

## WORKING DOG EXCELLENT Certification Program

The following are the extensions to the Working Dog Certification Program to form the Working Dog Excellent Certification Program. Except where noted, all conditions for the WD apply to the WDX. This should be read and followed in conjunction with the Working Dog Certification Program, the "Guidelines to the Judges and Handlers" and the "Suggestions for Line Procedures".

Dogs must be at least six months of age and American Kennel Club (AKC), Canadian Kennel Club (CKC) registered or holding a foreign registry acceptable in the country holding the stake.

### I. Requirements

#### A. Description of Tests

1. Land Double. This is to be a true double with no less than 45 degrees between the birds and closer to 90 degrees or more preferred. A dead game bird (memory bird) is thrown into light to medium cover, not visible from the line, and should fall about 75 yards out. The second bird should be a live game bird shot as a flyer. The guns should be approximately 50 yards from the line, and this bird should fall in light to medium cover. These marks in cover are to show that a dog can "mark," has a "good nose" and "perseverance" (willingness to hunt).
2. Water Double. This is to be a true double with no less than 45 degrees between the birds and closer to 90 degrees or more preferred. A dead duck (memory bird) should fall about 60 yards out. The second duck, a thrown dead bird, should fall about 40 yards out. The birds should be in swimming water. Decoys (2-3) are to be used and should be off to the side of the marks so as not to interfere. These marks are to show that a dog can "mark," has "perseverance," and is confident in water.

#### B. Judges

1. Satisfactory completion of the above tests shall be determined by two judges. Between the two judges they must have judged:
  - a. Two AKC or CKC licensed Field Trials Qualifying or above, or
  - b. Two AKC Hunting Tests Senior Level or higher, or
  - c. A combination of two WDX or WDQ stakes.
2. Judges should be mailed the requirements for Working Dog Certificates two weeks prior to the tests.

#### C. Special Points

1. Dogs are required to be steady. Dogs must show a "reasonable degree of steadiness and general obedience." Dogs should not be touched or verbally reprimanded on line. A controlled "break" would be acceptable.
2. Dogs are required to deliver to hand but not necessarily at heel position.
3. All throws should be accompanied by a shotgun or blank shot with the dead bird thrown after the shot. Water tests should not encourage bank running or breaking.
4. No handling will be allowed.

D. Field Trial Credit - Hunting Test Credit

1. Dogs that have successfully completed all series and getting a JAM or higher in any regular stake of an AKC or CKC Licensed Field Trial shall be considered as having fulfilled the requirements for a Working Dog Excellent Certificate in lieu of the tests described under "A" above.
2. Dogs who have received a Qualifying score in a Senior Hunter Stake or above in an AKC or CKC Licensed or Member Hunting Test shall be considered as having fulfilled the requirements for a Working Dog Excellent Certificate in lieu of the tests described in "A" above.
3. A \$10.00 fee must accompany the Certificate request to the ACC WD Program Chairman.

E. Privileges and Limitations of the Working Dog Excellent Certificate.

1. The receipt of a Working Dog Excellent Certificate entitles the owner to indicate his dog's achievement by including the letters "WDX" after the dog's name in documents other than those considered "official" by the AKC or other registries.
2. The title "Working Dog Excellent" and the designated letters "WDX" are recognized by the ACC, but not necessarily by any other organization.

2. Fees:

- A \$45 fee will be charged for ACC Members for entry in the Working Dog Excellent Stake.
- A \$50 fee will be charged for non-members of the ACC in the Working Dog Excellent Stake