

Dog Scouts of America
Activity Check-off sheet

Updated 8-27-09

13-18 YEARS OLD

Junior Scout:

All behaviors must have been taught or re-taught to the dog (preferably using a new cue), using only positive reward based methods. Written test can be used to verify handler understanding or a verbal quiz can be used.

Ages 13-18:

- Handler can play nicely with his/her dog and handler can safely meet another dog
- Handler has taught his/her dog a few basic exercises (Example: sit, down, come, etc.)
- Handler shows love and respect for the dog and knows how to protect the dog by standing up for him/her
- Handler knows safety rules (for approaching a dog, being approached by a loose dog, riding a bike while dog is visible, etc.)
- Handler manages the dog's environment to keep the dog feeling safe
- Handler can explain when to use the phrase, "please get your dog back" or "please stay back"
- Handler can explain how to encourage a proper greeting behavior between dogs
- Handler understands that aggression is normal dog "language", and can explain how to help the dog make other choices (attention to owner)
- Handler can explain proper leash handling techniques to discourage aggression
- Handler understands the use of and can name 3 calming/negotiation signals
- Handler promises to pick up dog's waste and dispose of it properly
- Handler can explain the Dog Scout laws in their own words and promises to uphold them
- Handler can explain the value of helping the dog make good choices using indirect access
- Handler can list two indirect access exercises
- Handler understands and agrees that the "leave it" cue is something they must work on the dog's entire life. For the test, the food and "other animal" needs to be something the dog clearly shows he/she really wants to get. If the dog demonstrates no interest in food or an other animal, two other objects the dog desires such as toys, dogs, people, etc can be used. The two items should be tested separately. The dog will pass close enough to easily get the item and the leash must remain loose. Each of the items needs to have 3 passes that meet the above criteria or a ratio of 3 correct passes for each incorrect pass.
- Leave it with Food
- Leave it with an animal (not a dog) that looks and smells real
- Handler will have at least two plastic bags to clean up after their dog at all times when a dog is with them

- Dog is safe and comfortable with strangers in normal circumstances with handler support and management. Dog can demonstrate an appropriate greeting of a human.
- Dog is safe and comfortable being near other dogs on leash and off leash if handler feels it is safe and manages the environment
- Dog demonstrates an understanding of heel position and a heel cue and will choose to maintain heel position keeping the leash loose during a heeling pattern that includes a left, right and U-turn, for a distance of at least 20 feet for each "leg" of the L.
- Dog can sit when handler stops at least 2 times during the heeling pattern (leash tightening is not part of the cue). These sits should be demonstrated on a straight part of the pattern and not at a turn.
- Dog will sit at least 2 times in response to a verbal cue or hand signal while not heeling and leash must remain loose
- Dog will lie down at least 2 times in response to a verbal cue or hand signal and leash must remain loose
- Dog will come directly to the handler 2 times when called from a distance of at least 10'. It is the handler's choice whether the exercise is performed on or off leash. If on leash the dog can be on a long line and drag the line with the evaluator holding the line.
- Dog will stay in either a sit or a down position, while handler walks about 10' away and returns to the dog close enough to put a hand on the collar (walking around dog to heel not required)

Children 7-18 yrs old who earn the Jr. Scout badge are eligible to earn all the specialty badges.