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*(Official LV/DVG America Translation in English)*



## **TRIAL RULES**

of the German Kennel Club

(VDH)

des Verbandes  
für das deutsche Hundewesen  
(VDH)

Valid as of January 1, 2004

Valid for LV America as of April 1, 2004

Sketches

**General abbreviations:**

AKZ	=	Training Degree
AZG	=	Working Dog Council/Committee of the VDH
AZG-MV	=	AZG Member Organizations/Associations
FL	=	Tracklayer
HF	=	Dog Handler
HL	=	Helper
HZ	=	Verbal Command
LR	=	Trial Judge
PL	=	Trial Chairperson
PO	=	Trial Rules
TSB	=	Triebveranlagung = Drive Assessment Selbstsicherheit = Self Confidence, Soundness Belastbarkeit = Ability to withstand stress; toughness; resilience
VDH	=	German Kennel Club
VPG	=	Vielseitigkeitsprüfung für Gebrauchshunde = Versatility Test for Working (Utility) Dogs

**Note:**

On the whole, for simplification reasons, the male version of the abbreviation is used in the following, but is applicable to both men and women.

**General [Information] Part:**

**Validity**

These guidelines were formulated by the Working Dog Committee of the VDH and were approved and voted on by the VDH Board on August 16, 2003. These guidelines will become effective on January 1, 2004 and replace all previous regulations.

These trial rules are valid for all member organizations/associations of the VDH. All trial events (trials and tournaments) held within the operating purview of the VDH must comply with these rules.

Upon these rules taking effect, all previous rules cease to be valid.

**General Information:**

Trials and tournaments should serve two purposes. The first purpose is to determine a dog's suitability for a particular use by obtaining a title. The other purpose is to help to maintain or increase the health and working ability, as far as working dog characteristics are concerned, from generation to generation within the breeding program. They also help to maintain and increase health and fitness. A working title is also considered proof of a dog's suitability for breeding.

All trials and tournaments are subject to the principles of sportsmanship regarding the hosting of events and regarding the conduct of the participants. The regulations stated in these guidelines are binding for all parties involved. All participants must comply with the same performance requirements. The events are open to the public. The membership must be publicly informed of the location of the event and the time the event starts.

Trials and tournaments must fulfill all trial levels or separate complete parts of a particular trial level. A valid training title is earned by successfully completing the attempted trial level. The training degrees are to be recognized by all AZG member organizations.

For events not of the nature of a trial, the regulations of each respective trial rules are valid.

Protection only events are not permitted.

### **Trial Season**

Trials can be held throughout the entire year if weather permits and the health and safety of people and animals are not put at risk. Otherwise, the event cannot be held. The trial judge makes this decision.

### **Trial Organization/Trial Chairperson (PL)**

The trial chairperson is responsible for organizing the event. The trial chairperson handles or supervises all tasks necessary to prepare for and conduct a trial. The PL insures that the trial is run in an orderly fashion and must be at the judge's disposal throughout the entire event.

The PL is not allowed to show a dog or take on other duties. The Trial Chairperson is responsible for:

- ? Obtaining all necessary event authorizations.
- ? Providing suitable (in accordance with trial regulations) tracking fields for all trial levels.
- ? Making arrangements with the owners of the tracking fields and persons who may have acquired hunting rights for this property.
- ? Getting experienced volunteers, for example helpers for the protection phase, tracklayers, people for the group, etc.
- ? Securing the trial date.
- ? Providing all necessary trial equipment (in accordance with PO-Regulations) and proper protective clothing for the helpers.
- ? Providing forms, such as judge's books and score sheets for all trial levels.
- ? Making available scorebooks, registration papers, proof of vaccination and if necessary, proof of liability insurance.

The chairperson must inform the judge three days prior to the event of the location of the trial, the time the trial starts, directions to the trial site, type of examinations and number of dogs. If the PL fails to provide the judge with this information, the judge has the right to withdraw from his/her commitment.

The event authorization form must be presented to the judge prior to the start of the trial.

### **Trial Judges**

The officers of the hosting club are responsible for inviting a judge who is authorized to conduct VPG trials, or is appointed according to the regulations of the AZG member organization. The host club determines how many judges are requested. However, one judge may judge a maximum of 30 individual parts per day.

BH/VT with written test	Equals 3 parts
BH/VT without written test	Equals 2 parts
VPG 1, 2 and/or 3	Equals 3 parts each
FH 1, FH 2	Equals 3 parts per track
Tracking Degree 1-3	Equals 1 part each level
StP 1-3 (Random Article Search)	Equals 1 part each level
WH and RTP (Rescue Dog Suitability Test)	Equals 2 parts each

For major events scheduled by AZG member organizations, each can establish special regulations.

The judge is not permitted to evaluate dogs that are owned by him or that he has in his possession. The judge is not permitted to evaluate dogs that are owned or in the possession of a person living in the same household with him. The judge is not permitted to evaluate dogs that are shown by a person living in the same household. If the judge is appointed to an event by the AZG member organization or the Working Dog Committee, this rule does not apply. *[This simply means that in championships, a judge may judge someone living in the same household, should that person qualify for the championship.]*

**The judge is not permitted to influence or distract a dog's performance through his behavior.** The judge is responsible for observing and the correctly applying the valid trial rules. The judge is entitled to terminate a trial if it is not conducted in accordance with the trial regulations and instructions are ignored. In this case the judge must submit a report to the appropriate organization.

The judge is authorized to dismiss a dog from the trial that is injured or that exhibits diminished ability to perform, even against the judgement of the handler. If the handler pulls the dog, the entry made in the scorebook is to be "Unsatisfactory as a result of quitting." If the handler pulls the dog because of an obvious injury or presents a veterinarian's certification to that effect, the entry into the scorebook is "Terminated because of Illness" or "Terminated because of Injury". **The judge is authorized to disqualify a handler for unsportsmanlike conduct, carrying any type of motivational article [i.e., food, toy, etc., during a trial performance], violations against the trial rules, against the animal protection laws and against good manners. In any case, premature termination of the trial is to be substantiated by a note in the scorebook. If the handler is disqualified, no points earned are entered in the scorebook.**

A judge's decision is final and incontestable. Any form of criticism regarding the evaluation can lead to dismissal from the trial field and may eventually result in disciplinary action. In legitimate cases, regarding a violation of the trial rules by the judge and not a judge's decision, a complaint can be filed within eight days. The complaint is to be submitted in writing, signed by the complainant and at least one additional witness via the host club Trial Chairperson. No right of revision of the judge's decision is derived from the acceptance of a complaint. The appropriate Board of the AZG member organization/association is responsible for making a decision regarding the complaint.

### **Trial Participants**

The participant must meet the entry deadline for the trial. Once the entry form has been submitted, the participant is obligated to pay the entry fee. In the event that the participant cannot participate in the trial for whatever reason he/she must immediately contact the trial chairperson. The trial participant must comply with any local veterinary and animal protection regulations

At the beginning of the trial, each participant in turn, with the dog either on lead or off lead in the basic position, reports to the judge in a sportsmanlike manner, stating his/her name and the name of the dog. The participant must follow the instructions of the judge as well as those of the trial chairperson. The handler must show the dog in a sporting and impeccable manner. A handler must show his dog in all parts of the trial, regardless of the outcome in any one part. The trial ends with the announcement of the final scores (award ceremony) and return of the scorebooks.

The handler must carry a leash throughout the entire trial. The dog must wear a **simple, single-row, loose-fitting chain collar** on the dead ring at all times. Any additional collars (such as leather or tick-collars, etc.) are not permitted during the trial. The leash can be carried so it is invisible for the dog, or the handler can put the leash over his/her shoulder from top left to bottom right.

Only in the BH/VT test is a harness permitted, to which no additional straps are to be attached.

**Verbal commands are to be brief, given in a normal voice, consisting of one single word. The commands can be given in any language, but the same command must be used for the same function at all times. (Valid for all divisions.)**

**A handler may participate with no more than two dogs in a single trial and can participate in only a single trial per day.**

### **Physically Disabled Handlers**

A handler who is physically disabled and as a result cannot heel the dog on the left side may heel the dog on the right side. The same rules for a dog heeling on the right side as on the left.

### **Muzzle Restrictions**

The federal or national enacted as well as individual state enacted laws regarding dogs in public places are to be observed. Handlers and dogs that are bound by applicable laws may perform with a muzzle, for example in the traffic portion of the BH test.

### **Trial Requirements**

On the day of the trial the dog must have reached the required age. No exceptions are allowed.

A prerequisite to participate in a trial, in accordance with the national VDH trial rules, is proof of a successfully passed VDH BH test. (BH-VT)

BH/VT	15 Months
FPr 1-3 (Tracking Test)	15 Months
StP 1-3 (Random Article Search)	15 Months
VPG A	18 Months
VPG 1	18 Months
VPG 2	19 Months
VPG 3	20 Months
FH 1	18 Months
FH 2	20 Months
RTP (Rescue Dog Suitability Test)	15 Months
WH	15 Months

**All dogs, regardless of their size, breed or proof of pedigree are allowed to participate. The dog must be able to meet the requirements of the VPG title.**

A minimum number of 4 participants is required to hold a trial. A single participant trial is not allowed.

If an AD is scheduled with a trial, it is left up to the judge whether or not he/she wishes to conduct the AD. The judge is under no requirement to do so.

Dogs, which were entered in the trial, may also enter the AD. The AD participants do not have to be added to the number of trial entries.

Each degree can be repeated as many times as desired. The trial levels are to be completed in sequence (levels 1-2-3). A dog may only be shown at the next higher level upon passing the previous level. In order to go on to the next higher degree, the dog must earn a minimum of 80 points in Part C. The age requirement must be considered. A dog must always be shown in the highest degree it has earned. An exception can be made in trials that are not connected with a qualification or ranking (repeater). Dogs over 6 years old can be shown in the Aged Class (Alterklasse) after making application to the appropriate AZG member organization. After receiving reclassification to the Alterklasse, dogs may only participate at trial levels VPG 1, IPO 1 and FH 1.

Bitches in season may participate in all events. However, they must be kept apart from the rest of the participants. **They will be shown according to [draw] schedule in part A of the trial.** *[Explanation: Bitches in heat are not required to go last in tracking. They will track according to draw number.]* In all other phases they will be placed at the end of the starting order. They will be shown at the end of the trial. Pregnant and nursing females are excluded from the trial.

Sick and contagious animals are excluded from all events.

### **Temperament Test**

Before any trial starts, prior to the first examination phase, the dogs must undergo an impartiality test (temperament test). **Part of the temperament test is the identity inspection** (examination and verification of the tattoo-number, chip, etc.). Dogs that do not pass the temperament test cannot participate in the trial and must be disqualified. Owners of dogs that are micro chipped are responsible for providing the necessary equipment for the identity check.

The judge will continue to evaluate the temperament throughout the entire trial. The judge is obligated to immediately disqualify a dog if that dog shows a defective temperament. A notation must be made in the scorebook, explaining the temperament fault. Dogs that were disqualified because of a temperament defect must be reported in writing to the appropriate office of the AZG member organization.

### Conduct of the Temperament Test

1. The temperament test must be performed under **normal environmental conditions** in a neutral location for the dog.
2. Each dog will be presented to the judge **separately**.
3. The dog is presented to the judge on a regular leash. The leash must hang loosely.
4. **The judge must avoid any type of provocation. The judge is not allowed to touch the dog.**

### Evaluation:

- a.) Positive response of the dog: The dog shows itself, for example, to be neutral, self-confident, secure, attentive, full of spirit, impartial
- b.) Still acceptable borderline cases: For example, the dog is somewhat unstable, slightly nervous, and slightly insecure. Such dogs can still pass the temperament test, but must be kept under close observation throughout the entire trial.
- c.) Negative response of the dog or defective temperament: For example, the dog is shy, insecure, nervous, gunshy, out of control, bites, is aggressive (disqualification).

### Scoring System:

A performance is evaluated in points and ratings (qualification). The ratings (qualification) and corresponding points must reflect the quality of the performance.

### Point table:

Maximum Points	Excellent (Vorzüglich)	Very Good (Sehr Gut)	Good (Gut)	Satisfactory (Befriedigend)	Insufficient (Mangelhaft)
5 points	5	4.5	4.0	3.5	3.0-0
10 points	10	9.5-9.0	8.5-8.0	7.5-7.0	6.5-0
15 points	15.0 - 14.5	14.0 - 13.5	13.0 - 12.0	11.5 - 10.5	10.0 - 0
20 points	20.0 - 19.5	19.0 - 18.0	17.5 - 16.0	15.5 - 14.0	13.5 - 0
30 points	30.0 - 29.0	28.5 - 27.0	26.5 - 24.0	23.5 - 21.0	20.5 - 0
35 points	35.0 - 33.0	32.5 - 31.5	30.5 - 28.0	27.5 - 24.5	24.0 - 0
70 points	70.0 - 66.5	66.0 - 63.0	62.5 - 56.0	55.5 - 49.0	48.5 - 0
80 points	80.0 - 76.0	75.5 - 72.0	71.5 - 64.0	63.5 - 56.0	55.5 - 0
100 points	100.0 - 96.0	95.5 - 90.0	89.5 - 80.0	79.5 - 70.0	69.5 - 0

### Percentages:

Rating	Awarded percentage	Deduction
Excellent	= minimum 96%	or up to minus 4%
Very good	= 95 to 90%	or minus 5 to 10%
Good	= 89 to 80%	or minus 11 to 20%
Satisfactory	= 79 to 70%	or minus 21 to 30%
Insufficient	= below 70%	or minus 31 to 100%

**Only whole points shall be given in the overall rating of each complete phase.** Partial points may be given for individual exercises. At the end of trial phase, if the points do not total a whole number, the total can be rounded up or down, depending on the overall impression.

In case of a tie, the winner is determined by the higher score in Part C. Should there still be a tie, the higher total points in Part B determines the winner. Scoring results that coincide in all three phases shall be considered as placing the same.

### **Disqualification**

A handler/dog team is disqualified from further participation in a trial if a judge decides the dog has a faulty temperament; unsportsmanlike conduct on the part of the handler (for example, alcohol use, carrying a motivational article and/or food), violations of the trial rules, violations of the animal protection laws or actions contrary to accepted standards of behavior.

**With this disqualification, all points awarded previously (including points earned in other phases) are disallowed. Neither rating (Qualification) nor points are to be entered in the trial paperwork.**

If the dog does not remain in the control of the handler (for example, in the side or back transports; the dog leaves the handler or field during the trial and does not return after being called 3 times; the dog will not out; the dog bites the helper someplace other than the bite sleeve), the dog/handler team is disqualified from further participation in the trial.

**With this disqualification, the points awarded previously in this particular part of the trial are disallowed. Neither rating (Qualification) nor points are to be entered for this trial part in the trial paperwork.**

### **Evaluation**

A degree can only be awarded if a dog achieves at least 70% of the total points in each phase of a trial.

<b>Maximum Points</b>	<b>Excellent (V)</b>	<b>Very Good (SG)</b>	<b>Good (G)</b>	<b>Satisfactory (B)</b>	<b>Unsatisfactory (M)</b>
<b>100 points</b>	100 - 96	95 - 90	89 - 80	79 - 70	69 - 0
<b>300 points</b>	300 - 286	285 - 270	269 - 240	239 - 210	209 - 0
<b>200 points (VPG A)</b>	200 - 192	191 - 180	179 - 160	159 - 140	139 - 0

### **Scorebooks**

Each participating dog must have a scorebook. The scorebook is issued according to the regulations of the handler's appropriate organization. Only one scorebook may be issued by the AZG member organization per dog. The organization/association issuing the scorebook assumes this responsibility. In any case, the judge enters the trial results in the scorebook, and, if there is a provision made in the scorebook, the trial chairperson must check the entry and verify it with his/her signature.

### **Liability**

The owner of a dog is liable for any personal injury or material damage caused by the dog. Therefore, the owner must have adequate insurance. In case of an accident, the handler is liable for himself/herself and the dog throughout the event. The handler follows the instructions given by the judge and the organizer of his/her own free will and executes the instructions on his/her own risk.

### **Vaccinations:**

Prior to the beginning of the trial, at the request of the judge or the trial secretary, the handler must provide proof of proper vaccinations (vaccination certificate).

### **Trial Supervision**

The AZG member organization is entitled to supervise the conducting of the trial. The AZG member organization can assign a knowledgeable person to oversee an event to make certain it is conducted in accordance with the regulations stated in the guidelines.

### **"TSB" Rating**

The "TSB"-Evaluation should serve the purpose of describing a dog's character traits in regards to breeding suitability. The "TSB" Rating neither influences the trial result nor influences the trial ranking. A dog must complete at least one protection exercise to receive a "TSB" Rating.

The ratings of pronounced (a), present (vh), and insufficient (ng) describe the following characteristics: Triebveranlagung; **Selbstsicherheit**; and **Belastbarkeit**.

TSB "pronounced" (ausgeprägt)

Is given to a dog that shows strong willingness to work, clear instinctive behavior, determination in its performance; appears self-confident, pays undivided attention and is capable of coping with a severe amount of stress.

TSB "present" (vorhanden)

Is given to a dog that has limitations concerning its willingness to work, instinctive behavior, self-confidence, attentiveness and ability to cope with stress.

TSB "insufficient" (nicht genügend)

Is given to a dog with insufficient willingness to work, insufficient instinctive behavior, lacking self-confidence and that has insufficient ability to cope with stress.

### **Rules of Discipline**

The event organizer or chairman is responsible for guaranteeing order and safety within the entire trial or event grounds.

The judge is authorized, in the case of failure to observe the rules or for safety reasons, to suspend or terminate the trial.

Gross violations by the handler against these regulations, against the trial rules, against the animal protection laws and against the rules of common decency can lead to expulsion from the trial.

In this case, the judge must deliver a report to the appropriate association/organization. Following this, a statement will be requested from the parties concerned, which can then lead to a decision about the disciplinary action.

Expulsion must be determined in the disciplinary committees of the associations/organizations. A report is to be made in every case to the AZG Headquarters.

The expulsion of a person from a club or an organization can be published in the respective association's/organization's magazine.

The decision of the judge is incontestable. Any criticism of the decision of the decision can bring about expulsion from the trial field and eventual disciplinary action. In legitimate cases, which don't relate to the factual decisions, but rather violations of the rules by the judge, it is possible to file a complaint. This complaint is to be submitted in writing to the appropriate association/organization. It can only be submitted by the trial/event chairman and must be signed by the complainant, the president of the club and one of the additional witnesses. This complaint must be received within 8 days following the incident. No right of revision of the judge's decision is derived by the acceptance of such a complaint. Videotapes are not valid as proof.

### **Special Regulations**

The AZG member organization is entitled to expand (modify) general regulations within their domain. For example, rules concerning permits, veterinary requirements, animal protection laws or sanitary regulations can be adjusted to differences in legislation within the state. Handlers may give verbal commands in their own language.

## Helper Regulations:

### A) Requirements for the employment as helper in phase “C”

1. The guidelines and regulations of the trial rules regarding helper work must be followed.
2. The helper in phase “C” is the assistant to the judge on the day of the trial.
3. For his personal safety, as well as for insurance liability reasons, the helper must wear protective clothing (protection pants, jacket and sleeve) when doing helper work during training, trials and competitions.
4. The helper's shoes must be suitable for different weather/ground conditions and must provide the helper secure footing and good traction.
5. Before phase “C” starts, the helper will receive instructions from the judge. The helper must perform the helper work in accordance with the judge's instructions.
6. The helper must follow the handler's instructions during the disarming/search of the helper phase in accordance to the trial regulations. The helper must give the handler the opportunity to put the dog in a basic position before beginning the side and back transports.
7. Club trials can be worked with a single helper. **If there are more than 7 dogs entered** in a trial, two helpers should be used. In competitions, qualifications and championship trials above the regional level, generally a minimum of two helpers are to be assigned. In all these events, it is permitted to use a helper who lives in the same household as one of the handlers.

### B) Regulations concerning the conduct of trial helpers:

#### 1. In general:

Within the structure of the trial, the training level and the quality of the trialing dogs (for example, drive [natural instinct], ability to withstand stress, self assurance, responsiveness to the handler) should be evaluated by the judge. **In the process, the judge can objectively evaluate only that which he hears and sees in the course of the trial.**

This aspect above all, but also in order to preserve the sporting character of the trial (i.e., possibility for equal conditions for all participants), demands that the helper work must provide the judge with a picture as clear-cut as possible.

The option of how protection work will be structured must not be left up to the helper, but rather the helper has to observe a series of rules.

During the trial, the judge has to check the most important evaluation criteria concerning the individual elements of the exercises during phase “C”. These elements are, for example, the ability to cope with stress, self-confidence, instinctive behavior [drive] and responsiveness to the handler. Furthermore, he must evaluate the quality of the bite of the dogs being shown. Therefore, in order for the judge to evaluate the quality of the bite, the helper must give the dog a chance to get a "good grip" on the sleeve. Or, in order to evaluate the dog's ability to cope with stress, it is necessary that the helper put pressure on the dog through corresponding action. It is therefore desirable that helpers perform the helper work in the most uniform manner possible, so that these elements can be evaluated.

#### 2. “Hold and bark” (Title levels 1-3)

The helper stands motionless in the assigned blind in a non-threatening body posture, out of sight of the dog and handler, with a slightly angled sleeve. The sleeve serves as body protection. The helper is to watch the dog during the hold and bark. Additional stimulation (agitation), as well as help of any kind is not permitted. The helper is to hold the soft stick on his/her side, pointing down.

#### 3. “Prevention of an attempted escape of the helper” (Title levels 1-3)

After the exercise “Hold and Bark”, at the direction of the handler, the helper comes out of the blind at a normal pace and takes a position at a place designated by the judge. The position of

the helper must make it possible for the handler to down his dog about 5 steps away to the side of the helper on the side of the protection sleeve. The direction of the escape must be apparent to the handler.

At the judge's direction, the helper attempts to escape straight ahead with quick, energetic running steps, without extremely or uncontrollably racing. Additionally, the protection sleeve is not to be moving, [so] the dog has the optimum opportunity to bite. On no account may the helper turn to the dog during the Escape, although he can have the dog in [his] angle of sight. Pulling away the protection sleeve must not occur. As soon as the dog has bitten, the protection arm is to be pulled tight [close] to the body by the helper while running straight ahead.

The judge determines the length of the maximum Escape distance to be covered by the helper. On the judge's command, the helper stops the escape. If the helper carries out the escape attempt with the appropriate dynamics, the judge has the optimum opportunity for evaluation. Any type of help offered by the helper is prohibited. For example exaggerated "feeding" of the sleeve before the bite, verbal agitation or hitting the soft stick against the pant leg before or during the escape, holding the sleeve without the necessary tension after the bite, slowing down as well as stopping the escape independently, etc.

Stopping the exercise, see No. 8 (applies to all exercises)

#### **4. "Defense of an Attack out of the Guarding Phase" [Reattack] (Title levels 1-3)**

The Reattack is undertaken at the judge's instruction, during which the padded stick is employed with threatening gestures above the protection sleeve without hitting the dog. At the same time, without moving the sleeve, the dog is attacked head on by going forward [at the dog] with the appropriate opposition. During this, the protection sleeve is held close to the body. If the dog bites, the helper positions it to the side and begins a drive (pressure phase) in a straight line. The helper must drive all dogs in the same direction. Consequently, the judge must be in a position so it is possible to evaluate the dog's behavior during the attack, during the drive, the bite, the out and the guarding. Driving the dog towards the handler is not permitted.

The hits with the soft stick are to be placed on the dog's shoulders and in the area of the withers. The intensity of the stick hits has to be the same for all dogs. The first hit is applied after 4-5 paces, the second hit after 4-5 more paces during the drive [pressure phase]. After the second stick hit, an additional drive without stick hits is to be shown.

The judge determines the duration of the drive (pressure phase). At the judge's signal, the helper stops the drive. If the helper performs the attack with the appropriate intensity, judge has the optimum opportunity for evaluation. Any type of help offered by the helper is prohibited, for example "feeding" the sleeve before the dog bites, verbal agitation or hitting the soft stick against the pant leg before the attack starts, holding the sleeve without the required tension after the dog bites, during the drive, inconsistent intensity during the drive and of the stick hits, stopping the attack independently if the dog shows an inability to cope with pressure, etc.

Stopping the exercise see No. 8 (applies to all exercises)

#### **5. "Back Transport" (Trial levels 2 & 3)**

At the direction of the handler and at a normal pace, the helper carries out a back transport over a distance of about 30 paces. The judge determines the course of the transport. During the transport, the helper may not make any abrupt movements. The stick and protection sleeve are to be carried in such a way that they create no added stimulation for the dog. In particular, the stick is to be hidden. The helper is to walk at the same pace for all dogs.

#### **6. "Attack on the Dog out of the Back-Transport" (Trial levels 2 & 3)**

At the judge's command, the attack out of the back transport is performed out of motion. The helper performs the attack by making a dynamic left or right turn and running energetically towards the dog. The soft stick is used to threatening motions above the sleeve. The sleeve is to

be carried in front of the helper, close to the body. Any additional movement of the sleeve is to be avoided. Once the dog has bitten, while moving, the helper positions the dog to the side and begins the drive in a straight line. The helper must drive all dogs in the same direction. Consequently, the judge must be in a position so it is possible to evaluate the dog's behavior during the attack, during the drive, the bite, the out and the guarding. Driving the dog towards the handler is not permitted.

The judge determines the duration of the drive. On a signal from the judge, the helper stops the drive. An adequately energetic performance by the helper during the attack offers the judge an ideal opportunity for an evaluation. Any type of help offered by the helper is prohibited, such as the helper swerving extremely to one side before the dog bites, "feeding" the sleeve before the dog bites, verbal agitation or hitting the stick against the pant leg before the attack starts, holding the sleeve without the required tension after the dog bites or during the drive, inconsistent intensity during the drive, stopping the attack independently if the dog shows an inability to cope with pressure, etc.

Stopping of the exercise see No. 8 (applies to all exercises)

**7. "Attack on the Dog out of Motion" (Trial levels 1 - 3)**

On a signal from the judge, the helper leaves the designated blind and moves to the centerline [of the field] at a normal pace (VPG 1) or at a running pace (VPG 2 and 3). The handler orders the helper verbally to stop.

The helper ignores the instruction – and

- \* from a walking pace goes directly into a running pace and attacks the handler and the dog head on while yelling and making threatening gestures with the soft stick (VPG 1).
- \* without interrupting the running pace, the helper attacks the handler and the dog head on while yelling and making threatening gestures with the soft stick (VPG 2&3).

The helper must catch the dog with a flexible sleeve position without coming to a halt. A rotation by the helper when catching the dog must be carried out as far as it is necessary in order to absorb the momentum of the dog. Under no circumstances may the helper run around the dog. Once the dog has bitten, while moving, the helper positions the dog sideways and begins the drive in a straight line. At this point in every case, the helper must avoid overrunning the dog. The helper must drive all dogs in the same direction. Consequently, the judge must be in a position so it is possible to evaluate the dog's behavior during the attack, during the drive, the bite, the out and the guarding. Driving the dog towards the handler is not permitted.

The judge determines the duration of the drive. On a signal from the judge, the helper stops the drive. An adequately energetic performance by the helper during the attack offers the judge an ideal opportunity for an evaluation. Any type of help offered by the helper is prohibited, such as the helper slowing down on the attack, catching the dog while standing still, swerving extremely to one side before the dog bites, running around the dog, "feeding" the sleeve before the dog bites, holding the sleeve without the required tension after the dog bites; during the drive, inconsistent intensity during the drive, stopping the attack independently if the dog shows an inability to cope with pressure, etc.

Stopping of the exercise see No. 8 (applies to all exercises)

**8. "Stopping the exercise" (applies to all exercises)**

The stopping of all defense exercises must be conducted in such a manner that the judge can observe the bite, the out and the guarding phase of the dog. (In other words, the helper is not to stop the exercise with his/her back turned towards the judge [but] maintains eye contact with the judge). Upon stopping the defense exercise, the helper must reduce resistance against the dog and motion stimulation is discontinued without noticeably relaxing the arm with the sleeve. The sleeve is not to be carried high but remains in the same position it was in during the previous exercise. The soft stick is to be held on the side of the body pointing downward, invisible for the

dog. The helper is not allowed to provide any help for the dog to release. After the dog releases, the helper maintains eye contact with the dog. Additional stimulation as well as help of any kind is not permitted. If the dog circles the helper during the holding phase, in order to keep an eye on the dog, the helper is allowed to turn with the dog, slowly and without any sudden movements.

**9. “Insecurities and Failure of the Dog”**

The helper has to continue to pressure a dog that does not engage or comes off the sleeve during a drive, until the judge terminates the exercise. Under no circumstances is the helper allowed to provide any kind of help or stop the exercise independently. Dogs that do not out, may not be influenced to out by the helper through body posture or movement of the stick. The helper is not allowed to make dogs that have a tendency to leave the helper during the holding phase, stay with the helper by stimulating the dog. In all the exercises or parts of the exercises, the helper must present himself/herself active or neutral in accordance with the trial regulations. If a dog bumps or grips the helper during the holding phase, the helper must avoid making defensive movements.

**Versatility Test for Working Dogs, Level A (VPG A)**

**Maximum Points -- 200**

The VPG A Test consists of only Parts B and C, protection work, of the VPG 1 Test. Tracking work is not shown in this trial.

**No training title in the sense of the breed, show or breed selection regulations is awarded.**

<b>Maximum Points</b>	<b>Excellent (V)</b>	<b>Very Good (SG)</b>	<b>Good (G)</b>	<b>Satisfactory (B)</b>	<b>Insufficient (M)</b>
200 Points	191 - 200	180 - 190	160 - 179	140 - 159	0 - 139

**Tracking 1 - 3 Test (FPr 1-3)**

The tracking tests in levels 1 through 3 consist only as Parts A of the VPG trial levels 1 through 3. They can be carried out supplemental to the participant activities, if a minimum of four participants begin the trial in BH, VPG/IPO or FH.

**No training title in the sense of the breed, show or breed selection regulations is awarded.**

<b>Maximum Points</b>	<b>Excellent (V)</b>	<b>Very Good (SG)</b>	<b>Good (G)</b>	<b>Satisfactory (B)</b>	<b>Insufficient (M)</b>
100 Points	96 - 100	90 - 95	80 - 90	70 - 79	0 - 69

## Vielseitigkeitsprüfung für Gebrauchshunde (VPG 1)

### Versatility Test for Utility/Working Dogs, Level 1 (VPG 1)

is divided into:	<b>Part A</b>	<b>100 points</b>
	<b>Part B</b>	<b>100 points</b>
	<b>Part C</b>	<b>100 points</b>
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>300 points</b>

#### VPG 1 Part A

The track is laid by the handler, minimum of 300 paces, 3 legs, 2 corners (approximately 90 degrees), 2 articles that belong to the handler, at least 20 minutes old, time to work-out the track 15 minutes

<b>Tracking Performance</b>	<b>80 points</b>
<b>Articles (10+10)</b>	<b>20 points</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>100 points</b>

#### **General Regulations:**

The judge or the person in charge of tracking determines the course of the track based upon the tracking field terrain. Varying patterns must be used for the tracks. The article placement and distance to each corner should not be identical on every track. The start must be clearly marked with a sign, placed in the ground directly to the left of the scent pad.

The judge conducts a drawing for start positions.

The handler (= tracklayer) must show the tracking articles to the judge or the person in charge of the tracking prior to laying the track. Only well scented articles (handler-scented for a minimum of 30 minutes) may be used. The handler (= tracklayer) pauses briefly on the scent pad and then proceeds at a normal pace in the direction prescribed by the judge. The corners are likewise to be laid at a normal pace. The first article is placed on the track after a minimum of 100 paces on the first or second leg. The second article is to be placed at the end of the track. The articles are to be laid on the track while the tracklayer is moving. After placing the last article at the end of the track, the tracklayer must walk straight ahead for a few more paces. Different types of articles are to be used on the track (materials: leather, fabric, wood). The size of the articles should be about 10 cm (4 inches) long by 2-3 cm (3/4 inch to 1 1/4") wide by 0.5-1 cm (3/8 inch to 5/8 inch) thick. They may not differ substantially in color from the terrain. The dog must remain out of sight while the track is laid.

While the dog is working the track, the judge and anyone accompanying the judge are not permitted in the area of the track where the dog/handler team has the right to track.

#### **a) Commands**

A command to track = **Such/Track or Find**

The tracking command is permitted at the start of the track and after the first article.

#### **b) Tracking Performance**

The handler prepares the dog to track. The dog may track off lead or on a 10 m [33 foot] tracking line. While tracking, the 10m tracking line may be placed over the back, on the side or between the front and/or hindquarters of the dog. The line may be attached directly to the collar on the dead ring or to the ring on the tracking harness. (The following types of tracking harnesses are permitted: chest harness or Böttger harness without any additional straps.) When summoned, the handler will report to the judge with the dog in the basic position. The handler will inform the judge whether the dog picks up or indicates the articles. Any compulsion is to be avoided prior to tracking, at the start and during the entire track. At the judge's command, the dog is taken slowly and calmly to the starting point and is set onto the track. The dog should take the scent at the start calmly and intensely with a deep nose. The dog must then proceed to track with a deep nose, maintaining a consistent pace. The handler follows the dog at a distance of 10 m at the end of the tracking line. When tracking off lead, a distance of 10 m must be maintained as well.

A certain amount of slack in the line is permissible, as long as the handler keeps the tracking line in his/her hand. The dog must confidently work out corners. After working out a corner the dog must continue to track at the regular pace. As soon as the dog reaches an article, it must immediately pick up or indicate the article, without help from the handler. If the dog picks up the article, it can stand, sit or come to the handler. Going forward with the article or picking it up in the down position is incorrect. The dog may indicate the articles by standing, sitting or lying down or any of these positions interchangeably. As soon as the dog has indicated or picked up an article, the handler should drop the line and immediately go to the dog. The handler signals the judge that the article has been found by raising it in the air. The handler picks up the tracking line and continues tracking with the dog. Upon completing the track, the handler must show the judge articles that were found.

### **c.) Evaluation**

The speed of the tracking performance is not a criterion [standard] in the judging, if the track is worked intensely, uniformly and convincingly and the dog shows a positive tracking attitude. If a dog checks to convince itself of the layout of the track, this is not incorrect as long as the dog does not leave the track. Deductions will be made for aimless wandering, a high nose, urination/defecation, circling at the corners, continuous encouragement, leash-guidance or verbal help on the track or at the articles, faulty pick up/indication of the articles and indicating of a false object. Tracking is terminated if the handler leaves the track by more than one lead length.

If the dog starts to leave the track and the handler restrains it, the judge will instruct the handler to follow the dog. Tracking is terminated if the handler fails to follow the judge's instructions. If the track is not completed within 15 minutes from the time the dog was put on the track, the judge will terminate tracking. The performance shown before tracking was terminated will be scored.

It is incorrect for a dog to both indicate and pick up articles on the track. A rating is given only for articles indicated in the manner announced to the judge when the handler reported in. Faulty indication/picking up of an article is included in the evaluation of the corresponding leg.

No points are given for articles that are not indicated/picked up.

**The distribution of points, for each individual leg, for maintaining the track has to reflect the length and the degree of difficulty.** Each leg is evaluated in points and ratings. If the dog is not tracking (lingering in the same place and the dog is not tracking), the judge may terminate the tracking even though the dog is still on the track.

### **VPG 1 -- Part B**

<b>Exercise 1:</b>	<b>Off-lead healing</b>	<b>20 points</b>
<b>Exercise 2:</b>	<b>Sit in motion</b>	<b>10 points</b>
<b>Exercise 3:</b>	<b>Down in motion with recall</b>	<b>10 points</b>
<b>Exercise 4:</b>	<b>Retrieve on the flat</b>	<b>10 points</b>
<b>Exercise 5:</b>	<b>Retrieve over hurdle</b>	<b>15 points</b>
<b>Exercise 6:</b>	<b>Retrieve over scaling wall</b>	<b>15 points</b>
<b>Exercise 7:</b>	<b>Send-out with down</b>	<b>10 points</b>
<b>Exercise 8:</b>	<b>Down under distraction</b>	<b>10 points</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>100 points</b>

### **General Regulations:**

The judge gives the signal to begin each exercise. Everything else, such as about turns, halts, changes of pace, etc. is carried out without any signal from the judge.

The commands are described in the guidelines. Verbal commands are spoken normally -- brief commands, consisting of one word. The commands may be given in any language, but the same command is to be used for the same action every time. If, after three commands, a dog fails to perform the exercise or part of the exercise, the exercise is terminated without a score. For the recall it is permissible to use the dog's name instead of the command "Hier/Come or Here". However, using the dog's name in conjunction with a "Here" command is considered a double command.

In the basic position, the dog sits straight, close to the handler's left side, with its right shoulder aligned with the handler's knee. Each exercise begins and ends in the basic position. The handler is permitted to assume the basic position only once at the start of an exercise. Briefly praising the dog is permitted only at the end of each exercise with the dog in the basic position. After praising the dog, the handler can assume a new basic position. In any case, between praising the dog and the start of a new exercise, the handler must show a distinct pause of about 3 seconds.

An exercise [motion exercise] develops from the basic position. The handler must show a minimum of 10 paces or a maximum of 15 paces before giving the verbal command for the execution of the exercise. Between all fronts and finishes, as well as when the handler returns to the dog in the sit in motion or walking stand or to the dog on the long down, a distinct pause (approximately 3 seconds) is to be observed, before the next command may be given. When picking up the dog, the handler may go directly to the dog's side or go around behind the dog.

The heel position is to be maintained at all times between exercises. The dog has to accompany the handler when picking up the dumbbells. Playing with the dog or "pumping" it up is not permitted.

The about turn is executed as a left about turn. The dog can either go around behind the handler or back up [to the left] from the front. [The dog stays on the left side of the handler.] The left turn must be performed in the same manner throughout the trial.

The dog may perform the finish by going around behind the handler or by executing a flip finish from in front of the handler.

The solid hurdle (without a flexible top) is 100 cm high and 150 cm wide. The scaling wall consists of two parts connected at the top. The two sides of the wall are 150 cm wide and 191 cm high. The wall is positioned on the ground in such a way that the vertical height is 180 cm. Both sides of the scaling wall must be covered with a nonskid material. Three cleats (approximately 24/48 mm) shall be attached to the upper part. All dogs entered in a trial must use the same obstacles.

Only dumbbells are permitted to be used (650 g) for the retrieval exercises. The dumbbells provided by the host club are to be used by all participants. It is not permitted to place the dumbbell in the dog's mouth prior to the exercise.

If a handler forgets to perform an exercise, the judge will instruct the handler to perform the missing exercise. No points are deducted for this.

## **1. Heeling off lead 20 points**

### **a) Commands**

A command for working at heel = **Fuß/Heel**

The handler is permitted to use the command only when starting an exercise and at the change of pace.

### **b) Execution of the exercise**

At the beginning of Part B, the handler reports to the judge with the dog heeling off lead and puts the dog in the basic position. At the heel command, from the basic position, the dog must follow the handler attentively and happily, straight by the handler's left side. The dog's shoulder must stay aligned with the handler's left knee and when the handler stops, the dog must automatically sit quickly and straight. At the start of the exercise handler and dog must walk 50 paces straight ahead, without stopping, perform an about turn and after 10-15 more paces, show the fast and slow (a minimum of 10 paces each). The transition from fast to slow is performed without any transitional paces in between. [In other words, the handler goes directly from fast into slow.] The two different paces must be performed at distinctly different speeds. Then, at a normal pace, handler and dog must perform at least one right turn, one left turn and one about turn. A halt from the normal pace must be performed at least once. As the handler and the dog walk down the first leg [of the heeling pattern], two shots are fired (caliber 6 mm), five seconds apart, at a distance of at least 15 paces from the dog. The dog must remain indifferent to the gunshots. On instruction from the judge, at the end of the [heeling] exercise, the handler and the dog go through a

moving group, consisting of at least four people. In the group, the handler must heel the dog around two people, one to the left and one to the right and must halt at least once in the group. The judge is entitled to ask the handler to repeat the exercise. The handler and the dog leave the group and assume the basic position.

**c) Evaluation:**

Deductions can be made accordingly for forging, heeling wide or sideways, lagging, slow or hesitant sits, additional commands, physical help from the handler, inattentiveness during heeling at all paces and turns and /or an unhappy working attitude of the dog..

**2. Sit in motion 10 points**

**a) Commands**

One command each to heel and sit = **Fuß/Heel and Sitz/Sit.**

**b) Execution of the exercise**

From the basic position the handler goes straight ahead with the dog heeling off lead. After 10-15 paces, the handler gives the dog the command to sit and the dog must sit quickly and straight without the handler stopping, altering speed or looking back at the dog. The handler continues another 30 paces, then stops and immediately turns to face the calmly sitting dog. At the judge's signal the handler returns to the dog and takes the position on the dog's right side.

**c) Evaluation**

Deductions will be made for incorrect development, slow sit, restless and inattentive sit. Five points will be deducted if the dog downs or stands.

**3. Down with recall 10 points**

**a) Commands**

One command each for heeling, down, recall and finish = **Fuß/Heel, Platz/Down, Hier/Come or Here (The call name of the dog can be used instead of here/come command) and Fuß/Heel.**

**b) Execution of the Exercise**

From the basic position the handler goes straight ahead with the dog heeling off lead. After 10-15 paces the handler gives the down command. The dog must down quickly without the handler stopping, altering speed or looking back at the dog. The handler continues on for another 30 paces, then stops and immediately turns to face the dog calmly lying [on the field]. At the judge's signal the handler calls the dog, using a recall command or the dog's name. The dog must come directly [to the handler], happily and quickly and must sit straight in front, close to the handler. At the heel command, the dog must quickly go to the basic position, straight beside the handler with its shoulder aligned with the handler's knee.

**c) Evaluation**

Deductions will be made accordingly for incorrect development, downing slowly, restlessness, slow recall or slowing down on the recall to the handler, straddle-legged stance by the handler, incorrect front sit and/or incorrect finish. If the dog stands or sits after receiving the Down command, 5 points will be deducted.

**4. Retrieve on the flat 10 points**

**a) Commands**

One command each to retrieve, release the dumbbell and finish = **Bring/Fetch, Aus/Out, Fuß/**

**b) Execution of the Exercise**

From the straight basic position the handler throws a dumbbell (weight: 650g) about 10 paces. The retrieve command is not to be given until the dumbbell stops moving. The dog must sit calmly off lead next to the handler until it receives the command to retrieve and then must run out quickly, straight to the dumbbell, immediately pick it up and rapidly return with it, directly to the handler. The dog must sit straight in front, close to the handler. The dog must hold the dumbbell calmly in its mouth until the

handler, after a pause of about three seconds, gives the release command and takes the dumbbell. The dumbbell is to be held quietly in the handler's right hand with the arm stretched out along the right side of the body. On the heel command, the dog must quickly go to the basic position, straight beside the handler's left side with its shoulder aligned with the handler's knee. The handler is not permitted to change position during the entire exercise.

**c) Evaluation**

Deductions will be made for incorrect basic position, going slowly to the dumbbell, incorrect pick up, slow return [to the handler], dropping the dumbbell, playing with or mouthing the dumbbell, straddle-legged stance by the handler, incorrect front sit and incorrect finish. Throwing the dumbbell too short as well as handler help without changing position will result in a point deduction.

If the handler leaves his/her position before the exercise is completed, the exercise will be rated unsatisfactory (**6.5 - 0 points**). If the dog does not retrieve the dumbbell, the exercise will be evaluated with 0 points.

**5. Retrieve over hurdle (100 cm = 39.5") 15 points**

**a) Commands**

One command each to jump, retrieve, release the dumbbell, heel to finish = **Hopp/Hupp or Over, Bring/Fetch, Aus/Out or Give, Fuß/Heel.**

**b) Execution of the exercise**

The handler and dog assume the basic position at least 5 paces in front of the jump. From the basic position the handler throws a dumbbell (650g) over the 100cm high jump. The command to jump may not be given until the dumbbell has stopped moving. The dog must sit calmly off lead next to the handler until it receives the command to jump and retrieve (the command to retrieve must be given while the dog is jumping). Upon command, the dog must jump the hurdle, run quickly direct to the dumbbell, immediately pick it up and quickly return with the dumbbell, directly back over the hurdle to the handler. The dog must sit straight in front, close to the handler. The dog must hold the dumbbell calmly in its mouth until the handler, after a pause of about three seconds, gives the release command and takes the dumbbell. The dumbbell is to be held quietly in the handler's right hand with the arm stretched out along the right side of the body. On the heel command, the dog must quickly go to the basic position, straight beside the handler's left side with its shoulder aligned with the handler's knee. The handler is not permitted to change position during the entire exercise.

**c) Evaluation**

Deductions may be made accordingly for incorrect basic position, slow jump out, incorrect pick up, slow return over the jump, dropping the dumbbell, playing with or mouthing the dumbbell, straddle-legged stance by the handler, incorrect front sit and incorrect finish. For touching the hurdle up to 1 point must be deducted per jump and for stepping on the hurdle up to 2 points must be deducted.

<b>Jump out</b>	<b>Retrieve</b>	<b>Return jump</b>
5 points	5 points	5 points

A partial score for the exercise is possible only if at least two out of the three parts of the exercise (jump out -- retrieve – return jump) are completed.

- Both jumps perfect, retrieve without fault = 15 points
- Jump out or return jump refused, retrieve without fault = 10 points
- Both jumps perfect, dumbbell not retrieved = 10 points

If the dumbbell lands substantially to one side or is not readily visible to the dog, the handler may ask the judge for a re-throw or may do so at the judge's suggestion. No point deduction results. The dog must remain sitting in place.

Any handler help without changing position is evaluated accordingly. If the handler leaves his/her position before the exercise is completed, the exercise is rated unsatisfactory (**Mangelhaft = 10 - 0 points**).

**6. Retrieve over scaling wall (180 cm = 71") 15 points**

**a) Commands**

One command each to climb over, retrieve, release, heel to finish = **Hopp/Hupp or Over, Bring/Fetch, Aus/Out or Give, Fuß/Heel.**

**b) Execution of Exercise**

The handler and dog assume the basic position at least 5 paces in front of the scaling wall. From the basic position the handler throws a dumbbell (650g) over the wall. The dog must sit calmly off lead next to the handler until it receives the command to jump and retrieve (the command to retrieve must be given while the dog is climbing over the wall). Upon command, the dog must climb the wall, run quickly direct to the dumbbell, immediately pick it up, return at once back over the wall and quickly bring the dumbbell directly to the handler. The dog must sit straight in front, close to the handler, holding the dumbbell calmly in its mouth until the handler, after a pause of about three seconds, gives the release command and takes the dumbbell. The dumbbell is to be held quietly in the handler's right hand with the arm stretched out along the right side of the body. On the heel command, the dog must go quickly to the basic position, straight beside the handler's left side with its shoulder aligned with the handler's knee. The handler is not permitted to change position during the entire exercise.

**c) Evaluation**

Deductions may be made accordingly for incorrect basic position, slow climb over, incorrect pick up, slow return back over the wall, dropping the dumbbell, playing with or mouthing the dumbbell, straddle-legged stance by the handler, incorrect front sit and incorrect finish.

<b>Climb over</b>	<b>Retrieve</b>	<b>Return climb</b>
5 points	5 points	5 points

A partial score for the exercise is possible only if at least two out of the three parts of the exercise (climb over – retrieve – return climb) are completed.

Both climb over and back and retrieve without fault	=	15 points
Climb over or back refused, retrieve without fault	=	10 points
Climb over and back perfect, dumbbell not retrieved	=	10 points

If the dumbbell lands substantially to one side or is not readily visible to the dog, the handler may ask the judge for a re-throw or may do so at the judge's suggestion. No point deduction results. The dog must remain sitting in place.

Any handler help without changing position is evaluated accordingly. If the handler leaves his/her position before the exercise is completed, the exercise is rated unsatisfactory (**Mangelhaft 10 - 0 points**).

**7. Send out with down 10 points**

**a) Commands**

One command each to heel, go, down, sit = **Fuß/Heel, Voraus/Go, Platz/Down, Sitz/Sit.**

**b) Execution of Exercise**

From the basic position with the dog off lead, the handler walks straight ahead in the direction indicated by the judge. After 10-15 paces the handler gives the dog the command to go. Simultaneously the handler lifts his/her arm (only once) and stops. The dog must go out purposefully, at a fast pace and in a straight line, at least 30 paces in the indicated direction. At the judge's signal, the handler gives the down command. The dog must down immediately. The handler may keep the arm raised until the dog downs. On the judge's signal, the handler goes to the dog and takes up a position on the dog's right side. After about three seconds, at the judge's signal, the handler gives the dog a sit command and the dog must sit up quickly and straight into the basic position.

**c) Evaluation**

The following errors will be evaluated accordingly: incorrect development, the handler follows the dog [after giving the go command], dog goes out too slowly, strong deviation to the side, distance is too short, downs slowly or prematurely, is restless on the down or stands up/sits up prematurely when picked up.

**8. Down under distraction 10 points**

**a) Commands**

One command each for down and sit = **Platz/Down, Sitz/Sit**

**b) Execution of the Exercise**

At the beginning of the obedience routine for another dog, the handler downs the dog from a correct basic position at a location designated by the judge. No lead or article is left with the dog. Without turning around, the handler then walks away a minimum of 30 paces from the dog. The handler remains on the trial field and stands quietly in sight of the dog facing away from the dog. The dog must remain calmly in the down position without any influence from the handler while the other dog performs exercises 1 through 6. At the judge's signal, the handler returns to the dog and takes the position on the dog's right side. After about three seconds, at the judge's signal, the handler gives the dog the command to sit. The dog must sit up quickly and straight into the basic position.

**c) Evaluation**

Restless behavior by the handler or other hidden handler help or if the dog is restless during the down or stands up/sits up prematurely when the handler returns will be evaluated accordingly. If the dog sits up or stands up, but remains in the designated area, partial points will be given. If the dog moves from the designated area by more than 3 meters before the other dog has completed exercise 3, zero points will be given for this exercise. If the dog leaves the designated area after exercise 3 is completed, partial points will be received. If the dog walks towards the handler when the handler returns to the dog, up to 3 points may be deducted.

**VPG 1 Phase C**

<b>Exercise 1:</b>	<b>Search for the helper</b>	<b>5 points</b>
<b>Exercise 2:</b>	<b>Hold and bark</b>	<b>10 points</b>
<b>Exercise 3:</b>	<b>Prevention of an attempted escape by the helper</b>	<b>20 points</b>
<b>Exercise 4:</b>	<b>Defense of an attack during guarding</b>	<b>35 points</b>
<b>Exercise 5:</b>	<b>Attack on the dog out of motion [long bite]</b>	<b>30 points</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>100 points</b>

**General regulations:**

In a suitable location six blinds are to be set up along the length of the field, in a staggered fashion, three on each side (see sketch). Essential marks must be clearly visible for the handler, the judge and the helper.

The helper must be equipped with a protection suit, sleeve and soft stick. The sleeve must be equipped with a bite bar and the sleeve cover must be made from natural colored jute. If it is necessary for the helper to keep a close eye on the dog during the guarding phase, the helper is not required to stand still, though he is not permitted to make any threatening or defensive movements. The helper must protect his body with the sleeve. It is up to the handler to decide how the helper will be disarmed. (See also Helper Regulations)

It is possible to work all trial levels with a single helper. If more than 7 dogs are entered in the trial, two helpers should be used. The same helper(s) should be used to work all dogs within the same trial level.

If a dog is out of control and will not out after a defense exercise, or will out only through physical influence from the handler, or dogs which bite the helper anywhere other than on the bite sleeve must be disqualified. No TSB rating is given.

If dogs fail during a defense exercise [i.e., fail to engage or come off the sleeve and won't re-engage] or can be chased away, protection is terminated. The dog does not receive a score. A TSB rating is to be given.

The out command is permitted one time during all defense exercises. See the table below for the scoring for the "out".

<b>Slow out</b>	<b>First additional command followed by immediate out</b>	<b>First additional command followed by slow out</b>	<b>Second additional command followed by immediate out</b>	<b>Second additional command followed by slow out</b>	<b>No out after second additional command, or additional influence</b>
0.5-3.0	3.0	3.5-6.0	6.0	6.5-9.0	Disqualification

**1. Search for the helper 5 points**

**a) Commands**

One command each to search, come or here (the Hier/Here command may be used in conjunction with the dog's name) = **Voran or Revier/Search, Hier/Here or Come**

**b) Execution of the exercise**

The helper is located in the last blind, out of sight of the dog. With the dog off lead, the handler takes a position between the fourth and fifth blinds in order to be able to search both sides [of the field]. At the judge's signal Part C begins. With a search command in conjunction with visible signal with the right or left arm (which may be repeated), the dog must quickly leave the handler and purposefully circle the fifth blind, tightly and attentively. As soon as the dog has searched the fifth blind the handler calls the dog (the dog's name may be used in conjunction with the command) and, while moving up field, sends the dog with another search command into the find blind. The handler moves at a normal pace down an imaginary centerline [of the field]. The handler must remain in the center of the field during the blind search. The dog must search in front of the handler. When the dog reaches the find blind, the handler must stop and stand still and no further commands are permitted.

**c) Evaluation**

Deductions can be made concerning manageability, [lack of] fast and purposeful approach to the blinds as well as tight, attentive circling of the blinds.

**2. Hold and bark 10 points**

**a) Commands**

One command each to come to heel position = **Hier/Fuß, Come or Here/Heel** [Given as a single command.]

**b) Execution of the Exercise**

The dog must actively and intently confront the helper, barking continuously. The dog is not permitted to jump on or bite the helper. After approximately 20 seconds, at the judge's signal, the handler approaches the blind and stops about 5 paces away. At the judge's signal the handler calls the dog out of the blind into heel position. As an alternative, the handler is permitted to pick up the dog off lead from the blind. Both variations will be scored the same.

**c) Evaluation**

Deductions will be made based upon limitations regarding continuous, challenging barking and intense guarding, uninfluenced by the judge or the approach of the handler until the call out command is given. Continuous barking will earn 5 points. If the dog only barks weakly, 2 points are deducted. If the dog does not bark but guards the helper actively, intently and closely, 5 points are deducted. Molesting the helper, for example bumping, jumping on, etc., results in a deduction of up to 2 points. Up to 9 points may be deducted for hard biting. If the dog leaves the helper before the judge signals the handler to leave the center [of the field], the dog may be sent to the blind again. If the dog stays with the helper this time, protection may be continued, though the hold and bark will be rated "insufficient" **(6.5 - 0 points)**. If the dog will not search the blind or leaves the helper again, phase C is terminated. If the dog returns to

the handler as the handler approaches the blind, or the dog returns to the handler prior to receiving the call out command, partial points are given reflecting an "insufficient" rating **(6.5 - 0 points)**.

### **3. Prevention of an escape attempt by the helper 20 points**

#### **a) Commands**

One command each to heel, down, out = **Fuß/Heel, Platz/Down, Aus/Out**

#### **b) Execution of the Exercise**

At the judge's signal, the handler orders the helper out of the blind. The helper goes at a normal pace to the designated location for the escape. At the judge's signal, with the dog heeling off lead, the handler goes to the designated down location for the escape. The distance between dog and helper is 5 paces. The handler leaves the dog in the down position, guarding the helper and goes into the blind, maintaining visual contact with the dog, the judge and the helper. At the judge's signal the helper tries to escape. The dog must immediately and independently forcibly prevent the escape, by means of an energetic and strong bite. The dog may only bite the protection sleeve. On the judge's signal the helper stands still. When the helper stops moving the dog must release immediately. The handler may independently give an out command within an appropriate time.

If the dog does not out after the first command, the handler will receive the judge's instruction to give up to two additional out commands. If the dog does not out after receiving three commands (one permitted plus two additional commands), the team is disqualified. While giving the out command, the handler must stand still, without influencing the dog. Once the dog has outed, it must remain close to the helper and guard him intently.

#### **c) Evaluation**

Deductions will be made according to qualifying factors concerning important evaluation criteria: rapid, energetic response and pursuit combined with a powerful grip and energetic prevention of the escape; full, calm bite until given the out command; intense, tight guarding of the helper. If the dog remains in the down position or has not prevented the escape by biting and holding tightly before the helper has taken about 20 steps, phase C is terminated.

If the dog is somewhat inattentive and/or bothers the helper slightly while guarding, the exercise will be marked down by one grade. If the dog is guarding the helper very inattentively and/or bothers the helper a lot, the exercise is marked down by two grades. If the dog does not guard the helper but stays with him, the exercise is marked down by three grades. If the dog leaves the helper or if the handler gives the dog a verbal command to stay with the helper, phase C is terminated.

### **4. Defense of the dog during guarding phase [Reattack] 35 points**

#### **a) Commands**

One command each to out and come to heel position = **Aus/Out, Fuß/Heel**

#### **b) Execution of the exercise**

After a guarding [the helper] for about 5 seconds, at the judge's signal, the helper attacks the dog. Without any influence from the handler the dog must defend itself by an energetic, powerful bite. The dog may only bite the helper's protection sleeve. As soon as the dog has bitten, the helper gives [the dog] two stick hits. Hits may only be applied to the shoulders and the area of the withers. At the judge's command, the helper stands still. After the helper stops, the dog must immediately out. The handler may independently give an out command within an appropriate time period.

If the dog does not out after the first command, the handler will receive the judge's instruction to give up to two additional out commands. If the dog does not out after receiving three commands (one permitted plus two additional commands), the team is disqualified. While giving the out command, the handler must stand still, without influencing the dog. Once the dog has outed, it must remain close to the helper and guard him intently. At the judge's signal, at a normal pace, the handler walks directly to the dog and puts the dog into the basic position. The handler does not take the stick from the helper.

### **c) Evaluation**

Deductions will be made according to qualifying factors concerning important evaluation criteria: quick, strong response; full, calm bite until given the out command; intense, tight guarding of the helper.

If the dog is somewhat inattentive and/or bothers the helper slightly while guarding, the exercise will be marked down by one grade. If the dog guards the helper very inattentively and/or bothers the helper a lot, the exercise is marked down by two grades. If the dog does not guard the helper but stays with him, the exercise is marked down by three grades. If the dog comes toward the handler as he/she approaches, the exercise is rated as insufficient. If the dog leaves the helper before the judge gives the handler the signal to approach or if the handler gives the dog a verbal command to stay with the helper, phase C is terminated.

## **5. Attack on the dog out of motion [long bite] 30 points**

### **a) Commands**

One command each to sit, defend/go, out, heel = **Sitz/Sit, Stell oder Voran/ Hold or Go, Aus/Out, Fuß/Heel**

### **b) Execution of the Exercise**

The handler is sent with the dog to a marked spot on the centerline of the field, level with the first blind. The handler may hold the dog by its collar but may not stimulate the dog. At the judge's signal, the helper steps out of the blind, carrying the soft stick, and walks at a normal pace to the centerline of the field. The helper ignores the handler's command to stop and runs towards the handler and dog (at a running pace), attacking them head-on, while yelling and making threatening gestures. As soon as the helper has reached a point about 40 to 30 paces from the handler and dog, the judge signals the handler to release the dog and he/she does so with a command "to defend" [against the attack]. The dog must defend against the attack without hesitation by an energetic, strong bite. The dog may only bite the helper's protection sleeve. The handler may not move from his/her position. On a signal from the judge, the helper stops the attack. After the helper has stopped the attack and is standing still, the dog must immediately out. The handler may independently give an out command within an appropriate period of time.

If the dog does not out after the first command, the handler will receive the judge's instruction to give up to two additional out commands. If the dog does not out after receiving three commands (one permitted plus two additional commands), the team is disqualified. While giving the out command, the handler must stand still, without influencing the dog. Once the dog has outed, it must remain close to the helper and guard him intently. At the judge's signal, at a normal pace, the handler walks directly to the dog and puts the dog into the basic position. The soft stick is taken from the helper.

A side transport of the helper to the judge follows over a distance of about 20 paces. A heel command is allowed. The dog must walk on the helper's right side, so that the dog is in between the handler and the helper. The dog must watch the helper closely during the transport. The dog may not bother, jump on or bite the helper. The group stops in front of the judge, the handler presents the soft stick to the judge and reports that Part C is completed. At the instruction of the judge, before the critique, the dog is put on lead.

### **c) Evaluation**

Deductions will be made according to qualifying factors concerning important evaluation criteria: energetic defense with a powerful strike; a full, calm bite until the out; intense, tight guarding of the helper.

If the dog is somewhat inattentive and/or bothers the helper slightly while guarding, the exercise will be marked down by one grade. If the dog guards the helper very inattentively and/or bothers the helper a lot, the exercise is marked down by two grades. If the dog does not guard the helper but stays with him, the exercise is marked down by three grades. If the dog comes toward the handler as he/she approaches, the exercise is rated as insufficient. If the dog leaves the helper before the judge gives the handler the signal to approach or if the handler gives the dog a verbal command to stay with the helper, phase C is terminated.

## Vielseitigkeitsprüfung für Gebrauchshunde (VPG 2)

is divided into:	<b>Phase A</b>	<b>100 points</b>
	<b>Phase B</b>	<b>100 points</b>
	<b>Phase C</b>	<b>100 points</b>
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>300 points</b>

### VPG 2, Part A

The track is laid by a stranger, minimum of 400 paces, 3 legs, 2 corners (approximately 90 degrees), 2 articles, at least 30 minutes old, time to work out the track 15 minutes

<b>Tracking Performance</b>	<b>80 points</b>
<b>Articles (10 + 10)</b>	<b>20 points</b>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>100 points</b>

#### **General Regulations:**

The judge or the person in charge of tracking determines the course of the track based upon the tracking field terrain. Varying patterns must be used for the tracks. The article placement and distance to each corner should not be identical on every track. The start must be clearly marked with a sign, placed in the ground directly to the left of the scent pad.

After the tracks are laid, with the judge present, the start positions are determined by a draw.

Prior to laying the track, the tracklayer must show the tracking articles to the judge or the person in charge of the tracking. Only well scented articles (scented for a minimum of 30 minutes) may be used. The tracklayer pauses briefly on the scent pad and then proceeds at a normal pace in the direction prescribed by the judge. The corners are likewise to be laid at a normal pace. The first article is placed on the track after a minimum of 100 paces on the first or second leg. The second article is to be placed at the end of the track. The articles are to be laid on the track while the tracklayer is moving. After placing the last article at the end of the track, the tracklayer must walk straight ahead for a few more paces. Different types of articles are to be used on the track (materials: leather, fabric, wood). The size of the articles should be about 10 cm (4 inches) long by 2-3 cm (3/4 inch to 1 1/4") wide by 0.5-1 cm (3/8 inch to 5/8 inch) thick. They may not differ substantially in color from the terrain. All articles are to be marked with numbers, which must coincide with the numbers on the start stake. The handler and dog must remain out of sight while the track is laid.

While the dog is working the track, the judge, tracklayer and anyone accompanying the judge are not permitted in the area of the track where the dog/handler team has the right to track.

#### **a) Commands**

A command to track = **Such/Track or Find**

The tracking command is permitted at the start of the track and after the first article.

#### **b) Tracking Performance**

The handler prepares the dog to track. The dog may track off lead or on a 10 m [33 foot] tracking line. While tracking, the 10m tracking line may be placed over the back, on the side or between the front and/or hindquarters of the dog. The line may be attached directly to the collar on the dead ring or to the ring on the tracking harness. (The following types of tracking harnesses are permitted: chest harness or Böttger harness without any additional straps.) When summoned, the handler will report to the judge with the dog in a basic position. The handler will inform the judge whether the dog picks up or indicates the articles. Any compulsion is to be avoided prior to tracking, at the start and during the entire track. At the judge's command, the dog is taken slowly and calmly to the starting point and is set onto the track. The dog should take the scent at the start calmly and intensely with a deep nose. The dog must then proceed to track with a deep nose, maintaining a consistent pace. The handler follows the dog at a distance of 10m at the end of the tracking line. When tracking off lead, a distance of 10m must be maintained as well. A certain amount of slack in the line is permissible, as long as the handler keeps the tracking line in

his/her hand. The dog must confidently work out corners. After working out a corner the dog must continue to track at the regular pace. As soon as the dog reaches an article, it must immediately pick up or indicate the article, without help from the handler. If the dog picks up the article, it can stand, sit or come to the handler. Going forward with the article or picking it up in the down position is incorrect. The dog may indicate the articles by standing, sitting or lying down or any of these positions interchangeably. As soon as the dog has indicated or picked up an article, the handler should drop the line and immediately go to the dog. The handler signals the judge that the article has been found by raising it in the air. The handler picks up the tracking line and continues tracking with the dog. Upon completing the track, the handler must show the judge the articles that were found.

**c.) Evaluation**

The speed of the tracking performance is not a criterion [standard] in the judging, if the track is worked intensely, uniformly and convincingly and the dog shows a positive tracking attitude. If a dog checks to convince itself of the layout of the track, this is not incorrect as long as the dog does not leave the track. Deductions will be made for aimless wandering, a high nose, urination/defecation, circling at the corners, continuous encouragement, guiding with the line or verbal help on the track or at the articles, faulty pick up/indication of the articles and false indication. Tracking is terminated if the handler leaves the track by more than one lead length.

If the dog starts to leave the track and the handler restrains it, the judge will instruct the handler to follow the dog. Tracking is terminated if the handler fails to follow the judge's instructions. If the track is not completed within 15 minutes from the time the dog was put on the track, the judge will terminate tracking. The performance shown before tracking was terminated will be scored.

It is incorrect for a dog to both indicate and pick up articles on the track. A rating is given only for articles indicated in the manner announced to the judge when the handler reported in. Faulty indication/picking up of an article is included in the evaluation of the corresponding leg.

No points are given for articles that are not indicated/picked up.

**The distribution of points, for each individual leg, for maintaining the track has to reflect the length and the degree of difficulty.** Each leg is evaluated in points and ratings. If the dog is not tracking (lingering in the same place and the dog is not tracking), the judge may terminate the tracking even though the dog is still on the track

**VPG 2, Part B**

<b>Exercise 1</b>	<b>Heeling off lead</b>	<b>10 points</b>
<b>Exercise 2</b>	<b>Sit in motion</b>	<b>10 points</b>
<b>Exercise 3</b>	<b>Down with recall</b>	<b>10 points</b>
<b>Exercise 4</b>	<b>Walking stand</b>	<b>10 points</b>
<b>Exercise 5</b>	<b>Retrieve on the flat</b>	<b>10 points</b>
<b>Exercise 6</b>	<b>Retrieve over hurdle</b>	<b>15 points</b>
<b>Exercise 7</b>	<b>Retrieve over scaling wall</b>	<b>15 points</b>
<b>Exercise 8</b>	<b>Send-out with down</b>	<b>10 points</b>
<b>Exercise 9</b>	<b>Down under distraction</b>	<b>10 points</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>100 points</b>

**General Regulations:**

The judge gives the signal to begin each exercise. Everything else, such as about turns, halts, changes of pace, etc. is carried out without any signal from the judge.

The commands are described in the guidelines. Verbal commands are spoken normally -- brief commands, consisting of one word. The commands may be given in any language, but the same command is to be used for the same action every time. If, after three commands, a dog fails to perform the exercise or part of the exercise, the exercise is terminated without a score. For the recall it is permissible to use the dog's name instead of the command "Hier/Come or Here". However, using the dog's name in conjunction with a "Here" command is considered a double command.

In the basic position, the dog sits straight, close to the handler's left side, with its right shoulder aligned with the handler's knee. Each exercise begins and ends in the basic position. The handler is permitted to assume the basic position only once at the start of an exercise. Briefly praising the dog is permitted only at the end of each exercise with the dog in the basic position. After praising the dog, the handler can assume a new basic position. In any case, between praising the dog and the start of a new exercise, the handler must show a distinct pause of about 3 seconds.

An exercise [motion exercise] develops from the basic position. The handler must show a minimum of 10 paces or a maximum of 15 paces before giving the verbal command for the execution of the exercise. Between all fronts and finishes, as well as when the handler returns to the dog in the sit in motion or walking stand or to the dog on the long down, a distinct pause (approximately 3 seconds) is to be observed, before the next command may be given. When picking up the dog, the handler may go directly to the dog's side or go around behind the dog.

The heel position is to be maintained at all times between exercises. The dog must accompany the handler when picking up the dumbbells. Playing with the dog or "pumping" it up is not permitted.

The about turn is executed by the handler as a left about turn. The dog can either go around behind the handler or back up [to the left] from the front. [The dog stays on the left side of the handler.] The left turn must be performed in the same manner throughout the trial.

The dog may perform the finish by going around behind the handler or by executing a flip finish from in front of the handler.

The solid hurdle (without a flexible top) is 100 cm high and 150 cm wide. The scaling wall consists of two parts connected at the top. The two sides of the wall are 150 cm wide and 191 cm high. The wall is positioned on the ground in such a way that the vertical height is 180 cm. Both sides of the scaling wall must be covered with a nonskid material. Three cleats (approximately 24/48 mm) shall be attached to the upper part. All dogs entered in a trial must use the same obstacles.

Only dumbbells are permitted to be used (retrieve on the flat -- 1,000 gm/1Kilo; over the jump and wall, 650 g) for the retrieval exercises. The dumbbells provided by the host club are to be used by all participants. It is not permitted to place the dumbbell in the dog's mouth prior to the exercise.

If a handler forgets to perform an exercise, the judge will instruct the handler to perform the missing exercise. No points are deducted for this.

## **1. Heeling off lead 10 points**

### **a) Commands**

A command to work at heel = **Fuß/Heel**

The handler is permitted to use the command only when starting an exercise and at the change of pace.

### **b) Execution of the exercise**

At the beginning of Part B, the handler reports to the judge with the dog heeling off lead and puts the dog in the basic position. At the heel command, from the basic position, the dog must follow the handler attentively and happily, straight by the handler's left side. The dog's shoulder must stay aligned with the handler's left knee and when the handler stops, the dog must automatically sit quickly and straight. At the start of the exercise handler and dog must walk 50 paces straight ahead, without stopping, perform an about turn and after 10-15 more paces, show the fast and slow (a minimum of 10 paces each). The transition from fast to slow is performed without any transitional paces in between. [In other words, the handler goes directly from fast into slow.] The two different paces must be performed at distinctly different speeds. Then, at a normal pace, handler and dog must perform at least one right turn, one left turn and one about turn. A halt from the normal pace must be performed at least once. As the handler and the dog walk down the first leg [of the heeling pattern], two shots are fired (caliber 6 mm), five seconds apart, at a distance of at least 15 paces from the dog. The dog must remain indifferent to the gunshots. On instruction from the judge, at the end of the [heeling] exercise, the handler and the dog go through a

moving group, consisting of at least four people. In the group, the handler must heel the dog around two people, one to the left and one to the right and must halt at least once in the group. The judge is entitled to ask the handler to repeat the exercise. The handler and the dog leave the group and assume the basic position.

**c) Evaluation:**

Deductions can be made accordingly for forging, heeling wide or sideways, lagging, slow or hesitant sits, additional commands, physical help from the handler, inattentiveness during heeling at all paces and turns and /or an unhappy working attitude of the dog.

**2. Sit in motion 10 points**

**a) Commands**

One command each to heel and sit = **Fuß/Heel and Sitz/Sit.**

**b) Execution of the exercise**

From the basic position the handler goes straight ahead with the dog heeling off lead. After 10-15 paces, the handler gives the command to sit and the dog must sit quickly and straight without the handler stopping, altering speed or looking back at the dog. The handler continues another 30 paces, then stops and immediately turns to face the calmly sitting dog. At the judge's signal the handler returns to the dog and takes the position on the dog's right side.

**c) Evaluation**

Deductions will be made for incorrect development, slow sit, or a restless and inattentive sit. Five points will be deducted if the dog downs or stands.

**3. Down with recall 10 points**

**a) Commands**

One command each for heeling, down, recall and finish = **Fuß/Heel, Platz/Down, Hier/Come or Here (The call name of the dog can be used instead of come command) and Fuß/Heel.)**

**b) Execution of the Exercise**

From the basic position the handler goes straight ahead with the dog heeling off lead. After 10-15 paces, the handler gives the down command. The dog must down quickly without the handler stopping, altering speed or looking back at the dog. The handler continues on for another 30 paces, then stops and immediately turns to face the dog calmly lying [on the field]. At the judge's signal the handler calls the dog, using a recall command or the dog's name. The dog must come directly [to the handler], happily and quickly and must sit straight in front, close to the handler. At the heel command, the dog must quickly go to the basic position, straight beside the handler with its shoulder aligned with the handler's knee.

**c) Evaluation**

Deductions will be made accordingly for incorrect development, downing slowly, restlessness, slow recall or slowing down on the recall to the handler, straddle-legged stance by the handler, incorrect front sit and/or incorrect finish. If the dog stands or sits after receiving the down command, 5 points will be deducted.

**4. Walking Stand 10 points**

**a) Commands**

One command each for heel, stand, sit = **Fuß/Heel, Steh/Stand, Sitz/Sit**

**b) Execution of the Exercise**

From the basic position, with the dog heeling off lead, the handler walks straight ahead. After 10-15 paces, the handler gives the dog the stand command and the dog must immediately stand facing the direction of movement, without the handler stopping, altering speed or looking back. After walking an additional 30 paces straight ahead, the handler stops and immediately turns to face the dog standing

calmly in place. At the judge's signal, the handler returns directly to the dog and takes the position on the dog's right side. After about a 3-second pause, at the judge's signal, the dog is given the sit command and must sit quickly and straight.

### **c) Evaluation**

Deductions will be made for incorrect development, stretching out the command, restlessness, taking steps towards the handler, restlessness as the handler returns, sitting slowly at the command. Five (5) points will be deducted if the dog sits or downs on the stand command.

## **5. Retrieve on the flat 10 points**

### **a) Commands**

One command each to retrieve, release the dumbbell and finish = **Bring/Fetch, Aus/Out, Fuß/b)**

### **Execution of the Exercise**

From a straight basic position the handler throws a dumbbell (weight: 1000 g) about 10 paces. The retrieve command is not to be given until the dumbbell stops moving. The dog must sit calmly off lead next to the handler until it receives the command to retrieve and then must run quickly, straight to the dumbbell, immediately pick it up and quickly return with it, directly to the handler. The dog must sit straight in front, close to the handler. The dog must hold the dumbbell calmly in its mouth until the handler, after a pause of about three seconds, gives the release command and takes the dumbbell. The dumbbell is to be held quietly in the handler's right hand with the arm stretched out along the right side of the body. On the heel command, the dog must quickly go to the basic position, straight beside the handler's left side with its shoulder aligned with the handler's knee. The handler is not permitted to change position during the entire exercise.

### **c) Evaluation**

Deductions will be made for incorrect basic position, going slowly to the dumbbell, incorrect pick up, slow return [to the handler], dropping the dumbbell, playing with or mouthing the dumbbell, straddle-legged stance by the handler, incorrect front sit and incorrect finish. Throwing the dumbbell too short as well as handler help without changing position will result in a point deduction.

If the handler leaves his/her position before the exercise is completed, the exercise will be rated unsatisfactory. If the dog does not retrieve the dumbbell, the exercise will be evaluated with 0 points.

## **6. Retrieve over hurdle (100 cm = 39.5") 15 points**

### **a) Commands**

One command each to jump, retrieve, release the dumbbell, heel to finish = **Hopp/Hupp or Over, Bring/Fetch, Aus/Out or Give, Fuß/Heel.**

### **b) Execution of the exercise**

The handler and dog assume the basic position at least 5 paces in front of the jump. From the basic position the handler throws a dumbbell (650g) over the 100cm high jump. The command to jump may not be given until the dumbbell has stopped moving. The dog must sit calmly off lead next to the handler until it receives the command to jump and retrieve (the command to retrieve must be given while the dog is jumping). Upon command, the dog must jump the hurdle, run quickly, direct to the dumbbell, immediately pick it up and quickly return with the dumbbell, directly back over the hurdle to the handler. The dog must sit straight in front, close to the handler. The dog must hold the dumbbell calmly in its mouth until the handler, after a pause of about three seconds, gives the release command and takes the dumbbell. The dumbbell is to be held quietly in the handler's right hand with the arm stretched out along the right side of the body. On the heel command, the dog must quickly go to the basic position, straight beside the handler's left side with its shoulder aligned with the handler's knee. The handler is not permitted to change position during the entire exercise.

### **c) Evaluation**

Deductions may be made accordingly for incorrect basic position, slow jump out, incorrect pick up, slow return over the jump, dropping the dumbbell, playing with or mouthing the dumbbell, straddle-legged stance by the handler, incorrect front sit and incorrect finish. For touching the hurdle up to 1 point must be deducted per jump and for stepping on the hurdle up to 2 points must be deducted.

<b>Jump out</b>	<b>Retrieve</b>	<b>Return jump</b>
5 points	5 points	5 points

A partial score for the exercise is possible only if at least two out of the three parts of the exercise (jump out -- retrieve – return jump) are completed.

Both jumps perfect, retrieve without fault	=	15 points
Jump out or return jump refused, retrieve without fault	=	10 points
Both jumps perfect, dumbbell not retrieved	=	10 points

If the dumbbell lands substantially to one side or is not readily visible to the dog, the handler may ask the judge for a re-throw or may do so at the judge's suggestion. No point deduction results. The dog must remain sitting in place.

Any handler help without changing position is evaluated accordingly. If the handler leaves his/her position before the exercise is completed, the exercise is rated unsatisfactory

## **7. Retrieve over the scaling wall (180 cm = 71") 15 points**

### **a) Commands**

One command each to climb over, retrieve, release, heel to finish = **Hopp/Hupp or Over, Bring/Fetch, Aus/Out or Give, Fuß/Heel.**

### **b) Execution of Exercise**

The handler and dog assume the basic position at least 5 paces in front of the scaling wall. From the basic position the handler throws a dumbbell (650g) over the wall. The dog must sit calmly off-lead next to the handler until it receives the command to jump and retrieve (the command to retrieve must be given while the dog is climbing over the wall). Upon command, the dog must climb the wall, run quickly direct to the dumbbell, immediately pick it up, return at once back over the wall and quickly bring the dumbbell directly to the handler. The dog must sit straight in front, close to the handler, holding the dumbbell calmly in its mouth until the handler, after a pause of about three seconds, gives the release command and takes the dumbbell. The dumbbell is to be held quietly in the handler's right hand with the arm stretched out along the right side of the body. On the heel command, the dog must go quickly to the basic position, straight beside the handler's left side with its shoulder aligned with the handler's knee. The handler is not permitted to change position during the entire exercise.

### **c) Evaluation**

Deductions may be made accordingly for incorrect basic position, slow climb over, incorrect pick up, slow return back over the wall, dropping the dumbbell, playing with or mouthing the dumbbell, straddle-legged stance by the handler, incorrect front sit and incorrect finish.

<b>Climb over</b>	<b>Retrieve</b>	<b>Return climb</b>
5 points	5 points	5 points

A partial score for the exercise is possible only if at least two out of the three parts of the exercise (climb over – retrieve – return climb) are completed.

Both climb over and back and retrieve without faults	=	15 points
Climb over or back refused, retrieve without faults	=	10 points
Climb over and back perfect, dumbbell not retrieved	=	10 points

If the dumbbell lands substantially to one side or is not readily visible to the dog, the handler may ask the judge for a re-throw or may do so at the judge's suggestion. No point deduction results. The dog must remain sitting in place.

Any handler help without changing position is evaluated accordingly. If the handler leaves his/her position before the exercise is completed, the exercise is rated unsatisfactory

## **8. Send out with down 10 points**

### **a) Commands**

One command each to heel, go, down, sit = **Fuß/Heel, Voraus/Go, Platz/Down, Sitz/Sit.**

### **b) Execution of Exercise**

From the basic position with the dog off lead, the handler walks straight ahead in the direction indicated by the judge. After 10-15 paces the handler gives the dog the command to go. Simultaneously the handler lifts his/her arm (only once) and stops. The dog must go out purposefully, at a fast pace and in a straight line, at least 30 paces in the indicated direction. At the judge's signal, the handler gives the command to down. The dog must down immediately. The handler may keep the arm raised until the dog downs. On the judge's signal, the handler goes to the dog and takes up a position on the dog's right side. After about three seconds, at the judge's signal, the handler gives the dog a sit command and the dog must sit quickly and straight into a basic position.

### **c) Evaluation**

The following errors will be evaluated accordingly: incorrect development, the handler follows the dog [after giving the go out command], dog goes out too slowly, strong deviation to the side, distance is too short, downs slowly or prematurely, is restless on the down or stands up/sits up prematurely when picked up.

## **9. Down under distraction 10 points**

### **a) Commands**

One command each for *Ablegen, Aufsetzen (Down, Sit)* = **Platz/Down, Sitz/Sit**

### **b) Execution of the Exercise**

At the beginning of the obedience routine for another dog, the handler downs the dog from a correct basic position at a location designated by the judge. No lead or article is left with the dog. Without turning around, the handler then walks away a minimum of 30 paces from the dog. The handler remains on the trial field and stands quietly in sight of the dog, facing away from the dog. The dog must remain calmly in the down position without any influence from the handler while the other dog performs exercises 1 through 6. At the judge's signal, the handler returns to the dog and takes the position on the dog's right side. After about three seconds, at the judge's signal, the handler gives the dog the command to sit. The dog must sit up quickly and straight into a basic position.

### **c) Evaluation**

Restless behavior by the handler or other hidden handler help or if the dog is restless during the down or stands up/sits up prematurely when the handler returns will be evaluated accordingly. If the dog sits up or stands up, but remains in the designated area, partial points will be given. If the dog moves from the designated area by more than 3 meters before the other dog has completed exercise 3, zero points will be given for this exercise. If the dog leaves the designated area after exercise 3 is completed, partial points will be received. If the dog walks towards the handler when the handler returns to the dog, up to 3 points may be deducted.

## **VPG 2, Part C**

<b>Exercise 1:</b>	<b>Search for the helper</b>	<b>5 points</b>
<b>Exercise 2:</b>	<b>Hold and bark</b>	<b>10 points</b>
<b>Exercise 3:</b>	<b>Prevention of an attempted escape of the helper</b>	<b>10 points</b>
<b>Exercise 4:</b>	<b>Defense of an attack during the guarding phase</b>	<b>20 points</b>
<b>Exercise 5:</b>	<b>Back transport</b>	<b>5 points</b>
<b>Exercise 6:</b>	<b>Attack on the dog out of the back transport</b>	<b>30 points</b>
<b>Exercise 7:</b>	<b>Attack on the dog out of motion [long bite]</b>	<b>20 points</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>100 points</b>

### **General regulations:**

In a suitable location six blinds are to be set up along the length of the field, in a staggered fashion, three on each side (see sketch). Essential marks must be clearly visible for the handler, the judge and the helper.

The helper must be equipped with a protection suit, sleeve and soft stick. The sleeve must be equipped with a bite bar and the sleeve cover must be made from natural colored jute. If it is necessary for the helper to keep a close eye on the dog during the guarding phase, the helper is not required to stand still, though he is not permitted to make any threatening or defensive movements. The helper must protect his body with the sleeve. It is up to the handler how he/she chooses to disarm the helper. (See also Helper Regulations)

It is possible to work all trial levels with a single helper. If more than 7 dogs are entered in the trial, two helpers should be used. The same helper(s) should be used to work all dogs within the same trial level.

If a dog is out of control and will not out after a defense exercise, or will out only through physical influence from the handler, or dogs which bite the helper anywhere other than on the bite sleeve must be disqualified. No TSB rating is given.

If dogs fail during a defense exercise [i.e., fail to engage or come off the sleeve and won't re-engage] or can be chased away, protection is terminated. The dog does not receive a score. A TSB rating is given.

The out command is permitted one time during all defense exercises. See the table below for the scoring for the "out".

<b>Slow out</b>	<b>First additional command followed by immediate out</b>	<b>First additional command followed by slow out</b>	<b>Second additional command followed by immediate out</b>	<b>Second additional command followed by slow out</b>	<b>No out after second additional command, or additional influence</b>
0.5-3.0	3.0	3.5-6.0	6.0	6.5-9.0	Disqualification

### **1. Search for the helper 5 points**

#### **a) Commands**

One command each to search, come or here (The "Hier/Here command may be used in conjunction with the dog's name.) = **Voran or Revier/Search, Hier/Here or Come**

#### **b) Execution of the exercise**

The helper is located in the last blind, out of sight of the dog. With the dog off lead, the handler takes a position between the second and third blinds in order to be able make four side searches [of the field]. At the judge's signal Part C begins. With a search command in conjunction with visible signal with the right or left arm (which may be repeated), the dog must quickly leave the handler and purposefully circle the indicated blind, tightly and alertly. As soon as the dog has searched the blind the handler calls the dog (the dog's name may be used in conjunction with the command) and, while moving up field, sends the dog with another search command into the next blind. The handler moves at a normal pace down an

imaginary centerline [of the field]. The handler must remain in the center of the field during the blind search. The dog must search in front of the handler. When the dog reaches the find blind, the handler must stop and stand still and no further commands are permitted.

### **c) Evaluation**

Deductions can be made according to limitations concerning manageability, [lack of] fast and purposeful approach to the blinds as well as tight, attentive circling of the blinds.

## **2. Hold and bark 10 points**

### **a) Commands**

One command each to come to heel position = **Hier/Fuß, Come or Here/Heel** [Given as a single command.]

### **b) Execution of the Exercise**

The dog must actively and intently confront the helper, barking continuously. The dog is not permitted to jump on or bite the helper. After approximately 20 seconds, at the judge's signal, the handler approaches the blind and stops about 5 paces away. At the judge's signal the handler calls the dog out of the blind into heel position.

### **c) Evaluation**

Deductions will be made based on limitations regarding continuous, challenging barking and intense guarding, uninfluenced by the judge or the approach of the handler until the call out command is given. Continuous barking will earn 5 points. If the dog only barks weakly, 2 points are deducted. If the dog does not bark but guards the helper actively, intently and tightly, 5 points are deducted. Molesting the helper, for example bumping, jumping on, etc., results in a deduction of up to 2 points. Up to 9 points may be deducted for hard biting. If the dog leaves the helper before the judge signals the handler to leave the center [of the field], the dog may be sent to the blind again. If the dog stays with the helper this time, protection may be continued, though the hold and bark is to be rated "insufficient". If the dog will not search the blind or leaves the helper again, phase C is terminated. If the dog returns to the handler as the handler approaches the blind, or the dog returns to the handler prior to receiving the call out command, partial points are given reflecting an "insufficient" rating.

## **3. Prevention of an Escape Attempt by the Helper 10 points**

### **a) Commands**

One command each to heel, down, out = **Fuß/Heel, Platz/Down, Aus/Out**

### **b) Execution of the Exercise**

At the judge's signal, the handler orders the helper out of the blind. The helper moves at a normal pace to the designated location for the escape. At the judge's signal, with the dog heeling off lead, the handler goes to the designated down location for the escape. The distance between dog and helper is 5 paces. The handler leaves the dog in the down position, guarding the helper and goes into the blind, maintaining visual contact with the dog, the judge and the helper. At the judge's signal the helper tries to escape. The dog must immediately and independently forcibly prevent the escape, by means of an energetic and strong bite. The dog may only bite the protection sleeve. On the judge's signal the helper stands still. When the helper stops moving the dog must release immediately. The handler may independently give an out command within an appropriate time.

If the dog does not out after the first command, the handler will receive the judge's instruction to give up to two additional out commands. If the dog does not out after receiving three commands (one permitted plus two additional commands), the team is disqualified. While giving the out command, the handler must stand still, without influencing the dog. Once the dog has outed, it must remain close to the helper and guard him intently.

### **c) Evaluation**

Deductions will be made according to qualifying factors concerning important evaluation criteria: rapid, energetic response and pursuit combined with a powerful grip and energetic prevention of the escape,

full, calm bite until given the out command; intense, tight guarding of the helper. If the dog remains in the down position or has not prevented the escape by biting and holding tightly before the helper has taken about 20 steps, the protection is terminated.

If the dog is somewhat inattentive and/or bothers the helper slightly while guarding, the exercise will be marked down by one grade. If the dog is guarding the helper very inattentively and/or bothers the helper a lot, the exercise is marked down by two grades. If the dog does not guard the helper but stays with him, the exercise is marked down by three grades. If the dog leaves the helper or if the handler gives the dog a verbal command to stay with the helper, phase C is terminated.

#### **4. Defense of the dog during guarding phase [Reattack] 20 points**

##### **a) Commands**

One command each to out and come to heel position = **Aus/Out, Fuß/Heel**

##### **b) Execution of the Exercise**

After a guarding [the helper] for about 5 seconds, at the judge's signal, the helper attacks the dog. Without any influence from the handler, the dog must defend itself by an energetic, powerful bite. The dog may only bite the helper's protection sleeve. As soon as the dog has bitten, the helper gives [the dog] two stick hits. Hits may only be applied to the shoulders and the area of the withers. At the judge's command, the helper stands still. After the helper stops, the dog must immediately out. The handler may independently give an out command within an appropriate time period.

If the dog does not out after the first command, the handler will receive the judge's instruction to give up to two additional out commands. If the dog does not out after receiving three commands (one permitted plus two additional commands), the team is disqualified. While giving the out command, the handler must stand still, without influencing the dog. Once the dog has outed, it must remain close to the helper and guard him intently. At the judge's signal, at a normal pace, the handler walks directly to the dog and puts the dog into the basic position. The handler does not take the stick from the helper.

##### **c) Evaluation**

Deductions will be made according to qualifying factors concerning important evaluation criteria: quick, strong response; full, calm bite until given the out command; intense, tight guarding of the helper.

If the dog is somewhat inattentive and/or bothers the helper slightly while guarding, the exercise will be marked down by one grade. If the dog guards the helper very inattentively and/or bothers the helper a lot, the exercise is marked down by two grades. If the dog does not guard the helper but stays with him, the exercise is marked down by three grades. If the dog comes toward the handler as he/she approaches, the exercise is rated as insufficient. If the dog leaves the helper before the judge gives the handler the signal to approach or if the handler gives the dog a verbal command to stay with the helper, phase C is terminated.

#### **5. Back Transport 5 points**

##### **a) Commands**

A command to heel = **Fuß/Heel**

##### **b) Execution of the Exercise**

Exercise 4 (Reattack) is followed by the back transport of the helper over about 30 paces. The judge determines the direction of the back transport. With the dog heeling off lead, the handler will instruct the helper to walk forward and follows behind him [at a distance of] about 5 paces. The dog should watch the helper closely. The distance of 5 paces must be maintained through the entire back transport.

##### **c) Evaluation**

Deductions will be made according to limitations regarding important evaluation criteria, such as [the dog] watching the helper attentively, correct heeling, maintaining the required distance [behind the helper].

**6. Attack on the dog out of the Back Transport 30 points**

**a) Commands**

One command each for out and heel = **Aus/Out, Fuß/Heel**

**b) Execution of the Exercise**

At a signal from the judge and while moving, an attack is performed out of the back transport. Without hesitation and without any influence from the handler, the dog must defend against the attack by a strong, energetic bite. The dog may bite only the helper's sleeve. As soon as the dog has bitten, the handler must immediately stand still. At the judge's signal, the helper stops attacking. As soon as the helper stops, the dog must immediately out. The handler can give an out command within an appropriate period of time.

If the dog does not out after the first command, the handler will receive the judge's instruction to give up to two additional out commands. If the dog does not out after receiving three commands (one permitted plus two additional commands), the team is disqualified. While giving the out command, the handler must stand still, without influencing the dog. Once the dog has outed, it must remain close to the helper and guard him intently. At the judge's signal, at a normal pace, the handler walks directly to the dog and puts the dog into the basic position. The handler does not take the stick from the helper.

**c) Evaluation**

Deductions will be made according to limitations regarding important evaluation criteria such as a quick and powerful strike; full, calm bite until given the out command; close, intense guarding after outing.

If the dog is somewhat inattentive and/or bothers the helper slightly while guarding him, the exercise will be marked down by one grade. If the dog guards the helper very inattentively and/or bothers the helper a lot, the exercise is marked down by two grades. If the dog does not guard the helper but stays with him, the exercise is marked down by three grades. If the dog comes toward the handler as he/she approaches, the exercise is rated as insufficient. If the dog leaves the helper before the judge gives the handler the signal to approach or if the handler gives the dog a verbal command to stay with the helper, phase C is terminated.

**7. Attack on the Dog out of Motion [Long Bite] 20 points**

**a) Commands**

One command each to sit, confront or go, out, heel = **Sitz/Sit, Stell oder Voran/ Hold or Go, Aus/Out, Fuß/Heel**

**b) Execution of the Exercise**

The handler is sent with the dog to a marked spot on the centerline of the field, level with the first blind. The handler may hold the dog by its collar but may not stimulate the dog. At the judge's signal, the helper steps out of the blind, carrying the soft stick, and runs to the centerline of the field. The helper ignores the handler's command to stop and runs towards the handler and dog (at a running pace), attacking them head-on, while yelling and making vigorous threatening gestures. As soon as the helper has reached a point about 50 to 40 paces from the handler and dog, the judge signals the handler to release the dog and he/she does so with a command "to defend" [against the attack]. The dog must defend against the attack without hesitation by an energetic, strong bite. The dog may only bite the helper's protection sleeve. The handler may not move from his/her position. On a signal from the judge, the helper stops the attack. After the helper has stopped the attack and is standing still, the dog must immediately out. The handler may independently give an out command within an appropriate period of time.

If the dog does not out after the first command, the handler will receive the judge's instruction to give up to two additional out commands. If the dog does not out after receiving three commands (one permitted plus two additional commands), the team is disqualified. While giving the out command, the handler must stand still, without influencing the dog. Once the dog has outed, it must remain close to the helper and guard him intently. At the judge's signal, at a normal pace, the handler walks directly to the dog and puts the dog into the basic position. The soft stick is taken from the helper.

A side transport of the helper to the judge follows over a distance of about 20 paces. A heel command is allowed. The dog must walk on the helper's right side, so that the dog is in between the handler and the helper. The dog must watch the helper closely during the transport. The dog may not bother, jump on or bite the helper. The group stops in front of the judge, the handler presents the soft stick to the judge and reports that Part C is completed. At the instruction of the judge, before the critique, the dog is put on lead.

**c) Evaluation**

Deductions will be made according to qualifying factors concerning important evaluation criteria: energetic defense with a powerful strike; a full, calm bite until the out, intense, tight guarding of the helper.

If the dog is somewhat inattentive and/or bothers the helper slightly while guarding, the exercise will be marked down by one grade. If the dog guards the helper very inattentively and/or bothers the helper a lot, the exercise is marked down by two grades. If the dog does not guard the helper but stays with him, the exercise is marked down by three grades. If the dog comes toward the handler as he/she approaches, the exercise is rated as insufficient. If the dog leaves the helper before the judge gives the handler the signal to approach or if the handler gives the dog a verbal command to stay with the helper, phase C is terminated.

## **Vielseitigkeitsprüfung für Gebrauchshunde (VPG 3)**

is divided into:	<b>Phase A</b>	<b>100 points</b>
	<b>Phase B</b>	<b>100 points</b>
	<b>Phase C</b>	<b>100 points</b>
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>300 points</b>

### **VPG 3, Part A**

**The track is laid by a stranger to the dog, minimum of 400 paces, 5 legs, 4 corners (approximately 90 degrees), 3 articles, at least 60 minutes old, time to work out the track 20 minutes**

<b>Tracking Performance</b>	<b>80 points</b>
<b>Articles (7 + 7 + 6)</b>	<b>20 points</b>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>100 points</b>

#### **General Regulations:**

The judge or the person in charge of tracking determines the course of the track based upon the tracking field terrain. Varying patterns must be used for the tracks. The article placement and distance to each corner should not be identical on every track. The start must be clearly marked with a sign, placed in the ground directly to the left of the scent pad.

After the tracks are laid, with the judge present, the start positions are determined by a draw.

Prior to laying the track, the tracklayer must show the tracking articles to the judge or the person in charge of the tracking. Only well scented articles (scented for a minimum of 30 minutes) may be used. The tracklayer pauses briefly on the scent pad and then proceeds at a normal pace in the direction prescribed by the judge. The corners are likewise to be laid at a normal pace. The first article is placed on the track after a minimum of 100 paces on the first or second leg. The second article is placed at the judge's instruction and the third article at the end of the track. The articles are to be laid on the track while the tracklayer is moving. After placing the last article at the end of the track, the tracklayer must walk straight ahead for a few more paces. Different types of articles are to be used on the track (materials: leather, fabric, wood). The size of the articles should be about 10 cm (4 inches) long by 2-3 cm (3/4 inch to 1 1/4") wide by 0.5-1 cm (3/8 inch to 5/8 inch) thick. They may not differ substantially in color from the terrain. All articles are to be marked with numbers, which must coincide with the numbers on the start stake. The handler and dog must remain out of sight while the track is laid.

While the dog is working the track, the judge, tracklayer and anyone accompanying the judge are not permitted in the area of the track where the dog/handler team has the right to track.

#### **a) Commands**

A command for Suchen = **Such/Track or Find**

The tracking command is permitted at the start of the track and after the first article.

#### **b) Tracking Performance**

The handler prepares the dog to track. The dog may track off lead or on a 10 m [33 foot] tracking line. While tracking, the 10m tracking line may be placed over the back, on the side or between the front and/or hindquarters of the dog. The line may be attached directly to the collar on the dead ring or to the ring on the tracking harness. (The following types of tracking harnesses are permitted: chest harness or Böttger harness without any additional straps.) When summoned, the handler will report to the judge with the dog in a basic position. The handler will inform the judge whether the dog picks up or indicates the articles. Any compulsion is to be avoided prior to tracking, at the start and during the entire track. At the judge's command, the dog is taken slowly and calmly to the starting point and is set onto the track. The dog should take the scent at the start calmly and intensely with a deep nose. The dog must then proceed to track with a deep nose, maintaining a consistent pace. The handler follows the dog at a distance of 10 m at the end of the tracking line. When tracking off lead, a distance of 10 m must be maintained as well. A certain amount of slack in the line is permissible, as long as the handler keeps the tracking line in

his/her hand. The dog must confidently work out corners. After working out a corner the dog must continue to track at the regular pace. As soon as the dog reaches an article, it must immediately pick up or indicate the article, without help from the handler. If the dog picks up the article, it can stand, sit or come to the handler. Going forward with the article or picking it up in the down position is incorrect. The dog may indicate the articles by standing, sitting or lying down or any of these positions interchangeably. As soon as the dog has indicated or picked up an article, the handler should drop the line and immediately go to the dog. The handler signals the judge that the article has been found by raising it in the air. The handler picks up the tracking line and continues tracking with the dog. Upon completing the track, the handler must show the judge the articles that were found.

**c.) Evaluation**

The speed of the tracking performance is not a criterion [standard] in the judging, if the track is worked intensely, uniformly and convincingly and the dog shows a positive tracking attitude. If a dog checks to convince itself of the layout of the track, this is not incorrect as long as the dog does not leave the track. Aimless wandering, a high nose, urination/defecation, circling at the corners, continuous encouragement, guiding with the line or verbal help on the track or at the articles, faulty pick up/indication of the articles and false indication will cause point deductions. Tracking is terminated if the handler leaves the track by more than one lead length.

If the dog starts to leave the track and the handler restrains it, the judge will instruct the handler to follow the dog. Tracking is terminated if the handler fails to follow the judge's instructions. If the track is not completed within 15 minutes from the time the dog was put on the track, the judge will terminate tracking. The performance shown before tracking was terminated will be scored.

It is incorrect for a dog to both indicate and pick up articles on the track. A rating is given only for articles indicated in the manner announced to the judge when the handler reported in. Faulty indication/picking up of an article is included in the evaluation of the corresponding leg.

No points are given for articles that are not indicated/picked up.

**The distribution of points for each individual leg, for maintaining the track, has to reflect the length and the degree of difficulty.** Each leg is evaluated in points and ratings. If the dog is not tracking (lingering in the same place and the dog is not tracking), the judge may terminate the tracking work even though the dog is still positioned on the track.

**VPG 3, Part B**

<b>Exercise 1</b>	<b>Heeling off lead</b>	<b>10 points</b>
<b>Exercise 2</b>	<b>Sit in motion</b>	<b>10 points</b>
<b>Exercise 3</b>	<b>Down with recall</b>	<b>10 points</b>
<b>Exercise 4</b>	<b>Running Stand</b>	<b>10 points</b>
<b>Exercise 5</b>	<b>Retrieve on the flat</b>	<b>10 points</b>
<b>Exercise 6</b>	<b>Retrieve over hurdle</b>	<b>15 points</b>
<b>Exercise 7</b>	<b>Retrieve over scaling wall</b>	<b>15 points</b>
<b>Exercise 8</b>	<b>Send-out with down</b>	<b>10 points</b>
<b>Exercise 9</b>	<b>Down under distraction</b>	<b>10 points</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>100 points</b>

**General Regulations:**

The judge gives the signal to begin each exercise. Everything else, such as about turns, halts, changes of pace, etc. is carried out without any signal from the judge. [

The commands are described in the guidelines. Verbal commands are spoken normally -- brief commands, consisting of one word. The commands may be given in any language, but the same command is to be used for the same action every time. If, after three commands, a dog fails to perform the exercise or part of the exercise, the exercise is terminated without a score. For the recall it is permissible to use the dog's name instead of the command "Hier/Come or Here". However, using the dog's name in conjunction with a "Here" command is considered a double command.

In the basic position, the dog sits straight, close to the handler's left side, with its right shoulder aligned with the handler's knee. Each exercise begins and ends in the basic position. The handler is permitted to assume the basic position only once at the start of an exercise. Briefly praising the dog is permitted only at the end of each exercise with the dog in the basic position. After praising the dog, the handler can assume a new basic position. In any case, between praising the dog and the start of a new exercise, the handler must show a distinct pause of about 3 seconds.

An exercise [motion exercise] develops from the basic position. The handler must show a minimum of 10 paces or a maximum of 15 paces before giving the verbal command for the execution of the exercise. Between all fronts and finishes, as well as when the handler returns to the dog in the sit in motion or walking stand or to the dog on the long down, a distinct pause (approximately 3 seconds) is to be observed, before the next command may be given. When picking up the dog, the handler may go directly to the dog's side or go around behind the dog.

The heel position is to be maintained at all times between exercises. The dog must accompany the handler when picking up the dumbbells. Playing with the dog or "pumping" it up is not permitted.

The about turn is executed as a left about turn. The dog can either go around behind the handler or back up [to the left] from the front. [The dog stays on the left side of the handler.] The left turn must be performed in the same manner throughout the trial.

The dog may perform the finish by going around behind the handler or by executing a flip finish from in front of the handler.

The solid hurdle (without a flexible top) is 100 cm high and 150 cm wide. The scaling wall consists of two parts connected at the top. The two sides of the wall are 150 cm wide and 191 cm high. The wall is positioned on the ground in such a way that the vertical height is 180 cm. Both sides of the scaling wall must be covered with a nonskid material. Three cleats (approximately 24/48 mm) shall be attached to the upper part. All dogs entered in a trial must use the same obstacles.

Only dumbbells are permitted to be used (Retrieve on the Flat -- 2000 gm/1Kilo; over the Jump and Wall, 650 g) for the retrieval exercises. The dumbbells provided by the host club are to be used by all participants. It is not permitted to place the dumbbell in the dog's mouth prior to the exercise.

If a handler forgets to perform an exercise, the judge will instruct the handler to perform the missing exercise. No points are deducted for this.

## **1. Heeling off lead 10 points**

### **a) Commands**

A command to work at heel = **Fuß/Heel**

The handler is permitted to use the command only when starting an exercise and at the change of pace.

### **b) Execution of the exercise**

At the beginning of Part B, the handler reports to the judge with the dog heeling off lead and puts the dog in the basic position. At the heel command, from the basic position, the dog must follow the handler attentively and happily, moving straight next to the handler. The dog's shoulder must stay aligned with the handler's left knee and when the handler stops, the dog must automatically sit quickly and straight. At the start of the exercise handler and dog must walk 50 paces straight ahead, without stopping, perform an about turn and after 10-15 more paces, show the fast and slow (a minimum of 10 paces each). The transition from fast to slow is performed without any transitional paces in between. [In other words, the handler goes directly from fast into slow.] The two different paces must be performed at distinctly different speeds. Then, at a normal pace, handler and dog must perform at least one right turn, one left turn and one about turn. A halt from the normal pace must be performed at least once. As the handler and the dog walk down the first leg [of the heeling pattern], two shots are fired (caliber 6 mm), five seconds apart, at a distance of at least 15 paces from the dog. The dog must remain indifferent to the gunshots. On instruction by the judge, at the end of the [heeling] exercise, the handler and the dog go through a moving

group, consisting of at least four people. In the group, the handler must heel the dog around two people, one to the left and one to the right and must halt at least once in the group. The judge is entitled to ask the handler to repeat the exercise. The handler and the dog leave the group and assume the basic position.

**c) Evaluation:**

Deductions can be made accordingly for forging, heeling wide or sideways, lagging, slow or hesitant sits, additional commands, physical help from the handler, inattentiveness during heeling at all paces and turns and /or an unhappy working attitude of the dog.

**2. Sit in motion 10 points**

**a) Commands**

One command each to heel and sit = **Fuß/Heel and Sitz/Sit.**

**b) Execution of the exercise**

From the basic position the handler walks straight ahead with the dog heeling off lead. After 10-15 paces, the handler gives the command to sit and the dog must sit quickly and straight without the handler stopping, altering speed or looking back at the dog. The handler continues another 30 paces, then stops and immediately turns to face the calmly sitting dog. At the judge's signal the handler returns to the dog and takes the position on the dog's right side.

**c) Evaluation**

Deductions will be made for incorrect development, slow sit, or a restless and inattentive sit. Five points will be deducted if the dog downs or stands.

**3. Down with recall 10 points**

**a) Commands**

One command each for heeling, down, recall and finish = **Fuß/Heel, Platz/Down, Hier/Come or Here (call name of the dog can be used instead of come command) and Fuß/Heel.**

**b) Execution of the Exercise**

From the basic position the handler goes straight ahead with the dog heeling off lead. After 10-15 normal paces and an additional 10 to 15 running paces, the handler gives the down command. The dog must down quickly without the handler stopping, altering speed or looking back at the dog. The handler continues on for another 30 paces, then stops and immediately turns to face the dog calmly lying [on the field]. At the judge's signal the handler calls the dog, using a recall command or the dog's name. The dog must come direct [to the handler], happily and quickly and must sit straight in front of and close to the handler. At the heel command, the dog must quickly go to the basic position, straight beside the handler with its shoulder aligned with the handler's knee.

**c) Evaluation**

Deductions will be made accordingly for incorrect development, downing slowly, restlessness, slow recall or slowing down on the recall to the handler, straddle-legged stance by the handler, incorrect front sit and/or incorrect finish. If the dog stands or sits after receiving the down command, 5 points will be deducted.

**4. Running Stand 10 points**

**a) Commands**

One command each for heel, stand, come, heel) = **Fuß/Heel, Steh/Stand, Hier/Here or Come, Fuß/Heel**

**b) Execution of the Exercise**

From a straight basic position, with the dog heeling off lead, the handler runs straight ahead. After 10-15 paces, the handler gives the dog the stand command and the dog must immediately stand facing the direction of movement, without the handler altering speed or looking back. After running an additional 30 paces straight ahead, the handler stops and immediately turns to face the dog standing calmly in place.

At the judge's signal, the handler recalls the dog with either a recall command or the dog's name. The dog must come directly to the handler, fast and happily, and sit straight and tight in front. On the heel command, the dog must quickly go to the basic position, straight beside the handler with its shoulder level with the handler's knee.

### **c) Evaluation**

Deductions will be made accordingly for incorrect development, stretching out the command, restlessness, taking steps towards the handler, slow recall or slowing down on the recall to the handler, straddle-legged stance by the handler, incorrect front sit and/or incorrect finish. If the dog sits or downs after receiving the stand command, 5 points will be deducted.

## **5. Retrieve on the Flat 10 points**

### **a) Commands**

One command each for retrieving, releasing the dumbbell and to finish = **Bring/Fetch, Aus/Out, Fuß/b**

### **Execution of the Exercise**

From the straight basic position the handler throws a dumbbell (weight: 2000g/1Kilo) about 10 paces. The retrieve command is not to be given until the dumbbell stops moving. The dog must sit calmly off lead next to the handler until it receives the command to retrieve and then must run out quickly, straight to the dumbbell, immediately pick it up and quickly return with it, directly to the handler. The dog must sit straight in front, close to the handler. The dog must hold the dumbbell calmly in its mouth until the handler, after a pause of about three seconds, gives the release command and takes the dumbbell. The dumbbell is to be held quietly in the handler's right hand with the arm stretched out along the right side of the body. At the heel command, the dog must quickly go to the basic position, straight beside the handler's left side with its shoulder aligned with the handler's knee. The handler is not permitted to change position during the entire exercise.

### **c) Evaluation**

Deductions will be made for incorrect basic position, going slowly to the dumbbell, incorrect pick up, slow return [to the handler], dropping the dumbbell, playing with or mouthing the dumbbell, straddle-legged stance by the handler, incorrect front sit and incorrect finish. Throwing the dumbbell too short as well as handler help without changing position will result in a point deduction.

If the handler leaves his/her position before the exercise is completed, the exercise will be rated unsatisfactory. If the dog does not retrieve the dumbbell, the exercise will be evaluated with 0 points.

## **6. Retrieve over hurdle (100 cm = 39.5") 15 points**

### **a) Commands**

One command each to jump, retrieve, release the dumbbell, heel to finish = **Hopp/Hupp or Over, Bring/Fetch, Aus/Out or Give, Fuß/Heel.**

### **b) Execution of the exercise**

The handler and dog assume the basic position at least 5 paces in front of the jump. From a straight basic position the handler throws a dumbbell (650g) over the 100cm high jump. The command to jump may not be given until the dumbbell has stopped moving. The dog must sit calmly off lead next to the handler until it receives the command to jump and retrieve (the command to retrieve must be given while the dog is jumping). Upon command, the dog must jump over the hurdle, run quickly and directly to the dumbbell, immediately pick it up and quickly return with the dumbbell, directly back over the hurdle to the handler. The dog must sit straight in front, close to the handler. The dog must hold the dumbbell calmly in its mouth until the handler, after a pause of about three seconds, gives the release command and takes the dumbbell. The dumbbell is to be held quietly in the handler's right hand with the arm stretched out along the right side of the body. On the heel command, the dog must quickly go to the basic position, straight beside the handler's left side with its shoulder aligned with the handler's knee. The handler is not permitted to change position during the entire exercise.

### **c) Evaluation**

Deductions may be made accordingly for incorrect basic position, slow jump out, incorrect pick up, slow return over the jump, dropping the dumbbell, playing with or mouthing the dumbbell, straddle-legged stance by the handler, incorrect front sit and incorrect finish. For touching the hurdle up to 1 point must be deducted per jump and for stepping on the hurdle up to 2 points must be deducted.

<b>Jump out</b>	<b>Retrieve</b>	<b>Return jump</b>
5 points	5 points	5 points

A partial score for the exercise is possible only if at least two out of the three parts of the exercise (jump out -- retrieve – return jump) are completed.

Both jumps perfect, retrieve without fault	=	15 points
Jump out or return jump refused, retrieve without fault	=	10 points
Both jumps perfect, dumbbell not retrieved	=	10 points

If the dumbbell lands substantially to one side or is not readily visible to the dog, the handler may ask the judge for a re-throw or may do so at the judge's suggestion. No point deduction results. The dog must remain sitting in place.

Any handler help without changing position is evaluated accordingly. If the handler leaves his/her position before the exercise is completed, the exercise is rated unsatisfactory.

## **7. Retrieve over the scaling wall (180 cm = 71") 15 points**

### **a) Commands**

One command each to climb over, retrieve, release, heel to finish = **Hopp/Hupp or Over, Bring/Fetch, Aus/Out or Give, Fuß/Heel.**

### **b) Execution of Exercise**

The handler and dog assume the basic position at least 5 paces in front of the scaling wall. From a straight basic position the handler throws a dumbbell (650g) over the wall. The dog must sit calmly off lead next to the handler until it receives the command to jump and retrieve (the command to retrieve must be given while the dog is climbing over the wall). Upon command, the dog must climb over the wall, run quickly and directly to the dumbbell, immediately pick it up, return at once back over the wall and quickly bring the dumbbell directly to the handler. The dog must sit straight in front, close to the handler, holding the dumbbell calmly in its mouth until the handler, after a pause of about three seconds, gives the release command and takes the dumbbell. The dumbbell is to be held quietly in the handler's right hand with the arm stretched out along the right side of the body. On the heel command, the dog must go quickly to the basic position, straight beside the handler's left side with its shoulder level with the handler's knee. The handler is not permitted to change position during the entire exercise.

### **c) Evaluation**

Deductions may be made accordingly for incorrect basic position, slow climb over, incorrect pick up, slow return back over the wall, dropping the dumbbell, playing with or mouthing the dumbbell, straddle-legged stance by the handler, incorrect front sit and incorrect finish.

### **c) Evaluation**

Deductions may be made accordingly for incorrect basic position, slow climb over, incorrect pick up, slow return back over the wall, dropping the dumbbell, playing with or mouthing the dumbbell, straddle-legged stance by the handler, incorrect front sit and incorrect finish.

<b>Climb over</b>	<b>Retrieve</b>	<b>Return climb</b>
5 points	5 points	5 points

A partial score for the exercise is possible only if at least two out of the three parts of the exercise (climb over – retrieve – return climb) are completed.

Both climb over and back and retrieve without faults	=	15 points
Climb over or back refused, retrieve without fault	=	10 points
Climb over and back perfect, dumbbell not retrieve	=	10 points

If the dumbbell lands substantially to one side or is not readily visible to the dog, the handler may ask the judge for a re-throw or may do so at the judge's suggestion. No point deduction results. The dog must remain sitting in place.

Any handler help without changing position is evaluated accordingly. If the handler leaves his/her position before the exercise is completed, the exercise is rated unsatisfactory.

## **8. Send out with down 10 points**

### **a) Commands**

One command each to heel, go, down, sit = **Fuß/Heel, Voraus/Go, Platz/Down, Sitz/Sit.**

### **b) Execution of Exercise**

From the basic position with the dog off lead, the handler walks straight ahead in the direction indicated by the judge. After 10-15 paces the handler gives the dog the command to go out. Simultaneously the handler lifts his/her arm (only once) and stops. The dog must go out purposefully, at a fast pace and in a straight line, at least 30 paces in the indicated direction. At the judge's signal, the handler gives the command to down. The dog must down immediately. The handler may keep the arm raised until the dog downs. On the judge's signal, the handler returns to the dog and takes up a position on the dog's right side. At the judge's signal, after about three seconds, the handler gives the dog a sit command and the dog must sit quickly and straight into a basic position.

### **c) Evaluation**

The following errors will be evaluated accordingly: incorrect development; the handler follows the dog [after giving the go out command]; dog goes out too slowly, strong deviation to the side, distance is too short, downs slowly or prematurely, is restless on the down or stands up/sits up prematurely when picked up.

## **9. Down under distraction 10 points**

### **a) Commands**

One command each to down and sit = **Platz/Down, Sitz/Sit**

### **b) Execution of the Exercise**

At the beginning of the obedience routine for another dog, the handler downs the dog from a correct basic position at a location designated by the judge. No lead or article is left with the dog. Without turning around, the handler then walks away a minimum of 30 paces from the dog and goes out of sight without leaving the trial field. The dog must remain calmly in the down position without any influence from the handler while the other dog performs exercises 1 through 7. At the judge's signal, the handler returns to the dog and takes the position on the dog's right side. At the judge's signal, after about three seconds, the handler gives the dog the command to sit. The dog must sit up quickly and straight into a basic position.

### **c) Evaluation**

Restless behavior by the handler or other hidden handler help or if the dog is restless during the down or stands up/sits up prematurely when the handler returns will be evaluated accordingly. If the dog sits up or stands up, but remains in the designated area, partial points will be given. If the dog moves from the designated area by more than 3 meters before the other dog has completed exercise 5, zero points will be given for this exercise. If the dog leaves the designated area after exercise 5 is completed, partial points will be received. If the dog walks towards the handler when the handler returns to the dog, up to 3 points may be deducted.

## **VPG 3, Part C**

<b>Exercise 1:</b>	<b>Search for the helper</b>	<b>10 points</b>
<b>Exercise 2:</b>	<b>Hold and bark</b>	<b>10 points</b>
<b>Exercise 3:</b>	<b>Prevention of an attempted escape of the helper</b>	<b>10 points</b>
<b>Exercise 4:</b>	<b>Defense of an attack out of the guarding phase</b>	<b>20 points</b>
<b>Exercise 5:</b>	<b>Back transport</b>	<b>5 points</b>
<b>Exercise 6:</b>	<b>Attack on the dog out of the back transport</b>	<b>15 points</b>
<b>Exercise 7:</b>	<b>Attack on the dog out of motion [long bite]</b>	<b>10 points</b>
<b>Exercise 8:</b>	<b>Defense of an attack out of the guarding phase</b>	<b>20 points</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>100 points</b>

**General regulations:**

In a suitable location six blinds are to be set up along the length of the field, in a staggered fashion, three on each side (see sketch). Essential marks must be clearly visible for the handler, the judge and the helper.

The helper must be equipped with a protection suit, sleeve and soft stick. The sleeve must be equipped with a bite bar and the sleeve cover must be made from natural colored jute. If it is necessary for the helper to keep a close eye on the dog during the guarding phase, the helper is not required to stand still, though he is not permitted to make any threatening or defensive movements. The helper must protect his body with the sleeve. It is up to the handler to decide how the helper will be disarmed. (See also Helper Regulations)

It is possible to work all trial levels with a single helper. If more than 7 dogs are entered in the trial, two helpers should be used. The same helper(s) should be used to work all dogs within the same trial level.

If a dog is out of control and will not out after a defense exercise, or will out only through physical influence from the handler, or dogs which bite the helper anywhere other than on the bite sleeve must be disqualified. No TSB rating is given.

If dogs fail during a defense exercise [i.e., fail to engage or come off the sleeve and won't re-engage] or can be chased away, protection is terminated. The dog does not receive a score. A TSB rating is given.

The out command is permitted one time during all defense exercises. See the table below for the scoring for the "out".

<b>Slow out</b>	<b>First additional command followed by immediate out</b>	<b>First additional command followed by slow out</b>	<b>Second additional command followed by immediate out</b>	<b>Second additional command followed by slow out</b>	<b>No out after second additional command, respectively additional influence</b>
0.5-3.0	3.0	3.5-6.0	6.0	6.5-9.0	Disqualification

**1. Search for the helper 10 points**

**a) Commands**

One command each to search, come or here (The "Hier/Here command may be used in conjunction with the dog's name.) = **Voran or Revier/Search, Hier/Here or Come**

**b) Execution of the exercise**

The helper is located in the last blind, out of sight of the dog. The handler takes a position by the first blind so that 6 side searches [of the field] are possible. At the judge's signal Part C begins. With a search command in conjunction with visible signal with the right or left arm (which may be repeated), the dog must quickly leave the handler and purposefully circle the blind indicated, tightly and alertly. As soon as the dog has searched the blind the handler calls the dog (the dog's name may be used in conjunction with the command) and, while moving up field, sends the dog with another search command into the next blind. The handler moves at a normal pace down an imaginary centerline [of the field]. The handler must

remain in the center of the field during the blind search. The dog must search in front of the handler. When the dog reaches the find blind, the handler must stop and stand still and no further commands are permitted.

## **2. Hold and bark 10 points**

### **a) Commands**

One command each to come to heel position = **Hier/Fuß, Come or Here/Heel**

### **b) Execution of the Exercise**

The dog must actively and intently confront the helper, barking continuously. The dog is not permitted to jump on or bite the helper. After approximately 20 seconds, at the judge's signal, the handler approaches the blind and stops about 5 paces away. At the judge's signal the handler calls the dog out of the blind into heel position.

### **c) Evaluation**

Deductions will be made based on limitations regarding continuous, challenging barking and intense guarding, uninfluenced by the judge or the approach of the handler until the call out command is given. Continuous barking will earn 5 points. If the dog only barks weakly, 2 points are deducted. If the dog does not bark but guards the helper actively, intently and tightly, 5 points are deducted. Molesting the helper, for example bumping, jumping on, etc., results in a deduction of up to 2 points. Up to 9 points may be deducted for hard biting. If the dog leaves the helper before the judge signals the handler to leave the center [of the field], the dog may be sent to the blind again. If the dog stays with the helper this time, protection may be continued, though the hold and bark is to be rated "insufficient". If the dog will not search the blind or leaves the helper again, phase C is terminated. If the dog returns to the handler as the handler approaches the blind, or the dog returns to the handler prior to receiving the call out command, partial points are given reflecting an "insufficient" rating.

## **3. Prevention of an Escape Attempt by the Helper 10 points**

### **a) Commands**

One command each to heel, down, out = **Fuß/Heel, Platz/Down, Aus/Out**

### **b) Execution of the Exercise**

At the judge's signal, the handler orders the helper out of the blind. The helper moves at a normal pace to the designated location for the escape. At the judge's signal, with the dog heeling off lead, the handler goes to the designated down location for the escape. The distance between dog and helper is 5 paces. The handler leaves the dog in the down position, guarding the helper and goes into the blind, maintaining visual contact with the dog, the judge and the helper. At the judge's signal the helper tries to escape. The dog must immediately and independently forcibly prevent the escape, by means of an energetic and strong bite. The dog may only bite the protection sleeve. On the judge's signal the helper stands still. When the helper stops moving the dog must release immediately. The handler may independently give an out command within an appropriate time.

If the dog does not out after the first command, the handler will receive the judge's instruction to give up to two additional out commands. If the dog does not out after receiving three commands (one permitted plus two additional commands), the team is disqualified. While giving the out command, the handler must stand still, without influencing the dog. Once the dog has outed, it must remain close to the helper and guard him intently.

### **c) Evaluation**

Deductions will be made according to qualifying factors concerning important evaluation criteria: rapid, energetic response and pursuit combined with a powerful grip and energetic prevention of the escape; full, calm bite until given the out command; intense, tight guarding of the helper. If the dog remains in the down position or has not prevented the escape by biting and holding tightly before the helper has taken about 20 steps, the protection is terminated.

If the dog is somewhat inattentive and/or bothers the helper slightly while guarding, the exercise will be marked down by one grade. If the dog is guarding the helper very inattentively and/or bothers the helper a lot, the exercise is marked down by two grades. If the dog does not guard the helper but stays with him, the exercise is marked down by three grades. If the dog leaves the helper or if the handler gives the dog a verbal command to stay with the helper, phase C is terminated.

**4. Defense of the dog during guarding phase [Reattack] 20 points**

**a) Commands**

One command each to out and come to heel position = **Aus/Out, Fuß/Heel**

**b) Execution of the Exercise**

After guarding [the helper] for about 5 seconds, at the judge's signal, the helper attacks the dog. Without any influence from the handler the dog must defend itself by an energetic, powerful bite. The dog may only bite the helper's protection sleeve. As soon as the dog has bitten, the helper gives [the dog] two stick hits. Hits may only be applied to the shoulders and the area of the withers. At the judge's command, the helper stands still. After the helper stops, the dog must immediately out. The handler may independently give an out command within an appropriate time period.

If the dog does not out after the first command, the handler will receive the judge's instruction to give up to two additional out commands. If the dog does not out after receiving three commands (one permitted plus two additional commands), the team is disqualified. While giving the out command, the handler must stand still, without influencing the dog. Once the dog has outed, it must remain close to the helper and guard him intently. At the judge's signal, at a normal pace, the handler walks directly to the dog and puts the dog into the basic position. The handler does not take the stick from the helper.

**c) Evaluation**

Deductions will be made according to qualifying factors concerning important evaluation criteria: quick, strong response; full, calm bite until given the out command; intense, tight guarding of the helper.

If the dog is somewhat inattentive and/or bothers the helper slightly while guarding, the exercise will be marked down by one grade. If the dog guards the helper very inattentively and/or bothers the helper a lot, the exercise is marked down by two grades. If the dog does not guard the helper but stays with him, the exercise is marked down by three grades. If the dog comes toward the handler as he/she approaches, the exercise is rated as insufficient. If the dog leaves the helper before the judge gives the handler the signal to approach or if the handler gives the dog a verbal command to stay with the helper, phase C is terminated.

**5. Back Transport 5 points**

**a) Commands**

A command to heel = **Fuß/Heel**

**b) Execution of the Exercise**

Exercise 4 (Reattack) is followed by the back transport of the helper over about 30 paces. The judge determines the direction of the back transport. With the dog heeling off lead, the handler will instruct the helper to walk forward and follows behind him about 5 paces. The dog should watch the helper closely. The distance of 5 paces must be maintained through the entire back transport.

**c) Evaluation**

Deductions will be made according to limitations regarding important evaluation criteria, such as [the dog] watching the helper attentively, correct heeling, maintaining the required distance [behind the helper].

**6. Attack on the dog out of the Back Transport 15 points**

### **a) Commands**

One command each to out and heel = **Aus/Out, Fuß/Heel**

### **b) Execution of the Exercise**

At a signal from the judge and while moving, an attack is performed out of the back transport. Without hesitation and without any influence from the handler, the dog must defend against the attack by a strong, energetic bite. The dog may bite only the helper's sleeve. As soon as the dog has bitten, the handler must immediately stand still. At the judge's signal, the helper stops attacking. As soon as the helper stops, the dog must immediately out. The handler can give an out command within an appropriate period of time.

If the dog does not out after the first command, the handler will receive the judge's instruction to give up to two additional out commands. If the dog does not out after receiving three commands (one permitted plus two additional commands), the team is disqualified. While giving the out command, the handler must stand still, without influencing the dog. Once the dog has outed, it must remain close to the helper and guard him intently. At the judge's signal, at a normal pace, the handler walks directly to the dog and puts the dog into the basic position. The handler takes the stick from the helper.

A side transport of the helper to the judge follows over a distance of about 20 paces. A heel command is allowed. The dog must walk on the helper's right side, so that the dog is in between the handler and the helper. The dog must watch the helper closely during the transport. The dog may not bother, jump on or bite the helper. The group stops in front of the judge, the handler presents the soft stick to the judge and reports that Part 1 of Part C is completed.

### **c) Evaluation**

Deductions will be made according to limitations regarding important evaluation criteria such as a quick and powerful strike; full, calm bite until given the out command; close, intense guarding after outing.

If the dog is somewhat inattentive and/or bothers the helper slightly while guarding him, the exercise will be marked down by one grade. If the dog guards the helper very inattentively and/or bothers the helper a lot, the exercise is marked down by two grades. If the dog does not guard the helper but stays with him, the exercise is marked down by three grades. If the dog comes toward the handler as he/she approaches, the exercise is rated as insufficient. If the dog leaves the helper before the judge gives the handler the signal to approach or if the handler gives the dog a verbal command to stay with the helper, phase C is terminated.

## **7. Attack on the Dog out of Motion [Long Bite]**

**10 points**

### **a) Commands**

One command each to sit, defend/go, out, heel = **Sitz/Sit, Stell oder Voran/Hold or Go, Aus/Out, Fuß/Heel**

### **b) Execution of the Exercise**

The handler is sent with the dog to a marked spot on the centerline of the field, level with the first blind. The handler may hold the dog by its collar but may not stimulate the dog. At the judge's signal, the helper steps out of the blind, carrying the soft stick, and runs to the centerline of the field. The helper ignores the handler's command to stop and runs towards the handler and dog (at a running pace), attacking them head-on, while yelling and making vigorous threatening gestures. As soon as the helper has reached a point about 60 paces from the handler and dog, the judge signals the handler to release the dog and he/she does so with a command "to defend" [against the attack]. The dog must defend against the attack without hesitation by an energetic, strong bite. The dog may only bite the helper's protection sleeve. The handler may not move from his/her position. On a signal from the judge, the helper stops the attack. After the helper has stopped the attack and is standing still, the dog must immediately out. The handler may independently give an out command within an appropriate period of time.

If the dog does not out after the first command, the handler will receive the judge's instruction to give up to two additional out commands. If the dog does not out after receiving three commands (one permitted

plus two additional commands), the team is disqualified. While giving the out command, the handler must stand still, without influencing the dog. Once the dog has outed, it must remain close to the helper and guard him intently.

### **c) Evaluation**

Deductions will be made according to qualifying factors concerning important evaluation criteria: energetic defense with a powerful strike; a full, calm bite until the out, intense, tight guarding of the helper.

If the dog is somewhat inattentive and/or bothers the helper slightly while guarding, the exercise will be marked down by one grade. If the dog guards the helper very inattentively and/or bothers the helper a lot, the exercise is marked down by two grades. If the dog does not guard the helper but stays with him, the exercise is marked down by three grades. If the dog comes toward the handler as he/she approaches, the exercise is rated as insufficient. If the dog leaves the helper before the judge gives the handler the signal to approach or if the handler gives the dog a verbal command to stay with the helper, phase C is terminated.

## **8. Defense of an Attack out of the Guarding Phase 20 points**

### **a) Commands**

One command each to out, sit, heel = **Aus/Out, Sitz/Sit, Fuß/Heel**

### **b) Execution of the Exercise**

After guarding [the helper] for about 5 seconds, at the judge's signal, the helper attacks the dog. Without hesitation and without any influence from the handler the dog must defend itself by an energetic, powerful bite. The dog may only bite the helper's protection sleeve. As soon as the dog has bitten, the helper gives [the dog] two stick hits. Hits may only be applied to the shoulders and the area of the withers. At the judge's command, the helper stands still. After the helper stops, the dog must immediately out. The handler may independently give an out command within an appropriate time period.

If the dog does not out after the first command, the handler will receive the judge's instruction to give up to two additional out commands. If the dog does not out after receiving three commands (one permitted plus two additional commands), the team is disqualified. While giving the out command, the handler must stand still, without influencing the dog in any way. Once the dog has outed, it must remain close to the helper and guard him intently. At the judge's signal, at a normal pace, the handler walks directly to the dog and puts the dog into the basic position. The handler takes the stick from the helper.

A side transport of the helper to the judge follows over a distance of about 20 paces. A heel command is allowed. The dog must walk on the helper's right side, so that the dog is in between the handler and the helper. The dog must watch the helper closely during the transport. The dog may not bother, jump on or bite the helper. The group stops in front of the judge, the handler presents the soft stick to the judge and reports that Part C is completed. At the judge's instruction, before the critique, the dog is put on lead.

### **c) Evaluation**

Deductions will be made according to limitations regarding important evaluation criteria such as a quick and powerful strike; full, calm bite until given the out command; close, intense guarding after outing.

If the dog is somewhat inattentive and/or bothers the helper slightly while guarding him, the exercise will be marked down by one grade. If the dog guards the helper very inattentively and/or bothers the helper a lot, the exercise is marked down by two grades. If the dog does not guard the helper but stays with him, the exercise is marked down by three grades. If the dog comes toward the handler as he/she approaches, the exercise is rated as insufficient. If the dog leaves the helper before the judge gives the handler the signal to approach or if the handler gives the dog a verbal command to stay with the helper, phase C is terminated.