



**Australian Working Patrol Dog Association  
PO Box 359  
Braidwood NSW 2622**

**3rd February 2020**

**To: Parliamentary Joint Committee on Law Enforcement  
PO Box 6100  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600**

**Via email: [le.committee@aph.gov.au](mailto:le.committee@aph.gov.au)**

**From: Wayne Ferrari  
Secretary  
Australian Working Patrol Dog Association (AWPDA)**

**Re: Inquiry into an Australian Standard for the training and use of  
privately contracted security and detection dogs.**

The Chairperson - Parliamentary Joint Committee on Law Enforcement,

Thank you for the invitation to provide this written submission to the [Inquiry into an Australian Standard for the training and use of privately contracted security and detection dogs.](#)

The Australian Working Patrol Dog Association (AWPDA) was formed with the intent to provide non-government entities (small to medium enterprise, non-profit and independent operators) involved in the breeding, training and handling of security & detection dogs, a means of independent certification. This certification being achieved via a standardised and documented assessment process. The AWPDA model and procedures are based upon those of the North American Police Work Dog Association, which has been successfully operating in North America since 1977 and assists with the training and certification of working dogs to internationally recognised standards.

For the further background and context, please refer to the attached annexure which provides comprehensive detail of AWPDA assessment standards for the certification of working dogs and handlers.

The AWPDA have had the opportunity to review the submissions of the Australian Federal Police (AFP) and have noted the content identifying difficulties faced by trainers not closely aligned with law enforcement partners, in particular respect to legislative requirements around active agents required for Explosive and Drug Detection training activities.

Whilst the AWPDA is in agreement with the AFP around the difficulties facing some of our members in this respect, we would refute some of the commentary (in absence of referenced scientific data) around the efficacy of synthetic analogues in training regimes. If required, the AWPDA is in a position to provide third-party expert opinion and scientific research data around the use of synthetic training aids for explosive and drug detection.

The AWPDA submits that the formulation of any standard should support the transparent inclusion of both government personnel and qualified privately trained personnel. In effect, ensuring flexible model delivery to the Commonwealth, adherence to the principles of the Commonwealth Competitive Neutrality policies and competitive procurement processes - as supported by the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act (PGPA 2013).

Any standard should clearly balance the identified legislative requirements and classified practices impact with a need to pragmatically minimise impediments that are constructive to restricted trade and anti-competitive practices.

The AWPDA welcomes the opportunity to further assist the committee if required in the future.

Sincerely,

Wayne Ferrari  
Secretary  
Australian Working Patrol Dog Association

# Australian Working Patrol Dog Association

“DEDICATED TO ASSISTING WORKING DOG TEAMS THROUGHOUT AUSTRALIA”



## GUIDELINES and CERTIFICATION RULES

This book belongs to: \_\_\_\_\_

# AUSTRALIAN WORKING PATROL DOG ASSOCIATION

## **Bylaws**

### **ARTICLE 1:**

This Association shall be known as the Australian Working Patrol Dog Association, Inc.

### **ARTICLE 2: OBJECTIVES**

To unite and assist all working dog teams in the training and continued improvement of all working dogs. To establish a working standard for all working dogs, handlers and trainers through an accreditation program. To provide educational material through publications, visual aids and training seminars. To improve the image of the patrol and working dog.

### **ARTICLE 3: MEMBERSHIP**

#### Section A:

Regular Members - Full initial membership in this association shall be open to any active law enforcement officer, military Patrol, federal, state, county, municipal or correction officer who is a canine handler, trainer, canine administrator or person who was a law enforcement canine officer and is now employed full time as a canine trainer or handler for a recognized law enforcement agency. Full membership shall also be open to any retired (vested or collecting a pension) law enforcement officer, military Patrol, federal, state, county, municipal or correction officer who was a canine handler, trainer or canine administrator at the time of retirement. Regular AWPDA members who are current in their dues at the time they leave their canine unit and remain a law enforcement officer are still eligible to be a Regular member so long as they remain active in AWPDA and current in their dues. All regular members will be ineligible to vote at the first Executive Committee election following their membership acceptance. If a law enforcement agency pays for the member's membership dues, the agency has the right to reassign that membership to another person anytime during that dues period. The change in membership by the law enforcement agency must be in writing to the membership chairperson. The written change will include the current member's complete information and the new replacement person's complete information on a AWPDA membership application. Accredited AWPDA Assessor's in good standing who have been in AWPDA for 20 years or more are awarded lifetime memberships.

# AUSTRALIAN WORKING PATROL DOG ASSOCIATION

“DEDICATED TO ASSISTING PATROL WORK DOG TEAMS THROUGHOUT AUSTRALIA”

## **CERTIFICATION RULES**

### Certification Validity:

Upon successful completion of each test the Assessor will issue permanent credentials from the date of issue. The team being tested must pass each phase of each test no matter in what order or combination they are tested in.

### Certain Equipment Prohibited:

At no time during any of the certification tests will sticks or whips of any type be used. Collars, including pinch or electronic, may be used as long as it is proven to be properly worn and inactive if electronic, to the Assessor at the time of certification, except that no electronic collar will be permitted to be worn during Explosive Detection certification or training regardless whether or not it is active or inactive.

### Appeal:

A work dog team that fails any of the following tests may reapply for testing at the next and most convenient

date.

### Test Results:

All of the following tests are recorded on a pass/fail basis. Any work dog team that fails a test and feels that they have been tested unfairly, will, at the time of the test notify the Assessor of his/her appeals. The handler will then file a complete report of his/her observations and the reasons they feel they were tested unfairly. Notified of the appeal will file a report of his/her observations, all testing sheets and basis for failing the team. All reports will be filed within thirty (30) days of the test at National Headquarters. Reports or copies thereof will be forwarded to an Appeals Committee. Findings of the Committee will be returned to National Headquarters The decision of the Appeals Committee must be by a majority vote and will be final. If during the time period that a certification certificate is issued for any or all phases, the K-9 team re-tests in any or all of the same phases AND FAILS, then the initial certificate which was issued in the failed phase or phases will become NULL AND VOID. Further, a letter to this effect will be sent to the K-9 team and their department, including the recommendation that they be re-tested with thirty (30) days of this notification.

**MEMBERSHIP:**

(1.) Work dog teams wishing to be tested and certified under these rules and by this Association must be regular members of this organization.

- A.) Obedience
- B.) Tracking or Trailing
- C.) Area Search
- E.) Article Search
- F.) Building Search

## **AUSTRALIAN WORKING PATROL DOG ASSOCIATION**

### **“UTILITY DOG” CERTIFICATION TITLE**

To obtain a “Utility Dog” certification title, the patrol working dog team must pass all phases of the utility dog testing areas.

Prior to testing for this title, the handler must notify the Assessor of his/her intent to obtain this title.

The testing will be conducted during a one day test, unless it is conducted during an AWPDA national or state workshop. The team must pass each phase on the first attempt and will be tested in the following areas:

- 1.) Obedience (MUST be passed to go on to the other areas.)
- 2.) Tracking or Trailing
- 3.) Building Search
- 4.) Aggression Control

NOTE: There will be a break between tests.

All tests given the K9 team will be on a pass/fail basis. The Assessor will determine if the team will be certified upon the completion of the test. The handler and dog will be considered as a team and it is the team who will be certified. If the dog changes handlers, a new team exists and the team will need to be certified.

# AUSTRALIAN WORKING PATROL DOG ASSOCIATION

## OBEDIENCE CONTROL TEST

This test is to determine if the Patrol work dog is capable of performing off lead obedience exercises. The test is designed to test the dog's ability and proficiency and the handler's total control over his/her dog.

The obedience test must be passed during the current consecutive maximum 7 day testing period prior to attempting certification in the following areas: Building Search (Aggression Trained Dogs), Aggression Control.

The patrol work dog team will be tested in the following three (3) phases:

- 1.) Heeling phase
- 2.) Walking phase
- 3.) Distance phase

Each phase may be tested in any order and will be judged on a pass/fail basis. All phases will be done under direction of the Assessor. No cruel or abusive corrections will be displayed at any time. If such is observed the Assessor will note same and forward to AWPDA Headquarters for file information.

### **HEELING PHASE:**

The heeling phase of this test will consist of the following exercises:

- 1.) Normal pace
- 2.) Fast pace or double time
- 3.) Slow pace or half step
- 4.) A minimum of two (2) right turns; two (2) left turns: two (2) about turns.

Each leg of the above must be a minimum of thirty (30) feet long. The different phases may be conducted on any leg.

### **WALKING PHASE:**

The handler and dog will begin from the "Finish" position and walk forward together. At a point designated by the Assessor, the handler will place their dog in a stay position, (sit or down), and continue walking. This is to be done without breaking stride. At a point designated by the Assessor, the handler, while continuing to walk away from his/her dog, will command his/her dog to heel. The Assessor will instruct the team to "About Turn" and then to walk forward. At a point designated by the Assessor, the handler will stay his/her dog, (sit or down), and without breaking stride, will continue walking. At a point designated by the Assessor, the handler will turn and retrieve his/her dog and return to place of origin.

**DISTANCE PHASE:**

At a point designated by the Assessor, the handler will leave his/her dog in a "Stay". At a distance of no less than ten (10) feet, nor more than thirty (30) feet the handler will be directed to turn and face his/her dog. At the direction of the Assessor the handler will complete the following commands (Choice and order of command or signals will be at the direction of the Assessor.):

"Sit and Down" (by VOICE)

"Sit and Down" (by HAND)

The dog will then remain in a down or sit position (the position will be the handlers discretion) for three (3) minutes. During this three (3) minute period the handler may reinforce the command by voice or hand signal while no less than ten (10) feet nor more than thirty (30) feet away.

The Assessor will then instruct the handler to recall his/her dog by hand or by voice. At a point prior to reaching the handler, the Assessor WILL order the handler to stop his/her dog by voice or by signal. (Note: Stopping the dog may be either by a down or sit command). Upon completion of the "Stop", the Assessor will direct the handler to recall his/her dog to the "Finish" (heel) position by voice or signal command.

All tests given the K9 team will be on a pass/fail basis. The Assessor will determine if the team will be certified upon the completion of the test. The handler and dog will be considered as a team and it is the team who will be certified. If the dog changes handlers, a new team exists and the team will need to be certified.



# AUSTRALIAN WORKING PATROL DOG ASSOCIATION

## TRACKING TEST

This test is designed to determine if the working dog is capable of tracking an unknown subject in an unfamiliar area. This test is intended to be closely simulative of working situations. This is a test of the dog's ability and proficiency and the handler's control of the dog.

### **HANDLERS:**

Handlers shall use the appropriate equipment while tracking.

### **SUSPECTS:**

The suspect will be unknown to the dog when possible. The suspect will receive instruction from the Assessor for the method and direction that the track is to be laid. Before the track is laid, the Assessor will inform the Handler whether a suspect or a scent article from the suspect will be at the end of the track.

### **TRACK:**

The handler and dog will be secluded from view of the track while it is being laid. When the test begins the Assessor will inform the handler of the approximate area to begin. The handler will not be told in which direction the track leads. There will be one (1) fresh cross track laid at least fifteen (15) minutes after the original track is laid. The cross track will be laid by a second person to test the dogs scent discrimination. The track must be at least one quarter mile long and have at least two (2) types of surfaces which are covered (dirt, grass, concrete, asphalt, woods, etc.). The track will be at least one (1) hour old prior to beginning the test, and have at least three (3) turns in it. Due to climatic conditions the age of the track will be at the discretion of the Assessor.

All tests given the K9 team will be on a pass/fail basis. The Assessor will determine if the team will be certified upon the completion of the test. The handler and dog will be considered as a team and it is the team who will be certified. If the dog changes handlers, a new team exists and the team will need to be certified.

# AUSTRALIAN WORKING PATROL DOG ASSOCIATION

## K-9 TRAILING TEST

This test is to determine if the canine is capable of performing a training exercise in a simulation of conditions which are encountered during working situations by the patrol working dog team. This test is designed to test the dogs ability and proficiency and the handlers control of the dog.

### **HANDLERS:**

Handlers shall use the appropriate equipment while trailing.

For this test, the handler and canine will be hidden from view prior to the test start. Whenever possible, the suspect will be an unknown person, not regularly worked with the canine. The Assessor will follow the handler and in no way interfere with or distract the canine. Due to climatic conditions, the age of the trail will be at the discretion of the Assessor.

The canine will start the trail one (1) hour old and trail at least a minimum of 100 metres. Surface cover at the start of the trail will be vegetation but will run at least 500 feet on pavement, cross a stream if available and cross two (2) fresh human trails. There will be at least 3 turns in this trail. The suspect will remain at the end of the trail until found.

This test will begin at the direction of the Assessor in the designated area. The handler will not be instructed in which direction the trail has been laid. The handler may encourage his/her dog as needed with commands and praise.

All tests given the K9 team will be on a pass/fail basis. The Assessor will determine if the team will be certified upon the completion of the test. The handler and dog will be considered as a team and it is the team who will be certified. If the dog changes handlers, a new team exists and the team will need to be certified.

# AUSTRALIAN WORKING PATROL DOG ASSOCIATION

## BUILDING SEARCH TEST

The obedience test must be passed during the current consecutive maximum 3 hours testing period prior to attempting certification this test. This test is designed to be simulative of a working situation. Three (3) basic types of buildings are selected and described for use on this test. The Assessor will accompany the team to observe the entire test, as could happen when a backup officer or superior officer would accompany the work dog team during an actual search. Survival tactics should be considered.

### **BUILDING TYPES:**

- 1.) Residential dwellings
- 2.) Warehouse, armory, barn, open areas within the building
- 3.) School, hotel, office building, multi-room interior

### **HELPERS:**

- 1.) Will be hidden at least ten (10) minutes prior to the test start.
- 2.) Will be hidden in a place of concealment which is not visible to the work dog and handler.
- 3.) Will wear protective sleeve if necessary for protection.
- 4.) Whenever possible, will be a person unknown to the dog, and not normally used in training with the dog.
- 5.) Should be brought into the building by way of a different route than that to be used by the dog and handler.
- 6.) Will be placed in concealment at any height.

### **ASSESSORS:**

- 1.) Will designate the area of the building to be used for the test.
- 2.) Will designate the area in which the team is to begin their search.
- 3.) Will observe the team during the entire test. The Assessor should make every effort not to interfere with the test, and should confer with the handler to reach an agreement as how not to disturb the dogs work, follow behind and observe from doorways, ladder, etc.
- 4.) When it is obvious to the Assessor that the dog is not searching for the suspect, the Assessor will inform the handler of the failure for this test.

**HANDLER:**

- 1.) This test may be administered on or off leash. If a leash is utilized it may be no less than 15 feet nor longer than 30 feet in length.
- 2.) The handler may accompany the dog throughout the test, and may encourage his/her dog with commands and praise as needed.
- 3.) In NO case will the handler open any doors that are closed within his/her search area. Rooms with open doors should be searched thoroughly.
- 4.) The dog's final response of the location of the helper must be obvious to the Assessor. The handler will inform the Assessor of the helper location.

All tests given the K9 team will be on a pass/fail basis. The Assessor will determine if the team will be certified upon the completion of the test. The handler and dog will be considered as a team and it is the team who will be certified. If the dog changes handlers, a new team exists and the team will need to be certified.

# AUSTRALIAN WORKING PATROL DOG ASSOCIATION

## AGGRESSION CONTROL TEST

The obedience test must be passed during the current consecutive maximum 3 hrs testing period prior to attempting certification this test. This test is to determine if the Patrol work dog is capable of performing exercises encountered by the Patrol handler and his/her dog under simulated situations encountered while working. The test is designed to test the dog's ability, proficiency, courage, and the handler's total control of his/her dog.

There are three (3) phases of this test. The dog and handler will be tested in all phases in the order listed. Each phase is tested on a pass/fail basis and must be passed before proceeding to the next phase.

There are options for equipment utilized during the test. Prior to the test the Assessor must approve of the option utilized, inspect and approve all equipment used. Hidden, concealed protective gear will be worn by the suspect. This equipment is to be completely concealed by clothing so as to provide no visual cue to the dog as to its existence or location or a visible colored (other than jute color) full protective aggression suit may be used. In the event of any safety issue raised by the suspect, handler or Assessor, the Assessor has the discretion to mandate the use of a protective aggression suit described above.

The type of lead used by the handler will be at his/her discretion, but will not be over six (6) feet long. Each phase shall be completed off lead unless specified otherwise.

Guns and ammunition will be a handgun loaded with blanks which at least have the rapport of a .38 cal. live round and will be checked by a Assessor or their appointed steward prior to the phase.

Whenever possible, the suspect will be unknown to the dog. The suspects may be other handlers being tested or volunteers with the approval of the Assessor, or in some cases the Assessor themselves.

In the phases requiring the dog to physically apprehend the suspect, the dog must fully engage and hold/fight the suspect. Failure to engage or excessive, unnecessary mouthing and readjusting of the apprehension is grounds for failure.

In the phases requiring the dog to stop his pursuit and apprehension of the suspect, the handler may use any command or series of commands to control the dog. Failure of the dog to release and/or to respond to obedience commands in a timely manner is grounds for failure.

The handler must demonstrate sound tactics during all phases of the test. When a search of the suspect is called for the handler must demonstrate a safe approach, simulate handcuffing and search the suspect for weapons.

The order of the phases is as follows:

### **PHASE 1: Termination of Chase**

The dog will begin this phase from the heel position. The suspect will begin at a distance of approximately 40 yards away from the team. At the direction of the Assessor, the suspect will run away from the team in any direction. The Assessor will inform the handler when to send their dog. The suspect will stop and surrender terminating the pursuit when instructed by the Assessor.

The type of call off used is at the handler's discretion, but the Assessor must be informed of the type to be used prior to the test. It may be one of the following:

- 1.) Dog is recalled to the heel position.
- 2.) Dog is commanded to the down, sit or stand position and the handler will join their dog or recall the dog to the heel position.
- 3.) The dog will display reasonable force or detaining behavior.

The importance of this test is that the suspect is not mouthed, nipped or bitten by the dog regardless of the type of call off used. Non aggressive incidental contact made by the dog while attempting to respond to the call off is not faulty. This phase will be complete when the dog is in the heel position with the handler.

### **PHASE 2: Gun Fire Control:**

The dog will be in the heel position. The suspect carrying a handgun loaded with blanks which at least have the rapport of a .38 cal. live round, will start approximately 30 yards away from the team and run away. The suspect will fire a minimum of two shots as directed by the Assessor. The handler will then return fire with two shots. The dog will remain at the heel position at all times showing no signs of aggression. This phase is now complete.

### **PHASE 3: Chase and Apprehension of a Suspect:**

Chase and Apprehension of a Suspect: The dog and handler from a position of cover, if available, will order the suspect to approach them. When the suspect refuses and after that handler issues the appropriate verbal warnings, the handler will command their dog to apprehend the suspect. The handler shall move to a position of cover if available. The dog will pursue, apprehend and hold the suspect. Upon the handler's arrival at the location of the dog and suspect and at the discretion of the Assessor, the handler will command the dog to release and call off. The handler then orders the suspect to an appropriate position, approaches the suspect and then simulates handcuffing and a search of the suspect. During this process, the suspect will display behaviour consistent with a suspect that has just been bitten, including stumbling, loud vocalization and passive resistance. The amount of stimulation displayed will be at the discretion of the Assessor. Any additional intentional physical contact by the dog with the decoy at any time following the release of the initial apprehension will result in failure.

# AUSTRALIAN WORKING PATROL DOG ASSOCIATION

## NARCOTIC DETECTION TEST

This test is designed to determine the proficiency and reliability of dogs in the detection of narcotics. As defined by the AWPDA narcotic detection rules for testing, the minimum acceptable level required to pass is 91.66%. The basic narcotic odors (and their derivatives) that can be tested in are marijuana, cocaine, heroin and methamphetamine and are not to exceed five (5) different narcotic odors. The safety of the detection dog will be the sole responsibility of the handler, (such as overdose). The general rules for testing narcotic detection dogs will be as follows:

- 1.) The "Reward toy or object" used during a narcotic detection certification test, to reward the dog upon finding a narcotic hide, WILL NOT contain any narcotics or narcotic odor/residue.
- 2.) All odors attempting to be certified in WILL be hidden in ALL areas tested in. Conflict odors will be present in all testing areas.
- 3.) All searches will include a minimum of two (2) blank uncontaminated areas to be searched, e.g. vehicle, room, luggage, locker, area, etc.
- 4.) Testing will be conducted in at least three (3) areas.

Areas of concealment are:

- a.) Vehicles, mandatory search area and mandatory minimum 6 vehicles for test (inside and outside count as one (1) area.).
- b.) Buildings, mandatory search area.
- c.) Any other designated areas.
- d.) If luggage, any type of package or container is used, there will be a minimum of 15 pieces used for testing.
- e.) If lockers are used, there will be a minimum of 25 lockers used for testing.
- 5.) A "team miss" is defined as any incorrect response by the K9 team.
- 6.) Only one (1) miss total overall of all odors attempted to be certified in, will be permitted for a successful "pass" certification. If the testing K9 team has more than one (1) team miss, which is a failure, then the K9 team MUST RETEST in ALL PHASES AND in ALL ODORS that they are seeking accreditation for.
- 7.) Narcotics certified in will be listed by their "Laboratory" names on the certification certificate.
- 8.) Pseudo narcotics WILL NOT be used for certification tests.
- 9.) The Assessor will place the aids in locations unknown to the team. Hides may be high or low.

- 10.) The amount of narcotic substance used for testing will not be less than one (1) gram.
- 11.) When testing in three or more odors of narcotics, a minimum of one (1) hide of each odor attempted to be certified in WILL be hidden in "Building" searches and in "Other" searches, tested in.
- 12.) When testing in three or more odors of narcotics, there will be a minimum of one (1) hide of each odor attempted to be certified in, hidden INSIDE the vehicle and a minimum of one (1) hide of the SAME ODOR, hidden on the OUTSIDE of the vehicle, thus making a TOTAL of two (2) hides of EACH ODOR attempted to be certified in for the vehicle portion of the narcotic detection certification test. There will be at least two (2) blank uncontaminated vehicles searched/used during this test.
- 13.) If only one (1) odor is attempted to be certified in, there WILL be a minimum of twelve (12) total finds, consisting of a minimum four (4) hides in building search, minimum four (4) hides in "Other" searches, and a minimum of four (4) hides - two (2) inside and two (2) outside a vehicle. There will be at least two (2) blank uncontaminated vehicles searched/used during this test.
- 14.) If two (2) odors are attempted to be certified in, there WILL be a minimum of twelve (12) total finds, consisting of a minimum two (2) hides of each odor in building search, minimum two (2) hides of each odor in "Other" searches, and a minimum two (2) hides of each odor - one (1) of each odor inside and one (1) of each odor outside a vehicle. There will be at least two (2) blank uncontaminated vehicles searched/used during this test.
- 15.) Time limits on searches will be at the discretion of the Assessor and so long as the Assessor determines that the team is still working.

**\*\* NOTE: There will be a break between the narcotic building searches and the narcotic vehicle searches.\*\***

All tests given the Narcotic Detection Team will be on a pass/fail basis. The Assessor will determine if the team will be certified upon the completion of the test. The handler and dog will be considered as a team and it is the team who will be certified. If the dog changes handlers, a new team exists and the team will need to be certified.



# ADVANCED K9 INSTRUCTION

## CLASS BLOCKS

This class is not mandatory nor is it actually part of the AWPDA certification test rules. It is optional.

AWPDA Utility Assessors that have attended and completed the AWPDA Advanced K9 Instruction Class Blocks are then authorized to conduct this block instruction. They will complete this form, sign it and immediately issue it to the K9 team successfully completing the class block. This complete section reviewed and/or revised 05-06-17.

## SAFETY NOTES

EACH HANDLER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ACTIONS OF HIS OR HER DOG.☒

NO LIVE WEAPONS OR MAGAZINES AT TRAINING SITE.☒

NO CHEMICAL SPRAYS OR TASERS (UNLESS REQUESTED BY ASSESSOR).☒

HORSEPLAY WILL NOT BE TOLERATED (WE TAKE THIS SERIOUSLY—SO SHOULD YOU).☒

THERE WILL BE NO EXCESSIVE BEHAVIOR OR CORRECTION DIRECTED TOWARD ANY K9.

## EQUIPMENT NEEDED

LONG LINE

MUZZLE

COMPLETE DUTY BELT (HANDLERS)

4' OR 6' LEAD

CORRECTION COLLAR(S)

DISTRACTIONS (I.E. TOYS, ETC.)

1. Group OB—on lead.

Utilizing proper praise and correction techniques.

A. Heeling—varied pace, gait and directions

B. Down/sit/stay

C. Opposite of heel (stationary)

D. Down/sit/stay/kneel/prone—simulated drawing of weapon

E. Straddle dog—various positions for handler and dog (cover dog, over top of dog, sit/stay/down position, simulated draw weapon, 3rd party straddle/step over)

F. Carry dog

G. Down/sit/stay and leave dog (3rd party correction via long line)

- H. Prone position—handler crawling and rolling away and to K9 (3rd party correction)
- I. Handler drop and roll distraction (3rd party correction)
- J. Handler verbal conflict (issuing challenges through escalating tones and volume)
- K. Long downs (3rd party correction)

2. Group OB—on lead WITH DISTRACTIONS (i.e. toys, food, equipment, animals).

**Utilizing proper praise and correction techniques.**

- A. Heeling—varied pace, gait and directions
- B. Down/sit/stay
- C. Opposite of heel (stationary)
- D. Down/sit/stay/kneel/prone—simulated drawing of weapon
- E. Straddle dog—various positions for handler and dog (cover dog, over top of dog, sit/stay/down position, simulated draw weapon, 3rd party straddle/step over)
- F. Carry dog
- G. Down/sit/stay and leave dog (3rd party correction via long line)
- H. Prone position—handler crawling and rolling away and to K9 (3rd party correction)
- I. Handler drop and roll distraction (3rd party correction)
- J. Handler verbal conflict (issuing challenges through escalating tones and volume)
- K. Long downs (3rd party correction) Page 47

3. Group OB—on lead (gunfire—from dry fire to blanks).

**Utilizing proper praise and correction techniques.**

- A. Heeling—varied pace, gait and directions
- B. Down/sit/stay
- C. Opposite of heel (stationary)
- D. Down/sit/stay/kneel/prone—simulated drawing of weapon
- E. Straddle dog—various positions for handler and dog (cover dog, over top of dog, sit/stay/down position, simulated draw weapon, 3rd party straddle/step over)
- F. Carry dog
- G. Down/sit/stay and leave dog (3rd party correction via long line)

- H. Prone position—handler crawling and rolling away and to K9 (3rd party correction)
- I. Handler drop and roll distraction (3rd party correction)
- J. Handler verbal conflict (issuing challenges through escalating tones and volume)
- K. Long downs (3rd party correction)
- 4. Group OB—off lead.

Utilizing proper praise and correction techniques.

- A. Heeling—varied pace, gait and directions
- B. Down/sit/stay
- C. Opposite of heel (stationary)
- D. Down/sit/stay/kneel/prone—simulated drawing of weapon
- E. Straddle dog—various positions for handler and dog (cover dog, over top of dog, sit/stay/down position, simulated draw weapon, 3rd party straddle, step over)
- F. Carry dog
- G. Down/sit/stay and leave dog (3rd party correction via long line)
- H. Prone position—handler crawling and rolling away and to K9 (3rd party correction)
- I. Handler drop and roll distraction (3rd party correction)
- J. Handler verbal conflict (issuing challenges through escalating tones and volume)
- K. Long downs (3rd party correction)
- 5. Group OB—off lead with distractions.

Utilizing proper praise and correction techniques.

- A. Heeling—varied pace, gait and directions
- B. Down/sit/stay
- C. Opposite of heel (stationary)
- D. Down/sit/stay/kneel/prone—simulated drawing of weapon
- E. Straddle dog—various positions for handler and dog (cover dog, over top of dog, sit/stay/down position, simulated draw weapon, 3rd party straddle/step over)
- F. Carry dog
- G. Down/sit/stay and leave dog (3rd party correction via long line)
- H. Prone position—handler crawling and rolling away and to K9 (3rd party correction)
- I. Handler drop and roll distraction (3rd party correction)

J. Handler verbal conflict (issuing challenges through escalating tones and volume)

K. Long downs (3rd party correction)

6. Group OB—off lead—gunfire.

Utilizing proper praise and correction techniques.

A. Heeling—varied pace, gait and directions

B. Down/sit/stay

C. Opposite of heel (stationary)

D. Down/sit/stay/kneel/prone—simulated drawing of weapon

E. Straddle dog—various positions for handler and dog (cover dog, over top of dog, sit/stay/down position, simulated draw weapon, 3rd party straddle/step over)

F. Carry dog

G. Down/sit/stay and leave dog (3rd party correction via long line)

H. Prone position—handler crawling and rolling away and to K9 (3rd party correction)

I. Handler drop and roll distraction (3rd party correction)

J. Handler verbal conflict (issuing challenges through escalating tones and volume)

K. Long downs (3rd party correction) Page 48

7. K9 Team Movements.

K9s in muzzle

Reduce number of teams

Off lead, but utilizing 3rd party long line correction as necessary

Types of Movements:

A. Leap frog movements (point to point) utilizing available cover and concealment

B. Wall movements (inside/outside corners)

C. Entry points

D. Choke points

E. Stairwells and landing

8. K9 Team Movements WITH DISTRACTIONS.

K9s in muzzle

Reduce number of teams

Off lead, but utilizing 3rd party long line correction as necessary

## Types of Movements

- A. Leap frog movements (point to point) utilizing available cover and concealment
- B. Wall movements (inside/outside corners & left/right side wall)
- C. Entry points (dog is on wall side)
- D. Choke points
- E. Stairwells and landings
- 9. Suspect removal.

Definition: Utilizing the K9 to bring the suspect to the handler.

### A. Find with engagement

#### 1) Out/heel:

- a) Directing suspect toward team with K9 under control while off lead at a distance

#### 2) Out/down:

- a) Directing suspect toward handler with K9 remaining in the down (or sit) until otherwise directed by handler.

- b) Suspect and K9 are moved alternately toward the handler in small increments until handler takes control of suspect

### B. Find without engagement (alert only)

#### 1) Out/heel:

- a) Directing suspect toward team with K9 under control while off lead at a distance

#### 2) Out/down:

- a) Directing suspect toward handler with K9 remaining in the down (or sit) until otherwise directed by handler.

- b) Suspect and K9 are moved alternately toward the handler in small increments until handler takes control of suspect

### 10. K9 Team Movements (with other personnel).

On lead, in muzzle

- A. Line movement ("stack") with turns/directional changes
- B. Line movement ("stack") with K9 changing position within line
- C. Deployment of K9 from line movement from both ground and carry position Page 49

Specific Level Completion: \_\_\_\_\_

### ADVANCED K9 INSTRUCTION

Last name: \_\_\_\_\_ First name: \_\_\_\_\_ M.I.: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer name: \_\_\_\_\_ Your Assignment: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer Address: \_\_\_\_\_ K9 used directly by employer? \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

K9 Name: \_\_\_\_\_ K9 Age: \_\_\_\_\_ K9 Breed: \_\_\_\_\_ K9 Sex: \_\_\_\_\_

Evaluated by: \_\_\_\_\_ Level Achieved: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: - -

Evaluator's initials show all areas successfully passed:

### LEVEL ONE

\_\_\_\_\_ Handler will be able to carry K9 a minimum of 50 feet.

\_\_\_\_\_ K9 will out on command with handler at a distance of no less than fifty feet.

\_\_\_\_\_ Basic off lead OB with minimal corrections needed (verbal and/or physical).

\_\_\_\_\_ K9 tolerates "crouched" gait from handler.

\_\_\_\_\_ K9 tolerates handler prone, straddling dog or crawling out away from K9.

\_\_\_\_\_ K9 tolerates handler in non-heel position.

\_\_\_\_\_ K9 is controlled under gunfire (off lead)—"controlled" meaning that K9 does not break after decoy in bite suit firing .38 cal blanks or bark excessively.

\_\_\_\_\_ K9 does a 3 minute down/stay with handler out of sight without distractions.

### LEVEL TWO

\_\_\_\_\_ K9 remains in a down with handler out of sight for three minutes with distraction up to but not including gunfire.

\_\_\_\_\_ K9 will recall from engagement or will down or sit at decoy (handler at 50 feet with recall).

\_\_\_\_\_ K9 holds under gunfire with handler returning fire.

\_\_\_\_\_ K9 moves point to point with handler (use of hand signals).

\_\_\_\_\_ K9 is proficient at working in a formation.

\_\_\_\_\_ K9 will down or sit on command during building or area search.

\_\_\_\_\_ K9 will comply with down/stay command at point of alert on search.

LEVEL THREE

\_\_\_\_\_ Complete noise discipline under gunfire and stack movements.

\_\_\_\_\_ K9 works proficiently by silent whistle or hand signals.

\_\_\_\_\_ K9 will recall under gunfire or down-recall.

\_\_\_\_\_ K9 will down on command during pursuit under gunfire.

\_\_\_\_\_ K9 will do a "send out" to designated location and will down or sit until handler arrives.

\_\_\_\_\_ K9 remains in a down with handler out of sight for five minutes with distractions including gunfire.

\_\_\_\_\_ K9 holds on gunfire with handler, decoy and "back-ups".

\_\_\_\_\_ K9 is capable of being moved (off lead) after call-off without re-engagement.

\_\_\_\_\_ K9 will be able to work in a stack and engage a suspect with changes in position.

\_\_\_\_\_ K9 provides cover while third party is being dragged out.

Assessor Comments:

# Australian Working Patrol Dog Association

“DEDICATED TO ASSISTING WORKING DOG TEAMS THROUGHOUT AUSTRALIA”



## GREEN DOG GUIDELINES and CERTIFICATION RULES

This book belongs to: \_\_\_\_\_



# AUSTRALIAN WORKING PATROL DOG ASSOCIATION

## K9 MINIMUM AGE LIMITS FOR CERTIFICATION

A K9 must be at least 12 months old for the Green K9 Certification.

## SCOREBOOKS

Each K9 must have an AWPDA Scorebook. No K9 will be allowed to participate without one. The Scorebook must be handed to the Judge before each certification. All Certifications must be signed by an AWPDA Judge for it to be considered valid and official.

## CERTIFICATES

Each K9 Handler Team that successfully passes an AWPDA Certification will be awarded an Official AWPDA Certificate according to each level. It must be signed by the Judge.

## DETECTION PHASE

Single purpose narcotics detection  
Single purpose explosives detection  
Dual purpose police patrol K9 and narcotics detection  
Dual purpose police patrol and explosive detection

This phase of the certification format will always be first. A K9 team can opt to certify in only detection. He does not have to participate in the other phases of the AWPDA program. This will be stipulated on the certification application form. Outstanding, pass, or fail scoring format. The certification will change in scenarios every time. The Certification is required to have these following five components:

Open area nose search  
Indoor furniture, lockers search  
Three vehicles search  
Multiple luggage search

Types of odors required to certify:  
(Small plastic zip lock bag, nylon, or cloth bag full of high quality pseudo narcotics or explosives).

### **NARCOTICS:**

Damiano  
Burch oil

### **EXPLOSIVES:**

Black Powder  
double base smokeless powder

The odors must only be handled by the certification assistant wearing rubber gloves before he hides it for the judge. The K9 must always be behind the blind or asked to leave the room. The judge will always ask the k9 handler what type of detection training has the k9 received narcotics or explosives? Aside from the fact. It has been declared on the certification application. To make sure.

Then the judge will use the appropriate odor for each k9. Then both the K9 and the handler must place themselves in the blind, or will be asked to leave the room. They are not allowed to see where the odors will be placed. The certification attendant will hide the odors where the judge decides. The K9 handler team will be asked to come out of the blind or enter the room and take the starting position. They must wait on the judge to signal. Then the handler can send his K9 to search the room or area. If the odor is found by the K9. He must never touch the find. He must never show aggression towards the odor, or people. It has to be a passive indication. It must be a sit, or down within one yard of the odor with a stare or at least facing in the direction of the odor.

Once the K9 indicates the handler is allowed to reward his K9 with a retrieve article or food treat. Once the reward is finished. The Judge will signal the Handler to remove his K9 from the room or search area. Then the exercise will end.

All searches will have a time limit of 4 minutes. The outdoor area will be a 30 yard square. All hidden odors must out of site of the K9. It has to be a nose search. The indoor area or room must not exceed a 30 yard square. It must be at least 500 square foot room. There must be a minimum of 3 vehicles. One is required to be searched inside. The other two vehicles searches are outside. The odors will be hidden in a different area of the chosen vehicles for each K9. There must be a minimum of ten pieces of luggage. There must be a minimum of five boxes.

If the K9 finds the odors under 2 minutes with no penalty. He will be scored outstanding. If the K9 finds the odors from 2 minutes to under 4 minutes with no penalty he will pass. If he does not find the odors in any or all searches, 100% of the times, or commits a penalty, or if he exceeds the 4 minutes. He will fail.

### **HEALING OFF LEASH**

There will be a pre-determined 50-yard pattern where the K9 Team must heel forwards and backwards (5 yards) to include walking, jogging, and running. There must not be any separation of more than one yard in any direction. No separation is considered Outstanding, Less than one yard separation is considered a Pass, and any separation of more than one yard is considered a Fail. The design, pattern, and decoy work for K9s must be normal in difficulty. Each certification will contain a different heeling pattern. This will be decided by the Judge. The Judge will always determine how all of the exercises will be designed. Every Certification must have an open field the day before the certification is held. A penalty is when the K9 or handler does something outside of the rules of each exercise.

### **LONG DOWN**

The K9 Handler will place his K9 at the predetermined spot on the field. The handler will leave the K9 there and must place themselves at the predetermined hiding place, out of site from the K9 and at a minimum distance of 30 yards. The Handler must remain out of site quietly for two minutes for the Protection K9 Certification level and four minutes for the Urban K9 Certification level.

## **AGGRESSION TEST**

The K9 Scorebook must show proof of passing obedience in order to test for the aggression phase. Once the K9 Handler Team passes or fails, the Judge will sign the K9 Scorebook in order for it to be an official AWPAD Certification.

- If the K9 does not move until he has completed the exercise, the exercise will be graded as Outstanding.
- If the K9 moves less than one yard in any direction, the exercise will be graded as Pass.
- If the K9 changes his/her original position or moves in any direction in excess of one yard, the exercise will be graded as Fail. The judge will signal the K9 Handler Team when to start, when to come out of the blind, and when to finish.

## **FOOD REFUSAL**

The Food Refusal exercise will be performed on a different location of the field. The Judge will determine the location on the field. The exercise will be tested separately from the other four obedience exercises. The K9 at a down position with the handler at the side of the judge. A decoy with a hidden sleeve will toss two pieces of meat toward the K9, without making contact with the K9. One piece of meat will be cooked and the other will be raw.

- Outstanding will be awarded if the K9 refuses to eat and does not move or smell the food.
- Pass will be awarded if the K9 moves less than one yard in any direction; or if the K9 touches or smells the food without eating it.
- If the K9 eats the food or moves more than one yard away from the original position, or changes position he/she will fail the exercise.

# **PROTECTION PHASE**

## **HIDDEN SLEEVE ATTACK**

The Judge can change the scenario during each certification. This exercise must have three components.

1. The K9 Handler Team is out for a walk (sidewalk, road, park, woods, city...). The walk consists of the Handler leading his K9 for no less than 20 yards. The Decoy, wearing only a hidden sleeve, will be armed with a starter pistol or baton behind their arm according to the instruction of the Judge. The Decoy will be approaching the K9 Handler Team from a distance.
2. When the Decoy is within 10 to 20 yards from the K9 Handler Team, the Decoy will bring out the gun, firing two rounds into the air or will bring out the baton and threaten to attack the K9 Handler Team. As the Decoy charges forward, the decoy will target the forearm with the hidden sleeve.
3. The K9 Handler Team is allowed to send the K9 to protect the Handler without the command of the Judge with a 10-second bite minimum / 15-second bite maximum. The K9 Handler must wait on the Judge to give the signal to command the K9. The K9 must execute an out and recall back to the Handler. The same Judge to Handler rules apply and the Decoy pressure is medium. The Decoy wears a hidden sleeve and if the K9 refuses to bite, the K9 fails. If the K9 bites but does not out and returns, the K9 fails. If the K9 bites, outs, and returns to the Handler, but is not in a stationary

position within one yard of the Handler, the K9 fails. Once the K9 is back within one yard of the handler in a stationery position, the exercise ends. Weapons allowed include:

- 1 Gallon Bottles
- Baton
- Gun fire .22 caliber

### **SUIT ATTACK**

Suit Attack will be a frontal attack (face attack) at 30 yards. The K9 Handler Team will be assigned a starting point. The Decoy will stand at the 30 yard distance from the K9 Handler Team. The Judge will signal to the Decoy to begin the decoy work. The Decoy must make one attempt at the 30 yard line to pressure the K9 to leave early. If the K9 leaves early, the K9 fails. Once the attempt is made, the decoy must leave the 30 yard starting line in five seconds. When the Decoy is at the 40-yard distance, the Judge will ask the handler to send the K9. The Decoy must speed up at the 130-yard distance and must face the K9 before the K9 bites the Decoy at the 50 yard distance. The decoy may use a stick across the shoulder blades in the entry.

The Judge will always determine which weapon are to be used. If the K9 refuses to bite, the K9 fails. If the K9 missed or fails to engage two times on the bite, the K9 fails. If the K9 misses once and refuses to bite for 15 seconds before biting again, the K9 fails. The K9 must bite for 60 seconds. At the completion of the 60- second bite, the Judge will signal the Handler to command the K9 to out and guard the decoy. The Handler has three command attempts to make the K9 comply or the K9 fails. The Handler must be positioned 10 yards from the K9, between the starting point and the Decoy once the K9 outs and guards. The guard must be within one yard of the Decoy and between 10 and 15 seconds long in duration. At that point, the judge will signal the Handler to come and pick up the K9 with a heel command away from the decoy. The Handler is allowed up to three commands. Then the Judge will signal the completion of the long attack. This attack will be decoyed in a suit.

### **STOP ATTACK**

The stop attack for Protection K9 will follow the same rules as the Protection K9 short attack. The only difference will be that the K9 Handler must call back the K9 at the halfway point. At the 15-yard mark, the Handler will call back the K9 without the signal of the Judge. If the K9 bites the Decoy, the K9 fails. If the K9 returns immediately with one command, the K9 will be awarded outstanding. The K9 handler will have three commands to make the K9 return within one yard of the Handler in a motionless position. If the K9 does not, the K9 fails. The stop attack for Urban K9 will be exactly the same rules as the Urban K9 Long Attack with the exception of the K9 Handler calling back the K9 at 50 yards.

### **MUZZLE ATTACK (PROTECTION K9 MUZZLE ATTACK)**

The K9 must execute a defensive muzzle attack in the act of protecting the Handler. It is up to the Judge on the design of the exercise. The K9 Handler Team must prove they can heel and the K9 must defend the handler for 20 seconds with the muzzle on. The K9 Handler must pick the K9 up with a heel command. The same Judge and Handler rules apply. In all muzzle attacks. The K9 must wear a prong collar with a three foot tab leash. The handler is not allowed to touch the leash. It will only be

used in case if the muzzle accidentally comes off. The Judge must order the Decoy and the Handler as to when to start, when to stop muzzle fighting with the Decoy. The Decoy work is always done with a hidden sleeve/bite suit and one decoy. The decoy will not be allowed to use any weapons.

## **TRACKING TO FIND AND BITE THE MAN**

The Judge will design a scenario that is realistic to searching and tracking of the decoy and they will consist of three types of realistic police K9 find and bite the man scenarios.

1. Vehicle Pursuit and Vehicle Abandonment; a fleeing suspect (decoy) into a track, into a wooded area search not to exceed two acres, but not less than one acre of land. The track is not to exceed 100 yards. Five minutes time limit.
2. A wooded area search no less than one acre and not to exceed two acres. Five minutes time limit.
3. Enter the building search with the lights turned off. Five minutes time limit.

Two of the three scenarios will be chosen by the Judge. The K9 must search intensely to find the man and engage him with no hesitation. Once the K9 bites the Decoy, he must bite for a minimum of 60 seconds. The same Judge and Handler rules apply. The Decoy must always wear a suit. For all of the find and bite the man scenarios, the level of opposition from the decoys will be minimal. Gunfire will only be used once after the bite in the building search with minimal opposition and is at the judge's decision. The decoy can moan and groan in pain. If the K9 cannot find the man, or find the man within the allotted time, and refuses to bite or comes off the bite twice, the K9 fails.

# Australian Working Patrol Dog Association

“DEDICATED TO ASSISTING WORKING DOG TEAMS THROUGHOUT AUSTRALIA”



## PATROL DOG and CERTIFICATION RULES

This book belongs to: \_\_\_\_\_

## Patrol Dog CERTIFICATION

### This certification test will consist of the following:

1. Obedience—To show the extent of control by the handler at heel and at a distance.
2. Searching—To locate, indicate and/or retrieve articles containing the scent of a stranger(Evidence Recovery) and to locate and indicate a hidden suspect by scent only (Suspect Search).
3. Criminal Apprehension and Recall—To show the control of the dog under various circumstances, including apprehension under gunfire.

### GENERAL RULES AND DEFINITIONS

#### OBEDIENCE TEST

A. The complete obedience phase will be done at the direction of a steward who will direct the maneuvers in a military manner. This obedience exercise will not necessarily be done in the below order. The Association, prior to the commencement of the exercise, will select the order. Order of heeling phase will not be drawn but determined by the Chief Judge.

B. Handlers will start and end each phase from a finish position.

C. The complete exercise will be done off leash. Leashes (see event rules) and other restricted paraphernalia will be left with the steward or a judge. Handlers and dogs will be tested in the following maneuvers:

1. Heeling phase which will consist of normal, slow and fast paces, left, right and about turns. The heeling phase will be no less than seventy-five feet or more than 100 feet for each leg. With the exception of heeling fast and heeling slow, all phases will be done at a normal pace.
2. Distance control will be done with the handler fifty feet (marked) in front of his or her dog and will include one "sit" and one "down" by hand command and one "sit" and one "down" by voice command. The Association prior to the start of testing shall select the order of commands. Handlers will be allowed one command for each of the above. If the dog fails the command, he will lose those points, but will not be assessed points for extra commands to achieve the desired position. The handler may return to the dog to position it, if necessary to complete the phase, and will not be penalized for doing so. In distance control the judging starts when the handler leaves the dog.

NOTE: The steward(s) shall position themselves so as not to be behind the dog at any time.

3. Obedience Recall: This will consist of calling the dog from a distance of fifty feet (marked) and stopping the dog at a distance of twenty-five feet (marked) with a sit, down or stand command. The Association prior to the start of testing shall select the command and maneuver. The dog shall then be called to a finish position with a voice command.

4. Walking Control: Handlers will walk their dogs at a heel position. They will down, sit and stand their dogs at a position determined by the steward. At another point determined by the steward, the handler will return to and heel the dog without breaking stride or pass their dog making an about turn at the direction of the steward and pick their dog up without breaking stride. One of
5. the three will be a pass by determined by the Association. All commands for this exercise will be by voice command only.

D. If the steward or the Association does not specify a command, it becomes the handler's choice.

E. Handlers may not praise or intentionally touch their dogs during the tests. The steward will advise the handler when to praise their K-9 (i.e., "Exercise finished")

F. This entire exercise will be done without interruptions. G. Each handler will have the same identical exercise.

H. Check sample score sheets for areas of penalties.

I. The three Obedience phases will not be intermixed.

## SEARCH TESTS

1. Evidence Search:

A. Articles will be supplied by the host city or region/district.

B. The Chief Judge or designee for the test will select two of the following articles.

1. Expended shotgun shell (dark in color)
2. Key on a ring with tab
3. Book of paper matches (dark in color)
4. Metal gun (OPTIONAL)
5. Plastic credit card or card of equal size and material (dark in color)
6. Screwdriver—four to six inches long
7. Piece of leather—one-eighth to one-fourth inch thick, three inches by three inches (dark in color)

C. Articles will be tossed into the search area after being scented for a minimum of thirty seconds in a clenched fist by only one judge or steward.

D. Two new or unused articles of the same type will be used for each participant.

E. The dog will be required to search, find and retrieve or indicate the two selected articles within a defined area. See below for the two listed options. (Teams will have a choice of two options in the indication of articles. The same option must be used for both articles. The handler will inform the steward / judge as to which option they will use prior to the start of this phase)



F. The search area will be thirty feet by thirty feet of raised grass approximately twelve inches high. G. The number of search areas will be as many as possible and practical—to be determined by the host city.

H. There will be a three-minute time limit for the total exercise with a thirty-second warning at the two-and-one-half (2.5) minute mark for each participant. Time will begin when the handler sends their dog.

I. Handler will start his dog from a finish position and will secure their lead on their person before commencing the exercise. They will not reattach the lead to the dog until completion of the search. J. The handler may start from anywhere around the perimeter. The time will start when the handler sends their dog. If the handler chooses to walk the perimeter prior to starting the exercise, time will begin as the team crosses the point at which they started. The handler will not enter the search area except as defined for Option Two, the passive indication.

K. The dog will be judged on the indication and alert on the article. This must be obvious to the judge.

L. The evidence search must be done in a lighted area with article made safe for the protection of the dog and the handler.

### ***Option One - RETREIVE***

Upon finding the article, the dog will retrieve the article and return it to the handler, holding the article until commanded to release it in hand. The handler must remain in a stationary, upright position. The dog will be sent to find the second article. Finding the second article, the dog will return it to the handler, and again, hold it until commanded to release it in hand. After releasing the second article, the dog will be commanded to a finish position. Unnecessary movement on the part of the handler will be penalized.

The handler may not enter the search area. If the K-9 indicates on an article but does not retrieve it, a judge or handler may retrieve the article. (This is for points on the find for the benefit of the handler)

### ***Option Two - PASSIVE***

Upon finding the article, the dog will give a passive indication of the article, remaining stationary in a sit, down or stand close to the article but without touching or disturbing the article. The handler will tell the judges that his dog has indicated and walk directly to the dog, picking up the article and showing it to the judges. During this time the dog must remain in the original indication position. The handler will then return to the perimeter of the area by the shortest route. The handler may command his dog to heel, or leave the dog in the area. Once the handler is out of the area, he will command the dog to search for the second article. When the dog indicates the second article, the handler will tell the judges that his dog has indicated, enter the area, pick up the article and show it to the judges. During this time the dog must remain in his indication position. The handler will return to the perimeter and

bring his dog to a finish position. The handler may not enter the search area until his dog has indicated and the handler notifies the judges that his dog has indicated.

2. Suspect Search:

A. The Suspect Search shall consist of six boxes, each being four feet by four feet with tops but without bottoms. Boxes shall be placed on (as near) flat and level ground as possible.

B. There will be two rows of three boxes, forty feet apart and each row forty feet from the centerline, with the door facing away from the center line. All sides of the boxes shall be left exposed for the dogs to work.

C. All boxes shall be closed during each test.

D. There will be no deductions for boxes not checked.

E. There shall be two lines down the center of the search area, ten feet apart in which the handler must remain during the search exercise. The handler may start at any point in the work area and may move along the line while working the dog at their direction. The team may finish at any point along the handler work area.

F. The team will start from a finish position. The handler will secure their lead on their person before commencing the exercise. They will not reattach the lead to the dog until completion of the entire search. Time limit for this exercise is 4 minutes, with a 30 second warning.

G. The handler is permitted to walk the length of the work area prior to sending their dog. The handler may issue a K-9 warning before starting the search. Time will start if the handler turns and walks back through the area at any point. Otherwise, time will start when the handler sends their dog.

H. Upon the dog making the find, the dog must return to the handler to a finish position for maximum points. The exercise shall be completed after the handler informs the judges what box their dog has indicated, before time runs out.

I. The type of indication shall be determined by the Senior Judge—such as, pointing out or calling the number of the box selected.

J. Teams shall be judged on the way they work. The indication may be physical, or verbal, but must be obvious to the Judges. There shall be penalties for dogs relieving themselves in the area, lack of interest, leaving the area, etc.

K. Suspects:

1. There can be a maximum of four suspects used in this entire event. The Chief Judge shall determine their order of use, but each suspect must hide for at least six dogs before being relieved by the second suspect.

2. All boxes must be contaminated prior to the first handler/dog team and at any time that the suspect is changed or there is a break in the phase.
3. A suspect (hider) must be at least 18 years old.

L. Contamination of each box shall be one minute each. When all boxes are initially contaminated, they must be left open for a minimum of one minute

M. Working areas and facilities shall determine the time between each handler/dog team for working the boxes, however, the time allowed for each handler/dog team shall be the same.

E. Purge Time—there will be a minimum of one minute air out time for the box to purge. The purge time will be with the box empty and the door open.

## **CRIMINAL APPREHENSION**

There will be five parts to this certification test:

1. Recall
2. False Start
3. Apprehension without Gunfire
4. Apprehension with Gunfire
5. Handler Protection

The order of occurrence will not necessarily be the same as above, but will be drawn by the handler as they enter the testing field. Apprehension with gunfire and handler protection will always be last. The criminal apprehension field must be marked off with traffic cones or other means easily distinguishable by the handler. Markings will be placed at the starting line; eighteen, thirty, forty, and sixty yard lines.

### **1. Decoys:**

A. Decoys must be members of the AWPDA Certified, at least 18 years old, and will be furnished by the handlers.

B. Handlers will use the same decoy through all phases. The decoy must also wear the same type/style of clothing, same type/style of jacket, or the same type/style sleeve, on the same arm, and must face (at the start of each phase) the same direction, throughout all phases.

C. Handler and decoy will have the choice of using a hidden sleeve, or a protection suit (just the top, or top and bottom.) All sleeves or suits worn and used for the apprehension phase will be covered or concealed by a garment, which shall cover the upper torso of the decoy.

D. Maximum diameter of the arm (sleeve or suit) shall be six inches to elbow. With both arms of the decoy extended towards the front, the protected sleeve arm shall not be over six inches longer than the unprotected arm. Recommended checking of width of sleeves/arms: A 6-inch diameter hole cut in wooden board will be set in the vicinity of the starting point of apprehension phases. The decoys arm must be in the sleeve or protective suit jacket/top when measured and be able to pass through the ring to the elbow.

E. Decoys will run at a sprint speed and in the same style throughout all phases, and in a straight line directly away from the handler and dog.

F. Decoys will be judged against the handler's score.

G. All decoys will take the dog in a natural stride so that it does not appear that the arm is drawing in the dog. Presenting the arm in order to protect themselves will not penalize decoys.

H. Decoys will stand erect with arms at their sides, facing the dog, after the dog has been called from the decoy. The decoy must remain in this position during the search.

I. Decoys cannot be penalized for lifting the dog or bending down to fight the dog before the call off. During the apprehension, the decoy will work the dog in a side-to-side motion backing away slowly from the dog and shall continue this action until the handler gives the release command.

## **2. Handlers:**

A. Teams will start each phase from the elected finish position at the starting line.

B. Handlers will remain at the starting line for all phases until the dog has crossed the eighteen-yard line (with the exception of apprehension with gunfire, the handler may go as soon as the dog has started the pursuit.)

C. When entering the test area, the dog must remain under the control of the handler prior to the nod of the handlers' head, which indicates the start of the apprehension work. Should the dog leave the handler and make contact with the decoy, the team will be penalized 10 points for each occurrence up to a maximum of two times. Should the K9 contact a decoy a third time, the team will be disqualified. (Straight attack and gunfire to be considered separate phases)

D. After each phase the dog will be returned to a finish position.

E. The handler will secure their lead on their person before commencing the exercise. They will not reattach the lead to the dog until completion of the entire criminal apprehension phases. The exception shall be after the apprehension (no gun), upon completion of the pat down; the handler may attach the lead to the dog when returning to the starting line.

## **3. Recall:**

A. The dog will be at a finish position at the starting line and the decoy will be at the thirty-yard line. After the handler has nodded his head that he is ready, the steward or judge will signal the decoy to run and the decoy will continue to run until the recall has been completed and the judge signals the decoy to stop. Certification will allow a standing recall for a maximum score of 25 points. The handler will declare standing or running recall prior to starting the exercise.

Standing Recall—The decoy will stop with their arms at their sides upon hearing the recall command by the handler.

B. When the decoy starts, the handler will command his dog to apprehend. Only under gunfire and handler protection may the dog apprehend without command.

C. After the amber light has been lit, or the 18-yard line steward/judge gives the signal, the handler can recall their dog.

D. If the dog recalls between the eighteen and sixty yard lines there will be no major penalties. The judge will score the dog according to the response.

E. The handler may use only one command to send the dog, one command to stop the apprehension, and one command to recall the dog to the finish position. Extra commands will be penalized.

#### **4. False Start:**

A. The dog will be at a finish position at the starting line and the decoy will be at the thirty yard line. After the handler has nodded his head that he is ready, the steward or judge will signal the decoy to run ten yards to the forty-yard line.

B. After the nod of the head, handlers will be allowed only one command to keep their dog in the finish position.

C. The dog will be judged on the control and movements or if it breaks from the line.

#### **5. Criminal Apprehension phases:**

Criminal Apprehension without gunfire and Criminal Apprehension with gunfire are judged the same with the only exceptions being listed below.

1. Criminal Apprehension without gunfire includes the apprehension and the above listed recall and false start. The order- recall, false start and apprehension, will be drawn by the handler from a steward upon entering the venue. The decoy will start from the 30 yard line. When the handler is ready and at the direction of the steward or judge, the decoy will run straight away from the dog. With one command, the handler will command the dog to apprehend. The handler will not leave the start position until the dog passes the 18 yard line.

A. Judging the apprehension will be guided by the evaluation/score sheets.

B. After the dog makes the catch, the decoy will fight the dog for a reasonable time to allow the judges to observe the apprehension. The handler may call their dog from the apprehension at any time after the judge calls their number or signals the handler.

Call off options:

### ***Option One***

With one command, the handler will call their dog from the apprehension and with one command call their dog to a finish position, approximately fifteen feet from the decoy. The handler may stay their dog in the finish position, for clarification the dog does not have to sit before downing. The handler will then approach the decoy to perform the search. On completing the search after apprehension without gunfire, the handler will return to their dog and the judge will advise exercise is finished. On apprehension with gunfire the handler will do a complete search before the handler protection phase. After handler protection, the judge will signal the handler, the handler will call their dog to the finish position and judge will signal the exercise is complete.

### ***Option Two***

With one command the handler will call their dog from the apprehension and with one command, place the dog either in a sit or down at the decoy. The handler will instruct the decoy to back away from their dog.

The decoy will back away approximately fifteen feet from the dog. The handler will then approach their dog, at the finish position, or if not in a finish position, with one command place their dog in the elected finish position. The handler will then approach the decoy, one command may be used to stay their dog on leaving, to perform the search. On completing the search after apprehension without gunfire, the handler will return to their dog and the judge will advise exercise is finished. On apprehension with gunfire, the handler will do a complete search before the handler protection phase. After the handler protection, the judge will signal the handler, who will call their dog from the apprehension. The handler will move to the dog's position or with one command place in the finish position. For clarification, the dog does not have to sit before downing. The judge or steward will signal when the exercise is complete.

C. The handler, after the search, will return to their dog and if dog is not in a finish position, command the dog to a finish. It is not necessary, during the apprehension phases that the K-9 start and finish in the same position. The finish position can be a down or a sit.

D. The handler will be penalized (once) 25 points for physically removing his dog from the apprehension. NOTE: the team can only be penalized 25. Prior additional deduction points for extra commands, slow release, finish, etc. cannot be added to physical removal points.

E. The handler will do a complete search of the decoy. There will be no simulated searches. The search will consist of both arms, both legs and the torso of the decoy. F. The judge will signal when the exercise is complete.

2. Criminal Apprehension with gunfire includes the apprehension under gunfire and a handler protection phase. The decoy will start at the 30-yard line. When the handler is ready and at the direction of the steward or judge, the decoy will fire one shot, turn and run, firing the second

shot as he runs straight away from the dog. No shots will be fired once the dog is within fifteen feet of the decoy. The decoy may drop the gun after all the shots have been fired. The dog will start from a finish position at the starting line and will not be penalized for leaving the line after the first shot. If he is commanded, then only one command will be used.

A. After the dog makes the catch, the decoy will fight the dog for a reasonable time to allow the judges to observe the apprehension. Calls off options are listed above.

B. Judging the apprehension will be guided by the evaluation/scoresheets.

C. All guns used in this phase must be capable of firing 38-caliber blanks. In lieu of 38-caliber, (if 38 caliber weapons or blanks are unavailable) a starter gun or another caliber handgun capable of firing blanks may be used with the prior approval of the Chief Judge of the certification. Guns will be loaded with two live blanks and will be checked by a judge or steward before and after this phase.

D. The handler protection test will begin when the handler leaves the dog in a finished position for the search after the gun apprehension. (As described in one of the two above options)

E. The handler will do a complete search of the decoy as listed under letter 5E.

F. After the search, the decoy will assault the handler. The assault shall be no less than an aggressive move or motion towards the handler, by the decoy, with his arm and no more than one contact of the decoy's arm to the handler's body. Either must be obvious to the judges.

G. A judge will signal when the exercise is complete.

H. The handler will be penalized (once) 25 points for physically removing his dog from the apprehension. The exception is the handler protection phase with a physical removal limited to a 10- point deduction. The handler will remove the dog; bring the dog to the finish position and continuing the exercise. NOTE: The team can only be penalized 25. (10 handler protection) Prior additional deduction points for extra commands, slow release, finish, etc. cannot be added to physical removal points.

Physical removal of a K-9 during criminal apprehension phases:

A K-9 team may not certify if the physical removal of the K-9 was necessary during the three scheduled apprehension exercises. Physical removal of the K-9 during the false start, recall and search phases will not be included.

Chief Judges are responsible for the accuracy and completeness of the paperwork.

Mail or E-mail completed trial paperwork or program to include: (within 30 days of the trial)

- Original Master score sheet

- Judges and Scorekeepers list with events judged
- The high-low sheets showing the scores of all judges.



# Australian Working Patrol Dog Association

“DEDICATED TO ASSISTING WORKING DOG TEAMS THROUGHOUT AUSTRALIA”



## TRACKING and CERTIFICATION RULES

This book belongs to: \_\_\_\_\_

## TRACKING CAININE CERTIFICATION

The purpose of this test is to evaluate the ability of a canine to track the scent of a particular person and indicating articles of evidence left on the track. The test also evaluates the canines ability to discriminate from the cross track by following the original track to a successful conclusion.

### 1. TESTING:

A. The test track will consist of a three-legged track laid at the direction of the Chief Judge. The length of the track will be from 150 yards to 300 yards in length depending on the space available. There will be two turns with the first turn being either to the right or the left.

B. As many individual tracks as possible will be laid in the area utilized. If the area is limited and will be used more than once, a dog and handler will contaminate all areas prior to the first test.

C. The age of the track will be a minimum of thirty (30) minutes and not to exceed one hour. DO NOT allow tracks to sit too long. If one hour is your starting time, you should use forty-five minutes as the target time to not exceed the one hour.

D. Handlers will have the option to use leads, tracking ropes, tracking harnesses, or any other collars approved by the AWPDA. The test will be conducted on leash.

### 2. START:

A. The approximate area of the start of the track will be marked with two markers placed by the tracklayer. The markers may be cones, flags, etc. They will be placed ten feet apart and the track may start anywhere between the markers.

B. The K9 team will be brought to the general area of the markers and told that the track starts somewhere between the markers. The team will be evaluated on locating the track and determining the track direction.

### 3. ARTICLES:

A. Track Articles - Three of the PDI articles will be used. Articles used will be supplied by the host city or region. Prior to the start of the exercise, the Chief Judge will select the articles used. Three new articles will be used for each participant. The articles will be concealed on the track, with one article on each leg.

B. End Article – The end article will be determined by the Chief Judge and must be the same for each participant. It will be concealed at the end of the track.

C. Article scoring - The canine will be evaluated on indication and alert of the track articles. Finds must be obvious to the judges. Each article will be judged separately with the end article having a higher point value. If a canine does not locate an article, he will still be

evaluated on the work on the track. The canine does not have to retrieve the article. The handler must inform the judges of the find.

#### **4. CONTAMINATION:**

The test track will be contaminated on one of the three legs by having another person cross over the laid track. The cross track will be laid at least fifteen (15) minutes after the initial track was laid.

#### **5. TIME:**

There will be no time limit on the test. A judge will conclude the test if the team has stopped working or it obviously unsuccessful.

#### **6. PROFICIENCY:**

Total possible points in a Tracking Certification is 180. Certification (passing) will be 130 or more points.

# Australian Working Patrol Dog Association

“DEDICATED TO ASSISTING WORKING DOG TEAMS THROUGHOUT AUSTRALIA”



## NARCOTIC DETECTION and CERTIFICATION RULES

This book belongs to: \_\_\_\_\_

## NARCOTIC DETECTION CANINES

The purpose of this test is to evaluate the ability of a canine to detect and find narcotics concealed in various locations.

### 1. TESTING:

A. The test will consist of two parts: vehicles and interior rooms of a building. **Regions wishing to offer a test where marijuana is not a trained substance will use four (3) separate narcotics for testing.**

The following substances may be used:

- **Marijuana**
- **Hashish**
- **Cocaine**
- **Heroin**
- **Methamphetamine**
- **Any certified derivative of the above**
- **Any certified derivative of the above**
- **Any of the above doubled in quantity or MDMA or Mushrooms.**

The use of MDMA or Mushrooms should be determined by the Chief Judge subject to availability. If using a double amount for one of the hides, the two hides should be in separate venues. (I.E. - 8 grams coke inside, and 16 grams crack outside)

B. Care will be taken not to cross contaminate when handling the narcotics hides by the judges. Surface contamination (scratches, etc.) will be cleaned at the judges' discretion.

D. All testing aids will be placed so the dog cannot retrieve or come in physical contact with the narcotic.

E. The soak time for the target substances will be 30 minutes before the first search.

## **2. SCORING:**

Maximum total point score of 200 is possible. Certification (passing) is 140 points. See score sheets for areas of evaluation.

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### VEHICLE SEARCH PHASE

- A. Five vehicles will be used. The vehicles may be of any type or model and may include autos, trucks, buses, airplanes, boats, etc.
- B. The substance can be placed on the outside of the vehicle or placed inside where scent is available to the canine from the outside.
- C. The order of the vehicles will be approved by the Chief Judge and will permit team's easy access for searching.
- D. No two hides will be placed on the same vehicle.
- E. If only the outside of the vehicles are searched, there will be a 10 minute time limit total with a 2 minute warning at the 8 minute mark. If the interior of a vehicle is searched, there will be an additional one minute per vehicle added to the total time. If all 5 vehicle interiors are searched, a maximum time limit of 15 minutes will be allowed with a 2 minute warning.

### INDOOR / INTERIOR SEARCH PHASE

- A. The indoor search will consist of three rooms. Each room will be a minimum of 200 square feet. There will be a time limit of one and one half (1.5) minutes for every 100 square feet. Large rooms can (optional) be sectioned off with a makeshift or temporary barrier to reduce it to the 200 square foot minimum. The unused part of this room cannot be used as one of the three required searchable rooms. (i.e. A large classroom can be divided off to create a 200 ft search area, but the rest of the room cannot be used for the trial)
- B. The rooms must be furnished and can be kitchens, workshops, offices, schoolrooms or other rooms containing furnishings and/or equipment.

C. There will be two hides within the three rooms, but only one hide can be placed in a room.

D. There will be a two (2) minute warning given before the expiration of time. At the expiration of time, the handler will call his/her finds. The handler can elect to end search before time expires and call the location of the hidden narcotics.

E. The handler can use the allotted time to search any of the rooms at their discretion.

# Australian Working Patrol Dog Association

“DEDICATED TO ASSISTING WORKING DOG TEAMS THROUGHOUT AUSTRALIA”



## EXPLOSIVE DETECTION and CERTIFICATION RULES

This book belongs to: \_\_\_\_\_



## **EXPLOSIVE DETECTION CANINES**

The purpose of this test is to evaluate the ability of a trained canine team to detect and find explosives concealed in various locations. The General Rules and Definitions for Detector Dogs, stated earlier, will also govern testing unless specifically stated otherwise.

### **1. TESTING:**

This test will be comprised of two parts: ODOR RECOGNITION (ORT) WITH SIX (6) ODORS AND OPERATIONAL TESTING WITH SIX (6) ODORS IN THREE VENUES. A maximum total score of 300 is possible, with certification (passing) at 210 points.

### **2. JUDGES:**

The Chief Judge for this test must have a background in explosive detection, either as an explosive detection dog trainer, explosive detection dog handler, or has successfully completed the ATF evaluators course or the USPCA sponsored Advanced Explosive Canine Team & Evaluators Course. A minimum of three judges will be used for the operational phases of this test with the exception of the Odor Recognition Phase, which requires only one judge.

### **3. ODORS:**

A. For certification purposes, it is recommended that at least one odor from each group be represented in the operational testing. Any explosive odor used beyond the list supplied below, must be agreed to by both Region participants and Chief Judge before the testing begins.

### **4. PART ONE: Odor Recognition Phase**

A. Part one of this test is an ORT that will use eighteen (18) one-gallon metal paint cans, securely fastened to a 12-inch square piece of half (1/2) inch plywood. Each of the one-gallon cans will have a quart sized or smaller container or can inserted inside it. (The inside container or can must be uniform in all 18 one-gallon cans) The quart sized or smaller containers will have lids either with ten (10) quarter (1/4) inch sized holes, or with "ATF" style punched holes. The one-gallon sized cans will be open without lids. All one-gallon sized cans will be numbered by placing a number on the floor in front of the can with chalk, crayon or some other marking utensil.

B. The weight of each explosive will be approximately three (3) ounces, with the exception of Detonation Cord and Time Fuse, which may be 12-24 inches in length. If either of these

explosives are used, they must be cut into a minimum of four- inch pieces to allow odor to escape. Safety warning: use plastic cutters that can be obtained at any hardware type store.

C. Six of the quart cans must contain distractor items and must come from the below list. The other six quart cans or containers will be empty.

D. The ORT phase will have a thirty (30) minute MINIMUM set time for all explosives placed for this exercise.

E. The eighteen (18) one-gallon cans will be placed in a circle with a minimum 30 foot inside diameter, and each can a minimum three feet apart. Should a large number of teams participate, it shall be up to the Chief Judge to use more than one circle of cans.

F. A K-9 team will be allowed two revolutions of the circle, either inside or outside.

G. When a K-9 indicates on a can, the handler will tell a judge the cans number before the k-9 is rewarded. Any time a handler tells the judge a number, they are stating that they believe their K-9 has indicated to an explosive odor. If the K-9 is correct, the judge will say "reward your dog". If the K-9 has made a false indication, the judge will say "do not reward your dog".

H. During the ORT, the team must correctly identify the six explosive odors with no more than two false alerts. If the team has MORE than two false alerts, the team will be allowed one additional attempt to pass the ORT. The second attempt should take place after every other participant has completed the test. Should a second attempt result in failure, the team will be prohibited from advancing to the operational tests.

I. In order to certify, a K-9 team must complete the operational phase within 48 hours of passing the ORT phase.

## **5. PART TWO: General Guide for Operational Phase**

A. The Operational testing involves three different search venues with two hides at each venue.

B. The soak time or set time for the target substances will be 30 minutes MINIMUM for all substances used.

C. The same six explosive compounds from the ORT will be used in the operational testing.

D. The explosive hides used will not be in air tight packaging. If the substance is in an airtight package, it will be opened before it is placed.

E. There will be no maximum weight of explosives. However, care should be taken not to use a large amount which would excessively contaminate the search venue.

F. A minimum of eight (8) ounces will be concealed for each of the six hides.

G. SCORING: For certification scoring, the hide will be considered a miss if the average score of all scoring judges is 17.5 points or less, out of 35 possible points. (response + alert + find). To certify, a team must locate five of the six hides in the operational phase and pass the ORT.

H. A false alert (indicated by the dog's alert and called by the handler) will be judged as a miss by judges. If a dog responds but it is not called by the handler, it will be judged against the dog as a distraction.

I. Judges will not indicate to the handlers the accuracy of the team's performance except on the score sheet during the operational phase testing.

J. If the explosives are intentionally disturbed or retrieved by the dog, the team will be disqualified from certification.

## **6. OPERATIONAL TESTING: ROOMS**

A. The indoor search will consist of three rooms. Each room will be a minimum of 200 square feet. There will be a time limit of one and one half (1.5) minutes for every 100 square feet. Large rooms can (optional) be sectioned off with a makeshift or temporary barrier to reduce it to the 200 square foot minimum. The unused part of this room cannot be used as one of the three required searchable rooms. (i.e. A large classroom can be divided off to create a 200 ft search area, but the rest of the room cannot be used for the trial) 5

B. The rooms must be furnished and can be kitchens, workshops, offices, schoolrooms or other rooms containing furnishings and/or equipment.

C. There will be two hides contained within the three rooms. Only one hide in a room.

D. For inside/room searches, no hide may be higher than 6 feet from the ground or floor.

E. There will be a 2 minute warning given before the expiration of time. At the expiration of time, the handler will call his/her finds. The handler can elect to end search before time expires and call the location of the hidden explosives.

F. The handler can use allotted time to search any of the rooms at their discretion.

## **7. OPERATIONAL TESTING: PARCELS**

A. The parcel/package test will be conducted indoor or outdoor as space permits, with at least fifteen (15) items to be searched.

B. These items should be placed on the floor in any pattern, three feet from each other as search space permits.

C. There will be a three minute time limit for this venue, with a thirty (30) second warning given prior to ending.

## **8. OPERATIONAL TESTING: VEHICLES**

A. Five Vehicles will be used. The vehicles may be of any type or model and may include autos, trucks, buses, airplanes, boats, etc.

B. Vehicles will be searched outdoors at all times. The only exception to this requirement would be in the interest of safety due to severe weather conditions. The Chief Judge will make this decision.

C. The substance can be placed on the outside of the vehicle or placed inside where scent is available to the canine from the outside.

D. No two hides will be placed on the same vehicle.

E. The vehicles will be spaced a minimum of fifteen feet apart and can be placed in any order or position, as long as the team has access to them.

F. Only the outside of the vehicles are to be searched. There will be a 10 minute time limit total with a 2 minute warning at the 8 minute mark.

# Australian Working Patrol Dog Association

“DEDICATED TO ASSISTING WORKING DOG TEAMS THROUGHOUT AUSTRALIA”



## DECOY HANDBOOK

This book belongs to: \_\_\_\_\_

## **The path to an AWPDA certified decoy**

We get a lot of inquiries about becoming an AWPDA decoy and getting "Certified as one". Below will explain the entire process from start to finish for AWPDA Australia.

### **Step 1.**

In order to get started in the process you must be an AWPDA Australian member in good standing.

### **Step 2.**

Candidates must have an approved bite suit

### **Step 3.**

Candidates must provide a medical report verifying their health is free of heart issues.

### **Step 4.**

Candidates may request a copy of the "decoy handbook" The handbook, along with the rulebook will help prepare the candidate to take the written examination. The certification written examination consists of 10 questions.

### **Step 5.**

The Candidates must make arrangements to attend an official AWPDA decoy development camp. At this time the Candidates will submit a copy of the medical report and their bite suit.

### **Step 6.**

The Candidates will be informed by AWPDA Australia as to the date and location of the next decoy certification.

### **Step 7.**

At the certification the written examination is administered by AWPDA officials.

### **Step 8.**

If the Candidate earns a passing score on the written exam they will be eligible to move on to the practical test. The practical exercises are administered by AWPDA officials.

The job of the decoy is simple but essential to the comprehensive evaluation of the handler and dog in the AWPDA certification test. His is not the task of attempting to make himself appear spectacular in any way but rather to go about his work in a utilitarian manner showing consistency and impartiality.

THE HELPER'S WORK IS KEY TO A FAIR AND HONEST TEST OF THE DOG.

AWPDA Australia is a non-profit organization

## **Introduction**

This document is created to promote the growth of AWPDA and to solidify the Decoying protocols and procedures. A certified decoy must realize that his Performance and conduct is a direct reflection of himself and AWPDA. Decoys are held to a higher standard than competitors. AWPDA will select decoys via camps based on their decoying skills, physical abilities, understanding of the AWPDA exercises, and integrity. AWPDA will attempt to certify the most qualified individuals to serve as certified decoys for the association. The Board of Directors reserves the right to revoke certification of certified decoys or suspend their position. This handbook will encompass the code of conduct for decoys, the decoy selection process, expectations of decoys, decoy evaluations, and revocation/suspension of certification.

## **Goals of a Decoys**

A certified decoy must understand that his performance on the field directly affects the overall perception of AWPDA to the membership, competitors, and spectators. A certified decoy is obligated to understand the rulebook of AWPDA and conform to the scenarios and guidelines at all times. It is the vision of AWPDA to provide a fair and safe evaluation of a working dog via standardized exercises and surprise scenario based exercises. As a dog sport organization, AWPDA is obligated to provide decoys, for events, that are fair and safe and, as such, a certified decoy must understand that the goal of AWPDA is to provide a fair and safe test for its certification.

## **Decoy Committee**

The Decoy Committee will consist of three members. There will be a committee member from the AWPDA. Responsibilities will include, but are not limited to, organization of evaluation forms, updating decoy lists, decoy counselling, and handling complaints. The committee member will be appointed by the Directors. The Directors may remove the committee member from the position at any time during the season.

## **Code of Conduct**

A certified decoy must realize that his appearance, conduct, and actions are a direct reflection of themselves and AWPDA. Certified decoys are always under close evaluation by members, competitors, and spectators. It is imperative that a certified decoy conduct himself in a professional manner, both on and off the field. A certified decoy must refrain from conduct, actions, or behaviour that could be perceived as embarrassing to the AWPDA.

Illegal drug use or alcohol abuse will not be tolerated during the course of an AWPDA events. Casual consumption of alcoholic beverages is allowed after the event away from the field, but should be kept within reasonable levels. If a certified decoy is arrested during the course of any AWPDA event, including off-field actions, the decoy's certification will be immediately suspended and possibly revoked, pending an investigation by the Decoy Committee. A certified decoy will also refrain from offensive language when on the field or in the company of members, competitors, or spectators. Any form of cheating or lack of integrity will result in decertification. AWPDA requests that decoys refrain from socializing or congregating with competitors of the trial once they are suited and have been on the field.

The Decoy Committee holds authority to suspend any decoy certification for any legitimate reason. The presiding judge has the responsibility of evaluation, instruction, and overseeing the decoys. The most senior decoy at the trial is responsible for assigning decoys to particular scenarios. The presiding judge holds the authority to overrule decoy assignments.

## **Selection Process**

Prospective certified decoys must attend an authorised decoy camp in order to certify. Prospective decoys must demonstrate the required skills and knowledge at a decoy camp to obtain certification. Decoys will be evaluated on courage, skill, stamina, and ability to follow instructions. AWPDA demands exceptional quality, skill, and safety of its decoys. Decoys certified at the camps will be required to complete a one-trial season probationary period. After the



one trial season the probationary decoy's evaluation sheets will be reviewed by the Decoy Committee to determine if they will remain probationary or reach the status of "certified decoy". Certified decoys are required to attend one trials per year and one re cert of skills per year to maintain their status. Certified decoys and senior decoys will not be required to pay AWPDA membership dues. Certified decoys that have served as a decoy for three years, are of exemplary skill, show extreme commitment, and have earned excellent performance evaluations will be awarded the status of "Senior Certified Decoys". These decoys are considered to be of the highest rank, skill level, and certification.

## **Revocation/Suspension of Decoy Certification**

It is at the sole discretion of the Decoy Committee to suspend a decoy's certification for violation of any rules, code of conduct violations, or skill inconsistencies. The length of suspension will be determined by the Decoy Committee. The terms of suspension will allow time for the Decoy Committee to present the facts surrounding the suspension to the Board of Directors. It should be noted that a suspension will, under normal circumstances, result in decertification of the decoy in question if requested by the Decoy Committee. A majority vote by the Board of Directors is required for decertification of a certified decoy. The Director of Judges may issue a temporary suspension without consulting the Board of Directors.

It is the responsibility of the Directors to investigate documented complaints from members, competitors, or spectators in reference to a specific decoy. The Directors shall forward a written report of their findings to the Decoy Committee for disciplinary action. If the Directors finds the complaint to be without just cause then the Directors shall forward the written report to the Decoy Committee with an "unfounded" status.

Lack of participation or interest by a decoy is just cause for the Decoy Committee to request a vote by the Board of Directors for certification revocation of a decoy. Any certified decoy that was decertified for lack of participation may recertify via a decoy camp. If the Decoy Committee finds that a certified decoy's skill level has declined the Decoy Committee may place the certified decoy on probationary status requiring them to attend a decoy camp. If a decoy is decertified for rulebook infractions, code of conduct violations, or integrity issues they will not be reconsidered for recertification. A decertified decoy may compete in AWPDA however; they will be required to pay membership dues in order to do so.

## **Expectations**

AWPDA expects all probationary, certified, and senior certified decoys to provide a fair, safe, and consistent test at every AWPDA event. AWPDA requires decoys to move fluidly from scenario to scenario to maintain certification time. Decoys are expected to be in position to start scenarios. Scenarios should not be delayed for decoys to get into the starting position. Decoys should hustle into position to maintain trial fluidness. AWPDA expects decoys to be prepared by memorizing the standard AWPDA scenarios. AWPDA requires all decoys to be comfortable catching dogs in all areas of the bite suit. The dogs that compete in AWPDA primarily target the insides of the arms as well as upper legs and lower legs. Occasionally some dogs will bite in the centre of the body, certified decoys must be proficient and safe in catching these dogs.

AWPDA decoys are required to catch dogs smoothly with adequate absorption of the dog's entry to the grip. Some dogs thrive on making contact with a decoy's body and AWPDA decoys are encouraged to allow this without moving away (bailing). A decoy moving the dog's target area away from the dog (bailing) is undesirable in AWPDA. AWPDA decoys will not eschive dogs in AWPDA trials unless instructed by the presiding judge.

AWPDA expects certified decoys to be courageous, animated, and vocal while maintaining safety and consistency when decoying trials. AWPDA expects certified decoys to challenge a dog's character and, when possible, flaunt a dog's weakness. AWPDA relies on its certified decoys to test a dog's willingness to engage and remain in the grip. AWPDA expects decoys to be powerful in their work while maintaining control. Decoys are expected to test a dog's character by pressuring the dog without becoming reckless. AWPDA expects certified decoys to attend certifications and at minimum maintain the requirements for certification. Certified decoys are expected to maintain a level of physical fitness allowing them to effectively decoy complete trials. AWPDA requires decoys to follow judge's directions. AWPDA expects decoys to adhere to the AWPDA Rulebook at all times.

## **Evaluation Process**

Certified AWPDA decoys will be evaluated at each trial they decoy. The certified presiding judge, or judges, will complete a decoy evaluation form for each decoy that appears in the trial. Decoys will be evaluated for presentation, safety, consistency, catching, efficiency, familiarization of scenarios, and overall performance. Judges will evaluate and grade the decoys in the stated areas via a 1-5 rating scale. Judges will use the following rating scale: 5 being

excellent, 4 being good, 3 being satisfactory, 2 being poor, and 1 being unsatisfactory. Just as judging a dog, the judge must document, on the evaluation form, an explanation for the assigned grade. Any additional issues not covered in the rated categories will be documented on the evaluation form in the comments area. The evaluation form is not designed to be used for negative only comments. Positive comments are also required.

The decoy evaluation form will be reviewed by the Decoy Committee for promotion, discipline, counselling, and decertification of decoys. The Decoy Committee will maintain decoy evaluations and keep record of each decoy's performance. The Decoy Committee will review each evaluation and consult with decoys in any areas requiring adjustment.

## **Equipment Requirements**

AWPDA decoys are required to possess and maintain their bite suit. AWPDA does not require decoys to wear a specific brand or make of suit. The decoys are required to maintain the appearance and quality of their bite suit. AWPDA decoys are encouraged to inspect their bite suits for rips, tears, holes, fabric loops, and excessive wear. Hidden sleeves should be inspected to insure they are safe to use for the dog and decoy.

Decoys are encouraged to wear shoes that prevent slipping (i.e., plastic cleats, turf shoes, or light boots). AWPDA decoys are encouraged to wear an athletic supporter (i.e., jock strap, cup, etc.) for safety purposes, if applicable.