

SHVAN WARRIORS ASSOCIATION (SHWAAN)

CADAVER SEARCH TEST

This test is designed to evaluate the K9 Team's ability and proficiency in searching designated areas for the scent of a cadaver. **Any display of aggression by the K9 during any part of this test will constitute a failure.** The Associate member SAR canine handler **must** provide the testing Master Trainer(s) Proof of Completion of the following courses **prior to testing:**

1. Crime Scene Preservation Course
2. HAZMAT Awareness Course
3. Blood borne Pathogens Course

The testing Master Trainer will attach the submitted proof of completion of the above courses to the certification test sheet that he/she will send in to the SHVAN WARRIORS ASSOCIATION (SHWAAN) secretary who will issue the associate member certification certificate.

It will be required that the K9 team passes the following Cadaver OBEDIENCE phases prior to testing for the cadaver phase.

HEELING PHASE:

The heeling phase of this test will consist of the following exercises:

- 1.) Normal pace
- 2.) Fast pace or double time
- 3.) Slow pace or half step
- 4.) A minimum of two (2) right turns; two (2) left turns: two (2) about turns. Each leg of the above must be a minimum of thirty (30) feet long. The different phases may be conducted on any leg.

WALKING PHASE:

This phase is **off leash**. The handler and dog will begin from the "Finish" position and walk forward together. At a point designated by the Master Trainer, the handler will place their dog in a stay position, (sit or down), and continue walking. This is to be done without breaking stride. At a point designated by the Master Trainer, the handler, while continuing to walk away from his/her dog, will command his/her dog to heel. The Master Trainer will instruct the team to "About Turn" and then to walk forward. At a point designated by the Master Trainer, the handler will stay his/her dog, (sit or down), and without breaking stride, will continue walking. At a point designated by the Master Trainer, the handler will turn and retrieve his/her dog and return to place of origin.

DISTANCE PHASE:

This phase is **off leash**. At a point designated by the Master Trainer, the handler will leave his/her dog in a "Stay". At a distance of no less than ten (10) feet, nor more than thirty (30) feet the handler will be directed to turn and face his/her dog. At the direction of the Master Trainer the handler will complete the following commands.

Order of command will be at the direction of the Master Trainer: "Sit and Down" (by VOICE)
"Sit and Down" (byHAND)

The Master Trainer will then instruct the handler to recall his/her dog by hand or by voice. At a point prior to reaching the handler, the Master Trainer WILL order the handler to stop his/her dog by voice or by signal. (Note: Stopping the dog may be either by a down or sit command). Upon completion of the "Stop", the Master Trainer will direct the handler to recall his/her dog to the "Finish" (heel) position by voice or signal command.

Sociability Test:

This phase is on leash. While in a heel position with the handler, a neutral stranger will approach the handler and the K9 and engage in conversation with the handler, but ignore the K9. Following this the stranger will make non-threatening physical and verbal contact with the K9.

While walking with a loose leash the handler and K9 shall complete a figure eight (8) heeling pattern around two (2) handlers, spaced eight (8) feet apart, with their K9's on lead and sitting at their side. The handler and K9 shall complete the pattern passing within two (2) feet of each team. This test phase may be conducted as a group exercise if multiple teams are present.

For certification the team CANNOT miss more than one (1) aid in all phases of testing. A "team miss" is defined as any incorrect response by the K9 team. **If the testing K9 team has more than one (1) team miss, which is a failure, then the K9 team MUST RETEST in ALL PHASES AND in ALL ODORS that they are seeking accreditation for.**

With the exception of the building and the water searches, the minimum search area must be 50 yards by 50 yards. The area size for the building and water searches will be at the discretion of the Master Trainer.

One test area will **Not** contain an aid. At least one of the test areas will contain the remains of an animal.

A total of twelve (12), **legally** obtained aids must be provided by the handler; six (6) of the aids must be less than three (3) months old and six (6) must be more than three (3) months old. Each must consist of bone and soft tissue. Pseudo aids are acceptable.

Safety Equipment for Rubble Searches: Mandatory:

Standard work/duty clothing to include long pants, work gloves and work type boots with ankle support.

Recommended:

Helmet (ISI Mark)
Safety Boots (ISI Mark)
Eye Protection (ISI Mark)

Knee Pads

TYPES OF SEARCHES TO BE PERFORMED:

Building Search (#4) and Vehicle Search (#6) are mandatory searches.

- 1.) **Two (2)** scent hides will be placed in a rubble area, simulating a collapsed building.
- 2.) **Two (2)** scent hides will be covered with dirt, leaves, brush, or tree branches.
- 3.) Twelve hours before testing, **two (2)** scent hides will be buried in a highly vegetated area. The aids must be at least three (3) months of age and be buried to the depth of 10 inches. A minimum of five (5) holes will be dug.
- 4.) **Two (2)** scent hides will be placed in an elevated position a minimum of six (6) feet from the ground level or floor. **One (1)** elevated scent hide will be in a building/structure and **one (1)** elevated scent hide outdoors.
- 5.) **Two (2)** scent hides will be submerged in two (2) feet of water for a minimum of thirty (30) minutes prior to the test or if a boat is available will be submerged in a minimum of six (6) feet of water for a minimum of 30 minutes prior to the test. The choice will be at the discretion of the Master Trainer.
- 6.) A minimum of five (5) vehicles will be utilized, **two (2)** of which will contain a scent hide placed at least one (1) hour prior to the search.

An optional searching area may be substituted for one of the above areas, except number 4 or 6. It is:

- 7.) **Two (2)** scent hides will be placed in an organic or inorganic rubbish pile.

In order to certify, a team must **successfully** find at least eleven (11) of the twelve (12) scent hides.

Handler: The handler will advise the Master Trainer how the dog will indicate. He/She may enter the search area to direct the dog. This test may be done on or off lead. The dog's indication must be obvious to the Master Trainer.

*****NOTE*** There will be a break between searches.**

All tests given the Cadaver Search Team will be on a pass/fail basis. The Master Trainer will determine if the team will be certified upon the completion of the test. **The handler and dog will be considered as a team and it is the team who will be certified. If the dog changes handlers, a new team exists and the team will need to be certified.**

This certification will be valid for one (1) year from the date of issue as defined in Certification Validity paragraph. **There will be fee of Rs 1000 charged for SHVAN WARRIORS ASSOCIATION (SHWAAN) certification testing. A fee may be imposed to cover expenses of travel, lodging and meals only, if necessary.**