



American Working Malinois Association
(AWMA)

AWMA Trial Rulebook

2019 International Utility Dog Regulations (IGP)

www.workingmalinois.org

The following information/regulations are for use at all AWMA Events effective 1/1/2020 (AWMA version: 01.01.2020) the original content is taken from the FCI Utility Dog Regulations effective 01.01.2019 and edited for use in AWMA Events.

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Preamble

The American Working Malinois Association (AWMA) is a working dog club developed to promote and preserve the working Malinois in accordance with the FCI standard. In its country of origin, Belgium, the Malinois is one of four varieties of the Belgian Shepherd Dog distinguished by coat: Malinois, Laekenois, Groenendael, and Tervuren. The AWMA is focused on the Malinois but supports the participation of the other Belgian Shepherd Dogs in the United States.

The AWMA is also a member of the Federation Mondio Berge Belge (FMBB), which is the world union for the working Belgian Shepherd Dog. As a member of FMBB, the AWMA sends dog/handler teams to compete internationally at the prestigious FMBB World Championships. The AWMA collaborates with the American Belgian Malinois Club, the AKC, and the United States Mondio Ring Association to send an agility team, a Mondioring team and an IGP team to FMBB. In addition, AWMA is also a full member of the American Working Dog Federation (AWDF) and AWMA members are eligible to earn spots on the AWDF FCI teams.

It is the intent of the AWMA to preserve the working ability, soundness in character and structure of the Belgian Malinois. AWMA promotes and supports clubs that carry out IGP training, hold seminars and conduct working trials. The AWMA welcomes dogs of all varieties and fully supports and promotes the sport of IGP throughout the United States.

When training the dog, the physical as well as the psychological health of the dog is the top priority. It is imperative the dog be handled in a fair, orderly, and humane way. Adequate care must be provided through proper nutrition, hydration, and exercise; as well as by regular health maintenance, i.e. regular vaccinations and veterinary examinations. In addition, the dog must be properly socialized.

Throughout history, dogs have had various jobs to help man. In the modern-day world, many of those duties have been replaced with technology. It is now the responsibility of the dog owner to ensure their dogs have other activities that allow them to live a physically and psychologically healthy life. Adequate exercise and activities that promote close contact with people, are just two examples. The companion test (BH), the tracking test (FH), and the article search test (StPr) are activities within IGP that would fulfill these requirements. All dogs should be occupied according to their abilities and capabilities. Other than proper exercise, the dog should have activities that take into consideration the dog's learning ability, strengths and weaknesses. The various forms of dog sports provide excellent venues. Dogs that do not have enough activities act out/stand out, which may lead to behavioral problems and public complaints.

Any person who trains or does sport with the dog has to undertake a method of careful training with the goal of achieving the best possible harmony between themselves 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 the handler and the 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 their abilities and limitations.

It remains the ethical responsibility of the handler to raise and adequately train the dog. Training methods must meet the standards of behavioral sciences, especially in regard to the Malinois. In order to achieve the upbringing, training or training outcome, 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 raising and training aides. Using a dog for dog sport has to be oriented to the dog's capabilities, the dog's competitive spirit and the dog's willingness. Influencing the dog's training capabilities through the use of medication or animal cruelty must always be avoided. One must carefully acknowledge the capabilities of the 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 the dog will train a healthy and capable dog to take to trials and competitions.

General Abbreviations

AWMA – American Working Malinois Association

FCI – Federation Cynologique International

AWDF – American Working Dog Federation

IGP – International Utility Dog Trial Regulations (International Gegräuchshund Prufung – International Working Test)

FMBB – Federation Mondio Berge Belge

AKC – American Kennel Club

DOJ – Director of Judges

DQ – Disqualification

ADA – Americans with Disability Act

BH – Begleithund

FH – Fahrtenhund

Validity of Rules (Regulations)

The FCI regulations are effective 01/01/2019. The original regulations were drawn up by the FCI Utility Dog Commission and were approved and confirmed by the FCI General Committee in February 2018 and accepted for use.
The following rulebook is adapted for use in AWMA trials/events.

Effective 11/2019 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 IGP regulations are valid for all FCI members and contract partners.

This version of the AWMA trial rules has been edited for use in AWMA events. All edits or corrections do not alter the fundamental description of any exercise or title. All titles earned at AWMA events using this rulebook are valid and recognized by the FCI. AWMA variances are previously approved by the Executive Board or Judges Committee; some are due to liability or for practical application at AWMA events, they do not change the fundamental purpose of the exercises or validity of any title. Please refer to the published AWMA Preface/Variances Rulebook (separate) for additional information. Edits/changes/clarifications in the dog rulebook differing from the FCI Utility Dog Regulations are either highlighted or underlined in the text.

This rulebook version is approved for use by AWMA effective 01/01/2021.

Randall L Hoadley, AWMA DOJ

General Information

Trial events and competition should serve two (2) 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 AWMA promotes the working dog trials within IGP. AWMA club and championship events will be conducted using the dog rulebook. 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 handler and dog team must remain the same for all phases. Trials are to be made public, by listing them on the AWMA website with a minimum fourteen (14) day notice of the event. The location must be included to inform 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 AWMA must be accepted by all their partners.

Every trial level can be repeated as many times as desired. The trial levels must be completed in order (IGP 1 – 2 – 3 with exception for TR/FPr, OB/UPr, FH V, FH, FH2). A dog can only be shown at the next level after successfully passing the previous level with a satisfactory rating in each phase. The dog must be shown in the highest level passed for future competitions. With the exception of when there is no ranking or qualification “repeater” connected to the trial, dogs repeating titles at a lower level may not be awarded higher ranking for awards than a dog earning a title for the first time excluding IGP3, FH1, FH2, and IGP-FH. Ranking is defined as 1st, 2nd, etc.

Trial Season

Trials may be conducted year-round as long as weather conditions permit and the well-being of both handler and dog are not at risk. Discretion is given to the trial judge who may cancel the trial. Individual regions may impose restrictions regarding the trial season for their area.

Trial Days

Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Holidays

IGP trials are generally held on weekends but legal holidays are also permitted. For trials that include Fridays start times are not permitted before 12:00 noon. All titles must be completed on the official trial days.

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

Example: A BH on the Friday/Saturday trial and a IGP-1 or IFH-1 on a Saturday/Sunday trial.

Exception: 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. The dog does not cause “overage” in the number of participants. Clubs must follow the AWMA event authorization guidelines.

Phases Per Day Per Trial Level

FPr, UPr	Equivalent to 1 phase
GPr. 1-3	Equivalent to 2 phases
SPr. 1-3	Equivalent to 1 phase
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

For AWMA club trials, 36 phases per day are allowed to be judged. For championships, such as the regionals and the Nationals, special regulations are established regarding the number of phases per day per judge and the schedule of events.

Trial Organization/Trial Secretary

The trial secretary is responsible for the organization of the event. This includes the judges' paperwork, fliers, the event location, and equipment needed in order to prepare for and conduct the trial. The trial secretary must guarantee the orderly execution of the event and must be at the judge's disposal throughout its duration. The trial secretary must be an AWMA member and may not show a dog in the trial.

The trial secretary is responsible for:

1. Obtaining all event documents required for the event: event authorization, judges' sheets, trial paperwork, scorebooks, helper and tracklayer books if applicable.
2. Trial equipment: flags, articles, jump, wall, gun, blinds, helper equipment, chip reader, etc.
3. Assisting in locating suitable tracking fields for all trial levels according to the rules. This includes ensuring arrangements have been made with the property owners of the tracking fields.
4. Ensuring a safe suitable trial field for obedience and protection that meets the minimum size requirements to properly show all exercises.
5. Assist in providing experienced volunteers for the event such as classified helpers for protection, tracklayers and group, etc.

A minimum of one (1) week, or seven (7) days, in advance, the trial secretary must inform the judge of the event location, start times, directions, type of trial and number of dogs entered. Failure to provide the dog information may result in the judge declining to officiate and the host club responsible for any fees due. The event authorization (if needed) is to be provided to the judge prior to the start of the trial.

Trial Supervision

The AWMA is entitled to supervise its events. The AWMA may assign a knowledgeable person to oversee an event to ensure it is conducted in accordance with the regulations.

Trial Judges

AWMA or AWDF licensed judges are authorized to judge any AWMA event. FCI licensed judges residing outside the United States are also authorized to judge AWMA events. These judges may be invited by the host club with prior approval from the regional director and the director of judges and requests for approvals sent to the judge's home kennel club by the AWDF secretary. Contact the regional director for event authorizations.

For the AWMA National Championships, the judges will be approved by the AWMA Judges Committee (as per the host club contract). The number of judges invited for a National Championship trial is up to the hosting club with at least two (2) judges presiding. Trial judges are not permitted to judge dogs that they own, are in possession of, or dogs whose owner resides with them. *The AWMA grants an exception for championships, which 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/she is officiating as a judge.

The trial judge is not permitted to disturb or influence the work of the dog. He/she is authorized to terminate the trial for failure of compliance of the rules and/or the dog instructions. *The judge must provide a written report to the Judges Committee of the AWMA or the National Organization if the trial is terminated.*

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, or anything against 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 AWMA DOJ of any unsportsmanlike behavior.

All decisions made by the judge are final and incontestable. Any form of criticism concerning the decision can lead to dismissal from the site and eventually may lead to disciplinary measures. If there is a clear violation of the rules by the judge, a notarized complaint may be submitted within thirty (30) days of the occurrence to the AWMA Judges Committee. The 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 the AWMA. 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 AWMA Judges Program.

Permission to Enter a Trial

On the day of the trial, the dog must have met the minimum age required and have met the prerequisites for the title in which they are trialing for.

Available titles offered by AWMA, their pre-requisites and minimum age limits are listed below:

Title	Prerequisites	Minimum Age
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
FPr 1-3	BH-VT	15 months
UPr 1-3	BH-VT	15 months
GPr 1-3	BH-VT	15 months
SPr 103	BH-VT	18 months
StPr 1	BH-VT	15 months
StPr 2	StPr 1	15 months
StPr 3	StPr 2	15 months
IAD	BH-VT	16 months

Additional titles that may be offered are the RH 1, and RH 2, internationally recognized by the FCI and IRO as well as titles approved specifically for the AWMA only events and recognized by the AWMA only. An example includes AWD if approved by AWMA.

Tracking titles, TR/FPr 1-3, are conducted according to the IGP 1-3 rules for tracking phase A. Obedience titles OB/UPr 1-3, follow the IGP 1-3 rules for obedience phase B. Similarly, the G. Pr. 1-3 titles are conducted according to the IGP 1-3 obedience and protection rules for phase B and C. SPr 1-3 titles are conducted according to the IGP 1-3 rules for phase C.

The titles TR/FPr and OB/UPr can be tested as single phases. These do not have to be earned in succession, and may be awarded in any order.

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

Females in heat may participate at all trial events, however, they must be shown separately from the other handlers' dogs. In tracking 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 pregnant or who are nursing or who have puppies with them may not be trialed.

Dogs sick or those suspected of having a contagious disease are excluded from all trial events. If there is any question as to whether or not a dog can participate the veterinarian (if present) will make the final decision. Dogs may not show with braces, bandages, or other signs of injury.

Trial Participants

In order to participate in the trial, the handler must meet the entry deadline for the event and upon submission of the entry form also agrees to pay the entry fee. If the handler cannot participate for any reason, the trial secretary must be notified immediately. The participant is required to provide proof of vaccination and uphold the animal rights guidelines if requested by the host club. The instructions of the judge as well as the trial secretary must be adhered to. The handler must present the dog in a sportsmanlike manner regardless of the results obtained in any given phase. If unsatisfactory results are obtained in one phase, the handler is obliged to continue for the remaining phases of the event unless receiving a DQ. The trial ends with the results and awards ceremony at which time the scorebook will be returned.

The same handler must show the dog in all phases of the trial. A two day trial is considered to be one event/trial. A 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 (1) 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. Pre-requisite for entering a trial is that owner and handler belong to a club/organization that is recognized by AWMA. Exceptions to the dog can be determined by AWMA.

Vaccination 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.

Social Compatibility

A dog that at any time during the competition (before, during, or after the dog's performance), shows overly aggressive behavior, attacks a person or another dog, tries to bite or attempts to attack, will be immediately disqualified from the competition on the judge's or AWMA official's decision. If disqualification occurs, all points are withdrawn regardless of whether it is before, during, or after the dog's performance. The disqualification extends to the remaining days of the trial. The judge will make an entry in the score book: "Disqualification due to dog aggression, dog must be presented again in a BH-VT with behavioral test." A dog/handler team disqualified for dog aggression or temperament, **must repeat a BH before entering another trial** and a report is to be made to the AWMA DOJ. Following this, the dog will also be reviewed and additional sanctions may be recommended by the Judges Committee and Executive Board.

Physically Challenged Handler (ADA)

If a handler cannot carry out part of an exercise correctly due to a physical handicap, they must inform the performance judge before the start of the trial. If due to a physical handicap the handler cannot present the dog on their left side, the dog may be presented in the same way on the right side. The AWMA 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. If necessary, there must be a person or assistant present on the trial field with a leash to accept the responsibility to leash and control the dog.

Collar Requirement/Carrying a Leash

A single row, loose fitting large link fur saver must be worn throughout the trial. The BH/VT allows the use of other types of collars including leather collars, fabric collars or chest harnesses. 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. *In a case of ADA, a handicapped handler's 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 AWMA events, 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 the dog. Therefore, they must have adequate insurance coverage for such cases. In the event of an accident during the trial, the handler is liable for both themselves and the dog. The handler is to follow the instructions of the judge and the organizing club, as well as take full responsibility for their actions in showing their dog at their own risk.

Vaccinations

If requested by the host club proof of vaccinations may be required during entry process or before the trial.

Awards Ceremony/Trophies

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

For High in Trial placement if the same number of points are awarded to more than one dog in the IGP level 1-3, then the highest score of protection phase C is the deciding factor. If the points awarded here are the same, then obedience 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 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, as it is an 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 the handing out of the scorebooks.

Scorebook

It is mandatory that every trial is recorded in the scorebook. Issuing of the scorebook is done according to the instructions of the owner's national organization, or breed club. Only one (1) scorebook issued per dog is allowed with the exception that a DVG scorebook may be presented with a breed club scorebook. 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 AWMA trial paperwork and that scorebooks be filled out.

Commands

The words for the commands in the examination regulations are suggestions for the commands. Commands are given as normal spoken words and must always be the same for the same behavior. All exercises 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 a 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.

AWMA 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 judge's signal. Failure to follow the judge's instruction or start without approval may result in deductions/faults.

International Rules/Special Rules

The national organizations of the FCI are authorized to enhance their general regulations, these can include 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 the dog rulebook.

World Championships

The specifications for the organization of the various championships of the FCI are valid. The publishing and revision of said specifications are the duty of the Utility Dog Commission.

Disciplinary Rights

The trial secretary is responsible for order and safety throughout the entire trial. The judge is authorized to terminate the trial if order and safety are compromised in any way. Violations by the handler against the trial rules or 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, ratings, or assessments may result in dismissal 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 the Code of Conduct.

Any such objections must be made in writing, notarized and addressed to the AWMA Judges Committee, and signed by the complainant. Objections must be filed within thirty (30) 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 disqualification. Video recordings for evidential purposes are not permitted. The provisions of the disciplinary regulations of the AWMA are enforced.

Disqualification (DQ)

All points awarded up to the point of disqualification 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.

Common Reasons for Disqualification (Not All):	Consequences:
Dog picks up or eats the article on the track and will not or cannot release it.	
Dog chases game and does not track anymore.	
The dog leaves the working fields and or does not return after three commands to the handler.	
The dog is not under control of the handler; the dog does not become under control of the handler after three (3) commands, one (1) allowed and two (2) additional, or only by active action of the handler.	Disqualification due to disobedience.
The dog bites the helper anywhere on the helper's body other than the protective sleeve provided for the grip.	

Dog is in defense, targeting another person, other than the helper.	
The dog is not neutral during the impartiality check.	Disqualification due to lack of impartiality.
Unsportsmanlike behavior of the handler. Examples include the use of motivation objects or food or cursing.	Disqualification due to unsportsmanlike conduct.
Acts against the IGP or animal protection laws, or contrary to the Code of Conduct.	

Termination

In the case of a termination, all points awarded up to then are awarded, as well as the points of the phases that have been completed. The points reached up to the point of termination are entered in the scorebook. For example, if the dog is terminated in protection (phase C), then the protection phase is to be evaluated with zero (0) points. The points reached in tracking phase A and obedience phase B are retained.

Reasons for Termination (Not All)

1. The dog started on the track three (3) times unsuccessfully on the scent pad or stops working for ten (10) seconds.
2. The dog leaves the track by more than one (1) leash length or the handler disregards the judge's instruction to follow the dog.
3. The dog does not complete the track within the allotted amount of time.
4. The dog in a hold and bark leaves the helper before the judge instructs the handler to leave the center line, and does not return to helper with one (1) command or leaves the helper again.
5. The dog fails in the defense exercise.
6. The dog leaves the helper by more than three (3) meters before the handler picks up the dog, in any guarding exercise, and/or the handler gives a command to make the dog remain with the helper.
7. The dog does not find the helper, after three (3) unsuccessful commands to direct the dog to the find blind.

Termination Due to Illness/Injury

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

If the handler reports in after having completed a phase with a sick dog, they are to go to the vet and obtain a certificate or get approval from the judge. Entry in the trial documentation will read: "**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, entry in the trial documentation will read: "**Insufficient due to termination**".

The certification of illness as provided by the veterinarian may be sent retro-actively. If the handler does not submit the certificate within thirty (30) days, the judge's entry in the scorebook will remain. Entry in the trial documentation will remain as: "**Insufficient due to termination**".

The scorebook will be returned to the handler. If the handler refuses to leave the scorebook with the judge until the certificate of illness is received, then the entry will be immediately recorded. Entry in the trial documentation will read: "**Insufficient due to termination**".

The handler is responsible for any costs in connection with the return of the dog's scorebook.

Remark: The judge can decide to terminate a dog and handler team if they determine that the dog appears sick or injured. The same applies to older dogs that in accordance to animal rights laws may not be able to continue due to fitness. Entry in scorebook will read: "**Terminated due to injury**".

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. The handler may be attempting to pull with a healthy dog using injury/sickness as an excuse in an unsportsmanlike manner.

Temperament Evaluation

Temperament/behavioral evaluations are conducted throughout the duration of the trial, including the awards ceremony. If a dog stands out with a temperament problem, then it cannot pass, even if 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 that the dog was disqualified due to the temperament/behavior evaluation.

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 timeframe 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 a short leash hooked to a dead ring without a tracking harness or something similar. The leash is to be held loose. The dog must be led under control.

The following rules are to be adhered to during the evaluation:

A systematic evaluation is not permitted, rather 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. 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 (i.e. checking the microchip or tattoo) 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, the judge has to test it. An example is reaction to the gunshots. Repetitions are permitted to make a determination.

The BH/VT test does not have the gun shots test. A BH/VT dog is not allowed to be paired with dogs from the IGP levels because of the gun shots. The BH/VT dogs and handlers are paired together as a group.

Results of the Temperament Test

Positive presentation = Passed

The dog is self-confident. The dog is calm, secure, lively and attentive. The dog is impartial and good-natured.

Borderline = Requires special attention

The dog is unsteady but not aggressive. The dog is balanced throughout the trial. The dog is slightly agitated, but gets calmer throughout the trial.

Dogs that may not participate in the trial

Insecure and frightened dogs that move away from a person. Nervous, aggressive dogs sounding an alarm. Dogs that are fear biters and biting dogs.

Conducting the Identity Check

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

1. If tattoo numbers are not easily recognizable, those numbers need to be recorded. The tattoo number must coincide with the one entered on the pedigree. If difficulties arise like the inability to read a number, then a remark must be made in the trial paperwork and scorebook.
2. 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. An example would be if a corresponding remark is noted in the registration, passport or health certificate.
3. 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 the trial/event.

A positive identification must be made in order for a dog to be entered into a trial. The judge, trial secretary, handler or person designated by the judge may identify the dogs using the chip reader. At all times the judge must be evaluating the dog's behavior to the identity test. In AWMA club events, if an identification cannot be made at the start of a club trial, then with the judge's decision they may allow the dog to start the trial as long as identification can be obtained before the end of the trial such as by taking the dog to a vet. If the dog is not able to be identified by the end of the trial, an entry will be made in the scorebook as a pull and no scores or ratings will be recorded. The handler is still responsible for any entry fees.

Dogs That Do Not Show Gun-Sureness

What is the understanding of the term “gun-shy?” Examples of this behavior include that the dog gets up, runs away, and shows a fear reaction.

1. Runs under the same manner to the handler.
2. Shows panic and fear and tries to leave the area or leaves it.
3. Shows panic and fear and runs wildly around.

During the evaluation, it must be determined if the behavior is due to a training fault or if it 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 fifteen (15) paces, the judge will request additional shots be fired while the dog is held on a loose leash.

Note that the gun should be caliber 6 mm /. 22 blanks; all dogs should receive the same gunshots.

Evaluation

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

Point Table

Highest Points	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Satisfactory	Insufficient
5	5	4.5	4	3.5	3.0-0
10	10	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	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

Individual Tests

During the evaluation of a particular phase, points are awarded rounded to the nearest whole number. For individual exercises, partial half points can be used for the evaluation. For final results, the total will be either rounded up or down based on the judge's evaluation in the rating category. In the AWMA judges program, only full points are awarded. A passing score is a minimum of 70 points of the maximum possible score per phase.

Calculation of Percentage (applies to each exercise)

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 %

Companion Dog Test with Traffic Safety Part BH-VT

Provisions on the Individual Tests - Written Test:

All first-time handlers are required to complete and pass a written test, also referred to as the BH written test. The test is given at least once regardless of what level or title they are entered in the trial with the dog. All dog owners must provide evidence that they have successfully passed the written examination.

Dogs that do not earn the required 70% (42 pts) of the points in Part A, the obedience portion, are not allowed to continue to Part B, the traffic portion. The BH will be awarded 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. 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 are similar to the exercises described in the general information.

Heeling on Leash	15 Points
Heeling off Leash**Note: Special Provision for BH-VT in the General Section	15 Points
Sit Exercise	10 Points
Down with Recall**Note: Special Provision for BH-VT in the General Section	10 Points
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.

Public traffic may not be interfered with while doing the examination. The implementation of the traffic 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 of 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 the exercises to carry out a correct assessment.

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

Encounter with Bicyclist

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

Encounter with Cars

The handler walks past several cars with the dog. One (1) of the vehicles is started. In another car, a door is shut. While the handler and the dog go on, a car stops next to them. The window is rolled down and the handler is asked

for information. The dog has to sit or lie down by the 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 handler walks along a quiet path with the dog. One (1) jogger or more pass the dog 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 the correct, formal heel position, but the dog must remain neutral and not bother the passing joggers. It is permitted to have the handler place the dog in a sit or down position during the encounter. Instead of the joggers, one (1) or two (2) inline skaters can also pass and meet the dog instead.

Encounter with Other Dogs

In the case of passing or encountering another dog and the 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 handler and dog walk along the sidewalk of a moderately busy street. After a short distance, the handler stops at the order of the judge and attaches the leash to a fence, wall or something similar. The handler goes out of sight into a store or a house. The dog may be standing, sitting or lying. During the absence of the handler, a passer-by/pedestrian passes the dog with a dog at a lateral distance of about five (5) paces away from the test dog. The dog left alone has to be quiet, calm, and neutral during the absence of the handler. The dog used as the neutral dog will pass by the other dog(s) left tied out at least one (1) time, at the judge's discretion, to determine the behavior of the trialing dog. No dog aggressive dogs are to be used as demonstration dogs.

A dog showing aggression marked by example behaviors of strong pulling on the leash, continuous barking, hackles, and baring teeth, will be disqualified for behavioral/temperament faults.

At the direction from the judge, the dog or dogs are picked up by their handlers. *It is up to the judge 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. This may be away from the trial field or in a public place if it is reasonably close so as not to impact the length of the trial.*

Endurance Test (AD)

General Information

The endurance test is intended to provide proof that the dog is capable of a physical effort, without considerable subsequent fatigue. 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 it 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 AWMA events, there is no minimum number of dogs entered to conduct an AD. The request to hold an AD must be part of the AWMA trial authorization. The result must be entered in the scorebook. 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/evening hours. The outside temperature should not exceed 22 degrees Celsius, or 72 degrees Fahrenheit. Participation in an endurance test is voluntary. In the course of an endurance test, if the handler or the dog should be injured, neither the organizer nor the judge can be held liable.

Admission of Dogs

The minimum required age is sixteen (16) months. A maximum of twenty (20) dogs are allowed per day with one (1) judge. If there are more than twenty (20) dogs then a second judge must be used. For safety reasons, each handler is allowed to show only one (1) dog. The dogs must be fully and well trained. Ill, weak, overheated, pregnant or nursing dogs 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.

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. Possible surfaces include asphalt, unpaved streets, grass or dirt paths.

Performance of Endurance Test

The examination is a distance of 20 kilometers, or 12.4 miles in length at a rate of 12 to 15 kilometers per hour, or 7.5 to 9.3 miles per hour.

Running Exercise

The handler takes the dog to the starting position for the examination. The dog has to stay, 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, such as a Springer, are allowed. Slight pulling on the leash is not faulty, but the dog should not be constantly dragging and choking itself. After the first 8 kilometers, or 5 miles, a 15 minute break is required. During the break time, the judge must watch the dog for any signs of fatigue. Fatigued dogs shall be terminated from the examination.

After the break, 7 kilometers, or 4.5 miles more are to be covered followed by, a 20 minute break. During the break time, 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 and their dog 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 kilometers per hour, 7.5 miles per hour, cannot pass the examination.

Phase A – Tracking

General Provisions

	IGP-1	IGP-2	IGP-3	IFH-V	IFH-1	IFH-2	IGP-FH
Track Layer	Handler	Stranger	Stranger	Handler	Stranger	Stranger	Stranger
Minimum Length	300 Paces	400 Paces	600 Paces	600 Paces	1200 Paces	1800 Paces	2 Tracks @ 1800 Paces each. (2 Different Locations, Different Track Layers, On Two Different Days).
Legs	3	3	5	5	7	8, of which 1 is a Semicircle with a 30 m Radius.	8, of which 1 is a Semicircle with a 30 m 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 Corners	Minimum 50 Paces	Minimum 50 Paces	Minimum 50 Paces	Minimum 50 Paces	Minimum 50 Paces	Minimum 50 Paces	Minimum 50 Paces
Number of Articles	3	3	3	3	4	7	7
Owner of Articles	Handler uses their own articles	Stranger uses their own articles	Stranger uses their own articles	Handler uses their own articles	Stranger uses their own articles	Stranger uses own their articles	Stranger uses own their articles
Point Values for Articles	3 x 7 Points each	3 x 7 Points each	3 x 7 Points each	3 x 7 Points each	3 x 5 Points each, 1 x 6 Points each	7 x 3 Points each	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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	IGP-1	IGP-2	IGP-3	IFH-V	IFH-1	IFH-2	IGP-FH
Dimensions of Articles in CM	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 Tracking	----	----	----	----	30 minutes before the start	30 minutes before the start	30 minutes before the start
Pre-requisites	BH /VT	IGP 1	IGP 2	BH/VT	BH/VT	IFH- 1	IFH- 2

IGP-V

Track Layer	Handler
Minimum Length	200 Paces
Legs	2
Corners	1 Right angle
Distance Between Corners	-----
Number of Articles	2
Owern of Articles	Handler
Point Values	
Placing the Articles	
Dimensions of Articles	L: 10 cm H: 0.5–1 cm W: 2–3 cm

Ageing Time	Work the Track Immediately-No Age
Working Time Maximum	10 Min.
Cross Tracking	-----
Pre-requisites	BH-VT
Rating:	Working the Track: 79 Points Articles: 21 Points

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

The cross track shall not be laid within forty (40) paces before or forty (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, as long as he does not leave the actual track. If the dog changes from the track to the cross track and follows more than one (1) leash length, the track work must be terminated.

Instruction: Only IFH-2 and IGP-FH

The handler is allowed to ask the judge to briefly interrupt the track work if they believe that they or the dog needs a short break due to physical condition and weather conditions. The pause taken shall be counted towards the available time to work the track. The handler is allowed to clean the dog's head, eyes and nose during a break or while at an article. For the dog's purpose, the 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

Tracking grounds may be any of the following: grass, plowed dirt, alfalfa or hay fields. Adaptation of the tracks to the available tracking grounds is possible with the judge's approval provided that all tracks within the same level are similar.

Laying the Tracks

The performance judge or the tracking coordinator shall determine the course of the track depending on the existing terrain. For the IFH-1, IFH-2, and IGP-FH, the track layer provides or receives a track sketch from the judge or the tracking coordinator. It includes terrain features such as trees, wire poles, huts, or the like. The judge or 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.

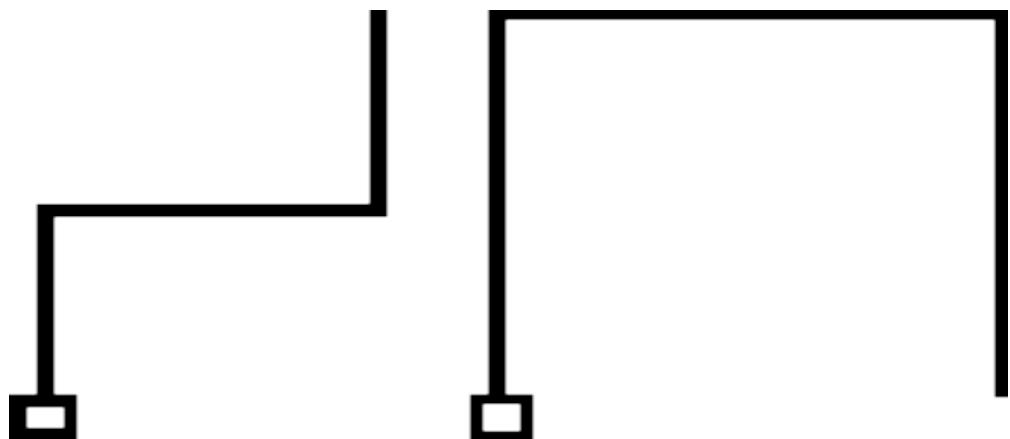
When laying the track all footprints are to be placed in a natural gait. The corners are also set in normal gait, it must be noted that a continuous track allowing the dog to work in a normal, consistent speed must be possible. Corners are laid with the inside of the corner making a 90-degree turn, either the "T" method or an angled 45 degree outside footprint. See Additional Track Laying Information below. Help by the track layer indicated by an unnatural gait, scuffing or stomping is not permitted in the entire area of the track. Articles are not to be placed within twenty (20) paces before or after the corner and must be on the track. Articles do not have to be exactly in the footprint but this is recommended. After dropping the last article, the track layer must continue at least ten (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.

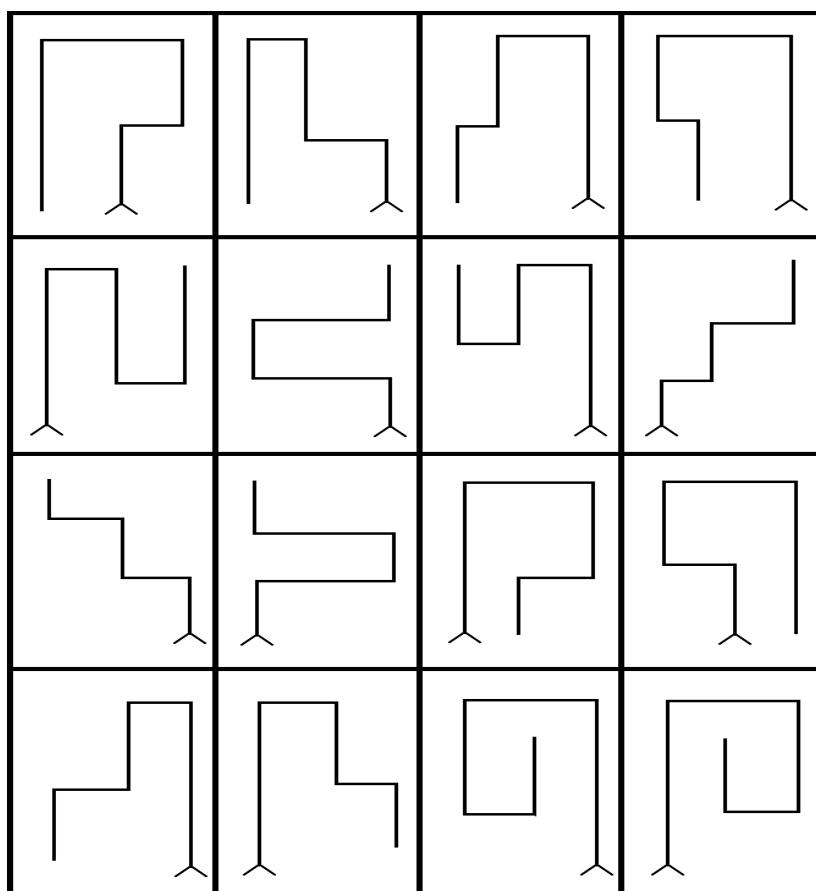
Tracking Patterns

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

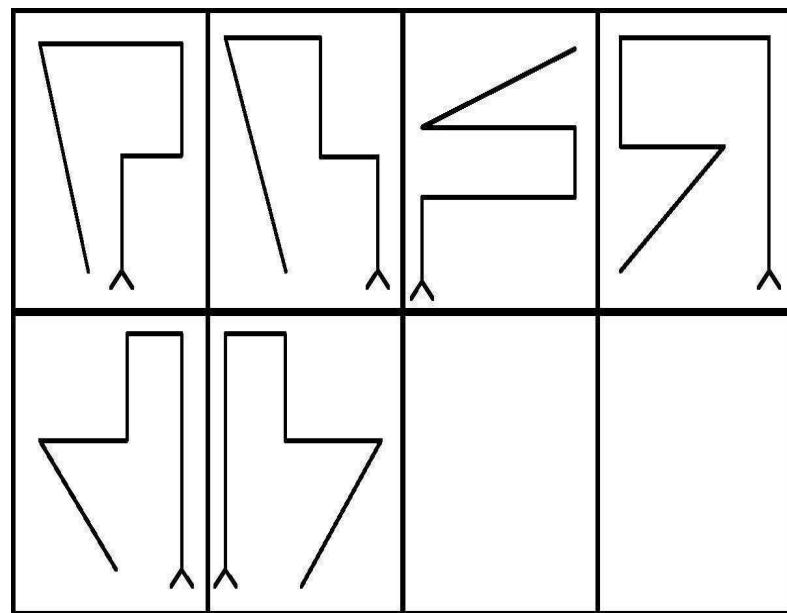
IGP-1 and IGP-2



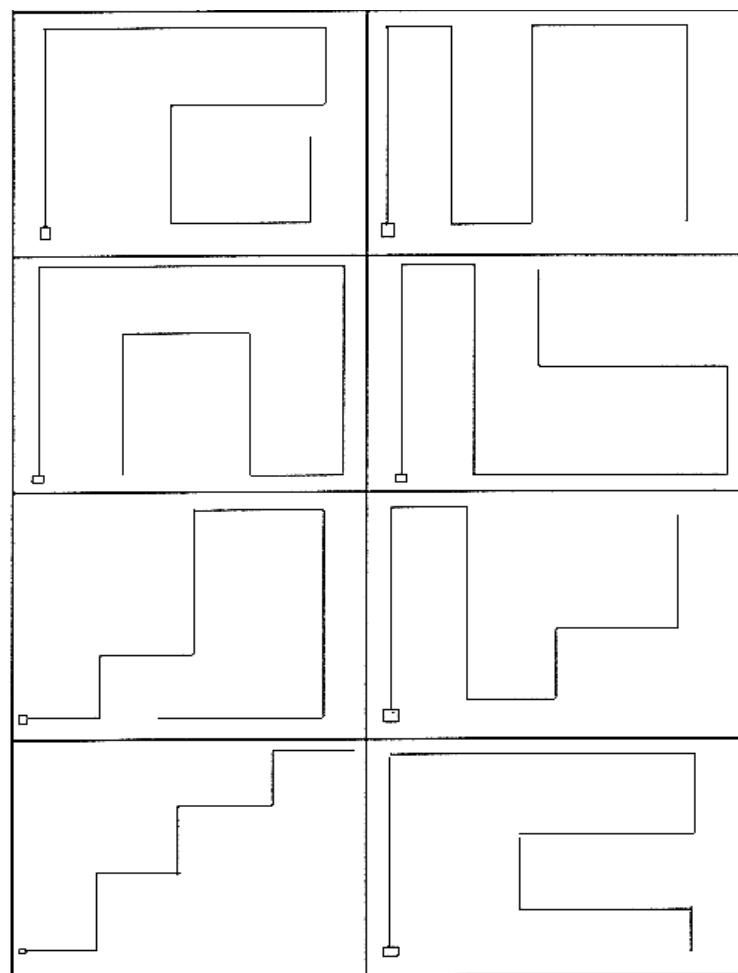
IGP-3



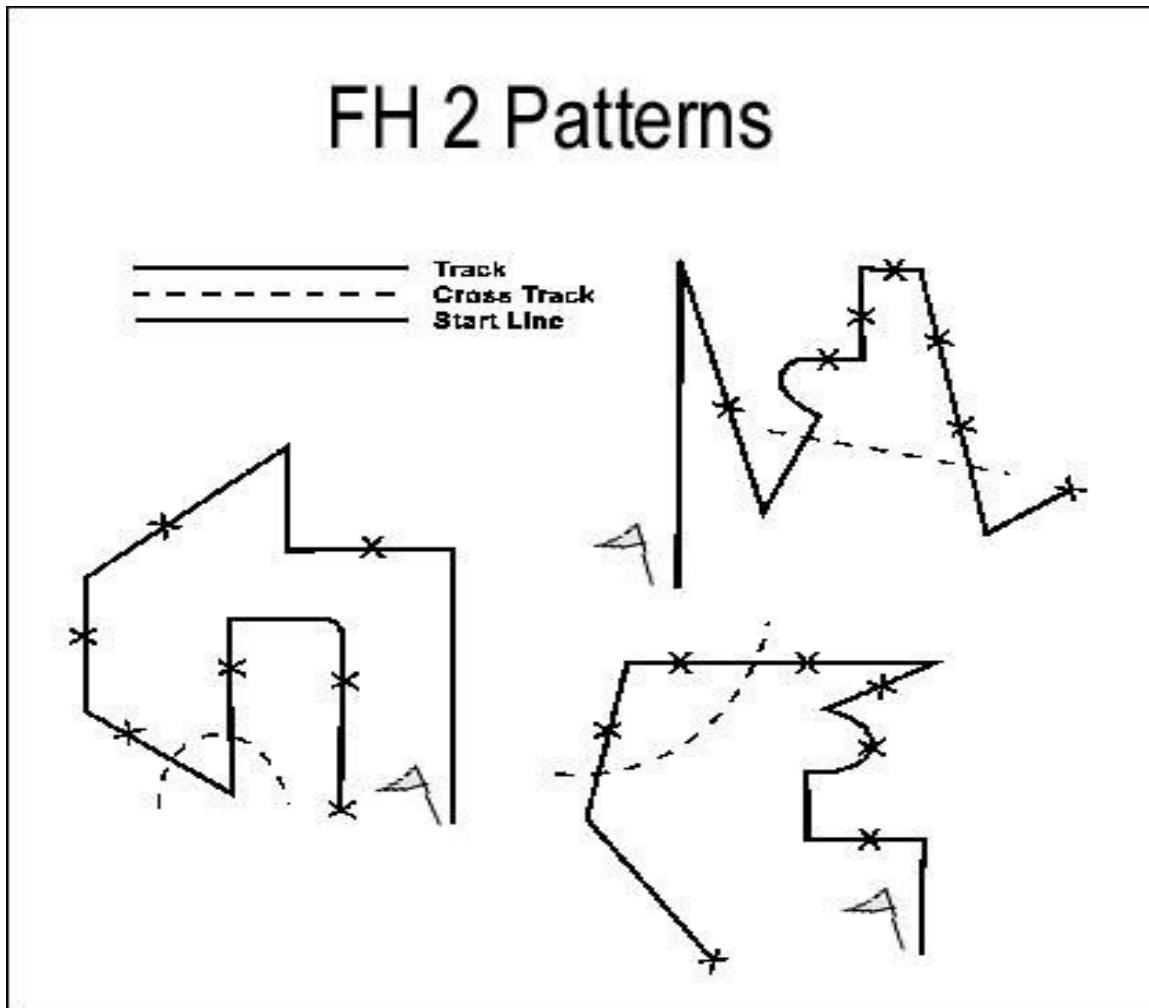
IFH-V



FH-1



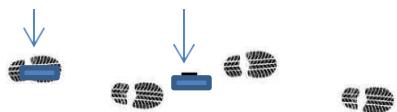
IFH – and IGP-FH



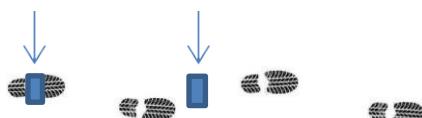
Additional Track Laying Information

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. Articles may be placed in or between the footprints.

Laying the Article



Alternative Way of Laying the Article



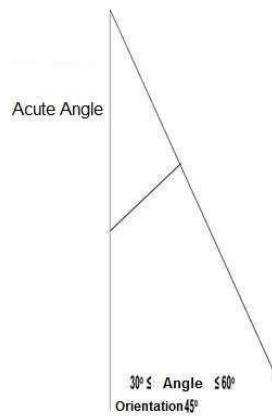
Sharp Angle to the Right



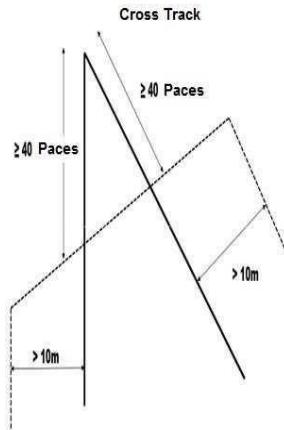
Sharp Angle to the Left



Sharp Angle



Cross Track



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 be laid out, or 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 the dog retrieves or indicates the articles. The dog is allowed to be on a short line up to about **2 meters** before the start. The handler can hold the tracking line short but not looped through or around the 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 one (1) time in the FH. The handler must remain at the scent pad and the dog

must start the track with three (3) or fewer commands. A short sit of the dog in front of the scent pad, approximately 2 meters away, is permitted so the tracking line can be brought to the position desired by the handler. After completion of the track, 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 the critique, the short line can be put on the dog.

Articles

Articles may not differ significantly in color from the terrain. The articles must be shown by the handler (IGP-V, IGP-1, IFH-V) or 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 track layer has carried for a minimum of 30 minutes may be used. Articles must be laid on the track either in-between or in the footprints (see diagram above). On all tracks, one of each article must be used, i.e. at least one wood, one leather and one fabric.

In the case of the AWMA Championship and FH examinations, the articles must be numbered the same as the track number which coincides with the draw.

Indicating the Articles

The indicating can be done sitting, lying down and standing, or alternating. The articles must be indicated convincingly without the help from the handler. Once the dog has indicated the article, the handler drops the tracking line, goes directly to the dog, picks up the article and displays it to the judge. While the article can be picked up from either side, the restart must be done from the side the article is shown. The indication must be done in the direction of the track. If the dog is slightly crooked lying down, sitting or standing to the article it is not faulty. The article must lie directly in front of, or between the front paws. Touching or playing with the article is not allowed. 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 or not indicated. After the articles are shown to the judge, the restart is made with a command to track. The handler must be facing the direction of the track alongside the dog, and not behind, standing upright; any pointing or leaning down to the dog is faulty.

Pick Up/Retrieve

The presentation of the retrieved article also affects 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 retrieving of the article, the handler must stay at the end of the leash. The restart occurs where the handler picks up the article.

If an article is not indicated or found by the dog and it cannot be found by the track layer, there is no point deduction. This means the dog will receive full points for the article. In the event that several articles are not found by tracklayer, judge or handler, the handler is offered a retrack. If he does not accept a retrack, all of the articles not found are considered as not indicated and no points, zero (0) points per article, are awarded for the articles.

The previous no indication 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 handler, zero (0) points per article are earned for these articles.

Track with a Tracking Line or Free Tracking

If a tracking line is used it must be 10 meters (~33 feet) long; flexible leashes are not permitted. The judge is permitted to check the line length, the collar, or the harness before the start of the track work. This is typically done during the draw and all the handlers will be asked to lay out their tracking lines for the judge's inspection. The positioning of the track line can be over the back of the dog, 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 (fur saver) or to the attachment ring of the harness (chest or Böttger harness without additional straps). If a harness is used, the back strap must not extend beyond the last rib of the dog. The

tracking line may be slack during tracking, but the handler must maintain the required distance from the dog. Ground contact of the line is also not considered faulty. During free tracking, i.e. tracking off leash, a distance of at least 10 meters must be maintained.

Working the Track

The dog must be given a verbal command to track at the scent pad. The handler may give a maximum of three (3) commands to start the dog. The second and third attempts result in a point deduction in the evaluation of the first leg. The dog must start the track with a deep nose and maintain this throughout, tracking with high intensity. The dog should be consistent and even in speed, providing the terrain is consistent. Difficulties may affect speed and may not always be deemed faulty. If the dog is tracking in a convincing and intensive manner the overall speed may not be considered faulty. Stress, insecurity, and lack of intensity demonstrated on the track are all considered faulty. The start, as well as restarting after article indication, must be done with the handler standing upright and giving a verbal command to track. The amount of time spent in the scent pad is not reflected in the points, but the behavior of the dog at the beginning of the first leg will determine how intensely he takes the scent and tracks. Difficulty on the first leg may be due to not taking up the scent at the scent pad and is considered faulty. If the tracking line becomes tangled, the handler must ask the judge to untangle the line, the command to restart is given from the end of the tracking line, and there is no point deduction.

Only for IFH-1/IFH-2/IGP-FH when working the track:

If the handler has the impression that the dog has not correctly taken the scent of the track, he is free to recall the dog and restart again. The dog is only allowed one restart and only if the handler has not left the scent pad yet. A mandatory deduction of four (4) points will be taken.

Corners

The corners are defined as 1 meter before and 1 meter after the corner. 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 tracking with the same intensity and the same speed as prior to the corner. While turning the corner, the handler must maintain the same distance. The handler does not have to follow the track, and may swing out to keep the line from going slack. However, the handler is not permitted to leave the track by swinging out until the dog has changed direction and is committed to the next leg.

Praise

Occasional praise on the track at all trial levels is allowed, excluding IGP-3, IFH-1, IFH-2 and IGP-FH, but not on the corners. This means a dog's body length before and after the corner. In addition, short praise at the article is permitted in all levels. It can occur before or after the display of the article, but not both.

Termination/Disqualification

If the dog leaves the track and is held back by the 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 above, the tracking work is terminated by the judge. This rule does not apply during the last legs of FH 1, FH 2 and IGP-FH tracks. The performance shown, or points earned until termination are evaluated. If the dog quits tracking, defined by staying in the same place without working for more than 5 seconds, lifting its head, and/or not responding to the tracking command, 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 wildlife appears, the handler may 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 will be disqualified.

Rating: Disqualification for disobedience.

Further Evaluation Criteria/Responsibilities of the Judge

The assessment of each leg depends on the length, the terrain, the weather conditions, and 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. This area is defined as a 10 meter radius around the handler and 10 meter distance to the next track. The dog must not be disturbed by either the track layer or the judge, unless in extreme conditions where the judge must be close to evaluate/see the performance.

The performance judge must not only look at the dog or the handler, but must also take into account the terrain, the weather, possible distractions and the time. The judge must base his/her assessment of the dog on the totality of all influencing variables.

The assessment is to be carried out taking into account the following criteria:

1. Tracking: the dog demonstrates motivated behavior with constant intensity and consistent speed before and after the corners, as well as before and after indicating the articles.
2. Training level of the dog, which can be determined by a hectic approach, stressed behavior, or avoidance behavior.
3. Handler carrying aids that are not permitted.
4. Difficulties in working out the tracks:
 - Tracking conditions
 - Wind conditions
 - Wildlife
 - Rain
 - Weather changes

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

Deductions for All Examination Levels:

If the dog stops tracking by falsely indicating an article and the handler does not go to the dog but gives an extra command from the end of the tracking line, the deduction will be: -2 points. In IFH-2/IGP-FH, the deduction will be one (1) point.

If the dog stops tracking by falsely indicating an article and the handler goes to the dog and gives a command at the side of the dog, the deduction will be: -4 points. In IFH-2/IGP-FH, the deduction will be two (2) points.

Urinating or defecating while tracking can be up to a six (6) point deduction. Wandering, circling at the corners, continuous handler help, encouragement, line or verbal help, or help at the articles is faulty and deducted accordingly.

Phase B –Obedience

General Provisions

Basic requirements

1. Attitude
2. Self confidence
3. Outgoing, motivated work
4. Concentration/attention
5. Harmony of the team technical correctness
6. Position/accuracy
7. Willingness/execution/speed

Before the start of the obedience, the judge must check the field and the equipment to be used during the trial to ensure they meet the requirements in the IGP regulations. Examples of field and equipment requirements are the jump, wall, dumbbells, and field markings.

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 and zero (0) points will be given for that exercise. 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 B is terminated. When recalling, the name of the dog may be used instead of a recall command. The name of the dog in connection with any command is considered as a double command in obedience.

The Reaction of the Dog to the Command

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

Additional Commands

If the dog does not execute an exercise and requires an additional command (maximum of three (3) total commands), the exercise will be terminated and zero (0) points awarded for that exercise.

If the dog executes an exercise with two (2) additional commands, the maximum rating that can be given is 'high insufficient'.

If one (1) additional command is used, the rating for this part of the exercise will be "Satisfactory".

If two (2) additional commands are used, in total, the rating for this part of the exercise will be rated "Insufficient".

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

Distribution and Point Values of the Exercises in the Individual Levels

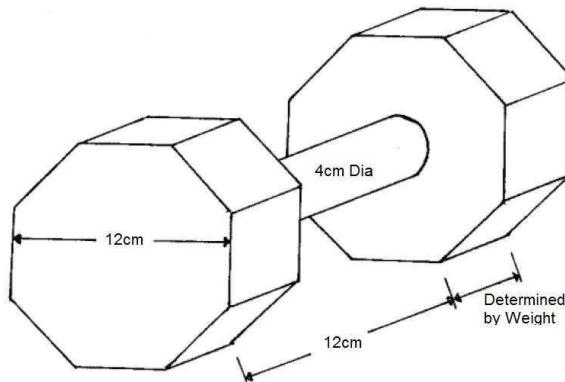
Exercise	IGP-1	IGP-2	IGP-3
Heeling	15 Points	15 Points	15 Points
Sit Out of Motion	10 Points	10 Points	5 Points
Down with Recall	10 Points, from a walk	10 Points, from a walk	10 Points, from walking then a running pace
Stand Out of Motion	-----	5 Points, from a walk with pick up	10 Points, from a running 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 retrieve	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
Total	100 Points	100 Points	100 Points

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:

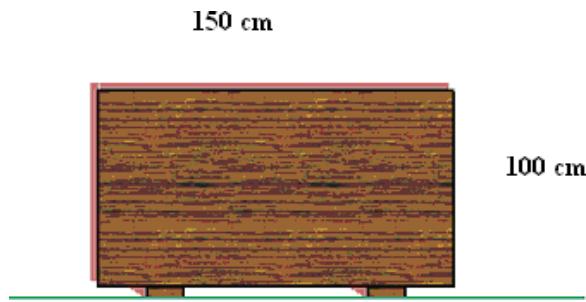
1. The dumbbell must be made of wood.
2. The predetermined weights must be correct.
3. The distance from the dumbbell bar to the ground must be at least 4 centimeters.



Excercise	IGP-1	IGP-2	IGP-3
On the Flat	650 grams	1000 grams	2000 grams
Hurdle	650 grams	650 grams	650 grams
Scaling Wall	No Dumbbell	650 grams	650 grams

Hurdle

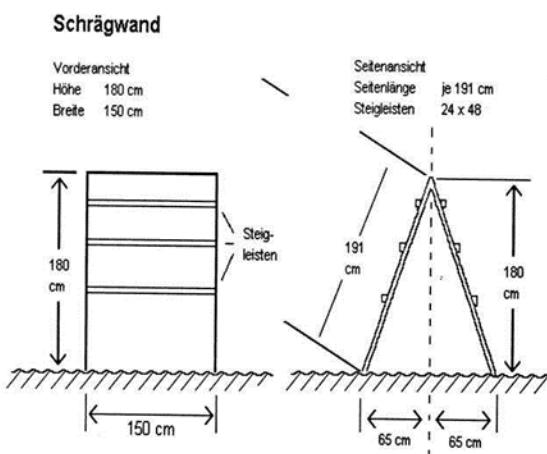
The hurdle must be a fixed hurdle with minimum distance for basic position marked at a minimum of 4 meters from the hurdle. However, the handler may choose to take basic position further back from the line. The jump has a height of 100 centimeters (39.7 inches) and a width of 150 centimeters (59 inches). The top should be rigid. Practice jumps are not allowed during the trial.



Scaling Wall

The minimum distance for basic position is marked a minimum of 4 meters from the hurdle. Similarly, the handler may take a basic position further back from the line. The scaling wall consists of two (2) sides joined at the top and must be 150 centimeters wide and 190 centimeters high. At the bottom, both sides stand apart so that there is a peak height of 180 centimeters. The entire area of the scaling wall must be covered with anti-skid material. At the upper part of the sides, three (3) cleats 24/48 milimeters must be fixed. All dogs must jump the same obstacles. 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 by holding dumbbell in its mouth to the handler. Dropping the dumbbell at the handler's feet and the handler picking it up off the ground is considered an incomplete exercise. The handler may use additional commands "bring", however only a maximum of three (3) commands are allowed in order to complete exercise.



Heeling on Leash and Free Heeling

The dog has to follow the handler out of the basic position with a verbal command to "heel". The dog must walk attentively, confidently with purpose, without stress and concentrating on the handler. The dog must always remain with its shoulder at the knee on the handler's left side and parallel, or straight, along the side of the handler. The pattern of the heeling is done according to the diagram below. The handler must take basic position at the starting point at the same time as when the second handler assumes the basic position for the exercise "down under distraction". On the first straight leg of heeling, two (2) shots of a handgun with caliber 6 mm. 22 blanks are fired with the first shot fired after at least fifteen (15) paces of heeling followed by the second shot 5 seconds later. This is done to check the gun sureness/temperament/behavioral traits of the dog. All competitors must have gun shots of the same caliber (caliber 6 mm/. 22 blanks)

The gun shots are only fired in the exams IGP- V and IGP-1, IGP-2, and 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 an additional shot. The 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 about-turn , there must be a stop shown. Here the dog has to go into an automatic sit position without a verbal command.

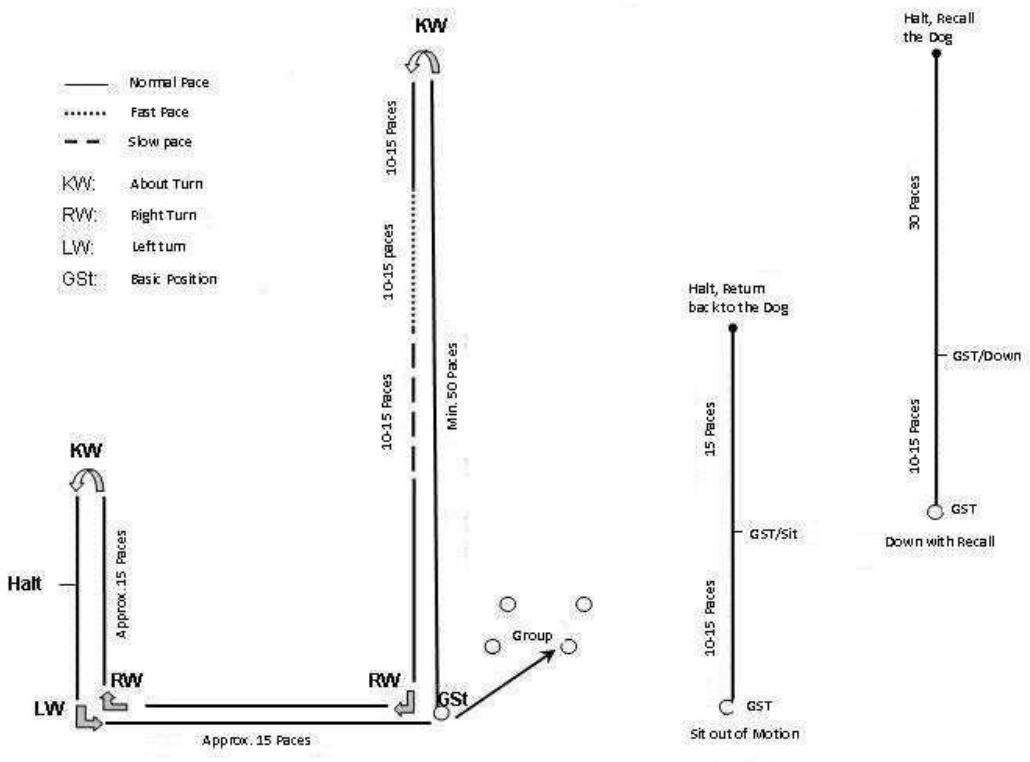
Heeling through a group of people, that may or may not be moving, is to be shown for the on-leash heeling for BH-VT and IGP-V and off leash when heeling for the IGP-1, IGP-2, and IGP-3. The handler must circle a person to the right, circle a person to the left, and stop at least once in the group with 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 handler leaves the group with the dog and takes the final position. Praising the dog 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 dumbbell, 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, or off leash heeling, begins after leaving the group after the on leash heeling and taking up basic position facing down field. The handler removes the leash, putting it out of sight or over the shoulder or around the waist with the clasp on the right side. From basic position a minimum of fifty (50) paces of free heeling is demonstrated followed by an about-turn. After the about-turn (which must be the same as what was performed on leash), the handler/dog will demonstrate the changes of pace as indicated above and come to a stop. The exercise ends with the handler stopping in a final basic position with the handler facing down field opposite of the direction of where the heeling started. From this position the handler must acknowledge the judge prior to turning around to begin the next exercise.

Heeling Pattern for On Leash and Free heeling



Execution

The handler checks in to the performance judge on leash in levels BH-VT, IGP-1, IGP-V and off leash in levels IGP-2 and IGP-3. Both handler/dog teams approach the judge stopping a few feet in front keeping a reasonable distance between them. The dog maintains a basic position while the judge approaches and exchanges greetings and shakes hands with the handler.

After checking in, the judge will instruct the handler to move to the start position at all levels, except BH-VT and IGP V, off leash. When both teams are in position the judge will instruct the handler to begin. From a straight, quiet and attentive basic position, the dog follows the handler's commands to "heel", without stress, with confidence, purpose, straight and fast.

The heeling pattern is demonstrated by the handler moving approximately fifty (50) paces straight out without stopping. After the left about-turn, or pivot, and another ten (10) paces, the handler will demonstrate the changes of pace (10-15 fast and 10-15 slow) with a "heel" command given at each change of pace. The transition from the running pace to the slow pace must be immediate and distinct. The pattern continues with a right turn followed by a straight leg at a minimum fifteen (15) paces and second right turn with a second straight leg (also a minimum of 15 paces) and another about-turn. Following the second about-turn 10-12 paces of heeling are executed and a stop is demonstrated with the dog in basic position. The handler must acknowledge the judge prior to continuing. Once the judge allows the handler to continue a left turn is demonstrated moving toward the group.

In the group, the handler circles one person to the left, one person to the right and then stops near a different person. The dog must demonstrate a sit when the handler stops near the member of the group. 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.

Evaluation Criteria

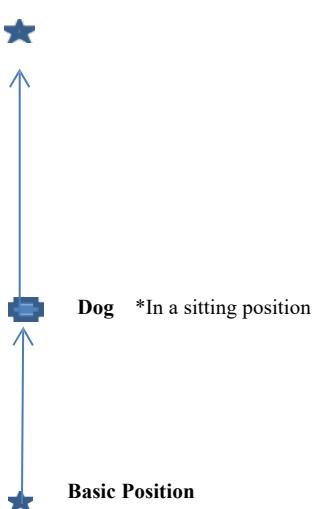
Forging, heeling wide, not remaining parallel to the handler, lagging, slow or hesitant sits, additional commands, handler help, excessive hopping, errors in the basic/initial position, crowding/bumping, inattentiveness, lack of motivation, stress and the dog showing pressured behavior are faulty and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

Sit Out of Motion (All Examination Levels)

1st part: Beginning basic position, buildup, and execution of sit command are 50% of the points.

2nd part: Leaving the dog, attention to the handler while the handler is moving away and the re-approaching of the handler and final basic position are 50% of the points.

After a buildup of ten (10) to fifteen (15) paces, the dog must sit immediately upon the verbal command. The sit must be straight, without the handler changing the dog's motion or looking back. The dog must remain calm and with attention to the handler. In all test levels, the handler moves away fifteen (15) paces and turns to face the dog. On the judge's instructions, the handler returns to the dog, standing on the right side in basic position. Upon the judge's signal the handler begins the next exercise. Depending on the length of the trial field the handler may go back to original position.



Special Provision for BH-VT

After the buildup, the handler may stop for a 3 second pause and give the command for sitting before walking away from the dog.

Evaluation Criteria

Slow sitting, restless and inattentive sitting is devalued in addition to any other misconduct. If the dog stands or downs, the exercise is rated "Insufficient" and a mandatory five (5) points will be deducted. For an IGP-3, a mandatory two and a half (2.5) points will be deducted.

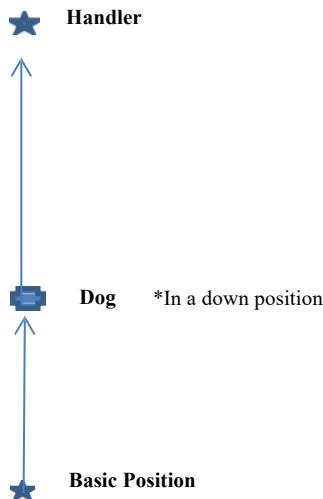
Down with Recall

1st part: Beginning basic position, buildup, and execution of down command are 50% of the points.

2nd part: Leaving the dog, attention, recall of the dog, front position, and final basic position are 50% of the points.

The buildup of ten (10) to fifteen (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 ten (10) to fifteen (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 the

dog's motion or looking back. The handler runs at least thirty (30) paces at the IGP-3 and turns directly to the dog. The dog must remain calm and attentive to the handler until the recall command is given. At the direction of the judge, the handler recalls the dog. The dog must be fast, without stress, purposeful and come directly, sit close and straight in front of the 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 handler may stop for a 3 second pause and give the command for downing, before walking away from the dog.

Evaluation Criteria

Slow downing, restless or inattentive, slow non-purposeful recall, handler help, and/or splayed leg position lead to corresponding deductions in addition to other faults.

If the dog is sitting or standing, the exercise is "Insufficient" and a mandatory five (5) points will be deducted.

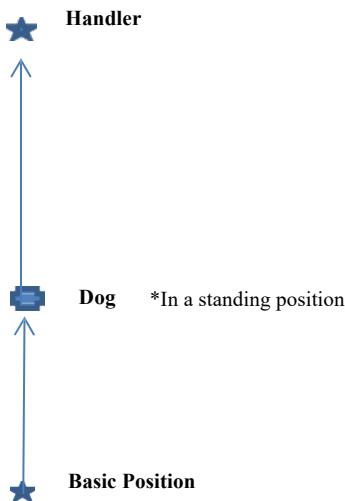
For a dog that does not recall on the third command, the exercise is to be evaluated "Insufficient" with zero (0) points earned. In this case, the dog may be picked up by the handler returning to the dog and continuing onto the next exercise.

Stand While Walking (IGP-2)

1st part: Beginning basic position, buildup, and execution of stand command are 50% of the points.

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

After a buildup of ten (10) to fifteen (15) paces, the dog must stand immediately upon the verbal command, straight with the centerline, without the handler changing the dog's motion or looking back. The dog must remain calm and maintaining its attention on the handler as the handler moves away, leaving the dog. The handler will continue fifteen (15) paces and turn to face the dog. On the judge's instructions, the handler returns to the dog, stands on the side in basic position and commands the dog into basic position.



Evaluation Criteria

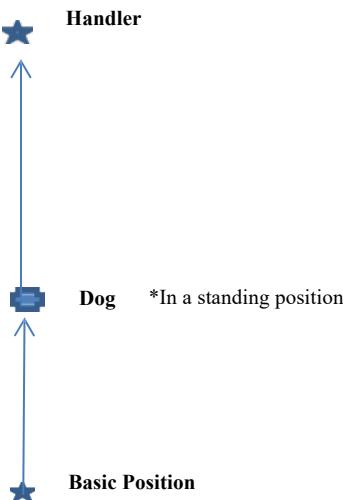
The dog not immediately standing, being restless or inattentive while standing, taking additional steps and handler help are examples of faults which lead to corresponding point deductions. If the dog sits or downs, the exercise has a mandatory deduction of 50 % of the points.

Stand Out of Motion (IGP-3 Only)

1st part: Beginning basic position, buildup, and execution of stand command are 50% of the points.

2nd part: Leaving the dog, attention, recall of the dog, front position and final basic position are 50% of the points.

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



Evaluation Criteria

The dog not stopping and standing immediately, being restless or inattentive when standing, not fast and purposeful on recall, handler help, and/or a splayed leg stance lead to corresponding deductions. If the dog sits or downs, the exercise will be evaluated “Insufficient” with a mandatory five (5) points deducted. For a dog that does not come on the second extra command, the exercise is to be evaluated “Insufficient” with zero (0) points earned. The dog may be picked up by the handler and continue into the next exercise.

Retrieve on the Flat

From a straight basic position, the handler throws the dumbbell approximately 10 meters away. If the handler's outside foot moves in order for the handler to throw the dumbbell, there will be no point loss as long as it does not affect the dog. If the handler moves their outside leg during the throw, a 3 second pause must be shown after returning to basic position. The dumbbell should be thrown between a distance of 8 meters minimum and 15 meters maximum. The verbal command “bring” may only be given when the dumbbell has stopped moving. The dog must maintain the basic position calmly prior to being given the command to retrieve. On the verbal command for bring, the dog has to run directly to the dumbbell, pick it up immediately, turn directly and return directly to the handler. The goal is to show motivated and determined returns. During the presentation of the dumbbell and the retrieving portion, the dumbbell must be held firm and calm until the 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 an approximate 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 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, has a faulty pick up, dropping the dumbbell and/or playing with or mouthing the dumbbell up to a four (4) points will be deducted. Splayed leg stance by the handler, restlessness, mistakes in the presentation, front and in the basic positions 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 handler in front of the jump and scaling wall must be a minimum of 4 meters. The dog's position should be marked as the minimum distance to the hurdle or wall. The handler may choose to be further back than 4 meters.

Retrieve Over the 1 Meter Hurdle

The handler takes the basic position with the dog at least 4 meters in front of the hurdle. The correct dumbbell will be 650 grams, the same as used for the flat retrieve in IGP-1, over a 100 centimeter high hurdle. The handler is allowed to move one foot when throwing. After the leg is returned to basic position, a pause of approximately 3 seconds is required. The dog should sit freely and quietly next to the handler. On the command for jumping, the dog has to do 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 directly over the hurdle. 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 the retrieving process, the dumbbell must be held firm and calm until the 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 an approximate 3 second pause, the dog is to be commanded to the basic position. The dumbbell is to be held in the handler's right hand with the arm straight down at handler's side. In the IGP1, the handler and dog must replace the dumbbell back on the stand.

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 result in deductions as well as any handler help.

A partial score for the exercise is only possible if the three (3) parts: going out, retrieve, coming back and at least one (1) jump and the retrieve portion are completed.

For a jump not shown, there is a mandatory five (5) point deduction. If the dog does not jump one (1) direction, either out or back, but the dumbbell is retrieved flawlessly, the handler receives ten (10) points, i.e. 5 point deduction. If the dog jumps perfectly out and back but does not retrieve the dumbbell it is zero (0) points.

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

Climbing Over the Scaling Wall (IGP-1 Only)

The handler takes the basic position in front of the scaling wall, at or behind the 4 meter mark. After the command to the dog to sit, the handler 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 the dog with the commands to jumping and come. The dog must come with powerful climbing to the 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, hesitation, stress, slow or powerless climbing, mistakes in front position, finish to basic position and handler help lead to deductions. Zero (0) points, "M" rating are awarded if the dog does not climb/scale the wall.

Retrieve Over the Scaling Wall

The handler takes the basic position with the dog at least 4 meters in front of the scaling wall. The handler is to use the 650 gram dumbbell, the same dumbbell used for the flat retrieve in IGP 1. The handler is allowed to move the outside foot when throwing. After the leg is returned to basic position, a pause of approximately 3 seconds, is required. The dog should sit freely and quietly next to the handler. On command, the dog has to carry out climbing/scaling the wall, and 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 directly over the wall. The dog has to carry out the entire exercise without stress, fast, and show powerful smooth climbing over the wall. During the presentation and the retrieving process, the dumbbell must be held firm and calm until the handler gives the command to release the dumbbell. The release command is given 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 approximate 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 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, has a 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 like 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 are completed. For all jumps not shown, there is a mandatory five (5) point deduction in addition to any other mistakes that are made during the exercise.

Send Out with Down

1st Part: Basic position, buildup, and execution of the send out portion are 50% of the points.

2nd Part: After instruction from the judge, downing, and final basic position are 50% of the points.

If the dog does not go the minimum distance or cannot be stopped with three (3) commands, there will be no evaluation of the exercise. On the single command "go out" and the raising of the arm, the handler sends the dog out while standing still. Then the dog has to go a minimum of at least thirty (30) paces in the direction shown, straight forward, and at a fast pace. At the direction of the judge, the handler gives the command for the dog to down. The dog is to down immediately. The 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 handler goes to the 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 downing and mistakes in the pickup and final basic position all lead to deductions.

If the dog stops on the first command and does not down, but downs immediately on second command, there is a one and a half (1.5) point deduction. If the dog stops on first command and does not down, but downs immediately on third command, there is a two and a half (2.5) point deduction. If the dog stops on first command but does not down on third command, there is a three and a half (3.5) point deduction. If the dog does not stop on first command, but stops and downs immediately on second command, there is a two and a half (2.5) point deduction. If the dog does not stop on the first or second command, but stops and downs immediately on the third command, there is a three and a half (3.5) point deduction. If the dog cannot be stopped with three (3) commands, then there are zero (0) points earned for this exercise.

The 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.

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 additional deductions.

Down under Distraction

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

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

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

IGP-3 - Handler is hidden in a blind at least thirty (30) paces away and out of sight of the dog.

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

During the down, the dog must lie quietly and calmly 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. In the BH-VT, the leash should be removed from the handler and attached to the dog with the dog in a sit position.

Evaluation Criteria

Mistakes in the basic position prior to the down, 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 or leaves the down position by more than 3 meters as the handler approaches, a mandatory deduction of three (3) points will occur along with any other point deductions. 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. (after off leash heeling completed)

IGP-1: Partial points are possible if the other dog has completed the third exercise. (down in motion)

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

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

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

Praise

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

Mandatory Deductions

Exercise	IGP-1	IGP-2	IGP-3
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)	0 Points	0 Points	0 Points
Retrieve on the Flat (Motivate the Dog, Handler Leave Basic to Get the Dog to Retrieve)	Insufficient	Insufficient	Insufficient
Retrieve Over 1m Hurdle (Just One Direction Jump)	-5 Points	-5 Points	-5 Points
Retrieve Over 1m Hurdle (No Jumps)	-15 Points	-15 Points	-15 Points
Retrieve Over 1m Hurdle (Does Not Complete Retrieve)	-15 Points	-15 Points	-15 Points
Climbing Over Scaling Wall (Only One Direction) No Climb Over	-15 Points	-5 points	-5 points
Climbing Over Scaling Wall (No Retrieve) No Climb Over	-15 Points	-15 Points	-15 Points

Helper Regulations – (This in progress not a rule)

As a pre-requisite for assignment as a Trial Helper in Protection Phase C, all Helpers for AWMA events must be classified in a Helper program.

Helper Requirements

1. The helper, in protection Phase C, is the assistant to the judge on the day of the trial.
2. All helpers, whether training or for trials, must wear protective clothing; protection pants, protection jacket, sleeve, cup and if necessary, gloves. This is for the helper's personal protection.
3. The helper's shoes must be weather-proof and suitable for the ground conditions, to secure stance and good traction.
4. Prior to the trial work in protection phase C, the helper receives instructions from the judge. They must perform the work in accordance to the judge's instructions.
5. The helper must follow the instructions of the handler during disarming of the helper in accordance with the trial rules. They must give the handler the opportunity to position the dog in the correct heel position for the side/back transport.
6. The handler may work with the helper at club trials. If there are more than ten (10) dogs, then two (2) helpers should be used if possible.
7. For the AWMA Nationals generally two (2) helpers are mandatory. For the Nationals, a helper living in the same household as one of the handlers is permitted.

Regulations Governing the Conduct of Trial Helpers

A. General

During a trial the level of training as well as the quality of the dog being presented (such as the dog's drives, stress-level, self-confidence and obedience) should be evaluated by the judge. The judge can objectively evaluate what they visually and acoustically observe during the course of the trial.

The helper must make every effort to work all dogs equally in order to give the judge a broad impartial picture for evaluation.

Therefore, it cannot be left up to the helper how the protection phase C work is to be structured. The helper must follow the rules as defined by the AWMA Helper Program and the judge.

The judge must check that the individual elements of the most important evaluation criteria for protection Phase C are met. These are, stress-level, self-confidence, drives, and 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.

B. "Bark and Hold"

The helper should not be visible to the dog or handler when in the designated blind. The helper is to be motionless without a threatening body position, with a slightly angulated sleeve position. The sleeve acts as body protection. At the hold and bark, the dog is to watch the helper. Any motivation or 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.

C. "Prevention of an Attempted Escape of the Helper"

After the hold and bark exercise, the handler calls the helper out of the blind. The helper is to exit at a normal pace and places themself at the designated spot as assigned by the judge. The position of the helper must ensure that the handler can place the dog at a distance of five (5) paces on the side where the helper's protection sleeve is held . 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 in 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 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 their body.

The judge determines how far the helper needs to escape. The field should be laid out for at least the twenty (20) paces for for the 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 the protection 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.

“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 an opportunity for a correct grip. Once the dog has gripped, the sleeve is to be placed out of motion to the side and the pressure phase begins in a straight direction, or drive. Turning/spinning at the start of the attack in the dog exercise is not permitted. The helper must drive all dogs in the same direction. It is important that the judge places themself in such a position 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 approximating five (5) paces, the second stick hit test after an additional five (5) paces during the pressure phase. After the second stick hit test, additional pressure is demonstrated without stick hits for at least five (5) paces.

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 or help given by the helper in the way of offering or attracting the dog to the sleeve before the grip, verbal agitation, or hitting the soft stick against the protection 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. For termination of the exercise, see point I. “Termination of the Defense Exercise”.

D. “Back Transport”

The following is for trial levels IGP 2 and IGP 3:

On instructions from the judge, the helper demonstrates a back transport over a distance of approximately thirty (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.

E. “Back Transport”

The following is for trial level IGP 2:

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

F. “Attack on the Dog Out of the Back Transport”

The following is for 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, or 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 or catching the dog, the helper should turn in order to catch the dog to absorb the dog's momentum and flow with the dog's body movement. Additional movement of the sleeve is to be avoided. Once the dog grips, the helper places the dog in the pocket 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 places themselves 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 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, or 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 by offering any assistance in the way of offering the sleeve before the grip, verbal agitation, or hitting the soft stick against the protection 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 or the like are not permitted. For termination of the exercise, see point I. “Termination of the Defense Exercise”.

G. “Attack on the Dog Out of Motion”

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

In IGP-1 and IGP-2, the helper remains where the 1st part was terminated. The handler is instructed to take the dog's starting point for the exercise. For safety reasons the judge may move the helper to a different position on the field towards the 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 and attacks the dog and handler with a frontal attack with the soft stick.

The dog must be intercepted with the helper not stopping and while presenting an approved trial sleeve. Upon intercepting the dog, the body should turn in order to catch the dog and absorb the dog's flow to maintain the momentum. The helper may not in any way run around or 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 and tripping over the dog. The helper must drive all dogs in the same manner. It is important that the judge places themselves in such a position 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 but is at a minimum ten (10) paces. 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 by 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, or independent termination when weakness in the dog is noticed, or the like are not permitted by the helper and will be noted in the AWMA Helper book (when they are made available).

H. “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. The helper is not to turn their back to the judge. They must maintain visual contact with the judge. Once stopping the defense exercise, the helper must minimize the resistance towards the dog; they must 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 as 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.

I. “Insecurities and Failure of the Dog”

A dog that does not grip during a defense exercise or releases the grip in a pressure phase must be driven or 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. For dogs that do not release, the helper may not move the soft stick to get him to out. Dogs that have a tendency to leave the helper during the 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 themselves as 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.

Phase C - Protection

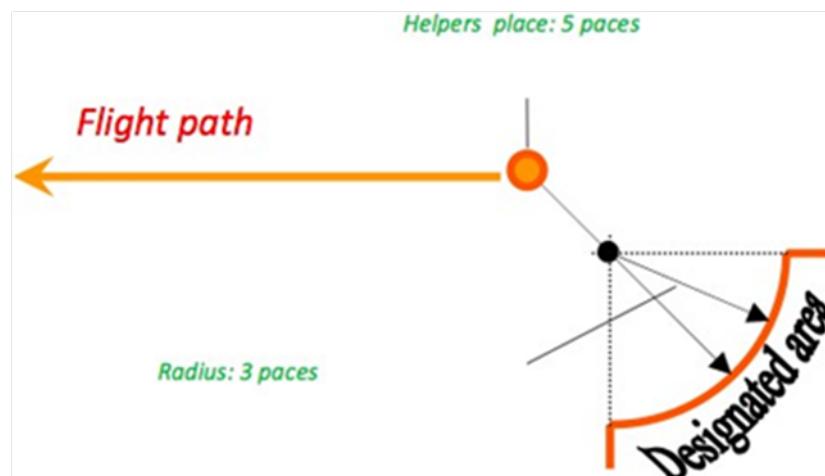
General Provisions

In all protection exercises, the dog must only grip the provided protection sleeve. Biting other unprotected body parts of the helper leads to an immediate DQ.

In AWMA trials, the stick contacts 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 show a full, calm and above all consistent firm grip during the entire exercise. Special attention should be given to a dog that fights to inhibit or hinder the helper during the stress and threat.

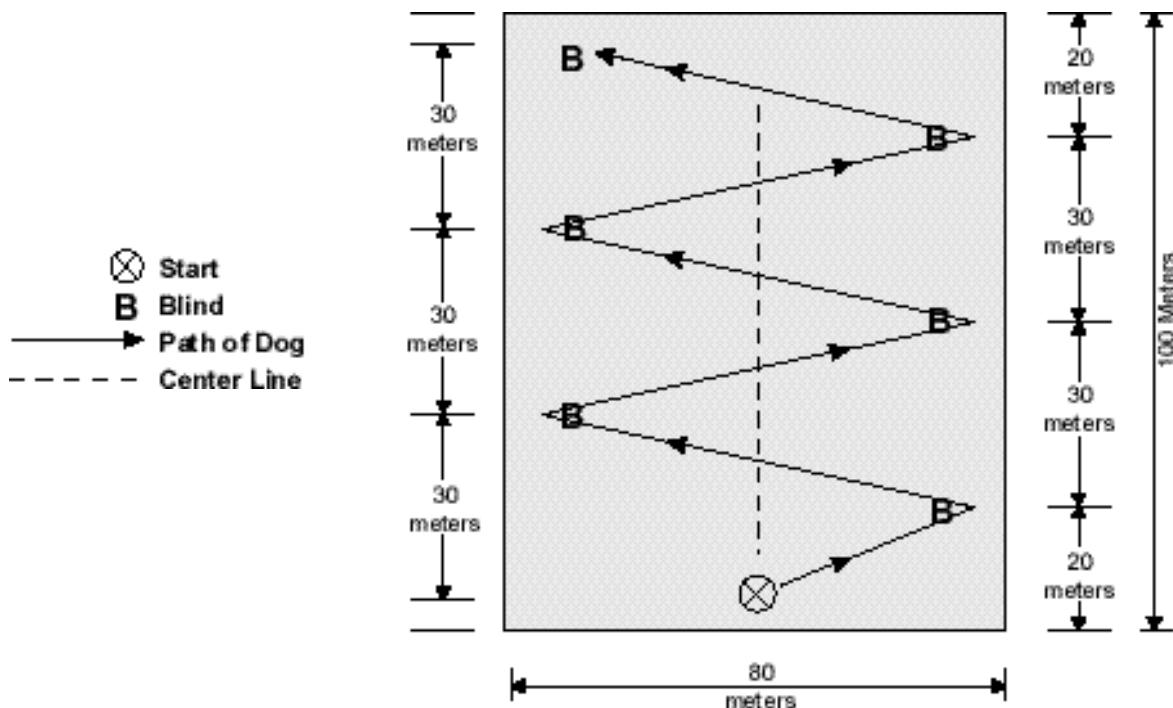
Field Markings

The following field markings must be clearly visible to the handler, the judge and the helper: the position of the handler for the call out from guarding in the blind; the position for the helper to start the escape; and the distance (twenty (20) paces, that the dog must be on and gripping the sleeve; the arc marking for positioning the dog during the setup for escape; and the position of the handler for the exercise "Attack on the Dog Out of Motion" in the IGP3 trial level, only.



Blinds

All six (6) blinds must be set up in all examination levels. In a suitable location, six (6) blinds, with three (3) blinds on each side of the field.



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 at all times when searching for the helper.

Evaluation Criteria

Restrictions on the following important evaluation criteria are 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 IGP-1 handlers report in on leash and then proceed to the 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' discretion. 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. However, the dog's 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 dog's behavior.

IGP 2 and 3 report in off leash and complete the entire protection phase 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 IGP-1 if the final side transport was performed on leash, they will heel five (5) paces away on leash. The dog should remain calm and under control after reporting out.

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 approximately 3 meters of the dog or the handler gives a command for the dog to stay with the helper or dog stops guarding/avoids the helper.</p>

Extra Commands – Deductions

If the dog does not release after the first command, the handler receives the instruction from the judge for up to two (2) additional commands to out the dog.

Slow to Out	1 Extra Command with Immediate Out	1 Extra Command Slow to Out	2 Extra Commands, Immediate Out Upon Second Command	2 Extra Commands, Slow to 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 (10 points) and bark (5 Points)	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

Report In (Reporting in will be carried out at the judge's discretion)

In the level of the IGP-1 and IGP -V the dog reports in on leash. In the level of IGP-2 and IGP-3, the handler reports in with the dog off leash. Protection starts when the handler for the exercise "Search for the Helper" is in basic position. At the direction of the judge the handler's hand is raised to acknowledge to the judge that they are ready to begin the search.

Search for the Helper

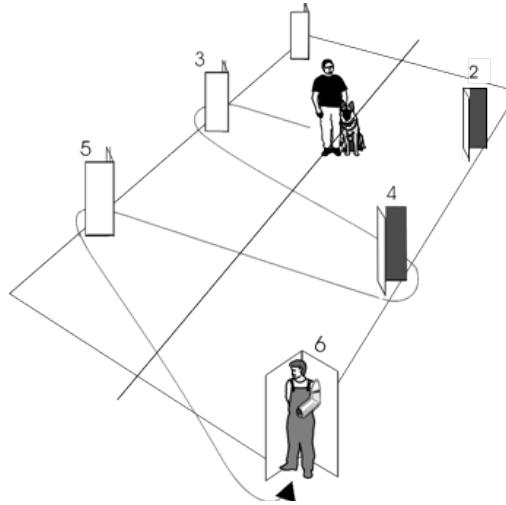
The start must take place in the basic position facing downfield to the judge. After acknowledging the judge a new basic position is taken in the direction of the first blind.

IGP-1 (1 Blind)

The dog is heeled on leash to the starting position on the center line even with blind 6. The handler assumes a basic position and removes the leash. The handler raises an arm showing the dog's willingness/readiness to start the exercise. After the judge signals, the dog is sent directly to blind 6. The handler must turn toward the blind to start the blind search.

IGP-2 (4 Blinds)

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 the dog's willingness/readiness to start the exercise. After the judge signals, the dog is sent to start the search exercise. The handler must turn/reposition toward the blind to start the blind search.



IGP-3 (6 Blinds)

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 the dog's willingness/readiness to start the exercise. After the judge signals the dog is sent to start the search exercise. The handler must turn/reposition toward the blind to start the blind search.

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

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 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. The handler must stop as soon as the dog enters blind 6 and remain in that position until he receives an instruction from the judge to approach for the call out or pickup.

Evaluation Criteria

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

If the handler has the dog come into the basic position during the blind search, or if the dog stops the search and comes to basic position, the exercise is evaluated with zero (0) points. The protection phase can be continued if the dog can be sent on one (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 (2) more commands to try to get the dog into blind 6. If the dog does not find the helper on the third command, then protection is terminated.

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

The handler waits for instructions from the judge for retrieving the dog. The dog must confront the helper confidently, actively, dominantly, and attentively while barking continuously. The barking duration is approximately 20 seconds before the judge signals the handler. The exercise ends as follows:

IGP-1	IGP-2	IGP-3
<p>The judge instructs the handler when to go to the marked position five (5) paces away from the helper. On the judge's instructions, the handler calls the dog into the basic position or, alternatively, moves up to the dog, takes the dog 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 five (5) paces away from the helper.</p> <p>On the judge's instructions, the handler calls the dog into the basic position.</p>	<p>The judge instructs the handler when to go to the marked position five (5) paces away from the helper.</p> <p>On the judge's instructions, the handler calls the 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 handler.

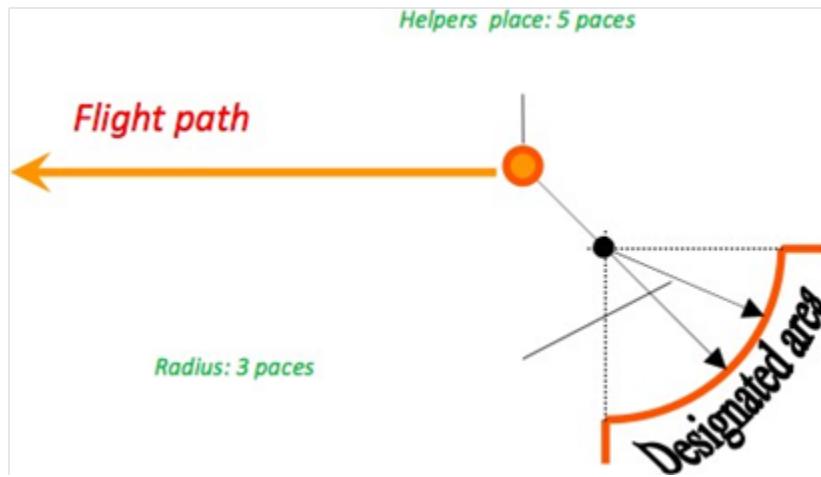
Description	Rating
Weak, inconsistent, not dominant, non-energetic unfocused barking.	Satisfactory to Insufficient
Dog does not bark, but actively guards the helper.	Insufficient
Bothering the helper by pushing, bumping, etc.	Rated accordingly as low as Insufficient
The dog bites the sleeve and only releases after handler approach and a command.	Insufficient – 14 Points
If the dog leaves the helper before the handler leaves the center line after the judge's instructions.	The dog can be sent in again one time. If the dog remains with the helper, protection phase C can be continued. Low Insufficient rating for hold and bark.
If the dog does not go back into the blind or leaves the helper again.	Termination
If the dog leaves the helper during the handler's approach, the dog stops guarding/avoids.	Rated as Insufficient
If the dog comes out from the helper before the command.	Rated as Insufficient
If the dog is biting the sleeve in the blind and does not release on their own, the 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 is biting the sleeve in the blind and does not release on their own, the 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 does not release or come to basic <u>with one command</u> .	Disqualification

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 the dog to the marked position for the escape. If the dog is on or over the line past the dog's elbows, the judge may ask the handler to reposition the dog behind the line and points may be deducted.



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 the helper and the dog is five (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 the escape and must take a basic position. 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 the helper and dog is five (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 second. After a transitional phase, the dog must out. The handler may give a command to out within an appropriate time of 3 seconds. The following guarding phase before the defense is approximately 5 seconds.

Evaluation Criteria

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 one 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 not remaining 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 is given, the exercise is rated one category lower.

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

Defense of an Attack from the Guarding Phase (IGP-1 – IGP-3)

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

After a guarding phase of approximately 5 seconds, the helper attacks the dog. The dog must defend itself without the influence of the handler by an explosive and powerful strike, with a firm and calm grip. The dog is to be pressured in the drive with stick threats from the helper. Particular attention must be paid to the dog's self-assurance, power, and a full, calm grip. Two (2) 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 toward the judge for approximately 1 second. After the transition phase, the dog must out. The handler can give a command for the out in an appropriate time of 1 to 3 seconds, on their own. Additional commands to out will be directed by the judge. During and after the out, the helper has to stand still. Following the out, the dog must guard the helper with a powerful and attentive attitude, showing confidence with high dominance.

IGP-1

The handler follows the judge's instructions to approach the dog. The handler does so directly in a normal walk, stands next to the dog and returns the dog to the basic position with a command of "sit". The handler must be next to the dog in basic position when sit command is given. If the dog moves back to the handler on the command to 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.

Evaluation Criteria

Deductions will be taken according to the following behavior(s) displayed during the exercise. 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.

IGP-2 and IGP-3

The handler follows the judge's instructions to directly approach the dog at a normal walk. The handler stands next to the dog and returns the dog to the basic position with a command of "sit". The 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 the command to sit, it is faulty. The padded stick is not taken from the helper.

Evaluation Criteria

Deductions will be taken according to the following behavior(s) displayed during the exercise. 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.

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 thirty (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. The handler follows the helper with the dog. The dog is intensively attentive to the helper at a distance of about eight (8) paces. The handler and dog's 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 the dog, who is attentive to the helper. The handler 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 twenty (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. The dog is not allowed to press, bump or grip the helper. At the end of the transport, the handler takes a basic position with the dog in front of the judge. The helper hands over the padded stick to the judge and announces the first part of protection is complete.

Evaluation Criteria

Deductions will be taken according to the following behavior(s) displayed during the exercise. The dog showing pressure or stressed behavior. The dog is not attentive to the helper. The dog is not in correct position with the handler or the incorrect amount of paces from helper.

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 thirty (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. The handler follows the helper with the dog, which is intensely attentive to the helper, at a distance of about eight (8) paces. The distance must be maintained by the dog during the entire back transport until the judge signals the attack on the dog out of the transport.

Evaluation Criteria

Deductions will be taken according to the following behavior(s) displayed during the exercise. The dog showing pressure or stressed behavior. The dog is not attentive to the helper. The dog is not in correct position with the handler or the incorrect amount of paces from helper.

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, the helper attacks the dog without the intervention of the handler and without hesitation, at the direction of the judge. The dog must engage the helper with a confident, powerful attack, and a full firm, 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 full, calm grip. At the order of the judge, the helper stops the drive and pressure. Following the helper locking up, the transition phase must be displayed for approximately one second after the helper has stopped. After the transition phase, the dog must out. The handler can independently give a command for outing in an appropriate time. During and after the release, the helper must 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 the dog who is attentive to the helper. The handler 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. The 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 twenty (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. The dog is not allowed to press, bump or grip the helper. At the end of the transport, the handler takes a basic position with the dog in front of the judge. The handler hands over the padded stick to the judge and announces the first part of protection is complete.

Evaluation Criteria

Deductions will be taken according to the following behavior(s) displayed during the exercise. 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.

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 are 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 is an unsafe position on the field, they may move the helper more to the midline of the field before the dog is sent to attack. After the "defense against an attack from the guarding phase" the handler takes the 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 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. The dog must not be stimulated by the handler. At the order of the judge the helper attacks the dog from the front with yelling, making strong threatening motions. On the judge's instructions, the handler immediately releases the 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 move. 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 one second 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 of 1 to 3 seconds. 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 the dog, and returns the dog into the basic position with a sit. The handler must be next to the dog in basic position when the sit command is given. The handler may put the leash on the dog. The padded stick is removed from the helper. The handler may disarm the helper any way they want, as long as the dog and handler remain together during the disarm.

A new basic position is taken next to the helper. The dog and handler perform a side transport, either on leash or off leash, to the judge over a distance of approximately twenty (20) paces. A command for heeling or transport is allowed. The dog has to remain between the helper and the handler. The dog must be attentive to the helper during transport. 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 three (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 and reports that protection is complete. At the direction of the judge, the handler goes with the dog on leash while under control to the position for the critique.

Evaluation Criteria

Deductions will be taken according to the following behavior(s) displayed during the exercise. 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, or not attentive, dominant guarding of the helper.

IGP-2

The helper will stop where the previous exercise has ended. If the judge determines it to be an unsafe position on the field, they may move the helper more to the midline of the field before the dog is sent to attack. After the side transport at the end of the exercise "back transport", the handler takes the off leash dog about 40 meters away from the helper. The dog must be in the correct position on the knee of the 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. The dog must not be stimulated by the handler.

At the order of the judge, the helper attacks the dog from the front while yelling, and making strong threatening motions. On the judge's instructions, the handler immediately releases the 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 receiving 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 their place. At the order of the judge, the helper stops the drive and pressure to place the back of the dog towards the handler. After the helper has locked up, the transition phase must be displayed for approximately one second 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 of 1 to 3 seconds. 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.

Evaluation Criteria

Deductions will be taken according to the following behavior(s) displayed during the exercise. 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, or not attentive, dominant guarding of the helper.

IGP-3

The handler, after the side transport at the end of the exercise "attack on the dog from the back transport", takes the 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, while the dog remains stress free with intensity. The dog is straight, right at the knee of the handler. After reaching the position for the long attack, the handler stops and turns around. With the command sit, the dog is brought into the basic position. Dog sits straight, quiet and attentive to the helper sitting and may 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 the 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 the 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 their 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 one second 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 of 1 to 3 seconds. 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.

Evaluation Criteria

Deductions will be taken according to the following behavior(s) displayed during the exercise. 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, or not attentive, dominant guarding of the helper.

Defense of an Attack from the Guarding Phase, with Completion of Protection 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 an 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 (2) stick hits are to be applied during the drive in the IGP-3 trial level 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 one second 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 to 3 seconds. 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 the dog and returns the dog to the basic position with the command to sit. The padded stick is removed from the helper. The handler may disarm the helper any way they want as long as the dog and handler remain together during the disarm.

A new basic position is taken by the handler and the dog next to the helper. The handler and the dog perform a side transport, with the dog off leash, to the judge over a distance of about twenty (20) paces. A command for heeling or transport is allowed. The dog has to stay between the helper and the handler. The dog must be attentive to the helper during transport but is not allowed to press, jump on 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 five (5) paces away from the judge before taking a basic position and putting the leash on. At the direction of the judge the handler goes with the dog on leash and under control to the position for the critique.

Evaluation Criteria

Deductions will be taken according to the following behavior(s) displayed during the exercise. 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, or not attentive, dominant guarding of the helper.

TSB Evaluation

The TSB evaluation should describe the temperament characteristics of the dog. The TSB does 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, or fighting, exercise. The below information is valid for all trial levels.

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 the willingness to work, the instinctive behavior, in self-confidence, 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.