

MAINE ASSOCIATION FOR SEARCH AND RESCUE

Search Dog Team Certification Standard Appendix G

Certification Test Evaluation Form Wilderness Human Remains Search

This form is to be used for evaluating each of the tests in Appendix G of the MASAR Search Dog Team Certification Standard. All sections of this form must be completed, and passing scores must be achieved in each, for the dog team to be certified.

Handler's Name: _____ Dog's Name: _____

Team's Unit's Name: _____

Certification Tests Results

Section 1A: Results: Pass _____ Fail _____

Section 1B: Results (a minimum of 48 is required to pass) Pass _____ Fail _____

Section 2A: Results: Pass _____ Fail _____

Section 2B: Results (a minimum of 48 is required to pass) Pass _____ Fail _____

Should this search dog team be certified? Yes _____ No _____

Final Evaluation (all sections must be passed) Yes _____ No _____

*If the response to this criteria is No, please explain why in the Comments section below.

Comments: _____

Evaluator's Name: _____ Signed: _____

Section 1: Preliminary Requirements Test

Each dog team must successfully complete a preliminary skills test to demonstrate that the dog recognizes human remains scent and the handler utilizes proper search strategy. Refer to Section II of the MASAR Search Dog Team Certification Standard Appendix G for test area and conditions, scent source, and scent placement.

Date: _____ Start Time: _____ Finish Time: _____

Location: _____

Weather: _____

Temperature: _____ Estimated Wind Direction and Strength: _____

To pass this section and continue testing, a "Yes" answer must be received for all skills.

Section 1A: Preliminary Requirements Test Skills

Yes

No

- 1. The dog team located the scent material in 30 minutes or less. _____
- 2. The dog team made no false indications. _____
- 3. The dog team offered the trained indication near the scent source. _____
- 4. If the canine picked up or moved the scent source, and the handler commanded that it stop, the dog immediately ceased this behavior and was not slow to comply. _____
- 5. The canine did not defecate or urinate on the scent source, nor roll on it. _____
- 6. At the conclusion of the test, the handler correctly identified the location of the scent source, and did not identify any animal remains as a source of human remains scent. _____

To pass this section, a "Yes" answer must be received for all skills.

Section 1A: Preliminary Requirements Test Skills Results

Pass _____ Fail _____

Scent Source(s) Used: _____

If test was completed previously, list date and evaluator's name here:

Date: _____ Name: _____

Recommendations: _____

Section 1B: Preliminary Requirements Test

During the Preliminary Requirements Test, the dog team's general search skills are to be observed and assessed by the evaluator(s), using the criteria listed below. These skills are to be rated on a scale of 5 to 1: Excellent = 5, Above Average = 4, Average = 3, Below Average = 2, and Unacceptable = 1. Any category not observed receives a score of 3 and the notation N/O. The total score is to be entered at the bottom of this page.

Note: if more than 3 of these criteria are not observed, then the evaluator(s) should decide whether or not the test should be repeated.

<u>Section 1B: Preliminary Requirements Test Evaluation Criteria</u>	<u>Score</u>
1) Handler plans efficient search, utilizing wind and existing environmental conditions to provide maximum area coverage	_____
2) Handler controls and assists dog so that it can perform well in terrain and conditions found in search area	_____
3) Team shows adequate agility for wilderness search	_____
4) Handler recognizes when dog alerts to human scent	_____
5) Handler demonstrates ability to judge sweeps of areas as to their suitability to the prevailing conditions	_____
6) Handler recognizes when either member of the team is working ineffectively and takes action to compensate for it, or to remedy the situation	_____
7) Handler and dog work effectively with persons accompanying them	_____
8) Dog performs trained indication or final response as described by handler	_____
9) Handler understands purpose of other resources and the ICS system	_____
10) On a map, handler reports clearly:	
A) Areas and/or routes covered	_____
B) Estimated probability of detection for team	_____
C) Location(s) of alert(s)	_____
D) Wind direction and other factors that may have affected the search	_____
E) Location(s) of any clue(s) found	_____
F) Location(s) of scent source(s)	_____
11) During search, handler saves track log on GPS and logs waypoint for every scent sample found	_____
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Section 1B: Preliminary Requirements Test Evaluation Criteria Score	_____

If test was completed previously, list date and evaluator's name here:

Date: _____ Name: _____

Section 2A: Certification Requirements

Each dog team must successfully complete the certification requirements test. Refer to Section III of the MASAR Search Dog Team Certification Standard Appendix G for test area and conditions, scent source, and scent placement.

Date: _____ Start Time: _____ Finish Time: _____

Location: _____

Weather: _____

Temperature: _____ Estimated Wind Direction and Strength: _____

Section 2A: Certification Testing Skills

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
1. The dog team searched the entire area, and located all scent sources, in 1 hour or less.	_____	_____
2. Before the test, the dog handler described the dog's trained indication, or final response, to human remains.	_____	_____
3. Before the test, the handler described the search strategy they would use to cover the area.	_____	_____
4. At the conclusion of the test, the handler correctly identified the locations and number of all scent sources present.*	_____	_____
5. The dog offered a trained indication of surface or buried scent sources within a reasonable distance (generally ~3 feet).	_____	_____
6. If the canine did not pinpoint an elevated scent source, the handler was able to interpret the canine's actions to the satisfaction of the evaluators.	_____	_____

* Identifying animal remains or blank soil disturbances as a source of human remains scent shall result in failure of the Certification Testing Skills Test.

To pass this section, a "Yes" answer must be received for all skills.

Section 2A: Certification Testing Skills Results

Pass _____ Fail _____

Scent Sources Used: _____

Recommendations: _____

Section 2B: Certification Testing Evaluation

During the Certification Requirements test, the dog team's general search skills are to be observed and assessed by the evaluator(s), using the criteria listed below. These skills are to be rated on a scale of 5 to 1: Excellent = 5, Above Average = 4, Average = 3, Below Average = 2, and Unacceptable = 1. Any category not observed receives a score of 3 and the notation N/O. The total score is to be entered at the bottom of this page.

Note: if more than 3 of these criteria are not observed, then the evaluator(s) should decide whether the test should be repeated.

Section 2B: Certification Testing Evaluation Criteria

Score

Evaluators shall score each of the following criteria during the test.

- | | |
|---|-------|
| 1) Handler plans efficient search, utilizing wind and existing environmental conditions to provide maximum area coverage | _____ |
| 2) Handler controls and assists dog so that it can perform well in terrain and conditions found in search area | _____ |
| 3) Team shows adequate agility for wilderness search | _____ |
| 4) Handler recognizes when dog alerts to human scent | _____ |
| 5) Handler demonstrates ability to judge sweeps of areas as to their suitability to the prevailing conditions | _____ |
| 6) Handler recognizes when either member of the team is working ineffectively and takes action to compensate for it, or to remedy the situation | _____ |
| 7) Handler and dog work effectively with persons accompanying them | _____ |
| 8) Dog performs trained indication or final response as described by handler | _____ |
| 9) Handler understands purpose of other resources and the ICS system | _____ |
| 10) Handler navigates successfully and creates track log of search | _____ |
| 11) On a map, handler reports clearly: | |
| A) Areas and/or routes covered | _____ |
| B) Estimated probability of detection for team | _____ |
| C) Location(s) of alert(s) | _____ |
| D) Wind direction and other factors that may have affected the search | _____ |
| E) Location(s) of any clue(s) found | _____ |
| F) Location(s) of scent source(s) | _____ |

Section 2B: Certification Testing Evaluation Criteria Score _____