KUSA
Kennel Union of Southern Africa

CANINE GOOD CITIZEN GUIDELINES FOR EVALUATORS

To be read in conjunction with Schedule 11(A) - Regulations For Canine Good Citizen

1. General introduction

Thank you for your interest in serving as an Evaluator for the Canine Good Citizen (CGC) Test. The CGC Test is intended to encourage responsible dog ownership and appropriate training for dogs.

As an approved Evaluator, before you decide that a dog has passed the CGC Test, you should consider if the dog is well-mannered and appears safe around people and other dogs.

The purpose of the CGC Test is to ensure that the dog can be a respected member of the community because it has been trained to be well behaved in the home, public places, and in the company of other dogs. The CGC Test welcomes both purebred and mixed breed dogs. The CGC Test is non-competitive and dogs are not required to perform with the same precision as required in formal Obedience. Dogs that pass all items of the CGC Test, receive a certificate as well as a rosette from the Kennel Union of Southern Africa (KUSA).

As an approved CGC Evaluator, you assume responsibility for conducting the test according to the KUSA. requirements. Evaluators should ensure that each participant has a positive experience that is educational, and fun. Handlers may talk to their dogs throughout the test and the atmosphere should be relaxed. Praise, where applicable, can be given to dogs throughout the test, and you may need to remind handlers who are nervous to reassure their dogs with praise, smiles, hugs and pats. As a CGC Evaluator, the way in which you conduct a CGC Test and interact with participants may determine if a dog owner will become involved in dog training and dog related activities in the future.

1.1 Age requirements for dogs

Age limits have been introduced to the CGC Test. Dogs over the age of 4 months up to 9 months of age may take part in the CGC Puppy test. Dogs older than 9 months may take part in the Bronze, Silver and Gold levels.

We would like to stress that when a dog is tested and passes the CGC Test as a puppy, it is important to encourage the owners to have the dog re-tested as an adult. This is because behaviour and personality can change over time. Further, the responsible owner will have dogs re-evaluated on CGC skills periodically (e.g. every 2 years) to demonstrate that training and good manners are maintained.

1.2 Biting or growling incidents

The vast majority of dogs who take the CGC Test are friendly, happy animals and the job of the Evaluator is extremely rewarding. However, there are some exceptions to every rule, and if you should ever encounter a situation where a dog might show signs of aggression, there are some things to keep in mind: any dog that growls or snaps at, bites, attacks, or attempts to attack another person or another dog is not a good citizen and must be dismissed from the Test.

As an Evaluator, if you are having a difficult time reading the dog and you feel uncomfortable, you should instruct the owner to handle the dog in a manner that ensures your safety and the dogs comfort. If the dog is making you feel so uncomfortable that you feel unsafe, the dog should not pass the CGC Test.

Good tips on how to approach difficult-to-read dogs include: approach the dog from the front at a slight angle rather than directly head-on, avoid staring at the dog, talk in a reassuring, confident voice, and give the handler specific, direct instructions for particular exercises, e.g. "I need to check the feet, could you help me by lifting each leg?". With rescue dogs, it is especially important to give the dog ample opportunity to become familiar with you before attempting these tasks as the dog may have an unknown traumatic past.

1.3 Collar, leashes and equipment

All tests must be performed on leash or on a harness. Collars should be plain slip or buckle type training collars made of chain, leather or material and worn only around the neck. Nothing may be attached to collars during the tasks except an identity disc. A tick prevention collar or disc may also be worn. A body harness may be used provided it does not restrict the movement of the dog. The leash should be made of either leather or fabric. Retractable leashes may not be used in the CGC test. Special training equipment such as pinch collars and head collars are not permitted, and retractable leashes may not be used in the Canine Good Citizen tests.

The handler should be questioned on the type of equipment used keeping the breed or breed-type being handled in mind.

1.4 Conduct — Professional behaviour for Evaluators

As a CGC Evaluator, you represent KUSA. You should maintain a professional demeanour when conducting CGC tests. Professionalism applies to presenting the CGC Test in a positive manner by being organized, dressing appropriately for public events, maintaining high ethical standards, using good social skills when dealing with participants and the public, and using good judgement when assessing dogs. Please ensure you are familiar with Schedule 9 – Code of Conduct, Appendix B – Code for Judges.

CGC Evaluators should avoid situations where there appears to be a conflict of interest. Evaluators may not test dogs they own (in name or in living circumstances) in the CGC Test. Furthermore, if a dog is handled extensively by the Evaluator before the test or during a class, the Evaluator should not 'meet and greet' the dog in the exercises involving a friendly stranger. Evaluators should preferably not evaluate dogs that they have trained for Canine Good Citizen

1.5 Corrections

The CGC Test is a programme that encourages owners to have fun with their dogs. Harsh corrections are not permitted in the test and are grounds for dismissal.

Throughout the CGC Test, Evaluators can encourage handlers to praise and interact with their dogs. If, in beginning, handlers are nervous, they may need to be gently reminded about the importance of positive communication with the dog.

1.6 Disabilities – Dogs

Dogs with disabilities such as the loss of a leg, deafness, or sight deficiencies are welcome in the CGC Test. Dogs must perform all of the required tasks to pass the Test. However, handlers may use hand signals, gestures, or other cues to which the dog has been trained to respond. There are no breed

specific exceptions to the test requirements (for example, dogs may not skip the sit exercise because "this breed doesn't like to sit.").

1.7 Disabilities – Handlers

Handlers with disabilities are encouraged to participate in the CGC Test. Sometimes, it may be necessary to make minor changes to standard procedures to accommodate handlers with disabilities. In case you have questions, contact your Provincial Council if you know in advance that you will be testing a handler with disabilities for their assistance or use your best judgement to handle the situation.

1.8 Eliminating (urinating/defecating) during testing

Any dog that urinates or defecates during testing should not be passed. Dogs should be adequately exercised before the test starts. The exception to this is between exercises (e.g. the dog urinates on a bush while being walked to the next task station). Dogs should not stop to relieve themselves while they are working with the handler in the tasks.

Where possible, Evaluators should choose a CGC Test location carefully in order to prevent problems with dogs eliminating during testing.

1.9 Feedback to participants

As a CGC Evaluator, it will be your job to give each participant some feedback at the end of their CGC Test. If the participant's dog passed all the tasks in the Test, giving the feedback will be easy. A big smile and "Congratulations, your dog passed" is the favourite message of most Evaluators.

But what should you say if the dog didn't pass (was marked 'not ready' for some tasks)? The CGC Test form has columns marked 'Pass' and 'Not ready' and these must be used to clearly identify to the handler what tasks need repeating. Evaluators should never say to a handler "YOU FAILED" or "YOUR DOG FAILED". Any person who has taken the time and made the effort to bring their dog to the CGC Test should be commended.

To tell a person that the dog needs more training, try something like this: "Your dog did a great job. She passed all of the items except Task 6 when she refused to lie down. She could learn this in a few sessions. I really hope you'll work on this and try the task again. She's a wonderful dog." The Handlers are hopefully aware of what is expected for each test and generally they know that they have not been able to meet the requirements for one of the tasks. You can also speak to them quietly at the time.

In a case where the dog is not close to passing the test, you could try something such as the following: "This is really a nice dog. He is so full of energy and it's clear he loves you. But on these tasks, it looks like he needs a little more training… Have you been to any obedience classes?... Most of these behaviours are skills that could be taught in a matter of weeks. I'm so glad you brought your dog today. I hope you'll work on this and try again. I can tell by the way this dog watches every move you make, he'd do well in training". However, your job as an Evaluator is not to tell the handler how to train their dog. Your responsibility is to evaluate the dogs and not keep other participants waiting.

Feedback should be given to each participant as testing for dog is completed. We discourage participants having to sit and wait until all testing is completed to hear who passed the Test.

1.10 Follow-up training and testing

Evaluators should encourage the participants to go on to participate in other training activities with their dogs. When possible, inform participants of other disciplines such as Obedience, Rally, Working Trials, Dog Carting or Agility and Dog Jumping and where they can go for additional training.

1.11 Food

Handlers are not permitted to use food during the CGC Test except in the Puppy class. Handlers may reward their dogs after completion of each task and once released by the Evaluator. While we recognize that food can be effectively used to reinforce training, it is considered a training aid and should not be used in execution of the CGC Test. The purpose of the CGC Test is to determine if the dog has learned all the skills on the test and if the dog can be controlled by the handler. However, handlers may have food in their pockets or in a container.

1.12 Instructions to participants

At the beginning of the CGC Test, the Evaluator should give the participants some general instructions. Participants should be reminded that dogs are not required to perform with the precision required in formal Obedience tests. Multiple prompts (two or three cues) are acceptable, talking to the dog throughout the test is acceptable, and the use of body language on the part of the handler is encouraged.

Handlers should be encouraged to praise their dog when it has successfully performed one of the tasks. Nervous handlers may need to be reminded to communicate with the dog (e.g. “Tell him what you want him to do”). The CGC experience should be fun for the handler and the dog.

1.13 Liability for evaluators

We occasionally receive queries from Evaluators or clubs who are worried about the implications of certifying a dog as a CGC. “Will I get sued if the dog I pass later bites someone?” is often the question asked. When an evaluator signs a dog’s CGC Test, the evaluator is essentially attesting that the dog observed was able to perform all the skills at a specific test on a specific day. There are no guarantees for the future behaviour of the dog.

1.14 Locations

CGC Tests can be held as a graduation for training classes, at dog shows, and at community events. In the case where an individual dog is tested (e.g. for therapy work) dogs must be tested in a public setting. Evaluators may not test dogs at the dog’s/owner’s home or yard. In all cases, a distraction dog and ‘crowd’ must be present.

1.15 Number of evaluators

No Evaluator shall be required to test more than a total of thirty (30) dogs in one (1) day, but it is advisable to use more than one (1) Evaluator when this number is approached. When the number of entries in tests to be evaluated by one (1) person exceeds these limits the committee of the club or organising body holding the event shall then appoint an extra Evaluator(s), who shall be approved by KUSA.

When CGC is held at public events, e.g. expos, more Evaluators may be needed to ensure that the test flows smoothly and efficiently. Having enough help maintains spectator appeal and prevents any participant from waiting for an unreasonable amount of time.

The CGC Test is the first experience many owners have with dog training. When testing the dogs the Evaluator should not attempt to run as many dogs through the test as fast as possible. Each handler deserves the time and attention of the Evaluator.

To speed up the process of the Tests it is recommended to use a scribe to do the paperwork.

1.16 Service dogs

Service dogs help people with disabilities. Dogs which have passed the CGC Test are not service dogs and they do not have special access rights in public places (stores, restaurants, planes, etc.).

1.17 Therapy dogs

Some therapy dog organisations require passing the CGC Test as a first step. KUSA does not certify therapy dogs.

1.18 Provision of articles and equipment

The Evaluator is responsible for the provision of all articles, distractions and similar objects that may be required in any Test which they are evaluating. Visiting Evaluators from other provinces or countries may seek the aid of the event holding club or organising body (which shall ensure that all articles provided meet the requirements of the Rules and Regulations).

1.19 Conditions

It is the responsibility of the Evaluator(s) to ensure that all dogs participating in a Test participate under the same conditions as far as this is practical. CGC Gold may be undertaken over two (2) days. If, in the Evaluator's opinion, the dog's performance in any task was prejudiced by peculiar and unusual circumstances, the Evaluator may re-evaluate the dog on the entire task.

1.20 Handler

The same handler and dog must complete each Test as a team. Either the owner or another designated person may handle the dog. Once the test has commenced, the owner may not interfere with his dog if another person has been designated to handle the dog.

1.21 CGC titles

Registered dogs may apply to have their CGC qualification appended to the dogs registered name. The abbreviations to be used are:

- CGC Puppy CGC-Pu
- CGC Bronze CGC-Br
- CGC Silver CGC-Si
- CGC Gold CGC-Go

1.22 Vaccines and microchips

Dog's vaccines must be up to date in accordance with the laid down regulations by the State Veterinary Department and the Municipal By Laws. The Evaluator must verify that the dog has a microchip. The scanner can be obtained before the Test from the Provincial Council Chairperson or proxy.

2. Qualifications of Evaluators

All Evaluators, and aspiring Evaluators, must be members of KUSA and in good standing. All Evaluators, and aspiring Evaluators, must be at least 18 years of age. All Evaluators need to do a refresher course at least once every four (4) years. These courses will be run by the Task Team until such time as a National Sub-committee or other relevant body is appointed.

Any person wishing to become an Evaluator must:

- Make application to their Provincial Council. The aspiring Evaluator must submit a short motivation on why they wish to become an Evaluator and list any relevant skills they may have, e.g., run a puppy school, are a behaviourist, are a multi-discipline judge, a guide-dog trainer etc.
- Attend a training workshop and write a test on Schedule 11(A), Schedule 9 and Schedule 1.

- Upon successful completion of the workshop and having passed the written tests, the Learner Evaluator will need to undertake one (1) learner appointment and be signed off by one (1) Evaluator on the day. The presiding Evaluator must submit a letter to KUSA saying that they found the Learner Evaluator 'competent' or 'not yet ready'. If the Leaner Evaluator is found not yet ready they may repeat the process.

In addition to being able to determine if the dog performed specific tasks on the CGC Test, an Evaluator should be able to make good decisions regarding whether a dog is safe and under the control of the handler. Evaluators will be required to attend a CGC workshop before being allowed to evaluate CGC and must attend at least 1 workshop in a 4-year cycle.

3. CANINE GOOD CITIZEN PUPPY

Eligibility

Puppies may participate in the test as many times as they wish.
Age – from 4 to 9 months

Tasks

All tasks must be done onlead. Food will be permitted as a reward (except where otherwise noted) but luring should be discouraged. The Evaluator needs to be mindful of the puppy's social development and give breaks where necessary. Not more than five (5) puppies should be evaluated in a group at any one time.

Task 1: Accepting a stranger

This task demonstrates that the puppy will allow a friendly stranger to approach it and speak to the handler in a casual, everyday situation.

The Evaluator walks up to the puppy and handler and greets the handler in a friendly manner, ignoring the dog.

The Evaluator and handler shake hands and exchange pleasantries (e.g., "Hello, it's good to see you again," as they shake hands).

- The puppy does not have to assume a position but must not jump up.
- The Evaluator touches the dog only on the head, neck and body, which completes the task.
- The puppy must show no sign of resentment or shyness and must not leave his position to go to the stranger.

The Evaluator should check that the collar is correctly fitted, of suitable material and appropriate for the breed/breed-type and age of puppy. The evaluator touches the dog only on the head, neck and body to complete the task.

Task 2: Care and responsibility

This task demonstrates the handler's knowledge of basic care and responsible ownership. Five (5) questions should be asked around vaccinations and deworming, house training, socialisation, teething, chewing, and exercise. The puppy does not need to be present for this task. It is recommended that this task be conducted last. It is recommended that this task be conducted last.
See Annex A for questions.

Task 3: Play with or without toy
This task demonstrates if a dog can interact well with its handler and the handler can demonstrate they have a good relationship with the puppy by interreacting with it in a fun way. The handler can use a toy at their discretion.

Task 4: Take article away from puppy
This task demonstrates that puppies must learn that they should give up articles when required. An article should be given to the puppy who should give it up when the handler attempts to take it away. The article will be of the handler's choice and suitable for the type of puppy being assessed. If the puppy refuses to take an article the Evaluator may provide an alternative. The puppy should not be marked 'Not Ready' should it refuse to take the article in its mouth.

Task 5: Walk on lead without distraction
This task demonstrates that the handler has some control of the puppy when walking on a lead. If the puppy is distracted by anything in the environment, the handler should encourage the puppy to return to the working side and then continue with the task. The puppy must be on the left side of the handler but need not be in the 'heel' position. The course taken must include a left turn, right turn, an about turn with a halt at the end but the puppy doesn't need to sit; it should however be under control. The handler can encourage the puppy by talking snapping of fingers and slapping of sides. Stamping of feet must be discouraged. The course should not be more than 20 – 30 paces. Food may be used as encouragement in this test, but not given to the puppy until the puppy has come to the halt at the end.

This exercise should not be evaluated as if it was an Obedience test.

Task 6: Reaction to another dog
This task demonstrates that the puppy should have no difficulty in reacting to a group of people. The dog should walk past, at a distance of approximately three (3) metres, at least two (2) people, one (1) of whom should have a dog. The puppy may show interest in the strangers and the dog but should continue to walk without any evidence of shyness or over exuberance and should not be pulling at the lead. The handler can encourage the puppy by talking snapping of fingers and slapping of sides. The 'strange' dog must be of suitable disposition.

Task 7: Recall
This task demonstrates that the puppy can stay and then be recalled to the handler. The handler should ask the puppy to wait walk forwards a few paces and then turn around to face their dog before running backwards calling the puppy who should follow without hesitation. The puppy doesn't need to present in the sit position once in front of the handler. The time lapse between turning around and calling the puppy should almost be immediate.

Task 8: Down
This task is to demonstrate that the handler can down the puppy. The handler should 'down' the puppy using lots of encouragement either verbally or using a treat, however, the treat may only be given for taking up the down position. There is no time duration for the test, the puppy should clearly be under control once in the down the position. The puppy may be downed on their 'bed' should the handler choose to do so.

Task 9: Food manners
This task is to demonstrate that the puppy should display good food manners when taking a treat. This test does not need to be specifically tested for if the handler is using food as a reward during the other tasks.

4. CANINE GOOD CITIZEN BRONZE

Eligibility

Dogs may participate in the test as many times as they wish.
Age – 9 months and older

Tasks

Tasks may be taken and passed in any order. Tasks 11 and 12 may be conducted as a group exercise at the Evaluators discretion.

Task 1: Accepting a stranger

This task demonstrates that the dog will allow a friendly stranger to approach it and speak to the handler in a casual, everyday situation.

The Evaluator walks up to the dog and handler and greets the handler in a friendly manner, ignoring the dog. The task begins with the dog seated at the handler's side.

The Evaluator and handler shake hands and exchange pleasantries (e.g., "Hello, it's good to see you again," as they shake hands). The Evaluator then touches the dog only on the head, neck and body and circles the dog and handler which completes this task.

- The dog must show no sign of resentment or shyness.
- The dog may not jump on or rush to the Evaluator to initiate contact. The dog may not lunge forward to greet the Evaluator.
- The dog should be under control i.e. in the sit position throughout the task. If the handler must use excessive corrections (e.g., trying to hold the dog to prevent jumping) to control the dog, the dog should not pass this task.

Task 2: Present for examination on a lead

This task demonstrates that the dog will welcome being examined and will permit a stranger, such as a veterinarian, Judge or Evaluator to do so. The handler will present themselves for examination already wearing a collar and lead (i.e., on lead), and harness if desired. The dog will stand for examination by the Evaluator. The Evaluator will satisfy themself that the equipment is of suitable material and correctly fitted. If this is not to the Evaluator's satisfaction, he can ask for this to be adjusted. If this cannot be rectified, the handler should be excused from the Test.

With the dog sitting at the handler's side to begin the task, the Evaluator approaches and asks, "May I examine your dog?" The Evaluator then lightly examines the mouth, teeth, eyes, throat, and ears and gently picks up each front foot. The handler may talk to their dog throughout the exercise.

- The Evaluator may give the handler specific instructions for handling the dog in a manner that ensures safety and the dogs comfort. The Evaluator may request that the handler supports the dog's head for checking the ears.
- Another technique the Evaluator may use is to hold the dog's head away with one hand and use the other hand to lift the foot.
- While the handler may be asked to steady the dog's head, lift a leg, etc., any dog requiring restraining so it can be examined should not pass the test. The key question for this test is, "Could a veterinarian easily examine the dog?"
- The dog must show no signs of shyness or resentment.
- As the Evaluator begins to examine the dog, the dog may stand to receive petting.
- The dog may not struggle and pull away to avoid the evaluator.
- The dog may move slightly forward during the examination but should not lunge at the Evaluator or rush or jump forward.

- The dog should appear happy about the contact with the Evaluator and may have some body movements.
- The dog should be under control throughout the exercise.
- A table may be used for the examination of small to medium sized dogs when necessary.

Task 3: Care and responsibility
This task is to demonstrate that the dog will welcome being groomed and will permit someone such as a house sitter, groomer, or friend of the owner, to do so. This task also demonstrates the owner's care, concern and sense of responsibility (see Annex A for Questions).

The Evaluator inspects the dog to determine if it is clean and groomed. The dog must appear to be in healthy condition (i.e., proper weight, clean, healthy and alert). The handler should supply the comb or brush commonly used on the dog. The handler softly combs or brushes the dog and, in a natural manner.

- It is not necessary for the dog to hold a specific position during the examination, and the handler may talk to the dog, praise it and give encouragement throughout.
- Some dogs will wiggle or squirm when they are excited. Some squirming is acceptable; however, this should not be so excessive that the dog cannot be brushed.
- The dog should not struggle (pull away with intensity) to avoid the brushing.
- The handler should go down the back of the hind legs, especially with coated breeds.
- A table may be used for the examination of small to medium sized dogs when necessary.

If the dog being evaluated has not completed a CGC Puppy, the Evaluator should ask the handler at five (5) questions from CGC Puppy.

Task 4: Play with or without toy
The task is to demonstrate that a dog can be calmed easily following praise or play and can leave the task in a well-mannered fashion. The handler may praise the dog verbally, by petting, by playing with a toy and/or via a favourite trick, in the allowed ten (10) seconds of play and then must calm the dog for the next task. This task can be conducted on or off lead.

Task 5: Walk on lead without distraction
This task may be combined with Task 6.

This task demonstrates that the handler is in control of the dog. The dog should be on the left side of the handler but need not be in the 'heel' position. The dog may work on the handlers right side if there is a disability being taken into account. This exercise should not be evaluated as if it was an Obedience test.

The Evaluator may use a pre-planned course or may direct the handler by calling out instructions (e.g., 'right turn'). Whichever format is used, there must be a right turn, left turn, and about turn, with at least one stop in between and one at the end (not more than 30 – 40 paces).

The handler may talk to the dog throughout the 'walk' to encourage it and may give praise. The handler may also give the dog a cue to sit at the stop, if desired.

- The dog's position should leave no doubt that the dog is attentive to the handler and is responding to the handler's movements and changes of direction.
- The dog need not be perfectly aligned with the handler and need not sit at the stops.
- The dog should not be constantly straining at the leash so that the leash is pulled tight. The Evaluator may instruct the handler to loosen (put more slack in) the leash. An occasional tight leash may be permitted.

- Excessive sniffing of the floor or ground, such that the dog will not walk along with the owner, should result in the dog not passing the task.
- If the dog is totally inattentive to the handler (e.g. does not change directions or pulls excessively), it should not be passed.

Talking to the dog by the handler is encouraged but snapping of fingers, slapping of sides and stamping of feet must be discouraged.

Task 6: Walking on lead, passing through a door or gate
This task may be combined with Task 5.

This task is to demonstrate that the dog can walk confidently through the door/gate and should not shy away from it. The dog must be under control and stationary while the handler opens the gate, the dog may assume any position during this task i.e. either a sit, stand or down position. The handler may either pass through the gate and invite the dog to come through or walk through the gate together with the dog. The dog must again be stationary and in control while the handler closes the gate.

Task 7: Reaction to another dog
This task demonstrates that the dog can behave politely around other dogs. Two handlers and their dogs approach each other from a distance of about ten (10) metres, stop, shake hands and exchange pleasantries, and continue on for about five (5) metres.

- The dog should show no more than a casual interest in the distraction dog. If the dog attempts to go to or jump on the distraction dog, it should not pass the task.
- The dog may move slightly toward the other dog/handler, then stop. The dog must stay back from the other dog/handler.
- The dog can stretch its neck and sniff without moving forward to the other dog/handler.
- When the handlers stop to shake hands, the dog does not have to sit. It can remain standing beside the handler. If the dog remains standing, it should not cross over in front of the handler to go to the other dog.
- The conversation between the handlers can be brief, “Hi, good to see you again. Give me a call sometime.”
- As the handler leaves, if the dog turns around and begins pulling as if to follow the other dog/handler, the dog should not pass the task.
- If the distraction dog causes a disruption, the dog can be tested again with a more appropriate distraction dog. The distraction dog should have been observed or evaluated before the test to ensure that it is reliable.

Task 8: Walking on a lead passing people and dogs
This task demonstrates that the dog can move about politely in pedestrian traffic and is under control in public places.

The dog and handler walk around and pass close to several (at least four) people, one (1) who should have a dog (dog must be on-leash and under control). The Evaluator can be counted as one of the three people in the crowd. Children may act as members of the crowd, however, when children participate in the test, they must be instructed on their role and be supervised by an adult and it is recommended that they are age eight (8) or older. Some of the members of the crowd may be standing still; however, some crowd members should be moving about (but not so much as to leave the ‘crowd’). This task simulates settings such as busy sidewalks or walking through a crowd at a dog show or public event.

- In this task, the dog may show some interest in the strangers but should continue to walk with the handler, without evidence of over exuberance, shyness or resentment.

- The dog may show mild interest in members of the crowd. The dog may sniff a person in the crowd briefly but must move on promptly.
- The dog may not jump on people in the crowd or attempt to go to them.
- The dog should not be straining at the leash.
- The dog should not be trying to hide behind the handler.

Task 9: Reaction to distractions
This task demonstrates that the dog is confident at all times when faced with common distracting situations.

The Evaluator will select two (2) from the following for this task (they need not be the same for each dog):

- A person using crutches, a wheelchair, or a walker no closer than two (2) metres from the dog and handler.
- A sudden opening or closing of a door or gate or an umbrella.
- Dropping a pan, large book or similar object behind the dog but no closer than three (3) metres from the dog.
- A jogger running in front of the dog.
- Good natured pushing or shoving or animated talk, excited talk and back slapping by people, with the dog and handler passing within three (3) metres.
- A person pushing a cart, pram passing no closer than two (2) metres of the dog and handler.
- A cyclist or scooter passing in front or rear within two (2) metres of the dog and handler.
- Since some dogs are sensitive to sound and others to visual distractions, it is preferable to choose one sound and one visual distraction.

A note about distractions: Distractions such as gunshot, the rapid opening of an umbrella close to the dog, walking on a metal grid, etc. are items that are typically seen on formal temperament tests. The CGC Test should not be confused with temperament testing. While instructors may use a variety of distractions (e.g., a person in scuba gear) in training classes, in the CGC test, distractions should be items that are common occurrences in the community.

- The dog may show casual interest and may appear slightly startled. The dog may jump slightly but should not panic and pull at the leash to get away.
- The dog may attempt to walk forward slightly to investigate the distracter.
- Dogs who become so frightened that they urinate (or defecate) should not pass.
- Dogs who growl or lunge at the distracter should not pass.
- An isolated (single) bark is acceptable. Dogs who continue to bark at the distracter should not pass.
- Handlers may talk to dogs and give encouragement and praise throughout the test. Dogs may be given instructions by the handler (“Sit…good boy. Watch me…”).

Task 10: Release from lead, recall and attach lead
This task demonstrates that the dog will come when called by the handler and put back on a lead. The handler will release the dog from the lead and then recall the dog and place it back on lead. The dog can be left in any position or held by the Evaluator or an assistant.

Handlers may tell the dog to wait (or another similar cue) or they may simply walk away. The dog may be left in the sit, down, or standing position when the handler is about seven (7) paces away and then about turn and recall the dog.

The task is complete when the dog comes to the handler and the handler attaches the dog’s own leash.

- The handler can bend down to call the dog, pat their legs, and make encouraging sounds.
- If the dog bolts or runs away and cannot re-join the handler then the dog should not be passed
- Handlers may call the dog more than once (two or three attempts) but if many, repeated prompts are required, the dog should not be passed.

Task 11: Stay in one place

This task demonstrates that the dog has some training and will respond to the handler's cue. Taking reasonable time, the handler will cue the dog to either 'sit' or 'lie down', using a reasonable number of cues. The handler must not force the dog into position. The 'stay' cue is then given and the handler walks about seven (7) metres from the dog. No further cues may be given until the handler returns to the dog. The handler may choose to face the dog, face away or stand side on to the dog. The total length of the stay will be around thirty (30) seconds. The handler must return to the dog at a natural walking pace; the dog must maintain its position until the handler returns, and the Evaluator gives permission for the handler to release their dog.

Item 12: Supervised isolation

This task demonstrates that a dog can be left alone, if necessary, whilst maintaining its training and good manners. The dog will be attached to a lead of approximately two (2) metres. The handler may stay in sight or go briefly out of sight (e.g. walk around a car). The dogs should be tethered to a stationary object, e.g. tree or fence post or . The total length of time of the stay will be approximately one (1) minute.

- The dog does not have to stay in position.
- If the dog continually barks, whines, or howls, it should not be passed.
- The dog should not pace unnecessarily, should not show signs of agitation.
- If a dog pulls on its leash (trying to get away) it should not be passed.
- A dog that simply walks back and forth and looks for the handler is passed. There should be no signs of extreme stress, including panting, breathing hard, etc.
- If a dog begins to look very upset or distressed (barking, whining, panting, pacing, pulling), the task should be terminated. The CGC test is an activity that should be fun. We do not want dogs or handlers to have a bad experience with the CGC. If a dog is extremely distressed, training is needed. (This training should not be done during testing.) This one incident of giving in to the dog's insecure behaviour is not enough to cause any lasting effect. The owner should be told nicely that separation is an issue for the dog and that some training would help the dog feel more secure.
- The person holding the dog should be a relative stranger to the dog, i.e. not from the same household or their trainer.

Task 13: Food manners

This task demonstrates that the dog has good manners when aware of peoples' food. Food should be handled or consumed while the dog, on a loose lead, is taken in close proximity to it. The dog should not unduly respond to this temptation (i.e. not to beg for food or steal).

Note: The Evaluator should be satisfied that the dog has been taken close enough to the food to be aware of it. The food item used should be one that is generally considered desirable to a dog but should not be of overwhelming interest, e.g. liver bread or biltong. The Evaluator will provide the food that is used in this task.

5. CANINE GOOD CITIZEN SILVER

Eligibility

Only handlers and dogs that have been awarded a CGC Bronze certificate may participate in CGC Silver Tests. The Bronze Certificate number must be recorded on the Test Sheet for the Silver level. Dogs may participate in the test as many times as they wish.

Tasks

All the tasks must be passed before a CGC Silver certificate is issued. Dogs may be evaluated singly or in groups. Where tasks are marked 'Not ready', only those tasks need to be reassessed in order to pass the test.

Task 1: Controlled greeting

This is to demonstrate that the dog will not jump up at visitors etc. The handler will approach a group of at least three (3) people acting in a jovial manner, and greet the Evaluator, or helper. During this greeting, should the dog jump up, the handler must be able to bring the dog under control immediately. The dog should be on lead for this task. Neither the Evaluator nor helpers should incite the dog to jump up.

Task 2: Present for examination

This task demonstrates that the dog will welcome being examined and will permit a stranger, such as a veterinarian, Judge or Evaluator to do so. The handler will present themselves for examination and remove the leash. The dog will stand for examination by the Evaluator. The Evaluator will then examine the dog, including a gentle examination of its mouth, teeth, throat, eyes, ears and feet. This examination should be more thorough than the Bronze test.

With the dog standing at the handler's side to begin the task, the Evaluator approaches and asks, "May I examine your dog?" The Evaluator then gently examines the mouth, teeth, eyes, throat, and ears and gently picks up each front foot. The handler may talk to their dog throughout the exercise.

- The Evaluator may give the handler specific instructions for handling the dog in a manner that ensures safety. For example, when the feet are to be handled, the Evaluator may request that the handler lift each leg. The Evaluator may request that the handler support the dog's head for checking the ears.
- Another technique the Evaluator may use is to hold the dog's head away with one hand and use the other hand to lift the foot.
- While the handler may be asked to steady the dog's head, lift a leg, etc., any dog requiring restraining so it can be examined should not pass the test. The key question for this test is, "Could a veterinarian easily examine the dog?"
- The dog must show no signs of shyness or resentment.
- As the Evaluator begins to examine the dog, the dog may stand to receive petting.
- The dog may not struggle and pull away to avoid the Evaluator.
- The dog may move slightly forward during the examination but should not lunge at the Evaluator or rush or jump forward.
- The dog should appear happy about the contact with the Evaluator and may have some body movements.
- The dog should be under control throughout the exercise.
- A table may be used for the examination of small to medium sized dogs when necessary.

Task 3: Care and responsibility

This task demonstrates that the handler has a good understanding of the responsibility required to care for their dog and the responsibility with regards to their neighbours and community.

The Evaluator should ask the handler questions around problem behaviours at home, e.g., separation anxiety, barking, chasing objects/people, illnesses, feeding regimes, allowing dogs off lead in public places, dogs and children, exercise, leaving dogs in the car, strangers approaching a car with a dog in it, etc. The dog does not need to be present for this task.

Note: The handler should correctly answer at least eight (8) questions. See Annex A.

Task 4: Play with dog

This task demonstrates that the dog will play with its handler. Play is an extra dimension to a dog's life and can be used to make training fun. When instructed to do so the handler should commence to play with the dog. Play should be under the handler's control and if it involves articles the dog should readily give them up. Play should be appropriate to the dog under evaluation. Formal retrieves will not be deemed as appropriate play.

Task 5 Walk on lead with distractions

This task demonstrates that the handler has control over the dog when distractions are present. The handler and dog should walk on lead, at normal pace, passing at least one (1) distraction at a distance of approximately three (3) metres. The task should last approximately 40 – 50 paces, include two (2) turns and two (2) halts.

Distractions may consist of handlers and dogs, a bicycle, etc. Children may act as a distraction, however, when children participate in the task, they must be instructed on their role and be supervised by an adult. It is recommended that children are aged eight (8) or older.

- In this task, the dog may show some interest in the strangers or distractions but should continue to walk with the handler, without evidence of over exuberance, shyness or resentment.
- The dog may show mild interest in members of the crowd or distraction. The dog may sniff a person in the crowd or distraction briefly but must move on promptly.
- The dog may not jump on people in the crowd or attempt to go to them.
- The dog should not be straining at the leash.
- The dog should not be trying to hide behind the handler.

Excessive talking to the dog, snapping of fingers, slapping of sides and stamping of feet must be discouraged. Where cues are given, the dog should respond.

This exercise should not be evaluated as if it was an Obedience test.

Task 6: Road work

This task demonstrates that the dog has the ability to walk on lead under control. This task should be carried out at a suitable outdoor location and an occasional tight lead will be acceptable. The handler and dog should walk along a pavement, execute a turn, and then stop at the kerb where the dog should remain steady and controlled. Having observed the Highway Code, they should proceed to the other side, turn and continue walking. At least two (2) distractions are incorporated, e.g. normal passing vehicles, bicycles, people, wheelchairs, prams, etc. Talking to the dog by the handler is encouraged but snapping of fingers, slapping of sides and stamping of feet must be discouraged. Where cues are given, the dog should respond promptly.

Note: The turns are only tests of ability to change direction. Evaluators are encouraged to assess the lay of the land and select a suitable road. This may be at a different venue.

Task 7: Rejoin handler

This task demonstrates that the dog will remain steady when the handler leaves the dog, but the dog will rejoin the handler when instructed to do so. Having left the dog in a wait either in the sit, stand or down position, with the lead removed, the handler will move forward approximately ten (10) paces and, when facing their dog, the handler should recall the dog when instructed to do so. Having rejoined, the dog should stop close to the handler in any position, and the lead shall re-attached.

- The handler can bend down to call the dog, pat their legs, and make encouraging sounds.
- If the dog bolts/runs away and cannot re-join the handler then the dog should not be passed
- Handlers may call the dog more than once (two or three attempts) but if many, repeated prompts are required, the dog should not be passed.
- The dog should not rejoin until instructed, but minor anticipation will be acceptable.

Task 8: Stay in one place

This task demonstrates that the dog will remain in place while the handler moves away. The handler should place the dog, with the lead attached, in any position of their choice. Upon instruction, having quietly dropped the lead, the handler will remain in sight and move a distance of five (5) metres away for a period of two (2) minutes. Having left the dog, the handler may not give any further cues until ordered to do so by the Evaluator. The Evaluator may choose whether the handler faces the dog or faces away. The handler must return to the dog at a natural walking pace; the dog must maintain its position until the handler returns, and the Evaluator gives permission for the handler to release the dog.

Task 9: Supervised isolation

This task demonstrates a dog can be left alone if necessary, whilst maintaining its training and good manners. The dog will be attached to a lead of approximately two (2) metres. It does not have to stay in position but should not continually bark, whine, howl, pace unnecessarily or show any behaviour with a mild agitation or nervousness. The handler will go out of sight for one (1) minute. The dogs should be tethered to a stationary object, e.g. tree or fence post or held by a relative stranger.

- The dog does not have to stay in position.
- If the dog continually barks, whines, or howls, it should not be passed.
- The dog should not pace unnecessarily, should not show signs of agitation.
- If a dog pulls on its leash (trying to get away) it should not be passed.
- A dog that simply moves around slightly to look for the handler should be passed. There should be no signs of extreme stress, including panting, breathing hard, etc.
- The person holding the dog should be a relative stranger to the dog, i.e. not from the same household or their trainer.

Task 10: Vehicle or crate control

This task demonstrates that the handler can get the dog in and out of a vehicle or crate in a controlled manner. Without pulling, the dog should be taken on a lead towards a vehicle or crate and remain steady whilst the handler opens the vehicle or crate door. The dog should not attempt to get in until instructed to and should enter willingly. Thereafter, the door should be closed. The dog will then be instructed to exit in an orderly manner. The handler should then close the door and leave the vehicle or crate with the dog calmly under control. Crates may be used where it is not possible to access a vehicle, e.g. Expo.

Only dogs that are physically able should be invited to jump into the vehicle. Where appropriate, dogs may be lifted in and out of the vehicle.

Task 11: Food manners
This task demonstrates that the dog can take food without snatching. The handler should offer the dog an item of food that the dog should take in an appropriate way. The handler is to provide the food, but the Evaluator should have alternatives on hand should the food item not be acceptable. E.g. food items may consist of dog biscuits, training treats, or similar. The dietary requirements of dogs with allergies should be taken into consideration by the Evaluator.

6. CANINE GOOD CITIZEN GOLD

Eligibility
Only handlers and dogs that have been awarded a CGC Silver certificate may participate in CGC Gold. The Silver Certificate number must be recorded on the Test Sheet for CGC Gold. Dogs may participate in the test as many times as they wish.

Tasks
All the tasks must be passed in one (1) session before a Gold certificate is issued. A session may take place over a maximum of two (2) days. Dogs may be evaluated singly or in groups.

The KUSA Canine CGC Gold is the highest level of Good Citizenship and builds upon the skills learned in the Silver Test. The CGC Gold Test is a natural progression of practical dog training skills and introduces new concepts such as 'supervised isolation', 'stop the dog' and 'send the dog to bed', tasks, which are important in everyday life situations. The CGC Gold Test aims to equip handlers with a greater understanding of their canine companion. In order for the test to be meaningful, it must be carried out rigorously. Emphasis must be placed upon the ability of the handler to handle, care for and generally be responsible for their dog.

Task 1: Care and responsibility
This task demonstrates that the handler has a good understanding of the responsibility required to care for their dog and the responsibility with regards to their neighbours and community.

The Evaluator should ask the handler questions around problem behaviours with regards to neighbours and community, e.g. chasing objects or people, allowing dogs off lead in public places, dogs and children, leaving dogs in the car, strangers approaching a car with a dog in it, etc. The dog does not need to be present for this task.

Note: The handler should correctly answer at least eight (8) questions. See Annex A.

Task 2: Walk free beside handler
This task demonstrates that the dog is able to walk free next to the handler as if walking in a park. This is not a heelwork exercise but a test of control while the dog is off lead walking next to the handler.

- The dog should be in near proximity to the handler.
- Two (2) changes of direction either right or left turns without formality and should take place and there should be a distraction of another handler passing with a dog on a lead.
- When instructed by the Evaluator the dog will be placed back on the lead to finish the task.
- Excessive talking to the dog, snapping of fingers, slapping of sides and stamping of feet must be discouraged. Where cues are given, the dog should respond promptly.
- The task should last approximately 50 – 60 paces.

This task may be combined with Task 4 Return to Handlers Side.

Task 3: Road walk
This task demonstrates that the dog has the ability to walk on lead beside the handler and for the handler to determine the speed of the walk. The task should be carried out at a suitable outdoor location and an occasional tight lead will be acceptable. The handler and dog should walk along a pavement, execute a turn, and then stop at the curb where the dog should remain steady and controlled. On instruction from the Evaluator, they should proceed to cross the road whilst observing the traffic code. On reaching the other side of the road, they should turn and continue walking, making a few changes of pace from normal to slow or fast pace. The handler and dog should then return back across the road to the starting point of the task. At least two (2) distractions should be incorporated, e.g. passing vehicles, bicycles, people, wheelchairs, prams, etc. Excessive talking to the dog, snapping of fingers, slapping of sides and stamping of feet must be discouraged. Where cues are given, the dog should respond promptly.

The turns are only a test of ability to change direction and do not need to be sharp / 90° / 180° turns.

Task 4: Return to handler's side
This is to demonstrate that the handler is able to bring the dog back under close control during a walk off lead. With the dog off lead, the dog should be left in the sit, stand or down position and upon instruction from the Evaluator, the handler will move forward not less than ten (10) paces away at which time the Evaluator will instruct the handler to recall the dog back to the walking handler's side. Both should continue together the dog under control for approximately ten (10) paces.

The dog moving loosely at the handler's side, but under control, is quite acceptable and there should not be a halt to complete the task.

This task may be combined with Task 2 Walk Free Beside Handler or Task 8 Stop The Dog.

Task 5: Stay in one place
This is to demonstrate that the dog will remain in the sit or down position on the spot while the handler moves away for two (2) minutes, whilst being both in and out of sight. Having told their dog to stay, the handler will proceed directly to the out of sight position on instruction from the Evaluator, and remain there for a period of one (1) minute. On instruction from the Evaluator, the handler will return to a position of not less than ten (10) paces away from their dogs (in sight) for the remainder of the time. Once the handler leaves the dog, no further cues will be allowed until the task is completed.

Task 6: Supervised isolation
This is to demonstrate that the dog is relaxed when left in isolation. During such times the dog should not become agitated, unduly restless or defensive. The handler should fasten the dog to a line of approximately two (2) metres and then to move out of sight for two (2) minutes as directed by the Evaluator. Several dogs can be evaluated at the same time, provided there is sufficient space between the dogs.

- The dog does not have to stay in position.
- If the dog continually barks, whines, or howls, it should not be passed.
- The dog should not pace unnecessarily, should not show signs of agitation.
- If a dog pulls on its leash (trying to get away) it should not be passed.
- A dog that simply walks back and forth and looks for the handler is passed. There should be no signs of extreme stress, including panting, breathing hard, etc.
- A Dog should be assessed for their relaxed behaviour in isolation without any prior controls having been imposed by the handler before leaving. This is not a stay exercise and handlers may settle their dogs before leaving.

- This is a practical task and no enticements of food, toys or blankets may be used during this evaluation.

Task 7: Send the dog to a place of safety

This is to demonstrate that the handler has control over the dog that might be required in the home or external environment. The handler will provide the dog's bed (this includes blankets, mats or article of clothing), crate or car etc. The handler should place the dog's bed/crate/car in a place determined by the Evaluator. The handler will stand approximately ten (10) paces away from the bed/crate/car. On the instruction from the Evaluator, the handler should send the dog to go to the bed/crate/car. The dog should remain there until the Evaluator is satisfied that the dog is settled. The dog does not have to lie down.

- The dog is not being sent to bed in disgrace.
- This task may be conducted indoors or outdoors.
- The item of bedding used should be suitable for the dog being evaluated and no enticement using toys or food should be used.
- The dog may accompany the handler when the bed is being placed, crate is being set up or car door/boot/tailgate is being opened.
- The dog doesn't have to have its entire body on the bed, the dog should be comfortable as if the bed had been a raised bed.

Task 8: Stop the dog

This task demonstrates that the handler has the ability to stop the dog at a distance in an emergency situation. With the dog off lead, at a distance of not less than fifteen (15) metres away from the handler, the handler will recall the dog and stop it upon instruction by the Evaluator. The dog may be stopped in any position.

- The dog is expected to respond immediately but if moving at speed, will be allowed approximately two (2) body lengths to come to a stop.
- The position the dog stops in is at the handler's discretion.
- The task is completed once the dog comes to a halt.

This can be combined with Task 4 Return to handler's side.

Task 9: Food manners

This task demonstrates that the dog can be fed in an orderly manner and have its food bowl taken away while eating. The handler will offer food to the dog in a container (e.g. bowl, plate etc.). The dog must wait three (3) to five (5) seconds for permission to eat. After a further three (3) to five (5) seconds, the bowl should be taken away from the dog.

The dog should not eat until given permission, however, if the dog attempts to do so, it is acceptable for the handler to restrain the dog by using voice cues only.

The purpose of this task is to ensure that food can be taken away from the dog should it be necessary, for example, you encounter one of the following scenarios:

- should a dog pick up food or bones while on a walk
- dog takes your treat bag
- there is a child present who is not used to dogs
- there is a strange dog present, e.g. while at a show or on holiday, boarding a dog, have a friend visiting with their dog etc.

Annex A

CGC Care & Responsibility Questions

The purpose of this section is to ensure that the handler of the dog can care for their dog in a responsible manner. There are no prescribed answers to these questions. The answers provide opportunity to engage with the handler and should be conducted in an interactive manner. The handler should not be marked 'Not Ready' in situations where the handlers answer differs from the practices of the Evaluator. The intention is to ensure that the handler is making informed decisions regarding the care and upbringing of their dog.

	Puppy	**Bronze**	**Silver**	**Gold**
	Five (5) questions should be asked around vaccinations and deworming, house training, socialisation, teething, chewing, and exercise.	The Evaluator should ask the handler questions around the basic care of the dog. This will include aspects such as grooming, feeding, equipment and the rights of a dog.	The Evaluator should ask the handler questions around problem behaviours at home, e.g. separation anxiety, barking, chasing objects/people, illnesses, feeding regimes, allowing dogs off lead in public places, dogs and children, exercise, leaving dogs in the car, strangers approaching a car with a dog in it, etc.	The Evaluator should ask the handler questions around problem behaviours with regards to neighbours and community, e.g. chasing objects/people, allowing dogs off lead in public places, dogs and children, leaving dogs in the car, strangers approaching a car with a dog in it, etc.
Legal	What are a dogs rights?	What are the rights of a dog?	What are a dogs rights?	---
	Does your dog require a licence?	---	How long is the rabies vaccination valid for?	---
	According to your area's by-laws how many dogs are allowed in one household?	---	What food do you feed your dog and why?	---
	Name two ways you can provide dog's identification.	---	---	---
Health & Care	When and why do dogs need vaccinations?	How often do you feed your dog and how much?	How do you know if your dog has fleas?	What is your opinion of medical aid for dogs?

	How would you give your puppy the best start in life, for the first year, in terms of nutrition?	How often do you wash your dog bowls?	---	---
	---	---	How do you check for ticks and for fleas? How do you treat your dogs for ticks and fleas?	---
	What do you consider a suitable treat to give to your puppy?	Do you have separate bowls for your dogs?	What types of worms can your dog get?	---
	---	How often do you change your dogs water?	How do you prevent/ get rid of worms in your dog?	---
	---	Why would you groom your dog other than to keep it clean?	Name four essential things you need to provide for your dog.	---
	---	---	Name three signs that your dog may be sick.	---
	What level of activity is acceptable for your: • 8-week old puppy • 6-month old puppy • 12-month old (medium breed)	Describe your dogs coat and how you would care for it, and how often.	What is the normal range for a dogs temperature?	---
	---	---	When do you decide to take your dog to the vet if you suspect it is sick or has an injury?	---
	---	---	How often do you weigh your dog? What is its weight and what is its ideal weight?	---
General, Training & Outings	How would you teach a new puppy to potty outside?	Describe suitable equipment i.t.o. collars, harnesses, leash etc.	What phone numbers do you give your house sitter when you leave your dog with them?	What should you consider when leaving a public place with your dog following a walk?
	How would you occupy a new puppy at home if you need to leave him/ her unattended for a short while?	---	What is your vet's phone number?	How could your dog be a nuisance to others in your neighbourhood?

	What are two benefits of crate training?	---	What do you do if your dog pulls on the lead?	If your dog causes damage to a person or property, what do you do?
	---	---	What punishment is acceptable if your dog is disobedient?	Your dog eliminates while on a walk in your neighbourhood. What do you do?
	---	---	---	Name TWO things you would tell children when they approach to greet your dog.
	---	---	---	Leaving your dog in a car unattended is not advisable. If you need to nip out briefly, what must you remember to do?
	---	---	---	How should your dog behave in the car while you are driving? And how will you ensure this?
	---	---	When is it appropriate to leave your dog as with the 'supervised isolation' exercise?	When is it appropriate to leave your dog as with the 'supervised isolation' exercise?