Items **bolded** below are requirements that must be demonstrated to the Evaluator. Non-bolded items are training steps that may be introduced in class and are helpful for achieving the requirements. All behaviors must have been taught or re-taught to the dog (preferably using a new cue), using only positive reward-based methods.

|  |
| --- |
|[ ]  **Handler understands the concept of IMPROV Obedience** |
|[ ]  **Handler/dog team must demonstrate their ability to negotiate the 6 exercises of Standard Level IMPROV as described in the IMPROV handbook*** **Exercises must be set up by another person with knowledge of IMPROV**
* **Handler may not have any prior knowledge of how the exercises will be set up**
 |
|[ ]  **Dog demonstrates an understanding of and willingness to perform the foundation behaviors listed for the exercises in the IMPROV handbook, including*** **Heeling**
* **Targeting (directing the dog to contact an object)**
* **Socialization to novel experiences**
* **Working at a distance from the handler**
* **Directional control**
* **Performing cued behaviors**
* **Retrieve**
 |
|[ ]  **Dog is willing to come into contact with unfamiliar objects** |
|[ ]  **Dog attempts to do as asked with determination and continued focus when confronted with unusual requests** |
|[ ]  **Handler and dog can work together as a team to accomplish a goal** |
|[ ]   **Handler demonstrates lateral thinking in order to solve a problem** |
|[ ]  **Dog will follow cues at a distance of at least 10’ from the handler** |
|[ ]  **Dog will attempt to retrieve 3 objects of any type placed on the ground by another person*** **All objects must be VERY unusual and/or unwieldy**
* **Dog should fully retrieve at least 1 item and make a good attempt to retrieve all 3 items**
 |
|[ ]  **Dog will carry an object to a specified location and place the object in a specific location or into a container as directed by the handler** |
|[ ]  **Dog will travel 10’ in the general direction indicated by the handler and stop when cued** |
|[ ]  **Handler can describe and demonstrate a unique and potentially useful behavior that he/she has taught the dog** |