KUSA
Kennel Union of Southern Africa

Schedule 5C(6)
Regulations for Versatile Tests - Pointing Breeds
(2020)
(Effective 1st January 2021)

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Within this schedule, and with due recognition to Field Trial participation, all references to "he", "him" and "his", which terms are used for convenience of writing and of reading, shall be taken as meaning "he or she", "him or her" and "his or hers", respectively.

A. REGULATIONS FOR THE CONDUCT OF VERSATILE TESTS

A.1. PREAMBLE

This document takes the form of Regulations which are the rules that are binding on all those who are involved in the running of Versatile Tests. This document contains guides which assist Test Secretaries and Committees with the procedures required in setting up a Versatile Test.

A.2. LICENSING AND HOLDING OF VERSATILE TESTS

The Regulations relating to licensing and to all other matters to do with Versatile Tests as set in Schedule 3 (Championship Breed Shows) and Schedule 4 (Non-Championship Breed Shows) of the Constitution of the Kennel Union of Southern Africa shall apply to Versatile Tests so far as they can be relevant to the Versatile Tests and so far as they do not conflict with the specific terms of this Schedule 5C(6).

A.3. DEFINITIONS

- KUSA The Kennel Union of Southern Africa
- FC The Federal Council of The Kennel Union of Southern Africa
- FTLC The Field Trial Liaison Council of the Federal Council of The Kennel Union of Southern Africa

A.3.2 THE VERSATILE TESTS

A Versatile Test is a graded test for versatile pointing dog breeds. These age-appropriate, non-competitive tests evaluate the versatile dog's ability to perform the various duties required of them on a day's hunt, both before and after the shot, on land, water or in forest. The tests are based on recognized, traditional German and European testing standards.

A.3.2.1. SA-Derby Test (SA-D)

Is for Dogs from six months and not exceeding sixteen months of age, dating from and inclusive of the date of its birth on the first day of the test. It is a young dog natural ability test.

A.3.2.2. SA-Novice Test (SA-N)

Is for Dogs without restriction as to age. The SA-Novice Test is an introductory versatile test for novice dogs and/or handlers.

A.3.2.3. SA-Older Dog Elite Test (SA-AZP)

Is for Dogs from two (2) years of age and up to six (6) years of age. The SA-AZP is an advanced ability and performance test.

A.4. QUALIFICATION TO ENTER VERSATILE TESTS

A.4.1 ELIGIBLE BREEDS

All KUSA-registered pointing breeds may enter Hunt Tests as defined in A.3.2.1 to A.3.2.8. Refer to the list of breeds below:

THE VERSATILE BREEDS

Continental/HPR Breeds

Bracco Italiano – BI
Braque D'auvergne –BA
Brittany – BR
Cesky Fousek – CF
Deutsch Drahthaar – DD
Deutsch Kurzhaar – DK
German Longhaired Pointer - GL
German Shorthaired Pointer - GS
German Wirehaired Pointer – GW
Large Munsterlander – LM
Longhaired Weimaraner - LW
Pudelpointer – PP
Slovakian Wirehaired Pointer – SW
Small Munsterlander – SM
Spinoni - SP
Vizsla – VI
Weimaraner - WM
Wirehaired Pointing Griffon – GR
Wirehaired Vizsla – WV

British Breeds

English Setter - ES
Gordon Setter - GD
Irish Red &White Setter – IR
Irish Setter - IS
Pointer - PT

*Other pointing gundog breeds as recognized from time to time by and registered with the KUSA.

*Other gundog breeds registered with KUSA may enter any Test as defined in A.3.2.1 to A.3.2.6 at the discretion of the Management Committee of the Club holding the Test but cannot receive a Prize Classification in any Test.

A.4.2. EXCLUSION DUE TO PREVIOUS TESTING

A dog may not be tested more than twice in the same type of Versatile Test. Subsequent or previous participation in International tests does not count. This rule does not apply when the handler misses the test for reasons for which he is not responsible.

A.5. AWARDS

A.5.1. RECORDING AND HANDLING OF TEST RESULTS AND AWARDS

A.5.1.1. Official **TEST SCORE SHEETS** for each individual Test must be completed for each dog entered. These are available on the KUSA website.

A.5.1.2. The Club Secretary and Test Director are jointly responsible for ensuring the recording of the Test results on the official Test Score Sheets. The Test Score Sheets must be completed in duplicate – one is for the Club's use and the other for the handler.

A.5.1.3. One copy of the completed Test Score Sheets shall be handed to the handler of each dog without delay during or after the prize-giving ceremony. The Club Secretary shall retain the other for record keeping and to include as copies along with the required reports for KUSA and the FTLC.

A.5.1.4. The Club shall also issue an official Certificate of Award to the handler of each dog passing the test. This should be done without delay during or after the prize-giving ceremony.

A.5.1.5. A dog which has passed a Versatile Test will have it recorded as an affix to the dog's registered name. The affix shall include the abbreviation of the Test followed immediately by the Prize Classification. Examples: SA-D2, SA-N1, SA-AZP1, etc.

A.5.2. VERSATILE TEST AWARDS

The following abbreviations and system of indicating the Prize Classification of each Award shall be followed.

A.5.2.1. SA-Derby Test– SA-D 1, 2 or 3

A.5.2.2. SA-Novice Test – SA-N 1, 2 or 3

A.5.2.3. SA-Older Dog Elite Test – SA-AZP 1, 2 or 3

A.6. PROCEDURE FOR OBTAINING AWARDS

The Secretary of the Club holding the Test shall send a Report to the KUSA and to the FTLC, using the current forms. A copy of the Test Score Sheets for each dog passing the Test shall be included and sent together with the required forms to the FTLC.

In all instances where a dog qualifies for a Prize classification or other award, or in instances where the results of such Test are used after the registered name of the dog (as defined in A.4.1. to A.4.8. above), such titles or results may be used once the award or results have been approved and minuted at a meeting of the FTLC.

A.7. DATES FOR VERSATILE TESTS

A.7.1. MANAGEMENT OF THE TEST CALENDAR

The FTLC shall publish a draft calendar of Test dates for the following test season on 1 July each year. This calendar will be based upon perpetual dates granted to affiliated clubs.

New dates or changes of dates for Tests may be approved upon application to the FTLC. Perpetual dates will receive preference.

Rules concerning the granting and use of perpetual dates are recorded in the standard document "FTLC Calendar Procedures".

A.7.2. APPLICATION FOR DATES TO HOLD TESTS

Affiliated Clubs shall, by 1 July each year, apply to the FTLC for the dates for the following Test season. Such application must state the proposed date, type of trial and stakes to be run.

A.7.3. TEST CALENDAR FOR THE SEASON

The official calendar, based upon applications received and approved by the FTLC, will be published on 1st October and forwarded to FC for approval and/or comment.

A.7.4. PUBLICATION IN JOURNAL

The approved calendar for the season shall be published in the Kennel Union Journal.

A.8. PRE-TEST REQUIREMENTS

A.8.1. THE SCHEDULE

A.8.1.1. General Requirements

A.8.1.1.1. A club holding a Versatile Test must issue a schedule, which is to be treated as a contract between the club and the public.

A.8.1.1.2. The draft schedule with information regarding venue and dates, together with the prescribed application form to hold the test and the licence fee (payable to KUSA) must be received by KUSA at least four months prior to the date of the trial.

A.8.1.1.3. This schedule, which must include details of all the proposed Judges for each Test, together with ~~and~~ the Senior Judges' Acceptance forms for each Test~~,~~ must be received by KUSA not later than four months prior to the date of the test.

A.8.1.1.4. No schedule shall be issued to the public before being approved by the FTLC and the FC.

A.8.1.2. Contents

The schedule shall contain, inter alia:

A.8.1.2.1. The name of the club and officers thereof.

A.8.1.2.2. The type of test, the gundog breeds which may be entered, the stakes to be run and the definitions thereof.

A.8.1.2.3. The date and venue of the Test.

A.8.1.2.4. The names of the Judges for each specific Test.

A.8.1.2.5. The cost of entry fees and the cost of any KUSA levies applicable at the time.

A.8.1.2.6. The latest date for receiving entries.

A.8.1.2.7. The order in which the Tests will be run and the starting time for each one.

A.8.1.2.8. Name and contact details of Veterinarian on call.

A.8.1.2.9. Notice to exhibitors that:

A.8.1.2.9.1. Bitches in season may only be allowed at the discretion of the club. The Test Director/Manager shall ensure that bitches in season are run last and only after all other dogs have completed various elements of the Test(s). The Test Director and Judges are responsible for ensuring that the performance of the other testing dogs will not suffer due to the presence of a bitch on heat.

A.8.1.2.9.2. Castrated dogs and spayed bitches are eligible for entry.

A.8.1.2.9.3. Conditions attracting immediate disqualification are set out in Regulation 31 of Schedule 3 of KUSA Regulations for Championship Shows (Breed), subject to A.7.1.2.8.1 and A.7.1.2.8.2 above.

A.8.1.2.9.4. The system of judging will be entirely at the discretion of the Judges in accordance with KUSA Rules and Regulations for the Versatile Tests – Pointing Breeds.

A.8.1.2.9.5. A list of prizes, if applicable.

A.8.1.2.10. The time, date, venue and conditions of the draw for numbers of the running order of dogs.

A.8.1.2.11. Details of any restrictions on minimum and maximum numbers to be accepted for each stake. (Refer to A.12.2.3. - Maximum Number of Dogs – for the maximum number of entries that may be permitted in any Test.)

No pre-qualifying or acceptance criteria may be used other than the order in which correctly completed entries and fees are received.

A.8.1.3. Details regarding the dog to be entered

The required details for dogs that are entered shall include:

A.8.1.3.1. Registered name and number of dog.

A.8.1.3.2. Name of owner.

A.8.1.3.3. Breed of dog.

A.8.1.3.4. Sex of dog.

A.8.1.3.5. Date of birth of dog.

A.8.1.3.6. Registered names of Sire and Dam.

A.8.1.3.7. Name of breeder.

A.8.1.3.8. Name of handler.

A.8.1.3.9. Microchip number of dog.

A.8.2. THE DRAW

A.8.2.1. Per the Schedule

The draw shall take place at the time and venue and under the conditions stated in the Schedule. At the Test each dog shall be given the number according to the draw.

A.8.2.2. Handlers with more than one dog

The draw must make allowance for situations when a single handler has more than one dog entered in a particular Test. No handler may enter more than two (2) dogs in any test or series of tests in a given day.

A.8.3. THE PROGRAMME

A.8.3.1. Contents

The club holding a Versatile Test must publish a programme which must contain:

A.8.3.1.1. The name of the club.

A.8.3.1.2. The breed(s) for which Tests are run.

A.8.3.1.3. The date(s) of the Test.

A.8.3.1.4. The names of the Judges and Test Director/Manager for each stake.

A.8.3.1.5. The venue of the Test.

A.8.3.1.6. A definition of each Test to be run.

A.8.3.1.7. The prizes offered, if any.

A.8.3.1.8. Entries, listed in numerical order of running, as follows:

- Registered name and number of dog
- Name of owner.
- Breed of dog.
- Sex of dog.
- Date of birth of dog.
- Registered names of Sire and Dam
- Name of breeder.
- Name of handler.
- Microchip Number of dog.

A.8.3.1.9. A list of names of owners of all dogs in the Test, in alphabetical order.

A.8.3.1.10. A statement that the Test is to be held under KUSA Rules and Regulations.

A.8.3.1.11. A statement that the club holding the Test accepts no responsibility for injury, loss or damage to person or property, however occasioned.

A.9. APPOINTMENT OF JUDGES

A.9.1. LIST OF JUDGES FOR VERSATILE TESTS

A.9.1.1. Acceptance of list by FTLC

A club holding a Versatile Test shall appoint Judges from the List of Judges for Versatile Tests, as approved by the FC who shall, if permanently domiciled in the KUSA area of jurisdiction be members of the KUSA both at the time of accepting an invitation and undertaking an appointment. A Senior Judge shall be appointed for each Test from the "A" Panel of Judges.

Guide to A.9.1.1

It is recommended that the Senior Judge be one who has judged within at most three calendar years prior to the date of the appointed trial and that he has judged that particular Test within a prior three-year period.

A.9.1.2. Recommendation to Panels

A person may be recommended to a Judges' Panel on the list of Judges for Versatile Tests by a club holding Hunt Tests. Such recommendation to the FC via the FTLC shall be made by the club, at whose Test that person judged or qualified, as soon as possible after the Test. See Clause (A.8.1.5) "Qualification for Panels".

A.9.1.3. Overseas Judges

Recognised overseas JGHV Judges, or overseas Judges similarly qualified in identical tests, shall be entitled to Judge any Test. At least one registered KUSA Judge is required to officiate in any Test at which overseas Judges are appointed.

A.9.1.4. Election to/Removal from Panel

Judges may, from time to time, be added to or removed from A or B Panels.

A.9.1.4.1. Notification on being removed from Panel

The FTLC shall, within two weeks of the date of the meeting at which it was decided that a person be removed from a Judges' Panel, send written notice of the recommendation to the FC. The FC shall have the final say in accepting or rejecting such recommendation. In those cases where the FC upholds the FTLC's recommendation to remove a person from a Panel, such person shall be notified in writing within one month of ratification by FC of such removal. Reasons for such removal shall be given.

A.9.1.5. Altering Judges' List

The FTLC shall be entitled, subject to the approval of the Federal Council, to alter the rules and Panel structure governing the appointment of Test Judges.

A.9.1.6. Qualification for Panels

The qualifications required before a person can be added to a panel are:

A.9.1.6.1. "A" Panel Judge

A person must be an existing "B" Panel Judge on the List of Judges for Versatile Tests for a period of at least one year, and must have:

- judged at least two of the following; SA-AZP or higher test,
- been a Test Director in at least two of the following: SA-AZP or higher test,
- successfully handled a dog or dogs in at least two (2) of the following tests; SA-AZP, or higher Tests.

A.9.1.6.2. "B" Panel Judge

A person must have:

- officially learner judged in at least one (1) SA-AZP or higher test, and at least two (2) SA-Derby ~~Junior~~ or SA-Novice Tests,
- assisted as, or been, a Test Director in at least one (1) SA-AZP or higher test, and at least one (1) SA-Derby ~~Junior~~ or SA-Novice Tests,
- attended the equivalent of at least one (1) full Test Judging Workshop within a three (3) year period of being placed on the B Panel,
- successfully handled at least one (1) dog in a SA-AZP, or higher test.

A.9.1.6.3. Learner Judge

A person must have:

- attended the equivalent of at least one (1) full Test Judging Workshop,
- assisted as a Test Director in at least one (1) Novice or higher tests within a two (2) year period of becoming a Learner Judge,
- must also have trained, handled and passed a dog in at least one (1) SA-Novice or higher test. Such person is neither an A nor B Panel Judge and is entitled to express an opinion, but whose scoring may not be taken into account. Not more than one Learner Judge per individual Test is allowed.

A.9.1.6.4. Examination

An examination for aspiring Judges may be required by the FTLC and shall be held at appropriate venues. All persons being examined shall write the examination without the aid of reference material or advice from other parties. The organisation of such examination shall be vested with the FTLC.

The FTLC shall make recommendation to FC on the composition of the Judges' Panel.

A.9.1.7. Compulsory Number of Judges for Various Tests

A.9.1.7.1. There must be at least three Judges for any of the Versatile Tests, and at least one Judge must be on the A Panel of Judges or equivalent overseas Panel. The remaining Judges shall be at least B Panel or equivalent overseas Judges.

A.9.1.7.2. In exceptional cases due to an unexpected cancellation or injury of a confirmed Judge, an experienced hunter who is also a versatile dog handler may be used as a substitute. It is preferable that such Judge be at least a Learner Judge.

A.9.1.7.2. A Test Director may judge at any Test at which he is officiating provided he is on the Panel for Hunt Test Judges.

A.9.1.8. Test Director

A person must be at least an official Learner Judge, and in addition must have assisted as a Test Director in at least two (2) of the following: SA-AZP or higher Tests.

A.10. THE POWERS AND DUTIES OF A SENIOR JUDGE

A.10.1. EQUAL SAY

In a Versatile Test, all the officially appointed Judges have an equal say. No Judge, including the Senior Judge, can dictate to another Judge or Judges or tell that Judge or Judges how to mark the work of a dog.

A.10.2. DUTIES

The duties of a Senior Judge shall include, inter alia:

A.10.2.1. To assist the committee of the club holding the Test to select appropriate grounds for the exercises.

A.10.2.2. To liaise with the Test Director regarding the efficient running of the Test.

A.10.2.3. To signal the beginning of the exercise or to delegate another Judge to do so.

A.10.2.4. To instruct handlers, when necessary, to release their dogs for their exercise or retrieve, or to delegate another Judge to do so.

A.10.2.5. To examine all retrieved game for hard mouth, or to delegate another Judge to do so.

A.10.2.6. To position the other Judges and to be their spokesman.

A.10.2.7. To select or to delegate another Judge to select game to be used in retrieve exercises.

A.10.2.8. To complete and to sign the official Judges' Report on the day of the Test and to submit this Report to the Test Secretary of the host club.

A.10.2.9. To sign the Test Score Sheets of each dog and to ensure completion of all elements of the Test Score Sheets.

A.10.2.10. To ensure that bird crates or game body bags are positioned well out of the area of any exercise with due consideration of the wind direction.

A.10.3. JUDGES' REPORT

The Judges' Report must contain the following information and may be obtained from the KUSA website:

A.10.3.1. Name of host club.

A.10.3.2. Date of Test and type of Test(s).

A.10.3.3. Venue and address.

A.10.3.4. Names of Judges, Test Director and Learner Judge.

A.10.3.5. Number of dogs entered.

A.10.3.6. Number of dogs participating.

A.10.3.7. A table or list of Prizes and/or Points awarded to each dog in the Test.

A.10.3.8. Comments as desired on the overall standard of the dogs' work.

A.10.3.9. Declaration of confirmation of results signed by all Judges and the Test Director at that Test.

A.11. MANAGEMENT OF A VERSATILE TEST

A.11.1. MANAGEMENT ENTRUSTED TO THE CLUB

The management of a Versatile Test shall be entrusted to the club holding the Test.

A.11.2. PROCEDURE IN THE CASE OF PROCEDURAL IRREGULARITY

An alleged procedural irregularity may be raised only by a handler participating in the Test. Such allegation must be raised with the Test Director.

A.11.2.1. The Test Director in turn shall notify the Club Secretary/Committee and the Judges of the alleged irregularity.

A.11.2.2. The allegation shall be decided within thirty minutes from the time it was lodged, by a majority of the committee members present.

A.11.3. GAME USED IN THE TESTS

A.11.3.1. Cold Game

Only cold game (previously shot or frozen and thawed out) is used in these tests. The game should be as fresh as possible and must be fully thawed if previously frozen.

Clubs must ensure that the game used is in a good condition and if used more than once, should preferably be used for the same dog.

A.11.3.2. Keeping and Transport of Cold Game

All cold (dead) game to be used during the Test must be transported and stored so that it cannot be contaminated by the smell of a different species.

Guide to A.11.3.8.

Separate containers or crates should be used to ensure that the game contained therein is not contaminated in terms of the above condition.

A.11.4. TEST DIRECTOR - ELECTION/DUTIES

The club holding the Test shall elect a Test Director, who shall be a member in good standing of the Kennel Union, and who shall be responsible for:

A.11.4.1. The execution and running of the Test.

A.11.4.2. Assisting the committee of the club holding the Test to select appropriate grounds and water for the various Test exercises.

A.11.4.3. Ensuring the humane treatment and culling of captive game.

A.11.4.4. The Test Director should be experienced in the handling of dogs in the Tests and should preferably be a Judge. As a minimum, a person must be at least an official Learner Judge, and must have assisted as a Test Director in at least two (2) of the following: SA-AZP or higher Test.

A.11.4.5. A Test Director may also act as a Judge in any Test he is directing, provided he is on the Panel of Judges for Hunt Tests.

A.11.5. REQUIREMENTS FOR A VERSATILE TEST

A.11.5.1. All Judges, Test Directors and designated guns at a Test must be competent with a shotgun and preferably possess at least a firearms (shotgun) competency certificate.

A.11.5.2. The maximum number of dogs to be tested in each of the Tests is limited by the time required to complete the Test.

Test groups may be organized in order to accommodate more entries, but each group must fulfil all of the requirements in these regulations for a complete Judging panel, including the number of Judges and a designated Senior Judge.

A Test group may be organized to Test each dog fully through all of the exercises in a Test or may be divided into a field or water group (if applicable). If the Test is divided into field and water, then the Judges in the field group shall assess the categories of Nose and Obedience under consideration of the water work Judge's evaluation.

A.11.5.2.1. In a SA-Derby Test, the maximum number of dogs tested in any one Test group shall be six (6).

A.11.5.2.2. In a SA-Novice Test, the maximum number of dogs tested in any one Test group shall be five (5).

A.11.5.2.3. In a SA-AZP Older Dog Test, the maximum number of dogs tested in any one Test group shall be five (5).

A.11.5.3. The club holding the Test must ensure that there is a handler with an experienced pick-up dog at each Test.

A.12. MISCELLANEOUS GENERAL PROVISIONS

A.12.1. RECORD OF ENTRIES

The Secretary of the club holding a Versatile Test shall preserve all entry forms and all individual Test Score Sheets for twelve months after the meeting and produce any of them to any official body inquiring into an objection or dispute.

A.12.2. HANDLING OF DOGS

A.12.2.1. Deputy Handling a Dog:

If a deputy handles a dog, the owner may not take part in the working of the dog.

A.12.2.2. Professional Handling

There is no objection to professional handling of dogs in a Test.

A.12.2.3. Maximum Number of Dogs:

No handler may handle more than two dogs in a single Test day.

A.12.2.4. Running under a Judge who is related:

There is no objection to the immediate family of a Judge running in a Test judged by him.

A Judge may not judge a dog owned by him currently or within a six (6) months period prior to the Test.

A Judge may not judge a dog trained by him.

A.12.2.5. Switching of Handlers during a Test:

Once a Test has begun, a handler of a dog may NOT be switched except under valid, exceptional circumstances. The Test Director and Judges will review the circumstances and make a final decision.

A.12.3. DOGS UNDER JUDGEMENT

The control of all matters connected with dogs under judgement shall rest with the Judges of the Test, but they may call the Test Director to their assistance if they think fit.

The Judges are empowered to disqualify from any Test any dog whose handler does not obey them or wilfully interferes with another competitor or with his own dog.

Those dogs that are not working under judgment must be leashed. Dogs that whine or are otherwise noisy must be taken out of earshot of the working dog.

A.12.4. REMOVAL FROM TEST FOR VARIOUS CAUSES

Should the members of the committee of the club, after consultation with the Judges or Veterinary Surgeon, consider a dog unfit to compete by reason of sexual causes or of any contagious disease or from an attack of hysteria occurring at the venue, or any cause which interferes with the safety, or performance of the other dogs, such dogs must be removed immediately from the venue and from the Test. Any such case is liable to be reported to the KUSA and to be dealt with under KUSA Schedule 1.

If a dog competes which has been exposed to the risk of any contagious or infectious disease during the period of six weeks prior to the Test and/or if any dog shall be proven to be suffering at a Test from any contagious disease, including contagious results of inoculations against distemper, the owner thereof shall be liable to be dealt with under KUSA Schedule 1.

A.12.5. UNPUNCTUALITY

It is the handler's responsibility to arrive promptly with their dog when called to the test subject.

A dog which is not present within 15 minutes when required by a Judge may be disqualified by the Judges. Judges are empowered to eliminate a dog for repeated offences of unpunctuality during a Test.

A.12.6. WITHDRAWAL OF DOG

No dog that is withdrawn, once under judgement, for reason of inability or incapacity (e.g. through injury or illness) may be permitted to continue competing in that Test.

A.12.7. WEATHER AND/OR VENUE CONDITIONS

If the club considers the weather and/or venue unfit for the holding of a Test, the Test may be held at a different venue or postponed from day to day until the end of the week, when the Tests that are not completed may be abandoned and the entry fees refunded, or a fresh draw may be made and a fresh date fixed for the abandoned Tests.

A.12.8. IMPUGNING DECISIONS

Anyone on the venue at a Test openly impugning the decision of a Judge or Judges shall render himself liable to be reported to KUSA under the provisions of KUSA Schedule 1, unless he is availing himself of Section A.10.3, herein.

A.12.9. COLLARS/LEADS

All dogs must be kept on a lead and under control when not working. Dogs may not wear any form of collar that resembles training devices such as prong, pinch or electric collar facsimiles.

A.12.10. GUNS USED BY JUDGES AND HANDLERS

Only the Judges, Test Director or a designated gunner, may use a gun with live ammunition at a Test.

Only break open type shotguns may be used during the Tests. The shotguns must be 12 or 20 gauge.

A.12.11. TRAINING ON THE VENUE

There shall be no practising or training on any part of the Test venue, from the start of the test until the conclusion, except in those areas designated by the Test Director.

A.12.12. CLOTHING WORN AT A TEST

It is preferable that Judges, handlers, Test Directors, Guns and other officials shall wear neutral coloured clothing of the type which would be worn on a natural shoot, such as khaki. If spectators are not in neutral coloured clothing, they should stay out of sight of the working dog(s).

A.12.13. CONTINGENCIES

Any event not provided for in these Rules and Regulations shall be decided by committee members of the club present but not competing in the Trial, assisted by the Judges and Test Director, and their decision shall be final.

B. REGULATIONS FOR THE JUDGING OF VERSATILE TESTS

B.1. PREAMBLE

This document takes the form of regulations which are the rules which bind Judges in the manner in which they judge Versatile Tests. Such regulations always fall under the heading "RULE". Paragraphs appearing under the heading "*GUIDES*" are NOT rules, but merely assist Judges to interpret the "RULE".

These regulations also contain "Must" and "Should" requirements. The must requirements, including those in their negative form – e.g. "must not" - must be adhered to unconditionally and in all detail during test procedures and with regard to all other provisions of the test regulations as well.

A dog that does not meet a "must" requirement has to be scored "not sufficient" (0 points) in the respective subject, unless otherwise indicated. The non-compliance with a "should" requirement in the dog's work results in the appropriate lowering of the evaluation.

B.2. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this document are:

- To promote a greater understanding of the facets that go to make up a Versatile Test.
- To achieve greater conformity in the running of Versatile Tests.
- To achieve greater conformity in the judging of the performance of the Versatile breeds at Tests.

The standardisation of objectives is therefore essential and all Judges, guns, handlers and Test officials who play a part in conducting a Test should be familiar with, and be governed where possible by, the following standards:

B.3. PURPOSE OF A VERSATILE TEST

The purpose of the Versatile Tests is two-fold.

In the first instance of young dogs, they seek to determine natural abilities and performance as they pertain to the young dog's aptitudes and suitability for future use in versatile hunting, and to a lesser degree to assess the genetic value of the parents and the individual as breeding dogs.

For mature dogs, the upper level hunt tests serve as performance tests, in which the genuine utility of a fully trained versatile dog is exhibited and assessed. They also function to provide a framework within which handlers can train and gauge their success in producing a truly versatile and useful hunting companion that is capable in all phases of hunting utility.

B.4. FUNCTION OF A VERSATILE HUNTING DOG

The hallmark of the versatile hunting dog is the ability to adapt to the wide variety of circumstances potentially presented while hunting. This encompasses work both before and after the shot. Searching, finding and pointing game in open or dense cover, retrieving shot game from land or water, particularly wounded running birds and game, forest work and blood tracking are all expected as parts of the versatile hunting dog's function. The natural abilities and stability of temperament expected of the versatile breeds, combined with proper training and exposure, produce a truly versatile dog that assists the hunter and adds value to the hunting experience, whether it be for birds, smaller or larger game.

The versatile hunting dog should be capable of doing any and all of these tasks during a day's hunt. Ethically, the recovery of wounded game is particularly important, and the versatile hunting dog should be highly capable of after the shot work.

B.5. JUDGES' RESPONSIBILITIES

B.5.1. PRE-TEST RESPONSIBILITIES

B.5.1.1. RULE 1 - INSPECTION OF TEST VENUE

To ensure the responsible and diligent conduct of the Test, test venues shall have a sufficient presence of feathered game to conduct a fair and timely test of all the participants. Suitable and sufficient water must also be available for tests that have water test exercises.

The Senior Judge should inspect, or at least be familiar with, the Test venue. He will rely on and be guided by the Test Director in establishing the optimal areas for each of the test subjects.

B.5.1.2. RULE 2 - JUDGES' MEETING

At the beginning of each Test, a comprehensive Judges' meeting must be conducted. The purpose is to harmonize the standards of expectation of the dogs' performances in the test by which the judges evaluate the dogs.

The result of the Judges' meeting should be relayed to the handlers by the Senior Judge, in order that handlers also understand the expectations.

B.5.2. RESPONSIBILITIES WHILE TESTS ARE IN PROGRESS

B.5.2.1. RULE 3 – JUDGING PROTOCOL

The Senior Judge is responsible for his judging group and sees to it that the rules of the Test regulations are followed precisely and interpreted sensibly. The Senior Judge is the sole spokesman of the judging group, unless he has otherwise delegated the responsibility to another Judge.

After each completed phase of the test, and after the judging group has come to a mutual conclusion about the performance of the dog, the Senior Judge, or a Judge appointed by him from the Judges' group shall give an evaluation of the dog's work to the handler and the audience (open judging). Open Judging is a hallmark of the versatile testing system.

B.5.2.2. RULE 4 - POSITIONING OF THE JUDGES

The Senior Judge shall give consideration to the placing of Judges during the testing, ensuring that all necessary aspects of the dog's work may be evaluated fully.

B.5.2.3. RULE 5 - INSTRUCTIONS TO THE HANDLERS

Each handler, as he comes to the line, must be given the position he is required to take, the nature of the test, and any special instructions about the desired method of completing it.

Guide to Rule 5

In order that all handlers receive the same instructions, it is recommended that, wherever possible, all handlers are summoned together, before the test exercise is started, and these instructions be given to the handlers, as a group, and be repeated if requested by any handler when called into line. It would be helpful to handlers and spectators if the Senior Judge explained to them the type of work which is required in the test subjects and the dog's attributes which the exercise is designed to test.

B.5.2.4. RULE 6 – CONCLUDING JUDGES' MEETING

After the testing of all the dogs has been completed, a concluding Judges' Meeting should be held to come to a final determination of the grades for all dogs in their respective groups, and to coordinate separate judging groups' scores. A change in score for a dog is not permitted except for cases in which the judgment needs to be coordinated with the evaluations of other judging groups. If the predicate "Excellent" (**4h**) was awarded to any dog or dogs, the Senior Judge of the awarding judging group must state the reasons for the predicate in writing on the test sheet.

B.5.2.5. RULE 7 – KEEPING OF DETAILED SCORES AND NOTES: TEST SCORE SHEETS

The Judges shall note their observations on each dog's performances during the various phases of the test, and they must enter a final score in words and in performance scores on their judging sheets.

The Test Director shall enter the scores on each dog's individual Test Score Sheet.

The Scoring System:

Very good	=	4
Good	=	3
Satisfactory	=	2
Poor	=	1
Insufficient	=	0

In cases of EXCEPTIONAL or OUTSTANDING performance, the predicate "Excellent", **4h**, may be awarded. This will call attention to especially strong performances in specific categories of field and water work. The awarding of a **4h** must be briefly explained during the prize distribution and in the Judges' Report.

A 4h may only be awarded in the categories of Nose, Search, Pointing, and Water Search.

In the event of a test subject not being able to be fully assessed (for instance in the case of a dog not being able to produce game and be evaluated for pointing, the dog will be scored "not tested" – NT).

Gun shy, severely gun sensitive and hand shy dogs may not pass a test. Gun sensitive dogs must be evaluated with special concern. Unequivocal gun sensitivity must be noted as it is a defect that should prohibit breeding, and it must be noted on the Test Score Sheet.

Additional temperamental or behavioural defects (shyness, fear of live game, or aggression that potentially puts other dogs or people at risk) should be noted on the Test Score sheet as they are also serious defects.

Any dog which is ill or has been injured seriously enough to warrant veterinary attention may be removed from testing, with an explanation given on the score sheet.

B.5.2.6. RULE 8 – PRIZE ASSIGNMENT/CLASSIFICATION

The Judges will distribute the prizes in accordance with the 5C(6) Test regulations, and each dog that passes the test and receives a Prize will receive a Prize Certificate and a copy of the Test Score Sheet.

Organising clubs are entitled to award material, monetary and honorary trophies.

Prize Categories that may be assigned are: Prize 1, Prize 2 or Prize 3, depending on the dog's scores for that particular Test.

Dogs that did not pass or receive prizes will receive the remark "Not Passed" along with the reason for failing on the Test Score Sheets. Withdrawal of a dog during the test, except for injury, is not permitted, and will result in a "not passed".

B.6. EVALUATION OF THE DOGS' PERFORMANCE

B.6.1. JUDGING

Judging is not a precise science and requires experience and understanding of the purpose of the tests, the requirements therein, the training for them, and lastly, the most important aspects that impact the functionality of the versatile hunting dog.

Particular attention should be paid to the purpose of each Test, the utility of the dog as it pertains to each Test, and the importance of advancing proper performance, strong nerves and mental stability of the dog.

B.6.1.1. The Expected Performance in Each Test

The Judges are bound by the Test regulations and must be fully familiar with them.

It is required that a Judge has clearly in mind what type of performance he expects for each test, test subject or exercise. The scores which dogs receive will reflect how closely they have attained or fallen short of the expected performance for each individual test.

With the aim of obtaining greater uniformity in judging, it is important that the common areas of evaluation in the tests be covered before the individual tests are discussed.

B.6.1.2. Common Areas of Evaluation

The areas of evaluation discussed herein are common to all Versatile Tests and are discussed as a group. More pertinent information and guidelines will be given under each individual Test section, however, many of the basic evaluation principles are similar.

B.6.1.2.1. Nose

More than any other factor, the quality of a dog's nose, together with the ability of the dog to use it effectively, determines its usefulness as a versatile hunting dog. Look for:

- Quick, precise and confident locating of game, both before and after the shot
- Correct judgement of the position of pinned game (critical distance)
- Confident and quick marking of old game or bird scent
- Good ability to follow the track of game, if observed

The quality of a dog's nose is of prime importance to its usefulness, however, quality alone is not enough – the dog must be able to apply it in combination with other innate traits (intelligence, pointing, "bird sense", drive, etc.) in order to achieve maximum effectiveness. The dog must also have sufficient experience in order to learn to use its nose to good effect.

The judgment of the quality of nose is the most important and at the same time the most difficult part of the field test. Evaluating the use of nose can be difficult due to the many unseen environmental and climatic factors existing at any given moment. Nose should be evaluated carefully by observation throughout the entire test, using direct and indirect means.

Dogs with a fine nose tend to exhibit a markedly nose-dominated manner of work. These dogs "lean" with their noses into the wind, briefly mark game and game bird scents, may chew the scent during pointing, find quickly and confidently, and stay in scent-contact with moving game by drawing in on body or residual scent of running birds. A more horizontal than vertical head position may be used to indicate nose quality.

A dog that finds game rapidly and repeatedly, under various conditions, is showing a good use of nose. Conversely, a dog that must search for a long time to find game where game is present is showing a poor use of nose. The correct judgement of the location of pinned game indicates a very good use of nose, as does an ability to effectively follow the foot scent of running birds.

Short checks of scent spots where game has been without pointing indicates a good use of nose, as does the ability to discriminate between scents. Consistent "non-productive" points, i.e., assuming the pointing stance without producing game may be an indication that the dog may have only a fair nose (or it may be an indication of unsure pointing).

A dog will sometimes scent game at a great distance and while checking the scent, will "draw" in on the game as if being pulled to the spot by an invisible string attached to the nose. The relative distance from the point the scent is first detected, to the point where the game is found, can provide some measure of the quality of nose. However, one must determine if the dog was following body scent carried by air currents, as opposed to ground scent left by tracks and contact with low vegetation.

The manner and course of a natural track can also demonstrate the quality of a dog's nose; when a dog crosses a fresh track and immediately acknowledges the scent and correct direction, it is showing a good use of nose.

Weather, the condition of ground and cover, the kind of game, even air pollution near industrial areas, are all factors to be considered while judging a dog. These elements have an important influence on a dog's scenting ability.

The pointing instinct should not be equated with the quality of the nose. An intense point is not a manifestation of nose.

B.6.1.2.2. Search

From start to finish, the search should indicate but one purpose – to produce game for the gun. Therefore, the manner of the search should be determined by the use of the nose and the will to find game. Look for:

- A purposeful search displaying good drive and the will to find game;
- Brisk, roomy, persistent and methodical or systematic questing carried out primarily at the gallop;
- Adaptation to terrain, covering plenty of ground in open country with ability to hunt closer and thoroughly in thicker cover;
- Intelligent and good use of wind or lack thereof;
- Hunts "for the gun" ie, in Co-operation with handler.

Throughout the search, the dog should display eagerness, interest and stamina. An efficient search should leave the impression that in the terrain to be covered by the search, no game has been missed and no time has been wasted. The dog that must be pushed to cover the ground or to continue its search raises serious doubts about desire and basic stamina and must be faulted.

Apparent use of the eyes, rather than the nose to search for game is a serious fault; however, use of the eyes to maintain cooperative contact with the handler is a natural result of the dog's desire to please.

The dog should conduct its search at a functional distance from the gun, depending on the given conditions. Terrain, cover and other variables make it impossible to measure practical range in distances. Rather, it must be measured in terms of covering the maximum amount of likely cover without a loss of control or sacrificing the Co-operation that must exist between the hunter and the dog. Suffice it to say that the uncontrolled dog running the far horizons is of little use to the on-foot hunter, as is the one that remains so close to the gun that it constitutes an underfoot nuisance.

The dog's search must take advantage of the air currents and should display an intelligent and good use of wind. Correct turning into the wind and proper adaptation to the terrain and cover conditions are important in determining a good search.

The general pattern of the search should be in a forward direction; however, back casting should not be faulted unless done too often. No time should be wasted in searching obviously barren ground or by returning to cover that has already been thoroughly searched.

B.6.1.2.3. Pointing

The ability to point and present game to the gun must be clearly evident in the dog. Look for:

- Confident and staunch pointing of game until handler arrives and flushes bird, or until bird flushes or breaks out of cover by itself, or the dog is commanded to flush;
- Correct judgment of location of pinned game;
- Confident scent following of moving or relocating game, if observed;
- Pointing that is unmistakable as such and exhibits intensity.

The pointing stance should be intense, convincing, and unmistakable as a point, and in the end, the point must be productive, and game should be proved. Only pointing of actual game is rated as pointing. Higher points should not be awarded for a certain style of pointing.

The dog must demonstrate the ability to point scent as opposed to merely pointing on sight. The pointing instinct must not be equated with the quality of the nose.

The dog should be able to correctly judge the location of tightly sitting game. A more mature or experienced dog will point and hold the game without flushing it. A dog should be rewarded for relocation on a moving bird or covey, particularly when it is able to keep in scent contact with the moving game for long distances without causing it to flush. Successful "heading" (breaking off point to head off a running bird or covey) of running birds is to be highly regarded.

"Blinking", i.e., deliberately avoiding birds or pointing and then leaving the game for any reason (except in the case of a dog recasting to "head" the game), is to be severe fault. In cases without doubt that the dog purposefully avoids game, the dog must be excluded from passing the test. Repeated, convincing points without actual game is a sign of unsure pointing and must be rated accordingly.

B.6.1.2.4. Desire to Work

Desire to work is exhibited by the enthusiasm and untiring eagerness with which the dog performs the various tasks. It is determined and scored by close observation throughout the whole test. The desire to work is the hallmark of a good versatile hunting dog, and this desire is expressed in every phase of work on land and water, from beginning to end. Look for:

- The dog demonstrates that it wants to find game, both before and after the shot, and that it is willing to work hard to that end

Desire, or lack thereof, provides a clear index of the dog's character and usefulness. A dog with proper desire will manifest it as an attitude, a force, a compulsion as it were, and the dog's work will reflect determination and a strong sense of purpose.

Aimless running must not be confused with desire, nor should speed alone be equated with desire. Dogs that go to heel after running for a short time and have to be coaxed repeatedly to continue their work must be scored very low.

B.6.1.2.5. Co-operation

Co-operation can be defined as an inherent willingness on the part of the dog to apply its own initiative and special talents while working with the handler in pursuit of a common goal. Look for:

- The desire of the dog to stay in contact with handler and be directed, for the purpose of bringing game to the bag, in all phases of its work.

Co-operation is an innate predisposition producing useful teamwork between the handler and the dog in all phases of hunting. The manner of Co-operation is evident in the willingness of the dog to readily stay in contact with the handler and be manageable and how it is willing to be of service to the handler.

An older dog with more field experience on game should generally display a higher degree of Co-operation than a young dog. A co-operative young dog will nonetheless maintain contact with his handler. For example, when a young dog chases a bird and then returns of his own volition, he demonstrates Co-operation.

B.6.1.2.6. Obedience

Obedience differs from Co-operation in that it requires a form of direct submission, resulting from upbringing or training. The handler demands it from the dog in a one-way communication. Look for:

- The dog shows it can be handled while working, and by the fact that it obeys when it perceives a command (whistle and/or voice) by its handler.

Obedience without game contact is exhibited by the manageability of the working dog and by the obedience to follow the handler's command willingly and immediately (voice, whistle, or gestures) once it has noticed and understood it. It also shows in the dog's restraint during other dog's work, thereby showing that he will not disturb his handler or other fellow hunters during a hunt.

Obedience in the presence of game is only required to the degree that the dog does not chase flushed birds. Dogs in the youth tests are, however, not assessed for obedience in the presence of game. Repeated, long lasting hare chasing is judged as a fault, because it withdraws the dog from testing in the main field subjects on feathered game. If this happens repeatedly, the dog may be eliminated from the test. Dogs that constantly evade their handlers' control, make their own test completion impossible, and thereby potentially disturb the execution of the entire test, cannot pass the test and are excluded from further testing.

Obedience is the expression of efficient and thorough training. It is a prerequisite for any kind of utilization for hunting. The testing of obedience thus is of utmost importance.

B.6.1.2.7. Testing of Gun Sensitivity

Gun sensitivity is tested in all of the Versatile Tests. The following categories are used when evaluating gun sensitivity (specific conditions for water work in the SA-Solms and SA-AZP are discussed under those tests):

a) Gunfire Stable
b) Slightly Gun Sensitive
c) Gun Sensitive
d) Severely Gun Sensitive
e) Gun Shy

a) Gunfire Stable: The dog is gunfire stable when it demonstrates no negative reaction (intimidation/fearfulness) to the shot and continues the search or retrieve with no hesitation.

b) Slightly Gun Sensitive: The dog is considered slightly gun sensitive when it demonstrates not more than a barely perceptible reaction without allowing it to affect the continuation of its work.

c) Gun Sensitive: The dog is gun sensitive when it is visibly fearful and returns to or looks to its handler for comfort, or when it refuses to continue to work after the shot but resumes work within one minute. The shot clearly has an observable negative impact on the range and speed of the dog's search or the retrieve.

d) Severely Gun Sensitive: The dog is severely gun sensitive when it is visibly fearful after the shot and returns to its handler for protection, or when it refuses to continue to work, but then resumes the work (search or retrieve) after more than one minute. The shot clearly has a negative impact on range and speed of the search or the retrieve.

e) Gun Shy: The dog is gun shy when it bolts or runs away instead of seeking the handler, and thus removes itself from the handler's control and its work (search or retrieve).

Severely gun sensitive and gun shy dogs cannot pass the test. However, they should continue to be tested in the remainder of the test subjects (an exception to this is the Gunfire Tolerance test in water of the SA-Solms and SA-AZP - B.7.3.4.1. E).

If the mere carrying of a gun causes the dog to not leave the handler's side or to not go far enough away (shotgun range) to hunt or retrieve, the dog is considered "not fully tested (nt)" and cannot pass the test. If a dog refuses to continue work after the first shot has been fired, but shows no signs of fear, the dog cannot pass the test and must also be considered "not tested (nt)". If there is any doubt in these cases, Judges may repeat the test, but must wait a minimum of 30 minutes before attempting gunfire again.

B.7. THE VERSATILE TESTS

B.7.1 THE SA-DERBY TEST (SA-D)

B.7.1.1. Purpose of the Test

The purpose of the SA-Derby Test is to provide a means of assessing the puppy's natural inclinations in the most important field categories that are required for the dog to be successful in its role as a versatile gundog. These inherited natural abilities also yield insight into the breeding success of the parents.

The main of emphasis of the SA-Derby is the determination of nose quality, manner of search, desire to work and the finding and pointing ability of the dog. Co-operation is usually shown and can be determined by the manner of the search and the contact with the handler. Assessing the dog's mental stability and temperament is also important.

This test serves its purpose best when on the one hand the training and preparation of the young dog is sufficiently advanced that its natural abilities have been developed and can be evaluated, but on the other hand, the handler's influence does not overly cover or mask the young dog's natural ability.

Club and Judges should ensure that high, but reasonable standards for the puppy's work are required in order to maintain the significance of the prizes awarded.

B.7.1.2. Eligibility

Dogs are eligible for the SA-Derby Test from six (6) months of age up until and including the day they reach sixteen (16) months of age.

B.7.1.3. Overview

The natural, inherited abilities of a hunting dog usually manifest themselves at an early age, and it is desirable to take advantage of this fact by testing dogs while they are still young. By so doing, the owner or trainer gets an impartial evaluation of the dog's strengths and weaknesses and thus is better able to plan a future training program for the animal. Conscientious breeders will use the results of natural ability tests in order to help guide further breeding plans.

Required for the SA-Derby Test are large fields containing a sufficient number of gamebirds.

B.7.1.4. Test Subjects and Requirements

Dogs must be tested individually and thoroughly in all categories. Each dog should be given ample opportunity to prove itself. The Judge's Report must contain all relevant details.

After testing, Judges may choose to hunt dogs selected in pairs and run in braces. This will usually be done if judges are deciding to award a 4h (excellent) and there are two dogs of near equal ability.

The subjects to be tested and scored are:

Nose
Search
Pointing
Co-operation

Assessed during the Test are:

* Reaction to Gunfire - Gun Sensitivity
* Obedience
* Desire to Work
* Temperament
* Physical Attributes
* Manner of Hunting if observed (Gives tongue on track, gives tongue on sight, silent, or questionable)

B.7.1.4.1. Field Work

Each dog must be hunted for a minimum of twenty (20) minutes. This time is preferably separated into two rounds in order to test the dog in variable conditions and to maximise the field time for all the dogs. Any dog under judgement may be hunted and observed an additional amount of time as determined by the Judges in order to come to conclusion about the attributes judged during this section of the test. If at all possible, dogs should be given at least one opportunity to hunt into the wind on relatively open ground with no more than moderate cover.

The main emphasis is on the determination of nose quality, sure and fast finding of game, as well as a fluid, persistent and methodical search.

A. NOSE/USE OF NOSE

The judgment of the quality of nose is the most important and at the same time the most difficult part of the field test. Evaluating the use of nose can be difficult due to the many unseen environmental and climatic factors existing at any given moment. Nose should be evaluated carefully. The nose is evaluated during the search by how frequently and rapidly the dog finds game or acknowledges scent and by the manner in which the nose is used during the search. Dogs that briefly acknowledge old scent or non-game scent should be given credit, while dogs that work unproductively should be rated accordingly.

Dogs with a fine nose tend to exhibit a markedly nose-dominated manner of work. These dogs "lean" with their noses into the wind, briefly mark game and game bird scents, may "chew" the scent during pointing, find quickly and confidently, and stay in scent-contact with moving game by drawing in on body or residual scent of running birds. A more horizontal than vertical head position may be used to indicate nose quality.

B. SEARCH

The search should be one of good pace, primarily at the gallop, fluid and covering ground easily with determination and purpose. The manner of the search should be determined by the use of nose and willingness to find game.

Intelligent use of wind, terrain, cover and conditions are highly desired, and are as important to success as pace and gait. The more it is adapted to wind direction and terrain, the better. The style of the search yields valuable conclusions as to the character, temperament and inner balance of the dog. It should not be hectic or vision dominated.

❖ *Reaction to Gunfire*

The dog's reaction to shot must be evaluated during the search. At two random points during the dog's search, a Judge will signal a gunner to fire a shotgun in order to watch the dog's reaction to gunfire. The dog will be marked according to his reaction: Gunfire Stable, Gun Sensitive, Slightly Gun Sensitive, Severely Gun Sensitive or Gun Shy, as indicated in B.6.1.3.8. - Testing of Gun Sensitivity.

Leaping in the air to locate the source of the shot or checking with the handler for the same purpose are not judged as faults as long as the dog immediately continues the search.

The dog should also be observed for any other temperamental faults, and such, along with gun shyness or gun sensitivity, must be noted by the Judges on the dog's score sheet.

❖ *Desire to Work and Obedience*

The Desire to Work and Obedience should be assessed during the entire test. The results are not used in the Prize determination but are noted on the Test Score Sheet in the appropriate boxes.

❖ *Work on Hare or Rabbit*

If a dog intentionally, or by chance, shows excellent work in tracking an unseen hare or rabbit, this will be marked by the customary Andreas Star (*). This performance, however, does not influence the general evaluation. All tracking work should be noted.

The handler cannot request work on a rabbit/hare track.

The only criterion judged is the natural ability and confidence to track game. Loud (giving tongue) tracking (Manner of Hunting) or sight-loud is to be noted if it can be definitively determined.

C. POINTING

The natural pointing ability should be evident in the dog. The dog should point tight-sitting, unmoving gamebirds with confidence and intensity. The actual style of pointing is unimportant provided it is expressive, unmistakable as such and is productive. Only positive pointing of actual game is rated as pointing, and it should be by scent location and not by sight. A dog that quickly acknowledges scent, wastes no time in determining the location of the game, and points staunchly is highly valued.

The successful following and pinning of running birds (whether by air or ground scent) is an added difficulty and should be appreciated and judged accordingly, especially in a young dog. Repeated intense pointing without game being present or successfully produced is treated as a fault.

Pointing of furred game may be used for evaluation if there are insufficient game birds.

The chasing of flushed gamebirds or game is <u>not</u> rated as a fault.

The following are considered faults:

1. Blinking game.

2. Repeated false pointing or repeated unsure pointing of old or residual scent that does not produce game.

3. Bumping or overrunning game due to poor scenting ability.

4. Repeated chasing of rabbits or other game that results in the dog being unable to produce pointed game, or, being gone for long periods of time resulting in an inability to arrive at a judgement of the field work.

5. Purposefully and repeatedly flushing or pushing up game due to a lack of training or lack of pointing instinct.

D. CO-OPERATION

Co-operation is demonstrated by the manner in which the dog interacts with its handler. A co-operative dog is willing to be in contact with, and be of service to, the handler. Co-operation comes from the dog and is shown in the dog's willingness to work as a team with the handler.

❖ *Obedience*

The obedience must be determined by careful observation during the entire test. The score will be recorded on the Test report but will not influence the test scores or be taken into account for prize qualification.

1. Obedience differs from cooperation in that it is trained and not natural ability. It is requested from the handler of the dog and requires a form of direct submission. Obedience is demonstrated by the way the dog can be handled and by how it responds to commands from the handler. It also shows in the dog's restraint during other dog's work, thereby showing that he will not disturb his handler or other fellow hunters during a hunt.

2. In the SA-Derby, the dog should respond willingly to the handler's commands or whistle and should return to the handler when called. Obedience in the presence of game is not evaluated.

B.7.1.5. Test Scoring and Prize Assignment

The SA-DERBY TEST (SA-D)

SCORING SYSTEM

Grading system:
Very Good/Excellent = 4 Good = 3 Satisfactory = 2 Poor = 1 Insufficient = 0
Not Tested = NT
~ In certain instances of Outstanding merit (Nose, Search, Pointing) the predicate Excellent = 4h - may be given ~

Test Category (the required minimum scores required for each Prize category are listed below)	**Prize 1**	**Prize 2**	**Prize 3**
Nose	**4**	**3**	**2**
Search	**4**	**3**	**2**
Pointing	**4**	**3**	**2**
Co-operation	**3**	**3**	**2**

Gun sensitivity Test ** *see notes for assessing gunfire stability* **P____ or F ____**

(Prize category awarded: none, 1, 2 or 3) **Prize ____**

OTHER ATTRIBUTES ASSESSED DURING THE TEST:

- **Obedience (very good, good, sufficient, not sufficient)**
- **Desire to Work (very good, good, sufficient, not sufficient)**
- **Gun sensitivity** ***(gunfire stable, slightly gun sensitive, gun sensitive, severely gun sensitive, gun shy)***
- **Temperament assessment**
- **Physical attributes**
- **Rabbit track if observed (Andreas star*, when applicable)**

B.7.2. THE SA-NOVICE TEST (SA-N)

B.7.2.1. Purpose of the Test

The purpose of the SA-Novice Test is to assess basic levels of functional hunting, pointing and retrieving from land and water. The test is suitable for young dogs that have received basic training and experience beyond the level required for the SA-Derby Test, but not yet up to the level of the SA-AZP Older Dog Elite Test. It is also suitable for older dogs and novice handlers as an entry-level test. Natural abilities will be apparent as training is not likely to be complete, however, some training should be in place and be fairly well advanced.

B.7.2.2. Eligibility

Any of the versatile pointing breeds, regardless of age or previous testing, are eligible for entry.

B.7.2.3. Overview

The SA-Novice tests several important areas of functional versatile hunting, pointing and retrieving abilities as well as natural abilities.

Dogs are tested in several phases in order to establish a comprehensive evaluation of performance. There is no set order in which to conduct the test, apart from the field phase, which must be conducted under optimum conditions as determined on the day.

Dogs that pass this test will be useful hunting dogs, though not necessarily polished or finished hunting dogs. As such, this test is also suitable for older dogs that may not have received higher training or specific training for tests, but that have had at least a season or two of hunting experience.

B.7.2.4. Test Subjects and Requirements

Proper execution of the SA-Novice requires large fields or lands, containing a sufficient number of gamebirds (and possibly rabbits), and an area with sufficiently large dams or rivers containing ample reed growth.

Cold game in good condition is required for the test subjects that require a retrieve.

Dogs must be tested individually and thoroughly in all subject categories.

<u>Field Work</u>

a. Nose
b. Search
c. Pointing
d. Gamebird drag (60 – 80 m)

<u>Water Work</u>

e. Marked Retrieve from dense cover
f. Semi-blind

<u>Other Subjects</u>

g. Manner of Retrieving
h. Desire to Work
i. Co-operation
j. Obedience

Assessed during the test are:

* Reaction to Gunfire - Gun Sensitivity
* Temperament
* Physical attributes
* Manner of Hunting if observed (Gives tongue on track, gives tongue on sight, silent, or questionable)

B.7.2.4.1. Field Work

The main emphasis is on the determination of nose quality, sure and fast finding of game, as well as a fluid, persistent and methodical search. In order to fairly judge the dog's inherited talents, the generally advanced maturity and greater experience (compared to the SA-Derby Junior test) must be considered.

Each dog must be hunted for a minimum of twenty (20) minutes. This time is preferably separated into two rounds in order to test the dog in variable conditions and to maximise the field time for all the dogs. Any dog under judgement may be hunted and observed an additional amount of time as determined by the Judges in order to come to conclusion about the attributes judged during this section of the test. If at all possible, dogs should be given at least one opportunity to hunt into the wind on relatively open ground with no more than moderate cover.

A. USE OF NOSE

The judgment of the quality of nose is the most important and at the same time the most difficult part of the field test. Evaluating the use of nose can be difficult due to the many unseen environmental and climatic factors existing at any given moment. Nose should be evaluated carefully. The nose is evaluated during the search by how frequently and rapidly the dog finds game or acknowledges scent and by the manner in which the nose is used during the search. Dogs that briefly acknowledge old scent or non-game scent should be given credit, while dogs that work unproductively should be rated accordingly. Similarly, use of nose can be evaluated in the water work by how the dog searches in the water, how easily he scents game in the water and heavy cover, and his ability to follow the track of a duck in the water.

Dogs with a fine nose tend to exhibit a markedly nose-dominated manner of work. These dogs "lean" with their noses into the wind, briefly mark game and game bird scents, may chew the scent during pointing, find quickly and confidently, and stay in scent-contact with moving game by drawing in on body or residual scent of running birds. A more horizontal than vertical head position may be used to indicate nose quality.

B. SEARCH

The search should be one of good pace, primarily at the gallop, fluid and covering ground easily with determination and purpose. The manner of the search should be determined by the use of the nose and willingness to find game.

Intelligent use of wind, terrain, cover and conditions are highly desired, and are as important to success as pace and gait. The more it is adapted to wind direction and terrain, the better. The style of the search yields valuable conclusions as to the character, temperament and inner balance of the dog. It should not be hectic or vision dominated.

❖ *Reaction to Gunfire*

The dog's reaction to shot must be evaluated during the search. At two random points during the dog's search, a Judge will signal a gunner to fire a shotgun in order to watch the dog's reaction to gunfire. The dog will be marked according to his reaction: Gunfire Stable, Gun Sensitive, Slightly Gun Sensitive, Severely Gun Sensitive or Gun Shy, as indicated in B.6.1.3.8. - Testing of Gun Sensitivity.

Leaping in the air to locate the source of the shot or checking with the handler for the same purpose are not judged as faults as long as the dog immediately continues the search.

The dog should also be observed for any other temperamental faults, and such, along with gun shyness or gun sensitivity, must be noted by the Judges on the dog's score sheet.

❖ *Work on Hare or Rabbit*

If a dog intentionally, or by chance, shows excellent work in tracking an unseen hare or rabbit, this will be marked by the customary Andreas Star (*). This performance, however, does not influence the general evaluation.

All tracking work should be noted. In coming to a final evaluation, the will to track, the ability to hold the track, and the difficulties of the track must be considered more than the length of the track. A tracking performance cannot be scored "very good" if the dog terminates its tracking efforts at the first sign of difficulties (even when working a long track).

The handler cannot request work on a rabbit/hare track.

Loud (giving tongue) tracking or sight-loud (Manner of Hunting) is to be noted if it can be definitively determined.

C. POINTING

The dog should point tight-sitting, unmoving gamebirds with confidence and intensity. The actual style of pointing is unimportant, provided it is expressive, unmistakable as such and is productive. Short marking is not sufficient. Only positive pointing of actual game is rated as pointing, and it should be by scent location and not by sight. A dog that quickly acknowledges scent, wastes no time in determining the location of the game, and points staunchly is highly valued.

The dog should hold point until the handler approaches and is within gun range or until the bird flushes or breaks out of cover on its own. The manner in which a handler chooses to flush the bird may range from commanding the dog to flush to moving in front of the dog and flushing the bird himself.

The successful following and pinning of running birds (whether by air or ground scent) is an added difficulty and should be appreciated and judged accordingly. Repeated intense pointing without game being present or successfully produced is treated as a fault.

Pointing of furred game may be used for evaluation if there are insufficient game birds.

D. RETRIEVE BY DRAG – GAME BIRD (60 – 80M)

The dog is given a feathered game bird drag of a Partridge, guinea fowl, pheasant, or duck.

1. The drag must be laid, by a Judge, downwind in relatively light vegetation and must be at least 60m long but no longer than 80 m. The distance between the individual drags should be at least 80- 100m. At the end, a gamebird is laid openly on the ground (not covered or in a depression). The Judge then continues on an extension of the drag far enough to be able to hide, so the dog cannot see him. The Judge then puts down the game bird that was used for the drag. He may not prevent the dog from retrieving this bird. However, the handler may request that the dragged bird be placed at the end of the drag for the dog to retrieve. If the handler chooses this option, he must inform the Judges prior to the drag work.

2. The dog is not allowed to see the laying of the drag, and dog and handler are directed to go behind some natural cover or a portable blind from where neither can see the drag being laid.

3. The handler may work the dog on a leash for the first five (5) meters (5 steps), then must unleash the dog and remain in place. If the dog returns without finding game and does not independently resume the track of dragged game, the handler may start him on the drag twice more. This includes any kind of influence that the handler may exert over the dog to take up the trail again.

4. Required is willing, quick and independent locating and retrieving of the game bird without further influence by the handler. Should the dog point the game bird initially upon arrival, the handler may give one command to retrieve without penalty.

5. The drag work is not rated as tracking. It is designed to determine the dog's willingness and enthusiasm for finding and retrieving. The dog is judged on his ability to adapt to the task - whether he wants to search and retrieve the game bird at all. The dog should find the game by using its nose and by staying in general connection with the drag trail.

6. The manner of retrieving - how the dog takes up; carries and gives up the bird - is judged under "Manner of Retrieving" and begins when the dog finds the bird.

7. If the dog is interrupted by unusual circumstances in his work on the drag or while retrieving the Judge may grant him a new drag. In this case, the first performance is not rated.

B.7.2.4.2. Water Work

The purpose of water work in this phase of testing is to prepare the dog for its future practical hunting, especially the retrieving of crippled or dead waterfowl that fall into water and/or heavy cover. Water work is a particularly important aspect of the versatile hunting dog's utility, thus it is important to document it as it pertains to individual performance and to breeding programs.

In order to fulfil the purposes of the water work and simultaneously comply with ethical and conservation practices while conducting the test, the regulations for the treatment and use of game (4.8) must be followed.

Compliance with all rules is the responsibility of the organizing club, the Test Director and of all the Judges.

E. WATER SEMI-BLIND – DUCK (30 – 40 M)

This water exercise is a semi-blind (a retrieve that the dog has not seen shot, or fall, but that is partially visible, and a partial clue to the dog is given by the hearing of a shot).

The dog is required to retrieve a shot duck that he has not seen shot or thrown/placed, from water of mostly swimming depth, at a distance of approximately 30 – 40 meters (depending on the local water and cover conditions). This is a test of water affinity as well as retrieving desire and perseverance.

1. This exercise should take place in relatively open water, without heavy cover or obstacles.

2. A duck will be thrown or placed in open water of swimming depth, at a distance of 30 – 40 meters. Depending on the cover or vegetation, and the weather conditions of the day, the positioning of the duck may vary. For instance, if there is some light cover or vegetation in between the shore and position of the duck, the duck may rather be placed at 30 m. In a strong wind that causes waves, the duck should be placed at 30 m in order for some of it to be visible. In ideal conditions, approximately 40 meters will be required.

3. The duck should be visible floating in the water. Mallard crosses, runner ducks, or indigenous species of ducks are ideal. White ducks are not ideal but may be used if necessary. Ducks should not be submerged entirely, as none of the duck will then be visible.

4. None of the preparations shall be seen by the dogs in the test. In this regard, for this exercise it is required that the dogs in the test are kept out of sight of the working area.

5. The dog under judgement shall be called into line and placed in a position where he cannot see the area that he will be sent from, or the position of the duck, or the gunner. Reeds, trees, or other natural land variations may be used to accomplish this. Alternatively, dog and handler may be positioned behind a blind constructed for that purpose.

6. Upon the Judge's order, a gun positioned close to the water's edge will fire once in the direction of the duck. The gunner may be positioned slightly away from the area that the dog is to be sent from if cover and terrain dictate it. No gun, thrower or observers should be positioned across the water in such a way as to draw the dog's attention to the duck or across the water.

7. The designated area from which the dog is to be sent should have relatively easy access to the water's edge. Dog and handler should be positioned approximately 2-3 meters from the water's edge. The handler should remain in this position for the duration of the retrieve and to accept delivery.

8. The Judge will indicate to the handler that he is to proceed to the designated area and send his dog to retrieve the duck. The handler may point the duck out to the dog prior to sending him to retrieve. The dog must enter water readily on command and swim directly to collect the duck.

9. The dog must enter the water within 1 minute of being sent. Failure to do so will result in failure of the test and a score of Insufficient. The dog is allowed a total of 5 minutes to complete the retrieve. Failure to do so will result in failure of the test and a score of Insufficient.

10. Handlers may not throw any objects to entice the dog into the water. Throwing objects will result in a failing score for the test.

11. Once the dog has found the duck and can retrieve it, it should do so without further command. A dog that fails to retrieve the duck immediately after finding it for the first time may only receive at most a score of Satisfactory (2) for the test, but only if the dog retrieves it immediately on one command from the handler. Further commands to collect the duck will result in a score of insufficient/failing.

12. The manner of retrieving - how the dog takes up; carries and gives up the bird - is judged under "Manner of Retrieving", below, and begins when the dog finds the game.

F. MARKED RETRIEVE FROM DEEP COVER

In this exercise the dog is required to retrieve a duck from across water, approximately 30-40 meters, from heavy reeds or cover in water. It is a marked retrieve, with a shot. It is a test of both water affinity and retrieving perseverance and is intended to help prepare the dog practically for water work, as well as for further water training and testing.

A shot duck will be thrown into heavy cover or reeds. Just before the duck is thrown, a gun will fire a shot. The dog is required to mark the duck, enter the water readily and swim to the area of the fall, and search for the duck until it is found.

1. This exercise must take place in water of mostly swimming depth, with cover or at least heavy cover in places.

2. A duck will be thrown deep into heavy cover or reeds, at a distance of 30 – 40 meters from the position of the dog and handler. The dog must be able to see the throw of the duck, and to be able to mark approximately where it lands

3. The duck should be not visible floating in the water or cover. Mallard crosses, runner ducks, or indigenous species of ducks are ideal. White ducks are not ideal but may be used if necessary.

4. A thrower will be positioned in such a way to allow the duck to be thrown into the far cover. The gun will be positioned either on the near or far shore, depending on the circumstances of the water and cover being used. The exercise should be set up to be as realistic as possible.

5. The dog under judgement shall be called into line and placed in the position from where he will be sent to retrieve. This position should be approximately 3 to 4 meters from the water's edge and should have relatively easy access to the water's edge. Both the dog and the handler must be able to see the throw and fall of the duck.

6. Upon the Judge's order, the gun positioned close to the water's edge will fire once in the direction of the duck and thrower. This will be the cue for the thrower to launch the duck.

7. Once the bird has landed in the water, the Judge will indicate to the handler that he may send his dog. The handler should ideally remain in his position for the duration of the retrieve and to accept delivery.

8. The dog should enter water readily on command and swim directly to collect the duck. The dog shall search for the duck independently and must find the duck and retrieve it to the handler. The handler may support and guide his/her dog, but constant influencing lessens the score.

9. The dog must enter the water within 1 minute after being sent.

10. Once the dog has found the duck and can retrieve it, it must do so without further command. A dog that fails to retrieve the duck immediately after finding it for the first time may only receive at most a score of Satisfactory (2) for the test.

11. The Judges may terminate the dog's work if they are satisfied that the dog does fulfil the requirements, but the duck was unable to be produced for justifiable reasons (the duck sunk or was pushed under water). In this case, a shot duck must be thrown in front of and in sight of the dog about 30 m into open water and the dog must retrieve the duck independently.

12. The manner of retrieving - how the dog takes up, carries, and gives up the bird - is judged under "Manner of Retrieving", below, and begins when the dog finds the bird.

B.6.2.2.6. Other Subjects

G. MANNER OF RETRIEVING

1. A test subject and retrieve will be deemed complete and able to be judged if the game is delivered to within approximately 5 meters of the handler. In the water tests the game must be brought to at least the water's edge, so that the handler does not have to go into the water to pick it up. If game is not brought to within these designated distances, the dog may not receive a passing score for the Manner of Retrieving or the test subject.

2. The Manner of retrieving is judged by the execution of the retrieve, that is, the acquired skill to get hold of, to carry, and deliver the game to hand.

3. The dog exhibits the correct grasping and carrying by adjusting the grip to the centre of gravity, weight and kind of game. Inappropriately strong or weak grip, hold or carrying is faulty. Hardmouth must be noted and must be entered on the score sheet.

4. Delivery to hand is desired. In this test the maximum score of 4 (very good) may be attained only if the dog brings the game to hand. However, a dog may receive a score of 3 (good) if the dog brings the game to within hand's reach (the handler must be able to reach the game without moving from position more than a couple of steps). A passing score may be achieved if the dog brings the game to within a practical distance of the handler. The correct delivery to hand is demonstrated if the dog arrives with the game at the handler, sits or stands and holds the game until the handler has taken hold of it in a calm, never hasty, manner and commands the dog to release with the appropriate command.

5. The handler is allowed to use 3 commands without penalty, subsequent commands thereafter shall incur penalty and result in reduced scores. Quiet encouragement is allowed, however, without penalty. A quiet "sit" and "release" command is allowed without penalty.

6. All three retrieving subjects (gamebird and two ducks) are judged separately. From these primary scores an average score is calculated. If this average is a fraction between two scores, the rounding must be oriented towards the retrieving score for the drag. If the dog fails in one or more individual retrieving subjects and is scored "not sufficient – 0" then the entire manner of retrieve score can only be "not sufficient – 0" . If one or more individual retrieving subjects was noted as "not tested", then the entire manner of retrieve score can only be "not tested".

H. CO-OPERATION

Co-operation is demonstrated by the manner in which the dog interacts with its handler. A co-operative dog is willing to be in contact with, and be of service to, the handler. Co-operation comes from the dog and is shown in the dog's willingness to work as a team with the handler. Co-operation is evaluated during every dog and handler interaction throughout the day.

I. OBEDIENCE

1. Obedience differs from cooperation in that it is trained and not natural ability. It is requested from the handler of the dog and requires a form of direct submission. Obedience is demonstrated by the way the dog can be handled and by how it responds to commands from the handler. It also shows in the dog's restraint during other dog's work, thereby showing that he will not disturb his handler or other fellow hunters during a hunt.

2. Obedience in the presence of game is only required to the degree that the dog does not chase flushed birds for long distances. A short chase that can be controlled is perfectly acceptable. Repeated, long lasting chasing is judged as faulty, because it withdraws the dog from testing in the main field subjects on feathered game. If this happens repeatedly, the dog may receive a failing score in obedience.

3. Obedience is the expression of efficient and thorough training. It is a prerequisite for the versatility of the hunting dog in the field. The testing of obedience thus is of prime importance.

J. DESIRE TO WORK

Desire to work is determined by observing how the dog applies itself to each task during the entire evaluation. Desire to work is not to be confused with running speed, range, or excitement, or simply how active the dog is. The dog's will to complete the task at hand, its enthusiasm, persistence and eagerness are the primary considerations when evaluating overall desire.

B.7.2.5. Test Scoring and Prize Assignment

The SA-NOVICE TEST (SA-N)
Scoring System

Grading system: Very Good = 4 Good = 3 Satisfactory = 2 Poor = 1 Insufficient = 0

Not Tested = NT

~ In certain instances of Outstanding merit (Nose, Search, Pointing) the predicate Excellent = 4h - may be given ~

Test Category (the minimum required scores for each Prize category are listed below)	Prize 1	Prize 2	Prize 3
Field			
Nose	4	3	3
Search	4	3	2
Pointing	4	3	2
Gamebird Drag (60 - 80m)	3	3	2
Water			
Semi-blind (30-40m)	3	3	2
Water Retrieve from Deep Cover (30-40 m)	4	3	2
Manner of Retrieving	3	2	2
(Average of all Retrieves - Feathered Gamebird ____ + Duck ____ + Duck ____ = / 3 = ____			
Judged Throughout			
Desire to Work	4	3	2
Co-operation	3	2	2
Obedience	3	2	1

Gun Sensitivity Pass ___ Fail ____

(Prize category awarded: none, 1, 2 or 3) **Prize _____**

OTHER ATTRIBUTES ASSESSED DURING THE TEST:

- **Gun sensitivity** ***(gunfire stable, slightly gun sensitive, gun sensitive, severely gun sensitive, gun shy)***
- **Temperament assessment**
- **Physical attributes**
- **Rabbit track if observed (Andreas star*, when applicable)**

B.7.3. THE SA-Older Dog Elite Test (SA-AZP)

B.7.3.1. Purpose of the Test

The purpose of the SA-Older Dog Elite Test is to assess the level of the dog's natural abilities with regard to its suitability and future use in versatile hunting and breeding. It is an advanced ability and performance test. During the test, other attributes are observed and recorded, and attention is paid to temperament and mental stability.

B.7.3.2. Eligibility

Dogs are eligible for the SA-Older Dog Elite Test (SA-AZP) from two (2) years of age up until and including the day they turn six (6) years of age.

B.7.3.3. Overview

Dogs are tested in several important subjects in order to establish a comprehensive evaluation of versatile performance. There is no set order in which to conduct the test, apart from the field phase, which should be conducted under optimum conditions as determined on the day.

The dog's training for practical use in hunting in field and water must be essentially completed by the time this test is administered. Natural abilities should be apparent however, these must be accompanied by enough preparation, exposure and training for the dog to be able to demonstrate a practical working performance under judgement. The Judges should be particularly careful to determine natural abilities that may be masked by the completed training.

B.7.3.4. Test Subjects and Requirements

Proper execution of the test requires large fields or lands, containing a sufficient number of gamebirds and rabbits, and an area with sufficiently large dams or rivers (a minimum of ¼ hectare and 6 meters wide) of mostly swimming depth and containing ample reed growth in or around the perimeter to allow ducks to be hidden.

Cold game in good condition is required for the test subjects that require a retrieve.

Dogs must be tested for gun sensitivity in the field and water.

Dogs must be tested individually and thoroughly in all categories. Each dog should be given ample opportunity to prove itself in the field. The Judge's Score Sheet must contain all relevant details.

The following subjects are tested:

<u>Field Work</u>
Nose
Search
Pointing
Gamebird drag (150 m with 2 blunt turns)

<u>Water Work</u>
Gunfire Tolerance
Blind Retrieve in water from dense cover
Water Search for Duck in dense cover

<u>Other Subjects</u>
Hare or Rabbit Drag (350 m with 2 blunt turns)
Manner of Retrieving
- Gamebird (Guinea Fowl-Partridge-Francolin-Duck)
- Duck (3)
- Hare or a rabbit

Desire to Work
Co-operation
Obedience

Assessed during the test are:

* Reaction to Gunfire - Gun Sensitivity in the field
* Temperament
* Physical Attributes
* Manner of Hunting (Gives tongue on track, gives tongue on sight, silent, or questionable)

B.7.3.4.1. Field Work

The main emphasis is on the determination of nose quality, sure and fast finding of game, as well as a fluid, persistent and methodical search. In order to fairly judge the dog's inherited talents, the generally advanced maturity and greater experience (compared to the SA-Derby or Novice Test) must be considered.

Each dog must be hunted for a minimum of twenty-five (25) minutes. This time is preferably separated into two rounds in order to test the dog in variable conditions and to maximise the field time for all the dogs. Any dog under judgement may be hunted and observed an additional amount of time as determined by the Judges in order to come to conclusion about the attributes judged during this section of the test. If at all possible, dogs should be given at least one opportunity to hunt into the wind on relatively open ground with no more than moderate cover.

When evaluating the performance in the categories Nose, Obedience and Co-operation in the case of separate judging groups, the Field Work Judges tip the scales. (Work on the drag may not be included in this evaluation.)

A. NOSE

The judgment of the quality of nose is the most important and at the same time the most difficult part of the field test. Evaluating the use of nose can be difficult due to the many unseen environmental and climatic factors existing at any given moment. Nose should be evaluated carefully. The nose is evaluated during the search by how frequently and rapidly the dog finds game or acknowledges scent and by the manner in which the nose is used during the search. Dogs that briefly acknowledge old scent or non-game scent should be given credit, while dogs that work unproductively should be rated accordingly. Similarly, use of nose can be evaluated in the water work by how the dog searches in the water, how easily he scents game in the water and heavy cover, and his ability to follow the track of a duck in the water.

Dogs with a fine nose tend to exhibit a markedly nose-dominated manner of work. These dogs "lean" with their noses into the wind, briefly mark game and game bird scents, may chew the scent during pointing, find quickly and confidently, and stay in scent-contact with moving game by drawing in on body or residual scent of running birds. A more horizontal than vertical head position may be used to indicate nose quality.

B. SEARCH

The search should be one of good pace, primarily at the gallop, fluid and covering ground easily with determination and purpose. The manner of the search should be determined by the use of the nose and willingness to find game.

Intelligent use of wind, terrain, cover and conditions are highly desired, and are as important to success as pace and gait. The more it is adapted to wind direction and terrain, the better. The style of the search yields valuable conclusions as to the character, temperament and inner balance of the dog. It should not be hectic or vision dominated.

❖ *Reaction to Gunfire*

The dog's reaction to shot must be evaluated during the search. Two (2) shots must be fired during the search when the dog is not in contact with game in order to evaluate gun fire stability, as indicated in B.6.1.3.8. - Testing of Gun Sensitivity. The steadiness to shot is not evaluated.

Leaping in the air to locate the source of the shot or checking with the handler for the same purpose are not judged as faults as long as the dog immediately continues the search.

❖ *Work on Hare or Rabbit*

If a dog intentionally, or by chance, shows excellent work in tracking an unseen hare or rabbit, this will be marked by the customary Andreas Star (*). This performance, however, does not influence the general evaluation.

All tracking work should be noted. In coming to a final evaluation, the will to track, the ability to hold the track, and the difficulties of the track must be considered more than the length of the track. A tracking performance cannot be scored "very good" if the dog terminates its tracking efforts at the first sign of difficulties (even when working a long track).

The handler cannot request work on a rabbit/hare track.

Loud (giving tongue) tracking or sight-loud (Manner of Hunting) is to be noted if it can be definitively determined.

C. POINTING

The dog should point tight-sitting, unmoving gamebirds with confidence and intensity. The actual style of pointing is unimportant, provided it is expressive, unmistakable as such and is productive. Short marking is not sufficient. Only positive pointing of actual game is rated as pointing, and it should be by scent location and not by sight. A dog that quickly acknowledges scent, wastes no time in determining the location of the game, and points staunchly is highly valued.

The dog should hold point until the handler approaches and is within gun range or until the bird flushes or breaks out of cover on its own. The manner in which a handler chooses to flush the bird may range from commanding the dog to flush to moving in front of the dog and flushing the bird himself.

The successful following and pinning of running birds (whether by air or ground scent) is an added difficulty and should be appreciated and judged accordingly. Repeated intense pointing without game being present or successfully produced is treated as a fault.

Pointing of furred game may be used for evaluation if there are insufficient game birds.

D. GAMEBIRD DRAG

The dog is given a feathered game bird drag of a Partridge, guinea fowl, pheasant, or duck. The drag must be laid, by a Judge, downwind in vegetation with 2 blunt angles and must be 150m long. The distance between the individual drags should be at least 100m. At the end, a gamebird is laid openly on the ground (not covered or in a depression). The Judge then continues on an extension of the drag far enough to be able to hide, so the dog cannot see him. The Judge then puts down the game bird that was used for the drag. He may not prevent the dog from retrieving this bird.

1. The handler may request that the dragged bird be placed at the end of the drag for the dog to retrieve. If the handler chooses this option, he must inform the Judges prior to the drag work.

2. The dog must not see the laying of the drag, and dog and handler are directed to go behind some natural cover or a portable blind from where neither can see the drag being laid.

3. The handler may work the dog on a leash for the first 20m, then he has to unleash the dog and remain in place. If the dog returns without finding game and does not independently resume the track of dragged game, the handler may start him on the drag twice more. This includes any kind of influence that the handler may exert over the dog to take up the trail again.

4. Required is willing, quick and independent locating and retrieving of the game bird without further influence by the handler. The drag work is not rated as tracking. It is designed to determine the dog's willingness and enthusiasm for finding and retrieving. The dog is judged on his ability to adapt to the task - whether he wants to search and retrieve the game bird at all. The dog should find the game by using its nose and by staying in general connection with the drag trail.

5. The manner of retrieving - how the dog takes up; carries and gives up the bird - is judged under "Manner of Retrieving" and begins when the dog finds the bird.

6. If the dog is interrupted by unusual circumstances in his work on the drag or while retrieving the Judge may grant him a new drag. In this case, the first performance is not rated.

B.7.3.4.1. Water Work

The purpose of water work in this phase of testing is to prepare the dog for its future practical hunting, especially the retrieving of crippled or dead waterfowl that fall into water, and to prove the effectiveness of this preparation in the test. Water work is a particularly important aspect of the versatile hunting dog's utility, thus it is important to document it as it pertains to breeding programs.

Compliance with all rules is the responsibility of the organizing club, the Test Director and the Judges.

E. GUNFIRE STABILITY

1. A duck is thrown as far as possible into the open water while the dog is watching. The dog is commanded to retrieve. A dog that does not enter the water within approximately one minute after being started (commanded to retrieve) may not continue to be tested in water work.

2. While the dog is swimming towards the duck, a live shot is fired into the water (by the Test Director, Judge or a designated gun) in the direction of the dead duck. The dog must retrieve this duck independently once it has been sent or commanded to retrieve – the handler may not give a further retrieve command (any commands given if the dog behaves incorrectly, ie, leaving the duck, or searching elsewhere if the duck is in plain sight, etc. shall be considered a further retrieve command).

3. If the shot fails to hit the water, the procedure must be repeated even if the dog retrieves the duck.

4. A dog that fails this test may not continue to be tested in water work.

F. BLIND RETRIEVE FROM DEEP COVER

1. The blind retrieve from dense cover shall be tested immediately after the search behind the duck.

2. For testing of the blind retrieve, a duck is thrown deep into cover without the dog being able to see either the throw or the duck in the water from the bank. The duck is to be placed in such a way (island, opposite bank, reed area) that the dog must be sent though an area of open water to the cover.

3. From a location greater than 30 meters away from the duck, the handler is given the approximate location of the duck.

4. The dog should search for the duck independently once sent, and it must find the duck and retrieve it to the handler. The handler may support and guide his dog, but constant influencing or shots or stone throwing lessens the score.

5. Once the dog has found the duck and can retrieve it, it must do so independently without further command**.** A dog that fails to retrieve the duck immediately after finding it for the first time cannot pass the test and the dog will be evaluated with "Insufficient". As soon as the dog senses the duck (sees it or definitely gets scents of it), it is considered found.

6. The Judges may terminate the dog's work after having gained the impression that the dog does not satisfy the requirements.

7. A dog that does not achieve a minimum rating of "Satisfactory" in this subject cannot continue the test in water work.

8. If the dog happens to find a live duck during this work, then the Judges will proceed as described in B.6.2.3.5. Water Work G, and the performance will be evaluated in the subject "Search Behind the Duck". Should the performance be rated as "Satisfactory", then the original subject "Blind retrieve from deep cover" will be tested using the same duck that was originally placed for this dog.

G. WATER SEARCH FOR DUCK

The Water Search for a duck is a test of the dog's desire to find and recover game from water as well as its water affinity. It assesses a dog's likely ability to locate wounded waterfowl which it has not seen down or marked (ie. no splash on the water or a similar visual clue) and tests the use of nose, water affinity, cooperation, desire, perseverance and stamina. The test attempts to place the dog in an environment where the handler cannot physically follow the dog or is unsighted, thus requiring the dog to rely on its own initiative and intelligence in going about the task independently.

The test is organised as follows:

The pond, dam or marsh used must be at least one-half (1/2) acre (approximately 1/4 hectare) in surface area. There must also be ample cover and vegetation, particularly around the edges, to allow a thorough assessment of the dog's ability to search for and find wounded waterfowl. Most of the area should be of swimming water depth for a dog and should be sufficiently wide (at least six (6) metres at any one spot) and extensive enough to place the dog out of direct contact with the handler at times.

A shot duck will be placed or thrown into cover across water. The dog must not see where the duck is placed.

Depending on the size and shape of the water body and the cover there are two (2) options for placement of the duck. For either option the Judges may allow the handlers to move from the original position the dog was sent from in order to optimize the search area presented. The main objectives driving the set-up and running of the test are to ensure that the dog is able to search independently and to show the desired attributes long enough for the Judges to make a thorough and fair assessment of the dog's performance.

Placement of the Duck

Option 1: The duck is placed into position <u>before</u> the dog is sent. This option may be used on large or long bodies of water (such as a river), where it is possible to place the duck a relatively long distance from the point which the dog is to be sent to retrieve.

The placement of the duck must be across water and at least thirty 30 metres away from the position at which the dog will be sent, preferably a greater distance. If at all possible, this position should not place the dog directly downwind of the duck upon the initial cast into the water. Wind, proximity of the duck and other factors should be taken into consideration if there is a possibility of the dog easily scenting it upon the initial cast.

The handler and dog are called up by the Judges, shown the position from which to start and the direction in which to send the dog. The direction in which the handler and dog will be sent must not be in the direction of the placed duck in order to give the dog opportunity to search without immediately finding the duck.

Option 2: The duck is placed into position <u>after</u> the dog is sent. This option may be used on smaller bodies of water where it is difficult to place the duck far enough away to allow the dog to search long enough to show the attributes under evaluation. The duck should be placed across water – not on the same side of the water as the dog.

A position from which to place or throw the duck should be identified before the dog is sent to retrieve. The thrower must not be visible to the dog and should preferably remain stationary during the dog's search so as to remain unseen.

The handler and dog are to be called up by the Judges, shown the position from which to start and the direction in which to send the dog.

Once the Judges have arrived at an assessment of the dog's performance, they will indicate to the thrower to place or throw the duck into the cover. The dog should not see the duck being placed. The handler may then assist his dog to the general area to retrieve the duck, however, the least interference the better. Once the duck is found it must be independently retrieved.

Whichever option is used to place the duck, once the handler and dog are in line, the handler will command the dog to retrieve in the direction indicated by the Judge.

1. The dog should enter the water upon a single instruction without further commands or stronger coaxing (stone throw, etc). Judges may use their discretion regarding what constitutes a command or in cases where there are distractions or unusual circumstances.

2. Dogs with a high level of water aptitude will readily enter the water on command and begin searching for game scent. The dog shall search independently for the duck, although the handler may guide and support his dog in its work. Constant influencing shall lessen the score.

3. The dog should show its desire to find and its affinity for water by searching the assigned area and cover thoroughly. The search should not be restrictive or dependent, and the dog should expand the search as necessary, crossing water to search the far banks and/or searching upstream or downstream depending on the shape of the body of water. The handler may help the dog with hand and voice signal, but it is desirable that the handler interfere as little as necessary with the dog's search.

4. The search should not last more than 10 minutes. As a general guideline, 6-8 minutes should be sufficient for the Judges to arrive at a fair assessment of the dog's performance. However, this is entirely dependent on the manner in which the dog goes about the search and the cover, water and general conditions on the day.

5. Once the dog has found the duck it must independently retrieve it without further command. A dog that fails to retrieve the duck immediately after finding it for the first time cannot pass the test and the dog will be evaluated as "Insufficient". As soon as the dog senses the duck (sees it or definitely scents it), it is considered found.

6. The Judges may terminate the dog's work at any time after having gained the impression that the dog does not satisfy the requirements of the test.

7. If the dog finds a duck before the Judges have been able to fully assess the Water Search, the dog must be sent back into the water as before to complete the requirements of the exercise.

8. Finding of a wild duck: If the dog encounters a wild duck during its work under circumstances conforming with the test standards of a live duck search, its performance must be assessed and recorded in writing on the test sheet. Judgement of the water search shall be as described above, but the live duck search must be assessed as indicated below:

    a) As soon as the dog pushes the duck from cover it may pursue it on sight, but the duck must not be shot.

    b) The judges may terminate the dog's work if they are satisfied that the dog does fulfil the test requirements. In this case, a duck must be thrown in front of and in sight of the dog about 30 m into open water, and the dog must retrieve the duck independently.

    c) In the case of (b) above, the dog need not retrieve the dead, placed duck (the duck may be used for another dog or a pick-up dog may collect it).

    d) If, during the course of the dog continuing to search for the live duck, the placed duck is found, the dog must retrieve it independently.

    If two ducks are in the water and the dog encounters one while searching for or retrieving another, either duck may be independently retrieved, without fault for switching ducks.

9. A dog that fails to independently retrieve any duck (without the handler influencing or correcting the dog's mistakes) that was found independently or was thrown within sight of the dog after finding it for the first time cannot pass the test. In this case, "Blind retrieve in water with dense cover" as well as "Search behind the duck in water with dense cover" are also failed. As soon as the dog senses the duck, by scent or sight, it is considered found.

❖ Retrieving of the Duck

a. For the final score, all of the dog's retrieves during water work are taken into account. The performance of the retrieve as an expression of the trained ability, i.e., the grasping, carrying (holding) and delivery, is to be scored under the subject "Manner of Retrieve".

b. If the dog drops the duck, perhaps to shake, then the maximum score for this retrieve is "good". If, however, the dog initially grasps the shot or thrown duck awkwardly (i.e. at the head, wing, or leg) and subsequently improves the hold on land without shaking and continues to retrieve and deliver correctly, the score may only be lessened if a duck could have escaped.

c. The dog may not be faulted for shaking if he keeps the duck firmly in the mouth.

d. For the evaluation of the retrieve it is important to observe if the dog carries the duck to the handler properly, sits down and delivers correctly. For the final score, all retrieving performances of a dog during the water work must be considered.

e. If a single duck retrieve is scored "poor", "insufficient" or "not tested", the overall score for retrieving the duck can only be "insufficient" or "not tested".

f. During the water work the dog must independently retrieve every found or caught duck without handler influence (without the handler influencing or correcting the dog's mistakes). Praising the dog or getting the dog's attention while the dog is retrieving shall not be deemed prohibited handler influence if the dog is working correctly at that time.

g. If unusual circumstances disturb the dog's retrieve, it is at the Judge's discretion to give the dog a further opportunity to retrieve a duck that was placed for the dog or shot in front of it.

B.6.2.3.6. Other Subjects

H. FURRED GAME DRAG

1. The furred game drag is tested with a rabbit or hare. The drag must be laid by a Judge in open terrain downwind for approximately 350 meters and must include two blunt angled turns. The distance between individual drags must be not less than 100m. The dragged animal or a fresh one of the same species is placed on the ground at the end of the drag (not covered or in a depression). The Judge must walk in extension of the drag and then hide, so that he cannot be seen by the dog. In the hiding place, the Judge removes the string from the dragged animal and places it in front of him/her. He may not prevent the dog from taking this animal.

2. The dog must not see the laying of the drag, and dog and handler are required to go behind some natural cover or a portable blind from where neither can see the drag being laid.

3. The handler may request that the dragged animal be placed at the end of the drag for the dog to retrieve. If the handler chooses this option, he must inform the Judges prior to the drag work.

4. The handler may work the first fifty (50) metres of the drag on leash, but then must release the dog and must remain in place. If the dog returns to the handler without having retrieved the rabbit and without independently resuming the work, the handler may restart the dog twice (2) more. A restart is defined as any command by the handler to resume the drag work.

5. The dog is required to find the game willingly, quickly and independently, and to quickly take hold of the game quickly and to retrieve it eagerly without needing further influences from the handler. The drag serves to evaluate the dog's will to find and retrieve and under no circumstances may be interpreted as a tracking performance.

6. In evaluating the drag, it is only important how the dog applies itself to the task at hand, if it wants to find and retrieve, and if it delivers the game to the handler at all. The dog should find the game by using its nose and by staying in general connection with the drag trail. Regarding extraordinary circumstances, the rules for the gamebird drag apply (B.6.2.3.4. Field Work – G).

7. The manner of performing the retrieve, carrying and delivery are scored under "Manner of Retrieving".

I. MANNER OF RETRIEVING

1. The Manner of retrieving is judged by the execution of the retrieve, that is, the acquired skill to get hold of, to carry, and deliver the game to hand.

2. The dog exhibits the correct grasping and carrying by adjusting the grip to the centre of gravity, weight and kind of game. Inappropriately strong or weak grip, poor hold or carrying is faulty. Hardmouth must be noted and must be entered on the score sheet.

3. The correct delivery to hand is demonstrated if the dog arrives with the game at the handler, sits or stands without a command or after a simple, quiet command by the handler and holds the game until the handler has taken hold of it in a calm, never hasty, manner and commands the dog to release with the appropriate command.

4. All three retrieving subjects (gamebird, duck and furred game) are judged separately. From these primary scores an average score is calculated. If this average is a fraction between two scores, the rounding must be oriented towards the retrieving score for the furred game drag. Example 1: Average score 3.3, with a score of 2 or 3 for furred game drag, the resulting overall score for "Manner of Retrieving" is 3. Example 2: Average score 3.3, with a score of 4 for furred game drag, the resulting overall score for "Manner of Retrieving" is 4.

5. The dog must have shown satisfactory performance in each subject. If the dog fails in one or more individual retrieving subjects and is scored "not sufficient – 0" then the entire manner of retrieve score can only be "not sufficient – 0". If one or more individual retrieving subjects was noted as "not tested", then the entire manner of retrieve score can only be "not tested".

6. Dogs that eat or bury game, as well as extremely hard mouthed dogs that chew or pluck game must be eliminated from further testing.

7. Similarly, a dog that fails to retrieve any game (feathered game and furred game) after finding it for the first time must also eliminated from the test.

J. CO-OPERATION

Co-operation is demonstrated by the manner in which the dog interacts with its handler. A co-operative dog is willing to be in contact with, and be of service to, the handler. Co-operation comes from the dog and is shown in the dog's willingness to work as a team with the handler. Co-operation is evaluated during every dog and handler interaction throughout the day.

K. OBEDIENCE

1. Obedience differs from cooperation in that it is trained and not natural ability. It is requested from the handler of the dog and requires a form of direct submission. Obedience is demonstrated by the way the dog can be handled and by how it responds to commands from the handler. It also shows in the dog's restraint during other dog's work, thereby showing that he will not disturb his handler or other fellow hunters during a hunt.

2. Obedience in the presence of game is only required to the degree that the dog does not chase flushed birds. Repeated, long lasting rabbit chasing is judged as faulty, because it withdraws the dog from testing in the main field subjects on feathered game. If this happens repeatedly, the dog may be eliminated from the test.

3. Obedience is the expression of efficient and thorough training. It is a prerequisite for the versatility of the hunting dog in the field. The testing of obedience thus is of prime importance.

L. DESIRE TO WORK

Desire to work is determined by observing how the dog applies itself to each task during the entire evaluation. Desire to work is not to be confused with running speed, range, or excitement, or simply how active the dog is. The dog's will to complete the task at hand, its enthusiasm, persistence and eagerness are the primary considerations when evaluating overall desire.

B.7.3.5. Test Scoring and Prize Assignment

The SA- OLDER DOG ELITE TEST (SA-AZP)

SCORING SYSTEM

Grading system: Very Good = 4; Good = 3; Satisfactory = 2; Poor = 1; Insufficient/Failing = 0
NT = not tested
In certain instances of Outstanding merit (Nose, Search, Pointing, Duck Search)
the predicate Excellent = 4h - may be given

Test Category (the required minimum scores required for each Prize category are listed below)	**Prize 1**	**Prize 2**	**Prize 3**
Field			
• Nose	4	3	2
• Search	4	3	2
• Pointing	4	3	2
• Drag (Feathered gamebird, 150m with two blunt turns)	3	3	2
Water			
• Gunfire Tolerance** *see notes for assessing sensitivity* (only the manner of retrieve of the duck is scored)	P____ or F ____		
• Blind Retrieve of Duck in dense cover	3	3	2
• Water Search for Duck	4	3	2
Hare or Rabbit Drag (350m, with two blunt turns)	3	3	2
Manner of Retrieving			
• Average Of all retrieves *Feathered gamebird ___ *Duck (average of 3) ___ *Rabbit/Hare ___	3	2	2
Desire to Work	3	3	2
Co-operation	3	3	2
Obedience 3	3	2	

(Prize category awarded: none, 1, 2 or 3) **Prize _____**

OTHER ATTRIBUTES ASSESSED DURING THE TEST:

- **Gun sensitivity in the field** ***(gunfire stable, slightly gun sensitive, gun sensitive, severely gun sensitive, gun shy)***
- **Temperament assessment**
- **Physical attributes**
- **Rabbit track if observed (Andreas star*, when applicable)**

C. GUIDE TO TEST SECRETARIES

C.1. DUTIES TO THE KUSA

C.1.1. BEFORE THE TEST

C.1.1.1. Application for Dates to Hold Versatile Tests

Secretaries of affiliated clubs shall, by 1 July each year, confirm the dates for the following test season proposed by the FTLC or apply for alternative dates. Such application must state the proposed date, proposed venue, type of trial and stakes to be run. Thereupon, based upon applications received and approved by the FTLC, the official calendar will be published on 1st October and forwarded to FC for approval and/or comment. Thereafter, applications for a licence to hold a Hunt test can be submitted according to C.1.1.2 below.

C.1.1.2. Application for Licence to Hold Tests

When the official calendar has been approved by FTLC, Secretaries must submit an application for a Licence to hold Hunt Tests together with the required fee direct to KUSA (payable to KUSA), at least four months before the date of the Test.

C.1.1.3. The Schedule

The Secretary of the Club shall send two copies of the draft schedule, (together with the prescribed application form and licence fee as per C.1.1.2 above), one to KUSA, and one to the FTLC, for final approval. The draft schedule must be received by KUSA and the FTLC at least four months prior to the date of the Trial.

This schedule, which must include details of the proposed Judges, together with the Judges Acceptance Forms, must be received by the KUSA not later than four months prior to the date of the Test.

No schedule shall be issued to the public before being approved by the FTLC and the FC. This schedule is to be treated as a contract between the Club and the public.

For the contents required in the schedule, refer to A.8.1.2 of "Regulations for the Conduct of Versatile Tests".

C.1.1.4. The Programme (Card)

The Club holding the Test must publish a programme (card) containing the necessary particulars of the Trial and of the participants. These are enumerated in A.8.3 of "Regulations for the Conduct of Versatile Tests".

C.1.2. AFTER THE TEST

C.1.2.1. Notification of all Awards Made at the Test - KUSA

The Secretary of the Club holding the Test must submit to KUSA a full report (Secretary's Report) indicating the awards made at each Test, including details of all Certificates issued. This information is to be submitted to KUSA within two weeks of the end of the Test.

C.1.2.2. Keeping a Record of Entry Forms

The Secretary of the Club holding a Hunt Test shall preserve all entry forms for twelve months after the meeting and produce any of them to any official body inquiring into an objection or dispute.

C.1.2.3. Submission of Results to the FTLC

The Secretary of the Club holding the Test must also submit the Secretary's Report, the official Judges' Report, and all Test Score Sheets for the dogs passing the tests to FTLC within two weeks of the end of the test.

C.2. DUTIES TO THE PUBLIC

C.2.1. BEFORE THE TEST

C.2.1.1. Distribution of Schedule and Entry Forms

The Secretary of the Club holding the Test shall send copies of the officially approved schedule, plus entry forms, to all prospective participants.

C.2.1.2. Drawing up a Programme (Card)

The Secretary of the Club holding the Test shall draw up a programme (card), as stipulated in A.8.2. for distribution to participants at the Test.

C.2.2. AT THE TEST

C.2.2.1. KUSA Documents Required at the Venue during the Test

The Secretary shall ensure that a copy of the "KUSA Constitution and Show Regulations" and a copy of "5C(6) - Regulations for Versatile Tests – Pointing Breeds" be available at the venue during the Test.

C.2.2.2. Procedure in the Case of an Objection

Club Secretaries shall familiarise themselves with the irregularity procedures under Section A.11.2.

The Club Secretary or representative shall then notify committee members of the Club that there is an objection, and the irregularity shall be settled by a majority of committee members present at the Test.

C.2.3. JUDGES' SIGNATURES ON ALL TEST SCORE SHEETS AND CERTIFICATES OF AWARD

The Secretary of the Club holding the Test must ensure that all Test Score Sheets and Certificates of Award awarded at the Test are correctly completed and signed by all the official Judges.

The signed Test Score Sheets and Certificates must be presented at the completion of the Test.