

MIDLOTHIAN DOG TRAINING CLUB TESTS

ADVANCED

Dogs at this level will be expected to show a high level of obedience and social skills.

1. Dog Walks to Heel without a Lead

The purpose of this exercise is to demonstrate that the dog pays close attention to the handler and remains close to heel throughout and obeys instructions instantly and accurately on a single command.

The steward will instruct the dog and handler to walk in a large square with the dog **off the lead**. At some point during this time the dog and handler will be asked to proceed at slow pace. When at normal pace the steward will ask the handler to leave the dog in **Sit, Down** and **Stand** positions, each time continuing alone without hesitation until the handler returns to the dog again and both move forward together.

Points will be deducted for the dog being too far from the handler either walking or in any of the stationary positions, for moving from the positions and for late response to commands.

Number of Marks 20	Deduct one point each for each time the dog is too far from the handler, for more than one command given per task and for late compliance. Deduct 3 points if dog does not obey a command.
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2. Distance Control

The purpose of this exercise is to demonstrate that the dog can respond to the handler at a distance and obey clear commands.

The steward will instruct the handler to take up a position five metres away from the dog and in front of it. The steward will instruct the handler to put the dog in **Sit, Down** and **Stand** positions, using verbal commands and/or gestures.

Points will be deducted if the dog fails to obey instructions or moves without being instructed.

Number of Marks 20	Deduct one point each for additional commands, for the dog being slow to comply or for moving forward during the tasks or towards the handler at the end. Deduct three points if the dog fails to carry out a command.
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3. Social Behaviour

The purpose of this exercise is to demonstrate that the dog can behave reliably and remain under control in the face of various distractions.

The steward will instruct the handler to cross the width of the hall with the dog off the lead. Three distracting items will be in place such as food and a toy. The handler will be expected to guide the dog past these within two feet of them and to ensure that the dog does not take hold of any of them.

Points will be deducted if the dog fails to respond to the handler's commands.

Number of Marks	Deduct one point each for additional commands (more than one command per
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15	item) or for the dog being more than about two feet from the items. Deduct three points per item if the dog picks it up.
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4. Recall and Stop

The purpose of this exercise is to demonstrate the dog's obedience and the degree of rapport between dog and handler.

The steward will instruct the handler to leave the dog in any position and move away to the far side (widthwise) of the hall. The steward will require the handler to **Recall** the dog and to **Stop** it at a given point in a position of the handler's choice. The steward will then instruct the handler to collect their dog.

Points will be deducted for dog's failure to respond to call, for slow return making allowance for age and build of dog and *for slippery floor*. If the dog runs off, there will be no points for this task.

Number of Marks 20	Deduct one point for more than one command given per task and for late compliance. Deduct 3 points if dog does not obey a command
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5. Four Minute Stay Out of Sight – 20 Points

The purpose of this exercise is to see whether the dog will obey the command promptly and remain quiet until released.

The steward will instruct the handler to put the dog in a position of the handler's choice, give it a chance to settle and issue a last command. The handler then moves **out of sight** of the dog for **four minutes** and the timing of the exercise will start.

The steward will recall the handler after four minutes and tell him/her stand two metres in front of the dog. The steward will then instruct the handler to move to the dog's side. The dog should not get up until the steward has said that the exercise is complete.

Points will be lost for the dog's late response to command or changing position during the four minutes. The dog will not be penalised for shifting position as long as daylight cannot be seen underneath it. If the dog fails to take up the position or to stay at all, no points will be given for this task.

Number of Marks 25	No points will be given if the dog moves within the first minute. Deduct 5 points each time the dog moves after one minute or on the handler's return.
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