

KENNEL UNION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA MONDIORING DECOY REQUIREMENTS

1. INTRODUCTION

- a. All references within this document to the term referring to the male gender form implies the female gender and vice versa.
- b. "KUSA" refers to the Kennel Union of Southern Africa
- c. "Mondioring" and or "Mondio Ring" refers to the ring dog sport defined by the relevant schedules and regulations by the FCI (see <http://fci.be/>).
- d. "Mondioring" in the context of this document refers to any aspect of the Mondioring Dog Sport as practiced under license of the KUSA.
- e. "Decoy" refers to a KUSA Mondioring Decoy as defined in this document.

2. DECOY DEFINITION

- a. The trial decoy is an individual who wears a protective costume designed to limit the effect of the bites of a dog that a handler presents for competition in a protection sport.
- b. The decoy is the judge's assistant. The decoy's work is the responsibility of the judge. He or she must work according to the judge's instructions in order to enable the judge to differentiate between the competitors. The decoy's role is not to measure himself or herself against the dog, but to help the judge highlight the dog's qualities and weaknesses.
- c. A decoy may not work his or her own dog in a trial, regardless of handler.
- d. Only persons in possession of a valid KUSA Mondioring Decoy Record Book may officiate at Mondioring events.
- e. A KUSA Mondioring Decoy Record Book will be issued to any person who has qualified as a KUSA Registered Mondioring Decoy.

3. PROGRAMME ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Any person wanting to participate in Mondioring Dog Sport must meet the following minimum requirements to participate as a Mondioring Decoy:

- a. Be at least eighteen (18) years of age.
- b. All persons under twenty-one (21) years of age must submit a certified letter of consent from their natural or legal guardian to act as a Mondioring Decoy.
- c. Be a member of and in good standing with KUSA.
- d. Be an active member of a KUSA Affiliated Mondioring Club.
- e. Have a registered physician's written note confirming that his state of health is of such a nature that he may participate in a contact sport.

4. MONDIORING DECOY EQUIPMENT

The Suit

- i. The suit must provide adequate protection for the decoy. It must be flexible to allow for ease of movement and running.

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- ii. It must not be ridiculous or too big; it must not be so hard that it is difficult for the dog to bite.
- iii. It must allow for a bite of no less than 7 cm. in depth, and the thickness of the material in the dog's mouth should be 3 to 5 cm.
- iv. It is prohibited that the decoy change suits during the trial to favour certain dogs.

The Shoes

- v. Must be adequate for all types of weather and the variety of the exercises (i.e. Flees).
- vi. Must not have metal spikes.

The Baton

- vii. You cannot use just any baton to threaten the dog. The Baton must be made of bamboo. 60 to 80 cm. in length cut in a cross, 3/4 of the way down length wise. It should not open like a fan during the barrage.
- viii. It will have a diameter between 2 to 3 cm.
- ix. The decoy will grab it on the part not cut.
- x. It is prohibited for the decoy to leave a piece of handle sticking down from his hand when gripping the baton.

The Gun

- xi. There shall be two provided by the organising party.
- xii. The blanks must be 9mm or 6mm double charged.

5. REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATION

In order to certify as a KUSA Licensed Mondioring Decoy, candidates must meet the following requirements:

- a. Pass the written test. Content of the written test will evaluate the candidate's knowledge of:
 - i. KUSA competition rules, regulations, and procedures.
 - ii. Conduct and procedures of the Mondioring Dog Sport.
 - iii. Other questions may be posed verbally thereafter at the judge's discretion throughout the remainder of the certification.
- b. Pass the physical/performance test phase to show their capabilities and work ethic.
 - i. The physical/performance test will be as demanding as an actual trial.
 - ii. The test will involve a series of tasks involving fitness, endurance, and speed. The ability to think while fatigued, the ability to design exercises, application of the rules, and agility. Standards for this test will be described in a separate document on the KUSA website and are subject to change.
- c. Pass the general outlook phase of testing by demonstrating they are capable of being a trial decoy to the Certification Panel.
- d. Candidates must obtain a minimum of 75% of the points available in each phase of the evaluations (written test and general outlook of the Sub Committee).

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- e. The candidate must achieve a minimum of 80% for Level one and a minimum of 90% for Level two certification in the physical/performance test.
- f. Application for certification places the responsibility on the decoy to declare, prior to the certification, and provide at the certification, correct equipment, and dogs for use in the certification.
- g. Dogs used in certification should be able to demonstrate all necessary exercises (to the satisfaction of the Certification Panel).
- h. Dogs used in certifications must be able to do a Mondioring Level three routine and must be submitted to the Decoy Panel no later than ten (10) days prior to the certification.
- i. Failure by the candidate to have the correct equipment or dogs to complete the certification will terminate the certification on that day for that candidate.
- j. There will be no modification of the decoy certification regardless of an applicant's experience in other dog sport disciplines.
- k. All Decoys must familiarise themselves with the requirements of a Mondioring Decoy as described by the "International Rules for Mondioring Decoys".

6. CERTIFICATION PANEL

- a. The Certification Panel must be approved by the Sub Committee ahead of time.
- b. The Certification Panel authorised to conduct a decoy certification will consist of the following individuals:
 - i. A Senior Judge or Sub Committee Chair
 - ii. A KUSA Sub Committee member
 - iii. One or more of the following:
 - 1. A currently certified KUSA Decoy
 - 2. A certified KUSA Decoy Trainer
 - 3. An Internationally Selected Decoy
 - 4. A second Judge, and/or
 - 5. A second Sub Committee Member.
- c. The Sub Committee Member is in charge of the certification. This person will be required to meet a set criterion defined by the Sub Committee before being allowed to perform certification. He or she will take input from other members of the Certification Panel, but the Sub Committee Member will have the final say on who passes or fails.
- d. A Sub Committee Member can stop the test for a candidate if they feel it is unsafe or the dog cannot demonstrate the exercise.
- e. Any complaints regarding that certification can be sent to the Sub Committee for review.
- f. Certifications may be held in conjunction with a trial, but certified decoys for the trial must be selected in advance of the trial.
- g. No trial will be sanctioned pending the certification of decoys.
- h. Newly certified decoys may work the trial at which they were certified, but not as the primary decoy.
- i. Newly certified decoys can only work Level 1 dogs the first fortnight (two weeks) certified.

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- j. Two Level1 decoys cannot be the only two decoys doing a trial unless one or both decoys have worked five (5) trials under three (3) different Judges and received a score from the trial of three (3) or better.
- k. Decoys not currently certified through KUSA must be approved by the Sub Committee before being able to decoy a trial.
- l. The Sub Committee will reserve the right to bring club approved decoys in at expense of KUSA to help to maintain decoys trial skills.

7. CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR DECOYS

Continual improvement and education of Mondioring Decoys will be undertaken in one of the following ways:

- a. KUSA sponsored Decoy Camps, to provide a method for standardising, maintaining, and improving decoy trial performance:
 - i. Camps will be certified as trial equivalent events by the Sub Committee.
 - ii. Attendance at a Decoy Camp by decoy candidates is strongly recommended.
 - iii. Active attendance at a Decoy Camp may be credited by the Sub Committee in the general outlook of the actual decoy certification.
 - iv. Curriculum and standards for the Decoy Camp must be approved by the Sub Committee prior to the event.
 - v. Certifications will only be made if the event is pre-approved by the Sub Committee and if all the members of the Certification Panel are present during the entire event.
- b. Decoy Trainers, to provide a method for appointing or nominating a National Training Decoy, the KUSA Sub Committee will offer certification for Decoy Trainers:
 - i. Decoy Trainers must make application to the Sub Committee.
 - ii. Decoy Trainer candidates must have letters of recommendation from decoys that they have trained who have become KUSA certified decoys.
 - iii. Priority for certification will be given to the applicant with the greatest number of decoy recommendations by the Sub Committee.
 - iv. Decoy Trainers must pass the written test for decoys with a minimum of 90%. The test can be administered for repeat testing after a minimum of thirty (30) days.
 - v. Decoy trainer applicants must demonstrate their ability to observe and critique decoys by observing a decoy certification and submitting a written report of their observations. This report will be reviewed by the Sub Committee Member(s) participating in the decoy certification.
 - vi. Attendance at Decoy Camps will give the applicant a higher level of priority for certification by the Sub Committee.
 - vii. Decoy Trainers must recertify by completing (i and iv) and by either participating in (v or vi) once every three (3) years.
- c. National Decoy Trainers may be nominated from the pool of certified Decoy Trainers. This role is to be for retained for future consideration.

8. LEVELS OF DECOY CERTIFICATION

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Level 1 Decoys

These candidates have demonstrated sufficient proficiency (skills, knowledge, and conditioning) to participate as a trial decoy. This level must be capable of working an entire trial. The decoys must demonstrate a minimum of 75% of the available points in each phase of the certification, except the performance test, a decoy must achieve a minimum of 80% for Level One.

Level 2 Decoys

Decoys who have successfully completed Level One decoy certification and who have acquired additional experience and knowledge may elect to upgrade their certification. These individuals will have a higher standard of certification than the Level One Decoy and must have worked a minimum of five (5) trials under at least three different judges in order to attempt certification at this level. These individuals must demonstrate superior knowledge and skill by achieving 90% of the points available in each phase of the certification. Minimum requirements to attempt a Level two certification are:

- i. Must have requisite experience (5 trials).
- ii. Must have passed the written test with 90% or better.
- iii. Must have passed the practical examination with 90% of the available points.
- iv. Must be selected as a capable and safe Level 2 Decoy in the Certification Panel's general outlook evaluation.

International Decoys/Level 3

These candidates have demonstrated their proficiency by attending and obtaining a passing score at the International Super Selection. To apply for admission to the Super Selection, decoys must:

- v. be Level 2.
- vi. have no less than ten (10) trials in their Record Book.
- vii. make application to the Sub Committee, who will determine if the candidate will represent KUSA appropriately.

Further eligibility requirements will be determined by the International Super Selection Committee and rules will be relayed as available.

9. MAINTENANCE OF CERTIFICATION

- a. Level One Decoys must recertify every three (3) years.
- b. Level Two Decoys must recertify every five (5) years.
- c. Level One Decoys must work one (1) trial in two (2) years to maintain their certification.
- d. Level Two Decoys must work two (2) trials every two (2) years to maintain their certification.
- e. Level Three Decoys will retain their International status for five (5) years from the date of Super Selection, after which time they must recertify as a Level Two Decoy.

There is not a mandatory requirement to upgrade certification. This is an option to be decided by the individual decoy.

10. DECOY RECORD BOOKS

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- a. Decoy books are the property of the KUSA and must be surrendered upon request of a KUSA Board Member or the Chairman of the Sub Committee
- b. Decoy books will contain specific performance items as well as open ended comments by the Judge.
- c. A copy of the decoy book and updated contact information must be sent to the KUSA Secretary by e-mail by 31 January of each year or decoy certification will be revoked. Onus of such submission is on the Decoy.

11. REVOCATION OF CERTIFICATION

- a. KUSA By-Laws outline current complaint process.
- b. Revocation of certification will be a two (2) or three (3) tiered process dependent on who is submitting the charges of misconduct.
 - i. Complaints from the general membership must be first reviewed by the National Sub Committee, which may or may not elect to elevate the charges for further review.
 - ii. Any KUSA Board Member, National Sub Committee member or any Provincial Sub Committee member may suggest a review of any infraction or misconduct they observed a decoy committing while decoying a sanctioned trial.
- c. Revocation review will first be performed by the National Sub Committee who will submit their findings and recommendations to the KUSA FEDCO, who will then make the final determination.
- d. Misconduct and infractions will be distinguished by the level of severity
 - i. Major infractions or acts of misconduct:
 - 1. Any act considered intentionally dangerous for the handler and/or their dog.
 - 2. Flagrant disregard for the rules of conduct for the decoy.
 - 3. Being argumentative or vocally disagreeing with the Judge on the trial grounds.
 - 4. Flagrantly disregarding the Judge's instruction for performance.
 - 5. Falsification or forgery of the decoy book.
 - 6. Multiple minor infractions showing repeated disregard for the rules of conduct for the decoy.
 - ii. Minor infractions or acts of misconduct will be acts that in isolation may not be considered as a major infraction, but that should be recorded to ensure that they are not repeated.
 - iii. Remedial training may be recommended by the Sub Committee for decoys with repeated minor infractions.