



American Rescue Dog Association Obedience Assessment

Team has successfully completed all elements of this assessment:

Yes No

Date: _____ **Assessor:** _____

Handler: _____ **Canine:** _____

Team Affiliation: _____

CRITERIA			
	Pass	Fail	Comments
1. People Acceptance and Response to Another Handler	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2. Canine Aggression	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3. Heeling in a Crowd	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
4. Stop on Recall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
5. Emergency Stop	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
6. Long Wait	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

COMMENTS

SIGNATURE

Assessor

Date

CRITERIA

- 1. People Acceptance and Response to Another Handler** – The handler will “tie out” the canine (e.g., tie one end of the lead to a fence, a tree, etc.) and leave it in view of the assessors. The handler will proceed to a designated area out of the dog’s sight. After being out of sight of the handler for a period of 1 minute, a team member (not a family member or the assessor) will un-tie the dog and return it to its handler. The dog does not have to be in “perfect” heel position; however it should walk back to the handler in a controlled manner without excessive forging or lagging.
- 2. Canine Aggression** – Two posts, each consisting of a handler with canine sitting quietly on lead in heel position, will be placed approximately 8 feet apart facing each other. (Non-testing canine teams may be used if needed). A third handler, with canine on lead, will complete a figure-8 pattern around the posts, passing within two (2) feet of each of the posts, then complete a second figure-8 in the reverse direction. Upon completing the figure-8 patterns, the canine team will switch places with one of the post teams and that old post team will complete the figure-8 pattern in the same manner. Another switch is made to allow the other post team to do the figure-8 pattern. The dog(s) being evaluated must remain under control of the handler and display no overt aggression while doing the figure-8 and also while acting as a post. For the test to be fair, non-testing dogs used for this exercise must remain under control and display no overt aggression to each other or the dog(s) being evaluated.
- 3. Heeling in a Crowd** – The handler will heel the canine, on a “loose” lead, through a scattered group of at least four (4) milling people. On command “forward” from the assessor, the handler will command the dog to heel. The dog will walk next to the handler and maintain its position at either side of the handler so as to be attentive to the handler and under the handler’s control. At the command “halt” from the assessor, the handler will stop and the dog will sit. The heeling exercise will include right and left turns, about turns, fast, slow and normal pace. The handler should have the dog’s attention at all times. Additional or repetitive commands are acceptable.
- 4. Stop on Recall** – The canine shall be placed on a stay command 75 feet (25 meters) from the handler. Upon direction from the assessor, the handler will call their dog. The handler will then command the dog to stop at the halfway point. Once the stop command has been given, an immediate change in gait is required and the dog must then come to a stop. The dog may drop, sit, or stand and will be judged by the quickness of its response. The handler may give multiple commands. The dog shall remain stationary until released or recalled by the handler at the direction of the assessor.
- 5. Emergency Stop** – The canine will be sent out free to roam. Once the dog is approximately 75 feet (25 meters) away from the handler the assessor will command the handler to stop the dog. Once the stop command has been given, an immediate change in gait is required and the dog must then come to a stop. The dog may drop, sit, or stand and will be judged by the quickness of its response. The handler may give multiple commands. The dog shall remain stationary until released or recalled by the handler at the direction of the assessor.
- 6. Long Wait** – A minimum of 3 canines will be placed 5 feet apart from each other and their leads must be removed. Upon direction from the assessor, each handler shall give their dog the “wait” command and then proceed to a designated area out of the dog’s sight. Time starts when the assessor states “leave the dog”. The dog may lie down, sit, stand, or shift position, but shall not move more than a body length in any direction from where it was placed. After five (5) minutes, the assessor will direct the handlers to return to the dogs. Handlers may give a verbal or a hand signal to their dogs to stay, if needed, while returning. The exercise is complete when all handlers have returned to their dogs and the assessor states “exercise complete”. No release of their dog by any handler is allowed until the “exercise complete” command is issued.
The assessor should take into consideration the comfort of the canine (e.g., do not choose a place too hot, on anthills, etc.). The exercise will be set up so that the handlers walk away from the dogs from the front as opposed to going behind the dogs. The dogs shall be left under the supervision of a monitor other than the assessor or a handler being tested. The monitor is permitted to repeat the “wait” command to any dog during the exercise. If any dog breaks the “wait” or becomes overly disruptive, it may be removed from the exercise. If needed, dogs not being tested may be used to meet the 3-dog minimum requirement. For the test to be fair all of the dogs participating in this exercise, whether being tested or not, must remain under control and display no overt aggression to each other or the dog(s) being evaluated.