the dog be handled in a fair, orderly and humane way. This also should include adequate care of the dog through proper nutrition and water as well as maintaining his health which needs to include regular vaccinations and veterinary examinations. In addition to this there is an additional duty to the dog to properly socialize him and to ensure exercise to meets his needs.

During the course of history, the dog has had various jobs to help man. In the modern day world, many of these duties have been relegated to technology. For this reason, the dog owner has the responsibility to ensure that the dog has other activities due to the loss of past jobs as well as adequate exercise and activities that offer close contact to people. Under this point of view the Companion Test – BH - , the versatility test for the utility dog, the tracking test – FH – and the article search test – StPr – need to be factored in. The dog should be occupied according to his abilities and capabilities. Besides adequate exercise, he should have intense work with activities that take into consideration his learning ability, his exercise requirements as well as his other abilities. The various forms of the dog sport provide these excellent venues. Dogs that do not have enough activities act out /stand out and this may lead to problem behaviors and public complaints.

Any person who trains or does sport with his dog, has to undertake a method of careful training with the goal in mind to achieve the best possible harmony between himself and the dog. The goal of all training is to convey to the dog what it is we want him to do in such a way that he can understand. The harmonious relationship between man and his dog, regardless of the dog sport one does, is the basis for all activities. To achieve harmony, it is important to honestly look at your dog and understand his abilities and limitations.

It remains the ethical responsibility of man to raise and adequately train the dog. The applied methods must meet the standards of behavioral sciences, especially in regards to the breed. In order to achieve the upbringing, training or training effect, it is important to use humane / proven methods for the dog that provide a clear understanding of the foundation for learning, testing, proofing and repetition for both training and trials. Furthermore it is imperative to decline the use of techniques that do not utilize the proper training, raising and training aides. Using a dog for dog sport has to be oriented to his capabilities, his competitive spirit and his willingness. Influencing the dogs training capabilities through the use of medication or animal cruelty must always be avoided. One must carefully acknowledge the capabilities of his dog. To demand work of a dog that does not have the capability to do so, contradicts every ethical level of consciousness. Only someone who takes the responsibility to be a true friend to his dog will take a healthy and capable dog to trials, competitions and training.



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### **General abbreviations**

USCA – United Schutzhund Clubs of America

WUSV – World Union of German Shepherds

FCI – Federation Cynologique International

IGP- International Utility Dog trial regulations (International Gebrauchshund Prufung- International Working Test)

USCA – United Schutzhund Clubs of America (LAO National Organization)

Trial Secretary

Trial judge

Basic Position

Trial regulations -

Judge Instruction -

Verbal Command

Helper

Dog Handler

Track Layer

JC – Judges Committee

EB – USCA Executive Board

### **Validity of Rules (Regulations)**

These Regulations are effective from 01.01. 2019. The original regulations were drawn up by the FCI Utility Dogs Commission and were approved and confirmed by the FCI General Committee in February 2018 and accepted for use by the WUSV. The following rulebook is adapted for use in USCA Trials / events.

Effective 1.1.2019 all previous rules lose their validity as they apply to for specific titles.

The original regulations were drawn up and worked out by the Commission in German. These Regulations (IGP) are valid for all FCI members and contract partners.

This version USCA Trial Rules has been edited for use in USCA Events. All edits or corrections do not

alter the fundamental description of any exercise or title. All titles earned at USCA events using this

rulebook are valid and recognized by the WUSV and FCI.

USCA variances are previously approved by the EB or JC some are due to liability or for practical

application at USCA Events, they do not change the fundamental purpose of the exercises or validity

of any title. Please refer to the published USCA Preface / Variances Rulebook (separate) for additional

information. Edits / changes / clarifications in this rulebook differing from the FCI Utility Dog

Regulations are either highlighted or underlined in this text.

This rulebook version is approved for use by USCA effective starting 8/1/2019.

Nathaniel Roque, USCA Director of Judges.

Original IGP rulebook reviewed by the USCA Judges Committee-Vadim Plotsker, Mike Gardner,

Michael Caputo, Gary McGillivray





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### **General information:**

Trial events and competition should serve two purposes.

1. After passing a test, the individual dog should receive recognition/ title awarded for its' particular purpose.
2. Contribute to the overall health, fitness and work ethic of the dog.

The United Schutzhund Clubs of America (USCA) promotes the Working Dog Trials within the United States of America (under International Utility Dogs Regulations, IGP) USCA Club and Championship events will be conducted using this rulebook. International competitions should be conducted under the International Utility Dogs Regulations concept (IGP). All trials and competitions are subject to proper sportsmanship with regard to the conduct of the participants. These regulations are binding. All participants have to meet the same working / performance requirements of an exercise (adjustments may be made for ADA Handlers as long as it does not change the fundamentals of the exercise / test. The same handler and dog for all phases. The trials are to be made public by listing on the USCA website / magazine and minimum 21 day notice of the event with the place and start time to the membership.

Trial events and competitions must correspond with complete trial levels or individual completed phases of the respective trial levels. Only a completed trial level passed in all of its phases in an event will be awarded a title. The titles awarded by USCA must be accepted by all WUSV member organizations and their partners in all countries.

Every trial level can be repeated as many times as wanted. The trial levels must be completed in order (Level 1 – 2 – 3 with exception for TR/FPr, OB/Upr, FH V, FH, FH2). A dog can only be shown in the next level after successfully passing the previous level with a minimum rating of satisfactory in each phase. The dog must be shown in the highest level passed for competitions. Exception, when there is no ranking or qualification “repeater” is connected to the trial. Dogs repeating titles a a lower level may not be awarded higher ranking for awards than a dog earning a title for the first time excluding IGP3, FH,FH2., IGP FH.

### **Trial Season:**

Trials may be conducted year round if weather conditions are conducive and the well-being of both handler and dog are not at risk. Otherwise, the event cannot be held. This is the sole decision made by the trial judge. The individual national organization can impose restrictions regarding the trial season for their area (USCA trial season is year round).

### **Trial Days:**

#### **a) Saturday, Sunday and Holidays**

Trial days are generally on the weekend as well as legal Holidays.

BH/VT tests can also only be done on official trial days.

It is possible to trial for the BH/VT and the IGP-1/IFH-1 tests in tandem with a two day trial (Friday-Saturday), (Saturday-Sunday) at one or 2 different clubs. A waiting time between the BH/VT and IGP-1/IFH-1 does not exist.

Example: Friday Saturday BH, Sunday Saturday IGP-1 or IFH-1

#### **b) Friday Trials**

A Friday trial day may only be in tandem with a Saturday trial.

**Remark:** Friday can only be authorized if more dogs are presented on Saturday than can be accommodated. Start time is not before 12:00 noon on Friday.

A Friday trial in tandem with a Saturday trial secured for IGP/IFH tests must end on Saturday unless there are enough dogs to fill Sunday or meets other USCA variances or authorizations. Individual dogs may also complete their trial on Friday.

**Exception:** If participants, who plan on trialing their dogs for IGP-1 or IFH-1 on Saturday / may start on Friday for the BH/VT and then on Saturday they may test for IGP-1 or IFH-1. This does not cause “overage” in the number of participants. Clubs must follow the event authorization guidelines per USCA authorization.

#### **c) Holiday regulations**

See USCA variances for authorization.



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### **Trial Organization / Trial Secretary:**

The Trial Secretary is responsible to organize the event. He/she finalizes and supervises all required levels of Work (paperwork, fliers, location and equipment) to prepare and conduct a trial. He/she must guarantee the orderly execution of the event and must be at the judge's disposal for the duration of the event.

The Trial Secretary may not show a dog in the trial. He/she is responsible for:

Obtaining all event documents required - the event authorization, necessary event documents (judges' sheets, trial paperwork, scorebooks, helper and tracklayer books if applicable).

Trial equipment (flags, articles, jump, wall, gun, blinds, helper equipment)

Locating suitable tracking fields for all trial levels according to the rules

Make arrangements for approval with the property owners of the tracking fields and venue

Provide a safe suitable trial field for the obedience and protection that meets the minimum size requirements to properly show all exercises (see USCA Preface /variance and guidelines for requirements). Provide experienced volunteers for the event such as classified helpers for protection, tracklayers and group, etc.

A minimum of one week (7days) in advance, the Trial Secretary must inform the judge the location, start times, directions, type of trial and number of dogs entered. Failure to provide this information may result in the judge declining to officiate and the host club responsible for any fees due. The event authorization is to be provided to the judge prior to the start of the trial.

### **Trial Supervision**

The United Schutzhund Clubs of America (USCA) is entitled to supervise its events. USCA may assign a knowledgeable person to oversee an event to ensure that the event is conducted in accordance with the regulations as stated in the 2019 USCA Trial Rulebook.

### **Trial Judges**

Judges, who are authorized to judge a USCA Event are USCA licensed Judges or foreign judges (residing outside USA) that are SV Licensed and/or FCI Licensed from a WUSV member Organization. These may be invited by the host club with approval by the Regional Director and the DOJ.

Regarding National Championships, the judges will be approved by the USCA Executive Board. The number of judges invited for a trial is up to the hosting club up to one judge per phase. Trial judges are not permitted to judge dogs that are owned by him or are in his possession, or dogs whose owners reside with them (spouse / partner) USCA variance for championships allows a person of the same household to enter.

A trial judge is not permitted to handle a dog in a trial in which he is officiating as a judge.

The trial judge is not permitted to disturb or influence the work of the dog through his behavior. The trial judge is responsible for the compliance and correct adherence to the governing rules. He is authorized to terminate the trial for failure of compliance of the rules and/or his instructions. In such cases, the judge must provide a written report to the Judges Committee of USCA or the National Organization if a world championship authorizing the trial.

The trial judge is authorized to disqualify a handler in the event of unsportsmanlike behavior, carrying of motivational articles, non-compliance with the rules, non-compliance with animal rights guidelines, and anything against the local laws. A premature termination of a trial must be documented in the scorebook. In the event of a disqualification all acquired points will not be recognized. The Judge must notify the Director or Assistant Director of Judges of unsportsmanlike behavior.

The judge's decision is final and incontestable. Any form of criticism concerning the decision, can lead to dismissal from the site and eventually lead to disciplinary measures. In justified cases, not based on factual decisions (judges evaluations / scores), rather by clear violations of the rules by the judge a notarized complaint may be submitted within 8 days of the occurrence to the USCA Judges Committee. This complaint must be made in writing, whereby the plaintiff and at least one witness signs it and submits it via the trial secretary of the hosting club or USCA. Filing a complaint does not automatically lead to a dismissal of the judge's decision. The decision concerning a complaint is determined as outlined in the USCA Judges Program/USCA BOI or the EB.



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### **Permission to enter a trial**

On the day of the trial, the dog must have met the minimum age required. No exceptions are permitted. The dog is required to have passed the BH-VT in accordance with the rules set forth by USCA

**Available titles offered by USCA listed below**

**The minimum required age limit for BH/VT in USCA is 15 months.**

	<b><i>Needed</i></b>	<b>Minimum Age</b>
BH-Vt	N/A	15 months
IGP-V	BH-VT	15 Months
IGP-1	BH-VT	18 Months
IGP-2	IGP-1	19 Months
IGP-3	IGP-2	20 Months
IFH-V	BH-VT	15 Months
IFH-1	BH-VT	18 Months
IFH-2	IFH-1	19 Months
IGP-FH	BH-VT	20 Months
F. Pr. 1-3	BH-VT	15 Months
U.Pr. 1-3	BH-VT	15 Months
G.Pr 1-3	BH/VT	15 Months
IAD	BH-VT	16 Months

Additional Titles offered are RH 1-2 internationally recognized by the FCI, WUSV and IRO as well as titles approved specifically for USCA only events and recognized by USCA only (examples AWD,IPO ETC if approved by USCA). Information on these titles are available in separate rulebooks available on the USCA website.

The exercises TR/FPr 1-3 take place according to the IGP 1-3 Rules for Phase A, the exercises OB/UPr 1-3 take place according to the IGP 1-3 Rules for Phase B. The exercises Gpr 1-3 take place according to the IGP 1-3 Obedience and protection Rules for Phase B & C.

The titles TR/FPr, OB/UPr (excluding protection only which is not offered in USCA Trials) can be tested as single phases ( these do not have to be earned in secession they may be awarded in any order , these titles are not an official breeding title or working title. Trials with only a protection phase are not permitted in USCA.

The dog handler can chose in which level (TR/FPr, OB/UPr) he/she will start without a previously passed lower level. Dogs regardless of size breed or heritage may participate in a trial. The dog must be in good physical condition to complete the requirements of the IGP.

Females in heat may participate at all trial events, however, must be shown separately from the other handlers' dogs. In phase A, they will track with the other dogs entered in the trial, but in the remaining phase / phases they will be shown at the end after all other dogs have completed the trial. Females, who are visibly pregnant or who are nursing or who have puppies with them, may not be trialed specifically from the 19th day after the day of breeding. This is valid until they complete the 12th week after the day of the birth, entry between the 8<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> week entry may be possible at the judges' decision in USCA Trials.

Sick or dogs suspected of contagious disease are excluded from all trial events. In case of doubt, the veterinarian will make the final decision. Dogs may not show with braces, bandages, or other signs of injury.

### **Anti-doping and vaccination regulations**

A dog registered by his owner for participation in a competition and placed by him or the dog handler in the trial must be clear of all drugs in his tissues, his body fluids and his excretions on the day of the event to include all substances which are listed on the banned substance list of the FCI or United States standards.

The list of substances, the procedure for the testing for banned substances, and the possible penalties for infringements are published in a corresponding set of rules by the FCI. USCA - United Schutzhund Clubs of America may extend these provisions with their own rules and regulations. All dogs must have a rabies vaccination certificate as well as state, local or national vaccinations as required by the local laws or regulations.



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### Social compatibility

A dog that at any time during the competition (before, during or after his own performance) shows overly aggressive behavior as determined by the judge or USCA Official and reported to the judge. Attacks a person or another dog, tries to bite or attempts to attack will be disqualified from the competition on the judge's decision. All points are withdrawn and the dog is disqualified (DQ), even if the dog has completed all 3 phases. In a two-day event, the disqualification also extends to the second day so that the dog cannot start or continue in the trial. (DQ dog must repeat a BH before entering another trial and a report made to DOJ)

**In cases of dog aggression, immediate disqualification (DQ) occurs. Before the dog may enter another trial, the dog owners / handler have to prove during a trial or at a competition that the team (dog) has again successfully participated in a BH-VT with behavior test. The disqualification shall be entered by the performance judge in all the performance records / score books, pedigree known to him and signed by him. The USCA Dog Aggression Policy will be enforced. The dog will also be reviewed under the USCA Dog Aggression Policy and may have additional sanctions as recommended by the Judges Committee and Executive Board.**

Entry: "Disqualification due to dog aggression, dog must be presented again in a BH-VT with behavioral test."

### Phases per day per Trial level

FPr, UPr	equivalent to 1 phase
GPr 1-3	equivalent to 2 phases
IFH-V / Tracking suitability	equivalent to 1 phase
IFH-1, IFH-2 and IGP-FH	equivalent to 3 phases
Begleithundeprüfung (BH-VT) / Companion examination	equivalent to 2 phases
IGP-Vorprüfung (V) / IGP V- Suitability	equivalent to 2 phases
IGP 1 - 3	equivalent to 3 phases
STp - Stöberprüfungen 1-3 / Article search 1-3	equivalent to 1 phase
AD - Endurance Test	equivalent to 1 phase
AWD – American Working Dog Titles	equivalent to 3 phases
IPO – for USCA only Breed program	equivalent to 3 phases

For Championships (Regionals, Nationals, WDC) scheduled by USCA (the National Organization), special regulations are established i.e. increased phases per day per judge, scheduled days of the event etc.

### Trial Participants

The trial participant must meet the entry deadline for the event. The participant also agrees to pay the entry fee on submission of the entry form. If the participant cannot participate for whatever reason, he/she must advise the Trial Secretary immediately. The participant is required to provide the vaccination certificate and uphold the animal rights guidelines if requested by the host club. The participant must adhere to the instructions of the judge as well as the Trial Secretary. The handler must present his/her dog in a sportsmanlike manner regardless of the results in any given phase; he/she is obliged to continue for the remaining phases of the event unless receiving a DQ. The trial ends with the results (awards ceremony) and the return of the scorebook.

The same dog handler must handle the dog in all phases of the trial. A two-day trial is considered to be one event / trial. A dog handler may enter a maximum of three (3) dogs for a club trial and two (2) for a championship event. A dog may only acquire one working title within an event (FPr / UPr are not working titles and may be done in the same trial). Exception: BH / VT in conjunction with another level 1 title (done on separate days). Prerequisite for entering a trial is that owner and dog handler belong to a club / organization that is recognized by USCA (WUSV or others as approved). Exceptions to this can be determined by USCA.

### Physically challenged handler (handicapped)

If a dog handler cannot carry out part of an exercise correctly due to a physical handicap, he must inform the performance judge before the start of the trial. If due to a physical handicap the dog handler cannot present the dog on the left side of the dog handler, the dog may be presented in the same way on the right side. USCA may also add further restrictions for the safety of the trial but at all times will support the ADA as long as it allows the handler/dog team to complete exercises safely as a team. The handler must be present with the dog in all phases entered, giving commands and showing the fundamentals of the exercise or phase. There must be a person (assistant) present on the trial field with a leash to accept the responsibility to leash and control the dog.



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### **Collar requirement / Carrying a leash**

The single row, loose fitting large link collar (fur saver, full size links and minimum 1.5") must be worn throughout the trial. The BH / VT allows the use of other types of collars to include leather collar, fabric collar or chest harness. For the tracking phase, a dog may wear a tracking harness or a vest in addition to the required loose fitting large link collar.

A leash must be carried for the duration of the trial (ADA -in the situation of a handicapped handler an assistant must be on the field with a leash and accept the responsibility to leash and control the dog if the handler cannot do so). It may be out of sight or worn by the handler over the shoulder or around the waist with the clip on the side opposite to the dog's working side.

### **Muzzle obligation**

**This is not allowed in USCA event, all dogs must be able to be shown without a muzzle.**

### **Liability**

The owner of the dog is liable for any personal injury or material damage caused by his/her dog. Therefore, he/she must have adequate insurance coverage for such cases. In the event of an accident during the trial, the handler is liable for himself / herself and his / her dog. The handler is to follow the instructions of the judge and the organizing club and takes responsibility for their actions showing their dog at his/her own risk.

### **Vaccinations**

Proof of vaccinations as performed by a certified authority (vaccination certificate) if requested by the host club in advance (during entry process) must be presented to the trial secretary or judge.

### **Awards Ceremony / trophies**

Award ceremonies are to be held separately for the various trial phases.

If the same number of points are awarded to more dogs in the IGP level 1 -3 the result (highest score) of the phase C is the deciding factor. If the points awarded here are the same, then phase B is the deciding factor. If points result equally for all three phases, then all dogs receive the same rating but the younger dog is placed ahead of the older dog for placement awards. If the same number of points are awarded to more dogs in the IGP-FH, the result (highest score) in the single track is the deciding factor. If the points awarded in both tracks are the same, then all dogs receive the same rating. Generally, all participants are to be present at the awards ceremony (it is a example of good sportsmanship to remain to the end of the trial unless special circumstances arise). The trial ends officially with the award ceremony and handing out of the scorebooks.

### **Working Title**

USCA has specific Award programs available such as IGP3 Club, Working Title, Sports Medals ect. See USCA website for more information. All USCA awards must be earned at USCA Events under USCA authorized judges and it is the members responsibility to record their titles and maintain scorebooks

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INTENTIONALLY

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### **Scorebook**

It is mandatory that every trial is recorded in the scorebook or in the pedigree. Issuing of the scorebook is done according to the instructions of the owners National Organization (national club) only 1 scorebook issued per dog is allowed. The trial results must be recorded in the scorebook under all circumstances by the Judge as well as the Trial Secretary, who is to double check the entry and sign, the scorebook/ pedigree. It is required to complete all USCA trial paperwork and scorebooks. .

### **TSB Evaluation – Phase “C” (valid for all trial levels)**

The TSB evaluation should describe the temperament characteristics of the dog for breeding purposes. The TSB not influence the final result of the trial or a placing. To achieve a TSB evaluation, the dog must have completed at least one gripping (fighting) exercise.

The ratings pronounced (a), present (vh) and insufficient (ng), the following characteristics are described: **Drive, self-confidence and stress-tolerance.**

#### **TSB – “pronounced”**

Is given to a dog that displays a strong willingness to work, clear instinctive behavior, goal-oriented determination in the exercises, self-confident manner, unrestricted attention and exceptional ability to handle stress.

#### **TSB – “sufficient”**

Is given to a dog that is restricted in his willingness to work, the instinctive behavior, in self-confidence, his attention and stress tolerance.

#### **TSB – “insufficient”**

Is given to a dog that lacks a willingness to work, lacking instinctive behavior, lacks self-confidence and insufficient stress-tolerance.

### **Commands**

The Commands in the examination regulations are considered suggestions. Commands are given as normal spoken words and must always be the same for the same behavior. All exercises (behaviors) must begin with a command with the exception of defense exercises in the protection phase where the dog reacts to the helpers' threat. When recalling the dog, the name of the dog can be used instead of the command to recall. During the blind search, the name of the dog can be mentioned in addition to the recall command. Otherwise, the name of the dog in conjunction with any other command is considered a double command.

USCA allows any language to be used but all commands must remain consistent for the same behavior of the dog.

**The start of all exercises must be with the judges signal, failure to follow the judges instruction or start without approval may result in deductions / faults.**

### **International Rules / Special rules**

The national organizations of the FCI / WUSV are authorized to enhance their general regulations, USCA variances e.g. entry requirements, veterinarian, animal rights, medical regulations or any rules governed through the country. Commands may be given in the country's language as outlined in this rulebook.

### **The precursor to the IGP (IGP - V) may be used:**

1. For sporting purposes in USCA, this is not a breed suitability title (it is not required in USCA trials to complete a IGP V prior to entering for IGP 1)
2. Each country's organization can decide whether the IGP-V is required as a prerequisite to enter for IGP-1



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### **World Championships**

The Specifications for the organization of the various championships of the FCI / WUSV are valid. The publishing and revision of said specifications are the duty of the Utility Dogs Commission or WUSV.

### **Disciplinary rights**

The Trial Secretary is responsible to guarantee order and the safety in the entire trial area.

The judge is authorized to terminate the trial if the order and safety is compromised in any way. Violations by the handler against the trial rules, against the animal rights laws will lead to a termination or disqualification. The trial judge's assessments of the performance are final and may not be contested. Public criticism of a judge's evaluation may result in dismissal (DQ) from the trial grounds and further disciplinary action may follow. Justifiable objections may be made in cases where the judge has violated the trial regulations or behavior but not against his points, evaluations / ratings or assessments. Any such objections must be made in writing, notarized and addressed to the USCA Judges Committee, and signed by the complainant. Objections must be filed within 8 days of the close of the trial. Acceptance of an objection does not imply that the judge's decision / evaluation / assessment will be revised this is to include Termination or DQ. Video recordings for evidential purposes are not permitted. The provisions of the disciplinary regulations of USCA are enforced.

### **Disqualification**

All points awarded up to that point of disqualification (DQ) will be deleted. No points or ratings will be entered into the scorebook. There will not be an evaluation. It is not permitted to show the dog in the other phases. In the scorebook the reason for the disqualification has to be written by the judge.

Addition information on Disqualification (DQ) is available in the USCA variances and trial information section

<b>Common Reasons for disqualification (not all)</b>	<b>Consequence</b>
<p>Dog picks up or eats the article on the track and will not or cannot release it</p> <p>Dog chases game and will not track anymore</p> <p>The dog leaves the working field and/ or does not return after three commands to the handler at the judges discretion (USCA)</p> <p>The dog is not under control of the handler (e.g., side / back transport); The dog does not become under control after three commands HZ (one allowed and two additional HZ) or only by active action of the Handler</p> <p>The dog bites (not bumps) the helper anywhere on the helper's body other than the protective sleeve provided for the grip.</p> <p>Dog is in defense targeting another person (Judge, Steward etc.) than the helper.</p>	<p>Disqualification for disobedience</p>
<p>The dog is not neutral during the impartiality check (aggressive, unstable)</p>	<p>Disqualification due to lack of impartiality</p>





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Unsportsmanlike behavior of the Handler HF (for example, use of motivation objects and / or food)	Disqualification for unsportsmanlike behavior
Act against the IGP, animal protection or contrary to good manners. Suspected attempt of fraudulent intent by use of prohibited training aids	Disqualification for unsportsmanlike behavior

**Additional information available in  
the USCA Preface Rulebook on  
Common Reasons for Disqualification  
(DQ) and Termination**

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### Termination

In the case of a termination, all points awarded up to then are awarded, also the points of the phases that have been completed. The points reached up to the point of termination are entered in the scorebook. If the dog is terminated in phase C, phase C is to be evaluated with 0 points, the points reached in sections A and B are retained. Additional termination information is available in USCA Variances and trial information section.

### Reasons for termination (common but not all)

Dog is started on the track 3 x unsuccessfully in the scent pad or stops working

Dog leaves track by more than one leash length or Handler (HF) disregards the Judge's (LR's) instruction to follow the dog

Dog is not at the end of the track in the given time.

Hold and Bark dog leaves the helper before the Judge instructs the Handler to leave the center line and does not return to helper with one command or leaves helper again.

Dog fails in defense exercise.

Dog leaves the helper before the handler picks up the dog in any guarding exercise and / or the dog handler gives a command to make the dog remain (stay) with the helper

The dog does not find the helper after three unsuccessful commands to direct the dog to the find blind.

### Termination due to illness/injury

If a dog presented for a trial is sick, this is to be handled in the following manner:

If the handler reports in after having completed a phase with a sick dog, he is to go to the vet and obtain a certificate or get approval from the judge. Entry in the trial documentation "Terminated due to illness". If the judge does not agree that the dog is injured / sick and the handler refuses to go to the vet, then the entry is to be shown as: "Insufficient due to termination". The certification may be sent retro-actively. If the handler does not submit this certificate within 4 days, the judge entry in the scorebook remains as "Insufficient due to termination". The scorebook will be returned to the handler. If the handler refuses to leave the scorebook with the judge, then the entry "Insufficient due to termination" will be immediately recorded. The handler (HF) is responsible for any costs in connection with the return of his scorebook. Remark: the judge can decide to terminate if he / she determines that the dog is appearing sick or injured. The same applies to older dogs that due to animal rights laws may not be able to continue due to fitness. Entry in scorebook: "Termination due to injury". In USCA Events regarding all requests to Terminate due to injury the judge has the right to ask the handler to see the dog even in the case where the handler requests to obtain a veterinarian certificate in lieu of the judges' decision (this may be due to the handler attempting to pull with a healthy dog using injury / sickness as an excuse in an unsportsmanlike manner).

### Temperament Evaluation

The temperament / behavioral evaluation are to be conducted throughout the duration of the trial including the awards ceremony. If a dog stands out with a temperament problem, then it cannot pass for this reason even though results up to that point in the trial were passing or positive. If a dog fails the temperament test it is to be noted in the records. The dog is disqualified (DQ) Temperament / Behavior.

1. The temperament / behavioral evaluation takes place prior to each trial.
2. The evaluation is to be conducted in a neutral place. In the selection of the place, there should be no close connection to the trial or tracking fields.
3. Every dog is to be evaluated independently.
4. The time-frame should be such that the dog is not immediately to start tracking or go on the trial field.
5. The dogs are to be on leash (short leash / dead ring – without tracking harness, etc.). The leash is to be held loose. The dog must be led under control.



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### Following rules are to be adhered to during the evaluation:

A systematic evaluation is not permitted, it is up to the judge to determine the way it is to be conducted, there are not to be extreme variations in the evaluation and the less a judge tries to make a point, the smoother and safer the test will run. The evaluation is to be done in a normal everyday setting, the dog is not to be challenged, as otherwise it would invoke a natural reaction, and unnatural stimuli are to be avoided. The identity control is a mandatory part of the temperament test. The temperament test does not only take place at the beginning of the trial, but also during the entire event. If the judge determines a temperament weakness, he has to test it exactly (e.g. gun test). Repetitions are permitted to make a determination.

The BH / VT test does not have the gun shots test. A BH / VT test dog is not allowed to be paired with dogs from the IGP levels because of the gun shots. The BH / VT are paired together as a group. (BH / no gun shots)

### **Results of the temperament test**

#### **Positive presentation = passed**

- Dog is self-confident
- Dog is calm, secure and attentive
- Dog is lively and attentive
- Dog is impartial and good-natured

#### **Borderline = requires special attention**

- Dog is unsteady but not aggressive and is balanced throughout the trial
- Slightly agitated, but gets calmer throughout the trial

#### **Dogs that may not participate in the trial:**

- Insecure and frightened, move away from a person
- Nervous, aggressive, dogs sounding an alarm, fear biters.
- Biting dogs

### **Conducting the identity check**

The identity control is a mandatory part of the test. This can be done by either checking the tattoo number or using a chip reader for a microchipped dog. Dogs that do not have a pedigree or a tattoo number, must be microchipped. The judges must note in their records that the identity check was carried out.

If tattoo numbers are not easily recognizable, those numbers that are need to be recorded. The tattoo number must coincide with the one entered on the pedigree. If difficulties arise (e.g. unable to read a number), then a remark must be made in the trial paperwork and scorebook.

If chip numbers are not identified through the chip reader, then a remark must be recorded. The dog may compete if it is possible to determine that the dog was correctly chipped in that country (e.g. a corresponding remark is noted in the Registration, Passport or health certificate).

Handlers that had their dogs microchipped in a foreign country, or who have purchased a dog from another country, are responsible that the appropriate microchip reader is made available. Dogs that cannot be definitively identified may not participate in a trial / event.

Positive identification must be made in order for a dog to be entered into a trial. *The Judge, trial Secretary, Handler or designated person by the judge may identify the dogs using the chip reader. At all times the judge must be evaluating the dogs behavior to the identity test. In USCA Club event if an ID cannot be identified at the start of a club trial then with the judge's decision he/she may allow the dog to start the trial as long as identification can be obtained before the end of the trial (dog is taken to a vet etc). if the dog is not able to be identified by the end of the trial an entry will be entered as a pull and no scores or ratings will be entered into the score book, entry fees are still required to be paid.*

### **Dogs that do not show gun-sureness**

What is the understanding of the term "gun-shy?"

Examples: The dog gets up and shows fear and runs away  
The dog shows a fear reaction.

- Runs under the same manner to his handler
- Shows panic and fear and tries to leave the area or leaves it
- Shows panic and fear and runs wildly around



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During the evaluation, it must be determined if the behavior is due to a training fault or if its getting up is not related to the gun shot.

In dubious cases, the judge is responsible to determine if it is gun sensitivity by having the handler put the dog on leash. From a distance of about 15 paces, the judge will request additional shots be fired while the dog is held on a loose leash.

### **Evaluation**

The evaluation of the performance is noted with ratings (qualification) and points. The rating (qualification) and the corresponding points must reflect the quality of the respective exercise.

### **Point table**

Highest points	Excellent	Very good	Good	Satisfactory	Insufficient
5	5.0	4.5	4.0	3.5	3.0 – 0
10	10.0	9.5 - 9.0	8.5 - 8.0	7.5 - 7.0	6.5 – 0
15	15.0 - 14.5	14.0 - 13.5	13.0 - 12.0	11.5 - 10.5	10.0 – 0
20	20.0 - 19.5	19.0 – 18.0	17.5 – 16.0	15.5 – 14.0	13.5 – 0
30	30.0 – 29.0	28.5 – 27.0	26.5 -24.0	23.5 – 21.0	20.5 – 0
35	35.0 – 33.0	32.5 – 31.5	31.5- 28.0	27.5 – 24.5	24.0 – 0
60	60.0 – 58.0	57.5 – 54.0	53.5 – 48.0	47.5 – 42.0	41.5 – 0
70	70.0 – 66.5	66.0 – 63.0	62.5 – 56.0	55.5 – 49.0	48.5 – 0
80	80.0 – 76.0	75.5 -72.0	71.5 – 64.0	63.5 – 56.0	55.5 – 0
100	100 – 96.0	95.5 – 90.0	89.5 – 80.0	79.5 – 70.0	69.5 – 0
200	200-192	191 -180	179 - 160	159 - 140	139 - 0
300	300 -286	285 -270	269 -240	239 -210	209 -0

### **Calculation of percentage**

Evaluation	Awarded percentage	Deduction
Excellent	= at least 96 %	or up to minus 4 %
Very Good	= 90 to 95 %	or minus 5 to 10 %
Good	= 80 to 89 %	or minus 11 to 20 %
Satisfactory	= 70 to 79 %	or minus 21 to 30 %
Insufficient	= 69 % or below	or minus 31 to 100 %

### **Point table - Individual tests**

During the evaluation of a particular phase only full points are to be awarded. However with individual exercises, partial half points can be used for evaluation. For final results if points are awarded with partial levels, then they can be either rounded up or down based on the judges' evaluation in the rating category. In USCA Judges program only full points are awarded.

A passing score is a minimum of 70% of the maximum possible score.



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### **Helper Regulations**

- A) Pre-requisites for employment as a helper in Phase “C” ALL HELPERS FOR USCA EVENTS MUST BE CLASSIFIED IN THE USCA HELPER PROGRAM, REFER TO USA HELPER PROGRAM FOR MORE SPECIFICS**
1. The guidelines and regulations of the trial rules regarding help work must be followed.
  2. The helper in phase “C” is the assistant to the judge on the day of the trial.
  3. In view of his personal protection as well as due to insurance liability, the helper, whether in training or on a given trial day or competitions, must wear protective clothing, (protection pants, protection jacket, sleeve, cup, and if necessary gloves).
  4. The helper’s shoes must be weather-proof and suitable for the ground conditions, secure stance and ensure good traction.
  5. Prior to the trial work in phase “C”, the helper receives instructions from the judge. He must perform the work in accordance to the judge’s instructions.
  6. The helper (HL) must follow the instructions of the handler during disarming of the helper in accordance with the trial rules. He must give the handler the opportunity to position his dog in the correct heel position for the side/back transport.
  7. The handler may work with the helper at club trials. If there are more than 6 dogs, then 2 helpers are required. For trials at a National level, such as competitions, qualification trials, championships, generally 2 helpers are mandatory. For all or any of these trials, a helper living in the same household as one of the handlers may participate.

### **B) Regulations governing the conduct of trial helpers**

#### **1. General**

During a trial the level of training, the quality of the dog being presented (e.g. his drives, stress-level, self-confidence and obedience) should be evaluated by the judge. The judge can objectively evaluate what he/she visually and acoustically observes during the course of the trial.

This aspect, particularly maintaining the sportsmanlike character of the trial (i.e. this means offering the same conditions for all participants) ensures that the helper offers the judge a broad impartial picture to judge.

Therefore, it cannot be left up to the helper how the phase “C” work is to be structured. The helper must follow definitive as defined by the USCA Helper Program and the judge.

The judge must check that the individual elements of the most important evaluation criteria for phase “C” are met. For example, these are, stress-level, self-confidence, drives, obedience. In addition it is important that the grip quality of the presented dog is properly evaluated. For the judge to properly evaluate the grip, the helper must give the dog the opportunity to have a “full grip”, and when the stress-level is to be tested, the helper must be able to put proper pressure on the dog. The helper must strive to have the most uniform level of helper work, so that the requirements of the evaluation are met.

#### **2. “Bark and Hold”**

The helper stance (position) standing – he should not be visible to the dog and handler – with a slightly angulated sleeve position motionless and without a threatening body position in the designated blind. The sleeve acts as body protection. At the hold and bark, the dog is to watch the helper, any motivation (help) on the part of the helper is not allowed. “The soft stick is held at the helper’s side in a non-threatening position in all guarding phases”.

#### **3. “Prevention of an attempted escape of the helper”**

After the hold and bark exercise, the handler calls the helper out of the blind, who is to exit in a normal pace and places himself/herself at the designated spot as assigned by the judge (marked spot). The position of the helper must ensure that the handler can place his dog at a distance of 5 paces on the side where the helper’s protection sleeve is at the helper’s designated spot. The flight path must be clearly recognizable for the handler.

Under the direction of the judge, the helper escapes in a quick and assertive pace in a straight line, without running an uncontrolled or exaggerated manner. The sleeve must remain steady and the dog should be given an optimal grip possibility. The helper may not turn to face the dog at any time, but can keep the dog in his/her field of vision. The helper must refrain from pulling the sleeve away. Once the dog has gripped, the helper continues to run in a straight direction, and while running pulls the sleeve in tight to his/her body.



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The judge determines how far the helper needs to escape. Under the direction of the judge, the helper terminates the escape. When the corresponding dynamic work of the helper is carried out, it provides the judge with the optimal opportunity to evaluate the performance. Any type of helper assistance in the way of , excessive offering the sleeve before the grip, verbal agitation, or hitting the soft stick against his pants before or during the escape, limply held sleeve position, reducing the speed of the escape independent termination of the escape, etc., are not permitted. Stopping the exercise – see point 8 (valid for all exercises)

#### **4. “Defense against an attack during the guarding phase”**

After the guarding phase, the helper makes an attack on the dog at the instructions of the judge. The soft stick is used in a threatening motion above the sleeve without hitting the dog. At the same moment, the dog grips in a frontal and forward movement with corresponding resistance / pressure, without the sleeve being moved to attract the dog. The protection sleeve will be carried tight and in front of the body with the bite bar available to ensure that the dog may get a opportunity for a correct grip. Once the dog has gripped, he is to be placed out of motion to the side and the pressure phase begins in a straight direction (drive). Turning / spinning at the start of the attack in this exercise is not permitted. The helper must drive all dogs in the same direction. It is important that the judge must place himself/herself in such a position so as to observe and evaluate the behavior of the dog during the attack, the pressure phase, the grip behavior, the out and the guarding phase. Driving the dog to the handler is not permitted.

The stick hit pressure tests are to be placed on the shoulder and in the area of the withers. The stick hits are to be executed with the same intensity for all dogs. The first stick hit test is performed after approximate 4 – 5 paces, the second stick hit test after an additional 4 – 5 paces during the pressure phase. After the second stick hit test, additional pressure is demonstrated without stick hits.

The duration of the pressure phase is determined by the judge. Under the direction of the judge, the helper terminates the pressure phase. When the pressure /drive of the helper is carried out, it provides the judge with the optimal opportunity to evaluate the dog’s performance, drive and temperament. Any assistance (help) given by the helper in the way of offering / attracting the dog the sleeve before the grip, verbal agitation, or hitting the soft stick against his pants before or during the escape, limply held sleeve position after the grip during the pressure phase, inconsistent intensity during the pressure phase and at the stick hits, independent termination by the helper when weakness is determined in the dog etc., are not permitted.

Termination of the exercise – see point 9

#### **5. “Back transport (Trial levels IGP 2 + IGP 3)”**

On instructions from the judge, the helper demonstrates a back transport over a distance of approximately 30 paces at a normal walking pace. The judge determines the course of the transport. The helper may not make any sudden moves during the transport. The soft stick and the sleeve are to be carried in such a way that it does not stimulate the dog (out of sight in front of the helper). The helper is to move at the same normal walking pace for every dog.

#### **6. “Back Transport (trial level IGP 2)”**

At the order of the judge, the helper stops after approx. 30 paces. The dog handler without stopping goes to the helper and takes the Soft stick. The dog has to sit in the basic position, the sit command must be given when the handler is next to the dog in basic position. Then a side transport to the judge takes place.

#### **7. “Attack on the dog out of the back transport (Trial level IGP 3)”**

The attack out of the back transport is performed out of motion and under the direction of the judge. The helper performs the attack by making a dynamic left or right turn and running with purpose, presence and threat towards the dog. The soft stick is to be held above the sleeve and swung in a threatening motion. The dog has to be intercepted (caught) with a flexible position of the protection sleeve, to allow the helper to safely catch the dog without the need to come to a complete halt as long as the helper has the appropriate skill. Upon intercepting (catching) the dog, the helper should – if possible – turn in order to catch the dog to absorb the dogs momentum and flow with his body movement. Additional movement of the sleeve is to be avoided. Once the dog grips, the helper places the dog out of motion to the side and the pressure phase is conducted in a straight direction. The helper must drive all dogs in the same direction. It is important that the judge must place himself/herself in such a



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position so as to observe and evaluate the behavior of the dog during the attack, the pressure phase, the grip behavior, the out and the guarding phase. Driving the dog to the handler is not permitted.

The duration of the pressure phase is determined by the judge. Under the direction of the judge, the helper terminates the pressure phase. When the corresponding dynamic work (drive) of the helper is carried out, it provides the judge with the optimal opportunity to evaluate the performance. Any assistance given by the helper in the way of offering any assistance in the way of, offering the sleeve before the grip, verbal agitation, or hitting the soft stick against his pants before or during the escape, limply held sleeve position after the grip during the pressure phase, inconsistent intensity during the pressure phase and at the stick hits, independent termination by the helper when weakness is noticed in the dog etc., are not permitted. Termination of the exercise

– see point 9

### **8. “Attack on the dog out of motion”**

IGP-1: 30 meter, IGP-2: 40 meter, IGP-3: 50 meter

In IGP-1 and IGP-2, the helper remains where the 1st part was terminated. The dog handler is instructed to take the dog's starting point for this exercise (if for safety reasons the judge may move the helper to a different position on the field- more centerline)

In IGP-3, under the direction of the judge , the helper leaves the assigned blind and moves at a running pace to the centerline without breaking stride and with threatening verbal and gestures attacks the dog and handler with a frontal attack with the soft stick.

The dog must be intercepted with the helper not stopping and presenting an approved trial sleeve. Upon intercepting the dog, the body should – if possible – turn in order to catch the dog and absorb the dogs flow to maintain the momentum. The helper may not in any way run around (side step) the dog. Once the dog grips, the helper places the dog out of motion to the side and the pressure phase is conducted in a straight direction. It is imperative to avoid overrunning (tripping over) the dog. The helper has to drive all dogs in the same direction. It is important that the judge must place himself/herself in such a position so as to observe and evaluate the behavior of the dog during the attack, the pressure phase, the grip behavior, the out and the guarding phase. Driving the dog back towards the handler is not permitted.

The duration of the pressure phase is determined by the judge . Under the direction of the judge , the helper terminates the pressure phase. When the corresponding dynamic work of the helper is carried out, it provides the judge with the optimal opportunity to evaluate the working performance and temperament of the dog. Any assistance given by the helper in the way of offering any type of helper assistance in the way of, slowing down the speed of the attack, intercepting the dog at a stand, side-stepping the dog before the grip, holding the sleeve in a limp fashion after the grip, varying intensity of the pressure phase, independent termination when weakness in the dog is noticed, etc. are not permitted by the helper and will be noted in the USCA Helper book.

### **9. “Termination of the defense exercise”**

Stopping all defense exercises must be conducted in such a manner that the judge has the opportunity to observe the grip, the out and the guarding phase of the dog (do not turn your back to the judge , maintain visual contact with the judge ). Once stopping the defense exercise, the helper must minimize the resistance towards the dog, he/she has to reduce the stimulation by not definitively moving the sleeve. The sleeve is not to be carried at a high angle, but will be held in the same position during the previous exercise. The soft stick is held out of sight at the side. No help is to be provided by the helper during the out phase. After the out, the helper is to maintain eye contact with the dog, whereby any additional stimulation or help of any kind is not permitted. In order to maintain eye contact to the dog, the helper is allowed to turn for a dog that circles, but without any sudden movements.

### **10. “Insecurities and failure of the dog”**

A dog that does not grip during a defense exercise, or releases the grip in a pressure phase and outs, must be driven (continued to be pressured) by the helper until the judge terminates the exercise. In such instances, the helper may not give any help to the dog or stop the exercise independently. Dogs that do not release, the helper may not use the soft stick in movement to get him to out. Dogs that have a tendency to leave the helper during the





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holding phase may not be stimulated by the helper to stay with the helper. In all or parts of any exercise the helper must present himself/herself active or neutral in accordance with the trial rules. If the dog bumps or grips during the holding phase, the helper must avoid making any defensive motions.

**Provisions on the individual tests - Written Test** -All first time handlers are required to complete and pass a written test (referred to as the BH Written test). This is regardless of what level or title they are entered in the trial.

### **Companion Dog test with traffic safety part BH-VT**

All dog owners must provide evidence that they have successfully passed the written examination. Dogs of all breeds and sizes are accepted. The minimum age of the dog to enter a USCA **trial is 15 months..**

Dogs that do not earn the required 70% of the points in Part A ("Obedience") are not taken for examination in Part B ("Traffic Portion") The test was passed if 70% of the points to be reached in Part A and all exercises of part B were considered sufficient by the performance judge. It is up to the judge, at the request of the hosting club, to place the participants at the awards' ceremony. The BH-VT is a prerequisite for entry into all further examinations. Each Examination result must be entered in the official trial paperwork and the scorebook regardless of the outcome of the examination.

### **Examination description: Companion Dog test with traffic safety part BH-VT**

The BH / VT test does not check the gun sureness of the dog.

Exercise requirements similar to the exercises described in the general part

Heeling on leash	15 Points
Heeling off leash	15 Points
Note: Special provision for BH-VT in the general section	
Sit Exercise	10 Points
Note: Special provision for BH-VT in the general section	
Down with recall	10 Points
Note: Special provision for BH-VT in the general section	
Down under Distraction	10 Points

### **Examination in traffic**

#### **General Information**

The exercises listed below are conducted in a suitable public area outside / off of the training field. The judge and the trial secretary determine where and how the traffic exercises will be conducted (parking areas, streets).

Public traffic may not be interfered with. The implementation of this part of the examination requires a considerable amount of time because of its nature. . Points are not given for the individual exercises of part B. During Part B the overall impression about the dog moving in the traffic / public area is most important. The exercises described below are suggestions and can be modified individually to the local conditions by the performance judge. The performance judge is entitled to repeat or vary in case of doubt in the assessment of the dog exercises.

#### **Examination procedures**

(The following exercises represent a minimum requirement and can be modified by the judge).

#### **Encounter with group of persons**

At the order of the judge, the dog handler, with his dog, walks toward a group of people 9as if out for a walk in public). The judge follows / watches the team at a reasonable distance. The dog is to follow on the dog handler's left side on a loosely hanging leash – with the shoulder at the knee height of the dog handler (loose lead informal heel). The dog must be neutral /unbothered/ indifferent to the people, traffic and to the environment. During the walk the dog handler will pass people and will be stopped by a stranger. The dog has to show itself in a neutral manner (without stress / aggression etc.). The handler and the dog continue through a relaxed larger group of people (recommended more than 6 persons), in the larger group of people a person interacts with the dog handler and greets them with a hand shake and short discussion. The dog has to sit, down or stand beside the dog handler and has to remain neutral, quiet during the short conversation.



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### **Encounter with Bicyclists**

The dog is walking along a path with his dog handler and is overtaken by a bicyclist from behind who rings a bell. After a good distance, the cyclist turns to meet dog handler and dog. There will be another bell ring. The passing has to be done in such a way that the dog is between the dog handler and the bicyclist passing by. The dog has to see the bicyclists.

### **Encounter with Cars**

The dog handler walks past several cars with his dog. One of the vehicles is started. In another car, a door is shut. While the dog handler and the dog go on, a car stops next to them. The window is rolled down and the dog handler is asked for information. The dog has to sit or lie down by the dog handler's instructions. The dog has to be quiet and neutral to the cars and all traffic noises.

### **Encounter with joggers or inline skaters**

The dog handler walks along a quiet path with his dog. At least one jogger or more pass him without slowing down after passing the handler and dog the jogger (s) will turn and pass again on the opposite side. The dog does not have to be in correct (formal) heel position, but he must not bother (remain neutral) the passing joggers. It is permitted to have the handler place his dog in a sit or down position during the encounter. Instead of the joggers, one or two inline skaters can also pass and meet the dog instead.

### **Encounter with other dogs**

In the case of passing or encountering another dog and his handler, the dog is to remain neutral. The handler may give and repeat the command "Fuss/Heel" or place the dog in a sit or down position.

### **Behavior of the tethered dog, which is left alone in the short term and behavior towards animals**

At the order of the performance judge, the dog handler, with a dog, is walking along the sidewalk of a moderately busy street. After a short distance, the dog handler stops at the order of the judge and attaches the leash to a fence, wall or something similar. The dog handler goes out of sight into a store or a house. The dog may be standing, sitting or lying. During the absence of the dog handler, a passer-by (pedestrian) passes the dog with a dog at a lateral distance of about five paces away from the test dog. The dog left alone has to be quiet and calm (neutral) during the absence of the handler. The dog used as the neutral dog (no dog aggressive dogs are to be used) will pass by the other dog/s left tied out at least one time (judges decision).

A dog showing aggression (strong pulling on the leash, continuous barking, hackles, baring teeth) will be disqualified (DQ) for behavioral / temperament faults.

At the direction from the judge, the dog or dogs are picked up by their handlers. Note: It is up to the judge (LR) to decide whether to carry out the individual exercises with each dog at the same location, or to have all the test dogs complete only a few exercises and then to go to another location and proceed there as well away from the trial field or in a public place (if it is reasonably close as not to impact the length of the trial).

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### Phase A – Tracking. General Rules

Strangetrack = Fr / Stranger  Own track = E / Handler	IGP-1	IGP-2	IGP-3	IFH-V	IFH-1	IFH2	IGP-FH
Track layer	-Handler	-Stranger	stranger	<u>handler</u>	Stranger	stranger	r-stranger
Minimum Length	300 Paces	400 Paces	600 Paces	600 Paces	1200 Paces	1800 Paces	2 x 1800 Paces 2 Different places, 2 different track layers. On 2 different days for the test.
Legs	3	3	5	5	7	8, of which 1 is a semicircle with 30m Radius	8, of which 1 is a semicircle with 30m Radius
Corners	2	2	4	4, of which 3 are right angles, the last angle is executed as an acute angle	6 Right angles	7 of which at least 2 acute angles (30-60 degrees)	7 of which at least 2 acute angles (30-60 degrees)
Distance between the corners	Minimum 50 Paces	Minimum 50 Paces	Minimum 50 Paces	Minimum 50 Paces	Minimum 50 Paces	Minimum 50 Paces	Minimum 50 Paces
Articles  Point values	3 (Handler uses own articles)  3 x 7 Points each	3 (Stranger's articles)  3 x 7 Points each	3 (Stranger's articles)  3 x 7 Points each	3 ( <u>Handlers articles</u> )  3 x 7 Points each	4 (Stranger's articles)  3 x 5, 1 X 6 Points each	7 (Stranger's articles)  7 x 3 Points each	7 (Stranger's articles)  7 x 3 Points each
Placing the articles	1st on the first leg, 2nd on the second leg and 3rd at the end	1st on the first leg, 2nd on the second leg and 3rd at the end	1st on first or second leg but a minimum of 100 paces from start, 2nd on the instruction from the judge, 3rd at the end.	1st on first or second leg but a minimum of 100 paces from start, 2nd on the second or third leg, 3rd at the end.	1st a minimum of 100 paces from the start, 2nd and 3rd according to the track Layer sketch, 4th at the end.	1st a minimum of 100 paces from the start, 2nd – 6th according to the Track layer sketch (2 articles on one leg is permissible), 7th at the end.	1st a minimum of 100 paces from the start, 2nd – 6th according to the Track layer sketch (2 articles on one leg is permissible), 7th at the end.



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Dimensions of articles in CM	L: 10 W: 2-3 H: 0,5-1	L: 10 W: 2-3 H: 0,5-1	L: 10 W: 2-3 H: 0,5-1	L: 10 W: 2-3 H: 0,5-1	L: 10 W: 2-3 H: 0,5-1	L: 10 W: 2-3 H: 0,5-1	L: 10 W: 2-3 H: 0,5-1
Ageing Time	20 Min.	30 Min.	60 Min.	90 Min.	120 Min.	180 Min.	180 Min.
Working Time Maximum	15 Min.	15 Min.	20 Min.	20 Min.	30 Min.	45 Min.	45 Min.
Cross track timing..	-----	-----	-----	-----	30 minutes before the start	30 minutes before the start	30 minutes before the start
Prerequisite	BH /VT	IGP 1	IGP 2	BH/VT	BH/VT	IFH- 1	IFH- 2

### IGP-V

	IGP-V
	Handler lays the Track
Minimum Length	200 Paces
Legs	2
Corners (Right angles)	1
Ageing Time	Work the Track Immediately- no age
Working Time Maximum	10 Minutes
Articles	2 Belonging to the Handler
Dimensions of articles in CM	Length 10 cm Width 2-3 cm Height 0.5-1 cm
Rating:	Working the track: 79 Points Articles: 21 Points
Prerequisite	BH-VT

### **Instruction: Only IFH 1, IFH 2 , and IGP FH:**

The cross track shall not be laid within 40 paces before or 40 paces after a corner, or across the first or last leg. It must be laid so that the track is not crossed below a 60 degree angle and must cross the track twice. The dog is allowed to check cross tracks if he does not leave the actual track. If the dog changes from the track to the cross track and follows more than one leash length, the track work must be terminated.

### **Instruction: Only IFH-2 and IGP-FH:**

The dog handler is allowed to ask the Judge to briefly interrupt the track work if he believes that he or his dog needs a short break due to physical condition and weather conditions (e.g., high heat). The pause taken shall be counted towards the available time to work the track. The dog handler is allowed to clean his head, eyes and nose during a break or while at an article. For this purpose, the dog handler can carry a wet cloth or a wet sponge. The cloth or sponge must be shown to the judge before the start of the track. No other tools are allowed.

### **Tracking Grounds**

Tracks may use all natural soils such as e.g. Grass, plowed dirt and forest floor. In all trial levels adaptation of the tracks to the available tracking-grounds is possible with the judge's approval and that all tracks in the same level are similar.



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### **Laying the Tracks**

#### **Additional information is available in the USCA Tracklayers Program.**

The performance judge or the Tracking Coordinator shall determine the course of the track depending on the existing terrain. At IFH-1, IFH-2, IGP-FH, the track layer provides or receives a track sketch from the judge or the tracking coordinator. It includes terrain features (e.g., trees, wire poles, huts, etc.). The judge / tracking coordinator supervise the laying of the tracks and instruct the track layers. The tracks can be laid differently; corners and articles must not be at the same position or at equal distances for each track. The scent pad of the track must be marked by a flag which is placed directly into the ground to the left of the scent pad. The track layer stays briefly at the scent pad and goes in natural stride with normal steps in the directed direction. When laying the track, make sure that they are placed in natural gait. The corners are also set in normal gait, it must be noted that a continuous track allowing the dog to work in a normal consistent speed must be possible. Corners are laid with the inside of the corner making a 90 degree turn, either the "T" method or angled (45 degree) outside footprint, see diagram at back of rulebook. Help by the track layer by unnatural gait, scuffing or stomping is not permitted in the entire area of the track. Articles are not to be placed within 20 paces before or after the corner and must be on the track (do not have to be exactly in the footstep but recommended). After dropping the last article, the track layer must continue at least 10 paces in a forward direction to end the track.

The handler and dog must not be able to watch the track being laid.

The order of the participants is determined with a draw after laying the tracks in the presence of the Judge .

### **Articles**

Articles may not differ significantly in color from the terrain. The Articles must be shown by the dog handler (IGP-V, IGP-1, IFH-V) track layers (IGP-2, IGP-3, IFH-1, IFH-2, IGP-FH) before laying the track to the performance judge or tracking coordinator. Only articles that the tracklayer has carried for a minimum of 30 minutes may be used. Articles must be laid on the track either in-between or in the footsteps.

Within a track the articles must be made of different materials (e.g., leather, textiles, wood). In the case of Championships and FH examinations, the articles must be numbered. These numbers must be the same as the track number.

### **Indicating the Articles:**

#### **Indicating**

The indicating out can be done sitting, lying down and standing, or alternating. The articles must be indicated convincingly without the help from the dog handler. Once the dog has indicated the article, the dog handler drops the tracking line or puts it down, goes directly to the dog, picks up the article and displays it to the judge. This can be done either on the left or on the right side of the dog but the restart must be done from the side the article is shown. The dog must be calm in this position. The indicating must be done in the direction of the track. Slightly crooked lying down, sitting or standing to the article is not faulty. The article must lie directly in front of, or between the front paws but not touching / playing with the article. The dog must remain calm in the position until restarted on the track. Articles that are found with strong help by the Handler are considered to be overrun / not indicated. After the articles are shown to the judge, a re-start is made with a command to track, the handler must be facing the direction of the track alongside the dog (not behind), standing upright at the restart of the tracking, any pointing or leaning down to the dog is faulty.

#### **Pick up/ Retrieve**

The presentation of the retrieved article also effects overall indication of the articles. The dog may stop after picking up, sit down or retrieve the article. Picking up the article and lying down is faulty, as well as going forward with the article. During the retrieve of the article, the handler must stay at the end of the leash. The restart occurs where the dog handler picks up the article.

If an article (1) is not indicated/ found by the dog and it cannot be found by the track layer, there is no point deduction (the dog receives full points for the article). In the event that several articles are not found, the dog handler is offered a re-track. If he does not accept a re-track, all of the articles not found are considered as not indicated and no points are awarded for the articles (0 pt. per article).

This rule does not apply to IGP-1, IGP-V and IFH-V where the handler lays the track. In these cases when an article is not found by the dog or by the dog handler, no points (0 points per article) are earned for these articles.



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### **Track with a tracking line or free track**

The dog can track on a 10 m (or 33') long line. A check of the line length, the collar or the harness by the Judge must be carried out before the start of the track work (may be done at the time of reporting in). Flexible Leashes are not permitted. The track line can be over the back, on the side of the dog or between the front and / or rear legs. It can either be attached directly to the loose fitting collar or to the attachment ring of the harness (chest or Böttger harness without additional straps). If a harness is used, make sure that the back strap does not extend beyond the last rib of the dog. The tracking line may sag during the track, but the required distance from the dog must not be seriously shortened. Ground contact of the line is not faulty. **Free Tracking** - When tracking off leash, the distance of at least 10 meters must be kept.

### **Report in/ Report out**

When reporting in to start the track the handler must be prepared to track with the tracking line correctly attached to the dog (the line may not be looped through the collar, it may be held short or an additional short leash may be attached, the line has to laid out (dragging) behind the dog and if a harness is to be used it must be on the dog and the line attached). The handler and dog in the basic position report into the judge and the handler must indicate whether his dog retrieves or indicates the articles. The dog is allowed to be on a short line up to about 2 meters before the start (leash or holding the tracking line short, but not looped through or around the dog or collar). All compulsion is to be avoided before and during the entire track. At the instruction of the judge the dog is led to the scent pad and started. Restarts are not allowed (except 1 time in the FH), the handler must remain at the scent pad and the dog must start the track with 3 or fewer commands. A short sit of the dog in front of the scent pad (approx. 2 meters away) is permitted so the tracking line can be brought to the position desired by the handler (attachment of the harness, line between front and/or rear legs). After completion of the track work, the articles found must be shown to the judge. Playing or feeding after indicating the last article, before checking out and receiving the score or on the tracking grounds is not permitted. The checking out must take place in the basic position. After this, the short line can be put on the dog.

### **Working the Track**

The dog must be given a verbal command to track at the scent pad. The handler has a maximum of 3 commands to start his dog. The second and third attempts lead to a deduction in the evaluation of the first leg. The dog must take the track with a deep nose and then work the track with a deep nose, high tracking intensity; consistent and even speed (providing the terrain is consistent, difficulties may affect speed and may not always be faulty). The dogs speed is not a faulty behavior as long as the dog is tracking in a convincing and intensive manner. Stress, insecurity, lack of intensity is faulty. The start (also when restarting after the finding of the articles) has to be done with the handler giving a verbal command to track and the handler standing upright. Slack in the leash is permitted as long as it does significantly shorten the distance between the handler and dog. The scent pad is not time-dependent, but the behavior of the dog at the beginning of the first leg will determine how intensely he takes to the track and scent (difficulty in the first leg may be due to not taking up the scent at the scent pad and is faulty). If the dog is caught in the tracking line, the handler may ask the judge to be able to untangle the dog, the command to restart is given from the end of the tracking line, and there is no point deduction. ~~deduction.~~

### **Only for IFH-1 / IFH-2 / IGP-FH**

If the handler has the impression that the dog has not correctly taken the track, he is free to recall the dog and restart again. This is only allowed once and only if the handler has not left the scent pad yet. This is a mandatory deduction of -4 points.

### **Corners**

The dog must work out corners confidently. Circling at the corner is faulty. A head check without leaving the track is permitted. After the corner, the dog must continue with the same intensity and at the same speed. Through the corner, the handler must maintain the same distance. He does not have to follow the track (may swing out to keep the line from going slack). However, the handler is not permitted to leave the track (swing out) until the dog has changed direction and is committed to the next leg.

### **Praise**

An occasional praise on the track is at all trial levels are allowed, **excluding IGP-3, IFH-1, IFH-2 and IGP-FH**, but not in the corners (dogs body length before and after the corner). In addition, a short praise at the article is permitted in all levels. This can be done before or after the display of the article, but not both. Restart from an article must be performed from the same side the article was shown to the judge, with the handler standing upright and a verbal command.



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### **Termination / Disqualification**

If the dog leaves the track and is held back by the dog handler, the judge will instruct the handler to follow the dog. If the judge's instruction is not followed, the tracking work must be terminated. If the end of the track is not reached within the maximum allowed time, specified in the individual levels, the tracking work is terminated by the Judge. This does not apply if the dog is on the last leg of the track for FH1, FH 2 and IGP FH. The performance shown (points earned) until termination are evaluated. If the dog quits tracking (stays in the same place without working, lifting its head etc.), the track can be terminated even if the dog is still on the track and the available time for the working the track has not yet expired.

If during the tracking work wild game appears, and the dog follows his hunting instinct, the handler may attempt to prevent the dog from following by giving the dog the command to down. On the judge's signal, the tracking work will continue with the handler giving the command to track from the end of the tracking line. If the dog fails to continue tracking the dog is to be disqualified. Rating: Disqualification for disobedience.

### **Further evaluation criteria / responsibilities of the Judge (LR)**

The assessment of each leg depends on the length, the terrain and the weather conditions, and is based on the title. The judge and all accompanying persons may not be in the tracking area where the dog and handler have the right to track (10 meters radius around the handler and 10 meters distance to the next track), the dog must not be disturbed by either the track layer or the judge (unless in extreme conditions the judge must be closer to evaluate / see the performance).

The performance judge must not only look at the dog or the dog handler, but must also take into account the terrain, the weather, possible distractions and the time. The judge must base his assessment on the totality of all influencing variables. The assessment is to be carried out taking into account the following criteria.

Tracking (eg, motivated behavior of the dog with constant intensity and consistent speed before and after the corners, as well as before and after indicating the articles).

Training level of the dog (eg hectic approach, stressed behavior, avoidance behavior)

Handler (HF) carrying aids that are not permitted

Difficulties in working out the tracks:

- Tracking conditions (vegetation, sand, terrain changes, manure)
- Wind conditions
- Wild game
- Weather (heat, cold, rain, snow)
- Weather changes

The performance judge must assess the desire, the confidence, working temperament, the sureness or uncertainty, insecurity of the dog in his work.

### **Deductions for all examination levels**

If the dog stops tracking by falsely indicating an article and the dog handler does not go to the dog but gives an extra command at the end of the tracking line "Such" -> -2 points. **In IFH-2 / IGP-FH - 1 point**

If the dog stops tracking by falsely indicating an article and the dog handler does go to the dog, and gives the tracking command at the side of the dog "Such" -> -4 points. **In IFH-2 / IGP-FH - 2 points**

Urinating or defecating (up to -6 pt.), wandering, circling at the corners, continuous handler help, encouragement, line or verbal help in the track or at the articles is faulty and deducted accordingly.



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### **Phase B –Obedience**

#### **General Provisions:**

#### **Basic requirements**

- Attitude
- Self Confidence
- Outgoing, Motivated work
- Concentration/Attention
- Harmony of the Team

#### **Technical correctness**

- Position / Accuracy
- Willingness / Execution/ Speed

Before the start of the Obedience Phase (B), the Judge must check the field and the equipment to be used during the trial (Examples: Jump, Wall, Dumbbells and field markings) to ensure they meet the requirements in the IGP regulations.

When assessing each exercise, the dog's behavior must be carefully observed, starting with the basic position until the end of the exercise.

#### **Commands**

If a dog does not perform an exercise after the third given command, the exercise must be terminated without evaluation, 0 pts. (If the handler is unable to get the dog to the basic position to start the next exercise with three (3) or fewer commands or the dog refuses to go with the handler the Obedience Phase is terminated). When recalling, the name of the dog can be used instead of a recall command. The name of the dog in connection with any command is considered as a double command.

The reaction of the dog to the command:

The dog should perform the exercise quickly and without stress on the handler's command. Any behavior of anxiety or stress deprecates the exercise.

#### **Additional Commands**

If the dog does not execute an exercise after the second additional command (3 total commands), the exercise will be rated with 0 points. If the dog executes an exercise with two additional commands, the exercise is rated max high Insufficient.

1st Additional Command: "Satisfactory" for that part of the exercise

2nd Additional Command: "Insufficient" for that part of the exercise

Example: 5 Points for partial exercise:

1st Additional Command: "Satisfactory" rating from that portion of the exercise = -1.5 points

2nd Additional Command: "Insufficient" rating from that portion of exercise = -2.5 points

If the dog executes an exercise without a command that part of the exercise is to be rated "Insufficient".



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### Distribution and Point values of the exercises in the individual levels

Exercise	IGP-1	IGP-2	IGP-3
Heeling	15 Points	15 Points	15 Points
Sit out of motion	10 Points	10 Points	5 Points
Down with recall	10 Points, From a Walk	10 Points, From a walk	10 Points From a Running Pace
Stand out of motion		5 Points From a Walk with pick up	10 Points From a running pace with Recall
Retrieve on the Flat	15 Points	10 Points	10 Points
Retrieve over the 1 Meter Jump	15 Points	15 Points	15 Points
Climbing over the Scaling wall	15 Points A climb without retrieving	15 Points Climbing both ways with retrieve	15 Points Climbing both ways with retrieve
Send Out with Down	10 Points	10 Points	10 Points
Down under Distraction	10 Points	10 Points	10 Points
<b>Total</b>	<b>100 Points</b>	<b>100 Points</b>	<b>100 Points</b>



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### **Exercises in IGP-V**

<b>Exercise</b>	<b>IGP- V</b>	
Heeling on Leash	30 Points	
Free heeling	20 Points	
Sit out of Motion		
Down with recall	15 Points	
Retrieve on the Flat	15 Points	
Jump over a hurdle (80 cm)	10 Points	
Down under Distraction	10 Points	
<b>Total</b>	<b>100 Points</b>	

### **Note**

At the beginning of Phase B (Obedience) the handler report in with his dog to the performance judge. This is done with a dog on leash, except in IGP-2, IGP-3.

### **Start and end of an exercise**

The handler should look to the judge for permission to start and exercise. The judge will give the instruction for starting an exercise. Failure to wait for the Judge to signal the start of an exercise may result in a point deduction. Everything else during the exercise, such as turns, stops, pace changes etc. are executed without instruction and are the responsibility of the handler. The specified pause is approx. 3 seconds, and must be observed. For instance, from the front into the final basic position, holding — outing the dumbbell, praising the dog and repositioning for beginning a new exercise. If the dog handler misses an exercise, the handler is asked by the judge to restart and show the missing exercise. There is no point deduction. Omission of or partial exercises result in deductions.

### **Basic Position**

Each exercise begins and ends in the basic position. The basic position may be taken only once in the forward direction before each exercise. Taking additional basic position will result in a point deduction. In the basic position the dog must be attentive to the dog handler and sit with shoulder blade at knee height to the left of the handler and parallel (straight alongside) of the handler. In the basic position, the dog handler must not have a splayed leg stance and both arms must be relaxed /loosely hanging at the side of the body. The hands may be inside or outside of the dog as long as they are not intentionally being positioned to influence the dog. When the handler approaches the dog to pick it up for Basic Position , the Handler must be in line with the dogs shoulder, if the dog moves back to assume basic position on command the pick up to Basic Position is faulty.

### **Buildup**

The buildup (development) is carried out from the basic position during the exercises "Sit out of motion", "Down out of Motion", "Walking or Running Stand out of motion", and "Send out with down". It must be at least 10, but no more than 15 paces, before the command is given to perform the exercise.

### **Pick Up**

During the exercises in which the dog is picked up again, the dog handler can approach the dog from the front, or from going around behind the dog.

### **Recall / Front / Finish**

When recalling the dog, the name of the dog can also be used instead of a recall command. The name of the dog in connection with a command is considered a double-command. The dog must be confident, fast, purposeful and direct to recall, and must sit tightly and straight in front of the handler. The dog has to go directly to the final basic position upon the command for the basic position. This can be done by the dog pivoting into basic position or by the dog going around behind the handler into basic position.





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### **Praise**

Praise is only allowed in the basic position after each completed exercise. If this is also the new starting position for the next exercise, a 3 second pause must be observed. Praise cannot be excessive.

### **Incorrect Positions**

In the case of all “out of Motion” exercises (sitting, downing, standing), in addition to further mistakes, the entire exercise will be deducted by 50% of the points for the exercise if the dog shows an incorrect position. (Example: Standing during the Sit out of Motion exercise)

### **Releasing the Dumbbell upon command**

If the dog does not release the dumbbell after the third command, the dog is disqualified (DQ) for disobedience and does not proceed to complete any additional exercises or phases.

### **Dumbbell**

For the retrieve exercises only dumbbells which are provided by the organizers of the examination are to be used. All participants must use the same dumbbells.

The following provisions must be met by the dumbbells:

- The dumbbell must be made of wood.
- The predetermined weights must be correct.
- The distance from the dumbbell bar to the ground must be at least 4 cm

	<b>IGP-1</b>	<b>IGP- 2</b>	<b>IGP-3</b>
On the Flat	650 Grams	1000 Grams	2000 Grams
Hurdle	650 Grams	650 Grams	650 Grams
Scaling Wall	No Dumbbell	650 Grams	650 Grams
	<b>IGP –V</b>		
On the Flat	Handler's own dumbbell		

### **Hurdle**

**The hurdle must be a fixed hurdle as previously used in IPO.** (see diagram page 64 for dimensions). The minimum distance for basic position is marked four (4) meters from the hurdle (the handler may take basic position further back from the line).

Practice jumps are not allowed during the trial.

### **Scaling Wall**

The scaling wall (see diagram page 65 for dimensions and surface). The minimum distance for basic position is marked four (4) meters from the hurdle (the handler may take basic position further back from the line). Practice over the scaling wall is not permitted during the trial.

In all retrieving exercises the dog must present the dumbbell to the handler to complete the exercise, no partial points may be awarded if the dog does not present the dumbbell (holding dumbbell in its mouth) to the handler. Dropping the dumbbell at the handlers' feet and the handler picking it up off the ground is an incomplete exercise, the handler may use additional commands “bring” (up to a maximum of 3 to complete exercise).



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### **Exercise descriptions**

#### **Heeling on Leash and Free Heeling**

The dog has to follow his dog handler out of the basic position with a verbal command to Heel, the dog must walk attentively, confidently with purpose, without stress and concentrated to the handler, and always remain with his shoulder at the knee on the handler's left side and parallel (straight) along the side of the handler. The pattern of the heeling is done according to the diagram below. The dog handler must take basic position at the starting point at the same time as when the second dog handler assumes the basic position for the exercise "down under distraction". On the first straight leg of heeling, two shots (caliber 6 mm / . 22) are fired (about five (5) seconds apart) with the first shot fired after at least 15 paces of heeling followed about five (5) seconds later by a second shot, this is to check the gun sureness / temperament / behavioral traits of the dog.

#### **The gun shots are only fired in the exams IGP- V and IGP-1 to IGP-3.**

The dog must be indifferent to the gunshots. If the dog is gun shy he will be disqualified and all the points already acquired will be removed. If the response of the dog is not clear, the judge can check the gun sureness of the dog separately with additional shot. (IGP-V gunshots are fired during the on leash heeling)

#### **(In the BH-VT there are no gun shots fired).**

About-turns are to be shown with the handler pivoting left. The dog may go around the back of the handler on the right hand side or remain in correct position on the left side and even with the knee of the handler. The running pace and the slow pace must be a distinct change of pace and clearly stand out from the normal pace. The speed change is carried out without intermediate paces and a "heel command must be used for change of pace.

After the second turn about, there must be a stop shown. Here the dog has to go into the "sit "position without a verbal command (automatic sit).

Walking through a group of people that are moving is to be shown in the on leash heeling (BH/VT, IGP-V) and in off leash heeling (IGP 1-3). The dog handler must circle a person to the right and circle a person to the left (e.g. in the form of a figure 8) and stop at least once in the group with the dog performing an automatic sit near a person. The performance judge is allowed to request a repeat exercise. At the order of the performance judge, the dog handler leaves the group with his/her dog and takes the final basic position. The dog's praise is only allowed in the final basic position after leaving the group.

Free Heeling is also to be shown when moving between the exercises. When picking up the dumbbells, the dog must be kept in the correct heeling position as described above.

**Special Requirements BH-VT:** The on Leash heeling is carried out according to the heeling pattern. The free heeling (off leash), begins after leaving the group in the on leash heeling and taking up basic position facing down field. Remove the leash and then the from basic position go out a minimum of 50 paces, complete an about turn (it should be the same type of about turn as was done on leash to be without fault) the handler / dog will then heel at a normal walk 10 to 15 paces then with a heel command change into 10-15 fast paces , then with a heel command and without transition change into 10-15 slow paces, then with a heel command change into 10 -15 normal paces the exercise ends with the handler stopping into a final basic position (handler facing down field opposite of direction that started the heeling).



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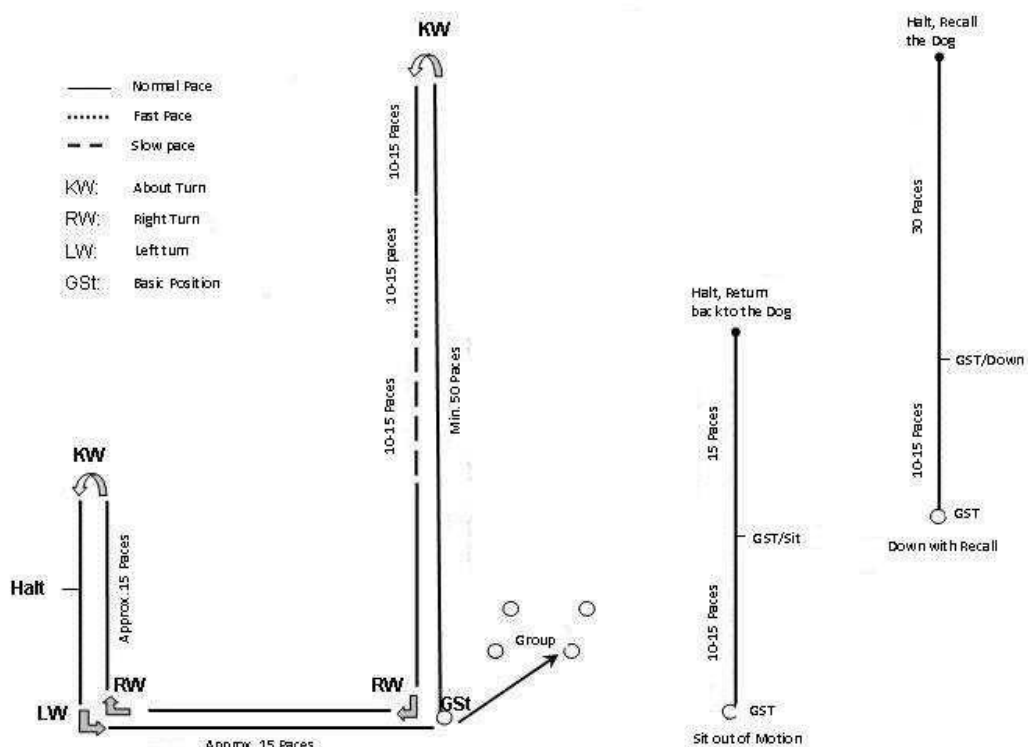
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### Heeling Pattern Diagram

Heeling Pattern for On Leash and Free heeling



### Execution

#### The Handler

checks in to the performance judge (LR) on leash in levels BH-VT, IGP-1, IGP-V and off leash in levels IGP-2 and 3. The handler checks in with the judge with his dog sitting in basic position in front of the Judge .

After checking in with the judge, when told to the dog handler goes to the start position at all levels (except BH-VT, IGP V) off leash. On further judge's instructions, the dog handler begins the exercise. From a straight, quiet and attentive basic position, the dog follows the Handler's command to "heel", without stress, confident, with purpose, straight, fast and attentive. With the dogs shoulder even with the handler's knee and parallel to the handler and must sit quickly and straight when stopping without a sit command.

At the beginning of the exercise, the handler goes approx. 50 paces straight out without stopping. After the left about turn (pivot) and another 10 to 15 paces, the handler will show the fast pace and the slow pace (10 - 15 paces each) with the "heel" command at each change of pace. The transition from the running pace to the slow pace must be carried out without transition paces. The pattern continues with two (2) right turns, minimum 15 pace straight leg and another about turn, a sit and after a left turn (towards the group) enters the group.

In the group, the dog handler has to go around a person both to the left and the right and must halt once in the group near a person. At the instruction of the judge the handler leaves the group and assumes a basic position. The basic position is the beginning of the next exercise

The about turn can be shown in two ways (around the handler or a flip/FCi turn) but the about turn must be shown the same way for both turns in a trial or it is faulty.



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### **Evaluation criteria**

Forging, heeling wide, not remaining parallel to the handler, lagging, slow or hesitant sits, additional commands, handler help, excessive hopping, errors in the basic / initial position, crowding / bumping, inattentiveness, lack of motivation, stress and the dog showing pressured behavior are faulty and lead to a corresponding deduction.

### **Sit out of Motion (all Examination levels)**

1st part: Beginning basic position, Buildup, Execution of Sit Command 50% of points

2nd part: Leaving the dog, attention and approaching of the dog handler, final basic position. 50% of the points

After a buildup of 10 to 15 paces the dog must sit immediately upon the verbal command straight, without the dog handler changing his motion or looking back. The dog must remain calm and with attention to the dog handler. In all test levels, the dog handler moves away 15 paces. On the judge's instructions, the dog handler returns to his dog (stands on the right side, basic position).

Special provision for BH-VT: After the buildup, the dog handler may stop for a 3 sec pause and give the command for sitting before he walks away from the dog a 3 sec pause is required.

### **Evaluation criteria**

Slow sitting, restless and inattentive sitting is devalued in addition to other misconduct. If the dog stands or downs, the exercise is rated "Insufficient" -5 points (in IGP-3 mandatory -2.5 points).

### **Down with Recall**

1st part: Beginning basic position, Buildup, Execution of down Command 50% of points

2nd part: Leaving the dog, Attention, Recall of the dog, front position, final basic position. 50% of the points

The buildup of 10 to 15 paces is carried out in the levels IGP-1 and IGP-2, IGP- V, in the normal pace. In the IGP-3, the handler then proceeds an additional for 10-15 paces in a running pace. On the verbal command for downing, the dog must immediately down, straight in the direction without the handler changing his motion or looking back. The dog handler walks or runs at least 30 paces at the IGP-3, and turns directly to his dog. The dog must remain calm and attentive to the handler until the command. At the direction of the judge, the handler recalls his dog with a recall command or the "dog's name". The dog must be fast, without stress, purposeful and come directly, sit close and straight in front of the dog handler. The dog has to go directly to the final basic position upon the command to finish.

Special provision for BH-VT: After the buildup, the dog handler may stop for a 3 sec pause and give the command for downing before he walks away from the dog.

### **Evaluation criteria**

Slow downing, restless or inattentive, slow non-purposeful recall, Handler help, e.g. splayed leg position, lead to corresponding deductions in addition to other faults. If the dog is sitting or standing, the exercise is "insufficient" -5 Points.

For a dog that does not come on the second extra command, the exercise is to be evaluated Insufficient 0 Points. In this case, the dog may be picked up by the handler returning to the dog and continue into the next exercise.

### **Stand while Walking IGP-2**

1st part: Beginning basic position, Buildup, Execution of Stand Command 50% of points

2nd part: Leaving the dog, Attention and approaching of the dog handler, final basic position. 50% of the points

After a buildup of 10 to 15 paces the dog must stand immediately upon the verbal command straight, without the dog handler changing his motion or looking back. The dog must remain calm and with attention to the dog handler while the dog handler moves away (leaves the dog) 15 paces and turns to face his/her dog. On the judge's instructions, the dog handler returns to his dog, stands on the right side (basic position) and commands the dog into the basic position.

### **Evaluation criteria**

Not immediately standing, restless or inattentive standing, and handler help lead to corresponding deductions in addition to other mistakes. If the dog sits or downs, the exercise has a mandatory deduction of 50 % of the points.



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### **Stand out of Motion (IGP-3 only)**

1st part: Beginning basic position, Buildup, Execution of Stand Command 50% of points

2nd part: Leaving the dog, Attention, Recall of the dog, front position and final basic position. 50% of the points

After a Buildup of 10 to 15 running paces the dog must stand immediately upon the verbal command straight in the direction without the handler changing his motion or looking back. The dog handler runs at least 30 paces and turns directly to his dog. The dog must remain calm and attentive to the handler until the command. At the direction of the judge, the handler recalls his dog with a recall command or the "dog's name". The dog must be fast, without stress, purposeful and come directly, sit close and straight in front of the dog handler. The dog has to go directly to the final basic position upon the command to finish.

### **Evaluation criteria**

Not stopping and standing immediately. Restless or inattentive standing, not fast and purposeful on recall, handler help, e.g. splayed leg stance, lead to a corresponding deduction in addition to other mistakes. If the dog sits or downs, the exercise will be evaluated "insufficient" with a mandatory -5 points. For a dog that does not come on the second extra command, the exercise is to be evaluated Insufficient 0 Points. In this case, the dog may be picked up by the handler and continue into the next exercise.

### **Retrieve on the Flat**

From a straight basic the handler throws the dumbbell approx. 10 meters away. If the handler's outside foot moves in order for the handler (HF) to throw the dumbbell no point loss as long as it does not affect the dog. If the leg is moved during the throw a 3 second pause must be shown after returning to basic position. The dumbbell should be thrown 8 meters min and a maximum of 15 meters, less or more than this is faulty. The verbal command "Bring" may only be given when the dumbbell has stopped moving. On the verbal command for bringing the dog has to run directly to the dumbbell, pick it up immediately, turn directly and return to his handler directly. The aim is to show motivated and determined returns. During the presentation of the dumbbell and also during the retrieving portion, the dumbbell must be held firmly and calmly until the dog handler commands the dog to release the dumbbell after about a 3 second pause in front. The dog must present the dumbbell to the handler or no retrieve is completed. After outing the dumbbell and approx. 3 second pause, the dog is to be commanded to the basic position. The dumbbell is to be held in the right hand with the arm straight down at handler's side. The dog handler must place the dumbbell back on the stand.

### **Evaluation criteria**

If the dog is slow, showing stress, unmotivated, not purposeful on the way out and/or return, faulty pick-up, dropping the dumbbell and/or playing with or mouthing the dumbbell up to -4 pt., splayed leg stance by the handler, mistakes in the presentation, front and in the basic positions (for example, restless behavior) result in deductions as well as any handler help.

### **Basic Position in Front of the Hurdle and scaling wall**

The distance for basic position of the dog handler in front of the jump and scaling wall must be at least 4 meters (this position should be marked as the minimum distance to the hurdle or wall, a handler may be further back).

### **Retrieve over the 1m hurdle**

The handler takes the basic position with his dog at least 4 meters in front of the hurdle. The correct dumbbell will be 650 gms (the same as used for the flat retrieve in IGP 1) over a 100 cm high hurdle. The handler is allowed to move one foot when throwing. After the leg is returned to basic position, a pause of approx. 3 seconds is required. The dog should sit freely and quietly next to his dog handler. On the command for jumping, the dog has to carry out the jump, during the jump the command is given for retrieving. The dog has to go quickly and directly to the dumbbell, pick it up immediately and return over the hurdle directly. The dog has to carry out the entire exercise without stress, fast and show powerful smooth jumps without touching the hurdle. During the presentation and during the retrieving process, the dumbbell must be held firmly and calm until the dog handler (HF) gives the command to release the dumbbell after a 3 second pause in the front position. The dog must present the dumbbell to the handler or no retrieve is completed. After outing the dumbbell and approx. 3 second pause, the dog is to be commanded to the basic position. The dumbbell is to be held in the handlers right hand with the arm straight down at handler's side. (IGP1 the handler and dog must replace the dumbbell back on the stand).



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### **Evaluation criteria**

The dog is slow, stressed, unmotivated, not purposeful on the jump out and/or jump back, faulty pick-up, dropping the dumbbell, playing with or mouthing the dumbbell, splayed leg stance by the handler, mistakes in the presentation, front and in the basic positions (for example, restless behavior) result in deductions as well as any handler help.

A partial score for the exercise is only possible if the three parts (going- out jump - return - Retrieve) at least one jump and the "Retrieve" portion is completed.

For a jump not shown, there is a mandatory deduction of -5 points, in addition to other mistakes.

Dog does not jump one direction, either out or back, dumbbell retrieved flawlessly: 10 points

Dog jumps perfectly out and back but does not retrieve the dumbbell: 0 points

If the dog knocks the hurdle over at the jump, a mandatory deduction of 5 points is required. The exercise is repeated. In the repeated exercise only the return jump, front, hold, out and final basic position is judged. The dog (IGP-1 – IGP-3) touches the jump deduction up to one (1) point is deducted per jump, stepping on hurdle or hard touch it, then up to two (2) points are deducted per jump.

### **Climbing over the scaling wall (IGP-1 only)**

The dog handler takes the basic position in front of the scaling wall at or behind the 4meter mark. After the command to sit, he goes to the other side and stands at a distance of at least 4 meters to the scaling wall. On the judge's instructions, the handler calls his dog with the commands to jumping and come. The dog must come with powerful climbing to his dog handler and sit straight and close in front. After a 3 second pause, the handler gives the command for the dog to go into the final basic position.

### **Evaluation criteria**

Mistakes in the basic position are hesitant, stress, slow or powerless climbing, mistakes in front position, finish to basic position and handler help lead to deductions. 0 points, "M" rating is awarded if the dog does not climb / scale the wall.

### **Retrieve over the scaling wall**

The handler takes the basic position with his dog at least 4 meters (marked) in front of the scaling wall. The correct dumbbell will be 650 gms (the same as used for the flat retrieve in IGP 1). The handler is allowed to move one foot when throwing. After the leg is returned to basic position, a pause of approx. 3 seconds is required. The dog should sit freely and quietly next to his dog handler. On command the dog has to carry out climbing / scaling the wall, during the climbing / scaling the command is given to retrieve. The dog has to go quickly and directly to the dumbbell, pick it up immediately and return over the wall directly. The dog has to carry out the entire exercise without stress, fast and show powerful smooth climbing over the wall. During the presentation and during the retrieving process, the dumbbell must be held firmly and calm until the dog handler gives the command to release the dumbbell after a 3 second pause in the front position. The dog must present the dumbbell to the handler or no retrieve is completed. After outing the dumbbell and approx. 3 second pause, the dog is to be commanded to the basic position. The dumbbell is to be held in the right hand with the arm straight down at handler's (HF) side. The dog handler must place the dumbbell back on the stand.

### **Evaluation criteria**

If the dog is slow, unmotivated, stressed not purposeful on the jump out and/or jump back, faulty pick-up, dropping the dumbbell, playing with or mouthing the dumbbell, splayed leg stance by the handler, mistakes in the presentation, front and in the basic positions (for example, restless behavior) will result in deductions as well as any handler help.

A partial score for the exercise is only possible if the three parts (going- out climb - return - Retrieve) at least one jump and the "Retrieve" portion is completed. For all jumps not shown, there is a mandatory deduction of -5 points, in addition to any additional / other mistakes that are made during the exercise.



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### **Send out with Down**

1st Part: Basic Position, Buildup, execution of the send out portion. 50% of the points

2nd Part: after instruction from the Judge, Downing, final basic position. 50% of the points

If the dog does not go the minimum distance or cannot be stopped with 3 commands. There will be no evaluation of the exercise.

On the single command "go out" and the raise of the arm, the dog handler sends his dog out and stands still. Then the dog has to go a minimum of at least 30 paces in the direction shown, straight forward, and in fast pace. At the direction of the judge, the dog handler gives the command for the dog to down, which the dog has to down immediately. The dog handler is allowed to hold the arm up in the direction of the exercise until the dog has downed. At the direction of the judge, the dog handler goes to his dog and stands right next to him. At the instruction of the judge, the handler gives the command for the dog to sit. The dog must sit quickly and straight in the basic position.

### **Evaluation criteria**

Mistakes in the buildup, slow, unsure or without purpose going forward, slow to down, restless while down and mistakes in the pickup and final basic position all lead to deductions.

Dog stops on first command but does not down, downs immediately on second command -1.5 Points.

Dog stops on first command but does not down, downs immediately on third command -2.5 Points.

Dog stops on first command but does not down on third command. -3.5 Points.

Dog does not stop on first command, stops and downs immediately on Second command -2.5 Points.

Dog doesn't stop on 1st or 2nd command, stops and down immediately on 3rd command -3.5 Points.

Dog cannot be stopped with 3 commands. 0 Points.

Dog downs directly on the first command, but after the judge's instructions to go pick up the dog, the dog breaks, the dog can be stopped by 50% of the distance to the handler. Rating up to -5 Points.

Additional Mistakes are also deducted. Errors in the buildup, slow, unsure going forward, delayed stopping, slow to down, restless down as well as mistakes in the pickup, basic position lead to the additional deductions.

### **Down under Distraction**

During the performance of motion obedience exercises of the other dog, the down exercise is shown under distraction. In doing so, the dog is placed on a position assigned by the judge from the basic position with the command to down. The dog handler then has to take the position on the instructions of the judge according to the examination level:

IGP-1, IGP-2, IGP-V, the dog handler is at least 30 paces away in sight of the dog (but with the handler's back turned towards the dog).

IGP-3: Dog handler is hidden in a blind at least 30 paces away and out of sight of the dog

. During the down, the dog must lie quietly and calm without the influence of the handler while the other dog is working. At the judge's signal, the handler goes to the dog's right side and, after a three (3) second pause, or at the judge's signal, commands the dog "sitz" / "sit" into the basic position (BH-VT the leash should be removed and attached with the dog in a sit position)

### **Evaluation criteria**

Mistakes in the basic settings, restless behavior, stress, handler help, premature standing up, standing or sitting, leaving the designated area all lead to appropriate deductions. If the dog gets up as the handler approaches to pick it up a mandatory deduction of 3 points will occur plus any additional faults when leaving the down position by more than three meters, the following rules apply to allow a partial evaluation of -50% plus other mistakes:

BH-VT: partial points are possible if the other dog has completed the second exercise.

IGP-1: Partial points are possible if the other dog has completed the third exercise.

IGP-2: Partial points are possible if the other dog has completed the fourth exercise.

IGP-3: Partial points are possible if the other dog has completed the fifth exercise.

IGP-V: Partial points are possible if the other dog has completed the fourth exercise.





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### **Praise**

Praising is allowed after each completed exercise in the basic position. After this, the dog handler can take a new basic position, or pause for 3 seconds.

### **Mandatory Deductions**

	<b>IGP-1</b>	<b>IGP- 2</b>	<b>IGP- 3</b>
Sit out of Motion does not sit	- 5 Points	- 5 Points	- 2.5 Points
Down out of Motion Does not down	- 5 Points	- 5 Points	- 5 Points
Retrieve on the Flat Dog does not bring Motivate the dog, Handler leaves basic to get the dog to retrieve	0 Points Insufficient	0 Points Insufficient	0 Points Insufficient
Retrieve over 1m hurdle Just one direction jump No Jumps Does not complete Retrieve	- 5 Points - 15 Points - 15 Points	- 5 Points - 15 Points - 15 Points	- 5 Points -15 Points -15 Points
Climbing over scaling wall (only one direction) No climb over	-15 Points	Only climb 1 direction with retrieve -5 points No retrieve -15 points	Only climb 1 direction with retrieve -5 points No retrieve -15 points
Send Out with down See exercise description			

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### **Phase C - Protection (IGP 1-3)**

#### **General Provisions**

In all Protection exercises, the dog must only grip the protection sleeve provided for this purpose. Biting other unprotected body parts of the helper leads to immediate disqualification (DQ).

In countries where laws prohibit the stick test, these regulations can be implemented without it.

In USCA trials the stick contact (tests) are allowed only on the shoulders and in the area of the withers. During all periods of stress and threat, the dog has to behave unimpressed, powerful, and to show a full, calm energetic and above all consistent firm grip during the entire exercise (special attention should be given to a dog that fights to inhibit / hinder the helper during the stress and threat).

#### **Field Markings**

The field markings must be clearly visible to the dog handler, the Judge and the helper:

Position of the dog handler for the call out from guarding in the blind

The position for the helper to start the escape and the distance (20 paces) that the dog must be on and gripping the sleeve.  
(See sketch page 51)

Arc marking to position the dog behind during the setup for escape. (See Sketch page 46)

Marking for the dog handler for the exercise "Attack on the dog out of motion" (IGP3 Only)

#### **Blinds**

In a suitable location 6 blinds (3 blinds on each side) are staggered on each side of the field (see sketch page 63). All 6 blinds places must be set up in all examination levels (IGP 1-3).

#### **Basic requirements**

Assessing the instinctive behavior, self-confidence, ability to cope with stress, grip performance and obedience is done over the entire protection routine. The dog has to show self-confidence and power any time when searching for the helper.

#### **Evaluation criteria**

Restrictions on the following important evaluation criteria to be observed:

The dog is not confident and unimpressed while responding to attacks, and has a less than a full, hard and calm grip until the release.

The dog shows a lack of confidence during the exercise.

The dog is not dominant, close and powerful while guarding the Helper .

#### **Secondary Obedience and use of the leash**

IGP V and 1 report in on leash and then proceed to center of field and remove the leash to start the search exercise. All secondary obedience in any exercise may be performed either on leash or off leash at the handlers' decision. The decision to use or not use the leash must be made before the start of each individual exercise. If the handler chooses to use the leash they may hold the collar to attach the leash, but the dogs' behavior as the leash is being attached or while using the leash is evaluated by the judge for control and if the leash influences the dogs behavior.

IGP 2 and 3 report in off leash and complete the entire protection phrase (all exercises) off leash

After reporting out at the end of protection the handler / dog team will free heel at least five (5) paces away from the helper before attaching the leash. For IGP V or 1 if the final side transport was performed on leash the will heel five (5) paces away on leash. The dog should remain calm and under control after reporting out.



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Deduction of One Category	slightly inattentive guarding and / or slight bothering in the guarding phase
Deduction of Two Categories	Very inattentive guarding and / or a lot of bothering in the guarding phase
Deduction of Three Categories	the dog does not guard the Helper, but remains with the helper
Insufficient	The dog leaves the helper to go to Handler during approach
Termination	<p>The dog does not withstand the pressure from the Helper and comes off the sleeve and backs up / leaves the helper</p> <p>The dog leaves the Helper before the handler has picked up the dog (within approx 3 meter of the dog) or the dog handler gives a command for the dog to stay with the helper (HL) or dog stops guarding / avoids the helper</p>

### **Extra Commands – Deductions**

If the dog does not release after the first command, the dog handler receives the instruction from the judge for up to two additional commands to out the dog.

Slow to Out	1 Extra Command with Immediate Out	1 Extra Command with Slow Out	2 Extra Commands, Immediate Out upon second command	2 Extra Commands, with slow Out upon second command	No Out after second extra command
0.5 – 3.0	3.0	3.5 – 6.0	6.0	6.5 – 9.0	Disqualification

### **Examination Levels IGP-1 to IGP-3 (Exercises and Points Values)**

Exercises	IGP-1	IGP-2	IGP-3
Search for the Helper	5	5	10
Hold and Bark	15	15	15
Prevention of Attempted Escape	20	15	10
Defense against an attack from the guarding phase	30	20	15
Back transport	-	5	5
Attack on the dog out of the back transport	-	-	15
Attack on the dog out of motion	30	20	15
Defense against an attack from the guarding phase	-	20	15
Total Score	100	100	100



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### **Report in**

The dog handler report in, in the basic position at the judge (this can be done when the handler is in basic position between the start blinds ready to start the search and raises the hand to signal the judge for the start of the search\_-. In the level of the IGP-1, IGP -V with a dog on leash, in the level of IGP-2 and IGP-3, the dog handler reports in with the dog off leash. Protection starts when the dog handler for the exercise "Search for the helper" is in basic position in the direction of the judge and the hand raised to acknowledge to the judge that they are ready to begin the search.

### **Search for the helper**

The start must take place in the basic position facing downfield to the Judge, after acknowledging the judge a new basic is taken in the direction of the first blind.

IGP-1 1 Blind	IGP-2 4 Blinds	IGP- 3 6 Blinds
The dog is heeled, on leash, to the starting position on the center line even with blind 6, The handler assumes a basic position there and removes the leash. The handler raises an arm showing his willingness / ready to start the exercise. After the judge signal the dog is sent directly to blind 6. <u>The handler must turn /reposition toward the blind to start.</u>	The dog is heeled, off leash, to the starting position on the center line even with blind 3, The handler assumes a basic position there. The handler raises an arm showing his willingness / ready to start the exercise. After the judge signal the dog is sent to start the search exercise. <u>The handler must turn /reposition toward the blind to start.</u>	The dog is heeled, off leash, to the starting position on the center line even with blind 1, The handler assumes a basic position there. The handler raises an arm showing his willingness / ready to start the exercise. After the judge signal the dog is sent to start the search exercise. <u>The handler must turn /reposition toward the blind to start.</u>

With a verbal command and a hand signals with the right or left arm for direction, the dog is sent to search the blinds. The dog has to run fast and directly at the blinds, it must go around them closely and attentively. After going around into the blind, the handler calls the dog's name and gives a voice command to "Come" toward him, then gives a verbal command and points to the next blind for searching. The dog handler moves in the normal pace on the imaginary center line, which he must not leave during the blind search, the dog must pass in front of the handler. When the dog has reached the helper's blind, no further commands or hand signals are permitted, and the dog handler must stop as soon as the dog enters blind 6 and remain standing until he receives an instruction from the judge to approach the dog for the call out or pickup.

### **Evaluation criteria**

If the dog is not calm in the basic position at the beginning of the exercise, if the dog is barking or vocal during the search, if the dog receives additional commands or hand signals, if the handler leaves the imaginary center line during search, the handler does not move at a normal pace, the dog circles the blind wide, the dog is acting independently, passes behind the handler or not on the handler's commands, If blinds are not circled or not attentively circled, if the dog is difficult to control, these faults are deducted accordingly.

If the dog handler has his dog come into the basic position during the blind search (the dog stops the search and comes to basic position), the exercise is evaluated with zero points. The protection can be continued, if the dog can be sent on again (1 additional chance to search), if he comes back to the basic position a second time, protection must be terminated.

If the dog does not find the helper on the first command, the handler has two more commands to try to get his dog into blind 6. If the dog does not find the helper on the 3rd command then protection is terminated.

### **Hold and Bark (10 points for Hold and 5 points for Barking)**

The handler (HF) waits for instructions from the judge for retrieving the dog. The dog must confront the helper confident, actively, dominant, attentively and bark continuously. The barking duration is approx. 20 seconds before the judge signals for the handler to approach. The exercise ends as follows:



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IGP-1	IGP-2	IGP-3
<p>The Judge instructs the handler when to go to the marked position 5 paces away from the helper. On the judge's instructions, the handler calls his dog into the basic position or, alternatively, moves up to his dog, takes him to the basic position with a command to sit, then puts the leash on and heels to the marked position and takes the basic position.</p> <p>The dog may also be kept off leash when heeling to the marked position.</p>	<p>The Judge instructs the handler when to go to the marked position 5 paces away from the helper. On the judge's instructions, the handler calls his dog into the basic position</p>	<p>The Judge instructs the handler when to go to the marked position 5 paces away from the helper. On the judge's instructions, the handler calls his dog into the basic position</p>

### Evaluation criteria

Weakness or Limitations in dominance, continuous barking and confidence while holding the helper until the command to call out is given, are evaluated accordingly. During the exercise, the dog must not be distracted by the performance judge or by the dog handler .

Weak, inconsistent, not dominate, non-energetic unfocused barking Dog does not bark, but actively guards the helper	Satisfactory to Insufficient  Insufficient
Bothering the Helper by pushing, Bumping, etc. The dog bites the sleeve and only releases after approach and a command	Rated accordingly as low as Insufficient  Insufficient – 14 Points
If the dog leaves the helper before the dog handler leaves the center line after the judge's instructions.  If the dog does not go back into the blind or leaves the helper again	The dog can be sent in again one time. If the dog remains with the helper, phase C can be continued. Low Insufficient rating for hold and bark.  Termination
If the dog leaves the helper during the handler's approach, if the dog stops guarding / avoids  or if the dog comes out from the helper before the command	Rated as Insufficient  Rated as Insufficient
If the dog is biting the sleeve in the blind and does not release on his own, the dog handler is instructed to go to the callout position. The handler is allowed to call the dog with a command to „out“and a “here, heel” command, which must be said in a one word manner.	If the dog comes out to basic position- Insufficient -14  If the dog does not release or come to basic <u>with one command</u> - Disqualification



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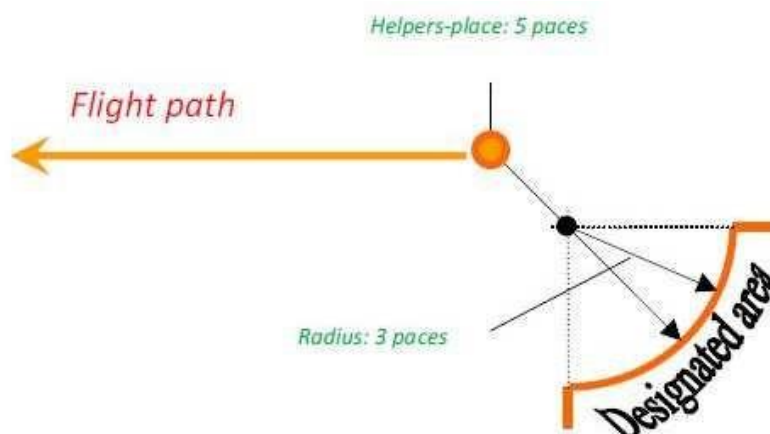


### **Prevention of an attempted escape of the helper**

Commands for the Escape and Out

On the judge's instructions, the handler asks the helper to step out of the Blind. The helper goes at a normal pace to the starting point for the escape.

The handler heels his dog to the marked position for escape. If the dog is on or over the line past the dogs elbows the judge may ask the handler to reposition the dog behind the line and a point deduction may occur for this behavior.



### **IGP-1**

The dog is either heeled on leash or off leash to the designated starting position for the escape. In doing so, the dog must be under control, attentive and concentrated, as well as in the correct position at the knee of the handler. In the basic position, if the exercise is shown on leash, the leash is removed and then the dog is given the command to down. At the command the dog must lie down directly and quickly and must be calm, sure and attentive to the helper in the position. The distance between helper and the dog is 5 paces. The handler returns to the blind and remains there with a view on the dog and the judge. The judge signals the helper to escape.

### **IGP-2 and IGP-3**

The dog will be heeled to the designated starting position for escape and has to take a basic position there. In doing so, the dog must be under control, attentive and concentrated, as well as in the correct position at the knee of the handler. At the command the dog must lie down directly and quickly and must be calm, sure and attentive to the helper in the position. The distance between helper and dog is 5 paces. The handler goes back to the Blind and remains there with visual contact to the dog and judge. The judge signals the helper to escape.

### **Attempted Escape (IGP-1 – 3)**

After the judge's instructions, the helper attempts to escape. At the same time the handler gives a command for the dog to prevent the escape. The dog must without hesitation try to prevent the attempted escape with high determination, attempting to slow or control the helper with an explosive and powerful attack. From the lockup of the helper to the out, the transitional phase is about 1 sec. After a transitional phase, the dog must out (let go). The handler may give a command to out within an appropriate time (about 3 seconds). The following guarding phase before the Defense is approximately 5 seconds.

### **Evaluation criteria (IGP-1-3)**

If the dog is placed on the line, not past the elbows the exercise continues with a 1 point deduction, if the dog is on the line past the elbows the handler must reposition the dog behind the line with a 1 category deduction.

The dog does not react with a firm, fast, energetic and powerful grip and engagement and/or effective prevention of the escape. The dog does not remain quiet, calm and/or full on the grip until the release, not attentive, not dominant or bumping during guarding of the helper are deducted accordingly.

If no command to go (release) is given, the exercise is rated one category lower.

If the dog remains in the escape setup position (does not move), or if the helper is not caught (engaged) within 20 paces, protection is terminated (in general the field should be marked with a 20 paces mark to clearly indicate the distance).



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### **Defense of an attack from the guarding phase (IGP-1 – IGP-3)**

Commands: 1 Commands for outing and 1 command for the basic position

After a guarding phase of approx. 5 seconds, the helper attacks the dog. The dog must defend itself without the influence of the handler by explosive and powerful strike with a firm and calm grip. The dog is to be pressured in the drive with stick threats by the helper. Particular attention must be paid to the dog's self-assurance, power, and a full, calm grip. Two stick hits are to be applied during the drive. At the order of the judge, the helper stops the drive and pressure. After the helper has locked up, the transition phase must be displayed for approximately 1 sec after the helper has stopped. After the transition phase, the dog must release (out). The handler can give a command for the out in an appropriate time (1-3 seconds) on their own, additional commands to out will be directed by the judge. During and after the release (out) the helper has to stand still. After out the dog must guard the helper with powerful, attentive, showing confidence with high dominance.

### **End of the exercise**

#### **IGP-1**

The handler (HF) follows the judge's instructions to approach the dog, he does so directly in a normal walk, the handler (HF) stands next to his dog and returns him to the basic position with a command of Sit (handler must be next to the dog in basic position when sit command is given if the dog moves back to the handler on command sit it is faulty). The padded stick is not taken from the helper. The handler then heels the dog on leash down field to set up for the long attack. The dog may also be heeled down field off leash.

#### **IGP-2 and IGP-3**

The handler follows the judge's (LR) instructions to approach the dog, he does so directly in a normal walk, the handler stands next to his dog and returns him to the basic position with a command of Sit (handler must be next to the dog in basic position when the sit command is given if the dog moves back to the handler on command sit it is faulty). The padded stick is not taken from the helper.

### **Evaluation criteria (IGP-1 – IGP-3)**

The dog does not react with a firm, fast, energetic and powerful engagement and/or effective prevention of the attack. The dog is not quiet, calm and/or full on the grip until the release, the dog is not attentive, dominant or bumping during guarding of the helper are deducted accordingly.

### **Back Transport IGP-2**

Commands: Heel or Transport

The exercise begins with the end of the exercise "Defense against an attack from the guarding phase". The transport is carried out over a distance of 30 paces. A corner is not mandatory. The judge determines the course of the transport. The handler asks the helper to step back and move out and follows him with his dog, which is intensively attentive to the helper, at a distance of about 8 paces. This distance must be maintained during the entire back transport. The helper stops and stands still on the order of the judge. The handler goes to the helper without stopping with his dog who is attentive to the helper, stands beside the helper and takes the padded stick. The dog must sit in the basic position. Then, a side transport to the judge is shown over a distance of about 20 paces. A command for the transport is allowed. The dog has to go between the helper and the handler. The dog must be attentive to the helper. However, he is not allowed to press, bump or grip the helper. At the end of the transport, the handler takes a basic position with his dog in front of the judge, hands over the padded stick to the judge and announces the first part of protection is complete.

### **Back transport IGP-3**

Commands for the Transport

The exercise begins with the end of the exercise "Defense against an attack from the guarding phase". The transport is carried out over a distance of 30 paces. A corner is not mandatory. The judge determines the course of the transport. The handler asks the helper to step back and move out and follows him with his dog, which is intensively attentive to the helper, at a distance of about 8 paces. This distance must be maintained during the entire back transport until the judge signals the attack on the dog out of the transport.



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### **Back transport - Evaluation criteria**

If the dog shows pressure or stressed behavior, if the dog is not attentive to the helper, if dog is not in correct position with the handler or incorrect paces from helper. The exercise will be deducted accordingly.

### **Attack on the dog from the Back Transport. IGP-3 only**

Commands: 1 Command for outing and 1 command for the basic position

During the back transport and without stopping, at the direction of the judge, the helper attacks the dog without the intervention of the handler and without hesitation; the dog must engage the helper with a confident, powerful attack with a full firm and calm grip. After the grip the dog is to be pressured by being driven and threatened by the helper. Particular attention must be paid to the dog's self-assurance, power, and a full, calm grip. At the order of the judge, the helper stops the drive and pressure. After the helper has locked up, the transition phase must be displayed for approximately 1 sec after the helper has stopped. After the transition phase the dog must release. The handler can give a command for outing in an appropriate time independently. During and after the release the helper has to stand still. After the dog releases the dog must guard the helper powerfully, attentively, confidently and with high dominance. On the judge's instructions the handler goes to the helper with his dog who is attentive to the helper, stands beside the helper and takes the padded stick. The dog must sit in the basic position (a single sit command is allowed without deduction, handler must be next to the dog in basic position when the sit command is given). Thereafter, a side transport to the judge is shown over a distance of about 20 paces. A command for the transport is allowed. The dog has to go between the helper and the handler. The dog must be attentive to the helper. However, he is not allowed to press, bump or grip the helper. At the end of the transport, the handler takes a basic position with his dog in front of the judge, hands over the padded stick to the judge and announces the first part of protection is complete.

### **Evaluation criteria (IGP-3 only)**

The dog does not react with a firm, fast, energetic and powerful engagement and/or effective prevention of the attack. The dog is not quiet, calm and/or full on the grip during the pressure phase until the release, not attentive, dominant or bumping during guarding of the helper are deducted accordingly.

### **Attack on the dog out of Motion**

Commands: out, Sit and Transport.

The helper yells and threatens the dog in all levels. The first yells are given when the helper turns up field to run towards the dog. The final yell and threat is when the dog is preparing to engage the helper.

### **IGP-1**

The helper will stop where the previous exercise has ended (if the judge determines it an unsafe position on the field he/she may move the helper more to the midline of the field to before the dog is sent to attack). After the "Defense against an attack from the guarding phase", the dog handler takes his dog, on leash or off leash, about 30 meters away from the helper. The dog must be in the correct position on the knee of the dog handler. After reaching the position for the setup, the handler stops and turns around. The dog is brought into the basic position with the command to sit. The dog, sitting calmly and attentively to the helper, can be held by the collar. He must not be stimulated by the dog handler. At the order of the judge, the helper attacks the dog frontally with yelling and making strong threatening motions. On the judge's instructions, the handler immediately releases his dog with the command to go. The dog must without hesitation engage of the helper with high dominance and determination. After the grip the dog is to be pressured by driving and threats with the padded stick by the helper. Particular attention must be paid to the dog's self-assurance, power, and a full, calm grip. The handler is not allowed to leave his place. At the order of the judge, the helper stops the drive and pressure and places the back of the dog towards the handler. After the helper has locked up, the transition phase must be displayed for approximately 1 sec after the helper has stopped. After the transition phase the dog must release. The handler can give a command to out in an appropriate time (1 – 3 seconds) independently additional commands to out will be directed by the judge. During and after the release the helper has to stand still. After outing the dog must guard the helper with powerful, attentive, confidence with high dominance. On the judge's instructions, the handler goes to his dog, returns him into the basic position with to sit (handler must be next to the dog in basic position when the sit command is given) and puts the leash him on. The padded stick is removed from the helper. The handler may disarm the helper any way he/she wants as long as the dog and handler remain together during the disarm. Then a new basic position is taken next to the helper and a side transport, either with the dog on leash or off leash, to the





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judge over a distance of about 20 paces. A command for heeling or transport is allowed. The dog has to remain between helper and the handler. The dog must be attentive to the helper during transport. However, he is not allowed to press, jump or grip the helper. If the dog leaves the position between the helper and handler the transport must stop and the handler has 3 commands to get the dog back to position between the handler and helper so the transport may continue. At the end of the transport, the handler takes a basic position in front of the judge, hands the padded stick to the judge (LR) and reports that protection is complete. The handler goes with his dog on leash, at the direction of the judge, under control to the position for the critique.

### **IGP-2**

The helper will stop where the previous exercise has ended (if the judge determines it an unsafe position on the field he/she may move the helper more to the midline of the field to before the dog is sent to attack. After the side transport at the end of the exercise "Back Transport", the dog handler takes his dog, off leash, about 40 meters away from the helper. The dog must be in the correct position on the knee of the dog handler. After reaching the position for the setup, the handler stops and turns around. The dog is brought into the basic position with the command to sit. The dog, sitting calmly and attentively to the helper, can be held by the collar. He must not be stimulated by the dog handler. At the order of the judge, the helper attacks the dog frontally with yelling and making strong threatening motions. On the judge's instructions, the handler immediately releases his dog with the command to go. The dog must without hesitation engage of the helper with high dominance and determination. After the grip the dog is to be pressured by driving and threats with the padded stick by the helper. Particular attention must be paid to the dog's self-assurance, power, and a full, calm grip. The handler is not allowed to leave his place. At the order of the judge, the helper stops the drive and pressure and places the back of the dog towards the handler. After the helper has locked up, the transition phase must be displayed for approximately 1 sec after the helper has stopped. After the transition phase the dog must release. The handler can give a command for outing in an appropriate time (1-3 seconds) independently additional commands to out will be directed by the judge. During and after the release the helper has to stand still. After outing the dog must guard the helper with powerful, attentive, confidence with high dominance for approximately 5 seconds.

### **IGP-3**

The handler (HF), after the side transport at the end of the exercise "Attack on the dog from the back transport" he takes his free heeling dog to the marked place on the center line even with the first Blind. The heeling has to show attention to the handler, stress free and intensity from the dog. The dog is straight, right at the knee of the handler. After reaching the position for Long Attack the handler stops and turns around. With the command sit, the dog is brought into the basic position. The straight, quiet and attentive to the helper sitting dog can be held by the collar, but may not be stimulated by the handler. At the order of the judge the helper with a padded stick comes out of a blind and runs to the center line. After reaching the center line the helper turns up field and runs towards the handler and attacks, without interrupting his running pace, while yelling and making strong threatening motions. As soon as the helper is about 50 meters from the handler, on the judge's instructions, the handler immediately releases his dog with the command to go. The dog must without hesitation engage the helper with high dominance and determination. After the grip the dog is to be pressured by driving and threats with the padded stick by the helper. Particular attention must be paid to the dog's self-assurance, power, and a full, calm grip. The handler is not allowed to leave his place. At the order of the judge (LR), the helper stops the drive and pressure and places the back of the dog towards the handler. After the helper has locked up, the transition phase must be displayed for approximately 1 sec after the helper has stopped. After the transition phase the dog must release. The handler can give a command for outing in an appropriate time independently (1-3 seconds) additional out commands will be directed by the judge. During and after the release the helper has to stand still. After outing the dog must guard the helper with powerful, attentive, confidence with high dominance for approximately 5 seconds.

### **Evaluation criteria (IGP-1-IGP-3):**

The dog is not reacting with a firm, fast, energetic and powerful engagement and/or effective prevention of the attack. Not quiet, calm and/or full grip until the release, not attentive, dominant guarding of the helper is deducted.





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### Defense of an attack from the guarding phase, with completion of phase C IGP-2 and IGP-3

Commands: Out, Sit and Transport

After the exercise "defense against an attack out of motion", the helper on the judge's instruction undertakes an attack on the dog. The dog must defend itself without the influence of the handler by explosive and powerful strike. The dog is to be pressured in the drive with stick threats by the helper. Particular attention must be paid to the dog's self-assurance, power, and a full, calm grip. Two stick hits are to be applied during the drive (**IGP-3 only**). At the order of the judge, the helper stops the drive and pressure. After the helper has locked up, the transition phase must be displayed for approximately 1 sec after the helper has stopped. After the transition phase, the dog must release. The handler can give a command for outing in an appropriate time (1-3 seconds) independently additional out commands will be directed by the judge. During and after the release the helper has to stand still. After outing the dog must guard the helper with powerful, attentive, confidence with high dominance.

On the judge's instructions, the handler goes to his dog, returns him into the basic position with the command to sit. The padded stick is removed from the helper. The handler (HF) may disarm the helper any way he/she wants as long as the dog and handler remain together during the disarm.

Then a new basic position is taken by the handler and dog next to the helper and a side transport, with the dog off leash, to the judge over a distance of about 20 paces. A command for heeling or transport is allowed. The dog has to stay between helper and the handler. The dog must be attentive to the helper during transport. However, he is not allowed to press, jump or grip the helper. At the end of the transport, the handler takes a basic position in front of the judge, hands the padded stick to the judge and reports that protection is complete. The handler must free heel 5 paces away from the judge before taking a basic position and putting the leash on. The handler goes with his dog on leash, at the direction of the judge, under control to the position for the critique.

### Evaluation criteria

The dog is not reacting with a firm, fast, energetic and powerful engagement and/or effective prevention of the attack. Not quiet, calm and/or full on the grip until the release, not attentive, dominant or bumping during guarding of the helper are deducted accordingly.

### Additional examination

#### IGP-V

The IGP-V (Pre-IGP-1 test) has been developed by the Commission for FCI. This test can be used:

1. as prerequisite for admission in the working class.
2. as a prerequisite for admission to IGP-1, this IGP-V is offered in USCA Trials but is not required to enter for IGP 1 in USCA..

Phase A	100	Points
Phase B	100	Points
Phase C	100	Points
Total:	300	Points

### Prerequisite

On the day of the examination, the dog must have reached the minimum required age. No exceptions may be made. Prerequisite for the entering is a successful BH / VT according to the national rules of the national organization.

### Conditions

The exercises in Phases A and B are based on the general regulations.

Phase C shall be carried out as follows:

Exercise 1 : Hold and Bark	15	Points
Exercise 2 : Prevention of Attempted Escape	30	Points
Exercise 3 : Attack on the Handler HF and his dog	50	Points
Exercise 4 : Transport to the judge LR	5	Points
Total	100	Points



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### **General provisions**

There is no TSB evaluation. The helper uses a padded stick to threaten the dog, but without striking.

#### **Hold and Bark - 15 points – Commands "search"**

The helper is located about 20 steps away from the handler and his dog, not visible to the dog, in a blind. At the direction of the judge, the handler unleashes his dog and sends him with a command to search and / or raise the arm and point to the blind. The dog must actively, attentively, and persistently bark at the helper. The dog is not allowed to touch or grip the helper. The handler immediately goes to the dog at the direction of the judge and holds him on the collar.

#### **Prevention of Attempted Escape - 30 Points –Command "out"**

While the handler is holding his dog by the collar, the helper steps out of the blind and makes an escape attempt. On the order of the judge, the dog handler releases his dog. The dog must without hesitation try to prevent the attempted escape with high determination, and by an explosive and powerful attack. From the lockup of the helper to the out, the transitional phase is about 1 sec. After a transitional phase, the dog must let go. The handler may give a command to out within an appropriate time.

During the command for the "out" the handler must stand still without influencing the dog. After the release, the dog must remain close to the helper and guard this carefully. At the judge's direction the handler goes directly to his dog and holds him by the collar.

#### **Attack on the Handler and his dog - 50 Points – Commands: "Heel", "Out", "Sit", "Heel or Transport"**

The dog is held on the collar, but cannot be stimulated by the dog handler. At the direction of the judge the helper goes away in a normal pace from the handler and dog. After about 20 paces, the helper turns to the handler and attacks the handler and his dog frontally with yelling and violent threatening movements. The handler will release his dog with the command to "go". The dog has to defend the attack without hesitation by energetic and powerful attack. He may only attack the helper's protective sleeve. The dog handler is not allowed to leave his place. At the direction of the judge the helper stops. After the helper stops, the dog must immediately release. The dog handler can give a command to "release" in an appropriate time independently.

During the command to "out" the handler must stand still without influencing the dog. After the release, the dog must remain close to the helper and guard him attentively. On the judge's direction, the handler goes directly at a normal pace, to his dog and takes him into the basic position with command to sit.

#### **Transport to the judge - 5 Points - commands as "Heel" or "Transport"**

Then follows a side transport of the helper to the judge over a distance of about 10 paces. A command HZ "heel" or "transport" is allowed. The dog has to go to the right side of the helper so that the dog is between the helper and the dog handler. The dog must be attentive to the helper during transport. However, he is not allowed to press, jump or grip the helper. At the end of the transport, the handler takes a basic position in front of the judge, and reports that protection is complete.

### **Tracking 1 – 3 (FPr 1 – 3)**

The tracking examinations in levels 1 to 3 consist only of the "A" Phase of the corresponding examination Levels of IGP-1 to 3. They can be counted to make the minimum number of 4 entries (at least 1 must be a IGP, FH, RH) to make an official trial. It is up to the handler, at which stage his dog is presented.

A training title in the sense of the show requirements, the breeding regulations and the "Breed survey" will not be awarded.

Maximum Points	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Satisfactory	Insufficient
100	100 – 96	95 – 90	89 – 80	79 – 70	69 - 0

**The tracking examinations (FPr/TR) do not need to be performed or earned in sequence (order) of 1-2- 3**



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### **Obedience 1 – 3 (UPr 1 – 3)**

The Obedience examinations in levels 1 to 3 consist only of the "B" Phase of the corresponding examination Levels of IGP-1 to 3. They can be counted to make the minimum number of 4 entries (at least 1 must be a IGP, FH, RH) to make an official trial. It is up to the handler, at which stage his dog is presented.

A training title in the sense of the show requirements, the breeding regulations and the "Breed survey" will not be awarded.

Maximum Points	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Satisfactory	Insufficient
100	100 – 96	95 – 90	89 – 80	79 – 70	69 - 0

**The Obedience examinations (UPr/OB) do not need to be performed or earned in sequence (order) of 1-2-3.**

### **GPr 1-2-3**

#### **Working dog test 1 to 3 (GPr 1-3)**

Maximum Points 200

The GPr 1 - 3 examinations only consist of Phases B and C of the corresponding examination Levels of IGP 1 - 3. Track work is not shown during these examinations. They can be counted to make the minimum number of 4 entries (at least 1 must be a IGP, FH, RH) to make an official trial. It is up to the handler, at which level his dog is presented. Titles do not need to be performed or earned in sequence

A training title in the sense of the show requirements, the breeding regulations and the "Breed survey" will not be awarded.

Maximum Points	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Satisfactory	Insufficient
200	200 – 192	191 – 180	179 – 160	159 – 140	139 - 0

### **Article Indication Trial 1 – 3 (StPr 1 – 3)**

#### **1. Test levels for the Article Indication Test**

The requirements are set at different levels and reflect the individual testing levels. They can be counted to make the minimum number of 4 entries (at least 1 must be a IGP, FH, RH) to make an official trial. It is up to the handler, at which stage his dog is presented. Titles do not need to be performed or earned in sequence

Level	Indication Area	Articles	Points	Execution Time
1	20 x 30 m	2 Handler Articles Size: 10 x 3 x 1 cm Material = same type permitted 1 article left, 1 article right	10 / 10	10 minutes
2	20 x 40 m	4 Stranger Articles Size: 10 x 3 x 1 cm Material = different 2 articles left, 2 articles right	5 / 5 / 5 / 5	12 minutes
3	30 x 50 m	5 Stranger Articles Size: 5 x 3 x 1 cm Material: Different may be placed at judges discretion	4 / 4 / 4 / 4 / 4	15 minutes



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### **2. General Requirements**

In order to take this Examination, the dog must be a minimum of 15 months old and has passed the FCI-BH/VT test or has passed a national BH/VT test.

The handler reports in with his name and his dog's name in a sportsmanlike manner and advises the judge which level of test he is undertaking. Thereafter, he goes with his dog on leash to the designated start position and assumes the basic position.

The dog is taken off leash for the indication work. The handler must keep the leash with him. Any force or punishment is to be avoided.

Slightly going out of the boundaries is not faulty. Spectators are to be a reasonable distance away from the indication field.

### **3. Type of area for the Indication Work**

Terrain: all natural ground (grass, plowed field, wooded area). Tree stumps are also permitted. (avoid any opportunity for visual indication, so avoid short grass or other similar areas.)

Prior to laying out the articles, the indication area should be crossed by people several times, so that no one track is indicated.

Markings may be placed around the indication area.

### **4. Articles**

Material: Wood, leather, artificial leather, textile

Placed articles may not differentiate themselves in color to the terrain and should not be visible.

Handler and dog must remain out of sight while the articles are placed.

There is no waiting time to begin. The dog may begin to search immediately after the articles are placed.

### **5. Deploying the dog to locate**

The imaginary center line and the bordering sides of the indication area will be made known to the handler by the judge.

At the beginning a short preparation of the dog to start working at the imaginary center line of the indication area is permitted.

The handler moves within the imaginary center line. He may only leave this to retrieve the article. Thereafter the dog is restarted from the center line to locate the remaining article(s). Both verbal and visual commands are permitted. The command "lost" may be supported with the "search" command.

Locating the article(s) with a "high Nose" is not faulty. The indication area may be repeatedly searched.

### **6. Behavior at the articles**

Articles must be convincingly indicated and may not be touched by the dog. The articles may be indicated by sitting, standing or lying down or in varying styles. A command to indicate is not permitted and leads to the article being evaluated as "not found".

No commands are permitted to get the dog to indicate the articles. If the dog has indicated an article, the handler goes to his dog and shows the judge the article by raising it up and then he returns to the center line and restarts his dog and allows it to continue the article indication work until it indicates the next article.



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The lying down position for the articles is not stipulated. The located article must however be in the immediate area of the dog's front paws.

The handler always approaches his dog from the side and may not stand in front of the dog. Praising the dog after the article is shown is permitted.

After the dog has located the last article, he is placed on leash. Thereafter, the handler shows the article and reports out to the judge.

### **7. Rating**

The maximum number of points for StPr 1 – 3 is 100 points. A minimum of 70 points must be achieved.

#### **The evaluation criteria for all 3 levels**

- a) The dog's tenacity is 20 points  
(Following the instructions/ hand signals of the handler)
- b) The dog's intensity of work is 20 points  
(determination and work ethic)
- c) Stamina 10 points  
(Never stopping the detection drive until the article is found)
- d) Behavior of the dog handler 9 points  
(Affecting the dog)
- e) Finding the articles 41 points  
(Convincing, confident, steady indication)

Maximum Points	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Satisfactory	Insufficient
100	100 – 96	95 – 90	89 – 80	79 – 70	69 - 0

### **8. General Regulations**

The exercise starts with the basic position at the edge of the search field and ends with the dog/handler team checking out to the judge. The articles found by the dog are to be shown.

#### **Positive criteria**

Consistent, quiet and fluent working, quick release from the dog handler, immediate response to verbal commands, persistent and purposeful working of the dog, wide side impacts of the dog.

#### **Faulty is**

Picking up an article by the dog. Objects which are displayed with strong handler help are considered not found.

Touching the article 1 - 3 points deduction

Premature breaking indication position, 1 - 3 points deduction

Handler leaves the imaginary center line 2 - 5 points deduction

Mice catching, urinating or defecating, etc. 4 - 8 points

deduction Wandering, work lacks intensity, focus or determination 4 - 8 points deduction

The work must be terminated after exceeding the predetermined running time. The points reached to that time are evaluated.



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### **Other negative evaluation criteria are**

Restless behavior when searching, barking, handler help, extensive overshooting of the search area boundaries by the dog.

	<b>StPr 1</b> <b>Field Size 20 x 30 m</b>
	<b>StPr 2</b> <b>Field Size 20 x 40 m</b>
	<b>StPr 3</b> <b>Field Size 30 x 50 m</b>

## **ENDURANCE TEST (AD)**

### **A. General information**

#### **Purpose**

The endurance test is intended to provide proof that the dog is capable of a physical effort, without considerable fatigue shown subsequently. The dogs structure and physical condition must be able to hold up throughout the requirements of the entire examination. The examination places increased demands on the body and internal organs, especially the heart and lungs. But also examines other properties, such as temperament and hardness. The effortless management of the performance must be seen as proof of the physical health and the presence of the required drives.

Before the test starts, the identity of the dog must be verified.

**In USCA Events there is no minimum number of dogs entered to conduct an AD. The request to hold an AD must be part of the USCA Trial Authorization. The result must be entered in the scorebook, or on the pedigree.**

When applying for an event authorization, the organizer accepts the responsibility to carry out the endurance test during the summer months only in the early morning or late afternoon hours. The outside temperature should not exceed 22 degrees Celsius (72 F).

Participation in an endurance test is voluntary. In the course of an endurance test, if the handler or his dog should be injured, neither the organizer nor the judge can be held liable.

#### **Admission of dogs**

The minimum required age is 16 months. A maximum of 20 dogs are allowed per day with one judge. If there are more than 20 dogs then a second judge must be used. For safety reasons, each handler is allowed to show only one dog. The dogs must be fully and well trained. Ill, weak, overheated, pregnant or nursing bitches must not be allowed to start. At the beginning of the examination, the handler checks in with the judge. The judge has to be sure the dog is in good shape. Dogs that appear to be tired or unhappy are to be excluded from participation. If a dog shows excessive fatigue symptoms or other impairments during the test, the dog has to terminate in the examination.

All decisions by the judge are not contestable.



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### **Rating**

Points and ratings are not awarded, only "Passed" or "Not passed".

### **Terrain**

The Examination will be held on roads and paths of various possible surfaces. For example: asphalt or unpaved streets, grass or dirt paths.

### **Performance of endurance test**

The Examination is a distance of 20 kilometers (12.4 Miles) in length at a rate of 12 to 15 kilometers per hour (7.5 to 9.3 MPH).

### **Running exercise**

The handler takes his dog to the starting position for the examination. The dog has to run (according to the traffic regulations) on the right side of the handler in a normal trot beside the bike. Avoid having the dog run too fast. The leash must be kept longer so that the dog has the possibility to adapt to any tempo. Connection devices ("Springer") are allowed. Slight pulling on the leash is not faulty, but the dog should not be constantly dragging and choking himself. After the first 8 km (5 miles), a break of 15 minutes is required. During this time the Judge must watch the dog for any signs of fatigue. Fatigued Dogs Shall be terminated from the examination.

After the break, 7 km (4.5 miles) more are to be covered, then a break of 20 minutes.

During this break, the dog is given the opportunity to move freely and without constraint.

Shortly before the return to the final running portion the judge must check the dogs for fatigue or injury to their paws. Fatigued dogs or dogs whose paws are injured must be terminated. After completion of the final running portion, a 15 minute break must be inserted. During the break, the dog must be given the opportunity to move freely and without constraint. The judge must determine whether the dog shows signs of fatigue or injury to the paws.

Judges should accompany the dogs on the bike if possible, if not they should follow in a car. The results must be entered in the scorebook. It is necessary for the Handler/dogs to be accompanied by a motor vehicle so that dogs that cannot continue can be loaded into the motor vehicle and transported back to the start.

Dogs that show exceptional signs of fatigue or are unable to withstand the minimum speed of 12 km/h cannot pass the examination.

## **Intentionally Left Blank**



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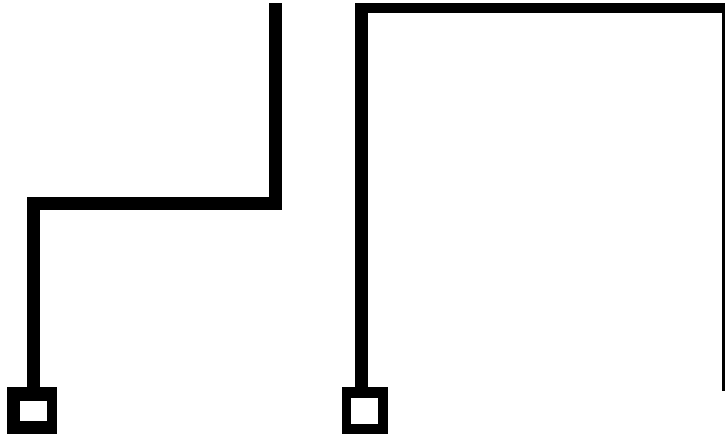
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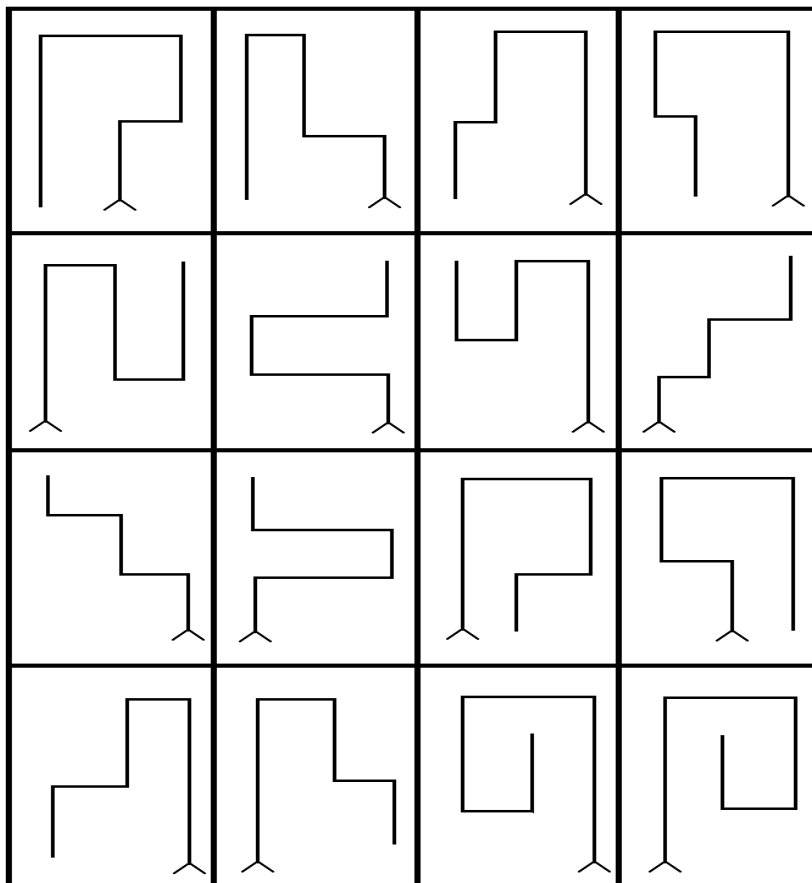
### **Track shapes IGP-1 and IGP-2**

The tracking sketches are examples and can also be placed in mirror image.



### **Track shapes IGP- 3**

The tracking sketches are examples and can also be placed in mirror image.







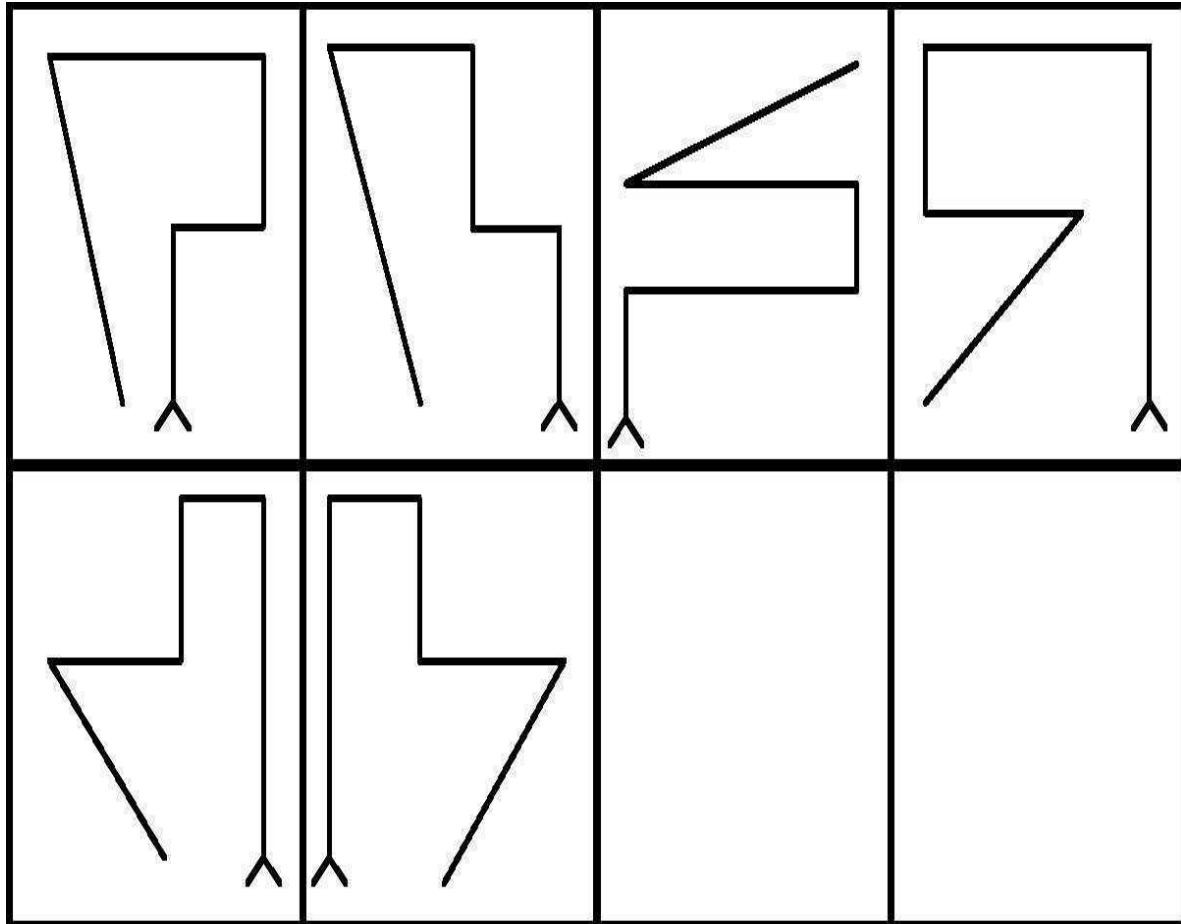
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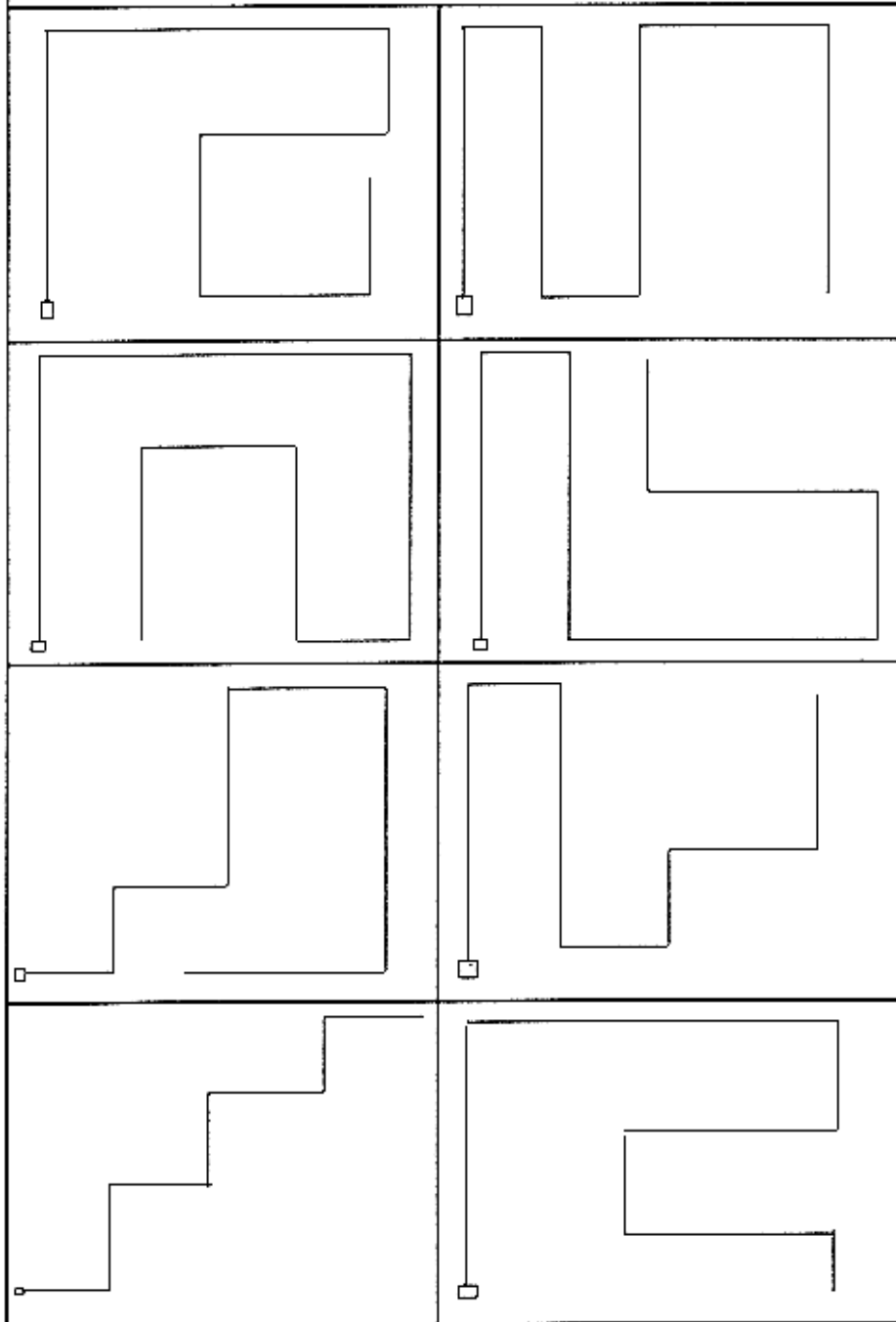
**IFH-V**

Possible tracks for IFH-V





## Fährtenformen nach der FH





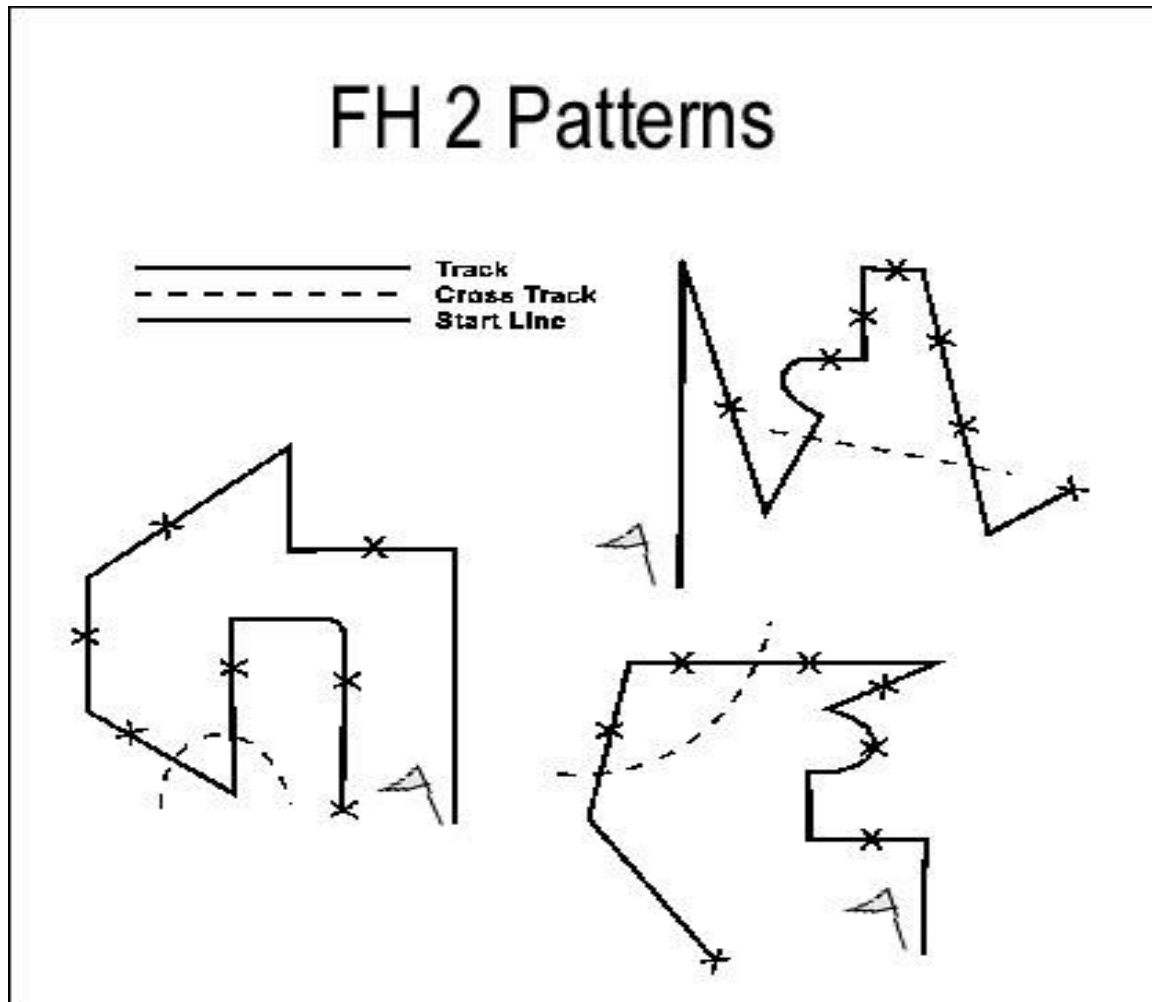
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**IFH-2 and IGP-FH**  
Possible tracks





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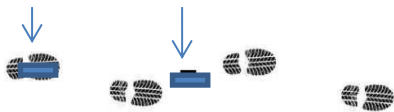
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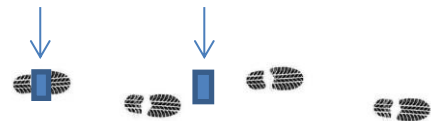
### Laying the track

Angle outside footprint or T footprint are acceptable. What is important is the inside of corner is as close to 90 degrees as possible. All tracks in a level should be laid the same style.

Laying the article  
(article may be in or between the footsteps)



alternative way of laying the article



Sharp angle to the right

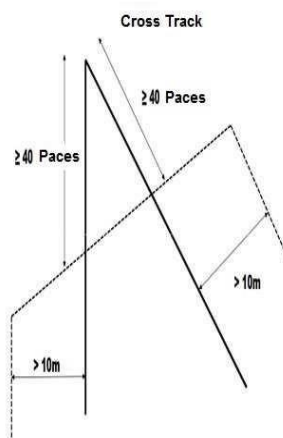
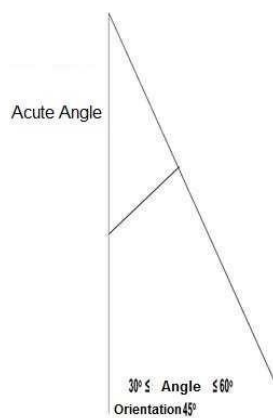


Sharp angle to the left



Sharp angle

Cross track

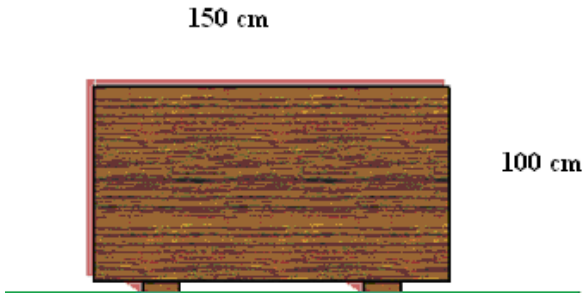


Page will be deleted , duplicate of information in following pages  
Hurdle

The fixed Hurtle 1 meter in height .

**ONE-METER HURDLE CONSTRUCTION:**

Height: 1 meter  
Width: 1.5 meters  
Nonflexible (rigid) top - no "goal posts".

	<p>The jump has a height of 100 cm (39.7 inches) and a width of 150 cm (59 inches) (see sketch)</p> <p>The top should be rigid. Practice jumps are not permitted during the trial.</p>
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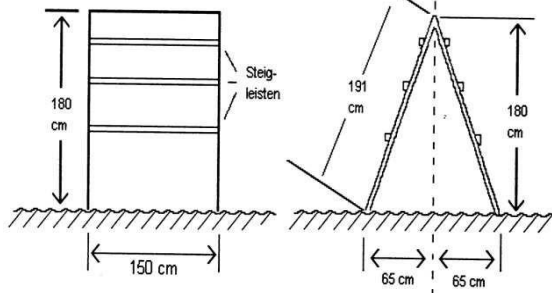
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### Scaling wall

#### Schrägwand

Vorderansicht  
Höhe 180 cm  
Breite 150 cm



The scaling wall consists of 2 sides joined at the top and must be 150 cm wide and 190cm high. At the bottom both sides stand apart so that there is a peak height of 180cm The entire area of the scaling wall must be covered with anti skid material. At the upper part of the sides 3 cleats 24/48mm must be fixed. All dogs must jump the same obstacles.

Test jumps are not permitted during the Examination



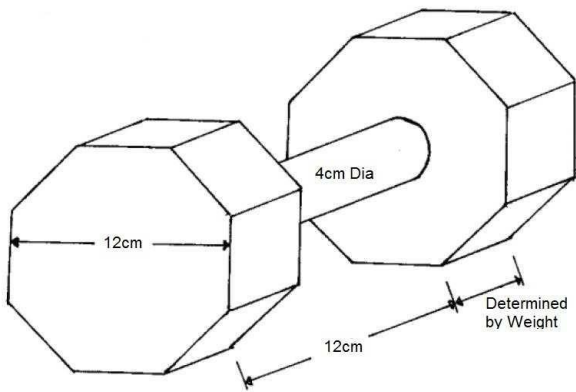
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	IGP-1	IGP-2	IGP-3
<b>On the flat</b>	N/A	1.000 gr	2.000 gr
<b>Jump</b>	650 gr	650 gr	650 gr
<b>Scaling wall</b>	650 gr	650 gr	650 gr

**Dimensions of the Dumbbells**



For the retrieve exercises only dumbbells are allowed. The dumbbells provided by the hosting club/ organizer must be used by all participants. Dog Handler's own dumbbells are not permitted except in IBGH-2 and IBGH-3. The sketch of the Dumbbell above is merely a sample. It is important that the weights are correct and that the bars are made of wood and that the bars are at least 4 cm from the ground.



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**Additional Guidelines for Out of Motion Exercises**

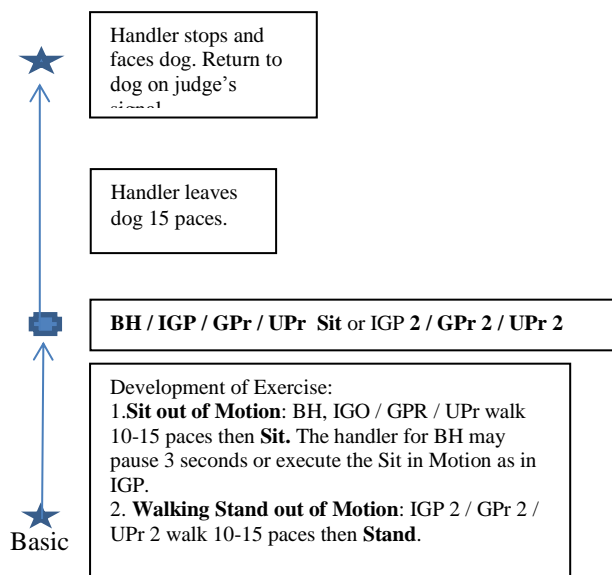
BH / IGP – GPr – UPr 1 Sit, Down with Recall  
IGP 2 / GPr 2 / UPr 2 Sit, Down with Recall, Walking Stand  
IGP 3 / GPr 3 / UPr 3 Sit, Walking / Running Down with Recall, Running Stand with Recall

Sit out of Motion BH / IGP 1-2-3 / GPr 1-2-3 /

UPr 1-2-3

Walking Stand out of Motion IGP 2 / GPr 2 / UPr 2

(IGP / GPr / UPr the exercise is executed without a change of pace (stride) by the handler. For BH the Sit may be executed with the handler stopping for 3 seconds and command sit or may be executed without breaking stride as described above for IPO)

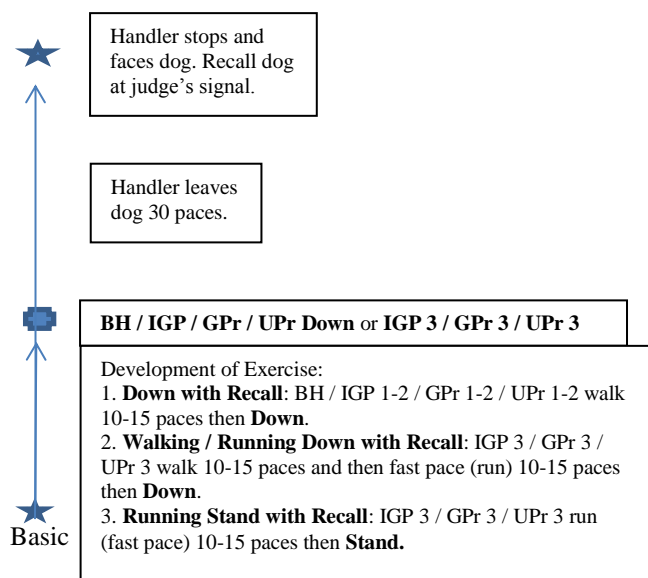


Down out of Motion with Recall BH / IGP 1-2 / GPr 1-2 / UPr 1-2

Walking / Running Down out of Motion IGP 3 / GPr 3 / UPr 3

Running Stand with Recall IGP 3 / GPr 3 / UPr 3

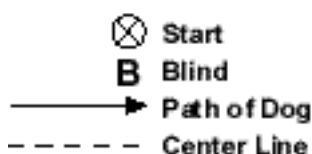
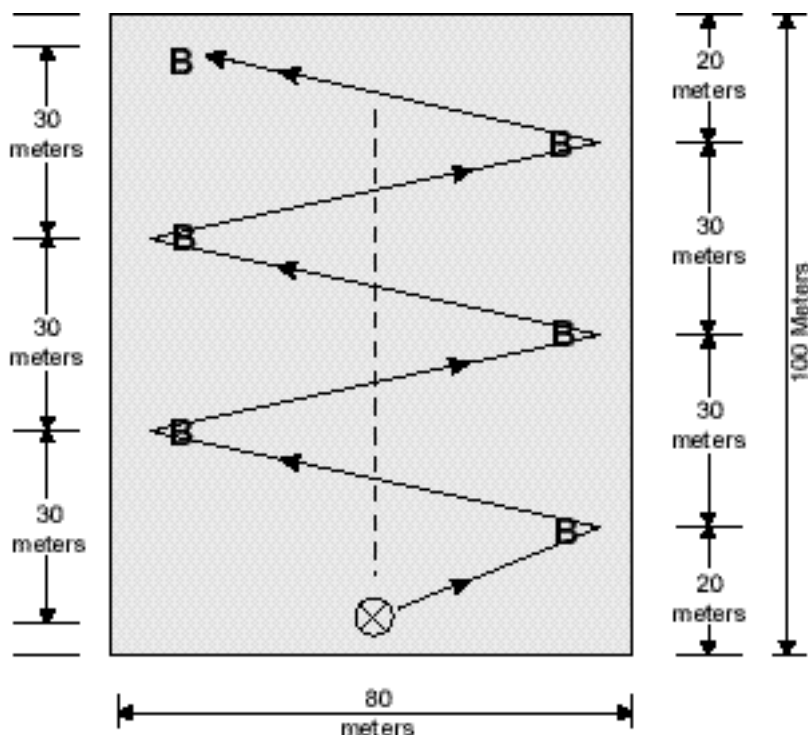
(IGP / GPr / UPr the exercise is executed without a change of pace (stride) by the handler. For the BH the Down may be executed with the handler stopping for 3 seconds and then command down or may be executed without breaking stride as described above for IPO)







### **ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES FOR PROTECTION DIAGRAM AND FIELD LAYOUT**



IGP 3 Protection Search – handler starts at point marked X, with the dog in basic position facing down field (centerline) and signals the judge. At the recognition of the judge to start the search, the handler / dog team turn toward the number one (1) blind remaining on the centerline and again assume the basic position (dog sitting calmly). The handler may then at their decision start the search by sending the dog with the search command. (e.g., revier, search, voran, etc.) When the dog has searched the blind, the handler may use the dog's name and "hier" (come, etc.) to call the dog back towards the handler and then repeat the search command for the next blind. The handler must remain moving down the centerline of the field as the dog searches the blinds. The dog must cross in front of the handler at all times, and the handler must walk at a steady consistent pace to properly complete the search. The search may continue if the dog returns to the handler one time but is able to be resent to continue the search. If the dog returns to the handler a second time (stops searching) the Search and protection are terminated. Once the dog has entered the find / live blind (#6 with the helper) regardless of the handlers' location on the field he / she must stop moving on the centerline of the field until called in by the judge to pick up the dog.

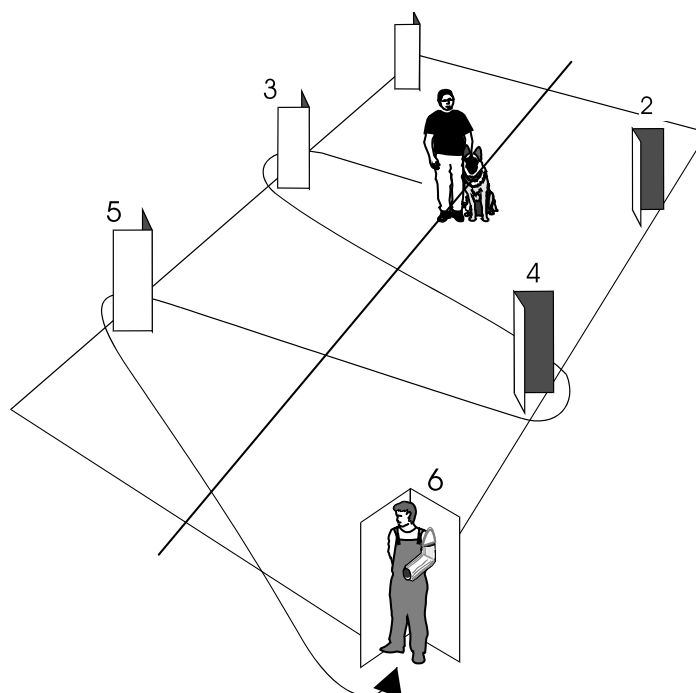
#### **Additional Protection Field Notes:**

During the protection routine the field should be clear of all equipment except blinds. All six (6) blinds must be set up regardless of the level of IPO being evaluated. Correct blind set up requires the blinds be staggered in an approximate field length to width ratio of 100% long to 80% wide. (i.e., a field that is 300' long from blind 1 to blind 6 should be 240' wide between blind 1 and blind 2; making a 100 x 80 ratio.) This allows the proper stagger and width to length ratio for a correct search, and the handlers can maintain a normal walking pace in relation to the dog's speed during the search.



## **IGP 2 Protection Search Pattern**

The Handler proceeds to the midline of the field inline with blind 3. From basic position facing downfield he/she signals the judge to start. The handler must turn to reposition the dog to face the number 3 blind and from a basic position facing the blind start the search. Searching four blinds as described above in the IGP 3 search description. (see diagram below)

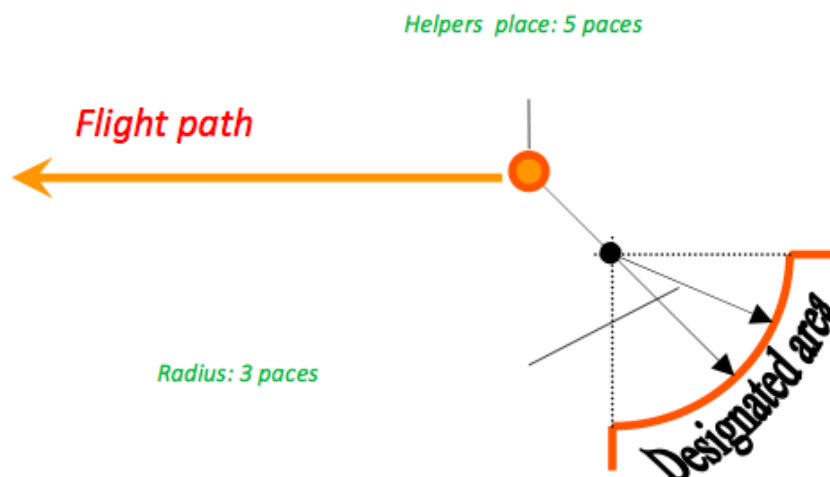


## **IGP 1 Protection Search Pattern**

The Handler proceeds to the midline of the field between blinds 5 and 6 on leash and then sits the dog in basic position and removes the leash. The handler must then turn to the number six (6) blind (helper / live blind) and sends the dog directly to the number six (6) blind



## ESCAPE BITE LAYOUT with additional information (diagram also in rule book page 46)



Additional Notes: The exercise begins at the basic position after the call out from the "Hold and Bark". The dog should show obedience to the handler in its free heeling (IGP 1 may use leash) from the basic position to the designated position for the escape (curved line, approximately 5 paces from the call out position and 5 paces from the helper), present a basic position at the designated position (line) and then receive the command "down / platz" that positions the dog behind the designated line. The dog may be placed anywhere behind the designated area for the down. The handler will then leave the dog in the "down / platz" position with the dog watching the helper, and the handler will return to the blind. The handler may watch the dog and helper from the blind. (i.e., stand partway in to the blind to be able to see the dog and helper.) The dog should remain calm and watchful / attentive to the helper. On the judge's signal the helper will make an attempted escape, immediately as the helper moves the handler must give a "go" command to the dog to "release" it from the down position. The dog should with power and confidence grip and attempt to control / stop the helper from escaping.

In the escape if the dog is completely over the line when downed, the handler will be asked to call the dog back to basic position behind the line and downed correctly. If the dog in the down (platz) is not behind the escape line, but has contact with line the dog is allowed to continue, but the rating will be lowered one (1) category even if the remaining part of the escape is performed correctly. If the dog leaves (breaks) the escape position on its own and only guards the helper (no grip), the handler may on instruction from the judge go to the down position and call the dog back to reposition it behind the designated line and into the down (platz) position, but will receive a point deduction of insufficient. Three attempts are allowed to call the dog back to the down position. If it does not respond the protection is "DQ - out of control". If the dog leaves (breaks) the position on its own and grips anything (e.g., sleeve, helper, etc.) the dog will be disqualified.



## **Quick Reference Sheet for the most common but not all actions resulting in a Disqualification (DQ) or Termination (Term)**

### **Tracking:**

If the dog stops working the track, the handler has up to three (3) commands to get the dog to continue to work - **Term**

Restarts the dog during the track (except 1 time allowed in FH) - **TERM**

If the handler holds / grabs the dog by the collar or body - **DQ**

Training Devices at the tracking field - **DQ**

Motivational objects or food on the tracking field (except in the designated parking area) – **DQ**

Stops working the track or does not complete the track in the allowed time - **Term**

### **Obedience:**

If the dog leaves the handler and will not return with 3 commands or less - **DQ**

If the dog leaves the trial field “as determined by the judge”(USCA) - **DQ**

If the dog does not release the dumbbell after three (3) commands. - **DQ**

If the dog is given a “platz / down” command or incorrect command to regain control of the dog. - **DQ**

If the handler holds / grabs the dog by the collar or body - **DQ**

If the dog cannot physically complete an exercise or is unfit/unhealthy - **Term**

### **Protection:**

If the dog leaves the protection field at any time – **DQ**

If the handler calls the dog to him and this stops his forward movement or dog goes to basic position during the blind search a second time - **Term**

If the dog is given a command in order to make the dog stay by the helper - **DQ**

If dog does not release with a maximum of three (3) out commands - **DQ**

If the dog grips any other part of the helper's body other than the protective sleeve – **DQ**

If the handler holds / grabs the dog by the collar or body (except in the Attack on Dog out of Motion” in the watch position (may hold the collar) - **DQ**

If the dog requires more than the allowed number of commands to complete the exercise (i.e., more than two (2) additional commands in total to complete, the transports, call out, Outs etc - **DQ**

If handler uses the “platz / down” command at any time (other than Escape setup) - **DQ**

If the handler cannot report in or out (transport) to the judge with his / her dog properly in position with 3 or less commands - **DQ**

If the dog makes no attempt / effort to be directed to the first search blind (goes directly to find blind) - **DQ**

After being sent unsuccessfully a total of three (3) times to the helper, in the live blind - **Terminated**

If the dog leaves the helper, the handler is allowed only one (1) additional command to resend the dog into the blind. If the dog leaves on his own a second time - **Terminated**

If the dog is gripping the sleeve when the handler is at the call out spot, they may only use the "hier-fuss" command three (3) times (out command not allowed) to make the dog release and come to heel - **DQ**

If the dog does not come to basic position after three (3) commands for the call out or in IGP if the dog cannot be heeled out of the blind with or without the leash with 3 or less commands - **DQ**

If the dog leaves (breaks) the escape position on its own and only guards the helper (no grip), the handler may call the dog back to reposition it, three (3) times - **DQ**

If the dog leaves (breaks) the escape position on its own and grips anything (e.g., sleeve, helper, etc.) - **DQ**



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If the dog fails to catch and engage the helper before the helper has reached the twenty (20) pace distance, or fail to remain on the sleeve in the "Attempted Escape of the Helper" or if the dog fails to engage the Helper in any Defense exercise - **Terminated**

During guarding If the dog leaves the helper by more than 3 meters and/or is not actively guarding the helper before the handler picks up the dog – **Term**

If the handler gives a command so that the dog stays with the helper - **DQ**

If the dog regrips the sleeve as the handler approaches, and the handler is within three (3) meters he / she must continue walking to basic position and tell the dog to "sit". If the dog does not release after no more than three (3) "sit" command the team will be disqualified. If the handler uses "out" at the basic position the protection work will be **terminated**.

If the dog breaks the transport position the transport is stopped and the handler will have up to three (3) commands to get the dog back into correct transport position to complete the transport or the work is -DQ

An exercise will be stopped and the team will be disqualified if the dog receives the helping command "platz" / "down" in order to make the dog release the grip. The handler is, at no time, allowed to reinforce the dog with a "platz" / "down" command if the dog outs and downs after the out. **DQ**

If dogs breaks free (or sent) on "Attack on Dog Out of Motion" before the helper has made the turn up field - **DQ**

If the dog makes **ANY** contact to is strongly attracted to anyone (judge/secretary) except the helper during the protection Work - **DQ**