



## Dog Scouts of America Evaluation Criteria

## Carting

**PURPOSE:** This badge demonstrates that the handler and dog can work together as a team as the dog learns to pull a cart and complete simple tasks.

**DOG REQUIREMENTS:** Dog must be able to complete each of the requirements with no hesitation or fear of the harness, cart or any other equipment used. Dog must allow himself to be harnessed and hitched to the cart, stand steady while a load is placed in the cart, perform a 'stay' while the handler walks away from the cart, pulls the cart through a 'narrows' and backs the cart up. Dog must complete the course/requirements while on leash.

**HANDLER REQUIREMENTS:** Handler understands basic safety practices when carting with the dog. Handler can harness the dog and hitch him to the cart without assistance.

**EQUIPMENT NEEDED:** A properly fitting carting harness is required. The cart used may be a simple one and needs to have wheels, shafts, a single "tree", a bed to hold the load and some sort of mechanism to hold the load. The cart may have either 2 or 4-wheels. A flat, open space is needed for the dog to perform turns, backing, loading, etc. A load is needed to put into the cart though the load does not have to be of any particular weight. Fencing, cones or other obstacles are needed for creating a 'narrows'.

**PROCESS:** The evaluator will set a course that guides the dog/handler team through all of the requirements for the badge. Alternatively, the evaluator guides the handler by directing him/her to complete each of the requirements. The handler must be able to describe all of the parts of both harness, and cart and must harness and hitch the dog to the cart on his/her own without help from the evaluator or any other person. The evaluator will watch to make sure that the handler has a clear understanding of safety practices needed for carting.

### ALLOWED:

- 2 or 4-wheeled cart
- Simple cart with no turning assistance
- Dog in heel position or on a loose leash

### NOT ALLOWED:

- Handler physically touching dog or cart
- Anything harmful to dog's well being