



## **SCHEDULE 05C(7) – REGULATIONS FOR HUNTING DOG TRACKING TESTS, HUNTING DOG BLOOD TRACKING TESTS AND HUNTING DOG TRACKING SHOE TESTS**

**(Effective 01.10.2025)**

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- A.1**          **PREAMBLE**  
This document takes the form of Regulations which are the rules that are binding on all those who are involved in the running of Hunting Dog Tracking, Hunting Dog Blood Tracking and Hunting Dog Tracking Shoe Tests. This document contains guides which assist Hunting Dog Tracking, Blood Tracking and Tracking Shoe Test Secretaries and Committees with the procedures required in setting up these tests.
  
- A.2**          **LICENSING AND HOLDING OF HUNTING DOG TRACKING, BLOOD TRACKING AND TRACKING SHOE TESTS**  
The Regulations relating to licensing and to all other matters to do with Hunting Dog Tracking Blood Tracking and Tracking Shoe Tests as set in Schedule 03 (Championship Breed Shows) and Schedule 04 (Non-Championship Breed Shows) of the Constitution of the Kennel Union of Southern Africa shall apply to Hunting Dog Tracking, Blood Tracking and Tracking Shoe Tests and so far as they do not conflict with the specific terms of this Schedule 05C(7).
  
- A.3**          **DEFINITIONS**
  
- A.3.1**        **ABBREVIATIONS**
  - KUSA            The Kennel Union of Southern Africa
  - Fedco           The Federal Council of the Kennel Union of Southern Africa
  - FTLC            The Field Trial Liaison Council of the Kennel Union of Southern Africa
  - HTT             Hunting Dog Tracking Test
  - BTT             Hunting Dog Blood Tracking Test
  - TST             Hunting Dog Tracking Shoe Test
  
- A.4**          **HUNTING DOG TRACKING, BLOOD TRACKING AND TRACKINGSHOE TESTS**
  
- A.4.1**        **QUALIFICATION TO ENTER THE TESTS**
  
- A.4.1.1**      **ELIGIBLE BREEDS**  

All KUSA registered Hunting Dog Breeds may enter Hunting Dog Tracking Tests:  
Auvergne Pointer  
Bohemian Wire-Haired Pointing Griffon (Cesky Fousek)  
Brittany Spaniel  
Field Spaniel

*German Longhaired Pointer (FCI)*  
 German Short-Haired Pointer  
*German Stichelhaar Pointing Dog (FCI)*  
 German Wirehaired Pointing Dog  
 Gordon Setter  
 Hungarian Vizsla  
 Hungarian Wirehaired Pointer  
 Irish Red & White Setter  
 Irish Water Spaniel  
 Italian Pointing Dog (Bracco Italiano)  
 Italian Spinone  
 Kleiner Munsterlander  
 Large Munsterlander  
 Nederlandse Kooikerhondje  
 Pointer  
 Portuguese Water Dog  
*Pudel Pointer (FCI)*  
 Retriever (Chesapeake Bay)  
 Retriever (Curly-Coated)  
 Retriever (Flat-Coated)  
 Retriever (Golden)  
 Retriever (Labrador)  
 Romagna Water Dog (Lagotto Romagnolo)  
 Spaniel (American Cocker)  
 Spaniel (Clumber)  
 Spaniel(Cocker)  
 Spaniel (English Springer)  
*Spaniel (German) FCI*  
 Spaniel (Welsh Springer)  
 Stabijhoun  
 Sussex Spaniel  
 Weimaraner (2 varieties)  
 Wire-Haired Slovakian Pointer  
 Basset Fauve de Bretagne  
 Basset Griffon Vendeen (Petit)  
 Bavarian Mountain Scent Hound  
 Beagle  
 Bloodhound  
 Bluetick Coonhound  
 Dachshund (6 varieties)  
 Deerhound  
 English Foxhound  
 Grand Basset Griffon Vendeen  
 Hanoverian Scent Hound  
 Norman Artesian Basset  
 Norwegian Elkhound (Black)  
 Norwegian Elkhound (Grey)  
 Otterhound  
 Rhodesian Ridgeback  
*German Hunting Terrier (FCI)*

**A.4.1.2** All dogs with and FCI pedigree from hunting dog breeds recognised by the JGHV.

- A.4.1.3** Other hunting dog breeds registered with the KUSA, may enter at the discretion of the Management Committee of the Club holding the Test.
- A.4.1.4** Bitches in season are allowed to participate in HTT/BTT/TST Tests only with the explicit permission of the Test Director. The Handlers of the bitches in season are obliged to inform the Test Director a minimum of 24 hours before the start of the test that their bitch is in season. The Test Director, Judges and Handlers must ensure that the performance of other participating dogs is not impaired by the presence of the bitch in season.
- A.4.2 EXCLUSION DUE TO PREVIOUS TESTING**
- A dog may not be tested more than three (3) times in the Hunting Dog Tracking Test or more than three (3) times in the same class of a Hunting Dog Blood Tracking or Tracking Shoe Test. Dogs that have already passed the test with a first prize are not allowed to enter the test in the same category or a lower category again.
- Subsequent or previous participation in international tests do not count. This rule does not apply if the Handler misses the test for reasons for which he is not responsible, or when no game could be found (HTT Test) during the test for which the dog was entered.
- A.5 AWARDS**
- A.5.1 RECORDING AND HANDLING TEST RESULTS AND AWARDS**
- A.5.1.1** Official TEST SCORE SHEETS for each individual Test must be completed for each dog entered. These are available on the KUSA Website.
- A.5.1.2** The Club Secretary and Test Director are jointly responsible for the recording of the Test results on the official Test Score Sheets. The Test Score Sheets must be completed in duplicate – one is for the Club’s records and the other for the Handler.
- A.5.1.3** One copy of the completed Test Score Sheet shall be handed to the Handler of each dog without delay, during the prize giving ceremony. The Club Secretary shall retain the other for record keeping purposes.
- A.5.1.4** The Club shall also issue an official Certificate of Award to the Handler of each dog passing the Test. This should be done without delay during the prize giving ceremony.
- A.5.1.5** A dog which has passed a Gundog Tracking, Blood Tracking or Tracking Shoe Test will have it recorded as an affix to the dog’s registered name. The affix shall include the abbreviation of the test.
- A.5.2 HUNTING DOG TRACKING, BLOOD TRACKING AND TRACKING SHOE TEST**
- The following abbreviations and system of indicating the score and prize classification for each award shall be as follows
- |  |                |
|--|----------------|
| Hunting Dog Tracking Tests                             | HTT            |
| Hunting Dog Blood Tracking Test 20 hours (Prize 1,2,3) | BTT20 I,II,III |
| Hunting Dog Blood Tracking Test 40 hours (Prize 1,2,3) | BTT40 I,II,III |
| Hunting Dog Tracking Shoe Test 20 hours (Prize 1,2,3)  | TST20 I,II,III |
| Hunting Dog Tracking Shoe Test 40 hours (Prize 1,2,3)  | TST40 I,II,III |
- A.6 PROCEDURE FOR OBTAINING AWARDS**

The Secretary of the Club holding the Tests, shall send a report to the KUSA and to the FTLC, incorporating the full results of the Tests.

## **A.7 DATES FOR HUNTING DOG TRACKING TESTS**

### **A.7.1 MANAGEMENT OF THE TEST CALENDAR**

The FTLC shall publish a draft calendar of test dates for the following test season on 1 July each year. This Calendar will be based upon perpetual dates granted to affiliated clubs.

New dates or change of dates for Tests may be approved upon application to the FTLC. Perpetual dates will receive preference.

Rules concerning the granting and use of perpetual dates are recorded in the standard document 'FTLC Calendar Procedures'.

### **A.7.2 APPLICATION FOR DATES TO HOLD HUNTING DOG TRACKING TESTS**

Affiliated clubs shall by 1 July each year, apply to the FTLC for the dates for the following testing season. Such application must state the proposed date and tests to be run.

### **A.7.3 TEST CALENDAR FOR THE SEASON**

The official calendar, based upon applications received and approved by the FTLC, will be published on 1 October and forwarded to Fedco for approval and/or comment.

### **A.7.4 PUBLICATION**

The approved calendar for the season will be published on the KUSA Website.

## **A.8 PRE-TEST REQUIREMENTS**

### **A.8.1 THE SCHEDULE**

#### **A.8.1.1 General Requirements**

A.8.1.1.1 A club holding a Hunting Dog Tracking, Blood Tracking or Tracking Shoe Test must issue a Schedule, which is to be treated as a contract between the club and the public.

A.8.1.1.2 The draft schedule with information regarding venue and dates, together with the prescribed licence application form, and proof of payment of the licence fee (payable to KUSA), and all the Judges Acceptance Contracts for the Tests, must be received by the KUSA at least four months prior to the dates of the tests.

A.8.1.1.3 No schedule shall be publicized before being approved by the FTLC and KUSA.

#### **A.8.1.2 Contents**

The schedule shall contain inter alia:

A.8.1.2.1 The name of the club and officers thereof.

A.8.1.2.2 The type of test, the Hunting Dog Breeds which may enter, the tests to be run and the definitions thereof.

A.8.1.2.3 The date and venue of the tests.

A.8.1.2.4 The names of the Judges for each specific test.

A.8.1.2.5 The costs of the entry fees.

- A.8.1.2.6 The closing date for entries.
- A.8.1.2.7 The order in which the tests will be run and the starting time for each one.
- A.8.1.2.8 Name and contact details of Veterinarian on call.
- A.8.1.2.9 Notice to exhibitors that:
  - A) Bitches in season and pregnant bitches must be reported to the Test Director a minimum of 24 hours before the tests.
  - B) Castrated dogs and spayed bitches are eligible for entry.
  - C) Only dogs with a valid rabies vaccination will be allowed to enter.
  - D) Conditions attracting immediate disqualification are set out in Schedule 03, Regulation 31 (Regulations for Championship Shows), and Schedule 04, Regulation 9 (Regulations for Non-championship Shows).
  - E) The system of judging will be entirely at the discretion of the Judges, in accordance with the KUSA Rules and the Versatile Hunting Dog Regulations.
  - F) A list of prizes, if applicable.
- A.8.1.2.10 The time, date, venue and conditions of the draw for numbers of the running order of dogs
- A.8.1.2.11 Details of any restrictions on minimum and maximum numbers to be accepted for each test (refer to A.12.2.3 – Maximum Number of Dogs/Handler).

### **A.8.1.3 Details regarding the dog to be entered / Registration for the Test**

- A.8.1.3.1 The registration for a Hunting Dog Tracking, Blood Tracking or Shoe Tracking Test must be submitted by the owner of the dog concerned.
- A.8.1.3.2 The information on the form must match the dog's pedigree and must be entered carefully and completely in clearly legible block letters and checked by the Test Director. Incomplete or illegible forms must be returned or if possible, corrected by the Test Director.
- A.8.1.3.3 The entry form must be accompanied by:
  - A photocopy of the current pedigree.
  - A copy of the certificate proving stability to gunshots must be included with the entry form for the Blood Tracking and Tracking Shoe Tests.
  - If the dog is to be entered for a 40-hour test, a copy of the certificate of the 20-hour test must be included.
- A.8.1.3.4 By submitting the registration, owners and Handlers submit to the provisions of these test regulations.
- A.8.1.3.5 The required details for dogs that are entered shall include:
  - Registered name and number of the dog
  - Name and KUSA membership number of the owner
  - Breed of the dog
  - Sex of the dog
  - Date of birth of the dog
  - Registered names of the Sire and Dam and their registration numbers
  - Name of Breed/Kennel
  - Microchip number of the dog

## **A.8.2 THE DRAW**

- A.8.2.1 **Per the Schedule**

The draw shall take place at the time and venue and under the conditions stated in the Schedule. At the test each dog will be allocated the number, according to the draw.
- A.8.2.2 **Handlers with more than 1 dog**

The draw must make allowance for situations where a Handler has more than one dog entered in a particular test. No Handler may enter more than two (2) dogs in any test or series of tests on a given day.

## **A.9 APPOINTMENT OF JUDGES**

### **A.9.1 LIST OF JUDGES FOR GUNDOG HUNTING, HUNTING DOG TRACKING AND HUNTING DOG BLOOD TRACKING/TRACKING SHOE TESTS**

#### **A.9.1.1 Acceptance of List by KUSA**

A Club holding a Hunting Dog Tracking Test shall appoint Judges from the List of Judges for Gundog Hunting Tests, Schedule 05C(5), or Hunting Dog Tracking, Blood Tracking and Tracking Shoe Tests, Schedule 05C(7), as approved by the KUSA, who shall, if permanently domiciled in the KUSA area of jurisdiction, be members of the KUSA, both at the time of accepting an invitation and undertaking an appointment. A Senior Judge shall be appointed for each test. At least one of the Judges must successfully have trained and handled a dog in a test that includes Tracking - Schedules 05C(5), 05C(7) and 05C(6), with additional experience e.g. Tracking or 'Search and Rescue'.

In addition the following requirements are to be followed for the Blood Tracking and Tracking Shoe Test:

At least the Senior Judge must have successfully trained and handled a minimum of one (1) dog in the test he is judging, or a similar test (for example Blood Tracking 20 hour and Shoe Tracking 20 hours, VGP or VPS). It is advisable that the Senior Judge is a specialised blood tracking Judge and in future, blood tracking Judges should be specially qualified for judging dogs in Hunting Dog Blood Tracking and Tracking Shoe Tests. The other Judges should at least have trained and passed a dog in another blood tracking test, or have at the very least tracking experience (for example with human tracking/mantrailing/search and rescue).

It is advised that these 'should' requirements are to be changed to 'must' requirements as more Judges are qualified for these tests.

#### **Guide to A.9.1.1**

After the initial five (5) year period of mentorship from International Testing Organisations such as the JGHV, it is recommended that the Senior Judge be one who has judged within three (3) calendar years prior to the date of the appointment, and that he has judged that particular test within a three (3) year period.

#### **A.9.1.2 Overseas Judges**

Overseas Judges, qualified in similar Versatile Hunting Dog Tests, shall be entitled to Judge and be Senior Judge at any Gundog Dog Tracking, Blood Tracking or Tracking Shoe Test.

#### **A.9.1.3 Altering Judges List**

The FTLC shall be entitled, subject to the approval of the KUSA, to alter the rules and structure governing the appointment of Hunting Dog Test Judges.

#### **A.9.1.4 Qualification for Panels (see also Schedule 05C(5) Gundog Hunting Tests)**

At the inception of the Gundog Hunting Tests, a list of 'Grandfather Judges' (those Judges previously qualified under other similar systems), will be presented to the KUSA for approval. These Judges will be experienced Judges within the Gundog and Hunting fraternity. The proposed Judges will attend workshops and be coached in the nuances of the Gundog Hunting Dog Tests. These Judges, experienced in other systems of Gundog testing, will be coached by



means of Judges workshops, seminars and mock tests, to ensure understanding and proficiency of judging this Testing System.

The qualifications required before any other person can be added to a panel are:

A.9.1.4.1 To qualify as a Learner Judge for:

**Hunting Dog Tracking Test**, the candidate must be a member of the KUSA in good standing, and must have trained, handled and qualified a dog in at least the SA-VJP and SA-HZP or equivalent JGHV test. Training, handling and qualifying a dog in the SA-VGP, SA-VPS or equivalent JGHV Test is highly recommended.

For the **Hunting Dog Blood Tracking or Tracking Shoe Test**, the candidate must have trained, handled and qualified a dog in at least the SA-VGP (or SA-VPS or equivalent JGHV Test). After a period of five (5) years, the candidates should/must have trained, handled and passed a minimum of 1 dog in a BTT or TST.

A.9.1.4.2 The candidate must be proposed to and be accepted by the Committee of the Working Weimaraner Club.

A.9.1.4.3 The candidates must attend a Learner Judge's Workshop, and complete a Learner Judges multiple choice examination on Schedule 05C(7).

A.9.1.4.4 Once completed, the candidate must learner judge at two (2) tests with a minimum of six (6) dogs entered in total, and have written reports as to all his observations at the test and why he 'passed' or 'failed' the dogs. He must substantiate the predicates he would have chosen for each dog. These reports must be accepted by the Senior Judge at each test.

A.9.1.4.5 Successful candidates will have their names put forward by the FTLC as Hunting Dog Tracking, or Hunting Dog Blood Tracking and Tracking Shoe Test Panel Judges.

A.9.1.4.6 The New/Aspirant Judge must pass a written test examination on Schedule 05C(7) and a written examination on both Schedule 03 and Schedule 09, Appendix B, and the TEO Manual comprising of 60-marks. Such examination shall be closed-book examinations. The pass mark for both papers will be 80%.

For standardisation, this examination is to be set by the Field Trial Liaison Council and the Judges Education Council will set the examination for Schedule 03 and Schedule 09, Appendix B and the TEO Manual.

Judges who wish to judge more than one field trial discipline will need to write the examination relevant to the respective discipline.

A.9.1.4.7 In order to become An A Panel Judge (Senior Judge) in a **Hunting Dog Tracking Test**, a panel judge will have to have acted as a B Panel Judge (Junior Judge) on at least two (2) 05C(7) tests, and be recommended by the Senior Judge officiating at each of these tests. In order to become a Senior Judge in a **Hunting Dog Blood Tracking or Tracking Shoe Test**, a panel Judge will have to have acted as a B Panel Judge at, at least two (2) Blood Tracking or Tracking Shoe Tests, and be recommended by the Senior Judge at each of these tests. Upon acceptance by FLTC, Judges will have their names put forward, to be included on the list of Senior Hunting Dog Tracking, or Hunting Dog Blood Tracking and Tracking Shoe Test Judges.

A.9.1.4.8 The separate and stricter rules for Blood Tracking / Tracking Shoe Tests Judges are mirroring the even higher responsibility for judging, as these dog-Handler teams will be one of the key factors for ethical and sustainable hunting.

**A.9.1.5 Compulsory Number of Judges for various Tests**

A.9.4.5.1 There must be at least three (3) Judges for any one of the Hunting Dog Tracking, Blood Tracking and Tracking Shoe Tests. At least one (1) Judge must be a Senior Judge or from the equivalent international panel. The remaining Judges shall be at least Panel Judges, or have the equivalent status from an international body, or be qualified as per A.9.1.1.

- A.9.1.5.2 In exceptional cases, due to an unexpected cancellation or injury of a contracted Judge the following shall apply:  
In the **Hunting Dog Tracking Tests** an experienced hunter, who is also a versatile dog handler may be used as a substitute. It is preferable that such a Judge be at least a Learner Judge.  
In the **Hunting Dog Blood Tracking and Tracking Shoe Test**, the substitute Judge must have profound tracking experience.  
The use of a substitute Judge must be noted and explained in the Test Report.
- A.9.1.5.3 A Test Director may also be a Judge at any Test at which he is officiating, provided he is on the Panel for Gundog Hunting, Tracking or Blood Tracking/Tracking Shoe Test, Judges.

#### **A.9.1.6 Test Director**

A person must be at least an official Learner Judge, and in addition must have assisted in Test Directing in at least two (2) of the following: SA-VJP, SA-HZP, SA- VGP, SA-VPS, HTT,BTT or TST, before being appointed as the official Test Director.

### **A.10 THE POWERS AND DUTIES OF A SENIOR JUDGE**

#### **A.10.1 EQUAL SAY**

In a Hunting Dog Tracking Test, all the officially appointed Judges have an equal say. No Judge, including the Senior Judge, can dictate to another Judge or Judges, or influence their decisions and marking on the work of a dog.

#### **A.10.2 DUTIES**

The duties of a Senior Judge shall include inter alia:

- A.10.2.1 To assist the Committee of the Test-holding Club to select appropriate grounds for the exercises.
- A.10.2.2 To liaise with the Test Director regarding the efficient running of the Hunting Dog Tracking Tests.
- A.10.2.3 To signal the beginning of the exercise or to delegate another Judge to do so.
- A.10.2.4 To instruct Handlers, when necessary, to release their dogs for the exercise, or to delegate another Judge to do so.
- A.10.2.5 To co-ordinate the other Judges and to be their spokesman.
- A.10.2.6 To mark a starting point of a track and to point it out to the Handler or to delegate another Judge to do so (HTT).  
To advise the game carriers how to position the dead game at the end of the track (BTT and TST).
- A.10.2.7 To complete and to sign the official Judges' Report on the day of the test and to submit this Report to the Test Secretary of the host club.
- A.10.2.8 To sign the test Sore Sheets of each dog and to ensure completion of all the elements of the Test Score Sheets.
- A.10.2.9 To ensure no disturbance of the working dog-Handler team during the testing.

#### **A.10.3 JUDGES' REPORT**

The Judges' report must contain the following:

- A.10.3.1 Name of the host club
- A.10.3.2 Date of the Test and type of Test(s)
- A.10.3.3 Venue and address
- A.10.3.4 Names of the Judges, Test Director and Learner Judge
- A.10.3.5 Number of dogs entered
- A.10.3.6 Number of dogs participating

- A.10.3.7 A table / list of Prizes and/or points awarded to each dog in the Test
- A.10.3.8 Comments as necessary on the overall standard of the dogs' work
- A.10.3.9 Declaration of confirmation of results signed by all Judges and the Test Director at the Test
- A.10.3.10 Stamp and sign the pedigrees and/or the work books of all the dogs in the Tests, and document the results (Points or Prize I-III, or 'failed' = 0) in these documents

## **A.11 MANAGEMENT OF A HUNTING DOG TRACKING, BLOOD TRACKING OR TRACKING SHOE TEST**

### **A.11.1 MANAGEMENT ENTRUSTED TO THE CLUB**

The management of a Hunting Dog Tracking, Blood Tracking or Tracking Shoe Test shall be entrusted to the club holding the Test.

### **A.11.2 PROCEDURE IN THE CASE OF PROCEDURAL IRREGULARITY**

An alleged procedural irregularity may be raised only by a Handler participating in the Test. This allegation must be lodged with the Test Director.

A.11.2.1 The Test Director in turn shall notify the Club Secretary/Committee and the Judges of the alleged irregularity.

A.11.2.2 The allegation shall be decided within thirty minutes from the time it was lodged, by a majority of the committee members present.

### **A.11.3 USE OF GAME**

In these tests no live game is used to produce the tracks, except if no wild game can be found. The dogs will work the natural tracks (HDT) of game or an artificial track (BTT, TST). In case no game is found (HTT), it is possible to use Guinea Fowl that have been released to produce the track. These birds must be kept in appropriate cages, with food and water, and must be stored out of sight and scent of the dogs.

In the Hunting Dog Blood tracking and Tracking Shoe Test, the carcass positioned at the end of the track, must be of the same species as the blood, pieces of skin/tissue and legs used for laying the track. Preferably it should be the same specimen. The carcass may be fresh or frozen. In case there are no animals available a hide (fresh or frozen / defrosted) of the same species may be used.

### **A.11.4 TEST DIRECTOR – ELECTION/DUTIES**

The club holding the Hunting Dog tracking, Blood Tracking or Tracking Shoe Test shall elect a Test Director, who shall be a member in good standing of the KUSA, and who shall be responsible for:

- A.11.4.1 The execution and running of the Hunting Dog Tracking, Blood Tracking or Tracking Shoe Test.
- A.11.4.2 Assisting the committee of the club holding the Hunting Dog Tracking Test to select appropriate grounds for the test exercises.
- A.11.4.3 The Test Director should be experienced in the handling of dogs in the tests, and should preferably be a Judge. As a minimum requirement, a Test Director must be at least an official Learner Judge, and must have assisted in at least two (2) of the following: SA-VJP, SA-HZP, SA-VGP, SA-VPS, HTT/TST or HDT.
- A.11.4.4 A Test Director may also act as a Judge in any Test he is directing, provided he is on the Panel of Judges for Gundog Hunting/Hunting Dog Tracking or Hunting Dog Blood Tracking/ Tracking Shoe Tests.

## **A.11.5 REQUIREMENTS FOR A HUNTING DOG TRACKING TEST**

**A.11.5.1** At least one (1) Judge, the Test Directors and the designated guns at a Hunting Dog Tracking Test, must be competent with a shotgun, and must possess a firearm (shotgun) competency certificate.

In the other tests no guns are used. The Judges should be experienced hunters.

**A.11.5.2** The maximum number of dogs to be tested in the Hunting Dog Tracking Test is limited by the time required to complete the test, and the number of groups that can be tested on the venues. The maximum number of dogs tested per Judges team, is six (6). In the Blood Tracking and the Tracking Shoe Test, the maximum numbers of dogs to be tested in a Judges group, is limited to four (4).

## **A.12 MISCELLANEOUS GENERAL PROVISIONS**

### **A.12.1 RECORD OF ENTRIES**

The Secretary of the club holding a Hunting Dog Tracing, Blood Tracking or Tracking Shoe Test shall preserve all entry forms and all the individual Test Score Sheets for twelve (12) months after the meeting, and produce any of them to any official body enquiring into an objection or dispute.

### **A.12.2 HANDLING OF DOGS**

#### **A.12.2.1 Deputy handling a dog:**

If a deputy handles a dog, the owner may not take part in the working of the dog.

#### **A.12.2.2 Professional Handling:**

There is no objection to professional handling of dogs in a Hunting Dog Tracking, Blood Tracking or Tracking Shoe Test.

#### **A.12.2.3 Maximum number of dogs:**

No Handler may handle more than two (2) dogs in a single test day.

#### **A.12.2.4 Running under a Judge who is related:**

There is no objection to the immediate family of a Judge running in a Test judged by him, or a Judge assessing a dog bred by him, or currently owned by him.

#### **A.12.2.5 Switching of Handlers during a Hunting Dog Tracking, Blood Tracking or Tracking Shoe Test:**

Once a test has begun, a Handler of a dog may NOT be switched except under valid, exceptional circumstances. The Test Director and Judges will review the circumstances and make the final decision.

### **A.12.3 DOGS UNDER JUDGEMENT**

The control of all matters connected with dogs under judgement shall rest with the Judges of the Test, but they may ask for assistance from the Test Director, if they think fit.

The Judges are empowered to disqualify from any Test any dog whose Handler does not obey them, or who interferes with another competitor, or with his own dog.

Those dogs that are not working under judgement must be leashed. Dogs that whine or are otherwise noisy must be taken out of earshot of the working dog.

### **A.12.4 REMOVAL FROM TEST FOR VARIOUS REASONS**

Should the members of the committee of the club, after consultation with the Judges or Veterinary Surgeon, consider a dog unfit to compete, or if they are showing any symptoms of a contagious disease, or any cause which interferes with the safety, or performance of the other

dogs, such dog/s must be immediately removed from the venue and from the test. Any such case is liable to be reported to the KUSA and to be dealt with under the KUSA Schedule 01.

A dog may not compete if it has been exposed to the risk of any contagious or infectious disease, during the period of six weeks prior to the test, and/or if any dog is proven to be suffering from a contagious disease, including contagious results of inoculations against distemper, the owner thereof shall be liable to be dealt with under the KUSA Schedule 01.

**A.12.5 UNPUNCTUALITY**

It is the Handler's responsibility to arrive punctually, with their dog, when called to test. A dog which is not present within 15 minutes when required by a Judge, may be disqualified by the Judges. Judges are empowered to eliminate a dog and handler for repeated offences of unpunctuality during a Test.

**A.12.6 WITHDRAWAL OF A DOG**

No dog that is withdrawn, once under judgement, for reasons of inability or incapacity (e.g. through injury or illness) may be permitted to continue competing in that Test.

**A.12.7 WEATHER AND/OR VENUE CONDITIONS**

If the club considers the weather and/or venue unfit for holding the Test, the Test may be held at a different venue, or postponed from day to day until the end of the week, when the Tests that are not completed may be abandoned and the entry fees refunded, or a fresh draw may be made and a new date fixed for the abandoned Tests.

**A.12.8 IMPUGNING DECISIONS**

Anyone on the venue at a Test openly impugning the decision of a Judge or Judges, shall render himself liable to be reported to the KUSA under the provisions of KUSA Schedule 01, unless he is availing himself of Section A.10.3, herein.

**A.12.9 COLLARS/LEADS**

All dogs must be kept on a lead and under control when not testing. Dogs may not wear any form of collar that resembles training devices such as prong, pinch or electric collar facsimiles. For safety reasons only GPS devices may be used during the Hunting Dog Tracking Test, but the device must be checked by the Judges, and the handheld must stay with the Judges during the whole test.

In the Hunting Dog Blood Tracking and Tracking Shoe Test all collars and harnesses, except the blood tracking collar or harness and high visibility collars must be removed when the dog is working.

**A.12.10 GUNS USED BY JUDGES AND HANDLERS**

Only the Judges, Test Director, Handler or designated gunner, may use a gun with live ammunition at a Test. These persons must have a competency certificate for the relevant firearm.

Only break open type shotguns may be used during the Tests. The shotguns must be 12, 16 or 20 gauge.

#### **A.12.11 TRAINING ON THE VENUE**

There shall be no practicing or training on any part of the venue, from the start of the test until the conclusion, except in those areas designated by the Test Director.

#### **A.12.12 CLOTHING WORN AT A TEST**

It is preferable that Judges, Handlers, Test Directors, Guns and other officials shall wear neutral coloured clothing of the type which would be worn on a natural shoot, such as khaki. Bright colours in caps, jackets or waistcoats are desirable in all situations where a gun might be fired. If spectators are not in neutral coloured clothing, they should stay out of sight of the working dog(s).

#### **A.12.13 CONTINGENCIES**

Any event not provided for in these rules and regulations shall be decided by the committee members of the club, present, but not competing in the Tests, assisted by the Judges and Test Director. Their decision shall be final

#### **A.12.14 BEFORE THE TEST**

Before the Test, the dog's Handler must present the originals of the dog's pedigree, the work book (if applicable) and its vaccination certificate, with the proof of an effective rabies vaccination. The rabies vaccination will be valid from 28 day to 365 days after the injection, unless a longer period of time is stated by the veterinarian who administered the vaccine and signed and stamped the document.

If these documents are not handed in, the dog may not be tested, and the entry fees will be forfeited.

The Test Director must check the documents. If there are deficiencies in the submitted documents the dog can be excluded from the test and the entry fees forfeited.

#### **A.12.15 ENTRY FEES**

The entry of a dog obliges payment of an entry fee, even if the dog concerned does not arrive for the Test. Unless the entry is withdrawn before the entry deadline, there is no right to a reimbursement of the entry fee, for dogs that have been registered but not shown. There is no entitlement for a dog for the admission to the test if the entry fee for the dog has not been received by the club by the entry deadline.

### **B. EXECUTION OF THE TESTS**

#### **B.1 MUST – and SHOULD – REQUIREMENTS**

B.1.1 These test regulations contain 'Must' and 'Should' requirements.

B.1.2 The must requirements, including those in their negative form, - e.g. 'must not' – must be adhered to unconditionally and in all detail during test procedures and with regard to all other provisions of the test regulations as well. A dog that does not meet a 'must' requirement has to be scored 'not sufficient' (0 points) in the respective subject.

B.1.3 The non-compliance with a 'should' requirement in the dog's work, results in the appropriate lowering of the evaluation.

### **C. PURPOSE OF THE TESTS**

The purpose of the **Hunting Dog Tracking Test** is to determine the natural tracking ability of the hunting dog, with regard to its suitability and future use in versatile hunting and as a breeding dog. the test also serves to identify the breeding values of the parents, the determination of which is made easier by testing as many littermates as possible.

The ethical requirements of hunting make the hunting dog's main task the work after the shot. That is why the Judges have to pay particular attention to the determination of natural abilities and qualities that distinguish the reliable retriever or finding of bigger game, namely, a very good use of nose, paired with the will to find and track, the soundness of character that is expressed in calmness, concentration and perseverance at work.

It must be the ultimate task of the Judges to recognise and highlight the dogs which are particularly valuable for breeding of the hunting dog because of their natural abilities.

**The Hunting Dog Blood Tracking and Tracking Shoe Tests** are performance tests. They were developed with the main purpose to produce dogs for the ethical conduct of hunting and to foster the knowledge of training and handling of these dogs in the hunting community. It is a duty and a privilege to follow and find injured game as the foundation of sustainable, responsible and ethical hunting. Therefore every effort should be made to provide the South African hunting community with capable and successfully tested dogs.

## **D. ORGANISATION OF THE HUNTING DOG TRACKING TEST**

### **D.1 General Rules**

- D.1.1 Only the members of the KUSA (versatile pointing breed and clubs, or hunting dog testing clubs or specialised breeding clubs for hunting dogs, that are used for the work after the shot) are authorised to organise the tests.
- D.1.2 A prerequisite for the conscientious and careful execution of the test, is a sufficient number of areas with small game (Hare, Jackal, small Antelope) or game birds that run to escape predators (i.e. Guineafowl or Francolin).
- D.1.3 If the test is the only test held on a day, a maximum of 6 dogs may be assigned to a Judging group, provided that there are enough animals of the required species, expected in the region
- D.1.4 Dogs of all hunting breeds are allowed to do this test. They should not be older than 18 months. In the case a dog misses the test age through circumstances the owner is not responsible for, it may run at an older age, but the age is to be recorded on the score sheet and the certificate
- D.1.5 Dogs that have already been tested for their natural ability on the track (SA-VJP with track, SA-HZP with track, Tracking Test) with the predicate 'very good' (9-11 points), or 'excellent' 12 points) are excluded from participation.
- D.1.6 The entry must be accompanied by a copy of the current pedigree and copies of test score sheets of all previous tests and performance awards.
- D.1.7 With submission of the test entry, owners and Handlers submit themselves to the provisions of these test regulations.
- D.1.8 The organising club is allowed to limit entries to the members of their own club or to give their members priority in submitting an entry. Only breed clubs are allowed to limit admission to dogs of their breed.
- D.1.9 The registration of a dog requires payment of an entry fee, even if the dog in question does not arrive for the test, unless the entry is withdrawn by the specified entry deadline. If the entry fee for a dog has not been received by the entry deadline, there is no right to be admitted to the test. There is no claim to reimbursement of the entry fee for dogs registered, but which do not arrive.

### **D.2 Rights and Obligations of the Organising Club**

- D.2.1 The organising club must register the HTT on the Test Calendar.
- D.2.2 The announcement must contain: date and venue, amount of the entry fee and entry deadline
- D.2.3 The organising club must appoint a responsible Test Director for the preparation and execution of the test. A Test Director must be appointed from the current list of KUSA Judges for the Hunting Dog Tracking or Hunting Dog Blood Tracking Tests. Judges with similar experience, such

- as specialised Judges for blood tracking, can also act as Judges. Overseas Judges from the JGHV with qualifications for versatile tests or specialised JGHV Judges for blood tracking (Verbandsrichter Schweiss) or track (Sonderrichter Spur) are also eligible.
- D.2.4 The Test Director is required to check or have another Judge check if the dog's microchip number matches the number on the entry form and on the pedigree.
- D.3 Judges**
- D.3.1 Qualifications of Judges – see A.9.
- D.3.2 The Senior Judge is responsible for the judging group. In particular, he is responsible for ensuring that the provisions of the test regulations are strictly observed and interpreted appropriately. The Senior Judge is the sole spokesperson for the judging group. The remaining Judges may only make statements to third parties regarding the test, if the Senior Judge agrees.
- D.3.3 As soon as the judging group has come to an agreement about the relevant findings, the Senior Judge, or a Judge commissioned by the Senior Judge, must give a description and preliminary evaluation of the work shown by the dog, to the Handler and the spectators (open judging). Every Handler may request information from the Senior Judge about the assigned predicates and points after their dog has been tested.
- D.4 Judges Briefing / Judges Meeting**
- D.4.1 Before the start of each test, the Judges must give an in-depth briefing (Judges meeting). As far as possible, the Judges should agree to the same standards with regard to the test requirements, so that the same benchmarks are applied to the evaluation of all dogs.
- D.4.2 The predicates and points should be announced in the field. Any discussion about the score should be held there, so it might be possible to find another 'track', in case a party in the test feels that the score is not appropriate. A subsequent change of score, which was announced without reservation, is only possible if the test regulations were incorrectly applied.
- D.4.3 The predicates and points of the dogs, which did not pass the test, or were disqualified, should also be read out. In this case, the relevant Senior Judge must state the reason why, and in which subject, the dog/s failed.
- D.4.4 The number of points (working points) must be entered as a whole number on the score sheet
- D.4.5 The points determined for each dog and the test result are also to be recorded on a certificate which is to be signed by three (3) Judges and the Test Director.
- The test result should be documented by the Test Director with the venue and date, on the pedigree and/or working book of the dog, if possible with the stamp of the organising club and signed by him.
- The Test Director is responsible for ensuring that this entry is made on the pedigrees and/or working books (if applicable) for all the dogs which have taken the test, including those which have failed, or whose Handlers have discontinued testing. In addition to the test result, the reason for the failure must be stated. After the test, the score sheets, certificates and pedigrees are to be handed to the Handlers.
- D.4.6 **Judges Report**
- The Judges report must contain the following:
- Name of the host club
  - Date and type of the tests
  - Venue and address
  - Names of the Judges, Test Director and Learner Judge
  - Number of dogs entered
  - Number of dogs participating
  - A table of list of prizes and/or points awarded to each dog in the test
  - Comments as necessary on the overall standard of the dogs' work
  - Declaration and confirmation of results signed by all the Judges and the Test Director at the relevant test



## **E. TEST REGULATIONS FOR THE HUNTING DOG TRACKING TEST**

### **E.1 General**

- E.1.1 The Hunting Dog Tracking Test is a breed test for which the natural abilities of the young dog should be awakened to such an extent by appropriate preparation, that the willingness to track and the ability to hold the track can be evaluated
- E.1.2 In this test the following subjects are to be tested:  
Tracking  
Use of nose  
Desire to work  
Gun stability
- E.1.3 The following is to be determined:  
The manner of hunting (track-loud, sight-loud, questionable, silent, loud without presence of game) must be determined. 'Track Loud, 'Sight Loud' or silent hunting can be Judged on hare or jackal.  
Since giving tongue (LOUD) is important for breeding and use in hunting, it should also be determined if possible.  
'Loud' shown on other furred game must also be noted on the score sheet. Silent tracking at the sight of furred game is to be documented under 'comments'.
- E.1.4 The identity (microchip number) must be checked at the start of the test.
- E.1.5 The dogs are to be tested individually.
- E.1.6 Depending on the amount of game on the premises, each dog should be given multiple opportunities to show its natural abilities.

### **E.2 The Individual Test Subjects**

- E.2.1 Tracking  
The tracking work is evaluated on the tracks of hare, jackal or small antelope (i.e. Steenbok, Duiker) or running game birds (Guineafowl or Francolin) which the dog scents with its nose, and are not, or are no longer visible to the dog. The species should be recorded on the score sheet. The Handler is allowed to work the dog up to 30 meters on a leash.  
The will to track and the ability to hold the track are to be evaluated.  
The willingness to track can be seen by the way the dog adapts to the work and, considering the respective circumstances (soil conditions, weather etc.), starts the track, works willingly and under control and endeavours to advance on it, even under difficult circumstances. The willingness to track also provides information as to whether the dog is calmly looking for and identifying the track, after the game or game bird is out of sight, or whether it breaks off or even searches aimlessly.  
The ability to hold the track is shown in the behaviour of the dog. How it controls its desire to track (prey drive) as an expression of its stability of temperament, that is, seeks to continue the track at a calm pace, especially in difficult conditions, and in this way independently and safely advances the track.  
When making a judgement, more attention must be paid to the will to track, the ability to hold the track and the difficulty, rather than the length of the track. A dog which immediately stops working (even on a longer track) at the first difficulty cannot be rated 'very good' for this single piece of work. The track must be largely visible over its entire length.
- E.2.2 Use of nose:  
How the dog adapts to the track and how it finds and holds the track, how it uses the wind to find its way back to the track, gives valuable information of the dog's use of nose. This is even better detected on difficult ground (dry, thin or no vegetation) or conditions (strong wind, hot or extremely cold temperatures, dry air etc.).
- E.2.3 Desire to work:  
The eagerness of the dog to start and follow the track, to find its way back to the track after its lost, gives valuable information regarding the dog's desire to work.
- E.2.4 Testing Gun Sensitivity:

To check gun sensitivity, the Handler (gun) must fire at least two (2) shotgun shots in close proximity (20-30 meters) at least 20 seconds apart, during the dog's search. If the behaviour of the dog cannot be assessed with certainty, the gun sensitivity test must be repeated after 30 minutes, at the earliest. Repeating the test for gun sensitivity is not permitted after clearly observed behaviour. When testing gun sensitivity in the field, the reaction to the shot can manifest itself in various forms (positive / negative).

When assessing gun sensitivity, a distinction is made between:

- **Gunfire Stable:** A dog is gunfire stable if it shows no negative reactions (intimidation / anxiety) to the shot and continues its work.
- **Slightly Gun Sensitive:** a dog is slightly sensitive to gunfire, when only general intimidation is recognizable, without the dog being disturbed in its further work (search).
- **Gun Sensitive:** A dog is sensitive to gunfire which seeks protection near its Handler as a sign of fear, or if it refuses to work further after a negative reaction, but resumes its search within a minute. The range and pace of the search are negatively affected by the gunfire.
- **Severely Gun Sensitive:** A dog is severely gun sensitive which seeks protection near its Handler as a sign of fear, or which refuses to work further after a negative reaction, and only resumes its work (search) after more than a minute. The range and pace of the search are negatively affected by the gunfire.
- **Gun Shy:** a dog is gun shy if, instead of seeking protection near its Handler, runs away and thus escapes the influence of its Handler and shirks its work (search).
- Dogs which are severely gun sensitive and gun shy cannot pass the test. However they should continue to be tested in the interest of breeding.

E.2.4.1 If the dog works too close in the search and does not distance itself from the Handler, or does not work at least 20-30 meters away, so that a shot can be fired, is considered 'not fully tested'. The same applies to dogs that refuse to continue their work after the first shot has been fired without any signs of fear. In these cases the dog cannot pass the test. In both situations, it is possible to check gun sensitivity again after 30 minutes, at the earliest.

### **E.3 Predicates and Working Points**

The Judges have to determine the predicate for the work of each dog. Since the natural abilities of the young dog often show themselves differently on different occasions, the overall impression gained is decisive for the final judgement, considering the age and the level of training of the dog.

Dogs can only pass the test if they have at least achieved the predicate 'sufficient' in the tracking work. Obedience is only tested, insofar, the dog does not disappear out of sight for more than 30 minutes, or make the testing impossible for himself and the other dogs in the group by constant barking, running away and disturbing all the game in the area of the test.

Judging shall be done on the '12-point system'. The score 'excellent' (outstanding = 12) must only be awarded for really outstanding work on the track, under extreme circumstances like dry ground, different surfaces, or very thin cover. If a dog is awarded an 11 or 12, it cannot be awarded on a single track alone, but must be proved by at least a second track that is awarded a minimum of 10 points. The length of the track is not a criterion for its difficulty. Judges have to take notes regarding every bit of work performed by the dog. The Judges have to note how often the dog worked a track, as well as the difficulty and length of each piece of tracking work.

The individual predicates correspond to the following points

Predicate	Points
Excellent	12
Very Good	11-9
Good	8-6
Sufficient	5-3
Insufficient	2-1
Dog did not track	0
Not Tested	-

The Senior Judge has to determine the final score from the scores of all the Judges in the group.

## **F. ORGANISATION OF THE HUNTING DOG BLOOD TRACKING AND TRACKING SHOE TEST**

### **F.1 General Rules**

- F.1.1 Hunting Dog Blood Tracking/ Tracking Shoe Test may only be carried out in large forests or thick bushveld areas with good hoofed game populations (at least two (2) hoofed game species as stationary game).
- F.1.2 A Hunting dog Blood Tracking/Tracking Shoe Test can also be held by other KUSA hunting dog member clubs. In this case, these clubs are responsible for the proper preparation and implementation of the tests, as well as reporting.
- F.1.3 A maximum of four (4) dogs may be assigned to a judging group.

### **F.2 Admission**

- F.2.1 No more than eight (8) dogs in total may be admitted to a Hunting Dog Blood Tracking/Tracking Shoe Test.
- F.2.2 All dogs must be at least 24 months old on the day of the test and must have proved their stability to gunshot.  
Proof of Gun Stability is provided by:
  - a) Certificate of another Gundog/Hunting dog test prior to the test date (5C5 – 5C7).
  - b) Confirmation signed by two (2) Judges on the Judges List for 5C5 – 5C7, or JGHV Judges.
  - c) Gun sensitivity must be rated as described under E.2.4 – ‘Testing Gun Sensitivity’
- F.2.3 Before the test:
  - F.2.3.1 When entering the dog. it must be stated on the entry form whether the dog is to be tracked over 20 hours or over 40 hours.
  - F.2.3.2 Dogs that are to be tested on the 40-hour Blood Track/Tracking Shoe, must first pass a test for 20-hour Blood Track/Tracking Shoe Test in that category.
  - F.2.3.3 A dog may be entered a maximum of three (3) times in each of the single tests.

### **F.3 Predicates and Prizes**

The Hunting Dog Blood tracking and Tracking Shoe Tests are Tests for fully trained dogs and are therefore scored in Predicates/Prizes.

I. Prize	=	Very Good
II. Prize	=	Good
III. Prize	=	Sufficient

**F.4 Duties of the Organising Club**

F.4.1 The organising club must register the Hunting Dog Blood Tracking/Tracking Shoe Test within the Test Calendar.

The announcement must contain: date and venue of the test, amount of the entry fee and the entry deadline, also the game species from which the blood will be taken and whether the blood tracks are made using the drip or dabbing method. For the Hunting Dog Tracking Shoe Test, the game species from which the hooves and the blood originate.

F.4.2 The organising club must appoint a responsible Test Director for the preparation and implementation of the Hunting Dog Blood Tracking/Tracking Shoe Test. The Test Director must be listed in the current list of Judges as explained in A.1.9.

F.4.3 The Test Director or a Judge authorised by him is required to check whether the Microchip Number matches the entry form and the pedigree.

**F.5 Judges Briefing/Judges Meeting**

F.5.1 Before the start of the test, the Judges must meet for a detailed discussion about the upcoming test, and if possible the Handlers and spectators should be included.

F.5.2 The draw will decide which Judging group each dog will be assigned to, and which track it will be allotted, considering that some Handlers might be handling more than one (1) dog and that bitches in season must be separated from male dogs. If there is only one test group, a reserve track must be included in the draw.

F.5.3 After the end of the test, a final Judges' meeting must take place, in which the work of all the dogs must be discussed.

F.5.4 The teams will be classified at the Judges' meeting after the test, according to their performance within the individual prize classes.  
As the BTTs and TSTs are performance tests, they are scored in prizes (see E.3).

The following ratings are to be used for the final assessment:

	BTT 20h	BTT 40h	TST 20h	TST 40h
Passed very good	BTT 20 - I	BTT 40 - I	TST 20 - I	TST 40 - I
Passed good	BTT 20 - II	BTT 40 - II	TST 20 - II	TST 40 - II
Passed sufficient	BTT 20 - III	BTT 40 - III	TST 20 - III	TST 40 - III
Not Passed	BTT 20 - 0	BTT 40 - 0	TST 20 - 0	TST 40 - 0

F.5.5 The test result is to be entered by the Test Director with the place and date on the pedigree

and/or working book (if applicable) of the dog concerned, stamped (if possible) with the stamp of the organising club, and signed by the Test Director.

The Test Director of the organising club is responsible for ensuring that these notations are made on the pedigree / work book of all the dogs that took part in the tests, including those that did not pass the test (faulty search), or whose Handlers abandoned the test.

## **F.6 Judges Report**

The Judges' Report must contain the following

- Name of the host club
- Date of the test and type of test(s)
- Venue and address
- Names of Judges, Test Director and Learner Judge
- Number of dogs entered
- Number of dogs participating
- A table or list of prizes and/or points awarded to each dog in the test. Comments as necessary on the overall standard of the dogs' work
- Declaration of confirmation of results signed by all the Judges and the Test Director

## **F.7 General Rules**

F.7.1 Spectators are not allowed to take dogs onto the grounds of a BTT/TST Test.

F.7.2 All persons participating in the test, and all the guests on the venue must follow the instructions of the Test Director and the Judges. They must not disturb the Handler and the dog at work, and must not hinder the Judges from properly observing the dogs' work.

F.7.3 Dogs that are not working, must be kept on a leash. Dogs that are whining or making other noises are to be kept out of earshot of the working dog. The Handlers are responsible for being present with their dogs, when called.

F.7.4 Individual spectators may follow the working dog behind the group of Judges during leash work if the Handler and Judges give their permission.

F.7.5 The following can lead to expulsion from the test with the forfeit of the entry fee:

- who knowingly provides false information when registering the dog
- anyone who allows a non-working dog to roam freely
- who is not present when his dog is called
- who knowingly conceals his bitches season, or who does not comply with the special instructions of the Test Director and the Judges
- anyone who, as a Handler, damages the reputation of hunting dogs, their training and ethical hunting itself, by their behaviour before, during and after the test (violation of the code of conduct of ethical hunting and animal welfare regulations, insults to Judges or club officials etc.)
- The host club can lodge a complaint against any person who challenges a decision of the Judges or a decision of the Board of Appeal based on an objection, as well as any unjustified criticism, or attacking the impartiality of the Judges and can be punished under the rules of KUSA Schedule 01, either temporarily or permanently. The result of such a procedure must be communicated, in writing, to the KUSA within three (3) weeks.

## **F.8 Laying of the Tracks**

F.8.1 GENERAL

F.8.1.1 The tracks must be laid in a forest or bushveld area, using any existing bare areas, clear cuts and thickets. They can run up to 100 meters across fields, meadows etc. from where they were started or during the track.

F.8.1.2 The minimum length of the tracks must be 1,000 meters. The minimum distance between the

- individual tracks is 200 meters throughout.
- F.8.1.3 The course of the track must lead through changing vegetation. The track line should be slightly meandering overall. Three, almost right-angled corners, must be laid on the track. Two wound beds are to be created on the track (treading of the ground, increased blood, hair or pieces of bone or organs of the animal in question).
- F.8.1.4 For each test or type of test (20-hour and 40-hour track, BTT or TST), at least one reserve track must be laid.
- F.8.1.5 Only the blood of hooved game must be used to create the tracks, and only blood of the same game species (preferably the same animal) for each test type.
- F.8.1.6 Chemical additives to keep the blood fresh, is not permitted. The use of blood that has been frozen while fresh, is permitted.
- F.8.1.7 The tracks must be laid the day before the test, the minimum delay time for the tracks is 20 or 40 hours.
- F.8.1.8 The course of the track is determined, and the track is laid in one operation. A Judge from the group concerned must take part in the laying of the track, and is responsible for the proper execution.
- F.8.1.9 During the test, the group of Judges must be perfectly aligned to the track. Obvious marking is not allowed.
- F.8.1.10 An area of 30x30m must be demarcated a minimum of 24 hours **before** the track is laid. This area must be clearly marked with a note that states the number of the track and the group, as well as the day and time when the Judge started laying the track. In this area the starting point (about 50 meters ahead of the position of the gun) must be laid with blood, pieces of lung, bone splinters, the trace of bullet and plenty of cut hair.  
The Handler/dog team must find this starting point independently.
- F.8.1.11 At the end of the track, care must be taken, that no further blood is spilled.
- F.8.1.12 The end of the track is clearly marked with labels for the game carrier. At the end of each track, the number of the track and the group is to be marked on a note. After the carriers have placed the game, they must remove the markings.
- F.8.2 SPECIAL RULES FOR THE LAYING OF THE BTT TESTS
- F.8.2.1 A maximum of 250ml of blood may be used over the entire length of the track (including the start, wound beds and the 6 reference points).
- F.8.2.2 In addition to the wound beds, 6 reference points are to be created on the track for the dog to indicate. For this purpose coagulated blood, hair and/or tiny pieces of skin, from the same game species, are placed on the track. The volume of coagulated blood must not exceed 2ml (cm).
- F.8.2.3 The tracks for blood tracking can be made using the dabbing or dripping method. The method chosen, must be used throughout the track.
- F.8.2.4 For the **dabbing method**, tracks are dabbed with a piece of foam rubber (sponge), about six (6) square centimetres in size, and two (2) centimetres thick, attached to a stick. The blood, measured to 250ml, is carried in an open, wide-necked vessel. After the swab has been immersed, it is gently wiped off on the edge of the container. Then, at a normal pace, about every second step, the ground (cover of the ground) is first touched lightly, and gradually the touch on the ground becomes stronger. Dabbing in the container is repeated if the amount of blood becomes too little when dabbing. It is advisable to carry a securely sealed reserve blood container, in case the tracklayer stumbles and spills the contents of the open container. The use of swab sticks with a built-in blood container is permitted.
- F.8.2.5 If the **dripping method** is used, the tracks are dripped with a transparent, controllable dropper bottle. A Sample drop is recommended to determine the correct amount of dripping.
- F.8.2.6 The tracklayer with the swab stick or dropper bottle must always be the last to walk the track, with everyone walking the same path.
- F.8.3 SPECIAL RULES FOR THE LAYING OF THE TST TRACK

- F.8.3.1 The tracks are made with tracking shoes. These must be constructed in such a way that the tracklayer's footwear does not touch the ground. The hooves and the blood used must be fresh (or frozen while fresh), and of the same species of game (preferably the same animal). Booth hooves used in a pair of tracking shoes must be from the same animal. They may be used only for the dogs in one test group, and may not be used for another test. The type of game must be specified in the schedule. For the preparation of the tracks, only blood and cut hair from the game species from which the hooves originate may be used for the start, wound beds and the drip beds. A maximum of 100ml of blood may be used for each track.
- F.8.3.2 In the first 50m of the track, after the starting point (point of impact), blood is dripped with decreasing intensity, and from then on, the track is almost blood-free. The remaining blood is dripped in two (2) wound beds and four (4) drip beds. While laying the track, the tracklayer will step into each wound or drip bed, once with one tracking shoe.

## **G. EXECUTION OF THE HUNTING DOG BLOOD TRACKING AND TRACKING SHOE TEST**

- G.1 Before a dog starts tracking, a piece of hooved game, of the same species as the blood (or if no animal is available, the skin of an animal of the same species) must be placed at the marked end of the track. The game carrier must remove all markings made there, immediately after laying it.
- G.2 The game carriers must move away from the laid animal, and must hide themselves in such a way that neither the Handler nor the dog can see them. Vehicles used during the test, must be hidden from the view of the Handler. The entire track is to be done on leash.
- G.3 The tracking lead is to be used fairly ('waidgerecht' = according to the ethical code of conduct of handling hunting dogs).
- G.4 Over the entire length of the track a Handler must handle his dog using a tracking lead with a suitable blood tracking collar or harness. The dog must be worked at a minimum of 6 meters for the entire track. If the Handler fails to give the dog the minimum 6-meter length of lead, he must be made aware of the fact that the work can be marked only as 'sufficient'.
- G.5 The Judges will show the Handler the point where the shot was fired. After instruction from the tracklaying Judge, indicating the approximate location of the starting point (in an area of approximately 30x30 meters, the corners of which are clearly marked for the Handler), and the approximate direction of flight, the team should independently search for the starting point or the track of flight. The Handler must indicate the position of either clearly. The team has about 15 minutes to search and find the start, or the track where it leaves the marked area. If the team finds neither the assumed starting point, or the start of the track within this period, or follows a misleading track for more than approximately 80 meters, the Handler will be shown the start by the group of Judges. This assistance lowers the predicate (from Prize I to Prize II).
- G.6 Judges and persons following the team must always do so at a reasonable distance, even if the dog has left the course of the track. An attentive Handler who knows how to interpret the actions of the gallery, will react immediately if a Judge, or person who has knowledge of the direction of the track, stops when the dogs leaves the track. He will make use of this impermissible assistance as quickly as possible. Any necessary questions should be asked in a whisper. Conversations and indicating the direction of the track must be avoided. If the Handler reports stalking signs (blood, hair or other signs) when finding the starting point, or during the course of the track, the Judges merely take note of this, without giving the Handler confirmation as to whether he is on track. It is up to the Handler to fall back, seek or turn around. He may also temporarily interrupt the dog's work, by laying it into the down position, and assisting it with the appropriate help.
- G.7 If the Handler wants to advance or retreat with his dog, he must find the track himself. The Judges then remain together, and follow at a reasonable distance. Only stalking signs ( little pieces of skin, bone, organs, etc. or blood clots) that the Handler has reported as such, or distinctive points are to be shown to him, if he asks for assistance.
- G.8 If the team strays from the track without correcting itself after a maximum of 80 – 100 meters,

the Judges must inform him of the fact. In this case the Handler has to search for the track without assistance, or he can request the Judges to return him to a previous point on the track (one that the Handler specifies). A dog that strays from the track more than twice, or more than once further down the track, and which also required assistance in the search for the starting point, has failed the test.

G.9 If the team's performance is insufficient, the Judges may stop the test.

G.10 If a team reaches the end of a track, they have passed the test. The Senior Judge presents the Handler with a 'Bruch' (branch of a tree, a sign of honour), and gives an evaluation of the work. If possible a hunting horn can be blown at the end of a track.

H. The co-operation between the Handler and the dog is to be evaluated. The manner in which the dog works is of particular value for the assessment:

- willingness to track
- calmness, security and independence
- the way the dog corrects itself if it loses the track by circling or by re-trying
- whether it can find the starting point and stalking signs
- and whether he is able to correct himself.

An insecure dog, or a dog working at haste, will fail in difficult situations and conditions.

Excessive, unrestrained speed, as well as assistance and correction from the Judges, reduce the predicate.





# **TEST REPORT FOR HUNTING DOG TRACKING TEST SCHEDULE 05C(7)**

ORGANISING CLUB: \_\_\_\_\_

TEST LOCATION: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

HANDLER: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

DOG'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

MICROCHIP NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

BREED: \_\_\_\_\_ REG. NR: \_\_\_\_\_ D.O.B: \_\_\_\_\_

DAM: \_\_\_\_\_ REG.NO \_\_\_\_\_

SIRE: \_\_\_\_\_ REG NO: \_\_\_\_\_

	WORKING POINTS	MULTIPLIER	POINTS
TRACKING		2	
USE OF NOSE		2	
DESIRE TO WORK		1	
		TOTAL POINTS	

GUN STABLE	SLIGHTLY GUN SENSITIVE	GUN SENSITIVE	SEVERLY GUN SENSITIVE	GUN SHY

TEST DIRECTOR	SENIOR JUDGE	JUDGE	JUDGE



Kennel Union of Southern Africa

**TEST REPORT FOR HUNTING DOG BLOOD TRACKING AND TRACKING SHOE TEST SCHEDULE 05C(7)**

ORGANISING CLUB: \_\_\_\_\_  
TEST LOCATION: \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
HANDLER: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
DOG'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
MICROCHIP NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_  
BREED: \_\_\_\_\_ REG. NR: \_\_\_\_\_ D.O.B: \_\_\_\_\_  
DAM: \_\_\_\_\_ REG. NO: \_\_\_\_\_  
SIRE: \_\_\_\_\_ REG NO: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>TYPE OF TRACK</b>			
<b>AGE OF TRACK</b>			
<b>DESCRIPTION OF TRACKING WORK</b>			
<b>PASSED WITH PRIZE</b>			
<b>REASONS FOR NOT PASSING</b>			
<b>TEST DIRECTOR</b>	<b>SENIOR JUDGE</b>	<b>JUDGE</b>	<b>JUDGE</b>



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Fedco 06-2025

The most recent changes to this Schedule have an effective date of 01.10.2025