

APPENDIX A

STARTED TEST BRIEFING

Welcome Handlers

Introduce yourself and your Co-Judge

Gun Safety:

- Gunner Location.
- Muzzle-Breach & Safety.
- If the handler decides to shoot the shotgun, the dog may not be handheld, and the handler will be judged for gun safety.
- Popper loading sequence.
- When is the safety removed?
- Only the Judges may stop the test during a gun malfunction or at any other time.

Purpose: This test is designed to assess the ability of the dog to follow the flight of the shot bird to the area of the fall, retrieve the bird and return it to the handler.

Mechanics & Logistics:

- Location where judgment will begin and end?
- Keep the dog on lead to and from the retrieving line.
- Proper use of the attention getting device.
- Dog may be handheld to steady.
- When will the dog be released to retrieve the bird?
- Define a controlled break.
- The retriever may be cast from the retrieving line a maximum of two (2) times.
- Actions if the retriever is unproductive after the second attempt.
- The dog must deliver the bird to the handler area.
- Introduce the Test Marshal.
- Cover acceptable attire.

Objectives:

- Testing marking ability, not handling.
- The dog will be expected to follow the flight of the shot bird and proceed directly to the area of the fall and establish a hunt without aid of the handler.
- The dog must retrieve the bird and deliver it to the handler area.

Undesirable Traits:

- Hyperactivity, wildness, jumping about, barking, excessive disobedience, lethargy, or lack of interest.
- Consistent failure or reluctance to deliver.

Run a Test Dog

Answer Questions

- Make sure all handlers hear all questions.
- Avoid “what if” questions.

**WISH THE HANDLERS “GOOD LUCK”
AND “HAVE A GREAT DAY”**

TEST DISTANCES

- Land Marks – 75 yards or less
- Water Marks – 60 yards or less

APPENDIX B

SEASONED TEST BRIEFING

Welcome Handlers

Introduce yourself and your Co-Judge

Gun Safety:

- Muzzle-Breach & Safety.
- Popper loading sequence.
- Proper shooting form: shoulder the gun, aim, track, and shoot at the top of the arc.
- When is the safety removed?
- Only the Judges may stop the test during a gun malfunction or at any other time.
- Judge's expectations if dog creeps.
- "Other shotguns."
- Courtesy "the gun is safe."
- Set gun down in stand when handling dog.

Purpose: This test is designed to assess the ability of the dog to perform under actual hunting conditions found in the local area. Look for style and natural ability and evidence of a reasonable degree of control.

Mechanics & Logistics:

- Location where judgment will begin and end?
- What point is the lead removed?
- The dog may not run with a collar.
- Where will the marks come from?
- Proper use of the attention getting device (if used).
- Dog is required to be steady at the retrieving line.
- When will the dog be released to retrieve the bird?
- Define a controlled break.
- When will the diversion bird be thrown?
- The retriever may be cast from the retrieving line a maximum of two (2) times.
- Actions if the retriever is unproductive after the second attempt.
- Introduce the Test Marshal.
- Cover acceptable attire.

Objectives:

- The dog should walk obediently to the line, sit obediently, and exhibit an attentive attitude.
- Testing marking ability, not handling. However, a clean handle is preferable to an extended hunt.
- The dog will be expected to follow the flight of the shot bird, proceed directly to the area of the fall, and establish a hunt for the bird without aid from the handler.
- Once the dog finds the bird, it will be expected to retrieve the bird and deliver the bird to hand.
- Dogs should demonstrate the capability to respond to directional control.

Undesirable Traits:

- Controlled breaks, poor obedience, and poor manners.
- Consistent failure to deliver or consistent reluctance to deliver.

Run a Test Dog

Answer Questions

- Make sure all handlers hear all questions.
- Avoid "what if" questions.

**WISH THE HANDLERS "GOOD LUCK"
AND "HAVE A GREAT DAY"**

TEST DISTANCES

- Land Marks – 100 yards
- Water Marks – 75 yards
- Land and Water Blind – 60 yards

APPENDIX C

FINISHED TEST BRIEFING

Welcome Handlers

Introduce yourself and your Co-Judge

Gun Safety:

- Muzzle-Breach & Safety.
- Popper loading sequence.
- Proper shooting form: shoulder the gun, aim, track, and shoot at the top of the arc.
- When is the safety removed?
- Only the Judges may stop the test during a gun malfunction or at any other time.
- Judge's expectations if dog creeps.
- "Other shotguns."
- Courtesy "the gun is safe."
- Set gun down in stand when handling dog.

Purpose: This test is designed to duplicate actual hunting conditions found throughout the country. Look for natural ability and a trained performance.

NOTE: Effective January 1, 2011 – The hunting retriever shall not be required to honor during another dog's blind retrieve.

Mechanics & Logistics:

- Location where judgment will begin and end.
- At what point is the lead removed?
- The dog may not run with a collar.
- Explain sequencing of the test elements and retrieves.
- Where will the marks come from?
- Proper use of attention getting device. (if used)
- Dog is required to be steady at the retrieving line.
- Define a controlled break.
- When will the diversion bird be thrown?
- The retriever may be cast from the retrieving line only once.
- Actions if the retriever is unproductive after the first attempt.
- Location and dismiss time for honor dog.
- Introduce the Test Marshal.
- Cover acceptable attire.

Objectives:

- The dog shall walk obediently to the line, sit obediently, and exhibit an attentive attitude.
- Testing both marking ability and handling. However, a clean handle is preferable to an extended hunt.
- The dog will be expected to follow the flight of the shot bird, proceed directly to the area of the fall, and establish a hunt for the bird without aid of the handler.
- Once the dog finds the bird it will be expected to deliver the bird to hand.
- Dogs should demonstrate prompt and precise response to voice, whistle, and directional commands.

Undesirable Traits:

- Controlled breaks, poor obedience, and poor manners.
- Consistent failure to deliver or consistent reluctance to deliver.
- Poor response to directional commands.

Run a Test Dog

Answer Questions

- Make sure all handlers hear all questions.
- Avoid "what if" questions.

**WISH THE HANDLERS "GOOD LUCK"
AND "HAVE A GREAT DAY"**

TEST DISTANCES

- Land Marks – 150 yards
- Water Marks – 125 yards
- Blind Retrieves – 100 yards max land and water

APPENDIX D

UPLAND TEST BRIEFING

Welcome Handlers

Introduce yourself and your Co-Judge

Gun Safety:

- Muzzle-Breach & Safety.
- Popper loading sequence.
- Proper shooting form: shoulder the gun, aim, track, and shoot at the top of the arc.
- When is the safety removed?
- Only the Judges may stop the test.
- Judge's expectations if dog creeps.
- "Other shotguns."
- Courtesy "the gun is safe."

Purpose: This test is designed to duplicate actual upland hunting conditions found throughout the country. Look for natural ability to hunt available cover and a trained performance to remain under control at all times.

Mechanics & Logistics:

- Location where judgement will begin and end.
- What point is the lead removed?
- Explain sequencing of test elements and retrieves.
- Where the flushes will occur.
- Dog is required to be steady at the flush of the bird and the shot. Gunners will shoot the bird after the handler has shot the popper.
- When will the dog be released to retrieve the bird?
- Deliver the shot birds to hand.
- Define a controlled break.
- Action in case of a fly-away.
- Calling a "no-bird."
- Introduce the Test Marshal.
- Cover acceptable attire.

Objectives:

- The dog should walk obediently at heel during the walk-up element and does not have to be loudly reminded to stay in position.
- The dog is expected to hunt available cover without continual coaxing by the handle
- The dog is expected to be steady he the flush of birds and the shot or shots fired at the bird.
- The dog is expected to deliver to hand.
- The dog is expected to honor the work of another dog.
- The dog is expected to respond to all voice, whistle, and hand command with promptly and accurately and be under control at all times.

Undesirable Traits:

- Controlled breaks, poor obedience, and poor manners.
- Consistent failure to engage available cover in order to locate and flush birds.

Run a Test Dog

Answer Questions

- Make sure all handlers hear all questions.
- Avoid "what if" questions.

**WISH THE HANDLERS "GOOD LUCK"
AND "HAVE A GREAT DAY"**