

# **WPFG ABRIDGED RULES - POLICE SERVICE DOGS and DETECTION DOGS -**

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### **GUIDING BODY**

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### **EVENTS**

UNISEX - OPEN

#### **Police Service Dog Competition:**

1. Obedience (Only)
2. Agility (Only)
3. Search
4. Protection
5. Overall

#### **Narcotics Detection Dog Competition\*:**

1. Vehicle Search
2. Building Search
3. Luggage, Package, or  
Locker Search
4. Overall

#### **Explosives Detection Dog Competition\***

1. Vehicle Search
2. Building Search
3. Luggage, Package, or  
Locker Search
4. Overall

These are Individual events - one handler, one dog. Medals awarded in each event.

Cross Trained Dogs may compete in the different fields of expertise.

To enter the "Overall" event within each competition, the Team **MUST** be entered in all other events within the category.

## **POLICE SERVICE DOG COMPETITION**

This competition is open to working Police Service Dogs only.

### **BRACKETING**

Point System Bracket, (See Bracketing Rules).

### **SCHEDULING**

Order of competition will be determined by draw during official's clinic.

### **SCORING**

Scores from each judge scoring the event will be used to determine results. The below events will be scored as outlined.

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### Obedience

Heeling	60
Signal recall	25
Down stay	<u>15</u>
TOTAL	100 points

### Agility

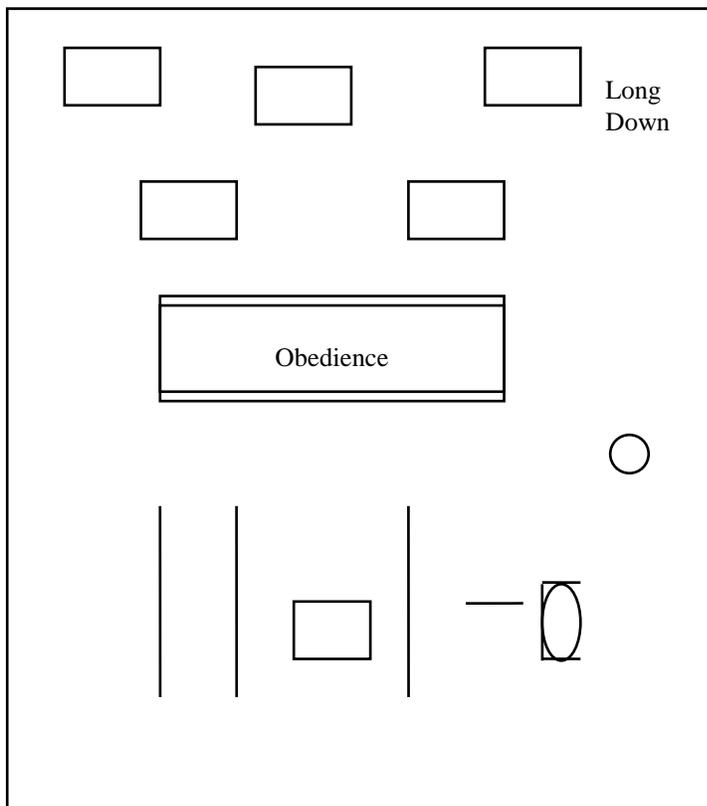
- Barrel jump
- Window jump
- Tunnel crawl
- 3 consecutive 3' Wall jumps
- 3' Wire fence jump
- Bar jump
- Teeter/Totter
- Catwalk
- A-Frame

TOTAL 100 points

Note: Any combination of the listed agility equipment (a minimum of five (5) obstacles may be used for the agility portion of the competition. The score sheets shall be adjusted accordingly so that there will be 100 total points available for this phase.

### Agility

#### Suggested Field Layout



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## Protection Work:

One exercise comprised of any portion(s) of the three scenarios listed in Section D., Protection/Gun/Apprehension Phase, shall be utilized for this portion of the competition. The score sheets shall be adjusted accordingly so that there will be 150 total points available for this phase.

TOTAL            150 points

## Search or Box Search

TOTAL            50 points

**TOTAL POSSIBLE SCORE: 400 points**

\*\*\*\*Total from Obedience, Agility, Search and Protection Work used for Overall

## GENERAL RULES for Police Service Dog Events

### A. Obedience

1. Heel Free - For this exercise the oral command and hand signal will be used simultaneously only at the starting of the "Heel" and "In Motion Down" and the "Signal Recall".

No other commands or signals will be allowed. The handler shall enter the ring with their dog sitting at heel until the judge asks if the handler is ready. He/she will then give the command to "FORWARD". The handler may command/signal his/her dog to "HEEL", and shall start walking briskly and in a natural manner. The dog shall walk close to the left side of the handler without crowding, permitting the handler freedom of motion at all time.

The heeling exercise shall consist of the following maneuvers; forward, executed at normal, slow and fast pace (slow shall be defined as a marked reduction of the normal gait, and fast shall be executed by the handler's breaking into a jog). Also included in this exercise will be the execution of 2 left and 2 right turns, and an about turn (direction of turn at handlers discretion), an "in motion down", during which the handler shall continue his/her forward motion at the prescribed pace, then follow the directions of the judge for left or right turns, etc., and will, on further command of the judge, while remaining in motion, call the dog back to his/her side in the heel position.

2. Signal Recall - Hand signals only will be used during Signal Recall. To execute the "SIGNAL RECALL", the handler will, upon order or signal from the judge to "LEAVE YOUR DOG", give the dog a signal to "STAY" in the sitting position. The handler will then walk toward the other end of the ring, to a distance of at least 30 feet, and turn and face the dog. Upon order or signal from the judge to "Lower your dog", handler will "Down" his/her dog using ONLY hand signal. Upon order or signal from judge to "Raise your dog", the handler will "Sit" his or her dog using ONLY hand signal. Upon order or signal from the judge to "CALL YOUR DOG", the handler signals the dog to come, again using ONLY hand signal. The dog must come straight in at a brisk pace to its recall position.

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\*\*The handler shall advise the judge at the start of the obedience routine which type of finish his/her dog will perform. A dog that sits in front of the handler shall sit straight, centered immediately in front of the handler's feet, and close enough so that the handler could readily touch its head without moving either foot or having to stretch forward. Upon order or signal from the judge to "FINISH", the dog, on ONLY hand signal from the handler, must go smartly to the heel position and sit. The dog that comes to an automatic "FINISH" position shall sit directly at the handlers left side in proper heel position. The dog shall not touch the handler, nor sit between his/her feet.

3. Down Stay - The handler and dog will be directed to a specified area and told to "DOWN YOUR DOG". This area will be a six-foot diameter circle visibly displayed. The "DOWN" must be done with a hand signal or command and signal used simultaneously, without touching the dog's collar. He/she will then signal his/her dog to stay, and proceed to a pre-designated area approximately 30 feet away from his/her dog and sit in a chair with his/her back to the dog.

A steward should be available for this exercise. This will allow a judge more time on the other exercises. The handler will remain away from his/her dog for (3) three minutes. The judge will order the handler of the downed dog to return to his/her dog. The dog must stay in the down position within the circle until the judge says "EXERCISE FINISHED". If the dog sits, stands, or leaves the pre-designated circle during the exercise, the team will receive a 0 score.

### B. Agility:

The order in which the obstacles will be arranged will be determined by the judges prior to the start of the trial. Handlers may have two tries to put his/her dog through any obstacle. The handler may walk with the dog, but may not pass an obstacle prior to his/her dog negotiating it.

Barrel Jump - The dog shall jump through one barrel, resting in a cradle so the bottom of the barrel is 36" from the ground.

Window Jump - The sill of the window shall be 36" from the ground, the opening being 30" high by 24" wide. The wall will be approximately 8 ft. high and 4 ft. wide.

Tunnel Crawl - The dog will be required to go through a tunnel or series of barrels at least 10 ft. long, with an inside diameter of no less than 24". There may be a 90 degree turn in the barrels.

3' Wall Jump - The wall will be 3 ft. high, constructed of wood, without cleats.

3' Wire Fence Jump - The wire fence will be 3 ft. high and shall have a tubing or pipe top rail and will consist of a wire screen material through which the dog can see.

Bar Jump - The bar will be 3 feet high and shall have tubing or pipe top rail. The top rail will be loosely placed on the frame and shall not be secure. The center portion of the jump shall be unobstructed

Teeter/Totter - The teeter/totter shall consist of a 12 ft. long and 14" wide plank. It will have a center-raised axis which is at least 24" off of the ground.

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Catwalk - The Catwalk shall consist of a 16 ft. long and 14" wide plank, raised 4 ft. from the ground level. There shall be two ramps on opposite sides of the catwalk, used for access. The ramp and catwalk may be covered with carpeting material.

\* On the catwalk the dog may be required to perform a "Sit, Down and Stand". This will be done with a hand signal or command and signal used simultaneously, without touching the dog's collar.

A-Frame- Shall consist of an angled ramp up to a peak (between 4 and 6 ft. high) then angle down to a platform which is parallel to the ground then angle down to the ground.

C. "Box" Search:

The Search should always be held before the Protection phase in order to avoid having the suspect hide in the box or other object in high temperatures later in the day. A group of at least five (5) boxes or other items conducive to police work (i.e., vehicles, trailers, garbage containers, small sheds, etc.) may be used and arranged in a row or staggered approximately 7 to 10 yards apart. They shall be constructed so that a man concealed within the item is not visible from the outside. Wind flags or banners may be situated in strategic places so that the handler may at all times be advised of the wind direction.

["Decoy" boxes, such as a stack of fruit or vegetable boxes may be used in addition to the five search items used in this exercise. Approval must be obtained from the judges prior to use.

The team shall begin at the designated end of the course and the handler will, upon signal from the judge, command his/her dog to search for the hidden suspect. The handler may accompany his/her dog on the search and work steadily with the dog. A total elapsed time of 60 seconds is allowed. The judge shall follow at his/her discretion in such a manner as to not interfere with the team. If the suspect is not in the object indicated by the handler, or if the suspect is not located within the given time limit, a score of 0 will be given for this exercise.

D. Protection/Gun/Apprehension Phase

Scenario 1:

This exercise begins with, an agitator presenting himself approximately twenty to thirty yards in front of the handler-dog team. The handler-dog team will move to designated cover. Once the handler-dog team reaches cover, the agitator will fire one round. The officer will respond by firing one round. The agitator will drop his gun and run in designated direction. The handler will send the dog for an apprehension. The dog must pursue the suspect without hesitating.

Upon reaching the agitator, the dog shall bite and hold the agitator until the dog is commanded by the handler to release. At that time the handler shall recall his/her dog approximately 10 feet from the agitator, where, the dog shall be commanded to remain in place. The handler shall then "pat search" the suspect while the dog "watches"(for safety reasons the agitator will remain standing while being searched. At no time will the agitator kneel or lie down). After the search, he/she shall be transported (with the handler-dog team a distance of at least 10 ft. behind the suspect) to a previously designated area, at which time the suspect shall be commanded to halt, and the handler-dog team shall move off to a pre-determined location.

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The judge shall have the discretion to determine if the handler should escort the suspect with the dog on or off leash.

The object is for the dog not to interfere with the team movement to cover, for the dog not to move from the handler's side when shots are fired, and for the dog to move directly to the agitator and apprehend him without hesitation and hold them until commanded to release. Furthermore, the dog is not to move when the agitator is being patted down. Any movement will be a deduction in points; the greater the movement, the greater the deduction of points. If the dog makes contact with the agitator while being patted down the team will not receive greater than 50% of the highest possible score for this exercise.

Scenario 2:

The suspect shall present himself/herself approximately thirty yards in front of the handler-dog team. Upon signal from the judge, the suspect will proceed to agitate the dog and shall, upon further signal from the judge, turn and flee. The dog will be released by the handler when the suspect reaches a point previously designated by the judge. After the dog has covered approximately 10 yards, the handler will call to the fugitive to stand still, and will, when the fugitive has stopped, call off his/her dog, who must then NOT make contact with the suspect, but must either be "Downed", return to the handler, or perform a "Guard & Bark.". If the dog bites the suspect during this exercise, he/she will receive a score of 0. If the Dog touches the suspect, the team cannot be awarded more than 75 points for the exercise. The exercise is complete when the handler takes control of the dog by recalling it or going out on the field to meet the dog where it stopped and using a leash to walk him off.

The object is for the dog to listen to commands from the handler and not engage the suspect when commanded to lie down, return to handler, or perform guard and bark.

Scenario3:

In this exercise, the handler-dog team will be designated to a starting point where two subjects will be positioned approximately 20 to thirty yards away and concealed behind a barrier. The first subject (hostage) will present himself/herself and run from right to left for a distance of approximately ten yards and then stop.

As the hostage begins running, the handler will issue police commands ordering the person to stop or they will be bitten. The dog must not break from the handler's side. As this is occurring the second subject (suspect) will expose himself/herself and run past the hostage, then away from him/her. The handler will issue police commands for the second subject to stop or they will be bitten. The suspect will continue to run towards a designated area and the handler will send the dog to apprehend the second subject.

The object is for the dog to ignore the hostage (first subject) by running past him/her and attacking the second subject (suspect).

\*This exercise may be performed with the dog muzzled with the approval of the judge.

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### OTHER RULES:

1. A police dog shall be defined as a dog on regularly daily scheduled duty with the police organization of any unit of government, municipal, township, county, state or federal. The Police Service Dog may have been professionally trained but must be handled by the law enforcement officer to whom the dog is assigned to for deployment on a daily basis. Each handler is limited to competing with one (1) dog.

2. The order of competition will be determined by drawing numbers prior to the start of the trial. Numbered arm bands corresponding with the drawn numbers will be issued and will be prominently displayed by the handlers while working. It may be necessary to have a separate drawing for arm bands for the Narcotic Detection Dog competition.

\*Armbands are available from many dog food companies. Normally, judges or other persons familiar with dog competitions will be able to assist in obtaining armbands.

3. Judges may require any dog to show evidence of obedience training prior to proceeding in any phase of competition. Judge(s) may disqualify any dog whenever, in their opinion, the dog displays behavior that leads the judge(s) to believe the dog is a danger to itself, other dogs, or any person. Decisions of the judges will be final.

4. The apparatus for the agility tests will be available at least one hour before the start of the trial so that each handler may have a chance to familiarize his/her dog with this equipment.

5. No dog shall be agitated by any person other than an official agitator within sight or hearing of the trial area during the day of the trial. Any competitor found in violation of this rule will be disqualified and removed from the competition site. Any non-competitor found in violation of this rule will be removed from the site.

6. No handler may remove himself/herself beyond earshot of the P.A. system during the hours of the trial without a pass card obtained from the steward.

7. Methods of agitation will be in line with the usual law enforcement K9 training. The scenarios will be consistent with apprehending a fleeing felon. For this reason the agitator will, while fighting the dog, attempt to pull away from the dog until directed differently by the handler or judge. The agitator will carry no weapons with which to strike the dog, nor will he/she charge the dog.

8. The agitation equipment used will be furnished by the host agency or by the agitators to provide uniformity.

9. The ammunition used will be standard handgun blanks of .38 caliber.

10. On all outing, the judge will signal the handler who will "halt" the fugitive, and will then call off his/her dog.

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11. In case of ties, the following methods will be used:

- (a) Highest combined score in Search & Protection will break the ties.
- (b) Should further tie breakers be necessary, the quickest time in the Search will break the tie.

12. The judges should score each dog against their own "ideal" of what a dog's reaction to each exercise should be.

13. Handlers will wear no gear which transmits an unusual audible or visible signal to the dog. For example, if handcuffs and keys are worn, they must be secured against jingling. The dog may wear one standard working collar (i.e. fursaver, slip chain, or leather) without extra stimulus producing gear, whether mechanical, electric or electronic.

14. A maximum of two tries at each agility exercise will be allowed. Handlers may not advance past an obstacle until their dog negotiates the obstacle. Each obstacle will be treated as a separate exercise.

15. The judges and stewards will be provided by the host agency. Judges used in the competition will be experienced in working with police dogs or training police dogs. \*Selection of judges must be approved by the Head Official.

16. A minimum of 2 judges will be used for each portion of the competition. Some judges may be responsible for judging more than one exercise in order to allow continuous movement between exercises. For example; Obedience and Agility may consecutively using the same two judges.

17. The Head Official for the Police Service Dog Competition will have the final say on all decisions. With the Head Officials approval, Judges may re-run any phase of an exercise they feel necessary.

18. Agitators will be recruited by the host agency. Agitators shall be strangers to the dogs. It is recognized that a professional being used as an agitator may have worked with your dog in the past. The agitator or the handler must make the judges aware of this and a different agitator must be used who is a stranger to the dog. In no instance will members of the same department be allowed to agitate for their department's dogs.

\*If an agitator falls (or is knocked down), the handler will IMMEDIATELY run to the agitator and assist them with getting up, ensuring the dog is in control. The handler should make every attempt to approach the fallen agitator from the top of his head. This will protect the head and naturally push the dog away from the head as the handler approaches. The judges will have the discretion to run the phase again, if they deem it appropriate.

19. Interim or double commands may be penalized at the direction of the judge, but maximum emphasis will be placed on the responsiveness of the dog to his handler's directions.

20. Guidelines For Handlers:

- a. Praise may be given the dog after each phase of the exercise but neither food nor toys may be taken on the field during the trial.

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- b. The dog may not be corrected while working in the trial, without penalty.
- c. All handlers will be in the appropriate working uniform of the respective agency. No Polo style or t-shirts will be allowed. For safety reasons, NODUTY BELTS OR GUNS WILL BE WORN DURING COMPETITION.
- d. Leashes will not be allowed in the examination area during Obedience or Agility, but will be used in Search and Protection.
- e. All handlers are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner that is conducive to the safety of all participants. Once competition begins, no discussion of detection events or their elements will take place between handlers. Any horseplay that results in or might result in a person being bitten by a dog will be penalized by the team being REMOVED from further competition, at the discretion of the judges.

\*Unsportsmanlike conduct will be dealt with as outlined in the WPFGB General Sports Rules.

**NARCOTICS & EXPLOSIVES DETECTION DOG COMPETITION**

It is essential that the Narcotic & Explosives Dog Competition be open to sworn law enforcement officers only.

**Narcotics & Explosives Dog Competitions are separate events with medals presented in each.**

**BRACKETING**

Point System Bracket.

**SCORING**

Scores of all judges will be used to determine results.

Phase I:	Vehicle Search -	100
Phase II:	Building Search -	100
Phase III:	Luggage Search -	100

NOTE: Points will be subtracted for false alerts.

Points are awarded for each training aid (narcotics & explosives) found. Breakdown of points per aid is based on the amount of aids placed in each particular phase. Placement and amount of aids in each phase will be determined by the competition judges. Each search area will contain an unspecified amount of training aids. Narcotics detection dogs must alert to the narcotics. Explosive detection dogs must alert to the explosives.

Overall performance will be determined by the following criteria:

1. Total number of aids located during each phase.
2. Dogs response to handler.
3. Search techniques.
4. Handlers ability to interpret dogs' alert to aids.

No points will be awarded for alerts not at the source of odor.

**GENERAL SPORT RULES for Police Service Dogs-Narcotics and Explosives Dogs**

**EVENT DESCRIPTIONS**

**PHASE I: Vehicle Search**

For this exercise, there will be four vehicles located in an open area. An undetermined number of training aids will be planted in the exterior/interior of the vehicles for narcotics dogs and only the exterior of the vehicles for explosive dogs. Dog Teams are given 5 minutes to complete this scenario. Time starts when the handler exits the staging area. The minimum aid size will be 15 grams of cocaine, rock cocaine, heroin, marijuana, methamphetamine or any combination. **For Explosive Detection Dogs, the appropriate explosive materials shall be used.**

**PHASE II: Building Search**

For this exercise, there will be at least one room with furniture. An undetermined number of training aids will be planted within the interior of the building. Dog teams are given 4 minutes to complete this exercise. The minimum aid size will be 15 grams of cocaine, rock cocaine, heroin, marijuana, methamphetamine or any combination. **For Explosive Detection Dogs, the appropriate explosive materials shall be used.**

**PHASE III: Luggage, Locker, or Package Search**

For this search, there will be eight pieces of luggage, or 8 packages, or wall of lockers placed either inside or outside. An undetermined number of training aids will be planted. Dog teams will be given 4 minutes to complete this scenario. Time starts when the dog team exits the staging area. The minimum aid size will be 15 grams of cocaine, rock cocaine, heroin, marijuana, methamphetamine or any combination. **For Explosive Detection Dogs, the appropriate explosive materials shall be used.** The area will contain numerous distracters, i.e., food, animal odors, and various objects of distraction.

**OVERALL**

Overall Score is a combination of points in all three phases will determine the top three (3) dogs **in each competition.**

**OTHER RULES:**

1. A Narcotics or Explosives Detection Dog shall be defined as a dog on regular, daily scheduled duty with a law enforcement organization of any unit of government: municipal, county, state or federal. **The Narcotics or Explosives Detection Dog** may have been trained professionally but must be handled by the law enforcement officer to whom the dog is assigned to for deployment on a daily basis. Each handler is limited to competing with one (1) dog.
2. The order of competition will be determined by drawing numbers prior to the start of the trial. Officials will determine in advance which dogs are trained for explosives detection and which are trained for narcotics detection. Numbered armbands corresponding to the drawn numbers will be issued and will be prominently displayed by the handlers while working.
3. No handler may remove themselves beyond earshot of the P.A. system during the hours of the competition without a passcard obtained from the Steward.
4. The Narcotics & Explosives training aids will be concealed at least 30 minutes prior to the start of the first search.
5. Food and animal odors may be placed in the testing area.
6. Handlers having already completed a course shall not converse with those handlers who have not yet competed.
7. Handlers may reward their dogs at their own discretion, but be warned that time does not stop for rewards.
8. The decision of the judges is final.

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9. All handlers are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that is conducive to the safety of participants.
10. All indications by the dog of locating the aids must be obvious to the judges and should be as specific as possible.
11. Video cameras are not allowed.