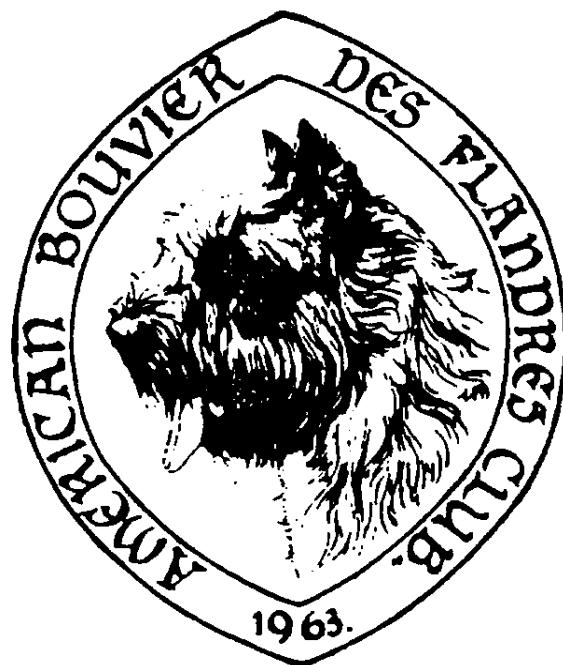


AMERICAN  
BOUVIER DES FLANDRES  
CLUB



CARTING TEST  
REGULATIONS

# AMERICAN BOUVIER DES FLANDRES CLUB CARTING TEST REGULATIONS

## CONTENTS

<b>Introduction</b>	<b>Page 4</b>
<b>Chapter One - General Regulations</b>	<b>Page 4</b>
Section 1 - Application to Hold a Draft Test	Page 4
Section 2 - Duties of the Draft Test Committee	Page 4
Section 3 - Qualifications of Judges	Page 5
Section 4 - Dogs Eligible to Compete	Page 6
Section 5 - Dogs That May Not Compete	Page 6
Section 6 - Handling a Dog	Page 6
Section 7 - Test Disqualifications and Ineligibility	Page 6
Section 8 - Bitches in Season	Page 6
Section 9 - Unentered Dogs	Page 6
Section 10 - Entering at Own Risk	Page 6
Section 11 - Decisions of Judges	Page 6
Section 12 - Entry Limitation	Page 6
Section 13 - Entry in Brace Division	Page 7
Section 14 - Entry in Veteran Division	Page 7
Section 15 - ABdFC Carting Titles	Page 7
Section 16 - Change of Judges, Draft Test Officials or Site	Page 8
Section 17 - Stewards	Page 8
Section 18 - Test Area Conditions	Page 9
<b>Chapter Two - Regulations for Performance and Judging</b>	<b>Page 9</b>
Section 1 - Standardized Judging	Page 9
Section 2 - Failed Exercises and Re-judging	Page 9
Section 3 - Dog in Distress	Page 9
Section 4 - Carting Test Report	Page 9
Section 5 - Required Equipment	Page 10
Section 6 - Commands, Signals and Encouragement	Page 10
Section 7 - Handling Between Exercises	Page 10
Section 8 - Familiarization with the Test Courses	Page 11
Section 9 - Interference and Double Handling	Page 11
Section 10 - Discipline	Page 11
Section 11 - Qualifying and Non-Qualifying Performance	Page 11

**Chapter Three – Carting Test Exercises – All Divisions**

**Page 12**

Section 1 - Individual Exercises

Page 12

Section 2 - Intriguing Distraction

Page 17

Section 3 - Greet Friendly Stranger

Page 17

Section 4 - Freight Load

Page 18

Section 5 - Distance Freight Haul

Page 19

**Appendix – Forms**

**Page 21**

Application To Hold An ABdFC Carting Test

Official Carting Test Entry Form

ABdFC Carting Judges Evaluation Sheet

ABdFC Carting Test Report

ABdFC Mastery Carting Title Application

# AMERICAN BOUVIER DES FLANDRES CLUB CARTING TEST REGULATIONS

## INTRODUCTION

The Carting Tests of the American Bouvier des Flandres Club (ABdFC) are a series of exercises designed to develop and demonstrate the natural abilities of the Bouvier des Flandres in a cart-pulling environment with a handler. While working in a capacity involving hauling, the dog and handler must demonstrate teamwork skills. The Bouvier des Flandres has historically functioned as a carting dog in various capacities and the performance of these exercises is intended to demonstrate skills resulting both from natural ability and training that are applicable to realistic work situations.

Dogs must be willing to work with their handlers and the exercises must be accomplished efficiently. The goal of each handler is to maintain control while encouraging his/her dog's natural independence; together, they demonstrate teamwork. Since a dog can perform carting work only in cooperation with a person, each handler must demonstrate an understanding of carting work with the dog's ability, training, and equipment.

The Carting Test Regulations of the ABdFC is a set of standards by which handlers and Bouviers are judged at an ABdFC sanctioned carting test. The Regulations are neither a guide on how to train for carting work nor a definition of carting work.

## CHAPTER ONE GENERAL REGULATIONS

### Section 1 - Application to Hold a Carting Test

A carting test committee consisting of at least two ABdFC members may apply to the ABdFC Carting Committee for permission to sponsor a carting test. Application must be made using an approved ABdFC application form. (see appendix)

Forms are available from the ABdFC Carting Committee and on the ABdFC web site. The completed application and a required fee (payable to ABdFC) must be sent to the ABdFC Carting Committee. The following information must be included:

- The names, addresses, telephone numbers, and e-mail addresses of the carting test chairperson, and the carting test secretary and the name of at least two additional committee members. The chairperson and at least one other committee member must be members in good standing of the ABdFC.
- The judge's name, address, and breed affiliation.
- The certification that all ABdFC Carting Test regulations will be followed.
- The date of the proposed carting test, address and a description of the site including a detailed site map with descriptions of the ground conditions and terrain. The ABdFC recommends that carting test dates be coordinated with neighboring regional clubs to avoid conflicting dates.
- The signatures of the carting test chairperson, and the carting test secretary-

The completed application, along with a self-addressed stamped postcard/envelope, must be mailed to the ABdFC Carting Committee Secretary a minimum of four (4) months prior to the date of the proposed test. The ABdFC Carting Committee Secretary will return the postcard/envelope upon receipt of the application and will submit the application for approval by the ABdFC Carting Committee. The ABdFC Carting Committee's approval or rejection of the Carting Test Application should be communicated to the Carting Test Chairperson by the ABdFC Carting Committee Secretary within thirty (30) days following the receipt of the completed application.

### Section 2 - Duties of the Carting Test Committee

The carting test committee will act as the official representative of ABdFC during the test event and must enforce the ABdFC Carting Test Regulations. Any violations of these Regulations shall be reported to the ABdFC Carting Committee in the Carting Test Report.

The carting test committee will print a premium list and make it available to those interested in entering the carting test. A copy of the premium should be sent to ABdFC Carting Committee Secretary. The premium must include the following information:

- The date and location of the carting test; a detailed description of the test site describing ground surfaces, slope and other features to help entrants determine proper equipment and requirements or regulations specific to the test site.
- The judge's name, address and breed affiliation.
- The entry limit.
- The beginning date for accepting entries, which must be at least ten (10) days after the mailing date of the premium list.
- The closing date for accepting entries.
- The approval date of the most recent Carting Test Regulations that will be used at the ABdFC carting test.
- A Statement regarding entrant's responsibility for obtaining the ABdFC Carting Test Regulations.
- The web address for obtaining ABdFC Carting Test Regulations.
- The name and address of the carting test secretary to whom the entries shall be sent.
- The official ABdFC Carting Entry Form (see appendix)
- The following statement must be included: "Permission has been granted by the ABdFC Carting Committee for the holding of this event under the ABdFC Carting Test Regulations".
- The officers and board members of the host club.
- Description of ribbons (navy blue & white) flat or rosette and awards if offered.
- The following statement must be included: "Dogs that have earned an AKC Companion Dog title or Preferred Companion Dog title, or the equivalent CKC or UKC title will be credited as passed the control part of the test and go right to the harness and hitch. A copy of the title certificate must be included with the Carting entry form. Dogs entered in Brace will need to do the control part of the test. If the dogs have a CD that does not show they can work safely with another dog in brace."

The premium list must not be mailed before the sponsoring club receives approval from the ABdFC Carting Committee to conduct the test.

At least ten days before the test the carting test secretary must send the entrants a notification including the carting test location (including a map), judging time, judge's name and any changes in the carting test information that may have occurred since the premium list was sent. If entries exceed the published entry limit, the carting test secretary will notify alternates of their position on the alternate list.

The carting test secretary will keep a copy of the current ABdFC Carting Test Regulations and a copy of AKC's Dealing with Misconduct publication at the test site for reference.

The carting test secretary must submit a Carting Test Report and copies of the Judges Evaluation Sheets to the ABdFC Carting Committee Secretary within thirty (30) days after the test.(see appendix) The ABdFC Carting Committee Secretary may grant an extension provided that the request for an extension is meritorious and that it is received within thirty (30) days after the test.

### **Section 3 - Qualifications of Judges**

The ABdFC believes that the carting test judges should thoroughly understand carting work and the physical conditioning necessary for carting and other types of pulling.

The carting committee must select a judge or judges before applying for permission to sponsor an ABdFC Carting Test. The judge may be selected from the list of judges who have met the qualifications approved by the ABdFC Carting Committee. A copy of the list may be obtained from the ABdFC Carting Committee Secretary.

Since there is a limited number of approved ABdFC carting judges, the committee may select a qualified carting/draft judge who is in good standing with another breed club. That judge must agree to judge according to the ABdFC Carting Test Regulations.

#### **Section 4 - Dogs Eligible to Compete**

The ABdFC Carting Tests will be open to Bouvier des Flandres dogs at least twenty four months of age. The word 'dog' in the ABdFC Carting Test Regulations refers to either sex. All entered dogs must have an AKC registration number, ILP number, UKC number, foreign registration number, or AKC or foreign litter number.

ABdFC tests may be open to other breeds of dogs and mixed breed dogs, at least twenty four months of age, at the discretion and request of the carting test committee. This request must be included on the 'Application to Hold a Carting Test. Bouvier des Flandres will be given preference at the close of entries, should entry levels be filled.

#### **Section 5 - Dogs that May Not Compete**

No dog belonging wholly or in part to the Carting Test judge or to any member of the judge's immediate family may be exhibited under the judge.

#### **Section 6 - Handling a Dog**

Each dog or team must be handled by the same person for all exercises.

#### **Section 7 - Test Disqualifications and Ineligibility**

Judges must immediately disqualify and remove from competition a handler and dog for any of the following reasons:

1. The dog attacks a person or dog on the test grounds.
2. The handler deliberately interferes with another handler or dog.
3. The handler behaves in an unsportsmanlike manner in or outside the testing area. (Unsportsmanlike behavior includes: directing angry or abusive language at a person or dog; mistreating a dog; showing discourtesies to judges, test officials, stewards or others.)
4. The dog is lame or wears corrective bandages or other attachments.

#### **Section 8 - Bitches in Season**

Bitches in season must compete last and must wear panties. When not being tested, bitches in season must be contained in a designated area well away from male dogs and the official test areas.

#### **Section 9 - Unentered Dogs**

All unentered dogs must be kept outside and away from the main test area.

#### **Section 10 - Entering at Own Risk**

Entrants participate in an ABdFC Carting Test at their own risk. Entrants agree to abide by the ABdFC Carting Test Regulations.

#### **Section 11 - Decisions of Judges**

At the carting test, the decisions of the judges are final in all matters affecting the judging and working ability of the dogs and their handlers. The judges are in sole charge of the carting test area until their assignment is complete.

#### **Section 12 - Entry Limitation**

Maximum number of entries per judge is twenty (20) per test day. If the carting test committee anticipates an entry in excess of its facilities for a carting test, it may limit entries to fewer than twenty.

A prominent announcement of test limits must appear on the title or cover page of the carting test premium. Under no circumstances can the published entry limit be changed.

Entries will be accepted by mail only. The entry slots will be filled according to the postmark date. If the number of entries with the same date exceeds the number of available slots, a drawing will take place to fill the vacancies and determine the alternates. All entries received after the entry limit is filled will be placed on an “alternate list” by order of postmark. If absentees or withdrawals occur prior to the start of the test, the test secretary will substitute entries from the alternate list. When notifying exhibitors of their entry numbers, exhibitors on the alternate list will be notified of their position on the waiting list. Entrants who learn they will be unable to attend a carting test should contact the test secretary immediately so exhibitors on the alternate list may be notified. Entry fees will be refunded if the withdrawal of the entry is done prior to the closing date of the Carting Test.

If space permits, day of entries will be allowed. Move ups will be allowed on the day of the test, before the test begins.

### **Section 13 - Entry in Brace Division**

A brace consists of two dogs working together in unison. Only dogs passing the individual division prior to the brace test, will be eligible to compete in the brace division. Proof of the individual title is required.

If a dog entered in individual division has qualified in a previous carting test, the entry may be transferred from individual to brace division by one of two methods:

1. The dog entered in individual division may be added to an already entered team.
2. The dog entered in individual division may enter the brace division with a dog that has previously qualified individually at the level entered. Proof of the individual title is required.

### **Section 14 – Entry in Veteran Division**

Any dog entered in an ABdFC Carting Test over the age of 7 on the day of the test, may be entered in the Veteran Division at the owner’s discretion. For veteran brace, both dogs must be over the age of 7. If an owner/handler chooses to enter a dog over the age of 7 in the regular division, then the dog will be held to the same exercises and requirements as all other entries in the test.

**Note: AKC does not recognize ABdFC Veteran titles for their AKC Parent Club Performance Program.**

For those dogs entered in the Veteran Division, the following changes to the exercises are judged:

1. In the Freight Haul, the Veteran Dog will be required to go a distance of ½ mile.
2. The load requirement for a Veteran Dog will be ¼ their weight.

### **Section 15 - ABdFC Carting Titles**

A dog qualifying at either the novice or advanced level shall be deemed to have earned the title for that level. A NDD title is not necessary for a dog to attempt a DD title, however team dogs must have earned individual titles at the level they are entered (example a NBDD must consist of 2 dogs that have earned NDD titles prior to the NBDD test). Titles are as follows:

NDD Novice Draft Dog  
NDD-V Novice Draft Dog-Veteran  
DD Draft Dog  
DD-V Draft Dog-Veteran  
NBDD Novice Brace Draft Dog  
NBDD-V Novice Draft Dog-Veterans  
BDD Brace Draft Dog  
BDD-V Brace Draft Dog-Veterans

A Certificate will be awarded by the ABdFC Carting Committee to a dog/handler team that qualifies at the ABdFC Carting Test that they have entered. Ribbons (navy blue & white) or prizes may be offered by the sponsoring club for a qualifying performance. Ring favors may also be given.

For carting dogs/handlers who have earned the NDD but are not ready to advance to DD, they may continue carting at the novice level and earn the title Advanced Novice Draft Dog, ANDD. This would also include Advanced Novice Brace Draft Dog, ANBDD. To earn the ANDD the dog would have to qualify in 3 NDD tests with at least 2 of them being ABdFC NDD.

For carting dogs/handlers who wish to continue carting, the ABdFC has designated a Mastery Program. After a dog has earned its DD title, the dog may continue carting and earn the following titles which will include Brace titles:

- Master Draft Dog (MDD) - 3 successful Draft Dog tests (1 must be ABdFC)
- Master Draft Dog Excellent (MDDX) - 5 successful Draft Dog tests (2 must be ABdFC)
- Champion Draft Dog (ChDD) - 10 successful Draft Dog tests (4 must be ABdFC)

To obtain these titles, the ABdFC Mastery Carting Application (see appendix) must be submitted to the ABdFC Carting Committee, and certificates will be issued. Advanced titles from other breed club carting/draft events will be counted toward the Mastery Program but proof of the successful completion of the test must also be submitted.

**At this time AKC only recognizes the NDD, NBDD, DD, and BDD titles in their AKC Parent Club Performance Program**

### **Section 16 - Change of Judges, Carting Test Officials or Site**

If a carting test committee is informed any time prior to the opening of its carting test that an advertised judge cannot fulfill his/her engagement to judge, the carting test committee will substitute a judge either from the ABdFC Approved Carting Judges list or they may substitute a qualified carting/draft judge who is in good standing with another breed club, provided that judge agrees to judge according to the ABdFC Carting Test Regulations.

The ABdFC Carting Committee Secretary (or the ABdFC Carting Chairperson in the event the Secretary cannot be contacted) must be notified immediately in order to approve the substitution. The ABdFC Carting Committee Secretary may be notified by telephone, mail or electronic means. This same policy applies to an emergency change of site, carting test chairperson, or test secretary. If the request is made by phone, a follow up letter must be sent to the ABdFC Carting Committee Secretary by mail or electronic means with a full explanation. If time permits, a written notice should be mailed or e-mailed to all exhibitors.

In the event that a judge becomes ill or is unable to fulfill the judging assignment on the day of the test and the ABdFC Carting Committee Secretary or Chairperson cannot be reached according to the procedures described above, the carting test committee may substitute an approved carting test judge who is in attendance at the test to fulfill the assignment. If an approved judge is not available, a qualified person with considerable carting test training and exhibiting experience may be appointed by the carting test committee to fulfill the assignment. The ABdFC Carting Committee Secretary or Chairperson must be notified of the substitution as soon as possible, and a full explanation for the substitution, including the qualifications of the substitute judge, must be included in the Carting Test report.

The change must be posted prior to the start of the test. Exhibitors have the right to withdraw their entry with a refund of their entry fee if they choose not to exhibit under the substitute judge. Withdrawals must be made thirty (30) minutes before start time.

### **Section 17 - Stewards**

Stewards assist the judges and they may act only on the judges' instructions. Stewards must not give information or instructions to owners and entrants except as specifically instructed by a judge and then only in such a manner that it is clear that the instructions are those of a judge. Any harassment of stewards must be reported immediately to the judges.

At least one steward is required for the individual exercises. A lead steward will set a brisk pace, for the Distance Freight Haul. Additionally, there should be at least one steward for each 4 dog and handler teams for safety and, at the judge's request, to monitor handler's compliance with the rules.



In the NDD exercise, where allowed for safety, and at the handlers request, when the steward holds the lead, he/she is acting as a post, and may not give any commands or corrections.

### **Section 18 - Test Area Conditions**

The testing areas for the exercises must be clearly marked (e.g. ribbons on trees, lime path on route, and so forth). Only members of the carting test committee, judges, and stewards have unlimited access to the testing areas. Only the current handler and dog being tested are permitted in the testing areas.

At the judge's discretion, unentered spectators may be permitted to follow the last entrant on the freight haul course but are not permitted in other testing areas.

## **CHAPTER TWO REGULATIONS FOR PERFORMANCE AND JUDGING**

### **Section 1 - Standardized Judging**

Standardized judging is of great importance. Since ABdFC Carting Tests occur on natural terrain, the judges may, if necessary, make minimal adaptations to the exercises to fit the available site. If, in the opinion of the judge, the test setup is not safe or will not adequately test a dog's and handler's abilities, the judge may disapprove of the carting test committee's test setup and confer with the carting test committee to implement suggestions or improvements that make the test setup acceptable. In no instance, however, should the judge add, delete or change any carting test requirement.

Judges selected by a carting test committee for a carting test should be chosen for their ability to judge Bouviers working in harness. Judges must act in a professional, impartial and pleasant manner and should possess thorough knowledge of the ABdFC Carting Test Regulations, a sense of fairness and an appreciation for the efforts of dogs and handlers. The ABdFC Carting Committee maintains a copy of the Qualifications for Carting Test Judges and a current list of approved judges.

### **Section 2 - Failed Exercises and Re-judging**

During the carting test, the judge may permit a handler to assist his dog in completing a failed exercise. Only gentle guidance by the dog's collar is permitted as discipline.

If a dog fails a particular exercise, it will not ordinarily be re-judged. However, if in the judge's opinion a particular and unusual circumstance affected the dog's performance, the judge may re-judge the dog on the complete exercise at his discretion. If the judge decides to re-judge a dog on an exercise, he should announce the reason to the spectators and on the Carting Test Report.

### **Section 3 - Dog in Distress**

If at any time during a carting test it becomes apparent to either the handler or judge that the dog is in distress, the exercise will be terminated and the dog will be recorded as failed unless the judge determines that the cause of distress is due to an unusual circumstance. In that case, the judge may permit the dog to be retested. The dog should be given a reasonable period of time to recover before testing resumes. If the dog does not recover sufficiently to continue testing without causing an unreasonable delay, the judge must mark the dog failed. If in the judge's opinion a handler is not showing reasonable consideration for the dog's welfare, the judge has the discretion to terminate the exercise and to mark the dog as failed.

### **Section 4 - Carting Test Report**

The test secretary will record the pass or fail performance for each dog on the Carting Test Report. Any significant comments on the Judges Evaluation Form should be noted on the Carting Test Report. There should be three copies of the Judges Evaluation Form, one for the entrant, one for the judge to retain for his/her own records, and the original one to be

sent, along with the Carting Test Report, to the ABdFC Carting Committee Secretary for title recording and issuing of certificates.

## **Section 5 - Required Equipment**

### Equipment Provided by Handlers

The handler provides the dog's carting equipment (including appropriate harness, traces, and carting apparatus for site condition) and a freight load that properly fits the carting apparatus. The carting apparatus may not carry advertising signs. Equipment may be shared by two or more exhibitors or by two or more dogs owned by the same exhibitor; however, the sharing must not interfere with the safety or the timely completion of the carting test. The harness must fit the dog. If an appropriate harness and apparatus are not used, the judge may fail the handler for improper equipment.

A dog entered in the test must wear a well-fitted plain buckle collar, slip collar or snap around slip collar. Special training collars such as prong collars and collars that are improperly fitted are not permitted. ID and rabies tags are allowed.

If at any time during the test the equipment breaks down in a manner that reasonably could not have been anticipated by the handler, the judge may allow the handler to make an emergency repair. The repair must be made within ten (10) minutes with materials that the handler carries or is carried in the apparatus. The handler must make the repairs without assistance from others, and the dog must remain under control.

### Equipment Provided by Carting Test Committee

The carting test committee must provide the following test items:

- Ropes, standards or ring gates for test area where needed.
- Exhibitor and cart numbers.
- Watch or stop watch to time "stays".
- Markers for the distance freight haul .
- Obstacles, yard stick for back up, measuring tape, and intriguing distractions.
- Scale for weighing the freight loads.

Examples of removable obstacles include gates, saw horses, logs, branches and highway construction cones. Obedience equipment must not be used. When deciding what removable obstacles to use, the carting test committee should consider the types of obstacles working dogs encounter in parades, neighborhoods, the woods and a trip to a store.

Prior to the beginning of the carting test, the judges will inspect and approve or disapprove of all equipment provided by the carting test committee. The equipment must be suitable for the test site.

## **Section 6 - Commands, Signals and Encouragement**

During the testing, a handler may give commands, signals and encouragement to the dog by voice, arm signal or with a whistle. Multiple commands and signals are permitted. When one command only is specified for an exercise, it may be a voice, hand or simultaneous voice and hand command. A simultaneous voice and hand command is considered a single command. While an entrant may encourage the dog in a pleasant and positive manner, undue and frequent yelling, shouting or reprimands should be considered undesirable and unnecessary for a dog under control. Such behavior constitutes a failure of the exercise.

Physical praise and petting are encouraged between and after exercises. A handler shall not carry or offer food during the exercises or in the testing area.

## **Section 7 - Handling Between Exercises**

A dog may be guided gently by the collar between exercises. Any other physical guidance is not permitted and will result in a failure.

## **Section 8 - Familiarization with the Test Courses**

Sixty (60) minutes before the start of judging, all entrants will check in with the carting test secretary, prior to course familiarization. If a handler is not present within thirty (30) minutes of check-in time, an entrant from the alternate list will be assigned the absent handler's position.

Thirty (30) minutes before the start of judging, handlers and stewards must meet with the judges for instruction. Judges will answer questions at this time. Handlers are then allowed time to familiarize themselves with the test areas. A steward must be available to walk entrants on the distance freight haul course, and to monitor the test areas. Handlers will not be permitted to walk the maneuvering or distance freight haul courses after this time period.

## **Section 9 - Interference and Double Handling**

Double handling or interference is not permitted. If a judge notices assistance or interference while a handler and dog are performing, the judge must act promptly to stop the double handling or interference. If the circumstances warrant (in the judge's opinion), the judge shall mark the dog failed for the exercise when aid was received.

## **Section 10 - Discipline**

Complaints must be registered with the carting test chairperson no later than thirty (30) minutes following the announcement of awards. All complaints will be ruled on by the carting test committee using AKC's Dealing with Misconduct publication as a guideline.

## **Section 11 - Qualifying and Non-Qualifying Performance**

The dog's ability to perform assigned tasks with its handler is the primary quality emphasized in a carting test. In addition, judges must consider a dog's willingness and smoothness of performance. A dog that willingly completes each task within a reasonable time period and without physical assistance should be marked as passed. The judge will inform entrants if they pass or fail at the completion of each series of exercises.

Judges will mark entrants with a failing performance during any portion of the test for the following Failures Common to All Exercises:

1. A dog is not under the handler's control.
2. A handler yells at his dog frequently to maintain control of his dog.
3. A handler abuses the dog or fails to show consideration for the dog's welfare.
4. The dog upsets the carting apparatus.
5. A dog urinates while being tested (except during the freight haul, when it will be limited to one occurrence).
6. The dog defecates while being tested (except during the freight haul, when it will be limited to one occurrence and the handler must clean up appropriately).
7. The handler or dog violates specific test site regulation.

**CHAPTER THREE**  
**CARTING TEST EXERCISES – ALL DIVISIONS**

**Section 1 - Individual Exercises**

*Dogs that have earned an AKC Companion Dog title or Preferred Companion Dog title, or the equivalent CKC or UKC title will be credited as passed the control part of the test and go right to the harness and hitch. A copy of the title certificate must be included with the Carting entry form. Dogs entered in Brace will need to do the control part of the test. If the dogs have a CD that does not show they can work safely with another dog in brace. This rule must be included in the Carting Premiums.#*

Individual Exercises will include a heeling pattern, a recall, harness and hitching, and maneuvering course.

A carting test demonstrates cooperation between the handler and dog. Since a handler's carting work knowledge and abilities are essential to carting work, the judge evaluates a handler's knowledge and ability to select the correct equipment for the dog, site and conditions and to use the equipment properly. It is critical that a handler understands the equipment that the dog uses, since the dog has no recourse if the equipment is poor. The equipment includes the harness, carting apparatus, weights, and any traces or tack required.

Prior to the official beginning of the individual exercises, the handler brings the carting equipment, including the harness, to the steward assigned to the test area. The steward will place the empty carting apparatus with the harness in the test area according to the judge's instructions.

**HEELING PATTERN:** This exercise will be done on a standard 6' lead for the NDD test and off lead for the DD test. The dog will heel within arm's reach of the handler. The handler must not touch the dog but may command and encourage the dog to remain within arm's reach at all times.

The judge will call an 'L' shaped heeling pattern that includes the following commands, forward, slow, fast, normal, right or left turn, halt, and exercise finished. Failure to change pace will not automatically result in failure. The judge will determine the order of commands and will call the same pattern for each dog and handler. The exercised finished will be called across the test area from the carting apparatus and harness.

**Principal parts of the heel exercise:**

The dog performs the heeling pattern on the left or right side of the handler and within arm's reach while responding to the handler's commands.

**Failing Performance**

1. Dog frequently heels beyond the handler's reach.
2. Dog leaves the area.
3. Dog is considered unmanageable by the judge.
4. Dog must be physically handled by the handler during the heel pattern.

**TEAM DIVISION EXERCISE CONSIDERATION—Heeling Pattern**

In the case of a Team Entry the two dogs should work comfortably side by side, with the right hand dog within arm's reach of the handler. They should not tangle or change positions during the heeling exercise.

Entries in the NBDD may use 2 leashes, or a coupler and one leash. Dogs may have their collars connected by a coupling device of not less than six (6) inches in overall length. Entries in the BDD may use a coupler.

A failing performance for a team follows the same rules for a single dog, with the stipulation that a failing performance by any one member of the team is cause for failure of that exercise for the entire team.

*For all exercises, the NBDD entry will work on lead and the BDD entry will work off lead for all exercise.*

**RECALL:** The recall will be performed from the end of the heeling pattern to the location of the carting apparatus in the test area (a distance of approximately 50 feet). At the command of the judge, the handler will leave the dog in a sit, down, or stand position. The dog will stay in place until called by the handler. The dog must respond to the first command signal

to come. A simultaneous voice and hand command is permitted. Extra hand signals and vocal commands are allowed after the dog begins to move. The dog will come to the handler near enough to be touched. A sit facing the handler is preferred, but not required. The judge will call the following commands: leave your dog, call your dog, and exercise finished (the dog is not required to finish).

For the NDD and NBDD entry, a steward may hold the dog's collar gently while the handler crosses the ring, releasing the dog when the handler calls. The DD and BDD entries must be off lead for the recall exercise.

#### Principal parts of the Recall Exercise

The dog remains in place until the judge tells the handler to call the dog. "Stay" and "Come" may be voice, hand or a simultaneous voice and hand command.

#### Failing Performance

1. Dog does not stay when told to do so, or appears anxious or fearful of steward if being held.
2. Dog does not go to the handler.
3. Dog goes to handler but remains out of reach.
4. Dog leaves the ring.
5. Dog must be physically handled by the handler.

#### BRACE DIVISION EXERCISE CONSIDERATION—Recall

In the case of a Brace Entry the two dogs should work comfortably side by side. Dogs may have their collars connected by a coupling device of not less than six (6) inches in overall length.

A failing performance for a brace follows the same rules for a single dog, with the stipulation that a failing performance by any one member of the brace is cause for failure of that exercise for the entire team.

*For all exercises, the NBDD entry will work on lead and steward assistance is available as for a single dog, the BDD entry will work off lead for all exercise.*

**HARNESING AND HITCHING:** Using the equipment provided by the handler, the handler harnesses and hitches the dog in this exercise. A handler may touch the dog only as required to harness and to hitch the dog, but may not touch to discipline. The dog must demonstrate willingness to be harnessed and hitched to the carting apparatus without shying. The judge may touch the dog and equipment as necessary for checking. Once checked, equipment may not be substituted and the handler must use the approved equipment throughout the remainder of the test.

The equipment must remain in safe working condition throughout the carting test. Consequently, the judge may fail improper or unsafe equipment at any time during the remainder of the test.

At the completion of the recall, the judge will instruct the handler to harness and to hitch his dog. The dog and handler position themselves close to the carting rig. The handler harnesses and hitches the dog. The handler may instruct the dog to cooperate for harnessing and hitching.

When the dog is completely hitched, the judge will indicate that the dog and handler are to move to a predetermined location (at least twenty feet ahead) and stop. As the dog and handler move forward, the judge observes the equipment to verify that the equipment works safely, efficiently, and in harmony with the dog's anatomy during the forward motion and during braking. When the dog and handler have stopped at the designated location, the judge calls the exercise finished.

The judge instructs the handler through the exercise using such commands as harness your dog, hitch your dog, move forward to the next position, halt, and exercise finished.

#### Principal Parts of the Exercise

Judge inspects equipment, which must be in good working condition, safe and appropriate for the test site and for the dog.

Handler hitches and harnesses his dog, and uses equipment correctly and appropriately during the remainder of the test.

Handler demonstrates that the equipment performs safely and efficiently when in motion and when braking.

### Failing Performance

1. Handler physically guides dog during the exercise, with the exception of the necessary physical contact required to harness and to hitch the dog.
2. Dog is uncooperative (walks away, refuses to obey handler's commands) during harnessing.
3. Dog is uncooperative during hitching.
4. Handler does not properly harness or hitch the dog to the apparatus.
5. Harness does not fit correctly.
6. The hitch is unsafe.
7. Apparatus balance is unsafe or causes dog trouble while working.
8. Equipment is poorly designed or in need of repair.
9. Carting equipment selected by handler is inappropriate for site and/or dog.
10. Equipment breaks in a manner that could not be anticipated and cannot be repaired by the handler without assistance within ten (10) minutes.

### BRACE DIVISION EXERCISE CONSIDERATION—Harnessing and Hitching

Standards of Performance and Principal Parts of the Exercise for Harnessing, Hitching and Equipment Check for a brace follow those for a single dog with the exception that the handler will be working with more than one dog at once. The handler may work with each dog individually when harnessing and hitching and may instruct the other dog(s) to cooperate appropriately. Dogs may have their collars connected by a coupling device not less than six (6) inches in overall length but their harnesses may not be connected in any way. For the NBDD entries, a steward may hold the lead of one dog while another dog is being harnessed.

A failing performance for a brace follows the same rules as a single dog, with the stipulation that a failing performance by any one member of the brace is cause for failure of that exercise for the entire team.

**MANEUVERING COURSE:** The carting test committee sets up and clearly marks a maneuvering course that includes as many natural features as possible. The judge will verify that the course meets the test criteria. If necessary, the judge may modify the course so that it adequately tests the handler and the dog's maneuvering abilities. The course must include the following:

- Circular patterns both right and left.
- Broad curves.
- Ninety-degree turns; at least one (1) to the left and one (1) to the right.
- Two (2) narrow areas five (5) or more feet long; one (1) low to the ground (e.g. logs) and one (1) solid narrow area a minimum of three (3) feet high (e.g. stacked bales of hay, fencing, etc.).
- The low narrow is adjustable to 12 inches wider than the cart. The high narrow is fixed at 12 inches wider than the widest cart or brace team.
- Removable obstacle.
- Back 3 feet within 30 seconds
- Slow
- Intriguing distraction

At the beginning of the maneuvering course, the judge tells the handler and dog to take the course. The dog hitched to the carting apparatus, hauls forward at a normal working speed accompanying the handler. There are no time constraints for traversing the course as long as the dog continues to work.

The handler may work in front of, beside or behind the dog, or any combination of these positions. The handler may not impede the dog's forward movement at any time. This includes stepping in front of a dog to enforce a halt command or stepping in front of a dog that tries to change direction against the handler's command.

The NDD and NBDD dogs will perform the maneuvering course on loose lead, preferably with a J in the leash, moving comfortably with the handler. The team will be failed for tight leash corrections. The DD and BDD dogs will perform the maneuvering course off lead, and must move comfortably with the handler and be under control at all times.

At appropriate locations along the maneuvering course, the judge will command the handler and dog to slow to show a definite change of pace for a short distance. The judge will instruct handler and dog to stop and back the dog for a distance of three feet. After the dog stops a yard stick may be placed. The dog must do the exercises within 30 seconds.

The judge will decide in advance the appropriate locations for the slow and back and sequences for the commands. The locations will be the same for all dogs.

In NDD, if a dog's apparatus bumps any object (e.g. tree or narrow area) and the dog obeys the handler's commands in dislodging it, the judge will pass the dog. However, if this happens more than one (1) time, the judge will fail the dog. The dog will also fail the exercise if the dog damages the objects or apparatus. In DD the dog will fail the exercise if it bumps any objects.

At the removable obstacle the dog waits while the handler removes the obstacle. In NDD the handler returns to the dog and walks the dog through the obstacle. In DD, the handler calls the dog through the obstacle. The judge will instruct the handler to leave the dog and return the obstacle to its former position.

#### Principle Parts of the Exercise

With the dog harnessed and hitched to the carting apparatus, the handler directs the dog to pull through the maneuvering course.

The dog follows the handler's instructions to turn, halt, slow, and back as directed by the judge.

#### Failing Performance

1. Handler impedes the dog's forward movement by moving in front of the dog to enforce a halt command.
2. Handler touches dog or apparatus without judges' permission.
3. Dog refuses to accompany handler.
4. Dog does not obey commands given by handler.
5. For NDD, dog and apparatus bumps objects more than one (1) time.
6. For DD, dog and apparatus may not bump any object during the exercise.
7. Dog bumps handler who chooses to work in front of his dog.
8. Dog refuses to back the required distance within thirty (30) seconds on command.
9. Dog tries to pass removable obstacle without waiting for handler to move it, does not wait for handler's command to move forward or does not stay while the handler returns the obstacle to original position.
10. Dog upsets carting apparatus.
11. Equipment breaks in a manner that could not be anticipated and cannot be repaired by the handler without assistance within ten (10) minutes.
12. Tight leash corrections.
13. Dog does not change to a slow pace on command.

#### BRACE DIVISION EXERCISE CONSIDERATION—Maneuvering Course

Standards of Performance and Principal Parts of the Exercise for Maneuvering Course and Basic Commands for a brace follow those of a single dog, with the exception that the handler will be working with more than one dog hitched to the carting apparatus. Dogs may have their collars connected by a coupling device not less than six (6) inches in overall length. The dogs in the brace are to perform the commands together. The adjustable narrows area should be twelve (12) inches wider than the brace or apparatus (whichever is wider).

A failing performance for a brace follows the same rules as for a single dog, with the stipulation that a failing performance by any one member of the brace is cause for failure of that exercise for the entire team. If one member of the brace consistently pulls less than its share, the brace is considered to have failed the exercise. The judge should consider the size of the dogs when judging their allocation of work.

**LONG STAY:** The NDD and NBDD dogs must do a 1 minute in sight stay and DD and BDD dogs must do a 3 minute out of sight stay, within the maneuvering course, and while hitched and harnessed to the carting apparatus. The handler may leave the dog in a down, sit, or stand, and the dog must maintain that position.

The judge will instruct the handler to position the dog in a specified area of the maneuvering course. The handler will command their dog to stay. The judge will signal the handler to leave the dog. NDD and NBDD handlers may hand the dogs leads to a steward. The judge calls the following commands: position your dog, leave your dog, return to you dog, and exercise finished.

#### Principal parts of the One Minute Stay Exercise for NDD and NBDD dogs

The exercise is performed with the handler at least 30 feet away from the dog.

The 'stay' command may be given as a voice, hand or simultaneous voice and hand command.

The judge will tell the handlers to return to their dogs after one minute. The handler may walk around their dog or return directly to heel position.

The dog will remain in position until the handler returns to the heel position.

The handler shall not release the dog until the judge says exercise finished.

#### Failing Performance

1. Handler gives more than one stay command.
2. Dog moves substantially and significantly moves the apparatus forward or backward.
3. Dog changes position any time before the handler returns to heel position.

#### Principal parts of the Three Minute Stay Exercise for DD and BDD dogs

The exercise is performed with the handler out of sight.

The 'stay' command may be given as a voice, hand or simultaneous voice and hand command.

The judge will tell the handler to return to their dogs after three minutes. The handler may walk around their dog or return directly to the heel position.

The dog will remain in position until the handler returns to the heel position.

The handler shall not release the dog until the judge says exercise finished.

#### Failing Performance

1. Handler gives more than one stay command.
2. Dog moves substantially and significantly moves the apparatus forward or backward
3. Dog changes position any time before the handler returns to heel position.

#### **BRACE DIVISION EXERCISE CONSIDERATION—Stay Exercise**

Standards of Performance and Principal Parts of the stay for a team follow those of a single dog. Dogs may have their collars connected by a coupling device not less than six (6) inches in overall length. The dogs in the team are to perform the commands together.



A failing performance for a brace follows the same rules as for a single dog, with the stipulation that a failing performance by any one member of the brace is cause for failure of that exercise for the entire team.

*For NBDD entries steward assistance is available as for a single dog, the BDD entry will work off lead for the exercise.*

## **Section 2 - Intriguing Distraction**

At some point during the Maneuvering Course, a planned intriguing distraction is performed near the dog. The distraction should be the same for all dogs. If an unplanned/natural distraction occurs, the dog will be judged the same as on the planned intriguing distraction.

When the distraction appears, the dog may stop what it is doing or shift its position to watch, but may not divert from the course. To give the dog time to respond to the handler's stop command, the dog may move two or three steps toward or away from the distraction. If the dog stops to watch the distraction, the handler should encourage the dog to proceed when appropriate to do so.

### Principal Parts of the Exercise

An intriguing distraction occurs near the working dog during a moving exercise.

The dog may stop and notice the distraction, but may not pursue, or flee from the distraction.

The handler redirects the dog, and the dog continues with the exercise.

### Failing Performance

1. Handler physically touches or guides the dog during the exercise.
2. Dog changes direction and follows the distraction.
3. Dog flees from the distraction.
4. Dog barks more than a few times or refuses to stop barking when instructed by the handler.
5. Dog refuses to resume the exercise after the distraction passes.
6. Dog fails a naturally occurring distraction for the above reasons, even if it has passed the planned distraction.

### BRACE DIVISION EXERCISE CONSIDERATION—Intriguing Distraction

A failing performance for a brace follows the same rules as for a single dog with the stipulation that failing performance by any member of the brace is cause for failure for that exercise for the whole team.

## **Section 3 – Greet Friendly Stranger**

At some point during the Maneuvering Course, there shall be a planned meeting with a friendly stranger. The team shall halt. The dog must wait in a stand, sit, or down position. After the dog has been told to stay, a steward or judge approaches, greets the handler and dog, and leaves. The dog must wait until the judge gives the “exercise finished” command.

### Principal parts of the exercise

The dog halts and waits while a friendly stranger greets the handler and dog.

### Failing Performance

1. Dog does not halt on command.
2. Dog does not wait with the handler until the “exercise finished” is given.
3. Dog shows aggression or severe shyness towards the stranger.

## Section 4 - Freight Load

This is a group exercise. The judge will watch the group of handlers load and secure the freight in the apparatus. The handler must select an appropriate freight load for the apparatus and should weigh  $\frac{1}{4}$  the dogs weight for NDD and  $\frac{1}{2}$  the dogs weight for DD.

In the Freight Load portion of the Carting Test, the entrants in the Veteran's Division shall be loaded with  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the dogs weight.

Before the test begins, a steward will weigh any non-standardized freight materials. At the judges' discretion, the steward may be asked to weigh any of the loads.

The handler will provide the freight load for the apparatus. The handler must secure the load adequately so that it does not shift when the apparatus moves. The handler must place and secure the load into or on the carting apparatus without help from anyone else. The judge will verify that the load is appropriate for the dog, apparatus, and the site conditions. Animals or people may not be used as loads. Factory sealed containers of pet food may be used if the seal has not been broken.

After the judge has observed each handler load and secure the freight in the apparatus, the judge will watch the dogs and handlers move as a group to the beginning of the distance freight haul area. At this point the judge will instruct the handlers that the exercise is completed.

Note: A dog may wear a cooling vest on the freight haul on a hot day as long as it does not interfere with the harness and traces.

### Principal Parts of the Exercise

The handler selects a comfortable working load for the dog and apparatus.

The handler loads and secures the weight in the apparatus.

Judge observes that the freight load is balanced and secured safely during movement.

### Failing Performance

1. The load is not balanced.
2. The load is not securely tied down.
3. The dog is improperly harnessed or hitched.
4. Handler overloads the dog's apparatus.
5. Handler must reduce or re-balance the freight load after the dog begins to pull.
6. Handler physically touches or guides the dog unnecessarily during loading.
7. Dog refuses to move loaded carting apparatus.
8. Freight load becomes unbalanced when the apparatus is moving.
9. Freight load is too heavy for the dog.

Note: If the judge fails a handler because the freight load is too heavy for the dog before the dog begins to pull, weight may be removed and the handler and dog may finish the course with a lighter load.

### BRACE DIVISION EXERCISE CONSIDERATION—Freight Load

Standards of Performance and Principal Parts of the Exercise for the Freight Load for a brace follow those for a single dog. Dogs may have their collars connected by a coupling device not less than six (6) inches in overall length. The weight carried must be what each dog would carry individually added together.

A failing performance for a brace follows the same rules as for a single dog. A failing performance by any one member of the brace is cause for failure for the entire team.

## Section 5 - Distance Freight Haul

The Distance Freight Haul is a group exercise with a maximum of ten (10) handlers per group or ½ the total entry. Each dog will haul a loaded apparatus on a course that is approximately one (1) mile in length. Each handler and dog will start the course in catalog order, or as the judge directs. As the dogs begin the trail, the judge may allow the dogs and teams to find their position within the group according to each handler and dog's working speed. Each handler and dog must be within sight of the judge at all times. Per the judge's instruction, the lead steward will set and maintain a pace that the dogs and handlers will follow. The NDD and NBDD entries will perform the freight haul on lead, while DD and BDD entries will perform the freight haul off lead. All entries in the Veteran Division of either the NDD-V or DD-V will only need to perform a ½ mile freight haul. All other rules for the Freight Haul apply to the Veterans.

The course may have natural obstacles (bends in the trail, trees, potholes, etc.) that are native to the test area. Each dog will pull the freight that was loaded and secured during the Freight Load Exercise. As long as the dog works, there is no time limit. If the dog stops pulling at any point along the test route, the handler has one (1) minute to get the dog moving again. With the judge's permission, a handler may stop the dog at the side of the course to rest briefly. At that time, the judge may allow other dogs in the group to pass. If other situations arise, such as ice balls in paw pads during a winter carting test, the handler may request permission from the judge to stop and attend to the situation.

The handler may not touch the carting apparatus unless special permission is granted by the judge if the equipment requires assistance in passing an obstacle or lifting it over an obstruction such as a curb. Once the area is passed, the handler must release his hand from the apparatus.

The handler may work in front of, beside or behind the dog, or any combination of these positions. The handler may not impede the dog's forward movement at any time. This includes stepping in front of a dog to enforce a halt command or stepping in front of a dog that tries to change direction against the handler's command.

At the completion of the distance freight haul the handler will wait for the judge to verify that the dog cooperates with the handler while being unhitched from the carting apparatus. Once the dog is unhitched, the judge will state that the exercise is finished. With the permission of the judge, the handler may unload the freight before unhitching.

### Principle Parts of the Exercise

Dog hauls a loaded carting apparatus a distance of approximately one (1) mile with the handler. (Veterans haul the carting apparatus a distance of approximately one half mile with the handler.)

Dog must be under handler's control and remain behind the lead steward.

Dog cooperates with its handler for unhitching from the apparatus.

### Failing Performance

1. Handler physically touches the dog or apparatus during the exercise without judge's permission.
2. Handler must alter the load on the course.
3. Handler impedes the dog's forward movement by moving in front of the dog or otherwise physically impedes the cart to enforce a halt command.
4. Dog refuses to move the loaded carting apparatus when told to do so (one (1) minute time limit).
5. Dog bumps lead steward or overruns and tries to pass lead steward
6. Dog cannot comfortably or safely move the freight load the full length of the course.
7. Dog bumps handler who chooses to work in front of his dog.
8. Dog does not cooperate during unhitching.

9. Equipment breaks in a manner that could not be anticipated and cannot be repaired by the handler without assistance within ten (10) minutes.

#### BRACE DIVISION EXERCISE CONSIDERATION—Distance Freight Haul

Standards of Performance and Principal Parts of the Exercise for the Distance Freight Haul for a brace follow those of a single dog with the exception that the handler will be working with more than one dog hauling the loaded apparatus. Dogs may have their collars connected by a coupling device not less than six (6) inches in overall length. The dogs in the brace are to traverse the distance course working together.

A failing performance for a brace follows the same rules as for a single dog the stipulation that a failing performance by any one member of the brace is cause for failure of that exercise for the entire team. If one member of the brace consistently pulls less than its share, the brace is considered to have failed the exercise. The judge should consider the sizes of the dogs when judging the brace's allocation of work.



## Application To Hold An ABdFC Carting Test

Name of Club hosting Test: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Proposed Test: \_\_\_\_\_

Location of Test – Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of Test Area: \_\_\_\_\_

\* Please include map of test area.

Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Additional Committee Member: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Additional Committee Member: \_\_\_\_\_

**Note:** The Chairman and one other committee member must be members in good standing of the ABdFC. These persons will comprise the **Carting Test Committee** for the proposed event.

Judge's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Judge's Breed Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

*Submitting this completed application indicates that it is the intention of this club to host a Carting Test in accordance with ABdFC regulations and that all necessary equipment and provisions will be provided by the hosting club (except those items required to be provided by the test entrants, as defined in the ABdFC regulations).*

Will this test be open to dogs, besides Bouvier des Flandres:                      Yes     No   
In All Breed ABdFC Carting Tests, Bouvier des Flandres must be given preference.

**Fee: \$45**, made to ABdFC, to be included with this application.

**Carting Test Chairperson** \_\_\_\_\_ (signature)

**Carting Test Secretary** \_\_\_\_\_ (signature)

**Official Entry Form**  
**American Bouvier des Flandres Club Carting Test**  
*NAME OF SPONSORING CLUB*  
*DATE OF EVENT*

Entry Fee: *Amount of entry fee*  
Entries Close: *Closing date*  
Mail Entries To: *Name and address of test secretary*  
Make checks payable to: *Sponsoring club*  
Please type or print clearly and include your telephone number and e-mail address for notification

Novice  Draft Dog  ~ Individual  Veterans  Brace

(For brace entry complete a form for second dog)

This Brace dog is already titled in the individual class.

The entered dog has a CD, PCD, or equivalent  
(enclose copy of certificate)

Width of Cart \_\_\_\_\_

Weight of Dog \_\_\_\_\_ Freight Haul Weight \_\_\_\_\_

Registered Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Registry: \_\_\_\_\_ Registration No. \_\_\_\_\_

Breed if Other than Bouvier: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: \_\_\_\_\_

Sire: \_\_\_\_\_

Dam: \_\_\_\_\_

Breeder: \_\_\_\_\_

Owner: \_\_\_\_\_

Handler: \_\_\_\_\_

Owner's Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

No Entry will be accepted without a signed Agreement

## Entry form must be signed to be a valid entry

I understand that I enter my dog in this ABdFC Draft Test at my own risk. I have read the current ABdFC Carting Test Regulations and understand them. I agree to abide by the ABdFC Carting Test Regulations. (Carting test regulations are available at the ABdFC Web Site) I certify and represent that the dog entered is not a hazard to persons or other dogs. This entry is submitted for acceptance on the foregoing representation and agreement. I agree to conduct myself in accordance with all such rules and regulations (including all provisions applying to discipline) and to abide by any decisions made in accord with them.

I also understand that the club holding this event has the right to refuse this entry. I agree that I am solely responsible for the actions of myself and the dog that accompanies me in relationship to this entry.

In consideration of the acceptance of any entry and the opportunity to participate in this event, I agree to hold harmless and indemnify the American Bouvier des Flandres Club (ABdFC) and the event giving club, their members, officers and agents, the owner and or leaser of the premises, any provider of services at this event, any employees or volunteers, and any Carting judge judging at this event from any claim for loss, damage or injury alleged to have been caused directly or indirectly by my actions or by the actions of the dog in relationship to this event. I agree to be responsible for any loss and expense (including legal fees) incurred by any of the listed parties based on claims related in any way to my participation or the actions of the dog in relationship in this event, whether the claims are made by third parties or by myself.

In addition, I agree to assume the sole responsibility for any loss, damage, or injury (including death) to myself or to the dog in relationship to this event. I agree to release, indemnify, and promise not to sue the parties listed above for any such loss, damage or injury to myself or the dog, regardless of the cause, and whether or not the loss damage or injury may have been caused by the negligence of the listed parties.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## ABdFC Carting Judges Evaluation Sheet

Catalog Number \_\_\_\_\_ Breed: \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Novice  Draft Dog  ~ Individual  Brace  Veteran  Date \_\_\_\_\_

<b>HEELING</b>		
1. Handler adapts pace	4. Unmanageable	CD/PCD <input type="checkbox"/> / Pass <input type="checkbox"/> /Fail <input type="checkbox"/>
2. Frequently heels beyond reach	5. Physical handling	Comments:
3. Dog leaves ring		
<b>RECALL</b>		
1. More than 1 stay command	5. Remains out of reach	CD/PCD <input type="checkbox"/> / Pass <input type="checkbox"/> /Fail <input type="checkbox"/>
2. No stay when told	6. Dog leaves ring	Comments:
3. A second command to come	7. Physical handling	
4. Does not go to handler		
<b>HITCHING AND HARNESSING</b>		
1. Physical Guidance	6. Hitch is unsafe	Pass <input type="checkbox"/> /Fail <input type="checkbox"/>
2. Uncooperative during harnessing	7. Apparatus balance is unsafe or gives dog trouble	Comments:
3. Uncooperative during hitching	8. Equipment poorly designed or in need of repair	
4. Handler does not properly harness or hitch	9. Equipment is inappropriate for site.	
5. Harness does not fit property	10. Equipment breaks & can't be repaired in 10 min.	
<b>MANEUVERING COURSE</b>		
1. Handler impeded dog's motion to enforce halt	6. DD bumps any object	Pass <input type="checkbox"/> /Fail <input type="checkbox"/>
2. Handler touches dog/apparatus without permission	7. Dog bumps handler who works in front of dog	Comments:
3. Dog refuses to accompany handler	8. Dog refuses to back required distance in 30 sec.	
4. Dog does not obey commands given by handler	9. Dog fails removable object exercise	
5. NDD Dog or apparatus bumps objects more than once	10. Dog upsets draft apparatus	
	11. Equipment breaks & can't be repaired in 10 min.	
	12. Dog does not change to a slow pace on command	
<b>STAY IN HARNESS</b>		
1. Handler gives more than one stay command	3. Dog changes position before handler returns to heel position	Pass <input type="checkbox"/> /Fail <input type="checkbox"/>
2. Dog moves substantially		Comments:
<b>INTRIGUING DISTRACTION</b>		
1. Handler physically touches or guides dog	5. Dog refuses to resume exercises after distraction	Pass <input type="checkbox"/> /Fail <input type="checkbox"/>
2. Dog changes direction and follows distraction	6. Dog fails a naturally occurring distraction	Comments:
3. Dog flees the distraction		
4. Dog barks more than a few times or refuses to stop		
<b>GREET FRIENDLY STRANGER</b>		
1. Dog does not halt on command	3. Dog shows aggression or severe shyness towards the stranger	Pass <input type="checkbox"/> /Fail <input type="checkbox"/>
2. Dog does not wait with the handler until the "exercise finished" is given		Comments:
<b>FREIGHT LOAD</b>		
1. Load is not balanced	6. Physical guidance/touching	Pass <input type="checkbox"/> /Fail <input type="checkbox"/>
2. Load is not securely tied down	7. Dog refuses to move loaded apparatus	Comments:
3. Dog is improperly harnessed or hitched	8. Freight load becomes unbalanced	
4. Handler overloads apparatus	9. Freight load is too heavy for the dog	
5. Freight loaded improperly, must reduce or re-balance	Freight Weight _____	
<b>DISTANCE FREIGHT HAUL</b>		
1. Handler touches dog/apparatus without permission	5. Dog bumps or passes lead stewards	Pass <input type="checkbox"/> /Fail <input type="checkbox"/>
2. Handler must alter load while on course	6. Dog can't safely move load full length of course	Comments:
3. Handler impeded dog's motion to enforce halt	7. Dog bumps handler who is working in front of dog	
4. Refusal to move loaded apparatus (1 min. limit)	8. Dog does not cooperate during unhitching	
	9. Equipment breaks & can't be repaired in 10 min.	
<b>FAILURES COMMON TO ALL EXERCISES</b>		
1. Dog not under control	6. Dog defecates while being tested (exception-freight haul, one instance only, handler must clean-up)	Pass <input type="checkbox"/> /Fail <input type="checkbox"/>
2. Handler yells frequently to maintain control	7. Dog or handler violate specific site regulations	Comments:
3. Handler abuses dog		
4. Dog upsets the draft apparatus		
5. Dog urinates while being tested (exception-freight haul, one instance only)		

Pass       Fail

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Judge: \_\_\_\_\_ Judges Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



AMERICAN BOUVIER DES FLANDRES CLUB – CARTING TEST REPORT  
(To be completed by carting test secretary)

Sponsoring Club: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Event: \_\_\_\_\_ Location of Event: \_\_\_\_\_

Judge(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide the following information with regard to the event:

To Sponsors:

1. Did any of the details of the event (e.g. judge or judges present, location, etc.) differ from those originally stated on the application form? \_\_\_\_\_ (yes or no). If "yes," attach an explanation.

2. PROVIDE TWO MARKED CATALOGS OR ON PAGE TWO OF THIS FORM PROVIDE A LIST OF ENTERED DOGS WITH INFORMATION AS INDICATED (additional pages may be attached if necessary).

To Sponsors and Judges/Testers:

1. Were there any complaints, inadequacies in facilities, failures to follow rules and guidelines, misconduct, irregularities, or unusual occurrences of any kind in connection with the event? \_\_\_\_\_(yes or no). If "yes," attach full report.

2. Were there any injuries of any kind to dogs or handlers? \_\_\_\_\_(yes or no). If "yes," attach full report.

3. Please provide a brief description of the facilities and the running of the event.

4. Please provide any additional comments or suggestions.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_ Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Send this Carting Test Report to the ABdFC Carting Committee Secretary, along with the copies of the Judges Evaluation Sheets.



Sponsoring Club: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Event: \_\_\_\_\_ Location of Event: \_\_\_\_\_

List below the results for each level separately, by Level (NDD, DD) and Judge Under each level heading, list: Name of Dog; Breed; Name, Address, and Telephone Number of Owner; and Pass/Fail. (a marked catalog, if available, may be substituted)



## ABdFC Mastery Carting Title Application

Registered Name of Dog: \_\_\_\_\_

Owner(s): \_\_\_\_\_

AKC#: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: \_\_\_\_\_

Sire: \_\_\_\_\_

Dam: \_\_\_\_\_

- Advanced Novice Draft Dog (ANDD) - 3 successful novice tests – 2 must be ABdFC
- Master Draft Dog (MDD) – 3 successful advanced tests-1 must be ABdFC
- Master Draft Dog Excellent (MDDX) – 5 successful advanced tests-2 must be ABdFC
- Champion Draft Dog (ChDD) – 10 successful advanced tests-4 must be ABdFC

Proof of successful completion of tests (copy of Certificate of Award) must be submitted to the ABdFC Carting Committee. Tests from other Breed Club's Draft Events will be counted toward the Mastery Program.

	<b>Sanctioning Club</b> (Certificate Attached)	<b>Date of Completion</b>
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Owner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date