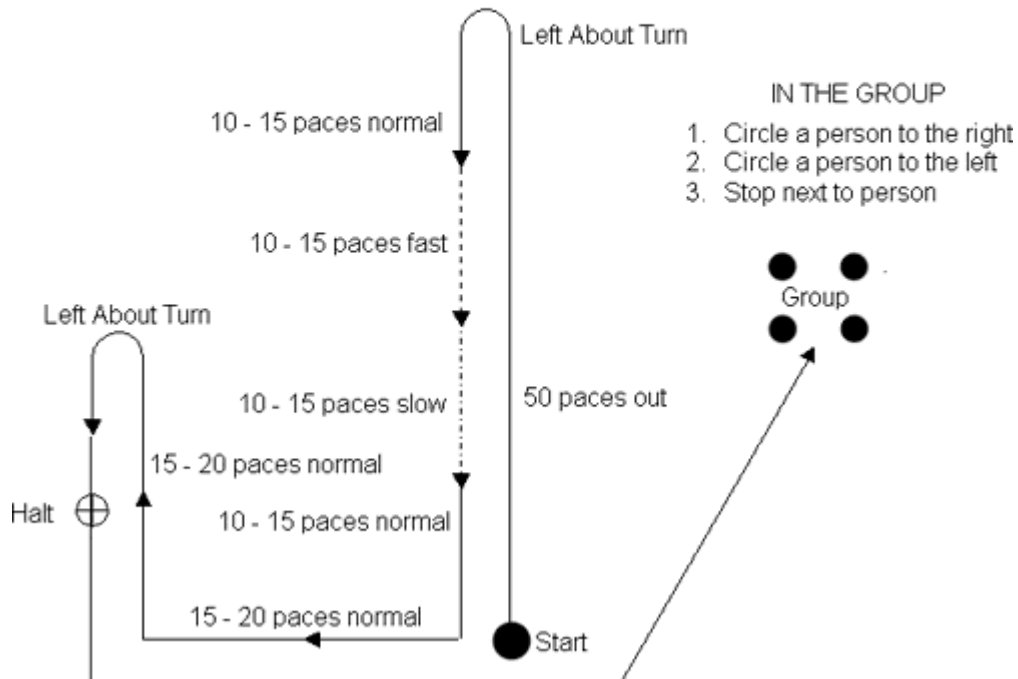


BH (Traffic – Steady Companion Dog Test)

The Required Trial Heeling Pattern

Pattern may be worked with the turns in the opposite direction



Part A – Obedience

Note: See the trial procedure and description of exercises sections for detailed discussion of the exercises and the heeling diagram.

Total: 60 Points (**70% must be earned for passing score**)

1. Heeling on Lead (15 pts)

Commands: "Heel" ("Fuss")

2. Free Heeling (15 pts)

Commands: "Heel" ("Fuss")

3. Sit Out Of Motion (10 pts)

Commands: "Heel" ("Fuss"), "Sit" ("Sitz")

"Sit"

Basic Position > X Stop
10 - 15 normal paces Minimum of 30 normal paces

4. Down with Recall (10 pts)

Commands: "Heel" ("Fuss"), "Down" ("Platz") and "Here/Come" ("Hier/Komm"), or dog's name together with "Heel" ("Fuss")

"Down"

Basic Position > **X** **Stop**
10 - 15 normal paces **Minimum of 30 normal paces**

5. Down Under Distraction (10 pts)

Commands: "Down" ("Platz"), "Sit" ("Sitz")

General Provisions:

All breeds and sizes are eligible to enter the BH test. The minimum entry age is 16 months. At the end of the test, the results are not given out as "points" but only as a "Pass" or "Fail" rating announced by the judge. The test is passed when 70% of the total points available in Part A are earned, and the exercises in Part B are considered by the trial judge to be "Sufficient".

The BH title alone is not a "training title" in the sense of the breeding, showing, breed-survey or exhibition requirements of a member-club of the VDH.

There is no waiting period required before the BH test may be repeated, but not at the same trial. Example: if a dog does not pass the BH test on Saturday, it may not compete for the BH test at the same trial on Sunday.

Part B – Testing In Traffic

General:

The exercises shall be carried out in a public traffic-area (streets, roads or public areas) with moderate traffic. The safety of the dogs and handlers, however, is paramount and the general public may not be interfered with or inconvenienced. This part of the BH may also be done at the club training grounds under simulated conditions as per the exercises, at the discretion of the Judge. Only the dog being tested, his handler, the judge, and possibly also the trial secretary will be in action at any time, unless the judge requests otherwise. All the other handlers will remain waiting "on call" at the judge's discretion with their dogs off to the side in a suitable location.

This portion of the BH test, because of its own peculiarities, requires a considerable expenditure of time. The performance requirements may not be compromised by the superficial inspection of many dogs. Therefore a maximum of 24 dogs may be judged on any one trial day, in accordance with USA rules.

Point scores are not given out for the individual exercises in Part B. For the passing of this part of the trial, the overall impression of the dog moving about in traffic is determinative.

Testing procedure:

Controllability and behaviour in street traffic:

On the judge's signal, the handler proceeds with his dog on lead in the area designated by the judge. The judge follows the handler at a measured distance.

The dog should willingly follow, on a loose lead, at the handler's left side with his shoulder remaining at about the level of the knee.

The dog should behave impartially towards all pedestrians and towards the motoring traffic opposite. Along the way, the handler will be passed by a jogger at the approximate distance of 10 feet (staged for the test).

A short time later, the handler is passed by a bicyclist who overtakes him from behind on the bicycle path or coming from the street (staged for the test). The approach must be done so that the dog finds himself between the handler and the passing bicyclist. As the cyclist passes the dog and handler, he will ring his bicycle-bell several times or verbally appraise the handler of his position. After this the handler turns, goes to the judge, remains standing by him, greets him with a handshake, and converses with him. During all of this the dog may stand, sit or lie down, but must in any case remain calm.

Behaviour of the dog under more difficult traffic conditions:

On the judge's signal, the handler will move out with his dog into the middle of heavier pedestrian traffic (this may be simulated for the test).

The handler will stop twice in the crowd. At the first stop the dog must sit on command; at the second stop the handler will command the dog to down. The dog should sit and down quickly at the command and remain calm. In each instance, the handler will leave briefly and go to a spot designated by the judge and out of sight of the dog.

Within this exercise, a brief period of "loitering" will be worked in, at a spot designated by the judge with unaccustomed noises, such as various voices, loud talk, or passing traffic. (Suitable locations for these exercises include: busy malls, train-station hallways, bus stations, etc.; these may also be simulated at the club grounds.)

Behaviour of Leashed Dog Left Alone for Short Period in Traffic;

Behaviour of Dog Towards Other Animals:

On the judge's signal the handler takes his leashed dog along the area designated by the judge. After walking a short distance, the handler stops on the judge's signal and fastens the dog's leash to a fence, a ring in a wall, or similar object. The handler then goes out of sight for approximately two minutes or the judge's discretion, entering a shop, going into a house entry-way or behind a vehicle.

The dog may sit, stand or lie down.

During the handler's absence, a passer-by (staged) with a dog on lead will pass by the fastened dog, walking parallel to it at a distance of approximately 10 feet. The left-alone dog should behave quietly during the handler's absence. The dog should allow the passer-by and his leashed dog (which must be a non-aggressive dog) to pass without showing dog-aggressive tendencies (lunging on his fastened lead; continuous barking).

Note: It is to be left up to the officiating judge, whether he will carry out the individual exercises with each dog at the anticipated location, or whether he will have the test candidates work through only one exercise at that location and then will go look for another testing place and continue the testing there.