



# **The AMERICAN PROTECTION and PATROL DOG ASSOCIATION**

Founded in 2006, the original APPDA organization, although a good one, needed some updates and changes. We are now ready to move forward with the new and improved program.

Our goal is to create a true and enjoyable test for all levels of dog/handler teams. APPDA will demonstrate dogs capable and willing to protect their handlers in everyday, practical situations.

The American Protection & Patrol Dog Association is now ready to announce our Board of Directors. We take pride in the vast array of experience, knowledge, and accomplishments of the individuals on this list. It is a credit to the original program and to the tenacity of [Tai Nero](#) that this endeavor has attracted such incredible talent.

We would like to say a huge thank you to [Hil Whitfield](#) for his work to revamp the logo and artwork for APPDA.

Thanks also to, [Megan Pakradooni](#), for her continuous efforts during this re-launch.

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# **AMERICAN PROTECTION & PATROL DOG ASSOCIATION** **RULEBOOK for** **APPDA EVALUATORS/DECOYS & HANDLERS**

*The American Protection & Patrol Dog Association (APPDA) Program is designed to consistently and fairly test and evaluate the defense, fight, hunt drive, courage, endurance and the strength of character of each dog.*

*The APPDA Decoy must ALWAYS strive to challenge him/herself fully in the endeavor and to be a challenge for every competitor's dog. The skill of the Decoy is the most important aspect in achieving the APPDA goal. Most Protection Dog venues do not test the dogs to the extent of APPDA, and we want to remain proud of those dog teams certifying in APPDA.*

*We encourage Handler/Dog teams to arrive prepared- we are trying to move away from Prey type movements when testing the dog, and the dog may experience pressures that test its will to stay in the situation presented.*

## **Levels of Competition and Scoring –**

*The Handler will be able to evaluate if their dog would react as he/she would want in a situation involving Protection. If the Handler feels the dog is ready to be tested, they are encouraged to participate. There are four parts; Entry, Level One, Level Two and Level 3. The dog team must complete the Entry Level to move on to the other levels. Once the Dog team has passed an Entry Level test, they have the option to move onto Level One or the dog team may continue to compete in that same level as long as the Handler desires. It will be noted in the scorebook, which level the dog is competing in at each trial. Dog teams that choose to stay within Entry Level will be required to do the obedience portion each time they enter.*

*The Decoys will be encouraged to apply consistent true pressure to all dogs, as well as those dogs in the Entry Level. If a dog is going to run/ not engage, or goes into an avoidance, the Judge will instruct the Decoys to go into a prey/play motion to assist the dog in recovering- but the dog would have failed that particular portion of the test and receive a score of zero for that scenario- The handler can chose if they want to continue to the next scenario.*

*Objects used by the Decoys to oppose dogs, can be any items chosen from a pre-approved list, or objects approved by the Evaluator. If an object is chosen to oppose the dog, which is not on the pre-approved list, at all times the safety of the dog and Handler will be a high priority. The exercises are meant to be as realistic as possible, but not so realistic to injure a dog or Handler, in attempts to test the dog's nerve. The Judges of that particular trial will be in charge of approving obstacles that have not already been pre-approved.*

*Judging/Evaluating will require 2 Judges/Evaluators during protection. One will be a formal APPDA Judges and the other will be the decoy that is actively engage by the dog. (If the protection scenario does not require the dog to engage a decoy, the decoy evaluation will not be require for that scenario). The steward will be someone respected by the club, have a solid knowledge of dogs and be able to participate for the entire duration of the trial.*

*In the scorebook, the dogs score number will be written, along with his placement. (Example- 2/7 dog took second place out of seven entries for that Level.)*

## **Certificates of Title-**

*Dogs passing each level will receive a Certificate of Title in the corresponding level. Dogs placing first, second or third will receive trophies or plaques.*

*Moving up a Level at Trial- Handlers that complete Entry Level will need to wait until the next trial to move up to the next level.*

## **Scorebooks-**

*Each dog entering a trial, must have a scorebook to continue. The front cover of the scorebook must be complete for the Evaluators prior to entering the dog. When signing for membership, the fee is \$40.00 which will include ONE scorebook, Additional scorebooks may be purchased for \$10.00, which will cover the cost of shipping/handling.*

*If a participant arrives at a trial without a scorebook, the participant will be able to fill out an application, pay the fee, and participate in that trial, and receive his/her book at a later date via mail. This must be completed before the start of the trial, so the Evaluator would have the dog's info and temporary score sheet.*

*Should a Handler lose his dog's scorebook or arrive at a trial without his/her scorebook, a duplicate book can be obtained from the APPDA secretary. A fee of \$20, will be required, in addition to dog info sheet.*

## **Age Limit-**

*Handlers under 18 years old, must get a consent form signed from parent(s) to participate and be accompanied by a parent for the duration of the trial. Should an Evaluator feel the Handler is too immature or irresponsible to continue, the Handler can be excused, regardless of parental consent.*

*Dogs competing in the APPDA test, are encouraged to be at least 12 months old, younger dogs may be allowed to participate, if the Handler feels the dog is ready, with the understanding, the test will be halted at any time, should the Decoys or Evaluators feel the dog is displaying behaviors showing it is too early for this type of testing. In this case, the Entry fee will be forfeited by the Handler/dog team-no refund is required from the hosting club.*

## **Conduct-**

*All Handlers participating in APPDA and all members of APPDA (formal clubs, Decoys, Evaluators) are expected to conduct themselves professionally and appropriately when at an APPDA-sanctioned event. Cheating, favoritism, and sabotage etc.; will not be tolerated. This is an exercise for the Handler to evaluate his/her own dog, and to know how their dog may react during a true protection scenario. At any time, the Evaluators have the right to dismiss any Handler or Team from the field without refund of entry fees. At any time, the Hosting club has the right to request person or persons (spectators or competitors) to leave the area. Any children attending the event, will be the sole responsibility of the adults with the children. Children will NOT be allowed to be running, playing ball, or throwing items, such as sticks etc., whether or not a dog is on the field. Should an unsafe situation arise, the Evaluators/and or hosting club has the right to ask the adults to remove the children from the area. Safety first.*

## **Evaluators and Decoys**

**Decoys** - Decoys will answer directly to the Decoy Director, and should address any concerns or suggestions to him. Decoys are required to know the exercises and scenarios and be able to enforce a level of pressure required for the scenario. All Decoys will be responsible for maintaining their physical health and wellbeing and are aware of the physical requirements to participate and will not hold APPDA or the hosting clubs for any injury or illnesses that occur as the result of them working in a trial or APPDA event.

**Decoy Certification** - The APPDA will hold Decoy certification camps. In order to further our sport outside of regional locations. Please contact APPDA for further information. Once a Decoy is certified, he/she will be encouraged to Decoy at least two events or trials per year in order to keep their certification current. Decoys must also train with a Decoy director or APPDA club at least once a month to maintain their status. APPDA membership is provided for the life of the decoyship.

**Decoy Dismissal** - Decoys may be pulled from any trial or event at the discretion of the DECOY DIRECTOR or the EVALUATOR(s) for the trial/event, in case of safety issues or misconduct. At a later time, the Decoy Director or the Evaluators will review this decision, a decision will be made as to the future of the Decoy with the APPDA organization.

**Decoy Competition** - Decoys MAY compete in a trial they are Decoying, with their dog if the number of Decoys allow it. If any favoritism witnessed by the Evaluators, from the Decoys testing their fellow Decoy's dog, it is only hurting the dog/team, to see a true test of his/her dog. APPDA recommends that Host clubs waive the Trial Entry fees for working Decoys. Decoys CAN NOT take the position of First, Second or Third place within the trial, but their number score and correct placement will be documented in their scorebook)

**Judges/Evaluator Competition-** Judges/Evaluators may run their dogs through the exercises used in the trial, but only after the last Handler/dog group has tested. The Judges/Evaluator dog teams, will NOT be scored for placement within the trial. (The dogs will not take first, second, third place- but their number score, will be documented in their scorebook)The Judges/Evaluator dog teams will be scored, obtaining one averaged score, by the other two Evaluators on the field and the Decoys.

**Decoy Scenarios** – The senior Decoys working the trial, will decide what exercises the decoys are assign too.

**Decoy Level of Pressure** - The level of pressure for each scenario, in each level will be set by the Decoy Director or the Evaluators available at the trial. All certified Decoys will be required to follow these rules as closely and consistently as possible, not only from one dog to another, but from trial to trial. Any Decoy believed to be performing either over or below the recommended level of pressure in a trial is subject to reprimand and or loss of certification.

**Training Mode** - Every Decoy should be experienced in watching for signs of extreme stress in a dog. Due to the young age of many of our competing canines, as well as the high levels of pressure on the dog, any dog exhibiting extreme stress or fear should immediately be put into "training mode". The dog should be given an encouraging prey bite. This is to prevent ruining young dogs that may not yet be ready for the levels of pressure in APPDA. In the event the Decoy does not recognize this, the Evaluator(s) will direct the Decoy to end the

exercise and continue to work the dog in "prey". At this time, it will be decided by the Handler, Decoys and Evaluators, if the team should be eliminated or continue onto the next scenario.

**Decoy Opposition** - The Decoy is responsible to maintain the same level of pressure for each dog he or she is working. In the event that the Evaluator(s) feels the level of pressure has picked up or dropped off, the Evaluator(s) will step in and adjust the pressure- after the exercise is completed. A walk thru or discussion of each exercise will be conducted before the trial with the Decoys. The Evaluators and Director of Decoys will assure each Decoy(s) know the proper level of pressure at that time.

**Objects of Opposition** -because of the realistic nature of APPDA, acceptable objects of opposition are numerous. Bamboo clatter sticks, padded stick, plastic woofer bats PVC pipe insulation, penny jugs, tree branches, palm fronds, tarpaulins, blank guns, water hoses, leaf blowers etc., are all acceptable objects of opposition. Still, the Judge must approve each object of opposition at each level of every trial.

**Evaluator Certification** - Contact information for current Evaluators can be found on the APPDA website. New Evaluators will be approved for apprenticeship depending on their level of expertise, either in the APPDA or other dog venues. Once approved for apprenticeship, a candidate must serve as an apprentice under an APPDA Evaluator for a minimum of two trials and pass a written exam.

**Decoy scoring-** The Decoys will give a dog a score of 0-5,

- **5 being a full strong bite, willingness to stay in the fight, courageous, no hesitation with the opposition given etc., may have a re-bite or re-grip to obtain a better bite or location on the body in the Decoys opinion, not a re-bite due to hesitation.**
- **4- Good bite, may have a re-grip to stay in the fight or to get a better bite, but may in the opinion of the Decoy to not be a bite grip as good as some.**
- **3 the dog shows some hesitation to engage in the fight, and comes off the bite with to the opposition of the Decoy and/or articles of opposition, BUT DOES re-engage.**
- **2- The dog shows a lot of hesitation, and apprehension on the bite, or to the weapons of opposition. The dog circles the Decoy or goes into a Bark and Hold type action, not re-engaging in the bite.**
- **1 The dog initially shows a commitment to protect, may bite, but quickly releases and does NOT re engage, and leaves the Decoy, not staying in a Bark and Hold type stance.**
- **0-the dog refuses to engage the Decoy/protect the Handler, or attempts to exit the area.**

# **TRIALS**

**Scheduling a Trial** - Clubs /groups wishing to host an APPDA trial must select a date and an alternate date. The club must be able to provide a safe field, with secure fencing, tape or rope separating the dogs from spectators, and have the equipment available for the individual APPDA scenarios. (A building façade, which should include a window and door, an automobile, a bench or row of chairs, Large Boxes etc.) APPDA will confirm the dates (trial dates will be on a first-come, first-serve basis) according to Decoy and Evaluator availability, and advise the APPDA secretary, so the info will be posted on the website. Additional requirements will be listed below:

**Trial Checklist** - The club is responsible for acquiring a trial checklist from the APPDA, after the trial dates are confirmed. This checklist must be completed and mailed or emailed back a minimum of two weeks before trial.

**Trial Secretary** - Hosting clubs/groups are responsible for assigning at least one club member to serve as a trial secretary. Ideally, secretaries should not be competing. The secretary is responsible for completing paperwork before the trial, collecting entry fees, assisting Evaluators- recording the scores in scorebooks which will be signed by the Evaluators. The trial secretary will also assist in calculating scores for the Evaluators before the critique, and recording the order of competition.

**Field Steward**- Hosting club is also responsible for providing one club member to serve as a field steward. The field steward will be assigned to the Evaluator(s) and take directions from him or her. Areas of responsibility may include taking guns back to Decoy den, direct Handler/dog teams to the next exercise/ standing up obstacles that may have fallen etc.

**Entry Fees** – Entry fees to be determine by the hosting club at a reasonable rate to cover transportation, food & housing for decoys & judges. This is to help the hosting club cover expenses. \$10 from every entry fee will be forward to the APPDA.

**Awards** – The hosting club is responsible for providing any awards (trophies, medals, plaques, etc.) APPDA will provide a certificate of title earned.

**Spectator Area** - The hosting club is required to provide an area for spectators in clear view of the action on the field. This area must be separated from the trial field by fencing. **No dogs/puppies are allowed in the spectator area at any time during the competition.** The hosting club is also required to stop any rough housing or ball throwing etc, being done by children in the spectator area. Evaluators may stop the trial, if potentially dangerous or distracting activities are occurring, until the distractions are resolved.

**Distractions** - Because the Evaluators will select distractions and objects of opposition the morning of each trial, the host club is responsible for having items available.( although the trial checklist would have already provided the necessary info on Distractions)

**Dress Code** -Shoes should be safe for the Handler to move freely about the field. (Sandals, Heels, open toed shoes, high heels are discouraged) Handler Vests are not permitted and, no items of enticement or correction are allowed to be carried. Handlers may not carry any type of enticement (food, toys, clickers, etc.) in their pockets or on their persons during the trial. Evaluators reserve the right to ask the Handler to show the contents of his/her pockets or empty pockets if the Evaluator suspects a possible infraction of this

*rule. Should the Handler refuse, the Evaluator has the option to disqualify and excuse the team.*

**Equipment Required** - All Handlers are required to bring their own equipment, for example:

- One sturdy lead, between 36 and 60 inches in length
- Flat Collar for their dog (Agitation collar, metal buckle, No clip or plastic)
- An approved agitation muzzle (only for levels that require it)
- Scorebook
- Membership card

*Those Handlers who do not bring their own muzzle and are unable to borrow one, may be subject to point deductions; if a muzzle cannot be found to correctly fit the dog which causes a delay in the trial. The team may receive zero points for all muzzle exercises.*

**Dog Safety** - Dogs that are not immediately waiting their turn on the field must be kept contained. It is preferred the hosting club have an area where competitors can park away from general spectators, or an area they may safely and securely house their dogs. Handlers are permitted to take their dogs to the designated elimination area; however, all dogs must be leashed at all times. Minor obedience warm up is allowed, although it may NOT be in view of the field; NO protection warm up or training will be allowed anywhere near the field, ONCE the competition is underway. This will be considered a violation of the Code of Conduct and grounds for dismissal from the trial. Any display of heavy or cruel corrections may cause the competitor to be disqualified from this and possible future APPDA trials, as well as the possibility of contacting the local authorities to report animal cruelty.

**Order of Competition** - the order of competition will be decided by drawing of order. The team that registers first will draw for order first, the second team will draw next, etc. In the case of working Decoy teams and or Handlers with multiple dogs in the same level, the drawing order will be decided by the Evaluator. Handlers themselves may swap with another Handler, should they want to change their order.

**Corrections** - Physical corrections will NOT be allowed on the field, and can be considered a disqualifying fault. Verbal corrections will be considered an extra command, and the team will be subject to point deductions. During the Obedience Portion, Corrections are not going to be tolerated. For each correction given, the Evaluators will subtract 5 points from the final averaged total score. If the corrections are considered harsh by the Evaluators, the Team may be asked to leave the field and not be allowed to continue the trial.

**Fouling the Field** - Dogs fouling the field will be subject to disqualification

**Open Field Day** – There will be no requirement of clubs making the field available for open field the day before the trial, this is to allow the clubs to set up their fields, and keep the element of surprise.

**Persons Allowed on Field during Competition** - The only persons that will be allowed on the field during a competition will be the APPDA Evaluator, the guest Evaluator and any apprentice evaluators that may be working that trial, the trial secretary, the field steward, the trial decoys, and approved photographers/ videographers. All photographers or videographers must get permission from the Evaluators, the Hosting Club, and each individual Handler to be on the field prior to the trial, and will do so at their own risk. The Evaluators or individual Handlers have the right to request a photographer/videographer to exit the field at any time.



**Photos and Videos** - All spectators are welcome to take images for their own personal use. The APPDA reserves the right to use any images taken at an APPDA sanctioned event for their own promotional purposes.

**Outs and Release Commands** - Due to the large amount of Security and Law Enforcement teams competing in the APPDA, a formal out command will not be used on every exercise. For the ENTRY levels of competition, the Handler must either out/recall or out/guard his dog for at least one exercise. The Car Jacking exercise in Level One Protection is a RECALL exercise. The actual OUT will be judged as a separate points exercise. For all other bites, the Handler has the option of collecting his dog, holding the dog by the collar, commanding the Decoy to stop fighting the dog, and then commanding the dog to out. A dog that does not out after three commands from the Handler in any circumstance will fail. In addition, dogs that release the Decoy before the Handler gives the actual OUT command and OUTs on contact of the Handler or command to "stop fighting the dog", will be subject to point deductions at the judges' discretion. Any team wishing to perform a formal out/guard or out/recall on all exercises will not be penalized. In the upper levels of competition, the OUT will be specified in the rules for the exercises. If a Handler opts to collect his/her dog it must be know before the start of the trial, in addition one formal out will be required during the trial for these dogs and will be selected by the Evaluator before the start of that exercise

# LEVELS

## ENTRY LEVEL EXERCISES:

*There will be a variety of exercises that will be set in the APPDA Judge/Decoy rule book that will test the dog's reaction in a variety of situations.*

*The dog will be tested in control, as well as response to assist his/her Handler, also being evaluated on the desire to stay in the fight to protect the Handler.*

*The Handler should prepare the dog to demonstrate restraint and control for a NON-contact threat, as well as to react quickly upon contact of an aggressor to the Handler.*

*There will be THREE protection scenarios chosen in each trial for the ENTRY LEVEL.*

*In ENTRY LEVEL, there will be a show of obedience, with the dog being allowed to wear a collar such as a flat, fur savers or choke NO corrections will be allowed. Corrections will result in large point penalties subtracted from the final score, if the dog/team is allowed to continue.*

*If the corrections are considered harsh by the Evaluators, the Team may be asked to leave the field and not be allowed to continue the trial.*

*At any time, should the Judges/Evaluators feel the dog team is NOT safe to continue, the Handler and dog team will be asked to leave the field and may be excused from participating in the trial.*

*The obedience in this level, is designed ONLY to demonstrate, that the Handler and dog can work together as a team and the dog will respond to the Handlers commands. The overall obedience portion will be graded as a Pass or Fail-and any deductions are subtracted from the final score.*

*All dogs entering the APPDA testing, must start at the ENTRY LEVEL, regardless of previous trial experiences in other venues.*

## ENTRY LEVEL OBEDIENCE:

*In ENTRY LEVEL Obedience, the Handler will demonstrate the following exercises, with the order being at the judge's discretion:*

*Heel on leash 30 paces, stop with automatic sit*

*Heel on leash 10 paces and make a left turn*

*Heel on leash 20 paces, performing fast, slow, normal changes of pace*

*Make a right turn, Heel 20 paces*

*Make an about turn, Heel 20 paces*

*Make a left turn, Heel 20 paces*

*Halt at cone*

*Stay under mild decoy distraction*

*Heel 10 paces, Down in motion, Continue 30 paces*

*Recall from down in motion 30 paces away*

*The main objective for obedience in this level, is to demonstrate, that the Handler and dog can work together as a team. At each trial, these components will be tested, but NOT necessarily in any set order. In the ENTRY LEVEL portion, there will NOT be a time, the dog is left to maintain a position, with the Handler out of sight.*

*There will be a 10 second pause before the recall once the handler has turned to face their dog. The recall will be performed at the instruction of the judge or steward.*

*For the stay under mild decoy distraction, the Handler is instructed to move to a marked position on the field, and place his dog in a Stay beside the Handler. The Stay can be a Sit or a Down-this will be decided by the Handler. Once the Handler is ready, the Evaluator will signal for Two Decoys to cross the field, one in front of the team, one behind the team. The Decoys will be 10 feet away, will walk a straight line from one side of the field to the other passing the handler by 20 paces, turning around and walking to their start position, without agitation. The Dog must remain at the Handlers side, the dog may change his initial position but not cause the Handler to struggle in maintaining that position.*

**Scoring:**

*Heeling (Right, left, change of paces, auto sit, about turn)- 22*

*Stay- 4*

*In Motion- 4*

*Change of position- 4*

*Distractions- 5*

*Neutrality- 5*

*Recall- 6*

*Total Possible Points: 50*

## **ENTRY LEVEL- CIVIL AGITATION TEST**

**(MINIMUM 15 OUT OF 20 POINT EXERCISE TO PASS)**

*The club will provide an appropriate tie-out line of approximate 10' in length. Dog may wear an Agitation Collar, to be approved by the Evaluator, as well as a choke chain or fursaver as a back up to be clipped live ring to the collar or harness. The Handler may leave their own leash attached to the dog if they wish. After attaching their Dog to tie-out line, the Handler will walk their dog almost to the end of the tie-out, there should be 1-2' of slack. The ground will be marked where the Handler is to stand. The Handler has 20 seconds to get his dog in a calm position. Once the Handler/Dog Team are in position, the Evaluator will signal the Decoys (3 people in plain clothes) to approach. The Decoys should approach in a calm, yet verbally threatening manner. The Dog should actively & vigorously display aggression to repel the Decoys upon command of the handler when one of the decoys says, "That dog won't bite." The Decoys will continue to calmly engage the handler in conversation for approximately 8 seconds. There will be a fourth Decoy wearing a hidden sleeve who will approach passively towards the handler and attempt to take a swing at the Handler. The dog should immediately engage the fight. The Decoy will fight the dog for 10 seconds. The Handler will be signaled to tell the decoy to "Stop Fighting My dog" then OUT the dog at which point the dog should aggressively alert towards both Decoys. End of Exercise.*

**Scoring:**

**Alert-3**

**Entry- 4**

**Commitment/Grip-5**

**Release-5**

**Re-alert-3**

**Total Points Possible:20**

***The Dog backs up &/or moves away move away from the threat so that the Decoy can touch the Handler, will result in a failure.***

***The Dog backs up &/or moves away from the threat but then lunges at the Decoy so as to keep them from being able to touch the Handler, will result in a 2 Pt. deduction each time.***

***The Dog exhibits no aggressive display but stays at the end of the tie-out so as to keep the Decoy from being able to touch the Handler, will result in a 2 Pt. deduction.***

**ENTRY LEVEL - COURAGE TEST**

**(MINIMUM 30 OUT OF 40 POINT EXERCISE TO PASS)**

***The Handler will indicate what their Out Command is for their Dog (on their Registration paperwork); any command is acceptable, but the Handler must stay with that Command or suffer Point Deductions.***

***The Handler/Dog Team move to a pre-designated area on the field; the Dog will be ON leash. Once directed by the Evaluator, the Decoy will begin walking toward the Handler/Dog team. The Decoy will yell out toward the Team as the Decoy continues to move in their direction. At this time the Handler can give the Decoy a warning to stop, or they may get bitten by the Dog. The Decoy will have an object of opposition & continue to move toward the Handler and dog in a threatening manner (Talking, gesturing, etc.). The Decoy will walk fast toward the Team once they are approximately 30'-40' from the Team, & the Handler will then release their hold on the leash & send the Dog. AT NO POINT WILL THE DECOY YELL CORRECTIONS OR COMMANDS AT THE DOG IN THE ENTRY LEVEL. The Decoy should then catch & fight the Dog with their object of opposition for approximately \*10 seconds\*, but not "drive" the Dog. At the Evaluator's direction, the Handler then approaches & collects the Dog's leash, tells the Decoy to Stop fighting the Dog, then directs the Dog to Out. The handler may recall the dog to heel, out guard & recall or out guard & retrieve.***

**Scoring:**

**Alert- 5**

**Distraction- 10**

**Entry- 5**

**Commitment/Grip- 10**

**Release- 5**

**Recall/Guard- 5**

**Total Points Possible: 40**

***The Dog fails to engage the Decoy, will result in a failure.***

***The Dog engages but then "switches" on its bite but doesn't disengage, will result in a 2 Pt. deduction each time.***

*The Dog engages but then disengages (comes off completely), will result in a 4 Pt. deduction, plus 1 Pt. for every second it doesn't re-engage. After 5 seconds of no re-engagement will result in failure.*

*The Dog doesn't out on the 1st Command, each additional Out Command will result in a 3 Pt. deduction. The Dog not Outing after 3 Commands results in failure.*

*The Handler changes Out Command, will result in 1 Pt. deduction each time.*

*The Dog is not intent on the Decoy during the Guard, will result in a 1 Pt. deduction.*

*The Dog leaves the Decoy during the Guard, will result in a 5 Pt. deduction.*

*The Dog shall not be penalized for muzzle-punching, nipping, harassing the decoy, etc., during the Guard, however the Dog fully re-biting will result in a 2 Pt. deduction for the re-bite, plus 3 Pt. deduction per any necessary Out Commands; the Dog not Outing after 3 Commands results in failure. These additional Out Commands are counted separately from the initial Out Commands for the scenario bite.*

*The Dog knocks the Decoy down, will result in FULL Pts. being awarded to the Handler/Dog Team & exercise is immediately over.*

## **ENTRY LEVEL - GREETING TEST**

**(MINIMUM 30 OUT OF 40 POINT EXERCISE TO PASS)**

*The Handler will indicate what their Out Command is for their Dog (on their Registration paperwork); any command is acceptable, but the Handler must stay with that Command or suffer Point Deductions.*

*The Handler/Dog Team will start at a start cone and then be instructed to walk 40 paces to a pre-designated area. The Dog will be ON leash. This area can be a bench, a line of chairs, a table with umbrella and chairs, a picnic table, etc. As the Handler/Dog Team walk towards the pre-designated area, a suited Decoy will approach the Handler/Dog Team & will stop to talk with the Handler. At this time the dog should NOT display any sign of aggression. The Handler/Dog Team will then proceed to the pre-designated area where there is a bag that has been preset to be "stolen" by the aggressing decoy. The Handler will place their Dog however opposite the side where the bag has been placed and then sit down. A Decoy will return to this area after the Handler has been seated. This Decoy may or may not be different than the one that initially greeted the Handler/Dog Team. The Decoy may sit down, walk around, and stop in front of or behind the Handler/Dog Team, as decided by the Evaluator prior to the start of the trial. The Decoy may yell away from the Handler, out toward the spectators, etc., as if greeting someone else but not in an aggressive manner. The Decoy may engage with the Handler in conversation. The Decoy will suddenly grab the bag & attempt to run away with it. The Dog should pursue & engage the Decoy. The Handler is allowed to give 1 Command of Protection if necessary, any additional Commands will result in Point Deduction(s). The Decoy should then catch & fight the Dog with the cloth bag for approximately \*5 seconds\*. At the Evaluator's direction, the Handler then collects the Dog's leash, tells the Decoy to Stop Fighting the Dog, then Outs the Dog. The Handler may either Recall their dog to Heel, or pull the Dog away.*

**Scoring:**

***Neutrality in Greeting- 5***

***Attentiveness- 4***

***Distraction- 5***

***Release- 5***

***Total Points Possible: 40***

***Stay- 4***

***Entry- 4***

***Commitment/Grip- 8***

***Recall/Guard- 5***

## **LEVEL 1 PROTECTION DOG:**

*The dogs in this level, must have passed ENTRY LEVEL PROTECTION which includes the OBEDIENCE EXERCISES.*

*In this Level, there will be FOUR protection scenarios.*

*The Handler should prepare his/her dog to demonstrate restraint and control for NON-contact threats, for passive threats, as well as to react quickly upon contact of an aggressor to the Handler.*

*The Handler should prepare his/her dog to demonstrate courage and nerve with a variety of distractions, which may include, but not limited to- gunfire, loud noises, smoke, closed environments, multiple decoys etc. All distractions will be pre-approved as described in the APPDA Judge/Decoy rule book.*

## **LEVEL 1 OBEDIENCE**

**(75% OF THE OVERALL POINTS MUST BE OBTAINED IN OBEDIENCE TO PROCEED TO PROTECTION)**

*General Information: The dog will be ON leash during this exercise. The dog(s) behind the enclosure will be on leash and will only use welded wire paneling for this exercise for safety precautions.*

*Exercise:*

*The Dog/Handler team will begin at the designated start cone. Judge will tell you to proceed to a designated area. You will heel 15 paces and perform a down in motion, the handler will continue 15 paces to a designated area (once the handler gets to this designated area the dog should remain an additional 10 seconds. The judge will tell the handler to turn around and recall the dog. The handler will then be told to heel to the next area (30 paces) where they will be asked to perform change of paces from slow, fast, and normal and then dog/handler will stop at the cone. Handler will heel 15 paces towards a designate area where the dog will be in front of a vehicle while a neutral "old friend" (suited decoy) will be inside of the vehicle, honking the horn loudly to get the handler's attention. The "friend" will yell out of the window to the handler and exit the vehicle being very loud and excited to see the handler. The "friend" will approach the handler fast and excited/animated and shake the handler's hand, vigorously hug the handler, and engage in conversation. The dog will be commanded to down during this interaction. The "Friend" will attempt to feed the dog 2 pieces of food while in the down. The handler accompanies his "friend" to the vehicle and the friend will enter the vehicle, while the dog is maintaining a down stay. Once the "friend" enters the vehicle the dog should be commended to sit from the down, while the handler is still near the vehicle driver's side. The handler will return to the dog and begin heeling passed the vehicle while the "friend" honks as they pass, to say "goodbye". The dog/handler team will proceed to a gated area 30 paces away in which they will heel to a gate with a barking dog to a designated area. The handler will command the dog to sit (5 seconds) at the gate and maintain control over the dog. End of*

**Exercise.**

**Scoring:**

**Heeling-20**

**Distraction-8**

**Down-6**

**Food Refusal-8**

**Total Possible Points-70**

**Environmental-8**

**Change of Positions-8**

**Stay-6**

**Sit-6**

**LEVEL 1 - CAR JACKING TEST**

**(MINIMUM 30 OUT OF 40 POINT EXERCISE TO PASS)**

**The Handler will indicate what their Out & Recall Commands are for their Dog (on their Registration paperwork); any commands are acceptable, but the Handler must stay with those Commands or suffer Point Deductions. The Dog is OFF leash for this exercise. The Handler will place their dog in the vehicle & sit in the front driver seat. At the signal of the Evaluator, the 1st Decoy will come up the passenger side of the vehicle and will open the rear passenger door. The decoy will fire 1 shot when the door is open & YELL NO!! The Dog will engage the 1st Decoy & the decoy will work the dog firing random shots & giving the dog commands to STOP, OFF, NO etc... As the 1st Decoy is fighting the Dog (approx. 10 seconds), the 2nd Decoy will directly approach the driver's side of the vehicle, open the front driver door & "pull" the Handler out of the vehicle while firing a gun 3 times (into the air, away from both Decoy & Handler). At this time the Handler will call once for his dog to help. The dog leaves the 1st Decoy to protect its Handler & engage the 2nd Decoy. Once the dog has engaged the 2nd Decoy, The Handler will move to the rear of the vehicle, away from the Decoys. The 2nd Decoy will fight the Dog for (10 sec) moving towards the front of the vehicle & the 1st Decoy will move along the passenger side of the vehicle to the front of the vehicle. At the signal of the Evaluator, the Handler will Out/Recall the dog to heel.**

**Scoring:**

**Alert- 3**

**Commitment/Grip- 3**

**Redirected Attack- 4**

**Commitment/Grip- 3**

**Release- 5**

**Total Possible Points: 40**

**Entry of 1<sup>st</sup> Decoy- 3**

**Release- 3**

**Entry of 2<sup>nd</sup> Decoy- 3**

**Distraction- 8**

**Recall- 5**

**The Dog fails to engage either/both Decoys, will result in a failure.**

**The Dog doesn't recall from 1st Decoy to help Handler with 2nd Decoy on the 1st Command, each additional Recall Command will result in a 3 Pt. deduction. The Dog not recalling after 3 Commands results in a failure.**

**The Dog engages but then "switches" on its bite but doesn't disengage, will result in a 2 Pt. deduction each time.**



*The Dog engages but then disengages (comes off completely), will result in a 4 Pt. deduction, plus 1 Pt. for every second it doesn't re-engage. After 5 seconds of no re-engagement will result in failure.*

*The Dog doesn't Out/Recall from 2nd Decoy on the 1st Command, each additional Out/Recall Command will result in a 3 Pt. deduction. The Dog not Out/Recalling after 3 Commands results in failure.*

## **LEVEL 1 - COURAGE TEST**

**(MINIMUM 30 OUT OF 40 POINT EXERCISE TO PASS)**

*The Handler will be directed to a pre-designated area where the dog will be ON LEASH. The Decoy will assert themselves towards a bag (30 paces from the Handler/Dog) on the field near a designated cone. The handler threatens Decoy that if the property is tampered with or stolen they will send the dog. The Decoy will snatch the bag aggressively and walk away in a natural pace from the scene verbally harassing the Handler. The Handler will be signaled to send the dog once the Decoy approaches the 2<sup>nd</sup> cone (10 paces away). Once the dog is sent the Decoy will turn as the dog approaches, throw the bag in the entry way of the dog and begin to fight the dog. The Decoy will fight the dog for 15 seconds using the BAG and then the Handler will be signaled to tell the decoy 'Stop Fighting My Dog' then told to recall their dog.*

### **Scoring:**

**Alert- 5**

**Entry- 5**

**Distraction- 10**

**Commitment/Grip- 10**

**Release- 5**

**Recall- 5**

**Total Possible Points: 40**

## **LEVEL 1 - ATM TEST**

**(MINIMUM 30 OUT OF 40 POINT EXERCISE TO PASS)**

*The Handler will indicate what their Out & Recall Commands are for their Dog (on their Registration paperwork); any commands are acceptable, but the Handler must stay with those Commands or suffer Point Deductions. The Dog is OFF leash for this exercise. The Handler will place their dog in the vehicle & leave it there (1 placement command may be given), with the vehicle door left open. As Handler then walks towards the ATM (15 paces), 1 Decoy approaches the Handler & strikes up a friendly conversation, then continue on his way. The Handler "uses the ATM". One Decoy approaches the Handler. This time, the Decoy quietly demands the Handler's money & brandishes a gun, tells the handler "get on the floor, give me the money". The Handler will call once for their Dog to help. The Decoy will fire as dog approaches (away from Handler). The Dog exits the vehicle to engage the Decoy, during the fight the Decoy will fire random shots. After*

*approximately 15 seconds, at the Evaluator's indication the Handler will get up & the Decoy will call that they give up. The Handler then directs the Dog to Out/Guard, as the Handler goes back to the vehicle. The Dog Guards the Decoy as the Handler retreats to safety, the Dog may Guard aggressively or quietly, as long as it is intent on the Decoy. After the Handler has reached the vehicle, they will recall their dog to Heel. Exercise over*

**Scoring:**

**Stay- 5**

**Attentiveness- 4**

**Entry- 5**

**Commitment/Grip- 8**

**Distraction- 8**

**Release- 5**

**Recall- 5**

**Total Possible Points: 40**

*The Dog fails to engage the Decoy, will result in a failure.*

*The Dog aggresses its fallen Handler, will result in a failure.*

*The Dog doesn't engage the Decoy on the 1st Command, each additional Command for Protection will result in a 3 Pt. deduction. The Dog not engaging after 3 Commands results in failure.*

*The Dog engages but then "switches" on its bite but doesn't disengage, will result in a 2 Pt. deduction each time.*

*The Dog engages but then disengages (comes off completely), will result in a 4 Pt. deduction, plus 1 Pt. for every second it doesn't re-engage. After 5 seconds of no re-engagement will result in failure.*

*The Handler changes Out Command, will result in 1 Pt. deduction each time.*

*The Dog doesn't out on the 1st Command, each additional Out Command will result in a 3 Pt. deduction. The Dog not Outing after 3 Commands results in failure.*

*The Handler changes Out Command, will result in 1 Pt. deduction each time.*

*The Dog is not intent on the Decoy during the Guard, will result in a 1 Pt. deduction.*

*The Dog leaves the Decoy during the Guard, will result in a 5 Pt. deduction.*

*The Dog shall not be penalized for muzzle-punching, nipping, harassing the decoy, etc., during the Guard, however the Dog fully re-biting will result in a 2 Pt. deduction for the re-bite, plus 3 Pt. deduction per any necessary Out Commands; the Dog not Outing after 3 Commands results in failure. These additional Out Commands are counted separately from the initial Out Commands for the scenario bite.*

*The Dog knocks the Decoy down, will result in FULL Pts. being awarded to the Handler/Dog Team & exercise is immediately over.*

**LEVEL 1 - PROTECT MY BUSINESS**

**(MINIMUM 30 OUT OF 40 POINT EXERCISE TO PASS)**

*The Handler will indicate what their Out & Recall Commands are for their Dog (on their Registration paperwork); any commands are acceptable, but the Handler must stay with those Commands or suffer Point Deductions. The Dog is OFF leash for this exercise. The*

*"store" may be no smaller than 10'x10', outfitted with a table & chair, & with store items stacked inside: empty cardboard boxes, empty water cooler jugs, bundles of pool noodles, etc. The Handler will give their Dog a Placement Command near them (on the floor), then 1 Decoy will enter the store. The Decoy may initially ask questions &/or speak to the Handler in a friendly manner, but then will begin messing up the "store items", speaking harshly/rudely toward the Handler, etc. The Handler will ask the Decoy to leave the store. The Decoy will begin loudly arguing and throwing objects. At any time the decoy will face the handlers' direction & charge the dog & handler. The Dog engages the Decoy at this time, (if it does not break the Placement Command to protect the Handler, the Handler may give a Command of Protection but this will result in Point Deduction(s)). The Decoy will catch & work the dog inside of the store. Once the dog has engaged, the Decoy will fight the Dog for approximately 15 seconds inside the store. At the Evaluator's signal, the Handler will say "Stop Fighting My Dog Then Out/Recall their Dog.*

**Scoring:**

**Stay- 4**

**Entry- 4**

**Release- 4**

**Total Points Possible: 30**

**Distraction- 8**

**Commitment/Grip- 5**

**Recall- 5**

*The Dog fails to engage either/both Decoys, will result in a failure.*

*The Dog bites the Decoy(s) before they exhibit any aggressive behavior, results in a 7 Pt. deduction. The Decoy(s) will work the Dog from this point, in event of an early bite.*

*The Dog breaks whatever position/placement command its Handler left it in but does not bite the Decoy(s) before they exhibit any aggressive behavior (ex: goes into a transport, goes closer to Handler, etc.), will result in 2 Pt. deduction.*

*The Dog doesn't engage the Decoy(s) on aggressive behavior towards its Handler, Handler gives Command for Protection will result in a 3 Pt. deduction for each Command.*

*The Dog not engaging after 3 Commands results in failure.*

*The Dog engages but then "switches" on its bite but doesn't disengage, will result in a 2 Pt. deduction each time.*

*The Dog engages but then disengages (comes off completely), will result in a 4 Pt. deduction, plus 1 Pt. for every second it doesn't re-engage. After 5 seconds of no re-engagement will result in failure.*

*The Dog doesn't recall from 1st Decoy to help Handler with 2nd Decoy on the 1st Command, each additional Recall Command will result in a 3 Pt. deduction. The Dog not Recalling after 3 Commands results in a failure.*

*The Dog doesn't Out/Recall from 2nd Decoy on the 1st Command, each additional Out/Recall Command will result in a 3 Pt. deduction. The Dog not Out/Recalling after 3 Commands results in failure.*

## **LEVEL 2 PROTECTION DOG:**

*The dogs in this level, must have passed ENTRY LEVEL PROTECTION AND OBEDIENCE EXERCISES as well as LEVEL ONE PROTECTION EXERCISES.*

*In this level, there will be FIVE protection scenarios, which may include a pursuit type exercises, a muzzle fighting exercise, as well as stop attack exercise.*

*These scenarios will also be taken from the APPDA Judge/Decoy rule book of pre-approved testing exercises. The dogs in this level will also be OFF LEASH.*

*The Handler should prepare his/her dog to demonstrate courage and nerve with a variety of distractions, which may include, but not limited to- gunfire, loud noises, smoke, closed environments, multiple decoys, heavy decoy pressure etc. All distractions will be pre-approved as described in the APPDA Judge/Decoy rule book*

### **LEVEL 2 PROTECTION -THE ATM WITH GUNFIRE**

*The Handler will leave his dog in the auto, the Handler will leave the passenger door open during the exercise. (The windows of the vehicle, will be in the DOWN/OPEN position.)*

*The Handler will leave his dog in the vehicle, the Handler will leave the passenger door open during the exercise. (The windows of the vehicle, will be in the DOWN/OPEN position.) The Handler will approach the wall of the ATM, (15 paces from vehicle) attempting to draw money from the ATM machine. (The handlers back will be turned to the approaching decoys) During this exercise, the Handler will be approached by Decoys. Decoy 1 will approach in a non-threatening manner with a lot of movement (waving arms, jumping up & down etc... The dog must remain in the vehicle and not aggress a non-physically threatening Decoy) asking if you are done & other random questions and walk off. Decoy number 2 will ask random questions and present a passive threat (showing a gun). The Decoy will tell the handler to "GIVE ME YOUR MONEY" pull out a gun and start to approach the handler. The handler will reach for his/her gun and fire a shot, the decoy will return fire and walk fast toward the handler. The handler will call their dog to attack. The Handler may call his dog's name if needed during the threat. Should a dog exit the vehicle prematurely, the Handler may give one verbal command to stop his dog, if the dog stops on the verbal command, the exercise can continue with a minor point deduction for extra command. After the dog is fighting the Decoy (15 sec fight), the Decoy will fire the gun randomly as he works the dog. At the signal of the Evaluator, the Handler will command the Decoy to "stop fighting the dog" and proceed to OUT or OUT/Guard the dog. Once the dog is OUT and returned to the Handler the exercise is over.*

#### **Scoring:**

**Stay- 8**

**Entry- 5**

**Release- 5**

**Total Points Possible: 40**

**Attentiveness- 6**

**Commitment/Grip- 8**

**Recall- 5**

## **LEVEL 2 PROTECTION- DETAINMENT OF SUSPICIOUS SUSPECTS (PATROL)**

*The Dog/Handler team will begin in a "patrol" vehicle. They will stop by a "suspicious" group of people where the dog/handler team begins to interrogate them. The handler exits the vehicle while engaging in aggressive communication with the 3 "perps" and opens the back door. The dog remains in the back of the "patrol" car with the door open and the dog is to remain inside the vehicle threshold during the exchange of dialogue. The group of 3 "perps/decoys" will begin exchanging disruptive/disorderly behavior towards one another and 2 will begin to tussle. The dog should remain inside despite the "perps" physical interaction. During this interaction between the 2 "perps", the other "perp" will throw an item into the distance over an obstacle. Handler commands the perps to line up with their hands against the front of Handler's "patrol" vehicle. The dog will then be called to a heel position and placed into a guard behind the 3 "perps" while the Handler cuffs the perps. The dog will remain in a guard position while the handler searches the area where the item was tossed. (1 minute search) (The Handler WILL NOT find the item). The cuffed perps will be yelling at Handler while searching for the item. The handler returns to the dog and commands the dog to heel position. From the designated area, the handler will then send the dog to go over the obstacle (window jump, fencing, etc.) to a designated spot on field (20 paces away) to search for the item. The dog is commanded to retrieve the item (15 second search time) and return to Handler. The Handler can send the dog 3 times to complete this section of the exercise. The item can be a wallet, glasses case, gun, money, knife, gun casing, etc., but will be provided by the judge. The dog is then commanded to heel back to "patrol" vehicle. The dog is placed in a guard while the Handler places all 3 "perps" in the back of the patrol car. End of exercise. You must earn 75 out of 120 points to move on to protection.*

### **Scoring:**

**Stay in Vehicle- 10**

**Attentiveness/Focus to Interaction-5**

**Guard-10**

**Focus/Intensity/Effectiveness (1 minute guard)-8**

**Heel-15**

**Obstacle-5**

**Sit (2 minute)-8**

**Total Points Possible-120**

**Down (1 minute)-5**

**Recall-10**

**In motion exercise (down)-8**

**Return to Heel (in motion)-8**

**Search-10 Retrieve-8**

**General Allure-10**

### **Point Deductions:**

***If dog breaks threshold repetitively (max 3 times) will be -2 per action***

***If dog breaks and cannot be returned the stay in vehicle will be 0***

***If the dog is lounging, sleeping, sniffing, digging, etc. inside of the vehicle and inattentive to outside interaction the stay will in vehicle will have a -2 deduction and your attentiveness and focus will be deducted -.5 for each action***

***Each handler command/queue will be deducted -.5 for every action***

***If the dog breaks the guard and can be returned -2***

*If the dog breaks the guard repetitively (max 3 times) will be -2 per action*

*If the dog breaks the guard and cannot be returned to guard the guard will be 0*

*If the dog is stressed, searching for handler, restless, distracted, distant, etc. in the guard the*

*Focus/Intensity/Effectiveness of the guard will be -1 deduction for every action/offense*

*If the dog begins harassing anyone "perp" and mouths, nips, muzzle punches with open mouth, etc. In the guard there will be a -.5 deduction for each action/offense if the dog appears stressed, overworked, and mentally/physically weak in the heel there will be a-2 deduction for every action/offense*

*If the dog appears overly bouncy/enthusiastic, unrealistic/unnatural in movement there will be -2 deduction for every action/offense*

*Lagging, Forging, Crabbing will have a -.5 deduction for every action/offense*

*Lack of attentiveness in the heel will have a -.5 deduction for every action/offense if the handler must give multiple commands for jump (max 3 times) -1 deduction for every offense, if 3 times dog doesn't perform the exercise will be 0*

*If dog hits jump or avoids jump there will be a -1.5 deduction for each action/offense if dog appears restless, stressed, overworked, and physically/mentally weak in the sit there will be a -1 deduction for every action/offense*

*If the handler gave multiple/different/double/cues to dog during sit -.5 deduction for every Action/offense*

*If dog appears restless, stressed, overworked, physically/mentally weak in the down there will be a -1 deduction for every action/offense*

*If the handler gave multiple/different/double/cues to dog during down -.5 deduction for every action/offense*

*If the dog is distracted/unfocused -2 deduction*

*If the dog is slow -1 deduction for every second after the command for recall is given*

*If the dog is slow to down -.5 deduction for every second after the command for down is given.*

*If the dog is restless in the down or anticipates the down -1 deduction*

*If the dog is slow to return to heel -1 deduction for every second after the command for heel is given*

*If the dog is distracted/unfocused -1 deduction for every offense/action*

*If the dog is too fast and surpasses handler or is wide/indirect coming into heel -1 deduction for every action/offense*

*If the dog is playful/unfocused/distracted during the search -2 deduction for every action/offense*

*If the dog prolongs the search (15 second allotted time), if time runs out the exercise will be 0*

*If the dog mouths or plays with retrieve item -1 deduction for every action/offense*

*If the dog drops item -1 deduction for every action/offense if the handler exhibits dramatic/unnatural/excessive*

*Help/guidance/pressure/reinforcement to dog -1 deduction for every action/offense if the dog urinates/defecates at any point on the field, the dog will be disqualified and asked to be removed from the program*

*If the dog bites anyone at any time, the dog will be disqualified and asked to be removed from the program*

## **LEVEL 2 - PROTECTION - PROTECTION OF MY BUSINESS AGAINST TWO DECOYS**

*The Handler will indicate what their Out & Recall Commands are for their Dog (on their Registration paperwork); any commands are acceptable, but the Handler must stay with those Commands or suffer Point Deductions. The Dog is OFF leash for this exercise. The "store" may be no smaller than 10'x10', outfitted with a table & chair, & with store items stacked inside: empty cardboard boxes, empty water cooler jugs, bundles of pool noodles, etc. The Handler will give their Dog a Placement Command near them (on the floor), then 2 Decoys will enter the store. The Decoys may initially ask questions &/or speak to the Handler in a friendly manner, but then will begin messing up the "store items", speaking harshly/rudely toward the Handler, etc. The Handler will ask the Decoys to leave the store. Both Decoys begin loudly arguing and throwing objects. At any time the decoy or decoys will face the handlers' direction & charge the dog & handler. The Dog engages a Decoy at this time, (if it does not break the Placement Command to protect the Handler, the Handler may give a Command of Protection but this will result in Point Deduction(s)). The Decoy will catch & work the dog (for 10 sec), bringing the dog outside of the store, at which time the second Decoy will aggress the Handler still inside the store. At this time the Handler will call once for his dog to help. The dog leaves the 1st Decoy to protect its Handler & engage the 2nd Decoy. Once the dog has engaged the 2nd Decoy, the 2nd Decoy will fight the Dog for approximately 10 seconds inside the store. At the Evaluator's signal, the Handler will say "Stop Fighting My Dog Then Out/Recall their Dog.*

### **Scoring:**

**Stay- 6**

**Entry- 5**

**Redirect to 2<sup>nd</sup> Decoy- 5**

**Release- 5**

**Total Points Possible: 40**

**Distraction- 4**

**Commitment/Grip- 5**

**Commitment/Grip- 5**

**Recall- 5**

*Your dog will remain ON leash in this exercise. The Dog/Handler team will have necessary deductions for double or extra commands, and/or additional handler help.*

## **LEVEL 2 PROTECTION – ROAD RAGE**

***(General Information: The bicyclist (decoy) will be suited during this scenario.)***

***The Dog starts this exercise with a muzzle on inside the car. The Dog/Handler team will begin in a vehicle and there is a bicyclist that demands space and smacks the vehicle. Your dog should ideally auto alert. You exchange aggressive/confrontational dialogue and the bicyclist removes himself from his bike (20 paces away) and begins to approach you aggressively. You remove the dog from the vehicle at a designated location (20 paces away from where the bicyclist stopped) and command the dog to down. Handler will warn bicyclist to not approach any further or the dog may attack him. As the bicyclist approaches and yells at handler the dog should remain in the down. The***

**handler calls dog to heel when the bicyclist has walked 10 paces (designated area). The dog should be alert, but if doesn't, should be commanded to alert aggressively towards the bicyclist. At which point, 5 additional paces (designated area), the bicyclist will attempt to throw a bag and water at you and your dog. The dog should be commanded to aggress the bicyclist. The bicyclist will remain upright (unless dog brings him to the ground) in a physical confrontation for 20 seconds and will push the dog twice before stepping back from the interaction. The handler will recall the dog to heel & transport the bicyclist towards the designated area (where the bike was left), at which point the bicyclist will get back on his bike and request his "back bag". Handler will remove the muzzle from the Dog. Handler will leave dog in a sit while the handler retrieves the bag for the bicyclist. The bicyclist will constantly yell at the handler "HURRY WITH BAG, GIVE ME MY BAG, ETC." The handler will return to dog. The Dog/Handler team will heel alongside the bicyclist to a designated spot (20 paces to a designated area). End of exercise.**

**Scoring:**

<b>Alert-6</b>	<b>Muzzle Attack-12</b>
<b>Down-6</b>	<b>Out/Recall-8</b>
<b>Muzzle-6</b>	<b>Sit-6</b>
<b>Recall-6</b>	<b>Heel - 12</b>
<b>Distraction-8</b>	
<b>Total Possible Points-70</b>	

**LEVEL 2 PROTECTION – HOMELESS MAN**

**(General Information: The dog will be ON leash during this exercise. The "building" will be an approved space/makeshift area. The surface area will be an approved and safe surface material.)**

**The Dog/handler team heel past homeless person on a bench. The Homeless person will react to dog with much enthusiasm and be animated but not aggressive, the dog must remain neutral but vigilant while heeling. The handler with dog at heel will continue heeling towards a curbside building to purchase something, the handler will command dog to down at surface change (refer to approved materials). Handler will walk to building and pause briefly at the building and command dog to position change (sit or stand), pause command to different position (down, sit, stand). The handler will proceed to designated area and call dog to heel. Handler will heel dog through group of people and in passing the crowd they will verbally greet handler and offer 2 pieces of food to the dog (in level 1 and 3 pieces and scattered on field in level 2). Dog must remain in heel as the crowd follows to designated area to sit. Handler and company have a seat near handler, and the dog will be commanded to down while handler and company congregate and converse for 5 mins. Two of the associates begin to argue and become confrontational. Dog must remain neutral but alert. The more passive associate requests**



*assistance/mediation from Dog/Handler team from the more aggressive associate for their safety. The handler will command the dog to alert/aggress the more aggressive associate while the more passive remains behind the dog/handler team. Handler will command the dog to become neutral and under control by commanded to a down while the handler and crowd returns to their seat. End of exercise.*

**Scoring:**

***Heel-14***

***Distraction-8***

***Down-6***

***Environmental-8***

***Total Points Possible: 54***

***Stay-6***

***Change of Position-6***

***Food refusal-6***

## **LEVEL 3 PROTECTION DOG:**

### **LEVEL 3 - HOUSE HOSTAGE GUN ATTACK**

*Upon the signal of the evaluator, the dog team will be positioned at a previously designated location with "patrol car" outside of building. (approximately 20 yards away). There will be two subjects positioned and concealed. The first decoy (hostage) will present himself and as commanded by the k9 handler, move toward the handler's location. The handler is allowed to display a firearm at this time, and must maintain control of the dog. (officers may use their own issued weapon, if desired, but weapons will be secured by APPDA prior to the start of the trial, for insurance reasons, and no live rounds will be allowed on the field at any time during the trial, as per APPDA rules.) The handler will command the first decoy (hostage) to move away from their original position. The decoy (hostage) will be ordered to a designated marked area and to their knees by the handler, (the hostage will remain like this for the remainder of the exercise). While the k9 handler is giving the instructions to the (first decoy) hostage, a second decoy (the original hostage taker) simultaneously, will appear from a window of the building and proceed to fire two shots towards the officer's patrol car. At that time, another officer (a 3rd decoy) will come to aid the k9 handler by "the patrol car". Upon the decoy (hostage taker) firing two shots; the other officer (3rd decoy) will throw a smoke bomb towards the window so that the k9 handler will crawl with his dog to a designated location. Once the smoke bomb goes off the "hostage taker" will shoot off one more round towards the patrol car and the officer will shoot 2 rounds towards the building at the "hostage taker". Once handler and k9 reach designated area the handler will send the dog through a tunnel around the building to get into the building discreetly. Once the k9 enters the building the "hostage taker" will fight the dog for 20 seconds. While the dog is engaged, the handler - must secure the hostage (1st decoy) (put inside patrol car). Then the k9 handler and other officer will forcefully enter the building ordering the "hostage taker", during this dog/attacker altercation, the assisting officer will detain the "hostage taker". The k9 handler will command the "hostage taker" to stop fighting and then will command the dog to out and guard. Before proceeding to his dog (the handler does not need to wait for the evaluator, to give the "hostage taker" decoy the command to stop fighting.) The k9 handler will pat down the "hostage taker" and perform a rear transport while assisting officer escorts "hostage taker" to the patrol car – exercise completed. At any time, should the dog appear to be headed to aggress the hostage decoy, the handler will call off and re direct his dog, with minor point deductions. Should the dog aggress the hostage decoy or assisting officer at any time, a score of zero will be given and the exercise will be over.*

### Scoring

**Stay with Distraction- 12**

**Gunfire- 5**

**Focus/Attentiveness- 10**

**Distraction- 5**

**Obstacle- 8**

**Efficiency- 10**

**Entry- 5**

**Total Possible Points- 100**

**Grip/Commitment- 15**

**Distraction- 5**

**Release- 5**

**Guard- 5**

**Transport- 5**

**Team Skills- 10**

### **LEVEL 3 - FELONY TRAFFIC STOP**

*Upon the signal of the evaluator, the k9 team will enter the field. (driving the “patrol” car onto the field, the “bad guy” vehicle will already be on the field in a pre-determined position.....the vehicles will be positioned on the field to simulate a traffic stop. The handler will be allowed to use his own vehicle if desired, but the evaluators must be advised of this prior to the start of the trial.) Two suited decoys will already be positioned in the other vehicle. After the signal from the evaluator, the k9 handler will exit his vehicle and approach the decoy’s vehicle. Prior to leaving the vehicle, the handler may give his dog. One stay command. (the dog will remain in the vehicle) the handler will talk with the decoys and order them to exit the vehicle, in which the driver decoy will comply. The passenger decoy will hesitate for a few seconds, while back talking, then proceed to exit the vehicle. Both decoys will be ordered to the rear of their vehicle and then the k9 handler will command them to place their hands on the trunk. The k9 handler will ask the decoys if they have any weapons on them and begin a pat down- starting with the driver decoy. At this time the driver decoy will begin to resist a little, while back talking to the k9 handler. While this is happening, the passenger decoy will begin to slowly make his way to the side of the vehicle. The handler will order both decoys to stay still. The driver decoy will comply (up to this point the dog must remain in the vehicle. -should the dog exit the vehicle and not aggress the decoys, the exercise may continue with minor point deductions. If the dog should exit the vehicle and aggress a decoy then the exercise will be over -which will result in a zero score for the team), the passenger decoy at this time will turn to fire his weapon at the handler, but the gun will misfire. At this time the handler will command his dog to engage. As the dog exits the vehicle, the passenger decoy will begin to flee. The dog must aggress the fleeing decoy until an out command is given by the handler (aprx 20 second fight) prior to going to the dog, the handler must simulate handcuffing the driver decoy and moving him to the passenger side of the vehicle, placing him on his knees or in the patrol car. The handler can then move to his dog and command the passsenger decoy to stop fighting the dog and then immediately out his dog. The k9 handler will conduct a pat down. During the pat down the passenger decoy will resist the officer and toss his weapon into the distance. The dog will be commanded to rebite during this resistance. The passenger decoy will immediately give up. And handler will command to stop fighting the dog and immediately out the dog. K9 handler will proceed with the pat down and then escort back to his vehicle (this will be a side transport) upon reaching the vehicle. Once the passenger decoy and driver decoy are both secured in patrol car. The k9 handler will heel to designated area and tell the dog to search for the thrown weapon. The dog may alert/retrieve article – exercise complete*

**Scoring:**

**Stay with Distraction- 12**

**Focus/Attentiveness- 10**

**Entry- 5**

**Grip/Commitment- 12**

**Distraction- 8**

**Release- 5**

**Guard- 5**

**Total Possible Points- 100**

**Reattack- 8**

**Release- 5**

**Transport- 10**

**Search- 10**

**Efficiency- 6**

**Team Skills- 10**

**LEVEL 3 - BURGLARY IN PROGRESS**

***Upon the signal of the evaluator, the k9 team will heel from a pre-designated location to another marked area of the field where they will stumble upon a burglary in progress. (the handler has the option to keep his dog on or off leash at this time). There will be one decoy on the outside of the house positioned by the window of the house/building. The handler will alert his dog at this time. The k9 team will heel towards the building and direct the decoy to stop and move away from the building - to a clearly marked area pre-set by the judges. The handler- will place his dog in a down position at this time (where the dog is placed, is the decision of the handler) the decoy surrenders and proceeds to abide the directions of the handler, after reaching the location the handler will simulate a "pat down". During the pat down the decoy inside the building will sneak out, walking up toward and attack the handler. The dog must react to protect the handler, without hesitation. (if the dog doesn't react without command the handler can attempt to command the dog but the decoy will attempt to cover handler's mouth. If the dog does not react within 5 seconds of decoy having handler in their control the exercise will be zero'd) once the dog reacts the decoy will fight the dog and will use "objects of opposition" for aprx 20 seconds. (please refer to rulebook for acceptable "objects of opposition".) The handler must secure the first decoy (by placing on their knees with hands behind their head) - before going to his dog. At that time the handler will command the decoy to "stop fighting the dog" and then out the dog immediately. The out can be out/guard or out/recall. Once the dog is off the bite, the handler will simulate a pat down and transport the decoy back toward the first decoy. The transport will be 10-15 paces to a marked area of the field. -exercise complete (should the handler not secure the first decoy and go to assist his dog while aggressing the second decoy, the first decoy will come and attack the handler, so the handler, will need to call off his dog from the one decoy to come assist-which results in loss of points)***

**Scoring:**

**Heeling- 10**

**Alert- 8**

**Down- 6**

**Attack On Handler- 12**

**Entry- 5**

**Grip/Commitment- 10**

**Total Possible Points- 100**

**Distraction- 8**

**Release- 5**

**Disengage (Out Or Recall)- 8**

**Transport- 10**

**Efficiency- 8**

**Team Skills- 10**

### **HOME INVASION WITH FEND OFF- APPDA LEVEL 3**

*The dog and handler team will begin at a start cone with the dog in a down. The handler will check in with dog on lead before the exercise begins. The judge will signal for the dog's leash to come off and heel towards a building structure. The dog/handler team will heel towards structure to a designated cone and then down the dog. The handler will be signaled to send the dog inside of the structure to search for suspects/perps. Once the dog clears the area, the dog will be commanded to recall to the handler back to start cone. Then the handler and dog will be told to enter the building structure, where the handler and dog will wait 35 seconds. After, 3 armed men will bombard the entry way. The first man will have an object to obstruct the dogs target. The dog should engage immediately, working around the object of obstruction. The perps will remain in entry way aprx 3 seconds to offer initial grip. Then the remaining perps will bombard the handler in an aggressive manner. Once the dog is on the initial grip there will be a 20 second fight, then redirected attack to perp actively fighting the handler. That fight will last a total of 10 seconds with the handler, dog and other remaining perp. The third perp will run out of the structure during that altercation. The handler will instruct the perps to get up against the wall and he will out and recall his dog. The handler will down his dog facing the perps and leave the building to look for the other perp. The handler will come back and demand the perps to remain up against the wall. The handler/dog team will then proceed out of the building and the dog will be commanded to search for the remaining perp. The dog will then search/engage the last perp. The fight will last 10 seconds. The handler will command the dog to release and transport the remaining perp back to him. Exercise complete.*

#### **Scoring:**

**Heeling- 5**

**Down- 4**

**Search- 5**

**Pursuit/Entry/ Commitment (1st Grip)- 6**

**Distraction- 5**

**Grip/Commitment- 5**

**Redirected Attack- 5**

**Total Points Possible- 75**

**Grip/Commitment- 6**

**Release/Recall- 5**

**Down (Absence Of Handler)- 5**

**Search- 6**

**Grip/Commitment- 5**

**Release – 5**

**Transport- 8**

## **SURPRISE SCENERIOS**

*All Surprise Scenarios are optional and worth 5 additional points to credit towards present score of Dog/Handler team. Failure will not result in further point deductions towards present score of Dog/Handler team. All Surprise Scenarios are worth 40 points and 75% of the possible points must be earned in order to receive the 5 additional BONUS points towards the present overall score of the Dog/Handler team.*

### **LEVEL 1 SURPRISE SCENERIO-KIDNAPPING**

***(MINIMUM 20 OUT OF 30 POINT EXERCISE TO PASS)***

*The Handler will be walking with the dog in heel position, Handler will either be holding or pushing a carriage/cart/child carrier etc., with a baby doll. The handler/dog team will come to a pre-designated area, and the Handler will walk away with the dog loosely (as if taking the dog to relieve itself, leaving the doll in the carriage, on a bench etc.) A Decoy will take the doll and move in the opposite direction carrying the doll. Once the Handler reaches a pre-marked area, the Handler will turn, noticing the doll missing and the Handler will yell for the Decoy to stop, at which point the Decoy will begin to run. At that time the Handler will begin running and will send the dog to aggress the Decoy. Once the dog is on the bite, at the direction of the Evaluator, the Handler will OUT and recall the dog. End of Exercise.*

#### **Scoring:**

*Heeling- 6*

*Entry- 5*

*Release- 5*

*Total Points Possible: 30*

*Attentiveness- 4*

*Commitment/Grip- 5*

*Recall- 5*

### **LEVEL 2 SURPRISE SCENARIO - SURPRISE ATTACK ON HANDLER**

*In this scenario, a minimum of two Decoys, will be positioned behind a pre-designated hiding place. (A wall, blind, bush, vehicle etc.) Both Decoys will be positioned together. The Handler is going to heel toward a pre-determined point, given by the Evaluator. At some point the Decoys are going to appear, the decoy(s) initially may walk past without any aggression-as to be walking by talking to each other or immediately present as an aggression toward the Handler. The Dog must immediately protect his/her Handler if the Decoy shows a threat toward the Handler. Should the Decoys walk passively by, the Handler will continue walking and the dog cannot aggress the Decoys. Only ONE Decoy will threaten the handler, the Decoy may be different from one that previously passed by or may turn and aggress the Handler after the Dog team has passed by. Once the first Decoy is on the bite, the second Decoy will also aggress the Handler. The Handler may call his dog's name. In this exercise, the Dog must leave the first Decoy and move to protect his/her Handler. The Decoys may have a weapon or noise item to oppose the dog. During the aggression care will be used as to not strike the dog in the face or ears with the object of opposition. When instructed by the Evaluator, the Handler will tell the Decoy to " stop fighting the dog", and immediately OUT and collect the dog.*

**Scoring:**

Heeling- 6

Entry- 5

Redirect to 2<sup>nd</sup> Decoy- 4

Release- 5

Total Points Possible: 40

Attentiveness- 4

Commitment/Grip- 5

Distraction- 6

Recall/Guard- 5

**LEVEL 2 SURPRISE SCENARIO - GREETING OF THE STRANGER**

*In this scenario the Handler will be walking his/her dog on leash, moving toward a pre-determined area. Three Decoys will approach the Handler. They will stop to talk with the Handler, One Decoy will tell the Handler he likes his dog and demand the leash be given to him. The Handler will try to walk away, but the Decoys will block the path of the Handler and Dog. At this point, the dog may not aggress the Decoy(s). The Decoy again will demand to be given the leash, and the Handler will give the leash to one of the Decoys, once the Decoy is in possession of the Leash, the Handler will command the dog to aggress the Decoy. The Decoys will begin yelling to intimidate the dog. Once the dog is on the bite, the aggressed Decoy will drop the leash, a second Decoy will grab the Handler- the Handler can call the dog's name to protect, the third Decoy will flee. The Dog must not go for the fleeing Decoy, if so the score will be zero. Once the dog is biting the second Decoy, at the signal of the Evaluator, the Handler will tell the Decoy to stop fighting the dog and immediately OUT his dog. Once the dog is OUT the Handler can then recall the dog or pick up the dog from a guard, exercise over.*

**Scoring:**

Heeling- 6

Entry- 5

Redirect to 2<sup>nd</sup> Decoy- 4

Release- 5

Total Points Possible: 40

Attentiveness- 4

Commitment/Grip- 5

Distraction- 6

Recall/Guard- 5

**LEVEL 2 SURPRISE SCENARIO - GETTING THE PACKAGE**

**(THIS IS A STOP ATTACK EXERCISE)**

*The Handler will go to a pre-designated area with his/her dog that is located behind an obstacle that resembles a gate with fencing, a bench etc. Once the Handler arrives in this pre-designated area, a Decoy will enter the field carrying an object of opposition. The Decoy will call for the Handler to come get a package. The Handler will leave his dog behind the obstacle and approach the Decoy. The Decoy will begin yelling at the Handler to hurry up and get their article, once the Handler reaches the Decoy the Decoy will threaten the Handler by pushing the article TOWARD the Handler. The dog should immediately react due to the threat, at a pre--designated point the Decoy will yell "I give up", at this point the Handler will command his dog to STOP. (The line will be marked on the field, so all dogs will have the same opportunity from their Handler to give the STOP command.) Should the dog, continue on and refuse to stop, it will be a ZERO score for the exercise. The Dog may come into heel position or may down/sit/stand, as long as the dog does not engage the Decoy. The judge will signal the Handler to heel forward with the dog once the dog is with Handler, there will be a hidden Decoy that will pop out and aggress the Dog/Handler team as they heel away. The Decoy will fight the dog for 10 seconds, then the judge will signal the Handler to OUT the dog and recall the dog. End of Exercise.*

**Scoring:**

Heeling- 4

Attentiveness- 4

Call Off- 4

Commitment Grip- 5

Recall- 5

Total Points Possible: 40

Stay- 4

Pursuit- 4

Entry- 5

Release- 5

**LEVEL 2 SURPRISE SCENERIO - MUZZLE FIGHT BREAK IN**

*The Handler will be positioned on the field, approx. 10 feet from the building entrance, with his dog on a Long line. A Suited Decoy (wearing a large shirt over the Decoy jacket) will approach the building as if proceeding to attempting to break in. The Handler will heel forward to designated area, to get a closer look. When commanded by the Evaluator, the Handler will yell, "HEY GET AWAY FROM THERE that is my house, I will send my dog"- For Safety the Decoy will not enter the building, but continue to attempt the "breaking in" At this time, the Handler will warn the Decoy again and send the dog. The dog should aggress the Decoy at least one time with a muzzle strike. Should the dog refuse to move forward to aggress the Decoy, a score of Zero will result. Once directed by the Evaluator, the Handler will collect his/her dog from either a guard or will recall the dog to the heel position. End of Exercise.*

**Scoring:**

Heeling- 4

Attentiveness-4

Pursuit/Entry- 4

Release/Disengage- 5

Total Points Possible: 40

Stay- 5

Alert- 4

Commitment to Muzzle Fight- 10

Recall/Guard- 4

**LEVEL 3 SURPRISE SCENERIO - MUZZLE FIGHT BREAK IN**

***(NEED 75% POINTS TO PASS THIS SCENARIO)***

*The handler will be proceed to designated cone where they will equip the dog with the muzzle and load into vehicle (that will be provided by host club), the handler will drive the vehicle from one cone to another to be positioned on the field in front of a structure/building, away from the building entrance. The handler will be signaled to come out of the vehicle and leave the driver's door open and will be told to put a long line on the dog. Once the dog and handler reach the designated area the evaluator will instruct the handler to move towards the front left tire near the hood and question the perpetrator. An unsuited decoy (wearing a hidden sleeve under a shirt for protection) will approach the building as if proceeding to attempt to break in. When commanded by the evaluator, the handler will proceed to question the perpetrator loudly from behind the safety of the vehicle. The perpetrator will aggressively yell and shoot off 2 rounds towards the "officer/handler" and attempt to flee into the building. The handler will return 1 round of fire towards their direction. The handler will yell, "hey get away from the door, turn around with your hands up. I will send my dog"- (for safety the decoy will not enter*



*the building), but continue to attempt the "breaking in" at this time, the decoy will turn around & reach for his gun, the decoy will shoot once and throw his gun down. At that point, the handler will send the dog. The dog should aggress the decoy at least one time with a muzzle strike. Should the dog refuse to move forward to aggress the decoy, a score of zero will result. The decoy will enter the structure/building once the initial strike has been made by the dog. Once the decoy enters the structure there will be a 10 second fight and the decoy may use the environment as a means to fend the dog off. Once the dog and decoy enter the structure a "team" (3 other unsuited volunteers) will enter structure along with handler and try and maintain control over the perp. The team will yell "get on the ground, remain on the ground!!" once directed by the evaluator, the handler will command the perpetrator to the floor and collect his/her dog. Once the dog is back into heel position the dog will be commanded to transport the perpetrator to the judge. Exercise complete.*

**Scoring:**

<i>Muzzle- 6</i>	<i>Distraction- 6</i>
<i>Stay- 6</i>	<i>Disengage- 5</i>
<i>Entry- 5</i>	<i>Transport- 6</i>
<i>Commitment- 6</i>	<i>Disengage- 5</i>
<i>Total Possible Points: 45</i>	

**LEVEL 3 SURPRISE SCENERIO – CALL OFF**

*Handler will put the their dog in a vehicle and proceed to drive to a building. The handler will notice the door of the building is open, and will leave the dog in the car with one door open & proceed to the building. The handler will enter the building (a decoy will be behind the door). When the handler enters, the decoy will close the door and attack the handler. The handler will call their dog to help them and stop the attack from the decoy. (the only entrance will be an open window) the dog must figure out a way into the building to help the handler (if the dog takes more than a minute to find his way inside the building the exercise will be zero'd). When the dog enters, the decoy will fight the dog for 20 seconds. During the fight the handler will open the door and escape from the building. The handler will recall the dog back to a heel from outside of the building (at a marked space on the field). The decoy will then come out of the building and start to flee. The handler will yell, "stop or i will send my dog." When the decoy reaches a marked area/cone, the handler will send his dog. The decoy will put his hands in the air and say, "i give up!" The handler will have to call the dog off and back to the heel position. -exercise complete.*

**Scoring:**

<i>Attentiveness- 5</i>	<i>Heel- 5</i>
<i>Pursuit/Commitment- 5</i>	<i>Pursuit/Commitment- 5</i>
<i>Entry- 5</i>	<i>Call Off- 8</i>
<i>Grip/Commitment- 8</i>	<i>Recall- 4</i>
<i>Release- 5</i>	
<i>Total Possible Points- 50</i>	