



Dog Scouts of America Evaluation Criteria

Naked Dog Obedience

PURPOSE: This badge shows that the handler has taught his or her dog basic obedience or tricks, using shaping and operant conditioning and that the dog has learned to work at a distance without the need for a leash.

DOG REQUIREMENTS: The dog must perform 5 different behaviors in a row at least 5' away from the handler using only one cue per behavior. A verbal cue and hand signal may be given simultaneously but the dog must perform on the first cue. Behaviors do not have to be complex but do have to be executed quickly. Acceptable behaviors to use include, sit, down, stand, back-up, spin, lie on side, beg, bark, wave, wipe your face, sneeze, roll over, take a bow, cross legs, stand on hind legs, etc. This list is not exhaustive and is limited only by the handler's imagination. The new behavior taught specifically for this badge must be understood well enough to be included as one of the 5 demonstrated behaviors. Additionally, the dog must demonstrate his ability to maintain an obedience heel position for at least 10 strides. Heeling must be demonstrated off leash and it should be clear that the dog is choosing to heel.

HANDLER REQUIREMENTS: Handler must understand the concept of operant conditioning and shaping and be able to teach various basic obedience exercises or tricks using positive reinforcement. Handler must teach the dog at least one NEW behavior for this badge. Handler may not move from his/her starting spot position once the testing has started. Backing up to keep the dog at least 5' away is not allowed. The safety, physical and mental well-being of the dog should be a top priority

EQUIPMENT NEEDED: A clear area large enough to demonstrate the behaviors is all that is required. Other equipment, platforms, aids, props or marks are specifically NOT allowed.

PROCESS: The dog CAN be started farther than 5' away, but the behaviors chosen should not get the dog within 5' of the handler. Behaviors must be cued in quick succession and the dog should respond immediately to the cue. Forward movement may not be prevented by any edge or barrier. The heeling exercise may be completed either before or after, but clearly separate from the demonstration of behaviors. It must be clear that the behaviors have not been pattern trained. If there is any question about whether or not the dog was trained to always do the behaviors in the same order the evaluator will ask to see the behaviors demonstrated again in a different order.

ALLOWED:

- ☐ Buckle or martingale collar
- ☐ Simultaneous verbal cue and hand signal
- ☐ Distance of more than 5'

NOT ALLOWED:

- ☐ Leash of any kind
- ☐ Mistakes
- ☐ Platforms, aids or props of any kind
- ☐ Visual or scent markers on floor
- ☐ Pattern training the behaviors
- ☐ Dog creeping forward
- ☐ Any barrier to forward movement