

SAR Ladders & Squeeze Tunnel

Skills needed to earn this advanced level badge (items in bold defined below):

- _____ Prior to starting this training, the handler will get DSA approval of equipment that will be used to show that it is safe and within DSA guidelines. Photos can be submitted prior to video evaluations.
- _____ Handler understands and can articulate safety concerns and potential risks
- _____ Handler demonstrates during training that he/she can read the dog's confidence levels and will demonstrate at least some of their training steps to the evaluator.
- _____ Handler can demonstrate or explain how to help the dog gain confidence to try new skills using positive reinforcement
- _____ Handler can describe injuries and other issues they want to watch for in their dog while doing this sort of training or SAR work.
- _____ Handler agrees to accept and assume the risk involved in training for and performing this activity
- _____ Dog has earned the Dog Scout Agility I or II badge
- _____ Dog demonstrates confidence in performing all of the required behaviors
- _____ Dog can perform 3 or more **proprioception exercises** demonstrating both balance and foot placement BEFORE attempting any of the SAR Agility obstacles at full height
- _____ Dog can **climb a "ladder"** to reach an elevated surface
- _____ Dog demonstrates the proprioception to cross a **horizontal, elevated "ladder"**
- _____ Dog will crawl **between two solid surfaces ("Squeeze tunnel")** that is the height of the dog's shoulders/withers when the dog is lying down in the sphinx position

Note: the above obstacles can be performed individually (does not need to be completed as a mini course)