



Dog Scouts of America  
Merit Badge Check-Off Sheet

Tunnelers

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.

- Dog will willingly and easily show mastery of straight tunnels, curved tunnels, and hoops
- Dog will demonstrate that he can move through a short 3 obstacle course consisting of a straight tunnel, a curved tunnel and 3 hoops, remaining under the control of the handler and moving through the course with flow
- Handler **demonstrates an understanding of the safety requirements for this badge, including how to warm up and cool down the dog and conditions where it is not safe to run the course**
- Handler **can verbalize and demonstrate understanding of how to manage a course, including the benefits/drawbacks of a start line stay, front, rear and blind crosses on the course, and how to avoid the dog decelerating in the final obstacles**
- Dog/Handler team **can successfully complete the required Tunnelers course twice with the dog remaining under the handler's control and moving through the course with ease and flow; the same course may be used for both runs or it may be changed between runs at the discretion of the instructor/evaluator**
- Handler **participates in course building/tear down as directed by the instructor/evaluator (if required) and always ensures that their dog is not causing damage to the equipment used**
- By participating in this activity, the handler agrees to respect any special rules put in place by the club or facility where the activity is hosted**